

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## WRIGHT SAYS GOODBYE

FRESHMAN PHENOM EYES LOTTERY PICK, '99.99' PERCENT TO STAY IN DRAFT

BY BRANDON STATON  
SENIOR WRITER

North Carolina freshman Brandon Wright looked a little different Monday when he entered the press room at the Smith Center.

When Wright first came to campus from Nashville, Tenn., his jersey seemed to swallow him whole. Now the 6-foot-9, 205-pounder looked sturdy and poised to assert himself as a man.

The soft-spoken ACC Rookie of the Year took a seat alongside UNC coach Roy Williams and matter-of-factly declared himself eligible for the 2007 NBA draft.

"You gotta grow up sometime," Wright said. "I just chose to grow up a few years earlier than most young people do."

Wright and Williams both said the majority of the decision was based on Wright's ability to provide for his family, and his decision to enter the league should be so quite nicely.

First-round selections for the NBA draft are guaranteed two years on their contract — down from three in 2006. If Wright were selected in the lottery, the first 14 picks, his contract would be worth no less than \$1,376,900 in his first year.

"I think that he is definitely a top-10 pick," Williams said. "I think there's a great possibility — my 'guess-timate' if you'll let me put it that way — that he would be either the third, fourth or fifth pick in the draft."

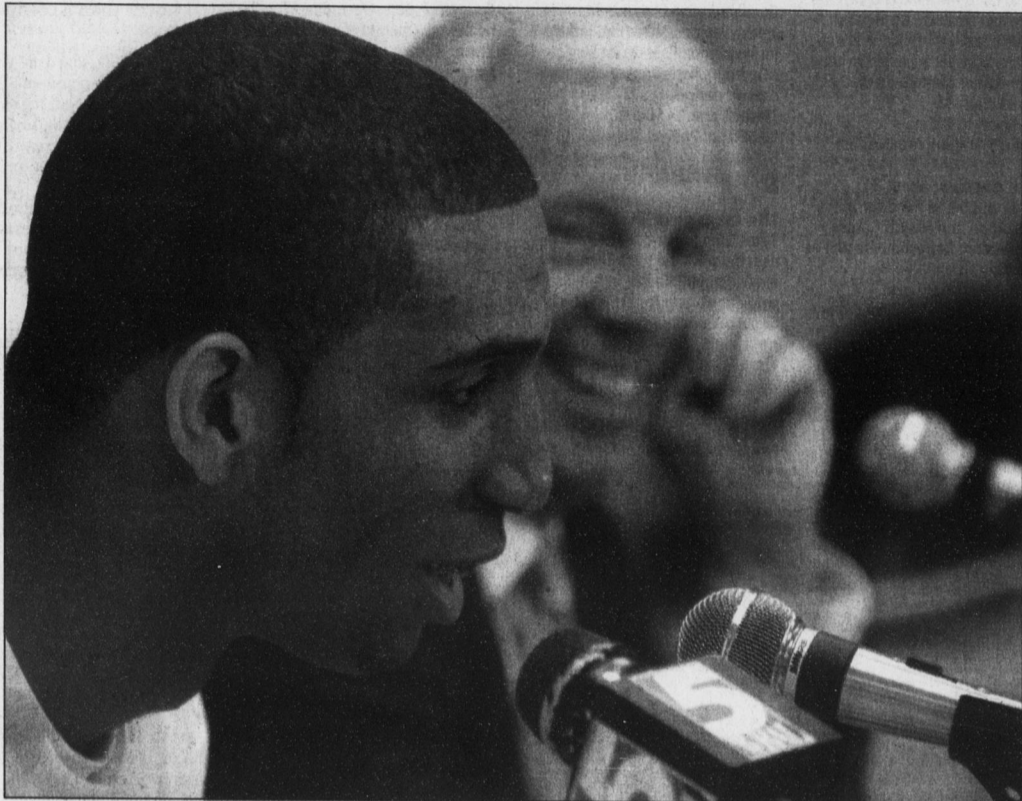
"I don't think that there is any way that he would slide past six or seven, but conservatively speaking, I think you can say top 10 without any question."

If Wright is selected with the third overall draft pick, which is where many in addition to Williams feel he is likely to be taken, he would make \$3,121,500 in his first year and \$3,355,600 in his second.

After the two years that a first-round draft pick is guaranteed, the team has an option for the third and fourth seasons, each of which has an assigned salary with a raise built in each year.

When asked about signing with an agent, Wright seemed a little uneasy about speaking on the subject, to which his coach stepped in to clarify.

"We are going to talk to some agents and get some information," Williams said. "But he's not rushing out the door to sign



DTH/LOGAN PRICE

Brandon Wright addresses his future plans at a press conference Monday with coach Roy Williams at his side. Wright said his decision to turn pro was based on his need to support his family and his status as a likely lottery pick. The NBA Draft takes place June 28 in New York.

with an agent to get a new moped or anything like that."

But he added that Wright is "99.99" percent sure that he'll stay in the draft.

While many Carolina players have turned pro early, Williams and his predecessors have built their program on the ideal that loyalty is the true measure of their success.

To that, Wright indicated that his departure from the college campus is hardly a permanent one.

"The reason why I came to Carolina was to get an excellent education along

with the great athletic program. I do intend on coming back and earning my degree."

"I'm giving up my academic eligibility to UNC, but I'm not giving up my academic career."

Wright is just the second freshman in North Carolina history to leave for the NBA after only one season in Chapel Hill. Marvin Williams did so after the Tar Heels' national championship win in 2005 and was picked second overall.

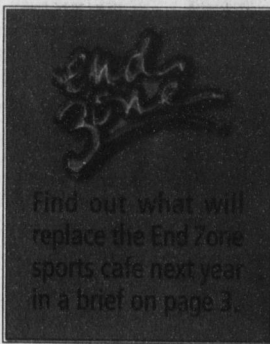
Though Wright's stay was short, the impression he made won't soon be forgotten.

"You're seeing one of the greatest youngsters that has ever lived," Williams said at the conclusion, with tears welling up in his eyes.

"That's the tough part of coaching, is having to lose somebody after only coaching him for one year. I will miss Brandon Wright's game only during the game."

"But I will miss everything else about Brandon Wright every single day."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.



## Hokies return seeking routine

Some students able to forgive

BY ERIN FRANCE  
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

BLACKSBURG, Va. — The first day back to class for Virginia Tech students began with a morning ceremony honoring the 32 students and faculty killed by senior English major Seung-Hui Cho.

Thirty-two white balloons were released with the strike of a bell in front of 33 small stones placed in a semi-circle on the wide expanse of the field known as the Drillfield.

The 33rd marker, placed between Matthew Gwaltney's and Dan O'Neil's, was for Cho, who killed himself at the end of his rampage; it was removed later Monday.

There still is a sizable showing of flowers and notes in the place where his stone lay.

"He was still a person, too," junior Matthew Quinn said. "He was still a Hokie."

In this community of more than 25,000 students, there are signs of forgiveness toward the gunman, but it is not a consensus.

There were not many on campus willing to talk to the media Monday, and while the campus population spiked from last week, it was far from a normal spring day.

"There are a lot of students back, but this is pretty sparse," graduate student Amy Tanner said. "I think it will be just a slow, long week."

Instructors received e-mails from the Va. Tech administration encouraging them to mention last week's events in their classes.

Ting Cai, a graduate student, is teaching a general chemistry class today and said he cannot predict how many of his students will attend.

"We're only going to meet for 15 minutes," he said. "I think I'll probably start with a moment of silence."

Teachers are using Monday and Tuesday to assess the grades and conditions of their students before finishing the semester.

Exams are optional in calculating students' final grades.

Andrew Blando, a junior oceanic engineer, said he still is debating the different options.

"I don't want to feel like I'm taking advantage of the situation," he said.

The students remaining on campus Monday were searching for normalcy.

Many students experienced abbreviated classes along with reminders of the last week, such as signs on the outside of all academic and residence halls curtail-

SEE VIRGINIA TECH, PAGE 6

## Students treated to Spike Lee unplugged

BY HARRY KAPLOWITZ  
ARTS EDITOR

"An Evening with Spike Lee," Monday night's Carolina Union Activities Board-sponsored lecture from the award-winning director of "Do the Right Thing," gave students a rare look at America



For quotables from Lee's lecture: apps.dailytarheel.com/blogs/category/newsroom

through the frames of one of its most vocal critics.

But it was in the nearby Graham Memorial lounge where select faculty and student

leaders got the chance to tackle those issues head-on.

In a sold-out lecture that carried a reduced \$12,500 price tag, Lee touched on an array of social, cultural and political issues. And he even found time to discuss aspects of his 20-year film career.

"Filmmaking chose me," Lee said while discussing his start at New York University.

"I didn't choose filmmaking." Other addressed topics included the recent Don Imus-Rutgers University controversy, the Duke University lacrosse scandal, the war in Iraq, how to be happy in post-college life and the politics of consumerism, particularly with hip hop and gangsta rap.

"It's exploitation of the highest order, and we have to be responsible as consumers," Lee said of a gangsta rap culture that he views



DTH/TIMOTHY REESE

Spike Lee autographs a book for CUAB film committee chairman Andrew Carlberg at the reception Monday in Graham Memorial.

as an example of society buying into "the okie-dok."

"Don't go for the okie-dok," he said. "That's where the trap is."

He pointed to the Imus controversy as an example of the power of consumer choice.

Lee also fielded about 15 questions from audience members, ranging from the symbolism in his films to ways the UNC community can successfully bridge the racial divide on campus.

After the lecture ran long, select audience members attended a CUAB-sponsored reception at Graham Memorial.

This setting allowed Lee to tell

SEE SPIKE LEE, PAGE 6

## Athletes struggle as students

BY LESLIE WILLIAMS, PETER WYLIE AND JEREMY WATSON  
SPECIAL TO THE DTH

Student-athletes receiving athletic scholarships are less likely than their peers to graduate from North Carolina's four ACC universities: Duke, N.C. State, Wake Forest and UNC-Chapel Hill.

But many are unwilling to accept low graduation rates as a necessary consequence of athletic success.

"It's an absolutely wonderful thing to produce athletes of the quality, capacity and performance that the system turns out," said Hodding Carter III, former president and now a member of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics and professor of leadership and public policy at UNC-CH.

"It is a sick joke to say any of that performance has anything to do with what they are actually getting out of the university educational system."

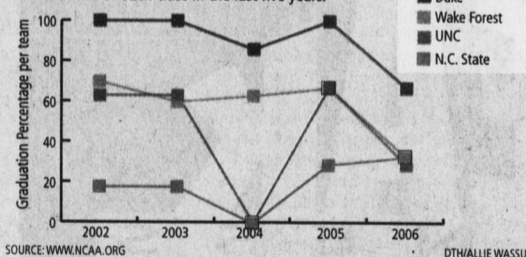
### Striking out in class

Less than two-thirds of UNC-CH baseball players on scholarship have graduated in each of the past five six-year periods, known as cohorts, that the NCAA uses for graduation rates. UNC-CH had an especially poor year in 2004, reporting a zero percent graduation rate for baseball players receiving aid.

The problem is not confined to Chapel Hill.

### Grad rates of ACC baseball players

Overall, fewer baseball players in North Carolina's four ACC universities are graduating annually. While the exception, N.C. State has graduated no more than one-third of each class in the last five years.



SOURCE: WWW.NCAA.ORG

DTH/ALLIE WASSUM

### Determining athletics graduation rates

#### What is the six-year cohort rate?

The six-year cohort is one measure the NCAA uses to track graduation rates of a group entering an institution in a given year. To be considered a graduate by this standard, a student must receive a degree at an institution within six years of entering.

#### Why use the six-year cohort?

It follows the guidelines used

for the general student body, making comparisons between athletes and the overall group possible.

#### How does it differ from other measures used by the NCAA?

Unlike the Graduation Success Rate, the six-year cohort rate does not include transfers into or out of a program, even if those athletes earned a degree elsewhere.

Of the four N.C. ACC schools, only Duke graduates baseball players on scholarship in similar proportion to its student body. Ninety-one percent of those players have graduated in the past five years, compared with 94 percent of the student body.

N.C. State is the only one of the

four with upward-trending numbers. However, less than one-third of the baseball team's players who received aid in the past five years received degrees.

But Megan Albidrez, associate director of N.C. State's Academic

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**GIFT GIVERS** The senior class achieves its participation goal for the class gift

**READY TO GO** Seniors take part in an information expo on life after college

**GIVING THEM A VOICE** Program tells community's stories through performances

city | page 5

### LOST AND FOUND

With a man wanted on Chapel Hill assault charges apprehended in Maryland, local authorities now are pursuing his extradition.



la colina | page 12

### ADIÓS CON AMOR

Our final Spanish-section of the year features stories on an area high-school soccer team, how Latinos identify themselves and Chispa's Latino Grammys.

this day in history

### APRIL 24, 1953 ...

Former UNC president Frank Porter Graham dedicates the N.C. Memorial Hospital, School of Dentistry and School of Nursing in a ceremony at Kenan Stadium.

weather

Partly cloudy  
H 83, L 60

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