

# Angell to be the next 'Voice of the Tar Heels'

By Kelly Parsons  
Sports Editor

When he was a child, Jones Angell and his father watched North Carolina basketball games on television with the sound muted.

Instead of listening to the TV broadcasters, Angell enjoyed tuning into the Tar Heel Sports Network to hear radio play-by-play announcer Woody Durham.

The young fan grew up listening to the renowned "Voice of the Tar Heels" — long before it even crossed Angell's mind that one day he would inherit the much-sought-after position.

On June 27, just two months after Durham revealed his decision to retire, Athletic Director Dick Baddour and Learfield Sports general manager Gary Sobba announced that Angell would be the next play-by-play announcer

for North Carolina football and basketball games.

And though the promotion fulfills the 32-year-old's dream, Angell is well aware of the challenge that stands before him as he follows in the footsteps of a local legend.

"I don't think anyone can ever really replace Woody," Angell said. "I'm not going to try to do it, and I don't think anybody could have. What I am going to try to do is just try to continue that level of excellence that Woody set for so long in this position."

During Durham's 40th season of broadcasts in 2010, the 69-year-old began thinking seriously about retirement.

"The overlap (of football and basketball) in November of 2010 took a physical toll on me," Durham said. "It wore me out."

While visiting his family in December 2010, Durham informed his sons about his plan to retire.

And to the broadcaster's delight, his son Wes Durham, a play-by-play announcer for Georgia Tech, offered his full support.

"He said, 'Well Dad, if you do it after this season is over, you will go out on your terms,'" Durham said. "I didn't want to stay so long that I would have a problem with not doing the job that I wanted to do... I didn't want to be carried kicking and screaming out of the



DTH FILE/ERIN HULL

Jones Angell will take the place of Woody Durham as announcer for UNC football and basketball broadcasts.

broadcast booth."

During his 11 years working with the Tar Heel Sports Network, Jones Angell has experienced just about everything the job has to offer.

The UNC alumnus began working for the network in the

summer of 1998 after his sophomore year of college — delivering lunches, listening to tapes and doing random odd jobs as needed.

During his career, Angell has called play-by-play for UNC women's basketball and baseball, and since 2005 has served as host of Durham's play-by-play broadcasts.

But even though they didn't have to look very far for the next "Voice of the Tar Heels," Baddour and Learfield Sports decided to conduct a nationwide search for prospective candidates when they learned of Durham's retirement.

Angell submitted a resume and tapes, and he had five or six interviews before finally snagging his new gig.

Sobba said many applications were submitted, but ultimately it was Angell's proven competency that made him right for the job.

Angell was informed about his promotion while he was in Omaha, Neb. calling play-by-play for the UNC baseball team dur-

ing its recent appearance in the College World Series.

The Tar Heels would go home without a national championship, but Angell returned to Chapel Hill with the opportunity of a lifetime in hand.

After hearing that Angell had been selected for the job, Woody Durham called his successor to congratulate him.

Because of Angell's experience and the loyalty of UNC fans, Durham said he's confident the transition will be smooth.

But just for good measure, Durham gave Angell a small piece of advice about keeping his audience engaged.

"I said, Jones, all you have to do is to get the names and the numbers right," Durham said. "And the Tar Heels will take care of the rest."

A version of this story ran in the July 7 issue of The Daily Tar Heel.

Contact the Sports Editor at [sports@dailytarheel.com](mailto:sports@dailytarheel.com).



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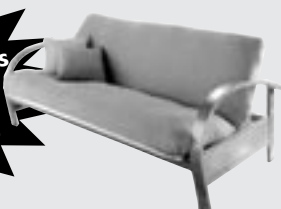
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