Roy Williams Court at the Dean E. Smith Center

As most Tar Heels have been waiting for, the University of North Carolina will finally be naming the playing floor at the Dean E. Smith Center after head coach, Roy Williams. Williams started his collegiate coaching career under Dean Smith at UNC in 1978. During his term as an assistant coach, North Carolina won the 1982 National Championship.

Williams has spent his entire life in the state of North Carolina. He was born in the Marion General Hospital in Marlon, North Carolina. He played high school basketball at TC Robertson High School in Asheville, NC. He later went on to play on the freshman team at UNC for Dean Smith. He studied Smith’s practices during his sophomore year, sitting in the bleachers taking notes of Smith’s coaching.

In 1988, Williams decided to become a head coach, therefore he took his coaching talents to Kansas. Williams helped the Jayhawks to 14 consecutive NCAA tournaments appearances, and two national championship game appearances. Over his 15 years in Kansas, he won nine conference titles. At UNC, Williams has won three national championships, eight ACC conference titles, two ACC Coach of the Year Awards, and one AP Coach of the Year Award. He is currently second all time for most wins at North Carolina behind Dean Smith. He is the only coach in NCAA history to have led two different programs to at least four Final Fours, and to have 400 or more victories at two NCAA Division I schools.

Williams has accomplished several collegiate coaching awards. He is a two time AP Coach of the Year, two-time Henry Iba Awardist, three-time Big 12 Coach of the Year, four time Big Eight Coach of the Year, Naismith College Coach of the Year Awardist, Adolph Rupp Cup Awardist, and John R. Wooden Legends of Coaching Awardist. He has also been inducted into the College Basketball Hall of Fame and the Basketball Hall of Fame.