

## UNC Golfers' Extra Strokes End Year

By ROLAND HOFFMAN  
Staff Writer

Two extra strokes kept North Carolina women's golf team from qualifying for the NCAA Championship. For entry to the tournament, a team must shoot at or under 912 at their respective regional. Unfortunately for the Tar Heels, 914 was the team score.



Tar Heel junior Marcy Newton tied for 13th in the NCAA East Regionals with a total of 222 and six over par.

UNC tied Wake Forest for ninth place at the par 72 University Club course in Blythewood, SC on May 8.

No. 1 Duke and Florida State finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Tar Heel junior Marcy Newton finished in a tie for 13th with a three day tournament total of 222 and six over par. Earlier in the week, Newton was selected to the All-ACC team for the second time in her career. Other Tar Heel finishers were Shelley McKeivitt (228, tied for 33rd), Cuyler Buckles

### this weekend ON THE ROAD

(229, tied for 41st), Heather Angell (235, tied for 67th), and Beth Lever (245, 95th).

#### Softball Swept In ACC Tourney

Despite losing both regular season games to North Carolina's softball team Georgia Tech took its third meeting when it mattered most - in the ACC tournament.

The UNC softball team finished the season 40-22 after being upset 6-2 by Georgia Tech in the ACC tournament in Tallahassee, Fla.

The Tar Heels struck first, scoring a run in the first inning, but the Yellow Jackets responded, scoring three runs in the bottom of the inning. In its first win against an ACC opponent this year, Georgia Tech snagged three more runs in the third.

"We unloaded on the ball (Sunday) and hit it hard on every occasion," Georgia Tech coach Kate Madden said. "We were aggressive today and executed in every facet of the game."

Florida State took 10 innings to defeat the Tar Heels 2-1 in North Carolina's first game of the tournament.

Despite nine Seminole hits, superb defense allowed the Tar Heels to hold Florida State to only a single run coming in the bottom of the seventh. Seminole Kimmy Carter's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the tenth scored outfielder Danielle Cox, who lead off the inning with a triple.

Following the tournament, freshman catcher Natalie Anter was named to the All-ACC Tournament team. During the FSU game, Anter smacked a home run in the second inning. She finished the season with .333 hitting percentage, eight home runs and 42 RBI.

#### Good morning, bad day for crew

Following a successful morning of races at the Central Regional Sprint Championships in Oak Ridge, TN, the UNC crew team's luck changed in the afternoon. The varsity eight and varsity four boats both finished sixth, and the second varsity eight finished fifth in the finals in the afternoon.

The morning races were successful, as both varsity eight boats finished second in their heats, while the varsity four placed third in its race.

With 500 meters to go, the varsity eight trailed Ohio State by one length, but slipped to finish second behind Michigan State.

## Jordan's Absence Energizes NBA Playoffs

Remember that guy who used to play professional basketball? What was his name, Michael something? Wore No. 23, I think.

Oh yeah, Michael Jordan. Forgive my sudden memory lapse, but it's hard to recall that name since this shortened NBA season, its young stars and its exciting playoffs have made the name far more forgettable than anyone thought it would be.

Months ago, everyone on the planet (probably with the exception of some Nike sweatshop workers in the Far East) moaned and groaned about the loss of Michael Jordan from pro hoops.

It will hurt the league, they said. No one will watch the NBA anymore, they said. Combined with the league's labor troubles, Jordan's departure was supposed to be the beginning of a sad decline for the NBA.

So much for that prediction. The NBA and its fans are much better off now that Mike has hung up his Air Jordans.

Maybe I'm just biased because I have so enjoyed this shortened season. The race for playoff spots began earlier, making the usually tedious NBA season fly by and giving each regular-season game more meaning.

That aside, here's why the NBA did-



EVAN MARKFIELD  
SENIOR WRITER

n't (and still doesn't) need Jordan to be exciting and fun to watch:

■ The league's young stars have provided more than enough highlight-reel footage to make up for Jordan's absence.

Was there a night where the Toronto Raptors played a game and rookie Vince Carter wasn't on ESPN's SportsCenter later that evening, soaring above the rim to throw down a nasty dunk on someone?

Then there's Allen Iverson. His spectacular moves and ability to take over a game have made him one of the most fun players to watch in the NBA. Plus, there are a slew of other youngsters who have a better chance to get a piece of the spotlight now that Jordan is out of the picture.

And these players, led by the likes

of Carter and Iverson, are proving you don't have to be named Michael Jordan to be an exciting NBA star.

■ At least as important as the NBA's young guns is what I like to think of as the league's "new" playoff format. Most of it is the same, you know, No. 1 seed vs. No. 8 seed and so on. The big difference is that this "new" format does not include Michael Jordan, which alleviates a large problem from seasons past.

In the old format, a variety of NBA teams would play each other for the right to lose to Michael and his Chicago Bulls in the Eastern Conference playoffs or NBA Finals.

Now, teams are actually playing for a shot at the title. And this year's playoffs have already offered a good deal of nailbiting, intense action.

Jordan and the Bulls took the mystery out of the playoffs. The problem with sports is that when there's no mystery, there's not much fun either.

So buckle up, boys and girls. The playoffs minus Michael should continue to be interesting. So don't weep for the NBA. It's doing just fine without old what's-his-name.

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## Yellow Jackets Sting UNC In ACC Tourney Opener

By BRIAN MURPHY  
Senior Writer

DURHAM - Chuck Crowder is an ACC tournament veteran. Mike Fox was making his tournament debut.

On Wednesday, the rookie was no match for the old-timers.

Crowder, Georgia Tech's starter, no-hit North Carolina through six innings spoiling the first ACC tournament game for Fox, the Tar Heels' manager.

The fifth-seeded Yellow Jackets, aided by Crowder's strong performance and six Tar Heel errors, drilled No. 4 UNC 15-4 in a first-round game at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

An All-American following his junior

season, Crowder decided to return to Georgia Tech rather than sign with the Pittsburgh Pirates, who selected him in the eighth round of last year's draft.

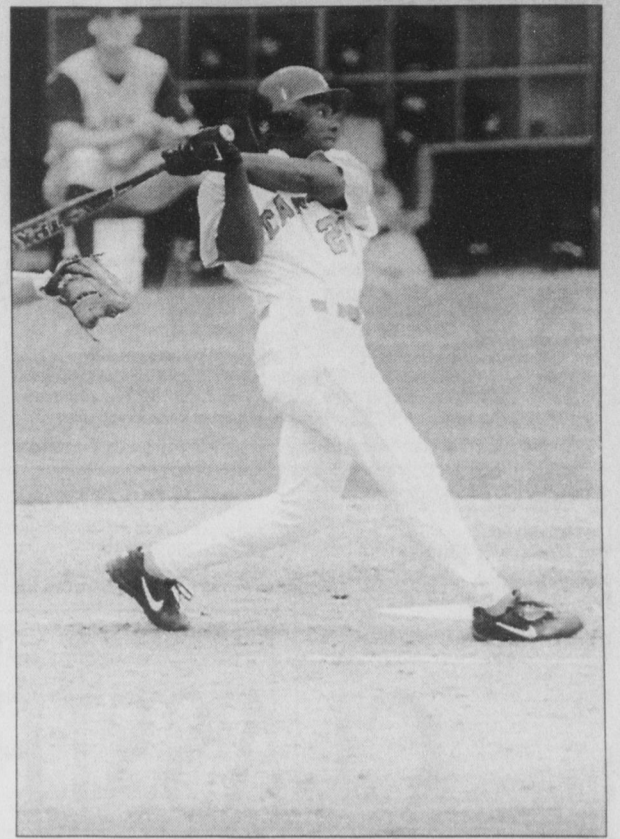
After posting an impressive 9-5 mark this season, Crowder has arrived at the point in the season where he really shines. In three previous ACC tournament games, the 6-foot-2 lefthander earned a 2-0 record with a 0.49 ERA.

His performance Wednesday only enhanced those numbers. After hurling six no-hit innings and leading 12-0, Crowder was pulled from the game in an effort to have him available later in the tournament.

"I said to Chuck, 'If we get to Sunday, you'll be my pitcher,'" said Tech coach Danny Hall, explaining why he pulled his ace with a no-hitter. "But, I was really hoping they'd get a hit before I had to do it."

For North Carolina, the loss was complete - not only did their hitters fail to touch Crowder, who they beat on Saturday 5-0, but the team's played poorly in the field and on the mound.

Ryan Snare, a complete game winner in Saturday's contest, did not fare as well against the Jackets this time. A catcher's interference call on Dan Moylan wiped out an inning-ending double play in the top of the first and Tech posted four runs in the inning.



DTH/CARA BRICKMAN

Left fielder Tyrell Godwin strikes out in the 6th inning. The Tar Heels lost (15-4) to the Yellow Jackets in the first round of the ACC tournament.

Snare (6-4) left the game after 1 2/3 innings, despite not yielding an earned run. The lefty had already been touched for five hits and two walks.

UNC's relievers provided, well, no relief. Corey Richardson and Michael Horney allowed eight earned runs in their 4 1/3 combined innings, and B.J. Finnerty yielded three runs (one earned) in three innings of relief.

The Tar Heel hurlers were not helped by their fielders either. A Ryan Earey

error in the first aided the Jackets' big inning and UNC committed three errors in the ninth inning alone.

UNC set team tournament records for most runs allowed, largest margin of defeat and errors in the game.

The Tar Heels resume play today at 10 a.m. against the loser of Wednesday's Florida State/Maryland game.

The Sports Editor can be reached at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).

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