

Tar Heels Lose Out on Day of 1sts

The North Carolina baseball team scored four runs in the ninth inning but still lost its first home game of the year.

By JAMES GIZA
Staff Writer

It was a day of firsts for the North Carolina baseball team Tuesday at Boshamer Stadium.

Matt Tanner was making his first start of the season for the Tar Heels, who were playing at home for the first time

after racking up their first three losses of the year at Georgia Tech last weekend.

After a 9-8 loss to Towson, a couple more firsts had to be tacked onto the list.

UNC (21-4) dropped its first home game in 2000 and suffered a home defeat at the hands of a nonconference opponent for the first time in 53 games.

"I told our guys, 'Now all our streaks are over, so now we can just forget all that stuff, go back to work, and get back at it tomorrow,'" UNC coach Mike Fox said.

The streaks, however, were almost preserved.

After Towson (3-5-1) added two runs in the top of the ninth, the Tar Heels came up trailing 9-4. But as they have all year, the Tar Heels came roaring back at the Tigers.

After Towson pitcher Matt Brady issued walks to Dan Moylan and Adam Greenberg, Clay Hooper's grounder to third took a wicked hop, and Tiger third baseman Tom Trela couldn't corral it.



Towson catcher Dan Rhodes scores during the second inning to help the Tigers hand UNC its first nonconference loss at home in 53 games.

Tyrell Godwin then sent a 3-2 grounder up the middle. Hooper was forced out at second for the fielder's choice, but Moylan scored on the play.

Godwin stole second before Ryan Earey whiffed for the second out.

Then it got interesting.

First baseman Sean Farrell sent a 2-2 liner over the outstretched glove of Tiger second baseman Jimmy Kittelberger, knocking in Greenberg and Godwin to cut the deficit to 9-7.

"Our guys always think we're still in the game," Fox said. "I hope that's the attitude they take in - that we've still got a chance to win until the 27th out."

Chris Maples sent a single up the

middle that moved Farrell to second. Eric Henderson followed with a single to left that knocked in Farrell. Maples, the tying run, reached second.

But that was it for the Tar Heels.

Chad Prosser grounded out to third to end the rally. The Tar Heels were denied their 11th comeback win of the season.

"Times like that, you've just got to do it," said Farrell, who was 2-for-4 with three RBIs. "Your back's against the wall, and you got to try to do something. Our team all year has been a real comeback team, but we just came up a little short. You can't fault our effort in that last inning."

What might be faulted were Tanner's rough outing and the Tar Heels unchar-

acteristic carelessness on the base paths.

Tanner, who came in with a 4.86 ERA in nine relief appearances this year, struggled with his control from the start. The freshman fired two wild pitches that advanced base runners in the first as the Tigers jumped out to an early 1-0 lead.

He surrendered six hits and six runs - five of them earned - in less than two innings of work.

"Early on in the game I didn't get a chance to get ahead in the count at all," Tanner said. "I fell behind in the count and gave the hitters a better advantage. As soon as I fell down, I threw some pitches I didn't want to throw, got them across the plate and they got an advantage to hit them. It kind of started sliding there."

Miscues on the basepaths also plagued the Tar Heels.

In the opening inning, Greenberg got caught in between second and third trying to advance on a Hooper single to the left side of the infield.

Tyrell Godwin also got caught in a rundown after trying to sneak over to third on a Farrell sacrifice fly. That ended UNC's first-inning run output at two.

"That's what hurts - we had a chance to score early and took ourselves out of it," Fox said. "When you're fighting hard to win games, you just can't do that at this level."

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.

Towson 9, UNC 8

Towson	150	010	002	-	9	12	2
UNC	211	000	004	-	8	12	2

Pitching: Towson - Chapman, Brady (8), Rogers (3) and Rhodes; UNC - Tanner, Madara (2), Finerty (6), Earey (6).
Leading hitters: Towson - Kittelberger 3-4 (2 RBIs, 2B); UNC - Farrell 2-4 (3 RBIs), Moylan 2-4 (2B, 3 runs scored).

Duke Draws Up Plans To Attack Gator Press

Associated Press

Duke didn't take long to come up with a game plan to combat Florida's full-court press - attack, and then attack some more.

"If we are going down, we're going down firing all our bullets. That's how I want to go down," senior

Chris Carrawell said of Friday night's East Regional semifinal game against the Gators in Syracuse, N.Y.

Fifth-seeded Florida employs a press, trying to set an up-tempo pace that can wear teams down. And while most clubs are happy to get the ball across midcourt and set an offense, the top-seeded Blue Devils won't be content to sit back.

"We've been a very loose team on offense this year," forward Shane Battier said. "We're not going to be gun-shy."

Seton Hall Point Guard Questionable

Seton Hall point guard Shaheen Holloway has a torn ligament in his left ankle and remains questionable for Friday's game against Oklahoma State

in the NCAA Tournament.

"I'm a positive person, so right now I'm trying to stay positive," Holloway said. "I'm just going to keep working as hard as possible. My mind is at a crossroads. I don't want my senior year to end like this, so I'm doing all I can to stay positive and work on getting ready to play."

Holloway, who converted a full-court driving layup on Friday to give Seton Hall a 72-71 overtime victory against Oregon, sprained his ankle in the first half of a 67-65 overtime defeat of Temple in the second round Sunday.

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Former UNC Football Player Arrested

By WILL KIMMEY
Assistant Sports Editor

Josh McGee, a former kicker for the North Carolina football team, was found bloody and disoriented last week at a Coast Guard Base in Key West, Fla., and taken into police custody.

McGee, 22, of 1803B Legion Road Extension in Chapel Hill was arrested March 12 and charged with one felony count of criminal mischief, five misdemeanor counts of burglary and trespassing on government property.

Police reports state that a suspect climbed over a barbed-wire fence surrounding the base, fell on his chest and then allegedly headed to the galley, broke its windows and entered.

Police followed a trail of blood from the galley to a Jeep and then to building No. 105, an office supply building.

Reports state that the suspect tried to kick his way into the structure through the

double-glass doors but failed. He then threw a metal picnic table through a side window.

The suspect entered the building and discharged a fire extinguisher and tossed it out the window. He also smashed a computer monitor and leveled a bench outside of the building, police reports state.

Reports state that around 7:40 a.m., Officer Mark Delisle noticed a "bloody individual get out of a government vehicle." The individual was identified as McGee, who smelled of alcohol and had passed out in the truck earlier that morning, reports state.



Former UNC kicker Josh McGee was found bloody and disoriented on a Coast Guard Base in Key West, Fla.

According to reports, when questioned by officers, McGee responded, "I don't remember how I got here; I don't remember anything." McGee promised to pay the estimated \$5,000 in damage.

McGee, a UNC senior who said Tuesday he was in Key West on a Spring Break trip, was released from jail March 13 on \$5,000 bond and returned to Chapel Hill. He said he could not comment very much on the situation, saying only, "Something just went wrong."

Tar Heel football coach Carl Torbush issued a prepared statement Tuesday.

"I'm disappointed that Josh has become involved in this type situation," he said. "Obviously, his playing career here was completed last fall. I have instructed him that until the matter is resolved to my satisfaction, he will not be able to use any of the athletic department facilities."

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.

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