

Tar Heel Baseball Stops Losing, Punishes Towson

By TED KEITH
Staff Writer

North Carolina baseball coach Mike Fox gave his team a simple speech before Wednesday's game with Towson. His point: stop losing. UNC got the message, blasting the Tigers 25-2 at Boshamer Stadium to end a four-game losing streak.

"I tried to challenge them a little bit," Fox said. "We came out with a different attitude and a chip on our shoulder."

Junior designated hitter Ryan Earey

Baseball	
Towson 2
UNC 25

led the assault, tying a career high with seven RBI, part of a 3-for-4 day that included two home runs.

Fourteen Tar Heels combined for 27 hits as UNC posted its most runs in five years.

"That's just baseball," said outfielder Tyrell Godwin, who went 2-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored. "This was a must-win."

"We didn't push the panic button or anything," Fox said. "Our players were just tired of losing."

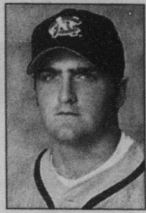
So was Fox, who took his aggressive brand of baseball to new heights, stealing bases with a double-digit lead and having runners tag up on popouts to the infield. For the game, the Tar Heels

stole eight bases.

"We needed to play like we can," said starting pitcher Scott Autrey. "We haven't been playing to our potential."

Autrey carried a no-hitter into the fifth inning, striking out six in 5 1/3 innings before leaving with an 18-1 cushion.

"We hadn't been getting good starting pitching," Fox said. "We need-



UNC junior Ryan Earey tied a career high with seven RBI on Wednesday against Towson.

ed him to take matters into his own hands."

The Tar Heels gave him all the runs he needed in the first inning. A walk and an error helped UNC to two runs before Earey launched his team-high seventh homer to increase the lead to 4-0.

A six-run fourth inning put matters to rest. Three of UNC's five hits in the frame went for extra bases, including shortstop Clay Hooper's fourth home run.

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

UNC 25, Towson 2					
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UNC	406	714	30x	-	25 27 1

Pitching: Towson - Russ, Cadin (3), Theberge (4), Sauer (6), Keeney (7), Cadin (8), UNC - Autrey, Sheffield (6), King (8), Prosser (9). Leading hitters: Towson - Trea 1-2 (RBI), UNC - Earey 3-4 (2 HR, 7 RBI, 9 runs scored), McCoy 4-5 (2 RBI)

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