



MIKE OGLE  
SPORTS EDITOR

# Baseball Close, But No Cigar

For the past two seasons, the members of North Carolina's baseball team stood on the tiptoes of their cleats with arms outstretched.

With their fingers wiggling and shoulders nearly out of socket, the players hopped up and down like a children trying to get their hats back from a taller bully.

But the Tar Heels were reaching for something that had never been theirs — a spot among the nation's elite.

UNC squandered its last chance of 2000 on Sunday by losing two games to Penn State, a team it had defeated three times on the season by a combined score of 38-17. Instead of moving on to play in this weekend's Super Regional, the Tar Heels were eliminated from the NCAA tournament and went home to tell their mommies and daddies about the mean bully who had successfully teased them once again.

The fast starts of the last two seasons are the true root of the problem. This year UNC jumped out of the gate 21-0, knocking off big dogs like Rice, Miami and UCLA.

Excitement in Tar Heel country rose along with North Carolina's ranking, which reached as high as No. 2 in national polls.

But the ACC loomed. Once again, UNC disappointed in conference play with a .500 mark and a fifth-place finish.

The Tar Heels were able to hang with the top teams in the ACC — Georgia Tech, Clemson, Florida State and Wake Forest (in order of regular-season finish) — which are also four of the nation's best.

But they could rarely beat them. UNC went 3-9 against these teams, getting outscored 78-55 in those games. Four losses were by one run.

Close but no cigar was the season's theme, which continued into the post-season.

Close losses to the Demon Deacons and Seminoles eliminated the Tar Heels from the ACC tournament. UNC was in both games until the end but couldn't seem to get over the hump it had tried to climb all year.

The tournament came one week after UNC went 1-2 in a series against Florida State at Boshamer Stadium. The Tar Heels lost the first game in 13 innings and the third game 4-2 while winning the second 6-5.

The truth became clearer than ever before. North Carolina was still a notch below the level into which it thought it had gained membership. It is still out of its weight class in half of the ACC.

But the NCAA blessed the Tar Heels with their tournament draw, giving them one more shot to reach the mountain top.

UNC was named the second seed in a regional with No. 1 Rutgers, No. 3 Penn State and No. 4 Army. Rutgers, one of 16 No. 1 seeds in the 64-team tournament, was ranked 15th nationally by Baseball America.

The Tar Heels manhandled the Nittany Lions in the first game and coasted past the Scarlet Knights on the second day. They only needed to post one more win against Penn State, which had played one more game than UNC to get to Sunday and was missing three starting position players, to advance.

But the paramedics had to be called to Yogi Berra Stadium that night to administer the Heimlich maneuver because the Tar Heels choked in their last chance to reach the next plateau.

Mike Ogle can be reached at mogle@email.unc.edu.

# Penn State Knocks UNC Out of NCAAs

North Carolina's baseball team needed just one win Sunday to advance, but PSU swept the doubleheader.

Staff Report

UPPER MONTCLAIR, N.J. — North Carolina's baseball team headed to New Jersey excited to play against some new faces that weren't so familiar with the Tar Heels.

Little did they know they would have to face Penn State, which played two games in Chapel Hill early this season, three times during the weekend to survive in the NCAA tournament.

UNC entered Sunday undefeated in the regional and needed one win in two games against the Nittany Lions, whom the Tar Heels topped 14-5 on Friday. The Lions picked up a come-from-behind 6-5 win in the first game Sunday, forcing a second, decisive game that PSU also took 10-3 at Yogi Berra Stadium.

Penn State (45-17) advances to the Super Regional at Texas (44-19) this weekend to play for the right to continue to the College World Series.

Both teams, full of tired arms, started their closers in the second game, which became a pitchers' duel until UNC reliever Derrick DePriest ran out of gas in the sixth inning.

North Carolina (46-17) tied the game at 1-1 in the bottom of the fifth on freshman Sean Farrell's ninth home run of the season, but the Tar Heels would never be in the game again.

Willie Melendez led off the sixth inning for Penn State with a single to left, then Michael Campo doubled to left, moving Melendez to third. Zach Smithlin's infield single loaded the bases for Donnie Wright with one out.

Wright singled to right, scoring Melendez and Campo. Brett Showalter followed with a double to right to make the lead 4-1. DePriest intentionally walked the next batter to load the bases for Eric Spadt, who took full advantage of the situation. Spadt's single to left increased PSU's lead to 6-1 and forced DePriest out of the game.

Ryan Snare came on in relief and got pinch hitter Brian Bishop to strike out, but Melendez, in his second at bat of the inning, singled to drive in the inning's final run for a 7-1 lead.

Penn State's freshman closer, Kevin Damiano, carried the Lions on his shoulders in both games Sunday at Yogi Berra Stadium. He notched the win in the first game with 3 1/3 innings of relief work and threw the first 5 1/3 innings of the second game for his second win of the day.

Second-seeded UNC advanced to Sunday with its win against No. 3 PSU on Friday and a 9-3 victory against top-seeded host Rutgers on Saturday.

PSU	100	006	111	-	10	12	1
UNC	000	011	010	-	3	7	1

Pitching: PSU — Damiano, Watson (6), Rizzo (7) and Pulisico. UNC — DePriest, Snare (8), Rummy (8), Madson (8), Finney (8) and Moylan. Leading hitters: PSU — Campo 4-4 (2 2B, RB, 3 runs, RBI, run), Eary 2-3 (HR, 2 RBI, Farrell 2-3 (HR, 2B).

UNC	100	000	422	-	9	17	2
Rutgers	000	012	000	-	3	8	1

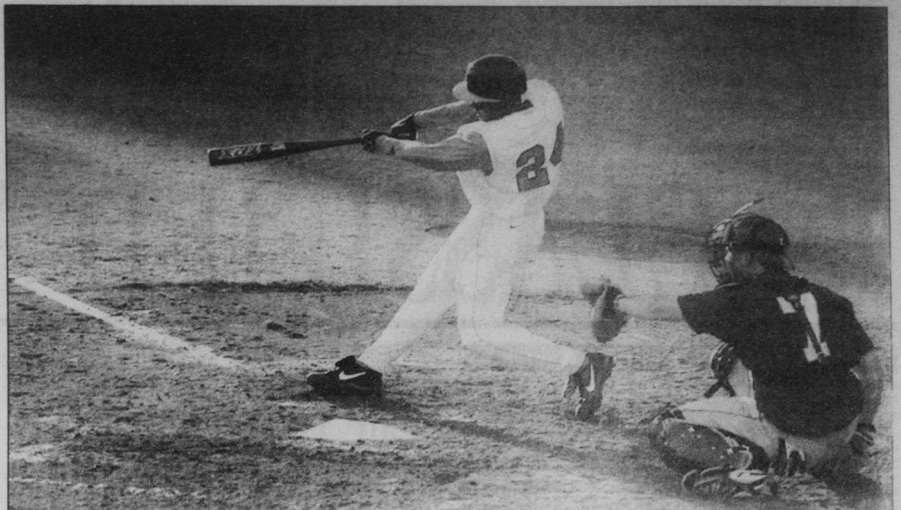
Pitching: UNC — Elmore, DePriest (4) and Moylan. Rutgers — Gallagher, Brown (8), Corbin (8), Finney (8) and Ulrich. Leading hitters: UNC — Hooper 3-4 (2B, 2 runs), McCay 3-6 (RBI, run), Eary 1-4 (HR, 3 RBI), Rutgers — Shada 1-1 (RBI).

UNC	101	201	000	-	5	6	5
PSU	011	030	10x	-	6	13	2

Pitching: UNC — Henderson, Eary (5) and Moylan. PSU — Nash, Damiano (6) and Pulisico. Leading hitters: UNC — Gwinnberg 2-4 (2 SB, 2 runs), Prosser 1-3 (2 RBI), PSU — Fagan 2-4 (2B, RBI, run), Smithlin 1-4 (2 RBI, run).

PSU	001	020	020	-	5	7	1
UNC	000	000	010	-	14	19	2

Pitching: PSU — McCall, Watson (3), Cunningham (4), Dillon (6), Kuzile (5) and Newell, Bishop. UNC — Snare, Austey (8), DePriest (8) and Moylan. Leading hitters: PSU — Campo 1-5 (HR), UNC — Godwin 2-3 (HR, 4 RBI), Moylan 2-3 (2B, 3 RBI).



UNC left fielder Tyrell Godwin returned from injury for the NCAA tournament, batting 4-for-11 in three games with five RBI and a home run. He is projected as a late first-round selection in this Monday's baseball draft.

# Tar Heels Face Unclear Draft Standings

By Will KIMMEY  
Sports Editor

As the amateur baseball draft approaches, just one thing is predictable: the 2000 draft will be one of the most unpredictable ever.

No player has emerged as the clear No. 1 pick for Monday's draft, and the holders of that top selection, the Florida Marlins, are still trying to decide between three or four prep stars.

The uncertainty at the beginning of the first round should filter down to the rest of it as well. That's where North Carolina junior Tyrell Godwin's name should pop up.

But when Godwin will be selected is about as clear as the draft itself.

Baseball America rated the 6-foot-1, 190-pound outfielder as the best athlete and fastest baserunner among the top 100 college players available. He batted .363 with 11 home runs, 67 RBI and 24 stolen bases. So there is no question that Godwin has the tools to be a top choice.

Yet questions remain about his durability, desire and baseball instincts. Alan

Simpson, Baseball America's editor and draft expert, called Godwin a "mystery."

"There are a lot of questions about him in terms of motivation to play professional baseball," Simpson said. "A lot of people say he can be as good as he wants to be, but the question is does he really want it?"

All factors considered, Simpson projected Godwin to go to the Reds with the 23rd pick.

While Godwin's demeanor might have caused him to slip in the draft, junior lefthander Ryan Snare's competitive spirit might have raised his stock.

Snare (10-1, 3.14 ERA) draws comparisons to fellow lefty and former teammate Mike Bynum, whom the Padres selected with a supplemental pick between the first and second rounds in 1999. But the 5-11 Snare doesn't quite measure up to Bynum's 6-4 stature, which is Snare's only downfall.

Simpson said Snare's repertoire of pitches, which includes a low-90s fastball and above-average breaking ball, is better than that of Bynum. Simpson tabbed Snare as a second-round choice.

### Draft Notes

■ Junior lefthander Eric Henderson (6-6, 4.32) figures to be selected in the fourth round. His 6-4 frame and 90-mph fastball impressed scouts, while his lack of command of his pitches is a detractor.

■ Junior catcher Dan Moylan will probably be taken between the eighth and 10th rounds. His biggest strength lies in his offensive game, especially his discipline at the plate.

■ Junior Ryan Eary (4-3, 3.92), who led UNC with 14 homers, is projected to go around the 10th round as a pitcher. Scouts like his slider and mid-90s fastball.

■ Senior third baseman/shortstop Clay Hooper signed with the Yankees after batting .333 with a team-best 21 doubles.

■ Seniors Derrick DePriest (4-5, 2.89, 12 saves) and Chris Elmore (9-1, 4.12, probably will be picked after round 25, if they do not sign with teams beforehand.

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

# Netter Phillips Reaches NCAA Singles Quarterfinals

Staff Report

Tripp Phillips saw his North Carolina career end last Friday as the unseeded senior from Charlotte lost in the quarterfinals of the NCAA men's tennis singles championships at Georgia's Henry Field Stadium.

Florida's Jeff Morrison, the tournament's top seed, downed Phillips 6-3, 6-4 to advance to the semifinals against No. 5 Alex Kim of Stanford. Kim upset Morrison and eventually won the title.

Phillips ended his senior year with a singles record of 25-6. He posted three wins in the NCAA tournament, including an upset of Stanford's Geoff Abrams, the No. 6 seed, in the second round.

By reaching the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament, Phillips clinched first-team All-America status from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association. He is the first UNC player to qualify for All-America status since both David Caldwell and Brint Morrow were honored in 1995.

### 10 Tar Heels to Compete in Durham

Ten North Carolina track and field athletes are competing at the 2000 NCAA Championships at Duke

University in Durham.

DeAnne Davis, the ACC champion in the triple jump, is one of eight UNC women in the meet. She won the triple jump at the ACC meet at Duke's Wallace Wade Stadium in April with a jump of 43 feet, 1 and 3/4 inches.

Other Tar Heel women who have qualified for the NCAA Championships include Joy Ganes (high jump), Beth George (1500 meters), Trish Nervo (5000 meters), Jill Pedretti (discus), Ola Sesay (long jump), Lutisha Shittu (100-meter hurdles) and Heather Tanner (10,000 meters).

Kestutis Celisius and Jeff Ellis will represent the UNC men's team. Celisius automatically qualified in the javelin with a throw of 224-1. He won the Penn Relays with a throw of 239-6. Ellis automatically qualified in the 400 hurdles with a time of 50.00 seconds, the second-fastest performance in school history. The championships started Wednesday and run through Saturday.

### Newton Selected to National Team

North Carolina golfer Marcy Newton

was one of four women's golfers selected to represent the United States at the 25th annual U.S. Japan Matches which will be played June 25-July 1 in Rancho Murieta, Calif.

Newton, a senior, ended her career Saturday by carding a 74 in the final round of the NCAA Women's Golf Championships for a 318 total. She finished tied for 99th place.

Newton, a three-time All-ACC performer, won three tournaments during her Tar Heel career — the 1997 Betsy Rawls Longhorn Classic, the 1999 Frapp Island Intercollegiate and the 2000 Bryan National Collegiate.

### Two Lacrosse Players Earn Honors

Junior Jeff Sonke and senior Todd



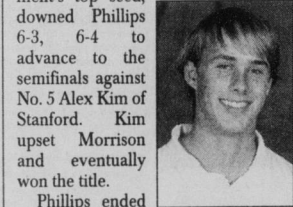
UNC jumper DeAnne Davis takes her ACC-best triple jump to the NCAA Championships this weekend.

Maher of the North Carolina men's lacrosse team were named to the 2000 STX/U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association All-America Team on Monday.

Sonke, a Birmingham, Mich., native, was named as a second-team attackman and led UNC in goals with 33 and

points with 49. He became the first Tar Heel since 1996 to be named to any one of the first three USILA teams.

Maher, who hails from Towson, Md., was named to the honorable mention squad on defense. He scooped up 57 ground balls and registered 45 defensive takeaways.



North Carolina senior Tripp Phillips advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Men's Tennis Championships.

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