BASEBALL

intrasquad scrimmage, he chopped a low fastball off the plate and beat the pitcher's hesitant throw to first.

Later, Griffin hit an opposite field grass-cutter down the third-base line.

grass-cutter down the third-base line. Despite his obvious speed, Griffin was gunned down at second while trying to extend the single to a double. Although he was thrown out, Griffin's aggressiveness was a good sign, especially on his first day with the squad.

Griffin's spot on the team wouldn't be decided by one at-bat, though. And so

decided by one at-bat, though. And so continued his incorporation into the

UNC baseball program.

Cooke and Griffin also continued to

Cooke and Griffin also continued to meet and know their possible teammates. And both would have nothing but good things to say about the rest of the guys. "They cheer me on, and they talk to me all the time," Griffin said. "They've accepted both of us into the group. All of them come up to me and talk to me and ask me what's up or whatever."

Among that group was Matt Tanner. Tanner, a redshirt-sophomore pitcher, had a special appreciation of the process Cooke and Griffin were going through. Just two years ago, Tanner walked on to the Tar Heel squad.

Tanner remembered well his experi-

Tanner remembered well his experience and could empathize with the team's two walk-ons.

"You've been playing sports your whole way through high school, and you don't want it to end right there," Tanner said. "I think for so many athletes who try to walk on to teams, that's what it comes down to.

"I really tried to make an extra effort to talk to these guys, just because I felt like I was the same way. It's nice when someone comes up and asks you your name on the first day."

A Long October

After several weeks of practicing with the team, Cooke and Griffin were called

into separate meetings with Fox.

The anticipation of the past couple of weeks had built up. Now they would know their fates.

Or maybe not. Fox informed them both on Oct. 11 that they would be getting lockers and

includes increasing rural Internet access, promoting free trade in the Americas by 2005 and creating corridors to support an influx of North American goods and

VISIT

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official team gear. But he also told Griffin that his evaluation period would

Cooke's excitement was obvious.

"Philip and I are both on the team now," he said. "I'm pretty sure they're

going to keep us.

"(Fox) just talked to me straight. We had two catchers leave, and we need someone to fill the role."

While Griffin was happy, his uncer-

"(Fox) told me he was going to reward me for the good I've been doing in the scrimmages here," Griffin said. "And then he'll get together with the coaches and evaluate me again and see if there's room for me if there's room for me.

"If it ends after two weeks, that'll be all right. If it doesn't end? That'll be great." It also would mean a new glove for Griffin. The outfielder has had the same all-purpose mitt since eighth grade, and his father had told Philip that he'd get him a new one if he made the squad. Unfortunately for Griffin, he wouldn't get a glove. The end would come soon.

Decisions, Decisions

Cooke didn't really think anything about Griffin's absence from practice

about Griffin's absence from practice the first couple of days.

"I thought maybe he had a class later or something," Cooke said. "Then I noticed that his stall was empty, and Coach moved me (to Griffin's old stall)."

Griffin had been cut from the team.

Although he had played well in the fall season, there wasn't any room for him.

"(Fox) called me in," Griffin said,
"and talked about how some new kids were coming in, how he was looking to

the future, and how I probably wasn't ever going to be able to improve to the level of play that he was looking for." Griffin said Fox asked him if he wanted a spot as the Tar Heels' manager. He was skeptical at first, but Griffin said he

would seriously consider the offer.

Upon hearing the decision, Griffin maintained the same attitude he'd had

throughout the entire process.

"It's not something a whole lot of people are able to do," he said. "I know, especially around my town, there's just a few people who've had at least the oppor-tunity to play. Yeah, I was a little upset when (Fox) told me, but I'm over it now." Griffin's journey had finally met its

end. Cooke's was just beginning.

After the annual intrasquad "World Series," the strength and conditioning portion of the team's year began. Cooke is still experiencing the rigors of a Division I off-season program.

Once, while running stairs at Kenan Stadium, Cooke completed his workout by throwing up in a nearby garbage can.

"One or two (others vomited)," Cooke said. "I was talking to (fellow catcher) Ryan Horney, and he let me know that it was probably going to happen to me — it happens to everybody— and it's pretty normal."

Tanner stressed that the support Cooke has received will continue as he

Cooke has received will continue as he assimilates into the team setting. He also said Cooke shouldn't worry about his

said Cooke shouldn't worry about his likely lack of playing time.
"Sometimes that's not the question,"
Tanner said. "Just go ahead and have fun with it. So many kids on this campus would love to play baseball or any sport here at the University of North Carolina and say that were on a verifit team."

and say they were on a varsity team."

Baldwin's advice to Cooke was simi lar, but the ex-Tar Heel - who decided to stop playing in order to devote more time mics - added a simple caveat

"Make sure that's what you want to do with this time," Baldwin said.

One of the Guys

Ultimately, Cooke and Griffin did fit into the team setting and filled their roles well during the fall season.

Griffin gave the team an extra center fielder while sophomore starter Adam Greenberg nursed his injured right ring finger. Cooke gave the team a muchded bullpen catcher

And they endured more than a onth of uncertainty while waiting to find out if they both would be members of the team come springtime

"I think it takes a lot of courage to come out here and try out," Fox said. "I nderstand what it takes to come out and get through this. If you get one player, it can help your program. We don't want to keep anyone here who we know

"As long as I'm coach here, we'll always have tryouts. Because you never know. You never know.

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

services into the Canadian economy. He attributes Canada's success as a

nation to strong values and the development of programs that nurture cultur-

Chrètien thanked Duke for hosting his speech and praised the university and the state of North Carolina for embodying "the vitality and sophistication of the New South."

He said of the state, "They have found prosperity by embracing new ideas and a new economy."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

WALK-ON

Marslender is a perfect example, but by no means is she the only rags-to-rich-es story at UNC. Jeff Reed, a place-kick-er on the football team, didn't even make road trips early in his career. He prac-ticed kick after kick with the idea that one day he might get his chance to shipe

ticed kick after kick with the idea that one day he might get his chance to shine.

That day came this season after Josh McGee, the highest-scoring kicker in UNC history, graduated.

Reed connected on all 30 of his extrapoint attempts and made 16 of 20 field goals this year. It was good enough for a spot on the All-ACC second team. It also was good enough to earn him what every walk-on wants: a scholarship.

"A walk-on who gets a scholarship has truly earned it in every way," says Carl Torbush, Reed's coach before Torbush was fired Nov. 20. "That's the reason I respect them so much.

reason I respect them so much.

"When we sign a guy out of high school, we're giving him a scholarship because we think he has a chance to be a good college player. A walk-on who comes in here, if he gets a scholarship,

we know he's made a contribution."

That's why coaches, regardless of how good their teams are, always have room for walk-ons. Marslender is one of seven on her team this season.

"We have a tradition here of welcoming walk-ons, and they've always impacted for us," women's soccer coach Anson Dorrance says. "We look at every player who comes down and basically give them an opportunity and a fair shot to play."

Although Dorrance gives walk-ons every chance to succeed, he isn't in a position where he must do so. He brings in a set of topflight recruits every season

in a set of topflight recruits every season and could win his fair share of matches

sing just his scholarship players.
But not all of the UNC's coaches are so lucky. Joel Furtek, the rowing coach, builds his squad with walk-ons and holds open tryouts each year.

Fifty-four of the 56 women on his team this year were not recruited, mak-

ing rowing a virtual sorority of walk-ons.
Teams with primarily scholarship players have a different dynamic. Walk-ons must find a way to fit in, which can be easy or challenging depending on the way their coaches and teammates treat them.

Marslender's rite of passage came in

"Really, it's just a matter of gaining respect by completing the fitness and actually succeeding in it," Marslender says. "Once you make it through by never quitting and never stopping running, at that point, everyone's equal."

But it sometimes takes a while for a walk on to feel earn?

But it sometimes takes a while for a walk-on to feel equal.

Everett tried to keep a low profile last year as he awaited the decision of whether then-coach Bill Guthridge was going to keep him on the team. After Everett made the team and began to feel comfortable, he was able to relax.

But the tries was to the First Form Form

"By the time we got to the Final Four last year, I was being myself," Everett says. "I was being crazy and loud and

saying silly things.

"(UNC center) Brendan (Haywood) thinks something happened, like I snapped. I was just being myself."

He was just being a walk-on.

Assistant SportSaturday Editor James Giza contributed to this report. The Sports Editor can be reached at

University Career Services

Division of Student Affairs

CAREER CORNER

Your Guide to Upcoming Events for the Week of Dec. 4th-Dec. 8th WALK-IN HOURS: Have your resume critiqued or ask a guick guestion of a UCS counselor. Mon. - Fri., 10:00am - 3:00pm

UCS 101 (Sr/Grad Student Orie

Workshops:

Employer Presentations:

ral Electric Research & Develop corps Action for Children Today

Mon, Dec 4 Tues, Dec 5 3:00 PM 307 Hanes Hall (Open to Grad. Students Only) 6:30 PM 308 Hanes Hall (Open to all students) 6:30 PM 307 Hanes Hall (Open to all students)

Resume Drops: (for interviews from Jan. 22 through Feb. 2)

Financial Analyst, Accountant, Auditor (drop thru 12/31/00) Analyst (drop thru 1/7/01) Associate, Full-time and Intern (drop thru 1/7/01)

Special Drops:

ECONOMISTS INCORPORATED Research Associate - Drop ends 12/8/00

This is the last Career Corner this semester Check back in the spring for the next issue! Happy Holidays!

POSITIONS OF THE WEEK These positions are accessible on the UCS website der Jobs/Internships. You must be registered to access UCS jobs & internships.

Organic Chemists
Albany Molecular Research Inc.

NASA Undergrad. Student Research Program NASA Centers in AL. CA. FL. MD. MS. OH. TX. VA

Want an on-campus job? You could walk away with one at the PHD CAREER FAIR

Mon., Dec. 4th 1:00-5:00pm Friday Ce 1:00-3:00 Network, 3:15-5:00 Interview, Net

UCS/ATN Job Fair Monday, Dec. 4 4:00-6:00 pm 206 Union

Freshmen thru Grad. Students Welcome. Jobs with ATN and Div. Of Student Affairs, Tech. Support. Requirements vary according to position. All skills from basic to advanced computer knowledge. Applications available at the Fair!

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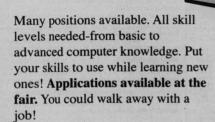
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Monday, Dec. 4 4:00-6:00pm

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✓Make contacts



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12/21

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