

Pitching, Baserunning Lift Baseball to Victory

By RANDY WELLINGTON Staff Writer

Never make the first or third out at third base. It's a well-known baseball rule.

That's why Adam Greenberg's daring steal of third with two outs in the bottom of the fifth inning was surprising. It was also crucial to North Carolina's 6-3 win against UNC-Wilmington at Boshamer Stadium on Wednesday.

Baseball UNC-W 3 UNC 6

The first four innings were scoreless. The Tar Heels' Carter Harrell didn't even allow a hit, using mostly fastballs to tame the Seahawks' bats.

"Those first four innings, I felt good. I was hitting my spots," Harrell said. "But then it slipped away a little bit."

In the top of the fifth, Harrell walked three and gave up two hits and two runs. UNC-W (8-2) had just scored its second run when Harrell was relieved by Scott Manshack with two outs in the inning.

"He was sailing along. But once he got the runner on base, he had to pitch from the set," said UNC coach Mike Fox. "He lost his rhythm."

Down 2-0, UNC (4-3) scored four runs with two outs in the bottom of the fifth thanks to an RBI single by Ryan Blake, a Greenberg double that drove in two and some daring base-running by the junior center fielder.

After his double, Greenberg stole third and advanced home on an errant throw by UNC-W catcher Eric Mitchell. "I'm confident on the bases," Greenberg said. "I just tried to catch them off guard."

Said Fox, "It's one of those plays where if it works, it looks great, and if it doesn't, people say, 'What the hell were you thinking?'"

The Tar Heels used three relievers to close out the victory. Manshack (1-0) got the win, pitching 1 2/3 innings. Whitley Benson followed Michael Gross with two scoreless innings to earn the save. Said Fox, "They all pitched well."

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

UNC Optimistic Heading Into ACC Championships

By BEN DeSANTIS Assistant Sports Editor

In the 1990s, the North Carolina men's swimming and diving team was the standard to which all other ACC teams were compared. From 1992-98, UNC won six straight conference titles.

Recently, however, the pendulum has swung toward Virginia, which has won back-to-back ACC crowns and is favored to four-peat this weekend in College Park, Md.

But as the Tar Heels left Tuesday for the ACC championships, little was said about the Cavaliers.

"If any team can beat Virginia, we can," said junior Judd Glasco. "But we're going up there to get some guys their NCAA times and focus on ourselves."

Senior Kevin Erndl said UNC's recent shortened practices have it rested and ready for this weekend.

"This year we've had some of the best structured tapered sessions in the four years I've been here," Erndl said. "Everyone seems to have their head on straight right now."

Coach Frank Comfort said his team is in great position for a strong showing at Maryland and should qualify several individuals and relay teams for the NCAA championships, held March 28-30 in Athens, Ga.

"We're in a position where we haven't been before," he said. "We're rested, and our tapered sessions have us where we want to be. We're really excit-

ed about this opportunity."

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

Tar Heels Aim to Keep Streak Alive

By MIKE OGLE Senior Writer

North Carolina enters the Senior Game eyeing the ACC's bylaws again.

Last year, a win against Duke would have given the Tar Heels the regular-season crown outright. Instead, the loss forced them to share. However, UNC kept the top seed in the conference tournament by virtue of the tie-breaking rules.

Which brings us to the present - a time when the Tar Heels need a firetruck ladder to reach the top branch. The Tar Heels (7-18, 3-11) sit alone on the ACC's bottom rung, gloomy faces in hand.

But wait, here comes the squadron. If tonight UNC beats Clemson (13-15, 4-11), the only conference foe yet to burn the Tar Heels this season, and Georgia Tech downs Florida State (11-14, 4-10) on Saturday, UNC ties for last and gets to skip the tournament's dreaded play-in game. This of course all assumes a loss at Duke, barring Coach K Court's freezing over, and a Maryland win at FSU tonight.

Here's why: If three teams find themselves tied, seeding is determined by each team's record against the other two. UNC would be 3-1 in this scenario, above FSU (2-2) and CU (1-3).

"That's plain and simple," Kris Lang said after the Feb. 17 win against FSU. "The goal is to not play in the play-in game and win every game the rest of the season. We want to have the story-book ending."

But if the Tigers win, the Tar Heels' last streak standing crumbles - Clemson is 0-47 in Chapel Hill. That's how Jason Capel and Lang would end their careers at the Smith Center.

THE LOWDOWN ON TONIGHT'S GAME. Clemson (13-15, 4-11 in the ACC) vs. North Carolina (7-18, 3-11 in the ACC). Includes player stats for Ray Henderson, Jamar McKnight, Ed Scott, Tony Stockman, Orlando Melendez, Kris Lang, Joe Everett, and Brian Bersticker.

"It certainly is an amazing streak," said UNC coach Matt Doherty. "If we let it bother us, it will."

Doherty said he talked about the streak, but the team isn't too concerned. "We just want to climb the ladder,

one game at a time, one step at a time," said Melvin Scott.

Time is just about out.

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

CHOOSE the next DTH Editor. The Daily Tar Heel is seeking students to serve on the panel that will choose the editor of the DTH for the 2002-2003 school year.

The Lumina 620 Market St. Chapel Hill 932-9000. Take 15/501 South towards Pittsboro Exit Main St./Southern Village. Includes showtimes for Collateral Damage, John Q, Black Hawk Down, A Beautiful Mind, Hart's War.

Southwick Golf Course. March Madness Special. Gold Card Good Anytime 6 Green Fees \$115. Green Card Weekdays Only 6 Green Fees \$75. Silver Card Juniors/Seniors Weekdays Only 6 Green Fees \$50.

EASTERN FEDERAL THEATRES. MOVIES AT TIMBERLYNE. DRAGONFLY Daily 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45. RETURN TO NEVERLAND Daily 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15.

STUDENT TRAVEL. It's YOUR trip, take it! London \$303, Paris \$337, Madrid \$427, Amsterdam \$419, San Jose C.R. \$521, Rio de Janeiro \$670.

What do I know about me?... I know one day I'll want to start a family... but not now. Planned Parenthood logo.

Classified Advertising

For Rent, Roommates, Travel/Vacation, Services, Tutoring, Lost & Found. Includes listings for Granville Towers, College Digz.com, Spring Break '02, Bahamas Cruise, Cancun, Florida, and various roommates.