

Your guide to the Fall Classic

Welcome, members of the Church of Baseball. The World Series airs tonight on Fox, and that means no more Dane Cook "There's only one October" commercials on TBS. Hallelujah! More cause to rejoice: The Boston Red Sox vs. Colorado Rockies matchup blesses baseball fans like Sunday mass (first, eat the Tostito, then drink the Bud Light).

If you missed the early playoff action, thank the heavens for this World Series breakdown, complete with a revelation of who should win — on (news)paper. Please rise.

Starting Lineups: The Red Sox and the Rockies boast two of the best lineups in baseball, each with a number of sluggers and clutch supporting casts.



SAM ROSENTHAL
THE GARDEN STATE OF MIND

call-up, possesses nasty stuff, but he needs serious willpower to harness it on this stage. And Colorado places high hopes on Aaron Cook, slotted to start Game 4 — his first appearance since early August.

In any case, the Red Sox hold the advantage. ALCS MVP Josh Beckett's postseason ERA, 1.17, reflects his talent, which nobody on Colorado's staff can match. Curt Schilling represents more playoff experience than the entire Rockies' rotation, and he pitches big games as well as anyone.

The Rockies' best chances are beating up on Dice-K and Jon Lester (the injured Tim Wakefield's replacement), but they still stack up better than Fogg and Morales.

Bullpens: This one is a tossup. Both clubs excel at stifling opponents in the late innings, especially in the playoffs thus far.

Colorado's middle relief might be a notch better and deeper, and closer Manny Corpas baffles hitters.

But Boston's setup man/closer combination of Hideki Okajima and Jonathan Papelbon is the best in the bigs — nobody has scored on either in the playoffs.

X Factors: Both teams enter the Series hotter than Eva Longoria in a sauna. Boston rallied from a 3-1 series deficit to beat the Cleveland Indians, and the Rockies won 21 of the last 22 combined regular season and playoff games. But Colorado last played more than a week ago, and that kind of layoff doomed the Detroit Tigers last season.

In addition, Boston won a World Series in 2004. Most of the Rockies have never been to the playoffs. More than anything, that makes Boston the clear overdog to win.

But that's why they play the games. You may be seated.

Contact Sam Rosenthal at samrose@email.unc.edu.

Ababio, Carvajal get first goals in win

BY RACHEL ULLRICH
SENIOR WRITER

After sophomore defender Eddie Ababio drew a foul in the box during Tuesday's game against High Point, he wanted the penalty kick.

"I just wanted to get my first goal of the season," he said with a grin. "I was ready."

"And it felt good to finally find the net again. I was a forward and became a defender this year, so it feels good."

MEN'S SOCCER

High Point 0
UNC 4

Ababio was one of two players on the North Carolina men's soccer team to net his first goal in a 4-0 pounding of High Point.

Joan Carvajal, who had recorded 13 shots before the game, netted a beauty to end the Tar Heels' scoring in the 79th minute.

Carvajal, a junior transfer from Creighton, slammed the ball from 23 yards out, and it ricocheted off the right post into the net.

"Most importantly, it's good to help out the team," he said. "We got a good win. We're coming off that loss against Virginia Tech — it feels good. It's the first time I've scored with this team."

"It feels real good. It's exciting." The win brings the Tar Heels to 5-4-5 for the season and follows a tough 2-1 loss at the No. 5 Hokies last weekend.

It also starts off a three-game home stretch for the team, including a conference game Friday against Clemson.

"It was extremely important for our confidence," Ababio said.

"Coming off a 2-1 loss at VT, that was very hard on us."

"We got Clemson coming up, so we're just starting to get on a roll."

The Tar Heels rolled over High Point, with four different players scoring during the game.

Brian Shriver opened the scoring with a shot just outside the box off a Bill Dworsky assist in the 25th minute, and midfielder Garry Lewis closed the first half with a shot from the left corner of the box into the upper right.

The Tar Heels converted four of their 14 shots Tuesday, an enormous improvement from the season's .087 conversion rate before the game.

"I don't think it was a big change in terms of finishing per se, but I gotta give them credit — the goals were nice," head coach Elmar Bolowich said.

Bolowich cited more patience from attackers as key to the team's increased success.

"In the past, we had taken some shots maybe we weren't in a position to shoot or we were off balance a little bit, and tonight the guys did a much better job of that," he said.

Two freshmen saw their first minutes for UNC at this game, with Ryley Leech and Bradley Brown coming off the bench to allow starters recovery time before Friday's game, Bolowich said.

"We had to be sensitive to the fact that we have an ACC game coming up, and we are banged up as it is," he said. "There was no point in risking more injuries and (see starters) missing on Friday."

The Tar Heels outshot the Panthers 14-4, and keeper Brooks

Haggerty, who grabbed his second start this season, did not have to record a save until the 77th minute.

High Point rotated keepers during the half, but both starter Adam Ross and substitute Corey Whisenhunt allowed two goals and recorded three saves.

"We always just try to play our game," Carvajal said. "The last cou-

ple games we struggled a little bit ... and we kind of lost our rhythm.

Today we found our rhythm again.

"Playing at home is a little bit easier, and we gotta continue playing like this. Hopefully we can take this rhythm back to the next game."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

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