

# Tar Heels fall in ACC Tournament

BY GABE HIATT  
SENIOR WRITER

Buster Posey brought the thunder.

With storm clouds that would eventually delay the game rolling into the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville, the ACC Player of the Year from

**BASEBALL**  
UNC Florida State  
6 pinch hit a single for 2 RBI  
FSU 9 tie the score 5-5 against North Carolina.

The hit ignited a six-run ninth inning rally for the Seminoles, leading to a 9-6 FSU victory at the ACC Baseball Championship tournament.

"I knew he'd be coming up at some point," UNC coach Mike Fox said of Posey, who missed his

first collegiate start in his career to rest.

"They picked the right time (to use him) and we gave them the right time. That's why he's the best player in our conference," Fox said.

Posey got some help from the clouds, too. A thunderstorm halted play for over an hour soon after Posey's hit was followed by another single from Stuart Tapley.

North Carolina reliever Tim Federowicz came in for Rob Wooten right before the delay, and the rest wasn't kind to him. He gave up three runs upon his return.

"The biggest thing was just trying to keep my adrenaline up and trying to carry over the adrenaline that I had when I came in there at the first point," Federowicz said.

"I just had to make sure I went in there and threw strikes, and I did. They were hitting 'em out pretty good."

In the bottom of the ninth, the weather was again unkind to the Tar Heels.

With the bases loaded, catcher Mark Fleury smacked a ball to left field that looked to be a game-winning grand slam until the wind blew it back in for a sac fly. Still, that left two men on base with Seth Williams at the plate representing the tying run.

Williams also struck the ball hard to left field, but the wind pushed it just foul.

"(The weather) is not something you can control," Fox said. "If you're banking on that to win a game, and Mother Nature is in charge, you're

in real trouble."

Williams would end up walking to load the bases, but freshman slugger Brett Thomas, pinch hitting for sophomore Ryan Graepel, struck out looking for the final run.

The loss put the Tar Heels at 1-2 in Pool B and marked the second time UNC blew a lead in the tournament. They will return to North Carolina for a regional next weekend.

"This was a disappointing loss for us — to have a lead in the ninth inning and not get it done," Fox said. "It's not characteristic of our team but we've done it twice here."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu

# UNC bullpen struggles in relief at Jacksonville

BY GABE HIATT  
SENIOR WRITER

Throughout the season the bullpen was an asset for a North Carolina baseball team ranked No. 1 nationally by Baseball America.

At the 2008 ACC Championship tournament, the pitching staff sporting Division I's lowest ERA (2.63) showed glimpses of vulnerability.

"I think down the stretch if people had a knock on us, it was that we didn't have a good enough starting pitching to win in (an NCAA regional); we just gotta count on our bullpen," coach Mike Fox said. "I think we almost did the opposite here."

In each of UNC's two losses, the bullpen squandered solid outings from starters and blew one-run leads in the ninth inning.

"Those last three outs in any game — especially in this tournament, especially in the ACC — are the hardest ones to get," Fox said. "Any coach will tell you that."

ACC Pitcher of the Year Alex White mowed down the Virginia Cavaliers in the first game Wednesday to the tune of 11 strikeouts and one earned run over seven innings of work. But reliever Rob Wooten gave up two runs and the lead in the ninth inning.

The Tar Heels' deep lineup kept coming back, but neither Brian Moran nor Colin Bates, could hold the lead in the 11-inning contest.

Relief again could not be found in the Florida State game Saturday.

North Carolina entered the ninth inning with a 5-3 lead and lost the game 9-6. Wooten had trouble locating his pitches, walking two batters and allowing two hits and three runs, including the tying scores.

"I feel for Rob because he has been the guy for us the past couple of years," Fox said.

He pointed to Wooten's mechanics as the root of the problem. "Maybe (Wooten had) a little bit of an arm angle change and not that

good extension out front."

Whatever the case, something about the ACC Tournament spooks Wooten. In last year's contest in the same ballpark, he appeared in .11 innings in two games, walked two and allowed three runs on two hits for an ERA of 81.

But to define him by this tournament would be unfair.

Instead of placing the reliever in former closer Andrew Carignan's shoes — where he might garner greater visibility in the eyes of pro scouts — Fox said he chose to utilize Wooten as a reliever in a context closer to the true meaning of the word, bringing him in for the toughest stretch of games.

Wooten never complained. He appeared in 46.1 innings — more than any other relief man — and hurled 54 strikeouts versus 17 walks before the tournament, performing well enough to earn second-team All-ACC honors.

Fox is convinced Wooten will bounce back.

"He'll be fine," Fox said. "We still have a lot of confidence in him." Bates and Moran sit in similar circumstances as far as performing under par in the tournament compared to the regular season.

Both had their worst struggles in the first game, where Moran allowed two hits and a run. It was still disconcerting seeing them touched up after expecting dominance based on the regular season.

Before the tournament each pitcher appeared in almost as many innings as Wooten with ERAs under 1.8.

In the FSU game, Moran was only used against one batter to take advantage of his dominant hand. He allowed a hit anyway.

But before the tournament, the lanky lefty known for wicked breaking balls threw 60 strikeouts to only 12 walks. And in the victory against Wake Forest he retired the last two batters. Like Bates, he's only a second-year player.

"They're not gonna be perfect every time out," Fox said. "They're not gonna be robots. If they get hit you've got to go put them out there again."

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## LOCAL MUSIC

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at Open Eye last Friday. "You just kind of jam. It's definitely more of a challenge."

Despite the challenge, preconceptions exist as to what genre of music most cafe acts will generate — usually soft, acoustic folksy melodies.

Andrew Wein, a UNC junior who was at Open Eye as Langlas set up for Friday's show, said there is truth to that notion.

"It's certainly something cultural," he said. "I don't know who started it or when, but folk music has been complementary to the kind of people who want to go out and get coffee and relax and enjoy the atmosphere."

Langlas, who lives in Los Angeles, said she's seen a variety of shows at coffee shops, though.

"That kind of music can match well, but I've also been to coffee shops where there's jazz or hard rock," she said. "But as a singer-songwriter, you can actually fit, and the sound won't overpower the place."

Most important to Funck and Langlas, though, was the ability to meet new people and new artists.

"Even if people just take your card, you can run into musicians and line up gigs," Langlas said. "Any small

connection can be beneficial."

Langlas said she's spent the past four years doing shows and remembers a lot about playing shows in coffee shops in L.A. and Santa Barbara.

"A lot of times it's about meeting other musicians and opening for them potentially," she said.

And while Friday was Langlas' first time in North Carolina, she said any chance to do more touring is a plus.

"For me, the more I play, the more I end up writing songs. When you connect with people, that's what it's all about. You work on material, and it stems from that."

Funck shared a similar sentiment on the importance of meeting and listening to local musicians, expressing his new affinity for Durham band Red Collar, who he recently saw for the first time at Franklin Street's Local 506.

And he said the experience of playing at a cafe is something that will continue to attract him as he continues to perform at places like Triade.

"If you just want to chill and relax and check out something kind of pared down, I'd recommend it," he said. "It's straight to the root. There's something intimate and unpolished about it that's really nice."

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## NCAAS

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secrets by Friday."

The other two teams playing in Cary this weekend are somewhat more familiar. Elon, just 30 minutes down the road from Chapel Hill, pulled off an early-season 2-0 defeat of the Tar Heels that still stings a little.

"We've been thinking about that game all year," ACC Pitcher of the Year Alex White said. "We bring it up all the time for motivation. They really came in and took it to us."

The Tar Heels combine with No. 4 seeded Florida State and top overall seed Miami to give the ACC three teams in the top four NCAA seeds. The third seed is Stanford. That experience should give UNC a marked edge after going against the best in the nation.

"We've faced the best pitching and best hitting in the country," sophomore slugger Dustin Ackley said. "So I think that's a big preparation."

More immediately, however, the Tar Heels are coming off a disappointing early exit in the ACC Tournament.

"We didn't play well," Fox said. "I was probably as disappointed in the way we played as probably any point in the season. But all that's wiped away in the postseason."

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## BUSINESSES

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"We can do more to get our technology and ideas out in the marketplace where they're helping people," he said. "I hope while I'm leading the University of North Carolina, people feel like this is a place where they can take more risks."

Many in Research Triangle Park would like to see the University community do just that.

Douglas Reed, a Viamet director and general partner with Clay Thorp's firm, Hatteras Venture Partners, cited the successes of universities such as Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both of which have a history of investing in spin-off companies.

Like UNC, those schools are near major research parks that borrow faculty and ideas. But the University lags behind in the financial give-and-take, bringing in only about 4 percent of Stanford's licensing income and 20 percent of MIT's spin-off count.

"Looking at the way things are done successfully in these other places, there has to be an understanding that this is a portfolio," Reed said of universities' spin-off companies.

"The most important thing is to get as many of them as possible into the community, get as many of them funded as possible and recognize that many of them won't be successful."

There's been a national movement to broaden universities' focus from licensing patents to actually founding companies that market the protected technology.

UNC's Office of Technology Development has stepped up its own efforts during the past decade to help faculty know their options. Most of UNC's 42 spin-off companies have formed in those years, and only seven have failed.

But the University's start-up

number remains behind those of its peer public universities in California, Michigan, Texas and Wisconsin.

Starting a company is a significant sacrifice for faculty, and Thorp is unique among academics in his eagerness to navigate the patent protection, confidentiality agreements, contract negotiations and private fundraising it takes to do so.

Thorp expressed an interest in helping faculty and students down that track. Garheng Kong, a Viamet director on the investment team of Intersouth Partners, said Thorp's support of a project means something to people in his field.

"He has a very strong network," Kong said. "When he comes and says, 'I have an idea,' I usually pay attention to it."

Thorp's own history of inter-facing academic and commercial pursuits illustrates how the two can become intertwined.

Since 1993, 60 percent of the almost \$5 million in sponsored research for Thorp's UNC lab has come from industry sources, with \$2.8 million from companies in which Thorp or his brother has held financial interest.

UNC also receives licensing income from Xanthon technology and is a shareholder in Viamet. The Office of Technology Development did not disclose how much the University has received from either relationship.

As chancellor, Thorp will have no operational business roles but expects to maintain advisory relationships with Viamet, Hatteras Venture Partners, Pittsburgh-based Plextronics Inc., Illinois-based Ohm Corporation and Pasadena-based Osmetech Molecular Diagnostics, which owns Thorp's Xanthon technology.

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## AUTOPSY

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interviews are completed, which will be toward the end of next month.

"The reason I've given for keeping autopsy reports sealed will cease to exist at the end of June," he said, referring to the potential of false witnesses coming forward.

Michael Tadych, attorney for the N&O, said the paper filed the motion to release the records May 12. He said the autopsy reports are public record and should be unsealed.

"The General Assembly made autopsy reports done at request of the district attorney or medical examiner public record as a matter of law," he said.

"It's a matter of public access and providing information to the public, which may or may not be pertinent to the public trial."

Woodall said he has not considered partially releasing information or releasing the documents with the confidential portions blacked out.

He said that the judge will rule on the matter June 11 and that the judge could decide to make all of the information public.

"It's the judge's call, not mine."

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## KENAN

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port for Thorp on the part of the Kenan Trust. "We wanted to give him some momentum," Krasno said.

The six endowed professorships will be distributed to departments within the College of Arts and Sciences that have a high demand for honors courses.

"The dean of the college, in consultation with the senior associate dean, will decide where these positions end up," Thorp said. "And those departments will offer four more honors courses."

The additional faculty will not necessarily teach the new honors courses, but their presence will free up professors who otherwise would have been needed to teach large lectures to teach smaller classes.

"That's always been the stumbling block — not having enough honors courses," Kendall said.

Not only will the Honors Program benefit from the gift, with the new endowed positions, the College itself will reap the benefit of additional faculty members.

"That's the beauty of it," Thorp said. "We'll have the honors courses, but we'll also have new colleagues who will be doing research and teaching more courses."

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