

Sports

Previewing the major league playoffs

L.A. needs more Orel; Mets in six

The National League playoffs match the New York Mets against the Los Angeles Dodgers...

Doug Hoogervorst National League

good velocity but needs help from the bullpen to close games. Offensively, the Dodgers depend on Kirk Gibson, Steve Sax and Mike Marshall...

Wait, throw the records out the window! Clean all the slates! It's playoff time and the regular season is over...

To beat the Mets, the Dodgers will need strong pitching because of their anemic offense. Opening the series for L.A. will be Mr. Zero, Orel Hershiser...

L.A. suffered a setback when No. 2 starter John Tudor was scratched as the starter for Game 2. Tudor suffered a muscle spasm in his hip...

"No pitcher makes good hitters look so bad," read the Sports Illustrated playoff preview. Indeed, Tudor is an experienced pitcher who could swing the series if healthy.

Rookie Tim Belcher has been moved up to start Game 2. The Dodger righty (12-6, 2.91 ERA) has...

Dwight "Doc" Gooden. Gooden (18-9, 3.19 ERA) is the staff ace but lost three of his last four decisions in the regular season...

Rookie David Cone will go against Belcher tonight. Cone went 20-3 with a 2.22 ERA. He doesn't have Gooden's stuff, but he does have excellent control...

The Mets and Dodgers both have well-balanced bullpens, with New York possessing a slight edge thanks to the best lefty-righty closer combo in baseball...

Don't look for any offensive battles. Dodger Stadium is a graveyard for fly balls and both teams' starting pitching can shut down any offense...

The Mets have too much talent and offense for the Dodgers to handle. With Tudor and Gibson hobbled by injuries, L.A. is in trouble. Even the Dodger pitching can't save them since they will just about need four shutouts to win.

'Morgan Magic' means Bosox in 4

David Surowiecki American League

and Don Baylor, who I must admit was an essential member of the Sox even if only for a short time. If, by some miracle or cruel act of God (and I'm not talking about the one who hit .366 this year)...

The Oakland A's do have their strong points, however, and I'll enumerate them to appease their few true fans. They possess a potent offense laden with youth, power, speed and anabolic steroids...

Former UNC star Walt Weiss had a solid rookie season at shortstop for Oakland, hitting .250 and driving in 39 runs from the bottom of Tony LaRussa's lineup.

Boston will counter with second-year sensation Mike "Gator" Greenwell, and the underappreciated Dwight Evans. Greenwell hit .325 with 22 homers and 119 RBI.

was also among league leaders in virtually every other hitting category.

Any discussion of the Red Sox's offense would be incomplete without mentioning future Hall of Famer Wade Boggs. The superstar third baseman won his fifth batting title in six years this season and is showing no signs of letting up...

On the mound the A's are led by two-time 20-game winner Dave Stewart, a rejuvenated Storm Davis and former Dodger Bob Welch. Sure Stewart may be a decent pitcher, but how can you take him seriously when he blamed a recent losing streak on the fact that his pants were too tight?

The Sox, on the other hand, have the best pitching duo in the majors with Roger Clemens and Bruce Hurst. The former isn't called "Rocket" for nothing, while the latter has a curve that drops about six feet.

The bullpen is anchored by the first-year Bostonian Lee Smith, who picked up 29 saves this year — that's 14 more than the entire Red Sox staff in '87. Unfortunately for Boston, the California sun seems to have breathed new life into the record-setting Dennis Eckersley (45 saves, 2.35 ERA).

After examining all aspects of both teams, including Boston's miracle worker of a manager, Joe Morgan, the Wizard of Walpole, it should be obvious that the Red Sox simply cannot lose to Oakland. The verdict? Boston in four.

On Tap TODAY MENS SOCCER vs. Wake Forest, Fetzer Field, 4 p.m. FRIDAY MENS GOLF at Coastal Carolina Invitational...

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TAR HEEL SPORTS SHORTS WEDNESDAY MEN'S SOCCER vs. Wake Forest 2:00 PM FETZER FIELD Hardee's

Peterson leads golf

MEMPHIS — Katie Peterson fired a three-day total of four-over-par 220 to take the top individual honors at the Memphis Women's Intercollegiate golf tournament which concluded Tuesday.

North Carolina finished second in the 17-team tourney with a three-day total of 923. Kentucky won with a total of 910.

Duke finished sixth with a total of 949. Other UNC players were Donna Andrews, who tied for third with a total of 225; Suzy McGuire, who had a 237; Debbie Doniger, with 241; and Tara Hipp, with 249.

UNC's next outing will be at the University of Kentucky Invitational Oct. 14-16.

AP Top 20 1. Miami, Fla. (53) 4-0-0 1,153 2. UCLA (3) 4-0-0 1,088 3. Southern Cal (2) 4-0-0 1,037 4. Auburn 4-0-0 959 5. Notre Dame 4-0-0 910 6. Florida State 4-1-0 778 7. West Virginia 5-0-0 758 8. South Carolina 5-0-0 732 9. Nebraska 4-1-0 692 10. Oklahoma 3-1-0 606 11. Clemson 3-1-0 574 12. Alabama 3-0-0 501 13. Oklahoma State 3-0-0 485 14. Florida 5-0-0 424 15. Georgia 4-1-0 395 16. Wyoming 5-0-0 237 17. Michigan 2-2-0 196 18. Oregon 4-0-0 132 19. Washington 3-1-0 128 20. Arkansas 4-0-0 82 Others receiving votes: Colorado 68, Louisiana State 55, Hawaii 42, Duke 35, Houston 24, Rutgers 24, Indiana 15, Washington State 12, Penn State 11, Brigham Young 6, Western Michigan 6, Syracuse 5, Texas 5, Pittsburgh 2, Southwestern Louisiana 2, Ball State 1.

Field Hockey Top 10 1. Old Dominion (6) 11-0-0 120 2. UNC 7-1-0 114 3. Massachusetts 8-1-0 108 4. Northwestern 8-1-0 102 5. Delaware 7-1-0 96 6. Iowa 7-4-0 89 7. Northeastern 5-1-1 85 8. Stanford 3-1-0 78 9. Boston University 5-0-1 72 10. Connecticut 5-2-1 63

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Brown pleads for patience

By MIKE BERARDINO Sports Editor Four games. Four losses. Now, with Wake Forest and the seven-game Atlantic Coast Conference schedule in full view, UNC football coach Mack Brown says it's time to begin anew.

"We're starting over today," Brown told reporters Tuesday at his weekly press conference in Kenan Field House. "They have done everything that we have asked them to, and they have come up empty four times. We're throwing all the stats out."

Unfortunately for the Tar Heels, off to the school's worst start in over two decades, it's not quite that simple. Brown openly admitted the team is down after suffering consecutive defeats to South Carolina, Oklahoma, Louisville and Auburn. UNC has been outscored 144-65 so far this season.

"I asked the team Sunday, 'How many of you are depressed?' and every one of them raised their hands," Brown said. "Sure, they're depressed. I'm depressed. They haven't accomplished the goals they wanted to reach."

To this point Brown has been able to deflect what little criticism that has been hurled at his team with a time-tested shield called "difficulty of schedule." But now

it's ACC time, and these next seven games will be against teams a coach gets paid to beat.

"Rebuilding is a very hard thing on coaches and on players," said Brown, who went 1-10 in his first season at Tulane. "If you win, it makes the transition period a whole lot easier, but it's still tough. If you lose, it's impossible."

"The thing you can't do is give up on your players. We've got nice young people here that try hard. I'm not going to give up on them. If they win one ballgame, that may spearhead three or four more."

Until that first win comes, though, the Tar Heels may well start feeling an increasing amount of heat from their followers. Brown had a message for those fair-weather fans.

"People need to understand where we are," the coach said. "We need our fans to get behind us. If fans are going to give up this year they're not true Carolina fans. They are people who enjoy winning only."

"Don't be critical. Be positive. Come and support these young guys, and this team will get back the way it was in the early '80s."

Those were the days of winning seasons and Top 10 rankings, Lawrence Taylor and Kelvin Bryant. But those days are gone, at least until the renaissance of UNC

football is complete. Brown hopes to usher in this return to prominence with a group of youngsters, many of whom are freshmen — both the "true" and the redshirt variety.

According to the depth chart distributed Tuesday, 20 of the Tar Heels' top 46 players are freshmen or sophomores. Guys like Roy Barker, Eric Blount, Dwight Hollier, Eric Gash and Karekin Cunningham will be allowed to learn on the job this season.

How important is it for the Tar Heels to win soon? Not as important as most people think, Brown contends.

"Fans get very emotional by the week over wins and losses," he said. "But at this stage in our program, one win or one loss is not as critical as us being positive, us improving and us having two or three dominant years in recruiting."

"We're not as far away as it looks at 0-4. We're not like we were at Tulane. We don't have just 57 scholarship players. We've got some quality players. We don't have the same quality as the teams we've played, and that's why we've gotten off to a rough start. I'm as confident about our program now as I was the day I got here."

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STUDENTS TO WORK as parking monitors for UNC home football games. Monitors report to work 4 hours prior to kick-off. Earn \$3.75 per hour. Any persons or groups interested should contact LaBron Reid at 962-7144, or come by room 27 of the Security Services Bldg.

WOMEN AGES 18-30 treated for acne with tetracycline for 3 or more years prior to age 18 are needed for participation in study of bone mineral density. Takes only 1 hour. Contact Dr. Michael Carter, UNC Division of Orthopaedics, 966-1212.

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