UNC sweeps Terps, readies for road series

Sports

By Kelly Parsons **Sports Editor**

With just more than one week left in the regular season, the end is in sight for the North Carolina baseball team.

And so is — it hopes — the beginning of the road to the College World Series.

But first, the Tar Heels must get through two tough ACC series. No. 11 UNC (37-10) will travel Friday to Atlanta to play No. 15

Georgia Tech (33-14) before hosting No. 2 Virginia (43-5) May

BASEBALL

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UNC

the Yellow Jackets, as Maryland North Carolina

registered its fourth ACC sweep of the season last weekend

5

The Tar

Heels should

have plenty of

going into the

series against

momentum

with wins against Maryland. The struggling Tar Heels didn't qualify for the ACC baseball tour-

nament for the first time in program history in 2010, but UNC has shown improvement this season in conference play.

For catcher Jacob Stallings, leadership and pitching have made all the difference.

"Our pitching depth is just really good this year," Stallings said. We can run a number of guys out there on the weekend and feel confident about them."

In the first game against the Terrapins, senior pitcher Patrick Johnson struck out a career-high 12 batters in seven scoreless

innings to lead the Tar Heels to a 5-0 win.

On Saturday, clutch hits from seniors Ben Bunting and Greg Holt helped UNC sneak by the Terrapins in the 10th inning.

Ditching his cap and gown for a North Carolina uniform to help his team sweep a conference competitor made the weekend especially memorable for Bunting.

"It's surreal to finally get to graduate and get this sweep," Bunting said. "That puts us one step closer to being able to host a regional like we want to do. It's a

Freshman Colin Moran led UNC on Sunday with four hits in five at-bats. The third baseman also registered his 60th RBI of the season — an achievement only three other UNC freshmen have ever accomplished.

"There's been a lot of great players that have come through here, so to compare my name with some of the others, to be in the same sentence as some of them is pretty cool," Moran said.

As the Tar Heels prepare to face their final two regular season

ACC opponents, Coach Mike Fox said making sure his players begin a healthy summer routine will be crucial.

The road ahead might prove to be tough for the Tar Heels, but as long as his team focuses on the task at hand, Fox said he thinks his team is ready for the chal-

'We'll have our hands full the last two series," Fox said. "But we also have something to play for."

> Contact the Sports Editor at sports@dailytarheel.com.

MEN'S LACROSSE: NOTRE DAME 8, UNC 9

UNC tops Notre Dame, Tar Heel women's lacrosse grabs No. 8 NCAA seed

By Kelly Parsons **Sports Editor**

After jumping to a 6-2 lead in the first three quarters against Maryland in the ACC Tournament semifinals in April, the North Carolina men's lacrosse team looked as if it would be soon playing for its 12th conference title.

But 15 minutes and a 5-0 Terrapin run later, the Tar Heels' championship dreams were dashed, and $\bar{\text{UNC}}$ (10-5) fell 7-6.

North Carolina's fourth-quarter heartbreaker illustrated the importance of playing a complete game — something coach Joe Breschi is hoping his team can accomplish when the No. 8-seeded Tar Heels host Maryland (10-4) on Sunday at 1 p.m. in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"One of the things that we have to continue to improve on is finishing games, finishing plays," Breschi said. "We played great for 45, maybe even 48 minutes against Maryland, but we failed to finish our opportunities."

The postseason game will be the third time the Tar Heels have taken on Maryland this season. UNC beat the Terrapins 11-6 when the team traveled to College Park for a regular season game in

North Carolina's familiarity with the Terrapins will help the Tar Heels prepare for the matchup, but Breschi said the biggest benefit for UNC is the game's location. The Tar Heels are 20-1

"From a preparation standpoint, it's certainly helpful because you know their personnel very well," Breschi said. "The benefit of us playing at home is a huge opportunity for us. The biggest advantage is the heat, in Chapel Hill, on our home field."

The top eight seeded teams in the NCAA tournament earn the



DTH/ERIN HULL

Freshman midfielder Ryan Creighton attempts to dodge a Notre Dame defender. Creighton had two goals in the win against the Fighting Irish.

privilege of hosting a first-round tournament matchup. The Tar Heels clinched a playoff berth and the No. 8 seed with Friday's overtime victory against then-No. 3 Notre Dame.

After giving up three goals in the final minute and a half to allow the Fighting Irish to tie the game, the then-No. 12 Tar Heels once again found themselves in a compromising situation.

It was senior night at Fetzer Field, but freshman Pat Foster would be the answer to the Tar Heels' prayers. With just under three minutes to go in the first overtime period, the attackman scored the game-winning goal to lift UNC to a 9-8 win against Notre Dame (10-2).

"Our plan was just that I was going to go behind (the goal) with Billy (Bitter), and just kind of run a two-man game," Foster said. "I just kind of took the eye to the goal and shot it and just let it fly."

Breschi said his team will focus on eliminating late-game slipups in order to stop its opponents'

fourth-quarter comebacks.

And with a national championship on the line, there's no better motivation, he said.

"You can call this a revenge game, you can call it kind of a rubber match," Breschi said. "But the fact that we're at home and the idea of finishing a 60-minute game is what we're really shooting for, certainly now that it's the playoffs and it is a win-or-gohome mentality."

> $Contact\ the\ Sports\ Editor$ at sports@dailytarheel.com.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE: HIGH POINT 4, UNC 20

earns No. 3 NCAA seed

By Kelly Parsons Sports Editor

When the No. 3-seeded North Carolina women's lacrosse team hosts Virginia in the first round of the NCAA tournament Saturday, the Tar Heels will be taking on a familiar foe.

UNC (13-5) beat the Cavaliers (9-8) twice during the 2010-11 campaign - once in the regular season and most recently in the quarterfinals of the ACC Women's Lacrosse Championship.

North Carolina coach Jenny Levy was a member of UVa.'s national championship lacrosse team in 1991 alongside current Virginia coach Julie Meyers.

The Tar Heels won't be surprised by the Cavaliers, Levy said in a press release. "We've played them twice already this season and played them last year in the NCAA quarterfinals, so we know how good and how capable they are," Levy said. "We're excited to play anyone and expect a great game on Saturday."

The Tar Heels ousted Virginia from the NCAA tournament last season with a 17-7 win. The victory earned UNC a spot in the final four, where it lost to five-time national champion Northwestern.

North Carolina helped seal its tournament bid Friday with a 20-4 win against High Point in its

"We've played them twice already...so we know how good and how capable they are."

Jenny Levy,

UNC women's lacrosse coach

regular season finale. Attacker Becky Lynch and midfielder Laura Zimmerman combined for UNC's first six goals, and Lynch led UNC against the Panthers (15-4) with four goals and four assists. The junior now has 67 career assists, and a school-record 32 so far in the 2010-11 season.

The Tar Heels' season-high 20 goals came from 27 shots - a shooting percentage that senior attacker Corey Donohoe said she was especially proud of.

"Even if a shot was there, we were passing that up for even a better shot," Donohoe said. "The unselfishness of our team and playing with each other and getting other teammates open for wide open shots was really key to that high shooting percentage." Taking control early was the

Tar Heels' plan of attack - and it proved successful after North Carolina stormed to a 7-0 lead with almost 24 minutes left in the first half. Monopolizing possession

allowed the Tar Heels to go into halftime with a 15-2 lead.

"The team that gets the most possessions is usually the one that gets the most shots off, so draw control, I think, is one of the most important things in the whole game," Lynch said. "We've been really been stressing that in prac-

tice and it's working out for us in

The Tar Heels had not played a game since their 12-7 loss to Maryland in the ACC Championship on April 24. But North Carolina's dominance against the Panthers proved to its players that the team is capable of picking up right where it left off at a high level of play.

The Tar Heels are no doubt looking to return to the final four for the third consecutive year.

But even after a successful regular season finish, the team isn't looking too far ahead just yet.

"We've been off for two weeks... for us it's good to get out on the field and shake out our legs," Levy said. "And from there, (we will) just play one game at a time."

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Off to Japan

A recent graduate has left for Japan to help organizations care for rescued animals. See pg. 3 for story.

The Ackland Art Museum's

Ackland store opens

store opened on May 5 to a favorable response. See pg. 5 for story.

End of an era The death of Osama bin Laden prompted celebration from students. See pg. 3 for story.

Mental health merger

'You are a Tar Heel'

Two N.C. mental health centers have combined for the goal of better service. See pg. 4 for story.

Chancellor Holden Thorp and

others spoke to new graduates on

Sunday. See online for slideshow.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

1 Edible bow ties 6 Largemouth fish 10 Places 14 Twitter message

15 Provoke 16 Shimmery sushi fish 17 God of Islam 18 "Happy Gilmore" actor Sandler

19 Song sung alone 20 Good reason to reopen a closed case 23 Intent 24 Former franc fraction

25 Broad genre that began in

31 Important purchase for a 35 "__ Fideles": Christmas carol

Van Gogh's time

36 Miami University state 38 "Figured it out!" 39 Emeralds and diamonds 40 Enlarge, as a road 42 Elvis __ Presley 43 "Who am __judge?

45 Natural ability __ Rica 49 Original thought 51 LAX or JFK, for American Airlines

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61 Festive party 62 Tree house?

63 Spine-chilling 66 Like Homer's "Iliad" 67 Hudson Bay native 68 Furnish with more

69 Eraser crumb site 70 Pay attention to 71 Eyelid woes **DOWN**

weapons

1 "Harper Valley _ 2 Hole-making tool 3 Ego 4 Rip 5 Deep down inside

6 Rodeo bull 7 White House staffer 8 Pole or Czech 9 Big rigs

10 One who puts on airs 11 Atop 12 Soft rock

13 Horse's footwear

21 Muscular

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22 Birdbrain, or extinct bird 44 Slap on, as paint 25 Hocus-pocus 46 Casbah city

Keats titles 50 Blew off steam 27 Band samples 52 Where second stringers sit 28 Twisty road curve 54 Like fine wine

29 Beverly Hills's __ Drive 55 Scruff 30 Alexander-Great link 56 Yale alumni 57 Richard of "Chicago"

32 Like some seals 33 Glistened

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