

Late rally saves Tar Heels

BY MIKE EHRLICH
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After earning its first top-25 ranking of the season, the North Carolina softball team should have entered Wednesday's contest with Elon with all the momentum in the world.

But for the first five innings, it didn't play like it. After UNC's bats were uncharacteristically silent through the first five frames, the No. 23 Tar Heels came alive in the sixth to score nine runs en route to a 9-1 win at Anderson Stadium.

The rally was started by a Breanna Brown single, and then the merry-go-round started on the basepaths. The inning included four RBI singles and an RBI double, and it was capped by a three-run home run by third baseman Alyssa Francona.

"I think a lot of times it just takes one person kind of breaking it open," UNC coach Donna J. Papa said.

"It's kind of a momentum thing, and I think Bree Brown did a really good job of getting that inning started. Then Cassie (Palmer) put a nice bunt down, and then we just had some timely hits."

But the rally, though impressive, came much later than Papa would have liked.

The Tar Heels (13-3) have been an early-inning team this year. Entering

Wednesday, UNC had scored 66 runs in the first two innings to just 10 in the last two. But against Elon (6-5), it took a little longer.

"I don't think we were as disciplined as we normally are," Papa said. "I told them I was really disappointed because I feel like we didn't respect our opponent today. We went through the motions for five innings."

The 1-0 deficit the Tar Heels faced could have been worse. Starting pitcher Amber Johnson was pulled after allowing the lone Elon run in three innings of work. But then freshman Faith Sutton came in and shut the door on the Phoenix bats.

She pitched three innings and allowed just one hit, striking out six batters and keeping her season 0.00 ERA intact.

"I just went as hard as I could, and just tried to keep it off the plate a little bit," Sutton said. "And then go right at them instead of keeping the count high."

With Sutton keeping Elon at bay, the door was open for a comeback. Emily Troup's blooper scored Brown to tie the game at one apiece, and then a Whitney Allen seeing-eye single got through the left side of the infield to knock across the go-ahead run.

Up by a run, Francona stepped to the plate. One moonshot over the right-centerfield wall later, the Tar Heels were in the driver's seat with a four-run lead. And they didn't look back, adding four more



DTH/NICOLAS GULLETT

North Carolina freshman right-hander Faith Sutton made a relief appearance in UNC's 9-1 victory against Elon on Wednesday.

in the frame.

"I was just trying to put the ball in play, and I knew we had some girls on base," Francona said of the home run. "Some of the pressure was off because we had already scored the winning run. I just wanted to keep the rally going."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

National and World News

FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Debate unlikely to sway Ohio voters

CLEVELAND (AP) — Democrats Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are making their final pitches to voters in Ohio and Texas, must-win contests for Clinton, after a mostly somber and policy-filled debate that seemed unlikely to alter the political calculus of the race.

At the final debate before next Tuesday's contests, which also include races in Vermont and Rhode Island, the two engaged in sometimes testy exchanges. The two sparred over health care, the war in Iraq and trade, particularly the North American Free Trade Agreement that was negotiated in her husband's first term but is seen by critics as a chief culprit in the loss of manufacturing jobs in Ohio.

Clinton needs big wins after 11 successive Obama victories and after Obama's steady increase in gathering delegates. It seemed unlikely the debate at Cleveland State University would provide that lift.

Investigation probes Marines' failure to deliver requested trucks and lasers

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — An investigation into allegations that the Marine Corps delayed sending blast-resistant trucks to Iraq also will examine whether the Marines were negligent in delivering a laser to divert drivers and people from checkpoints and convoys.

Marines on the front lines sought the tool, known as a Compact High Power Laser Dazzler, but stateside acquisition officials didn't deliver

it, said a civilian Marine Corps official. A less capable laser was eventually sent, but delays of nearly 18 months may have led to an untold number of Iraqi civilian casualties.

The deaths and injuries occurred when civilians mistaken as the enemy got too close to guarded areas and U.S. troops lacked a non-lethal way of forcing them away, according to the official.

Mohawk leads to school suspension

PARMA, Ohio (AP) — A kindergarten student with a freshly spiked Mohawk has been suspended from school.

Michelle Barile, the mother of 6-year-old Bryan Ruda, said nothing in the Parma Community School handbook prohibits mohawks. The school claims it's distracting.

Mohawks violate the school's policy on proper grooming, school Principal Linda Geyer said.

Local tribes rule in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — More than six years after the U.S. invaded to establish a stable central regime in Afghanistan, the Kabul government under President Hamid Karzai controls just 30 percent of the country.

The resurgent Taliban controls 10 percent to 11 percent of the country and Karzai's government controls 30 percent to 31 percent. The majority of Afghanistan's population and territory remains under local tribal control.

ECLIPSE TANNING SALON

Spring Break Is Only 10 Days Away...

Get Your Base Tan Before You Hit the Beaches in March!

February Special

Buy 10 tans, get 3 FREE upgrades!

Not valid with any other offers. Expires 3/7/08

New Clients Only

3 TANS for \$10.00

Cannot be combined with other offers.

Sunless Tan

\$5.00 OFF Airbrush Tanning

Cannot be combined with other offers.

105 A Rams Plaza • 968-3377

306A W. Franklin St.

FAST DELIVERY

919-968-3278

OPEN LATE HOURS

Mon-Wed: 4pm-3am
Thursday: 4pm-3:30am
Fri & Sat: 11am-3:30am
Sun: 11am-2am

\$3.00 OFF

REGULAR MENU PRICE

ANY SPECIALTY PIZZA

OR ANY 2-ITEM PIZZA

OFF REGULAR PRICE ONLY. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR COUPONS.

HOME ALONE

SMALL 1-ITEM PIZZA

OR POKEY STIX

+ 1 CAN SODA

\$6.99

BELLY BUSTER

LARGE 1-ITEM PIZZA

+ LARGE POKEY STIX

+ 6 PEPPERONI ROLLS

+ 10 WINGS AND FREE 2-LITER

ALL 5 - \$29.99

14" ALL-MIXED-UP

CHOOSE 2 FOR \$17.99

CHOOSE 3 FOR \$26.99

CHOOSE ALL 6 : \$49.99

+14" 1-ITEM PIZZA + 7 PEPPERONI WINGS

+15 BUFFALO WINGS + 15 BONELESS WINGS

+14" POKEY STIX +14" CINNAMON SWIRL

Offers may expire without notice

DON'T MISS THIS WEEKEND'S UNION FREE MOVIES

*** Admission with UNC Student One Card ***

Friday, February 29

7pm...LARS & THE REAL GIRL

9:30pm...MICHAEL CLAYTON

Saturday, March 1

7pm...MICHAEL CLAYTON

9:30pm...LARS & THE REAL GIRL

presented by: carolina union activities board film committee

www.unc.edu/cuab • cuab@unc.edu

Triangle Institute for Security Studies

and the

Global Education Center at UNC

present

Zbigniew Brzezinski

former US National Security Advisor

speaking on

"Global Security Challenges"

at The Global Education Center
UNC-Chapel Hill Campus

March 5th, 2008, 7:45 pm.

Free to the public

For more information visit:
www.tiss-nc.org

Free Public Lecture

CAROLINA CENTER for JEWISH STUDIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Jewish Music and All That Jazz

JOSHUA JACOBSON,
Professor of Music and
Director of Choral Activities,
Northeastern University,
will examine the impact
of American life on Jewish
composers and the impact
of Jews on American music.

Monday, March 3
7:30 p.m.

Sonja Haynes Stone
Center Theatre
ccjs.unc.edu
(919) 962-1509

KAPLAN-BRAUER LECTURE ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF JUDAISM TO CIVILIZATION