

ONE PLAY AND IT'S 'FINIS' FOR ELON HALFBACK



Paul Watts, a speedy senior halfback, is shown above as he raced around end for a substantial gain against the Appalachian Mountaineers in the game played at Burlington on Saturday night, October 1st, but the single play in the App battle marked "finis" to the Elon grid career of the Taylorsville speedster. Watts sustained a broken collar-bone on the play and is out of action for the remainder of the season. It marked the second straight year that he had fallen victim to injury, for he was out most of last season with a leg injury sustained in the opening game with The Citadel. Winning letters in: football, baseball and track last year. Watts became Elon's only three-sport man of recent years.

Christian Basketball Squad To Play Twenty-Five Foes In Coming Season



Walking The Chalk-Lines

By BILL WALKER

The Elon basketballers will play a rugged 25-game schedule during the coming 1955-56 cage season, according to a schedule released this week by Coach Doc Mathis, and the Christian tossers are already getting in a bit of early practice in preparation for the battles ahead.

The schedule shows sixteen battles with North State Conference opponents, home-and-home contests with each of the other eight clubs in the loop. In addition to these Conference contests, the slate includes two battles each with Pfeiffer College, DuPont and the McCrary Eagles and three games with Belmont Abbey College. The odd contest with Belmont Abbey is to be played on the floor of the Lexington Y.M.C.A.

The complete schedule, including only regular-season games, follows:

- Nov. 30—Pfeiffer, away.
Dec. 1—Belmont Abbey, at Lexington
Dec. 7—McCrary, away
Dec. 10—High Point, away
Dec. 13—Guilford, away
Dec. 31—Belmont Abbey, away
Jan. 2—DuPont, away
Jan. 4—Pfeiffer, home
Jan. 7—East Carolina, away
Jan. 11—A.C.C., home
Jan. 14—Catawba, home
Jan. 16—Belmont Abbey, home
Jan. 18—Appalachian, home
Jan. 21—West Carolina, away
Jan. 25—Lenoir Rhyne, home
Jan. 28—Catawba, away
Jan. 30—McCrary, home
Feb. 1—High Point, home
Feb. 4—West Carolina, home
Feb. 8—Appalachian, away
Feb. 11—East Carolina, home
Feb. 13—A.C.C., away
Feb. 16—Lenoir Rhyne, away
Feb. 18—Guilford, home

WHAT'S WRONG?

Mississippi Southern trounces Elon. The Citadel outlasts the Christians. Appalachian hands the Elonites a demoralizing defeat; and now—last, but not least—in the battle of the three-time losers—East Carolina chalks its first win at the expense of the Maroon and Gold eleven.

So it has been through the first four weeks of the 1955 season, a season in which sports prophets had ranked Elon among the favorites in the North State Conference, and it seems that the campus question has become "How badly were they beaten?" instead of "Did Elon win?"

What's wrong? Is it the fault of the school? It appears that the school has definitely done its part and is meeting the athletes more than half-way. The school quite definitely has lined up here boys who should be capable of playing as good ball as any in the Conference.

What's wrong? Is it the fault of the coaches? This, above all else, I totally and 100 per cent doubt. I heard the words of Coach Varney after seeing his team defeated at The Citadel, and he gave his boys a great hand for their effort in that game. He was proud of them and told them so, declaring to the boys, "You played your hearts out and deserved to win. If you play the rest of the season like you played tonight, we'll go places, mostly to the top."

Now, tell me what can a coach do? What would you do? Quite often in practice a player or players will drive and fight like potential Little All-Americans, and then comes the game, and their minds go seemingly blank as they forget how to run and tackle and even how to hustle. What's a coach to do? Would you put in a replacement who had

been doing worse in practice all week? You tell me, and then we'll both know!

What's wrong? Is it the fault of the team? Maybe, but not completely. Sure, I know what you're thinking, and it's true that the boys looked far from good as they lost to Appalachian, but one must admit that—as bad as the team looked that night—some of the boys played a good game. For that reason you cannot condemn the whole team. The boys who looked good against the Apps aren't necessarily the ones who looked good in other games. Different boys have had different nights to shine.

Well, what IS wrong? Whose fault is it? Who's responsible? Maybe we'll never know, and then again, maybe we will. Only time will tell.

One thing is certain. Elon plays host to Newberry here Saturday night, so let's all go out to Burlington Memorial Stadium and let the team know that we're still with them and pulling for them to win. Let's stay behind the team and let the boys know it's one for all and all for one.

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Senior Guards Lead Cagers

Ray Whitley and Ben Kendall, a pair of hustling senior guards, will co-captain the Elon College cagers during the coming 1955-56 basketball season. The two have just been elected by vote of members of the Christian squad.

Whitley, who hails from Winston-Salem, is starting his fourth successive season in an Elon uniform. He was a starter at guard in most of the Christians' games last winter and was one of the leading scorers for the season.

Kendall, a native of Kokomo, Ind., is also starting his fourth Elon cage campaign, but his play was interrupted for the

past two winters by a tour of duty with the U.S. Army. Remembered by Elon fans as an outstanding jump shot and driver, Kendall twice won All-Conference honors as a freshman and sophomore.

The new Christian cage captains will lead a squad that includes seven lettermen as a nucleus. The lettermen, in addition to the two captains, include Ed Juratic, East Chicago, Ind.; Dee Atkinson, Mount Airy; Earl Stone, Wentworth; Frank DeRita, Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Ronnie Mazzilli, Brooklyn, N.Y. There are also a number of experienced reserves from last year's squad.

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Newberry Is Elon's Next Foe

Apps Defeat Elon Gridders In 19-0 Game

By BILL WALKER

Elon's Fighting Christians could do nothing right in taking a 19 to 0 "mud battle" defeat at the hands of the Mountaineers of Appalachian before a home-town crowd of 6,500 that watched in Burlington Memorial Stadium on Saturday night, October 1st.

The Christians looked every way but good in absorbing their third straight defeat of the season and that before the largest home crowd in the history of Elon football. The Mountaineers, who played a good game, but definitely not a great one, seemed to move at will through most of the battle against a Maroon and Gold outfit that could never get completely organized.

HOW IT HAPPENED

Table with 2 columns: Elon, Appalachian. Rows include First Downs, Yards Gained Rushing, Yards Lost Rushing, Net Yards Rushing, Passes Attempted, Passes Completed, Yards Gained Passing, Net Yards Scrimmage, Opp. Passes Intercepted, Runback Intercepted Passes, Number of Punts, Ave. Yards Punt, Fumbles Lost, Yards Penalized.

Score by Periods:
Elon 0 0 0 0—0
Appalachian 0 6 7 6—19
Appalachian touchdowns—Kiser 2, Ollis. Points after—Ollis (placement).

The Elon squad, which found a number of breaks going its way, could never capitalize on any of them in any way except as an aid in holding the App score down. One of the breaks came when an Appalachian touchdown on an intercepted pass was called back for a penalty.

The first quarter saw the opposing teams doing virtually nothing, the only threat coming late in the period when the Apps reached the Elon six with a first-and-ten. The Christians held there as the second quarter began. However, they were unable to move, and Tom Shepperson punted out to mid-field.

The Mountaineers moved from there for the first score, with Charles Taylor's two passes to Bob Poe for 14 and 10 yards figuring in a drive right back to the Elon six. Jim Kiser, the Apps' driving fullback, carried from there for the score. Try for point failed, and the score was 6-0.

That was the intermission count, for neither team could move the ball effectively the rest of the half. Only highlight as the first half closed came on defense, when the two teams pulled three interceptions on two plays. Jimmy Moore intercepted Richard Bradhaam's heave at mid-field and lateralled off, only to have Charlie Michaux intercept the lateral for Elon. Elon passed again on the next play, only to have Moore intercept once more for the Mountaineers.

In the early minutes of the second half the Christians dominated play, moving once to the App 28 and again to the App 12, but on neither thrust was Elon able to score. After the Christian forward motion ended at the twelve, the Apps kicked to mid-field. From there Elon started to move again, but Jim Ollis intercepted on his own thirty-four and raced 66 yards for a second App TD, adding the extra point for a 13-0 margin as the third quarter came to an end.

It was early in the final period that Jim Ollis intercepted again and raced 45 yards for what looked like a touchdown, but a

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Elon Shows Well In Return Of Kicks In Early Contests

Despite the dismal record of four consecutive defeats to open the 1955 football season, the Fighting Christians have been shining in one department this fall, that being in the return of enemy kicks.

The statistics sheets from the battles with Mississippi Southern, The Citadel, Appalachian and East Carolina disclose that the Elon gridders have brought 25 enemy kick-offs and punts for a total of 488 yards, an average of almost 20 yards per kick.

A quick check-back to last year's records discloses that in this department the Christians have improved this fall, for in the first four battles last year the Maroon and Gold outfit had only returned 22 kicks for 376 yards, more than 100 yards below the 1955 total in four games.

Leading the squad in kick returns this fall, just as was the case last year at the four-game mark, is little Kerry Richards. Richards, who averaged almost exactly 25 yards per carry in run-backs last fall, was topping that figure in the first three games this fall, but he slipped back in last week's game at East Carolina, when he had only one return for 12 yards.

The statistics thus far show Richards with 8 runbacks for a total of 187 yards, which gives him an average of slightly better than 23 yards per return. The "Nubber" had one return of better than 50 yards called back in the Mississippi Southern game, which would have put him well ahead of his last year's average.

Not far behind Richards in the kick return field is Whitney Brad-

BRING 'EM BACK



KERRY RICHARDS

ham, who has brought back eight kicks so far this season for a total of 153 yards, an average of almost exactly 19 yards per carry. This is far ahead of his mark after four games last fall, when he had returned 5 kicks for 64 yards. Others who have had lengthy kick returns of 30 yards or better this fall are Richard Bradham and Eddie Bridges.

East Carolina Defeats Christian Eleven, 13-0

The Fighting Christian gridders were still seeking an effective aerial attack as they went down before the East Carolina Pirates 13 to 0 in a North State Conference football battle at Greenville last Saturday night, October 8th.

In a game played beneath murky and threatening skies and before an East Carolina homecoming crowd of 8,000 fans, the gold-jerseyed Christians flashed moments of greatness on the ground and threatened more than once with their rushing attack. The passing threat, however, was still missing, and Elon suffered her fourth successive defeat of the 1955 campaign.

HOW IT HAPPENED

Table with 2 columns: Elon, East Carolina. Rows include First Downs, Yards Gained Rushing, Yards Lost Rushing, Net Gain Rushing, Passes Attempted, Passes Completed, Yards Gained Passing, Total Gains Scrimmage, Opp. Passes Intercepted, Runback Intercepted Passes, Number of Punts, Ave. Distance Punt, Yards All Kicks Returned, Fumbles Lost, Yards Penalties.

Score by Periods:
Elon 0 0 0 0—0
East Carolina 0 7 0 6—13
East Carolina touchdowns—Perry 2. Points after—Collier

The Christians had all the better of the argument in the opening period, which saw the Maroon and Gold outfit chalk three first downs to one for the Pirates, but an early Elon threat fizzled at the East Carolina fifteen when a fourth-down pass grounded in the end zone.

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Indians Play Christian '11' On Saturday

The Indians are on the warpath again, and history majors and just plain Elon students and fans can see the Indian Wars reenacted right before their eyes, and that from a grandstand seat, when the Newberry Indians invade Burlington Memorial Stadium at 8 o'clock Saturday night for the sole purpose of lifting the football scalp of the Elon Fighting Christians.

Tomahawks and blunderbusses were the chosen weapons when the Christian settlers of colonial days battled the savage Indians of yore, but the victory this weekend will be settled with a prolate and inflated spheroid of polished pig-skin, and Elon's Christians are busy this week perfecting their techniques in the use of this chosen weapon.

ELON-NEWBERRY SCORES

- 1940—Elon 6, Newberry 6.
1946—Elon 0, Newberry 20
1947—Elon 3, Newberry 0.
1948—Elon 7, Newberry 20.
1949—Elon 26, Newberry 12.
1950—Elon 13, Newberry 6.
1951—Elon 13, Newberry 12.
1952—Elon 20, Newberry 11.
1953—Elon 6, Newberry 33.
1954—Elon 0, Newberry 26.

There is small basis for comparison of the two teams in the year's scores, for the Newberry and Elon elevens have yet to meet a common foe this fall, but the wild exploits of Coach Harvey Kirkland's redskin outfit against other early foes indicate that Elon will face a very rugged evening indeed come Saturday night.

The invading Newberry outfit has not fared so well against other North State foes, having lost to Catawba and tied Lenoir Rhyne in battles this season, but Coach Harvey Kirkland's lads beat Furman in the opener, and last weekend the Indians walloped the power-laden Wofford Terriers by a decisive 18 to 6 margin.

There is plenty of warning to be seen in Newberry's decisive victories of the past two years over the Elon gridders, for the South Carolina eleven rolled for five touchdowns in 1953 and rolled for four scores last year. In each game the Newberry defense was such as to hold Elon's attack in virtually complete check.

The Newberry backfield, rated by many as the fastest small-college quartet ever seen on a North and South Carolina field, will once more have little Danny Bradham calling the signals from the quarterback slot, with fleet-footed Paul Davis and Grady Ray running from the halfbacks, and with jet-driven Jimmy Haselton driving from fullback.

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Elon Football

- Elon 0, Miss. Southern 39.
Elon 18, The Citadel 26.
Elon 0, Appalachian 19.
Elon 0, East Carolina 13.
(Remaining Games)
Oct. 15—Newberry, home.
Oct. 22—Catawba, away.
Oct. 29—West Carolina, home.
Nov. 5—Naval App., home.
Nov. 12—Lenoir Rhyne, away.
Nov. 19—Guilford, away.

Chowan Tops J-V Gridders

The Chowan College eleven, strong contenders in the North Carolina junior college conference, grabbed a 25 to 14 victory over the Elon junior varsity at Murfreesboro last Thursday night as both teams flashed some brilliant offensive plays.

The Elon Jay-Vees scored early when Bobby Joe Moser raced the opening kick-off back past mid-field to start a drive. Joe DelGais climaxed this early drive when he sprinted six yards for the score. Ronnie Kinsley booted the point.

The Chowan outfit, paced by Jackie Warren, a speedy halfback, scored twice before Elon counted again. Warren had runs of 72 and 65 yards for Chowan TD's and the junior college outfit put together sustained drives for their other two scores.

The Elon youngsters pulled the count to 19-14 in the third quarter when Bobby Joe Moser tossed a jump pass to Tony Carcaterra, lanky Elon end, who went eight yards for the score. Kinsley also kicked the point after this touchdown.

Elon To Engage Catawba Eleven

The Catawba Indians will be the next North State Conference foe for the Elon gridders, who go to Salisbury on Saturday night, October 22nd, to engage the blue-jerseyed Indians in one of the season's outstanding contests.

The game will mark the twenty-first meeting of the Elon and Catawba teams on the gridiron in a series that had its beginning back in 1928. Since that time the Elon elevens have claimed ten victories, Catawba has won eight times, and two games have ended in ties.

The Christians rolled to a decisive 36-12 victory over the Indians in the "Homecoming" battle here last fall, but pre-game dope indicates that the Maroon and Gold squad will find tough sledding in their invasion of the Indian camp this year. The Catawba outfit has been hitting a fast pace in early games and is ranked in the upper bracket in the North State Conference standings.