

# North Carolina Central Eagles Claw Elon's Fighting Christians

North Carolina Central University's first football encounter with a Carolinas Conference opponent resulted in an Eagle victory Saturday, Sept. 18, as George Quist's Central squad took advantage of its strength in a 14-7 victory over a well-drilled Elon College team.

The Eagles, who had not previously played an in-state white team, took the game through physical strength. Elon, traditionally a "fundamentals" team, expected plays well throughout the game, but were unable to push across the goal line against the Eagle defense.

The Eagles were plagued by errors. They gave up 135 yards in penalties during the first half, had four passes intercepted, and fumbled twice during the game.

Elon's score came on the game's first pass interception. With less than three minutes gone from the first quarter, Elon's John Davis returned an interception of a Garvin Stone pass 33 yards for a touchdown.

The first quarter ended with Elon leading, 7-0, and neither team had scored when Central's Charles Smith recovered a fumble by Elon's Jim Twisdale on the Eagle 30-yard line with more than half of the second quarter passed.

After two incomplete passes, Central's Jefferson Inmon punned for 11 yards and 16 yards for two successive first downs. James Smith carried for five yards, and freshman William Gullford picked up eight for a third first down in the drive, moving the ball to Elon's 30.

Inmon carried for nine-plus yards, and then carried eleven yards on a second-and-inches situation for a first down on Elon's 10-yard marker. James Smith picked up four yards, and Elon's Jim Hall spotted a carry by Inmon on the next play, nailing him at the seven

for a one-yard loss. Stone then handed off to James Smith, NCC's fullback, who swept wide around right end, surprising Elon with his speed, for the tally. Charles Bellinger's kick tied the game.

Central's Bracy Bonham kicked a 58-yard kickoff, returned 25 yards by Elon's Jim Beckett. N. C. Central's defense held Elon within their 30-yard line for the next three plays.

Johnny Johnson returned David Bolton's punt 48 yards from the N. C. Central 22 to Elon's 30.

Garvin Stone passed to Jason Caldwell in the end zone, but Caldwell's foot hit the bounds marker and the pass was ruled incomplete. Inmon took a screen pass for 14 yards on the next play, and Stone threw three straight incomplete passes, leaving the Eagles with a fourth and ten situation at Elon's 16.

The elected to go for the ten yards rather than attempt a field goal, and Stone connected with Mahlon Williams, his tight end, who leaped from inside the end zone to grab the ball, landed on the field, and hopped back for the touchdown. Bellinger's kick made the score 14-7, with 17 seconds left in the half.

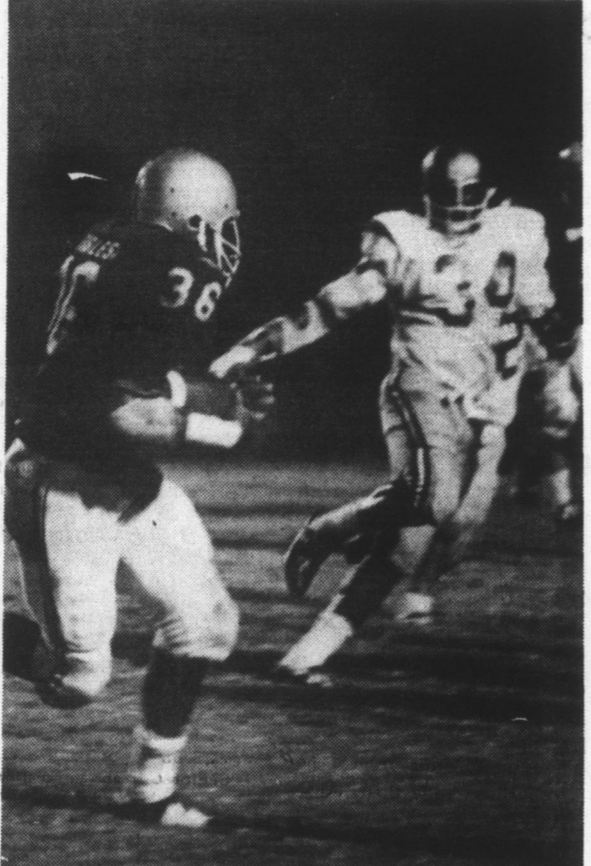
The second half saw both teams put together strong offensive drives which were stalled by the defenses of the two teams, which tightened up as the distance to the goal was reduced.

Central's defenders found Elon's switch to a shotgun offense made the mid-field passing game difficult to contain, but the Fighting Christians could not take advantage of that offense with limited space between them and the goal. Defensive ends Charles Smith and Ronald McNeil in particular put strong pressure on quarterbacks Twisdale and West, forcing them to throw too quickly.

Central faces Livingstone in Salisbury Saturday, September 25. Livingstone has lost to Catawba and Morris Brown College.



QUARTERBACK FELLED—Charles Smith, number 80 for North Carolina Central University, downs Elon College's starting quarterback, Joe West, during Central's 14-7 victory over Elon's Fighting Christians. Also visible for NCCU in dark jersey is Central's other defensive end, Ron McNeil, number 82.



PURSUIT—Elon College's Sam Key (34) pursues North Carolina Central's James Smith (36) during Central 14-7 victory over the Fighting Christians of Elon.

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## AP Poll

1. Nebraska (2) . . . 2-0 1,044
2. Notre Dame (18) . . . 1-0 1,002
3. Texas (3) . . . 1-0 790
4. Michigan (2-0) . . . 2-0 750
5. Auburn (2) . . . 1-0 498
6. Ohio State . . . 1-0 483
7. Arkansas . . . 2-0 480
8. Alabama . . . 2-0 406
9. Tennessee . . . 1-0 400
10. Colorado . . . 2-0 331
11. Oklahoma . . . 1-0 290
12. Penn State . . . 1-0 230
13. Stanford . . . 2-0 212
14. Georgia . . . 2-0 190
15. Arizona State . . . 1-0 116
16. Southern California 1-1 49
18. Louisiana State . . . 1-1 35
19. Toledo . . . 2-0 27
20. Duke . . . 2-0 26

Others receiving votes, listed alphabetically: Air Force, California, Georgia Tech, Houston, Kansas, Michigan State, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pitt, Syracuse, Tulane, Wake Forest, West Virginia.

## UPI Poll

1. Nebraska (25) (2-0) . . . 307
2. Notre Dame (8) (1-0) 222
3. Texas (14) . . . 214
4. Michigan (2-0) . . . 214
5. Ohio State (1-0) . . . 141
6. Alabama (2-0) . . . 116
7. Auburn (1-0) . . . 86
8. Tennessee (1-0) . . . 75
9. Arkansas (2-0) . . . 74
10. Colorado (2-0) . . . 69
11. Oklahoma (1-0) . . . 61
12. Stanford (2-0) . . . 46
13. (Tie) Georgia (1-0) 13
13. (Tie) Washington (2-0) 13
13. (Tie) Penn State (1-0) 13
16. Arizona State (1-0) 10
17. Southern California (1-1) 8
18. Louisiana State (1-1) 7
19. (Tie) North Carolina (1-0) 4
19. (Tie) Georgia Tech (1-0) 4

## Reds Topple Dodgers, 9-3

CINCINNATI — Lee May drove in five runs with a homer and double as the Cincinnati Reds hammered Los Angeles 9-3 Tuesday night and stalled the Dodgers' drive for the National League's Western Division pennant. The loss left the Dodgers 1 1/2 games behind the front running San Francisco Giants, who lost 3-1 to Houston. May's three-run homer, his sixth circuit clout of the year, capped a four-run fifth inning for the Reds. The Cincinnati first baseman then doubled home two more in a three-run sixth to put the game on ice. Don Gullett, 19-4, allowed only one hit—Mauri Willis' leadoff double in the first—until the Dodgers struck for two runs on three hits in the eighth.

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