

Elon And Navy Fliers Play 0 To 0 Tie In Opening Game

Defensive Units Shine In Contest At Norfolk

INSIDE OR OUTSIDE WITH A 'ONE-TWO' PUNCH

SEEING SPORTS



with

GARY SEARS

Seeing sports! That's what I've been doing every chance I've had for a long time, but this marks my first attempt at telling about them through the medium of the printed page. However, I hope to see a lot of sports here at Elon this year, both varsity and intramural varieties, and I hope, too, that I may be able gradually to hit full stride on this ol' typewriter and make this column both interesting and informative to readers of the Maroon and Gold. Certainly there'll be lots more to talk about before another issue rolls from the press.

September arrived for all Elon students after three glorious summer months, and with it came the thud of headgears and shoulder pads, sore muscles and all the numerous aches and pains that accompany football. September 1st was Labor Day, and it was certainly that for the 1952 squad of Fighting Christians here at Elon College. Coaches Mallory and Mathis settled right down to the task of shaping a team for the opening game with the Naval Air Station at Norfolk, Va., on September 20th—quite a job for any coaching staff, with the toll that graduation took from last year's eleven.

Gone from the line are such stalwarts as Raleigh Ellis, Sal Gero, Bob Reece, Len Greenwood, Harold McRae and Tom Haymore, along with such dependables as Frank Tingley, Harry Farmer and Dick Lee in the backfield. Lee and Farmer were two of the better linebackers that have donned Maroon and Gold colors in recent years. Yes, it was a large task for anyone and everyone, but your reporter feels certain that when the final curtain falls on Thanksgiving Day the Fighting Christians will have given an excellent account of themselves on the grid-iron.

What has happened to the Tri-Captains of last year's Christian eleven? Raleigh Ellis entered Officer Candidate School for the U. S. Marine Corps at Quantico, Va., and was to receive his commission last Saturday. Frank Tingley joined forces with the opposite

sex (yeah, you guessed it! Got married!) and just recently has been inducted into the U. S. Army. Sal Gero has undertaken the task as defensive line assistant to Coach Doc Mathis here at Elon while completing work toward his degree.

ORCHIDS TO: Lou Rochelli and Al Ludwig on their recent selection as Co-Captains of our football team. Rochelli operates from the tailback position while Ludwig holds his own at an offensive guard. Two finer players and more personable fellows would be hard to find on any squad.

ONIONS TO: Those students who week after week leave our campus on weekend and thereby fail to support the athletic teams here at Elon. The records that our teams have compiled in recent years is certainly demanding and deserving of more support than has been shown in the past. This is a new year and a new football season, so why not plan now to support Elon teams all the way. Let's all take part and have a hand in a banner year for sports here at Elon.

In a very short while Intramural football will be underway. For all you students who do not participate in varsity athletics, this is your opportunity to display your talents. In recent years the competition has been keen, and fun is to be had by all. Word from the east side of the campus is that the boys from Oak-Carlton are out for their third consecutive football championship. Leon Long, stellar end performer, will be back to lead his team toward this goal.

Have you noticed the crowds that adorn the tennis courts these days? Johnny Howell, Number Two man for the Elon netters last spring, is getting in his share of time there, and it might be added that he gives free private lessons to all young ladies.

A passing thought this early in the year to the Director of Athletics. Wonder if a few dollars could be set aside towards equipment for a track squad. We are blessed with a wealth of talent in several outstanding dash men, high hurdlers and pole vaulters present. With a little equipment and a helping hand, Elon could walk away with the North State title again.



"We'll hit 'em inside and outside and maybe on both sides, for we can really throw that old 'one-two' punch this season." Perhaps it was something like that that Coach Jim Mallory (center) was saying to John Platt (left) and Lou Rochelli (right) when the photographer caught the Christian mentor talking things over on the practice field with the two boys who may prove to be Elon's top offensive threats during the forthcoming 1952 football campaign.

Elon Backfield Pair Showed Brilliant Offensive Record During 1951 Season

The Fighting Christians can really offer a powerful "one-two" offensive punch during the 1952 football season if one can rely on last year's offensive statistics, for John Platt and Lou Rochelli each wrote a record in 1951 that promises dire things for Elon enemies in coming games.

Big John Platt, who was ineligible for all Conference games last fall after his transfer from the University of Kentucky, participated in only a couple of games for Elon last fall, but his performance in those two games was nothing short of brilliant, and North Carolina sportswriters and Elon fans have been looking to the day when the Indiana husky would become fully eligible.

One North Carolina sportswriter declared in a North State Conference review that Platt had caused more talk around at North State colleges than would a pink polka-dotted saucer skimming down Pennsylvania Avenue at an altitude of fifty feet.

The sports writers have pointed to the fact that Platt's power and running, with a bit of clever passing thrown in, will make a mighty fine combination when teamed up with the triple-threat maneuvers of little Lou Rochelli, whose great play throughout last season stamped him as one of the finest backs in Elon history. All Lou did last season was to gain more total yardage in combined running and passing than any college back in North Carolina, including the "Big Four" as well as the North State.

Girls' Sports Group Plans For Program

A well-rounded program of sports activities for the girls of the Elon student body is planned for the fall quarter, according to an announcement from Aleane Gentry, president of the Women's Athletic Association. All girls in the Elon student body automatically become eligible for membership in the group.

The fall program was discussed in detail at a meeting of the girls' sports group, which was held on Wednesday night, September 10th. Another meeting is to be held in the near future to map an exact schedule for the fall activities.

The sports to be included this fall are volley ball, ping pong, badminton and basketball. The volley ball tournament has been set for the first week in October.

Leaders of the girls' sport program hope to have teams in competition from eight different groups, including the Commercial Students, the Day Students, Second Floor West, Third Floor West, and each of the four sororities on the campus.

There was also a discussion of plans for a social for members of the Women's Athletic Association, and date for the social was set tentatively for the latter part of September.

Officers chosen for the Women's Athletic Association this year include Aleane Gentry, president; Virginia Jernigan, vice-president; Ernestine Bridges, treasurer; LaVerne Brady, secretary; and Sue Moore, point secretary. Miss Betsy Haley, new teacher of girls' physical education, is faculty advisor this year.

The Elon fans like to recall the records of those two last fall and at the same time hope for better things in the present campaign. Rochelli's total offense record for the year was 1,273 yards in nine games, and Platt advanced the ball more than a quarter of a mile while playing slightly more than half of only two games.

Platt competed against powerful Emory and Henry and Norfolk Navy, and his record shows that he rushed the ball 27 times for 190 yards and an average of 7 yards per carry; he completed 11 out of 21 passes for 203 yards; he received one pass for 15 yards and he ran back kicks for 39 yards, all of which adds up to 447 yards in the less than two games. That is exactly 7 yards more than a quarter of a mile.

Rochelli's full-season record was brilliant, especially in the passing column, which shows that he completed 62 of 126 passes for a total of 1,002 yards, far ahead of any other passer in the state, and eight of his passes went for touchdowns. Lou also ran with the ball 105 times for a total of 271 yards total offense, but one must still add in the fact that Rochelli caught 7 passes for 79 yards and that he punted for an average of 39.6 yards during the season.

However, the "one-two" punch boys are not the only Elon backs who can advance that ball, and they will receive able aid from such veterans as Carroll Reid, Joe Parker, Alfred Male, Jack Christy, and Marvin Moss, along with several freshmen who can move. However, it is true that none of the backs can hit the inside or the outside without the blockers in line and backfield who clear the way.

Tag-Football Loop Planned At Meeting

Plans were perfected for the 1952 tag-football campaign at a meeting of the Men's Intramural Council held last Tuesday afternoon, September 16th. It was announced that the campus football loop will be composed of six teams this fall.

The teams which will participate in the campus grid race this year, battling for the title won by Oak-Carlton for the past two seasons, include North Dorm, East Dorm, Oak-Carlton, South-Sigma Phi, Day Students-Vets Apartments and Alpha Pi-ITK. The combination of different groups into single units was made in order to assure enough men for a team.

It was announced that play in tag-football will continue this year under the same rules of play that have been used in the past, and once more the season will be climaxed by an all-star game. The organization of the Intramural Council was completed at the September 16th meeting, officers elected including Charlie Schrader, president; Jack Jones, vice-president; Stanley Bunch, secretary. The student manager of intramurals this year will be Don Merrimon.

Members of the Council include Luther Conger and Bill Ren, South Dorm; Charlie Schrader, Sigma Phi; Dick Bradsher, Alpha Pi; Don Merrimon, I.T.K.; Carroll Reid, Oak Lodge; Stanley Bunch, Club House; Graham Heath, North Dorm; Robley Westerman, Carlton House; Baird Hovesdeson, Day Students; Jack James, East Dorm; and Jay Armfield, Vets Apartments.

"Smack 'em down again, boys! Smack 'em down again." That parody of a popular hill-billy ditty might well have been the background music for that Elon-Norfolk Navy battle in Norfolk last Saturday, which ended 0 to 0 as two fine defensive units proceed to smack down a ball carrier right and left for the edification and amusement of 3,500 Navy and civilian spectators.

Neither team could ever muster a sustained offensive threat as two fighting lines rose up to smack down the ball carriers with gusto and vim. The combined offensive efforts of both teams netted only 136 yards, with Elon accounting for 82 yards running and passing, while the Navy lads got barely 53 yards all day.

The Elon defensive unit, which had appeared a problem for Coaches Mallory and Mathis as the season workouts began, proved itself right there. Four times the Navy backs smacked into the line, and four times the youthful Elon defenders threw them back

Elon Football

Elon 0, Norfolk Navy 0.

(Remaining Games)

Sept. 26—Wofford, away.

Oct. 4—Appalachian, away.

Oct. 11—East Carolina, home.

Oct. 18—Little Creek, home.

Oct. 25—Catawba, home.

W.C.T.C., away.

Nov. 8—Newberry, away.

Nov. 15—Len. Rhyne, home.

Nov. 27—Guilford, Reidsville.

Elon Eleven To Wofford Friday Night

On the road for two more weekends in a row, the Elon Christians will face two of the most powerful teams on the schedule before coming home for the first game on the local field. The Christians go to Spartanburg, S. C., this weekend to meet Wofford in a Friday night encounter, and then they meet Appalachian at Boone on Saturday night of next week.

The Wofford Terriers have for several years been one of the South's outstanding small-college elevens, and Coach Phil Dickens is evidently expecting plenty from this 1952 outfit, for he has scheduled games with both Tennessee and Auburn in the Southeastern Conference and with South Carolina and Furman in the Southern Conference. Elon has not met Wofford since 1921, when the South Carolina outfit defeated the Christians 20 to 0.

The annual battle with Appalachian in Boone on the first Saturday in October also shape up as a toughie, although the Apps failed to measure up to expectations in nosing Guilford 13 to 12. However, neither did Elon's offensive live up to expectations in the scoreless tie with Norfolk Navy.

It was learned on campus this week that efforts are underway to work out a plan for more Elon students to attend the games away from home, which would mean more yelling and support for the Fighting Christians in their play on foreign fields.

26-GAME SCORING STREAK SMASHED

A fine 26-game scoring streak for Elon was broken when the Fighting Christians and Norfolk Navy battled to that scoreless tie in Norfolk last Saturday, for Elon had scored at least once in every game since the Appalachian outfit won 14 to 0 in the third game in 1949.

The Christians had been held to one touchdown only twice in the twenty-six games and had scored a total of 585 points in the string of games, an average of exactly 22.5 points per game. Elon won nineteen, lost six and tied one during the 26-game scoring streak.

without a score. The entire Elon unit played well in this stand, with the tackles credited to J. C. Disher, Joe Widdifield, Dwight Dillon, Bryce Hurd and Alfred Male, each of whom figured in one or more of the tackles.

Elon got to the Navy twenty-yard line three times, but in neither instance were the Christians able to penetrate further against the stonewall defense of the Sailors. The big Navy line, which averaged better than 220 pounds in weight, smacked down the running plays and rushed the Elon passers so as to halt aerial attempts effectively.

The first Elon chance came in the opening period. Joe Widdifield recovered a Navy fumble on the Navy thirty-six. Rochelli lost one, Platt gained two, and Rochelli passed to Platt for 14 yards and a first down on the Navy 20-yard marker. The chance ended when a Rochelli pass skimmed Blackstone's fingers in the end zone.

Another Elon chance — one could scarcely call it a threat — came in the third period when Navy was penalized back to its own one. Ernie Mills punted short to his own 21-yard line, where Elon took over. Three incompletes passes, interspersed by a one-yard line play, ended the Elon chance almost where it started.

HOW IT HAPPENED

Elon	Norfolk Navy
4	First Downs 7
38	Net Yards Rushing 43
16	Passes Attempted 12
5	Passes Completed 2
45	Total Yards Passing 10
83	Total Yds from Scrimmage 53
3	Opp. Passes Intercepted 0
16	Runback Intercept'd Passes 0
9	Number Punts 9
27.1	Av. Distance Punts 31.3
46	Yards Runback All Kicks 20
5	Number Fumbles 4
2	Opp. Fumbles Recovered 4
25	Total Yards Penalties 45

The final Elon opportunity knocked in the closing seconds of the game. Rochelli, nearly trapped while attempting to pass, found Bill Blackstone open down field and passed to the big end for 32 yards and a first down on the Navy 20-yard marker. With barely four seconds left on the clock, a Rochelli pass intended for Joe Parker in the end zone, was knocked down by a Navy defender.

The Elon honors were strictly of the defensive variety, and mention must go to J. C. Disher, end; Fred Burmeister, Joe Widdifield and Dwight Dillon, Joe Smith guard; Nat Burwell, linebacker; and Alfred Male, safety man. Joe Widdifield and Bob Robertson, the latter a former Burlington High boy, each recovered one Navy fumble; Alfred Male, Jerry Miller and Bryce Hurd each intercepted one Navy pass to halt threats.

The Navy fliers presented a number of outstanding defenders, among them being big Broncho Kosanovich, 220-pound linebacker from Penn State and the Pittsburgh Steelers, Doug MacLachlan, former All-Southern end at Richmond, and John Hoffman, Morehead State Teachers ace, who doubled on offense and defense at fullback.

Fifteen 'E' Club Members Included In Honor Group

Fifteen members of the "E" Men's Club, which is composed of Elon's letter athletes, are included on the fall quarter Dean's List of 107 students listed elsewhere in this paper. The list is based on grades for last spring term. Wearers of the "E" who are now on the campus and listed in the honor group are Charles Atkins, Bill Blackstone, Isaac Braxton, Fred Burmeister, Jack Christy, Nelvin Cooper, Ned Gauldin, Ernie Gero, Sal Gero, Sherrill Hall, Billy Hawkins, Preston Holt, Al Ludwig, Page Painter and Bobby Stewart.

completed their four years eligibility, and Isaac Braxton and Ernie Gero are not playing football this fall. Preston Holt is a student manager. Six other varsity athletes who graduated in either May or August were also on the spring quarter honor roll. They were Bill Barger, Raleigh Ellis, Harry Farmer, Dick Lee, Harold McRae and Billy Rakes. It is worth noting that six members of the 1952 football squad are on the honor list, all of them first stringers. They are Atkins, Blackstone, Burmeister, Christy and Ludwig, lettermen, and Jim Hardy, who is playing his first varsity ball this fall.