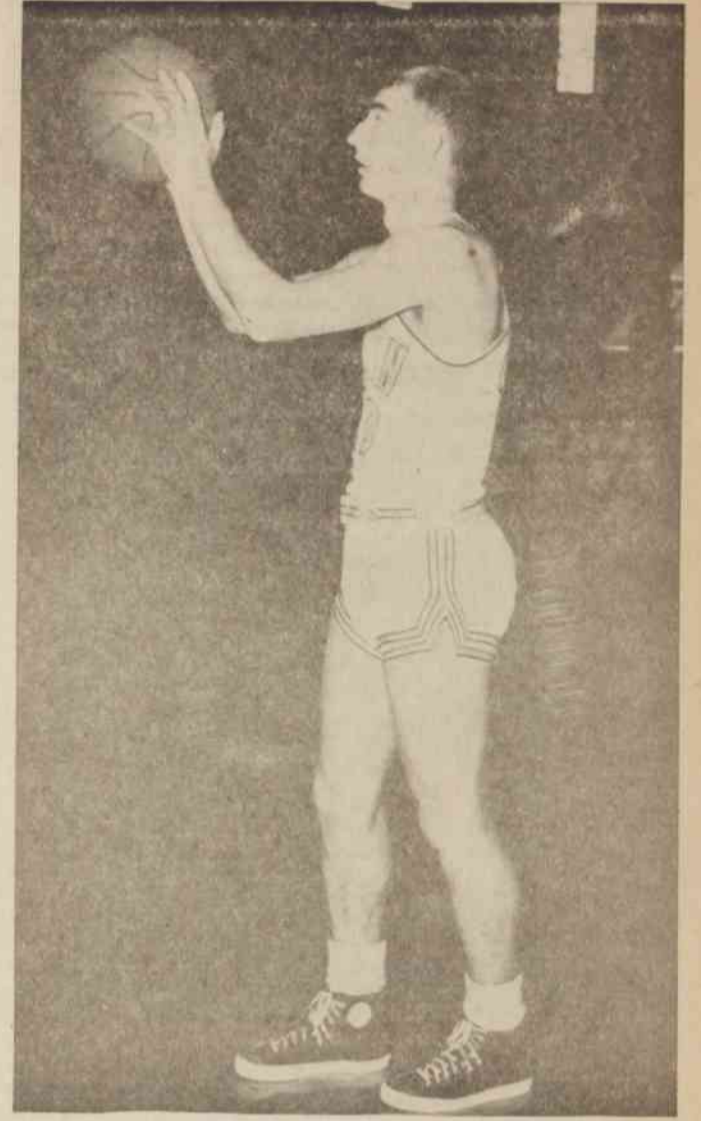
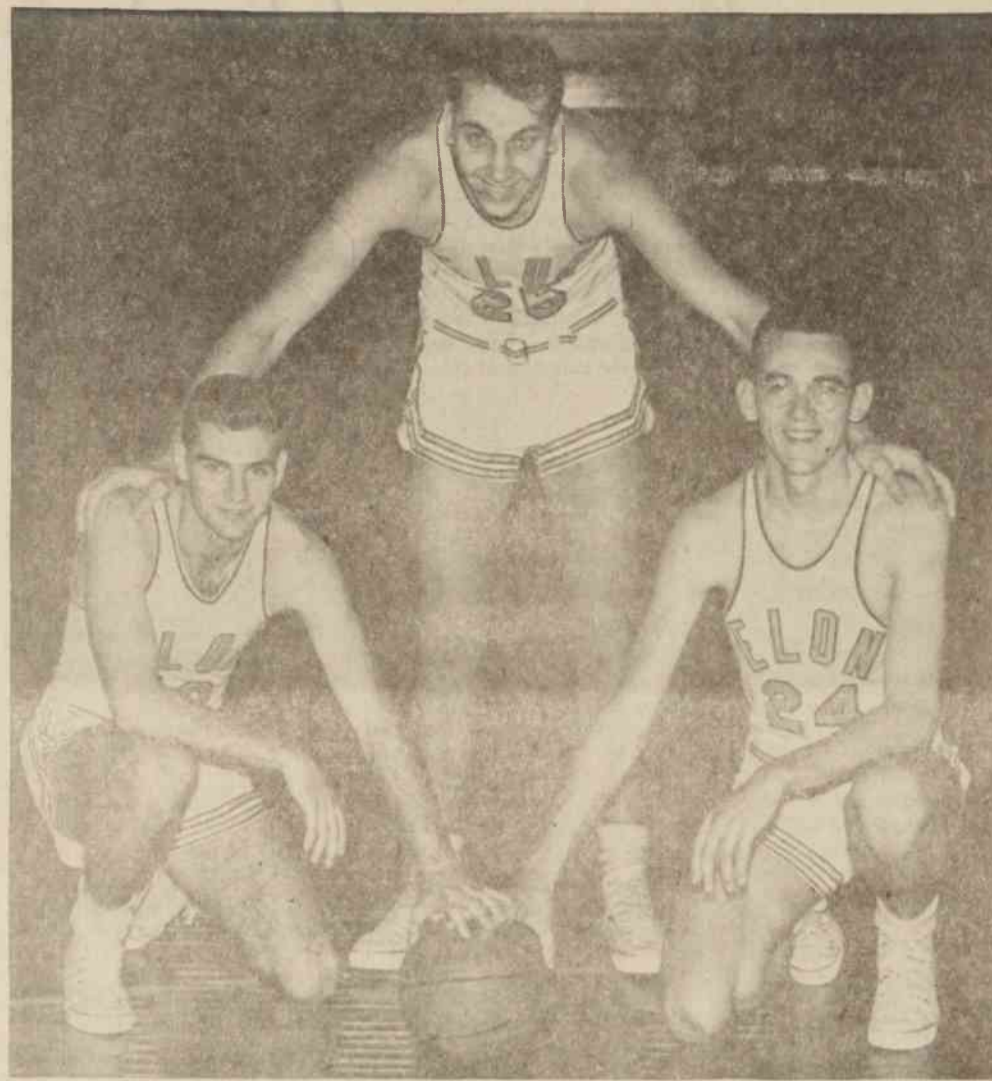


CHRISTIANS ARE ALL SET FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE CAGE TOURNAMENT



All set for plenty of tough competition, the Elon Christian will depend heavily on the veteran cage stars pictured above when they enter the fifteenth annual North State Conference Tournament, which gets underway tonight in Lexington. Centered above are the "Three Musketeers" of Elon's attacking forces, the three sharpshooters who ranked one-two-three in the final scoring statistics for the regular 1955 season, and that trio is flanked on each side by a pair of senior guards, who will figure heavily in the defense against Elon's tournament rivals. Right to left in the group picture are Co-Captain Dave Maddox, senior forward and top scorer for the year; Ed Juratic, sophomore forward and second-ranking scorer; and Ray Whitley, a junior guard and third-ranking scorer. At the left is pictured Hank Hamrick, who flashed back into his old-time form at guard in his final season; while on the right is Co-Captain Don Packard, who has had his best season as a senior. Three other Maroon and Gold cagers, not pictured above, who will figure heavily in Elon's tournament hopes are Earl Stone, towering sophomore center, and Frank DeRita and Ronnie Mazzilli, a pair of freshmen who have played well at center and guard this winter.



On The Sidelines

By JOEL BAILEY

There has been an addition to the Fighting Christian football schedule for the '55 campaign. Powerful Mississippi Southern is that new addition and will be met in Hattiesburg, Miss., to open the new campaign. This Mississippi team, which defeated Alabama the past two years, is loaded with talent and will prove an acid test for a Christian squad that was very good in 1954 and could easily be better this coming season.

Evidence of the overall power of this Mississippi Southern squad is found in the person of Halfback Laurin Pepper, who tips the scales at 191 pounds and is rated by some experts as the best ball carrier produced in the South since Choo-Choo Justice and Charlie Trippi. Pepper scored twenty-six touchdowns in the last two campaigns and may be even more dangerous this season.

Then there is a Mississippi Southern line that is anchored by such stalwarts as Don Owens (251 pounds), Buzzy Clark (258), Jim "Coon Dog" Davis (242) and Bill Bishop (256). Certainly this promises to be an exciting contest for Elon, and a victory for the Fighting Christians would really set the Maroon and Gold colors on a high pinnacle.

During the basketball season most of the attention has been focused on the varsity squad, which it should well be. However, many people have failed to realize that we have a terrific Jay-Vee squad at Elon. Fans who came to the games only in time to catch the main attraction have been missing something.

The junior squad has dropped only two games during the year, one to High Point and the other to Catawba, both of them on the home court of the other junior groups, and the Maroon and Gold youngsters have beaten both these teams decisively in other contests during the season. The Jay-Vees have played some fine clubs, and in all other games they came up with the long side of the score.

It seems that Coach Mathis will

be able to find some excellent replacements next season and seasons to come, for the group shows five freshmen, two sophomores and a like number of juniors. First-year men are Jimmy Cleary, Bobby Sharpe, Bobby Stegall, Doc Alston and Bob Rickover. The "veterans" of the outfit are Clay Brown, Tommy King, Hugh City and Jimmy Crump. Several of these should prove trouble for Conference foes in the future.

The Fighting Christian varsity will now journey to Lexington for the North State Tournament, and the well wishes of the school go with them. Although the Maroon and Gold quint is not favored to win the tournament, they could pull an upset by dumping their more favored tournament foes. The squad has been a very good one, although it did not win the league race, and it is a team that could explode any minute. Here's

(Continued on Page Four)

Bulldogs Top Christians

After a brilliant first half that netted Elon a seven-point margin at intermission, the Fighting Christian cagers slumped badly in the closing half and dropped an 88 to 75 decision to a red-hot crew of Atlantic Christian Bulldogs here on Monday night, February 14th.

The game was strictly a "half-and-half" affair, for Dave Maddox and Ed Juratic led Elon in a fine drive that won the first-half decision by a 37-30 margin, putting together enough points to overcome the great play of big John Marley, the Bulldogs' 6-11 pivot star.

It was a different story after the recess period, for Kim Buchanan, the former N. C. State star, now wearing Atlantic Christian colors, caught fire in the closing periods and banged in 20 points to lead the invaders to victory.

The Bulldogs gained their greatest margin at the free throw line.

Elon Cage Games

- Elon 75, DuPont 73.
- Elon 104, Mayodan "Y" 51.
- Elon 76, McCrary 84.
- Elon 78, Va. Tech 71.
- Elon 99, Jax Navy 76.
- Elon 65, Rollins 73.
- Elon 81, Fla. Southern 48.
- Elon 59, Stetson 91.
- Elon 79, DuPont 73.
- Elon 75, McCrary 95.
- Elon 76, East Carolina 64.
- Elon 68, A.C.C. 88.
- Elon 105, Guilford 88.
- Elon 87, Catawba 60.
- Elon 85, High Point 83.
- Elon 69, Appalachian 62.
- Elon 93, Guilford 69.
- Elon 81, W.C.T.C. 77.
- Elon 93, High Point 77.
- Elon 86, Catawba 58.
- Elon 70, Appalachian 80.
- Elon 73, W.C.T.C. 60.
- Elon 93, Guilford 69.
- Elon 80, East Carolina 92.
- Elon 75, A. C. C. 88.
- Elon 73, Lenoir Rhyne 77.

Lenoir Rhyne Is Winner In Final Game Of Season

The Elon Christians halted the hundred-point habits of the Lenoir Rhyne Bears in their battle here last Wednesday night, February 16th, but the Maroon and Gold tossers fell short of victory as they dropped a close struggle to the Bears by a 77-73 count before more than 2,500 "High School Day" fans.

The defeat was the first ever suffered by an Elon team on "High School Day," and it came only after a hard-fought contest that saw Elon come from behind after intermission to grab an eight-point lead at one time in the final half, but Floyd Propst led a Lenoir Rhyne drive that netted the victory and clinched first place for the Bears in the North State Conference.

The Elon defense held Wells to four points in the final periods, but Propst took up the burden and popped 18 points in the last half to lead the victory march. The backboard play of Wells and Bob Ortmyer proved big factors in the Bruin win.

The Elon quint seemed headed for a win several times, with Dave Maddox proving a constant thorn for the Bears. He bagged 27 points for top scoring honors for the night and received able aid from hook-shooting Ed Juratic, who hit for 18 counters, and from Earl Stone, who dropped 12 points for Elon. Maddox hit thirteen free throws without a miss for the night.

It was Propst and Stone who waged a two-way battle near the end, and the lanky Stone pulled Elon up to a bare two-point deficit at 75-73 just one minute before the end, but foul shots boosted the Lenoir Rhyne lead.

Strong point of the squad is once more expected to be found on the pitchers' mound, where four senior stars will be available. All four of the hurlers won All-Conference honors last season, and two of the group claimed All-State berths. There will also be two other All-Conference boys on hand for duty, one of whom won an All-State berth.

Baseballers Begin Drills This Week

The Elon baseballers, who will be defending the North State Conference diamond title this spring, have already begun preliminary workouts and will be ready for intensive practice with the return to the campus for the spring quarter.

Coach Doc Mathis has already met with his baseball candidates and laid down conditioning routines for the boys who will be seeking positions in the spring sport. The pitchers will probably work regularly, possibly indoors on cold days, in an effort to condition their arms.

The Christians will have veterans available for every position except first base, and it is possible that Coach Mathis may switch one of his veterans from another position to handle that assignment if no satisfactory youngster is found. Reports are, however, that a number of capable rookies will be seeking a position at the initial sack.

Strong point of the squad is once more expected to be found on the pitchers' mound, where four senior stars will be available. All four of the hurlers won All-Conference honors last season, and two of the group claimed All-State berths. There will also be two other All-Conference boys on hand for duty, one of whom won an All-State berth.

Elon Tramples Guilford On Quakers' Own Court

Pirates Take Cage Victory At Greenville

The East Carolina Pirates kept their "home floor jinx" working as they chalked a 92 to 80 defeat against the Fighting Christians in Greenville on Saturday night, February 12th. The Pirate win evened the score for Elon's earlier 76-64 victory on the Elon court.

The two North State rivals entered the game in a tie for third place in the Conference standings, but the defeat moved the Pirates to third and dropped Elon to fourth spot for the first time this season.

The Bucs got away to a hot start in the first ten minutes, when Don Harris paced his team to a 24-18 margin, and Carvel Nichols took over the lead as Coach Howard Porter's outfit waxed even hotter in the second period. The half-time score was 58-38.

Ronnie Mazzilli, Elon freshman guard, was top man for Elon in that half, but it was Ed Juratic who led a gallant Christian rally in the closing periods. Juratic banged in 22 points in the final half as Elon outscored the Pirates by a 42 to 34 margin, but the 20-point half-time deficit was too great to overcome.

Juratic topped the Elon scoring for the night with 24 points, but game scoring honors went to the Pirates' Carvel Nichols with 31 points. Coach Porter used his substitutes only sparingly, and the starting five Pirate players did all the scoring.

Pos. Elon (80) East Carolina (92)
 F—Maddox (15) Harris (23)
 F—Juratic (24) Nichols (31)
 C—DeRita (7) Mendenhall (11)
 G—Whitley (18) Thomas (14)
 G—Hamrick (2) Heath (13)
 Half—East Carolina 58, Elon 38.
 Elon subs—Mazzilli 15, Stone 1, McIntyre, Packard, King, East Carolina subs—Akins, Hales, James, McArthur, Solomon.

Striking a blazing pace from the first whistle, the Elon Christians hit six straight floor shots and added a pair of perfect free throws in the first three minutes as they defeated the Guilford Quakers 93 to 69 in a North State Conference cage battle in Quakertown on Tuesday night, February 8th.

Co-Captain Dave Maddox led this early drive by the Christians. The big boy from Alabama drove for four field goals and sank four free throws in a personal scoring rampage that gave him 12 points in the first three and a half minutes, and his teammates joined him in widening the margin.

It was 4-0 in the first 15 seconds, both scores coming on driving hooks by Maddox, before Bill Atkins dropped a long push for Guilford's first score. Atkins hit the first six points for the Quakers, but he could not by his lone efforts match the hot pace of the Elon tossers.

Ed Juratic, who was a demon under the defensive backboard all night, joined Maddox in the first-half offensive for the Christians. It was Elon by ten points at 42-32 at half-time.

Juratic and DeRita hit five straight points to give Elon a 15-point lead as the second half opened, and that lead climbed to nineteen points at 61-42 midway through the final period. The Elon reserves played most of the final quarter, with Jimmy Crump and Bobby Timmons as pace-setters.

Dave Maddox had 22 points, 18 of them in the first half, to lead both teams in scoring for the night. Other Elon leaders were Juratic with 20 and Whitley and DeRita with 12 and 11 points.

Bill Atkins, the Quaker ace, had 21 points for the game, but 13 of them came from the free throw line. Fine defensive play by Hank Hamrick and Ronnie Mazzilli held Atkins without a field basket in the final half.

Pos. Elon (93) Guilford (69)
 F—Maddox (22) Schmidt (9)
 F—Juratic (20) Atkins (21)
 C—DeRita (11) Dowd (7)
 G—Hamrick (8) Hemric (6)
 G—Whitley (12) Minor (16)
 Half—Elon 42, Guilford 32.
 Elon subs—King 2, Stone 4, Mazzilli 4, Timmons 4, Crump 6, McIntyre, Citty, Guilford subs—Roan 3, Burgess 2, Jarrett 5, Gordon, Teachey.