

Grid Figures Show Elon Is Improved This Year

The Elon Christians have shown an almost complete reversal of form from last year in the football statistics for the four early games. Last year they were without a win in four games, while this year they have two wins in their first four starts and a far better record for both offense and defense.

In the matter of first downs, the Christians have a 61 to 36 advantage over all opponents in four games this fall. In the same number of games last fall they were down by a 31-61 margin to their first four opponents.

The Christians of 1956 have more than tripled their rushing total this fall. In four games last fall, they could show only 313 yards in net rushing, while the four opening games this fall have shown Elon netting 1,081 yards on the ground.

In defense against rushing, the showing of the present combination is almost as pronounced. The four opponents last year had gained a net of 1,047 yards against the Christians. This year the Elon opponents have netted only 559 yards in four tilts.

The Elon passing attack is about on par this fall with that of a year ago. In four games last fall the Christians completed 10 of 44 passes for a total of 136 yards. This fall they have completed 9 of 26 leaves for a total of 154 yards, a slight gain in both percentage of completions and yardage. The Christians have had four passes intercepted, compared with ten last fall.

The Elon aerial defense sees the Christians somewhat improved. Last fall the Christians' first four opponents completed 21 of 43 passes for 259 yards. This fall they have limited the opposition 12 of 39 passes and total of 143 yards, which means quite a definite improvement. In those early games a year ago Elon intercepted only two passes; this fall the Christians have grabbed three enemy heaves.

The Christian kickers have had nothing to brag about in either of the two seasons, but this year's kicking average of 27.2 on 11 punts is slightly below the 1955 average of 32.7 on 25 punts. The improvement lies in the fact that Elon has had to kick only 11 times in four games this fall. The opponents this fall have averaged 35.2 yards, slightly better than their 34.8 of last fall.

In the field of kick-returns, Elon has returned 21 kickoffs and punts this year for an average of 19.8 yards per carry. This is slightly better than last year's mark of 19.5 yards average on 25 returns.

Fritts Elected WAA President

Evelyn Fritts, senior girl from Lexington, is the new president of the Women's Athletic Association and will head up the girls' physical education program for the year. She and other officers of the group will work under direction of Mrs. Jeanne Griffin, faculty advisor.

Other officers chosen at the same time are Betty Franks, of Elon College, vice president; Norie Luce, of Riverhead, N. Y., secretary; Marion Glasgow, of Franklinville, treasurer; and Jeanne Payne, of Asheville, reporter.

Members of the Homecoming committee include Jeanne Payne, along with Katrine Frye, of Liberty; Peggy Zimmerman, of Elon College; and Katie Langley, of Staley. The ways-and-means committee includes Doris Gaddis, of Asheboro; Angie Kelly, of Carthage; and Betty Hedgepeth, of Graham.

Tag Football Season Opens With Interest

The campus race for tag-football honors got underway with three interesting battles last Wednesday, with six of the eight teams in the intramural league seeing action under the new free-passing rules that were introduced this fall by Coach Jack Sanford.

The ITK boys, winners of the title last year, were off to a good start by topping Sigma Mu Sigma 59 to 28. The passing of Kendall and the running of George Allen and Gil Watts stood out for the winners, while Bob Bergman led the losers.

Another first-day game saw the East Dorm boys eke out a 40 to 38 victory over the Day Students, with Don Ashworth and Earl Bradley pacing East Dorm and with Wes Reynolds and James McCauley leading the Day Students.

Carolina Hall No. 1 trampled North Dorm 26 to 6 in the third opening game, with Buddy Smith, Hank Carmines and Skip Marchionni topping Carolina No. 1 and Dick McCarthy leading North.

The Carolina Hall No. 2 outfit and the Carleton House boys were not scheduled for the first day but were scheduled to see action in the next day of play.

OFFICERS FOR STUDENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



Officers who lead the Student Christian Association, the group which paces religious activities on the Elon campus, are pictured above, along with the two faculty members who advise the group. Those pictured, reading left to right, are as follows—FRONT ROW — Martha Langley, of Staley, secretary; Prof. John Graves, faculty adviser; Sylvia Smith, of Henderson, president; and Dr. James M. Hess, faculty advisor. BACK ROW — Douglass Albert, of Lahore, Pakistan, chairman of the World Order Commission; Patricia Coghill, of Henderson, vice president; Guy Lambert, of Providence, R. I., chairman of the Religious Life Commission; and Joyce Myers, of Philadelphia, Pa., chairman of the Campus Affairs Commission. Louis Wilkins, of Lenning, Va., treasurer of the group, was absent when the picture was taken.

When Elon Football Was Beginning

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back: John Smith, tackle; John Whitesell, tackle who played every minute of this season; the Brown Brothers, "Bob" and "Al" who were hard to beat at the flanker position; and Tiny Richardson, the kicking specialist.

The season of 1924 was not a good year for the Maroon and Gold eleven, as this squad was unable to break into the win column. Captained by John C. Whitesell, who played his last game for Elon College that year, the team met defeat at the hands of Davidson, 14 to 0, Clemson 60 to 0, Lynchburg 16 to 0, Hampden Sidney 27 to 7, Emory and Henry 12 to 0, Trinity 54 to 0, and Wake Forest 41 to 0.

Archie Braxton also played his last game for the Elon gridiron squad that fall, and Braxton, Whitesell, and Cliff Elder left big gaps in their positions when they graduated. Highlighting this year was an Alumni-Varsity game on Thanksgiving Day. All of the former Elon grid captains were among the playing alumni, along with other greats from years gone by. They were too much for the varsity, and they subdued the 1924 team 12 to 0. Grady Brown and Alf Brown hit pay-dirt for the scores.

Coach Frank Corboy engineered his last Elon squad in the 1925 season, which saw the Christians winning two games out of the scheduled eight. Captain-elect Archie Braxton, who had planned to do graduate work at Elon, did not return to school. The Fighting Christians managed to defeat Guilford 6 to 0 and Emory and Henry 14 to 0, but they met defeat before Davidson 31 to 0, King College 7 to 0, Duke University 6 to 0 (in rain), Concord State 31 to 0, Hampden Sidney 3 to 0, and Lynchburg 12 to 0. Outstanding players were J. L. Hiatt, end; Lem Harrell, quarterback; and Gordon Kirkland, halfback.

Prof. A. R. VanCleave took over as Christian mentor for the 1926 squad, but again Elon was unable to break into the win column in ten scheduled contests. Leaders during this season were E. W. McCauley, guard and team captain; Frank Allston, guard; and Gordon Kirkland, halfback. The schedule was too much for the Elon grid-ters, who lost to Davidson 26 to 0, N. C. State 10 to 0, A. C. C. 3 to 0, Duke University 32 to 0, Georgetown 60 to 13, Hampden Sidney 34 to 0, Wake Forest 53 to 0, Lynchburg 13 to 7, Emory and Henry 26 to 0 and Guilford 14 to 0. This season set the stage for the coming of "Peahead" Walker and the beginning of a new sports era at Elon.

It was during the summer of 1928 that E. S. "Johnnie" Johnson

was asked to select two all-time Elon teams in the three major sports, one team composed of the alumni players and the other composed of both non-graduates and graduates. From research done by this writer, along with interviews and other delving, his choices merit only one criticism, that being the fact that modesty caused him to leave himself off both teams. "Johnnie" Johnson's choice as Elon's eleven best players up to

1928 included Alf Brown and Bob Brown, ends; John Whitesell and John Smith, tackles; E. W. McCauley and Grady Brown, guards; Archie Braxton, center; Zack Walker, quarterback; Mark McAdams and "Chubby" Kirkland, halfbacks; and "Hap" Perry, fullback. Four of these players, along with "Johnnie" Johnson himself, were named to a later "All-Time" squad chosen in 1949.

(To be continued)

East Carolina Is Winner

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ker for the touchdown that sent East Carolina to the front by a 6-0 count.

The Elon crowd settled back to wait for a rally, but the rally loomed further away when after five minutes of the second period Raymond Pennington slapped down an Elon pitchout and recovered it on the Christian fourteen. It was billed in the records as an Elon fumble, and it set up a second enemy score. Bob Perry lost five, but one of the frequent Elon penalties moved the ball to the five. A line play got one, and the Pirates were penalized to the nine, but Bob Maynard dashed over from there to make the half-time count 12 to 0.

The fog and haze deepened in the minds of many watchers when East Carolina came up with the ball on the Elon one after a Pirate field goal try had failed, but the play developed when an Elon defender touched and fumbled the placement, making it a free ball. Th Pirates got it on the one for a first down, and Jim Speight went from there on the first play. Carlton Walker kicked good for 19 to 0.

After that it was a case of "too little and too late" as Elon came right back after the kick-off and drove for a touchdown. Harry Faust stood out in that final Elon drive, passing to Tony Carcaterra once for 16 yards and carrying himself for steady gains. There were four Elon first downs in the drive, which ended with Dick Smith going on a keep from the one for the TD. Ronnie Kinsley booted the point. But it was still 19 to 7, and the game almost over.

Kerry Richards was Elon's top ground-gainer with 69 yards on nine carries, but he received able aid at times from Bob Stauffenberg and Harry Faust who posted net gains of 42 and 38 yards. Richards carried to the Pirate three in first minutes of the game, but penalties set Elon back and robbed the Christians of their golden opportunity.

APPALACHIAN GAME

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ey Miller converted for the point that made the score 13 to 7.

After the App score, the Elon juggernaut began rolling again, moving deep into Mountaineer territory. The Apps halted the drive, but a pair of penalties rocked the home team back to its one-yard line, and there it was punt formation. J. B. Vaughn, Elon's wiry tackle star, partially blocked an App punt, and Bob Stauffenberg recovered the ball on Appalachian's 21-yard marker.

From that point Whitney Bradham and Stauffenberg moved the ball to the App two, and Stauffenberg banged through the right side of the line for the Christians' third score. The kick was wide, but Elon had sewed up the game by a 19 to 7 margin.

Whitney Bradham and Bob Stauffenberg combined forces to net 173 yards in rushing, but the unsung heroes of the game were the two-deep aces in Elon's forward wall, the lads who rocked and socked the Apps all night and opened the holes for the boys who carried the mail.

New Cast And Director For Next Player Show

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It's a wacky idea, but the rainmaker is so refreshing and ingratiating that the family finally consents. They begin banging on his big bass drums to rattle the sky, and then the rainmaker turns his magic on the girl, persuading her that she has a real beauty of her own. The marvel is that she believes it, just as her father believes that the fellow can actually bring rain.

In taking over this play, Student Director Bill Watson becomes the first dramatic major to direct his own production. In preparation for this, he has taken some forty hours of course work in dramatic arts, including Beginning and Advanced Acting, Play Directing, Oral Interpretation, Stagecraft and Lighting, Shakespeare, History of the Theatre, Religious Drama and others.

In addition to his class work he has spent many hours in the college theatre, working on stage and back stage, becoming familiar to the last detail with the art of producing a play. A part of his responsibility as a drama major is to be active in the Elon College Players and in Alpha Psi Omega, the two hard-working organizations behind each play seen on the campus.

Other dramatic majors who will direct their own plays before graduation include Margaret Sharpe, Bill Walker, Roger Rush, Stewart Fyke, William Davis and Wayne Rudisill, all of whom find their chief student interest in stage work.

Prof. Wooten points out, however, that a student does not have to be a dramatics major in order to participate in the work of the Elon College Players. Each student on the campus is invited to attend the Players' meetings each Thursday night at 8:30 o'clock in Mooney Chapel. After a brief business meeting, members of the group present an interesting program, usually in dramatic form.

At the first meeting of the year, there was a one-act play by Tommie Boland, Johnny Meadows and Bill Walker. At another meeting Bill Watson and Tommie Boland gave dramatic readings from "The Glass Menagerie." Another dramatic reading is set for the meeting this Thursday night, and next

week will feature Dr. and Mrs. James M. Hess. More students and faculty members are urged to attend these meetings.

Alpha Psi Omega, which works in cooperation with the Elon Players, is a local chapter of a national honorary dramatic fraternity, which has groups in all major colleges of the country. Membership is obtained through points earned in various phases of play production. It is a recognized honor everywhere to be member of this fraternity, which is strictly honorary and not social in nature.

Tryouts for the major plays of the year are usually held during Elon Player meetings. In about two weeks, for example, there will be tryouts for "All My Sons," a Pulitzer prize play by Arthur Miller. This play will be presented about the first week in December. It will be followed later by "Our Town," also a Pulitzer winner written by Thornton Wilder. This play will require a cast of 23 persons and will mean many good parts open.

Much thought and devotion and research will go into the Players' production of "He Is Risen" at Easter. This play is a significant and meaningful work, and, as in past years, it will be presented on the campus at dawn on Easter Morn.

The Elon Players offer a number of rewards for work, with special attention to the seven "Eppies" that go each spring at the annual Player banquet to persons who have been chosen for best major, supporting and minor actors and actresses. One of the small silver cups also goes to the person who designs the best set.

It is pointed out that any student who needs a job can find one with the Elon Players, although it will be without financial pay. Special needs today are for carpenters, painters and backstage crewmen and crew-women. Business personnel is also needed for box office, seating, programs and advertising and other things that can make theatre a paying business.

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