



Sports

by Gary F. Spidler, Sports Editor

SAC-8 champs romp LR 42-10 and down Newberry 19-13; more to go

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Elon's defensive end Wes McLaughlin had a tremendous performance to boost the Fighting Christians to win #9 for the 1976 season, slipping past SAC-8 foe Newberry 19-13. The #2 rated team in the NAIA made use of a few Newberry mistakes to post their 5-0 SAC-8 slate and 9-0 overall mark. Newberry slipped to 3-2 in the SAC-8 and 4-4 overall. Then Elon bombed Lenoir Rhyne this past week to push the record to 10-0 overall and 6-0 in the SAC-8 with a 42-10 win.

It was a defensive struggle right from the beginning. The first quarter found the two teams battling and Elon coming out with a 3-0 first quarter edge by way of Mitch Rippy's 27-yard field goal. But the toe seemed to be what would determine the winners as the game progressed.

The second quarter saw Elon's Rippy boot a 30-yarder to boost Elon to a 6-0 lead. But then Newberry struck back. Indian kicker Bob McMillan made a 26-yard field goal to post the 6-3 halftime score. But the second half was not a runaway either.

With 12:23 left in the third quarter, Elon's Ricky Locklear recovered an Indian fumble in the endzone for the second week in a row. The kick failed and Elon led 12-3. Newberry's McMillan then started off the fourth quarter scoring.

With 11:58 left in the important SAC-8 game, Newberry's McMillan booted a 34-yard field goal to bring the Indian's attack back. The scoreboard then read 12-6. But then Elon made advantage of a tremendous defensive contest. Defensive end McLaughlin blocked a punt which rolled into the endzone. McLaughlin jumped on the ball for Elon's second TD. Rippy's PAT was good and Elon took over 19-6 with 6:12 remaining in the game. It looked as if the

Christians had picked up win #9.

But with 2:35 remaining in the contest and fourth and goal at the two, runningback Rufus Johnson plunged into the endzone for an Indian TD. The clock then became an important factor as Elon had a slim 19-13 advantage.

The Indians tried an inside kick which worked because the Christians fumbled. However, a penalty called the kick over. The next time Elon fell on the ball and took over first and ten at the Elon 47. Two runs by runningback Howard Ferguson gave the Christians an important first down with 1:27 remaining on the clock. The Christians just kept falling on the ball and posted the 19-13 win as the clock approached the :00 mark. Win #9 for the Christians was put in the books.

Then last week the Christians traveled to winless Lenoir Rhyne for another SAC-8 encounter. The Christians demolished the Bears 42-10 to boost the Elon record to 10-0 overall and 6-0 in the SAC-8. The Christians broke the yards rushing record for a single season at LR breaking the 1975 record of 2554 yards to now have a 2786 total with one to three games to go. The win also clinched the SAC-8 championship for the Christians for their first newly-formed SAC-8 conference title.

Three runningbacks boosted the play during the afternoon. Prince Deese collected 124 yards on 17 carries, Howard Ferguson, collected 119 yards on 21 carries and Alex

McMillan a collected 119 yards in 8 carries to lead the Elon scoring attack. All three have over 2000 career yards rushing and each scored two touchdowns against the Bears.

Defensively, Bill Devaney had a superb afternoon. He collected eight tackles, seven assists, one fumble recovery, one interception, and broke up a pass. Elon hosts the Eagles of Carson-Newman this Saturday at Burlington Memorial Stadium at 2 p.m. in their last SAC-8. The Eagles enter the game 3-3 in the SAC-8 and 3-4 overall, while Elon enters with a 10-0 slate overall and 6-0 in the SAC-8.

Editor's note: It is very likely that Elon will move into playoff competition in the 1976 NAIA playoffs. Elon is rated #2 in the NAIA and a win would assure them a position, a loss would complicate matters. As of press time, the participants in the 1976 playoffs are unknown and the playoff locations are still being decided. Watch local newspapers and the *Communicator* for more info. Because this paper will not be published again until Dec. 9, and the playoff game will be held Dec. 4. The championship game is scheduled for Dec. 11, and the game will be on national television for the first time. See NAIA ratings on this page for possible opponents.

Junior class to sell cups Saturday

The 1976-77 junior class of Elon College has set a precedent this year in the form of a major money-making project. This year's class, under the leadership of Sam Burgess, is striving to break away from the traditional class image of apathy on the part of its leadership and members.

On Nov. 19 at the Carson-Newman football game, the junior class will embark upon its project by providing students with their very own Elon College cups. These cups, similar to the familiar "Carolina" cups, will be maroon with "Elon College" and "Fighting Christians" in gold lettering.

According to Burgess, "These cups will provide a greater incentive for future classes to have projects."

The proceeds from this project will go toward a future class dance or dances and more entertainment for students. On Saturday, Nov. 19, students may come out and support the #2 nationally ranked Christians, and show their spirit with 50¢ for an Elon College cup.

ELON IS TOPS

Elon College was mentioned among the South's leading football teams in *Sports Illustrated*, Nov. 15 issue, on p. 57. This is the first time Elon has ever been given the honor of appearing in the well-known sports magazine.



The 1976-77 Women's Basketball Team members include: Beth Beatty, Vickie Blankenship, Lynn Briggs, Jane Cooper, Joyce Daniel, Janet Fleming, Candy Fox, Sandra Gray, Sue Henderson, Tina Ireland, Andrea McDowell, Lisa Mooneyham, Jackie Myers, Donna Roach, Jane Sampson, Carolyn Smith, and Rhonda Wilson.

Elon women host High Point in opener Dec. 4

by Lee Cummings

Coach Mary Jackson forecasts a good season for the Elon women's basketball team, with all but two players returning from last year. Although the team has not yet been chosen because of the conflicting volleyball season, Miss Jackson sees promises in the few players who have been conditioning and practicing for the past three weeks.

The coach pointed out two prospective additions to the team in freshmen Janet

Fleming from Eden, N.C., and Jane Sampson from Shenandoah, Va. Elon has also received two college transfers: Andy McDowell from Mars Hill, and Lynn Briggs, who attended N.C. State.

The team, basically short, will use a running-type offense coupled with a man to man defense to compensate for their lack of height. The Golden Girls' first game will be here at Elon Dec. 4 against High Point. This game will precede the men's game, which will also be against High Point.

The NAIA Division I Football Ratings Eighth Ranking THE TOP TEN

Rank	Team	First Place Votes	Record	Points
1.	Texas A&I University	(16)	9-0-0	240
2.	Elon College NC		9-0-0	220
3.	Henderson State University ARK		7-1-0	196
4.	St. John's University MINN		7-0-1	182
5.	Western State College COLO		8-1-0	178
6.	Missouri Southern State College		8-1-0	162
7.	University of Wisconsin-Platteville		9-1-0	132
8.	University of Central Arkansas		7-1-0	112
9.	Shepherd College W VA		9-1-0	106
10.	Abilene Christian University TEX		6-2-0	100

Women's volleyball team posts 23-13 season mark

by Lee Cummings

Elon's women's volleyball team finished out their season in Durham a few weeks ago just missing the chance to compete in the regional tournament held in Johnson City, Tenn. Elon placed third in the state in the small college division behind Wake Forest and state champion High Point. The two top teams are eligible to compete in the regionals.

Elon gained the right to play Wake Forest in the semi-finals by defeating Mars Hill twice and downing Western Carolina in a well played match, 15-11, 21-23, and 15-10. Since both Elon and Wake Forest had previously lost a match, (Elon lost to Wake Forest 8-15, 14-16) it was do or die for both teams in

the double elimination tournament.

Elon shocked the Deacons in the first game of the match by the score of 15-13, but just could not win another game, losing 11-15, 7-15. Besides a respectable third place finish, seniors Joyce Daniel and Tina Ireland were honored by being selected to the small college all tournament team.

The team wound up the season with a 23-13 record, and also did well in the Appalachian invitational by defeating High Point 15-12, 5-15, 14-12, and Peace 15-1, 15-8.

MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1976-77 ELON COLLEGE "Fighting Christians"

Nov. 22	Liberty Baptist
Nov. 26-27	Catawba Tourney
Dec. 1	Lenoir Rhyne
Dec. 4*	High Point
Dec. 6*	Mars Hill
Dec. 11*	Atlantic Christian
Jan. 5*	Belmont Abbey
Jan. 8*	High Point
Jan. 12*	Lenoir Rhyne
Jan. 15†	Guilford
Jan. 17*	Liberty Baptist
Jan. 19†	Catawba
Jan. 22*	Winston-Salem St.
Jan. 26*	Campbell
Jan. 29†	Guilford
Jan. 31*	Belmont Abbey
Feb. 5†	Pfeiffer
Feb. 9*	Catawba
Feb. 12†	Campbell
Feb. 14*	Mars Hill
Feb. 19†	Atlantic Christian
Feb. 23-26	Carolinas Conf. Tourn.

*Home Games
†Conference Games



Wes McLaughlin, #29, defensive end for Elon, was selected as SAC-8 player of the week after turning in a good performance at the Elon-Newberry game. McLaughlin had five tackles, two assists, one interception, broke up one pass, had a sack which caused a fumble and later resulted in an Elon score, and blocked two punts. One blocked punt was recovered for a touchdown and the other led to an Elon field goal.



HOW THEY STAND

South Atlantic Conference Standings 11-1-76	Conf.	Over-
1. Elon College	4-0-0	8-0-0
2. Catawba	4-2-0	6-2-0
3. Newberry	3-1-0	4-3-0
4. Carson-Newman	3-2-0	3-5-0
5. Mars Hill	2-3-1	3-4-1
6. Gardner-Webb	2-4-0	4-4-0
7. Presbyterian	1-3-0	2-5-0
8. Lenoir Rhyne	0-5-1	0-7-1