

Sports

Christians declaw Lions 8-0 in opener

The number one ranked Elon Fightin' Christians began their defense of their NAIA National Championship Saturday evening with an 8-0 win over Mars Hill Lions, the NAIA's number seven ranked team.

Elon took the lead in the first quarter when place kicker Phil Renn connected on a 37-yard field goal to put Elon up 3-0.

The Fightin' Christians increased their margin in the second quarter when Mars Hill's punter saw the ball sail over his head on a bad snap and roll into the Elon end zone for a safety.

Renn struck again in the third quarter with a 32-yard field goal to hand Elon its winning margin.

The Fightin' Christian defense held the Lions to just

100 yards of total offense while Elon romped for 301. Quarterback John Banglely led the Elon offense with 158 yards passing on eleven completions. Tailback Jerry Hedrick, brother of former All-American Elon tailback Bobby Hedrick, galloped for 62 yards on 14 carries in his debut in the Maroon and Gold.

On defense, the Tootoo

brothers, Ernie and Stanley, paced Elon. Stanley made 10 solo tackles and 7 assisted tackles while Ernie made 4 solo hits and 8 assisted tackles.

Elon will travel to Guilford College this Saturday for a 1:30 meeting with the Quakers. Elon holds a 35-15-3 advantage in the series between the two colleges, but Guilford won the last game played in 1975 17-6. Guilford is 2-0 thus far

in 1981 while Elon stands 1-0.

In other Elon sports action, the Elon soccer team fell to Duke 6-0. This week the booters play at East Carolina Thursday and Guilford Saturday at 10 a.m. prior to the football game.

Coach Karen Carden's volleyball team is practicing hard for its first match on Wednesday, Sept. 23, against High Point at home.



MARS HILL DEFEATED — Fred Jordan [dark jersey] led the Elon charge against Mars Hill at last Saturday's game. Photo by Ron Kruppa.

Robertson: a down-to-earth man

by David Temple

For Elon tri-captain Adrian Robertson, the memories of the 1979 football season are all too clear.

"We were coming off a bid for the national championship that season, and a lot of players on the team began to get cocky," remembers the 6-4, 255-pound defensive tackle. "That complacency was one of the main reasons that we went 5-5 that season, so one of the responsibilities of the tri-captains this season is to keep people from being cocky. We can't expect to walk out on the field and win just because we're defending champions."

Tri-captain is a role that the Suffolk, Virginia, native adapts to rather easily. During his brilliant high school career at Forest

Land, he served as captain — a position that is generally reserved for quarterbacks, linebackers and other players whose names more often appear in newspaper print. As at Forest Land, Robertson feels that he must lead a young Elon squad by example.

"Other players usually play only as hard as the captains do," says Robertson, who shares that responsibility with nose guard Chris Worst and linebacker Ernie Tootoo. "So we try to work harder than everyone else."

Opposing quarterbacks are quite familiar with the type of "work" that Robertson does. He teamed with Worst to sack 37 quarterbacks a year ago while contributing 38 solo tackles and 49 assists. Yet off the field

Robertson displays a temperament that is quite different.

"I am about as down to earth as they come," says Robertson with a toothy grin. "The three things that are most important in my life are my wife, my house and my dog. I just put everything I have into whatever I do."

Robertson hopes to move into pro ball after this season. Yet despite the inability of former Elon stars such as Joey Hackett and Bobby Hedrick to achieve pro status, Robertson remains optimistic.

"I think if I have a good year I will have a shot at it," says Robertson. "I do know that if the chance comes to play professional ball, I'll be ready."

Preview

Elon to play Quakers

The number one ranked Elon Fighting Christians will travel to Guilford College Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. to take on the fifth ranked Quakers under coach Charles Forbes.

The Elon defense will surely be tested by second-year signal caller Keith Miller, as well as running-backs Jonathan Heard and Tyrone Garces. Guilford also features a strong offensive line and a receiving corps that is headed by Jamie Newton at tight end along with wide receivers Tim Goga and Greg Weaver.

The Quakers, 2-0, are led defensively by defensive tackles Eric Holsonback and Steve Phelps while the secondary is spearheaded by Jon Hoots at defensive back, who led the NAIA District 26 last season in interceptions.

However, both offensively

and defensively, Guilford has suffered from the loss of 16 veterans to graduation.

Quarterback John Banglely will head an Elon ground attack that features Fred Jordan and Jerry Hedrick, who combined for over 100 yards rushing last Saturday in Elon's 8-0 win over Mars Hill.

The linebacking combination of Ernie and Stanley Tootoo will team with a solid defensive line in an attempt to thwart Guilford's offensive hopes. Kicker Phil Renn booted two field goals last week against Mars Hill to again establish himself as one of Elon's top scorers.

Elon will have to avoid the costly turnovers that plagued them against Mars Hill while coach Jerry Tolley looks to the Fighting Christians defense for a replay of its impressive performance versus Mars Hill.



PRO BALL HOPES — Adrian Robertson, one of Elon's tri-captains, feels he must lead the young football squad by example. Photo courtesy of sports information.