

## sports



**TEAM LEADERS** — Elon basketball co-captains Pat Rhodes [30] and Drew Van Horn [22] are flanked by head coach Bill Morningstar [on left] and Danny Morrison. Photo by Susan Burleson.

## Morningstar needs help up front

by David Temple

Despite losing three starters to graduation, Elon basketball coach Bill Morningstar has some high hopes for a lineup that features several new faces.

Morningstar hopes to improve on the Fighting Christians' 14-16 record of a year ago. Elon placed second in the Carolinas Conference in 1980-81 with a 9-5 mark, and Morningstar is confident that a first-place finish can be achieved this season.

Elon's most immediate problem will be making up for the loss of starting forwards Lee Allison and Greg Dawson. Allison was a perennial conference selection throughout his career along with several All-District honors. Allison averaged 18 points and five rebounds a contest last season while Dawson closed out a standout career averaging 12 points and four rebounds per contest.

Gary Shuffler, a 6-foot 6-inch, 200-pound sophomore from Valdese, appears to be the most likely forward candidate along with the brother combination of Pat and Paul Rhodes. Shuffler averaged six points and two rebounds per contest in limited action last season. Shuffler is a fine shooter who compiled a 56 percent goal percentage a year ago while converting 77 percent of his free throws.

The center position is also up for grabs with the graduation of David Mantiplay, who served as captain along with Allison last year while contributing an average of seven points and three rebounds per game. The center position should see time split between Paul Rhodes and Jay Lee, a 6-foot 9-inch, 220-pound freshman from Burlington. Peter Dolan, a 6-foot 8-inch, 220-pound transfer from western Carolina, will be eligible in January and will be counted on to contribute immediately to Elon's inside game. Dolan compiled an outstanding prep record at Benjamin High School in North Palm Beach, Fla., earning All-State honors.

The guard position will once again be a strong point with senior Drew VanHorn returning to pilot the offense. VanHorn netted an average of 10 points per game while also averaging six assists.

He will be flanked by swing guard Mel Melton, a transfer from Brevard. The 6-foot 4-inch, 175-pound Melton earned Player of the Year in the Northwest, All City-County, All-Conference and All-State distinctions while playing at Page High School in Greensboro. Melton averaged 16 points per game last season at Brevard along with six assists.

Elon will be greatly aided by the addition of several first-year players to an already strong bench. Al Beck, a 5-foot 11-inch, 160-pound native of Burlington, and Vic Wiedeman, a 6-foot 2-inch, 180-pound freshman from Haddonfield, N.J., will provide backcourt depth. Beck was a two-year All-Conference selection at Williams High School while Wiedeman tallied an average of 23.2 points per contest and five assists at Haddonfield Memorial High.

Also, Roger Norris, a 6-foot 4-inch, 190-pound freshman comes to Elon after a very successful career at East Burke High School in Connally Springs. Gilbert Rivers, a 6-foot 2-inch forward transfer from Mitchell College in Statesville should see action.



**ELON AERIAL** — As Fighting Christian blockers hold off charging Newberry defender, quarterback John Bangley [10 in white jersey] launches a pass in last Saturday's 27-21 victory. Photo by Ken Lipstein.

## Christians nip Newberry

Phil Renn booted two second-half field goals to preserve a 27-21 victory for the Elon College Fighting Christians over the Newberry Indians Saturday evening at Setzler Field in Newberry, S.C.

Mickey Crocker handed Newberry the early lead on a 28-yard field goal in the opening minutes of the second quarter.

Noseguard Chris Worst quickly erased that advantage just two minutes later when he picked off an Indian pass and returned it 43 yards for the touchdown.

Ray Dalton put the Fighting Christians up 14-3 as he capped a time-consuming

Elon scoring drive with a three-yard plunge.

Crocker collected his second field goal of the day on Newberry's next possession with a 37-yard kick that pulled the Indians to within eight points of Elon at 14-6.

With just three seconds remaining in the half John Bangley tossed a 9-yard touchdown pass to Kelly Stanley to send the Fighting Christians to the halftime dressing room with a 21-6 advantage.

The Indians opened the second half by mounting a scoring drive that was topped by Eddie Pettus' 34-yard touchdown spiral to John Black. Will Ottaway

made the score 21-14

he dove into the endzone

the two point conversion.

Renn gave Elon so breathing room just before the end of the third quarter on a 28-yard field goal that the Newberry defense stopped the Fighting Christians deep in Indian territory.

After Elon saw another touchdown drive stalled in its next possession, Renn responded with an 18-yard field goal to begin the fourth period.

Newberry refused to give up and engineered a drive that was culminated by Richard Brisbon's two-point conversion.

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