

Sports

Elon breaks 2-game losing streak with 27-12 win

BOWIE, Md. — On a windy, brutally cold Saturday, Elon's Fightin' Christians overcame their own mistakes and a determined Bowie State football team to break a two-game losing streak with a 27-12 win here.

The victory gave Elon a 6-3



Johnny Jacobs

record going into the season finale at 2 p.m. Saturday against Mars Hill in Burlington Memorial Stadium. The Christians' slim NAIA playoff hopes remained alive due to Presbyterian's 28-7 upset of Carson-Newman, the first-place team in the South Atlantic Conference (SAC-8).

The Christians need a decisive win over Mars Hill, 4-5-1, to have a chance to be ranked in the top 12 of the final national poll, which determines the bids. The odds would still be heavily against the Christians, because although Carson-Newman also has three losses on the season, all of Elon's defeats came in the SAC-8.

Senior fullback Fred Jordan and Sophomore tailback Johnny Jacobs were the offensive stars for Elon in the Bowie State triumph. Jordan, who has done more blocking than ball carrying for most of the season, piled up his 133 rushing yards on 10 carries, all in the first

Playoff hopes alive as C-N loses

half. Jacobs got most of the carries in the second half, finishing with 118 yards in 16 attempts.

With the temperature about 40 degrees at game time and with a chill factor well below freezing due to steady 25 to 30 mile per hour winds, ball carriers for both teams had difficulty hanging onto the pigskin. The host Bulldogs lost two fumbles in the game, while Elon bobbled the ball seven times

and lost four of them — including three inside the Bowie State five yard line.

Nevertheless, the Christians' ground game produced 346 yards — only five of which were recorded by tailback Jimmy Smith. Smith, whose 160 yards and three TDs against Newberry on Nov. 5 had earned him SAC-8 offensive player of the week honors, mishandled several first-quarter handoffs and pitches and played little thereafter.

Elon quarterback Sam Fromhart completed only six of 19 passes in the game, but he connected for TDs on throws of five yards to tight end Kelly Stanley in the third quarter and 10 yards to wide receiver Jay Simmons in the final period.

Quarterback Arthur Lee of the Bulldogs pierced the Elon defense for 250 yards passing on 20 completions in 36 attempts for one TD. But he was intercepted three times, one of the pickoffs being returned one yard for a score by cornerback Derek Cross.

Lee's passing kept the underdog Bowie State team in the

game through three quarters. The Bulldogs, an NCAA Division II team and a member of the CIAA league, dropped to 1-9 on the year, but they earned the respect of the crowd of only about 200 people who braved the cold to watch the game.

Elon missed two scoring opportunities in the first quarter as Jonas Davis fumbled the ball away on Bowie State's one yard line and kicker John Thorne missed a 40-yard field goal attempt when the ball bounced back off the crossbar. But with three minutes left in the period, Davis redeemed himself by carrying off tackle for a four-yard TD, and Thorne's PAT made it 7-0.

After a Bowie State drive stalled on downs at Elon's 15, Jordan sprinted 41 yards up the sideline to get Elon rolling again. In six plays Elon reached the Bulldogs' one, but Jacobs fumbled and Bowie State's David Johnson recovered. On the next play, however, Lee's pass out of the end zone was picked off by Cross who ran it in for a 13-0 second-quarter advantage. An errant snap from center prevented a point-after kick by Elon.

The rest of the half belonged to the hosts. Lee connected

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SAC-8 standings			
	Conf.	All	
	W	L	T
Carson-Newman	6	1	0
Presbyterian	4	1	1
Mars Hill	3	2	1
Gardner-Webb	4	3	0
Elon	3	3	0
Newberry	2	4	0
Lenoir-Rhyne	1	5	0
Catawba	0	6	0

Quinton Ballard starts for Colts

Received game ball for play against Jets

By Kay Morrison
Staff Writer

Quinton Ballard, a starter on two Elon College NAIA national championship football teams, has now earned a starting role with the Baltimore Colts.

Signed as a free agent last summer, Ballard got his chance to start on Nov. 6, replacing Colts' starting defensive end Donnell Thompson who was injured. Ballard lined up against the Jets' All-Pro tackle Marvin Powell, but he apparently wasn't intimidated by Powell's reputation.

According to the Baltimore Sun, Ballard was a "one man gang" for the Colts as he made eight tackles, had an assist, a sack and deflected a pass.

The 6-foot-2, 285-pound Ballard was awarded the game ball by his fellow teammates as the Colts defeated the Jets, 17-14.

"I was surprised because a lot of people played well together, but it's nice to know your teammates appreciate what you did," Ballard said.

Ballard had been passed up in the NFL draft and was cut from the New Jersey Generals mini-camp last winter.

Former Elon defensive coach Linwood Ferguson, now coaching at North Carolina A&T, arranged the tryout with the Colts for Ballard last spring. After signing with Baltimore, he had an impressive early training camp, but in-



File Photo

SUCCESS CONTINUES: After a successful career at Elon, Quinton Ballard is now a starter in the National Football League.

jured his knee in August.

Taking time off to allow the injury to heal, Ballard was replaced by Steve Parker who entrenched himself at right defensive end. As a result Ballard seemed destined to spend the rest of the year as a role player.

Now, according to the Baltimore Sun, Ballard is a player who symbolizes the Frank Kush-coached Colts.

Even after losing to Pittsburgh last Sunday 24-13 (a game in which Ballard also started and played well), the Colts have a 6-5 record this year after finishing 0-7-1 in 1982.

Ballard is satisfied with the way he is playing, but he hopes to lose some weight in the off-season. He plans to return to Elon in January to complete requirements for his degree in social science. For now, he is the only former Elon player in the NFL.

Ballard is one of the many Colts who doesn't have a big name. "We didn't even know where he came from," said teammate Greg Bracelin when he awarded Ballard the Jets game ball. But the way these unheralded players are performing is a major reason why the Colts are such a surprising team this year.

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