

Sports

But Elon is hot

Pfeiffer, Pembroke head balanced CC tourney field

By Danny Hubbard
Sports Editor

The Fightin' Christian men's basketball team, playing their final regular season game at home last Monday night, tuned up their team precision with an 87-78 whipping of Lenoir Rhyne College. It was Elon's fifth straight win and avenged a 97-88 loss to the Bears on Nov. 21. Now the Christians and the Elon Athletic Department must prepare Alumni Gymnasium for the Carolinas Conference Tournament, to be played here next Tuesday through Friday for the second year in a row. This year's tournament will feature a balanced league that

has produced five out of eight teams capable of winning the conference title. Tied for the league with one game remaining, were Pembroke State University and Pfeiffer College, each with 10-3 conference records.

Pfeiffer Falcons

Senior guard, Roscoe Turner has paced Pfeiffer as the third leading scorer in the league with 16 points a game, while leading the league in free throw percentage (84 percent). Another dominant player for Pfeiffer is William Milteer, a senior forward who is averaging 15.3 points a game and seven rebounds (both marks good enough for fifth place rankings), while shooting the fourth best mark in the league at 57 percent.

Look for the Falcons to be seeded either number one or number two and have to play Guilford or Atlantic Christian in the first round of the tournament.

Pembroke Braves

The Pembroke State Braves have been led all season long by their sensational senior forward, Mike Emanuel (who was just named player of the week). He is currently the second leading scorer in the league with over 17 points a game. Emanuel stands fifth in rebounding (8.2), and sixth in shooting percentage (53 percent).

The Braves have also been receiving solid performances from their junior forward Ricky Melvin, and junior guard Darryl Martin. Melvin is fifth in the league in shooting percentage (57 percent), while Martin is fourth in free throws (74 percent).

Pembroke State has played solidly all season and especially at Elon, where they rolled over the Christians 88-75 on Feb. 4. Their last game, played last night, was a rematch with Elon.

Catawba Indians

Sitting in the third spot will likely be Catawba, the defending conference champion. The Indians have one game remaining with Guilford, and their record currently stands at 9-4. One big weapon for head

coach Sam Moir is the 1983 conference player of the year, senior center Mark Simpson. He currently leads the league in scoring (19 points a game), and in rebounding (10.3 a game). Don't be surprised if Simpson is named the player of the year again.

Besides Simpson, the Indians have two solid players at the forward position. Ed Fowler is 13th in the league in scoring (11.2 points a game), and Derrick Tucker is 19th with 10.6 points a game.

This unselfish and well-coached team leads the league in free throw percentage (71 percent) and shooting percentage (53 percent), while ranking second in scoring offense (74 points a game). Catawba will probably have to play Guilford or Wingate in the first round of the tournament.

High Point Panthers

High Point has finished its conference schedule with a 9-5 record, assuring the Panthers of no worse than a tie for fourth. The outcome of the Elon-Pembroke game last night was to determine whether the Christians tied High Point at 9-5.

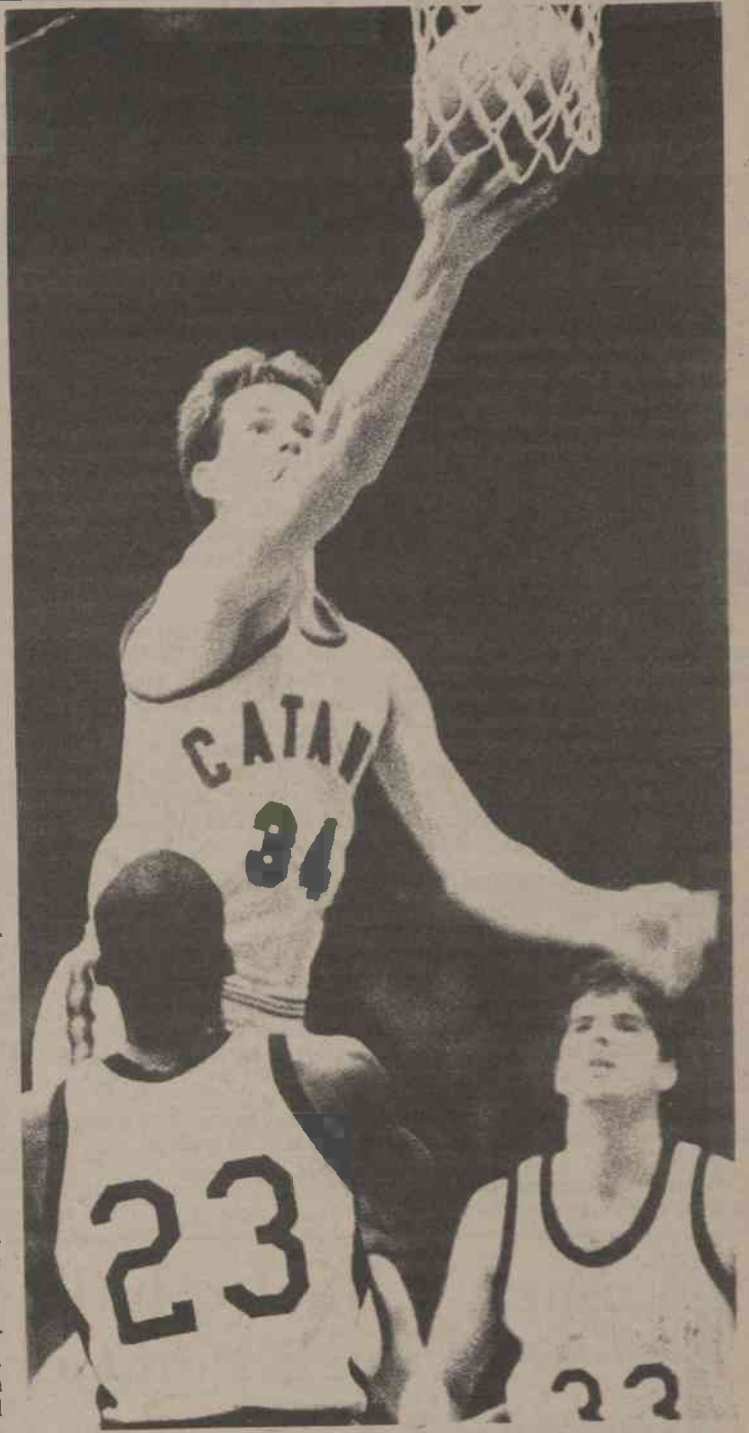
The Panthers are led by their senior forward Mike Averett. He is currently in 11th place in the league in scoring (12.9), and second in free throws (77 percent). High Point has continually stayed with a slow-paced game plan that has worked effectively for their under-sized team.

They are currently leading the league in scoring defense (59 points a game against them) and are a fine shooting team (51 percent). The Panthers will probably have to play Elon in the first round, but could receive a higher seeding if Catawba loses against Guilford.

Elon Fightin' Christians

For the red-hot Christians of Elon, everything is going their way with the homecourt advantage and the momentum of a recent five-game winning streak.

Elon has produced a balanced scoring attack, led by forward Robert Leak, and cen-



1983 PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Mark Simpson (34) of Catawba returns to Elon College one last time next Tuesday through Friday for the Carolinas Conference Tournament. Simpson, a senior center, is the leading scorer and rebounder in the league once again, and is a front-running candidate for the 1984 Player of the Year.

ter Andre Hines. The Christians are currently leading the league in scoring offense (75 points a game) and rebounds (53 percent), while placing second in free throws (70 percent). Those statistics add up to a strong team, with no super-

stars. Look for Elon to play High Point in the first round.

The last three teams in the league pose no real threat; Guilford, Wingate, and Atlantic Christian. There will be some exciting players to watch from these teams, though.

Guilford Quakers

Guilford has a terrific sopho-

more forward named Darryl Dozier, and he can do it all. He currently stands fourth in the league in scoring (15.6 points a game), and fourth in rebounding (8.9). He is the only real threat for the Quakers, however.

Atlantic Christian Bulldogs

Atlantic Christian has a fine center in senior Curtis Livingstone. He is sixth in the league in scoring (15.2 points a game), second in rebounding (9.1),



Photo by Paul Harris

Elon's Robert Leak