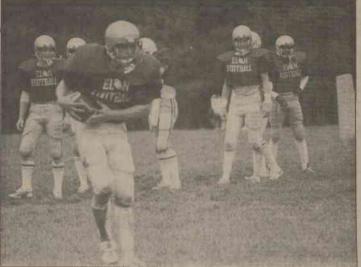
# Sports

BACK IN GEAR: The Fightin' Christian football team started their spring conditioning under a new head coach, Macky Carden. Carden takes over a squad that has a dominating defense, compared to mostly inex-perienced and unproven offense.





## Gridders prepare for season teams of the Philadelphia Phillies and the St. Louis Cardin-

By Danny Hubbard Sports Editor

"Our goal is not to move on to anything new, until what we are doing now is done well," said head football coach Macky Carden, as he and his assistants are preparing for the 1984

Carden explained that in spring practice the team is dwelling on simplification of drills, and that they "are trying

The new mentor, following in the footsteps of Jerry Tolley and Wright Anderson, said, "I'm anxious to see how the team will develop." As for the team status right now, Carden noted, "The offense is looking sharp, but the real strength of the team is the defense.

Heading the defensive line are three returning players, Ken Tatko, Grady Williams, and Lewin Bullock. Directly behind them as a linebacker will be Royce Fentress, who Carden said is "probably the most outstanding player on the team.

Other key players on defense are Ken Angel at Strong Safety, and transfer Jake Welburn at defensive back. One area which needs work is in the defensive end position which, Carden noted, is "terribly inexperienced.'

As for the offense, the most solid position appears to be running back, where six veterans return. The offensive line, however, is very inexperienced with only two returning players in guard, Clay Hassard

and center Thomas Kilcrease.
At tight end, Carden noted that the top four players are gone, leaving him without any experience. But transfers Chuck Ward, Eugene Woodbury, and Robert Jefferson are competing for the job.

The wide receiver position

Jay Simmons leading the troops. Simmons, Carden said, is "one of our top players." Jessie Jones, another top receiver from last year, is injured right now but is expected to recover

The signal caller for the team remains to be determined. None have stepped out so far, Carden said. But as Carden said, "the second half of training will let the leaders the class schedule.

started all 10 games in 1983, has Phillies beat the Christians 6-2, the edge in experience over the and the Cardinals' Springfield other eight candidates.

The new coach said recruit- score of 16-4. ing is running smoothly, with 12 transfers already committed, coaches Cardinals farm club Newsome Field. and the freshman signings could reach about 25.

The team practices daily on Rudd Field. Carden noted his main headache was "organizing the practice time around

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Del Suggs with his Saltwater Style of music will be in the LRC Wednesday giving a seminar- "Presenting Yourself in the Music World" at 2:30.

He will be performing: Tuesday, April 3: 4:00 - 6:30 in the Harper Center Lounge

Wednesday, April 4, Noon- 1:30 in the Grill.

### Elon nine returns

By Danny Hubbard Sports Editor

The Fightin' Christians baseball team, fresh from their Florida road trip, returned concluded their Sunshine home after winning only one State tour as they went across out of five games, two of those the border to play Georgia which were exhibitions.

break trip in a doubleheader 8, when a Tech player homered against perennial NAIA in the last inning. powerhouse, St. Xavier University, and came away with a split. The Christians dropped the first game 4-3, but regrouped for a 1-0 win in the final contest.

The highlight of the trip featured two exhibition games lies and the St. Louis Cardinals. These two professional looks strong with rising senior emerge." Sam Fromhart, who clubs were too much as the club stopped the Elon nine by a

that the Triple-A players were fired up to beat his club.

Last Saturday, the Christians which were exhibitions. Tech. Elon played the Yellow Elon opened up their spring Jackets evenly but fell short li-

> Although the Christians dropped two out of three games coach McBee explained, "We received good pitching the whole trip.

Elon's record is now 7-6, as the Christians prepare for tough conference games. As a team, they are averaging .279 from the plate, with center fielder Greg McDannold. (.368) and first baseman David Donohue (.333) leading the attack

Today the Christians face a crucial conference game against High Point College. Head coach Bob McBee, who The game starts at 2 p.m. on



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May 31, 1984.