

# Sports

## Elon wins 2 of 3

By Wes Durham  
Special to the Pendulum

Elon's men's basketball team entered February with a 15-5 record, the best record Coach Bill Morningstar has had in his six years at the helm. But the month got off to a shaky start as Elon dropped an 83-55 decision to Pembroke State. The loss hurt Elon worse in the NAIA District 26 race more than in the race for the Carolinas Conference crown. Senior Robert Leak led the Christians in the loss with 16 points, followed by Rafeal Hernandez with 12.

Next, Elon traveled to Lexington, Va., to take on Washington and Lee. The Christians got off to a hot start as they hit 76 percent from the floor en route to a 73 to 68 victory. Leak again led Elon in scoring with 22 points. Ricky Larry and Eric Hairston also hit double figures with 10 points a piece. Elon needed their sharp shooting against the Generals to offset a fine second-half performance by Lex Fitzenhagen. He finished with 22 points, 18 of those in the second half.

Alumni Gym was the site of last Saturday's contest with Atlantic Christian. Revenge was in order since the Bulldogs had defeated Elon 72 to 68 in early December. The Elon club paid ACC back as Leak paced the Christians with 30 points in the 82-75 win. Elon, down 33-30 at the half, used a pressure defense and a transition game to get the win.

The Christians have been able to put together fine performances on several occa-

## Grapplers

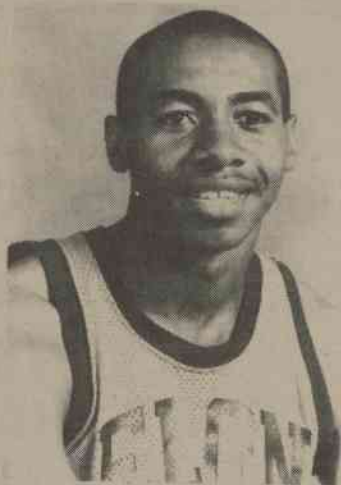
### 2nd at W & L

Elon had one tournament champion, four second place finishes, three thirds and a fourth place finish at the Washington and Lee tournament on Jan. 26. As a result of these finishes the Christian team placed second in team scores, beaten only by the tournament's hosts, Washington and Lee college.

Bobby Brown won the individual title at 150 pounds, while Mike Fitzgerald (118 lbs.), Stafford Young (134 lbs.), Scott Crater (142 lbs.) and Fred McMannus (Hwt.) all took second places.

The Christians went to the Carson-Newman College tournament on Feb. 4, and finished 5th out of nine teams.

Johnny Travis (190 lbs.), and Fred McMannus (Hwt.), both finished second and Bobby Brown (150 lbs.) finished third.



Robert Leak

sions. When their shots are not falling as in the Pembroke game, it could be a rough night. Elon can win with good defense and or good team rebounding. The Christians are fourth in the country in team rebounding percentage. Hernandez led the conference with an average of better than 10 rebounds a contest.

## Leak optimistic for tourney play

By Jonathan Martin  
Staff Writer

With a greatly improved basketball program, the Fightin' Christians have a chance to win 20 games for the first time in years. This wouldn't be possible without the help of 6-foot-6 senior Robert Leak.

For the first 23 games, Leak has averaged 18.7 points a game as well as 8.7 rebounds a game. His tough inside play and accurate 15-foot jump shot have helped Elon to first district. He is the leading scorer in the Carolinas Conference and has been among the top five rebounders most of the year. Last week Leak was named Player of the Week in the Conference for the second time this season.

Born in Charlotte, Leak went to North Greenville Junior College, in Greenville, S.C. There he averaged 19 points a game as a sophomore.

Leak first played basketball on the playgrounds before joining the team in high school. He averaged 17 points a game and enrolled briefly at Auburn University before transferring to North Greenville Junior College.

Calling himself an "easy-going person," Leak gets along well with his teammates and his coach, Bill Morningstar. "I think Coach Morningstar is a great man," he said.

A highlight in Leak's career was his 36 points against Hampden-Sydney last Nov. 29. The Christians beat Hampden-Sydney 114 to 72.

If the Christians finish fourth place or better in the district

they will go to Kansas City to play in the NAIA basketball tournament. Leak is optimistic about the rest of the year and says that the Christians will do well. "We're getting things back together," he said.

Leak says that attendance is up this year and that the students are enthusiastic at the games.

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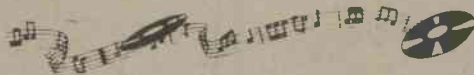
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Feb. 18: Lenoir-Rhyne

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