

Sports



ELON'S COACH: Third-year coach Rick Jones holds a conference at the mound with some of his players in a game against the University of Richmond.

Photo by Matthew Howell

Elon downs Methodist to give Jones 200th victory

By Jeff Marcini
Sports Editor

Bill Nemenz drove in the winning run in the bottom of the sixth inning Monday night to give the Fightin' Christians a 1-0 win over Methodist College, the nation's No. 2 team in NCAA Division III. The win was coach Rick Jones' 200th career victory.

Jones, now in his third year at Elon, has a career coaching record of 200-64-1, which includes his three-year stint at Ferrum College.

The Christians improved to 23-9 overall with the win over Methodist.

Sophomore Chris Cole (8-1) picked up the win for Elon as he went the distance, striking out five.

Last Thursday, the Christians defeated Pembroke State 13-7.

Outfielder Tom Alessi paced the Christians at the plate against the Braves, as he went five-for-five with two doubles and a triple and drove in four runs.

The Christians finish out the regular season with home games against Mt. Olive on Saturday and High Point College on Sunday. Both games begin at 2 p.m. at Newsome Field.

NOTES: Alessi and Mark Nocera lead the Christians at the plate, with Alessi batting .415 and Nocera .417... Alessi also leads the team with 20 stolen bases. Outfielder Jimmy Caldwell leads the team with a .718 slugging percentage. Caldwell also leads the team with nine home runs and 37 RBI's... Cole is pacing the Elon pitchers with an ERA of 3.08 and 44 strikeouts and is followed by Duane Hyatt with an ERA of 3.28 and 39 strikeouts.



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Sports notes

Burton signs guard

Elon basketball coach Bob Burton announced the signing of Wesley Jones, a 6-foot point guard from Danville, Va. Jones led his George Washington High School team to a 24-1 record last season.

"Wesley Jones represents a strong cornerstone for Elon teams to build on in the future," said Burton. "He has excellent quickness, polished ball-handling skills, and he plays great man to man defense."

Jones received All-Western and All-Metro honors this season.

Women's tennis ends

Elon's women's tennis team finished its season with a fifth-place finish in the District 26 tournament held last weekend at Wingate. They finished the regular season with wins over N.C. A & T and Mars Hill.

Elon golfers finish second in tourney

By Jeff Marcini
Sports Editor

Elon's nationally third-ranked golf team placed second in the combined Carolinas Conference and District 26 tournament last weekend in Buies Creek.

The Christians' three-day total of 886 was second to team champion Guilford's 868 on the soggy Keith Hills Country Club course.

Glenn Bulliner led the Elon contingent with a three-day total

of 221 and a fourth-place finish overall. Teammate Mike Kenney was a shot back at 222, tied for fifth individually.

With their finishes, Bulliner and Kenney were named to the All-Conference and All-District teams.

Elon's other scores included: Steve Larrick (223), Bob Byrnes (226) and Craig Gunn (227).

"The playing conditions were difficult, with all the rain," Kenney said. "But we like to play in

the bad weather."

Kenney also noted that after a four-hour delay on the opening round, the golfers had to play the back nine twice because the front nine was closed due to the amount of rain on the links.

Elon is the first alternate team on the list for at-large bids to the national tournament, to be held June 2-5 at Tri-State University in Angola, Ind. The team will have to wait until the middle of May when the bids are issued.



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