

Virginia on top in NCAA polls

Thomas Jefferson would have been proud.

For the first time in the school's history, the University of Virginia stands as king of the college football mountain, while former kings such as Miami, Notre Dame and Michigan can only watch from below.

An open date on October 6 was all that prevented the Cavaliers from claiming the top spot in the rankings following Notre Dame's 36-31 loss to Stanford. Instead, Michigan grabbed number one, mainly because there was no one else to take it. But, the Wolverine's celebration was a short one, for their number one ranking, and all national championship hopes came to an end last Saturday following their loss in a 28-27 cliffhanger against Michigan State.

So now, the top spot belongs to the Cavaliers, and talk of a first ever national championship are running rampant through Charlottesville. And why shouldn't it? Virginia celebrated a long awaited victory over arch rival Clemson in September, the school's first win ever over the Tigers. An impressive victory over defending ACC co-champion Duke, with whom the Cavaliers shared the 1989 conference title, and a 31-0 pasting of N.C. State last Saturday solidified Virginia's ever increasing legitimacy as the number one team in the nation.

Fortunately, the remainder of Virginia's schedule, poses few challenges - except for a showdown with newly revived Georgia Tech, a matchup that could conceivably have both conference and national championship implications.

Virginia also presents one of the deadliest passing combinations in the country, featuring quarterback Shawn Moore and receiver Herman Moore. Shawn Moore has even emerged as a Heisman front runner, slowly eclipsing preseason favorite Ty Detmer of Brigham Young.

A Heisman winner in Charlottesville? Such an honor

Chip Lupo



would be icing on the Cavalier cake.

Despite such a lofty ranking for an ACC team that doesn't hail from Death Valley, the question remains as to whether or not the rest of the ACC stacks up to perennial football conferences such as the SEC or the Big Ten, or independent powerhouses Miami and Florida State.

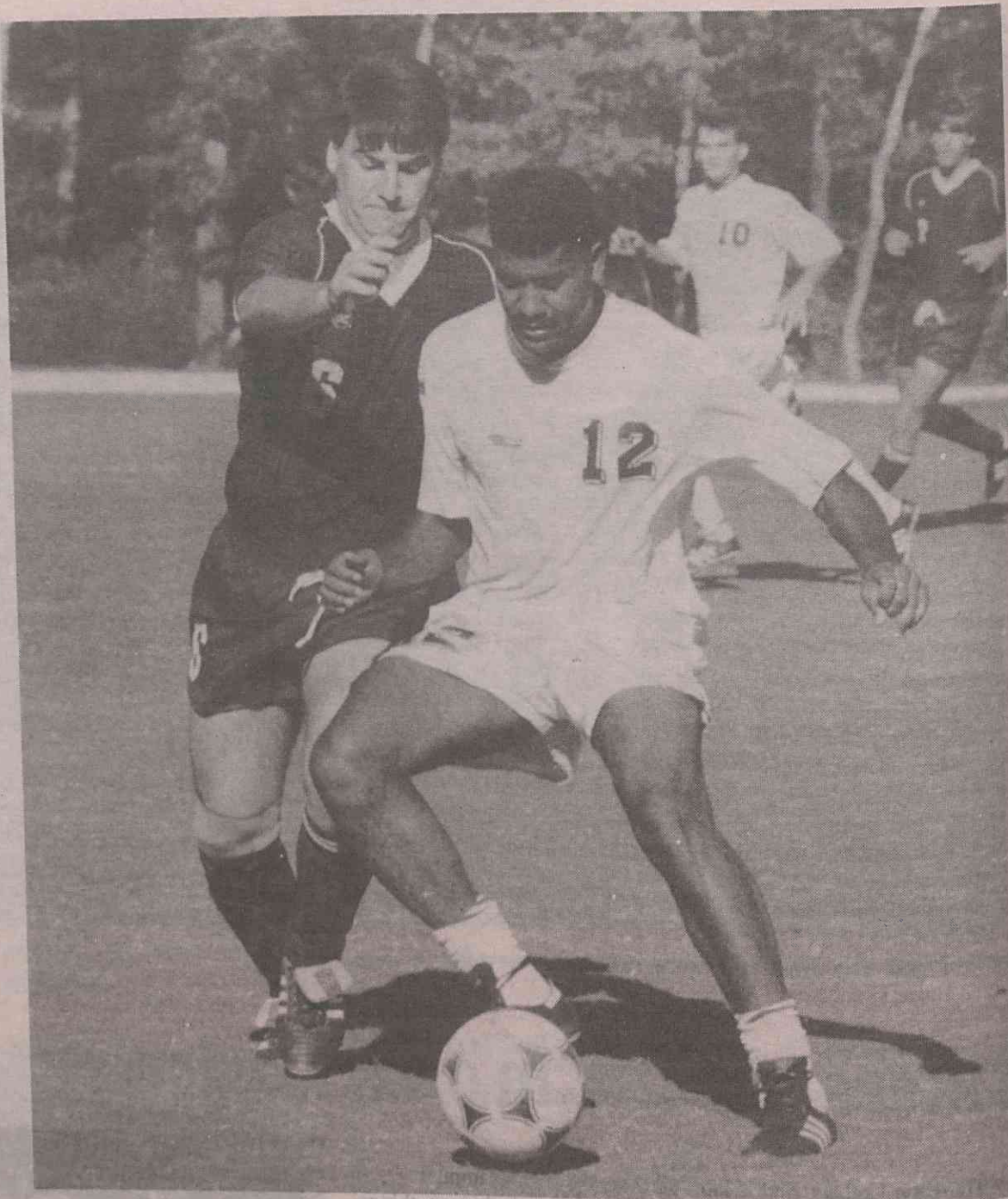
Tune on in New Year's Day. **EXTRA POINT:** I'm sure everyone who was here enjoyed Parent's Weekend, especially the annual Parent's Weekend football game at Clinton S.C. I'm also sure that parents that drove all the way from New Jersey didn't mind driving an additional three hours to witness the highlight of Parent's Weekend. Yeah, right.

It is high time that the groundwork for our own football stadium begins. A school that has two national championships in football to its credit, and that has a higher student enrollment than any other school in the South Atlantic Conference should not be reduced to playing in high school stadiums in other cities or having its institution's festivities moved to other campuses.

Don't tell me that the money isn't there. If \$100,000 can be spared without financial loss for such necessities as brick veneer and sprinkler systems, then surely there are some funds available to begin work on our own stadium. Once the initiative

to scrap "home" games at Williams High School in favor of a new, Elon Stadium gets going, the financial ball, meaning donations, will start rolling.

Homecoming is November 3. Get your maps out for this one, because in all likelihood the game will be at Newberry, S.C., home of an institution that has little or no football tradition but has its own stadium.



Senior midfielder Kevin Thomas (12) attempts to dribble his way past a Wingate defender. Thomas scored one goal and assisted on another as the Christians won 3-1. *Scott Lansing/The Pendulum*

Christians upend Presbyterian 31-20

**Ted Toomer
The Pendulum**

The Fightin' Christians made some parents happy this Parent's Weekend as Elon improved its record to 3-4 overall and 2-2 in the conference in a 31-20 come-from-behind victory over Presbyterian last Saturday.

The game was moved to Presbyterian's Bailey Stadium in Clinton, S.C., because of poor field conditions at Burlington's Memorial Stadium.

Elon now moves into a fourth place tie in the SAC-8 with Mars Hill, whom they defeated 13-7 on Oct. 6. The Christians will play Catawba this week at Salisbury.

The Elon defense gave up

some big plays early as Presbyterian running backs Mason Gordon and Quincy Einger scored on touchdown runs of 66 and 81 yards.

"After they scored the 81-yard touchdown we decided we weren't going to let them score again," said sophomore cornerback Roosevelt Brooks. "We knew from that point on we had to keep our offense on the go so we could score," Brooks said.

Elon's offense, behind the one-two punch of sophomore running back Bobby Johnson (23 carries, 120 yards) and red-shirt freshman Elliott Armstrong, who ran for 43 yards on 14 carries, helped Elon outscore the Blue Hose 21-7 in the second half.

"We felt we could run on them because they were over pursuing and arm tackling. We knew the cut-back lanes were open," said Armstrong.

The return of starting quarterback Heath Hewett also helped, as he continued Elon's winning ways from a week ago by completing 15 of 21 passes for 197 yards.

It was Elon's most balanced offensive attack all year as the Christians ran for 259 yards and threw for 197 with no turnovers.

"Despite the terrible field conditions, I was happy with the team's overall performance. The team kept their composure and came back to win the game," said Christians head coach Leon Hart.