

Baseball team splits a big doubleheader

Erick Gill
The Pendulum

The Elon College baseball team won two out of three games this weekend against 12th ranked Shippensburg University.

Elon, 5-2 overall, hosted Shippensburg, 1-4 overall, for one game on Saturday and a doubleheader on Sunday.

Saturday's game was hard fought for Elon, but they made a comeback in the ninth inning to win it 4-3.

Elon's starting pitcher, Tony Mattos, pitched almost the entire game, giving up only three runs. Then in the ninth inning, pitcher Todd Bechtold was brought in and pitched a no hitter inning.

Elon was down 3-2 until Rolando Soler hit a double that brought in two runners to win the game.

On Sunday, Elon split the doubleheader 8-7 and 0-5.

Again the Fightin' Christians were forced to rally



Scott Hildebrand/The Pendulum

Elon found the win they needed Saturday that might give them a ranking

back in the last inning. Going into the seventh, Elon was down 6-5. Pitcher, Brain Cobbler gave up a run to make it 7-5.

Then once up to bat, Elon grabbed onto a hitting streak and scored three runs to shut down Shippensburg.

However, Shippensburg was the one who did the shutting down on Sunday's second game. Shippensburg pulled out their first win this season by shutting out Elon.

Only three Elon batters were able to get hits off of

Shippensburg's pitcher.

Shippensburg scored their five runs off pitcher Rod Gorham. Three of their runs came early in the first inning and the other two were scored in the fifth.

Elon, not ranked in any pre-season polls, hopes that by taking down a 12th ranked division II team they will get a national ranking in the next poll.

Elon will get their first taste of conference play this weekend at home against Presbyterian College.

Softball team starts out season strong in home opener

Erick Gill
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Last week Elon's women's softball team opened up its season with a doubleheader win against St. Andrews College.

Since fast pitch softball games are played so fast, schools usually schedule back to back games.

Head coach Sue Leonard's team ran into trouble during the second game against St. Andrews. Elon was down by two runs until the seventh inning when they found their hitting streak and finished up the game 7-3.

Elon's pitcher Susan French also stumbled during the second game, when the first basemen fired the ball at a runner going to third and accidentally hit French

in the side of the face.

According to Coach Leonard, French chipped six teeth and cut her lip. French's face is still swollen, but she should be back by this weekend, Leonard said.

The Lady Fightin' Christians finished first during the regular season in the South Atlantic Conference last year, but lost to Carson-Newman in the playoffs.

In a pre-season poll, Elon was picked to finish 20th in the nation and second in the conference.

Even though the team lost two seniors last year, Leonard had little trouble replacing them.

"We have a lot of experience. We have the same pitcher and catcher as last year. Even our freshmen help out a lot with

speed," Leonard said.

While Leonard said they have a strong pitching and hitting team, she feels one weakness is a lack of aggressiveness.

"We are not quite as aggressive with the bat swing, but it is early and I hope that will eventually come around," Leonard said.

Even though it's early the Lady Fightin' Christians look to break last years record of 37-10, which was Elon's most wins in one season.

Elon will get a true test of how they will fare this season, when they travel to Catawba College this weekend to participate in the Catawba Kickoff Tournament.

Grubbs resigns as Sports Information Director

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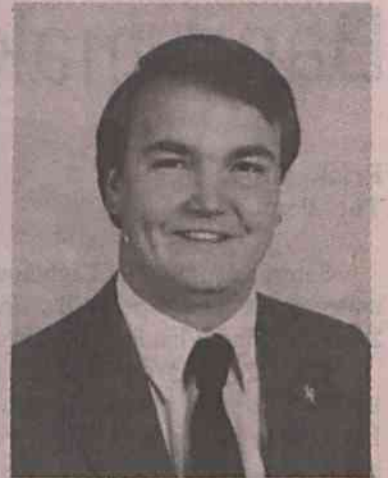
Elon Athletics has announced that effective March 15, 1993, Bill Grubbs will resign as Sports Information Director.

During Grubbs' seven years as Sports Information Director, he has won 15 national publication honors including two Best in the Nation awards. Grubbs also helped to advance Elon's Computer statistics programs.

"In addition to his publication honors, Bill completely updated the system of statistics and record-keeping for Elon's program," said Director of Athletics, Dr. Alan White in statement released February 12.

Grubbs' other achievements include putting together three consecutive second place finishes with Elon's football game programs for the 1987-1989 seasons. Grubbs' 1991 football program won a third place spot in CoSIDA Division B, which includes NAIA and NCAA division II schools.

As far as Grubbs' future plans, he said he is "still finalizing his options". "I'm still waiting on some pending offers, but I plan to take a few courses at NC State in the fall," Grubbs



Bill Grubbs

said.

"Elon has been a great experience for me," Grubbs said. "I have been able to prove myself in several critical areas and feel that my time at Elon has not only allowed me to grow as a person, but it has afforded me a priceless professional experience."

Dr. White also said, "A lot of a sports information directors work goes unacknowledged as it is often a 'behind the scenes' effort... I appreciate what he has done for our program."

No replacement has been named at this time. Until a replacement is found, Assistant Sports Information Director Mike Gaynor will take over Grubbs' duties.

Men's basketball suffers worst loss in twenty years

Erick Gill
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Elon men's basketball team suffered its worst tournament loss in 20 years against Gardner-Webb this weekend, 111-64.

Overall Elon finished fourth in the regular season behind Presbyterian College, Lenoir-Rhyne and Gardner-Webb.

The Fightin' Christians were hoping to advance to at least the second round, but the Bulldogs defense had other plans.

Gardner-Webb held Elon to only 38 percent shooting from the floor, while G-W shot 65 percent.

Elon's seniors Cornelius Muller, Len Silvia and Steve

Walker all turned out to be the team's top three scorers.

Muller racked up a total of 23 points, while Silvia also chipped in with double digits for 13 points. Walker finished up with eight points total.

"With the 1993 season brought to a sudden halt, Elon players will look on to next year.

Junior Mike Tinsley said next year's team should look stronger than this year's.

"We should have a good squad next year. We have four seniors coming up and we plan to start out the season with set team goals," Tinsley said.

While Elon plans to rely on their upper classmen, the team expects to get two strong freshmen players next year.