

Elon plays hard to defeat Gardner-Webb

Bob Grimmie
Staff Reporter

The Fightin' Christians picked up their second win in a row last Saturday when they defeated the Gardner-Webb Runnin' Bulidogs, 21-14, in front of the home crowd at Burlington Memorial Stadium.

Junior fullback Mark Lloyd led the Elon ground assault with 101 yards rushing and one touchdown on 18 carries. Junior quarterback Maurice Blakeney had one of his best games of the season. He completed five of seven passes for 130 yards, two touchdowns and no interceptions.

Early in the game both teams scored while taking advantage of big plays on special teams and defense.

The Fightin' Christians first drive was halted by the Gardner-Webb defense, and they were forced to punt. Jamie McQueen boomed a 44 yard punt that was downed at the Gardner-Webb two-yard line.

The Bulldogs first play from their own endzone resulted in a fumble that the Elon defense swiftly pounced on. The Fightin' Christians wasted no time capitalizing on the opportunity. Lloyd busted up the middle for six yards and a touchdown. The extra point kick gave Elon a 7-0 lead.

The Bulldogs were also able to capitalize on a big special teams play later in the first quarter. After being stopped by the Elon defense Gardner-Webb punted the ball away only to have Rod Clark, Elon's return man, fumble the ball. The Bulldogs then regained possession and marched 30 yards for a game tying touchdown.

The first half ended in a seven all tie. Elon's defense held the Bulldogs scoreless despite being on the field for well over half the second quarter.

The second half began with an exchange of punt until the Fightin'



Tonya Hubart/The Pendulum

Elon's Carl Perry aggressively tackles the ball carrier of Gardner-Webb.

Christians got the ball on their own 15 yard line with 7:45 remaining. Led by the strong running of Quentin Mitchell and Lloyd Elon embarked on a drive that would chew up five minutes, 85 yards and end with a 21 yard touch down pass from Blakeney to Jarius Wallace. The extra point kick gave the Fightin' Christians a 14-7 lead. A lead they would soon add to.

The Fightin' Christians first drive of the fourth quarter seemed doomed to be shutdown by a series of penalties.

First a 17-yard holding penalty, then a five-yard illegal proce-

dure penalty had Elon buried in a third and 21 from its own 24-yard line. Clark and Blakeney quickly pulled the team out of their hole by hooking up for a 76-yard touchdown. The play gave the Fightin' Christians a 21-7 lead and, for all intensive purposes, was how the game would end.

The Bulldogs would score once more late in the fourth quarter, but it had no effect on the outcome. The final score was 21-14, Elon.

The Christians will play Nov. 5 against Wofford. The Homecoming game kicks off at 2 p.m. at Burlington Memorial Stadium.

SAC Scores

Carson-Newman 23, Lenoir-Rhyne 21
Presbyterian 49, Wingate 14
Mars Hill 45, Charleston Southern 28
Newberry 38, Catawba 37
Elon 21, Gardner-Webb 14

SAC Standing

Elon 3-3
Lenoir-Rhyne 4-1
Carson-Newman 6-1
Mars Hill 4-1
Gardner-Webb 1-4
Wingate 1-4
Presbyterian 2-4
Catawba 1-4



Tonya Hubart/The Pendulum

Elon's defensive players Shawn Stevenson and Mandell Dobson go hard against Gardner-Webb's offense.

Football Player Profile

"Bubba" hopes to play professional

Robert Burnett, known to many as "Bubba," is one of Elon's two-sport stars but is most successful on the football field.

Burnett, a 5'11", 200 pound senior, is one of this year's team captains. He started the season at free-safety and has recently returned to cornerback. Last week against Gardner-Webb, he finished with 10 tackles and one interception. Head coach Leon Hart feels cornerback is probably the best position for Burnett.

"He appeared more comfortable and confident. And this was by far the best game he has had all season," Hart said.

"Bubba" has played for the Fightin' Christians for four years and has contributed tremendously. Last season he was named second team All-America, Defensive Player of the Year, first team All-Conference, and first team All-South Region. Coming into this season he was named pre-season All-America. In addition, he has had two interceptions, one fumble recovery for an 80-yard touchdown return and a total of 48 tackles this season.

"I think he's an excellent player. If you look at what he's done in the past four years, that'll tell you how good of a player he is," Hart said. "He's a very gifted athlete."

Burnett is 21 years-old and majoring in psychology. He also plays baseball for the Fightin' Christians. He has been playing football for 15 years and hopes to continue.



Courtesy of Sports Information Robert Burnett

"My goals are to play professional football for either the NFL or for some Canadian team," Burnett said.

"Bubba" is from Jacksonville, N.C. and believes his biggest influences have been his parents. "They've come a long way," Burnett said. "They've raised three kids and have always provided us with everything we need and they've made sacrifices doing that."

When Burnett was asked about Saturday's game against Gardner-Webb he quietly expressed his thoughts, "I think the win showed us that if we fight hard throughout the game, then we can win, just as long as we don't give up." And that is the thought that Burnett and many other players will enter Saturday's Homecoming game with.



Schedule of Events

- Nov. 5 Volleyball Food Lion SAC Tournament Lenoir-Rhyne
Men's and Women's Cross Country Southeast Regional Meet ,Spartanburg
Football vs. Wofford College (HOMECOMING) (HOME) 2 p.m.
Men's Soccer Food Lion SAC Tournament, Wingate, noon and 2 p.m.
- Nov. 6 Volleyball Food Lion SAC Tournament, Lenoir-Rhyne
Men's Soccer Food Lion SAC Tournament , Wingate, 2 p.m.

McEWEN 7 X 94 Students must have a valid Fall '94 sticker on Student ID for admission to sports events.