

NCAA

# ElonSports



## Brendle, Lloyd break homerun records

Troy Adams  
The Pendulum

Scott Brendle and Kelly Lloyd are lucky—lucky they haven't been sued for all they own.

If they were, I don't think they would stand a chance in court.

*If the plaintiff would now state its case...*

*"Your honor, everyday I come to the ballpark calm and collected. I dress in white, don't say anything to offend anybody and basically, I just go about my business.*

*But through the course of a game, I am cussed at, swung at and batted around. But that's not the worst...*

*...The worst is when I run into Mr. Brendle and Ms. Lloyd. They both hit me with bats. Big bats, swung hard. Mr. Brendle has hit me so hard, I've been forced to leave several times without any say in the matter. And Ms. Lloyd, she never misses a day without hitting me. There was span of 144 straight encounters where all she ever did was hit me. She never missed.*

*Neither one of them has ever said a kind word to me, except to comment on how hard they hit me. If they're not hitting me, they're throwing me around. They are cruel, vindictive athletes who show no mercy and have never once apologized."*

*Mr. Brendle and Ms. Lloyd, what do you have to say in your defense?*

*"I don't know...It was fun to hit the plaintiff a record number of times. Couldn't we arrange something? Maybe a larger sweet spot? Or how about some buddies that the plaintiff could alternate with. That way, a severe beating may be avoided."*

*Mr. Brendle and Ms. Lloyd, I find you guilty on all counts charged: Attempted assault, assault, attempted murder and murder of a baseball. You are sentenced to the confines of Elon's record books.*

There could be no other outcome in that trial. Brendle and Lloyd are both guilty. Guilty of murdering baseballs and sending

them out of ballparks a record number of times.

Brendle hit his record 37th career homerun Sunday, April 4. He found his egg on Easter all right. He found it on a 1-0 pitch and sent it flying over the right-center field fence to place his name in the record books just ahead of Mike Deike, who hit 36 dingers from 1995-98.

Lloyd hit her record eighth career homerun Tuesday, March 30. Her solo blast sailed over the new leftfield scoreboard in the bottom of the sixth inning.

"Man, when she hit her homerun, it was incredible," teammate Kristen Kendrick said. "It soared over the new scoreboard. I haven't hit a homerun in all three years here."

Both Lloyd and Brendle's homeruns came in vain though, as Elon lost both games.

Brendle's 3-run homer put Elon ahead 3-2 in the fifth inning, but Radford won the game 6-3.

Lloyd's homer brought Elon within three, 5-2, but that's how the game would end as the Fightin' Christians softball team dropped to 7-15 on the season.

But neither Lloyd or Brendle is content to stop there. For Lloyd, it is all just a stepping stone to the next level. In May, she will be trying out for the Women's Professional Fastpitch League. And from spring of '97 until recently, Lloyd went 144 straight at-bats without a strikeout, leading the country in that category last year.

"That's a huge pressure," Kendrick said. "I'm so proud of her. She has accomplished so much in her four years here."

Brendle, meanwhile, is only two doubles away from setting Elon's record for career doubles. And the record for total hits may even be in reach for the senior from Kernersville, N.C.

"It's a great feat," fellow senior Guy Robertson said. "I'm happy for him as a friend and a teammate; happy and proud. He's represented not only himself and the team but the seniors as well. He deserves that.

"He's been a steadying force throughout this roller-coaster season. He has battled through it, con-

tinued to work hard and believe in his ability, even if his stats and numbers haven't shown that."

Brendle has hit seven homeruns thus far this season. After hitting three his freshman year, he hit a total of 27 over his sophomore and junior campaigns.

"From a leadership perspective, he provides a lot," Robertson said. "Not just this year, but in the past years, too. He's very verbal and straightforward with you. He's not afraid to tell you where he is or where he's been."

Lloyd's teammates will tell you the same thing. In the midst of a struggling season, Lloyd has continued to battle.

This season hasn't gone quite as planned for Lloyd or Elon. She's battled knee problems, lost her no-strikeout streak and is hitting well below her career average, while Elon is 8-20.

Last season, Lloyd had to say goodbye to several teammates and best friends. Tuesday, April 6, Lloyd got to see one of them again, but this time on opposite sides of the field as Elon met UNCG, where former Elon standout Cheryl Denny is now an assistant coach.

Lloyd's reaction to seeing an old teammate? No mercy.

Lloyd had three hits on the day, giving her 250 career total bases and her 15th Elon record, breaking former teammate Dana Wascak's record of 249 hits from 1994-97.

"She and the other seniors have helped keep our team together mentally and physically," Kendrick, who was 5-6 on the day, said.

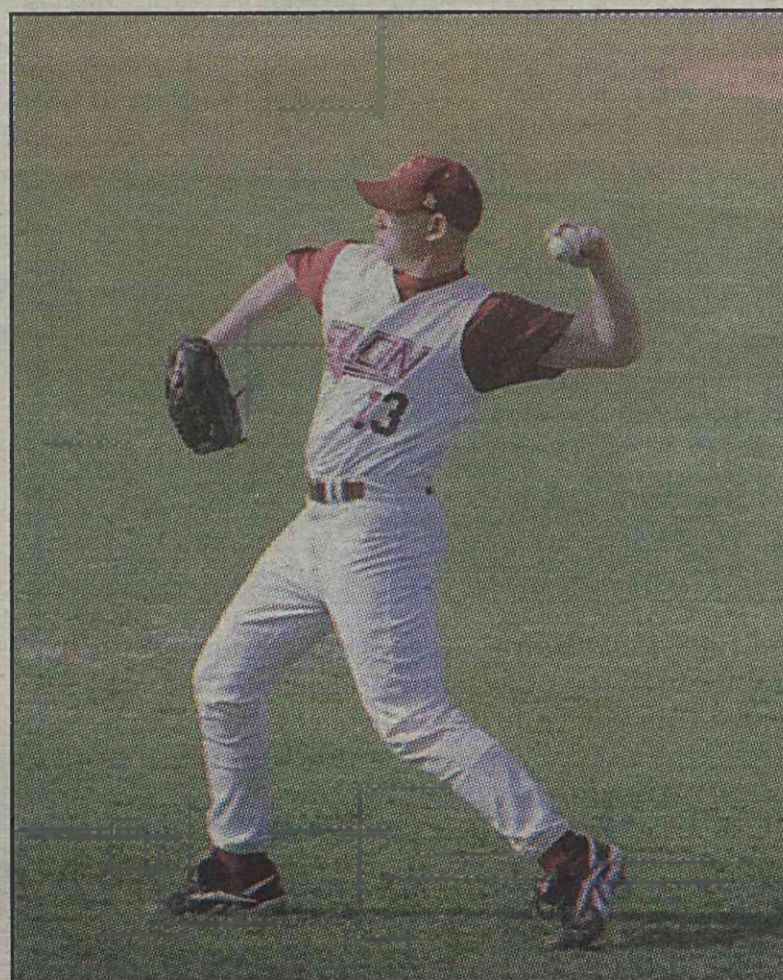
While both teams are struggling in the record column, all is not lost. Conference play is an avenue to post-season play and although Elon still can't win the Big South conference technically, both teams are making it their goal to win the conference and end the season positively.

"Our play the last two weeks has been promising," senior Chris Hughes said.

"We're gonna turn things around. Our goal is to win the conference and still send a message about next year."

### Scoreboard

**Men's Tennis (8-4)** — 7-0 win @ Liberty on 4/3  
**Baseball (10-23-1)** — 8-5 loss @ #3 UNC-Chapel Hill on 3/30  
 5-4 win, 4-1 loss vs. Radford on 4/3  
 6-3 loss vs. Radford on 4/4  
**Softball (8-20)** — 5-2 & 1-0 losses vs. Brown on 3/30  
 8-0 & 2-1 losses @ ECU on 3/31  
 5-3 & 5-0 losses vs. Liberty on 4/2  
 3-2 loss & 4-3 win vs. UNCG on 4/6  
**Women's Golf** — 12th-place finish at Eastern Kentucky Classic on 4/3 - 4/4



Senior Chris Hughes and the rest of the Fightin' Christians will be looking to turn the season around and claim a Big South title. Next week we'll take a closer look at the baseball and softball seniors. Emily MacDonnell/The Pendulum



### This week in Elon Athletics

#### Baseball

4/13 vs. N.C. A&T @ 3:00

#### Women's Tennis

4/9 vs. UNC-Charlotte  
(regular season finale) @  
2:30

#### Men's Tennis

4/8 vs. UNCC @ 2:30

#### Softball

4/9 vs. Mt. Olive @ 2:00

4/13 vs. UNC-Chapel Hill @  
2:30