

Athletes of the Week



Chris Papst

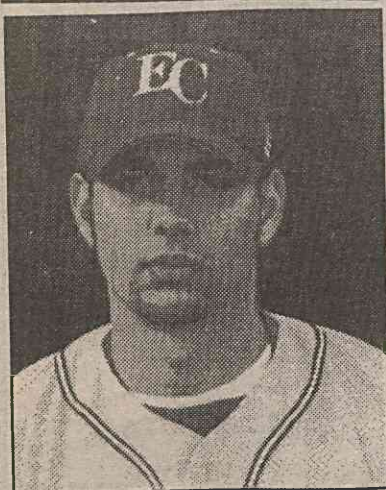
The Lowdown: Papst hit a game-winning, two-out single in the bottom of the 12th inning to score Jim Swenson from second base and defeat 21st-ranked East Carolina 4-3 Wed., April 14.



Whitney Godfrey

The Lowdown: Godfrey went 2-4 with 5 RBIs and one run scored in a 8-3 victory of Charleston Southern on 4/19. Both her hits were doubles.

Unsung Hero



Shaun Kopczynski

The Lowdown: Kopczynski went 2-4 with 3 RBIs and hit his third HR of the season in a 9-8 win vs. Campbell on 4/19. He has hit two HRs in the past week, is hitting .301 and leads Elon with 46 hits.

Baseball defeats nationally ranked ECU

Josh Phoebus
The Pendulum

As Elon's baseball season begins its swan song, the time arises to reflect upon what has occurred over the last few months.

Despite all the ups and downs of a challenging season, Elon's baseball team has persevered and shown the heart and courage of a champion.

Elon's five game swing was a microcosm of the Fightin' Christians season. For starters, the swing started with an exclamation point with a 4-3 triumph in twelve innings over No. 21 East Carolina University.

Chris Papst came through in the clutch with a two-out single in the bottom of the 12th inning that scored Jim Swenson and secured an uplifting victory for the Fightin' Christians.

Most baseball men will agree that if you score first, pitch well, and get timely hitting, you stand a good chance of winning the ball game.

Elon's men proved these advantages to be true with the win

over ECU. They jumped out to an early 2-0 lead that was fueled by a solo homer to center by starting pitcher Tim Schilling.

However, the talented crew from East Carolina responded. ECU cut the lead in half on a solo homer by Chris Gentup in the fifth inning and took a 3-2 lead in the seventh on a two-out single by Erik Bakich that scored John Williamson and Lee Delfino.

The Fightin' Christians tied the game at three in the eighth inning on Tim Schilling's single to left field that scored Swenson. Swenson doubled down the left-field line and advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by Shaun Kopczynski.

Whit Bryant (3-3) earned the win for Elon with 1.2 innings of no-hit relief. Kevyn Fulcher (3-1) took the loss after surrendering the winning run. Fulcher pitched effectively as he surrendered just one run and four hits over 3.1 innings.

However, as good as Elon played on Friday in pulling off the shocker over East Carolina, they did an about-face in a three-game series against Liberty University.

The Flames swept the Fightin'

Christians without truly outplaying Elon.

In the series opener, Fightin' Christian hurlers issued 15 walks which helped the Flames put the game away early, scoring 15 runs in the first three innings.

Scott Light (2-3) suffered the loss for Elon as he allowed five runs on two hits in just 1.1 innings. Joe Mueller (2-0) received the win for Liberty by scattering one run over three hits in 3.2 innings.

The struggle continued on Saturday as Liberty took both ends on a doubleheader 2-1 and 4-2 respectively.

Herein lies the very thing that has plagued Elon all season. When the pitching succeeds, the hitting seems to take a day off. The situation reverses itself on other days.

In the first game, Chris Hughes (1-4) took the loss despite pitching a good ballgame as he went the distance and struck out 10 while walking only two.

Liberty starter Darren Holmes (4-1) got the win by hurling five shutout innings and striking out three.

Likewise, an inability to get

the key hit tormented the Fightin' Christians in the night cap of the doubleheader.

Nathan Holcumb (2-7) was the tough-luck loser while Josh Brey (2-4) earned the victory by giving up just two runs and four hits over 5.1 innings of work.

Despite the troubled times, the Fightin' Christians regrouped and found their missing offense against a woeful Campbell pitching staff with a 9-8 win to end the losing skid.

Elon's offensive attack was led by Shaun Kopczynski who went 2-4 and hit a monstrous two-run homer to right field in the fourth that helped key a four-run outbreak which increased the Fightin' Christian lead to 7-3.

This win didn't come easily at all as Coach Mike Kennedy had to watch most of his 9-4 lead disappear before Elon hurlers slammed the door shut and secured the victory.

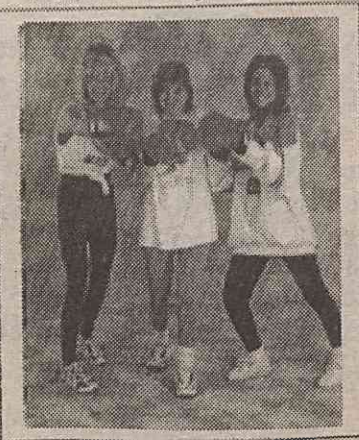
Whit Bryant (3-3) got the win for Elon and Campbell hurler Andy Wade fell to 2-1 as he got hammered for six runs over eight hits in 3.1 innings.

Fast Facts:

- Kelly Lloyd is one RBI away from the career school record of 96.
- Lloyd is also only 13 assists short of that career school record of 319.
- The two records would give her 17 total.
- Lloyd's current .274 average is .102 below her record career average of .376.
- Scott Brendle set his second record of the season, claiming the career doubles record on 4/19.
- Brendle is only 8 hits away from the all time career hits record of 192.
- Elon women's tennis is a combined 75-8 in singles play; 36-9 in doubles
- Elon men's tennis is a combined 57-36; 34-16 in doubles play

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