

# Volleyball snaps seven-game skid against Radford

**Nick Palatiello**  
Reporter

After a close first game, the Phoenix volleyball team lost a non-conference match to the Western Carolina University Catamounts in three games Saturday, extending the team's seven-game losing streak.

"We need everyone playing at the same time," coach Sue Leonard said. The team lacked consistency through the match and had trouble with ball control, she said.

"This is our low point of the season, but we can get out of it," junior Sarah Haskell said.

Getting out of the slump includes a pact to put the past behind them and give everything they can against their next opponent, said senior Katie Forman.

"We know we can do it," Forman said.

That's exactly what Elon did as they took the court against the rival Radford University Highlanders, Oct. 1 in Alumni Gym.

Intensity was the word of the night. Elon

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—Sarah Haskell, junior volleyball player

never let the score get out of reach in the first game, but came up short losing 30-27. That was the only game they dropped. The Phoenix took control of the second game, holding the Highlanders to a seven-point deficit throughout the majority of it. Elon went into the locker room with a 1-1 tie at the half and renewed confidence.

"This was a team effort," senior Laura Griffin said. "There were six of us out there [on the court] not just one."

After the half, Elon capitalized on Radford's errors, taking the third game 30-27.

Elon let the Highlanders slip back into the match during the fourth game, but big kills from Griffin as well as blocks by Haskell helped the Phoenix pull ahead and break the seven game losing skid with a 3-

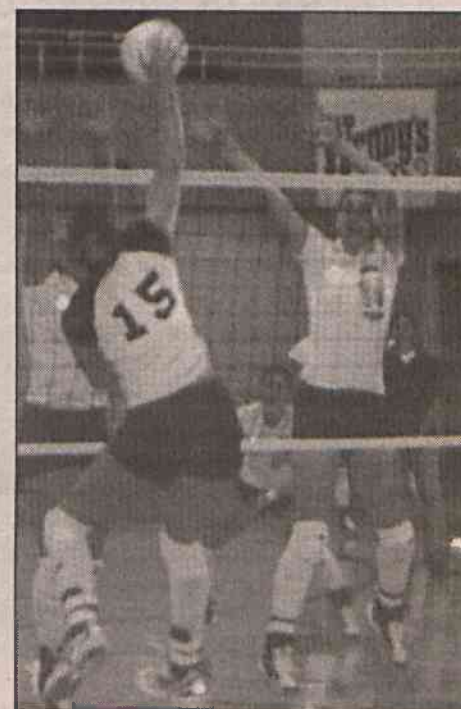
1 final score. The win improves the team's record to 1-1 in the Big South Conference and 4-14 overall.

"This is a big moral booster, we won as a team," freshmen Kate Hart said. Hart also said that the feel in the locker room was as if the team had won the state championship.

The win comes as relief to the Phoenix, and it serves as a moral booster as they head into a long road trip.

"[Radford] was supposed to finish in the top three in the [Big South] conference, this gives us a lot of confidence going into the weekend," Haskell said.

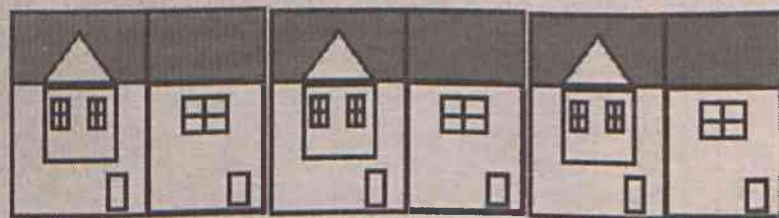
The Phoenix take on Big South foes the University of North Carolina at Asheville and High Point University this weekend, Griffin hopes to come back from the weekend with a 3-1-conference record.



Jocelyn Manigo / Photographer  
Senior Laura Griffin attacks the ball for a sideout against the Highlanders.

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