

# Bulldogs Can Win Title Friday

## [SPORTS] In Our Opinion

By CLINT FULLER

It's been a long dry spell but the rains of a championship can fall Friday for the Louisburg Bulldogs. Several hundred gallant gridders have bumped heads and butted shoulders with oversized and heavier talented giants over the long twelve-year drought. It now falls the lot of this year's eleven to bring home the long awaited bacon.

To deliver, Louisburg must win the battle of the Bulldogs here Friday against Wakelon. This is something the locals have not done in the last six years and have accomplished only three times in the past nine. Last year, Louisburg lost by two touchdowns as

Wakelon held the locals scoreless at Zebulon.

Rated No. 3 in the state, Louisburg will be out to keep its perfect (5-0) record in tact and, hopefully, to climb in the ranks. Wakelon, better than its 0-5 record, will be after its first win of the season.

The persevering Wake squad, while taking their lumps in a disappointing season, are likened to a sleeping lion. They are stronger than their record shows and a few breaks along the way and they could be boasting an entirely different record.

Exhibiting a full case of first game jitters, Wakelon was truly stomped by Whitley (2-A) in the opener. The Warriors turned two of Wakelon's six fumbles into TD's in the

46-0 massacre. Davie was a different story. Here Wakelon lost the 13-6 decision on an intercepted pass.

In the 14-0 loss to Scotland Neck (2-A), Wakelon showed a strong passing game completing 11 of 22 passes for 98 yards. A break or two and the Bulldogs could have taken this one.

Against 2-A Pittsboro, Wakelon lost in the final 10 seconds, 8-6 when Andy Draughton, attempting a sweep after Wakelon gained ball possession on its own 12, was tackled in the end zone after fumbling the ball. The two-point safety cost the Bulldogs the game.

Wakelon moved to the twenty yard line against Franklinton but failed to score in the 8-0 decision last

week. Louisburg, on the other hand, has set a new record for the most consecutive wins and gained the highest ratings

ever, but as the competition got tougher, the Bulldog offense has seen its point totals dwindle. Last week's 8-6 win over powerful Oxford was the closest margin yet and about as close as you can get with this year's two-point conversions.

Jimmy Alford, a fullback converted from tackle, has produced the Wakelon scoring punch this year. A switch in quarterbacks has added new life in the Wakelon offense. If the Bulldogs were playing baseball, they could be termed "good glove, no hit". They are strong defensively and seem to now be finding themselves offensively.

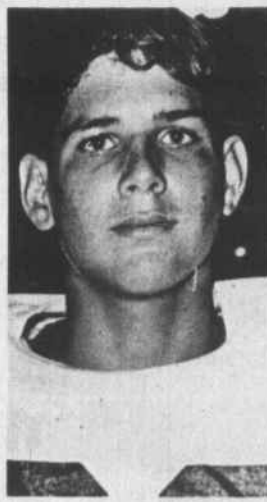
Wakelon was picked in early season as a top contender for the Franklin Area title. Coach Elton Roberson said at the season's start that he thought his charges would give Oxford a run for the crown. He also predicted this would be the best Wakelon team in the past four years. Last year's squad, loaded with All Conference material had a 5-4-1 season. Obviously, Coach Roberson is disappointed in this year's record and equally obvious is the fact Wakelon wants a win and wants it now. In the battle of the Bulldogs—with the stakes a championship for Louisburg, the local Bulldogs will need to step ever so quietly. Don't wake the sleeping lion.



### Meet The Bulldogs



JIMMY WRENN



TOMMY SMITH



WILLIE TABRON



TONY THARRINGTON



CAREY WRENN

### Franklin Area Conference

	Conf	Overall
	W	L
Louisburg	2 0	5 0
Oxford Orph	1 1	3 2
Franklinton	1 2	4 2
Wakelon	0 1	0 5

### Fish Haul

Oradell Hilliard, Route 4, Louisburg, reports a catch of two large bass while fishing in a private pond last Saturday. One of the fish weighed 2½ pounds and the other weighed 4½ pounds.



WILL WILDER



EDDIE EDGERTON

### Top Ten

Greensboro Daily News

	W	L	T
1. Weldon	4	1	0
2. Robbinsville	4	2	0
3. Louisburg	5	0	0
4. Mars Hill	5	2	0
5. Oxford Orph.	3	2	0
6. Lillington	5	0	0
7. Red Springs	4	1	0
8. Manteo	4	1	0
9. Grifton	4	1	0
10. North Duplin	4	1	1

### Eastern

The News and Observer

1. Weldon (4-1)
2. St. Paul (4-0)
3. Louisburg (5-0)
4. Manteo (4-1)
5. Red Springs (4-0)
6. Lillington (5-0)
7. Oxford Orph. (3-2)
8. N. Duplin (4-1-1)
9. Union (3-0-3)
10. Grifton (4-1)

If all the after-dinner speaking could be eliminated, the dinners would be just as good.



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The rankings of the top ten teams in the state, released yesterday by The Greensboro Daily News, has Louisburg still in third place despite its unblemished 5-0 record and its Friday win over Oxford. Oxford, remains in fifth failing to drop from the loss. Weldon, 30-0 winner over W. R. Davie moved to No. 1 spot after Robbinsville's loss to Swain County (2-A), 26-12. Lillington, only other 1-A squad with a 5-0 record dropped from fourth to sixth in the ratings although they edged Angier 30-28.

Weldon is expected to get fatter as the season progresses and it is doubtful the Tornadoes renamed Chargers will be bumped from the top rung. This week they meet hapless Gaston, whose only win was a 20-0 victory over Norlina. Then comes Ayden, Littleton, Franklinton and Southern Nash. Of these, only Ayden and a much improved Ram squad promise any fireworks.

If the sun should continue to shine on Louisburg, the score in the games with Ayden could make the number one selection a bit touchy for the pickers. The score between the Rams and the Chargers could have some meaning, too.

There is something frightening about a team that comes into a most important conference contest without a win. The Wakelon Bulldogs will be loose Friday night and they have nothing to lose. They could upset their Louisburg counterparts and go away smiling. This can happen, of course, only if the locals take too lightly the visitors.

Wakelon has lost all five of its starts. But, hurriedly, it should be added that three of these losses were to Class 2-A teams. Take away the opener and the other scores have been very respectable. The Bulldogs have allowed six touchdowns in their last four games. Louisburg has given up five in its last three outings. The Louisburg 5-0 record and the Wakelon 0-5 does not tell the entire story. The number three ranked team in the state cannot take Friday's visitors too lightly. Upset is the name of the game.

Louisburg's "Boo-Boo" Pergerson was named Linesman of the Week by The Raleigh Times this week. He was cited for his recovery of the Oxford fumble that led to the Bulldog's only touchdown. He is credited with eight unassisted tackles and seven assists.

The Bulldogs remain in third spot in the rankings of the Eastern Class 1-A squads today. Weldon is rated No. 1 and St. Paul's is in the No. 2 spot. St. Paul's, not rated in the state's top ten, is now 4-0 having defeated Ornum, 44-0 last week.

The Louisburg Jayvees have copped the League crown already. The youngsters sport a 3-1 record, having downed Franklinton, Wakelon and Oxford Orphanage—all conference foes. The Jayvee's only loss has come from Millbrook in the opener. This column hasn't been able to keep up with all team members, but some who have contributed to the Jayvee success are: quarterback Bill Beckham, backs Tony Tharrington, Johnny King and Eugene Thomas. Ben Baker and Harold Green are the coaches.

Before last Friday's games, there were twenty undefeated and untied teams listed in the Eastern ratings in all classifications. Today there are but 13 as the ranks thin out. One of the four Class A teams (Belhaven) fell, one 2-A, three 3-A and two 4-A squads bit the dust.

The only people who succumb to hard work are those who kill themselves dodging

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