



West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



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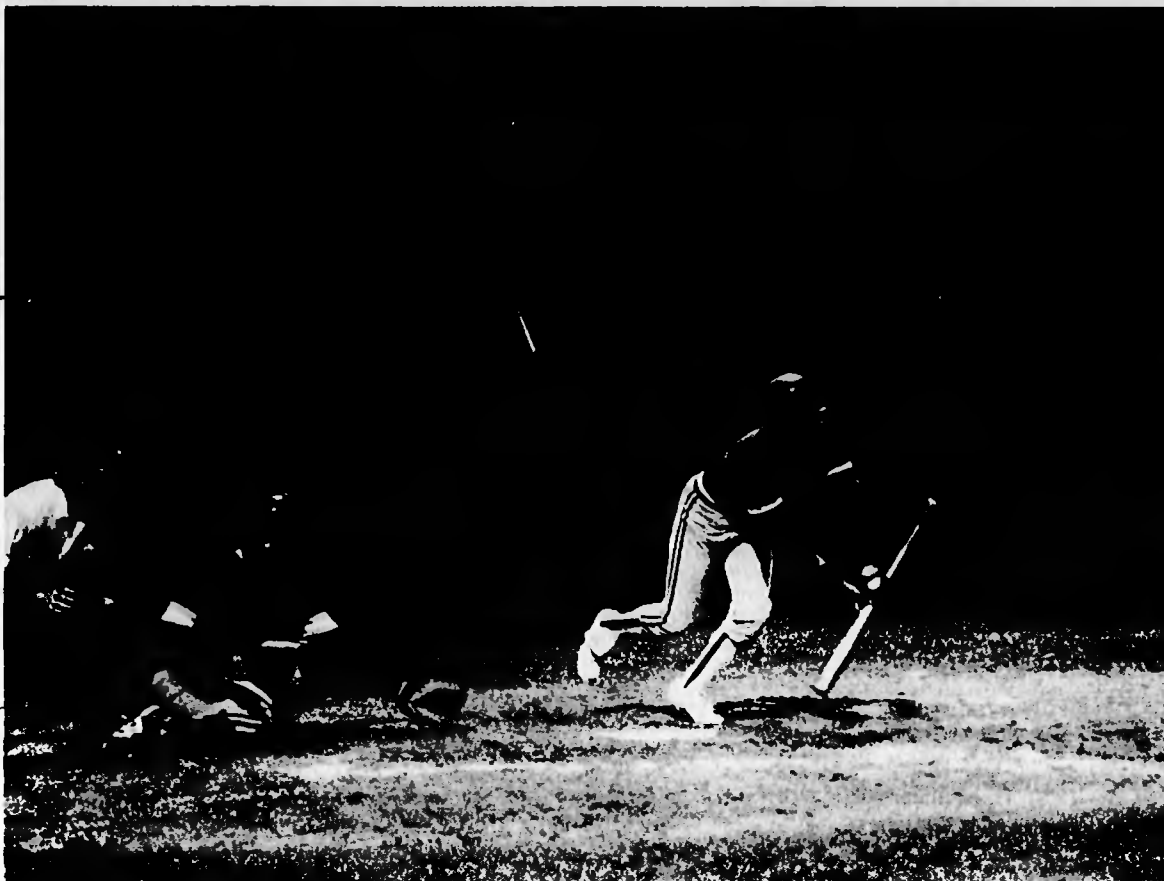
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Kip Bryan hunts against Pack but is thrown out at first

Eagles Drop 2-0 Contest To Pack

By JIM GREEN
Sports Writer

Washington varsity baseball coach Steve Coats inserted Erich Seiler in the batting order three weeks ago hoping to get some kind of punch from the bottom of his lineup.

Entering the Pack's Coastal Conference game Friday night at West Craven, Seiler, who plays third base, was batting 2-for-14 (.143).

Not too impressive? The Eagles found out a low batting average doesn't mean a player isn't hitting.

Seiler singled home Adam Williams with what proved to be the winning run in the top of the sixth and the Pack defeated West Craven 2-0 to move into second place in the league.

Tripp Leggett, who picked up the win against Havelock on Wednesday, went the distance against the Eagles to improve to 2-1. Washington emerged 5-2 in the Coastal and 8-3 overall. Leggett, a left-hander, allowed just three hits while striking out five and walking two.

John Dizon, West Craven's left-handed screwball specialist, also went the distance and fell to 2-4. He allowed seven hits while striking out 10 and walking two. In three losses, Dizon has been a victim of a lack of support — the Eagles have averaged less than three runs per game and have averaged but five hits per game.

West Craven fell to 0-7 and 4-9 following its seventh straight loss.

Coats praised the efforts of

Leggett, Seiler and the rest of the squad.

"Once again, we really didn't play that well. But we got the key hits and defensive plays when we needed them, Tripp was super all night, and we won," Coats said.

"I always believe that if a team struggles and wins, it does nothing but help them in the close games," the Pack skipper added. "Pitching and defense go a long way; and so far those things have gotten us where we are."

But for a while Friday night, it was a pitching duel as both teams had trouble offensively. The first four innings were completed in an hour.

The Pack finally broke through in the sixth. Leggett singled with one out and was replaced by courtesy runner Wil-

liams, who went to third on Charlie Manning's single. After Brian Greenwood flied out, Seiler took Dizon's first pitch, a fastball, and stroked it between shortstop and third to score Williams.

"Is that what it was?" a surprised Seiler said afterwards in regards to the offering. "I didn't really notice. Coach (Coats) told me before the game that I was hitting well but right at people. He just told me to look for one I could punch through."

The Eagles threatened to tie the score in the bottom of the inning after Kip Bryan walked with one out and stole second.

But Williams, who entered the contest an inning earlier as a defensive replacement, ran down

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Two Programs In Study Face Loss Of Funds

Scientist Will Study Neuse For Signs Of Heavy Metals

Two parts of a water-monitoring program sponsored by the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study will stop in October unless the state legislature will pay for them.

Also, a scientist from East Carolina University also plans to conduct a study of heavy metals in the Neuse River. Heavy metals have been proven harmful to human, animal and plant life.

Robert E. Holman, program director for the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study, said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has denied a request for money to continue the year-old monitoring programs.

The EPA has been financing programs operated by the state Division of Environmental Management and the U.S. Geological Survey and for a citizens monitoring network. Holman said money has been approved only for the citizens' monitoring to continue.

He spoke to about 40 people at a meeting of the Pamlico Citizens' Advisory Committee of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study, or APES. Holman said the legislature had been asked for \$300,000 for the programs.

If the request is denied, the programs will have to stop before they can generate significant or useful data, Holman said.

Also at the meeting were scientists from East Carolina University and N.C. State University who are studying the relationship between water quality and fish disease.

The APES monitoring plan began in October. Holman said 40 monitoring sites are being maintained by the Geological Survey in the Pamlico River and the Albemarle and Pamlico sounds.

"Because the estuarine system is very dynamic, constantly

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Farm Life Reunion Scheduled May 13

The 69th annual banquet and dance of the Farm Life School Alumni Association in Vanceboro will be held May 12 beginning at 7 p.m.

The dinner will be served in the Farm Life School cafeteria, followed by the dance in the school gymnasium at 9 p.m.

The 1929 graduating class will be observing its 60-year reunion. This will be the 50-year reunion for the graduating class of 1939. Special recognition will be given to these alumni. There will be reserved

tables for the classes of 1929, 1939, 1949, 1959 and 1969.

All former graduates and those who attended Farm Life High School but graduated from another high school are invited to attend the banquet and bring a guest. The dance is open to everyone who needs an evening out in their "party best." Music will be provided by Sea Breeze from Morehead City.

Association President Patricia Whitford Eatman urges all

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Lady Eagles Stumble 6-1; Opposing Coach Keeps A Promise

By JIM GREEN
Sports Writer

After recalling her softball team's 16-1 loss at home against West Craven the last time the two squads met a month ago, Washington coach Becky Rogers made her girls a promise before the rematch Friday.

Beat the Eagles, Rogers said, and the coach would roll around in the infield and get dirty.

The Lady Pack kept its promise, beating West Craven 6-1. After the post-game celebration, Rogers rolled in the infield dirt twice — much to the delight of

her players.

"Oh, if you could have seen how we lost the last time... this is a big win for us," a smiling and not very embarrassed Rogers said. "I can't believe it."

The victory by Washington moves the Pack into a tie for fourth place with West Craven and East Carteret. Each team has a 3-4 Coastal Conference ledger.

The last meeting saw the Lady Pack commit nine errors in what first baseman Stacy Rowe said "was a very embarrassing loss for us."

"We couldn't do anything,"

Rowe said. "When we make mistakes, we tend to get down on ourselves and things get worse. But today we were up for the game. We remembered the last time."

"Our whole attitude changed," Wendy Furlough said. "We played a lot better and a lot smarter today."

The Pack had 10 hits but was helped by eight West Craven errors, seven in the infield.

In the first, Angela Smith singled and her courtesy runner, Suzanne Paschal, reached second when a wild throw sailed

into centerfield on Poncetta Rodgers' grounder. Rowe singled Paschal to third, and when an Eagle outfielder overthrew the base, Paschal trotted home.

In the second, Pam Garren singled and Furlough reached on an error. One out later, Leigh Westbrook singled to right field. An alert Furlough scored when a West Craven outfielder held the ball.

A similar situation occurred in the fourth when Furlough reached on another error and advanced to second on the overthrow. One out later, Westbrook

reached on an error and a tentative Eagle fielder held the ball, allowing Furlough to race home for the second time.

The Lady Pack (3-5 overall) added two more runs in the sixth — one when Furlough scored on Westbrook's single; the other when Lisa Manning's sacrifice fly scored Karen Riddick.

West Craven scored its only run in the bottom of the fifth. Tammy Wolfe singled and an outfield error allowed her to advance to second. Anita Gaskins grounded out and Wolfe advanced to third. Marci Blades fol-

lowed with a single to plate Wolfe.

But Washington ended the threat when pitcher Angela Smith, shortstop Poncetta Rodgers and first baseman Stacy Rowe turned the squad's first double play this season.

Westbrook and Rodgers had two hits each for the Lady Pack while Smith, Rowe, Garren, Karen Brothers, Mary Martin Asby and Denise Wehrenberg added one hit each.

Blades, Linetta Bryant, Jennifer Peele, Patricia Bryant and Amy Bizzell shared the five hits for West Craven (6-4 overall).

Koonce Setting Sights On Successful Career

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

GREENVILLE — Vanceboro's George Koonce was a busy man on a recent Saturday afternoon. Busy keeping an eye on about 100 other young men.

While the young men battled in the annual Purple-Gold game at East Carolina University's Ficklen Stadium, Koonce was mentally taking notes. When he walks onto the Pirate practice field in August, Koonce will be behind most of the other Pirate football players. Behind in most areas, except maybe talent and fundamentals.

Koonce, transferring in from Chowan College in Murfreesboro after a notable prep career at West Craven High School, will have to learn head coach Bill Lewis' system. He got a preview of that system at Saturday's annual intra-squad game that ended the Pirates' spring practice.

Koonce brings several honors with him to the ECU campus, including All-America status, defensive player of the year in Chowan's conference and all-conference.

Koonce said a major factor in his decision to play at ECU was that home is just a few miles

down N.C. 43. If ECU had not signed him, Koonce said he would have played for Tennessee. But after ECU recruited him and showed him that the school was interested, Koonce decided not to visit Tennessee.

"Yes, being able to play close to home was a factor in deciding to come here," said Koonce in an interview after Saturday's game.

"The first thing I will have to do is prove myself the first week," he said.

What does he think of Lewis and Lewis' philosophy? "I like coach Lewis and his way of playing ball. I think his system and my way of play will be good for each other," he said.

"I like to get after the ball. I like to hit, hit and hit. That's what I think I can bring to the team," said Koonce.

Lewis is counting on Koonce to provide more than just good defense. "George is a mature guy that we will look to provide leadership. It is that leadership capability we saw when we were recruiting him. George is a serious person that can bring a lot to our team," said Lewis.

Lewis said he saw Koonce

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Actors rehearse parts in comedy

Dominic's Serves Up Comedy With Dinner

Once again Dominic's is serving up comedy along with its usual fare.

Dominic's Cabaret Room welcomes the lousy monty of May with Cabaret Players, Inc.'s comedy *Twice Around the Park*.

Composed of two one-act sex farces by Murray Schisgal, the show is set to play the Cabaret Room (separate from the main dining room) May 5-6, May 12-13 and May 19-20 with a dinner served en course starting at 7 p.m. and followed by the show.

Cabaret Players, the area's only year-round professional acting company, has previously produced Schisgal's comedy *Luv* and director Robert Hennon says this show is even more hysterical.

Starring Eli Wallach and Anne Jackson in its Broadway run, Cabaret Players' version of the comedy features New Bern thespians Peter Norton and Lynn Pharr.

In the first farce, "A Need for Brussels Sprouts," Norton plays a middle-aged actor between jobs who is hoping to land a television commercial for pizza by playing an opera recording full blast in his apartment while pretending to be the tenor. Enter an

irate policewoman — played by Ms. Pharr — who happens to live upstairs to give him a summons for disturbing the peace. They are both lonely. So, well, naturally one thing leads to another...

In the second play, "A Need for Less Expertise," the stars play Edie and Gus, who have been married for 26 years but whose marriage is on the rocks. In a last-ditch effort to save their marriage, they have procured a self-help audio tape designed to improve their spiritual awareness, their health and, of course, their sex life.

Norton, in a way, rejoins Cabaret Players for *Twice Around the Park*, having played with its predecessor, the Harvey Mansion Players, several years ago in *The Good Doctor*. He studied theater with New York City's Neighborhood Playhouse School of Theater and has appeared in more than 40 shows in New Jersey and North Carolina. In this area he has played with Footlight Theater, New Bern Civic Theater, worked two summers at Tryon Palace as part of its living history performances as well as appearing in the histor-

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