

# Brunswick National Little League Begins 10th Year

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The Brunswick County Little League Baseball season gets underway Monday in Supply celebrating its 10th anniversary of National Little League play.

Special opening ceremonies are currently being planned according to second-year league president Cecelia Kinlaw. "Denny Ellis will be on hand to emcee the ceremonies and Rev. Macon Wood will also take part in the opening. We hope to have a few political figures as well to help make this season's opening a very special one."

This year's major league has grown from five teams to six while there has also been two T-ball teams added along with the three minor league squads.

Don Warren will coach the defending-champion Cardinals while Jimmy Hankins and Mitch Butler will guide the Blue Jays. Jack Powell and Danny Gore will coach the Rebels while Cathy Hill Johnson will coach the Tigers. Ron Cooper and Larry Bowner will coach the Lions and Bill Leggett will guide the Yankees, the newest team in the league.

Coaching the minor league teams will be Joe Gumpton of the Reds, Gene Kinlaw and Mark Greer of the Dodgers and Judy Caison of the Tar Heels.

Dean Ward and Janice Powell will serve as coaches of the two T-ball teams, the Astros and the Expos.

The seven-week schedule will begin immediately following opening ceremonies Monday with the Tigers and Blue Jays meeting at 6 p.m. and the Cardinals and Yankees contest following at 8 p.m. There will be a T-ball game also beginning at 6 p.m. with the Expos and Astros meeting and a minor league game to follow at 8 p.m. pitting the Dodgers against the Tar Heels.

Tuesday's major league action will have the Rebels and the Lions meeting at 6 p.m., followed by the Yankees-Blue Jays game at 8 p.m. The Reds and Dodgers meet in a minor league contest at 6 p.m.

Thursday's play will feature the Cardinals and Rebels meeting at 6 p.m. and the Tigers-Lions contest scheduled for 8 p.m. The Astros and Expos meet again in T-ball action at

6 p.m. while the Reds and Tar Heels tangle in minor league action at 8 p.m.

### Success Story

Brunswick County Little League has been highly successful in the past 10 years having won six District 6 championships since 1975.

The 1983 squad, the host team for the tournament, was the last to win a district title. The '83 All-Stars advanced to the state tournament but were eliminated in the opening round.

In 1980 Brunswick County won the district championship and advanced

to the state tournament in Asheville. Brunswick eventually finished third, the highest finish by any county team in state competition.

Brunswick County's 1978 all-star team also won the district title and advanced to the state tournament held in Charlotte but was eliminated

in the second round.

Brunswick's first district title came in 1977 and in its initial season in National Little League finished runnerup in the district tourney. It marked the first time that a Brunswick County team had ever advanced to the district finals.

## Trojan Netters Capture 26th Straight

The West Brunswick boys tennis team won their 25th and 26th straight matches last week with a pair of Three Rivers 3-A Conference wins over East Bladen and West Columbus. The victories give the Trojans perfect marks in both conference (4-0) and overall play (14-0).

Monday's 9-0 blanking of visiting West Columbus was the Trojan's fifth straight shutout.

West Brunswick concluded its season Wednesday against East Bladen and will open sectional play in Wilmington on May 8-9.

### West Columbus Results

Singles: Bland (WB) def. Koonce (WC), 6-4, 6-1; Gore (WB) def. Peacock (WC), 6-0, 6-0; D.Ward (WB) def. Williams (WC), 6-1, 6-1; T.Ward (WB) def. Greene (WC), 6-2, 6-3; Cheers (WB) def. Caveness

(WC), 6-2, 6-2; Dale (WB) def. Geleinsky (WC), 6-3, 6-0.

Doubles: Bland-D.Ward (WB) def. Koonce-Peacock (WC), 9-8; Gore-T.Ward (WB) def. Williams-Greene (WC), 8-2; Cheers-Dale (WB) def. Caveness-Gelezinsky (WC), 8-2.

### East Bladen Results

Singles: Bland (WB) def. Padrich (EB), 6-0, 6-0; Gore (WB) def. Sasser (EB), 6-3, 6-3; D.Ward (WB) def.

J.Melvin (EB), 6-1, 6-2; T.Ward (WB) def. Russell (EB), 6-0, 6-0; Cheers (WB) def. Gayland (EB), 6-0, 6-0; Robertson (WB) def. J.Melvin (EB), 6-1, 6-1.

Doubles: Bland-D.Ward (WB) def. Sasser-J.Melvin (EB), 8-1; Gore-T.Ward (WB) def. Padrich-Russell (EB), 8-2; Cheers-Robertson (WB) def. Gayland-J.Melvin (EB), 8-0.

## Varnamtown Rally Day Taught Sportsmanship

More than 100 children participated in a Rally Fun Day sponsored by Dixon Chapel United Methodist Church Saturday for children of the Varnamtown community.

The purpose of the day was to promote good sportsmanship among the youth, a church spokesman said.

"There was such a good response

from the children and the adults," said Marlene Varnam, "we've had requests to make the Rally Fun Day an annual thing."

"The children all had a wonderful time and were so good, it was hard for the judges to decide on the Good Sportsmanship trophy winners," she continued.

"That was really what the day was

all about—to teach the children to have fun and be a good sport about winning and losing—and they were. They were all just great!"

Youngsters competed in sack races, watched a Christian puppet show performed by members of St. Paul United Methodist Church at Carolina Beach, ate free hotdogs and enjoyed balloons and clowns.

First, second and third place ribbons were awarded in each of several race divisions. Good Sportsmanship trophies were awarded to children who showed exceptionally good sportsmanship. They were: in the junior division, Wayne Nixon, first place and Caroline Carlisle, second; in the primary division, Robin Clemmons placed first and Michael Fulford, second.



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## Oak Island Runs Set For May 11

The Oak Island 5-Mile Run and 1-Mile Fun Run will be held Saturday, May 11 at Long Beach.

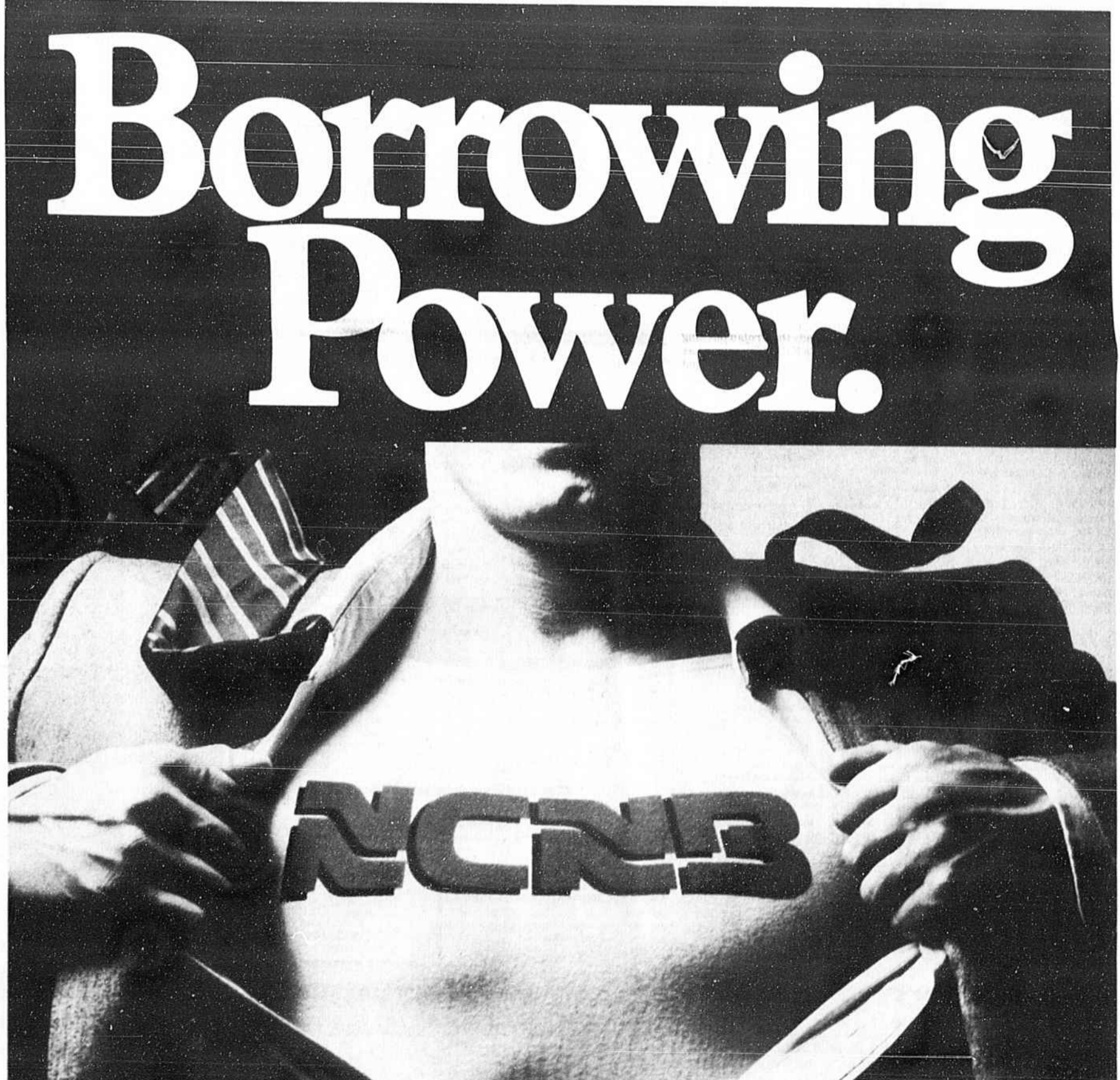
Both races begin at the Long Beach Recreation Center at 30th and Oak Island Drive.

The races are being sponsored by United Carolina Bank, the Long Beach Parks and Recreation Department, and the Oak Island Sand Pounders Running Club.

The 1984 winner of the 5-Mile Run was Robbie Burke of Wilmington with a record time of 26:20.1 and the female winner was Mary Margaret McEachern of Wilmington with a record time of 32:29.7.

The 1-Mile Fun Run begins at 8 a.m. and the 5-Mile Run at 8:15 a.m.

Race applications, limited to 200 runners, are available from the Long Beach Parks and Recreation Department, P.O. Box 217, Long Beach, NC 28461.



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