

This Week In Brunswick Sports

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Lockwood Folly Township Park: Dixon Chapel vs. Shallotte First, 7 p.m.; Mount Olive vs. Supply Baptist, 8 p.m.; Letties Grove vs. Jennies Branch, 9 p.m.
- Brunswick County Post 68 at Beaufort Post 99 in American Legion baseball, East Carteret High School, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Township Park: Old Shallotte vs. Soldier Bay, 7 p.m.; Zion Baptist vs. Ocean View, 8 p.m.; New Britton vs. Emanuel Outreach, 9 p.m.
- Brunswick Shores Post 445 at Bladenboro Post 268 in American Legion baseball, East Bladen High School, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

- Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League: Southport A vs. Calvary, 7 p.m.; Southport B vs. Gospel Center-Brunswick Islands, 8 p.m.; Town Creek vs. Soldier Bay, 9 p.m., at Lockwood Folly Township Park. Oak Island-Bethel vs. Jennies Branch, 7 p.m.; Faith vs. Shell Point, 8 p.m.; Mount Olive vs. Supply, 9 p.m., at Smithville Township Park.
- Brunswick County Post 68 hosts Cary Post 67 in American Legion baseball doubleheader, North Brunswick High School, 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

- Brunswick County Homebuilders Association sponsors the Brunswick County Youth Activities Golf Tournament at The Gauntlet at St. James Plantation, Southport, 1 p.m. For information, call Hank Furry, 457-4357.
- Brunswick Shores Post 445 at Jacksonville Post 265 in American Legion baseball doubleheader, 3 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Township Park: Zion Baptist vs. Friendship Baptist, 7 p.m.; Emanuel Outreach vs. Ocean View, 8 p.m.; New Britton vs. Old Shallotte, 9 p.m.
- Brunswick Shores Post 445 hosts Brunswick County Post 68 in American Legion baseball, South Brunswick High School, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Lockwood Folly Township Park: Mount Olive vs. Calvary Baptist, 7 p.m.; Camp Methodist vs. Jennies Branch, 8 p.m.; Supply Baptist vs. Shallotte First, 9 p.m.
- Brunswick County Post 68 at Bladenboro Post 268 in American Legion baseball, East Bladen High, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

- Brunswick Shores Post 445 hosts Beaufort Post 99 in American Legion baseball, South Brunswick High School, 7:30 p.m.
- This week's listings include events reported to the *Beacon*. To list a sporting activity call 754-6890 or write to Doug Rutter, *The Brunswick Beacon*, P.O. Box 2558, Shallotte, N.C. 28459.



PHOTO BY CLARICE HICKMAN/PHOTOGRAPHIC CONCEPTS

Yankees Win Fifth Straight Title

The Yankees recently wrapped up their fifth straight major league baseball championship in the Lockwood Folly Dixie Youth League. The Yanks were 17-0 and were the first major league team to go undefeated in the league since 1979. Pictured (front row, from left) are Jeremy Garner, Witt Blanchard, Justin Bryant, Josh Horn, Paul Powell, W.D. Kempton, Mitch Maxedon, (back row, from left) Manager Russell Hickman, Billy Green, Andrew Johnson, Johnnie Hickman, Brian Hewett, Adam Long, Robert Chadwick and Head Coach Jack Powell. Not pictured are coaches Kevin Hickman and Robert Horn.

SPORTING SCENE

Schools Getting Better With Wooden Gym Floors

Brunswick County's high school athletic facilities, already among the best in the state, are getting better.

With school out for the summer, the Raleigh-based company, R.L. Dresser, is installing new wooden floors in the gymnasiums at West, North and South.

Bill Turner, assistant superintendent of operations for Brunswick County Schools, says work is under way at North and South and will begin soon at West. All three floors should be completed by the middle of August.

The pine floors will replace the dirty surfaces that have seen countless gym classes, basketball games and volleyball matches since the three high schools opened in 1972.

The old floors have the feel of a concrete slab with a thin, rubbery coating on top. They have exceeded their life expectancy and it shows. They're wrinkled and hold two decades worth of dirt and sweat.

R.L. Dresser, the company that built the floor at N.C. State University, is changing all that. The three floors will cost \$194,000, money that could have been spent on text books and teachers.

But the \$194,000 is money well spent. The new floors will benefit the high schools in many ways.

When completed, the Shallotte, Southport and Leland communities will be able to take the same pride in the gyms as they do in the new high school football stadiums constructed over the past three years.

There's also the "floor envy" syndrome. Most of the other schools in this area already have nice, wooden floors. Brunswick County needs to keep pace with its neighbors.

"A lot of the schools we play have wooden floors, and we just want to try to get ahead of the other schools," Turner said. "After going to the other schools throughout the state, we felt the wooden floors were the way to go."

Amen. As much as I enjoy a good game on the blacktop, basketball was meant to be played on wooden floors. The squeak of a sneaker and thump of a dribbled basketball are part of the game.

As Turner points out, "The atmosphere will be entirely different." Most important, the forgiving wooden surfaces should minimize leg injuries to student-athletes. The old floors had bubbles here and there. One wrong move and...OUCH!

To keep costs down, the new floors are being installed on top of the old floors. Layers of foam padding are being placed over the existing surfaces before the narrow pine strips are put in place.

The floors are then sanded, painted and varnished. "It's fascinating to watch them do it," Turner said. "It's certainly a craft."

Local basketball coaches have been pleading for years for something new, and they've been appeased. It's the latest move in a long line of improvements to local athletic facilities.

The gym walls at the high schools were painted white two years ago to make the gyms look brighter and seem bigger. Now the old floors are being replaced.

Turner says new lighting in the gyms is next on the list of improvements. The existing lights, like the old floors, have been around since 1972. The gyms are kind of dark, and the old lights burn a lot of energy.

Turner isn't sure when the lights can be upgraded. "We only have so much money and we're trying to do the best with what we have."

Aren't we all? The new floors are a good start.

Doug Rutter
Sports Editor



Fuquay Defending Open Title

Randy Fuquay of Sunset Beach is defending his North Carolina Open golf tournament championship this week at Willow Creek Golf Club in High Point.

Fuquay, head golf pro at Sea Trail Plantation, won last year's Open with a six-under-par 211 at The Landfall Club in Wilmington. He is among eight local golfers competing in this year's 54-hole tournament that started Tuesday.

Also competing in the 1993 Open are Ben Fowler of Holden Beach; John Carney, Ray Davis and Mike Parah of Ocean Isle Beach; and Craig Kaufmann, Brian Hughes and Fred Edwards of Calabash.

Edwards is one of 50 low-handicap amateurs in the tournament. The field also includes 120 professionals who are members of the Carolina PGA Section. The Open purse is \$40,000, with \$4,000 going to the winner.

Willow Creek is a 6,982-yard Willard Byrd layout. Byrd has designed several local courses including Brunswick Plantation, Loekwood Golf Links and one of the three courses at Sea Trail Plantation.

BCC Plans Golf Tournament

The Brunswick Community College Foundation Invitational Golf Tournament will be played Saturday and Sunday, July 24 and 25, on the Byrd course at Sea Trail Plantation.

Two-person teams will compete in a best ball event on Saturday. The format will be captain's choice on Sunday.

The entry fee is \$190 per two-person team. The fee includes green and cart fees for both days and a dinner and dance for golfers and their guests on Saturday night.

Golfers also will be eligible for prizes. The entry fee also includes the green fee only for a practice round on Friday, July 23.

The Byrd course, which opened in 1990, is built around several, large man-made lakes and plays to a par of 72.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Brunswick Community College Foundation and be used to pay for student scholarships, loans, equipment, work-study opportunities and other programs at the college.

For an entry form, call the BCC Foundation at 754-6900 or Sea Trail Plantation at 1-800-624-6601.

Freedom Run Slated July 3

The 15th Annual Freedom Run will be held Saturday, July 3, as part of the N.C. Fourth of July Festival in Southport.

The One-Mile Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K begins at 9 a.m. at Waterfront Park. The cost is \$10 for runners who pre-register and \$12 the day of the race.

"The course goes through historic Southport along the waterfront," said race coordinator Kathy Scheetz.

Runners can pre-register Friday, July 2, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the park or by contacting the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of

Commerce. On race day, participants can register at the park starting at 7 a.m.

Awards will be presented to the top three male and female finishers in the One-Mile Fun Run.

The overall male and female winners in the 5K also will receive awards, along with the top three men and women in each age group. Age groups are 18 and under, 19-23, 24-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, and 50 and over.

For more information, call the chamber of commerce at 457-6964.

Dixon Picks Up First Win In Church Softball League

When you've played 15 games and lost them all, you take a win any way you can get it.

Dixon Chapel picked up its first victory in the Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League Saturday when Zion Baptist forfeited. That left Zion as the league's only winless team.

Zion's forfeit was one of three Saturday, when the league held five makeup games. Friendship Baptist was a forfeit winner over Camp Methodist, and Zion forfeited to Calvary Baptist.

In the only games played Saturday, Soldier Bay edged Dixon Chapel 10-9 and Letties Grove pounded Soldier Bay 18-3.

On Monday, Ocean View beat Old Shallotte 14-8, New Britton knocked off Zion Baptist 20-11 and Friendship Baptist defeated Seaside Methodist 14-4.

In league action last week, Jennies Branch defeated Friendship Baptist 22-3 and whipped Dixon Chapel 36-2.

Shallotte First beat Camp Methodist 8-7, Mount Olive edged Letties Grove 14-10, Soldier Bay nipped

Ocean View 8-7, Emanuel Outreach stopped Seaside Methodist 11-9, and Old Shallotte got past Zion Baptist 20-16 in other games.

Calvary forfeited a pair of games last week to Letties Grove and Supply Baptist. Starting July 1, all church league games will be played at Waccamaw Township Park.

Men's Church Softball Standings Through June 21

SOUTH DIVISION		
Team	Wins	Losses
Emanuel Outreach	13	3
Ocean View	11	5
Friendship Baptist	9	7
Seaside Methodist	7	9
New Britton	4	10
Soldier Bay	4	11
Old Shallotte	3	12
Zion Baptist	0	14
NORTH DIVISION		
Team	Wins	Losses
Mount Olive	14	1
Supply Baptist	12	3
Jennies Branch	12	3
Shallotte First	11	5
Calvary Baptist	10	7
Letties Grove	8	8
Camp Methodist	4	12
Dixon Chapel	1	15

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