



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

WEST BRUNSWICK Football Coach Jim Brett will get a good look at his Trojans this Saturday in a scrimmage game against the North Myrtle Beach Chiefs.

Trojans, Chiefs Scrimmage Saturday

West Brunswick's Trojans will take on the North Myrtle Beach (S.C.) Chiefs this Saturday in a pre-season high school football scrimmage game in Shallotte. Game time is 9:30 a.m. at M.H. Rourk Stadium. The contest was originally slated for Monday night but North Myrtle Beach requested a change in the date, according to West Brunswick Head Coach Jim Brett.

After one week of practice, Brett said Monday afternoon that he is happy with the improvement he has seen. "I'm real pleased with the way the kids are hustling now. I feel we're making progress every day."

Coming off a state championship last season, Brett said there has been a lot of enthusiasm at the practices. "Motivation has not been a problem for us," he said.

The Trojans began "two-a-day" workouts this week after morning practices the first week. The team is practicing every day from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and from noon to 2 p.m.

After its scrimmage with North Myrtle Beach, the Trojans have a pre-season game next Saturday, Aug. 14, at East Duplin. Kickoff for that game is slated for 6:30 p.m.

West Brunswick will open the regular season Aug. 27 against the visiting Conway (S.C.) Tigers.

This Week In Brunswick Sports

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

□ Brunswick County Parks and Recreation holds an organizational meeting for its youth football league at the county offices, Bolivia, 7 p.m. All coaches should attend. Call Joe Rosselli, 253-4357.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

□ West Brunswick hosts North Myrtle Beach (S.C.) in pre-season high school football scrimmage, 9:30 a.m.
 □ South Brunswick hosts Hoggard in pre-season high school football scrimmage, 7 p.m.
 □ North Brunswick at East Columbus in pre-season high school football scrimmage, 7 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.

SPORTING SCENE

Something Is Fishy At Polk County High

Something is fishy in the Polk County hills, and I don't like what I'm smelling here on the coast.

Coach Marshall Seay, the one-time savior of West Brunswick High School football, last week was cleared of charges that he tried to "recruit" some of the football players he used to coach at West Brunswick.

For the second straight year, the N.C. High School Athletic Association ruled that Seay, now head football coach at Polk County High School, did not use "undue influence" to entice athletes to move to the mountains.

Fair enough. But let's look at what has happened in the past two years. Two former Trojan football players have moved to Polk County and are playing for the man who once coached them in Shallotte.

Maybe West Brunswick officials couldn't prove that Seay "recruited" these young men. Proving "undue influence" is next to impossible when the NCHSAA doesn't even have a clear definition of what it means.

But I still can't figure out why any high school student-athlete would willingly leave West Brunswick and enroll at Polk County unless he was enticed in some way.

First of all, a high school football player couldn't ask for a better situation than he can get West Brunswick. The Trojans have not had a losing season since 1985 and have been to the state championship game each of the last two years.

As a new school, Polk County has zero football tradition. The Wolverines were 3-7 last year and they're expected to finish last in the Apple Country 2A Conference this season.

Of course, winning football games isn't everything. Playing for a quality coach is important because a good coach can teach kids about life. In his own way, Marshall Seay was a good coach when he was at West Brunswick.

But he's no Jim Brett. Brett is one of the most respected football coaches in the state and is widely praised by his peers as an outstanding athletic director.

Let's see...maybe the atmosphere in Polk County is better than Shallotte. Some people just prefer the mountains to the coast.

Nah. The facts are crystal clear. It's highly unlikely that a high school football coach and one of his top young athletes (Chris Mintz) would leave one school and both end up at the same school 250 miles away by sheer happenstance.

It's even more unlikely that another athlete (Max Crawford) would leave school one year later and transfer to the same school as his former coach, again by sheer happenstance.

The odds of that happening have to be one zillion to one. Granted, I'm no expert on Polk County. The only thing I know about Polk is you have to drive through it on the way to Asheville. Polk High School might have a lot to offer.

But that doesn't explain the magnetic effect it has had on two West Brunswick football players who have turned in their Trojan uniforms to play for the Wolverines.

The record will show that Coach Seay did not recruit anyone. But you'll never convince me that these two young men just happened to end up in Polk County, miraculously reunited with their old coach.

I don't buy it.

Doug Rutter
Sports Editor



IN COED LEAGUE Tourney Starts Friday Night

The Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League will open its league tournament Friday night and play all day Saturday at Smithville Township Park in Southport.

The final regular-season games are scheduled Thursday night at Smithville Park. Southport "B" will play Supply and Town Creek will take on Calvary. Those games were rained out last Saturday.

In the key game Saturday night, Gospel Center-Brunswick Islands clinched at least a tie for first place in Division 1 with a 12-1 victory over Oak Island-Bethel. Calvary can tie for first in the division with a win Thursday.

In other games last Saturday, Soldier Bay edged Faith 15-12, Supply blasted Southport "A" 20-3 and Southport "A" defeated Shell Point 10-5. Mount Olive was a forfeit winner over Jennies Branch.

Baptist Softball League Standings As Of Aug. 12

DIVISION 1			
Team	Wins	Losses	
Gospel-Brunswick	13	3	
Calvary	12	3	
Supply	10	5	
Shell Point	8	8	
Jennies Branch	5	11	
Soldier Bay	3	13	

DIVISION 2			
Team	Wins	Losses	
Mount Olive	14	2	
Town Creek	7	8	
Faith	7	9	
Oak Island-Bethel	6	10	
Southport "A"	6	10	
Southport "B"	2	13	

Coaches Needed

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department is looking for coaches for a flag football league for kids ages 8 and 9.

Anyone interested should contact Joe Rosselli, county athletic coordinator, at 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

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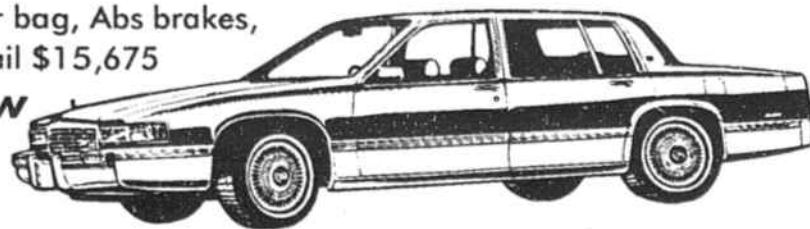
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