



REGINA MCKOY had four hits to lead North Brunswick to a 7-3 playoff win over Surry Central last Friday.

## Lady Scorpions Reach Third Round Playoffs

**BY DOUG RUTTER**  
Regina McKoy had four hits and North Brunswick played outstanding defense to take a 7-3 win over visiting Surry Central in the second round of the state 1A softball playoffs last Friday.

The Lady Scorpions (21-4) were scheduled to play at East Surry in a third-round playoff game Wednesday. North also will play away if it advances to the fourth round.

"I think the best game we've played this year was against Topsail, but this was a good game," North Brunswick assistant coach Jimmie Mintz said after Friday's win.

North Brunswick, which got two RBI each from Michelle Bennett and Wendy Ganey, outscored the Lady Eagles 5-2 in the first two innings and made the lead stand up with good pitching and defense.

"They were a good team. They were well-coached and had a lot of speed. Today was our day," Mintz said.

Surry Central took a first-inning lead when Kristy Hall led off with a single and scored from first base on North Brunswick's only error of the game.

The Lady Scorpions responded with three runs in the bottom of the first. McKoy rapped a leadoff single and scored on Bennett's triple. Bennett came home on a groundout, and Ashley Burton added an RBI triple.

Surry Central cut the lead to 3-2 with a run in the second. Angie Key singled and scored on a base hit by Candy Wall.

North Brunswick added two runs in the home half of the second to grab a 5-2 lead. Bennett and Ganey each had RBI singles.

The Lady Eagles trimmed the lead to 5-3 in the fourth on an RBI sacrifice fly by Holly Key, but North Brunswick avoided further damage with a fine defensive play.

With two outs and Holly Key at second base, Angie Key's hard grounder skipped away from third baseman Patricia Dunn. Shortstop

Cindy Holt recovered the ball and gunned out Holly Key at the plate.

North Brunswick bumped its lead to 6-3 in the bottom of the fourth. McKoy ripped a two-out double, and Dunn followed with an RBI single.

The Lady Scorpions added a final run in the fifth on Jenny Crowder's RBI double to center field.

On the mound, Crowder limited the Lady Eagles to four hits after the second inning.

"I feel our freshman pitcher has done a great job this year. Jenny is a super pitcher," Mintz said.

Crowder also benefited from good defense. In the seventh, McKoy fielded a hard liner to center field and fired to second base to retire the lead runner.

"Regina's as good a defensive outfielder as I've seen in our league," Mintz said.

In first-round playoff action last Tuesday, Amy Mercer had three hits to lead the Lady Scorpions to a 5-4 win over visiting Chatham Central.

Mercer belted a three-run home run in the second inning and added a game-winning single in the bottom of the ninth. Candace Ganey, McKoy and Dunn had two hits apiece for North Brunswick.

Coach Mintz said Friday he hoped the Lady Scorpions, one of eight teams left in the playoffs, will continue playing well.

"Any time you get this far you know you're going to be facing a good defensive team and a well-coached team," he said.

The N.C. High School Athletic Association announced last week that the best-of-three state championship series will be played at Raleigh's Walnut Creek Softball Complex.

It was originally expected that the western champion would host the series. North Brunswick is one of four teams left in the western bracket.

**Game Summary**

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| S. Cent.  | 1 1 0 1 0 0 0—3 8 4  |
| N. Bruns. | 3 2 0 1 1 0 X—7 10 1 |

## McBride Hurls 3-0 Win

North Brunswick's Casey McBride pitched the Scorpions to a 3-0 win over South Stanly in the opening round of the state 1A high school baseball playoffs last Tuesday in Leland.

McBride, a junior right-hander who has thrown two no-hitters this season, yielded five hits while striking out 13 batters and improving his season record to 10-2.

North Brunswick (19-5) got just three hits off South Stanly sophomore pitcher Paul Poplin, but two of them produced runs.

Jeremy Sullivan and Paul Mintz

had RBI singles for the Scorpions in the fourth inning, and Mintz scored the third run on a wild pitch.

South Stanly left six runners on base and ended the season with a 15-7 record.

**Game Summary**

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| S. Stanly | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0 5 2 |
| N. Bruns. | 0 0 0 3 0 0 X—3 3 1 |

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## HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFFS

# North Brunswick Clips Cardinals

**BY DOUG RUTTER**

Jeremy Child swatted two home runs to lead North Brunswick to a 10-5 win over visiting East Surry in the second round of the state 1A baseball playoffs last Friday.

The senior shortstop smashed a leadoff homer in the bottom of the first inning and added a two-run homer in the second as the Scorpions extended their winning streak to 14 games.

North Brunswick (20-5) was scheduled to play a third-round game at East Montgomery on Tuesday. Casey McBride (10-2) was expected to start for the Scorpions.

On Friday, Child was the man. He narrowly missed a third homer in the fourth inning and helped bail out starting pitcher Paul Mintz, who experienced wildness and wasn't at his best.

"He just didn't have it tonight," North Brunswick Coach Keith Moore said. "He said his arm was bothering him a little bit. He didn't throw one pitch like he's capable of throwing the whole game."

Mintz (9-0) yielded two runs in the second inning and three more in the fourth as East Surry (16-11) tied the game at 5-5.

Mintz was relieved in the fifth by Jeremy Sullivan, who held East Surry scoreless the rest of the way.

Coach Moore praised the effort of Sullivan, a sophomore who had pitched less than 10 innings during the regular season.

North Brunswick took the lead for good in the bottom of the fourth on an RBI single by John Sweeney. Sullivan added a two-run single to



PAUL MINTZ pitched North Brunswick to a second-round playoff win over East Surry last Friday. Mintz is 9-0 this season.

left to give the Scorpions an 8-5 lead.

East Surry pitcher Kane Shelton, who entered the contest with an 11-3

record and 153 strikeouts, could not tame the Scorpions.

Shelton had pitched in Tuesday's first-round playoff game, and Moore

told his team before the game to look for fastballs. Both of Child's homers came on fastballs.

For a club that relied on strong pitching all season and struggled at the plate, North Brunswick's 10-run, 10-hit attack was somewhat surprising.

Asked if he was shocked by the offensive outburst, Moore said, "I just know we swung the bat a lot better than we have."

Moore said Child set the tone for the ball game with his leadoff home run. Sullivan had two hits and two RBI, and John Sweeney also drove in two runs and had three hits for the Scorpions.

Moore said Friday night he expected a battle in the third round of the playoffs, but he was confident the Scorpions had a shot at the state title.

If the Scorpions survive rounds three and four, they will host the best-of-three state championship series.

**Game Summary**

|           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| E. Surry  | 0 2 0 3 0 0 0—5 4 5   |
| N. Bruns. | 2 3 0 3 0 2 X—10 10 2 |

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| B189A 1990 Mazda RX-7 Convertible • CD and tape player, low miles | \$17,875            | \$15,950   |
| B168A 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix LE • beautiful car                  | \$9,175             | \$6,950    |
| B213A 1988 Chrysler New Yorker • low miles, very nice             | \$7,200             | \$5,980    |
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|---|---------------------|------------|
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