

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Brunswick Sinks Beaufort For 4th Straight Win

BY DOUG RUTTER

Brunswick County Post 68 wrapped up a perfect four-games-in-four-days stretch on Sunday with a 10-5 win over visiting Beaufort Post 99 in American Legion baseball.

Post 68 went 4-0 during its busiest stretch of the regular season, and improved to 7-1 in the Area II East League with Sunday afternoon's victory at North Brunswick High School.

Jerry Galloway was the winning pitcher for Post 68 after going the first five innings. He gave up three hits and two unearned runs while walking three and recording seven strikeouts.

At the plate, Jeremy Child, Eric Johnson and Paul Little had two hits apiece for Brunswick County. Casey McBride had a two-run single, and Demetrius Bell added an RBI single.

Despite the relatively easy win over Beaufort, which brought only nine players to Leland, it was apparent that four consecutive games and Sunday's 90-degree heat had an effect on the Post 68 players.

"I think you could tell the guys were dragging," Brunswick County Coach Ed Lewis said after the game at sun-drenched Scorpion Field.

"They had two emotional games in Whiteville. I wasn't too pleased with the intensity today, but we doubled them up so I guess you can't complain," Lewis added.

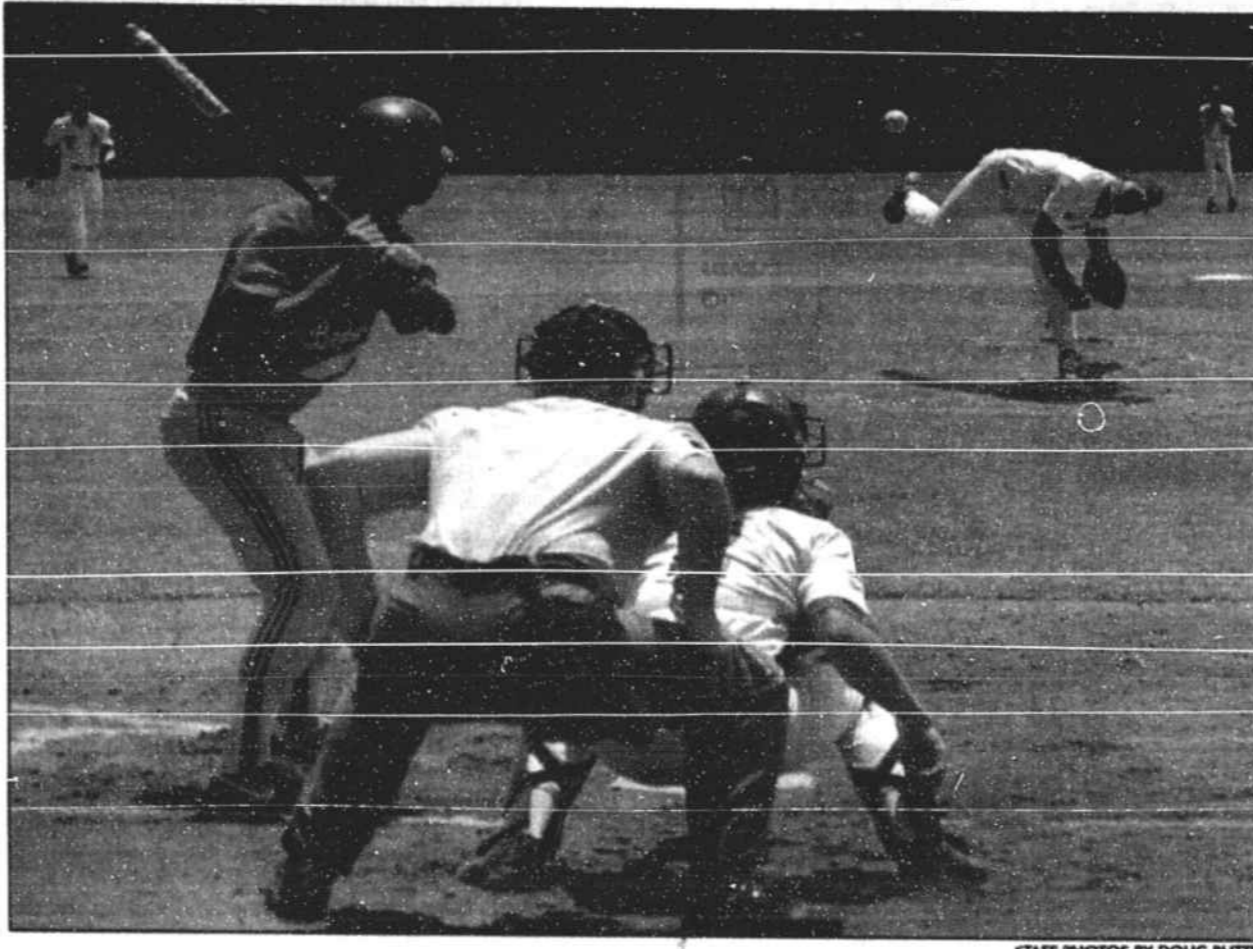
Heading into the four-game stretch, Lewis said he had hoped for three wins. However, Brunswick County won all four games thanks to an unexpected sweep of Whiteville and a win at Burgaw.

Beaufort (1-5) jumped out to an early lead Sunday with one run in the top of the first, when Post 68 committed two errors.

Leadoff hitter Ryan Upchurch reached base on an infield error, moved to second on a poor pickoff throw, stole third base and scored on Jimmy Piner's single to center field.

Brunswick County came storming back with four runs in the home half of the first, thanks in part to three Beaufort errors.

Child reached on an error and later scored on Bell's single. Galloway then doubled to left field, and Bell and Galloway scored on a double error in the infield. Little



JERRY GALLOWAY delivers a pitch Sunday during Brunswick County's 10-5 win over Beaufort Post 99. Galloway was the winning pitcher.

added an RBI double to give Post 68 a 4-1 lead. Brunswick bumped its lead to 5-1 in the fourth. Child legged out an infield single and later scored from third on a wild pitch.

Beaufort trimmed the lead to 5-2 in the fifth when Upchurch again reached base on an error and scored on

Benjy Horton's single. Post 68 broke the game open with five runs in the bottom of the fifth. Mike Johnson doubled to the left-field fence and scored from second base on an infield error.

McBride laced a two-run single to left, and two more runs scored when Beaufort third baseman Ryan Contreras dropped Eric Johnson's two-out, bases-loaded pop fly.

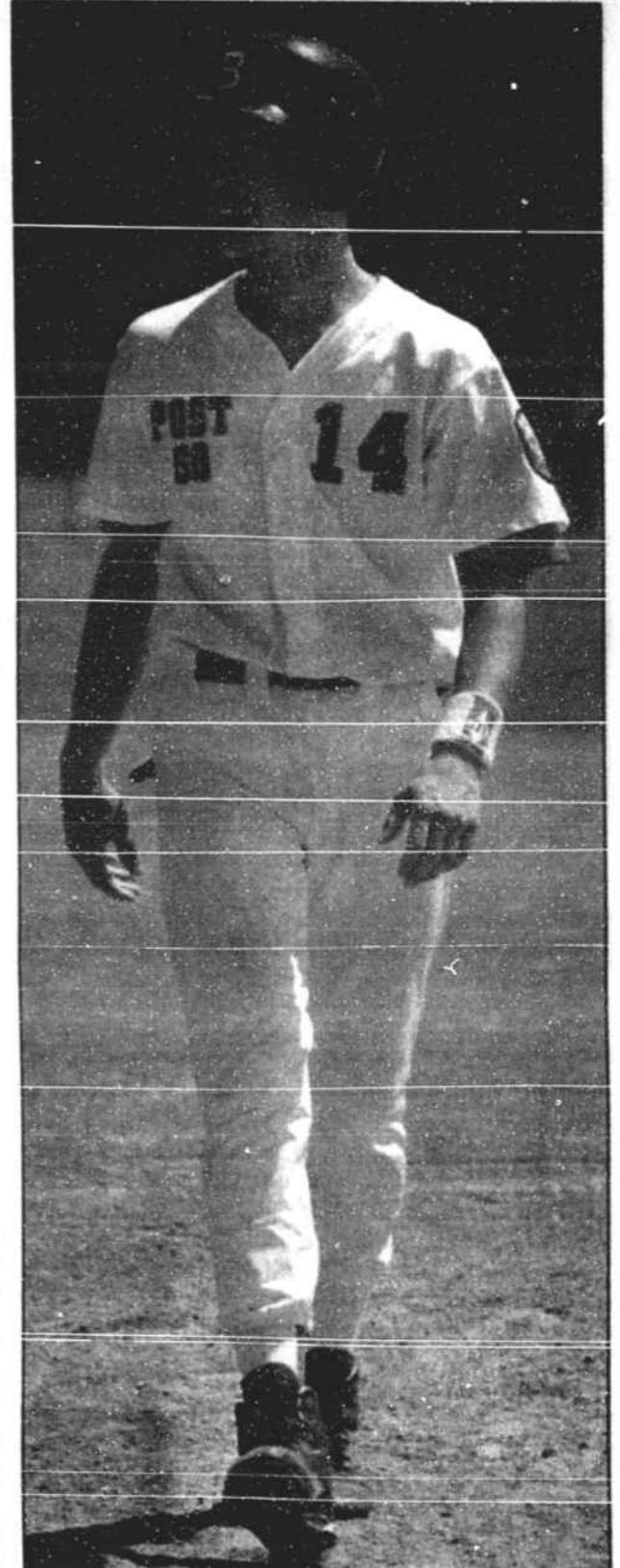
Post 99 closed out the scoring with three runs in the sixth off relief pitcher Tim Smith, who gave up six hits in three innings.

Phillip Moran singled and scored on Upchurch's groundout, Kevin Davis scored on a wild pitch and Horton added an RBI single to cut Brunswick's lead to 10-5.

Smith held Beaufort in check for two innings before Matt Mintz came on to pitch the ninth.

"Jerry Galloway ran out of gas in the fifth, but we pieced it together and Tim did a good job," Coach Lewis said. "Things are starting to shape up. We just have to play with more intensity."

Brunswick County (10-8 overall) was scheduled to play Tuesday night at Warsaw Post 127. Post 68 travels to Beaufort on Friday and hosts Jacksonville Post 265 Sunday at 2 p.m.



PAUL LITTLE had two hits including an RBI double Sunday as Brunswick County Post 68 notched its fourth straight win.

Post 68 has a key league game next Monday, June 27, against undefeated Wilmington Post 10 at North Brunswick. Game time is 8 p.m.

Game Summary

Beaufort Post 99	1 0 0 0 1 3 0 0 0	— 5 9 5
Brunswick Post 68	4 0 0 1 5 0 0 0 X	— 10 10 3

COUNTY BASKETBALL LEGEND

Navassa's Chucky Brown Hoping For Fresh Start In Motor City

BY DOUG RUTTER

Chucky Brown, who has played for six different teams in five seasons as a professional basketball player, says there's no question in his mind that he can compete in the NBA.

That's why he'll travel to Michigan in three weeks to participate in a Detroit Pistons mini-camp with hopes of landing a spot on the team's roster for the 1994-95 season.

A native of Navassa who played his high school ball at North Brunswick, Brown went to a Detroit camp last month and the Pistons liked him enough to invite him back.

"Whether or not they keep me depends on if they like what I do or if I can provide them with something," Brown said Monday from his home in Cary. "I think as long as I go out and play hard I'll do well."

Brown, one of the best players in N.C. State University history, spent much of last season in the Continental Basketball Association with the Yakima (Wash.) Sun Kings.

"That went pretty good. The only thing about the CBA is they (the owners) are making money but they're not paying any of the players," said Brown, a 6-foot-8-inch forward.

The 26-year-old son of Clarence and Minnie Brown of Navassa was selected in the second round of the 1989 NBA draft by the Cleveland Cavaliers with the 43rd pick overall.

He spent two years in Cleveland, and has since played with the Los Angeles Lakers, New Jersey Nets and Dallas Mavericks. He also played briefly overseas.

Brown, who has lived in Cary for the past couple years, says he doesn't get discouraged about moving from team to team.

"I don't get discouraged because I know I try my best," he said. "I just go out and play hard and the rest is out of my hands. I have no control over whether a team decides to keep me or not so there's no use worrying and getting gray hairs over it."

At North Carolina State, Brown played for popular coach Jimmy Valvano, who died last year of cancer.

"I think we all knew it was coming, but it was still a shock when it happened," Brown said of Valvano's death. "If he was suffering it was probably the best thing for him to go ahead and pass on."

The Wolfpack had a record of 87-45 during Brown's career, which lasted from 1985 to 1989. Brown was named second team All-Atlantic Coast Conference his junior year and first team All-ACC as a senior.

Brown ranks in the school's top

"I don't get discouraged because I know I try my best. I just go out and play hard and the rest is out of my hands. I have no control over whether a team decides to keep me or not so there's no use worrying and getting gray hairs over it." —Chucky Brown

20 career leaders in six categories: points (1,337), rebounds (679), field goals (555), free throw attempts (360), blocked shots (63) and steals (62).

He led the Wolfpack in scoring during the 1987-88 season with 16.6 points per game. He came back the following year to lead the team in rebounds with 8.8 per contest.

Brown was an extremely accurate shooter for the Wolfpack, ranking third all-time with a field goal percentage of .557.

N.C. State, which reached the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 when Brown was a senior, was one of the ACC's top teams in those days. Brown says the Wolfpack can return to the top with a few good breaks.

"If they get a couple good recruits in there things will turn around,"

Brown said. "They had a lot of problems getting recruits after they went on probation a few years ago."

"They basically had to start over. The guys on the team just need to stay positive. You can't start over at the top. You have to crawl before you can walk," he said.

As a North Brunswick senior in 1985, Brown led the Scorpions to a 19-5 season and into the semifinals of the District 4 playoffs. He averaged 24.4 points per game for Coach Cliff Gibson's Scorpions.

"The person that helped me the most was Coach Gibson. He took time with me and he was patient with me," Brown said.

"North Brunswick helped me out a lot. I had some good experiences there. A lot of the teachers were nice to me. They tried to help me the best they could," he said.

Three Going To State Games

Three of Brunswick County's top American Legion baseball players will be missing from the lineup Friday night against Beaufort and again Sunday afternoon against Jacksonville.

Eric Johnson, Michael Johnson and Casey McBride will be participating in the North Carolina State Games scholastic baseball competition Friday through Sunday at Durham Athletic Park.

They will be playing for the Region 2 team, one of eight regional teams across the state made up of high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors who were nominated by coaches and went through a series of tryouts in May.

Eric Johnson and Michael Johnson are students at West Brunswick, and McBride attends North Brunswick. All three recently completed their junior years.

William Rivenbark of Pender High School is the head coach for Region 2, which is the defending State Games champion. Assistant coaches are James Fulghum of

Eastern Wayne and Robert Langston of West Craven.

Brunswick County has two Area II Eastern League games this weekend. Post 68 plays Beaufort Post 99 Friday at 7:30 p.m. at East Carteret High School and hosts Jacksonville Post 265 Sunday at 2 p.m. at North Brunswick High School.

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