

# This Week In Brunswick Sports

THURSDAY, JULY 21

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Park: Emanuel Outreach vs. Jennies Branch, 7 p.m.; Old Shallotte vs. Soldier Bay, 8 p.m.; Dixon Chapel vs. Camp Methodist, 9 p.m.
- Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League Tournament at Lockwood Folly Park, Supply: Mt. Olive vs. Southport A, 7:30 p.m.; Gospel Center vs. Supply, 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Park: Letties Grove vs. Friendship Baptist, 7 p.m.; Jennies Branch vs. Old Shallotte, 8 p.m.; Zion Baptist vs. Soldier Bay, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

- Shallotte Lions Club sponsors a captain's choice golf tournament at Sea Trail's Byrd course, shotgun start at 9 a.m. The fee is \$40 per player. For information call Richard Westbrook, 579-7895, or T.J. Lewis, 754-9963.
- Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League Tournament concludes today at Lockwood Folly Park, Supply. Eight games are scheduled starting at 9 a.m. The championship game begins at 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 25

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Park: Ocean View vs. Supply Baptist, 7 p.m.; Letties Grove vs. Shallotte First, 8 p.m.; Old Shallotte vs. Seaside Methodist, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

- Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League at Waccamaw Park: New Britton vs. Soldier Bay, 7:30 p.m.; Ocean View vs. Emanuel Outreach, 8:30 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.

## Bell Saves Brunswick In 14-Inning Thriller; Finally Ending 12-10

BY DOUG RUTTER

Demetrius Bell's two-run double in the 14th inning gave Brunswick County a 12-10 victory over Wilmington in Game 6 of their American Legion baseball playoff series Saturday night.

Facing elimination from the playoffs, Post 68 came up with a gutsy effort to tie the best-of-seven Area II East League championship series at three games apiece.

"I think I need some Dramamine," Brunswick County Coach Ed Lewis said following the gut-wrenching win at Wilmington's Hardee Field. It was enough to give anyone an acid stomach.

The game was tied 10-10 after eight innings and remained scoreless for the next five innings. The game lasted nearly five hours and didn't end until 25 minutes after midnight.

"I played in a 27-inning game once, but I haven't coached in one this long," Lewis said.

In the end it was one of Post 68's veterans, Bell, who delivered the big blow that decided the game.

Jeremy Child led off the top of the 14th with a single and Lewis Vaught followed with a walk. Both runners advanced on Matt Mintz' sacrifice before Bell lined a double to the center field wall.

After playing 13 innings in left field, Brunswick County's Eric Johnson took the mound and retired the side in order in the bottom of the 14th for the save.

Twice, it looked as if Brunswick County would win the game easily. Post 68 blew an early 5-0 lead and then pulled out to a 10-6 advantage. But Post 10 scored four runs in the bottom of the eighth to force extra innings.

"All I can say is the guys hung in there," Lewis said. "We did everything we could to give it away and they wouldn't take it."

Bell, Jeremy Child, Lewis Vaught, Mike Johnson and Eric Johnson had three hits apiece for Brunswick County, which had 19 hits in the game. Eric Faulk, Chris

Moore and Hamer Morris had two hits each to lead Post 10.

Brunswick County jumped out to a 5-0 lead with one unearned run in the second inning and four runs in the third, when Vaught, Mike Johnson and Paul Mintz each had one RBI.

Post 10 tied the score with five runs in the bottom of third without getting a hit. Wilmington sent 10 batters to the plate, and six of them drew walks.

Post 68 regained the lead in the fifth when Mike Johnson singled, stole two bases and scored on a balk by Jeremy Padgett.

Wilmington knotted the score at 6-6 in the sixth on Faulk's RBI single.

Brunswick County scored four runs in the seventh to take a 10-6 lead. Randy Coleman, Child and Vaught drove in runs for Post 68, which benefited from two Post 10 errors.

For the third time in the game, Wilmington rallied and tied the score at 10-10 with four runs in the eighth. Faulk, Moore and Parker Southerland had RBI in the inning.

Wilmington stranded the game-winning run at second base in the ninth and 10th innings, and had its best opportunity to win the game in the 13th.

Morris smacked a leadoff single, moved to second on an error and took third on a sacrifice bunt. But Brunswick relief pitcher Matt Mintz got a strikeout and infield fly to get out of the jam.

Mintz was the winning pitcher after throwing two innings in relief. Paul Mintz, Tim Smith, Casey McBride and Eric Johnson also pitched for Brunswick County (22-11).

Tony Pigott, Padgett, Mike Sorg and Morris saw mound action for Post 10 (19-7). Sorg suffered the loss, yielding nine hits and six runs in 7 2/3 innings of relief.

**Game Summary**  
P68 0140104000002—1219 5  
P10 00500104000000—1010 6

## MCBRIDE WINS GAME 3

# Jeremy Child's 11th-Inning Blast Lifts Brunswick County To 7-6 Victory

BY DOUG RUTTER

Jeremy Child's dramatic, 11th-inning home run lifted Brunswick County to a 7-6 victory over Wilmington in Game 3 of their best-of-seven American Legion baseball playoff series last Wednesday in Leland.

The veteran shortstop's two-out solo homer overshadowed a masterful pitching performance by Casey McBride, who struck out 10 batters and did not surrender a hit in 4 1/2 innings of scoreless relief.

The heroics of Child and McBride, teammates on North Brunswick High School's state quarterfinal team of 1994, gave Brunswick Post 68 a 2-1 lead in the Area II East League championship series.

"I was just thinking base hit. I just got a good pitch to hit," Child said of his four-bagger off Post 10's Mike Sorg. "I'd have to say this was the biggest one I've hit so far."

Child finished with two hits and two RBI. Paul Mintz and Eric Johnson drove in two runs apiece and Demetrius Bell had three hits and one RBI to lead Post 68, which trailed 5-0 after 4 1/2 innings.

"I'm real tickled for Jeremy, but I think the story was Casey and the job he did in relief," Brunswick County Coach Ed Lewis said fol-

*"I was just thinking base hit. I just got a good pitch to hit."*

—Post 68's Jeremy Child, on game winning hit

lowing the game.

McBride (3-0) relieved Mintz in the seventh with the score tied at 5-5. After Wilmington scored the go-ahead run on an error, McBride struck out Ben Hobbs to get out of a bases-loaded jam. In the final four innings, the lanky right-hander struck out eight of the 13 batters he faced.

Despite McBride's pitching and Child's hitting, Lewis said Brunswick was fortunate to win the game after committing five errors and giving Post 10 four unearned runs.

"We did not make the routine plays. We tried to do too much on defense," Lewis said. "We're lucky to get away with this one."

Chris Moore had two hits and one RBI and Tony Pigott had an RBI triple for Post 10, which was limited to five hits.

Wilmington took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Shawn Gallagher rapped a leadoff double to left and Moore followed with an RBI single.

Post 10 bumped its lead to 3-0 in

the fourth. Eric Faulk walked and Jason Napier singled and both runners scored on an infield error.

In the fifth, Pigott smacked a run-scoring triple to the right field fence and later scored on another Brunswick County error to make it 5-0.

Post 68 started chipping away at the lead in the bottom of the fifth. Lewis Vaught doubled to right and scored on a single by Mintz. Child then drove in Mintz with a groundout to shortstop.

Brunswick County tied the score at 5-5 with three runs in the sixth. McBride, Bell and Mike Johnson all singled to load the bases with no outs.

Eric Johnson delivered a two-run single to right and Mintz drove in the tying run with a groundout.

Wilmington regained the lead in the seventh when Moore walked and scored from second on an infield error.

But Brunswick County bounced back in the bottom half of the inning. Child singled to left and

scored on Bell's second bunt single of the night to tie the score at 7-7.

Wilmington threatened in the eighth when T.J. DeFrancisco drew a leadoff walk, stole second and went to third on a throwing error. However, McBride struck out the next three batters to get out of the inning.

Brunswick County (21-9) had runners in scoring position in the ninth and 10th innings, but could not get them home.

Child, an 18-year-old, three-year veteran of the Post 68 club, finally ended the game around 11:30 p.m. with one swing of the bat.

With the count at 1-0, Child turned on a letter-high, inside fast-ball. The ball cleared the left-field fence with plenty of room to spare and curled around the foul pole.

Sorg suffered the loss for Wilmington (17-6) after giving up one run and two hits in 4 1/2 innings of relief. Pigott started and gave up six runs and eight hits in 6 1/2 innings. They combined for 12 strikeouts and four walks.

In 6 1/2 innings, Brunswick's Mintz yielded five hits and six runs, four of them unearned. He walked five and struck out four.

**Game Summary**  
P10 10022010000—652  
P68 00002310001—7105

## Adam Gilmore Goes Distance For Post 10, Wilmington Still Wins

BY DOUG RUTTER

Adam Gilmore pitched nine solid innings to lead Wilmington to a 4-3 win over Brunswick County in Game 5 of their best-of-seven American Legion baseball playoff series last Friday in Leland.

Gilmore, admittedly not one of Wilmington's more feared pitchers, threw just well enough to give Post 10 a 3-2 advantage in the Area II East League championship series.

The Laney High School right-hander allowed eight hits, struck out six and issued three walks.

"It was getting tough. Around the seventh inning I was getting tired, but I had to work through it," said Gilmore, his sweat-soaked, soiled uniform clinging to his skin following his first complete, nine-inning game.

After a rocky first inning, in which he gave up three hits and two runs, Gilmore settled down and yielded just two hits over the next seven innings. He did an outstanding job moving his pitches inside and outside on Brunswick County's batters.

"I had to do that or they would hit it," he said. "I learned that the hard way in the first inning."

Jeremy Child, Scott Beck and Lewis Vaught had two hits each for Brunswick County, while Tony Pigott's two hits and Eric Faulk's home run led the Post 10 attack.

In the bottom of the first, Child and Beck greeted Gilmore with a pair of singles and Child scored on Casey McBride's groundout. Beck came home on Mike Johnson's triple for a 2-0 lead.

Wilmington cut the lead in half in the second frame when Pigott doubled to left and scored on an infield error, one of three committed by Brunswick County.

Post 10 tied the score at 2-2 in the sixth on Faulk's leadoff solo home run to left field.

Wilmington (19-6) took the lead with two runs in the eighth. T.J. DeFrancisco lined a leadoff single to left field and Shawn Gallagher followed with an RBI double. Pigott added a run-scoring single for a 4-2 lead.

Brunswick County did not go quietly in the bottom of the ninth. Vaught and Child singled to put runners at the corners with two outs.

Beck's infield single plated Vaught and put the tying run at second base, but Gilmore got McBride to fly to center field for the game's final out.

Brunswick County (21-11) left nine runners on base, including six in scoring position.

Post 68 starting pitcher Eric Johnson yielded four runs on five hits in 7 1/2 innings. He struck out six and walked just one. McBride gave up one hit and struck out three in 1 1/2 innings of scoreless relief.

**Game Summary**  
Post 10 010001020—471  
Post 68 200000001—383

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