

**SPORTING SCENE**

# Trojan Football Staff Among Best In State

Is there a better high school football coaching staff in the state than the one currently calling the shots at West Brunswick?

Head Coach Yogi Hickman doesn't think so, and it's hard to argue. "I just can't imagine a finer coaching staff anywhere," Hickman said last Friday, one day before the Trojans opened pre-season practice.

Openings in the coaching staff was one of Hickman's biggest concerns when we talked on July 15. But the final pieces of the puzzle fell neatly into place last week.

Hickman now has a "Dream Team" of assistant coaches with Mike Alderson, Joe Noble, Heath Hewett, Emmett Lay and Frank Ciamillo. Lay and Ciamillo came aboard last week.

Lay, a former athletic director at West Columbus who was hired primarily to coach the boys' basketball team at West Brunswick, also will coach junior varsity football.

"His coaching background is really good. It's diversified. He has had coaching experience in basketball and a great football background in the years he spent with coach (Jack) Holley at Wallace," Hickman said. "We're really lucky to have him."

Ciamillo, a former head football coach at Whiteville and South Columbus high schools, was hired last week as a physical education teacher at West. Ciamillo led Whiteville to consecutive 13-1 seasons in 1981 and 1982.

"I'm really excited about having Frank here," said Hickman, who was an assistant under Ciamillo at Whiteville in the early 1980s. "His reputation is impeccable. His knowledge of the game comes from 25 years of experience."

Hickman also inherited two top-notch assistant coaches in Alderson and Noble. West Brunswick wouldn't have won back-to-back state championships in 1992 and 1993 without them.

"Mike Alderson and Joe Noble have made this transition very smooth for us," Hickman said. "I'm very fortunate and blessed it's worked out the way it has."

Hewett, a former quarterback at Whiteville High and Elon College, is a first-year assistant at West. He will serve as the offensive coordinator, while Alderson will coach the defense.

Hickman said the biggest coaching-related challenge he faces will be pulling together a group of coaches who worked with five different staffs last season.

"The thing that I like about this staff is they believe as well as I do that we're coaching kids. Winning's important, but there's a heck of a lot more to it than that. I know they all share the same philosophy."

**What The Experts Think**

West Brunswick's Eric Johnson and Timothy "Salt" Daniels are considered among the top 500 high school seniors in the state, according to North Carolina Prep Football magazine.

Daniels is praised for his blocking ability and good hands as a tight end and his ability to read plays very quickly at cornerback and make open-field tackles. He also is an excellent student and member of the Honor Society.

Johnson, a three-sport standout at West, is viewed as an excellent team leader. He is considered a quarterback with a strong and accurate arm who can fake extremely well and run with the football.

Also ranked among the state's top 500 seniors are South Brunswick's Charles Blue, Kendrick Caine, Jerry Galloway, O.J. Morris and Will Rabon.

West Brunswick linebacker extraordinaire Kwabena Green is listed among the top juniors in the state. A force since his freshman year, Green could be an all-state selection this year or next.

Among the other interesting tidbits in Arnold Solomon's magazine, West Brunswick is one of 12 high schools in North Carolina that uses "Trojans" as its mascot.

The most common mascot is Vikings, used by 19 schools. Other popular names include Eagles (17), Panthers (14) and Bulldogs (13).

I think the coolest high school mascot in the state is the Greensboro Grimsley Whirlies. The worst has to be Lejeune Devilpups.

## Jennies, Emanuel Tie For First

A victory by Emanuel Outreach and loss by Jennies Branch in the past week left the teams tied for first place in the Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League A Division at the end of the regular season.

Emanuel Outreach defeated Ocean View 15-10 last Tuesday, and Jennies Branch was a 2-1 loser to Friendship Baptist on Monday. Emanuel Outreach and Jennies Branch finished the regular season with records of 19-3.

New Britton, which closed out the regular season last Tuesday with a 6-5 win over Soldier Bay, was an easy winner in the B Division with a record of 17-5. No other team had a winning record.

In Monday night's regular-season finale, Dixon Chapel was a forfeit winner over Eastside Fellowship.

The league tournament is scheduled to begin next Monday night at Waccamaw Township Park and



**Doug Rutter**  
Sports Editor

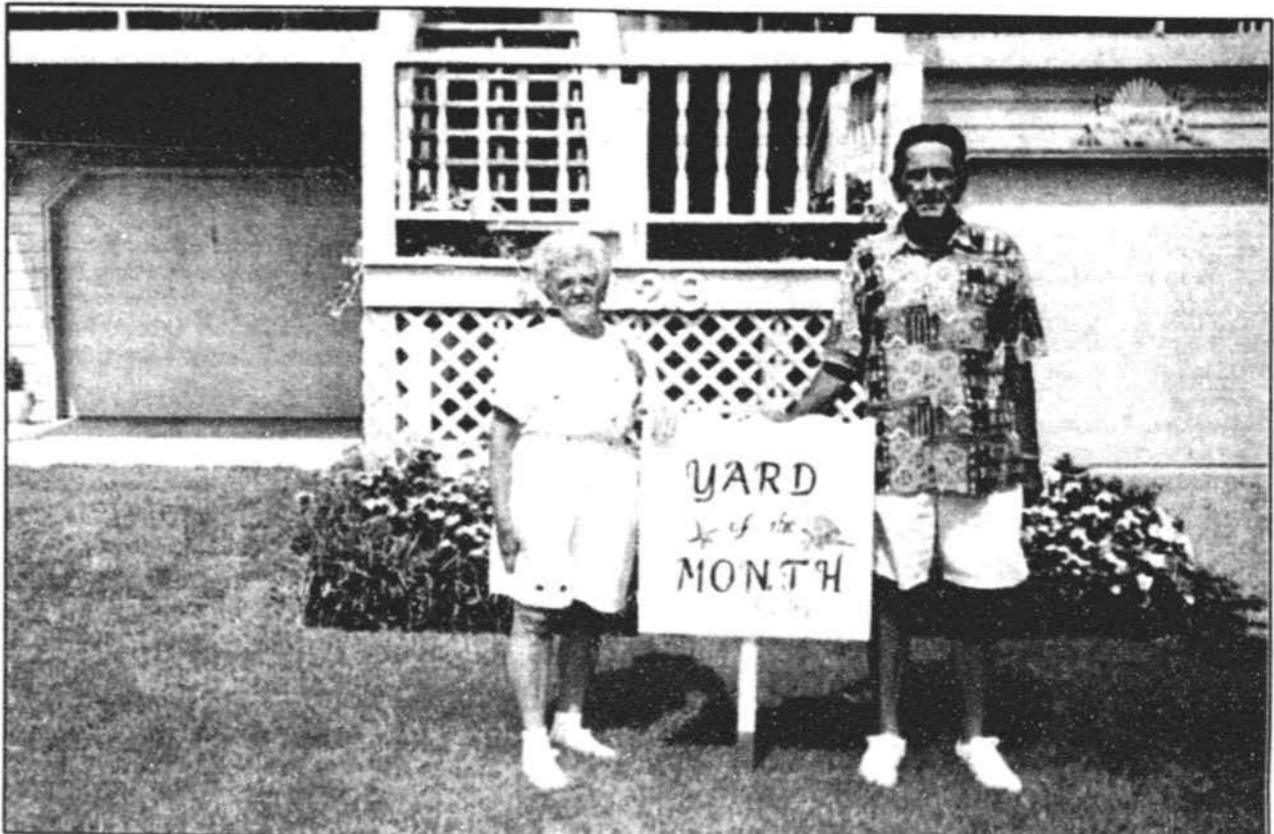


PHOTO BY MARDY SELLERS

## Pennell Yard Selected

The Holden Beach Beautification Club has selected the yard of Fannie and Shuford Pennell of 129 High Point Street as yard of the month for August. The yard contains a colorful mixture of flowers including verbena, vinca, ageratum, petunias and marigolds.

# Brunswick All-Stars Take Second In State Dixie Pre-Majors Tourney

Brunswick County's All-Stars placed second in the North Carolina Dixie Pre-Majors State Tournament that ended last Thursday at Tabor City with host Columbus County winning its fourth straight title.

After winning three of its first four games, Brunswick County entered Thursday's action needing consecutive wins over unbeaten Columbus County to win the double-elimination tournament.

Columbus County's All-Stars ended the suspense early, however, limiting Brunswick to two hits in a 5-0 win to clinch the tournament title.

Brunswick County advanced to the tournament finals with an 11-5 semifinal win over Duplin County last Tuesday.

Brunswick also posted a 12-2 win over West Lincoln in the first round and defeated Duplin County 6-5 in the

second round before losing to Columbus County, 3-2, in round three.

Brunswick County's All-Stars were Josh Baker, Jay McRoberts, Phillip Leonard, Brian McDowell, Brian Inman, Anthony Hewett, Adam Kaufhold, Byron Batson, Chris Payne and Justin May.

The team was coached by West Brunswick High School head baseball coach Mike Alderson and his son, Brian Alderson.

Columbus County defeated Gastonia and Brunswick two times each to win its fourth consecutive state title. Columbus twice scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Columbus opens play in the Dixie Pre-Majors World Series this Saturday against the state champions from Florida. The World Series is being held in Avon Park, Fla.

## In-Line Skating Clinic Set For Aug. 20

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department and Play It Again Sports of Wilmington will sponsor an in-line skating workshop and clinic on Saturday, Aug. 20, at Supply Elementary School.

Two beginner workshops are scheduled from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. An in-line hockey clinic will be held from 3 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. All children must be accompanied by a parent, and all participants will be required to wear a protective helmet.

For more information, call special events coordinator Emma T. McGraw at the county recreation department, 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

### Beach Day

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the Long Beach Recreation Department will sponsor a Summer Fun Beach Day this Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Long Beach Cabana.

A volleyball tournament will start at 11:30 a.m., and teams are required to register by 11:15.

Music will be provided by "Ray and Kathy."

For more information, call McGraw at 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

### Fishing Derby

The Yaupon Beach Fishing Pier will host a youth fishing derby on Friday, Aug. 5, sponsored by the

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department.

The free derby will run from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and is open to boys and girls age 16 and under.

Parents must accompany their children, and each child must bring

a fishing rod. Bait will be provided.

Prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish, smallest fish and most fish caught in two hours.

For more information, call McGraw at 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

## West Tennis Team Practicing Monday

The West Brunswick High School girls' tennis team will hold its first practice of the season next Monday, Aug. 8, starting at 8 a.m. at the school tennis courts.

All players must turn in completed physical forms before they begin practicing. Forms are available at the high school office.

All players should contact coach Rahn Adams at 579-8862 no later than Sunday, Aug. 7.

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