

Whiteville Will Have Professional Baseball Team

Local Group May Take Over Dunn-Erwin Franchise

Paul Williamson Now Engaged In Securing Stock Subscriptions To Enable Carrying Out Of Project; Whiteville Favored City

TO MEET LUMBERTON HERE THURSDAY NITE

Preliminary Plans Made At Fayetteville Meeting To Transfer Playing Rights To City On June 15th

BY JIGGS POWERS (News Reporter Sports Editor) It is almost a certainty that Whiteville will have professional baseball during the 1950 season! Only minor details remain to be cleared up before the franchise belonging to the Dunn-Erwin

club of the Tobacco State League becomes the property of the Whiteville organization. A meeting of Dunn officials, headed by President W. W. Stanfield, and representatives from Whiteville which was held in the offices of Tobacco State League President A. R. Moore in Fayetteville on Sunday (yesterday) afternoon practically closed the deal.

The Dunn-Erwin Twins team, which has been a member of the Class D Tobacco State circuit since its formation in 1946, has not been having the attendance necessary to support professional baseball during the current calendar and is being forced to surrender its franchise to the league president on the 15th of June because of financial difficulties.

Several other towns, besides Whiteville, were interested in securing the territorial playing rights of the DE organization, but the loop officials favored Whiteville because of its location, which will facilitate travel within the 8-team league.

Should plans go through as they have begun, the Whiteville team will play its first home

Leads Drive



PAUL J. WILLIAMSON, who is currently spearheading a campaign to raise funds for the purchase of the Dunn-Erwin Twin baseball franchise for Whiteville. It is expected that enough stock will be subscribed to in order to buy the DE's playing rights by June 15th.

game at Legion Field here on Thursday night, June 15, when the Lumberton Auctioneers will be met. Gametime of all Tobacco State League contests is 7:45 o'clock.

A campaign to raise the necessary funds to complete the moving of the Dunn-Erwin outfit (it is expected that Whiteville will fall heir to most of the players now owned by the "folding" Twins, should the deal go through as planned) is being headed by Paul J. Williamson, local automobile dealer. Williamson stated that stock would be sold during the next few days in a last-minute effort to give Whiteville the first professional baseball team it has ever owned. Williamson, along with Clyde Williams who has managed Whiteville semi-pro clubs for the past two seasons and Sportswriter Jiggs Powers, represented Whiteville interests at the Sunday meeting.

Williamson was president of the Whiteville Red Comets of the semi-pro Border Belt League here last year, and has always had a top interest in local sports teams.

Wilmington Gets Legion Win Over Tabor City, 7-4

WILMINGTON—Tabor City's Junior Legion team bowed to the Wilmington Junior entry in an Area 1 League game played here on Wednesday night. The score was 7 to 4.

A big fourth inning put the youngsters of Coach Bert Kite, former Wilmington Pirate manager, ahead to stay. The local crew counted a quartet of tallies

in this inning. Both teams had been served a dish of goose-eggs until this time, with Tabor City's Doug Cook and Burt Grant, local moundsman, tying up in a hill duel.

Cook became the losing pitcher, however, and was relieved by tiny Ray Reeves in the third frame, who finished for Tabor City.

Grant, the winning pitcher, was not around at the finish either, but it was a sprained ankle, suffered when he slid into second base in the sixth frame, that caused his removal. Strong-Armed Sonny Jergenson finished for the Wilmington crew and did a good job of it.

Statistics showed that Doug Cook was touched for 7 hits in 2 2-3 innings. Reeves gave up 8 in 5 1-3. Grant 8 in 6, and Jergenson 4 in 3. Bases on balls issued by Cook numbered 2. Reeves 2, and Jergenson 1. Strike-outs were divided as follows: Cook 2, Grant, 5, Reeves 4, and Jergenson 3.

The Kitemen went on to add another trio of tallies in the 4th inning. Tabor City counted once each in the 4th and 8th and had a pair of runs in the 6th.

Leading the batting for the Wilmington entry was Grant, the winning pitcher, who had a 3-for-3 average before he was forced to retire from action. Bill Hardee, former Whiteville High School athlete now catching for the Wilmington entry, pounded the agate for a triple and two singles in four tries, as well as playing a bang-up game behind the bat.

Berney Stevens, Tabor City centerfielder, led his mates with a three-bagger and two singles in 5 attempts. Tommy Lewis, initial-sacker, hit 2 for 4.

It was the first game of the season for the Wilmington team. The loss gave Coach Sil Caruso's Tabor City team a 1-1 record in league play.

'Wormy' Stevens Hurls, Clubs TC Nine To Triumph

Little Righthander Has No-Hitter Until 7th-Inning; Gives Up 3 Safeties, Hits 4-For-6 As Team Avenges Former Loss

TABOR CITY—It was sweet revenge for the Tabor City American Legion Juniors here, on Thursday night, as they blasted the Wilmington Area One entry to the tune of 15-2 in a contest played at Civitan Field.

Behind the brilliant, three-hit pitching and superb batting of their diminutive righthander, Berney Stevens, the Yam-Town boys raked the offerings of three Wilmington hurlers for a total of 15 base-hits to avenge a 7-4 loss suffered by the locals in Wilmington on Wednesday evening. Stevens, who plays centerfield for the Post 101 club when not pitching, was working his first game of the Legion season for Coach Sil Caruso's outfit. He did a whale of a job—having a no-hitter until Catcher Bill Hardee, former Whiteville boy, singled solidly to center in the 7th frame. The other safeties off "Wormy's" slants came in this inning also, with Delane Eason pounding a triple to right-center to count Hardee and David Alford singling to count both of the Wilmington tallies. Stevens fanned 10 and walked just two of the Port Citizens.

The local club had already won the ballgame by scoring once in the first, four times in the third, three times in the fifth, and capping it off with a 7-run burst in the sixth.

The leader in the batting parade of the Caruso-coached team was also Berney Stevens—he compiled an average of 4 for 6. Two of his blows were doubles. Following him were Bobby Waddell and Worth Barnhardt, each with 3 for 6. Barnhardt had a double in his collection.

The win gave Tabor City a record of two wins against a single loss in Area 1 play for the first week of the loop's activation. The local team plays in Whiteville on Wednesday night and meets Wilmington back here again on Thursday evening.

Wilmington—000 000 200—2—3—5

Tabor City—104 037 00x—15—18—3
Galog, Gere (5), Cribb (7) and Hardee; Stevens and Floyd.

SHALLOTTE VISITORS
Rev. and Mrs. Billy Rivers of Chesterfield, S. C., have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Russ at Shallotte. Rev. Rivers is well known in the Shallotte community as he held a youth revival at Chapel Hill church last fall. He recently graduated from Furman University and is entering the Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Whiteville Jrs. Smother Post 10 In Lop-Sided Go

Coach Ed Thompson's Local Legion Team Wins First Area 1 Battle As Elbert Smith, Tommy Edwards Star

WILMINGTON—Pitcher Elbert Smith, of Hallsboro, and Bladenboro's Tommy Edwards were the leading lights in a star-studded lineup that lead Coach Ed Thompson's Whiteville Post 137 American Legion Junior nine to a lop-sided 13-2 triumph over the Wilmington Juniors at Memorial Park on Friday night.

Smith, who had his curve-ball working to perfection, tossed a brilliant two-hitter, fanned 5, and walked three. He had a no-hitter until the 6th-inning, with Post 10 Rightfielder Lawrence Pennington breaking the spell with a long double to rightfield. Smith retired the first dozen Wilmington batters in order. It was the best-pitched game of the Hallsboro boy's career, to date.

Tommy Edwards, who caught for the Bladenboro High School nine of Coach Vince Colombo but has been an outfielder for the Whiteville Legion crew for the past two years, could not seem to miss at the plate. The Hustling gardener smacked out four hits in five trips up, with one of them being a triple. He also had an inside-the-park homer in the 4th frame but received credit for a single when he failed to touch second base. He also played a bang-up game afield, handling four chances without miscue.

The 137 team jumped on Sonny Jergenson, No. 10 starter, for four runs in the first inning. Commie Caswell lived on an error. Doug Watts walked. Sonny Lewis had an infield safety to load the sacks. Edwards hit his triple to right-center to count all runners, and scored himself when Thurston Barefoot fled to right. Jergenson was lifted in the 7th when Thompson's boys garnered four runs off him, after having added two in the 6th. Two more runs came across off of A. C. Bryant, his relief, when Commie Caswell tripled down the right-field line. Whiteville added one run in the ninth for good measure.

Wilmington had scored in the 5th when Dave Alford walked and scored on what should have been a three-bagger for Mack Overton. However, the latter failed to touch first-base and he was out.

Smith had a one-hitter going

into the 9th, but a walk, an infield hit by Victor Batson, a single to right by Alford, and an infield out gave Wilmington their other run.

Besides Edwards, Whiteville batting leaders were Commodore Caswell and Sonny Lewis, each of whom had a pair of hits.

Wake Forest Is Beaten In NCAA Diamond Tourney

Favored Wake Forest and Alabama opened the tournament with victories on Thursday night; the Deacons copping a 9-4 win over Kentucky, while Alabama turned back Clemson, 6-1.

Moe Bauer, Wake Forest's southpaw ace, gave up 8 hits to the Blue Grass boys and walked one, but fanned 13 of their batters. Meanwhile, the Kaintuck hurlers, Hirsch and Hatchett, were granting the Baptists only 7 safeties but, between them, issued 15 bases on balls.

The losers led Wake Forest, 2-1, until the Deacs rallied for three runs in the 4th, after which they were never headed. All-American Second-Baseman Charlie League led Wake Forest with a 3 for 4 average, and Shortstop Art Hoch had 2 for 4. Best for the Kaintuck team was Shortstop Parilli with a 2 for 4 ratio.

Kentucky—011 000 002—4—8—2
Wake Forest—100 311 30x—9—7—1
Hirsch, Hatchett (5) and Pucci; Bauer and Brooks.

Whiteville Jrs. Lose To Marion

MARION, S. C.—Marion's Junior nine defeated the Post 137 team of Whiteville, N. C., here on Thursday night by a score of 8 to 5.

It gave the locals an even break in the two-game exhibition series between the two outfits, Whiteville having won a 5-4 victory in Whiteville on Tuesday evening.

Poston, the Marions' ace right-hander from Johnsonville, allowed the Whiteville nine four of their five runs in the initial three innings but Caulder, his relief, gave up only one over the remainder of the route. Altogether, the two pitchers allowed the Tar Heels just 6 hits.

Tommy Edwards led Whiteville with 2 for 4. Centerfielder Felix Smith hit 1 for 2 before he was removed in the 4th inning because of a jammed thumb. For Marion the big gun was First-Baseman Billy Pope who hit a

pair of triples and a long homer in 3 trips for a perfect night at the plate. His four-master, coming with one on, was a long belt over the right-field wall in the 7th inning when Marion tallied their eventual winning markers. Shortstop Jerry Page hit 2 for 4.

Whiteville—103 000 100—5—6—1

Marion—002 012 30x—8—9—2

Price and Council; Poston, Caulder (4) and Altman.

IN BAPTIST HOSPITAL
Dempsey Atkinson, head man on the Reigel Paper Company ranch, has been in the Baptist hospital at Winston-Salem since May 9th. He has been suffering from kidney trouble and has undergone two operations. Writing a friend in Southport Mr. Atkinson says he hopes to be able to return home soon.

VISITS PARENTS
Miss Gertrude Maultsby of Wilmington spent Sunday in Winna-bow with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Maultsby.

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CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF

Folks, I have one more kind favor I want to ask of you in behalf of my candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Sheriff of Brunswick County. I am satisfied how most of you feel about me, but I want to remind you that the only place you can help me on Saturday, June 24th, it at the polls.

I hate to ask you to again take time off from your work and to go to the trouble and expense required to go vote, but if you will back me up one more time, I will be your faithful servant in the interest of clean, honest law enforcement when I serve you as your Sheriff.

Ed V. Leonard

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