

# SPORTS



**George Cox**

Sports editor

## Cougar golfers fifth in 1A-2A

*Young South Brunswick team close after first round, fades*

South Brunswick's dream of winning the state 1A-2A golf championship ended Tuesday in Chapel Hill but the young Cougars still claimed a fifth-place finish in their first trip to the finals.

South Brunswick, which won the regional tournament over two teams that beat the Cougars Monday and Tuesday, finished with scores of 313 and 329 for a 642 total for two rounds on Finley Golf Course. The new state champion is Ledford, which posted scores of 305 Monday and 311 Tuesday for a 616 total.

Defending state champion Roanoke Rapids was runner-up with a 622 total, followed by Farmville Central at 624 and West Davidson at 631.

The Cougars stood tied for fourth place after Monday's round, within striking distance only eight strokes behind Ledford. But coach Gene Doane said his Cougars -- four juniors and a sophomore -- "tried too hard" Tuesday.

"I have no complaints," Doane added. He said the weather and the course were fine; it was the fatigue factor that got his Cougars.

"Playing 36 holes (over the two days) was a big factor," he said.

In posting a first-round 313, South Brunswick got a 77 from Jeff Howard, 78s from Andy Broadwell and Brandon Vannoy and an 80 from Pat Jones. Daniel Kopp had an 82 as the Cougars' fifth player.

But in Tuesday's 329 score, Kopp and Vannoy were the only two to break 80 -- with 79s -- while Jones went to an 85 and Howard to an 86. Broadwell struggled to a 92 as the Cougars' fifth player.

Medalist for the tournament was T. J. Smith of Ledford, who posted a 71-71-142 total, two under par.

## County teams, players enjoy their finest year

**RANDOM NOTES & MUSINGS** -- The 1991-92 school term has been productive on the field of play for Brunswick County athletic teams in both major and minor sports. In the tough Waccamaw 2A Conference, it would be foolish to believe a school could dominate such as the Whiteville Wolfpack did for years in the 1980s.

West Brunswick's Trojans finished second in the football race, but advanced to the state championship game in Chapel Hill, losing to perennial power Thomasville. Coach Marshall Seay's team advanced by having a singleness of purpose, excellent coaching and material.

Neither South Brunswick or North Brunswick made much noise on the gridiron. Cougar fans are yearning for a return to football excellence next fall under third-year coach Bill Hewett. The Cougars have been 6-4 and 5-5 during the past two seasons while North Brunswick, a school with only one winning season in the past 20 years, is seeking to rebuild its program under head coach Gary Baldwin and hopes for placement in a 1A league.

On the hardwood, South Brunswick continued to be the class of the county with its third consecutive 20-win season under veteran mentor Gene Doane. Only former West Brunswick coach Gary Taylor's Trojans of the 1970s can compare to the past three South Brunswick teams which have sent three players to the Division I collegiate level.

Carl Parker is playing at William and Mary. Greg Williams will be in his second season at UNC-Greensboro and Preston McGriff will enter UNC-Wilmington as a freshman next fall.

On the girls side, South Brunswick's Lady Cougars ended in a tie for the regular season conference championship before winning the post-season tournament under successful volunteer coach Mike Isenberg, a Southport attorney.

The Cougar girls won 20 games -- a far cry from what the team did prior to Isenberg's arrival two years ago when South Brunswick was the Waccamaw 2A Conference doormat.

At this writing, it does not appear that any Brunswick County baseball team will dominate regular season or post-season play. Whiteville and East Bladen are expected to advance in the state playoffs, although either West Brunswick or North Brunswick has a shot at a third playoff berth. North Brunswick's win over East Bladen on Monday enhanced the Scorpions' chances.

But the South Brunswick boys golf team, under the direction of Doane, won the conference title en route to the state playoffs.

Even if the Cougar golfers don't win the state title this season (see related story this page), they will be back for another run at it next year with every key team member returning.

Even though the spring sports season isn't over, but will wind things up in a couple weeks, several standout individuals have brought the county a lot of ink this school term.

In football, West Brunswick runningback Aldwin Lance, teammate Jimmy Grissett, South Brunswick quarterback Todd Vice and the Cougars' Alvin Hewett had college scouts on their heels all season long. Those players signed scholarships.

Cougar 6-foot-11 center Preston McGriff became southeastern North Carolina's first star to sign a grant-in-aid with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington Seahawks.

And North Brunswick high jumper Maduka Ballard set an unofficial record during the track season by leaping over the bar at 7'2", second best in the United States this spring. Ballard will set his sights on a career in the college ranks.

## Seay has resigned as Trojans coach

Marshall Seay, the most successful Brunswick County high school football coach since consolidation of schools here 20 years ago, has resigned his position at West Brunswick High.

Seay, whose 13-2 Trojans made it to the state 2A finals last fall before losing to perennial power Thomasville, has accepted the position of head football coach and athletic director at Polk County High School, a new 1A facility created this year by the consolidation of Tryon and Polk Central.

Polk County, he said, "is better suited for my way of doing things."

"It was time to go," continued Seay, who compiled a 48-20 record during his six years as Trojans head coach. "It was not something that I relished doing."

He said he was proud of what had been achieved at West Brunswick during his tenure, both on the playing field and in fan support. The Trojans program is on solid ground, he said.

"There is interest statewide in this job," Seay said Tuesday. "(Principal) Eddie Lemon's phone is ringing off the hook."

Polk County is located southeast of Asheville and borders South Carolina.

## Ballard is second

North Brunswick's Maduka Ballard has been topped by a Morgan City, La., high jumper.

Mike Ledet has recorded a jump of 7'3", according to the weekly report published by *USA Today*.

Ballard, a North Brunswick senior, is tied for second in the nation at 7'2" with Pernal Barnett of Bastrop, Texas.

## SPRING SPORTS

### Baseball

Friday -- South Brunswick at Fairmont, 7 p.m.; Tuesday -- at Whiteville, 7 p.m.

### J.V. Baseball

Thursday -- Fairmont at South Brunswick, 5 p.m.; Monday -- Whiteville at South Brunswick, 5 p.m.

### Softball

Friday -- Fairmont at South Brunswick (DH), 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday -- Whiteville at South Brunswick, 4:30 p.m.

### Track

Saturday -- Regional meet at Camp Lejeune, time to be announced.



North Brunswick's Maduka Ballard, of whom jump of 7'2", took the conference crown Monday at great things are expected since his early season six-feet-eight.



Photo by Jim Harper

West Columbus boys took both the 3200-meter and 800-meter relays championships. The Viking girls also won the conference crown in Monday on the way to winning the Waccamaw 2A conference track competition held at South Brunswick High School.

## Vikings claim track crowns

West Columbus won both the boys and girls Waccamaw 2A Conference high school track championships Monday at Boiling Spring Lakes.

Whiteville finished second in each meet.

The Vikings outdistanced the Wolfpack, 218-187, for the boys title. North Brunswick was third with 82 points, followed by host South Brunswick, 25; West Brunswick, 23; East Bladen, 16; and Fairmont, 7.

The girls championship race was closer. West Columbus won with 136 points, followed by Whiteville, 120; West Brunswick, 108; Fairmont, 56; East Bladen, 53; and South Brunswick, 53.

**BOYS**  
Pole vault: Johnson (NB), 11'1"; Shotput: Simpson (EB), 47'2"; Discus: Sheridan (W), 148'11"; High jump: Bal-

lard (NB), 6'8"; Long jump: Jones (WC), 22'6"; Triple jump: Smith (W) 42'6"; 110 high hurdles: Ward, (WC) 15.0; 100 meters: Jones (WC), 10.92; 1600: Parr (W) 4:47.08; 400 meters: Jones (WC) 50.50; 300 intermediate hurdles: Ward (WC) 1:40.19; 800 meters: Parr (W) 2:05.26; 200 meters: Jones (WC) 22.38; 3200: Stroman (NB) 10:50.73; 4x800 relay: West Columbus, 8:55.45; 4x200 relay: West Columbus, 1:31.95; 4x100 relay: Whiteville, 43.86; 4x400 relay: Whiteville, 3:34.85.

**GIRLS**  
Shotput: Osborne (WC) 32'; Discus: Smith (WC) 104'11"; Long jump: Graham (WC) 15'6"; Triple jump: Johnson (WB) 35'11"; High jump: Campbell (W) 4'11"; 100-meter hurdles: Blackwell (W) 17.63; 100 meters: Graham (WC) 12.87; 1600 meters: Abrams (F) 6:04.88; 400 meters: Fowler (SB) 1:06.75; 300 hurdles: Lloyd (EB) 52.14; 800 meters: McKeller (WC) 2:54.64; 200 meters: Johnson (WB) 27.06; 3200 meters: Abrams (F) 12:58.40; 4x800 relay: Whiteville 12:03.91; 4x200 relay: West Brunswick 1:56.20; 4x100: East Bladen 53.24; 4x400 relay: Whiteville 4:54.58.

## Glynn Beck now batting .325

Glynn Beck, a former South Brunswick High School all-star, is batting .325 for the East Carolina Pirates baseball team this spring.

Beck has 51 hits in 157 at-bats, both the second highest totals for the Pirates. He has scored 33 runs (tied for second) and has 25 RBI (also tied for second). Among his hits are nine doubles (second), one triple and four home runs. His slugging percentage is .471 and his on-base average is .416.