

SOUTH BRUNSWICK COUGARS

► Frick

Continued from page 1C runners around.

"That was the kind of inning we needed," said coach Ward. "There were a lot of things that happened. But Josh Cumbee led that off and had a tremendous night at the plate."

In the Waccamaw 2A Conference, South remains in the battle playing .500 and will play three games in four days this week. The Cougars traveled to South Columbus on Tuesday, hosts North Brunswick on Thursday (see related story) and hosts Whiteville on Friday.

The Cougars handed Whiteville (4-1) its only loss of the season in a 3-2 game played March 16 in Whiteville. It was the first time in ten years South had defeated the baseball powerhouse.

In the big second inning against East Columbus, scoring runs for South were Cumbee, Wes Knox, Shrader, Harper and Coughlin. In the third-inning, East Columbus batters grounded out and flied out before Frick struck out the third man at bat. South got a double from Knox and a single from Mintz in the third, but nothing developed like in the second and the inning ended with a double play.

"We had several guys get key hits in that inning," said Ward. "We needed that from getting shutout the other night (8-0 at West Columbus). We needed that home win to pull us back even."

In the fifth inning, Chad Dillahay relieved Frick on the mound and allowed one single, had one strikeout and two players grounded out. South responded in the bottom of the fifth by scoring a run off a Scott Grady single and another double by Cumbee that scored Eric Ottaway (running for Grady).

In the sixth, Dillahay had two strikeouts and a ground ball out, and South responded in the bottom of the sixth with another run. This time it was off a fielder's choice that scored Coughlin, who reached first on a single and then stole both second and third. It gave South a 7-2 cushion.

In the seventh, a double followed a pair of singles by East Columbus that scored two to close the gap to 7-4. But the threat wasn't over there. Two throwing errors enabled the Gators to push two more runs across the plate to close within 7-6 before Dillahay got the last two batters to fly out and to strikeout to end the game.

'We needed that from getting shutout the other night. We needed that home win to pull us back even.'

South coach Daniel Ward

Cougs third at golf match

South Brunswick shot a 179 and finished third out of four teams in a conference match Monday at Fox Squirrel Country Club at Boiling Spring Lakes.

West Brunswick took the win with a 168. Whiteville finished second with 172 and East Columbus finished fourth with 195.

There was a three-way tie for medalist. Pete Testa and Jason Norris of West Brunswick and Phillip Dickerson of Whiteville all finished with a 40.

Individual scores for South were Steven Lowery 44, Josh Pierce 44, Heath Summerlin 45 and Chad Summerlin 46.

"Some greens were fast and some were slow," said South coach Wes Shoemaker. "We did not play very well."



Photo by Jim Harper

Guarding the plate

South Brunswick catcher Scott Grady is waiting to make the tag on a Hoke County runner in Saturday's action. South won the first game, 8-4, but dropped the second game, 4-1.

GAME RESULTS

West Columbus 8, South 0 Coughlin takes loss as Cougs blanked

CERRO GORDO -- Scott Ransom pitched a four-hitter against South Brunswick and struck out 11 batters last Tuesday night in an 8-0 conference win for the Vikings.

South committed three errors and gave up seven hits, but the Vikings scored three in the second inning and twice in the third to take a 5-0 early lead. Ransom outdueled Cougar ace Chris Coughlin, who was relieved in the fifth inning by Jeff Harper.

Eric Dawson drilled a two-run homer to center field in the fifth inning to increase the scoring margin for West Columbus, which improved to 4-1 overall and 2-1 in the Waccamaw 2A Conference. Shawn Thompson also had a run-scoring single in the fifth for the Vikings.

John Ransom had an RBI single in the second. South Brunswick catcher Scott Grady belted a double for the Cougars' big hit of the night. The loss dropped South to 2-3 in the conference after an upset win over Whiteville the previous week.

In the junior varsity game played at Boiling Spring Lakes, West Columbus sprinted past the Baby Cougars, 18-2. South's JV record stands at 2-3.

South Brunswick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	4	3
West Columbus	0	3	2	0	3	1	0	--	8	7	2

Coughlin, Harper (5) and Grady; S. Ransom and J. Ransom.

South 8, Hoke County 4 Mintz gets win as Cougs take Game 1

BOILING SPRING LAKES -- Wes Mintz pitched South Brunswick to an 8-4 lead through three innings of play, and Brad Shrader relieved in the fourth to shutout Hoke County the rest of the way for a nonconference win in Saturday's doubleheader.

Chris Coughlin's triple in the first inning enabled him to score and tie the game at 1-1. South scored twice in the second off doubles by Mintz and Coughlin, who raced home when Chad Dillahay caught defenders in a rundown between first and second.

Hoke took the lead by scoring twice in the third when a walk and dropped fly to left field was followed by a single that scored two. South responded in the third with five runs.

Scott Grady and Josh Cumbee drew walks, followed by a Brad Shrader double that scored Ottaway (running for Grady) and Cumbee. Mintz drew a walk, and Jeff Harper doubled to bring Shrader home for a 6-4 lead. Mintz scored on a passed ball to the catcher to make it 7-4.

Coughlin's sacrifice fly brought Harper in for a 8-4 lead, which concluded the scoring for the game and secured a win for Mintz.

Shrader pitched the final two innings and struck out the side in the fourth. In the fifth, Shrader struck out the lead-off hitter, got a pop-up and grounder to end the game.

The teams agreed to play two, five-inning games instead of seven innings in the doubleheader.

South Brunswick	1	2	5	0	0	--	8	6	2
Hoke County	1	0	3	0	0	--	4	3	2

Mintz, Shrader (4) and Grady.

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Hoke County 4, South 1 Bishop sees first action of the season

BOILING SPRING LAKES -- Junior lefthander Aaron Bishop got his first start of the season on the mound for South Brunswick, but the Cougars' bats were silenced in 4-1 loss in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader against Hoke County.

Bishop went the distance and recorded five strikeouts in five innings. South took a 1-0 lead in the first inning for its only run of the game. Chris Coughlin drew a walk, stole second and third and scored on Brad Shrader's grounder.

Hoke scored three runs in the third on three straight singles and a sacrifice fly before Bishop managed a strikeout and ground out to end the threat. South got a single from Coughlin in the third, but a double play line-drive ball from Shrader cleared the bases. Jason Frick hit a double and Scott Grady drew a walk but the Cougars left both men on base for a 3-1 deficit.

Hoke added a run in the fifth off a pair of walks and a single for the 4-1 lead and win.

Coughlin and Eric Ottaway led South at the plate with a pair of singles each. Grady had a single, Frick a double and Chad Dillahay a single as the Cougars could score just one run on seven hits. Hoke scored four runs on seven hits. South evened its season mark at 4-4 with the loss.

South Brunswick	1	0	0	0	0	--	1	7	2
Hoke County	0	0	3	0	1	--	4	7	2

Bishop and Grady.

GAME SUMMARY

	R	H	E
SB	0	5	0
EC	2	0	0

Frick, Dillahay (5) and Grady.

Scoring breakdown

First Inning
■ Eric Buie (EC) starts with a double, followed by two singles and a double, to score two for the Gators and an early 2-0 lead.

Second Inning
■ Josh Cumbee (SB) double, Wes Knox walk. Brad Shrader's single scores Cumbee. Passed ball scores Knox. Jeff Harper single scores Shrader. Chris Coughlin single scores Harper. Chad Dillahay single and Jason Frick single scores Coughlin for 5-2 lead.

Fifth Inning
■ Scott Grady (SB) single (Eric Ottaway running), Josh Cumbee double scores Ottaway for 6-2 lead.

Sixth Inning
■ Coughlin single, steals second and third. Fielder's choice scores Coughlin for 7-2 lead.

Seventh Inning
■ Back-to-back singles (EC) followed by a double scores two. Two throwing errors bring in two more before Dillahay ends the Gator rally with a fly out and a strikeout.

Waccamaw Standings

Team	Conf.	Overall
Whiteville	4-1	4-3
South Columbus	3-1	3-1
West Columbus	2-1	4-1
St. Pauls	2-1	3-1
Fairmont	2-2	4-2
South Brunswick	3-3	4-4
East Bladen	1-3	1-3
West Brunswick	1-3	1-4
East Columbus	1-4	1-4

* Thru Friday, March 27 games

Games last week
 South Col. 13, East Bladen 3
 East Col. 9, West Brunswick 5
 West Col. 12, Bladenboro 6
 West. Col. 8, South Brunswick 0
 South Col. 14, St. Pauls 4
 Whiteville 6, West Brunswick 3
 Fairmont 5, East Bladen 2
 South Brunswick 7, East Col. 6

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