Quinton watch

Background information

Southport native Quinton (Coo Coo) McCracken, 27, was graduated from South Brunswick High School in 1988, after leading his team to the State 2A championship under coach Paul Faulk. McCracken was a scholarship baseball and football player at Duke University for four years. He was drafted by the Colorado Rockies and played four seasons in the organization before he was called up to the major league team in late-1995.

McCRACKEN

At Colorado, McCracken was a back-up outfielder. In 1997, the Rockies left him unprotected for the major league expansion draft. The Tampa Bay Devil Rays made McCracken their No. 2 pick and fourth pick overall in the draft. He is now the starting centerfielder for the Devil Rays.

McCracken scored over 1,200 on his SAT, was a double-major at Duke and has plans to attend law school after his professional baseball career.

McCracken obtained the nickname Coo Coo from relatives when he was just a baby. As the legend goes, Quinton was playing in his crib one day and hit himself in the head with a large rattle, which knocked him unconscious. When he finally came to, the first words heard from his mouth were, "Coo Coo."

He is the son of Herman and Saundra J. McCracken of Southport.

McCracken's baseball history

YEAR	TEAM	AVG.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	W	SO	SB	CS
1992	Bend	.280	67	232	37	65	13	2	0	27	25	39	18	6
1993	Central Valley	.292	127	483	94	141	17	7	2	58	78	90	60	19
1994	New Haven	.278	136	544	94	151	27	4	5	39	48	72	36	19
1995	New Haven	.357	55	121	33	79	11	4	1	26	21	32	26	8
	Colo. Springs	.361	61	244	55	88	14	6	3	28	23	30	17	6
	Colorado	.000	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1996	Colorado	.290	124	124	50	82	13	6	3	40	32	62	17	6
1997	Colorado	.292	147	147	69	95	11	1	3	36	42	62	28	11
Minor-league totals		.323	385	1624	313	524	82	23	11	178	195	263	157	58
Major-league totals		.291	274	609	119	177	24	7	6	76	76	125	45	17

CURRENT STATS

YEAR	AVG.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	K	OBP	SLG
1998	.368	16	76	11	28	6	0	0	10	1	9	.377	.447

LAST WEEK

DATE	OPP.	Avg.	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	K
Apr 14	vs Minn	.404	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apr 16	at ANA	.371	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Apr 17	at ANA	.364	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apr 18	at ANA	.352	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Apr 19	at ANA	.368	5	2	3	2	0	0	1	1	0

■ McCracken has stolen four bases this season and has not been caught.
■ He leads the team in hits with 28, followed by Fred McGriff's 27.

Scores two in 6-0 win

McCracken entered Sunday's game at Anaheim batting .352 despite having just three hits in his last 18 at-bats. He singled home a run and scored as the Devil Rays broke through with a three-run third inning. McCracken also doubled off starter Allen Watson and scored in the fifth inning and added another double in the sixth.

He batted 3-for-5, scored two runs, drove in a run and avoided any strikeouts.

The Devil Rays tied an expansion record for wins in April with a 10-6 record. The 1977 Toronto Blue Jays and the 1993 Florida Marlins also won ten games in their first month of existence, a record likely to fall since Tampa Bay plays ten more games this month.

APRIL

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 DET 7:05	2 DET 7:05 (S)	3 CHI 7:05 (S)	4 CHI 6:35 (32)
5 CHI 1:35 (10)	6	7 DET 1:05 (S)	8	9 DET 1:05 (S)	10 CHI 8:05 (32)	11 CHI 2:05 (S)
12 CHI 2:05	13 MIN 7:05 (S)	14 MIN 7:05	15	16 ANA 10:05	17 ANA 10:05 (32)	18 ANA 10:05 (32)
19 ANA 4:05 (S)	20	21 TEX 8:35 (32)	22 TEX 8:35 (S)	23 TEX 2:35	24 ANA 7:05 (S)	25 ANA 6:35 (S)
26 ANA 6:05 (E)	27 OAK 7:05	28 OAK 12:35 (S)	29 MIN 8:05 (S)	30 MIN 1:15		

MAY

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1 CLE 7:05 (32)	2 CLE 1:05 (S)
3 CLE 1:05 (10)	4	5 KC 8:05 (32)	6 KC 8:05 (S)	7	8 BAL 7:05 (32)	9 BAL 6:35 (S)
10 BAL 1:35 (10)	11 CLE 7:05 (32)	12 CLE 7:05	13 KC 7:05	14 KC 6:35 (S)	15 BAL 7:05 (32)	16 BAL 7:05 (S)
17 BAL 1:35 (10)	18 BAL 7:05 (S)	19 TOR 7:05 (32)	20 TOR 7:05 (S)	21 TOR 1:05 (S)	22 SEA 10:05 (S)	23 SEA 9:05 (S)
24 SEA 8 (32)	25 OAK 4:05 (S)	26 OAK 3:15 (S)	27	28 SEA 7:05 (S)	29 SEA 7:05 (S)	30 SEA 6:35 (32)
31 SEA 1:35 (10)						

JUNE

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 TEX 7:06	2 TEX 6:35 (S)	3 NYY 7:35 (S)	4 NYY 7:35 (32)	5● MON 7:05 (S)	6● MON 6:35 (S)
7● MON 1:35 (10)	8● NYM 7:40 (32)	9● NYM 7:40 (S)	10● NYM 1:40	11	12 BOS 7:05 (32)	13 BOS 5:05 (32)
14 BOS 1:05 (10)	15 TOR 7:05 (S)	16 TOR 7:05	17 TOR 7:05	18 BOS 7:05 (32)	19 BOS 7:05 (S)	20 BOS 6:35 (S)
21 BOS 1:35 (10)	22● FLA 7:05 (S)	23● FLA 7:05 (32)	24● FLA 7:05 (S)	25● FLA 7:05 (32)	26● PHI 7:35 (32)	27● PHI 7:05 (32)
28● PHI 1:35	29	30● ATL 7:05 (32)				

JULY

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1● ATL 7:05	2● ATL 12:35	3 TOR 7:05 (32)	4 TOR 4:05 (32)
5 TOR 1:05 (10)	6	7 All-Star Game	8	9 NYY 7:05 (S)	10 NYY 7:05 (32)	11 NYY 6:35 (32)
12 NYY 1:35 (10)	13 BOS 7:05 (S)	14 BOS 12:35	15 ANA 10:35 (S)	16 ANA 10:05 (S)	17 TEX 8:35 (32)	18 TEX 8:35 (32)
19 TEX 8:05 (32)	20	21 SEA 7:05 (32)	22 SEA 7:05	23	24 OAK 7:05 (S)	25 OAK 6:35 (S)
26 OAK 1:35 (10)	27 OAK 6:35	28 CHI 8:05 (32)	29 CHI 8:05 (S)	30	31 DET 7:05	

TRACK AND FIELD

South Brunswick High

Varsity track & field / results

April 21	**County Track Championship**
	-- South Brunswick
	-- West Brunswick
	-- North Brunswick
April 23	**-- South Brunswick**
	-- West Brunswick
	-- East Bladen
April 30	-- at East Bladen
	-- Waccamaw championships
May 9	-- at Green Central
	-- Regional track championship
May 13	-- at UNC Charlotte
	-- State 2A championships

GOLF

South Brunswick High

Varsity golf schedule / results

April 20	at East Columbus / 3 p.m./ C
	East Bladen
	South Columbus
	South Brunswick
April 23	at Wilmington Christian 3 p.m
	New Hanover
	South Brunswick
April 27	**Conference Tournament**
	South Brunswick host

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SOUTH BRUNSWICK COUGARS

South drops 3-2 decision in second round

▶ South

Continued from page 1C

"The competition wasn't quite the same, but we played hard and did some good things. The pitching we faced wasn't quite what we had seen the previous two days."

South returns to league play this week and is fighting for one of four playoff spots awarded to the Waccamaw 2A Conference. This week, South plays West Brunswick at home on Tuesday, Whiteville at home on Wednesday and travels to East Bladen on Thursday. Next week, the Cougars play Fairmont at home on Monday, travels to St. Pauls on Wednesday and faces West Columbus at home Friday.

In the Buck Hardee Tournament, third baseman and pitcher Jason Frick returned to play some at third for the Cougars. Coach Ward hopes he can place Frick back into his pitching rotation this week. Frick has been suffering from tendinitis and took a two-week rest to heal his arm.

Against Roxboro, South scored two runs in the second inning to take a 2-0 lead. Going into the bottom of the sixth inning, Roxboro scored twice to tie the game. Cougar southpaw Aaron Bishop pitched eight innings, scattered seven hits, walked four and struck out three.

> 'The competition wasn't quite the same, but we played hard and did some good things.'
>
> **South coach Daniel Ward**

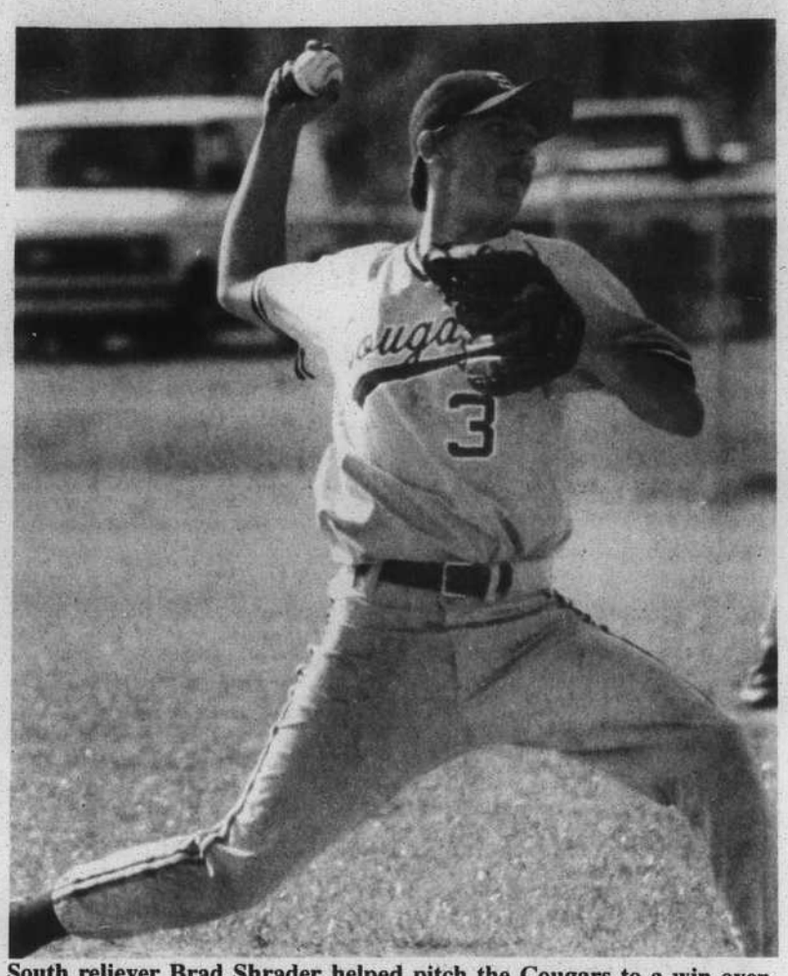
"He had the batters off balanced," said Ward. "He pitched a good game. We would liked to have held that lead for him. They had a pretty good right-hander on the mound."

In the second inning, Scott Grady reached base on a throwing error. A Wes Mintz base hit to right field moved the runner around. Josh Cumbee reached base on another error, scoring the runner from third. Then Bishop hit a sacrifice fly to left field to score Mintz. South left runners stranded on first and third.

"I feel we had opportunities to push those runs across," said Ward.

In the top of the ninth, Grady delivered a hit for South, followed by a hit by Mintz. Josh Cumbee's fielder's choice tagged Grady out at third. Bishop's hit to left field left a decision for coach Ward, who sent Mintz home for the go-ahead run. But Mintz was tagged out on a close play at home plate.

"We were one step away from scoring what could have been the winning run," said Ward.



South reliever Brad Shrader helped pitch the Cougars to a win over Wilmington Christian Academy, 11-2, in the final round Wednesday.

GAME SUMMARY

		R	H	E
RP	0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1	3	7	2
SB	0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2	8	2

Bishop and Grady (SB).

Scoring breakdown

Second Inning

■ Scott Grady (SB) reaced first on an error; Wes Mintz hit to right field; Josh Cumbee reached first on error, scores Grady; Aaron Bishop hits sacrifice fly to left field to score Mintz, South 2-0.

Sixth Inning

■ Wilbur (RP) leads off with hit; two batters fly out; Koket doubles to score Wilbur; Hardee singles to score Koket; a single and walk load the bases; South pitches way out of bases loaded situation, score tied at 2-2.

Ninth Inning

■ Grady gets a single; Wes Mintz gets a hit; Josh Cumbee hits into fielder's choice, forced Grady out at third; Aaron Bishop delivers hit to left, Mintz sent home but is thrown out at the plate; Knox hits grounder to end inning, tied 2-2.

■ Wilbur leads off with a double; a single and walk load the bases; Koket has base hit down third base line to win the game, 3-2.

Waccamaw Standings

Team	Conf.	Overall
South Columbus	6-2	7-3
West Columbus	5-2	8-4
Whiteville	6-3	6-7
East Bladen	4-3	4-3
St. Pauls	4-4	5-4
South Brunswick	4-4	6-8
Fairmont	3-3	5-3
East Columbus	2-8	5-9
West Brunswick	1-6	2-10

*** Thru Friday, April 17 games**

Games last week

New Hanover 1, South Brun. 0
Roxboro 3, South Brunswick 2
North Brunswick 7, West Br. 6
Waccamaw A. 5, South Col. 3
East Col. 2, East Syracuse 1
West Col. 1, E. Rutherford 0
West Stanly 9, Whiteville 1
South Col. 8, East Syracuse 2
East Rutherford 9, Whiteville 8
East Col. 7, Waccamaw Acad. 5
West Stanly 11, West Colum. 1

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GAME RESULTS

South Brunswick 11, WCA 2

Wes Mintz goes 4-for-4 against Patriots

WILMINGTON -- Chad Dillahay pitched three innings and Brad Shrader took the mound in relief as South Brunswick defeated Wilmington Christian Academy, 11-2, in the final round of the Buck Hardee Invitational baseball tournament last week.

South took a 4-0 lead in the first inning and stretched it to 9-0 with another four runs in the third and one in the fourth. WCA scored both of their runs in the fifth inning. South added two more in the sixth.

Wes Mintz batted 4-for-4 in the game and was 6-for-8 in two games during the tournament. Aaron Bishop batted 2-for-2 against WCA.

In the first inning, Chris Coughlin reached base on an error and stole second. Brad Shrader grounded out but moved Coughlin to third. Wes Mintz then doubled to score Coughlin. Scott Grady walked and Mintz took third. Mintz then scored on a passed ball.

Jason Frick drew a walk and stole second. Bishop then doubled to score both Frick and Grady.

In the third inning, Mintz singled and scored on a fielder's choice by Frick. Bishop then hit a triple to bring in Frick. Chad Dillahay hit a grounder to drive home Bishop. Wes Knox drew a walk and scored on a base hit by Chris Gore.

In the fourth inning, Mintz delivered another single and went to second on an error with Scott Grady reaching first. Mintz scored on a throwing error.

In the sixth inning, Mintz singled again. Frick hit a triple with two outs to score Mintz. Then Frick scored on a wild pitch.

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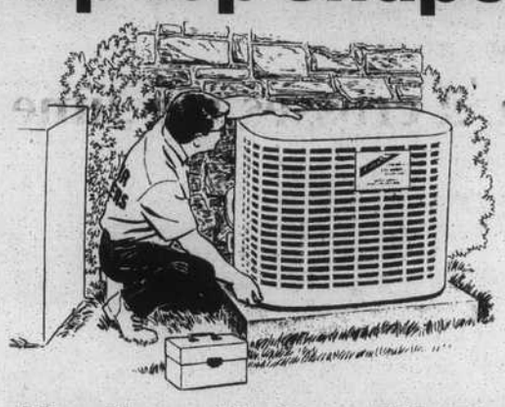

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