

Girls

From B1 top of the fourth on hits from Edmondson, Baker and Rogers and a walk to Claire Dail.

A two-run home run by Candice Smith put Halifax up 6-2, setting the stage for the Lawrence rally.

Baker and Edmondson each finished with four hits, while Rogers added three for Lawrence. Stotesberry and Lauren Smith chipped in two hits each.

Lawrence advanced to the championship series with a 12-11 win over Oakwood School earlier on Saturday in the consolation bracket finals.

The Warriors started strong, using a six-run second inning to grab a 7-1 advantage for starting pitcher Stotesberry.

In the second frame, Baker and Stotesberry doubled while Rogers, Dail and Edmondson singled and Lauren Smith and Megan Davenport walked.

Oakwood used four walks and two hits to cut the deficit to 7-5 in the top of the third frame, but Lawrence scored twice in the bottom of the fourth on singles from Rebekah Goodwin, Edmondson and Lauren Smith and another double from Stotesberry to make it 9-5.

Singles from Goodwin, Stotesberry and Rogers and a hit batter (Lindsay Smith) resulted in two more runs in the bottom of the fifth inning and an 11-5 Warriors advantage.

Oakwood tied it at 11-11 with three runs in both the sixth and seventh innings.

Lawrence won it in the bottom of the seventh when Lindsay Smith scored on a single by Stotesberry that bounced off the third-base bag. Smith had led off the frame with a

walk, moved to second on Goodwin's groundout and advanced to third on a passed ball.

In the winner's bracket final on Friday, Lawrence suffered a 3-1 defeat to Halifax Academy.

A two-run home run by Drew Rose in the third inning proved to be the difference for the Vikings.

Lawrence tallied its lone run in the sixth inning when Rogers singled, stole two bases and crossed the plate on a wild pitch.

The Warriors threatened in the seventh when Stotesberry led off with a double, but Halifax pitcher Sydney Smith recorded three straight outs to send the Vikings to the title game.

Baker and Rogers had a pair of hits each for Lawrence, while Davenport and Stotesberry added the other hits.

In a wild tournament opener, Lawrence Academy advanced in the winner's bracket with a 14-11 triumph over Oakwood on Friday.

Oakwood held a 3-0 lead in the top of the third inning, using a combination of two walks, two hits and an error to grab the early advantage.

Lawrence scored three runs in the bottom of the third frame on walks to Rogers and Lindsay Smith, a hit batter (Goodwin), singles from Lauren Smith and Stotesberry and a double from Edmondson.

The Warriors took a 5-3 lead in the bottom of the fourth inning on hits from Baker and Rogers and a walk to Goodwin.

Oakwood scored twice in the fifth and added three more in the sixth to regain the lead, 8-5.

Lawrence then erupted for nine runs in the bottom of the sixth in-



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Above: Lauren Smith throws to first base during Lawrence Academy's opener. Smith caught all four tournament games.



ning to take the lead for good.

The inning started with consecutive hits from Baker, Rogers and Lindsay Smith. Goodwin's groundout plated a run, and Rogers scored on a bloop single by Stotesberry. Smith then scored on a wild pitch to tie the score at 8-all.

The Warriors were just getting started.

Walks to Edmondson and Lauren Smith loaded the bases, and one out later, Dail came through with a clutch, two-run single to left field.

Baker singled, and Rogers smacked a two-run triple to right center. Rogers then scored when a throw attempted to third skipped past the Oakwood fielder.

All total, Lawrence had seven hits in the inning.

Oakwood made it interesting in the top of the seventh inning by scoring three runs, but winning pitcher Baker coaxed a fly out to left fielder Davenport to end the game.

Baker had four hits for Lawrence while Rogers and Stotesberry added three. Edmondson provided two hits.

Baker was cleated on the right knee on a play at the plate in the second inning. She returned to the mound in the top of the fourth inning.

Baker, along with Rogers and Goodwin (who was flawless with no errors in 18 chances at third base during the tournament), were named to the All-State team.

Afterwards, White was reflective of the accomplishments of her final team.



Gracen Rogers slides across for a run against Oakwood. Rogers' triple and a throwing error helped cap a nine-run sixth inning in the opening victory for the Warriors.



Brinson Edmondson smashed her first home run of the season, a two-run shot against Halifax Academy that tied the score in the championship game.



Lindsay Smith tracks a fly ball in right field.

"I am very proud of these girls. They fought hard to get here, and I couldn't have asked for anything more from them," she said.

"Halifax is a really strong team, they were tough to beat and they

played a phenomenal game," White added. "We had a fantastic first game to even get here and we have a lot to be proud of. I think we played our best game, but the other team won."

Fourth

From B1 we enrolled him in another soccer program, praying that he would have a better experience this time.

Much to our relief, he did.

The program was focused almost solely on participation, and it turned out to be exactly what he and some of his teammates needed.

At the end of the "season" last week, Miles got his first ever trophy...for participation.

My son was beyond thrilled, taking incredible pride in his trophy. His mother and I were proud as well.

He hadn't received his trophy for "nothing." Miles kept his commitment, attended his practices and finished

what he started.

I still believe there are valuable lessons to be learned in losses and I continue to believe excellence should be rewarded.

I also now recognize that all kids, and consequently all people, are not the same.

For young people, not just those on the autism spectrum, participation and dedication are achievements worth rewarding and celebrating - sometimes even with a trophy.

David Friedman is a long time sports writer and columnist. A Bertie High School graduate, he and his family currently reside in Wilmington. David can be reached via e-mail at fourthandlongcolumn@gmail.com.

Local athlete holds triathlon clinic June 1

Local athlete Jonathan Huddleston will offer a triathlon clinic at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 1 at the Bertie County YMCA.

Huddleston is a 2011 Florida Ironman finisher who has competed in more than 20 triathlons.

This clinic would be helpful for anyone preparing for the upcoming Pound the Sound triathlon.

For more information, call 794-9622.

Does everything you eat cause you pain? It could be your gallbladder.

Do you suffer from pain in the upper right or upper middle part of your stomach after eating? Have you been told that you have gallstones or should have your gallbladder removed? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then you owe it to yourself to schedule an appointment or get help.

Larry Watson, M.D., Vincent Iannace, M.D., and Cameron Martin, PA-C, are dedicated to providing individualized care for the relief you need, including the use of minimally invasive techniques.

Call 252-809-6350 today to schedule an appointment, and we will coordinate with your primary care physician.



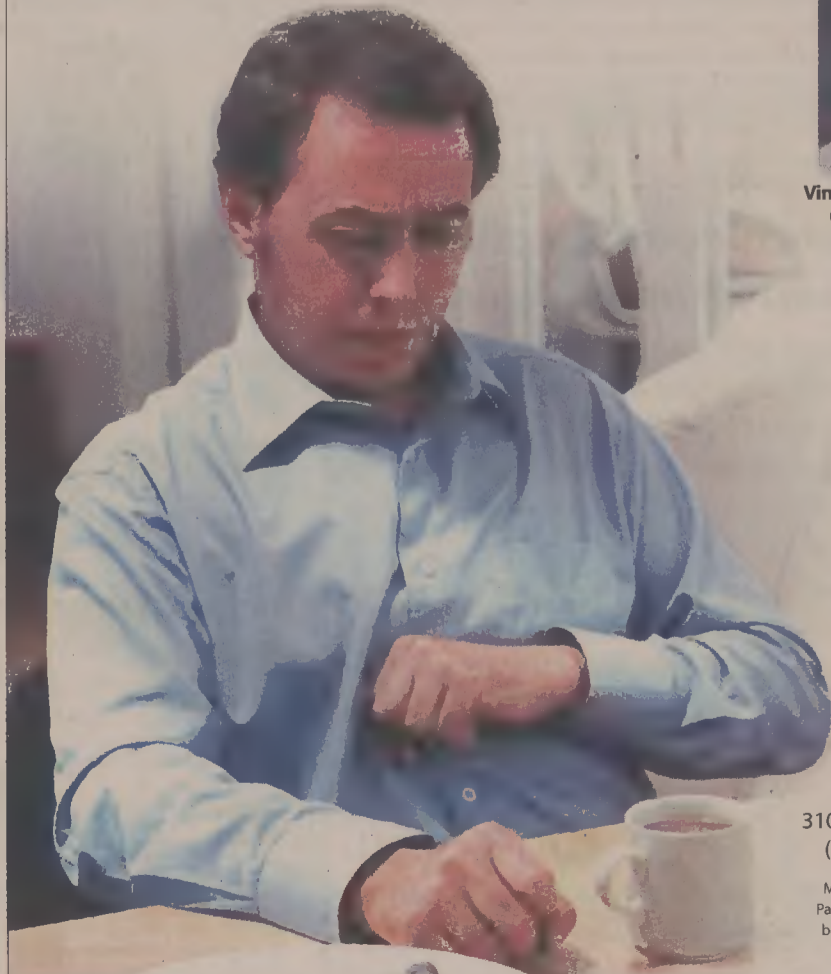
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