

Sports

The fabric of Bertie County since 1832

Coach

From B1 began.

ren (Baker) and others, who will be juniors.

"But they understood," White added. "I wish I could have given them all one more year, but opportunities arise when they arise."

White, 31, spent 20 years of her life at Lawrence Academy. She attended school there as a first-grader and graduated from high school in 2003.

While at Lawrence, she was a three-sport athlete (volleyball, basketball and softball). Her freshman year, the Warriors won a state softball championship in 2000. The next three seasons, LA was second in the state.

White attended the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and earned her bachelor's degree in Political Science. She then got her Master's degree in administration from East Carolina University.

White was hired as the varsity softball coach in early 2008 while she was still in graduate school at ECU, and later became a substitute teacher when one instructor fell ill and another left before the year was done.

"I've been here ever since," she said.

White's first season as softball coach in the spring of 2008 could have been a state championship year had it not been for a season-ending injury before it

"It was handed to me on a silver platter," she said. "It was Kendall Street's senior year.

"She was a phenomenal pitcher who had already signed with Barton (College), but near the end of basketball season, she tore her labrum and wasn't able to play softball at all."

Lawrence still made the final four that year but lost two straight.

"There were a lot of high expectations that season that dissolved when Kendall got hurt," White said. "But we still had a good season."

During White's decade as head softball coach, the Warriors have won the Tarheel Independent Conference title seven times, made the state tournament every year and reached the final four six times.

Lawrence was a three-time state 1A runnerup: 2009, 2015 and this past spring.

As the time grew shorter on her tenure at Lawrence, White said her players did a good job of staying "in the moment."

"We did a really good job during the state tournament of focusing on one inning, one moment at a time," she said. "That's what so unique about softball - one moment, a swing, a play or a pitch - can change everything. I think we were opportunistic and optimistic until the very end."

The Warriors wanted



JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Brinson Edmondson (left), who played for Kristin White for four years, said her coach taught her more than just softball and volleyball. "She has shown me what it means to be genuinely selfless and ask for absolutely nothing in return," she said.

a state championship for White in her final season, but it wasn't to be.

Down 6-2, Lawrence tied it on a home run by Brinson Edmondson in the top of the seventh inning, but Halifax Academy scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the frame to capture the title.

The finality hit many players hard, as well as White, who talked about her final team with praise as her face was shielded by sunglasses and a tear went down her left cheek.

"I told them that only one team wins it all and everyone else will be disappointed," she said.

"If you're not the one

that wins the whole thing, then the best you can ask for is to be proud of how you go down, and I was real proud because we played our best the whole weekend."

White added, "We played as a team and supported each other and gave it our best effort, and just got beat by a better team."

The outgoing coach also reminded the team of what it did accomplish this season.

"We won the conference regular-season and tournament championship and played for a state championship," she said. "A lot of kids don't even get to experience that, so I wanted them to focus on all that they had accomplished."

While the successes of the program will always remain with White, there is something else more important that she will take with her.

"I have been blessed to have had some wonderful and phenomenal kids and great athletes

that I had the opportunity to coach and be a part of their lives, and the wonderful parents who have supported me throughout the years. Those are my biggest memories," she said.

Edmondson said her coach taught her more than softball and volleyball.

"She has shown me what it means to be genuinely selfless and ask for absolutely nothing in return," she said. "I hope that one day I can have half the strength of character that she has."

Edmondson added that she will always look up to White as a role model and is happy she is getting the opportunity to affect other's lives.

"She has gotten such an amazing opportunity at Parrott, and I know for certain she will succeed there because of her determination," the rising senior said. "I am so happy I was able to play for her for four years, and that she will be giving other girls at

Parrott what she gave me.

"She may be leaving Lawrence and I will miss her immensely, but her impact and positive influence is carrying on in other girls' lives, and I am so happy others get to play for her and learn from her too," Edmondson concluded.

As she prepares to move on to the next chapter of her career, White - who also coached the Warriors' volleyball team the past three years - believes the future is on solid ground.

"I think they are going to be strong," she said. "The programs have always had a good reputation and a lot of good coaching over the years, and I am sure that will continue."

"There is a lot of talent here and in middle school coming up, so I expect them to be as strong as they always have," she said.

Will the Patriots play the Warriors?

"We will see," White said, smiling.

RICH SQUARE MARKET AHOSKIE MARKET

The Places to "Meat Up" Savings

Truckload Pricing Proud

We Proudly Accept MasterCard, VISA, Discover, Debit, WIC & EBT

We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct typographical errors. Typed items take preference over photos.

Sale Days Tuesday 05/30/17 thru Monday 06/05/17

Your Grocery Store! Where You the Customer are in Charge!

Like us on Facebook

Like us on Facebook

508 South Main St. Rich Square, NC 252-539-4300

710 North Academy Street Ahoskie, NC 252-332-3368

Meat Up

STORE HOURS: 7:30 AM to 8:00 PM - Mon. thru Sat. 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM - Sundays

Like us on FACEBOOK For Great Winnings!!

Check Out Our Memorial Day Savings!!!

Knockout Roses 2/\$20.00 We Have 2 cubic Ft. Mulch 5/\$10.00

Aberdeen Bacon 12 oz 2/\$4.00

Pork Tenderloin Tips \$2.99 lb.

Air Dried Sausage \$2.89 lb.

Open Acres Beer Brats \$2.99 ea.

Oscar Mayer Red Rind Bologna 16oz 2/\$5.00

Bottom Round Roast \$3.29 lb.

Open Acres Chicken Tenderloins \$5.69 ea.

Wampler Sausage Patties Hot/Mild \$5.99 ea.

Beef Nubbing Ribs \$3.19 lb.

Cube Steak \$3.99 lb.

Smoked Neckbones \$6.99 ea.

Bass Farm Sausage 2/\$6.00

BBQ Meal Deal 10 lb. Box of Ribs: 20 lb. Leg Quarters: 5 lb. Box Birchwood Beef Patties: 5 Packs Gwaltney Hot Dogs \$49.99

Leg Quarter's 10 lb. Bag \$5.99 ea.

All Ad Items are while Supplies Last No Rain Checks

Prices above subject to change without notice.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer you a locally operated grocery store that cares about you, our community and our future.



2017 OAL NATIONAL SPORTSMAN BANQUET

JUNE 3, 2017 6 PM

GREAT SEAFOOD BUFFET

AT LEON NIXON CATERING 749 VIRGINIA RD

AUCTION AND RAFFLES

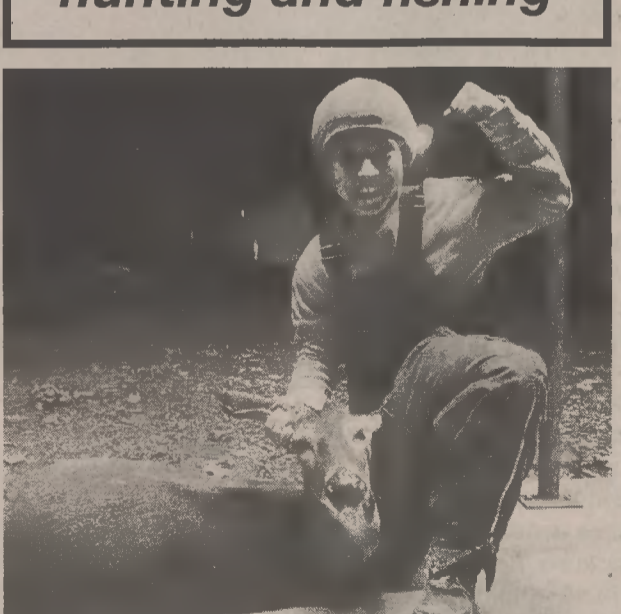
PRINTS KNIVES HUNTS

FISHING TRIPS GUNS AND MORE GUNS AND LOTS OF OTHER RELATED MERCHANDISE

Contact person: JIM DROZE 252-333-8933

TIM PROCTOR 252-339-1339

Helping special need and military kids enjoy the outdoors through hunting and fishing



OUR MISSION IS TO HELP ANY KID THAT WANTS TO GO HUNTING OR FISHING THAT HAS NOWHERE TO GO OR NO ONE TO HELP.

'OUR EMPHASIS IS HELPING SPECIAL NEED AND MILITARY FAMILIES'

HIGHLIGHTS: SPONSOR A DEER HUNT EACH YEAR FOR SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF OUR MILITARY HEROES ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHER INDIVIDUAL HUNTS AND FISHING TRIPS

HELP US BY BEING A SPONSOR TODAY! MAKE THE DREAM HUNT OR FISHING TRIP COME TRUE FOR A SPECIAL KID AND THEIR FAMILY

'OUTDOORS AT LAST' YOUTH ADVENTURES 3435 Mt. Willen Rd. Haw River, NC 27258

OFFICE: 336-739-1142 CELL: 336-263-5959 outdoorsatlastyouthadventures.com outdoorsatlast@yahoo.com