

West Golf—Practice, Precision, Performance

Didja ever see a golf team motto? Didja ever notice that high school golfers never play in front of an audience? No screaming cheerleaders. No roaring galleries or adoring fans. They don't have caddies and are not allowed to use pull carts in their tournaments.

Didja ever see the team pull out in a convoy of personal cars to travel to an away tournament? No school transportation available. The baseball, JV baseball, track and softball teams get first crack at the activity bus and van. Tennis and golf come last on the totem pole.

Well believe it or not, that is exactly the way the team wants it. That is exactly the way it should be. Golfers prefer the quiet respect of their teammates and competitors to those of a roaring crowd. They take independent pride in their accomplishments and personal remorse in their failures.

Like all golfers, the West Brunswick High School golfers know and understand their challenge is the golf course and that they compete more against themselves than against another person. Their play is all medal and not match play. A triple bogie doesn't just lose a hole, it can take you and the team right out of the running.

West golf, the West Brunswick golf team of 1988, is the youngest ever to hit the links. There are two seniors, three juniors, one sophomore and four freshmen on the team. Seems like good balance you say? Consider this, one senior is a young lady who must play from the men's tees and two of the three juniors are novices. The lowest practice rounds so far have been recorded by two of the freshmen.

Under those circumstances, you might expect their coach to be in a rebuilding program. Not so, folks. As their coach I am very excited about the possibilities for this team. I feel that this team should be in the hunt for the Waccamaw Conference title, and competitive in the sectionals when they roll around. Here's why.

Brian Griffin, a junior; Chris Bland, a freshman; and Chris Campbell, a freshman, are all capable of sub 40 scores (high school golf is played over nine holes.) Scott Quaintance, a freshman, and Ricky Joyner should be shooting that well by the end of the season. Pam Plyler, a senior, and Ben Corley, a freshman, will make solid contributions as the year progresses.

High school golf competitions are played by six players with the low four scores tallied for the team score. Ah, hah, no pressure you say. Not so, I say. These youngsters really compete hard among themselves in practice each week for their position on the team ladder. They also slug it out pretty good to shoot a score that will be used in the team total.

The conference schedule begins later this month with a trip to Fairmont, followed by tournaments at Whiteville, East Bladen, a home date at Brick Landing, at South Brunswick and the conference championship at Fairmont. The championship and the sectionals will be over 18 holes. Sectionals accept team entries of five golfers with the low four scores counting for the team score.

Teams which do not qualify for the sectionals may enter individuals who attempt to play their way into the N.C. High School Championships which produce a team champion and an individual medalist. These are the rewards and recognitions that are the goals for competitive high school golfers.

Don't touch that dial, I'll keep you informed how West golf does on the way to the sectionals. With this talent, we will also find out if their coach is any good. Remember: "Practice, precision, performance."

A "Well Done!" To Boosters And Lockwood Links

The Trojan Boosters Club, led by Don Warren, combined with the Lockwood Links for a terrific fundraiser. The attraction of the new links at Lockwood Folly was enough to draw a good field of golfers out on a chilly, windy day. A shotgun start got everyone back early to some great barbeque and fixin's. The generosity of more than 30 sponsors made the event an even greater success. Congratulations to all players, sponsors and to Lockwood Links.

Old hand Trojan fans will be interested to learn that coach Gary Taylor, he of 54 consecutive home basketball wins, flew down to compete in the event. I am told that his landing under a low ceiling at Ocean Isle Airport was reminiscent of some of his heart-throbbing, last second wins at West Brunswick. The outcome was never certain until the final buzzer, leaving everyone with weak knees and sweaty palms. Characteristically, Taylor said it was no big deal.

I guess you have to believe him. If you can stomp cancer in the face, bulldogging a Tripacer can't be that tough. Way to go, coach.

RECREATION BRIEFS

Certification Clinics Offered

Area youth baseball, T-ball and softball coaches and assistant coaches can earn national certification as well as \$300,000 in free liability insurance coverage by completing clinics scheduled this month by the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department.

There is no charge to attend the NYSCA clinics, according to Doug White, department athletic director.

A first-year certification course is offered for those have taken the course or did not complete it earlier. The first-year baseball, T-ball and softball certification is offered in two parts. Coaches in all three areas must attend the first session, offered at the Leland Community Building at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, and Tuesday, March 29, at the Planning Building, Brunswick County Government Center.

Then they will divide up for the second part, with baseball and T-ball coaches to attend a second session at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at the Leland Community Building, or Thursday, March 30, at the Planning Building. Softball coaches will complete their certification at 7 p.m. Friday, March 25, at the Leland Community Building.

A second-year, 90-minute recertification clinic for coaches who were certified last year in baseball and/or T-ball will be held Wednesday, March 23, at 7 p.m. at the Leland Community Building, and Wednesday, March 30, at 7 p.m. at the county Planning Building.

Umpires Needed

Umpires are needed to work with Dixie Boys baseball and men's softball, according to White. Umpires are paid.

Softball Meeting Set

The second of two men's softball league organizational meetings will be held today (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m. at the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce office on Beach Road, for teams that plan to play in the Smithville Park league.

A similar meeting for the Supply Park league was held Wednesday at the county Planning Building in Bolivia.

For information on any of the above activities, contact Doug White at the county Parks and Recreation Department, 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

County Slates

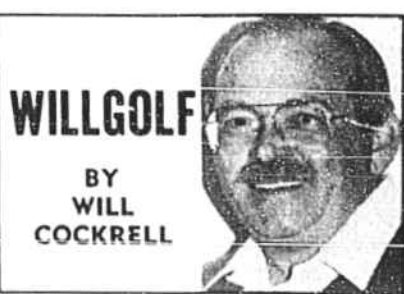
Youth Tourney

Area youth basketball squads will play for all the marbles this weekend during a tournament sponsored by the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department.

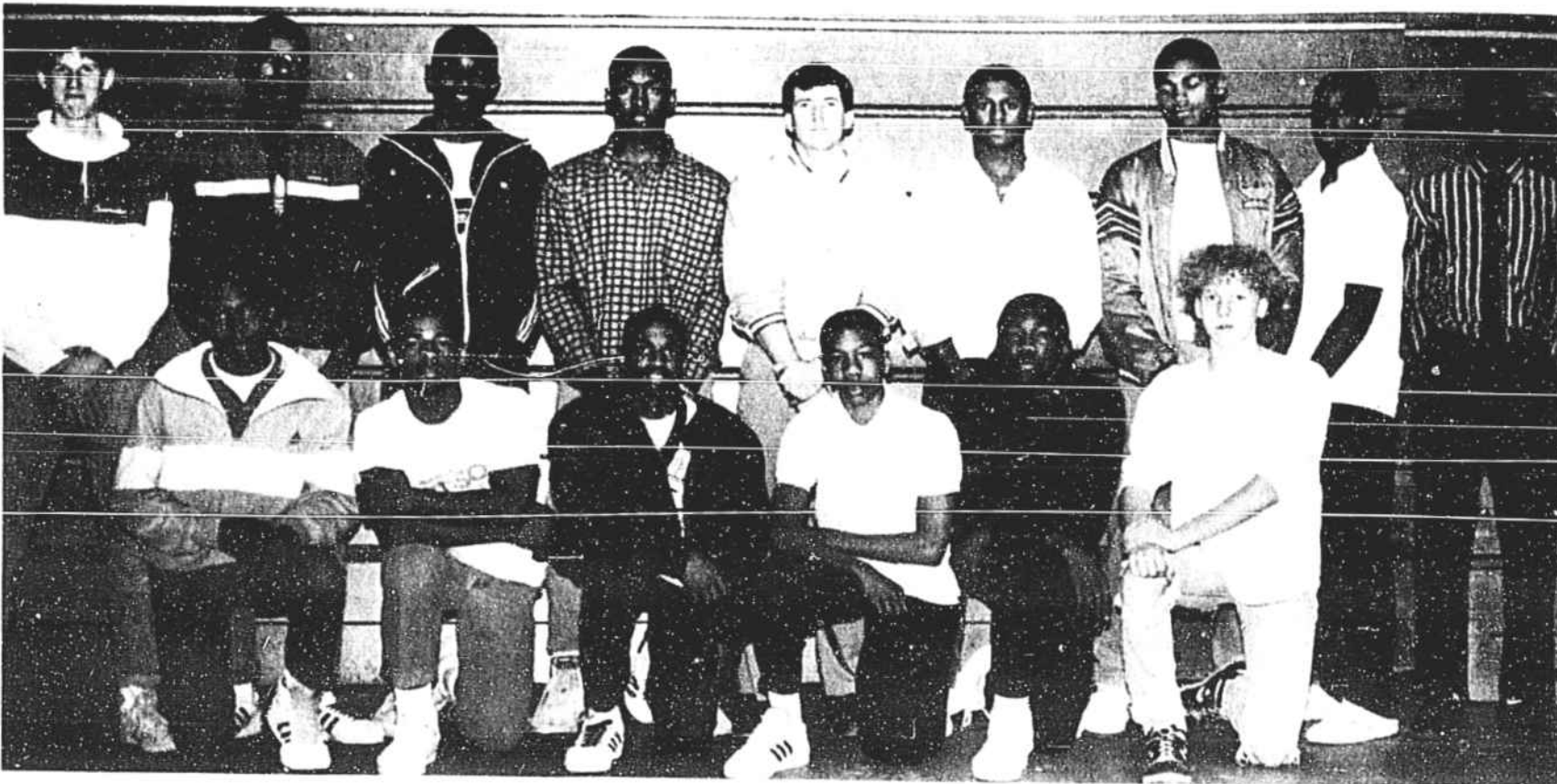
A county champion will be crowned Saturday in Boiling Spring Lakes following an all-day competition between 17 teams from the Shallotte, Leland and Southport-Oak Island areas.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with games held at South Brunswick High School and Middle School. The championship match has been scheduled for 6 p.m. at the high school gym.

For more information, contact the county Parks and Recreation Department at 253-4357.



WILLGOLF
BY
WILL COCKRELL



STAFF PHOTOS BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Junior Varsity Champions

West Brunswick captured the Waccamaw 2-A Conference junior varsity basketball championship after winning 13 of 14 league games. The Trojan JV finished 18-2 overall. Playing for the Trojans are, from left, front, Bobby Marlowe, Paul Stanley, Alex King, Jerrel Metts, Jimmy Johnson and Chris

Russ; back row, Ben Corley, Charles Morgan, Ricky Daniels, Jeff Bernard, coach David Cobb, Mike Frink, Tommy McNeil, Charles Moore and manager Eric Hill.

Men's Cage League Tourney Begins Next Week

The Brunswick County men's basketball league regular season ends tonight (Thursday) with all nine loop teams gearing for the post-season tournament set to begin next week.

The Tigers (13-2) and Turntables (11-2) have already secured the top seeds for the tournament while Franchise, Ponderosa and the Troopers are tied for the fifth seed.

The Tigers secured their top-ranked position with a pair of wins last week—a 136-103 victory over the Sharks and an 111-98 triumph over the Lakers.

William Johnson was the leading scorer for the Tigers in both games firing in 29 points against the Sharks and 28 opposite the Lakers.

The Turntables also won twice last week including a 72-53 romp over Franchise and an 86-71 rout of Ponderosa.

Trampus Gause scored 26 points for the Turntables in the win over Franchise and Ray Bland hit for 18 against Ponderosa.

In other games last week, the Lakers rebounded from their loss to the Tigers with a 91-89 edging of the Troopers. Leo Smith scored 23 points

to lead the Lakers.

Vision was also a winner in an 85-81 nipping of Actual Proof. Jerry Dawson scored 21 points to lead Vision.

Franchise also managed a win after the loss to the Turntables with a 75-71 edging of Actual Proof. Harold Boone's 21 points led Franchise. The next night Franchise was forced to forfeit to the Sharks.

In the only other game scheduled, Actual Proof dropped their third game in as many nights in an 83-79 loss to Ponderosa. Joe Clemmons scored 38 points to lead Ponderosa.

Three games tonight conclude the regular season. Actual Proof meets the Sharks in the 6:30 p.m. opener followed by the Lakers—Turntables matchup at 7:45 p.m. Ponderosa faces Vision in the final 9 p.m. contest.

The league tournament begins Wednesday and Thursday, Mar.

23-24, with three games each night.

Semifinal and final round will be played on Wednesday and Thursday, Mar. 30-31.

All games will be played at the Shallotte Middle School gym.

Both league teams participating in the district tournament held Saturday, Mar. 5 in Wilmington were eliminated.

The Tigers romped past Wilmington Hilton 135-82 in a first-round game but were bounced from the tournament by Country Nissan 115-107 in the second round.

Bladen County topped the Troopers 91-81 in another first-round game.

Becon (CP&L) of Southport advanced to the championship game but was edged by Lumberton Parks and Recreation for the tourney title, 79-78.

Results from last Saturday's state championship tournament in Laurinburg were unavailable at press time.

Brunswick County Men's Basketball League Standings as of Tuesday, Mar. 17

Team	W	L
Tigers	13	2
Turntables	11	2
Lakers	9	5
Vision	8	6
Franchise	6	8
Ponderosa	6	8
Troopers	6	8
Sharks	5	10
Actual Proof	0	13

Upcoming Games

Thursday, Mar. 17—Actual Proof vs. Sharks, 6:30 p.m.; Lakers vs. Turntables, 7:45 p.m.; Ponderosa vs. Vision, 9 p.m. End of regular season.

Wednesday and Thursday, Mar. 23-24, opening rounds of post season tournament. Three games nightly scheduled for 6:30 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Semifinal and final rounds set for Wednesday and Thursday, Mar. 30-31.

William A. Powell and Rex Gore take pleasure in announcing that
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has become associated with the firm of
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BANKING WITH MORE INTEREST

PREMIUM CHECKING

Interest Rate	Average Balance
6.5%	\$10,000 and above
6.0%	\$5,000 to \$9,999
5.5%	up to \$4,999

• Unlimited Checkwriting

• No Service Charges with \$1,000 Minimum Balances

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

7% 7.25% A.P.R.

• Daily Compounded
• Interest Paid Quarterly
• \$100 Minimum Balance

LOANS AVAILABLE

• Purchase
• Refinance
• Construction
• Home Equity

• Lot Purchase
• Mobile Homes
• Auto
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Business Hours
Monday-Thursday 9 AM-5 PM
Friday 9 AM-6 PM
Drive-In Opens Daily at 8:30 AM

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