

Reflections Of Gratitude As The New Year Begins

The year 1989 was a banner year in the experience of this writer. It is appropriate to pause and reflect with gratitude on the good things that have come my way. It was just two years ago that a heavy snowfall found me confined to "the cabin" for several days with little to do.

I had noted, with some concern, that the *Beacon* did not have a regular golf column. Consequently I sat down at the computer to write a proposal for the editor. By way of auditioning, I wrote several columns for his consideration and dropped them off at the office on my first day back in school. The happy consequences were that he had been looking for a golf writer for some time. WILLGOLF was born.

I will be forever grateful to the editor and the readers for their support and kind reception of WILLGOLF. I hope it is apparent that this column is a labor of love—love for the game and love of those who share my commitment and convictions about the game.

WILLGOLF

BY
WILL
COCKRELL



Golf is a game. It is a business to many, but only because it was a game first. A game embraced by more and more people each passing year.

We have only to view the game in the perspective of Brunswick County over the last 15 years to find proof of that statement. There are few places that can boast a new golf course per year over that span. And there are more to come. Sea Trail, The Pearl, Sandpiper Bay and Brick Landing are still expanding and other new ventures have their blades combing Brunswick County soil.

The fact that, apparently, the Russians are not coming and a steady economic growth continues bodes well for our area. The growth is taking place with intelligent planning and concern that goes deeper than the desire just to make money. The broader benefits of the popularity of the game is apparent all across the county. Every citizen of Brunswick County has reason to be grateful for the quality of entrepreneurs at work in our midst. By and large, their roots are here and they give no evidence of taking profits and fleeing the scene.

WILLGOLF and *The Brunswick Beacon* are both beneficiaries of the growth of golf in our area. Indeed, so is the county school system and specifically the athletic departments. Golf courses and golf tournaments are strong attractions and have become consistent fund-raisers for the schools and other organizations as well. Very few persons mind having the "bite" put on them when it is associated with playing golf on such a tremendous variety of championship courses.

On a personal note, I am particularly grateful to the courses in the area which have provided their unqualified support of the West Brunswick Golf Team. The Pearl, Sea Trail, Sandpiper Bay, Brick Landing, Brierwood, Lockwood Folly and Ocean Isle Beach golf courses have all fostered and adopted WESTGOLF in our pursuit of success in the junior golf arena. Furthermore, their very existence portends a consistently increasing source of talent for our team. I am anxiously awaiting the day when we can field a girls' golf team at the school. It can't be far away.

It is heartwarming, indeed, to receive so many calls from professionals, club managers and owners who ask, "When are you going to bring that team down to play our course?" or "What can we do to help the golf team?" I can only say that they are doing it and doing it in abundance.

In view of the fact that many high schools have no golf team due to the lack of local support, we feel most privileged to live in Brunswick County.

It is noteworthy that Brick Landing Plantation has taken the lead in providing a significant scholarship to West Brunswick for student athletes. Their commitment to excellence in academics and athletics is one which all educators, coaches, and parents respect and appreciate. Brick Landing's benevolence is in the finest tradition of sharing their success with the community.

Most of all, I must say that I grateful for all the new friends and acquaintances which this job has provided. Camaraderie and the feeling of acceptance are very prized attributes of personal and professional relationships. There is no price tag to do them justice.

I am occasionally asked when I am going to retire and just play golf for myself. My consistent reply is, "When it just gets better and better, they will have to run me off with a stick to get rid of me."

I can't wait to see what the '90s will bring.

Cougars Go 1-For-3 In Holiday Tourney

The Christmas holidays took an unexpected busy twist for the South Brunswick Cougars last week as they were a last-minute addition to the UCB Holiday Classic basketball tournament at UNC-Wilmington.

The Cougars (6-3) were called upon to round out the eight-team boys' field after Newport High School (Bellevue, Wash.) was unable to make the trip because of an airline cancellation.

South responded with a fourth-place finish that included a 70-57 first-round win over New Hanover and back-to-back losses to Chapel Hill 79-32 and Hillsborough Orange 78-60.

Robert Flythe scored 16 points followed by Preston McGriff with 15 and Greg Williams 10 to lead the Cougars in the third-place consolation loss to Orange.

The Panthers (4-3) took a 14-10 first-quarter before blowing the game open with a 24-11 second-period spurt. South fell further behind in the third quarter, 54-34 and the Cougs outscored Orange 26-24 in the final period.

Eleven of 12 Orange players scored in the game led by Jamal McAdoo with 18 and Shawn McAdoo with 14.

Score By Quarters:
Orange 14 24 16 24—78
S. Brunswick 10 11 13 26—60

Orange scoring: White 8, Pettiford 4, Archibald 9, Jones 2, J. McAdoo 18, Miller 2, Shomberg 6, S. McAdoo 14, Ratcliff 5, Dixon 2, Pearley 8.

South Brunswick scoring: Johnson 2, Williams 10, Fulwood 2, Flythe 16, Battles 7, Nichols 8, McGriff 15.

First-Round Results
Vernon Battles scored 20 points while Flythe added 13 and Konji Harrison 11 to lead the Cougars in their 70-57 first-round win over the New Hanover Wildcats.

South led 15-11 in the first quarter and extended its advantage to seven, 27-20 at the half.

The Cougars blew the game open with a 26-point third quarter before a 29-17 fourth-quarter New Hanover rally fell short.

Score By Quarters:
S. Brunswick 15 12 26 17—70
N Hanover 11 9 8 29—57
South Brunswick scoring: Johnson 3, White 1, Cole 2, Flythe 13, Battles 20, Nichols 8, McGriff 13, Harrison 11.

New Hanover scoring: Logan 9, Warlick 10, Fulton 2, Lewis 2, Brown 5, Moore 8, Ringwood 8, Addison 9, Evert 2, Bradley 2.



Sunny Point Employees Play Santa

Employees of Sunny Point Military Ocean Terminal near Southport joined together last month to make Christmas brighter for three area families and two area shelters for victims of domestic violence and their children. They collected 10 baskets of food, various stuffed animals, clothing, bicycles, tricycles and other playthings, a "mountain" of wrapped gifts and cash, all of which were distributed by members of the Adopt-A-Family committee. Shown above from left are Carolyn Johnson, Bolivia; Mary Peterson, Long Beach; Shirlene Moore, Southport; Brooke Boyd, Long Beach; Frances Wilson and Rhonda Wiggins, Wilmington; Carrie Haggins, Supply; Ann Smith, Shallotte; Patti Erkes, Wilmington; Roberta Scott, Supply; Tiffany Clemmons, Southport; and Randy Taylor, Wilmington. Brunswick County committee members not pictured were Linda Marion and Sarah Lewis of Supply, Crystal Caudil of Calabash, and Maxine Faught and Helene Drummond of Long Beach.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

This Week In Brunswick Sports

- THURSDAY, JANUARY 4**
North Brunswick at South Brunswick, wrestling, 7 p.m.
Men's Basketball League at Shallotte Middle School
Rhythm Magnets vs Warriors, 7 p.m.
Turntables vs Rockets, 8:15
- FRIDAY, JANUARY 5**
West Brunswick at Fairmont, boys' and girls' basketball, 5 p.m.
South Brunswick at North Brunswick, boys' and girls' basketball, 5 p.m.
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**
West Brunswick Band Boosters Golf Tournament, Brick Landing, 10 a.m.
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 9**
North Brunswick at East Bladen, boys' and girls' basketball, 5 p.m.
Co-Ed Volleyball League at Shallotte Middle School
Roberto's Pizza vs Tar Heels, 7 a.m.
Beach Bums vs Dirty Half Dozen, 7:45
Larry's Bar vs Milliken Co., 8:30
Under Dogs vs Jones Construction, 9:15
- WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10**
Men's League Basketball at Shallotte Middle School
Sonic vs Turntables, 7 p.m.
Warriors vs Rockets, 8:15

This week's listings include events reported to the *Beacon*. To list your sporting contest call or write the *Beacon* with schedules and details.

RECREATION BRIEF

Travelogue Series To Begin

Explore new cultures and new countries this winter without leaving Brunswick County. In cooperation with the Brunswick County Library, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a travel film series, starting this month.

The first two films focus on Alaska, *Beyond Expectations* and *Far Away Places*. They will be shown at the West Brunswick Branch Library in Shallotte at 2 p.m. Jan. 17; and at 2 p.m. Jan. 18 at the main library in Southport.

For more information on the series, contact Emma Thomas at the department, 253-4357, or 1-800-222-4790.

Whiteville Nips Trojans For Christmas Tourney Title

Carlos Baldwin scored 18 points and Ricky Betts added 14 to lead host Whiteville to a 56-47 win over West Brunswick in the championship game last Friday of the Wolfpack's boys' Christmas basketball tournament.

The Trojans (3-4) got 19 points from Ricky Daniels and 12 from Timmy Farmer in the loss. West opened Waccamaw 2-A Conference play earlier this week (Tuesday) with a return matchup against the same Wolfpack team at Whiteville.

Whiteville jumped out front quickly taking a 20-10 lead in the first quarter forcing the Trojans to play catchup for the remaining three periods.

West cut the deficit to 28-22 at the half and closed to within three, 32-29 in a low scoring third quarter.

However, Whiteville (6-2) outscored the Trojans, 24-18 in the final period to clinch the win and the tourney title.

Whiteville's Shane Hinson was named tournament most valuable player after connecting on all five of his free throw attempts in the final quarter.

Also named to the all-tournament team were Daniels, Haywood Daniels (Whiteville), Baldwin and Derrick Randall (Whiteville).

West Columbus (5-2) won the consolation game with a 59-58 edging of Hallsboro (0-7).

Score By Quarters:
W. Brunswick 10 12 7 18—47
Whiteville 20 8 4 24—56

West Brunswick scoring: Farmer 12, Morgan 2, Bernard 6, Moore 2, Daniels 19, Godwin 4, Russ 2.

Whiteville scoring: Hinson 7, Betts 14, Baldwin 18, Jones 9, Randall 8.

First Round Results
West Brunswick advanced to the tourney finals with a 69-57 win over West Columbus in Thursday's opening round.

Daniels pumped in 19 points followed by Farmer with 14, Jeff Bernard 13 and Jarret Godwin 11 to lead the Trojans.

Tim Williams scored 18 and David McMillian 13 for West Columbus.

The Trojans led by one, 14-13 at the end of the first quarter before increasing their edge to four, 29-25 at the half.

West Brunswick continued to pull ahead in the second half taking a 47-38 third-quarter lead and outscoring the Vikings 22-19 in the final period.

In the other first-round matchup, Whiteville defeated Hallsboro 71-59.

Score By Quarters:
W. Brunswick 14 15 18 22—69
W. Columbus 13 12 13 19—57

West Brunswick scoring: Farmer 14, Godwin 11, Morgan 6, Bernard 13, Mitchell 2, Daniels 19, Russ 4.

West Columbus scoring: Williams 18, McMillian 13, McDonald 6, Leach 6, Bronell 8, Nelson 6.

CAROLINA SHORES

GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
CALABASH, NC

AMERICAN GOLF CORPORATION

The Ultimate in Golf Specials

Yearly Ticket per person.....\$300
Offer Ends Feb., 1990

\$50 Discount if paid before Jan. 31, 1990

Annual Cart Ticket.....\$500
Offer Ends Feb., 1990

CALL PRO SHOP FOR MORE DETAILS • 579-2161 OR (803)448-2657

2 Players for \$40

Reg. \$60

Includes Golf Cart

Valid Dec. 1 thru Feb., 1990
with coupon

BB-1

January Coupon Special

Buy 1 Chain (at regular price)
Get 1 Gallon
Bar & Chain Oil Free (\$3.75 value)

—Offer good thru Jan. 31 with coupon—
1 coupon per customer per visit. Not valid with any other coupon special

Milligan's Sharpening Shop
Hwy. 130, Shallotte, 754-8535

Pro Tee

PRACTICE RANGE

Hwy. 179, Ocean Isle Beach, 754-4700
Between BentTree Plantation & Brick Landing Plantation

- PROFESSIONAL GOLF LESSONS BY PGA CERTIFIED PROS
- PRO SHOP ● SNACK BAR
- WELL LIGHTED FOR NIGHT PRACTICE

Kelly Beeler, Golf Pro

\$1.00 OFF LARGE BUCKET OF BALLS
PRO TEE PRACTICE RANGE • OCEAN ISLE BEACH
COUPON EXPIRES JUNE 1, 1990