

# Trojans Rip Hallsboro For 2nd Win In Last 3 Games

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

West Brunswick outlasted the rain and the Hallsboro Tigers on Monday night for a 12-2, five-inning nonconference baseball win—the Trojans second in their last three games.

The Trojans, leading 4-2, scored eight runs in the decisive fifth inning to gain the win amid steady rain in the first of a big three-game week for West Brunswick.

West Brunswick, now 1-2 in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference and 4-6-1 overall, visits South Brunswick on Friday after having faced East Bladen earlier this week (Tuesday)

in a pair of key league contests.

"We finally put our defense together tonight and got aggressive both at the plate and on the bases," said West Brunswick baseball coach Mike Alderson. "Our hitters were getting ahead 2-0 and 1-0 on the count and were able to make Hallsboro pitcher Anthony Pridgen throw strikes."

"We have been hitting the ball well the last five games or so but just haven't been able to keep from making so many mental mistakes. If we win both our conference games this week, we'll be right in the thick

of things."

The Trojans never trailed and took a 1-0 lead in the second inning when Lee Miller scored on a Pridgen balk. Miller singled earlier in the frame, took second on a wild pitch and advanced to third on a fielder's choice.

West Brunswick added two more runs for a 3-0 lead in the third inning.

Adam Johnson's one-out double scored Aldwin Lance who had walked, stolen second and went to third on Brian Alderson's sacrifice fly to right field.

Mark Corter, pitch running for catcher Brian Fleming who singled, scored the second Trojan run of the inning.

Kane Bellamy scored the lone West Brunswick hit in the fourth for a 4-0 Trojan lead. Bellamy entered the game as a pitch runner for winning pitcher Russell Hines who opened the inning with an infield single.

Hallsboro closed the gap to 4-2 in the top of the fifth on Pridgen's bases loaded single to right field that scored the only Tiger runs.

In a wild fifth inning, the Trojans took advantage of five hits and Miller's two-run double to left-center that scored Corter and Aaron Butler for the game-ending runs.

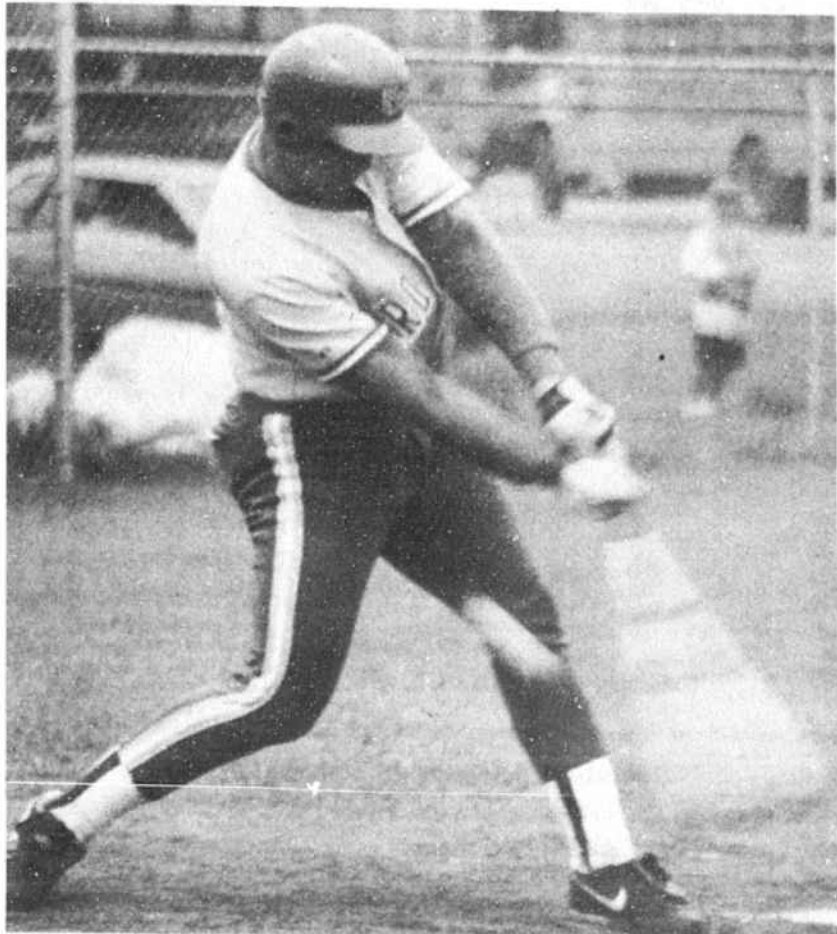
Collecting hits for the Trojans were Butler (2), Hines, Lance and Fleming. West Brunswick also took advantage of three Hallsboro fielding errors to stage the big inning.

Hines went the distance on the mound for West Brunswick while being only the second Trojan hurler to pick up a complete game this season.

Hines scattered four Tiger hits and struck out five.

Pridgen was the losing pitcher going all five innings for Hallsboro (3-6 overall), a member of the Southern 1-A Conference.

Adam Johnson led West Brunswick at the plate going 3-for-4 in a designated hitter role. Fleming and Butler both had two hits in four trips while Lance had one hit in three at bats and scored two runs.



**FLEMING TAKES A SWING**—West Brunswick catcher Brian Fleming takes a swing during the Trojans' 12-2 nonconference baseball win over Hallsboro on Monday. Fleming had two hits to aid in the Trojan win that enabled West Brunswick to improve to 4-6-1 overall.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOHNNY CRAIG

## West Nips Vikes For First League Baseball Win

Cleave Butler scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth on a bases-loaded grounder to give West Brunswick its first Waccamaw 2-A Conference baseball win of the season over visiting West Columbus 7-6 last Tuesday.

Aldwin Lance led the Trojans with three hits while Brian Fleming had two hits including a triple.

Greg Nobles and Frank Merritt had three hits each to lead West Columbus (0-4 in conference play) and Michael Connor and Bradley

Wilson had two each.

The Trojans continue conference action Friday visiting South Brunswick at 7 p.m.

W. Columbus 001 130 10—6-13-7  
W. Brunswick 321 000 01—7-9-5

## North Brunswick Downs Trojans; Edged By Wolfpack

North Brunswick's David McDowell showed the form necessary to capture a second straight county prep player of the year honor last Friday as he paced his own North Brunswick team to a 9-5 Waccamaw 2-A Conference win over visiting West Brunswick.

McDowell (3-1) pitched his third win of the season with a four-hitter and struck out eight while going the distance for the Scorpions. In addition, the senior collected three hits and drove in four runs to lead North Brunswick's nine-hit attack.

Earlier in the week, the Scorpions dropped a 2-0 decision to league-leading and undefeated Whiteville.

Jared McGee, Chris Walker, McDowell and Ray Holt ignited a four-run first inning for the Scorpions against West Brunswick. North Brunswick (4-1, 7-6) banged out five straight hits in the frame and never trailed.

Alton Johnson led West Brunswick with two hits while Brian Alderson doubled and Aaron Butler had a triple.

W. Brunswick 102 101 0—5-4-3  
N. Brunswick 402 201 X—9-9-3

Walker hurled the loss for the Scorpions against Whiteville despite

limiting the Wolfpack to three hits.

Whiteville scored single runs in the first and sixth innings and rode the two-hit, 17-strike out performance of winning pitcher Richie Blackwell (4-0) to their eighth straight victory.

McDowell, who had both Scorpion hits, broke Blackwell's 19-inning hitless streak in the top of the first with a triple down the right-field line.

McDowell added a fourth-inning double to left-center for the final North Brunswick hit of the game. It was also the Scorpions' biggest scoring threat as McDowell's blast came with one out. The senior third baseman took third on a wild pitch but Blackwell struck out Walker and Ray Holt to end the frame.

The Scorpions continue Waccamaw Conference play Friday hosting Fairmont at 7 p.m.

N. Brunswick 000 000 0—0-2-3  
Whiteville 100 001 X—2-3-1



**ATHLETE OF WEEK** Brian Alderson, center, is flanked by his father and baseball coach Mike Alderson, left, and athletic director Marshall Seay, right.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOHNNY CRAIG

## Alderson Named Athlete Of Week

West Brunswick shortstop/pitcher Brian Alderson has been named the Trojan/Burger King spring athlete of the week for the period ending April 12 after standout performances both on the mound and at the plate.

Alderson, a junior, batted .429 and drove in three runs last week in two Waccamaw 2-A Conference baseball games—a 7-6 win over West Columbus and a 9-5 loss to North Brunswick.

Alderson was the winning pitcher against West Columbus while limiting the Vikings to just one run.

"Brian had a good week at the plate and defensively as well," said West Brunswick baseball coach Mike Alderson, Brian's father. "He's seeing the ball at the plate a lot better than he did earlier this season. His getting on base is a key to our run production."

Alderson is in his first year of baseball for the Trojans this spring but played for Brunswick County Post 68 American Legion team last summer.

"We struggled at the beginning of the season but we're coming along with lots of effort," said Brian of the

Trojans' improvement on the prep diamond. "We have a lot of talent on this team, both offensively and defensively, and we're just starting to put things together. We can definitely be a contender for the conference championship race."

Alderson also quarterbacked the Trojan football team last fall.

"Brian is an outstanding addition to our athletic program here at West," said Trojan athletic director Marshall Seay. "We are looking for even better things from him in during his senior year beginning in the fall."

## Trojan Netters Sweep League Pair Over South Brunswick, East Bladen

West Brunswick swept two Waccamaw 2-A Conference boys' tennis matches last week to gain sole possession of second place as the league season reached its midpoint.

The Trojans ripped host South Brunswick 6-2 on Monday and edged visiting East Bladen 5-4 last Wednesday.

West Brunswick was to have traveled to first-place Whiteville earlier this week (Wednesday) in a battle for the league's top spot.

Michael Nelson, Raford Stanley, Allen Hewett and Michael Sellars were all singles winners against South Brunswick along with the doubles teams of Nelson-Jody Dale and Hewett-Jon Dimmery.

East Bladen won the top three singles matches before the Trojans rallied to win the final three along with two of three doubles contests.

Winning for the Trojans were Hewett, Benji Mankin and Dimmery in singles and the teams of Dale-Hewett and Mankin-Dimmery in doubles competition.

"I was extremely proud of the team pulling together," said West Brunswick tennis coach Marti Gillis of the win over East Bladen. "Since we were missing our first, sixth and

seventh-seeded singles players, this was an important win."

Dimmery, a senior and the Trojans' ninth seed, was forced into his first match ever playing in both singles and doubles and won both to help key the victory.

"I was scared to death," said Dimmery following the match. "I'm used to playing only once the team has already clinched the match."

Jeff Ballou, the Trojans' sixth seed, looks to be out for the season after having knee surgery last week. Ballou had a perfect 3-0 singles record and was one of the team's most consistent players according to Gillis.

The Trojans also visit Fairmont next Monday and host South Robeson on Wednesday in continued league play.

### South Brunswick Results

Singles: Nelson (WB) def. Shane Vannoy (SB), 6-2, 6-3; Stanley (WB) def. Andy Martin (SB), 6-3, 6-2; Jason Folding (SB) def. Dale (WB), 4-6, 6-0, 6-4; Yount (SB) def. Lamar Hardy (WB), 6-2, 7-5; Hewett (WB) def. David Cureton (SB), 6-1, 6-1; Sellars (WB) def. Mike Zeoli (SB), 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles: Nelson-Dale (WB) def.

Vannoy-Martin (SB), 8-2; no. 2 doubles match suspended due to darkness; Hewett-Dimmery (WB) def. Folding-Cureton (SB), 8-6.

### East Bladen Results

Singles: Valentiner (EB) def. Stanley (WB), 6-2, 6-0; Melvin (EB) def. Dale (WB), 6-3, 7-6; Cain (EB) def. Hardy (WB), 6-3, 6-1; Hewett (WB) def. Jackson (EB), 6-3, 6-4; Mankin (WB) def. Parker (EB), 6-0, 6-1; Dimmery (WB) def. Byrd (EB), 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles: Valentiner-Melvin (EB) def. Stanley-Hardy (WB), 8-2; Dale—Hewett (WB) def. Jackson-Parker (EB), 8-5; Mankin-Dimmery (WB) def. Cain—Byrd (EB), 8-5.

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