

SPORTING SCENE

Sports Development Office Added To Travel Division

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The North Carolina Division of Travel and Tourism has added a new office of Sports Development to its staff to positively impact the state's economy through the enhancement of sporting events and related areas.

Jim Partin, head of the new office, was formally introduced at last week's annual Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism at Atlantic Beach.

In addition to working with sporting events in the state, the Sports Development Office will also work to better teams, training facilities and their headquarters in North Carolina.

Partin outlined four major strategies for his office including assisting in attracting large spectator events to major metropolitan areas.

The new office also wants to help bring small spectator and participatory events to the state's smaller communities.

Partin plans to work at matching North Carolina sites and groups wanting to locate teams, training facilities and national headquarters within the state.

And finally, the office wants to provide a point of focus through which events organizers and sponsors may access the resources and support services in North Carolina.

The Sports Development Office has recently published a calendar/document of sporting events throughout the state and lists a dozen of Brunswick County activities in the booklet.

Upcoming events included are the Junior Boys' Amateur Golf Tournament (ages 11-17) in early June at Shallotte and the Shallotte Point Flounder Fishing Tournament set for June 7.

The Amateur Golf Tournament at Brick Landing Plantation is listed for early July along with the annual South Brunswick Islands King Classic Fishing Tournament for Aug. 30-Sept. 2.

The fall season continues in early September with the Senior Amateur Golf Tournament set for Brick Landing Plantation and the 13th annual U.S. Open King Mackerel Fishing Tournament at Southport Oct. 3-6.

Two road races at Holden Beach close out the Brunswick County events on the sports calendar with the N.C. Oyster Festival Run on Oct. 19 and the N.C. Festival By The Sea Run on Oct. 26.

Four other events were listed for earlier this year including the PGA Seniors Pro-Am Golf Tournament in early March in Shallotte, the annual Bald Head Island Classic 10-K Run that was held March 16, the fifth annual Southport-Oak Island Masters Putting Tournament at Caswell Beach on Apr. 27 and the Lockwood Folly Invitational Golf Tournament held earlier this month.

The Travel and Tourism Division's new office is certainly well-needed and will enable North Carolina to attract sporting events both big and small to this great state.

Partin will certainly have a lot to sell with North Carolina's climate, location, hospitality, wide range of geography and its growing metro areas that are certainly capable of hosting the sporting world's best.

New Legion Team Sees Large Turnout

The newly-forming Brunswick Shores American Legion baseball team saw a turnout of 26 at its first tryout/practice last week at the West Brunswick park.

In addition to the 26 who attended the tryout, the Towncreek Post 445 team received verbal commitments from six other players.

The addition of Brunswick Shores increases the Area II Eastern Division field to 10 teams for the upcoming season.

While the local team (comprising players from West and South Brunswick) is the only new team in the Eastern Division, it also the only new American Legion team in the state this spring.

While the season was scheduled to open in late May, Brunswick Shores will probably not open its schedule until early June due to conflicts with the state high school baseball playoffs.

County Slates Tennis Clinics

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department plans a series of tennis clinics for children and adults this summer and two round robin tournaments next month.

Each four-day clinic will run from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. daily. The cost is \$10 per person, and at least four players are needed for each clinic.

Adult beginner clinics are scheduled as follows: June 3, 5, 10 and 12 at Shallotte Park; July 8, 10, 15 and 17 at Town Creek Park; July 9, 11, 16 and 18 at Smithville Park; and July 22, 24, 29 and 31 at Waccamaw Park.

The schedule for beginner clinics for youths ages 10 to 16 is as follows: June 4, 6, 11 and 13 at Smith-

ville Park; June 17, 19, 24 and 26 at Waccamaw Park; and June 18, 20, 25 and 27 at Town Creek Park.

Clinics for children ages six to 10 will be held as follows: July 23, 25, 30 and Aug. 1 at Shallotte Park; Aug. 5, 7, 12 and 14 at Smithville Park; and Aug. 6, 8, 13 and 15 at Waccamaw Park.

Tournaments for adults are scheduled June 1 and June 30 at Shallotte Township Park. Both events start at 5 p.m., and the cost is \$5 per person.

At least eight players are needed for each tournament. The maximum number of players will be 16.

For information, call the county parks and recreation department at 253-4357.

Seahawks On Top In Dixie League

The Supply Seahawks are off to a perfect 5-0 start and in sole possession of first place in the Brunswick County Dixie Boys' baseball league.

The Shallotte Elks and Leland Bulldogs are both tied for second with identical 3-1 marks and are followed by Smithville Cubs (3-2), Towncreek Bulls (1-3) and Wilmington Esquires (1-4).

League play continues today (Thursday) with two games scheduled for 7 p.m.—Seahawks vs. Elks at Shallotte Park and Bulldogs vs. Bulls at Town Creek Park.

Three more games are set for Monday at 7 p.m.—Cubs vs. Bulldogs at Northwest Park, Elks vs. Bulls at Smithville Park and Esquires vs. Seahawks at Lockwood Folly Park.

Jennies Branch Remains Unbeaten

Jennies Branch improved its record to 4-0 Saturday with an 11-4 victory over Faith in the Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League.

In other action, Antioch No. 2 squeaked past Soldier Bay 12-11 and Antioch No. 1 trounced Sunset Harbor by a score of 20-3.

Jennies Branch is the only undefeated team in the league with one game remaining in the first half of the season.

Antioch No. 2 is in second place at 3-1, followed by Faith at 2-2 and Soldier Bay, Sunset Harbor and Antioch No. 1, all at 1-3.



WINNING RUN—Yates Gupton (right) slides home for the winning run Monday in the West Brunswick junior varsity's 3-2 victory over East Bladen. The Cougar catcher awaits the throw but Gupton reach the plate just before the ball next to his right hand. The Trojan JV closes out its season visiting South Brunswick today (Thursday) and North Brunswick on Friday. Both games begin at 5 p.m.

Trojan JV Nips East Bladen 3-2

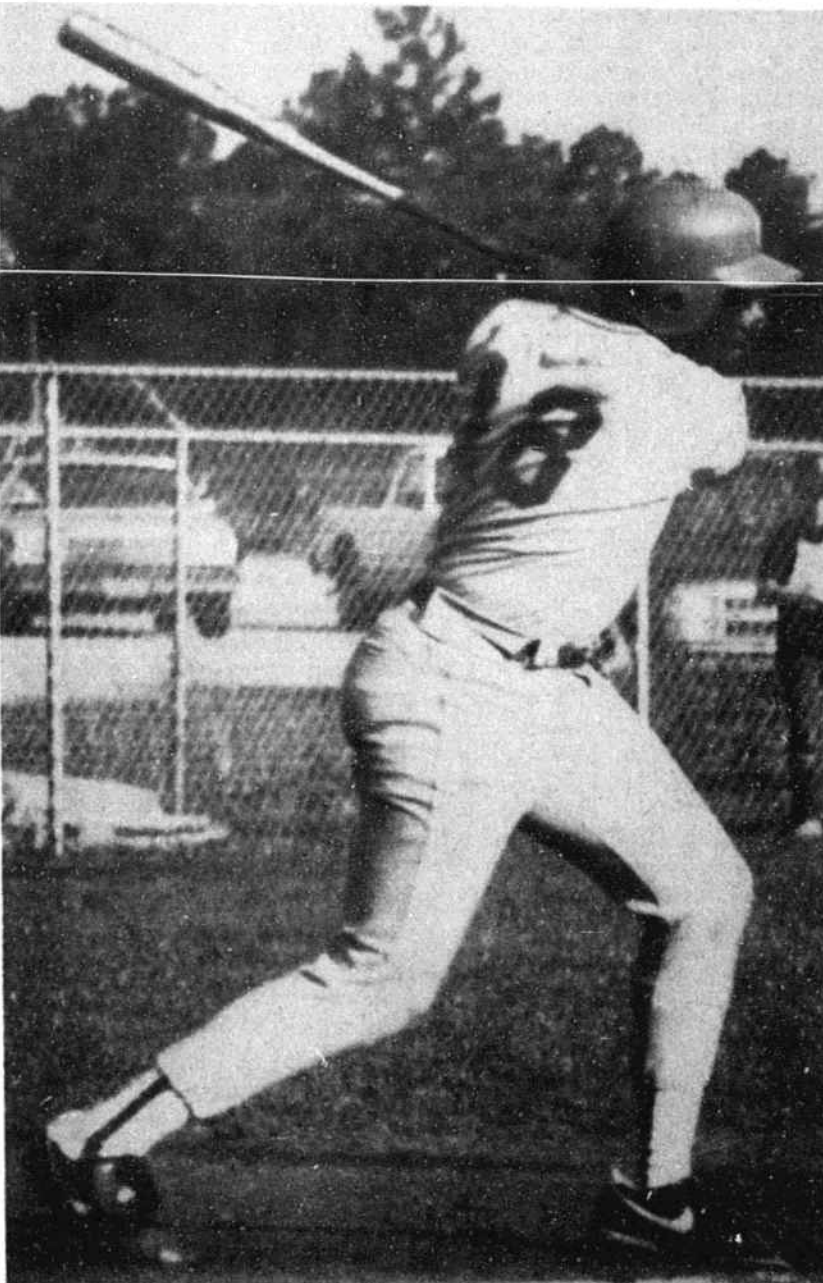
Winning pitcher Michael Turner tossed a five-hitter through five innings and Keane Bellamy belted a double for West Brunswick's only extra-base hit to lead the Trojans past visiting East Bladen 3-2 in Waccamaw 2-A Conference junior varsity baseball play Monday.

Relief pitcher Jason Benton picked up the save and Yates Gupton's sacrifice fly scored the winning run as the Trojan JV tightened its hold on second place in the

WC. West Brunswick improved to 7-2 in the conference and 9-2 overall.

The Trojans managed only four hits for the game but it was enough to hand East Bladen its fifth league loss of the season.

The West Brunswick junior varsity closes out its season visiting South Brunswick today (Thursday) and traveling to North Brunswick on Friday. Both games begin at 5 p.m.



JOHNSON SWINGS—West Brunswick's Daniel Johnson takes a swing during the Trojan junior varsity's 3-2 win over East Bladen on Monday. The Trojan JV improved to 7-2 in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference and 9-2 overall with the win.

North Boys' Team Wins County Track Title

North Brunswick collected 91 points to outdistance host South Brunswick (48) and West Brunswick (47) to win the boys' county track and field championship last Monday.

Jimmy Flamer won both 100-meter and 200-meter runs and anchored the winning 800-meter relay team to lead North Brunswick while Craig Holden won both 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter events for the Scorpions. Frankie Meares finished second in both 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter runs for North Brunswick.

Chris Crandall won both 110-meter and 300-meter hurdle events to lead South Brunswick.

James Colston finished fourth in the 3,200 meters and the South Brunswick 400-meter relay team took second to squeak past West

Brunswick for second place in the final two events of the meet.

Results

Pole Vault: Burke (SB), 11-6; Shot Put: Thompson (NB), 39-1; Discus: Thorpe (WB), 133-11; Long Jump: Walker (NB), 18-9; Triple Jump: Reaves (WB), 42-2; High Jump: Ballard (NB), 6-0; 3,200-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 9:11; 110-Meter High Hurdles: Crandall (SB), 15.91; 100 Meters: Flamer (NB), 10.91; 800-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 1:37; 1,600 Meters: Holden (NB), 5:02; 400-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 45.68; 400 Meters: Toomer (NB), 52.18; 300-Meter Intermediate Hurdles: Crandall (SB), 44.38; 800 Meters: Robinson (NB), 2:15; 200 Meters: Flamer (NB), 23.82; 3,200 Meters: Holden (NB), 11:06; 1,600-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 3:51.

South Girls Top West, North For County Track Championship

Carrie Fletcher won the high jump, 100-meter high hurdles and 300-meter intermediate hurdles and anchored the winning 400-meter relay team to lead host South Brunswick to the county girls' track and field championship last Monday.

Jordan Kaufhold won two events for the Lady Cougars including the 1,600-meter and 800-meter runs.

Ravonda Haltom was also a double winner for South Brunswick claiming both 100-meter (tied with teammate Heather Geise) and 200-meter runs.

Geise also had a banner day for the Lady Cougs along with her 100-meter co-win she finished second in the long jump and third in the high jump.

South Brunswick claimed 66 points to edge West Brunswick (44)

and North Brunswick (34) in the team standings.

Results

Shot Put: Daniels (WB), 34-9; Discus: Vaught (NB), 91-2; Long Jump: Gause (WB), 13-11; Triple Jump: Johnson (WB), 32-8; High Jump: Fletcher (SB), 4-7; 100 Meters: Haltom and Geise (SB), 12.64; 100-Meter High Hurdles: Fletcher (SB), 17.72; 800-Meter Relay: West Brunswick, 1:57; 1,600 Meters: Kaufhold (SB), 7:30; 400 Meters: McCoy (NB), 1:14; 400-Meter Relay: South Brunswick, 53.84; 300-Meter Intermediate Hurdles: Fletcher (SB), 56.87; 800 Meters: Kaufhold (SB), 3:20; 200 Meters: Haltom (SB), 28.41; 1,600-Meter Relay: West Brunswick, 6:06; 3,200-Meter Relay: South Brunswick, 14:37.

Cougar, Scorp Tracksters Advance To Title Meet

Eight members of the South Brunswick boys' and girls' track teams and four North Brunswick boys will be competing in the state 1-A—2-A track and field championships today (Thursday) at Chapel Hill on the University of North Carolina campus.

South Brunswick's Keith Burke finished fourth in the pole vault (9-6) in last week's southeastern regional meet at Whiteville to qualify for the state meet while Robbie Johnson was third in the shot put (45-3) and earned a berth in the championship event.

The Cougars' Chris Crandall's third-place showing in the 110-meter high hurdles (15.66) earned him an entry in today's championship as well.

North Brunswick's 400-meter and 800-meter relay teams of Rob Toomer, Jimmy Flamer, James Walker and Tony Melindez were winners in both events in the regional meet. The team turned in times of 44.7 and 1:37 respectively to capture the regional titles.

Top performances in the girls' regional meet that qualified for the state championship included Carrie Fletcher who finished second in the high jump (5-0) and 100-meter high hurdles (16.84).

The Lady Cougar 400-meter relay team of Cleda Maggard, Heather Geise, Ravonda Haltom and Brenda Tobler also qualified for the state meet with a fourth-place regional showing with a finish of 54 seconds.

Other South Brunswick finishes

in the regional meet included Jeff Blake who took sixth in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles at 45.53.

In the girls' division, Fletcher finished fifth in the 300-meter hurdles (54.41) and Tobler was sixth in the 100 meters (13.41).

The South boys finished 12th overall in the regional meet with 17 points while the Lady Cougars were eighth with 23 points.

Whiteville won the boys regional title with 109 points followed by Clinton (65) and West Columbus (62.5).

Swansboro was the regional girls champion with 97 points ahead of East Carteret (77) and Lejeune (68).

Regional Results

Shot Put: Sheridan (Whiteville), 47-4; Discus: Sheridan (Whiteville), 137-5; Long Jump: Lee (Clinton), 22-8; Triple Jump: Smith (Whiteville), 42-9; High Jump: Banks (Clinton), 6-6; Pole Vault: Farley (Lejeune), 10-6; 100 Meters: Banks (Clinton), 10.8; 110-Meter High Hurdles: Washington (East Bladen), 15.5; 200 Meters: Goodman (Lakewood), 22.3; 300-Meter Intermediate Hurdles: Washington (East Bladen), 41.8; 400 Meters: Toomer (North Brunswick), 50.5; 400-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 44.7; 800 Meters: Cowley (Lejeune), 2:04; 800-Meter Relay: North Brunswick, 1:33; 1,600-Meter Relay: West Columbus, 3:33; 3,200 Meters: Padgett (Swansboro), 10:27; 3,200-Meter Relay: West Columbus, 8:43.

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