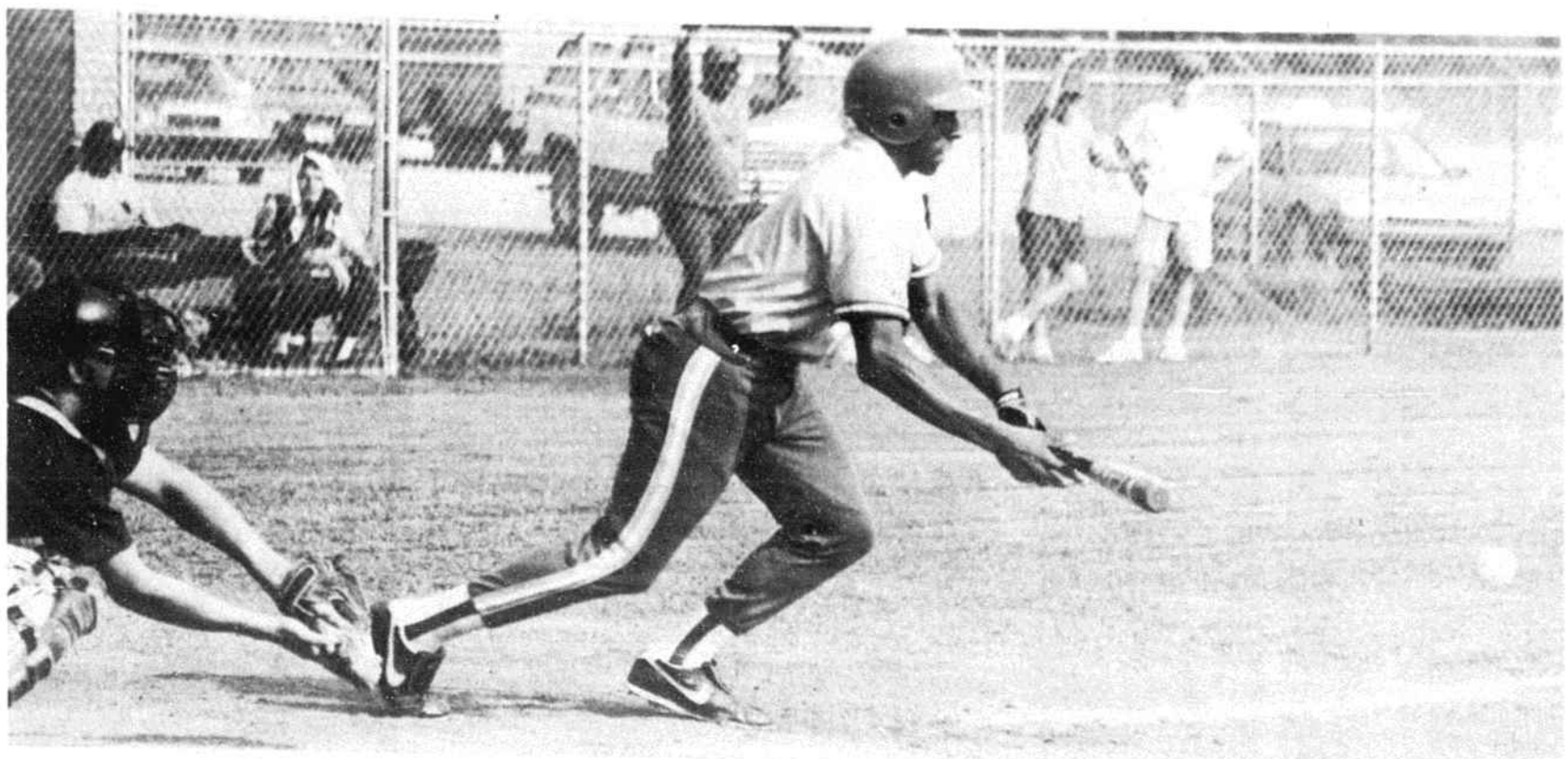

STAFF PHOTOS BY JOHNNY CRAIG

JOHNSON BUNTS—West Brunswick's Adam Johnson lays down a bunt while trying to bring home a run in last Friday's 4-0 Trojan win over South Brunswick. The Trojans scored two runs each in the first and third innings to clinch the win in the final regular season game for both teams.

Diamond Trojans Blank South Brunswick For Playoff Berth

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Amid the tragedy of last Tuesday's death of Trojan pitcher George Daniels, the West Brunswick baseball team focused in on the job at hand Friday and blanked South Brunswick 4-0 to clinch its first state playoff berth in seven years.

The win came after the team learned of Daniels' death in an auto accident last Tuesday morning and after Wednesday's 22-8 rout against East Bladen.

Emotions still ran high prior to the start of Friday's game as the Trojan team dedicated a banner in Daniels' honor beneath the flag pole in left field. The flag also flew at half-mast during the contest in the former multi-talented athlete's honor.

"This was a mighty big win under the circumstances we have faced this week," said West Brunswick coach Mike Alderson following the win. "We certainly earned it. We played good defense and Brian (Alderson) pitched a good game also."

"It is certainly good to be going to the state playoffs after such a long absence. We just feel fortunate to close out the regular season on a winning note."

West Brunswick scored two runs each in the first and third innings then relied on the five-hit, seven strike-out pitching performance of Alderson who picked up the win while going the distance.

Alton Johnson went a perfect 3-for-3 at the plate while Greg Mott had two hits in four trips.

Aldwin Lance, who opened the first frame with a walk, scored the first Trojan run on Mott's RBI-single. Mott later scored himself on Lee Miller's run-scoring single.

Johnson and Aaron Butler both scored in the third on Blake Bradley's RBI-squeeze bunt and Miller's fielder's choice.

South Brunswick made its biggest scoring threat of the game in the fourth inning when the Cougars loaded the bases with one out. Alderson got out of the jam by retiring the next two Cougars on a foul out and an infield fly.

Getting hits for South Brunswick were Mike Sellers, Jeron Monroe, Mike Clewis, Terry Tolley and Ernie Wearren.

Starter Scott Coring was the losing pitcher going 2.2 innings, giving up eight Trojan hits and all four runs. Coring also struck out five and walked one.

Shawn Swain hurled the final 3.1 innings in relief of Coring and limited West Brunswick to one hit and struck out three.

Trojan catcher Adam Abbott got his first varsity start in the game replacing regular Bryan Fleming. Abbott was brought up from the junior varsity team when Fleming became ill earlier in the day with a 104 temperature.

The win improved the Trojans to 8-6 in the WC and 11-9-1 overall while South Brunswick dropped to 6-8 in the league and 12-9 overall.

West Brunswick was to have opened state 2-A playoff action at Capital Area Conference champion Clayton yesterday (Wednesday).

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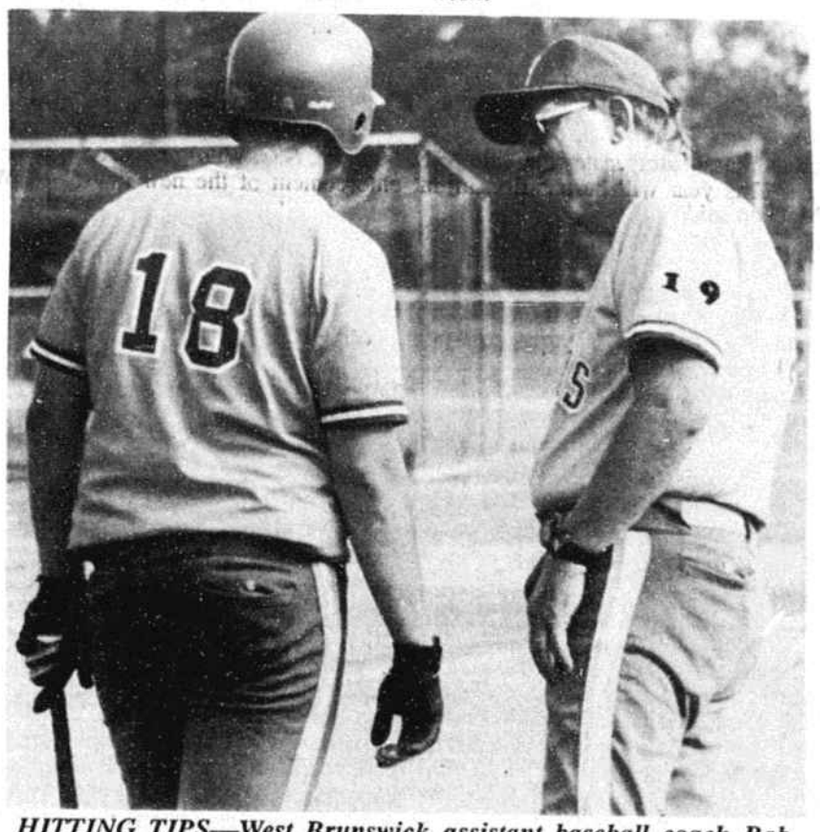
Earlier in the week the Trojans fell victim of a late East Bladen rally in a 22-8 romp from the host Cougars.

West Brunswick led 7-5 until East Bladen scored 12 runs in the fifth inning to turn the game into a rout.

"I told the team prior to the game that one of two things were going to happen—we could go out and win this one for George or we could just go ahead and fold up the tents," said Alderson. "For five innings we played very well but things just fell apart on us in the fifth."

S. Brunswick	000 000 0	0-5-0
W. Brunswick	202 000 X	4-9-0

BUTLER SCORES—Aaron Butler scores a run for West Brunswick in last Friday's 4-0 Trojan win over South Brunswick.



HITTING TIPS—West Brunswick assistant baseball coach Bob Proctor (right) gives Trojan batter Lee Miller a few pointers during last Friday's 4-0 Waccamaw 2-A Conference win over South Brunswick. The win, their second over South this season, clinched a state playoff berth for the Trojans.

COUGARS FALL—South Brunswick's Todd Vice watches a pitch from Trojan pitcher Brian Alderson go by in last Friday's 4-0 West Brunswick win over the Cougars. Catching for the Trojans is Adam Abbott who was brought up from the junior varsity to replace regular starter Bryan Fleming.

County Seeks New Fox Law

Brunswick County Commissioners have agreed to go hunting for a new local fox law.

The board voted 3-2 Monday to ask State Rep. David Redwine to introduce special legislation in the N.C. General Assembly that will keep fox hunting and trapping from becoming illegal in Brunswick County.

"It took a while, but I finally got it," said Charles Eddins of Leland.

Eddins, a trapper, appeared before commissioners on four separate occasions to ask the board to seek a new fox law.

State fox laws were placed in the hands of county governments when trappers and hunters began feuding several years ago. Thirty-five of the state's 100 counties adopted such laws, but Brunswick County's 1983 law expires July 1.

Kelly Holden, chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners, believes that regulating fox hunting is a responsibility of the N.C. Wildlife Commission. He and Vice Chairman Jerry Jones voted against asking Redwine to introduce a special bill for local fox hunting.

The board will ask for a law similar to ones approved for Hoke and Robeson counties.

Those laws set season bag limits of 30 foxes per season with trapping allowed from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31 and hunting allowed from Dec. 1 to Jan. 1. Bag limits need to increase, Eddins said, to help thin out an abundant crop of foxes in case of a rabies outbreak and to raise the price of furs.

"My contention is still the same," Holden said. "I think it's a Wildlife Commission responsibility. I still don't understand why it was passed on to local governments."

Commissioners Frankie Rabon, Donald Shaw and Gene Pinkerton voted to seek special legislation.

Whiteville Rallies To Edge South Brunswick 3-1

Whiteville came from behind for the second time this season against South Brunswick to take a 3-1 Waccamaw 2-A Conference baseball win over the host Cougars.

The Wolfpack overcame a 1-0 South Brunswick lead to score three times in the fifth inning to gain the win, their 13th in league play and 19th overall without a loss.

Earlier this season Whiteville rallied to take a 5-4, 11-inning win over the Cougars.

Winning pitcher Richie Blackwell and reliever Chris Smith combined for a three-hitter and the pair struck out a total of 10 Cougar batters.

South Brunswick took a 1-0 lead in the second inning when Mike Clewis scored after walking, going to second on Bobby Farrar' sacrifice bunt and Todd Vice's RBI-single.

John Sherbert's two-run single with the bases loaded keyed the Wolfpack's big fifth inning that scored Ed Burleson and Mark Harritan.

Shean Swain was the losing pitcher despite going the distance and limiting Whiteville to only six hits.

The loss dropped South Brunswick to 6-8 in the WC and 12-9 overall.

Whiteville, the Waccamaw Conference champion, was to have opened state 2-A playoff action Tuesday hosting South Granville.

Whiteville	000 030 0	3-6-0
S. Brunswick	010 000 0	1-3-2

N. Brunswick Closes Out Over Fairmont

North Brunswick closed out the prep baseball regular season Friday and clinched a state playoff berth with a 7-2 Waccamaw 2-A Conference win over host Fairmont.

Winning pitcher Chris Walker tossed a one-hitter over six innings and struck out eight while also getting two hits and driving in a run to lead the Scorpions (10-4, 13-9).

Jarod McGee also had two hits and an RBI while Tommy Clark and Chris McBride had a pair of hits each for North Brunswick.

The Scorpions were to have opened the state 2-A playoffs Tuesday traveling to Fuquay-Varina of the Capital Area Conference.

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