



MEMBERS OF THE SHALLOTTE SHREDDERS gather around coach Marty Mentzer, seated in the car. Pictured are (front row, from left) manager Misty Bryant, Brian Johnson, John Trull, Thomas Gore, Daniel Manges; (middle row, from left) Jeremy Babson, Rocky Fallon, Neil Warren, April Varnum, Raja Lofland, Joe Powell, Andy Russ, Gabe Cooper; and (back row, from left) Scott Summerfield.

Shallotte Shredders Plan Surfing Safari

BY DOUG RUTTER
Three local surfers probably will be dreaming about killer waves and an upcoming trip to California when they go to sleep tonight.

Joe Powell, Stan Russ and Rocky Fallon leave for the West Coast next week to compete in a national contest as representatives of the Shallotte Shredders surfing club.

Marty Mentzer, physical education teacher at Shallotte Middle School and club supervisor, will accompany the teens. They will be competing in the National Scholastic Surfing Association championships at Oceanside.

"It's gonna be hot," said Powell, who just completed the seventh grade at Shallotte Middle. "I've only been to California once to visit relatives and stuff. I didn't do much surfing."

Russ and Fallon, who will be freshmen next year at West Brunswick High School next year, are equally fired up about the road trip. They look forward to surfing much larger waves than those common in the South Brunswick Islands.

Mrs. Mentzer and the surfers will board a Greyhound bus next Friday and head west. If all goes well, the group should reach their destination May 24, the first day of the week-long contest.

Three other club members—

Gabe Cooper, Raja Lofland and Zachary Hicks—qualified for the national contest but won't make the trip partly due to the cost.

Mrs. Mentzer and the three surfers are taking the bus to make the trip as economical as possible. "It's three days non-stop on a bus," she said. "It should be an adventure."

Powell, who was brought up around the water by two parents who used to surf, received his first board before he was three years old. He said he's looking forward to surfing, looking for girls and seeing the sights.

Russ, who has been surfing four or five years, has adopted the simple philosophy of pro surfer Sunny Garcia. "If your surfing don't talk for you, you're just another kook in the water."

Mrs. Mentzer said Fallon only started surfing last summer but has come a long way in a short period of time. He was one of the most improved surfers during the course of the season.

This was the first year for the Shallotte Shredders. The club isn't recognized as an official sports team at Shallotte Middle, and therefore, doesn't receive any funds.

Mrs. Mentzer said the surfers raised about \$200 this year with a car wash, T-shirt sales and other

projects. Several areas businesses also made donations.

A half dozen surfers asked Mrs. Mentzer to start the team in September. The team grew to include about 20 members, but only six to eight were active and competed in more than one contest.

Even though this was the club's first year, the Shredders enjoyed a lot of success in the 13 contests entered.

Competing against young surfers from as far away as Wrightsville Beach and Folly Beach, S.C., the team earned more points than any other in the NSSA Carolina Conference and qualified for the national contest.

Mrs. Mentzer said she would like to see surfing become an official

school sport in the future. A lot of students have been around water all their lives, she said, and surfing is no more dangerous than football or any other sport.

She also would like to expand the club to include West Brunswick High School, where there are a lot of talented surfers, she said.

The NSSA emphasizes academics as well as competitive surfing, presenting scholarships to good surfers with good grades. Mrs. Mentzer said surfing, like many other sports, can help young people overcome problems.

"It can be a positive outlet instead of drugs and things like that," she said. "We're trying to change that reputation that surfing is something negative instead of positive."

Longwood, Supply/Mount Olive Win Pair In Church League Play

Longwood Baptist and league-leading Supply/Mount Olive Baptist won two games each last week in Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League play at Waccamaw Park.

Longwood (7-4) swept two from Camp Methodist 6-4 on Thursday and 11-5 on Monday. Supply/Mount Olive (11-1) also won a pair with a 38-5 ripping of Letties Grove Pentecostal and a 14-5 triumph over second-place Ocean View Baptist on Monday.

In the only other league game Monday, Friendship Baptist defeated Shallotte First Baptist 25-11.

Friday's results included Camp Methodist 26, Calvary Baptist 9 and New Britian Baptist 36, Shallotte First Baptist 7.

Results from last Thursday's makeup games included Zion Baptist over Friendship 15-3 and Letties Grove nipping Camp Methodist 17-

16. League play continues Friday with three games scheduled—Calvary vs. New Britian at 7 p.m., Zion vs. Letties Grove at 8 p.m. and Zion vs. Friendship at 9 p.m.

Monday's games include New Britian vs. Camp Methodist at 7 p.m., Supply/Mount Olive vs. Zion vs. Letties Grove at 8 p.m. and Ocean View at 9 p.m.

Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League Standings as of Thursday, June 13

Team	W	L
Supply/Mount Olive Baptist	11	1
Ocean View Baptist	8	3
Longwood Baptist	7	4
New Britian Baptist	6	4
Friendship Baptist	5	6
Shallotte First Baptist	5	6
Zion Baptist	4	5
Calvary Baptist	3	7
Letties Grove Pentecostal	3	7
Camp Methodist	2	11

Trojan Boosters To Meet Monday

The West Brunswick High School Athletic Boosters Club will meet Monday, June 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the school.

Club president Bobby Williamson urges all members and prospective members to attend this impor-

tant meeting. The club plans to finalize the new football stadium in preparation for the fall season.

For more information contact Williamson at 754-6619 or Saddle Webster at 287-4549.

Bay Beats Branch In Baptist League

Soldier Bay defeated Jennies Branch 14-12 in extra innings Saturday, helping to create a tie for first place in the Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League with two games remaining.

Jennies Branch and Antioch II are tied for first place with 6-2 records following weekend action. An-

tioch II beat Antioch I by a score of 12-11, and Faith won by forfeit over Sunset Harbor.

With its win Saturday, Soldier Bay improved its record to 5-3, only one game out of first place. Faith is 4-4, followed by Antioch I at 2-6 and Sunset Harbor at 1-7.

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LOCAL SURFERS (from left) Rocky Fallon, Stan Russ and Joe Powell leave next Friday for California and the National Scholastic Surfing Association championship.

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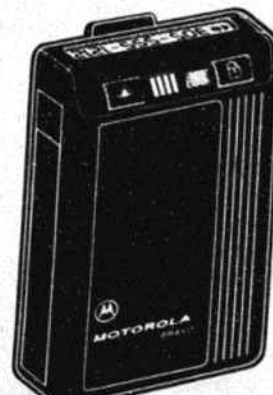
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