

SPORTING SCENE

Bradley Left More Than Footprints On The Field

I never had the chance to meet Fred Bradley, the former West Brunswick High School teacher and assistant football coach who died Nov. 8.

Based on the reaction to his death and the comments I've heard about him, I wish I could have met the man who was much more than a football coach.

I wish I could have met the man who fiercely battled cancer for over a year and a half.

I wish I could have met the man who helped build winning high school football teams wherever he coached.

I wish I could have met the man who knew how to treat each player as an individual and still pull them all together as a team.

From all accounts, Fred Bradley was a fighter and an inspiration to the Trojan football team he served as defensive coordinator for four years.

The Gaffney, S.C., native only came to Shallotte in 1986, but made a lot of friends here in a short period of time.

Although his death didn't come as a big surprise, it still left the West Brunswick community, and the football team in particular, in a state of shock.

It's not too often that you see tears and hear grown men sobbing in the press box prior to a football game. That's what Fred Bradley meant to West Brunswick High School.

It's not too often that you see a team like West Brunswick miss scoring opportunities and squeak by lesser opponents like South Brunswick. That's what Fred Bradley meant to the football team.

Fred Bradley did a lot more than teach social studies and coach football. And he left behind a lot more than his mere footprints on the West Brunswick gridiron.

Fred left behind something much greater and more valuable in the hearts and minds of the coaches and players with whom he worked. He left behind fond memories of a man who cared about people.

On a more upbeat note, it looks like several of the young men who once competed on the county high school athletic fields are doing pretty well in the college ranks.

Greg Williams, who starred on the gridiron and basketball court at South Brunswick, made the basketball team at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro as a walk-on.

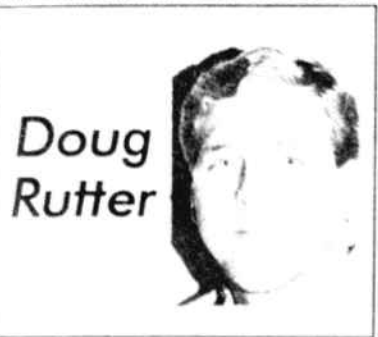
Williams, a freshman at UNCG, averaged 17 points a game last year for the conference basketball champs at South Brunswick.

The former Cougar made the all-county and all-conference teams, and was most valuable player on a high school squad that went 25-4 a year ago.

As best we can tell, Williams is the first county cager since Chucky Brown to make a Division I team. Brown, who played his college ball at N.C. State, went on to join the Cleveland Cavaliers of the NBA.

Another former Cougar, Hans Bean, recently played a pretty good football game for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Bean, who graduated from South Brunswick High in 1989, caught seven passes for 87 yards as the Mariners tied Iona College 28-28 a few weeks ago.



Doug Rutter

This Week In Brunswick Sports

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- ☐ West Brunswick at James Kenan, second round of state 2-A high school football playoffs, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- ☐ Brunswick Baptist Association Golf Tournament at Brierwood Golf Club, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- ☐ Registration and practice for Brunswick County Parks and Recreation youth wrestling program, West Brunswick High School cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- ☐ West Brunswick hosts Wallace-Rose Hill in junior varsity, girls and boys basketball, 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- ☐ South Brunswick hosts Acme-Delco in junior varsity, girls and boys basketball, 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- ☐ North Brunswick at Dixon in junior varsity, girls and boys basketball, 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- ☐ Registration and practice for Brunswick County Parks and Recreation youth wrestling program, West Brunswick High School cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

This week's listings include events reported to the *Beacon*. To list a sporting activity call 754-6890 or write to *The Brunswick Beacon*, P.O. Box 2558, Shallotte, N.C. 28459.

RECREATION BRIEFS

Youth Leagues Set Sign-Ups

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department has scheduled registration dates for its youth basketball and wrestling leagues.

Registration and practice for the wrestling program will be held Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 25 and 26, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the West Brunswick High School cafeteria.

The league is open to youths ages 5 to 14, but high school students aren't allowed to participate. The \$10 registration fee includes a T-shirt.

Registration for youth basketball is slated for Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Children ages 5 to 8 should register at Union Primary School, and youths ages 9 to 13 should sign up at Shallotte Middle School.

The \$10 sign-up fee includes a T-shirt. Youths should go to registration ready to play.

Registration in both leagues will be accepted after the registration dates, according to Joe Rosselli.

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

Party Planned

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual community Christmas party Sunday, Dec. 8, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Joyce Greer, a storyteller, will entertain the group with traditional holiday stories. Refreshments will be served, and guests can expect a visitor from the North Pole to make an appearance.

The location is still undecided, but interested persons can call Emma McGraw at the Recreation Department, 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790, for more information.

Tourney Is Saturday

The Brunswick Baptist Association will hold its golf tournament Saturday, Nov. 23, at Brierwood Golf Club in Shallotte.

Participation is open to men and women, and groups are encouraged to form their own foursomes. Play begins at 8:30 a.m. with a shotgun start.

For further information or to register, call Don Lamb at 754-4159 or Bill Greer at 842-5489.

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Justice Is 10th In Area Biathlon

Cliff Justice of Holden Beach finished 10th in the Carolina Biathlon Series event held Saturday at Sea Trail Plantation at Sunset Beach.

Justice finished the race in 56:16, about four minutes behind first-place finisher Jeff Dyer of Raleigh.

The event drew about 200 participants from as far away as Pennsylvania and Georgia and featured a 3-kilometer run followed by a 20-kilometer bike and another 3-kilometer run.

The only other participant from Brunswick County in the top 50 finishers was Curtis Cowan of Southport. He placed 19th with a time of 1:00:22.

Lewis Signs With Tennessee Vols

Ed Lewis, who hit .506 last summer for Brunswick County American Legion Post 68, signed a letter of intent last week to attend the University of Tennessee on a baseball scholarship.

The New Hanover High School senior shortstop, who has started for the Wildcats since his freshman year, is the son of Brunswick County Post 68 Manager Ed Lewis.

"His number one asset is he's a worker," said New Hanover baseball coach Dave Brewster. "He carries on that long line of tradition in the Lewis family."

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West's Jimmy Grissett Named To Shrine Bowl

Jimmy Grissett, a receiver and defensive back on the West Brunswick High School football team, has been selected to play in the Shrine Bowl Dec. 14 in Charlotte.

The local senior is one of 35 high school football players and six ends in North Carolina to make the all-star team, which was announced Monday.

Marcus Jones, a tackle from Southwest Onslow, and Terrance Dixon, a multi-position player from Conway, S.C., were the only other players from southeastern North Carolina or northeastern South Carolina selected.

Grissett caught 19 passes for 532 yards and six touchdowns in the regular season, including three touchdowns in Sept. 6 game at South Brunswick.

In West Brunswick's playoff opener last Friday against Farmville Central, Grissett had three receptions for 96 yards.

He helped break the game open in the second quarter when he caught a short pass from quarterback Brian Alderson, broke two tackles and sprinted 72 yards for a touchdown.

West Brunswick Coach Marshall Seay said Grissett was "pretty unknown" until this season, because he didn't start playing until his sophomore year and the Trojans didn't throw the ball much last season.

"He certainly has an opportunity to brighten his football future by playing in the Shrine Bowl," Seay said. "He will represent the area very well."

Grissett, a 6-foot-1-inch, 180-

pounder, is only the second player in West Brunswick school history to be chosen for the Shrine Bowl and the third from Brunswick County.

Former Trojan Jeff Bernard was named to the team in 1989 as a defensive back, and former South Brunswick stand-out Quentin McCracken made the squad in 1987.

Seay said the Shrine Bowl team was selected over the weekend. He sent films of Grissett, along with several other players from West Brunswick, to the selection committee.

West Brunswick Athletic Boosters Club President Bobby Williamson helped Seay get several video cassette recorders to make highlight films, the coach said.

The 55th annual Shrine Bowl will be played the same day as the state 2-A high school football championship, which could present a dilemma if West Brunswick continues to win.

Grissett has said he would play in the state championship game instead of the Shrine Bowl if the Trojans make it that far.

Tickets for the Shrine Bowl are available by calling 704-547-0037, said Raybon Moore of the Brunswick County Shrine Club.

The Shrine Club all-star game raises money for the Greenville, S.C. Unit Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. Also, academic scholarships are awarded to each high school of the game's four most outstanding players for award by the schools on the basis of student need.

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