

# This Week In Brunswick Sports

## THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Waccamaw Conference Basketball Tournament semifinal games will be held at South Brunswick High School. Girls play at 6:30 p.m., boys at 8 p.m.  
Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Men's Basketball League at Shallotte Middle School: Warriors vs. Young Guns, 7 p.m.; Lakers vs. Igloo Freeze, 8:15 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Waccamaw Conference Basketball Tournament finals will be held at South Brunswick High School. Girls play at 6:30 p.m., boys at 8 p.m.

## MONDAY, MARCH 9

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Co-ed Volleyball League at Shallotte Middle School: Richard Jones Construction vs. Gene's Body Shop, 7 p.m.; Kari's Team vs. Brunswick Community College, 7:45 p.m.; Roberto's Pizza vs. Rita's Team, 8:30 p.m.; Rita's Team vs. Kari's Team, 9:15 p.m.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Co-ed Volleyball League holds its first-round tournament games at Shallotte Middle School starting at 7 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Men's Basketball League at Shallotte Middle School: Young Guns vs. Lakers, 7 p.m.; Sonics vs. Warriors, 8:15 p.m.

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

### SPORTING SCENE

## Realignment Looks Bleak For County High Schools

Brunswick County's high school athletic teams could be among the biggest losers in the state when the sun sets on the realignment process in December.

From the looks of things now, West and South Brunswick will have to move up in classification from 2-A to 3-A starting with the 1993-94 school year.

And North Brunswick, which has been pleading for years to drop from 2-A to 1-A status, may just have to stay put.

The realignment process is just getting started and won't be completed until the end of next football season. A lot can change between now and then.

But what we know now is that the N.C. High School Athletic Association has divided the state's 323 schools into four classifications based on average daily attendance.

Each school has four options. They can go along with the classification assigned to them based on the number of students, request to play up or down in classification or ask to play as an independent.

Based on average daily attendance, West and South have been tentatively bumped into the 3-A class.

With 661 students, West Brunswick would be in the lower half of the 3-A bracket, but still have 73 more kids than the largest 2-A school in the state.

South Brunswick, on the other hand, averages only 597 students. That puts the Cougars on the bubble.

South would be the third smallest school in the 3-A classification, with nine students of being in the 2-A bracket.

The situation is similar for North Brunswick, which has an average daily membership of 434 kids.

North, which has consistently had trouble competing on the 2-A level, would have been lowered to 1-A if it averaged 11 fewer students per day.

So what do all these numbers mean?

They apparently add up to trouble for West Brunswick. Southeastern North Carolina has more counties than 3-A schools.

Trojan coaches and athletes will have to do an awful lot of traveling if West Brunswick ends up in a 3-A conference.

The closest 3-A schools are north of Wilmington in Onslow, Pender and Craven counties. Talk about a long bus ride home from a ball game.

West isn't the only local school with problems on the horizon. Dropping from 3-A to 2-A in South's case or 2-A to 1-A in North's case is just as bad in my opinion.

Under N.C.H.S.A.A. rules, schools that play down in classification are restricted when it comes to competing in team sports playoffs. A team that qualifies for the playoffs one year isn't eligible the next.

That means if North Brunswick drops to 1-A and the Scorpions qualify for the football playoffs one year, they wouldn't be allowed to participate in post-season play the following season.

Playing as an independent is a lousy option too, since those schools don't have any rights to participate in team sports playoffs.

The troublesome news for the local schools isn't final by any means. They have until March 31 to send in ballots indicating their preferences.

The athletic association's realignment committee will send their plan to the schools in June.

High schools then have three chances to appeal to the committee and the N.C.H.S.A.A. Board of Directors before the plan is finalized in December.

In the meantime, let's hope the schools and athletic association can work out a plan that will be fair to everyone concerned.

### IN RECREATION LEAGUE

## Young Guns Top Igloo Freeze

The Young Guns defeated Igloo Freeze 88-81 last Thursday to stay in first place in the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Men's Basketball League.

Chris Johnson scored 30 points to pace the Young Guns, who improved to 10-1 on the season. Jeff Register scored 23 for the Freeze.

In last Thursday's other game, Joe Clemmons scored a game-high 26 points to lead the Rockets to a 76-69 win over the Sonics. Steven Carr led the Sonics with 22 points.

On Wednesday, the second-place Turntables upped their record to 10-2 with a 76-64 victory over the Warriors.

Trampus Gause led the Turntables

with 33 points, and Don Stevenson scored 21 points for the fourth-place Warriors.

In other action, Kenneth Graham racked up 37 points to lead the Lakers to a 134-104 rout of the Brew Crew. Jeff Mintz scored 29 for the winless Crew.

**Men's Basketball League Standings As Of March 3**

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Young Guns	10	1
Turntables	10	2
Lakers	8	3
Warriors	5	4
Rockets	4	6
Igloo Freeze	3	7
Sonics	2	7
Brew Crew	0	12



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

## Bulls Win Championship

The Bulls defeated the Trail Blazers 66-65 in the Trojan-Aire Association youth basketball tournament championship Saturday at West Brunswick High School. Pictured (front row, from left) are Landis Morgan, Amanda Reeves, Jeremy Varnum, (back row, from left) Cameron Kinlaw, Matthew Keaton, Andy Russ, Jon Williams and Bulls' Coach Bobby Webster. Chris Mintz of the Trail Blazers led the league in scoring this season with 28.25 points per game.

## Daniels Wins Hoop Shoot

BY DORI C. GURGANUS

A Waccamaw Elementary student won a state title in the Elks Hoop Shoot Contest and will compete next in semifinal competition.

Deatry Daniels of Longwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Daniels, won the championship for his age category, 10- and 11-year-old boys.

The fifth-grader beat out five other regional champs from all over North Carolina in statewide competition held Feb. 22 in Reidsville.

Jack Ziefel, spokesman for Calabash Elks Lodge No. 2679, said that Daniels completed 22 out of 25 possible free throws in the contest.

The next step is the semifinal contest March 13, 14 and 15 in Charleston, W. Va.

At a meeting last Wednesday night, Calabash Elks members voted to support Daniels with \$500 for travel expenses, Ziefel said. The Elks also gave him some financial help for the trip to Reidsville.

"He's a real nice boy," Ziefel said, adding that Daniels was the only participant at the regional contest who thanked the Elks for holding the event.

Daniels made it to the state competition by winning for his age category in the regional contest held Jan. 25 at Shallotte Middle School.

If he can make it past the semifinals in West Virginia, Daniels will head to Indianapolis, Ind., for national competition April 4.

The other representative of Brunswick County, Laurie Penney of Ash, came in third in the 10- to 11-year-old girls' category. She missed the championship by only two free throws, Ziefel said.



DANIELS

**Doug Rutter**  
Sports Editor

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