

# South Lady Cougars Fall In Sectional Final

BY DOUG RUTTER

South Brunswick's Lady Cougars ended their best basketball season in school history last Friday with a 38-33 play-off loss to Franklinton.

Franklinton, the second seed from the Capital Area Conference, upended South Brunswick in the Section 4 2-A final in Whiteville.

The Lady Cougars, the top seed from the Waccamaw Conference, finished the season at 20-6. "We had a good year," Coach Mike Isenberg said. "I would have liked to have gone one game farther."

Franklinton, which used a slow-down offense throughout the game, led 11-7 after the first quarter and 15-11 at halftime.

"They kind of spread their offense and we couldn't generate any offense," Isenberg said. "They were keeping us pushed out in the half court."

Franklinton outscored South Brunswick 13-8 in the third quarter to take a 28-19 lead into the final period.

South Brunswick used an 8-2 run in the first two minutes of the fourth quarter to trim the lead to 30-27.

Franklinton responded with a 5-2 run of its own to take a 35-29 lead with 37 seconds remaining in the game.

South Brunswick got a basket from Latonya Hankins and two free throws from Jenny Fullwood to cut Franklinton's lead to 35-33 with 11 seconds left.

Franklinton's Ange Lemay made one free throw with 10 seconds left. She missed the second attempt, but Natasha Crudup grabbed the rebound and scored to provide the final margin of victory.

Crudup finished with 20 points to lead Franklinton to the East Regional semifinals. Angela Ellis added nine points.

Isenberg said Franklinton out-rebounded the Lady Cougars and kept South Brunswick from getting the ball inside to center Erika Bryant.

Bryant led South Brunswick with 13 points. Senior Alison Cumbee added eight points in her final game for the Lady Cougars.

**Score By Quarters**  
 Franklinton 11 4 13 10—38  
 South Brunswick 7 4 8 14—33  
 Franklinton scoring: Crudup, 20; Ellis, 9; Lemay, 5; Nicholson, 4.  
 South Brunswick scoring: Bryant, 13; Cumbee, 8; Fullwood, 5; T. Sellers, 3; Hankins, 2; Davis, 2.

**Semifinals**  
 South Brunswick advanced to the sectional finals with a 52-36 semifinal win over West Montgomery last Wednesday in Whiteville.

Bryant led the Lady Cougars with 18 points. Cumbee chipped in 14,

making eight of nine free throw attempts.

South's girls jumped out to a 12-4 lead in the first quarter, but West Montgomery came back and trailed only 22-20 at halftime.

The Lady Cougars put the game out of reach in the third quarter, outscoring their opponent 17-5 to take a 39-25 lead into the final period.

South outscored West Montgomery 13-11 in the fourth quarter to pick up its 20th win of the season.

**Score By Quarters**  
 West Montgomery 4 16 5 11—36  
 South Brunswick 12 10 17 13—52  
 West Montgomery scoring: Macrae, 23; S. Pemberton, 9; L. Pemberton, 2; Lilly, 2.  
 South Brunswick scoring: Bryant, 18; Cumbee, 14; Fullwood, 8; Sellers, 4; Isenberg, 4; Brown, 4.



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER  
 SOUTH BRUNSWICK CENTER Erika Bryant (right) battles for a rebound with Franklinton's Angela Ellis (32) and Ange Lemay (14) during Friday's sectional final in Whiteville.

# Clayton Clips Cougars In Basketball Playoffs

South Brunswick's Cougars fell to Clayton 65-64 in the opening round of the state 2-A boys' basketball playoffs last Tuesday at Fuquay-Varina.

South's 6-foot-11-inch center, Preston McGriff, poured in 36 points for the Cougars, who took a commanding lead early but couldn't hold it.

Coach Gene Doane said South started the game with an impressive 20-2 run, but only led 36-30 at halftime.

"We stopped playing basketball," he said Friday. "We stopped playing defense. We stopped playing period."

Clayton opened the second half making three straight three-pointers to take a 39-37 lead early in the third quarter.

The teams played even the rest of the game. Doane said South Brunswick had a good chance to win in the closing seconds but didn't convert a 5-on-2 fast break.

"We just had a complete breakdown mentally, which we've been doing a lot lately," Doane said. "We haven't played well in a while. There have been too many outside interests."

Doane said South Brunswick should have beaten Clayton, the fourth-seeded team from the Capital Area Conference.

"The better team lost," the disappointed Cougar coach said. "The team that wanted it won the game."

Doane said the bus ride to Fuquay-Varina, which is near Raleigh, affected the Cougars' stamina.

"Any time you have to travel

three hours and the other team travels 19 miles it has an impact," he said. "They were fresher. By the second half we were sucking wind."

South Brunswick, runner-up in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference in the regular season and tournament, ended the year at 21-6 after winning

12 of their first 13 games.

"As a coach I've probably never been more frustrated than I have this past season, because the potential was there to go far," Doane said.

Besides McGriff, South Brunswick will lose five other senior players to graduation this year.

## IN RECREATION LEAGUE

### Young Guns Knock Off Lakers

The Young Guns defeated the Lakers 74-66 last week to stay in second place in the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Men's Basketball League.

Kenny McMillian scored a team-high 23 points as the Young Guns improved to 11-2 on the year.

Charles Webb scored 21 points for the third-place Lakers, who fell to 9-4 with two weeks left in the regular season.

In other games last week, the league-leading Turntables stayed one-half game ahead of the Young Guns with an 87-83 win over Igloo Freeze.

Trampus Gause poured in 43 points for the Turntables, who improved to 12-2 on the season. Brad Cheers scored 18 for Igloo Freeze.

The fourth-place Warriors continued their winning ways last week with a 98-86 victory over the Sonics. Robert Thompson scored 32 for the Warriors, and Kevin Grant led the Sonics with 25.

Marvin Jones scored 21 points to lead the Rockets to a 95-85 win over the Brew Crew. Greg White scored 25 for the Crew.

#### Men's Basketball League Standings As Of March 17

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Turntables	12	2
Young Guns	11	2
Lakers	9	4
Warriors	7	4
Rockets	5	7
Sonics	3	8
Igloo Freeze	3	9
Brew Crew	0	14

## 1st Annual Leprechaun Lounge Dart Tournament

March 28, 2 PM

SINGLES	DOUBLES
\$7 Entry Fee	\$14 Entry Fee
\$2 Tournament Cost	\$2 Tournament Cost
\$5 Prize Fund	\$12 Prize Fund

#### Rules:

- Prize Fund will be paid for 1 in 5 entries.
- All Prize Funds will be paid 100%.
- Singles and doubles will be double elimination, best of three.
- Easy on double off, 301 for singles, 501 for doubles.
- We will draw for playing positions (numbers) in which you will compete.
- In case of both players ending needing double 1 for an out, each player will receive 3 turns. If neither player doubles out, one dart will be thrown, closest to bullseye wins the game.
- Standard rules of competition and conduct will apply.
- Any questions in ruling will be the decision of the tournament director.

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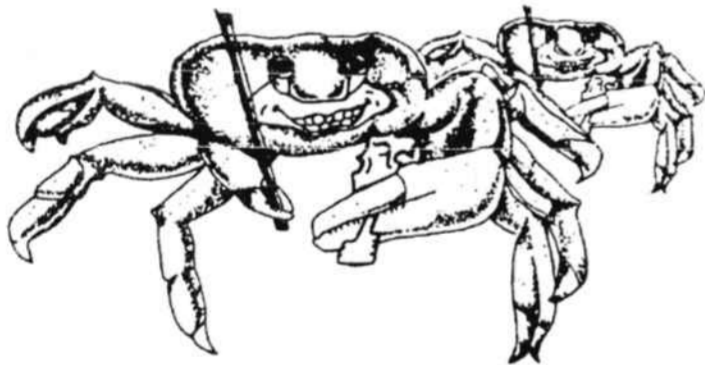
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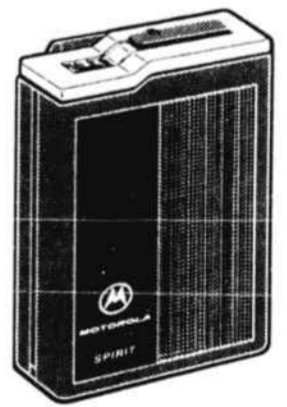
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