

Scorps Give Athletic Awards

North Brunswick High School recently presented athletic awards for the 1992-93 school year as follows:

Football: George Beasley, coaches award.
Soccer: David Mullins, most valuable player; Melanie Marshall, coaches.
Volleyball: April Ganey, MVP; Kim Ganey, coaches; Jodi Heath, most improved player.
Boys' basketball: Dwain Waddell, MVP; Marlon Cobb, coaches.
Girls' basketball: Tosha Robbins, MVP; Latonia Grady, coaches.
JV basketball: Torrance Shaw and Angelo McKenzie, co-MVP.
Wrestling: Keith Bullock, MVP; Roddie Jones, coaches.
Cheerleading: Monica Riggins, MVP; Latonia Richburg, coaches.
JV cheerleading: Nymekia Munn, MVP; Stephanie Craft, coaches.
Baseball: Jared McGee, MVP; Demetrius Bell, coaches.
JV baseball: Tim Campbell, MVP.
Softball: Tonya Edge, MVP; April Ganey, coaches.
Golf: Scotie Roberts, MVP; J.D. Gidley, coaches.
Cross country: Frankie Meares, MVP.
Indoor track: Keith Stroman, MVP.
Boys' track: Maduka Ballard, MVP; Chad Higgs, coaches.
Girls' track: Valerie Smith, MVP; Lakesia Pretty, coaches.

SPORTING SCENE

The Good, Bad And Ugly Of Waccamaw Realignment

Realignment of the Waccamaw 2-A Conference is like a famous Clint Eastwood flick. It's good, bad and ugly for Brunswick County Schools.

The N.C. High School Athletic Association plans to change the Waccamaw Conference and other leagues in the state prior to the 1993-94 school year.

Instead of a 2-A league, the powerful Waccamaw will become a combination 2-A/3-A conference under the current proposal.

West Brunswick, South Brunswick, North Brunswick, Whiteville and West Columbus will stay on board.

The Waccamaw Conference will say goodbye to East Bladen, Fairmont and South Robeson, which will join another league.

In their place will be South Columbus and East Columbus, a couple of new 2-A high schools created by consolidation in Columbus County.

Pender, a 3-A high school, will also join the league. West Brunswick and South Brunswick will be the other 3-A schools.

Things could change between now and the approval deadline in December, but here's the way I see it:

THE GOOD: The realignment proposal is generally a good one for West Brunswick and South Brunswick high schools.

The Trojans and Cougars, moving up in classification due to growth in their districts, will continue a rivalry that has been a healthy one over the years.

West Brunswick's Trojans also get to keep in touch with their good friends from Whiteville, another big rival for two decades.

At the same time, the local high schools won't have to do any more traveling than they have in the past.

The Trojans and Cougars could have been forced to play in the nearest 3-A league 100-plus miles up the coast.

West and South also could have been tossed into a 3-A/4-A league with the Wilmington schools, which would have been a nightmare.

With just three 3-A teams in the new conference, only one of them will probably be eligible for the state playoffs in each sport.

As if the rivalry needed a boost, that will put an even greater premium on winning the annual West-South games.

THE BAD AND THE UGLY: While West and South look like they'll emerge from realignment smelling rosy, the same thing can't be said for North Brunswick.

The worst part of the NCHSAA's plan is dumping North in a conference with schools that eat Scorpions for breakfast.

North Brunswick, with only 434 students, is the fifth-smallest 2-A school in North Carolina.

As members of the proposed 2-A/3-A conference, North will be taking on schools that have at least 70 more kids apiece.

Pender, the largest school in the proposed combination conference, has 257 more students than North Brunswick.

Numbers aren't everything in high school athletics. The team with the biggest desire can win a lot of games.

But asking North Brunswick to continue competing against the likes of West Brunswick, South Brunswick and Pender is insane.

North Brunswick Athletic Director Gary Baldwin asked the NCHSAA to place the Scorps in a 1-A conference. There's one just up the road from Leland.

School officials, who have appealed the 2-A/3-A proposal, say North is a legitimate 1-A school most of the year anyway, based on enrollment.

It's obvious the NCHSAA realignment committee doesn't know what's best for North Brunswick. They should at least give the Scorps a fighting chance.

Coach Search Continues At West Brunswick High

West Brunswick High School moved closer to wrapping up its search for a new head football coach after completing a series of interviews Monday.

Brunswick County Schools Athletic Director Nelson Best and West Brunswick Principal Ed Lemon have interviewed nine candidates for the post.

Marshall Seay vacated the head coaching spot last month after six winning seasons to take an athletic director and head coach position in Polk County.

West Brunswick did not have a recommendation to present to the Brunswick County Board of Education at its meeting Monday night.

Best said Lemon didn't have time after interviews were completed Monday afternoon to check references and come up with a name for the board.

"There's a lot involved and it looks like it's going to take more time than we had hoped it would," Best said Tuesday.

School officials want a coach by the end of June. One could be selected as soon as today (Thursday) when the school board meets at 6:30 p.m. at the central office near Southport.

Best said there's been a lot of people interested in the position. The top 30 applications were narrowed down to nine for interview

Doug Rutter
Sports Editor



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Twin Towers Visit Camp

Sammy and Simeon Haley, two 7-footers from Myrtle Beach High School, visited basketball camp Monday at Shallotte Middle School. Camp co-director Ray Wilson (with ball) demonstrates a low post move. Also pictured (from left) are campers Kelly Mintz, Chris Orrock, Renata Hankins, Gray Cheek, Jenny Trest and Brandon Orrock. Football and cheerleading camp will be held next week, and soccer is offered the following week.

North's Ballard Bound For Major Track Meets

BY DOUG RUTTER

North Brunswick's Maduka Ballard will compete in two of the nation's most prestigious high school track and field meets over the next two weeks.

The recent graduate travels to Sacramento, Calif., this week, and Elmhurst, Ill., next week to show off his high jumping talents.

Ballard will compete in the Great Western Prep Track & Field Invitational June 13 and the Keebler International Prep Track & Field Invitational June 20.

Earlier this year, Ballard set a regular-season state high school record in the high jump when he cleared 7 feet, 2 inches, during a conference meet at North Brunswick.



BALLARD

In only his second year on the Scorpion track team, Ballard went on to win the Brunswick County, Waccamaw Conference and Mideast Regional high jump titles. He finished second at the state championships May 23.

North Brunswick Track Coach Bob Grimes, who will accompany Ballard on his two trips, said he planned to resume practices with the high jumper following last week's graduation.

After setting the state record in early April, Grimes said Ballard was inconsistent the rest of the high school season, jumping anywhere between 6 feet, 4 inches, to 6 feet, 10 inches.

Grimes said high expectations after the record jump caused Ballard to try too hard during conference meets and the state championship meet.

"He had a lot of attention and lost focus for a while," the coach said.

"Everybody was giving him suggestions and ideas, and he was just trying to do too many things. The harder he tried the worse it got for him."

The coach said Ballard has great natural ability and jumped very well in practice throughout the spring. It was his lack of experience that hurt him in some of the bigger track meets.

"It's still there," Grimes said last week. "It's just a matter of putting it back together again. We're just going to focus more on his form."

Grimes hopes for good performances out of Ballard in the upcoming meets because he won't have any pressure on him. "If he just relaxes and has fun the rest will take care of itself," he said.

The North Brunswick coach said St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, which has a strong track program, is interested in giving Ballard a scholarship.

Grimes said other schools haven't really talked to Ballard because he hadn't taken the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Ballard took the test for the first time Saturday.

In both of the upcoming meets, Grimes said Ballard will be competing against some of the top high school track and field stars in the country.

Over the past 21 years, many famous athletes have made their final prep appearances at the Keebler Invitational, including Carl Lewis and Renaldo Nehemiah.

More than 30 participants in that high school meet have gone on to win Olympic medals. USA Network will televise the meet Saturday, July 4, starting at 11 a.m.



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Ocean View Wins Two Games

Ocean View Baptist has won a pair of games in the past week to improve to 10-3 in the Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League.

Ocean View topped New Britton 13-7 Monday night after pounding Lettices Grove 28-9 last Friday.

In other games Monday, Jennies Branch blasted Soldier Bay 27-7 and Supply Baptist got past Seaside Methodist 23-15.

Last Friday, Calvary Baptist improved to 8-2 with an 18-6 victory over Friendship Baptist. Zion Baptist was a 12-7 winner over Camp Methodist.

The three games that were rained out last Thursday will be rescheduled for a later date.

Church Men's Softball League Standings As Of June 2

NORTH DIVISION

Team	Wins	Losses
Calvary Baptist	8	2
Mount Olive	8	3
Shallotte First	7	4
Supply Baptist	6	6
Camp Methodist	5	7
Lettices Grove	2	8
Seaside Methodist	1	13

SOUTH DIVISION

Team	Wins	Losses
Friendship	10	2
Jennies Branch	8	2
Ocean View	10	3
Emanuel Outreach	6	5
Zion Baptist	6	7
New Britton	2	9
Soldier Bay	1	9

Scorps Plan Basketball Camp

North Brunswick Head Basketball Coach Cliff Gibson will hold his summer basketball camp June 15-17 on the Leland campus.

The camp is for boys and girls ages 9 to 18. Participants will receive instruction three hours each day, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Camp costs \$20 per person. Each participant will receive a T-shirt. Refreshments, trophies and door prizes also will be provided.

"I bring a lot of experience to my

camp," Gibson said. "The kids will get good instruction in the fundamentals."

The 11th annual camp is the oldest high school basketball camp in Brunswick County and one of the oldest in the state, Gibson said.

The North Brunswick coach plans to take 11 varsity basketball team members to camp at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington June 21-25.



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