

This Week In Brunswick Sports

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

□ Brunswick County Church Men's Softball League at Waccamaw Park: Mount Olive vs. Calvary Baptist, 7 p.m.; Soldier Bay vs. Emanuel Outreach, 8 p.m.; Letties Grove vs. Shallotte First, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

□ Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League at Supply Park: Oak Island vs. Town Creek, 6:30 p.m.; Antioch vs. Faith, 7:30 p.m.; Gospel Center vs. Soldier Bay, 8:30 p.m.; Supply vs. Shell Point, 9:30 p.m.
 □ Brunswick County Church Men's Softball League at Waccamaw Park: Friendship Baptist vs. Jennies Branch, 7 p.m.; New Britton vs. Zion Baptist, 8 p.m.; Mount Olive vs. Camp Methodist, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

□ Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League at Supply Park:
 Soldier Bay vs. Shell Point, 6:30 p.m.
 Antioch vs. Gospel Center, 7:30 p.m.
 Oak Island vs. Supply, 8:30 p.m.
 Town Creek vs. Faith, 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

□ Brunswick County Church Men's Softball League at Waccamaw Park:
 Seaside Methodist vs. Letties Grove, 7 p.m.
 Shallotte First vs. Mount Olive, 8 p.m.
 Calvary Baptist vs. New Britton, 9 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.

Three Trojans To Play On Regional Ball Team

Three West Brunswick baseball players have been named to a regional team that will compete in the North Carolina State Games this month in Chapel Hill.

Brian Alderson, Scott Gore and Bryan Fleming were named to the 20-man Region 2 team following tryouts Sunday at UNC-Wilmington.

After two years as an assistant, West Brunswick Coach Mike Alderson will serve as regional head coach this year.

"It's a pretty big honor for these kids to be selected out of about 63 kids," Alderson said Monday.

Brian Alderson, who graduated last week, made the regional club last year as a junior. The pitcher-shorstop was believed to be the first West Brunswick student named to a state game baseball team.

Both Gore and Fleming are juniors who played key roles in the Trojans' 19-7 record this spring. Gore pitched and plays infield, while Fleming is a power-hitting catcher.

Coach Alderson said the regional squad includes 10 high school se-

niors and 10 juniors. The region stretches from Brunswick County north to Carteret County and takes in several inland counties.

The state games baseball tournament will be June 18-21 on the UNC campus. Region 2 will play Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and four of the eight regional teams will advance to the medal round Sunday.

Alderson said the Region 2 club has a strong pitching staff, anchored by New Hanover's Trot Nixon and Lancy's Joey Pyrtle.

Other pitchers include Scott Fussell of North Lenoir, Terry Williams of Midway and Jason Ramsey of Southwest Onslow. Ramsey, a junior, is 25-1 the last two seasons in high school.

"This will be my last year as coach," Alderson said. "Once you've been head coach you've got to bow out and let one of the assistants take over."

Assistant coaches for the regional team this year are Tom McMahan of James Kenan, William Rivenbark of Pender and Jerry Baldwin of Pamlico.

Brunswick Shores Wins Opener

What happens when high school baseball playoffs interfere with American Legion practice?

For Brunswick Shores Post 445, it meant a 10-5 victory in its season opener Sunday night.

The club, comprised of players from West Brunswick and South Brunswick high schools, topped Warsaw Post 127.

Because of West Brunswick's success in the high school playoffs, Post 445 didn't get to practice at all prior to the game.

"We just made out a lineup that night," Coach Mike Alderson said. "We hadn't practiced at all."

Brian Ricker, Mike Sellers and Michael Turner shared pitching duties for Post 445. Bryan Fleming and Brian Alderson had two hits apiece for Brunswick Shores, and Keane Bellamy had an RBI.

Brunswick Shores was scheduled to host Brunswick County Post 68 in its home opener Tuesday night at South Brunswick High School.

Post 445 also had three other games on this week's slate, including a home game scheduled Wednesday night against Burgaw. Brunswick Shores travels to Jacksonville Friday to play Post 265 and will play another game Saturday.

Post 68 Defeats Jacksonville 11-3

Brunswick County Post 68 defeated Jacksonville Post 265 11-3 Monday night to improve to 3-0 in Area II Eastern District American Legion play.

Pitcher Casey McBride struck out nine in seven innings for Post 68, while Ed Lewis drove in five runs on three hits. Jimmy Sandy and Kelly Myers had two hits apiece for the Leland-based post.

On Sunday, Brunswick County pounded Burgaw Post 165 by a

score of 25-4. Winning pitcher Jared McGee yielded just one hit and struck out 10 hitters in five innings.

Chris McBride hit a two-run home run and collected five RBI for Post 68. Jimmy Settlemyre added a three-run homer.

Post 68, which was scheduled to play Brunswick Shores Post 445 at South Brunswick High School Tuesday night, opened the season last Monday with a 3-0 win over Winter Park.

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WEST ENDS SEASON

Whiteville Nips Trojans In Eastern Final

BY DOUG RUTTER

Whiteville's baseball team continued its recent dominance over West Brunswick Friday and earned the right to defend its state championship.

The Wolfpack scored three first-inning runs and held on for a 4-2 victory over the Trojans in the eastern final of the high school 2-A playoffs.

Whiteville, which improved to 20-2 on the season, was slated to open the best-of-three state finals against western champion Cherryville Wednesday night. All games will be played at Legion Stadium in Whiteville.

Friday night's win was Whiteville's third this season over the Trojans. Unlike the two regular-season Waccamaw Conference contests, last week's playoff game was a close one.

"If we hit the ball like we did the first two playoff games we would have beat those boys," West Brunswick Coach Mike Alderson said. "We just didn't hit like we're capable of hitting."

Although they fell behind early, the Trojans battled back and went down fighting. It was West Brunswick's first trip to the eastern baseball finals in school history.

"The kids were a little scared, a little tight," Alderson said. "If you play that way against Whiteville, they'll make you pay for it."

The game looked like a blowout from the start. Trojan pitcher Scott Gore struggled in the first inning, giving up two base hits and issuing two walks.

Whiteville's Brett Harwood walked on four pitches to lead off the inning. Ed Burleson followed with an RBI triple to left-center field.

With one out, Bryan Etheridge singled to center field, scoring Burleson. Etheridge later advanced to second and third and eventually scored on three wild pitches.

West Brunswick got one of the runs back in the top of the second inning. Adam Johnson singled to left field, advanced to third on an infield hit by Gore and scored on a sacrifice fly by Keane Bellamy.

The score remained 3-1 until the bottom of the fifth, when Whiteville added its final run. Catcher Jamie Townsend led off with a double, advanced to third on an infield error and scored on a groundout.

West Brunswick cut the lead to 4-2 in the sixth as Aaron Butler scored on a two-out single by Gore. Butler had walked, moved to second on a wild pitch and took third on a fielder's choice.

Both teams had five hits in the game, but Whiteville's were more timely than West Brunswick's.



ALDWIN LANCE (center) gets some advice from coaches Mike Alderson (left) and Art Cassores during last week's game in Whiteville. STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Coach Alderson said Burleson's first-inning RBI triple was a key hit. "That got them started, got them fired up," he said.

The Trojans twice stranded a runner at third base. In the fifth inning, Bellamy led off with a double and moved to third base on a wild pitch. West Brunswick failed to pick up the run.

Whiteville ace Clay Boykin pitched the entire game for the Wolfpack, recording six strike outs and improving to 8-1 on the season.

Gore settled down after trouble in the first inning and went the distance for West Brunswick. He struck out seven and had two hits.

West Brunswick finished the year at 19-7. "We're proud of the season we had," Alderson said. "The kids played hard."

East Bladen The Trojans had advanced to the eastern final by beating conference foe East Bladen last Wednesday night in Elizabethtown.

Bellamy's two-run double in the fourth inning was the difference as West Brunswick beat the Cougars 3-1.

West's Brian Alderson yielded just two hits in 6 2/3 innings. Gore picked up the final out after entering the game with the bases loaded in the seventh.

Alderson, who had graduated from West Brunswick the night before, also helped his own cause at East Bladen, scoring West's first run of the game.

The right-handed hurler walked on four pitches in the first inning and later scored from second base on a two-out single by Butler.

The Trojans clung to their 1-0 lead until the fourth inning, when Butler led off with a walk and Gore hit a one-out double.

Bellamy then stepped to the plate with runners on second and third and delivered a base hit up the middle to score Butler and Gore.

East Bladen got one of the runs

back in the sixth inning, taking advantage of a walk and infield error to cut West's lead to 3-1.

Last week's win was West Brunswick's third victory of the season over the Cougars, who had finished third in the Waccamaw Conference.

East Bladen pitcher Robbie Priest went the distance for the Cougars, giving up six hits.

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