

## Brunswick County Jolts Jacksonville 13-4

BY DOUG RUTTER

Brunswick County pounded out 16 hits and scored in each of first four innings en route to a 13-4 American Legion baseball win over Jacksonville Sunday afternoon in Leland.

Demetrius Bell had three hits and three RBI, Jeremy Child had three hits and two RBI and Paul Little drove in two runs as Post 68 notched its seventh consecutive victory.

Pitcher Jerry Galloway got the win after hurling seven solid innings. The right-hander yielded four runs and five hits while recording seven strikeouts.

"We swung the bats well," Brunswick County Coach Ed Lewis said after his club improved to 10-1 in the Area II East League and 13-8 overall with the win at North Brunswick High School.

Despite the absence of starters Eric Johnson, Michael Johnson and Casey McBride, Brunswick County got plenty of offensive production and good defense. Every Post 68 starter had at least one hit.

The Johnson boys and McBride were in Durham over the weekend competing in the North Carolina State Games' scholastic baseball tournament.

"You're always concerned about playing without that kind of talent," Lewis said. "This group showed some skill. Scott Beck had a tremendous game at third base. It's only his second time out there."

Jacksonville took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when John Donnelly led off with a single and later scored on a passed ball.

Brunswick County tied the score in the home half of the first. Lewis Vaught reached on a fielder's choice and scored from second base on Little's infield single.

Post 68 went ahead to stay with four runs in the second inning. Beck singled and scored on a passed ball, and Matt Mintz singled and scored on Child's groundout.

Bell then blasted a solo home run over the right field fence, and Little followed with an RBI double to give Brunswick County a 5-1 advantage.

Post 68 bumped its lead to 7-1 in the third inning. Bell rapped an RBI



RANDY COLEMAN takes a cut for Brunswick County during its 13-4 victory Sunday over visiting Jacksonville. Coleman had one of Brunswick's 16 hits.

single to right and later scored on an infield error.

Child had an RBI single and Bell added a run-scoring double in the fourth as Brunswick County pulled out to a 9-1 lead.

Jacksonville trimmed the margin to 9-3 in the fifth on Ricky Michelli's RBI groundout and Jason Riddle's run-scoring single.

But the locals crushed any hopes of a Jacksonville comeback with four runs in the sixth. Mintz and Vaught each batted in runs during the inning.

Post 265 closed out the scoring in the seventh when Buddy Bean sin-

gled and scored on Michelli's groundout.

Coach Lewis said Galloway pitched well but needs to become more consistent with the location of his fastball. If Galloway can keep his heater low, Lewis said he'll increase his strikeouts.

"He showed some signs of coming around. He's still throwing too many pitches. He's throwing too many pitches to get outs," Lewis said.

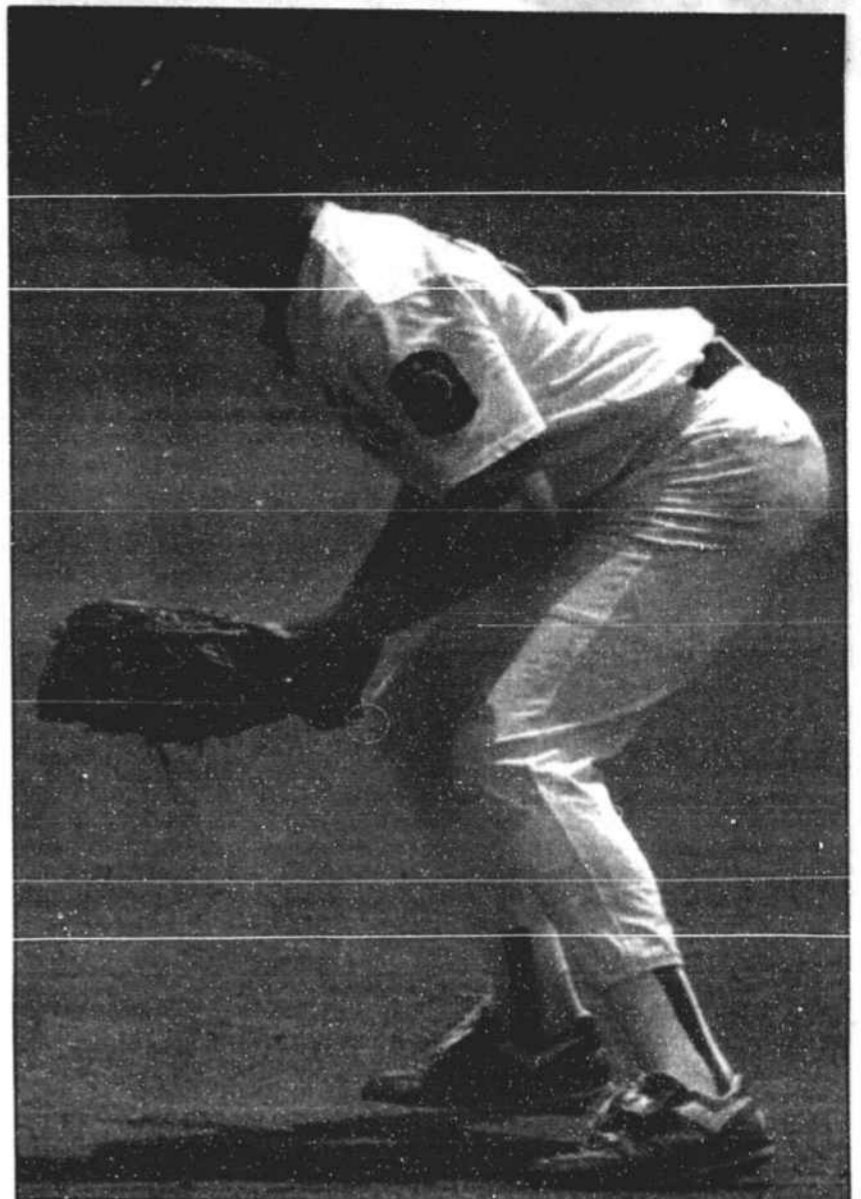
Brunswick County left-hander Tim Smith did not give up any hits while pitching the final two innings in relief.

Jason Riddle suffered the pitching loss for Jacksonville after giving up nine hits and seven runs in the first three innings. Alex Doyle and Donnelly pitched in relief.

Brunswick County was scheduled to play unbeaten Wilmington Post 10 Wednesday night at Scorpion Field in a game that was rained out Monday.

Post 68 will travel to Wilmington Thursday to play Winter Park and ends the regular season Friday night at home against Winter Park.

**Game Summary**  
J'ville 10 020 1 0 0—4 5 4  
Brun. 14 2204 0 0 X—13 16 2



BRUNSWICK COUNTY first baseman Matt Mintz is ready for anything hit his way.

## Brunswick Tops Warsaw 7-5

Paul Little's pinch-hit, two-run single in the seventh inning drove in the winning runs as Brunswick County Post 68 defeated Warsaw Post 127, 7-5, last Tuesday in American Legion baseball.

Brunswick County broke a 3-3 tie with four runs in the seventh and held on for its fifth consecutive win in the Area II East League. Post 68 improved to 8-1 in the league and 11-8 overall.

Lewis Vaught and Michael Johnson each had two singles and one RBI for Brunswick County. Demetrius Bell had a single and double, Casey McBride drove in two runs and Jeremy Sullivan had one RBI for the winners.

Pitcher Eric Johnson picked up the victory for Post 68 after giving up two runs and two hits while striking out six Warsaw batters in four

innings of relief.

McBride, the starting pitcher, left after the fifth inning with the score tied 3-3. McBride yielded three runs on five hits and had five strikeouts and five walks.

On Friday, Brunswick County was a forfeit winner over Beaufort Post 99. Beaufort did not have enough players at game time, but the teams played a practice game after two players arrived 30 minutes late.

**Game Summary**  
Brun. 1 1 1 0 0 4 0 0—7 10 2  
Warsaw 0 0 0 3 0 0 2 0 0—5 7 3

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## POST 68 DEFENDING TITLE

# American Legion Playoffs Start Sunday

BY DOUG RUTTER

Can Brunswick County's American Legion baseball team continue its winning ways and capture a second straight Area II East League championship?

Post 68's coaches and players will start answering that question Sunday when the league playoffs begin with a pair of best-of-five, first-round series.

Heading into the final week of the regular season, Brunswick County and Wilmington Post 10 were battling for the regular-season title and the top playoff seed.

Following a Monday rainout, the rival clubs were scheduled to face off Wednesday night in Leland. Post 10 entered the week unbeaten in league play, while Brunswick County has one loss.

If the teams finish tied for first, Wilmington would be crowned regular-season champ because Post 10 defeated Post 68 in the first game between the clubs this season.

Whiteville Post 137, which entered the week with four league losses, and Winter Park, which has dropped five, are contending for the league's third and fourth playoff slots.

Brunswick County Coach Ed Lewis said Sunday he expects Post 68 will face Whiteville in the opening round of the playoffs. If so, it would be the fourth straight year the two clubs have met

in round one.

Whiteville won the five-game series in 1991, but Brunswick County has won the last two playoff series between the two clubs.

Post 68 swept Whiteville in their two league games this season, winning by scores 2-0 and 2-1. Post 68 and Post 137 split a pair of exhibition games early in the season.

The first-round playoff winners will meet in the best-of-seven league championship series July 10-17. The best-of-seven Area II championship series is slated July 18-28.

Last summer, Brunswick County captured its first Area II East League championship since 1981, and did it in dramatic fashion.

Post 68 overcame a 2-0 series deficit in the first round of the playoffs and eliminated Whiteville three games to two.

Brunswick County then lost the first game of the best-of-seven league championship series to Wilmington Post 10 before rallying to win the series four games to two.

In the Area II finals, Brunswick County lost three of the first four games to Laurinburg Post 50 but won the next two to force a tension-filled seventh game in Leland.

Post 68's Casey McBride pitched a gutsy three-hitter with 14 strikeouts in Game 7, but it wasn't enough as Laurinburg posted a 2-1 victory to

wrap up the Area II championship.

### BRUNSWICK COUNTY POST 68 1993 PLAYOFF RESULTS

**FIRST ROUND**  
■ Whiteville 6, Brunswick 1  
■ Whiteville 4, Brunswick 3  
■ Brunswick 5, Whiteville 4  
■ Brunswick 14, Whiteville 6  
■ Brunswick 5, Whiteville 4  
(Brunswick won series 3-2)

**AREA II EAST FINALS**  
■ Wilmington 13, Brunswick 2  
■ Brunswick 7, Wilmington 6  
■ Brunswick 3, Wilmington 1  
■ Brunswick 8, Wilmington 2  
■ Wilmington 7, Brunswick 2  
■ Brunswick 6, Wilmington 5  
(Brunswick won series 4-2)

**AREA II FINALS**  
■ Laurinburg 6, Brunswick 0  
■ Brunswick 3, Laurinburg 1  
■ Laurinburg 12, Brunswick 11  
■ Laurinburg 11, Brunswick 5  
■ Brunswick 10, Laurinburg 9  
■ Brunswick 8, Laurinburg 6  
■ Laurinburg 2, Brunswick 1  
(Laurinburg won series 4-3)

# Gene Doane Resigns As Cougar Coach

BY DOUG RUTTER

Gene Doane says some of the greatest memories he has of his eight seasons as boys basketball coach at South Brunswick High School are the games against archrival West Brunswick.

"The intensity of the West rivalry and the great teams West had and we had some pretty good teams too...I enjoyed that rivalry. I think it brings out the best in everybody," Doane said Tuesday.

Last Thursday, Doane told South Brunswick Principal Sue Sellers that he was resigning his coaching duties at the Boiling Spring Lakes school. He will remain there as a teacher.

"She wants to go in a different direction with it," Doane said. "She feels this is the time because she just got a new football coach. My time came, and I knew she wanted to clean the air out and start fresh."

Doane said he was not asked to resign. "We just discussed it and it was my decision. I don't want any hard feelings. I like her and I think she's doing a good job."

Sellers was out of town at a conference early this week and could



*"I hope to coach again. I didn't retire from coaching. I hope to find a job elsewhere."*

—Gene Doane

not be reached for comment.

South Brunswick athletic director Derrell Force said he expects Sellers to go to the school system's central office later this week and start advertising the coaching vacancy.

"I'm sure the phone will start ringing off the hook real soon," Force said Tuesday, adding that it would be best to hire someone before the N.C. Coaches Association annual clinics the week of July 18.

"I'm sure we're going to try to do it as soon as possible, but we're not going to hurry and make a mistake. We're going to make sure we find the right person," Force said.

"We want somebody very knowl-

edgeable in the game of basketball who is a good teacher because I think a good teacher makes a good coach," Force said.

Force, the new athletic director and head football coach, said South officials want someone with "high moral standards" who can set a good example for the students he teaches and coaches.

Although Doane has decided to continue teaching at South Brunswick, he said he's looking for another coaching job and hopes to find one before school starts in late August.

"I hope to coach again. I didn't retire from coaching. I hope to find a

job elsewhere," Doane said. "Maybe nobody wants me. My style, I'm intense."

The fiery Doane came to South Brunswick in 1986 and took control of a basketball program that was at or near the bottom of the conference standings year in and year out.

Doane turned the program into a perennial winner, coaching the Cougars to four consecutive 20-win seasons and capturing one regular-season conference championship and two conference tournament titles.

He also helped several players land college scholarships including Preston McGriff at UNC-Wilmington, Greg Williams at UNC-Greensboro and Carl Parker at William & Mary.

In 34 years as a high school basketball coach, Doane's teams have compiled a record of 588-175.

Despite his success, Doane said he didn't always feel appreciated at South Brunswick.

"I never felt that I got the full support that the other coaches had. I always felt I was in a canoe heading upstream without a paddle," he said.

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