

BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Alderson Signs With Gardner-Webb

BY DOUG RUTTER
After two years at Southeastern Community College, former West Brunswick High School baseball standout Brian "B.A." Alderson has been awarded a scholarship to play next year at Gardner-Webb University.

The smooth-fielding shortstop recently completed an outstanding season at SCC, where he led the team in hitting with a .380 average and was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association All-Region 10 First Team.

Alderson, the son of West Brunswick baseball coach Mike Alderson, signed a letter of intent last Monday to play next spring at Gardner-Webb, located in Boiling Springs about 60 miles west of Charlotte.

Gardner-Webb Coach Clyde Miller said he saw Alderson play at the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 10 Tournament a couple months ago in Wilson.

"Our shortstop graduated so it



ALDERSON

was a situation where we had to fill a hole," said Miller, who has been the head baseball coach at Gardner-Webb for 24 years.

"We feel like he can step right in. That's what we're hoping. How much he plays is really up to him. He'll have a couple other guys vying for the spot. One thing he has in his favor is experience," Miller said.

Alderson graduated from West Brunswick in 1992 and spent two years at SCC in Whiteville, working on his grades while developing his baseball skills under head coach Joe Nance.

"B.A. is the most improved baseball player from his freshman year to his sophomore year I have ever coached," Nance said in April, when he predicted a bright future for Alderson at a four-year college.

Alderson had an excellent 1994 season at SCC. In 36 regular-season games, he had 35 hits in 92 at-bats with three doubles and two triples. He also scored 24 runs, drove in 17 runs and had two stolen bases.

In the field, Alderson made just seven errors in 137 chances for a fielding percentage of .949.

Coach Miller said Gardner-Webb places a premium on defense, espe-

cially at the shortstop position.

"That's a lot like catcher, defense is crucial. Anything he does offensively is a big plus," Miller said.

"We were sixth in the nation in Division II in team fielding. That's indicative of the time we spend on defense and game situations," said Miller, who won his 600th career game last season.

Gardner-Webb (29-18 in 1994) competes in the South Atlantic Conference, which is an NCAA Division II league.

"The South Atlantic Conference is a very tough small-college conference, very competitive," Miller said.

Lee Hill, a former Whiteville High School star who played this summer for the Whiteville Post 137 American Legion squad, is a rising sophomore pitcher at Gardner-Webb.

At West Brunswick, Alderson was a two-time selection to the All-Waccamaw Conference and All-Brunswick County baseball teams. He won the school's Gold Glove Award his junior and senior years.

Alderson also was an outstanding football quarterback in high school. He helped lead the Trojans to the state 2A championship game in 1991.

Supply Upsets Bolivia In Baptist Assoc. Co-Ed Softball Tournament

Supply upset Bolivia 18-17 in the second round of the Brunswick Baptist Association Coed Softball League Tournament last Saturday at Lockwood Folly Township Park.

Supply, seeded 13th in the 16-team tournament, was a forfeit winner over fourth-seeded Southport "B" in the opening round before springing the upset on sixth-seeded Bolivia.

Supply was scheduled to play Gospei Center in a winners' bracket game Thursday night. Southport "A" and Mt. Olive, also are undefeated after two rounds of play, were slated to face off Thursday as well.

Gospei Center, seeded second in the double-elimination tournament, posted a 15-8, first-round win over Brunswick Islands last Friday and knocked off Calvary 8-4 in the second round Saturday.

Top-seeded Mt. Olive crushed Mill Creek 22-2 in its first game and bounced Faith "B" 16-4 on Saturday.

Southport "A" posted an 11-1 win over Lebanon in the first round and was a 15-1 winner over Faith "A" in round two.

In other first-round contests, Faith "B" defeated Bethel-Oak Island-Beach Road 20-2, Calvary beat Mt. Pisgah 14-7, Bolivia edged Shell Point 9-8 and Faith "A" was a forfeit winner over Southport "C."

In the second round, Bethel-Oak Island-Beach Road beat Mill Creek 28-2, Mt. Pisgah dumped Brunswick Islands 22-15, Shell Point was a forfeit winner over Southport "B" and Lebanon was a forfeit winner over Southport "C."

Mill Creek, Brunswick Islands, Southport "B" and Southport "C" have been eliminated from the tournament.

Play will conclude this Saturday, when eight games are scheduled starting at 9 a.m. The championship game is slated for 8 p.m. at Lockwood Folly Park.

CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Jennies, Emanuel Outreach Lock Horns Thurs. Night

The race for the Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League A Division championship could be decided Thursday night when Jennies Branch and Emanuel Outreach square off at Waccamaw Park.

Heading into this week, the teams were tied for first place in the A Division with records of 17-2.

Jennies Branch and Emanuel Outreach will play at 7 p.m. Thursday. With only two weeks remaining in the regular season, the winner could well hold on to win the division title.

In its only game last week, Jennies Branch was a 14-5 winner over Ocean View.

Emanuel Outreach has had a couple of close calls in the past week. Emanuel edged Supply Baptist 5-2 Monday night and held off Shallotte First Baptist 7-4 last Tuesday.

New Britton (16-5) continues to lead the pack in the B Division. New Britton topped Dixon Chapel 16-5 Monday night and defeated Zion Baptist 19-3 last Friday.

Mt. Olive defeated Letties Grove 18-13 on Monday, but Letties Grove won a pair of games last week over

Brunswick County Men's Church Softball League Standings Through July 18

A DIVISION

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Jennies Branch	17	2
Emanuel Out.	17	2
Friend Baptist	14	5
Supply Baptist	14	6
Mount Olive	14	7
Shallotte First	12	9
Ocean View	9	11
Letties Grove	6	14

B DIVISION

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
New Britton	16	5
Zion Baptist	10	10
Sea. Methodist	10	11
E. Fellowship	7	14
Soldier Bay	5	14
Old Shallotte	4	15
Camp Methodist	3	17

Ocean View, 27-20, and Supply Baptist, 9-6.

In other games last week Camp Methodist edged Old Shallotte 10-9, Friendship Baptist nipped Shallotte

First 14-13, Seaside Methodist defeated Dixon Chapel 25-14 and Eastside Fellowship dumped Seaside Methodist 17-2.

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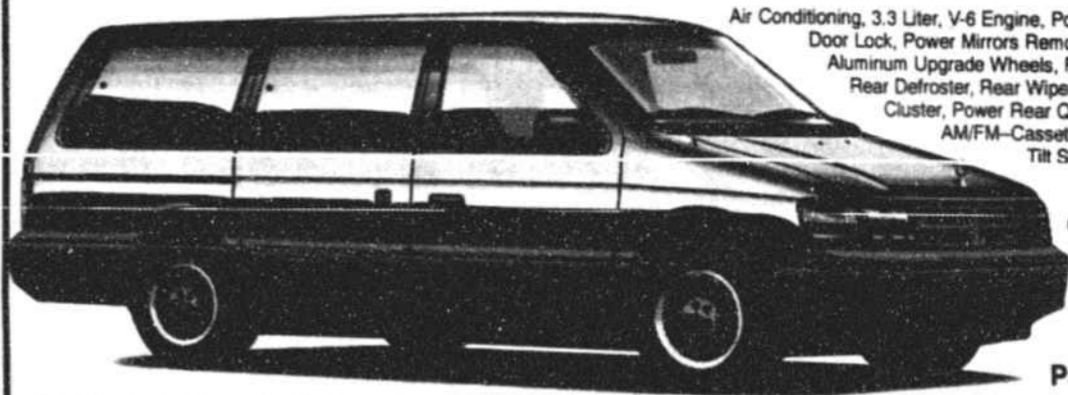
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