

Frederica Academy standout William Jobe is making a name for himself with Knights

By SEBASTIAN EMANUEL semanuel@thebrunswicknews.com

tanding 6-foot-9, sophomore William Jobe has started every single game for the Frederica Academy Knights boy's basketball program since his eighth grade year.

He's already received offers from top 25 programs and more will be coming in the near future. He looks to become the first Division 1 have believed.

vision 1 boys basketball player from Frederica Academy. In William's mind, all he wants to

In William's mind, all he wants to do is focus on his craft and let his game speak for itself.

In the beginning of his basketball ca-

reer, all Jobe wanted to do was stand in the corner and shoot 3s. Now, the sophomore is making moves to the basket and dominating his way to 19 points a game for the Knights. How was he able to make a big change in his game?

"I started to workout with a guy in Hinesville, Coach Jessie Fleming," Jobe said. "He

ville, Coach Jessie Fleming," Jobe said. "He has basically brought my game from shooting in the corner to making moves between my legs and then post moves. "He changed my whole shot. I used to shoot two hands with my feet pointed inwards (push shot) and now I'm shooting one hand and I'm a lot more confident and it looks better. It's above my head and it's harder to block."

Steve Jobe, William's dad, played college

basketball at Wofford and knows a thing or two about how to play at a high level. He has seen his son take his game to a whole new level while earning recognition by Division 1 scouts roughly a year ago.

"The biggest growth is just on the court," Steve said. "Deciding at certain points in the game to take it to the basket. Using the ball fake. He's more of a wing player, but he has had to develop some post moves because that's what he's had to. The Dirk

(Nowitzki) move, he has been doing since the end of last summer."
With the Knights in the midst of their quest for a GISA Region 2-3A

Tournament title, head coach Carl Nash has seen the biggest growth from Jobe come in his maturity.

"I think maturity, amotionally and he has become a better leader."

"I think maturity, emotionally and he has become a better leader even though we have seniors he has times where he has had to lead," Nash said. "He has done a really good job of that. I think physically, he still has a long way to go, but I do think his maturation with his talent and his skill level have gone way up. I think he is able to shoot the ball with a lot of confidence right now. He has that little fake and clear move that I love...

"Maturity is so important in this game because your skill level has increased every year. Where he wants to go in his life, he understands it. He has to work for it every year, his off-seasons are where he is going to get better. He realized that, and he works extremely hard in the off season. That's why I think the jump he had from last year to this year not just physically but his skill level and his mental level have increased because of his work ethic in the off season."

With players the size of Jobe, many anticipate them to sit in the post and make one or two moves to get to the basket. Jobe upgraded his ball handling skills by his AAU coach Demond Stephens.

"In the summer my AAU coach Demond, he would always tell me to always be aggressive and I wouldn't want to dribble, I just wanted to shoot," William said. "So what he would do is put me at point at practice and force me to dribble. Then when I wouldn't shoot it, he would yell at me and take me out of the game, but it helped me because it got me out of my comfort zone. I worked on things that I don't usually work on. Once I started doing it, it became a habit and I would just get better and better at it."

Against rivals Bulloch Academy, William came out with the hot hand and took control of the game quickly scoring 15 of his 29 points in the first quarter. His ability to catch and shoot keeps defenses guessing as to what he can do with the ball in his hands.

Although quiet, William isn't afraid to take control on the court and point at his teammates to the correct spots on the offensive and defensive side.

Besides scoring 19 points a game, William's a menace all over the court, adding nine rebounds, three blocks, three assists and two steals to his stat line on a nightly basis. For him, he wants to be even tougher to go up against on the defensive side.

"I think I'm going to get better at rebounding because I'm going to get stronger and better over time," William said. "I do need to get more elevation and get more blocks. I'll watch film and I won't get that high, so I need to work on jumping higher."

With school's eyeing to get the commitment from one of the best private basketball players in the state of Georgia, William

Please see JOBE, 2B



Derrick Davis/The Brunswick NewsCoastal Georgia's McCall Maret fists bumps assistant Terry Stew-

art on Wednesday during a game against Truett-McConnell.

Mariners dominate Bears from first pitch

By SEBASTIAN EMANUEL semanuel@thebrunswicknews.com

Frederica Academy's

William Jobe

Coastal Georgia softball completed its first sweep of the season with dominating performance over Truett-McConnell College on Wednesday.

In the first game of the doubleheader, the Mariners (3-0) broke their way onto the scoreboard with a four-run third inning. In the bottom half of the third, reigning SUN Freshman of the Year Bryce Peacock hit a triple to bring home teammate Julianna Bellflower from third.

Peacock scored on the next at-bat with Melani Jones slapping a single into the out-field. After loading the bases with two outs, Rori Rhodes stepped up to the plate and delivered the final two runs that took the full momentum for the Mariners.

The Bears (0-2) responded instantly with a two-run fourth inning to cut the deficit in half, while roughing up pitcher Hayley Dickerson in the process.

"This is a really good team, and they were receiving votes like we were," said Coastal head coach Mike Minick. "They had beaten us the last three times we played them, and we came out and played really good today. Our pitching was good, we hit the ball like we are supposed to."

The Mariners recovered to score three more runs in the bottom half of the fourth. Coastal did all of its damage with two outs in the inning, working counts and reaching base however possible. With runners on second and third, McCall Maret hit a double, bringing in both runners. Maret would score on a single by Kayla Rowell to put the team up 7-3 going into the fifth.

Both teams would score one run in the fifth inning, with Dickerson finishing the inning to wrap up her day in the circle. Dickerson gave up two earned runs, four hits, one walk and struck out three batters.

Please see CCGA, 2B

ONCE A PIRATE, ALWAYS A PIRATE



Derrick Davis/The Brunswick News

harter members of the Brunswick High football team--Bill Duckworth, David Sweat, Mark Henderson and Patrick Thornton--met with recently promoted head coach Garrett Grady, center, Thursday to speak about ways they can assist the program. "We're a team, and just let us know if there is a need that isn't being met," Sweat told Grady.

Falcons planning for QB Ryan's successor

By CHARLES ODUM Associated Press

ATLANTA — Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank says the team must have a succession plan at quarter-back even while Matt Ryan appears set to continue as the starter in 2022.

The Falcons face more complicated decisions at wide receiver, where Calvin Ridley's status remains uncertain.

Blank, in Los Angeles for Sunday's Super Bowl, said the team still has not had direct conversations with Ridley since the Falcons' top wide receiver missed the final 11 games last season while addressing mental health issues.

"It's a matter of HIPBA regulations in terms to what we have access to or should have access to," Blank said Wednesday night. "We're here to support Calvin as he goes through this journey he's on and it's a difficult journey." Following Julio Jones' trade to Tennessee before the season, Ridley entered 2021 as Atlanta's top target for Ryan. That changed after Ridley was a last-minute scratch before the 19-13 loss to Carolina on Oct. 31.

On that day, Ridley posted on his Twitter account he needed to "step away from football at this time and focus on my mental wellbeing." That remains Ridley's last tweet on his account.

"As an organization we've done the best job we could just to support Calvin and do everything we can for him," general manager Terry Fontenot said

after the season.

The Falcons can only hope Ridley returns for next season.

"Yeah, sure, absolutely," Blank said. "I mean, who wouldn't want him? He's a great player. He's a great teammate. He and Matt had a wonderful chemis-

try and played well together. He's able to succeed at a very high level. And he's always practiced hard and played hard."

The Falcons must make plans for the April 28-30 NFL draft and free agency. They will need to know if they can plan for Ridley.

"Where that sits with him, I don't know," Blank said. "We haven't talked to him directly. At some point ... we have to have a clear understanding about that. I think he and his agents certainly understand that as well."

The Falcons finished 7-10 with first-year coach Arthur Smith in 2021, the team's fourth consecutive losing season.

Ryan completed 67% of his passes, topping three of his last four seasons. He threw for 3,968 yards, barely missing his 11th consecutive

Please see ATL, 2B

Television & More

HIGHLIGHTS

7:00 AM - Ch. FX: MOVIE ★★★ "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" (CC) A scientist's quest to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease unintentionally results in a highly intelligent chimpanzee, which may signal the end of man's dominion over Earth. James Franco, Freida Pinto. (2 hrs.)

7:30 AM - Ch. LIFE: THE BALANC-ING ACT (CC) Featuring two inspiring women who confronted their diseases head on and overcame impossible odds. (N) $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$

8:00 AM - Ch. A&E: PARKING WARS (CC) A woman calls police on a ticket writer; repeat offenders. $\mathbf{0}$

8:30 AM - Ch. HIST: THE PROOF IS OUT THERE (CC) Sighting of a UFO from the window seat of a passenger jet; a strange underwater discovery. 0

9:00 AM - Ch. 9: THE DOCTORS (CC) Squid Game; diet resolutions; a woman saves her husband after an accident on a deserted

9:30 AM - Ch. **DISN: PUPPY DOG** PALS (CC) Animated. Darius presents a toy that Bob invented at show-andtell; Puppy Playcare is hosting a pizza party. (N) Ω 10:00 AM - Ch.

FOOD: FOOD PARA-DISE (CC) A Chicago pizzeria specializes in stuffed pizzas; a pizza palace slings dessert pizzas. (60 mins.)

10:30 AM - Ch. 5. 202: ELINOR WON-DERS WHY (CC) (**DVS**) Animated. Olive wants to organize something special for her mom's birthday; spiderweb

11:30 AM - Ch. DISN: BLUEY (CC) Animated. Bluey and Bingo are worn as backpacks; Bluey and Chloe embark on a quest to save the kingdom. •

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AP sources: Nets send James Harden to 76ers for Ben Simmons

BV DAN GELSTON AND BRIAN MAHONEY Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ben Simmons got his wish, a trade out of Philadelphia. The 76ers got their second superstar, with James Harden coming over in a blockbuster multiplayer trade with the Brooklyn Nets.

The Sixers sent Simmons, their disgruntled star, guard Seth Curry and center Andre Drummond to the Nets in a deal for Harden. The Sixers also will get Paul Millsap and the Nets get draft picks, according to people with

Ryan will be 37 next season and has

said he hopes to still be playing at 40.

His potential \$48.7 million cap hit in

2022 helps to secure his immediate fu-

"I really feel fortunate to have been

here as long as I have," Ryan said after

Continued from page 1B

4,000-yard season.

ture in Atlanta.

direct knowledge of the decision.

The move was confirmed Thursday by the people who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade had not been announced.

The move came just five days after coach Steve Nash said the Nets wouldn't trade Harden and only 13 months after they acquired the 2018 NBA MVP to play with Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving.

But Harden could have left this summer as a free agent and the Nets decided it wasn't worth the risk to wait, ending their Big Three experiment after

the trio played only 16 games together. Simmons did not play this season for the Sixers in the wake of a trade demand centered largely around hurt feelings coming off last season's playoff loss. Simmons averaged 15.9 points, 8.1 rebounds and 7.7 assists over four seasons with Philadelphia, which drafted him out of LSU, where he played only one season.

His defining moment as a Sixer came when he passed up a wideopen dunk against Atlanta in the second round of last year's playoffs that would have tied the game late

in Game 7.

the season. "You know, but I'm optimistic, I really am. I want to be here.

I feel good about this group of guys,

coaching staff, everybody, the direc-

tion it's going.'

Blank likes Ryan's production and durability but says the team must plan for an eventual successor as the quarterback enters his 15th season.

"I think he is is still performing at a very high level and is very capable of winning in this league," said Blank of Ryan. "He's in great shape and he

thinks he can play on for some number of years, which is wonderful.

"I'll make this clear, at some point we do need to understand that Father Time will get us all and at some point we'll have to make a clear succession plan for the next quarterback. Teams that have done that successfully are in a really good position in the league. The ones that haven't are ones that struggle for a number of years and slip in and out of different quarterbacks."

Jobe

Continued from page 1B

wants to focus on bringing home the first boys basketball title in 10 years, while growing into his body for the next level.

"That would be nice (state title), 2,000 points sounds nice," William said smiling at the thought. "Also, just building my mass and

getting stronger. That's one of my main goals, without that you can't play division

one basketball, you can't play division 2 or 3. So that's very important for me to do. It's just got to happen in the weight room.

As a parent, Steve wants to see his son reach the next level on his terms while receiving a good education along the way.

"What I want to see is him playing at the collegiate level and being able to play where he wants too and have that experience," Steve said. "To me that's the most important thing."



Frederica Academy's William Jobe shoots over a defender earlier this season.

Derrick Davis/The Brunswick News

Coastal Georgia's Bryce Peacock throws a pitch during a doubleheader against Truett-McConnell on Wednesday.

CCGA

Continued from page 1B

In the 8-3 win, the Mariners had three players finish the first game with multi-hit performances.

"You always want to win every game but we really emphasized winning that first game, so we are playing for a sweep and not playing to not get swept," Minick said. "We really play for runs and when we get somebody on, we usually bunt them over to second and then go from there. Just play for a couple of runs and see if that holds up. If it doesn't, hit some more.'

Coastal Georgia Truett-McConnell

With the result of Game 1 in the bag, the two teams rested for roughly half an hour before starting Game 2 of the doubleheader.

After dominating the plate

in Game 1, Bryce Peacock continued her dominance in the circle.

Peacock took a no-hitter into the top of the fifth inning until Truett-McConnell produced two hits with one run crossing the plate.

Regardless, the Mariners commanded the game from the bottom half of the first all the way to the run rule in the fifth.

Coastal started the game with three runs in the first inning, while stealing second base three times in the half inning. Rowell did most of the damage with her two RBI single to push the Mariners lead to 3-0.

Neither team would score in the second or third innings, with Peacock only allowing two Bears batters to reach first base by walking them.

In the bottom half of the fourth inning, the Mariners bats came to life yet again,

scoring six runs on seven hits. MacKenzie Kagee started the inning off with a single and would score on the next at-bat by Taylor Morgan. Morgan reached third after a throwing error by the pitcher on the bunt attempt brought Kagee in to score on the wild sequence.

Morgan stood on third base waiting to become the second runner, and after two Mariners recorded outs and Jones reached on balls, Maret singled to drive in the anxious Morgan and moved Jones to third base. After stealing second base for the sixth time in four innings and runners on second and third, Rowell stepped up to the plate and delivered another two RBI single with two outs.

Coastal would tack on two more runs thanks to a single to center field by Cevana Wood to finish the six-run inning.

The Bears scored one run in the fifth inning off of Peacock, but the sophomore finished her day on the mound by striking out four batters and allowing nothing until the top half of the fifth.

Rowell finished the doubleheader by catching both games and driving in five RBIs against Truett-McConnell.

"She's from Brunswick, so it's great to have a local kid who played at Brunswick High," Minick said.
"She's just tough, she caught both games. She's a really good hitter and one of the strongest kids we have ever coached. She will do that a lot this year if she continues the approach she has right now."

Coastal Georgia resumes play Saturday when it hosts University of Pikeville for a doubleheader beginning at