· The Walton Tribune · Sports Dept.: 770-267-2875 E-Mail: chris.bridges@waltontribu www.waltontribune.com

First & Ten Chris Bridges

Bradley works magic again this season

The "old master" still has it. Ron Bradley, who has won more basketball games than any high school coach in Georgia, did what many, maybe even himself, thought was impossible earlier this month. Bradley guided his Newton High School Rams to the Class AAAAA Final Four before falling to eventual state champion Wheeler.

You could still hear the excitement in Bradley's voice Monday as he talked about his team's accomplishment.

"It was a year that was unbelievable," said the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame member. "There is no way we should have won the games we won. Our kids achieved so much more than anyone thought possible."

Like a good magician, Bradley seemingly waved a wand and another one of his teams was in the Final Four. It's something he has done many times in the past, but it's something the coach will never grow tired of.

"We have been wondering if this is the year we are going to retire," said Bradley, the "we" referring to himself and his wife, Jan. "However, you have a season like this and you hate to leave after having so much fun."

The Bradleys were preparing Monday to travel to Colorado to watch their son Bill coach in the semifinals. Bill's Thunderridge High School girls team is going for its second consecutive state title.

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Eric Pease, Mike Cruce of and Cory Pruett each had one hit.

> Doehrman and Benedict once again combined to work the game.

"The bottom line was we didn't hit when we needed to," Segars said of the loss to Grayson. "We need to do a better job of getting runners in when we get to third with less than two outs."

ith LHS is scheduled to host ıan Berkmar Friday at 5:30 an p.m.

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Georgia's record for allthe time punt return yards with 982. That mark is led also the second in the hisand tory of the Gulf South He Conference. He played for 248 Mark Whitley at Monroe Area High School. est

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