

# Joseph Willis Will Coach Baseball Team

The 1970 Mariner Baseball team will feature head coach Mr. Joseph M. Willis. This is Mr. Willis' first year as coach of a high school team although he was an assistant to Coach John Hamilton last year.

Coach Willis has played three years of Pony League Baseball, four years of high school baseball, four years of college ball including two years at Chowan College and two years at Atlantic Christian College. He also played some semi-professional baseball for the Pittsburgh Pirates. At Chowan in 1966 he was selected the Most Valuable Player on the team.

When asked about the teams the coach commented that he was hoping for a great season. He added that with a few breaks the team should have a chance for the number one spot in the conference. "It won't be easy to have a champion team but with hard work it could be possible," predicted the coach.

About 28 boys went out for the team and although most are underclassmen the team has eight returnees from last year's team, including two all conference players, Paul Damren and Alton Best.



Joe Willis, Varsity Baseball Coach.

All the starting infield will be back with a few starting pitchers and outfielders.

The team will be standing out with a new infield, new dugouts and an improved field. The schedule this year will consist of sixteen games including two

non-conference games with Lejeune.

Coach Willis hopes that with a lot of student support and a positive attitude on the part of the players we can better last year's record. Although it was East Carter's first winning season with four wins and seven losses he believes that there is room for improvement.

Mr. Al Thompson, his teacher, will assist the coach with the baseball team.