

## Cumby loses playoff series to Simms Bowie

Written by Don Wallace  
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The Cumby Trojans were swept Saturday in Class 1A, UIL bi-district baseball playoff action in Simms against James Bowie.

After winning Game 1 of the series, 4-3 in thrilling comeback fashion Friday in Cumby, the Trojans made the trek north feeling good about their chances.

But things did not work out that way as Simms Bowie won 10-7 and 12-2 as the series was concluded Saturday evening.

"We were focused and ready. We'd intended to go up there and win it. Things did not come out like we intended," said Scott Mabe, Cumby head baseball coach. "We struggled on the mound. We played hard, but we lost twice. The Pirates played better than us, they deserved to win."

Travis Taylor started on the mound for Game 2. He got relief help from Jim Evans.

"We came out strong, we scored early, but they did too," Mabe said. "Our pitching gave up too many walks We gave up 17 bases on balls in the two games Saturday."

Cody Anderson started Game 3 for Cumby and the Trojans were defeated 12-2.

"We struggling finding the strike zone," Mabe said. "We had lots of good hits by Nick Folse, Dustin Heer and Noah Dyer. But they had more hits. We fought our best and battled. I am proud of the effort we put out. Our team left it all out on the field."

Cumby ends the season at 18-7. The Trojans went 12-4 in district. During non-district they won the Sam Rayburn wooden bat tournament.

Seniors who played their last game for Cumby include - Heer, Dyer, Chase Vaughan and Ryan Coleman.

Mabe is retiring as baseball coach, but will return to Cumby as a classroom teacher.

"It's time to retire from coaching. I want to spend more time with my family, play a little golf," Mabe said. "I think Cumby has a bright future in baseball. I met the new coach who will be coming in and he's a go-getter."

Mabe said Cumby dropped baseball at one point. When he took over as baseball coach, the team was playing on the corner of the football field.

"Cumby now has a nice baseball facility," Mabe said. "I appreciate all the community and school have done to help the baseball program. I have enjoyed my time here."