

**UNBEATEN IN LEAGUE PLAY**

# Lady Trojan Cagers Extend Winning Streak To Five Games



**LADY TROJANS WIN FIFTH**—West Brunswick's Becky Buffkin dribbles between a pair of South Robeson defenders in last Friday's Waccamaw 2-A Conference contest. Buffkin scored 17 points to lead the Lady Trojans to their fifth straight win. South Robeson's Cynthia Oxendine (left) and Mary McKoy (right) defend for the Lady Mustangs.

**SPORTING SCENE**

## Girls' Athletics On Upswing At West Brunswick High

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

West Brunswick volleyball coach Debbie Newman and girls' tennis coach Marti Gillis were all smiles at Monday night's Trojan fall sports awards.

Both guided their respective teams to superlative seasons last fall, which is enough for most mentors to smile about. However, it appears the best is yet to come for girls' sports in Trojan country.

The Lady Trojan volleyball team captured its first state playoff berth in 13 years last fall after finishing third in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference. On a team dominated by underclassmen, 13 girls will return to the Lady Trojan volleyball team next fall. It doesn't take an athletic genius to realize that the West girls will be even tougher to deal with next season on the volleyball court.

The West girls' tennis team, with only two seniors this fall, is also likely headed for better seasons. The Lady Trojan netters advanced to the second round of the state team playoffs while also sending the doubles duo of Erika Farr and Christy Poulos to the state 1-A—2-A championship tournament last fall.

The West girls breezed to a 9-3 WC record, good enough for a third-place finish while also boasting a 10-4 overall mark. The Lady Trojans also defeated Whiteville for the first time in three years.

And the Lady Trojan success doesn't stop with tennis or volleyball either.

The girls' basketball team, with a 9-1 overall record, is off to its best start in perhaps the 18-year history of the school under the guidance of second-year coach Brenda Council. The Lady Trojans are also on top of the Waccamaw Conference cage standings with a perfect 2-0 mark.

Like both tennis and volleyball teams, the basketball squad is dominated by underclassmen. Only two seniors are listed on the Lady Trojan cage team, thus providing West with a bright girls' basketball future.

Success from the fall and winter seasons will hopefully rub off onto the softball and track teams this spring. Since most athletes on the volleyball, tennis and basketball teams also participate in either softball and track as well, this spring should provide similar success for the Lady Trojans.

### Waccamaw Conference Cage Results

In Waccamaw 2-A Conference boys' basketball action last week, South Brunswick remained undefeated in loop play with an 82-58 pounding of North Brunswick. Whiteville won its first league game in a 61-41 whipping of South Robeson and East Bladen destroyed West Columbus 79-38.

In girls' action, South Brunswick got its first league win with a 66-25 romp over North Brunswick and West Columbus defeated East Bladen 61-40. Whiteville also got its first conference decision with a 39-37 edging of South Robeson.

Perhaps the most improved girls' team in the Waccamaw Conference can be found at West Columbus. The Lady Vikings are off to a 2-0 league start and sport an 8-2 overall record. This improvement comes after last year's 1-13 league finish and 3-17 overall record.

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BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The West Brunswick Lady Trojans whipped South Robeson 53-39 last Friday to remain unbeaten in Waccamaw 2-A Conference basketball play while extending their winning streak to a season-high five games.

Becky Buffkin scored 17 points and Christy King added nine to lead the Lady Trojans who rallied from a 9-8, first-quarter deficit.

"We hustled on defense tonight and that's what really pulled us through," said West Brunswick head coach Brenda Council. "South Robeson had only one main ball handler and our defensive press seemed to rattle them and get them upset. As result, we got some easy layups."

"Tonight was a better overall game than compared to our win last week against Whiteville. We played as good as we could have in the first half against Whiteville then had a very good second half. Tonight we put both halves together. The girls played great defense and were just all over the court."

"We got some steals late in the first half off our press which helped us score some easy baskets," explained Council. "That's why we opened the second half pressing again."

West Brunswick took the lead for good early in the second quarter on a 6-0 spurt that put the Lady Trojans ahead 15-11.

The bench scoring of Regina Hankins helped West build a 23-16 halftime lead with a late 6-2 scoring spree.

Hankins scored four of her eight points on two free throws and a layup with just over two minutes remaining in the half. Pam Detrie

added a short jumper with five seconds left to give West its seven-point advantage.

South Robeson closed to within three points, 29-26, on Chastity Oxendine's layup with 3:10 to play in the third period. However, Buffkin scored four points on a pair of short jumpers to help the Lady Trojans maintain a 35-30 lead at the end of the quarter.

South Robeson could get no closer than four points in the final period. Oxendine's layup and free throw in the opening minute pulled the Lady Mustangs to 37-33 but it was to be the last South Robeson points for over four minutes.

During the South Robeson cold spell, West Brunswick scored 11 unanswered points to build a commanding 48-33 lead with 4:26 left.

The Lady Mustangs' biggest opportunity to cut into the West lead came at the free throw line but South Robeson connected on only five of 15 attempts.

Oxendine led South Robeson with 16 points while Mary McKoy added 10.

West Brunswick (2-0, 9-1) continues WC play Friday traveling to North Brunswick then hosts Fairmont Saturday. The Lady Trojans then entertain East Bladen next Tuesday.

South Robeson (0-2 in conference play) hosts North Brunswick next Tuesday.

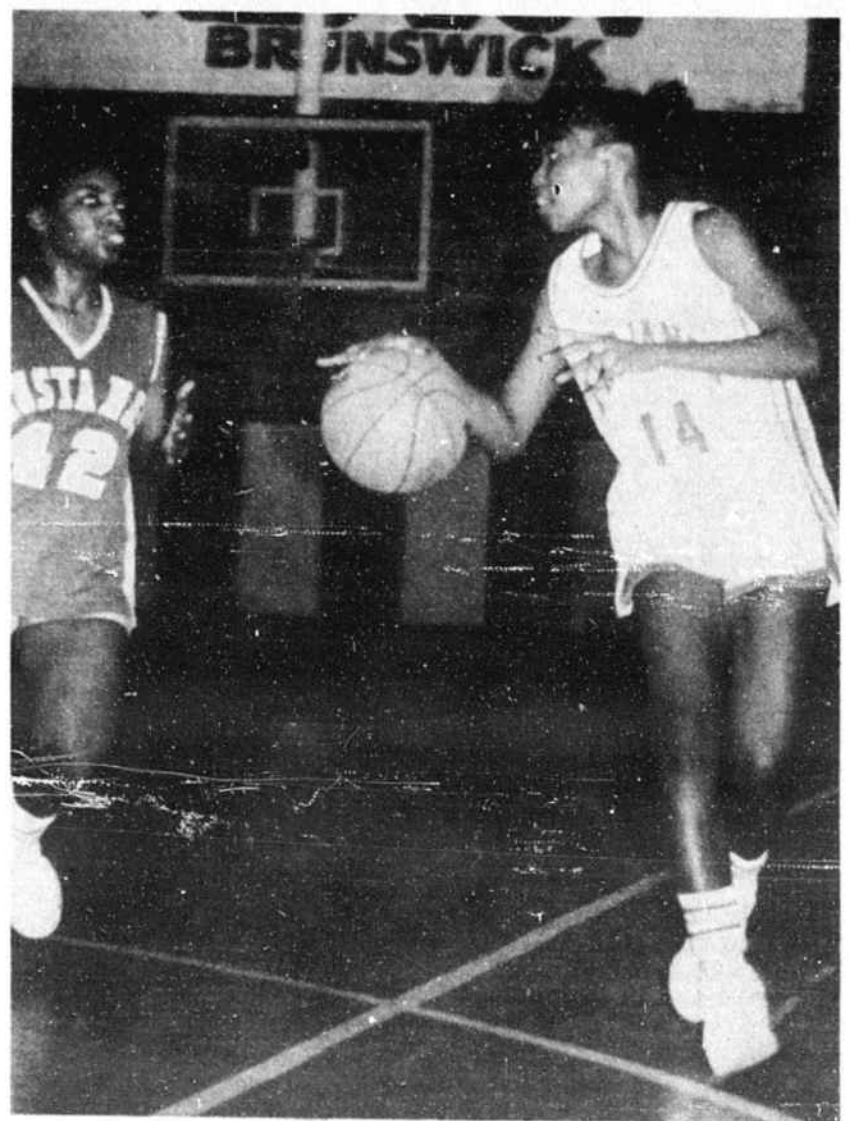
### Score By Quarters

South Robeson 9 7 14 9—39

West Brunswick 8 15 12 18—53

South Robeson scoring: McLean 2, Killens 8, Cynthia Oxendine 3, Chastity Oxendine 16, McKoy 10.

West Brunswick scoring: Detrie 4, M. King 3, C. King 9, Gause 1, Williams 6, Norris 5, Buffkin 17, Hankins 8.



**KING CONTROLS**—West Brunswick's Christy King (14) brings the ball upcourt during the Lady Trojans' 53-39 Waccamaw 2-A Conference win over South Robeson last Friday. The win kept the West girls (2-0, 9-1) undefeated in league play. Defending on the play for South Robeson is Elena Haskins.

## TROJANS 2-0 IN WC

# West Brunswick Cruises Past South Robeson

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

West Brunswick improved to a perfect 2-0 in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference last Friday with a 75-62 basketball win over visiting South Robeson.

Ricky Daniels scored 35 points to lead the Trojans, now 10-1 overall.

West Brunswick grabbed a 10-point, 15-5 lead just four minutes into the game and was never threatened until the Mustangs rallied in the closing minutes against Trojan reserves.

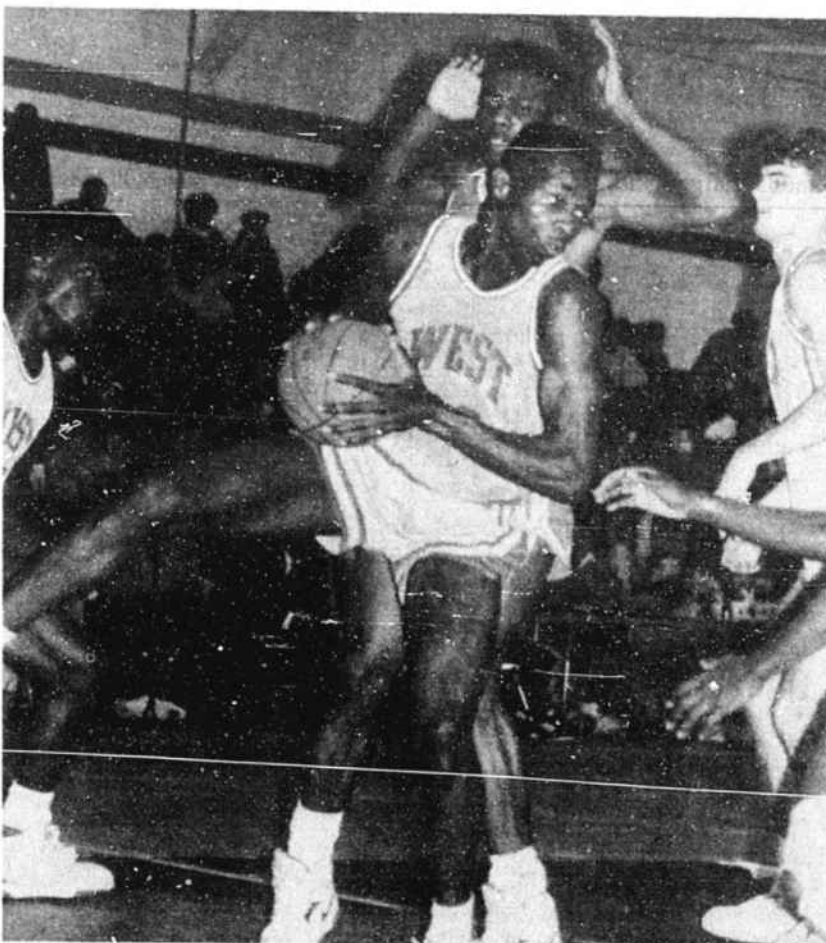
"We were able to give a lot of kids some playing time tonight," said West Brunswick coach Billy Mims. "The final scoring margin might not look like we played very good but I thought we played extremely well."

"We got some good bench play from James Clarida and Patrick Hughes (six points). Sometime down the line this season we are going to have to count on our bench to come right in and play."

"We were aggressive on defense and really got after them with our trapping. South Robeson managed to move the ball around fairly well when they were able to break through the trap."

The Trojans broke from an early 5-5 deadlock with a 13-0 run that gave West an 18-5 lead with 3:10 to play in the opening period. Daniels scored seven points during the spurt and South Robeson never got closer than 11 points in the first half.

Aldwin Lance struck for a three-point goal with five seconds left in the first quarter to give the Trojans a 27-15 lead at the end of the period. West Brunswick led by as many



**DANIELS REBOUNDS**—Ricky Daniels hauls in a rebound for West Brunswick during the Trojans' 75-62 Waccamaw 2-A Conference win over South Robeson last Friday. Daniels scored 35 points to lead the Trojans, now 2-0 in league play and 10-1 overall. West Brunswick's Jerry Reaves (left) and Patrick Hughes (right) block out on the play.

as 18 points in the second quarter, 40-22 on a pair of Hughes free throws with 3:07 remaining in the half.

Vaughn Alford scored a three-point goal with 49 seconds left to get the Mustangs within 47-32 at the break.

The Trojans scored nine unanswered points during a 1:36 stretch early in the second half to extend their lead to 56-34.

However, South Robeson managed to score five straight points of its own but continued to trail 56-39 with 3:34 to play in the quarter.

Daniels' three-point play after a Shawn Bowen jumper gave the Trojans a 67-48 lead at the end of the third period.

West Brunswick managed only eight fourth-quarter points as South Robeson whittled away at a 69-50 Trojan lead with 4:39 remaining.

Willie Davis led South Robeson (0-3 in the WC) with 24 points and William Odom added 12.

Along with Daniels for West Brunswick was LaPerry Hill with 10 points and Lance with seven.

South Robeson won the junior varsity game 40-38 behind Justin Fowler's 14 points. Leon Johnson led West Brunswick (0-2, 0-6) with eight points.

The Trojans continue league play traveling to North Brunswick on Friday and hosting Fairmont on Saturday. West Brunswick entertains East Bladen next Tuesday. All three contests begin at 5 p.m. with the junior varsity game.

### Score By Quarters

South Robeson 15 17 16 14—62

West Brunswick 27 20 20 8—75

South Robeson scoring: Pierce 3, Davis 24, Jacobs 8, Odom 12, Alford 6, C. Watson 9.

West Brunswick scoring: Bowen 4, Johnson 2, Marlowe 3, Lance 7, Hill 10, Mitchell 3, Hughes 6, Reaves 5, Daniels 35.

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