

South Cougars Withstand West Rally 74-67

BY DOUG RUTTER

South Brunswick's Cougars withstood a late West Brunswick rally and posted a 74-67 victory Friday night in Waccamaw 2-A Conference high school boys' basketball action.

The Cougars led by 12 points in the fourth quarter but allowed the visiting Trojans to cut the lead to three before putting them away with defense and shooting in the final seconds.

South Brunswick recorded its sixth straight victory over West Brunswick and snapped a two-game losing streak in the conference. West had its two-game league winning streak halted.

As usual, senior point guard Josh White led the way for South Brunswick, scoring a game-high 30 points while frustrating the opposing guards with his defense.

Cougar forward Kevin Smith finished with 13 points after tossing in a three-pointer from just inside half-court as time expired. The shot expanded the final margin of victory from four to seven points.

After falling behind 6-0 in the opening minute of play, the Cougars battled back and took an 11-10 lead on a White three-pointer. White, who scored 12 points in the first quarter, helped the Cougars build a 24-17 lead after eight minutes.

South Brunswick led by as many as 13 points in the second quarter, but White came out of the game with 6:01 left in the half after picking up his third foul and the Trojans cut the lead to nine points.

Trailing 38-29 at halftime, West Brunswick used a 10-2 run in the first four minutes of the third quarter to trim South's lead to 40-39.

The Trojans trailed 44-43 before the Cougars scored 11 straight points in 2 1/2 minutes. The run was highlighted by an alley-oop slam dunk by Scooter Moore, who had 10 points for the Cougars.

South Brunswick led 60-48 with 5:24 to play, but the Trojans scored eight consecutive points to cut the Cougar lead to four. With 25 seconds remaining, Moore hit two free throws to give South Brunswick a 70-63 lead.

Just 12 seconds later, however, Moore was whistled for a technical



COUGAR FORWARD KEVIN SMITH (25) drives past West Brunswick's Timmy Daniels. Smith scored 13 points in South's 74-67 win.

foul after a personal foul had been called against the Cougars. West's Eric Johnson hit four straight free throws with 13 seconds left to make the score 70-67.

The Trojans had possession of the ball after the technical. Johnson grabbed an inbounds pass at mid-court but was tied up immediately by two South Brunswick defenders.

A jump ball was called, and the Cougars took possession of the ball. White hit one free throw with 12 seconds left, and Smith's three-point bomb accounted for the final margin of victory.

Senior center Lonnie Mitchell scored a season-high 24 points, including 15 in the first half, to lead West Brunswick. Timmy Daniels added 15 points and Anthony Moody had 14.

"I thought we played real well un-

til Josh picked up his third foul," South Brunswick Coach Gene Doane said. "We were struggling at that point because we got out of sync."

With White on the bench, Doane said the Cougar: lost his scoring, assists, defense and steals.

The Cougars, who are 10-6 overall, had Tuesday night off and will resume Waccamaw Conference play Friday at East Bladen.

West Brunswick, 3-3 in the conference and 4-11 overall, was scheduled to host unbeaten Fairmont Tuesday night. The Trojans play at Whiteville Friday.

South Brunswick also won the junior varsity game Friday, 65-58. Charles Blue scored 26 points for the Cougars. Jim Shew added 15 and Paul Pelham had 12 for South.

Derrick Frink led the Trojans with

23 points and Ricky Hill chipped in 18. West trailed 50-35 after three quarters, and cut the Cougar lead to 62-58 before Blue hit three free throws in the final 15 seconds to seal the win.

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	17	12	15	23	—67
South Brunswick	24	14	17	19	—74

West Brunswick scoring: Mitchell, 24; Daniels, 15; Moody, 14; Johnson, 6; T. Brown, 6; C. Brown, 2.

South Brunswick scoring: White, 30; Smith, 13; Moore, 10; Roberts, 6; Vaught, 6; Johnson, 4; Simon, 3; Hewett, 2.

WACCAMAW CONFERENCE BASKETBALL STANDINGS As of Monday, Feb. 1 BOYS

Team	League	Overall
Fairmont	6-0	13-0
South Brunswick	5-2	10-6
Whiteville	4-2	9-3
West Columbus	4-3	8-3
South Robeson	3-3	9-6
West Brunswick	3-3	4-11
East Bladen	1-6	4-8
North Brunswick	0-7	3-8

GIRLS

Team	League	Overall
South Brunswick	7-0	16-0
Fairmont	5-1	6-5
West Brunswick	4-2	6-8
Whiteville	3-3	11-4
South Robeson	3-3	3-9
West Columbus	3-4	7-4
North Brunswick	1-6	2-9
East Bladen	0-7	2-12

Fairmont Cagers Sting Scorps

Fairmont's Golden Tornadoes destroyed host North Brunswick 104-61 in a Waccamaw 2-A Conference boys' basketball game Friday night.

The undefeated Tornadoes, ranked second in the state 2-A class, jumped out to a 24-18 lead in the first quarter and led 45-27 at half-time.

Fairmont scored 59 second-half points and held the Scorpions to 34 points as North Brunswick's boys suffered their 17th consecutive loss in the Waccamaw Conference.

Fairmont's Wesley Hinson led all scorers in the game with 23 points. DeMorris Wainwright added 17 points and Damon Page chipped in 11 for the Tornadoes. Fairmont drained 10 three-pointers in the game.

Ronnie Ballard led the Scorps with 18 points. Angelo McKenzie netted 12 and Adrian Black scored nine.

Last Tuesday, South Robeson's Mustangs swept North Brunswick in Rowland. Dennis Hunt scored 19 points to lead the boys to a 48-40 victory. South Robeson won the girls game 50-41.

North Brunswick was idle Tuesday. The Scorpions will host West Columbus Friday night.



WEST'S LONNIE MITCHELL (with ball) tries to sneak around South's Scooter Moore during their game Friday night. Mitchell scored a season-high 24 points.

Trojans Slide Past East Bladen

West Brunswick scored 19 fourth-quarter points last Tuesday to pull out a 57-49 comeback victory over visiting East Bladen in a 2-A Conference boys' basketball game.

The Trojans trailed 25-24 at half-time and 40-38 after three quarters, but they outscored the Cougars 19-9 in the final period to win their second straight league game.

"The fourth quarter we finally broke it open," West Brunswick Coach Billy Mims said. "The kids played hard. I'm just proud of them."

Sophomore forward Timmy "Salt" Daniels scored 15 points to lead the Trojans, who improved to 3-2 in the conference. Sophomore point guard Eric Johnson scored 11 and junior forward Anthony Moody added 10 for West.

"Defensively we played extreme-

ly well," Mims said. "I never thought we would hold them to 49 points. I told the guys before the game I thought we would have to score in the 70s."

Mims said reserve Chris Brown gave the Trojans a strong game off the bench, contributing five points and playing good defense.

"Ty Brown also had a few steals for us late in the game that lead to easy baskets," Mims said. "It was pretty tight there up to the last two or three minutes."

After missing three games with a thigh injury, senior center Lonnie Mitchell returned to the lineup against East Bladen and chipped in seven points.

Monterro Graham led the visiting Cougars with 12 points. Anthony Meares and Chris Cromartie added

nine points each for East Bladen.

"They were a typical East Bladen team," Mims said. "I just think it was a good team effort by our guys."

East Bladen dropped to 1-4 in the conference. "They've had their problems, but we've had ours too," Mims said. "Nobody took it easy on us when we were down."

Score By Quarters

East Bladen	13	12	15	9	—49
West Brunswick	16	8	14	19	—57

East Bladen scoring: Graham, 12; Meares, 9; Cromartie, 9; Monroe, 7; McIntyre, 6; Priest, 2; Smith, 2; Melvin, 2.

West Brunswick scoring: Daniels, 15; Johnson, 11; Moody, 10; T. Brown, 9; Mitchell, 7; C. Brown, 5.

Young Guns Top Lakers In Men's Cage League

The Young Guns inched closer to second place in the Brunswick County Men's Basketball League last Wednesday night with a 90-80 victory over the once-beaten Lakers at Shallotte Middle School.

Chris Johnson scored 30 points as the Young Guns improved to 6-3 on the season. The Lakers, led by Kenneth Graham's 22 points, fell to 6-2 but held on to second place for the time being.

In other action last Wednesday, the Turntables remained undefeated with a 98-85 win over the Natural Lites. Jimmy Johnson and Jeff Johnson scored 25 points apiece for the winners, and Alex King had 21 for the Lites.

On Thursday, Brad Antill scored

23 points as the UCB Nets upset Cars of Distinction 86-82. Brad Cheers poured in 24 points for the Cars.

After their loss Wednesday, the Lakers rebounded with a 96-83 win over the Warriors Thursday. William Johnson had 28 points for the Lakers. LaPerry Hill and Bernard Stevenson led the Warriors with 18 each.

Men's Basketball League Standings As Of Feb. 2

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Turntables	9	0
Lakers	7	2
Young Guns	6	3
Cars of Dist.	3	6
Warriors	2	6
UCB Nets	2	5
Natural Lites	1	7

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