

BORDER WAR FRIDAY NIGHT

West Brunswick Trojans Roll Into '93 Football Season

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick's Trojans, winners of 24 of their last 29 football games, roll into the 1993 season on a natural high that only comes from being the defending state champions.

The "Mean Green Machine" opens the fall campaign Friday night when the Conway Tigers travel across the state line for a high school football border war in Shallotte.

West Brunswick, state 2A champs a year ago, carry a six-game winning streak into the game. But the Trojans face one of South Carolina's 16 biggest schools in Conway.

West Head Coach Jim Brett, now in his second year at the Trojan helm, and his staff of assistants have been working with the team since Aug. 2. West suited up for two scrimmages last week in preparation for Friday's opener.

"I think we're ahead of last year at this point," Brett said prior to Monday night's practice. "I think we're a better football team now going into the first game than we were last year."

Brett said the Trojan defense

looked good in last week's scrimmages at Mullins, S.C., and East Duplin. The offense didn't show much "punch" until the second contest.

"If we can stay healthy we should be alright," Brett said. "We've had a lot of little, nagging injuries this summer."

West is looking to make its third straight trip to the state playoffs. The Trojans have advanced to post-season party four of the last five years and have put together six straight winning seasons, going 54-18 since 1987.

"The success we've had is good for the kids as far as believing in themselves and believing they can win," said Brett, who coached West to its first state football title last year.

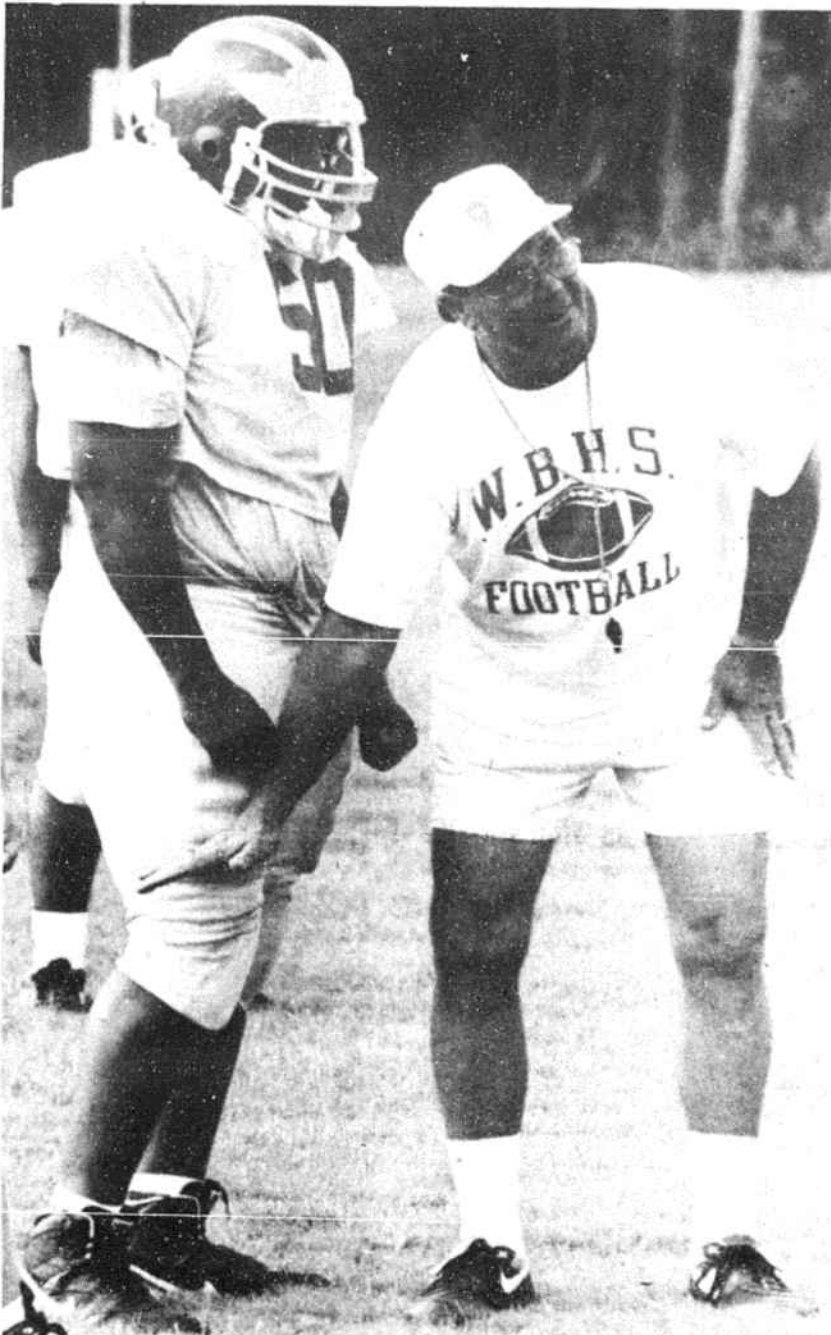
"On the other hand, there is a certain amount of pressure from the community. They expect you to win now," he added. "I would much rather have a community that expects you to win than one that doesn't care whether you win."

Despite the recent success, West Brunswick has not won a conference football championship since 1988.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER

WEST BRUNSWICK HALFBACK William Stanley runs through the gauntlet at Monday's practice. The Trojans open the regular season Friday at home at 7:30 p.m.



TROJAN COACH JIM BRETT shows the offensive linemen where they should block. Also pictured is Kwabena Green, who is expected to start at middle linebacker when Conway visits Friday night.

Brett's goal, as always, is to win the conference title. If that can't be achieved, he hopes West can finish first among the three 3A schools in the new Waccamaw 2A/3A Conference.

West Brunswick, which jumps from the 2A to 3A classification this year because of its growing student enrollment, is part of the realigned Waccamaw Conference.

Other 3A schools in the seven-team league are South Brunswick and Pender. Whiteville, East Columbus, South Columbus and West Columbus are the 2A schools.

"I think it's going to be a real strong conference," Brett said. "I don't think there's any weak sisters in it."

In the past, West Brunswick could count on victories over schools such as South Robeson and Fairmont. Brett said there will be no automatic wins in the new Waccamaw. "The rest of our schedule's not very easy either," he added.

West Brunswick lost 11 seniors from last year's club, including two-way starters Aaron Butler, Shawn Stevenson and Lonnie Mitchell and three other starters.

"We lost some mighty good people last year," Brett said. "We didn't lose a lot in terms of quantity but we lost some real quality players. It's hard to replace an Aaron Butler and Shawn Stevenson quickly."

However, Coach Brett has 12 starters back from the 1992 club including four offensive linemen, two running backs, two defensive linemen, one linebacker and three defensive backs.

Brett, who has a career coaching record of 179-64, said the Trojans will run the same basic offense they ran at the end of the 1992 season with a few additions.

"We're adding a few things we didn't have time to put in last year," he said. "It will be a more sophisticated passing game which will work in combination with the running game."

In Eric Johnson, Brett said the Trojans have a starting quarterback who can throw the football and execute a passing attack.

"I think you'll see us thrown much more than last year," he said.

"We're going to throw a lot to our backs coming out of the backfield."

Probable offensive starters Friday in addition to Johnson include Michael Lance at fullback and Steve Holmes and William Stanley at halfback.

Brett said Holmes was injured in the Trojans' scrimmage last Wednesday in Mullins and may not be able to start Friday. The coach said James Morgan, Ty Brown and Neil Warren also will get playing time in the backfield.

Starters on the offensive line will include Charlie Peele at center, Blake Hobbs and Kelly Wooten at guard and Steve Brooks and Philip Johnson at tackle.

Timmy Daniels will start at one tight end spot, with Terrell Thomas or Heath Inman starting at the other end.

West Brunswick will use the same 4-3 base defense it used last year, when the Trojans allowed just over seven points per game and had the fourth lowest average in the state.

Probable defensive starters include Steve Brooks and Greg Gause at tackle and Philip Johnson and Wayne Branch at end.

Kwabena Green, who started at defensive tackle as a freshman in 1992, has been moved to middle linebacker. Green will be flanked by Michael Lance at strong side linebacker and Brian McDowell or Steve Holmes on the weak side.

James Morgan and Timmy Daniels are expected to start at cornerback, with Mike Johnson, Eric Johnson, Corey Hill and Eric Andreis competing for starting safety spots.

Brett said the coaching staff wants to give the two-way starters as much rest as possible during the game so they have enough energy to play four quarters.

Trojans Host Conway

For the second straight year, West Brunswick will open the season against Conway. The Trojans won the first meeting between the schools last year, 19-14, giving the Trojans their first season-opening loss in six years.

Holmes scored both Trojan touchdowns in last year's contest. One came on a short run and the second on a 48-yard punt return.

However, three turnovers proved costly for West Brunswick. Conway returned one fumble for a first-quarter touchdown and pounced on another loose ball to set up the game-winning score in the fourth quarter.

"In order for us to win Friday night we can't turn the ball over," said Brett, who watched Conway scrimmage last week.

"They are a very basic team. Fundamentally they're good. They won't beat themselves," he added. "They have quickness in the skill positions and size in the line."

Brett said Conway's best player is quarterback Michael Allen, who can pass and run. "Their quarterback, to me, is a threat every time he touches the ball. I just don't think we can let him get on our corners."

Brett said he would rather see Allen throw than run. "He scares me the most when he drops back to pass and starts running. When he drops back to pass, I hope he throws it. Coach Mike Alderson is going to have those DBs all over him."

Conway will be the first of five 4A opponents the Trojans will face in non-conference action this fall. Others are Purnell-Swett, Hoggard, Georgetown and Lumberton.

Other games involving Waccamaw Conference teams this week include St. Pauls at South Brunswick, Pender at Southwest Onslow, Fairmont at East Columbus, Whiteville at East Bladen, Laney at West Columbus and South Columbus at Bladenboro.

1993 WEST BRUNSWICK FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
Aug. 27	Conway (S.C.)
Sept. 3	Purnell-Swett
Sept. 10	Hoggard
Sept. 17	at Georgetown (S.C.)
Sept. 24	South Columbus
Oct. 1	Pender
Oct. 8	at Whiteville
Oct. 15	East Columbus
Oct. 22	at West Columbus
Oct. 29	Lumberton
Nov. 5	at South Brunswick

WEST BRUNSWICK ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Grade
2	Wayne Branch	HB-DE	5-8	165	12
3	Eric Johnson	QB-DB	6-1	170	11
4	Corey Hill	HB-DB	5-9	155	9
5	Steve Holmes	HB-LB	6-0	165	12
10	Timothy Daniels	TE-DB	6-2	180	11
11	Michael Johnson	QB-DB	5-9	160	11
15	Eric Hewett	QB-DB	5-10	150	10
21	Dexter Bass	HB-DB	5-9	150	11
22	William Stanley	HB-DE	5-8	185	12
31	Greg Gause	FB-DT	5-10	190	12
32	Michael Lance	FB-LB	5-11	180	12
34	Todd Pruitt	TE-DE	6-1	165	11
35	C.C. Hill	HB-DB	5-6	135	10
40	Ty Brown	HB-DB	6-2	170	11
42	Jamal Stanley	FB-LB	6-0	170	10
44	Neil Warren	FB-DB	5-9	160	11
45	Chris Brown	TE-DE	6-1	155	12
46	James Morgan	HB-DB	5-10	170	11
47	Timmy Vaught	HB-DB	5-9	165	10
50	Kwabena Green	OT-LB	6-0	235	10
52	Brian McDowell	OG-LB	5-10	175	10
53	Walt Salano	FB-LB	5-6	135	10
55	Jonathan Faulk	OG-DT	5-8	195	11
56	John Robinson	OG-LB	5-9	155	10
62	Jamison Gore	OG-LB	5-7	145	9
63	Blake Hobbs	OG-LB	5-10	185	12
65	Kelly Wooten	OG-LB	5-9	170	11
66	Kip Young	C-DT	5-9	180	12
67	Philip Johnson	OT-DT	6-2	260	12
73	Steve Brooks	OT-DT	6-3	270	12
75	Charlie Peele	C-DT	5-11	235	12
77	Darius Vaught	HB-DB	5-6	130	12
78	Marcus McCray	OT-DT	5-10	245	10
80	Leon Johnson	TE-LB	5-11	190	12
82	Derek Frink	TE-DB	6-5	165	10
83	Terrell Thomas	TE-LB	6-0	185	10
85	Heath Inman	TE-DE	6-0	170	12
89	Eric Andreis	HB-DB	5-11	150	12

Some Choice Programs for Grange Members*

North Carolina State Grange and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina are names you can trust. Send us this coupon, and our agent will contact you about special programs for Grange Members.*

• Individual • Family

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____



Mail to: Coastal Insurance & Realty
 P.O. Box 1238
 Shallotte, NC 28459
 754-4326

*Non-members may apply by making application for membership.

Jim's



2ND ANNUAL FIREARMS AND WINCHESTER AMMO TRUCKLOAD SALE



SOUTH'S LARGEST WINCHESTER AMMUNITION DEALER

NEW!

FINAL DAYS! Sale Ends

FEATURING WINCHESTER DOVE & QUAIL SHOTSHELLS

\$3.69 PER BOX
 25 Shells Per Box

WE'RE DEALING!!
 TRADE-INS WELCOME
 BEST SELECTION - LOWEST PRICES

Jim's GUARANTEES NEW AND USED FIREARMS

EARLY BUYERS CAN'T LOSE WITH

Jim's PRICE PROTECTION POLICY.
 LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEED OR

Jim's WILL REFUND THE DIFFERENCE.

Jim's
 864-2270
 MON-SAT. 9-9
 SUN. 1-6

GUN JOBBERY
 4932 Yorkin Road
 Fayetteville, NC 28308
919-864-2270

4215 Clearwater Drive
 Wilmington, NC 28403
919-799-7314

980 Old US HWY 1
 Southern Pines, NC 28387
919-695-1303