



STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER



WEST BRUNSWICK TACKLE Philip Johnson (67) celebrates a quarterback sack with teammate William Stanley (22). West's defense forced six South Columbus turnovers and recorded its first shutout of the season.

TROJAN QUARTERBACK ERIC JOHNSON (3) hands off to fullback Michael Lance (32) during West Brunswick's 45-0 victory over South Columbus Friday night.

Trojan Defense Smothers Stallions In 45-0 Blowout

BY DOUG RUTTER

Steve Holmes scored four touchdowns and West Brunswick's defense did the rest as the Trojans rolled to a 45-0 win over South Columbus Friday in their Waccamaw 2A/3A Conference football opener.

West's defense forced six turnovers—recovering four fumbles and intercepting two passes—while holding the Stallions to 110 total yards and recording its first shutout of the season.

"The defense really came to life tonight," Trojan Coach Jim Brett said. "They just did everything we asked of them and made big plays all night. I'm just so proud of them."

Brett also was pleased with the consistency of the offense, which rushed for 264 yards out of its three-back set and scored 40-plus points for the third straight game.

Recovering fumbles for the Trojans were Kwabena Green with two and Jonathan Faulk and Eric Andreis with one each. James Morgan and Dexter Bass had interceptions.

"We played with intensity and

we're pretty good when we do that," Brett said following West's first home win of the season. "I think we're getting there."

Holmes, who rushed for 272 yards and four touchdowns in last year's playoff game at South Columbus, had another big night against the Stallions Friday with 125 yards on just eight carries.

West Brunswick quarterback Eric Johnson helped set up Holmes' first touchdown midway through the first quarter with a 46-yard punt return to the South Columbus 30-yard line.

Four plays later, Holmes took a quick pitch around the left end and scampered 19 yards for the score. Derek Frink's extra point gave the Trojans a 7-0 lead with 5:51 left in the period.

Faulk's fumble recovery at the South Columbus 45-yard line set up West's second score, a 44-yard touchdown pass from Eric Johnson to tight end Timmy Daniels with 7:18 before halftime.

Leading 13-0, West Brunswick went back to Holmes on its next possession and the senior halfback delivered with a 60-yard touchdown

run through the middle of the Stallion defense.

The two-point conversion attempt failed, and the Trojans held a 19-0 lead at halftime.

South Columbus committed five turnovers in the second half, starting with a fumble on the first play of the third quarter.

West's Green recovered at the Stallion 18-yard line, and Holmes scored on a 3-yard dive five plays later. Johnson threw to Daniels for a two-point play and the Trojans led 27-0 with 9:19 left in the period.

South Columbus drove to the West Brunswick 28-yard line on its next possession, but Morgan stopped the Stallions with an interception. He returned the ball about 40 yards to put the Trojan offense back in business.

Three plays later, Holmes struck for his fourth score of the night on a 41-yard run. Johnson's pass for two fell incomplete and the Trojans led 33-0 with 4:46 in the third quarter.

With most of its starters sitting, West Brunswick added two touchdowns in the fourth quarter. Morgan capped a nine-play, 52-yard drive

with a 5-yard touchdown run.

On the ensuing kickoff, West's Andreis recovered a South Columbus fumble at the 35-yard line. Reserve fullback Greg Gause scored five plays later on a 7-yard run.

South Columbus, which was held to five first downs, gained more than half of its yardage on a 36-yard run by Corey Lewis and a 29-yard screen pass from Whitney Hughes to John Kelly.

After losing the first two games of the season, West Brunswick has won three straight. Brett said playing four non-conference games against 4A schools helped prepare the Trojans for league play.

"There ain't no question in my mind," he said. "I've done that all my life. I know it helps to play people who are good."

West Brunswick (1-0 conference, 3-2 overall) hosts the Pender Pat-

riots this week while South Columbus (0-1, 3-2) entertains Whiteville in Waccamaw Conference action.

THE YARDSTICK

West Bruns.	S. Columbus
11	First Downs.....5
42-264	Rushing.....32-81
2-5-52	Passing.....1-10-29
4-1	Fumbles-Lost.....5-4
0	Ints. Thrown.....2
2-33	Punts(No-Avg).....6-39
2-20	Penalties-Yards.....1-15

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	7	12	14	12	45
South Columbus	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring Summary

(WB) Holmes, 19-yard run (Frink kick)
(WB) Daniels, 44-yard pass from Johnson (kick failed)
(WB) Holmes, 60-yard run (pass failed)

(WB) Holmes, 3-yard run (Johnson pass to Daniels)

(WB) Holmes, 41-yard run (pass failed)

(WB) Morgan, 5 yard-run (kick failed)

(WB) Gause, 7-yard run (kick failed)

Individual Rushing

West Brunswick: Holmes, 8-125; Stanley, 14-73; Morgan, 4-27; Gause, 4-13; Brown, 2-9; Lance, 7-8; Warren, 2-7; Johnson, 1-2.

South Columbus: Lewis, 14-59; Kelly, 10-19; Ellerby, 5-14; Jeter, 1-1; Hughes, 2-minus 12.

Individual Passing

West Brunswick: Johnson, 2-5-52.

South Columbus: Hughes, 1-10-29.

Individual Receiving

West Brunswick: Daniels, 2-52.

South Columbus: Kelly, 1-29.



WEST'S GREG GAUSE (31) breaks away from South Columbus' Donald Jeter for a fourth-quarter touchdown.



TROJAN HALFBACK STEVE HOLMES (5) squirms through a hole in the South Columbus defense for one of his four touchdowns.

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