

West Brunswick Sinks Lumberton Pirates 34-8

BY DOUG RUTTER

For a game that didn't mean anything, West Brunswick sure played like a team that meant business.

The Trojans scored on five of their first six possessions and rolled to a 34-8 win over the visiting Lumberton Pirates Friday night in a N.C. High School Athletic Association endowment game.

The endowment game does not count in the official standings, but it was an important win for West Brunswick just the same.

The Trojans were coming off a disappointing, 7-6 conference loss at West Columbus and needed a confidence boost going into this week's regular-season finale at South Brunswick.

"We got over the mental thing from last week," West Brunswick Coach Jim Brett said. "I was worried about that a little bit, but we just sucked it up and came out and played."

Played well too. West Brunswick rushed for 250 yards and four touchdowns, led by senior halfback William Stanley with 88 yards and two scores. Steve Holmes gained 62 yards rushing and Michael Lance had 53 with one TD each.

"We moved the ball extremely well when we had our first offense in there," Brett said. West's starting offense found the end zone the first three times it had the ball and built a 20-0 lead.

The 3A Trojans took the opening kickoff and drove 69 yards in 10 plays against the 4A Pirates. The big play was a 30-yard pass from quarterback Eric Johnson to tight end Heath Inman.

Holmes, who rushed for 24 yards in the opening drive, finished it off by taking a quick pitch around the left end and scoring on a 5-yard run. Johnson's pass for two points fell incomplete, and the Trojans led 6-0.

Following a Lumberton punt,



WEST BRUNSWICK HALFBACK William Stanley (22) rushed for 88 yards and two touchdowns Friday against Lumberton.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick's deceptive offense went back to work and marched 67 yards in 11 plays.

The methodical, ground-oriented Trojans rushed 10 straight times before Johnson hooked up with Terrell Thomas on a 16-yard scoring pass. Derek Frink's extra point gave West a 13-0 lead with 10:32 left in the first half.

Johnson set up West's third touchdown of the game with a 40-yard punt return to the Lumberton 25-yard line. The Trojans scored five plays later on a 1-yard run by Stanley, and Frink's kick made it 20-0.

Lumberton got on the scoreboard just before halftime after pinning the Trojans deep in their own territory

and forcing a punt that bounced out of bounds at the 27-yard line with 53 seconds left.

The Pirates quickly moved to the 1-yard line on a 26-yard middle screen from Travis Cooper to J.T. Jones. Kenny Risen punched it across the goal line two plays later, and Chris McCallum added a two-point run with 13 seconds left in the half to trim West's lead to 20-8.

Any momentum the Pirates had built before halftime was wiped out on the third play of the second half, when McCallum fumbled and West's Kwabena Green recovered at the Lumberton 41-yard line.

The grinding Trojan offense called eight straight running plays. Lance carried five times for 29 yards in the drive and scored on a 3-yard dive with 5:10 left in quarter. Johnson threw to Timmy Daniels for two points.

Lumberton's offense marched 35 yards on its next possession before the Trojan defense forced its second turnover of the half. Pirate quarterback Travis Cooper's pass was tipped by Corey Hill and intercepted by Dexter Bass.

West's offense took over at its own 39 and needed just four plays to find its way back to the end zone. Stanley started the drive with a 26-yard burst and finished it with a 12-yard touchdown run.

The Pirates moved from their own 20-yard line to the West Brunswick 30 on their next possession. But for the third straight possession, the drive ended with a turnover as West's Charlie Peele pounced on a fumble.

Lumberton's Cooper played well for the Pirates, completing 8 of 10 passes for 81 yards. But West Brunswick stuffed the visitors' running attack, allowing just 68 yards on 25

carries. "They weren't a bad team," Brett said. "They have a lot of good athletes and they're well coached."

The victory over Lumberton was West Brunswick's third of the season against non-conference 4A schools. The Trojans also beat Georgetown, S.C., and Hoggard, while losing to Conway, S.C., and Purnell-Swett.

West Brunswick, 4-1 in the Waccamaw Conference and 6-3 overall, plays at South Brunswick Friday night. The Pirates (1-4, 2-7) will finish their season at Purnell-Swett.

THE YARDSTICK

West Bruns.	Lumberton
18	9
45-250	25-68
3-5-49	8-10-81
1-0	2-2
0	1
2-26	4-39
12-80	6-50

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	6	14	8	6	—	34
Lumberton	0	8	0	0	—	8

Scoring Summary

- (WB) Holmes, 5-yard run (pass failed)
- (WB) Thomas, 16-yard pass from Johnson (Frink kick)
- (WB) Stanley, 1-yard run (Frink kick)
- (L) Risen, 1-yard run (McCallum run)
- (WB) Lance, 3-yard run (Johnson pass to Daniels)
- (WB) Stanley, 12-yard run (kick failed)

Individual Rushing

- West Brunswick: Stanley, 13-88; Holmes, 9-62; Lance, 11-53; Johnson, 2-15; Gause, 4-13; Bass, 1-9; Morgan, 2-6; Hill, 2-4; Warren, 1-0.
- Lumberton: McKenzie, 6-33; McCallum, 12-30; Jones, 3-27; Risen, 2-minus 8; Cooper, 2-minus 10.

Individual Passing

- West Brunswick: Johnson, 3-5-49.
- Lumberton: Cooper, 8-10-81.

Individual Receiving

- West Brunswick: Inman, 1-30; Thomas, 1-16; Daniels, 1-3.
- Lumberton: McRae, 3-28; Jones, 2-29; McKenzie, 2-19; Risen, 1-5.

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TROJAN DEFENSIVE END Wayne Branch (2) and defensive back Timmy Daniels (10) tackle Lumberton's Dante Powers.



WEST DEFENSIVE BACK Dexter Bass (21) gets instruction from head coach Jim Brett (right) and assistant coach David Arrowood. Bass had an interception that led to a Trojan touchdown.

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YELLOW PINE				
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2x6	2.91	3.72	4.47	6.29
2x8	—	4.98	6.25	7.98

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