

West's 'Dynamic Duo' Heads All-County Football Team

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick seniors Steve Holmes and Michael Lance have been named Brunswick County's high school football co-players of the year after leading the Trojans to the state 3A championship.

Both players were instrumental in West Brunswick's 12-3 season and second consecutive state football title. Both started at running back and linebacker for the Trojans.

Holmes and Lance headline the 1993 edition of the All-Brunswick County High School Football Team that includes 15 members of the Trojans. West also won the county championship and a share of the Waccamaw Conference title.

Holmes, a speedy 165-pound halfback, was the team's greatest threat on offense. He had the ability to make a big play, and possibly score, every time he carried the pigskin.

Lance, a punishing 180-pound fullback, was often called on to earn tough yards up the middle. He was one of the emotional leaders of the Trojans and the second-leading tackler on defense.

Holmes carried the ball 184 times this season for 1,513 yards, an average of 8.2 yards per rushing attempt. He had nine 100-yard games and eight multiple-touchdown games.

The elusive back scored 24 touchdowns this season and 53 in his career. Holmes finished his high school career with 449 rushing attempts and 3,569 yards—an average of 7.9 yards per carry.

Holmes had a season-high 218 yards rushing and three TDs in a 48-16 win over Northeast Guilford in the first round of the state playoffs. He also rushed for 125 yards and four TDs in a 45-0 rout of South Columbus.

As an outside linebacker this season, Holmes was involved in 36 tackles, had one quarterback sack, recovered two fumbles, made one interception and blocked one punt.

Holmes was selected to the all-county team following the 1991 and 1992 seasons. He earned a spot on the squad's defensive line two years ago before moving to running back last season.

As one of the team's senior leaders, West's Lance was valuable on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball.

He rushed for 1,037 yards and scored 16 touchdowns this season. He had 382 yards and seven TDs in the state playoffs, including the game-winning score in the state championship game.

As a starting linebacker, Lance was involved in 93 tackles this season, including 36 solo stops. He had five quarterback sacks and caused four fumbles.

His best offensive game was against county rival South Brunswick. Lance carried 17 times for 175 yards in the game and scored on a 98-yard run that helped swing the momentum in West Brunswick's favor.

Lance's second-half interception in the third round of the state playoffs was the key play in West's 21-3



LANCE



HOLMES

win over previously-undefeated and top-ranked Reidsville.

West Brunswick Head Coach Jim Brett, who has led the Trojans to two state titles in his first two years at the school, was named coach of the year. Brett is 23-6 at West Brunswick and 10-0 in the playoffs.

The Offense

Running the mythical all-county offense is West Brunswick quarterback Eric Johnson. The 6-1, 170-pound, junior had a great season for the Trojans engineering Brett's ball-faking offense.

In his first year as starting quarterback, Johnson completed 40 of 89 pass attempts for 753 yards and nine touchdowns. He also rushed for 295 yards and two scores while throwing just three interceptions.

Johnson was an all-county defensive back last year. As a starting safety this season, he was in on 41 tackles, recovered two fumbles and blocked a field goal.

Joining Johnson in the backfield are teammates Holmes and Lance and South Brunswick halfback O.J. Morris. The speedy junior had his second straight 1,000-yard season for the Cougars, who finished 5-6.

Filling the tight end spot on the all-county squad is West Brunswick's Timothy "Salt" Daniels, who had 17 receptions for 383 yards and scored five touchdowns.

The 6-2, 180-pound, junior also started at cornerback for the Trojans and was involved in 68 tackles. He made 33 solo stops, had one interception and recovered three fumbles.

South Brunswick's Lewis Vaught earned all-county honors at wide receiver. The 6-1, 175-pound, senior also had a solid season at defensive back for the Cougars, who made their first playoff appearance in three years.

The all-county offensive line features four West Brunswick blockers who opened the holes that allowed Trojan ball-carriers to rush for 4,216 yards this season.

Heading the list are senior tackles Phillip Johnson and Steve Brooks, senior center Charlie Peele and junior guard Kelly Wooten. South tackle Terrance Randolph was named to the all-county team for the third straight year.

Brooks (6-3, 270) also is a three-time selection to the all-county squad. He made 22 tackles this season as a defensive lineman.

Phillip Johnson (6-2, 260) combined with Brooks to make a formidable pair of tackles for the Trojans. He also made 33 tackles and caused two fumbles along the defensive front. Johnson's 28-yard gain on the "fumblerooski" play sparked West's

game-winning drive in the state championship game.

Named to the all-county team for the second straight year, West's Peele is 5-11 and 235 pounds. He made 26 tackles on defense.

Despite his relatively small size, Wooten (5-9, 170) was a key to the Trojans' ground attack. Coach Brett said Wooten played exceptionally well in the state championship game.

The Defense

When you talk about defense, you have to start with the front four. For West Brunswick, the undisputed leader of the front four was senior defensive end Wayne Branch.

At 5-8 and only 165 pounds, Branch is not a typical end. But he more than made up for his lack of size by using his quickness to consistently beat offensive linemen.

A three-time selection to the all-county team, Branch led the Trojan line this season with 12 solo tackles and 65 assists. He also had eight quarterback sacks, 16 hurries and three fumble recoveries.

Joining Branch on the defensive

line is West teammate William Stanley. The powerfully-built senior (5-8, 185) was a constant nuisance for opposing quarterbacks.

As a starting halfback, Stanley also rushed for 655 yards this season and scored eight touchdowns. He had a career-high 129 yards in a 41-18 win against Georgetown, S.C.

Also selected for the all-county defensive line were South Brunswick's Will Rabon and North Brunswick's Santee Graham.

Anchoring the linebacker corps is West Brunswick sophomore Kwabena Green, who led the Trojans with 43 solo tackles and 86 assists.

Green, an all-county defensive lineman as a freshman, also recovered five fumbles, made one interception and blocked one punt and two extra point attempts this year.

South Brunswick linebacker Terry Galloway is a three-time selection to the all-county team. The 5-10, 226-pound, senior also started at fullback for the Cougars.

Rounding out the linebacker group is North Brunswick's Sherrill Hall. The 6-0, 230-pounder was the leader of the Scorpion defense.

Leading the all-county defensive backfield is West Brunswick junior James Morgan, who made or assisted in 45 tackles and had three interceptions for the Trojans.

Morgan, who also saw time in the offensive backfield, played excellent defense in the state championship game with four solo tackles and five pass deflections.

Joining Morgan in the secondary is teammate Michael Johnson. The 5-9, 160-pound, junior made 22 solo tackles this season with 51 assists, one sack and one interception.

West's Dexter Bass also earned a spot in the all-county secondary. He made 10 solo tackles, recorded 20 assists and picked off three passes for the Trojans.

Joining the trio of West Brunswick juniors at defensive back is South Brunswick's Jeremy Baker. The sophomore also saw a lot of playing time at quarterback for the Cougars this season.

Specialists

Earning a spot on the all-county football team as a place kicker is West Brunswick sophomore Derek Frink, who converted 42 of 54 extra

point attempts during the season (78 percent).

After making just eight of his first 16 PAT attempts, Frink showed great improvement throughout the season and connected on 34 of 38 tries over the last 10 games.

Frink, who also handled kickoff and punting duties for the Trojans, had two streaks where he converted 15 consecutive extra points. He made 16 of 18 PAT attempts in the playoffs, including 15 in a row to end the season.

For the second straight year, South's Jeff Simon was selected to the all-county squad as the punter.

The all-county football team is selected by sports editors of *The Brunswick Beacon* and *State Port Pilot* newspapers based on overall performance and recommendations from coaches.

1993 ALL-BRUNSWICK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

OFFENSE		
Position	Player	School
QB	Eric Johnson	West
RB	Steve Holmes	West
RB	O.J. Morris	South
RB	Michael Lance	West
WR	Lewis Vaught	South
TE	Timothy Daniels	West
OL	Phillip Johnson	West
OL	Steve Brooks	West
OL	Charlie Peele	West
OL	Kelly Wooten	West
OL	Terrance Randolph	South

DEFENSE		
Position	Player	School
DL	Wayne Branch	West
DL	William Stanley	West
DL	Santee Graham	North
DL	Will Rabon	South
LB	Kwabena Green	West
LB	Terry Galloway	South
LB	Sherrill Hall	North
DB	James Morgan	West
DB	Michael Johnson	West
DB	Dexter Bass	West
DB	Jeremy Baker	South

SPECIALISTS		
Position	Player	School
K	Derek Frink	West
P	Jeff Simon	North

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Steve Holmes, West Brunswick
Michael Lance, West Brunswick
COACH OF THE YEAR
Jim Brett, West Brunswick

Seven Trojans Receive All-Conference Honors

Seven members of the state 3A champion West Brunswick High School football team have been named to the All-Waccamaw Conference squad, which is selected by league coaches.

Selected to the team were seniors Phillip Johnson, Steve Holmes, Michael Lance, Wayne Branch and Charlie Peele; junior Eric Johnson; and sophomore Kwabena Green.

Representing South Brunswick on the all-conference team are seniors Lewis Vaught and Terry Galloway and junior O.J. Morris.

Named to the team from Whiteville were Anthony Southern, Jablonski Moore, Jamie Townsend, Afarsian Burns, Kevin McKenzie, Darrell Shaw and Matt Fox. Selected from West Columbia were Loron Jackson, Magellan Powell, Howard McCollum, Maris Singletary, Marvin Edge and Rico Eady.

Rounding out the squad are Corey Lewis, Adam Wright, William Ellerby, Mac Long and Whitney Hughes of South Columbus; John Junious, Travis Brown and Janellie Hazel of East Columbus; and Freddy Simpson, Stanley Jacobs and Bernie Wooten of Pender.

Among those receiving honorable mention were West's Steve Brooks, Timothy Daniels, James Morgan, William Stanley, Heath Inman and Kelly Wooten. Also Justin Rohde, Terrance Randolph and Rodney Willoughby of South Brunswick.

West Brunswick's Jim Brett, Whiteville's Brian Aldridge and West Columbia's Wayne Williamson were named coaches of the year. Their teams tied for the league title.

GIRLS TENNIS

West Brunswick and Whiteville

each placed three girls on the All-Waccamaw Conference tennis team after the two teams tied for the league championship.

Selected from the Lady Trojans were Jennifer Simmons, Joanna Barber and Blair Milligan. Representing Whiteville are Alyson Singletary, Ashley Shelburne and Anne Grove.

Also named to the team were Sara Eslinger and Edelmira Segovia of Pender, Camille Wilmoth and Audrey Porterfield of South Brunswick, Kelley Snowden of East Columbus, Clarissa Halks of South Columbus and Amanda Freed of West Columbia.

West Brunswick players Jessica Robertson, Allison Hardee and Yabi Lemon received honorable mention, along with South Brunswick's Dana Harrison.

West Brunswick's Martie Gillis and Whiteville's C.L. Gore were named coaches of the year.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Nicole Norris and Madonna Gause are West Brunswick's representatives on the all-conference volleyball team. Tracey Coates was selected from South Brunswick.

Other selections include Kristi Sawyer, Jennifer Jackson and Jennifer Griffin of Pender; Stephanie McDowell and Christy Chestnut of South Columbus; Tammy Robertson and Natalie Stallings of East Columbus; June Britt of West Columbia and Angela Slater of Whiteville.

Among the girls receiving honorable mention were Rebecca Hughes and April Mintz of West Brunswick and South's Misty LeClerc.

Pender's Ray Horton was named coach of the year.

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This is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
This holiday time let us take a moment to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas — the miraculous birth of a babe who would become the King of kings. May His love shine in your homes this holiday season.

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