

WEST BRUNSWICK FRESHMAN Donicia Moody (23) scored eight points to help the Lady Trojans to a 56-20 win.

West Brunswick Girls Stomp Scorpions 56-20

BY DOUG RUTTER

Kaneka Grissett scored 17 points to lead the West Brunswick girls' basketball team to a season-opening, 56-20 win over North Brunswick last Thursday night in Leland.

Grissett, a sophomore guard, made a pair of three-pointers in the first half and also had a three-point play in the opening quarter, when she scored 12 points.

Senior center Nicole Norris scored 10 points for the Lady Trojans, and freshman guard Donicia Moody chipped in with eight points in her first high school game. Valerie Smith led North with seven points.

"We still have a whole lot to work on," West Brunswick Coach Brenda Council said following the game. "This being our first game I'm sure the girls were a little nervous."

West Brunswick, which was originally scheduled to open the season Nov. 30, postponed the opener more than two weeks because of the football team's playoff success.

North Brunswick entered the contest with six games under its belt, but could not handle West's quickness on defense which created easy baskets in transition.

"We'll take a win any way we can get it at this point," Council said. "As far as rebounding we looked

terrible. We did not crash the boards at all."

West Brunswick scored the first eight points of the game and led 24-5 after one quarter.

The Lady Scorpions pulled to within 28-11 midway through the second period, but West Brunswick closed out the quarter with a 10-0 run to take a 38-11 lead at halftime.

With West playing a lot of reserves in the second half, the Lady Trojans built their lead to 47-15 after three quarters. Freshman Marlena Hill scored six points in the second half.

West Brunswick (1-0) was scheduled to play at Wilmington Hoggard Tuesday night. The Lady Trojans will compete in the East Duplin Booster Club Holiday Tournament next week.

North Brunswick's girls (1-6) do not play again until Jan. 7, when they will host Fairmont in the Three Rivers Conference opener.

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	24	14	9	9	—56
North Brunswick	5	6	4	5	—20

West Brunswick scoring: Grissett, 17; Norris, 10; Moody, 8; Morgan, 6; Hill, 6; Mercer, 4; Williams, 3; Hewett, 2.

North Brunswick scoring: Smith, 7; Ludd, 5; Ballard, 3; Pretty, 2; Crowder, 2; Evans, 1.

SPORTING SCENE

North's Scorpions End County Roundball Jinx

North Brunswick's basketball team ended years of frustration on the hardwood last week with wins over county rivals South Brunswick and West Brunswick.

On consecutive nights, the Scorpions snapped an 11-game losing streak against South Brunswick and halted an eight-game losing streak against West Brunswick.

North Brunswick Coach Garry Bishop could only shake his head in disbelief last Thursday night following his team's 76-65 win over the visiting West Trojans.

Doug Rutter
Sports Editor



When Bishop took over head coaching duties this year from veteran mentor Cliff Gibson, little did he know he would help bring an end to the county jinx that has haunted the Scorpions for the last four years.

Asked how he felt about the 30-point win over South on Wednesday and the 11-point victory over West the following night, Bishop said, "You don't even have to ask that. I'm ecstatic. It feels great."

The 78-48 whipping of South Brunswick must have been especially sweet for North Brunswick, which had suffered beating after beating from the Cougars for nearly six years.

Before last week's home victory, North's last win against South Brunswick was Feb. 5, 1988. The Scorpions swept the Cougars that year, winning the first meeting 41-39 in overtime and taking the second contest 52-50.

However, the Cougars had won every game between the teams since 1989. South Brunswick also won the first meeting this season, 72-55, two weeks ago in Boiling Spring Lakes.

With a 5-2 record and three-game winning streak heading into the holiday break, North Brunswick could be a force when they open Three Rivers Conference play in January.

Of course, the Scorpions will have their hands full against conference teams like Fairmont, Bladenboro and East Bladen. We'll see if the Scorpions are for real Jan. 7 when they face Fairmont's Tornados.

Assisting Bishop with the North Brunswick boys this season is Mike Oliver, the all-time leading scorer in North Brunswick history.

"The kids really look up to him," Bishop said. "They know he was a great player here and they respect that."

Mintz Signs With Giants

Stephen Mintz, a former North Brunswick High School baseball star, signed a minor-league contract last week with the San Francisco Giants organization.

Mintz, who spent several years in the Los Angeles Dodgers farm system, was not re-signed by the Boston Red Sox after spending much of last season with the club's Class AA team in New Britain, Conn.

The pitcher had a 2-4 record with a 2.08 earned run average in 43 games in the AA Eastern League. Mintz held opponents to a team-leading .208 batting average and recorded seven saves in the final two weeks of the season.

Mintz is expected to play with the Giants' Class AAA team in Phoenix, Ariz., next year.

Brett's Going Nowhere

West Brunswick Head Football Coach Jim Brett says there's no truth to the rumors that he is leaving Shallotte to accept another coaching position.

After leading the Trojans to two state championships in his first two seasons, rumors have been flying fast and furious about Brett's future.

One reporter called last week asking if there was any truth to the rumor that Brett told his players following the state 3A championship game that he was leaving the school.

The craziest rumor to date, though, is that Brett will become the head coach of the NFL expansion Carolina Panthers.

Brett told me last week that he "couldn't be happier" with his present situation at West Brunswick, which is comforting to hear.

OK Coach, the Panthers are out. How about the Redskins?

Merry Christmas to all our friends!

'Tis the season to be smiling!
TED H. SANDERS, DDS & STAFF
Dr. Sanders will be on 24-hour emergency call during the holidays.
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Lady Scorpions End Skid

The North Brunswick girls' basketball team snapped a 16-game losing streak last week with a 49-37 win over Topsail.

Valerie Smith scored a game-high 26 points to lead the Lady Scorpions, who outscored Topsail 33-16 in the second and third quarters.

Tisha London led the Lady Pirates with 16 points. Topsail had de-

feated North Brunswick 38-30 in the season-opener in Leland.

Score By Quarters

North Brunswick	8	15	18	8	—49
Topsail	8	8	8	13	—37

North Brunswick scoring: Smith, 26; Walker, 8; Ballard, 7; Ludd, 3; Pretty, 2; Crowder, 2; Jones, 1.

Topsail scoring: London, 16; Savell, 8; Vanderham, 4; Gaines, 4; Boyd, 2; Poff, 2; Hardee, 1.

South Girls Dump Scorp

Erika Bryant scored 18 points and Tameka Davis added 17 to lead South Brunswick to a 57-20 win over North Brunswick last Wednesday in girls high school basketball.

The Lady Cougars led 17-2 after one quarter and continued to build on their lead throughout the game. South led the non-conference game 31-13 at halftime.

South Brunswick improved to 3-2, while the Lady Scorpions fell to

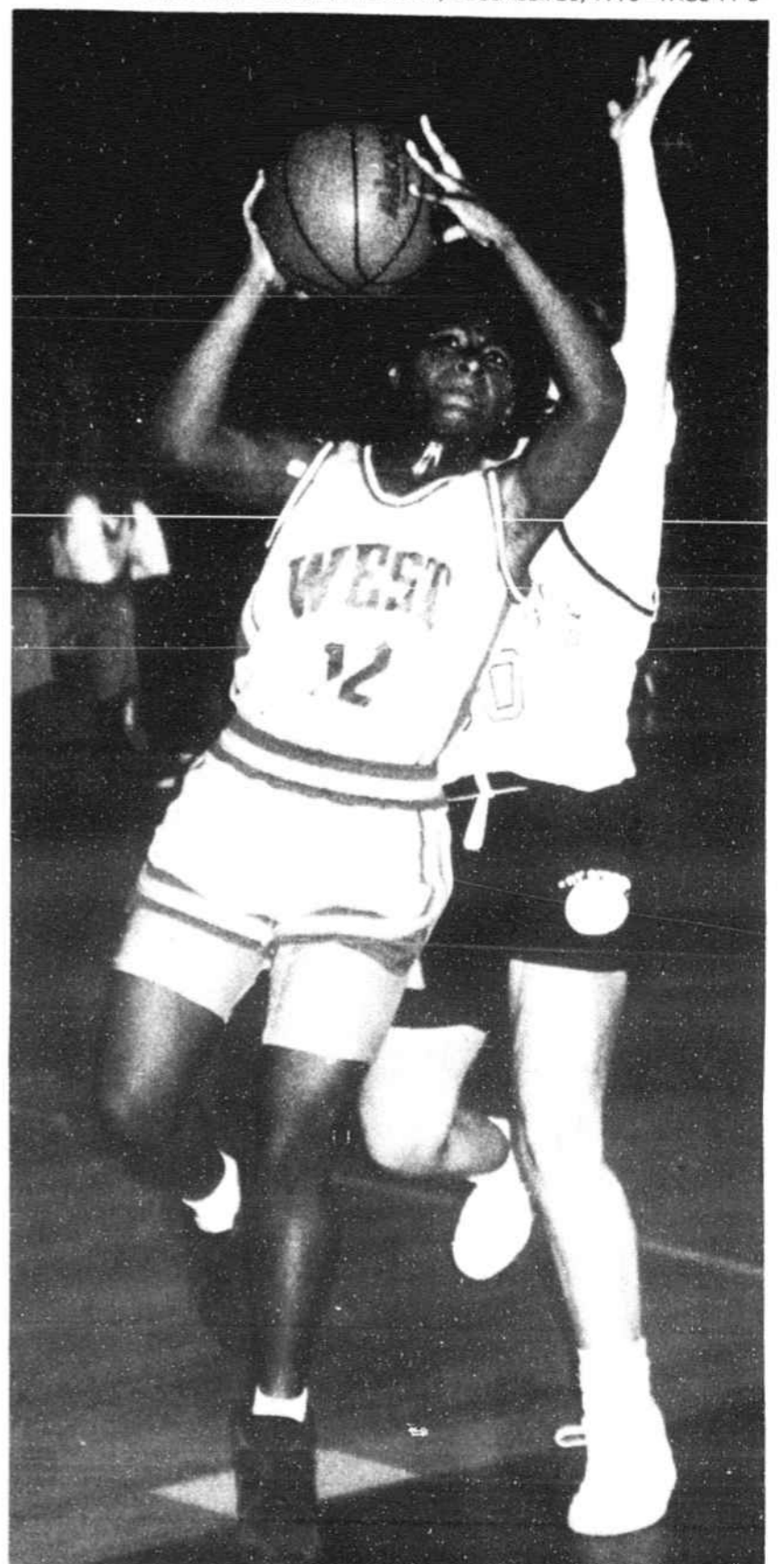
1-5. Valerie Smith led North Brunswick with seven points.

Score By Quarters

South Brunswick	17	14	12	14	—57
North Brunswick	2	11	4	3	—20

South Brunswick scoring: Bryant, 18; Tam. Davis, 17; Sellers, 6; Tan. Davis, 4; Fullwood, 3; S. Smith, 2; Lee, 2; N. Smith, 2; Karriker, 2; Brinson, 1.

North Brunswick scoring: Smith, 7; Ludd, 4; Walker, 4; Ballard, 2; Willis, 2; Pretty, 1.



WEST'S KANEKA GRISSETT drives for two of her 17 points in the Lady Trojans' season-opener last Thursday.

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