

BRETT MOVING TO NORTHERN NASH

West Brunswick Searching For New Football Coach

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick Principal Ed Lemon says he hopes to have a new athletic director and head football coach selected by March 1 to replace the outgoing Jim Brett.

After coaching the Trojan football team to a pair of state championships in two years at the school, Brett announced last week he will leave West Brunswick at the end of the school year.

Brett will take over as athletic director and head football coach at Northern Nash High School near Rocky Mount at the start of the 1994-95 academic year.

"The reason that I personally made the decision I made was it was a raise for me financially first of all," Brett said Sunday. "Second, it put me closer to my family in that area."

Brett, who has 20 years experience as a high school head football coach, declined to say how much money he will receive at Northern Nash. However, he indicated the move will allow him to secure a better retirement income.

"At this point in my career, I can retire in a few years if I want to. The money I make at this point will affect my retirement," Brett said.

Brett, who coached at Tarboro High School for 18 years before

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coming to West Brunswick in 1992, has two daughters living in Tarboro, which is about 20 miles from Northern Nash.

Brett coached West Brunswick to the school's first state football championship in 1992, when the Trojans defeated Maiden 14-6 for the 2A crown. After moving up in classification last year, West beat High Point Andrews 19-14 to capture the 3A championship.

In two years at West Brunswick, Brett's teams posted a combined record of 23-6, including a 10-0 mark in the playoffs. Brett takes a career coaching record of 191-67 to Northern Nash.

"It's been two great years for me from a coaching standpoint. My stay as far as coaching has just been fantastic," Brett said.

"The thing that is toughest of all about the situation is leaving the

young men I coached this year who are coming back next year. They're all great young men, and I think they have an excellent chance to have another great season next year."

Brett also coached a state 3A championship team at Tarboro High in 1984 and has taken his teams to the state football playoffs 14 straight years.

Lemon said Friday the school is disappointed that Brett is leaving. "But he's the kind of person you wish him well wherever he goes. He's a quality person and a quality coach. We hate to lose him, but it's his decision."

Brett will take over a 4A Northern Nash football program that hasn't seen much success in recent years.

The Knights finished 1-4 in the Big East Conference and 4-6 overall last year. Over the past three sea-

sons, Northern Nash is 2-15 in the conference and 11-19 overall.

"It is a challenge, but it is a fairly large school and it's got some advantages," Brett said. "We used to play them every year when I was at Tarboro and they've always had talent."

Despite recent reports, Brett said the Brunswick County school board's decision to reduce money for athletics and eliminate the position of county athletics director effective July 1 did not influence his decision.

"Those were just things I would like to see corrected in the school system even though I'm leaving," he said. "They are not the reasons I'm leaving for this other job."

Brett said a "small factor" in his decision to move was the lack of an available, year-round rental home on one of the local beaches.

The beach was one of the reasons he and his wife, Terri, moved here two years ago. They couldn't find a rental home, and didn't want to buy a beach house because they already own one at Emerald Isle.

Nevertheless, the beach, seven straight winning seasons and three straight trips to the state championship game could make the West Brunswick job an attractive one for experienced coaches looking to



Coach Jim Brett

move.

"Mr. Lemon and Mr. Best have been great to work for and work with. You couldn't ask for a better situation," Brett said. "It's a good job. I don't think West Brunswick will have any problem finding a quality coach."

Nelson Best, county athletics director, said inquiries about the West Brunswick job have already started coming in. He received a phone call Friday from the coach of a successful 4A program in southeastern North Carolina.

The position vacancy will be advertised for approximately three weeks in all major newspapers in North Carolina and some in South Carolina. "There's going to be a lot of interest," Best said.

Lemon said he doesn't see any reason why West Brunswick can't find another quality coach to replace Brett, who also is considered an outstanding athletic director.

"I think his stay here has meant more than just state championships," Lemon said. "We did have some problems prior to him coming with the athletic director's role."

"Even though he was the football coach, he was totally supportive of each sport," Lemon added. "That's a real fine change he made here. The other coaches don't have animosity toward him because he was the football coach."

"To find a quality football coach and athletic director in one person is very difficult," Lemon said. "It's bigger than just the football coach, even though that's how everyone perceives it."

The new athletic director and head football coach will not come to West Brunswick until Brett leaves in June. Lemon said he's glad Brett gave the school system time to find a quality replacement.

SPORTING SCENE

Trojans Hope To End Cougar Jinx Saturday

Saturdays can be pretty exciting when you're a high school student. No classes during the day. No homework. Twenty-four hours of fun.

The West Brunswick High School boys' basketball team hopes this Saturday will be even more fun than usual.

The Trojans will catch a bus to Boiling Spring Lakes Saturday night to face their old nemesis—the South Brunswick Cougars.

It's been four years since West Brunswick has defeated South Brunswick on the basketball court. The Cougars have won seven in a row. That's a statistic that doesn't sit well with the Trojans.

Not since Jan. 26, 1990, has West Brunswick walked off the court with a victory over South Brunswick.

A skinny kid named Ricky Daniels scored 25 points that night for the Trojans. He forced overtime with a basket at the buzzer, then scored four points in the extra period to lead West to a 59-54 win.

That was the only time this decade that West Brunswick has defeated its biggest county rival. Of the last seven meetings, South Brunswick has won four of them by at least 10 points.

The remaining three include a great showdown Feb. 22, 1991, in Shallotte. A packed house saw South's Josh White connect on a 35-foot bomb at the buzzer that gave the Cougars a 76-74 win.

Both West-South matchups last year were close games. But White, then a senior, was too much for the Trojans to handle.

The flashy point guard had a 30-point performance in the Cougars' 74-67 win at Boiling Spring Lakes. He followed it up with a 44-point outburst that lifted South to a 90-81 overtime win in Shallotte.

Which brings us to 1994.

If ever there was a year for the Trojans to end their misery, this could be it. West Brunswick has been improving since the season started, while South has been struggling.

If West Brunswick wins only one more game this season, the Trojans would want it to come Saturday night on the Cougars' home turf. These teams just don't like each other.

A few months ago, a West Brunswick football player commented that the Trojans would rather beat South Brunswick than win the state championship.

I assume that holds true in basketball as well.

Super Bowl Pick

Oh, brother.

The one thing NFL fans have been fearing all season is another appearance by the Buffalo Bills in the Super Bowl.

With their 30-13 win Sunday over the Kansas City Chiefs, the AFC champion Bills will make an unprecedented fourth straight trip to the big dance.

Their opponent will be the Dallas Cowboys, who beat the San Francisco 49ers 38-21 Sunday to win a second straight NFC championship.

Hard to believe, but I was two-for-two in picking the conference championship games. That brings my record to 7-3 in the playoffs.

For the first time in Super Bowl history, there will be a rematch. I'm sure I don't have to remind anyone about last year's Super Bowl. Dallas scored 52 points and Buffalo had 17. It was the worst Super Bowl in history.

I'd love to see the Bills finally win one. They've shown grit by making it as far as they have. And if it weren't for three Super Bowl losses, they would be considered one of the best teams in NFL history.

Plus I hate the Dallas Cowboys, maybe worse than I hate snakes and spinach and people who drive slow. I especially despise Dallas Coach Jimmy Johnson and his neat hair and his "I-am-the-center-of-the-universe" attitude.

But Jimmy and the Cowboys will repeat as Super Bowl champions. The Bills are incapable of winning a Super Bowl and after this year, they should be banned from further participation in the playoffs.

Super Bowl XXVIII won't be quite as ugly as Super Bowl XXVII, but it won't be pretty either. Dallas 31, Buffalo 17.

This Week's Tide Table

JANUARY		HIGH	LOW
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	27	7:34	1:20
Friday	28	8:19	2:06
Saturday	29	9:03	2:52
Sunday	30	9:49	3:40
Monday	31	10:37	4:31
FEBRUARY		HIGH	LOW
Tuesday	1	11:29	5:25
Wednesday	2	12:12	6:24

ADJUSTMENTS

SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.
 SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.
 LITTLE RIVER—subtract 11 min. high tide, add 18 min. low tide.

Scott Bowls 245 In Woodmen Mixed League

Doug Scott rolled a high game of 245 and a 602 series to lead the men in the Woodmen of the World Mixed League last Friday at Brunswick County Bowling Center in Shallotte.

Other top men's finishers included Roland Decker, 233, 586; Lee Harris, 215, 572; Kevin Williams, 215, 522; Terry Decker, 214, 572; and Scott Decker, 200, 540.

High scorers among the women were Beverly Williams, 189, 502; Becky Rountree, 180, 520; Bonnie Decker, 169, 423; Debbie Cumbee, 167, 437; Mona Lafontaine, 166, 359; and Cathy Sibbett, 157, 420.

Over 30 League Tips Off Monday

The Brunswick County Over 30 Men's Basketball League will begin play Monday, Jan. 31, at Supply Elementary School.

For more information on the league, call county athletic coordinator Joe Rosselli at 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.

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Nominations Sought For Nongame Advisory Board

Nominations are being sought by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission for a vacancy on the agency's Nongame Advisory Committee.

Appointment by the commission for this unexpired term ending June 30, 1995, will be based on "the merits demonstrated in the nominee's credentials as a conservationist," according to a news release from the commission.

The Nongame Advisory Committee was established by the Wildlife Commission in 1986 to help plan and oversee the nongame and endangered species program supported by the income tax return check-off. The N.C. General Assembly in 1987 recognized the committee by authorizing the Wildlife Commission to adopt the state's first list of endangered and threatened species. The commission's action followed a recommendation by the Nongame Advisory Committee.

The committee "serves as liaison between the wildlife commission and conservation and scientific communities in matters relating to nongame and endangered wildlife, to recommend priority funding for nongame programs, to recommend strategies to improve the

nongame program and to restore nongame populations."

Feb. 4 is the deadline for nominations. Names of nominees and a list of conservation accomplishments should be mailed to Randall C. Wilson, Division of Wildlife Management, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh NC 27604-1188.

Bulldogs Sweep North Brunswick

Bladenboro swept North Brunswick in Three Rivers Conference high school basketball Friday night in Leland, winning the boys' game 68-62 and taking the girls' contest 72-17.

Alfonza Lewis scored a game-high 31 points to lead the Bulldogs in the boys' game. Mario Ballard paced the Scorpions (1-3 conference, 6-6 overall) with 30 points, and Tyrone Bullard added 10.

Heather Walters scored 20 points to lead the Bladenboro girls, and Kaniecuwa Ballard had 12 for the Lady Scorpions (0-4, 1-11).

North Brunswick was scheduled to play at Red Springs Tuesday night. The Scorpions will host South Robeson on Friday.

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