

Ladies Fall Short At West Columbus

BY DOUG RUTTER

Crystal Broxton came off the bench to score 16 points Friday night as West Columbus handed visiting West Brunswick a 43-36 loss in high school girls' basketball.

Broxton scored 12 points in the fourth quarter, including all nine of her team's points during a 9-1 run that broke a tie and gave the Lady Vikings a 37-29 lead with 1:12 remaining.

"We just moved her up from the junior varsity this week," West Columbus Coach Larry Williamson said of Broxton. "She was leading them in scoring all year. She's probably one of the most athletic girls in the school."

The Lady Vikings needed Broxton's scoring more than ever Friday with leading scorer June Britt out with the flu. Britt entered the game briefly in the second quarter, but she ran into the locker room minutes later and did not return to the game.

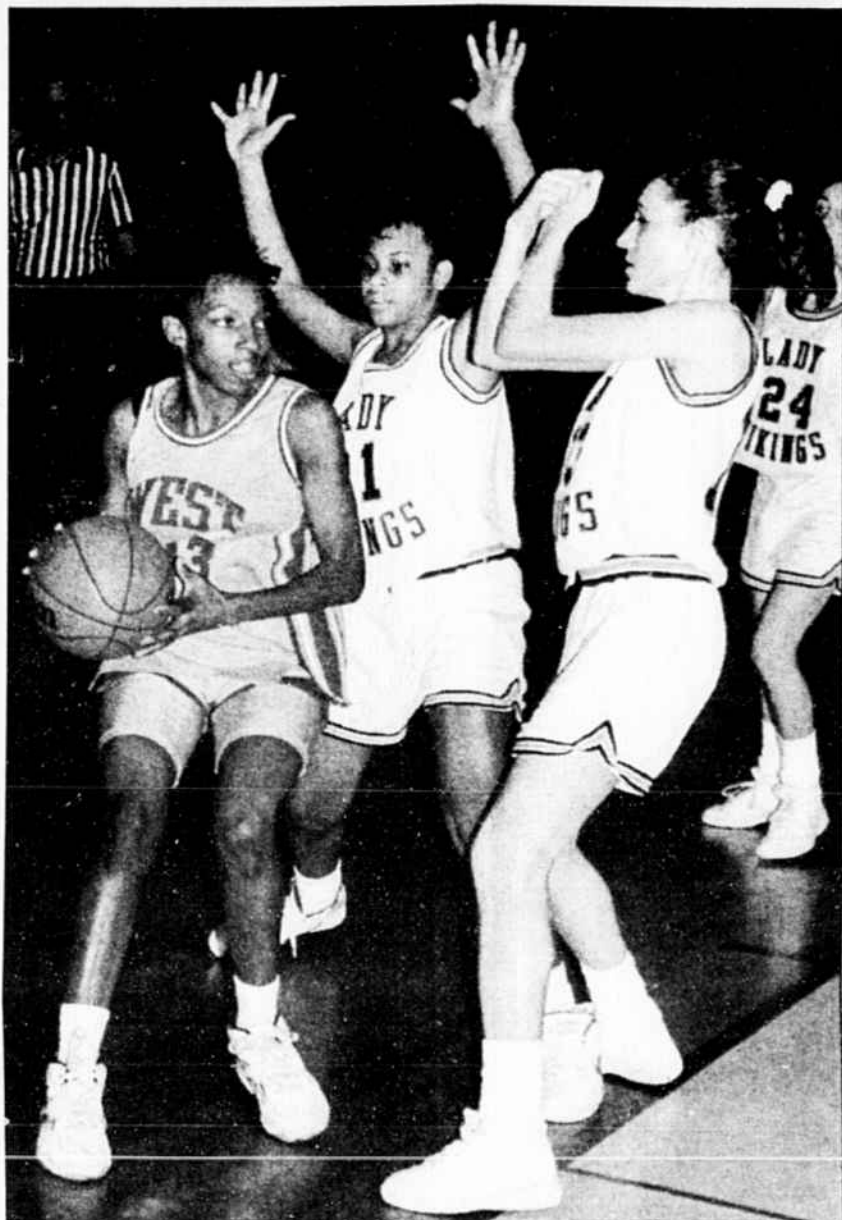
"I thought the girls executed as well as they have all year," Williamson said. The Lady Vikings improved to 3-7 in the Waccamaw Conference and 5-14 overall.

West Brunswick, which fell to 5-6 in the conference and 8-14 overall, was led by Kaneka Grissett with 10 points. Nicole Norris and Donicia Moody added eight apiece for the Lady Trojans.

"We played pretty good in the first half," West Brunswick Coach Brenda Council said. "The second half we didn't play good defense and turnovers killed us."

Council said the Lady Trojans were not patient on offense in the third and fourth quarters. "We were rushing our shots and rushing our passes. We weren't doing the things that worked for us in the first half."

West Brunswick led by as many as seven points in the first half. A free throw by Norris gave the Lady



DONICIA MOODY of West Brunswick (left) is guarded closely by two West Columbus players.

Trojans a 15-8 lead with 1:40 left in the second quarter, but West Columbus cut the lead to 15-12 at intermission.

West Brunswick extended its lead to 20-12 early in the third quarter on a three-pointer by Grissett, but the Lady Vikings scored 12 unanswered points to grab a 24-20 lead heading into the final period.

West Brunswick tied the score at 24-24 on a pair of Moody free throws before Denise Jenkins and Broxton scored to give West Columbus a 28-24 lead.

The Lady Trojans tied the score one more time at 28-28 on a four-point play by Grissett at the 5:23 mark. Grissett sank a three-pointer from the left wing and added a free throw to tie the score.

That's when Broxton took control for West Columbus, scoring her team's next nine points to give the Lady Vikings a 37-29 lead. West Brunswick never got closer than six points in the final minute.

The West Columbus win completed a season sweep of West Brunswick, which has struggled this season against the Waccamaw Conference's bottom teams and excelled against the league's top teams.

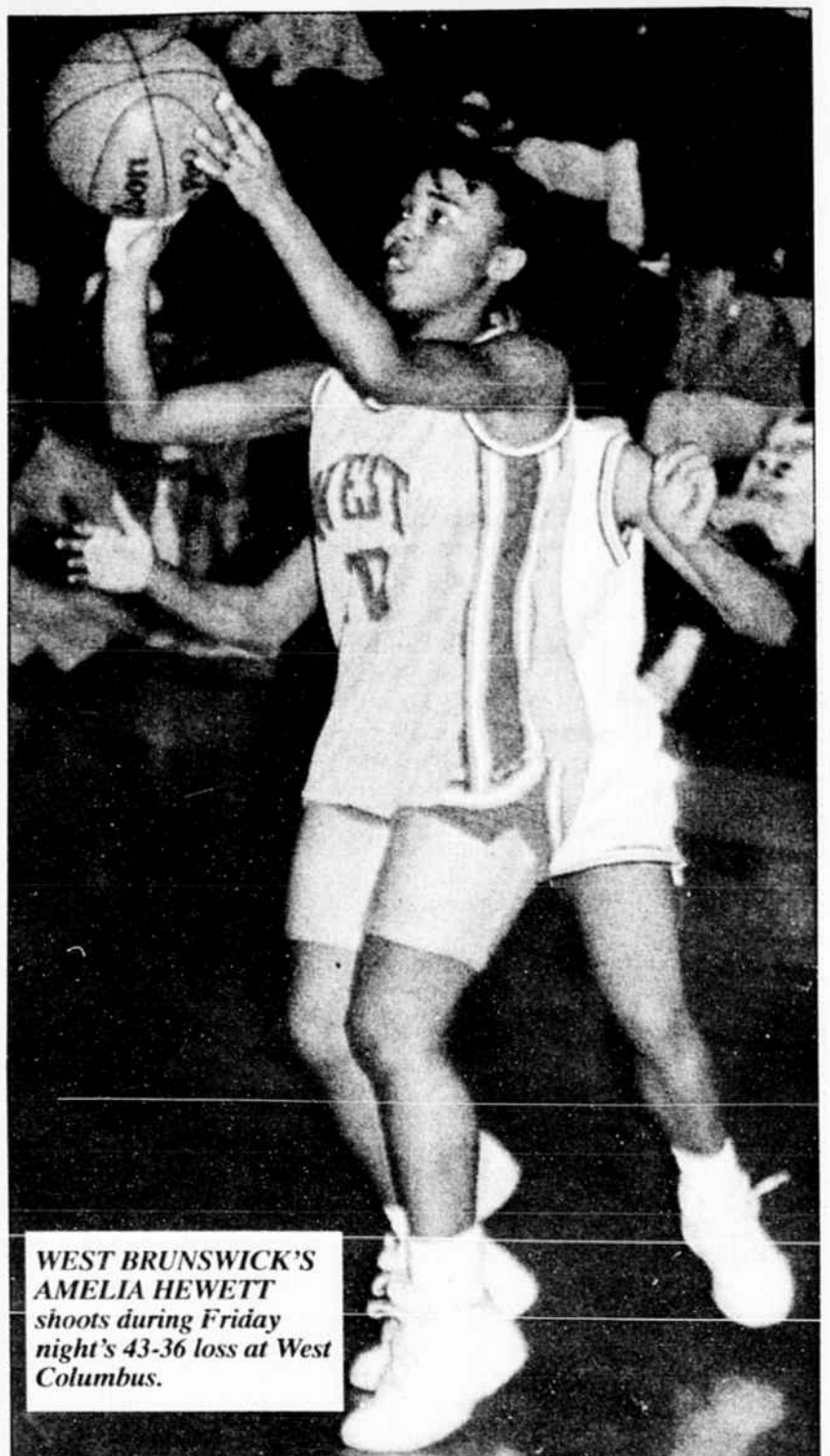
"We have their number, and they have Whiteville's number. I don't understand it," Williamson said. "I don't know if it's the way we match up with their girls. It might be that as much as anything."

West Brunswick will wrap up the regular season Friday night against visiting South Brunswick. The Lady Trojans defeated South Brunswick 69-67 in triple overtime on Jan. 29.

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	7	8	5	16	36
West Columbus	5	7	12	19	43

West Brunswick scoring: Grissett, 10; Moody, 8; Norris, 8; Moll, 6; Hill, 2; Hewett, 2.
West Columbus scoring: Broxton, 16; Graham, 10; Jenkins, 6; Shanna Williamson, 6; Shanna Williamson, 2; Ivey, 2.



WEST BRUNSWICK'S AMELIA HEWETT shoots during Friday night's 43-36 loss at West Columbus.

SPORTING SCENE

Building Field House Is Least We Can Do

West Brunswick High School's Athletic Booster Club and other supporters are in the process of raising money for a field house at the school.

Plans for the 60-by-80-foot building were presented to the Brunswick County Board of Education last week.

The field house will be built in the small parking lot near the existing entrance at the west end of Rourk Stadium.

It will include a concession stand, public restrooms for men and women, a ticket booth and locker rooms for home and away teams.

David Batten, one of many people working on the project, said last week the group hopes to have at least the concession stand and restrooms ready for the 1994 football season.

The new building would cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000 if a contractor was hired. However, boosters hope community residents will donate the labor so the cost can be kept under \$50,000.

Golf tournaments and raffles are being planned to raise the money. Batten promises no donations will be rejected.

"As well as the players have done the last couple years, I feel we as the community owe them something as far as facilities," Batten said.

Amen. The football team has given us three straight eastern championships and back-to-back state championships. The least the community can do is give the kids an adequate locker room.

A small dressing area in the weight room is all they have now. As far as facilities for the visiting teams, they have been forced to spend halftime sitting in the east end zone.

A field house wouldn't just help the players. It will benefit everyone. Need I remind you how cold those port-a-johns were during playoff time? I didn't think so.

A new concession stand and ticket booth in the same building would help make West Brunswick's athletic facilities among the finest in southeastern North Carolina.

Doug Rutter
Sports Editor



Gators Thrash Slumping Trojans

West Brunswick, which fell just short of beating East Columbus earlier this season in Shallotte, didn't even come close to a repeat performance last Tuesday on the Gators' home court.

African transfer student Boubacar Aw led four players in double figures with 19 points as the Gators rolled to an 87-60 high school boys' basketball win over the slumping Trojans.

Aw, who moved to East Columbus this year from Senegal, scored 29 points against West Brunswick in the Gators' 67-66 overtime win five weeks ago. Last week's game was never close.

East Columbus jumped out to a 19-5 lead in the first quarter and did not let up until the final horn sounded.

The Gators, ranked third in the state 2A class by The Associated Press, held a commanding 45-17 lead at halftime and improved to 8-1 in the Waccamaw Conference and 19-2 overall.

Corey Beatty chipped in 12

points, Demetric Jacobs added 11 and Lafayette Waddell had 10 for the winners.

Senior Anthony Moody and sophomore Derek Frink scored 14 points each to pace West Brunswick, which suffered its fourth straight conference loss and fell to 4-6. The Trojans are 8-13 overall.

West Brunswick's girls, coming off an impressive 57-55 win over Whiteville, lost 45-43 to East Columbus.

Sharonda Moore scored 14 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to lead the Lady Gators, who improved to 5-4 in the Waccamaw Conference and 10-11 overall.

Kaneka Grissett and Donicia Moody scored 10 points each to lead West Brunswick, which fell to 5-5 in the conference and 8-13 overall.

The Lady Trojans trailed 25-18 at halftime. West cut East Columbus'

lead to two points heading into the fourth quarter, but could not overcome the Lady Gators in the final period.

BOYS GAME

West Brunswick	5	12	21	22	60
East Columbus	19	26	22	20	87

West Brunswick scoring: Moody, 14; Frink, 14; Johnson, 11; Daniels, 6; Hill, 5; Brown, 4; Williams, 4; Morgan, 2.
East Columbus scoring: Aw, 19; Beatty, 12; Jacobs, 11; Waddell, 10;

Brown, 6; Bennett, 6; Hazel, 4; Munn, 4; Blanks, 3; Murphy, 3; Wilson, 2; S. Ward, 2; Junious, 2; Harrison, 2; A. Ward, 1.

GIRLS GAME

West Brunswick	8	10	11	14	43
East Columbus	13	12	6	14	45

West Brunswick scoring: Grissett, 10; Moody, 10; Norris, 8; Moll, 8; Morgan, 5; Williams, 2.
East Columbus scoring: Moore, 14; Freeman, 13; Bray, 9; Graham, 5; Robinson, 4.

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