

Trojan Horses Outrun Stallions

BY DOUG RUTTER

Quarterback Eric Johnson rushed for 172 yards and three touchdowns Friday as West Brunswick bashed South Columbus 34-6 in the Wac-camaw Conference high school football opener for both teams.

Fullback James Morgan also scored twice as West ran for a season-high 309 yards, using its outstanding speed to beat the bigger, stronger Stallions at Tabor City.

"We made a big step tonight toward becoming a good football team," said West Brunswick head coach Yogi Hickman. "This is a big win for us, but had we lost it wouldn't have been the end of the world."

Hickman's troops held a 14-6 lead at halftime and scored on their first three possessions of the second half

to bury the Stallions. It was the third straight win for the Trojans, who are 4-1 overall.

Johnson, who has rushed for 232 and scored five touchdowns in the last two games, carried the ball just six times against the Stallions out of West Brunswick's option offense.

But the senior quarterback—who also completed 3 of 5 pass attempts for 46 yards—made the Stallions pay each time he called his own number.

"The linemen did a good job. The times I broke it they had a big hole for me. Once I saw a hole I just exploded," Johnson said after the biggest rushing night of his career.

"They couldn't stop that option. Eric's a great player and we blocked it right," Hickman said. "You get a great athlete with his hands on the

ball on the perimeter and just watch him play."

The Stallions (0-1, 3-2) watched the Trojans rush 28 times for 309 yards, an average of 11 yards per carry. Morgan finished with 57 yards and tailback Timothy Daniels added 65.

West Brunswick's defense, which has yielded just one touchdown in the last six quarters, made 11 tackles behind the line of scrimmage and held South Columbus' powerful ground attack to 3.8 yards per attempt.

Senior linemen Jonathan Faulk and Kelly Wooten each had one quarterback sack, and freshman defensive back Ahmed Green intercepted two passes in the fourth quarter.

"These kids got a lot of pride on

defense," Hickman said. "We played with emotion tonight. If we're going to be good we have to play with great emotion and we did tonight."

Hickman said West Brunswick's offensive game plan was to spread out the South Columbus defense and turn the game into a track meet.

"We can hurt you a lot of ways offensively, and that's what makes us tough to handle," he said. "If we keep improving and get some big plays we'll be all right."

The Trojans came out of the gates quickly, with speedy sophomore Cory Hill returning the opening kickoff to the South Columbus 42-yard line.

On the first play from scrimmage, Johnson passed 38 yards to Derek Frink down the left sideline to set up a first-and-goal at the 4-yard line.

Morgan bulled his way into the end zone three plays later, and Frink's kick gave the Trojans a 7-0 lead just 1:56 into the game.

After an interception by Janell Todd ended West's second possession, the South Columbus offense put together its only scoring drive of the night.

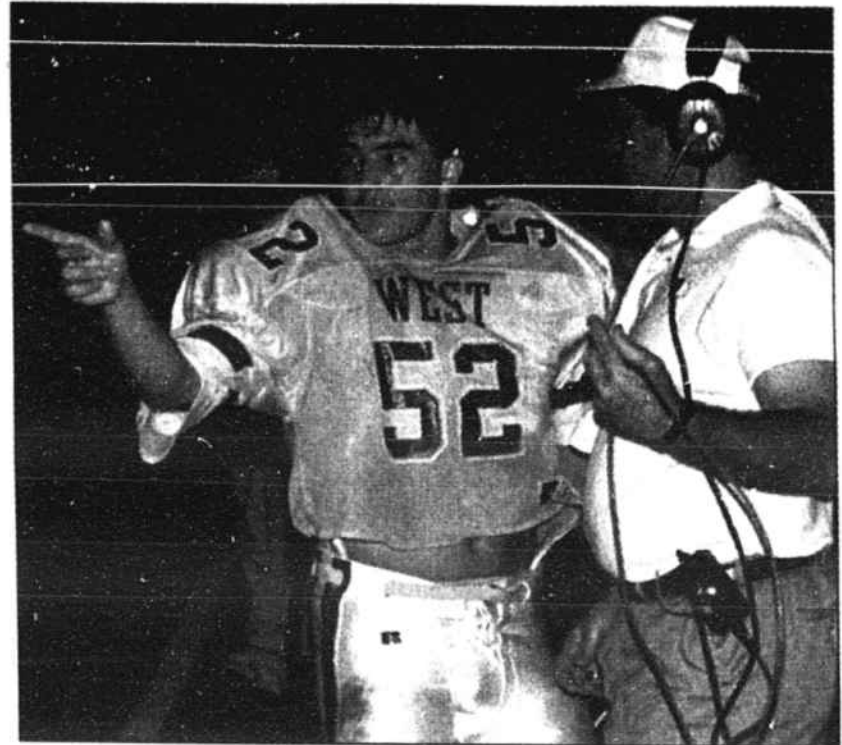
The Stallions held the ball for nearly seven minutes, using 14 straight running plays to march 85 yards.

A 28-yard keeper by quarterback Cecil Soles was the big play. Corey Lewis, who led the Stallions with 61 yards rushing, carried seven times for 42 yards in the drive.

Senior fullback Chad Turbeville scored on a 1-yard dive with 10:38 left in the first half. South Columbus went for a two-point play, but Daniels stuffed Lewis short of the goal line and West Brunswick led 7-6.

The Trojans bumped their lead to 14-6 with 2:57 left in the first half on the first of Johnson's three TDs.

Three straight runs by Daniels, including a 37-yard sweep, moved the ball from West's 29-yard line to the South Columbus 21. Johnson took it



LINEMAN BRIAN MCDOWELL talks with coach Joe Noble.



WEST TAILBACK TIMOTHY DANIELS (right) rushed for 65 yards against South Columbus. Blocking are James Morgan (46) and Kelly Wooten (65).

Grissett: State's Goal Is ACC Title

BY DOUG RUTTER

After a late-season collapse in 1993, Jimmy Grissett says North Carolina State University's football team has something to prove this year.

The Wolfpack was blown out in its final two games last season, losing 62-3 to Atlantic Coast Conference rival Florida State and 42-7 to Michigan in the Hall of Fame Bowl.

"We didn't like the way we finished last season," said Grissett, a former football star at West Brunswick High School. "We were real disappointed. We're just happy to be playing again."

Grissett and the Wolfpack have opened the 1994 season strong, beating Western Carolina 38-13 last Saturday night in Raleigh to improve to 3-0 for the season.

The Wolfpack has climbed to No. 22 in The Associated Press college football poll, and Grissett is excited about the role he's playing in N.C. State's offense.

The sophomore flanker caught two passes for 30 yards against Western Carolina, and has six receptions for 47 yards through the first three games.

Grissett, one of four receivers who rotate in and out of the Wolfpack lineup, is averaging about 28 plays per game. He was used primarily on special teams last season.

"It feels good to know you're going to play more when you're preparing all week, knowing you're going to get to play on Saturday," Grissett said after last week's game.

"Before I didn't really feel like I was doing anything for the team. Now I feel like even if I'm not catching many balls, I'm making blocks."

Grissett and his teammates have high hopes for the 1994 campaign. "We feel good. We feel like everybody can stay healthy we at least have a shot to win the ACC championship. That's our first goal."

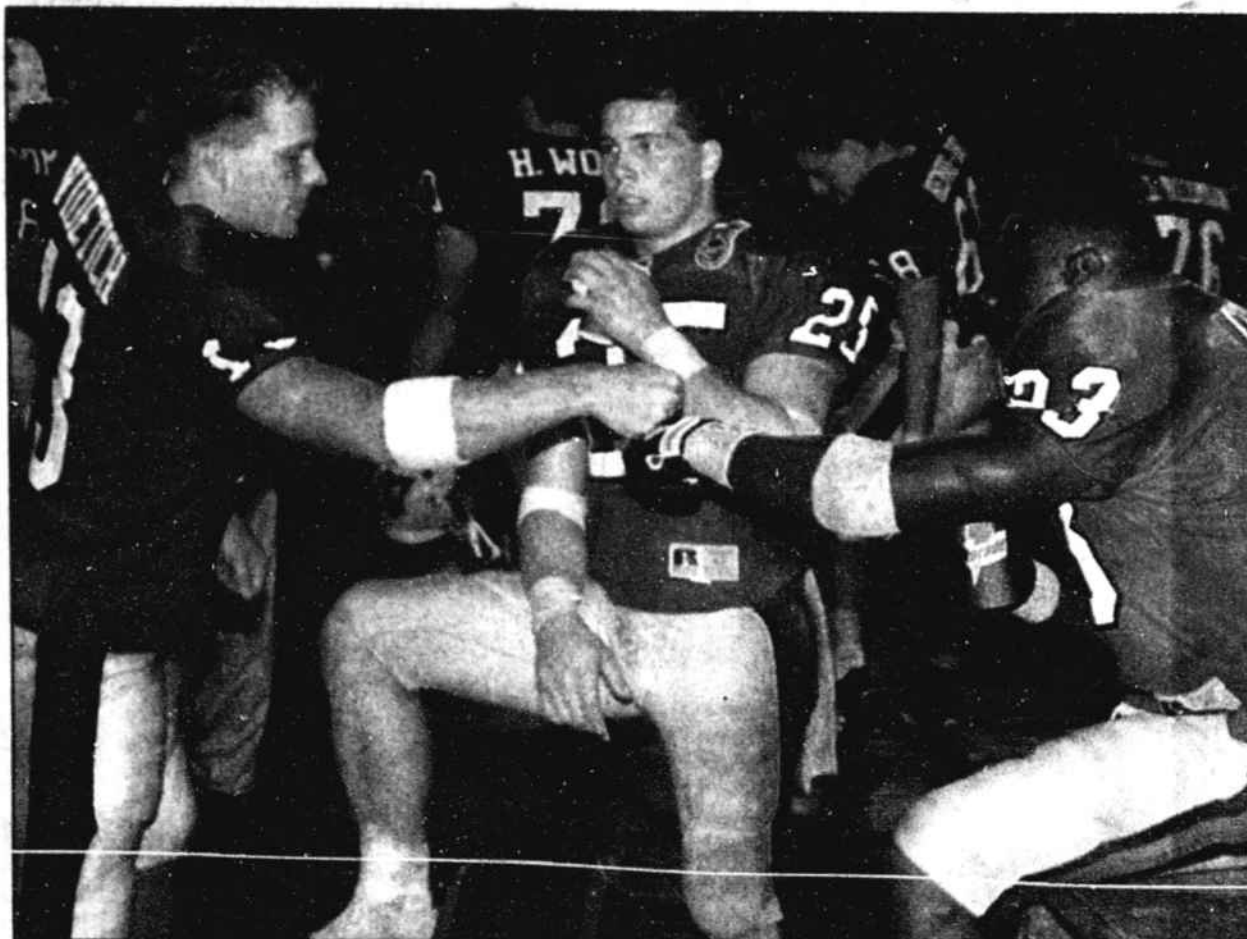
To win the ACC championship, the Wolfpack will probably have to beat Georgia Tech this weekend.

N.C. State has already knocked off Clemson to go 1-0 in the ACC, but still has games against Wake Forest, North Carolina, Maryland, Duke, Florida State and Virginia.

Florida State, the defending national champion, will visit Raleigh Nov. 19. The Seminoles have never lost an ACC game.

"We feel like we can play with them. We feel like if we play a good game we can beat them," Grissett said.

"They're coming up here. We feel



JIMMY GRISSETT (right) talks with teammates Steve Videtich (left) and Greg Addis in the closing minutes of N.C. State's 38-13 win over Western Carolina last Saturday.

good about that. We're not really looking at that game right now because we have a long way to go."

Grissett is currently N.C. State's second-leading receiver behind senior Eddie Goines, one of the top pass-catchers in Wolfpack history.

Last Saturday, Goines caught seven passes for 92 yards and became the 15th player in ACC history to go over 2,000 career receiving yards.

"You can learn a lot just watching Eddie. Plus with him out there, there's so much attention on him we

get opportunities to make big plays every night," Grissett said.

"We'll miss Eddie as a team and at that position when he graduates, but I'm sure it won't hurt my stats any," he added.

N.C. State will host Georgia Tech

THE YARDSTICK

W. Brunswick	S. Columbus
15	15
28-309	49-188
4-6-76	5-9-33
2-1	0-0
1	2
1-36	4-48
5-35	6-51

Score By Quarters

W. Brunswick	7	7	6	4	34
S. Columbus	0	6	0	0	6

Scoring Summary

- (WB) Morgan, 2-yard run, (Frink kick)
- (SC) Turbeville, 1-yard run (run failed)
- (WB) Johnson, 21-yard run (Frink kick)
- (WB) Morgan, 17-yard run (kick blocked)

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