

SPORTING SCENE

Three Rivers-East Enters Home Stretch

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

With only two weeks remaining in the regular season, both 3-A Three Rivers and 2-A East Waccamaw Conferences are entering the basketball homestretch with district playoff berths at stake.

Both conferences are just now beginning to unveil frontrunners as nearly all teams have made one complete sweep through their respective league schedules. In the East Waccamaw, Whiteville has emerged as the team to beat while in the Three Rivers, West Brunswick is slowly rising to the top.

Whiteville's win over North Brunswick last week was certainly an important decision for the defending-champion Wolfpack, now 3-0 in the league. It will now be very difficult for the Scorpions to make any run at the league title since the two teams meet again at Whiteville.

The Lady Wolfpack is also sitting atop (along with Hallsboro) the league standings but to no surprise. The only surprise is Hallsboro's 3-0 mark but look for Whiteville to win the league hands down.

In the Three Rivers Conference, the title race is not as clear cut. West Brunswick is out front with a 2-1 mark with East Bladen, Pender and West Columbus right behind. Pender's upset win over East Bladen on Friday certainly did wonders for the Trojans' title hopes.

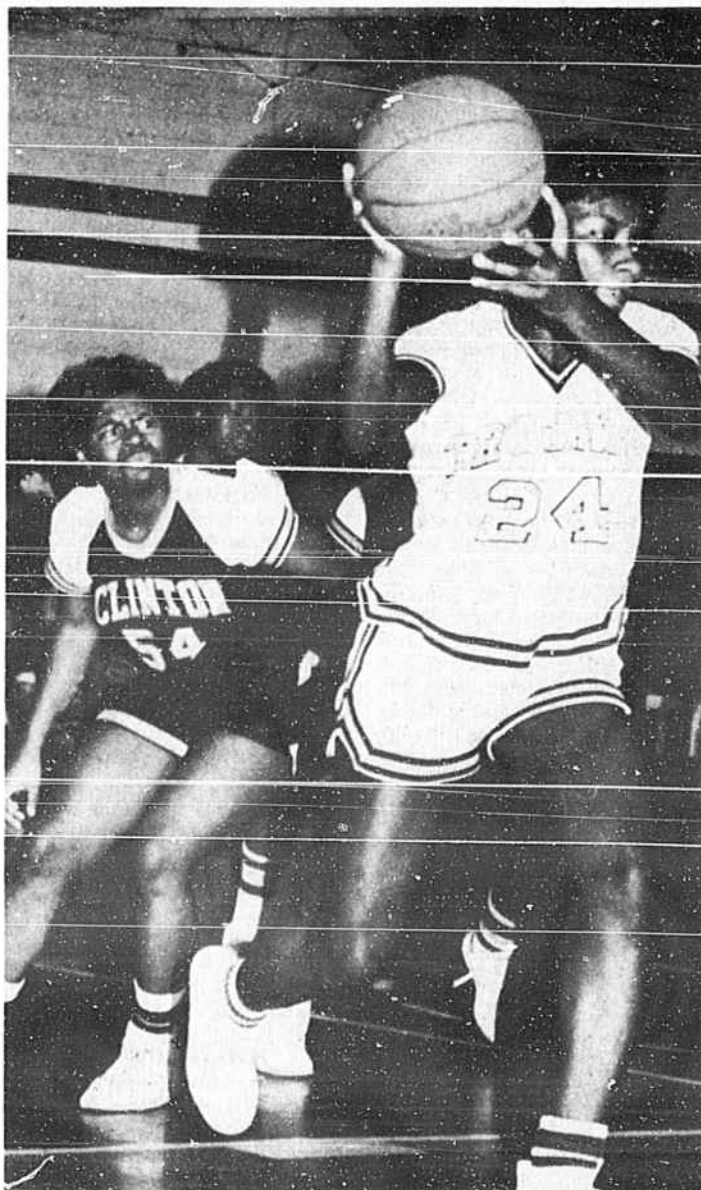
Meanwhile in the girls' league, West Columbus is sitting on top with a 3-0 mark but West Brunswick is right behind at 2-1. The Lady Vikings

and Trojans along with East Bladen are probable bets at landing a district playoff berth which is awarded to the league's top three finishers.

Clinton will be the site for the 3-A district playoffs involving the three participants from the Three Rivers Conference. As usual, the top teams from the Three Rivers will face the best of the Raleigh-area Triangle Conference. While the top two finishers in each conference won the right to host first-round play last year, all teams will meet at a neutral site this season.

Clinton hardly seems a neutral site when the locations of schools in the Three Rivers Conference teams are concerned. Clinton's short distance to Raleigh should certainly suit the Triangle Conference to a tee. Clinton appears to be about as much of a neutral site for the playoffs as the Greensboro Coliseum is for Wake Forest.

East Waccamaw 2-A Conference standings as of Monday, January 28			
BOYS			
Team	Conf.	Overall	
Whiteville	3-0	15-2	
N. Brunswick	2-1	13-1	
Hallsboro	2-1	11-4	
S. Brunswick	1-2	10-6	
Tabor City	0-3	3-11	
GIRLS			
Team	Conf.	Overall	
Whiteville	3-0	9-6	
Hallsboro	3-0	7-8	
N. Brunswick	1-2	6-11	
S. Brunswick	1-2	2-12	
Tabor City	0-3	1-11	



LADY TROJANS ROMP—Sheila Johnson (24) of West Brunswick hauls down a rebound during the Lady Trojans 66-50 Three Rivers Conference win over Clinton Friday. Johnson scored a career-high 33 points in leading West Brunswick to its second league win against a loss. Guarding Johnson on the play for Clinton is Cheron Faison (54). The Lady Trojans continue TRC play Tuesday at home against East Bladen.

Lady Trojans Split With Vikings, Clinton

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The West Brunswick Lady Trojans remained near the front-running position of the Three Rivers 3-A Conference last week with a split of two league games. West Brunswick ripped Clinton on Friday, 66-50 but lost to first-place West Columbus on Thursday, 58-45. Thursday's contest was originally scheduled for Tuesday but was postponed two days due to cold weather damage to the West Columbus gym.

The Lady Trojans, now 2-1 in the TRC and 9-8 overall, continue league play Tuesday at home against East Bladen.

Clinton

Sheila Johnson scored a career-high 33 points Friday to lead West Brunswick to its second TRC win of the season over Clinton, 66-50. Sandy Cobb was the only other Lady Trojan in double figures with 12.

West Brunswick starting wing, Amy Trogdon, returned to action with eight points after having been sidelined for two weeks with a knee injury.

West Brunswick dominated play from the onset taking a 12-5 lead at the end of the first quarter and holding a 25-20 edge at halftime.

The Lady Trojans maintained a 41-35 advantage at the end of the third period but outscored Clinton, 25-15 in the fourth quarter for the final 16-point spread.

Tonya Colwell led Clinton with 24 points followed by Sue Honeycutt with 18.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

Clinton	5	15	15	15	50
W. Brunswick	12	13	16	25	66

Clinton Scoring: Colwell 24, Faison 2, Honeycutt 18, Harris 3, Boone 3, King 4, Moore.

West Brunswick Scoring: Johnson 33, Cobb 12, Benton 4, Gause 6, Gore 4, Trogdon 8, Smith.

West Columbus

The Lady Trojans opened the first of two back-to-back TRC contests Thursday with a 58-45 loss to West Columbus. The Lady Vikings rode a strong offensive first half to a 10-point advantage at the end of the third quarter, 46-36 and outscored West Brunswick 12-9 in the final period.

Treka McMillian led West Columbus with 22 points followed by Leigh Waddell with 10.

Sandy Cobb led West Brunswick with 16 points while Sheila Johnson added 12.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

W. Brunswick	11	13	12	9	45
W. Columbus	16	18	12	12	58

West Brunswick Scoring: Johnson 12, Cobb 16, Benton 2, Gause 4, Gore 8, Daniels.

West Columbus Scoring: Davis 6, Wilson 2, Waddell 10, Lennon 8, McMillian 22, McDuffie 5, Epps 4.

South Brunswick Sweeps Pair From Tabor City

South Brunswick swept a basketball doubleheader from visiting Tabor City on Friday with the boys winning, 67-53 and the girls taking a 45-38 triumph.

South Brunswick's David Floyd scored 24 points to lead the Cougars to their first East Waccamaw 2-A Conference win of the season. Joe Clemmons followed with 15 points while Darius Wise added 10 for the Cougars.

Tabor City opened to a 15-12 first-quarter lead but South Brunswick managed to take a 31-30 halftime advantage. The Cougars maintained their one-point lead at

the end of the third quarter, 40-39, but outscored the Red Devils 27-14 in the fourth period for the final margin.

Steven Carl led Tabor City with 27 points while Doug Soles had 14.

The win raised South Brunswick to 1-3 in the EWC and 10-7 overall. The Cougars continue conference play Friday at home against North Brunswick.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

Tabor City	15	15	9	14	53
S. Brunswick	12	19	9	27	67

Tabor City Scoring: Carl 27, Grainger 8, Vereen 6, Soles 14. South Brunswick Scoring: Floyd 24, Clemmons 15, Brown 6, Wise 10, Watkins 6, Harrison 4, Joyner 2.

Trojan JV Splits With Clinton, West Columbus

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The West Brunswick junior varsity boys split a pair of Three Rivers Conference basketball contests last week with Clinton and West Columbus.

The Trojan JV easily defeated Clinton, 61-45 on Friday but dropped a 52-46 decision to West Columbus on Thursday. The split left West Brunswick at 2-1 in the Three Rivers Conference and 12-3 overall. Next action for the Trojans will be Tuesday at home against East Bladen.

Clinton

Chris Johnson scored 20 points and Freddie Johnson added 13 to lead the Trojan JV past the Dark Horses in come-from-behind fashion.

Clinton opened a 12-6 lead in the first quarter but the Trojans regrouped to limit the Dark Horses to only six second-quarter points to take a 22-18 halftime advantage.

West Brunswick continued its pace in the third quarter and widened its margin to 37-27 at the end of the period. The Trojans padded their lead in the fourth quarter with the final 16-point spread being their largest of the game.

Tom McIntyre led Clinton scoring with 22 points followed by Donald Dixon with nine.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

Clinton	12	6	9	18	45
W. Brunswick	6	16	15	23	61

Clinton Scoring: Lewis 2, Dixon 9, Faison 6, T. McIntyre 22, Simmons 1,

B. McIntyre 4, Monroe 1, Lane, Benet, McNeil, Marshall.

West Brunswick Scoring: F. Johnson 13, Vansteen 7, C. Johnson 20, Lance 5, Bryant 8, Turner 1, Terance Bellamy 2, Green 3, Reed, Benard, Timmy Bellamy, Mintz.

West Columbus

West Columbus handed the Trojans their first Three Rivers loss of the season on Thursday. David Thomas led three Vikings in double figures with 12 points followed by Gary Gainey and Shelton Thomas with 10 each.

The Trojans jumped out to a 14-7 lead in the first quarter and increased their advantage to 10, 25-15, at the half.

The Vikings cut the West Brunswick lead to 33-25 at the end of the third period but outscored the Trojans, 27-11 in a big fourth-quarter uprising.

Donnie Vansteen led West Brunswick with 12 points while Chris Johnson and Freddie Johnson added nine each.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

W. Brunswick	14	11	8	11	44
W. Columbus	7	8	10	27	52

West Brunswick Scoring: F. Johnson 9, Vansteen 12, C. Johnson 9, Lance 2, Reed 6, Bryant 6, Mintz, Timmy Bellamy.

West Columbus Scoring: Evans 7, D. Thomas 12, Gainey 10, S. Thomas 10, Hayes 6, Singletary 5, Hill 2, Moore, Blake.



STAFF PHOTO BY TERRY POPE

Elks Hoopshooter Wins

Shalotte Middle School student Regina Watts, left, hit 15 of 25 free throws at the Elks Hoop Shoot District Contest in Goldsboro on Jan. 12 to win the girls age 12-13 division. Regina was one of 32 students from nine districts to compete in the basketball shooting contest. She won her division during the local competition sponsored by the Calabash Elks Lodge No. 2679. Elks' Youth Committee Chairman Bob Snyder, right, presented Regina with a trophy. She will now go to the Elks state contest held at Catawba College in Salisbury on Feb. 23. The district contest was held at Eastern Wayne High School.

Lady Scorpions Fall To Whiteville

The North Brunswick girls dropped a 49-43 East Waccamaw 2-A Conference basketball loss to visiting Whiteville Friday as Sherry Jones led the Lady Wolfpack and all scorers with 18 points.

Whiteville dominated play in the first half while limiting North Brunswick to only 12 points. The Lady Wolfpack took a 16-5 lead in the first quarter and then held a 20-point, 32-12 halftime advantage.

The Lady Scorpions cut the Whiteville lead in half by the end of the third quarter, 36-26 but could go no closer than the final six-point margin in the fourth period.

Along with the play of Jones for

Whiteville was Bridgett Hawkins with 10 points.

Leslie Davis and Darlene Harrison led North Brunswick with 12 points each while Elisha Jennings had 10.

North Brunswick continues EWC play Friday at South Brunswick while Whiteville hosts Hallsboro.

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

Whiteville	16	16	4	13	49
N. Brunswick	5	7	14	17	43

Whiteville Scoring: Gore 8, Cokely 5, Jones 18, Smith 2, Faulk 6, Hawkins 10.

North Brunswick Scoring: Davis 12, Harrison 12, Jennings 10, Pendergast 2, Royal 2, Mosley 2.

INSIGHT INTO EYESIGHT

CHRIS MOSHOURES
OPTOMETRIST

THE DRY EYE

The normal eye is kept moist by a thin film of tears on its surface. Most of these tears are produced by glands under the upper lid and are spread across the cornea with each blink. If tear production is reduced for any of a variety of reasons, you will suffer symptoms of hot, burning, dry eyes. In very severe cases, the cornea may dry, become cloudy and affect your sight.

This is one of the conditions which your optometrist looks for during an eye examination. If in-

dicated, he can perform a simple test to determine the amount of tear fluid you have. If the amount is moderately low, you can gain comfort by using drops of artificial tears. For a critical shortage, a soft contact lens may be indicated to keep the eye moist.

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