

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Veterans Give West Brunswick Solid Base For Improvement

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Athletic success in one sport, particularly on the high school level, can oftentimes deal a blow to another sport that follows. Such is the case at West Brunswick where the Waccamaw 2-A Conference football champion Trojans extended the prep gridiron season by two weeks this year with its participation in the state playoffs.

As a result, the long football season gave first-year head basketball coach Billy Mims an even shorter time to get his Trojan cagers ready for the 1988-'89 season.

Mims had his entire lineup at practice for only two days prior to this week's season opener (Tuesday) at last year's 2-A state runnerup Pender.

"We are off to a slow start but that is to be expected," said Mims. "Three of our top nine players were on the football team and practiced for the first time Thanksgiving day. I have been pleased with the effort and we are playing hard. But, how well we will play is likely to be another question."

Leading the way will be a trio of veterans—Jeff Bernard, Tommy McNeil and Kyle Jones. The three played football and are just now adjusting to basketball but will be counted on for their leadership.

The trio will be counted on for scoring to make up for graduated all-conference forward Chris Bryant. Bryant averaged 12 points per game last year as the Trojans dropped to 4-17, only their second losing season in school history.

Bernard, a 6-foot-2, junior forward, is perhaps the team's best athlete according to Mims.

McNeil, also a junior, is a 6-5 center who gives the Trojans plenty of size in the middle.

"Tommy has had two days of practice and will come off the bench during the first several games. As the season progresses I expect him to really help us out on the boards," said Mims.

Jones, a 6-3 senior forward, is one of the team's best shooters and can also handle the ball very well according to Mims.

Giving the Trojans an outside scoring edge will be the return of senior guard Randy Daniels (5-11). Daniels was an all-conference honorable mention last year and returns as one of the most experienced and steady players on the team.

Sophomore Ricky Daniels (6-4), a starter on the Trojan junior varsity team a year ago, will likely start on the varsity this season.

"We expect big things from Ricky," said Mims. "He is our quickest player on the team but he can be a little too over-aggressive at times. We are working at getting him

to play under control more as he gains experience."

Jimmy Johnson, a 6-1 junior point guard, will be the primary ball handler for the Trojans this season.

"Jimmy has played well in practice thus far," said Mims. "We look to have the ball in his hands when under pressure."

Mike Kap, a 5-8 senior guard, is another veteran who has been steady and performed well as a ball handler in practice. Mims expects Kap to add strength in a reserve role.

Paul Stanley, a 5-11 junior, is the team's quickest guard according to Mims. Stanley needs more discipline with the ball but is a true point guard whom Mims hopes will turn out to be a team leader.

Timmy Farmer, a 6-4 junior, is another key to the Trojans inside attack. Farmer, who started as a freshman last year, has performed well under the basket in practice.

"Timmy has played well in practice but needs to get a little more consistent," said Mims.

Rounding out the Trojan roster are five first-year players, all juniors. They include forward Andre Gore, guard/forward Jarrett Godwin, guard Erique Marlow, guard Keith Grant and forward Charles Moore.

"Andre is a real leaper while Jarrett has excellent natural fundamental skills," Mims continued.

Although Mims knows very little about any of the Trojan opponents, he expects his team to be nothing less than competitive.

"There are two ingredients to success. First, you have to want to be successful and second, you have to work hard at it. This team has both of these elements and I expect the best, only the best, out of each member."

"I have drilled them each day that they are a team first and an individual second. Because of this I believe we will play good team ball both offensively and defensively."

After this week's opener at Pender, the Trojans won't see action until two weeks later when West hosts Wallace-Rose Hill on Dec. 13 in its home opener.

In other pre-Christmas play, the Trojans will host Pender on Dec. 13 and travel to Wallace-Rose Hill on Dec. 16.

The Trojans will also participate in the Whiteville Christmas Tournament scheduled for Dec. 29-30.

Following the holidays, West returns to open Waccamaw Conference play on Jan. 3, hosting East Bladen.

The Trojans continue conference action until closing out the regular season Feb. 24, hosting South Robeson. All games begin at 8 p.m.

Mims is in his first season as a head coach after being named new Trojan basketball coach during the summer by replacing Harold Johnson.

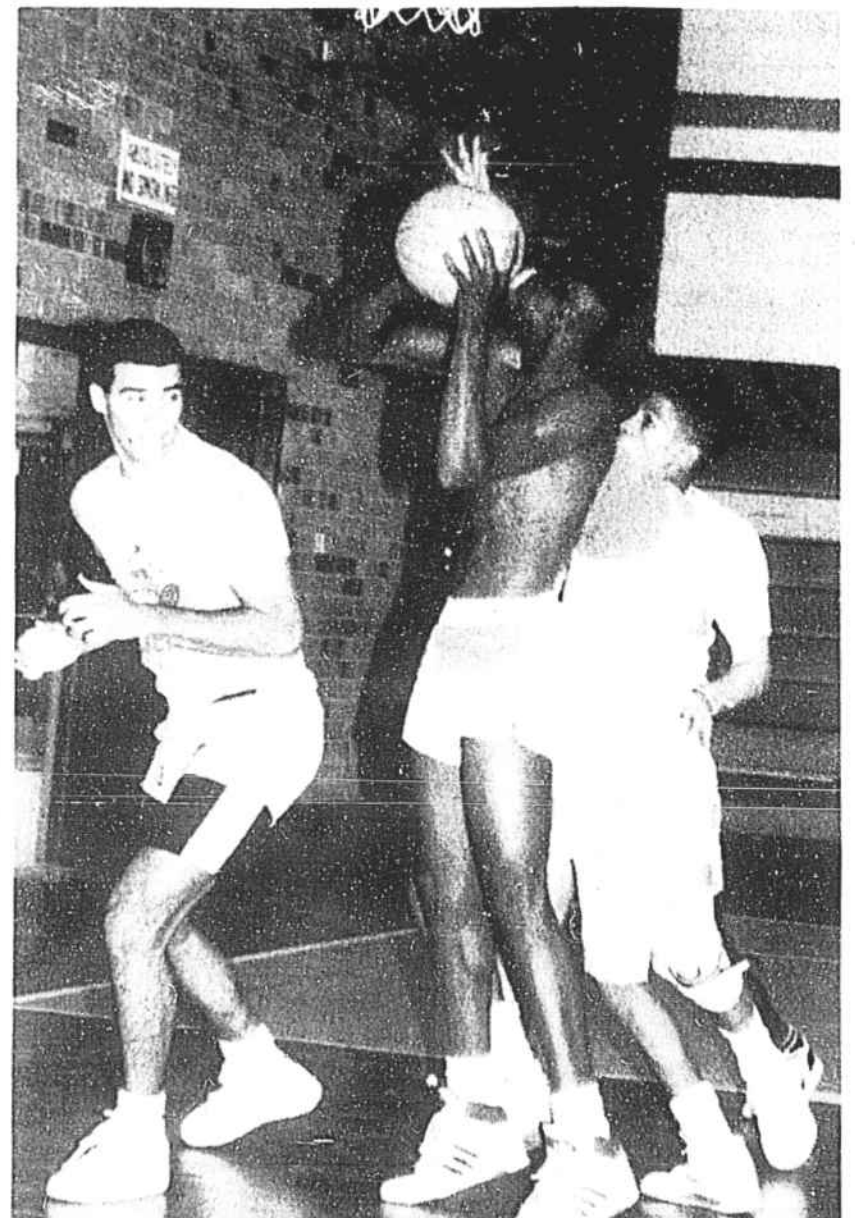
Mims, only the fourth boys' varsity basketball coach in school history, came to West Brunswick from Jacksonville, Fla., where he was

assistant basketball and football coach at Sandel Woods High School. During his four seasons as assistant cage coach, he also served as freshman coach one year.

"If, and I stress if, there is any pressure here at West to win, nobody will apply more pressure than myself," concluded Mims. "There is natural pressure from all areas to be successful in any sport. Everybody wants to be successful. However, it takes the assistance from everyone—administration, teachers, student body—to achieve that success. We want everyone to get involved and play a part in this team's success."

West Brunswick Trojans 1988-89 Basketball Schedule	
Date	Opponent
Nov. 29	at Pender
Dec. 13	Wallace-Rose Hill
Dec. 15	Pender
Dec. 16	at Wallace-Rose Hill
Dec. 29-30	at Whiteville Christmas Tournament
Jan. 3	East Bladen*
Jan. 6	at Whiteville*
Jan. 10	Fairmont*
Jan. 13	at South Robeson*
Jan. 17	North Brunswick*
Jan. 20	West Columbus*
Jan. 27	at South Brunswick*
Jan. 31	at East Bladen*
Feb. 3	Whiteville*
Feb. 7	at Fairmont*
Feb. 10	South Robeson*
Feb. 14	at North Brunswick*
Feb. 17	at West Columbus*
Feb. 24	South Robeson*

*denotes Waccamaw 2-A Conference games
All games begin at 5 p.m. with junior varsity followed by girls varsity at 6:30 and boys varsity at 8 p.m.



PRESEASON DRILLS—Ricky Daniels grabs a rebound over Timmy Farmer (left) and Erique Marlow during Monday's practice at West Brunswick. Daniels and Farmer are among a group of nine veteran players who will lead the Trojans cage hopes for the 1988-'89 season.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JOHNNY CRAIG

FINAL INSTRUCTIONS—New West Brunswick boys' basketball coach Billy Mims gives players final instructions prior to this week's season opener at Pender. Mims comes to the Trojans after four years as an assistant high school coach in Jacksonville, Fla.

SPORTING SCENE

Winter Sports Grow In County

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

High school basketball season gets underway in Brunswick County this week with a full slate of games at West, North and South.

The North Brunswick boys will be out to defend their 1987-'88 county championship and improve upon last year's 13-8 record while 29-year veteran boys' coach Gene Doane continues to build a cage program at South Brunswick.

The Cougars have improved from 6-13 to 8-12 in his first two years at South after moving from the Washington, D.C. area.

County teams will continue to play during the Christmas holidays as West sees action in the annual Whiteville tournament while South participates in an eight-team tourney at Greenville.

Girls' basketball is on the rise at West and North as both have new head coaches. Last year's county girls' coach of the year, Ronnie Jenkins, seeks to get South Brunswick above the .500 level for the first time in years.

In his first year with the Lady Cougars, Jenkins guided South to a 6-14 overall record and 5-9 conference mark. Not bad for a team that failed to win a game just the year before.

In addition to basketball this winter in the county, North and South Brunswick will both field wrestling teams for the first time ever. Unfortunately, West Brunswick is the only county school failing to participate.

That's a shame because the county youth wrestling program, in only its second year, has been overly popular with both participants and parents. This enthusiasm has spread over into the high schools at North and South

and supplemented the winter sports program.

Hopefully West will follow the lead of North and South and choose to participate next year.

Grid Playoffs Down To Semifinals

The state high school football playoffs are down to the semifinal rounds in all four classifications with eastern and western championships to be decided Friday.

Whiteville, the last remaining Waccamaw Conference team, was eliminated from the 2-A quarterfinals last week at the hands of Jordan-Matthews, 14-10.

The Wolfpack fell victim to the turnover bug as did West Brunswick when the Trojans fell to the Jets 14-6 in a second-round contest.

The Trojans committed nine turnovers in their loss to Jordan-Matthews while Whiteville was guilty of five miscues.

Thomasville is the likely choice to capture the 2-A title after having edged powerful Lexington 28-26 last week. Thomasville has plenty of playoff experience since advancing to the state championship at Whiteville last year.

Brown Leads Wolfpack In Opener

N.C. State standout and former North Brunswick star Chucky Brown scored 15 points and grabbed seven rebounds to help the Wolfpack to a 110-54 win over Columbia in their college basketball opener Saturday in Raleigh.

All 13 players on the Wolfpack roster saw plenty of playing time in

the rout as Brown was joined by four teammates in double-figure scoring.

Brown connected on seven of 11 field goal attempts including one of two three-point attempts and had four assists in the win.

Success No Secret

West Brunswick's football success (Waccamaw 2-A Conference championship and 10-2 record) is no big secret among local college ranks as no less than seven Trojan gridders are being recruited by North and South Carolina schools.

Split end Tony Graham and tight end Gary Gore are both being scouted by North Greenville (SC) Junior College while linebacker Corey Hankins is being courted by numerous colleges including N.C. State.

Also on the list is defensive guard Kerry Cumbee who is being looked at by Lenoir-Rhyne and Catawba. Craig Fogle, an offensive defensive guard, is being scouted by the Merchant Marine Academy in New York.

Defensive end Martin Bolick is being recruited by Lenoir-Rhyne while running back Chris Morgan has made a visit to Livingstone College.

Ducks Unlimited Chapter Sets Annual Fund-Raising Banquet

Brunswick County's Ducks Unlimited chapter will hold its annual banquet and auction on Friday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. at the Brunswick County Shrine Club on Midway Road in Bolivia.

Admission is \$35 per person, which includes membership fee, cocktails and dinner, said spokesman Al Parker. He estimated attendance of approximately 200 at this year's banquet, the chapter's annual fund-raising event.

Along with a dinner catered by the Sudan Thunderbolts, the banquet will feature a sale by auctioneer Tom Covington of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., of various items including Ducks Unlimited wildlife prints, some with stamps, and a shotgun. Drawings for several other items will be held and numerous door prizes will be awarded, Parker said, with

"almost everyone" coming away with something.

In the chapter's annual "duck walk," the winner of a shotgun will be the person who chooses the grid square where the duck makes a "deposit."

Ducks Unlimited was founded in 1937 to help restore and enhance critically needed waterfowl breeding habitat in Canada, where nearly 70 percent of North American waterfowl are produced. The group now works in the breeding, staging and wintering grounds of Canada, the United States and Mexico.

To date the non-profit organization has completed more than 3,600 wetland restoration projects and reserved more than 5 million acres utilized by some 600 species of wildlife, including several which are

endangered and game birds and big game mammals such as deer.

Ducks Unlimited has set a goal of raising \$62.6 million in 1988 for wetland habitat restoration. However, wetlands in the United States are being destroyed at the rate of some 400,000 acres per year.

While Ducks Unlimited has several wetlands habitat projects in North Carolina, none are in Brunswick County. That could change in the near future, said Parker, since the local chapter has recommended development of a gamelands preserve on marshlands located in the Brunswick River area between Belville and Wilmington. The land would be retained by its owners, but diked and sowed with grain to make it attractive habitat for waterfowl.

INSIGHT INTO EYESIGHT

DR. CHRIS MOSHOURES
OPTOMETRIST

NORMAL VISION PROBLEMS

If you have reached middle age, perhaps you are aware of some of the normal vision problems that come with the passing of time. Once most people reach 40 or 45, for instance, they find that reading can often be difficult. Images may become blurred. Focusing becomes more of an effort than it used to be. This is not caused by using your eyes too much, because your eyes can not be worn out by use. Over a period of time, however, your eyes' focusing ability gradually declines.

This condition is called presbyopia. It is not a disease but a normal vision problem for those middle-aged and older. The solution to this problem is in getting the prescription you need for glasses or contact lenses so you can read with ease again. If you're bothered in any way—even if it's only occasionally—by vision problems, see your eye doctor for an examination.

In the interest of better vision from the office of:
Brunswick Vision Care
Chris Moshoures, O.D.
Pine St., Shallotte, 754-4020
Salt Marsh Sq., Calabash, 579-4020

**Affordable
All-Weather
Comfort**

**Economy
Efficiency
Value!**

LENNOX
HP18 Heat Pump

100% Financing
As convenient as your Bank Card

**SEA COAST
TRADING CO.**
Shallotte • 754-4443

Gold
Ken's Pawn
Guns

Large Selection
MEN'S & LADIES
14K GOLD CHAINS
\$19.95 and up

Heilig-Meyers Shopping Center
Hwy. 17 N. Shallotte
754-5570

Jewelry

COASTAL GUNS

HANDGUNS • SHOTGUNS • RIFLES
SCOPES • ACCESSORIES

COMMERCE ST.
SHALLOTTE
OPEN M-F 9-5:30, SAT 9-3

754-5135

Let's Go Hunting