

Trojans' Jeff Bernard Named To Prep Shrine Bowl Game

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

Jeff Bernard has become the first West Brunswick player in school history to be selected to the annual high school Shrine Bowl football game to be played in Charlotte's Memorial Stadium Saturday, Dec. 9.

The 6-foot-2, 205-pound senior was named to the 34-man North Carolina roster last week as a defensive back after doubling as a full-back and free safety for the Trojans this fall.

Bernard led the Trojans (7-4) in rushing with 1,039 yards while scoring six touchdowns on 154 carries (6.7 yards per carry). However, in the upcoming Shrine Bowl, Bernard will be concentrating on his defensive back position.

This fall marked the second straight year Bernard has led the Trojans in rushing. As a junior, the all-county performer ran for nearly 700 yards in West Brunswick's Waccamaw 2-A Conference 10-2 championship season.

The multi-talented Bernard also is a standout member of the Trojan basketball and track teams. In fact, Bernard's Shrine Bowl participation will force him to miss the first several Trojan basketball games.

"We'll miss Jeff the first couple of games and it will take him a while to get into football shape but this is a chance of a lifetime for him," said West Brunswick head basketball coach and football assistant Billy Mims.

West Brunswick finished third in the WC (5-2 league record) this fall while qualifying for the state playoffs for the second consecutive year. The Trojans were bumped from



JEFF BERNARD

postseason play in the opening round by undefeated Clayton, 27-6.

While Bernard is the first West Brunswick player named to the all-star game, he is only the second county grider selected.

Duke University Blue Devil defensive back and kickoff return specialist Quentin McCracken (South

Brunswick) became the first county player named to the Shrine Bowl two years ago.

Bernard is one of four defensive backs named to the team along with Bicardi Ayers (Goldsboro), Dewayne Washington (North Durham) and Mike Johnson (Person).

The head coach of this year's Tar Heel team will be Freedom's (Morganton) Pete Stout. Prior to this season Stout had compiled a 231-86-14 record in 30 years of high school coaching. Before coming to Freedom, Stout led Burlington Cummings to 46 consecutive victories and state 3-A championships in 1980 and 1981. He is also a former Catawba College head coach.

Joining Stout on the North Carolina staff will be Dave Gutshall (Burlington Cummings), Ed Hiatt (West Carteret) and Richard Kemp (High Point Central).

This year will mark the 53rd annual game which matches the top North Carolina players against those of South Carolina. The Tar Heels edged the Sandlappers last year despite South Carolina's dominance of the contest during the 1980s.

Tickets are \$6 (general admission) and \$15 (reserved). More information can be obtained by calling 1-704-547-1414 or writing: Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas, P.O. Box 560505, Charlotte, N.C. 28256.

The game will start at 1:30 p.m. following the Shrine Bowl parade at 11 a.m.

All proceeds of the game benefit the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville, S.C.



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