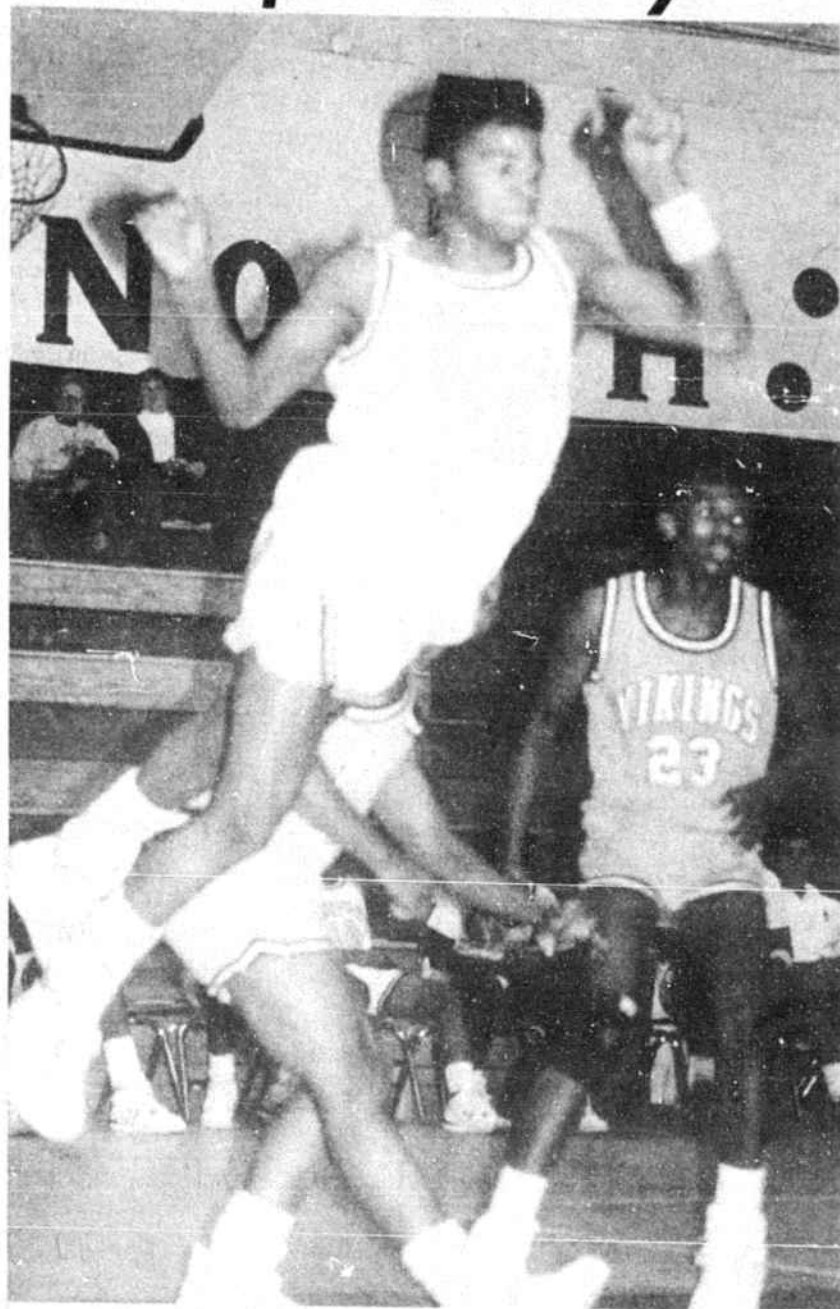


NORTH BRUNSWICK DIVIDES PAIR

Scorpion Boys Whip West Columbus In Overtime



SCORPIONS WIN—North Brunswick's Maduka Ballard (32) goes high for a layup in Friday's 51-49 Scorpion overtime win against West Columbus. Closing in on the play for the Vikings is James Green (23). The win was North Brunswick's second this season over West Columbus.

STAFF PHOTOS BY JOHNNY CRAIG

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

For the North Brunswick boys' basketball team, Friday's 51-49 overtime win over visiting West Columbus was nearly the tale of "the one that got away."

The Scorpions, along with the Vikings, have battled near the bottom of the Waccamaw 2-A Conference standings all season as the two teams entered the contest with only three league wins between them.

However, it was the Scorpions' ability to play it "smart" that enabled them to survive a late West Columbus rally and pick up their third league win of the year.

Andre Freeman, who scored only five points for the Scorpions, sent the game into overtime with a three-point goal at the buzzer.

Barry Baldwin then broke the 49-49 deadlock by scoring the only points of the extra period with a pair of free throws with 1:26 remaining.

"I told the kids we had to have a three-point goal during a timeout just before the end of regulation. Andre and Barry have been our three-point men all season and that was who we were looking for," said Gibson. "The kids were smart enough to find Andre open at the top of the key for the shot."

"We are playing smarter ball now then compared to the first-half of the league season," said Gibson on the improvement of his team. "Tonight, we didn't change our defense as much and stayed primarily with the same defense."

The Scorpions had to survive the final minutes of regulation and the overtime period without their leading scorers—Greg Waddell and Duane Waddell—both of whom fouled out of the contest. The pair finished with 14 points each to lead all scorers.

West Columbus took the early lead opening up a 14-6 advantage in the first quarter before North rallied for the final eight points of the peri-

od to pull even at 14-14.

The Scorpions took their first lead, 16-15, with 6:41 to play in the half on a Greg Waddell basket that started a 10-0 North Brunswick run. Waddell scored eight of the points which sent the Scorpions a 24-15 advantage with 4:40 remaining in the half.

After West Columbus got within 24-19 with 3:24 left, North Brunswick scored six unanswered points that helped the Scorpions to a 30-23 halftime advantage.

West Columbus coach Michael Powell was hit with a double-technical foul midway in the third quarter with his Viking team trailing 36-29.

James Walker converted on all four free throws from the technical which helped the Scorpions cruise to a 42-32 lead at the end of the period.

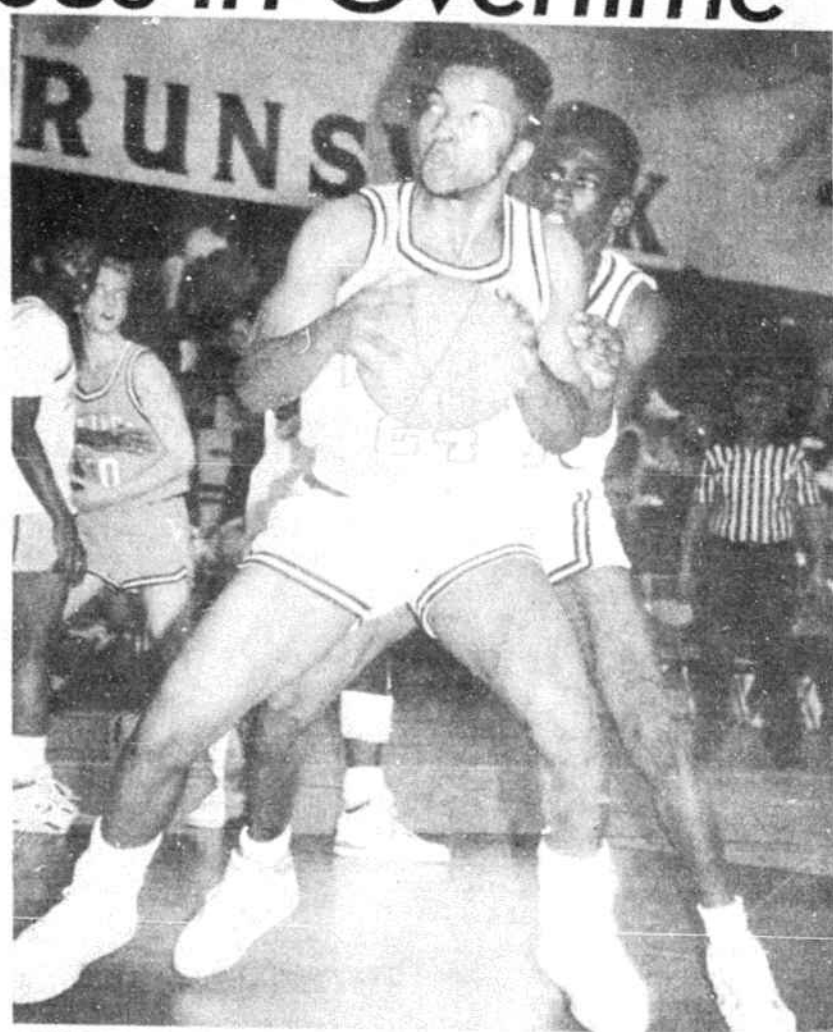
West Columbus opened the final period with 15 unanswered points that gave the Vikings their first lead since early in the second quarter, 47-42. Nate Frink scored eight of his nine points during the Viking outburst while the Scorpions went cold.

North Brunswick didn't score in the fourth quarter until Baldwin's layup broke the ice with 2:22 to play which got the Scorpions within 47-44.

Tyrone Latham, who scored six of his team-leading 13 points in the final period, connected on a pair of free throws with three minutes left for the final Viking points and a 49-46 lead.

"West Columbus rebounded offensively very well in the second half and that enabled them to come back," said North Brunswick coach Cliff Gibson. "They were able to get some easy baskets and we got away from our offense a little bit and it was enough to change the momentum."

"When we stayed with our basic gameplan we were getting the



INSIDE POSITION—Franklin McDonald of West Columbus (with ball) has the inside track to the basket ahead of North Brunswick's James Walker in last Friday's Waccamaw 2-A Conference contest. The Scorpions took a 51-49 overtime win for only their second league win of the season.

layups and the lobbs inside."

Greg Waddell (10 points) also scored in double figures for the Scorpions (2-6, 6-10) while Keno Jones and Frink both had nine points for West Columbus (1-8, 6-10).

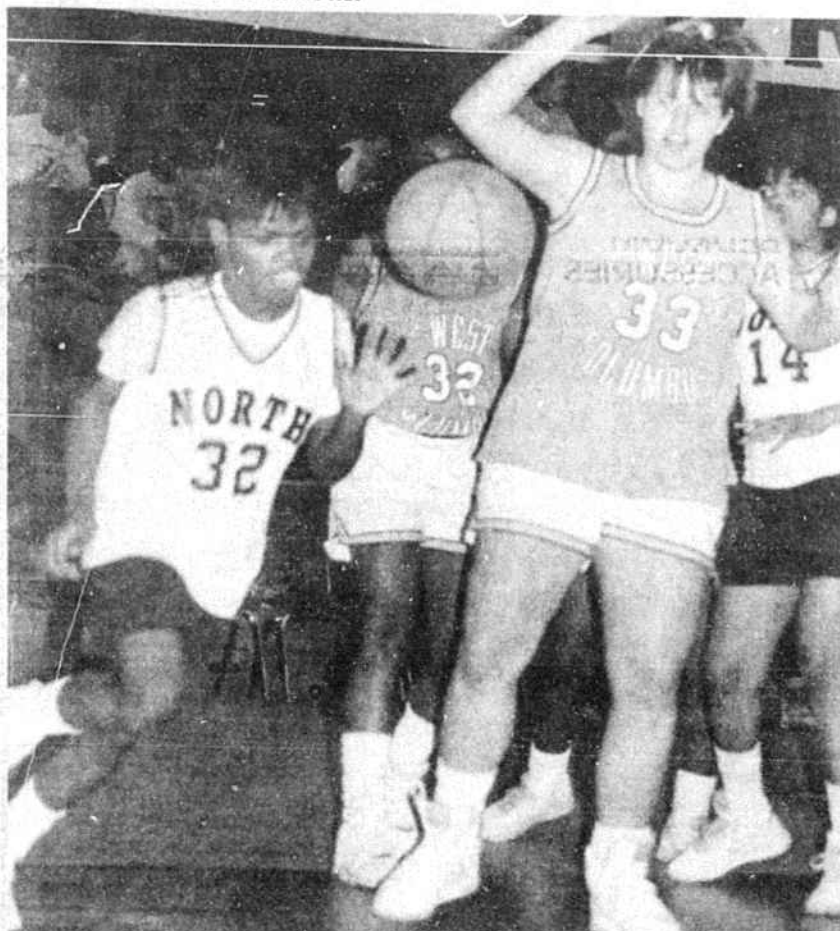
North Brunswick continues league play Friday traveling to East Bladen before hosting Whiteville next Tuesday.

Score By Quarters

W. Columbus 14 9 9 17—0—49
N. Brunswick 14 16 12 7—2—51

West Columbus scoring: Young 2, Frink 9, Freeman 2, Green 2, McDonald 6, Latham 13, Jones 9, Roberts 6.

North Brunswick scoring: D. Waddell 14, Baldwin 14, G. Waddell 10, M. Ballard 2, Walker 6, Freeman 5.



LOOSE BALL—North Brunswick's Ayo Robbins (32) and Latrisha Lennon (33) of West Columbus go after a loose ball during Friday's Waccamaw 2-A Conference game. West Columbus took an easy 70-40 win while North Brunswick remained winless in league play.

Vikings Bomb Scorpion Girls In Second Half

West Columbus used an early second-half scoring spree to breeze to a 70-40 league romp over North Brunswick in the girls' contest.

Felicia Everette led four Lady Vikings in double-figure scoring with 22 points, followed by Jana Bowen with 16, Melissa Hardin with 11 and Amy Powell 10.

West Columbus led throughout the opening half with leads of 12-8 in the first quarter and 30-20 at the break.

However, the Lady Scorp scored two quick baskets to open the second half to get within eight points of West Columbus, 32-24, with 6:35 to play.

The bottom fell out shortly for North Brunswick as West Columbus scored 14 straight points during a 2:33 stretch of the quarter enroute to a commanding 54-30 advantage.

The Lady Viking lead grew to 32 points in the final period while North Brunswick could manage only six points from the field in the quarter.

Tasha Robbins led North Brunswick (0-8, 1-14) with 18 points while Rhonda Moore added 15.

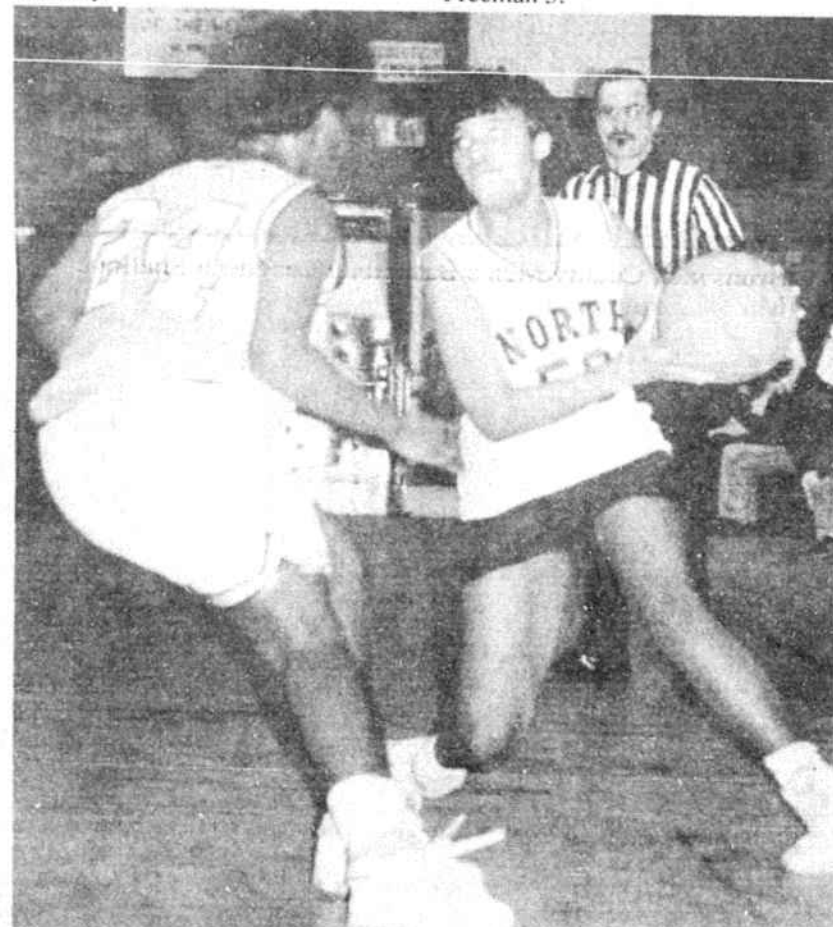
West Columbus improved to 6-4 in the league with the win and 12-6 overall.

Score By Quarters

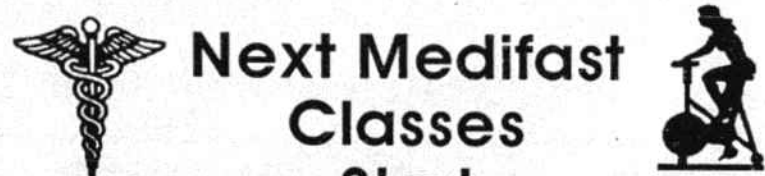
West Columbus 16 16 22 16—70
North Brunswick 8 12 10 10—40

West Columbus scoring: Nealy 2, Everette 22, Hardin 11, Powell 10, Graham 6, Smith 1, Osbourne 2, Bowen 16.

North Brunswick scoring: Moore 15, Bress 2, Martin 2, A. Robbins 1, T. Robbins 18, Ballard 2.



EYE ON THE BASKET—North Brunswick's Rhonda Moore (with ball) keeps an eye on the basket while being guarded by Amy Powell (24) of West Columbus. Moore scored 15 points but it wasn't enough as the Lady Vikings cruised to a 70-40 league win last Friday.



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