West Brunswick Gears For Preseason Scrimmages

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

"It's still hot," said West Brunswick head football coach of the balmy weather Monday as his team entered its third week of preseason drills at the school's

The Trojans took a break from traditional drills Saturday and held their annual Green and Gold intersquad game despite the morning heat. The day concluded with team pictures in the afternoon.

"We saw some things we're lacking in and we also saw some good things," said Seay on the intersquad contest, "The best thing I saw is that we are going to be an awfully aggressive team and a hard-hitting team."

"The defense dominated the game Saturday but the defense is always ahead of offense at this stage of the preseason. If your defense isn't ahead of the offense it means you've got a very weak defense.'

The Trojan coaching staff split the team evenly into two 22-man squads and played under game conditions. "We have a long way to go on the offensive line but we're getting there. We have a good mixture of veterans and youngsters.'

Among the top individual performances in Saturday's contest was the play of senior Cleon Butler.

"Cleon was awfully promising as a sophomore but did not have a real good junior year," explained Seay. "He is really looking good this time around. Cleon caught a touchdown pass and had several big hits on defense playing both wide receiver and defensive back."

Tony Caison, a 6-foot-4, 291-pound senior, has made the switch from an exclusive offensive lineman to playing both on the offense and defensive lines.

Tony is playing both ways as though he has played them his whole career. His stamina as a big man is

The Trojans were to have seen their first scrimmage opponent yesterday (Wednesday) traveling to Loris, .C. to face the 2-A Lions at 7 p.m.

Socastee, S.C., a 4-A school in Myrtle Beach, was also invited to the scrimmage according to Seay.

This week's practice sessions are considerably different compared to the first week as Seay explained.

The first week we were in shorts with no contact drills teaching the players who to block. This week we are in pads with full contact teaching the kids how to block. To be successful you have to have all the who's and how's down pat."

"Defensively we are still working hard on the fundamentals of tackling at all positions. A real pet peeve of mine is to not only have 11 defensive players who can hit but not have 11 players that can tackle," added Seay.

The Trojan coaching staff is installing both their offensive and defensive game plans in phases.

We probably won't have everything in place until the first conference game. I've always been big on being able to do a few things right than doing a lot of things wrong. It's a progression-type of thing.

Former varsity assistant Billy Mims will be serving this fall as the head junior varsity coach.

Seay encourages all 9th and 10th graders interested in playing on the junior varsity level to report to Mims immediately or call 754-7700.

There have been a number of junior varsity players practicing since August 1, trying to make the varsity squad according to Seay.

The Trojan JV team will play an attractive, 10-game schedule similar to the varsity this fall.

Former Trojan Gridders Head For College Ranks

Raymond Howard and Jeff Letino are among the latest former West Brunswick football stars who are working to make the football teams of two state universities.

Howard, a former Trojan quarterback, left for N.C. State in Raleigh last Thursday after talking with Wolfpack receivers coach Kent Briggs earlier in the week.

'All of the football coaches at N.C. State have been together for quite some time now and they are all well aware of Raymond's abilities," said West Brunswick head football coach Marshall Seay, "Raymond's lack of height (5-foot-9) was his only liability for now being a NCAA Division prospect out of high school."

Howard initially signed with the Air Force Academy after graduating from West Brunswick in 1989.

"He attended the Air Force prep school and did a fine job. Raymond made the decision to go to N.C. State instead because it best suited his academic needs," added Seay.

"Raymond told Coach Briggs he would welcome the opportunity to play for N.C. State after they talked

him about joining the Wolfpack."

The Wolfpack plans to use Howard as a wide receiver accord-

Raymond will be way ahead of most freshmen after having a year of prep school. He has a real good idea of what he's getting into. Just how well he does, we'll just have to wait and see. It's just a very favorable situation for him to be in.'

"In addition to having the chance to play Division I football, he will develop friends and establish contacts that will last him a lifetime," said Seay.

Letino, a former linebacker/running back/reserve quarterback, reported to Appalachian State University in Boone last week. Letino plans to play linebacker with the Division I-A Mountaineers.

Another recent West Brunswick graduate, Blake Bradley, a former football and baseball standout, is also attending Appalachian Bradley is serving as a Mountaineer athletic trainer and has earned a full scholarship.

Corey Hankins, a 1988 West Brunswick graduate, came out of

spring practice as a starting linebacker at Catawba College in Salisbury.

"Corey worked out in our weight room all summer and helped us coach the kids," Seay said. "Catawba plays a very tough brand of football and they are in a league (South Atlantic Conference) with a lot of talent."

Brian Hill, a 1989 West Brunswick graduate, has transferred to East Carolina University after signing with Wingate College and playing a season for the Bulldogs.

"Brian did well as a freshman at Wingate but feels like he can play on the ECU level," added Seay.

Jeff Bernard, another 1989 West Brunswick graduate, recently signed a grant with Chowan Junior College in Murfreesboro.

Bernard was an outstanding running back and defensive back for the Trojans and became the first West Brunswick gridder to play in the annuai Shrine Bowl his senior year.

Bernard was offered a full scholarship to the University of North Carolina but failed to score the minimum requirement on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

"If Jeff completes his course work in his two years at Chowan, he can transfer to any NCAA Division I school in the country," said Seay. "He will then still have two years of eligibility."

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South Brunswick Cougars To Participate In Grid Jamboree

will make their fifth appearance in the annual United Carolina Bank Prep Football Jamboree scheduled for Friday, August 23, at Wilmington's Legion Stadium.

The Cougars will be one of six local prep teams in the event and will face 4-A Hoggard in the final contest of the night.

The jamboree begins at 7 p.m. with Laney meeting Whiteville and will follow with the New Hanover vs. Wallace-Rose Hill contest.

Rules will follow the standard North Carolina High School Athletic Association preseason scrimmage regulations.

Admission is \$3 per person with advance tickets available at the

THE CAPE

The South Brunswick Cougars Southport branch of United Carolina Bank.

> Also included in the event will be the awarding of six UCB Jamboree \$500 scholarships given to one graduating senior from each participating team.

Among the scholarship winners from last year's jamboree was South Brunswick's Timothy Myles.

Scholarships are funded from the first \$3,000 of gate receipts with the remaining proceeds shared equally by the athletic departments of the participating schools.

Last year's jamboree drew over

The previous four jamborees have resulted in over \$39,000 in contributions to the participating schools.

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