

SPORTING SCENE

Plenty of 'Firsts' In Third Week Of Prep Grid Season

BY JOHNNY CRAIG

The third week of the local high school football season was highlighted by a number of "firsts."

At West Brunswick, the Trojans recorded their first-ever football win over Mullins, S.C., 6-0.

While the two teams had met only twice before last Friday, Mullins had won both times including a 58-6 rout in 1977, the last time the two squared off in Shallotte.

The triumph over the Auctioneers was also West Brunswick's first win following an open date since 1988. The Trojans were idle two weeks ago and head coach Marshall Seay indicated his teams have had a tendency to be a little down following a week off.

The win also left West Brunswick (3-0) as the only unbeaten team in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference.

The Trojans have outscored their first three opponents of the current campaign 76-7, their best scoring margin since 1987 in Seay's second year. That season the Trojans outscored its opening three foes 124-32.

Still, Seay sees plenty of improvement for his offense following last Friday's game against Mullins.

"Friday was one of those nights where you better be pretty glad to get a win. This is just what we need," Seay said in reference to the close game.

"I think our kids will focus in a lot better from here on out. They almost tasted defeat against Mullins. Our defense rose to the occasion but our offense never did."

"The most disappointing thing about it was that we spent about 80 percent of our practice time last week on offense. I'm just pleased to get a win and proud of our kids," added Seay.

Wallace-Rose Hill got its first-ever win over a Bill Hewett-coached team in the Bulldogs' 26-7 romp over South Brunswick last Friday.

Hewett, who compiled an impressive 67-11 record at Whiteville before coming to South Brunswick, had guided his Wolfpack teams over Wallace-Rose Hill in a number memorable state 2-A playoff wins during his six-year tenure.

Hewett's 1984 team defeated Wallace-Rose Hill 28-7 in the eastern finals and his 1986 state-championship squad nipped the Bulldogs in the second round of post-season play.

Hewett got his final win over Wallace-Rose Hill, 27-6, in the opening round of the 1987 state playoffs.

Speaking of Wallace-Rose Hill, former Bulldog coaching great Thell Overman has been one of four selections to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Overman put together tremendous coaching records in football, basketball and baseball while at Warrenton and later at Wallace-Rose Hill.

Overman compiled a 278-73-6 football coaching record, a 541-118 baseball mark and a 259-42 basketball record.

Overman, along with Bud Phillips of Greenville, the late Raymond Rhodes of Raleigh and the late Frank Mock of Kinston will all be inducted into the Hall of Fame at ceremonies during halftime of the South Carolina vs. North Carolina football game in Chapel Hill on Nov. 16.

Previously-unbeaten East Bladen also lost for the first time last Friday to defending state 2-A champion Clinton 21-13.

The Dark Horses (2-1) will open league play Friday hosting South Brunswick. The Cougars might find themselves in for a long night as veteran East Bladen coach Lennon Fisher will have his team out to avenge the loss.

Tough After A Loss

West Brunswick will be attempting a difficult task Friday when the Trojans visit the Wolfpack in the first week of Waccamaw 2-A Conference grid play.

A Trojan win would be the second consecutive loss for Whiteville which dropped an 18-14 decision to Tabor City last Friday.

The Wolfpack hasn't lost back-to-back regular season games since 1983. That season the Whiteville, under then head coach Frank Ciamillo, fell to West Columbus (14-7) and Hallsboro (20-6) on consecutive weeks.

Whiteville went on to finish 6-3-1 that season which was also the last year the Wolfpack failed to qualify for the state playoffs.

FOR SECOND PLACE IN WC

West Netters Sweep East Bladen, Clinton

The West Brunswick girls' tennis team secured its grip on second place in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference last Thursday with an 8-1 romp over East Bladen.

The Lady Trojans took a break from league play on Wednesday and edged past Clinton 5-4.

With only one conference loss, West Brunswick trails unbeaten Whiteville in the league tennis race which reached midseason earlier this week.

Monday's WC match with South Brunswick was postponed to today (Thursday) due to rain. The Lady Trojans were also to have hosted Whiteville on Wednesday in a showdown of the league's top two teams.

East Bladen Results

"The win over East Bladen put us virtually through the first half of the conference season with only one league loss," said West Brunswick tennis coach Gillis. "We still have South Brunswick left before we begin playing each conference team one more time."

"Our 7-1 loss to Whiteville was certainly not indicative of the closeness of the match. Four of our singles players lost in three sets and Kristy Poulos and Lauren Boyte defeated the previously-undefeated team of Bethie Gardner and Julie Crutchfield."

Singles: Poulos (WB) def. McMillan (EB), 6-1, 6-1; Boyte (WB) def. Davis (EB), 6-1, 6-2; Judah (WB) def. Johnson (EB), 6-2, 6-0; Simmons (WB) def. Byrd (EB), 6-1, 6-1; Jones (WB) def. Beard (EB), 6-1, 6-3; Barber (WB) def. Ratcliffe (EB), 6-1, 6-0.

Doubles: Poulos-Boyte (WB) def. McMillan-Davis (EB), 8-4; Simmons-D'Alcarno (WB) def. Johnson-Coley (EB), 8-0; Ressigie-Johnson (WB) def. Campbell-Harden (EB), 8-0.

Clinton Results

Wednesday's marathon nonconference match began at 4 p.m. and did not finish until 9:45 p.m.



West Dedicates Rourk Stadium

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick High School's new football stadium—named for Dr. Malcolm Henderson Rourk—was officially dedicated Friday night prior to the Trojans' game against Mullins, S.C. Dr. Rourk, who lives in Shallotte, practiced medicine for 42 years in Wilmington, Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Shallotte and served on the Brunswick County Board of Education for 26 years. He donated land for the football field at the old Shallotte High School and donated \$25,000 for the stadium at West Brunswick. Addressing the crowd Friday is Dr. Rourk's daughter, Marie Harrison. Local dignitaries turning out for the ceremony included (from left) Brunswick County Commission Chairman Kelly Holden, Brunswick County Board of Education members Polly Russ and Doug Baxley and Don Warren, past president of the West Brunswick Booster Club. Other members of Mrs. Harrison's family are at the right.

Whiteville Romps Past West Netters

Whiteville (4-0) remained undefeated in Waccamaw 2-A Conference girls' tennis play last Monday with a 7-1 win over visiting West Brunswick.

Christy Poulos and Lauren Boyte teamed together to defeat Bethie Gardner and Julie Crutchfield 8-4 in the number one doubles match for the only Lady Trojan points.

Results

Singles: Gardner (W) def. Poulos

(WB), 6-2, 6-4; Crutchfield (W) def. Boyte (WB), 6-7, 6-2, 6-3; Rich (W) def. Judah (WB), 6-3, 6-2; Prince (W) def. Simmons (WB), 6-7, 6-2, 6-2; Miller (W) def. D'Alcarno (WB), 5-7, 6-2, 6-2; Fort (W) def. Jones (WB), 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles: Poulos-Boyte (WB) def. Gardner-Crutchfield (W), 8-4; Rich-Prince (W) def. Judah-Simmons (WB), 8-3; third match cancelled due to darkness.

South Girls Blanked By Whiteville 9-0

Whiteville shut out host South Brunswick 9-0 in Waccamaw 2-A Conference girls' tennis play last Wednesday. The Lady Wolfpack improved to a perfect 5-0 in the league with the win.

Results

Singles: Gardner (W) def. Powell (SB), 6-0, 6-0; Crutchfield (W) def. Cumbee (SB), 6-1, 6-3; Rich (W)

def. King (SB), 6-2, 6-0; Prince (W) def. Bridges (SB), 6-1, 6-1; Miller (W) def. Diprese (SB), 6-1, 6-0; Fort (W) def. Essey (SB), 6-1, 6-0.

Doubles: Gardner-Crutchfield (W) def. Powell-Cumbee (SB), 8-0; Rich-Prince (W) def. Hewett-Hegler (SB), 8-2; Miller-Fort (W) def. Wong-Eagle (SB), 8-0.

Ducks Unlimited Seeks Volunteers

Ducks Unlimited is looking for help in organizing and planning its annual banquet and sale.

Al Parker, spokesperson for the club, says that anyone interested in helping out is welcome. The event offers the sale of hunting related items such as decoys, guns, paintings, knives or crafts and also a large catered banquet.

The festivities are slated for Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Shrine Club on Midway Road in Bolivia, but, said Parker, the group needs to begin work as soon as possible.

Persons interested in volunteering can call Parker, 754-4331, Leamon Clemmons, 754-6487, or Kenny Scott, 253-6244.

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