

COUGARS ELIMINATED FROM PLAYOFFS

Trojans Take County Title With 13-6 Win Over South

BY DOUG RUTTER
Aldwin Lance returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown and scored on a fourth-quarter run to lead the West Brunswick Trojans to a 13-6 football win over South Brunswick last Friday.

The win gave West the county championship and clinched a state playoff spot for the Trojans, who finished the regular season at 9-1 and second in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference.

The regular season finale was an emotional one for the Trojans, who were mourning the death of former assistant coach Fred Bradley. He died Friday morning following an extended battle with cancer.

A moment of silence in memory of Coach Bradley preceded the game. The game ball was presented to his son, senior fullback and linebacker Ronnie Bradley, after the game.

West Brunswick Coach Marshall Seay said all of the kids were playing with "heavy hearts" and the team wasn't at its best Friday night when it hosted the Cougars at M.H. Rourk Stadium.

The Trojans were penalized 70 yards during the game and missed several scoring opportunities in the first half, but still managed to beat their cross-county rival.

"You make mistakes like that when you're in a fog," Seay said. "I know we're a much better team than we showed tonight."

West Brunswick began the game with a bang, as Lance fielded the opening kickoff at the 10-yard line, and raced down the left sideline for a touchdown.

Lance, playing in his final regular-season game at West Brunswick, was almost untouched as he gave the Trojans a 7-0 lead 13 seconds into the game.

The kickoff return was the only score of the first half, although West had scoring opportunities on its three other first-half possessions.

Three plays after Lance's kickoff return, the Trojans got the ball back when Matt Boseman intercepted a pass from South Brunswick Quarterback Todd Vice and returned it to the Cougar 45-yard line.

West Brunswick drove to the South Brunswick nine-yard line in eight plays, but failed to convert a 26-yard field goal attempt.

Brian Alderson's kick into a stiff northerly wind fell short, giving South Brunswick a first down at their own 20 with six minutes left in the opening quarter.

The Trojan defense held the Cougars to 5 yards on the next possession, and West Brunswick's offense took over at their own 37-yard line following a 41-yard punt.

West Brunswick marched to the South Brunswick 17-yard line in an 11-play drive that consumed about

eight minutes. But the Trojans came up empty again when an Alderson pass on fourth-and-four play fell incomplete in the end zone.

West Brunswick was called for

of a West Brunswick face masking penalty.

South Brunswick still trailed 7-6, however, when Gary Nowell's extra point attempt bounced off the left upright.

The Trojans were still clinging to a one-point lead late in the fourth quarter when Lance broke the game open with a 54-yard run.

The senior tailback, who rushed for 103 yards in the game, ran off left end and broke several tackles in scoring his second touchdown with four minutes to play. Alderson's extra point attempt was no good.

South Brunswick drove to near midfield on its final possession, before Jimmy Grissett intercepted a pass from Keith Marlowe to seal the Trojan win.

The stakes Friday were similar to those in last year's regular season finale, when South Brunswick beat the Trojans 21-14 to earn a spot in the state playoffs and crush West Brunswick's hopes of a third straight playoff berth.

This time around, West eliminated South from the playoffs on the strength of its highly-ranked defense and a fine performance from Lance.

"South Brunswick scrapped us. We knew it was going to be a tough ball game," Seay said. "The reason we're 9-1 is the commitment these kids have made and hard work by everybody."

Lance was one of 18 West Brunswick senior football players honored prior to the game. Parents of athletes who participated in fall sports were recognized at halftime.

The victory was West Brunswick's second of the year over South Brunswick. The Trojans whipped the Cougars 34-7 in non-conference action Sept. 9 at Boiling Spring Lakes.

West Brunswick will host Farmville Central in the first round of the state 2-A playoffs Friday night.

THE YARDSTICK

West Brunswick	South Brunswick	
7	9	First Downs
25-168	35-74	Rushes-Yards
26	55	Passing Yardage
2-9	3-12	Pass (Att-Comp)
2	0	Interceptions
3-27	3-30	Punts (No-Ave)
1-1	2-1	Fumbles-Lost
9-70	5-35	Penalties-Yards

Score By Quarters

West Brunswick	7	0	0	6-13
South Brunswick	0	0	0	6-6

Scoring Summary

(WB) Lance, 90-yard kickoff return (Alderson kick)
(SB) Vice, one yard run (kick failed)
(WB) Lance, 54-yard run (kick failed)

Individual Rushing

West Brunswick: Lance, 15-103; Butler, 7-48; Alderson 3-17.
South Brunswick: Galloway, 15-53; Joyner, 8-20; Vice, 10-3; Brown, 2-minus 2.

Individual Passing

West Brunswick: Alderson, 2-9-26.
South Brunswick: Vice, 3-11-55; Galloway 0-1-0.

Individual Receiving

West Brunswick: Russ, 1-16; Grissett, 1-10.
South Brunswick: Smith, 2-38; Griffith, 1-17.



TROJAN QUARTERBACK BRIAN ALDERSON looks for a receiver downfield in Friday's game against the South Brunswick Cougars. Alderson passed for 26 yards and rushed for 17 yards in the county championship game.



WEST BRUNSWICK'S ALDWIN LANCE (32) rushed for 103 yards and scored two touchdowns to lead the Trojans past South Brunswick Friday night. Also pictured is South Brunswick defender Alvin Hewett (82).

STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER

Lance, Holmes, Daniels Chosen Players Of Week

Aldwin Lance, Steve Holmes and Timmy Daniels were named West Brunswick High School football players of the week for their performances in the Trojans' 13-6 victory over South Brunswick last Friday.

Lance, a senior tailback and defensive back, scored both West Brunswick touchdowns and rushed for 103 yards on 15 carries in the game.

The touchdowns came on the opening kickoff, when Lance streaked 90 yards down the sideline to give the Trojans an early lead, and in the fourth quarter on a 54-yard run.

"That second touchdown put the game on ice," West Brunswick Head Coach Marshall Seay said. Lance also had a third touchdown called back in the second quarter because of a penalty.

Holmes, a 5-foot-10, 150-pound sophomore, made

his first start at defensive end for the Trojans last Friday and was named defensive player of the week.

Seay said Holmes sacked South Brunswick Quarterback Todd Vice a couple of times during the game and forced Vice to rush several passes.

"He did a super job keeping Vice in check and made several big hits on the quarterback," Seay said. "Steve also ran down the veer from behind on three occasions and was a big play man on defense throughout the game."

Daniels, the only freshman on the team, was the top special teams player in last week's win over South Brunswick.

"Timmy made several big hits on special teams," Seay said. "He was hustling downfield to make sure we didn't give up the big play like South did."

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