

WEST SETS RECORD WITH 11TH WIN

Trojans Top Tigers In Second-Round Playoff Game

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick scored twice and intercepted three passes in the fourth quarter to beat James Kenan 32-21 in high school football playoff action last Friday in Warsaw.

"We did it when we had to," said West Brunswick Coach Marshall Seay. "We played hard. We played four quarters."

The victory was an historic one for West Brunswick football, as the Trojans won 11 games for the first time in school history.

West Brunswick also will make its first appearance in the third round of the state 2-A playoffs this Friday against Whiteville.

"Any time you take a group of kids this far and win, it's a big, big win," Seay said of last week's road trip to Duplin County.

The Trojans came from behind three times in a ball game which was characterized by turnovers and big plays.

West Brunswick coughed up the ball four times, and James Kenan had six turnovers in the seasaw game that featured five lead changes.

"I thought we did make some mistakes offensively tonight," Seay said. "But that happens when you play a good football team."

Aldwin Lance, who scored three touchdowns in West's opening-round playoff win over Farmville Central, had another big game for the Trojans.

The senior tailback rushed for 139 yards and scored two touchdowns on the offensive side of the ball, and intercepted a pass on defense.

"I might have to say he's the best player I've ever coached, and I have had some great ones," Seay said following the game.

Lance, who has rushed for 1,262 yards so far this year, played last Friday with a severely injured toe.

James Kenan started the game impressively, taking the opening kick-

off and driving 56 yards in 10 plays for the contest's first score.

Quarterback Damien Whitehead rolled out and threw five yards to Antoine Byrd, who had found an open spot in the front corner of the end zone.

Brad Edens' extra point gave the Trojans a 7-0 lead with 7:33 left in the first quarter.

But West Brunswick didn't waste any time tying the game at 7-7. Jimmy Grissett, who had two interceptions on defense, fielded the ensuing kickoff and ran 75 yards untouched down the sideline for the score.

The Tigers drove to the West Brunswick 14-yard line on their next possession, but gave the ball back to the Trojans following a holding penalty, sack and incomplete pass on fourth down.

The Trojans took their first lead of the game on a one-yard run by Lance, which capped an 11-play, 74-yard drive.

During the drive, West Brunswick Quarterback Brian Alderson connected with Grissett on a 38-yard pass play.

Alderson's extra point attempt was no good, however, and the Trojans led 13-7 with 9:29 to play in the first half.

James Kenan took a 14-13 lead with 5:50 to play when Whitehead threw 23 yards to Byrd for his second touchdown of the game.

The Tiger defense set up the score by recovering a West Brunswick fumble at the Trojan 38-yard line.

Not to be outdone, West Brunswick's defense gave the Trojans a 19-14 lead just before halftime.

Linebacker Aaron Butler, who recovered two fumbles in the game, stripped the ball from James Kenan halfback Jeffrey Wallace and ran 65 yards for a touchdown.

James Kenan, champions of the Eastern Central 2-A Conference, re-

captured the lead in the third quarter, as the Trojans gained only 31 yards on offense.

After recovering a West Brunswick fumble near midfield, the Tigers drove 55 yards in eight plays for the score.

Wallace plunged in from the 1-yard line on a key fourth-down play. Edens' extra point gave James Kenan a 21-19 lead with 3:53 left in the third quarter.

But the fourth quarter belonged to the Trojans, as the offense ground out 133 yards and the defense picked off three passes.

West Brunswick took the lead for good with 9:38 to play on an eight-yard run by sophomore running back Steve Holmes.

Alderson made the biggest play of the drive when he narrowly escaped two James Kenan tacklers in the backfield and scrambled for 24 yards.

Leading 25-21, West Brunswick then engineered one of its best drives of the season. Seay later gave credit to the offensive line.

The Trojans ran on 12 consecutive plays and marched 62 yards for the game's final score.

Lance, who had set up the drive with his interception, ran eight times for 50 yards in the drive.

The scoring march consumed six minutes and left James Kenan trailing by 11 points with just over a minute to play in the game.

Pacing the James Kenan attack were Wallace, who rushed for 83 yards, and Whitehead, who completed 8 of 22 passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns.

THE YARDSTICK		
West Brunswick	James Kenan	
14	First Downs	17
39-209	Rushes-Yards	35-117
45	Passing Yardage	120
2-9	Pass (Att-Comp)	8-23
2	Interceptions Thrown	4
3-25	Punts (No-Avg)	3-28
4-2	Fumbles-Lost	3-2
11-90	Penalties-Yards	4-28

Score By Quarters	
West Brunswick	7 12 0 13-32
James Kenan	7 7 7 0-21

Scoring Summary

(JK) Byrd, 5-yard pass from Whitehead (Edens kick)
 (WB) Grissett, 75-yard kickoff return (Alderson kick)
 (WB) Lance, 1-yard run (kick failed)
 (JK) Byrd, 23-yard pass from Whitehead (Edens kick)
 (WB) Butler, 65-yard return of fumble recovery (kick failed)
 (JK) Wallace, 1-yard run (Edens kick)
 (WB) Holmes, 8-yard run (2-point conversion failed)
 (WB) Lance, 3-yard run (Alderson kick)

Individual Rushing

West Brunswick: Lance, 25-139; Alderson, 3-30; Holmes, 3-25; Butler, 8-15.
 James Kenan: Wallace, 16-83; Wilson, 8-25; Edens, 2-5; Byrd, 1-5; Hodges, 1-5; Miller, 1-minus 1; Whitehead, 6-minus 5.

Individual Passing

West Brunswick: Alderson, 2-8-45; Lance, 0-1-0.
 James Kenan: Whitehead, 8-22-120-2; Wallace, 0-1-0.

Individual Receiving

West Brunswick: Grissett, 2-45.
 James Kenan: Miller, 3-35; Wallace, 2-23; Byrd, 2-28; Wilson, 1-24.



WEST BRUNSWICK'S Jimmy Grissett (83) returns one of his two interceptions in last Friday's game at James Kenan. Grissett also returned a kickoff 75 yards for a touchdown. Also pictured are Trojan Brian Alderson (9) and Tiger Rodney Caldwell.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER



ALDWIN LANCE (32) rushed for 139 yards and scored two touchdowns for West Brunswick in its 32-21 win last week at James Kenan. He also posted an interception on defense.

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