

West Trojans Edge Scorpions In Barn Burner



WEST BRUNSWICK'S SHAUN BOWENS (12), the hero in Friday night's game in Leland, grabs a rebound and looks to drive past North Brunswick's Demetrius Bell (24). Pictured in the background (from left) are Lonnie Mitchell, Greg Gause, Ronnie Ballard and Barry Baldwin.

BY DOUG RUTTER

Shaun Bowens hit a free throw with no time on the clock to propel West Brunswick to a wild 59-58 basketball victory at North Brunswick last Friday.

The win snapped a six-game losing streak for West Brunswick and was the second time this year the Trojans defeated the Scorpions in the final seconds of a match.

"It was a real good win for us," said a jubilant West Brunswick Coach Billy Mims. "They all are this year."

Bowens' free throw capped a wacky final minute of play in the Waccamaw 2-A Conference battle.

Game officials called three fouls in the final six seconds and set aside two free throws because of rare rules violations.

With the score tied 57-57 and one minute to play, the Scorpions had the ball and were holding for the final shot.

But North lost possession of the ball as it was setting up the shot and West Brunswick's Bowens was fouled with six seconds to play.

Bowens hit the first free throw, but it was waived because he stepped on the foul line. He made the second shot to give the Trojans a 58-57 lead.

Following a time out, the Scorpions heaved an inbound pass to Dwain Waddell at mid-court, who was fouled with four seconds to play.

The North Brunswick guard hit the first free throw to tie the game at 58. But his second shot was wiped out when a Scorpion player left his spot by the lane after the ball had been handed to the shooter.

With the game tied and four ticks left on the clock, West Brunswick's Bowens took the inbound pass and raced the length of the court.

He was fouled just before the buzzer sounded and stepped to the line for a one-and-one opportunity with no time on the clock.

With the Scorpion fans screaming and his teammates standing at mid-court, Bowens swished the free throw to ignite a wild celebration of Trojan players, fans and cheerleaders.

West Brunswick had battled back from a 13-point deficit in the first quarter to pull off its most dramatic win of the season.

The Scorpions used a 14-0 run late in the opening period to build a 21-8 lead. North was leading 29-14

mid-way through the second quarter when West Brunswick started to turn things around.

The Trojans outscored the Scorpions 14-6 the rest of the quarter and trimmed the North Brunswick lead to 35-28 when Lonnie Mitchell hit a three-point shot as the halftime buzzer sounded.

West Brunswick dominated in the third quarter, outscoring the Scorpions 17-5 as North Brunswick's shooters went ice cold.

The Trojans took a 45-40 lead into the final period and were leading until North's Barry Baldwin hit two free throws with 1:36 to play to make the score 55-55.

West Brunswick's Jimmy Grissett put the Trojans back on top with 1:23 remaining, before Waddell made both ends of a one-and-one with 1:16 left to tie the score at 57.

Despite the Trojans' 3-9 conference mark and overall record of 4-16, Coach Mims praised his team following Friday night's win.

"For a team that has lost 16 ball games our enthusiasm has been good," he said. "Our guys have really hung in there and continued to work in practice."

For North Brunswick, the game was yet another close one that the Scorpions failed to win. They have lost four ball games this year in the final minute, including two to the Trojans.

On Jan. 24, Jerome Marlowe hit two free throws with 18 seconds left to lift West Brunswick to a 53-51

win over the Scorpions.

West Brunswick was to host East Bladen Tuesday night before wrapping up the regular season at South Brunswick Friday.

Score By Quarters
West Brunswick 11 17 14—59
North Brunswick 21 14 5 18—58

West Brunswick scoring: Bowens, 19; Mitchell, 18; Grissett, 12; Marlowe, 3; Reaves, 3; Moody, 2; Gause, 2.

North Brunswick scoring: Waddell, 24; R. Ballard, 15; Baldwin, 10; M. Ballard, 9.

West Columbus
Magellan Powell scored 15 points to lead West Columbus to a 67-41 win over the Trojans last Tuesday night in Shallotte.

The Vikings took a 15-7 lead in the first quarter, and led 30-23 at halftime.

West Columbus pulled away in the second half, outscoring the Trojans 18-9 in the third and fourth quarters.

Grissett scored a season-high 26 points to lead West Brunswick. He was the only Trojan to score in double figures.

Score By Quarters
West Columbus 15 15 18 19—67
West Brunswick 7 16 9 9—41

West Columbus scoring: Powell, 15; Sanderson, 10; Dawson, 9; Betts, 8; Roberts, 7; Jones, 6; Frank, 5; Freeman, 4; Green, 3.

West Brunswick scoring: Grissett, 26; C. Reaves, 6; Marlowe, 4; Bowens, 3; Mitchell, 2.

South Girls Clinch Tie For First League Title

South Brunswick's Lady Cougars made history last week, clinching at least a tie for the school's first Waccamaw 2-A Conference girls' basketball title.

The Lady Cougars defeated Fairmont and South Robeson to improve to 12-0 in the conference and 16-3 overall.

The South girls, who just a year ago posted the first winning season in school history, entered the final week of the 1992 campaign with a perfect league record in reach.

But the Lady Cougars will have to beat two of the conference's best teams this week in order to finish the regular season at 14-0.

South Brunswick was to travel to Whiteville Tuesday night before wrapping up the season Friday with a home game against West Brunswick.

"We definitely have our two toughest games this week," South Brunswick Coach Mike Isenberg said. "We know we're going to have to play real well to win one or both of those games."

Whiteville and West Brunswick both entered the week tied for second place in the conference at 10-2. Earlier this year, South Brunswick beat Whiteville

48-43 in overtime at Boiling Spring Lakes.

The Lady Cougars had an easier time against West Brunswick, beating the Lady Trojans 57-43 in Shallotte.

"We're not preparing for them any differently than we did the first time," Isenberg said Monday.

In last week's games, South Brunswick squeaked past Fairmont 37-32 Friday night after beating South Robeson 62-47 on Tuesday.

Sophomore Erika Bryant paced the Lady Cougars in both games, scoring 18 at Fairmont and 21 against South Robeson's Lady Mustangs.

South Brunswick's girls struggled against the weaker Fairmont team, which is sixth in the conference. After beating the Fairmont girls by 31 points earlier this year, Isenberg said the Lady Cougars had a bad shooting night on Friday.

The 37 points was the lowest offensive output of the year for South Brunswick's girls, who have averaged 59 points a game this season.

"We were jittery on offense," Isenberg said. "We couldn't hit anything, and they did a good job rebounding."

FAIRMONT WINS WACCAMAW CROWN

Golden Tornadoes Sweep Cougars

BY DOUG RUTTER

Fairmont completed a season sweep of South Brunswick and wrapped up the Waccamaw 2-A Conference regular-season boys' basketball title Friday night with a 85-49 victory over the Cougars.

Terrence Watson and Jonathan Grissett scored 19 points each to lead the undefeated Golden Tornadoes to their 19th win of the season and 12th in the conference.

For South Brunswick, it was the worst of the four losses the defending conference champion Cougars have suffered this season.

The 49 points was South's lowest offensive output so far this year, and the 36-point difference was by far the largest margin of victory for a South Brunswick opponent.

Fairmont entered the last week of the regular season with a chance to do what South Brunswick did a year ago.

The Cougars (9-3, 17-4) finished the 1991 conference regular season at 14-0 and went on to win the league tournament.

Fairmont, ranked as the best 2-A team in the state by *The Associated Press*, took a 20-12 lead in the opening quarter last Friday.

The Tornadoes outscored the visiting Cougars 20-7 in the second quarter to take a 40-19 halftime lead.

Fairmont led 59-26 after three quarters and outscored South Brunswick 26-23 in the final period for the final margin of victory.

Preston McGriff led South Brunswick with 27 points, but no other Cougars scored in double figures.

Robert McKinnis added 15 points and Demorris Winningham scored 13 for Fairmont.

South Brunswick was to play at Whiteville Tuesday night before finishing the regular season at home Friday against West Brunswick.

Fairmont, looking to finish the regular season at 14-0, was to host West Columbus Tuesday night and travel to North Brunswick on Friday.

Score By Quarters

South Brunswick 12 7 7 23—49
Fairmont 20 20 19 26—85

South Brunswick scoring: McGriff, 27; White, 7; Moore, 6; Smith, 4; Simon, 3; Parker, 2.

Fairmont scoring: Watson, 19; Grissett, 19; McKinnis, 15; Winningham, 13; Hunt, 5; Addison, 3; McNair, 2; Taylor, 2; Chavis, 2; Bobbian, 2; Arnette, 2; Townshend, 1.

South Robeson

Josh White and Kevin Smith

scored 14 points each to lead the Cougars to a 60-42 win over visiting South Robeson last Tuesday.

McGriff added 12 points for South Brunswick, which lead 16-11 after one quarter and 35-22 at half-time.

The Cougars coasted in the second half, outscoring the over-matched Mustangs 25-20 for the win.

Dennis Hunt scored 13 points for South Robeson and Tracy Jacobs added 12 for the Mustangs.

Score By Quarters

South Robeson 11 11 7 13—42
South Brunswick 16 19 10 15—60

South Robeson scoring: Hunt, 13; Jacobs, 12; Nealy, 7; Rately, 6; Alford, 2; Graham, 2.

South Brunswick scoring: White, 14; K. Smith, 14; McGriff, 12; Moore, 6; M. Smith, 6; Clarida, 4; Fullwood, 2; Simon, 2.

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