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Valdosta High School Scrapbook 27, December 1978 – May 1979

Valdosta High School

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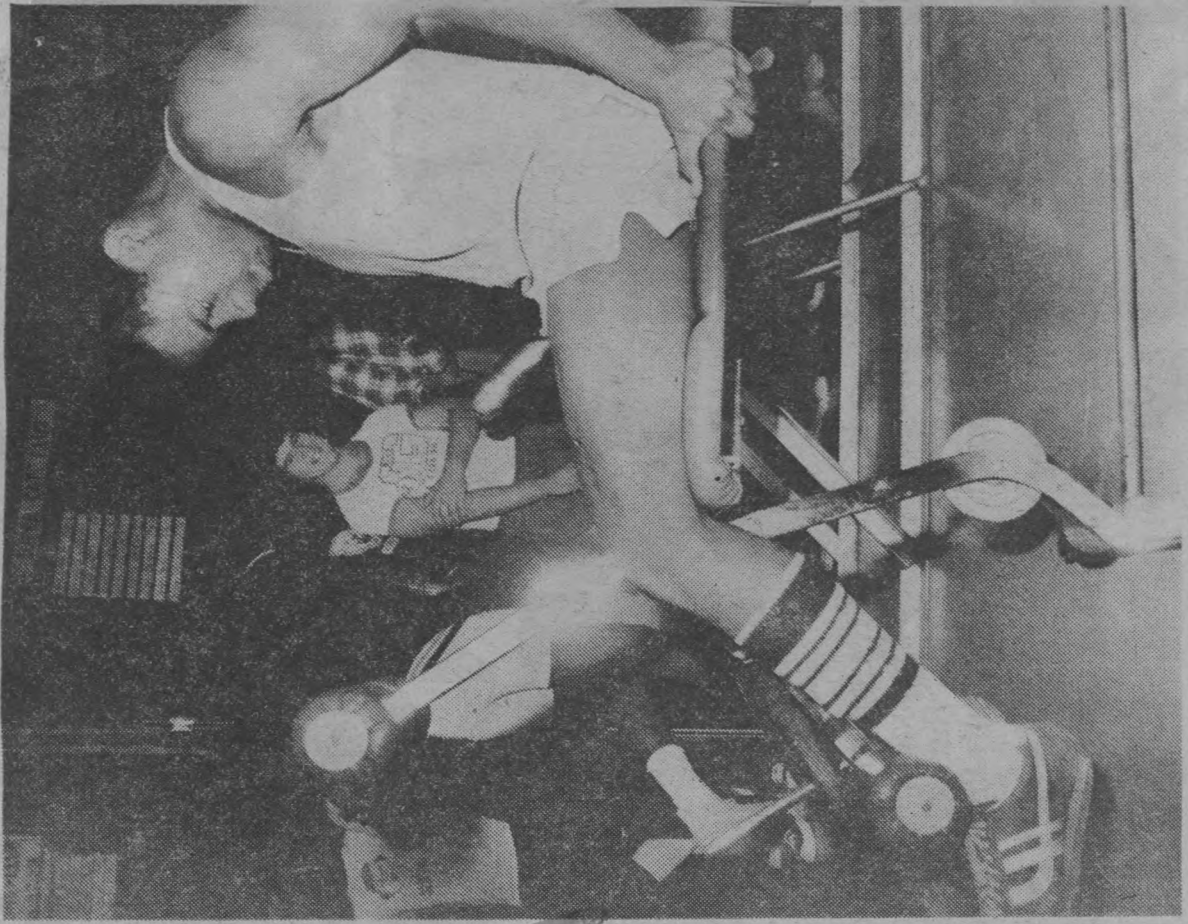
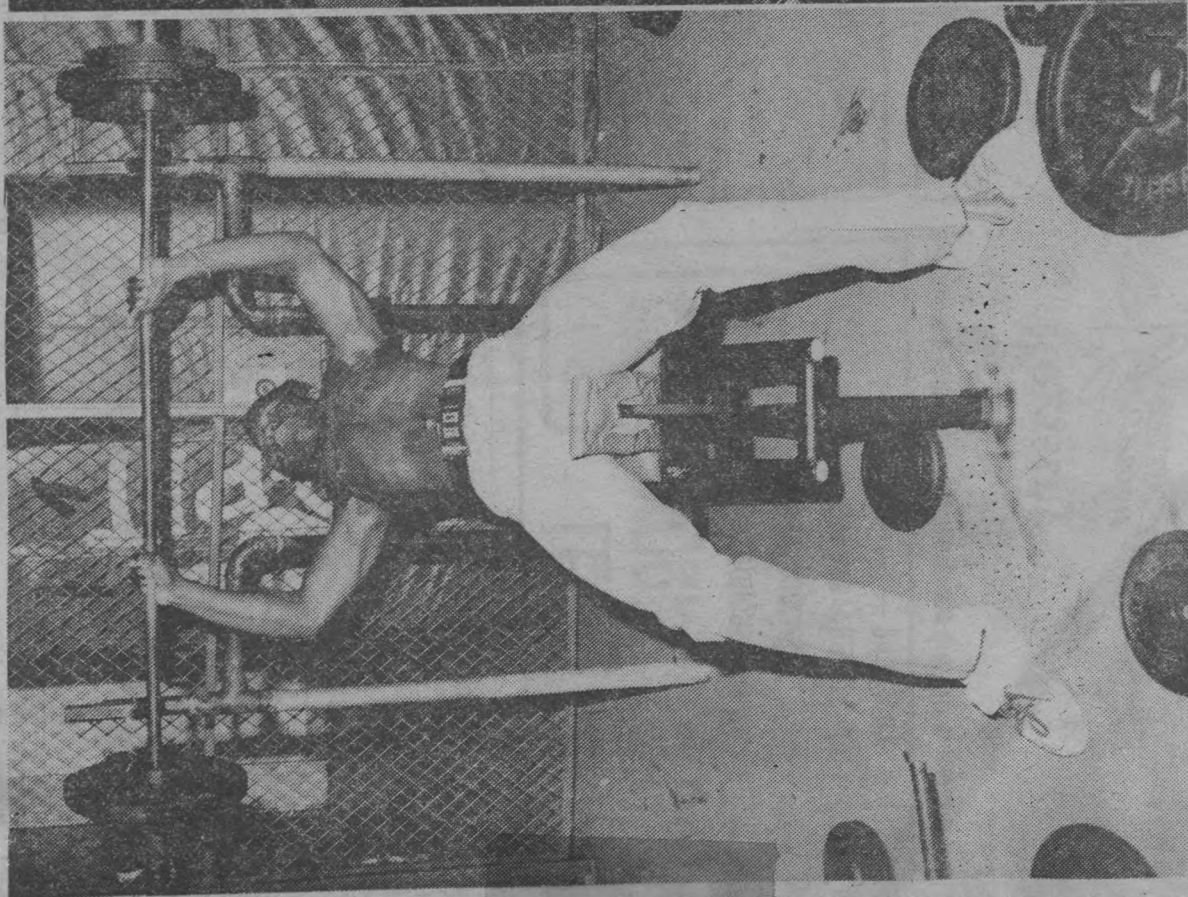
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Pushing Hard At Valdosta High; Wildcat Coach Nick Hyder Says Players Work Harder Now Than The Rest Of The Year

VHS Math Student Is Ninth In U.S.

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta High School has moved to third place in the Southern Region in the Atlantic-Pacific High School Math League, a contest pitting 300 schools from across the nation in a battle of wits.

VHS math teacher Mike Rogers, who sponsors the competition here, said his team trailed Grissom (Ala.) and Lakeside (Atlanta) in the Southern Region, which includes states from North Carolina to Louisiana.

Richard Clayton of VHS had a cumulative score which was listed ninth among the 8,000 students from across the U.S. participating in the program in the latest standings, Rogers said.

Four of the six 30-minute tests, given locally, have been completed, Rogers said, with the two others slated to be held in February and April.

Clayton turned in a perfect score in the latest test on Wednesday, Rogers said, and may move up higher in the standings when those results are added in with previous statistics.

Sixty-four VHS students are competing in the program. Only the top ten scores from each test are used in competition, Rogers said.

Teachers submit names of students for inclusion in the program, Rogers said, and invitations are extended to those who are deemed qualified to participate.

The tests, "awfully hard," according to Rogers, consist



RICHARD CLAYTON
May Move Higher

of six questions.

Trophies and plaques are to be given to schools which place high in the final standings.

VHS Principal Lloyd Mims said "the whole math department here has done a whale of a job. They've been winning right and left, not only in this competition but in others."

Rogers said VHS students are to participate in the near future in math tournaments at Georgia State University at Atlanta, Georgia Southwestern College at Americus, Samford at Birmingham, Ala., and in a local event scheduled for this spring.

Wildcats Roll On

Continued from Page 1B

playoff.

The Wildcats, with three playoff games under their belts already, will be without senior quarterback John Lastinger, who separated a shoulder in the first period and is out for the rest of the year.

"I don't like a four-team region playoff," said Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder. "We won 13 games this year and that used to be enough to win the state championship. We've got to go the rest of the way without our quarterback and that's going to hurt."

Troy Thomas' punt return of 72 yards for a touchdown took some of the pain off losing Lastinger, giving the Wildcats a 14-0 lead.

Many coaches would have tried to sit on the 14-point lead with a reserve quarterback in the game, but not Hyder. The Wildcats came out on their next possession and, showing respect for Westside's comeback ability, began throwing halfback passes.

"We're going to attack the defense," said Hyder. "I didn't think 14 points would be enough to win the ball game since Westside has been coming from behind all year."

Halfback Irvin Roe threw the first two Valdosta passes of the game and completed them both for a composite 95 yards.

His first advanced the Wildcats from their own 20 to the Westside 32, but the second was the back-breaker.

A clipping penalty way behind the line of scrimmage set Valdosta all the way back to the Wildcat 45, leaving them to face a third-and-33 situation. Roe took a lateral and then tossed a strike to Frederick Blair for a first down at the Westside 8 to set up the third Valdosta touchdown.

"That was a big play," said Casse-

dy. "They had third and 50 and we were still hitting a lick. I thought if we could stop them and score, we'd be right back in the ball game. Instead, they get the first down and, two plays later, score themselves.

"But, when you get beat 52-0, you can't say any one thing beat you."

Westside got strong gains out of both tailbacks as Larry Elam and Craig Best each gained over 100 yards all-purpose running.

Elam accounted for 117 yards as he ran 18 times for 73, caught one pass for 15 and returned a kickoff for 29. Best accounted for 139 yards as he gained 41 on 12 carries, caught three passes for 34 and returned three kickoffs for 65.

Kickoff returns were the Patriots' best offensive weapon as Westside returned nine kickoffs for 181 yards, with both Best and Neil Swann each one man away from breaking a quick six points, but both times the Wildcat defender made the stop.

It finished the Patriot season on a sour note, a season in which Westside won a second consecutive region title and completed an undefeated regular season.

"It was one of those nights," said Casseady. "They couldn't do anything wrong. I don't know if they could beat us 52 points again, but tonight we never did stop them.

"It's been a good year," he said. "We won the region and that was our main goal. At the start of the season, we thought we'd be lucky to win five games."

VHS Basketball Begins Tuesday

By MIKE CHASON

It's season number 13 in the coaching career of Larry Cowart. But the 34-year-old Valdosta High School basketball coach isn't counting on this season being any more unlucky than the rest.

In fact, he's chomping at the bit in anticipation of Tuesday night's opener here against Tift County.

"We're ready," Cowart said Thursday afternoon. "We're as ready as we can be."

Tuesday's games and possibly several more of the VHS contests are to be played at the Valdosta Junior High School gymnasium. The gym floor at the high school is not in the best of conditions.

"We'll play all our games at the junior high right now," Cowart said. "Our floor has a couple of bad spots on it."

Cowart takes over the coaching duties of both VHS teams this year after serving for the past three years as the Irwin County (Ocilla) girls' coach. Cowart also coached the Irwin boys' team last season. Two years ago, his Irwin girls captured a state championship.

But Cowart's not talking about the past.

"I don't want to even say anything about that," he said. "People always remember your losses more anyway. What happened then doesn't make any difference."

Last year Norman Sainz coached the VHS boys and Jerry Baker coached the girls. Sainz is now the ninth grade football coach, and Baker is devoting full time to his position as one of the top offensive assistants on the VHS varsity football team.

The Kittens finished 6-14 last year, and the Wildcats wound up with a 9-13 mark.

"I don't even know who started last year," Cowart said of the Kittens. "I didn't even ask. All I'm going to do is put the best five players I've got on the floor."

For Tuesday night's 7 p.m. game, Cowart expects those starters to be 5-8 senior Maggie Powell, 5-8 senior Vera Crawford, 5-5 senior Janice Evans, 5-9 senior Renee Whitehead and 5-8 sophomore Cindy Cooper.

"We don't have any height at all," Cowart said. "We don't have the real outstanding scorer. I know last year they had the (Lisa) Feix



LARRY COWART
VHS Hoop Coach

girl who averaged about 20 a game. We don't have anybody like that.

"But if we can run, we're going to run. If we can't, we'll slow it down and take our time. I don't care if it's 21-20 or if it's 70-68 but I'm for running if we can do it.

"The type of team you have dictates the kind of play you have. I know these girls have given me as good an effort as I could ask for."

Valdosta competes in the south subregion of 1-AAAA along with Lowndes, Central of Thomasville, Thomasville, Bainbridge and Colquitt County (Moultrie).

Lowndes has won six straight subregion titles and two straight state titles. But Cowart says he hasn't put a whole lot of thought into playing the Vikettes.

"I really haven't," he said. "We're just going out there and play Lowndes. We'll try to beat them. I'm sure Charles (Cooper, Lowndes coach) will be very competitive again.

"Bainbridge has a good ballclub, and Moultrie should be good since they've consolidated with Doerun and Norman Park.

"I think we're better than we were. The girls have worked extremely hard and have a real good attitude."

Cowart's boys' team may be missing five of its members Tuesday night if Valdosta defeats Thomasville for the Region 1-AAAA football championship tonight.

John Lastinger (6-1, sr.), Tim Dame (5-9, sr.), John Bond (6-2, jr.), Nathaniel

Caesar (6-2, jr.) and Dante Jones (6-3, soph.) are all members of the VHS football team.

Cowart said even if Thomasville ended Valdosta's season, he doubted any of the football players would be ready to be inserted into the starting lineup Tuesday.

"I'm going to go with what I've got right now," he said. "Then we'll have to re-evaluate and go again. I don't ever really think it (the absence of the football players) has been discussed."

"We're going to think we can beat Tifton with or without them. We might be wrong but we think we're going to win."

Cowart said 5-8 senior Spencer Feix, 5-11 senior Greg Powell and 6-3 Junior David New were probable starters, and 6-1 senior Bernard Gamble, 6-3 senior Mark Gish, 5-7 junior Gregg Daniels and 5-7 junior George Stewart were up for the other two positions.

"We're mighty short on height," Cowart said. "In the rebounding department, we're really going to be in trouble on the boards."

Cowart pointed to New and Powell as the team's top offensive threats from outside.

"Inside, we're going to have to depend on blocking out and getting position," he said. "I just hope Tift County is not real big."

"They play Moultrie Friday (today), so they'll have a game jump on us."

Bainbridge has been the team to beat in the subregion for the past few years, and the 'Cats should get tested early with a game here on Dec. 8 against the Bearcats.

Valdosta also meets cross-county rival Lowndes, which finished second in last year's subregion tournament, at the LHS gym Dec. 5.

Cowart said when the football players did work out with the squad, they would have to win starting spots.

"I think that should make the competition a little better," he said.

The complete rosters and schedule of both Valdosta teams follow:

GIRLS

Maggie Powell (5-8, sr.), Vera Crawford (5-8, sr.), Janice Evans (5-5, sr.), Renee Whitehead (5-9, sr.), Debbie Nair (5-3, jr.), Renee Skelton (5-2, jr.), Dana Swindle (5-7, jr.), Cindy Cooper (5-8, soph.), Beverly Wilson (5-8, soph.), Tracy Irvin (5-7, soph.), Melanie Nelson (5-5, soph.).

BOYS

Greg Powell (5-11, sr.), Andy Wildes (5-10, sr.), Richard Clayton (6-0, sr.), Bernard Gamble (6-1, sr.), Mark Gish (6-3, sr.), Spencer Feix (5-8, sr.), John Lastinger (6-1, sr.), Tim Dame (5-9, sr.), Gregg Daniels (6-3, jr.), George Stewart (5-7, jr.), David New (6-3, jr.), Duane Richardson (6-0, jr.), John Bond (6-2, jr.), Nathaniel Caesar (6-2, jr.), Tony Daniels (5-10, jr.), Dante Jones (6-3, soph.), David Allen (6-1, soph.), Gary Cochran (5-8, soph.).

SCHEDULE

Nov. 21, Tift County (Tifton), home; Nov. 28, Colquitt County (Moultrie), away; Dec. 1, Monroe (Albany), home; Dec. 5, Lowndes, away; Dec. 8, Bainbridge, home; Dec. 12, Thomasville, home; Dec. 15, Central of Thomasville, home; Dec. 18, Waycross, away; Dec. 20-22, Tift County Christmas Tournament, away.

Jan. 2, Coffee County (Douglas), home; Jan. 5, Bainbridge, away; Jan. 9, Lowndes, home; Jan. 12, Crisp County (Cordell), away; Jan. 13, Waycross, home; Jan. 16, Colquitt, home; Jan. 23, Thomasville, away; Jan. 26, Albany, away; Feb. 2, Dougherty (Albany), home; Feb. 3, Coffee, away; Feb. 6, Central, away; Feb. 9, Westover (Albany), away.



BUSINESS COMMUNITY

In the afternoon, the D.E. student works in a job related to his or her career objective at a training station in the business community. At this training lab the student receives additional instruction and supervision in work related to the curriculum being taught in the classroom at that time. DE students have 23 career areas to choose from when they enter the D.E. program. Jobs range from automotive-petroleum to fashion merchandising. Here we see Greg Moore, a second year student, receiving a few tips on display from his supervisor Tom Barr, manager of Winn-Dixie at Five Points.



DECA CONTEST:

The beauty of the DECA program is its direct relation to the classroom curriculum in the form of competitive activities for the students on the state and national level. Contests are conducted for each of the career areas available in D.E. For example: a student working at a service station would compete in the Automotive and Petroleum events, a student working in a lady's fashion shop would compete in Food marketing and a student working in a grocery store would compete in Apparel and Accessories events. Competition involves: math, sales, display, advertising, human relations, communication, product and service technology, marketing, management and operations. One contest for each of the curriculum areas taught in the classroom.

Above we have Salena DuBose receiving points on display techniques from Reggie Metts, display manager for Sears Roebuck and Company, on how to prepare a display for competition.

DE: Planning And Preparation For Future Career

Special To The Times
The key to the Distributive Education program, like all vocational programs, is the planning and preparation for a future career.

D.E. students have a real opportunity to begin occupational preparation in a wide variety of marketing-related careers. Each individual can select a special career interest and begin the meaningful, step-by-step process of entering that occupation.

All over the United States, distributive education students are planning their futures in hundreds of different careers. These plans range from entry-level positions in retailing to a complex high-paying jobs in professional sales, advertising, research, and so forth.

Only in the D.E. program can a student begin actual career-preparation in fields as diverse as hotel-motel operation, warehousing and transportation, retail buying and selling, real estate, insurance, industrial

marketing, banking and finance, and restaurant management, direct sales, and many more.

Thousands of Distributive Education students are currently employed in entry-level positions related to the above fields. Through classroom studies, laboratory (in-school) training, DECA activities and projects, and cooperative on-the-job training, students are taking major steps toward meaningful futures in marketing.

The Distributive Education program provides career preparation in one of the largest and fastest-growing areas of our modern business community — marketing and distribution.

In D.E., students can study many diverse marketing topics. These include advertising, salesmanship, merchandising, communication, economics, and many others. Also, individual class members can study specific job-related skills and knowledge important to success in business.

Studies in the Distributive Education classroom help students achieve two goals. First, they can obtain a good general background in those areas important to all marketing businesses. At the same time, students can specialize.

They can study special topics that are especially important for a career in their favorite marketing-related business. By doing this, individuals can prepare themselves for real success in business.

Perhaps the most important part of Distributive Education is the real-life experience obtained by students enrolled in the program. Business leaders and educators recognize experience as the most effective method of training.

Experience is real, it's meaningful, and it's relevant. Experience provides the only real test of a student's abilities and interests in a chosen occupation.

Through the Distributive Education program, each individual has an opportunity

to gain practical work experience either through cooperative on-the-job training or through carefully designed in-school laboratory projects simulating the job environment.

Students actually work with business leaders in the field and with the equipment, merchandise, and materials used in the industry. As a result, they develop competency far exceeding most high school graduates.

Each distributive education graduate has received co-op or laboratory work experience over a nine-month period. Many receive much additional training. As a result, D.E. graduates' career goals are more highly developed than most. More importantly, D.E. graduates have a full year of practical work experience in the selected field.

An important part of the total distributive education program is DECA, the local club activity. DECA stands for the Distributive Education Clubs of America.

Students participating in

DECA-related activities have many opportunities to expand their educational horizons. Placing emphasis on participation and "hands-on" experiences, students go beyond the classroom to projects and activities designed to enhance vocational understanding, civic consciousness, social intelligence, and development of leadership skills.

Because of the very nature of DECA, it is difficult to summarize the many different projects and activities sponsored by local chapters throughout the United States. In addition to the nationwide competitive activity program, one finds DECA members participating in leadership conferences, civic projects, consumer research, sales projects, operation of school and community stores, and much more.

DECA members often spend considerable time meeting with local business leaders individually, as well as in visiting professional and civic organizations throughout the community.

One of the most popular DECA projects is an employer appreciation and recognition banquet hosted by many local chapters in the spring of the year.

Along with the many local DECA projects discussed earlier, most chapters are actively involved in a competitive activity program sponsored by local, state, and National DECA Associations. Students have an outstanding opportunity to prove their abilities in the marketing field.

The planning, preparation, and actual competition with over 18,000 DECA members throughout the entire United States is an experience that few will ever forget.

DECA's competitive activity program provides active competition in many different areas of marketing. Members have the opportunity to meet and compete with students having similar career goals in the marketing field.

A student planning a career in the field of fashion merchandising or restaurant

management (or one of many others) compares important knowledge, skills, and attitudes with students planning similar futures in marketing.

The DECA competitive activity program begins with hundreds of local contests. Local winners move to state competition and the program culminates each year at the annual National DECA Career Development Conference.

Distributive Education's top students in the field of marketing are recognized at this time for their outstanding accomplishments during the school year.

Individual growth is important to almost everyone. Many times personal growth is the result of a variety of experiences which an individual receives over a lifetime. Distributive Education provides tremendous opportunities for personal growth and development through experience on-the-job, in local activities, in DECA competition, and at leadership

conferences. Distributive Education is an approach to education that demands a mature, well-developed graduate.

During the course of a school year, the D.E. student has the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities — each of which add to the depth and dimension of his or her personality. Assuming more and more responsibility at work results in the need for more and more maturity in the individual. Planning, preparation, and implementation of a major DECA function requires the development of a sense of responsibility not often found in high school students.

Continual contacts with leaders in the business world provide a positive model for young people to emulate. And, finally, the sheer excitement of being involved in a program as dynamic as D.E., fosters the positive attitude and interest required for meaningful personal growth in each of us.

One Of School's Busiest

'Dosta DECA Is Active



NORMAN GREENE
DE Coordinator

Special To The Times
The Valdosta Chapter of DECA is one of the busiest chapters in the state and one of the most active clubs at VHS.

The club's calendar usually includes schoolwide activities, DECA Program Development projects and civic affairs.

To support the Wildcats and the student body of VHS, DECA paints spirit signs, prints bumper stickers, sells Homecoming Mums, participates in the Homecoming

parade, and puts up bulletin boards around the school.

Two major activities keep the club busy: The VHS Program Development Project and the ANDY Project (Action Now DECA Youth).

The Program Development Project is highlighted by a newspaper spread in The Valdosta Daily Times, signs around the city, and commercials informing the Public of National DECA Week.

For the ANDY project, the

club presents an informative fair display and billboards in heavy traffic areas around the county.

The DE program has always been concerned with civic consciousness. In recognizing the needs of others, the club takes Christmas presents to needy families and prepares Thanksgiving baskets.

The club helps the Girls Club of Valdosta with parties for Valentine's Day and Easter.

As a national organization,

the club is also busy with meetings of district, state, and national levels. So far this year the club has sent four officers to officer training conferences in Macon and two to the Southern Regional Conference in New Orleans, La.

Each year the club strives to live up to DECA's high standards, become involved in more projects, succeed in areas of competition, and attend the national conferences in Washington, D.C.

Johnson's Success Does Not Surprise

Special To The Times
Success in the business world is a major goal of involved DECA students and a prime example of this is John E. Johnson.

Johnson is owner of John E. Johnson Service Contractor, the Lakeland Highway which specializes in insulation, home improvements, and roofing. Johnson was a Distributive Education student at Valdosta High School during 1969 and 1970 and served as sergeant-at-arms for DECA.

While in DE, Johnson worked for his father, Norman M. Johnson, at The Orvis Co. of Valdosta.

Where he drove trucks, installed window and door units, and worked in loading and shipping. He became very active in DECA in 1970, his senior year at VHS.

Johnson said he was always interested in home improvement and building, and it was this interest that encouraged him to open his own

business in 1972. Johnson and his 12 employees are specialists in roofing, painting, siding, and room additions.

He highly recommends the Distributive Education program to all high school students who are qualified to join the organization.

The Johnsons and their two small children live on a Madison Avenue where a branch of Johnson Service Contractor Inc. is also located. Johnson believes that Distributive Education is very beneficial to students and he is glad that he chose to be a part of DECA.

Norman Greene, Johnson's former DE coordinator, said, "Johnny was an active member of DECA, and one of the very best workers as far as his job training was concerned."

"I am not surprised at Johnny's achievements. He always did have the proper ingredients to make a success of himself."



Johnson Now In Home Improvements

DE Day Is Proclaimed By Mayor

Special To The Times
Mayor, Gil Harbin proclaimed today Distributive Education Day in Valdosta. This event is being observed by the Valdosta Chapter of DECA.

"This is the day we set aside to thank our employers and other people who support our club," said Norman Greene, teacher-coordinator of the club.

Some activities being scheduled this week to promote DECA are a three-page spread in The Valdosta Daily Times, marquee proclaiming DE Day, radio spots, TV advertisements and teacher appreciation.

Greene also added that on DE day we try to tell the general public about our club.

The highlight of the day was the reading of the proclamation by Harbin and the DE luncheon which was held at the Western Sizzlin' steak house.



Club Sweetheart Libby Stephenson With DECA Emblem



Williams Poses At Business

Williams: Example Of Students' Goal

Special To The Times
Being a success in the business world is a goal of most DE students. DECA alumni Fleming Williams is a prime example of this.

Williams was a DE student in 1969-70. He was employed at Southern Stationery where he worked for two years. He was also an active student in projects and club activities.

Williams has always wanted to own his own car business. On Jan. 1, 1973, his dream became reality when Fleming Williams Used Cars opened for business at 405 1/2 W. Magnolia St.

Since then his business has been very successful and has moved its location to a better facility at 617 N. Ashley St.

Williams feels that DE

helped him to achieve his business goals because it taught him responsibility and how to manage his business and personal. DE also helped him in selling techniques.

Williams feels that DE students have an advantage over other students when it comes to getting a job because most employers feel that DE students have a better background for working in marketing and have better attitudes toward their work.

He also said that he would be happy to have a DECA member working for him.

DE is a very helpful program and for Fleming Williams it was a big influence on him and on the success of his business.

DE Students Earn While They Learn

Special To The Times
In the school year of 1977-78 the 66 students in the Valdosta High School DE program earned a total of \$95,670.

That is that each student in the program earned about \$1,386.

The students worked a combined total of 37,853 hours on the job.

On an overall average the students made \$2.53 an hour and were employed in 55 different businesses in and around Valdosta.

It is clear that the DE program pays in more than one way.

Four Points For Students Emblem Meaning Special

Special To The Times
The DECA emblem is a four point diamond with the words "Distributive Education Clubs of America" surrounding it.

The four points of the diamond symbolize vocational understanding, civic consciousness, social intelligence and leadership development.

The first point of the diamond represents vocational understanding. After participation in the DE program, a student is well prepared to take his place in the business world and capable of handling the day to day business.

The second point expresses the student's civic consciousness. This is taught to the student through both classes and chapter activity.

The student comes to recognize his obligation to the community.

He does so by studying community needs and planning projects to meet these needs.

The third point of the diamond stresses social intelligence.

Through activities and social events sponsored by the DE club, the DECA member is given the chance to develop his poise and social graces that are necessary in our growing society.

The last and one of the most important points of the diamond is leadership development.

The DE student holds many activities throughout the year which supply opportunities for the students that participate and learn to be good leaders as well as good followers.

In the center of the DECA diamond is a wrapped package. This package stands for a job well done and a well-rounded education.

This is achieved through the cooperation of the school administrations, teachers, parents and businessmen all working together to develop the student.

Some Jobs 'Family Affairs'

Special To The Times
A record number of DE students at Valdosta High School this year are working for their parents. There are 10 students receiving their work experience in marketing and distributing goods or services from their parents.

Lisa Holland likes working for her father at Bill Hilland's Oil Co. She says it is a great advantage because she feels so at ease and comfortable.

When she wants to get off, all she does is have to ask and it's so much easier.

Holland likes having his daughter work for him also. She's there at home at night when he wants her to do something.

Kelly Schroer works for her dad, Walter Schroer, at Schroer Implement. Kelly likes working for her dad because she feels like she is really accomplishing something at work and besides, her dad loves having her there.

She works hard at what she

does and she makes her dad proud of her.

Zoe Exum likes working for her dad, Carson Exum, at Exum Monument because she feels responsible about her work. Her dad can depend on her when he needs something done.

Other students who work for their dads are Beth Belue, who works for Ben Belue at Josten's; Carrie Campbell who works for Sandy Campbell at Sandy Campbell Music; Allen Renfro who works for Olane Renfro at Chemical Specialists.

Bart Bosch who works for John Bosch at Bosch Oldsmobile, Mike McLeod who works for Charles McLeod at Tri-State Glass Co.; Derek Pickup who works for his dad, Derick Pickup, at Derick Pickup Contractors; and Scott Collins who works for Grover Collins at Grover Collins and Son.

Those people certainly love their jobs because they're all in the family.



Miss Campbell With Employer-Dad

State Secretary: A Girl On The Go

Special To The Times
On the go. That phrase describes Beth Toth, Georgia DECA State Secretary, perfectly.

One week, she is off to Atlanta to meet the governor. The next week, she is in Macon for the Officers Training Conference.

A couple of weeks later, she is flying off to New Orleans for the Southern Region Conference. The only way to stop her is to tie her down.

The blue-eyed, 17-year-old senior has enthusiasm about her position that will not wait. She goes after each and every duty of the State Secretary with a vigor that is unusual in this day and age.

Even the routine duties, such as keeping accurate minutes on every meeting and being on committees, are performed with a sincere dedication.

Miss Toth, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.D. Toth, says that, "Even with all the hustle and bustle that is required of me, I would not exchange places with anyone because I feel that I have gained invaluable experience which will be of benefit to me in the future."

One might say that our Ga. DECA State Secretary is one busy young lady, but all has not yet been said.

In addition to the duties of her office and, of course, going to school, she works part-time at Fad's n' Fashions and attends First Christian Church, where she serves as Secretary of the Youth Group.

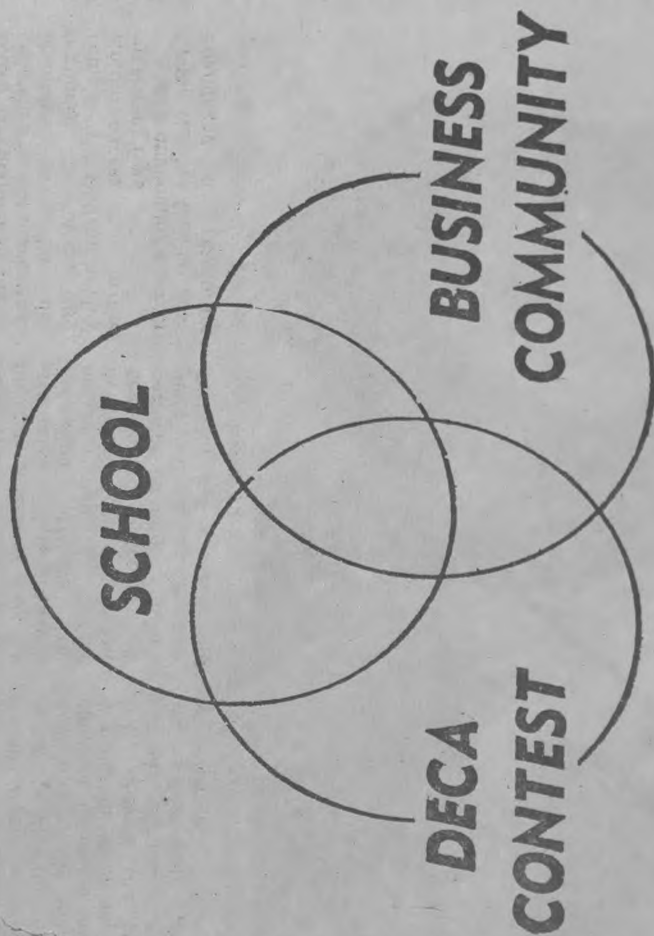
Beth Toth — a very unique person with a lot of energy. A person everyone should get to know, that is, if you can catch up with her.



Miss Toth: Lots Of Energy

School, Business Community, DECA Contest

How Distributive Education Functions



The Distributive Education program was designed with a unique method of teaching. The students in DECA actually have two instructors; one at school and one at their job training lab. The high school teacher conducts the classroom curriculum and coordinates these activities with the pupils on-the-job work. In addition to the joint efforts of these two people, the students are also able to participate in DECA sponsored contests. The contests offer the students an opportunity to put their training into action while competing for valuable awards and scholarships.

SCHOOL

In the classroom D.E. students receive instruction and supervision in the many areas of marketing and distribution. The Distributive Education curriculum consists of ten competency areas: Business Math, Human Relations, Communications, Product and Service Technology, Selling, Operations, Marketing, Management, Advertising and Display. Below we have Andy Weldon, and Sherea Wetherington, second year students, receiving instruction in display from coordinator Norman Greene.



A SALUTE TO VHS DECA STUDENTS



This marks the Thirty-first year of business firms cooperating in the Distributive Education Program of Valdosta High School. The backing and participation of these firms help make Dosta DECA one of the most outstanding programs in the nation. A special salute goes to the Businessmen of our community who are investing in the future of our youth by providing their businesses as laboratories in training these students for marketing Careers.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Fri., Dec. 15, 1978-17-

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, This school is concerned with the education and training of students for productive, satisfying careers, and

WHEREAS, Distributive Education students of this school are engaged in the essential tasks of providing goods and services to the consumers of this community, and

WHEREAS, These students, members of the DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION CLUBS OF AMERICA, have chosen to pursue careers in the fields of marketing, distribution and management.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gil Harbin, Mayor of the City of Valdosta, hereby proclaim December 15, 1978, to be D.E. DAY and encourage students and faculty members to observe this event in an appropriate manner.

Dated this 15th day of December, 1978.

GIL HARBIN
Mayor

VHS Whips Tift County In Openers

By MIKE CHASON

Larry Cowart attacked Tift County from two different directions here Tuesday night and dealt his Valdosta High School basketball teams winning hands with both strategies.

In his VHS coaching debut, Cowart ordered a game-long fullcourt press by the Kittens, and it paid off in a lopsided 71-42 victory in the girls' game.

In the boys' contest, Cowart's Wildcats sat back in a tight zone which got even tighter in the fourth period to send VHS to a 50-37 win over the visiting Blue Devils from Tifton.

Both Valdosta teams are now 1-0, and both Tift teams are 0-2.

"We just did what we had to do," Cowart said of his Wildcats, who were still involved with the VHS football team in the state playoffs.

"I didn't think we could run with Tifton. We were just trying to be deliberate. We missed a lot of good shots, and we couldn't stay on the boards with them.

"But we played a fairly good zone that last quarter. It didn't look like they were running any set thing, so we just let them take those outside shots."

The game was low-scoring not because a lot of shots were not put up but because a lot of shots didn't find the bottom of the basket, particularly on the Tift end of the floor.

Displaying a physical, bruising style of play characterized by 6-2, 230-pound Landy Ewing, the Blue Devils inched into a 20-19 halftime edge. Valdosta had led 16-6 at one point.

The 'Cats came back behind the hot hands of Greg Powell and Spencer Feix. Powell, scoring from underneath and from 12 feet away, gunned in 17 points but yielded high scoring honors to

Feix, who had 19.

Wearing an apparent lucky number of double-zero on his back, the 5-8 senior showed gnat-like quickness at both ends of the floor and often sneaked away for uncontested layups.

David New and Powell initiated those fast breaks by getting inside position on the much more beefy Tift team and looking for Feix on the outlet pass.

The Blue Devils never led in the fourth period as Powell hit some clutch buckets and free throws. David Robinson had 13 points for Tift, and Ewing added 10.

The Wildcats are already one ahead of last year's pace since the team of last season did not find the victory column until after the football players had joined the squad.

Valdosta blew out to a 17-6 first quarter edge in the girls' game and appeared to have the situation well in hand until the Angels started beating the press to slice the VHS lead to 32-26 only 30 seconds into the third period.

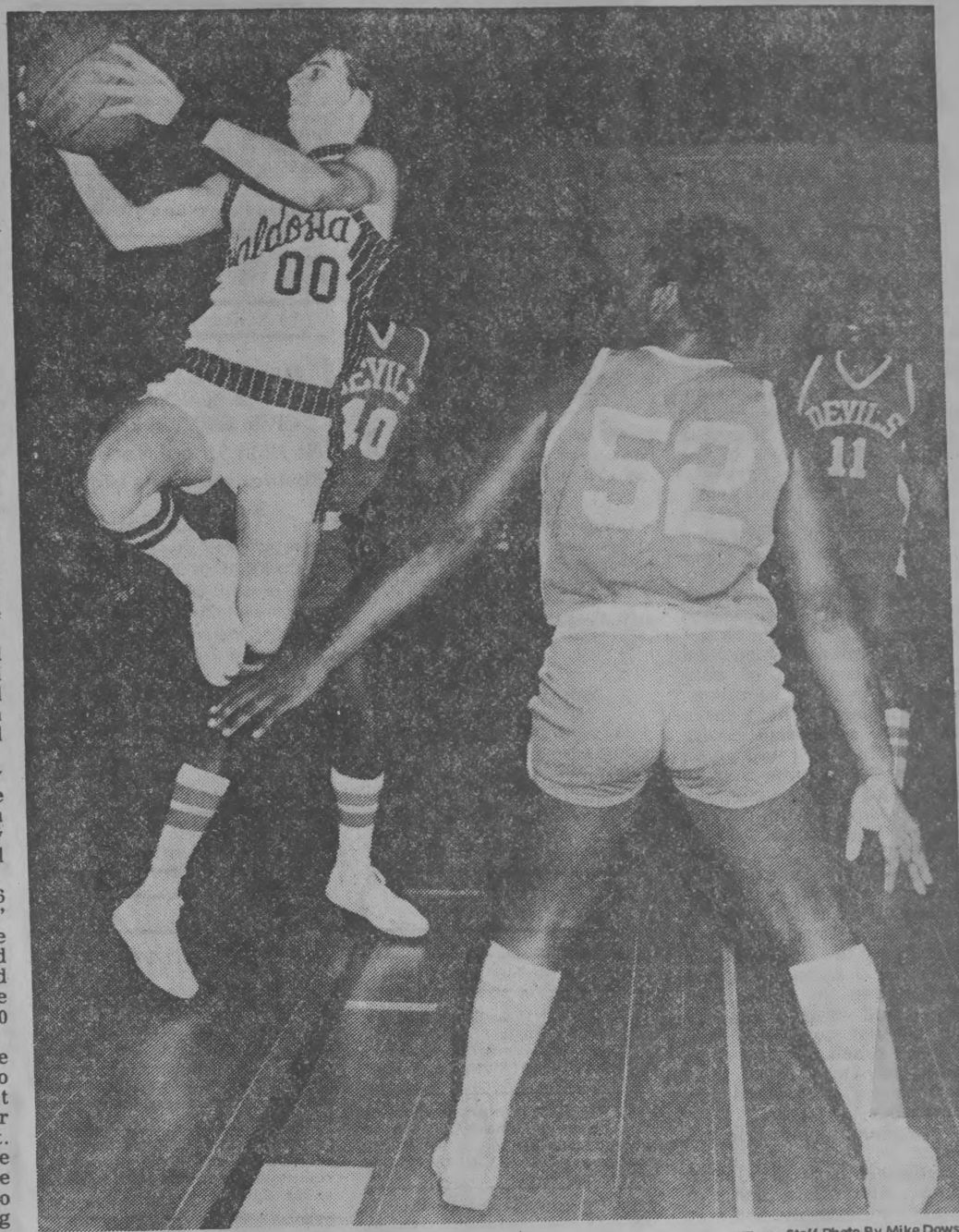
But then 5-9 senior Renee Whitehead took matters into her own hands with a 14-point third quarter and a career high total of 28 for the night. Most of her baskets came from quick flashes to the middle where she seemed to get the ball with amazing accuracy from her teammates.

"We were planning on going to her," Cowart said. "But we weren't necessarily planning on going inside to her. We were going to get the ball to her on the baseline."

"I thought Maggie Powell and Janice Evans did a good job of passing the ball."

Powell and Evans were also key figures on the VHS press, a maneuver which the Angels never did handle with ease.

"I was satisfied," Cowart said. "We hustled a lot. We



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse

Wildcats' Spencer Feix Sails Past Tift's Landy Ewing For Layup

didn't shoot the ball real well but we really don't shoot it real well."

Vera Crawford looked to be fully recovered from a knee injury which slowed her for much of last season. She dumped in 13 points.

Cynthia Turner topped Tift with 14. Janice Woods and Becky Thomas had 10 apiece.

Cowart, who seldom got up

off the bench and never even bent the crease of his shocking green coat in either game, stuck with the lineup of Whitehead, Crawford, Evans, Powell and sophomore Cindy Cooper almost all the way until the game was clearly in hand.

Valdosta travels to Moultrie Tuesday to meet Colquitt County. Both

Colquitt teams have already scored wide-margined victories over Tift.

GIRLS		17	32	52	71
Valdosta		6	24	36	42
Tift		6	24	36	42
VHS (71) — Whitehead 28, Crawford 13, Evans 9, Powell 8, Cooper 6, Irvin 2, Swindle 2, Wilson 4, Skelton.					
Team totals: field goals 29, free throws 13 of 19, fouls 13.					
TIFT (42) — Woods 10, C. Turner 14, Thomas 10, Stanley, J. Withrow 2, Mark, Brockbank, D. Withrow, Rutland, Burns 4, P. Turner 2.					
Team totals: field goals 17, free throws 8 of 12, fouls 18.					

BOYS		14	19	28	50
Valdosta		6	20	25	37
Tift		6	20	25	37
VHS (50) — New 7, Feix 19, Powell 17, Gamble, Daniels, Gish 1, Wiles 2, Stewart 4.					
Team totals: field goals 22, free throws 6 of 12, fouls 16.					
TIFT (37) — Brown 6, Baker 2, Troxell 2, Robinson 13, Callahan, Gammage 2, Ewing 10, Smith 2.					
Team totals: field goals 15, free throws 7 of 16, fouls 18.					

Valdosta To Meet Colquitt Co.

From Staff, Wire Reports

Valdosta High School's unbeaten Wildcats and Kittens travel to Moultrie Tuesday night to take on the Colquitt County basketball teams.

In opening night action last week, the VHS boys' team slipped past Tift County (Tifton) 50-37, and the girls' team rolled over the visiting Angels 71-42.

It was only the second time in the past three years that the Kittens have scored as many as 71 points. The Wildcats are still without five varsity members who are playing on the VHS football team, presently involved in the state playoffs.

Last week's debut was also the first time Larry Cowart was at the Valdosta command. The former Irwin County coach was named to the VHS post for both the girls' and boys' teams last spring.

Valdosta State College's women's team is the only area squad in action tonight. The Lady Blazers are playing LSU in Baton Rouge, La.

In other games Tuesday

night, Clinch County tips off its season in Homerville against Brantley County (Nahunta), Valwood travels to Thomasville to meet Brookwood, Brooks County (Quitman) opens its season in Adel against Cook, Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) hits the road to Pearson to meet Atkinson County and Georgia Christian hosts Chapel Hill (Macon) in Dasher.

Lowndes Tangles With Valdosta Tuesday

By MIKE HAGOOD

At first glance, Tuesday night's 1-0 AAA (South) basketball games between Valdosta High School and Lowndes High School at the Valdosta Junior High gym might appear to be runaways.

Lowndes' Vikettes match an 11-0 record with the Kittens' 3-7 mark. The Vikings are 7-3, while the Wildcats are 2-8.

In the South Georgia Prep Basketball Poll, the Vikettes are rated the top girls' team in the area and the Vikings are considered the sixth best boys' team in South Georgia. Neither Valdosta team has been considered in the rankings.

Vikings' Coach Terry Wilkes does not see a runaway in the making. He said "I think they will play us tough, no matter how many they've lost. They know who they are playing and I think they'll give a good effort against us. I

know my kids will too.

"As far as won-lost records are concerned, I wouldn't say we are a sure bet, not in their gym."

Valdosta Coach Larry Cowart knows his team has a shot at the ballgame. He said "certainly we could pull an upset. This is no crystal ball type of thing."

Cowart admits that some things will have to go the 'Cats' way for his team to come out with a win. On the keys to his club's chances, Cowart said "we need to get some breaks in the foul situation. We need to block out well and be aggressive on the boards. It is important that we play smart and get good position."

In the last meeting of the two teams on Dec. 5, the Vikings won an 89-77 decision. In that game, Lowndes center Donnie Carter netted 29 points, mostly on offensive rebounds.

Stopping Carter presents a dual problem for the 'Cats. Cowart said "if

we front him they will loft it in to him. If we play behind him, he'll take it strong to the basket. Certainly we need to front him some way."

The big gun for Valdosta in the first game this year was Greg Powell. Powell hit a game high 36 points that night.

Cowart said "he had an excellent shooting night. If they leave him open, I feel like he will hit it. I have confidence in his shooting."

Cowart expressed hope that his entire club would begin shooting like it did earlier in the year. He said "last time we shot real well. If we consistently shoot the ball like we did in the first two or three games we'll do well."

The Vikettes put a 71-game winning streak on the line Tuesday. In his usual calm manner, LHS Girls' Coach Charles Cooper said "we'll approach it just like any other ballgame. "We'll just try to use the same

philosophy we use all the time. We really don't worry about who we are playing, we just try to perfect our game."

In the year's earlier meeting the Vikettes came close to perfecting their game, tripping the Kittens by 41 points, 91-50. The Vikettes come off a 108-26 shellacking of the Westover Lady Patriots Friday, while the Kittens dropped a 61-49 decision to Bainbridge in their last game.

Cowart, realizing the task before his girls said "heightwise, there is nothing we can do."

The Vikettes must contend with 6-4 Pam Johnson and 6-2 Kim Griffin in the middle. Renee Whitehead is the Kittens' tallest player at 5-11.

But before the Kittens can think about scoring, they have to get the ball to their end of the court. In the first meeting, the Vikettes had great success pressing the Valdosta girls fullcourt.

from the beginning of the game.

Cowart said "we've got to beat the press. If we get it up the floor, we have a chance to make it interesting. That (the press) is what we have got to prepare for. We've been spending time on it."

Cowart also said his team needed to stay out of foul trouble. Three of his players were charged with four fouls early in the last meeting. He said 15 or 16 of Lowndes' first quarter points came at the foul line.

Kitten leader Maggie Powell is nursing a badly twisted ankle suffered Thursday which slows the VHS attack down, according to Cowart.

Rhonda Rowell is still expected to be out of the Lowndes lineup with the ankle sprain she incurred in the Lowndes Invitational Christmas Tournament. Losing a player of Rowell's caliber

Cowart's opinion. He said "against a lot of teams I would say so, but Charles (Cooper) has a lot of good ballplayers just sitting there saying this is my chance. He's got a lot of good folks."

In area games today, Valdosta State hosts Pfeiffer (N.C.) College, the VSC Lady Blazers visit Mississippi College and Chipola Junior College is at North Florida Junior College. The Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) girls are also on the road to Newberry, Fla.

In other Tuesday games, Hamilton's girls visit Greenville, Fla., Madison, Fla., visits Union County (Lake Butler, Fla.), Brooks County (Quitman) travels to Cairo, Westbrook (Dixie) visits Ravenwood (Meigs), Cook (Adel) hosts Clinch County (Homerville) Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) is on the road to Worth County (Sylvestor) and Fitzgerald is at Lanier County.

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D. E. Students

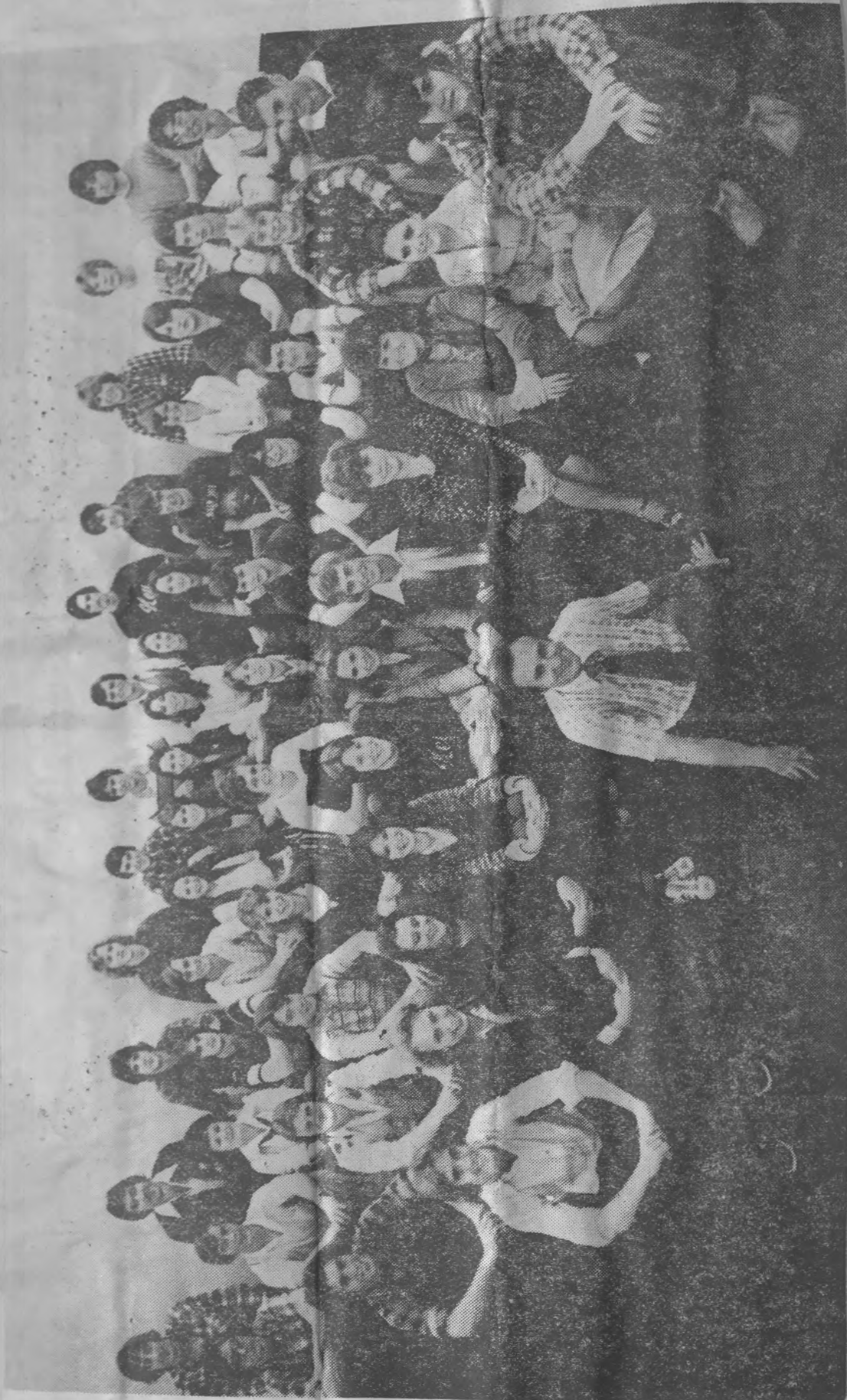
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I believe in the future which I am planning for myself in the field of distribution, and in the opportunities which my vocation offers.

I believe in fulfilling the highest measure of service to my vocation, my fellow beings, my country and my God — that by so doing, I will be rewarded with personal satisfaction and material wealth.

I believe in the democratic philosophies of private enterprise and competition, and in the freedoms of this nation — that these philosophies allow for the fullest development of my individual abilities.

I believe that by doing my best to live according to these high principles, I will be of greater service both to myself and to mankind.



Lowndes Claims Wins Over 'Cats, Kittens

By MIKE HAGOOD
Valdosta made things interesting for a while, but as expected Lowndes took home the victories.

The Lowndes Vikettes walked away with their 72nd straight win, 75-37 at the Kittens expense, and the Vikings topped the Wildcats, 72-55 in games played at Valdosta Junior High Tuesday.

Both Valdosta teams came to play, but were unable to put together four quarters of basketball against two tough basketball teams from Lowndes High.

Depending on how one looks at it, poor second quarters for Valdosta or good second quarters for Lowndes set the story of the night.

The Kittens managed six second quarter points and the 'Cats tallied eight points in the second period, while the Vikings scored 24 and the Vikettes compiled 23 points in the same period.

As it was, none of the coaches involved were particularly satisfied with their teams' performances.

Vikette Coach Charles Cooper said "it was the worst game we've played all year. We played well in spurts and a few individuals played like they were capable of, but overall it was our worst game."

"Our floor game was not what it should have been. I guess I shouldn't complain when we win by 30, but I know what we are capable of."

Valdosta Coach Larry Cowart, on the Wildcats' effort said "I'm not happy about losing. We hit a spurt there where it was 16-0 their favor in the second quarter. That spurt killed us."

"You've got to play 32 minutes, I guess we played about 24."

Terry Wilkes, head coach of the Vikings, said "we played all right I guess. We still don't put it away offensively. We played good enough to win."

The girls' game started out as a very close affair.

Lowndes was unable to convert on many of its field goal opportunities, which kept it from setting up in its full court press.

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of missed Lowndes shots, moving the ball up the court quickly.

Renee Whitehead scored six first quarter points, four points when the Kittens were able to beat the Lowndes press. The Kittens trailed by two at the end of the quarter, but the complexion of the game was due for some changes.

Dianne Southerland had entered the game with two minutes remaining in the first quarter and scored the last Lowndes points of the quarter.

In the second quarter, her play keyed a rejuvenated Vikette press that totally dominated the second quarter's play.

Brenda Berrien was particularly effective in producing Kitten turnovers in the 23-point Vikette quarter.

The game was never really in doubt after halftime.

Rhonda Rowell returned to action to turn in a solid performance for Lowndes. She appeared mobile returning from an ankle injury.

Pam Johnson led the Vikette scoring attack with 21 points and was a big factor on defense although she was in foul trouble much of the game.

Berrien tallied 15 points on seven field goals and one of two free throws. Her points came on an even division of jump shots and quick moves to the basket after steals.

Southerland contributed 12 points in a solid effort.

For Valdosta, Whitehead ended as the Kittens' leading scorer with 12 points.

In the boys' game, Valdosta kept things close in the first quarter by utilizing an effective one-three-one zone defense and hustling play.

In period two, the Vikings solved the Wildcat defense on long range set shots by point

the Lowndes offense. Coupled with increased offensive output by Lowndes allowed the Vikings to build a 42-23 halftime margin.

Mashburn was good for 16 first half points, mostly from the 20-foot range and Donnie Carter made his presence felt in a big way inside, accounting for 14 points.

In the second half, the Wildcats came back to life closing the Vikings' lead to 12 points.

Nathaniel Ceasar, David New and Greg Powell scored six points each in the quarter to bring Valdosta back into contention.

A Ceasar shot closed the gap to 10 points on the first basket of the fourth quarter. On the play, Lowndes forward Richard Barr limped off the floor and was replaced by Wayne Wright.

From the time Wright entered the game, things began to go Lowndes' way.

Valdosta had the ball with a chance to close the Vikings lead to eight points, but the Wildcat comeback ran out of gas.

Mashburn warmed up

again and it was all she wrote.

Mashburn was so nervous he threw up three times before the game, but that is not a bad sign for the senior guard who finished with 20 points. He said "when I'm real nervous I seem to play better."

It was not the first time the Vikings turned things around when Wright had entered the game, Wilkes said. "This was the second or third time that Wayne has come in and really lifted us. He's a good clutch player. He won't finesse you, but he won't back away either."

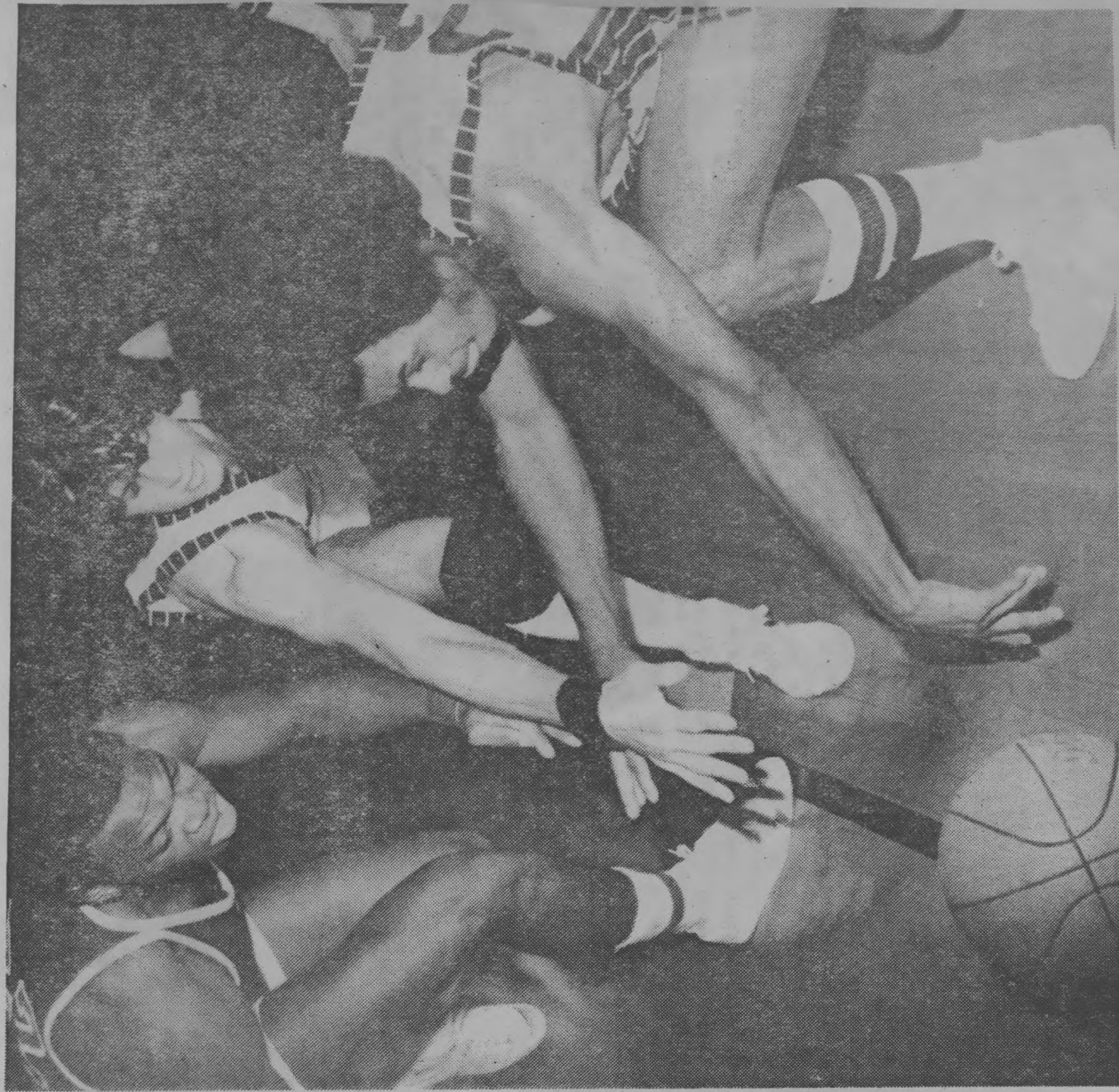
Lowndes travels to Tift County (Tifton) Friday while Valdosta hits the road to Cordele to play Crisp County.

The Lowndes' girls are now 12-0, and the Vikings are 8-3. The Kittens are 3-8, and the Wildcats are 2-9. The VHS boys have lost nine straight games.

GIRLS
Lowndes 14 37 54 75
Valdosta 12 18 29 37
LOWNDES (75) — Rowell 15, Berrien 15, Johnson 22, Griffin 8, O'Neil 7, Southerland 12, Fielding 2, Williams, Vickers.
Team totals: field goals 32, free throws 13 of 23, fouls 13.
VALDOSTA (37) — Whitehead 12, Crawford 8, Evans 6, Powell 3, Irvin 4, Wilson 4, Swindle.
Team totals: field goals 16, free throws 5 of 14, fouls 18.

BOYS
Lowndes 18 42 57 72
Valdosta 15 23 45 55
LOWNDES (73) — Jones 8, Mashburn 20, Carter 28, Barr 4, Player 11, Wright 1, Miller, Allen.
Team Totals: Field goals 35, Free throws 2 of 4, Fouls 10.
VALDOSTA (55) — New 12, Felix 11, Powell 16, Gish 2, Ceasar 14, Daniels, Bond.
Team Totals: Field goals 26, Free Throws 3 of 11, Fouls 8.

The Vikettes only used the press after a dead ball on their offensive end. The Kittens took advantage one minute span to untrack guard Ronnie Mashburn, who scored six straight points in a



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse
Greg Powell (32) And John Bond Of Valdosta Contend With Wayne Wright For Ball

'Cats End Skid, Defeat Waycross

By ROBBIE SPINNEY
The Valdosta Wildcats finally broke a 10-game losing streak here Saturday, and the Waycross Bulldogs were the victims of the drought-ending VHS victory.

Behind the heroics of guard Spencer Feix and the long-range bombing of Greg Powell, the 'Cats surged out to a large third quarter margin and held on in the stretch to claim a thrilling 63-59 win. Waycross took the girls' game by a 42-36 margin over the Valdosta Kittens.

It was Feix that engineered the win for Valdosta, running

the offense from his point position and also playing the point in the Wildcats' 1-3-1 zone they utilized much of the game.

Feix registered 16 points, most of them coming on driving layups through the middle. It was the "control offense", according to Coach Larry Cowart, that won the game for the 'Cats, and Feix ran it to perfection.

Powell held the hot hand late in the game, as he collected most of his 16 points on 20-foot jumpers. David New complimented both Feix and Powell, as he played well on the boards and hit several long, arching jumpers.

However, the win was not easy nor ever assured. Valdosta opened up as much as a 13-point lead early in the fourth quarter when it reeled off eight unanswered points to seemingly slam the door shut on the Bulldogs' hopes for a victory.

But Willie Howard and Mike Swinson pumped in several quick baskets for Waycross, and the Wildcat lead was cut to two points with only 2:17 left to play.

Valdosta had the opportunity to put the game away as it was twice given two shots at the foul line, but missed all four of them.

Waycross, given new life, drew its own chance to tie the game, but missed the front end of a one-and-one with 1:24 left to play.

After a Valdosta basket, the red hot Bulldogs came back down the floor only four points down and with over a minute remaining. But Powell was able to draw a

charging foul on Waycross' Charles Junior, the 'Dogs' leading scorer and clutch shooter.

The foul was Junior's fifth, and Waycross' hopes for the miracle victory looked quite bleak. Dante Jones then reeled off two VHS baskets to secure the win.

Junior was good for a game-high 23 points, including all of the 'Dogs' third quarter points. Swinson added 14 more for Waycross, and Howard hit for 10 more.

Valdosta showed much more poise than it had in past games, Cowart said. Unnerved by Waycross' long jumpers that nearly did the 'Cats in, they consistently broke the press the Bulldogs threw at them.

"We played about as well as we could these past two games," said a contented Cowart. "We shot pretty well had a really super team effort. We were running with control, and that's what we need to do to win. Generally, we're just trying to play more conservatively and hit our patterns more often."

The win brought Valdosta's record up to 3-10 for the year. Waycross, which was rated eighth in the latest South Georgia Prep Poll, fell to 10-3.

The girls from Valdosta weren't so fortunate, however. Their gallant effort at a comeback fell short.

Playing against a much taller, more physical Waycross team, the Kittens were down by as much as 12 points early in the third quarter. But the VHS girls (See 'Cats on page 12-A.)



Vera Crawford Clears Path To Basket

Bearcats Trim Wildcats

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE — Poor second half shooting spelled defeat for the Valdosta Wildcats as a two-point halftime lead dissolved into a 65-43 win for Bainbridge here Friday.

Cold shooting sent the VHS

girls to defeat also. The Kittens were only able to convert six of 22 field goal attempts in the last quarter and dropped a 22 field goal attempts in the last quarter and dropped a 61-49 decision to the Lady Bearcats.

In a previous meeting this season, the Bearcats stopped the 'Cats with outstanding offensive play. In Friday's game, VHS Coach Larry Cowart felt that his team did a much better job with the inside game, but was hurt by the Bearcats' outside play in the Wildcats' eighth straight loss in a 2-8 season.

A crucial point in the ballgame came with Valdosta down 37-32 with three minutes remaining in the third quarter. The 'Cats switched from a zone defense into a man-for-man and had trouble stopping the 4-4 Bearcats.

Bainbridge was able to

widen its lead to 10 points before the quarter ended at 44-37.

The lack of offense that plagued Valdosta in the third quarter continued, into the last quarter. For the half, the 'Cats hit seven of 29 field goal attempts.

Cowart said "we looked real good in the first half . . . real sharp. We had the lead at the half and couldn't put it in the hole the second."

Cowart said that the Wildcats scored eight points in the final minute and a half of the game to close the gap to 12 points.

Spencer Feix and Greg Powell tied for scoring honors with 14 points each for Valdosta.

Guard Larae Davis played a good outside game for the Bearcats, striking for 19 points. Kenneth Biggles was good for 18 points from his forward spot and Johnny Robinson scored another 10 points for Bainbridge.

The 3-7 Valdosta girls led by two points in the third quarter at 37-35 and were hit by a cold blast from the North Wind as their shooting touches iced up.

Cowart felt the game was much closer than the 12 point losing margin might indicate.

In the final quarter, LeAnn Harrell scored 10 points on outside shots to propel the Lady Bearcats to their seventh win against one loss.

Harrell finished with 26 points to lead the Bainbridge attack.

Valdosta had three girls with 10 points each, Vera Crawford, Janice Evans and Cindy Cooper.

Both Valdosta teams square up with Lowndes Tuesday in a game at Valdosta Junior High.

GIRLS	
Valdosta	12 29 37 49
Bainbridge	20 31 44 61
VALDOSTA (49) —	Whitehead 8, Crawford 10, Evans 10, Powell 4, Cooper 10, Irvin 2, Wilson 5, Swindle.
Team Totals:	Field goals 22, Free throws 5 of 9, Fouls 15.
BAINBRIDGE (61) —	Harrel 26, Edwards 13, Brown 5, Gadson 8, Moore 6, Close 1, Thomas 2.
Team Totals:	Field goals 25, Free Throws 11 of 21, Fouls 8.

BOYS	
Valdosta	19 29 37 53
Bainbridge	17 27 44 65
VALDOSTA (53) —	New 9, Feix 14, Powell 14, Gish 3, Dame 2, Jones 2, Clayton 2, Casar 5, Gamble 2.
Team Totals:	Field goals 19, Free throws 15 of 20, Fouls 14.
BAINBRIDGE (65) —	Davis 19, Biggles 18, Robinson 10, Harris 6, Rogers 2, Gaines 4, Rich 2, Smiley 4.
Team Totals:	Field goals 28, Free Throws 9 of 18, Fouls 16.

Wildcats Crunch Colquitt, 73-56

By MIKE CHASON

For the second time this season, Valdosta's Wildcats have a two-game winning streak. Larry Cowart doesn't know whether to rejoice or weep.

Cowart's indecision is based on what happened the last time his team won two straight games. That was at the beginning of the year when the 'Cats opened their campaign with a pair of victories.

Ten straight losses followed.

But after a 63-59 decision over Waycross Saturday night and a solid 73-56 victory over Colquitt County here Tuesday night, the Wildcats are off on another streak.

"If we just don't lose ten in a row now, we'll be all right," Cowart said with a grin. "We've really played well the last three ballgames, probably about as well as we can play."

Cowart's Valdosta Kittens watched a seven-point third quarter lead disappear into the half empty stands at Valdosta Junior High School in the girls' game when the Lady Packers from Moultrie secured a 51-46 victory.

Greg Powell gunned in 26 points for the now 4-10 Wildcats, who don't play again until Tuesday when they travel to Thomasville.

Powell was particularly effective in the second half when he and John Bond teamed for some long range artillery fire which rained deadly two-handed jumpers down on the Packers' defense.

Bond had 12 of his 14 points in the second half and also proved a worthy contributor on the boards. Switching back to his football position of quarterback for a moment, Bond ripped off a rebound with 4:12 to play in the third period and rifled it downcourt

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Cowart said. "We had our chances. The first half we missed 18 shots that were good inside shots. I thought we should have made."

The VHS girls were playing without floor leader Janice Evans, who's down with the flu. Maggie Powell and Renee Whitehead just returned to school Tuesday after bouts with the flu.

Powell and Vera Crawford led the Valdosta scoring with 12 points apiece. Whitehead added 11.

Six-foot senior center Sarah Edwards topped the 10-4 Colquitt girls with 26 points. Edwards took charge in the final period after VHS had assumed a 39-32 lead on a Powell set shot with 12 seconds to play in the third quarter.

Valdosta tried to slow the ball down in the final three minutes but couldn't take advantage of fouls by Colquitt.

An Edwards' basket with 1:45 to play in the game gave the Lady Packers a 48-46 lead. The Kittens didn't score in the final 2:33 of the game after a Cooper free throw.

Colquitt had taken a 22-9 lead in the second quarter. Lady Packer Coach Julian Grantham pulled some of his starters, and Valdosta

sneaked back into contention.

"We had a little momentum there, and I wanted to give some of the girls who had been sick a rest," Grantham, the former super successful coach at Norman Park, said.

"Then Valdosta got that lead, and we just never could come back on them until there at the end."

Grantham said the Colquitt school system was to be closed the rest of the week because of a serious outbreak of the flu.

In a boys' B-team game, Colquitt took a 48-46 decision despite 16 points by Valdosta's Gary Cothran.

GIRLS
Valdosta 7 21 39 46
Colquitt 16 24 34 51
VALDOSTA (46) — Whitehead 11, Crawford 12, Powell 12, Cooper 7, Wilson 4, Irvin 4.
Team totals: field goals 19, free throws 8 of 18, fouls 11.
COLQUITT (51) — Edwards 26, Brown 8, Anderson 6, Weeks 2, Weaver 1, Copeland 6, Carter 2, Tillman 2, Seay 2.
Team totals: field goals 21, free throws 9 of 12, fouls 16.

BOYS
Valdosta 14 28 44 73
Colquitt 10 19 32 56
VALDOSTA (73) — New 2, Feix 10, Powell 26, Gish 5, Jones 11, Bond 14, Caesar 5, Daniels 4.
Team totals: Field goals 32, Free throws 9 of 14, fouls 16.
COLQUITT (56) — Hoss 7, Ciyatt 4, Daniels 12, Hall 2, Sheffield 5, Lewis 14, Jones 12.
Team Totals: Field goals 23, Free throws 10 of 16, fouls 15.

That play gave the Valdostans a 40-25 lead over the Packers, who fell to 3-11 overall. VHS still had to put together a 29-point final period to hold off the scrappy, gold-shirted Colquitt quintet.

"We shot real well tonight," Cowart said. "I thought we would be hurting with (David) New on the bench but Dante (Jones) and all of them did a good job for us."

New drew three fouls the first half, one at the start of the third quarter and one at the beginning of the fourth quarter to retire to the pine early with only one basket.

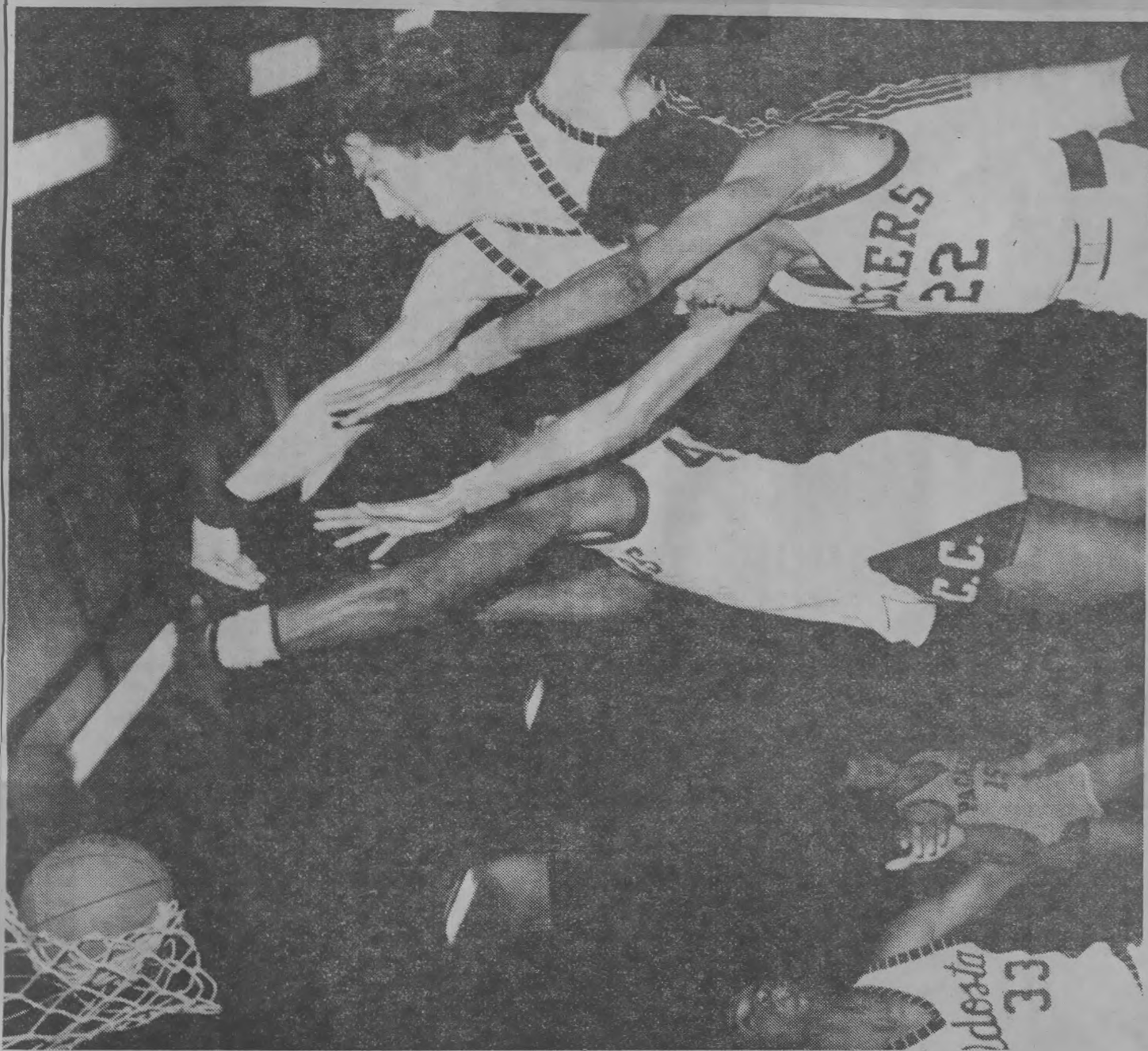
Jones added 11 points, many on finger rolls under the hoop after taking passes from the always moving Feix.

Randy Lewis topped Colquitt with 14 in the Region 1-AAAA (South) encounter. Don Daniels and Atticus Jones chipped in 12 apiece.

"I think we've got a little more confidence now," Cowart said. "Maybe they're getting used to the system now or maybe we're just lucky, I don't know."

The now 3-11 Kittens had no luck at all at the free throw line where they missed 11 of 19 attempts, including several crucial shots in the waning minutes.

"If we had hit our foul shots, we would have won,"



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse

Valdosta's John Bond Tries To Go Over Top Of Two Packers

Lowndes Claims Wins Over 'Cats, Kittens

By MIKE HAGOOD
Valdosta made things interesting for a while, but as expected Lowndes took home the victories.

The Lowndes Vikeettes walked away with their 72nd straight win, 75-37 at the Kittens expense, and the Vikings topped the Wildcats, 72-55 in games played at Valdosta Junior High Tuesday.

Both Valdosta teams came to play, but were unable to put together four quarters of basketball against two tough basketball teams from Lowndes High.

Depending on how one looks at it, poor second quarters for Valdosta or good second quarters for Lowndes set the story of the night.

The Kittens managed six second quarter points and the 'Cats tallied eight points in the second period, while the Vikings scored 24 and the Vikeettes compiled 23 points in the same period.

As it was, none of the coaches involved were particularly satisfied with their teams' performances.

Vikette Coach Charles Cooper said "it was the worst game we've played all year. We played well in spurts and a few individuals played like they were capable of, but overall it was our worst game."

"Our floor game was not what it should have been. I guess I shouldn't complain when we win by 30, but I know what we are capable of."

Valdosta Coach Larry Cowart, on the Wildcats' effort said "I'm not happy about losing. We hit a spurt there where it was 16-0 their favor in the second quarter. That spurt killed us."

"You've got to play 32 minutes. I guess we played about 24."

Terry Wilkes, head coach of the Vikings, said "we played all right I guess. We still don't put it away offensively. We played good enough to win."

The girls' game started out as a very close affair. Lowndes was unable to convert on many of its field goal opportunities, which kept it from setting up in its

of missed Lowndes shots, moving the ball up the court quickly.

Renee Whitehead scored six first quarter points, four points when the Kittens were able to beat the Lowndes press. The Kittens trailed by two at the end of the quarter, but the complexion of the game was due for some changes.

Dianne Southerland had entered the game with two minutes remaining in the first quarter and scored the last Lowndes points of the quarter.

In the second quarter, her play keyed a rejuvenated Vikeette press that totally dominated the second quarter's play.

Brenda Berrien was particularly effective in producing Kitten turnovers in the 23-point Vikeette quarter.

The game was never really in doubt after halftime.

Rhonda Rowell returned to action to turn in a solid performance for Lowndes. She appeared mobile returning from an ankle injury.

Pam Johnson led the Vikeette scoring attack with 21 points and was a big factor on defense although she was in foul trouble much of the game.

Berrien tallied 15 points on seven field goals and one of two free throws. Her points came on an even division of jump shots and quick moves to the basket after steals.

Southerland contributed 12 points in a solid effort.

For Valdosta, Whitehead ended as the Kittens' leading scorer with 12 points. In the boys' game, Valdosta kept things close in the first quarter by utilizing an effective one-three-one zone defense and hustling play. In period two, the Vikings entered the Wildcat defense

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

the Lowndes offense. Cold shooting by Valdosta, coupled with increased offensive output by Lowndes allowed the Vikings to build a 42-23 halftime margin.

Mashburn was good for 16 first half points, mostly from the 20-foot range and Donnie Carter made his presence felt in a big way inside, accounting for 14 points.

In the second half, the Wildcats came back to life closing the Vikings' lead to 12 points.

Nathaniel Caesar, David New and Greg Powell scored six points each in the quarter to bring Valdosta back into contention.

A Caesar shot closed the gap to 10 points on the first basket of the fourth quarter. On the play, Lowndes forward Richard Barr limped off the floor and was replaced by Wayne Wright.

From the time Wright entered the game, things began to go Lowndes' way.

Valdosta had the ball with a chance to close the Vikings' lead to eight points, but the Wildcat comeback ran out of gas.

Mashburn warmed up

again and it was all she wrote.

Mashburn was so nervous he threw up three times before the game, but that is not a bad sign for the senior guard who finished with 20 points. He said "when I'm real nervous I seem to play better."

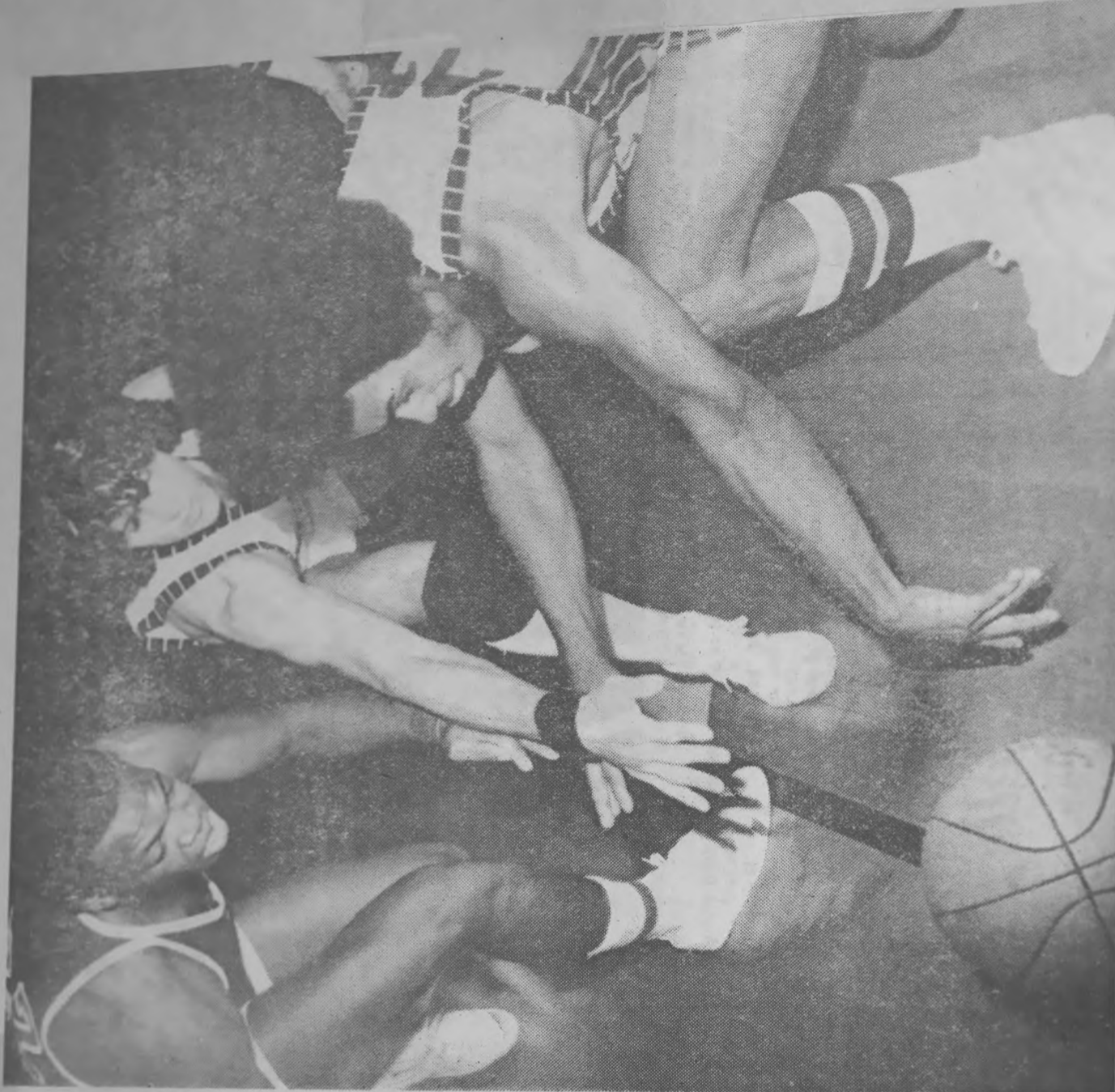
It was not the first time the Vikings turned things around when Wright had entered the game, Wilkes said. "This was the second or third time that Wayne has come in and really lifted us. He's a good clutch player. He won't finesse you, but he won't back away either."

Lowndes travels to Tift County (Tifton) Friday while Valdosta hits the road to Cordele to play Crisp County.

The Lowndes' girls are now 12-0, and the Vikings are 8-3. The Kittens are 3-8, and the Wildcats are 2-9. The VHS boys have lost nine straight games.

GIRLS
Lowndes 14 37 54 75
Valdosta 12 18 29 37
LOWNDES (73) — Rowell 9, Berrien 15, Johnson 22, Griffin 8, O'Neal 7, Southerland 12, Fielding 2, Williams, Vickers.
Team totals: field goals 32, free throws 13 of 23, fouls 13.
VALDOSTA (37) — Whitehead 12, Crawford 8, Evans 6, Powell 3, Irvin 4, Wilson 4, Swindle.
Team totals: field goals 16, free throws 5 of 14, fouls 18.

BOYS
Lowndes 18 42 57 72
Valdosta 15 23 45 55
LOWNDES (72) — Jones 8, Mashburn 20, Carter 28, Barr 4, Player 11, Wright 1, Miller, Allen.
Team Totals: Field goals 35, Free throws 20 of 30, Fouls 10.
VALDOSTA (53) — New 12, Felix 11, Powell 16, Gish 2, Caesar 14, Daniels, Bond.
Team Totals: Field goals 26, Free Throws 3 of 11, Fouls 8.



Greg Powell (32) And John Bond Of Valdosta Contend With Wayne Wright For Ball —Times Staff Photo By Mike Downse



—Times Staff Photos By Mike Dowse

Cindy Cooper Drives For Layup, While John Bond (14) Fights For Rebound

Kittens' Press Effective In Victory Over Coffee

By MIKE HAGOOD

The Valdosta High Kittens put their full court zone press to good use here Tuesday as they won their third basketball game of the season, 58-34 over the Coffee County Trojanettes from Douglas.

In the boys' game, a much quicker Trojan team prevailed over the Wildcats, 75-68.

Coffee's girls was able to

score only eight points in the second quarter, eight in the third and six in the final period on the Kittens' defense.

Much of the game, the Trojanettes were not allowed past the half court line by the Valdosta full court zone press.

Four of Valdosta's starters scored in double figures. Cindy Cooper had 15 points (10 in the last quarter), Maggie Powell scored 14, Janice Evans scored 12 (eight in the third quarter) and Renee Whitehead had 11.

It became apparent the 3-7 Trojanettes were unable to handle the press early in the second quarter. The fired up Valdosta defense spearheaded by Powell converted Coffee miscues into a 20-12 lead with 6:59 left in the first half.

The rebounding of Whitehead also played an important role as the Kittens held the same eight-point margin at halftime, 28-20.

Whitehead had 11 points and Powell had eight in the first half as the Kittens scored primarily off set plays in their two-one-two offensive alignment.

The Kittens' claim to victory was solidified in the third period when they doubled their lead to 16 points at 40-24 with 1:13 remaining in the period. Good passing following steals helped Evans to score on three uncontested layups in the quarter.

In the final quarter, Cooper took over, hitting seemingly every shot she attempted.

Following the game Evans, who had exuded confidence the entire evening, said

lightheartedly "yeah, we got a streak going."

VHS Coach Larry Cowart's comment that "the girls really looked sharp" was appropriate.

The Wildcats' performance contrasted considerably from the Kittens. Cowart admitted that his boys' team had worked as hard as the girls over the holiday layoff, but the effects did not show as positively.

A very poor Valdosta shooting night and a very fast Coffee attack were the evening's culprits. Cowart's figures showed the 'Cats hitting 33 percent of their first half shots.

Cowart said "the plays worked well, the shots just wouldn't fall. We've just got to start shooting better. We haven't shot the ball good in three of four ballgames.

"It may not have looked like it, but we put in a whole new offense."

Coffee began to pull away at the beginning of quarter number two, when the 'Cats were outscored 9-2 after three minutes of play.

Ballhandler Spencer Feix was forced to the bench with three fouls during much of the quarter. Cowart felt the loss of Feix's offensive penetration played a key role in the game.

Each team had two men in double figures at halftime. Nathaniel Ceasar had 13 and Greg Powell had 11 for the 'Cats. Center Hank King had 14 and forward Greg Gifford had 13 for the visitors.

The difference was the contribution of the other players. Coffee had three more players with over five points at the half.

press began to rattle the Trojanettes.

Feix scored 10 points in the period, mostly layups, as the 'Cats began to show some quickness of their own.

The Valdosta comeback forced the Trojans to switch to a slowdown offense to preserve their lead. After this tactic, the 'Cats were unable to get closer.

Lewis said "it was one of our better games. We just outran them. They outrebounded us.

"We maybe forced them out a little further than they would like."

King finished as Coffee's leading scorer with 27 points. Gifford finished with 17. Bruce Carter added 11 more.

Lewis said "he (King) is our leader, We go as he goes."

For Valdosta, Greg Powell finished with 22 points, Ceasar had 19 and Feix contributed 16.

Valdosta sophomore Dante Jones missed the game due to a disciplinary action by Cowart. The VHS coach said Jones missed several practices over the holidays.

Valdosta won two B-team games Tuesday. The boys won 62-46 over Coffee to raise their record to 2-3.

The girls edged Coffee 37-35 moving their record to 2-3

Savoil King had 22 points and David Allen was good for 15 points for the 'Cats. Affernette Wilson had 16 points for the Kittens.

GIRLS

Coffee 12 20 28 34
 Valdosta 14 28 42 58

COFFEE (34) — W. Edmonson 8, Edmonson 14, Carter 4, A. Johnson 6, Hamilton, Coley 6, L. Johnson, Jackson Luke, Wade, Moore 4, Sheppard, McKin-

VALDOSTA (58) — Whitehead 11, Evans 12, Powell 14, Cooper 15, Irwin, Swindle 2, Wilfong 2, Blair 2, Nelson, Skelton 2.

Team totals: Field goals 26, Free throws 6 of 8, fouls 12.

BOYS

Coffee 19 45 59 75
 Valdosta 15 32 42 68

COFFEE (75) — Durcan 4, King 27, B. Carter 11, Gifford 17, K. Carter 5, Harrison 9, Morris 2.

Team totals: Field goals 32, Free throws 11 of 14, fouls 17.

VALDOSTA (68) — New 3, Feix 16, Gish, Powell 22, Ceasar 19, Deime 4, Bond 4, Daniels, Wildes, Clayton 2.

Team totals: Field goals 28, Free throws 17 of 20, fouls 17.

In the second half, the play continued at the same keel. Coffee was able to score, getting the ball up the court quickly. The lid remained on the hoop for the 'Cats. Cowart admitted that missed shots from the four-foot range was a major factor in Valdosta's defeat. Things began to brighten for the 'Cats in the last five minutes of the game. Coffee Coach Greg Lewis said "they had me scared to death. I thought they were going to win it. I'm glad the game isn't five quarters."

The 'Cats were able to close a 15-point deficit to eight points with three minutes left in the game, as the Valdosta

Bearcats Nip 'Dosta, 56-49

By MIKE HAGOOD

Valdosta High School lost two nip-and-tuck basketball games to Bainbridge here Friday night. Bainbridge won the boys' game 56-49 and the girls' game, 46-40.

"Well, I don't know if we lost or if we gave it to them. I do know we didn't do what we had to do to win," said an obviously disappointed Larry Cowart after the losses.

Cowart, the coach of both Valdosta teams, said, "I thought we should have won (speaking of both games), but we came out with nothing. We had our chance to win and just didn't."

Both games could have gone either way. The Wildcats were down by only one point at 41-40 going into the fourth quarter. The Kittens held a three-point lead at halftime and were tied at 35

like they had earlier in the game.

Le Ann Harrell became increasingly effective inside for the Bearkittens in the second half, scoring nine points to help Edwards with the offensive lead.

The Bearkittens pushed to a 49-37 lead with 3:25 left in the game and it was all she wrote for the now 1-3 Kittens. Vera Crawford topped Valdosta scorers with 10 points. Janice Evans and Cindy Cooper played well adding eight points each.

Edwards finished with 21 points and Harrell totaled 15 for Bainbridge.

The Wildcats 2-2 entered quarter number four behind by a single point and appeared to have momentum going their way.

Johnny Robinson of Bainbridge had missed two

free throws with one second remaining in the third quarter to leave Valdosta down by one at 41-40.

Throughout the first three periods, the Bearcats would edge out to a three to five point lead, but the Wildcats kept coming back to challenge for the lead on hustling defensive plays and timely jump shooting.

Spencer Feix spearheaded a never-say-die defense and David New scored key baskets, when it seemed Bainbridge might widen the scoring difference.

Bainbridge moved into a five-point lead on a basket by reserve Roy Gaines with five minutes left in the game.

After a Valdosta timeout, Gaines scored again to put the Bearcats ahead by seven points at 49-42.

The 'Cats came back behind a field goal and two free throws by Greg Powell to close the deficit to 49-46 with two minutes remaining but a quicker Bainbridge team closed the game out by beating the Valdosta pressure with easy weak-side baskets.

New finished with 17 points, 14 in the first half. He was followed by Feix with 10

points. "We ought to be 4-0 right now. We could easily be 3-1," said Cowart.

"I don't think winning the first two helped our mental game," said Assistant Coach Roger Rome. "We might have been overconfident after winning the first two."

"We can't blame the officials and we can't blame the other team," said Cowart. "What it boils down to is that we've got to get back to work. We worked pretty hard this week to look as bad as we looked tonight."

Valdosta hosts Thomasville Tuesday in its next game.

GIRLS
Valdosta 11 24 35 40
Bainbridge 14 27 33 46
VALDOSTA (40) — Whitehead 6, Crawford 10, Evans 8, Powell 6, Cooper 6, Wilson 2, Irvin.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 2 of 10, fouls 14.

BOYS
Bainbridge 15 22 41 56
Valdosta 11 27 40 49
VALDOSTA (49) — New 17, Gish 2, Felix 10, Powell 13, Cochran 6, Richardson 1, Wildes, Daniels.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 11 of 15, fouls 11.

BAINBRIDGE (46) — Harrell 15, Edson 21, C. Gadsden 2, Brown 2, T. Gadsden 4, Moore, Close 2, Zorn.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 8 of 13, fouls 10.

BAINBRIDGE (56) — Davis 22, Biggles 10, Robinson 6, Smiley 8, Gaines 9, Harris 1, Chapman.
Team Totals: Field goals 25, Free throws 6 of 11, fouls 14.

Crisp County Cuts Down VHS

By Times Staff Writer

CORDELE — Valdosta's Wildcats played one of their best games of the year, but came up short, losing to Crisp County 70-62 here Friday. In the girls' game, the Kittens were swamped by the Cougarettes, 75-42.

The loss was the 'Cats' 10th in a row, putting their record at 2-10. Crisp raised its record to 11-2 with the win. Wildcat Coach Larry Cowart said "we played about as well as we are capable of playing and just fell a little short."

The 'Cats had good luck slowing the pace down and working for the good shot in

the first half. Valdosta hit 19 of 32 field goals in first half action.

The ballgame came down to the final quarter where a scoreless four-minute stretch ruined the Wildcats' chances. Over those same four minutes, Crisp scored eight points.

In the last quarter, Crisp center Steve Barrett, who scored 24 points in the game, broke the Wildcats' back. With Valdosta trailing by only two points, a Crisp player went to the foul line and missed his first attempt, but Barrett came over the back of the 'Dosta defenders to stuff the rebound through.

From that point, the Cougars moved on to build their final margin.

Cowart was very impressed with Barrett's play. He placed Barrett in the same class as Lowndes' standout Donnie Carter.

For Valdosta, Nathaniel Cesar was the leading scorer with 20 points. He also gathered in 14 rebounds. Greg Powell and David New scored 14 apiece for the 'Cats. Following Barrett for Crisp was Fred Smith with 17 points and Greg Barthell with 10.

The 3-9 Kittens had a rough night with the now 13-0 Cougarettes. An effective full court press

and fast break allowed Crisp to build a 20-point lead by the end of the third quarter.

The Crisp guards played a key role in the game applying effective pressure, said Cowart.

The big scorers for the Cougarettes were inside players Sandra Felton and Emma Mumphrey. Felton scored a game high 22 points and Mumphrey contributed 15 points. Crista Brake added 12.

For Valdosta, Vera Crawford hit on seven of 12 shots for 14 points. Valdosta hosts Waycross

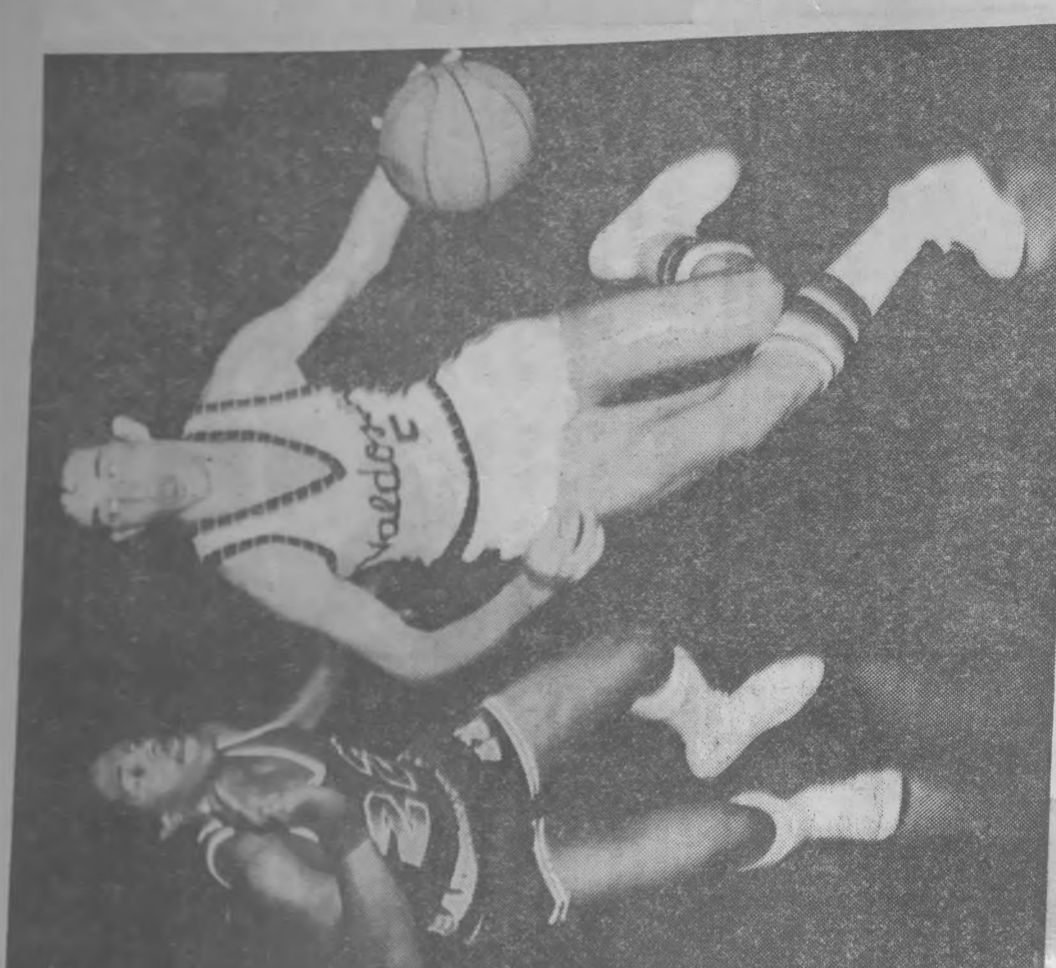
tonight at Valdosta Junior High.

GIRLS
Valdosta 8 22 31 42
Crisp 15 31 51 75
VALDOSTA (42) — Whitehead 6, Crawford 14, Evans 4, Powell 8, Cooper 4, Irwin 2, Swindle 2, Wilson, Blair, Nelson.
Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free throws 2 of 11, Fouls 12.

CRISP (75) — Felton 22, Smith 8, Doster 4, Harris 6, Mumphrey 15, Harvey 2, Brake 12, Bryant 12, Alford 2, Cross, Jones.
Team Totals: Field goals 35, Free Throws 5 of 10, Fouls 14.

BOYS
Valdosta 18 28 39 42
Crisp 14 33 55 76
VALDOSTA (42) — New 14, Felix 4, Powell 14, Gish 2, Jones 2, Bond 6, Cleasor 20, Daniels, Wildes.
Team Totals: Field goals 27, Free throws 10 of 11, Fouls 18.

CRISP (76) — Barrett 24, Smith 17, Brown 4, Floyd 4, Felton 7, Brinson 4.
Team Totals: Field goals 29, Free Throws 17 of 17, Fouls 13.



Valdosta's David New Eyes An Open Lane Past Bearcat Defender —Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III.

against us (Valdosta). For every team that plays us it's an opportunity to do something special. Every team puts out extra effort to beat us."

Griffin, says Hyder, will do no less.

"Every game has its individual challenges. This week it is Griffin's speed, which they have in abundance. They're not a massive team, but they are very tall and experienced."

The Bears trailed favored Atlanta Lakeside 14-3 when Coach Lloyd Bohannon's men pulled off a minor miracle. Lakeside pushed them down the chimney to what might have been a fiery fate. Instead, Griffin found a treasure chest — and an 18-14 victory. Lakeside coughed up three untimely fumbles in the final quarter, the last leading to a decisive 3-yard run by Bear halfback Ricky Williams as the Vikings practically threw the game away.

"I can't describe it," said Bohannon, obviously elated. "We had never beaten Lakeside, which makes me feel good, and we're going to the state finals. And it's Valdosta that bars the door this time. I'm so nervous I'm shaking all over."

While Griffin was performing like its fearful mythological namesake, the Wildcats were cruising to their second straight shutout triumph in the playoffs. Bond, with a license to kill, did just that in scoring all three Valdosta touchdowns for a 23-0 verdict over Savannah Benedictine.

Valdosta High Seniors Score Best Ever On SAT

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School administrators said this year's seniors have scored "the best" on the Scholastic Aptitude Tests.

Principal Lloyd Mims said counselor Virginia Wisenbaker had not seen higher scores since she's been at the school.

Mrs. Wisenbaker said the

scores for the 76 seniors who took the test are above last year's national average.

The national average was 429 for verbal and 468 for math. The national average for this year won't be available until the summer.

The average VHS SAT scores for November were 448 for verbal and 483 for math.

The scores ranged from a high of 730 for verbal to a low of 200 and a math high of 800 to low of 240.

The 800 score is the highest possible, Mrs. Wisenbaker said. "This is the first time since I've been working with seniors that I've seen a perfect score," she said.

Last year 90 VHS seniors took the SAT in November, she said.

The average score for verbal was 415 and math, 435. Scores ranged from a high of 640 for verbal to a low of 200. Math scores ranged from a high of 690 to low of 240.

Team Totals: Field goals 10 of 16, Fouls 17.

In Albany

Valdosta Teams Take Two Wins

By Times Staff Writer
ALBANY — The Valdosta Wildcats and Kittens each took victories over Albany here Friday night, raising their records to 5-11 on the year.

The Wildcats topped the Indians, 75-63 and the Kittens came out 59-36 victors.

Strong performances in the second half pushed the visitors past their hosts here.

The Wildcats scored 30 points in the final quarter to come back from two-point deficit at the end of the third period. At one time in the third quarter the 'Cats were down by five points, but showed good poise in coming back for the win, said VHS Coach Larry Cowart.

The 'Cats hit 11 of 14 field goal tries in the decisive fourth period.

"They couldn't stop any one man," said Cowart. "We had a lot of kids scoring a lot of points."

"The plays we have are not set up for just one person. That paid off last night."

The Kittens won by virtue of hustling play in the second half, Cowart said. They outscored the Lady Indians 22-6 in the third quarter.

Cindy Cooper had 10 points in the third quarter, primarily on layups after steals in the Kittens' press to lead the offensive outburst.

Cooper finished with 18 points and Vera Crawford scored 16. Renee Whitehead came through with 12 points.

The Wildcats were led by sophomore forward Dante Jones, who scored 19 points. Other VHS scorers in the balanced attack were Nathaniel Ceasar with 16, David New with 15 and Greg Powell with 14.

The Indians were led by Bruce Fort with 20 points. Cowart called Fort the best

outside shooter the 'Cats have played against this year.

Speaking of the 'Cats future chances, Cowart said "if we play our kind of ball, we've got a chance to upset some people. We're not gonna' beat anybody if we run and gun."

GIRLS
Valdosta 11 23 45 59
Albany 8 25 31 36
VALDOSTA (59) — Evans 4, Powell 3, Whitehead 12, Crawford 16, Cooper 18, Wilson 4, Swindle 2, Nelson, Mair.
Team Totals: field goals 28, free throws 3 of 15, fouls 18.

ALBANY (36) — Benton 12, Westbrook 2, Henderson 12, Collins 2, Jones 8, Session, Williams, Davis.
Team Totals: field goals 14, free throws 8 of 16, fouls 13.

BOYS
Valdosta 16 30 45 75
Albany 16 28 47 63
VALDOSTA (75) — Feix 7, New 15, Powell 14, Bond 2, Jones 19, Ceasar 16, Gish 2, Daniels.
Team Totals: field goals 31, free throws 13 of 26, fouls 15.

ALBANY (63) — Jenkins 6, Watson 11, Carter 2, Thomas 12, Nix 12, Fort 20, Hubbard, Coleman.
Team Totals: field goals 27, free throws 9 of 13, fouls 19.

Kittens Win In OT, 'Cats Lose By Six

By Times Staff Writer
THOMASVILLE — The Valdosta Kittens defeated Central of Thomasville 50-46 in overtime for their fourth win in five starts here Tuesday night. Central took the boys' game, 56-50.

Rena Williams scored with three seconds left in regulation play to give Central what appeared to be the winning margin, but the Kittens had other thoughts.

After a timeout, Valdosta's Vera Crawford sank a 30-foot shot to knot the score at 42-42 as the buzzer sounded.

In the overtime, Cindy Cooper scored with 30 seconds left to put the 7-12 Kittens in the lead. With two seconds left, Renee Whitehead put through two free throws to produce the final four-point margin.

Whitehead was the Kittens' leading scorer with 16 points, in the slow temp game that VHS led most the way. Crawford added 14 and Janice Evans contributed 12 points, hitting six of six shots from the field.

Valdosta Coach Larry Cowart said of the game, "We needed it. We really did."

"We're not a giant killer, but we are competitive," said

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Cowart of his club's recent string of success.

Williams, Faye Brown and Pat Stephens led Central with 14 points each.

In the boys' game, a poor shooting night spelled defeat for the 5-14 Wildcats. Usual high scorers, David New and Greg Powell, were only able to account for only 11 total points, 19 below their combined averages. New missed half the game with a back injury, however.

For Central, William Davis scored 16 points in the first half to move the Yellow Jackets to a 31-24 lead. Davis finished with a team-leading 24 in another big game for one of Region 1-AAAA's outstanding players.

Spencer Feix led the VHS scorers with 18 points. Feix had an exceptional game penetrating Central's defense, Cowart said.

Dante Jones had another strong effort for the 'Cats with 12 points.

Cowart was not totally dismayed by his team's performance. He said, "When we play like we can and hold the score down, we're not playing that bad. We are starting to flip the coin over and can't quite seem to get it turned. I really think we are playing decently lately."

A double overtime defeat to Coffee County in Douglas Saturday night belies Cowart's feeling.

In B-team games, the Valdosta boys tripped Central 60-41 behind 16 points from Gary Cothran and

Savoil King, and Central won the girls' game, 36-31. Affernette Wilson had eight points for the VHS girls.

GIRLS
Valdosta 10 22 32 42 50
Central 10 18 30 42 46
VALDOSTA (50) — Whitehead 16, Crawford 14, Evans 12, Cooper 6, Wilson 2, Powell, Irvin.

Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free throws 10 of 14, Fouls 14.
CENTRAL (46) — Brown 14, Williams 14, Stephens 14, Davis 2, Hester 2, Coachman, Shepard.

Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free Throws 6 of 10, Fouls 12.

BOYS
Valdosta 14 24 33 50
Central 16 31 43 56
VALDOSTA (50) — New 2, Feix 18, Powell 9, Bond 2, Ceasar 7, Jones 12, Gish, Dame, Daniels.

Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free throws 10 of 20, Fouls 15.
CENTRAL (56) — Hadley 4, Cleveland 6, Davis 24, Holton 1, Harris 5, Conage 5, Thompson 11, Williams.

Team Totals: Field goals 25, Free Throws

Wildcat Wrestlers To Host Tift

The Valdosta High Wildcat wrestling team is to host Tift County (Tifton) at 7 p.m. Wednesday in a wrestling match at VHS.

This is to be the second meeting of the two teams this season. Earlier in the year the 'Cats prevailed with a 31-27 victory.

Last Weekend, Tift won the Ware county Invitational Tournament in Waycross. Valdosta placed third in the same meet.

Tift won all of the heavier weight classes in the Ware meet. Wildcat Coach Jim Landrum said Tift has three or four year starters in all weight classes above the 128 pound classes.

Probable starters for Valdosta are Jimmy Cullipher, Wade Connell, Greg Godwin, Andy Jaramillo, David Harrison, David Clifton, Jerome Loving, Odell Griffin, Joe Yeatman, Jimbo Hancock and Tony Blasseti.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ IT'S A TIE ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Valdosta, Griffin Left In 7-7 Deadlock

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Nobody Expected

The Final Result

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By MIKE CHASON
It was not at all expected. Nothing could have driven that fact home any harder than the reactions of the mammoth crowd on both sides of Cleveland Field when Saturday night's Class AAAA state championship football game had ended.
As the Griffin fans shouted "we're number one" and waved their mottened fists in

YARDSTICK	Valdosta	Griffin
First Downs	6	6
Yards Rushing	47	55
Yards Passing	71	57
Passes	7-15	4-9
Passes Incl. By	0	0
Fumbles Lost	2	2
Punting	7-31.5	8-33.2
Penalties	4-50	6-30

hanging on the chimney across the street from the stadium joined in the applause.
Griffin quarterback Jeff Ector fumbled the ball back to the 'Cats on the Bears' next possession. Senior cornerback Troy Thomas, who came up limping one minute into the game, recovered the ball.
Bond lost the ball twice on fumbles before the first quarter ended. Griffin got a 30-yard field goal attempt out of the second miscue but Wally Wetherbee, grandson of former Georgia Coach Wally Butts, couldn't connect.
Griffin safety Marvin Curtis picked off two of Bond's passes in the second quarter, one of which bounced out of the hands of Blair.
Early in the quarter, Bond had spotted Blair wide open and streaking toward the end zone but the senior split end couldn't hang on to the ball.
"The turnovers were certainly a factor," Hyder said. "It's just like when you work hard all week and then you come up and get your check and find out they cut your salary in half."
Valdosta, which wound up 14-0-1, could still have had a 14-0 edge at intermission when Roe zipped 62 yards with a punt return only to have it called back because of a clipping penalty.
The boos rained down on the officials like hail from heaven when it was signaled that Roe's handwork was all

the air, the Valdosta side of the huge stadium was almost silent.
But it wasn't because Valdosta's Wildcats lost in their second consecutive trip to the state finals. It was because nobody won.
"What it was, was a 7-7 tie. We're happy as hell to be co-champions in Class AAAA," Griffin Coach Lloyd Bohannon said as he excitedly patted individual members of his team on the back and on their shoulders.
Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder wasn't exactly a bundle of joy but he wasn't disconsolate either.
"I just feel neutral," Hyder said. "That's how a tie leaves you, just neutral."
"I think one of Coach (Wright) Bazemore's state championships was a tie, wasn't it? We didn't lose. Last year we lost."
Overtimes and penetration rules are in effect during the regular season and in playoff leading up to the state final but no such tiebreaking methods are used in the title game.
Valdosta also tied Athens in 1969 for the state title in a 26-26 contest. That game was also played at Cleveland Field and was a 7-7 tie.

David Reeves added the extra point and even the folks hanging on the chimney across the street from the stadium joined in the applause.
Griffin quarterback Jeff Ector fumbled the ball back to the 'Cats on the Bears' next possession. Senior cornerback Troy Thomas, who came up limping one minute into the game, recovered the ball.
Bond lost the ball twice on fumbles before the first quarter ended. Griffin got a 30-yard field goal attempt out of the second miscue but Wally Wetherbee, grandson of former Georgia Coach Wally Butts, couldn't connect.
Griffin safety Marvin Curtis picked off two of Bond's passes in the second quarter, one of which bounced out of the hands of Blair.
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—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III

Valdosta Defender Kenny Evans Pursues Griffin Quarterback Jeff Ector While Teammate Fights Off Block

factor steadily downward as the game progressed.
Rudolph lost one of his key performers with 4:18 to play in the second quarter when Thomas severely twisted his ankle. He came back to play in the second half although he wasn't able to return punts.
"He showed a lot of courage," Rudolph said. "He had to be hurting."
The third quarter contained the play of the game in Hyder's opinion.
Moving behind the powerful struts of Ricky Williams, who had 64 yards in 15 carries, Griffin moved the ball to the Valdosta 30-yard line.
Both defenses were determined not to give an inch the rest of the way. Thomas and end James Harris topped end James Withers with a 15-yard gain.
At that point, Ector rifled a 21-yard pass to Cyrus Jackson, who almost broke it for a touchdown as the third quarter ended.
"That play was well executed," said Hyder. "Our defense did a good job but they just executed perfectly."
Two plays into the final period, Ector outran the VHS defenders from seven yards away and dived into the end zone. There was 11:19 to play when Wetherbee kicked the extra point.
Bond ran to his right and was buried by Bears' he could get his flea-pass off in the opposite direction.
One side began to celebrate and the other couldn't believe it was all over.
But it was.

for nought.
VHS defensive coordinator Jack Rudolph dashed out on the field while the penalty was marked off but the man in the striped shirt prevailed, despite a heated protest by the Wildcat coach.
But Rudolph didn't point to that particular play after the game as the tide-turner.
"They were what I told people they were," Rudolph said. "They had speed. Tonight they were as good as anybody we've played. I think with the weather conditions the way they were, it was more of a climate for a defensive ballgame."
An icy breeze sent the chill

Valdosta
Griffin
Score by Quarters: 7 0 0 0-7
Val. — Bond 1 run (Reaves kick) 7
Grif. — Ector 7 run (Wetherbee kick) 7
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing: Valdosta — King 9-26, 1, Roe 6-16, Gaskin 4-7, Bond 12 minus 2; Griffin — Williams 19-44, Stewart 3-7, Ector 12 minus 1, Gault 1 minus 1
Passing: Valdosta — Bond 6-14-3-57, Roe 1-10-14; Griffin — Ector 4-9-0-57
Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Blair 4-51, Fletcher 1-8, Hankins 1-7, Smith 1-5; Griffin

Bohannon ordered a 49-second field goal by Wetherbee which sailed far to the right. But Bohannon had hope.
"I thought it was going to be good," the first Griffin coach said. "It missed but that far (holding hands apart a yard)."
"We prepared ourselves for the fake," Hyder said. "I thought they might fake it."
But they didn't and after four seconds left, Valdosta got the ball back for those last gasp deals never seem to work on anybody but the Falcons.

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But they didn't and after four seconds left, Valdosta got the ball back for those last gasp deals never seem to work on anybody but the Falcons.

Lastinger To Sign With 'Dogs Today

By MIKE CHASON
For the second consecutive year, the University of Georgia has lured the number one quarterback at Valdosta High School into the red and black colors of the Bulldogs.

VHS senior signal-caller John Lastinger announced Friday night he is to attend the University of Georgia on a football scholarship, beginning next fall.

Lastinger follows in the footsteps of Buck Belue, who ended a four-year career as the Wildcat quarterback last season and then signed with the Bulldogs a week later.

"They've got a great tradition and they've got a lot of good players up there," Lastinger said in a late-night phone interview. "I think I

will be happy up there. I'd like to be a part of it."

Lastinger, who won't turn 18 until February, had said earlier he wanted to find a place where he would be happy as well as a place where he could play football.

The three schools the Region 1-AAAA Offensive Player of the Year had narrowed his choices to on Thursday were Georgia, Alabama and Auburn.

"About Wednesday night, I really started thinking that Georgia was where I probably wanted to go," Lastinger said. "I didn't want to go to Alabama that bad. I just kind of had a feeling I didn't want to go there."

When Belue was the quarterback, Lastinger became an excellent wide

with 419 yards on 75 carries, and third in scoring with 13 touchdowns and one 2-point conversion for 80 points.

The 6-foot-2, 174-pounder scored five touchdowns against Albany. He was the unanimous choice of the sportswriter who cover the 12-team league as the number one quarterback in the region.

But despite leading the Wildcats to their first undefeated regular season since 1971 and their region title in the past four years, Lastinger is not going to crown his senior year by playing in the state championship game.

Against Westside in the quarterfinal round of the state playoffs, Lastinger suffered a shoulder

separation which put him out of that game in the first quarter.

Lastinger also missed last week's South Georgia Championship game against Beneditcine and is to be on the sideline again tonight when Valdosta tries for the Class AAAA state title here against Griffin.

John Bond has replaced Lastinger. "I'm still trying to figure out a way to play," Lastinger said with a chuckle.

The versatile athlete, who was a starter in football, basketball and baseball for VHS last year, can't foresee a possible pro baseball offer changing his mind about playing football.

Belue was faced with such a decision after being drafted

in the second round of the summer draft. He chose football after hearing the monetary offer made to him by the Chicago White Sox.

"I can't really answer that now," Lastinger said. It would take an awfully good year in baseball. I'm not planning on playing baseball up there (at Georgia).

"I like baseball but football is your free ticket to school. I guess I like football the best."

Lastinger said he received "30 or 40" letters from different schools, the farthest away being Porterville (Calif.) College and the University of California.

Lastinger is to sign with the Bulldogs at 4:30 p.m. today at his home. Georgia Coach Vince Dooley is to be in attendance.

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

receiver for Valdosta. He might occupy the same role with the Bulldogs, who feature Jeff Pyburn as their top quarterback at the present with Belue number two and closing fast.

"They were talking about playing me at the other positions," Lastinger said. "If they moved me to quarterback, I wouldn't be that upset. I would be patient

and wait my turn.

"I'm going to work real hard this summer and go up there and try to do my best. If I wait it out a year or a couple of years,

"I waited it out in high school until my time came. Lastinger was the leading passer in Region 1-AAAA with 1,068 yards on 65 of 151 tosses. He was 16th in rushing

Sports In Brief

The Times 3/29/79

Wildcats To Play Cairo Today

From Staff, Wire Reports
Valdosta High School's Wildcats are scheduled to meet Cairo at 4 p.m. today at Bazemore Field here in a game which was reportedly added to the schedule Wednesday.

In B-team play here Wednesday, VHS dropped an 11-5 decision to Colquitt County.

William Davis hit a three-run homer for Valdosta, now 0-1-1. Dennis Powell and Mitch Conner had three hits each for the visiting Moultrie team.

Playoff Results

- Class AAAA
Valdosta 7, Griffin 7
- Class AA
East Rome 25, Claxton 9
- Class A
Buford 7, Charlton Co. 6



Bond Left Puzzled

No Satisfaction Gained By 'Cats

By Times Staff Writer

John Bond was puzzled by it all.

"We had that first drive there that we moved it so good," the Valdosta High School quarterback said after his team had tied Griffin's Bears 7-7 in the Class AAAA championship game here Saturday night.

"It just puzzles me," Bond said. "I don't know what happened. The fumbles hurt us. Man those fumbles that I lost hurt."

"They were tough and quick. I believe they were the quickest team we played."

Bond was starting at quarterback for only the second time in his career. He drew the starting nod when senior signal-caller John Lastinger went down with a shoulder separation in the first round of the state playoffs.

The 6-foot-4 junior battled constant pressure from the Griffin defensive front, which shut down Valdosta's vaunted running game to a drizzle.

Marvin Curtis also intercepted three of Bond's passes.

"I was nervous at first but when I got out there, and we got started, I was all right," Bond said.

Bond scored Valdosta's only touchdown on a 1-yard plunge in the first quarter.

Valdosta cornerback Troy Thomas sat silently on the trainer's table in the locker room, having heavy tape cut off his ankle which he sprained severely but which did not keep him from playing.

Thomas said the tie was much better than last year's 16-14 loss to Clarke Central in the state title contest but he didn't hide his disappointment.

Thomas said he was going to sign a college football scholarship with the University of South Carolina Saturday night.

"This is my last year. I wanted to win it," senior linebacker Lynn Roberts said as he stood in the dressing room with all his gear, including his helmet, still on.

"They were good but we just had some bad breaks. We fumbled the ball and had some interceptions."

Most of the VHS players dressed in silence while down the way, the Griffin players featured smiles and a couple of number one fingers in the air.

"We got what we came after," one Bear said.

"We're still number one," Bond said. "I just wish we could play them again."

The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, Wednesday, December 6, 1978

Valdosta's just one away from big gift

On Frederick, on Irvin, on Troy and Rodney. On Timothy, on Andy, on Nathaniel and Lynn. Up, up and away. Here with find a fractured Christmas tale (with apologies to Clement Moore.)

Messrs. Blair, Roe, Thomas, Gordon, Dame, Chapman, Caesar and Roberts may not be eight shiny reindeer, but together with John (007) Bond, the Rudolph of our small story, these high-flying Valdostans hope to deliver a cherished Christmas gift into the eager mittens of "the faithful," regardless of whether they've been naughty or nice.

And with St. Nicholas (Hyder) cracking the whip, it seems a safe bet that a sleigh-full of Class AAAA state championship laurels will arrive on time with a minimum of fuss.

Hyder traded in antlers for Wildcat claws, but Valdosta has done very little scratching and a whole lot of soaring to come within one victory of claiming the state title.

Manning the anti-aircraft batteries (is nothing sacred?) are the Bears of Griffin High, the North Georgia AAAA crown-holders. But the placements will have to be secreted in hostile territory, which is to say Valdosta's partisan Cleveland Field.

Nicholas has had the elves toiling overtime in preparation for this holiday bash at 8 p.m. Saturday, but admits that his biggest problem has been the demand for tickets, which is something akin to the mountains of letters of Santa receives every season about this time.

"We could put over 20,000 people in here if we had the capacity," says Hyder. "We've got kids, parents, scouts, coaches, grandparents and cousins all wanting a seat. It's keeping us busy."

But not half as occupied as is Griffin with the thought of tackling Valdosta. It must be common knowledge by now that the Wildcats' reputation precedes them. Some like to call it long-distance intimidation, given the Cats' storied past, but Hyder prefers a somewhat milder outlook.

"I know this, if I was a coach preparing to play Valdosta, I'd put on my best 'set of clothes,'" says the sleigh master. "My preparation would be thorough and meticulous. You know that going into the game, you'd be under the spotlight. The publicity is bigger. More people notice you."

"But things like this can balance out and work

Wildcat Wrestlers Capture 6th Place

V-Times Feb 11, 1979

By Times Staff Writer
MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. — Valdosta High School's wrestlers took sixth place in the Area Four Championship Tournament held here Friday and Saturday.

Host Baldwin High School (Milledgeville) took first place in a field of 18 teams. Second place went to Central High of Macon and Warner Robins captured third place in the competition.

Four of Valdosta High's wrestlers advance to the

state competition to be held in Atlanta this weekend. Representing Valdosta High in Atlanta will be Wade Connell, who took second in the 107 pound class, fourth place winner in the 114 pound class Greg Godwin, David Clifton, fourth place winner in the 135 pound class and Joe Yeatman, who captured a fourth place finish in the 147 pound class.

Also placing for Valdosta High but not advancing to the state tournament were Willie Donaldson with sixth in the 157 pound class and Tony Blasetti, sixth in the unlimited class.

Gym Floor Condition Forces Transfer Of VHS Games

By MARCIA McRAE

Valdosta High School basketball games are to be played at Valdosta Junior High School because of the VHS gymnasium floor condition, said Principal Lloyd Mims.

Despite a second repair job at the beginning of school, the gym floor is not playable, Mims said. In fact the repairs

had to be cut out.

So, school officials said, they must play games at the junior high. Practice is continuing at the high school.

The VHS basketball season is to get underway Tuesday here against Tifton, Mims said.

"We figure we might play (at VHS) but we don't want to give the school an

unfair advantage," Mims said.

The gym floor has been replaced once and repaired twice since the school was built six years ago. Each time bubbles have appeared in the synthetic material.

"The latest were big bubbles that make it impossible to bounce the ball," Mims said. "The repairs that were

made make it worse than if it hadn't been done."

He said a large bubble had risen and burst and had to be cut out because students were tripping over it.

School officials saw the bubbles kept expanding and realized the gym could not be used for competition, Mims said.

Mims and VJHS Principal Frank Wilson said the change has not caused any disruption of the junior high school basketball schedule.

"It is not a problem," Wilson said. "To be frank, we had made our schedule before we knew about the problem and we didn't even have to

alter our schedule at all.

However it will affect the adult basketball program sponsored by the Valdosta Parks and Recreation Department, he said.

Those games have to be rescheduled not to interfere with VHS or VJHS games.

Kittens Fall, 46-40

By MIKE HAGOOD

Valdosta High School lost two nip-and-tuck basketball games to Bainbridge here Friday night. Bainbridge won the boys' game 56-49 and the girls' game, 46-40.

"Well, I don't know if we lost or if we gave it to them. I do know we didn't do what we had to do to win," said an obviously disappointed Larry Cowart after the losses.

Cowart, the coach of both Valdosta teams, said, "I thought we should have won (speaking of both games), but we came out with nothing. We had our chance to win and just didn't."

Both games could have gone either way. The Wildcats were down by only one point at 41-40 going into the fourth quarter. The Kittens held a three-point lead at halftime and were tied at 35

like they had earlier in the game.

Le Ann Harrell became increasingly effective inside for the Bearkittens in the second half, scoring nine points to help Edwards with the offensive lead.

The Bearkittens pushed to a 43-37 lead with 3:25 left in the game and it was all she wrote for the now 1-3 Kittens.

Vera Crawford topped Valdosta scorers with 10 points. Janice Evans and Cindy Cooper played well adding eight points each. Edwards finished with 21 points and Harrell totaled 15 for Bainbridge.

The Wildcats 2-2 entered quarter number four behind by a single point and appeared to have momentum going their way.

Johnny Robinson of Bainbridge had missed two

free throws with one second remaining in the third quarter to leave Valdosta down by one at 41-40.

Throughout the first three periods, the Bearcats would edge out to a three to five point lead, but the Wildcats kept coming back to challenge for the lead on hustling defensive plays and timely jump shooting.

Spencer Feix spearheaded a never-say-die defense and David New scored key baskets, when it seemed Bainbridge might widen the scoring difference.

Bainbridge moved into a five-point lead on a basket by reserve Roy Gaines with five minutes left in the game.

After a Valdosta timeout, Gaines scored again to put the Bearcats ahead by seven points at 49-42.

The 'Cats came back behind a field goal and two free throws by Greg Powell to close the deficit to 49-46 with two minutes remaining but a quicker Bainbridge team closed the game out by beating the Valdosta pressure with easy weak-side baskets.

New finished with 17 points, 14 in the first half. He was followed by Feix with 10

points. "We ought to be 4-0 right now. We could easily be 3-1," said Cowart.

"I don't think winning the first two helped our mental game," said Assistant Coach Roger Rome. "We might have been overconfident after winning the first two."

"We can't blame the officials and we can't blame the other team," said Cowart. "What it boils down to is that we've got to get back to work. We worked pretty hard this week to look as bad as we looked tonight."

Valdosta hosts Thomasville Tuesday in its next game.

GIRLS

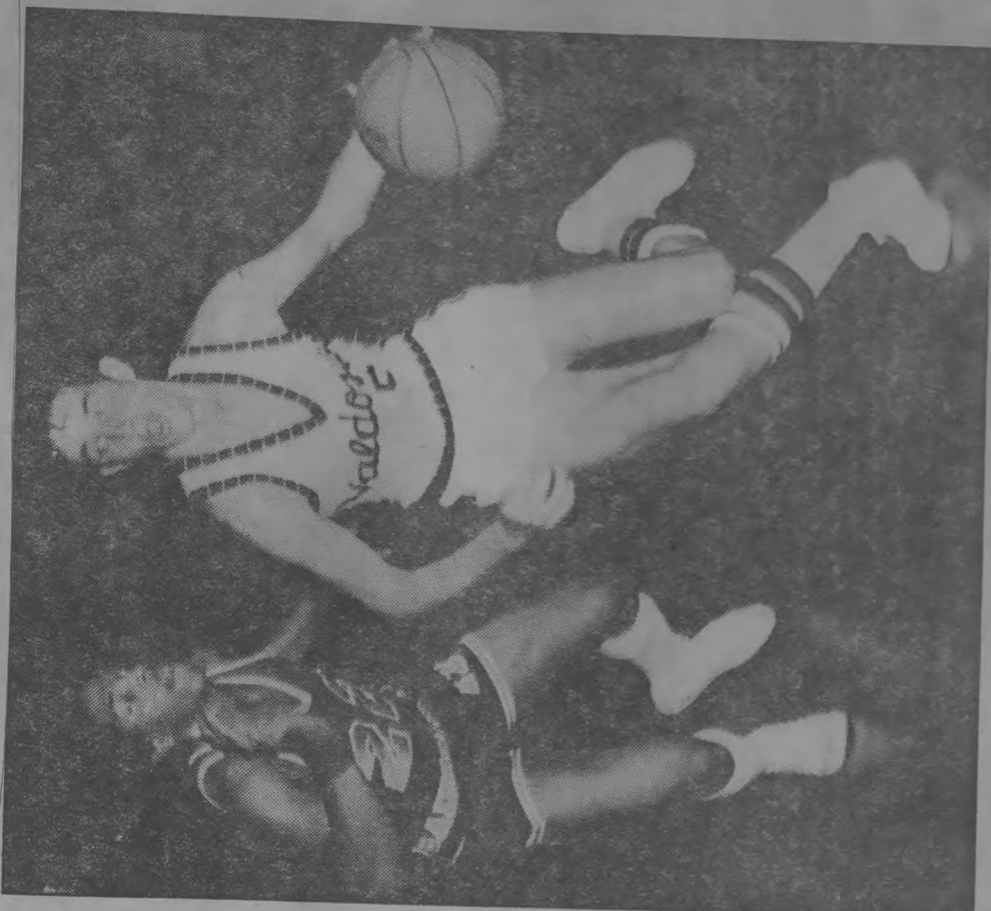
Valdosta 11 24 35 40
Bainbridge 14 27 35 46
VALDOSTA (40) — Whitehead 6, Crawford 10, Evans 8, Powell 6, Cooper 8, Wilson 2, Irvin.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 2 of 10, fouls 14.

BAINBRIDGE (46) — Harrell 15, Edwards 21, C. Gadsden 2, Brown 2, T. Gadsden 4, Moore, Close 2, Zorn.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 8 of 15, fouls 10.

BOYS

Bainbridge 15 22 41 54
Valdosta 11 27 35 46
VALDOSTA (49) — New 17, Gish 2, Feix 10, Powell 13, Coltran 4, Richardson 1, Wildes, Daniels.
Team Totals: Field goals 19, Free throws 11 of 15, fouls 11.

BAINBRIDGE (56) — Davis 22, Biggles 10, Robinson 6, Smiley 8, Gaines 9, Harris 1, Cheatham.
Team Totals: Field goals 25, Free throws 6 of 11, fouls 14.



Valdosta's David New Eyes An Open Lane Past Bearcat Defender
—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III.

Valdosta Plunges Into Tourney Action

By MIKE CHASON
 Hope springs eternal in the breast of every post-season tournament participant.

And Larry Cowart is no exception. Valdosta Wildcats and Kittens are ready to spring into action in the Region 1-AAAA (South) prep basketball tourney, which begins Thursday at Lowndes High School's gymnasium here.

The 5-16 Wildcats are seeded fifth in the six-team field and meet fourth-seeded Central of Thomasville at 6 p.m. Thursday. Central is 7-

15 overall and has chalked up 66-43 and 56-50 wins over VHS earlier this year.

The 8-13 Kittens are seeded sixth among the girls' teams and take on third-seeded Colquitt County (Moultrie) at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Colquitt is 14-7 overall and has beaten Valdosta by 77-62 and 51-46 scores this year.

"The boys kind of feel like we have a better ballclub than Central," Cowart said. "They've beaten us twice, but we just feel like we can beat them now."

Unlocking a win over the Yellow Jackets depends

mainly on shutting down William Davis, the top scorer in the subregion this season.

"If the Davis boy starts scoring, we might go to a box-and-one on him," Cowart said. "We'll draw straws to see who guards him...the loser gets him. I guess I'd probably put somebody like John Bond on him."

The Wildcats almost pulled an upset over Monroe's Tornadoes, ranked in a tie for third with Thomasville in the South Georgia Prep Poll, before falling by a 75-69 margin Saturday night.

That could give the

struggling 'Cats at least an emotional boost heading into tourney play.

"We did play a good ballgame against them but it just seems like we can't quite get there," Cowart said. "I've said all along that the attitude has stayed good, and it still is."

Probable starters for Valdosta include 6-0 senior Greg Powell, 5-8 senior Spencer Feix, 6-3 junior David New, 6-3 sophomore Dante Jones, and 6-3 junior Nathaniel Caesar.

Bond, a 6-3 junior, may replace New if the two-year

regular hasn't recovered from the flu.

Thomasville's 21-2 Bulldogs are the top seed in the boys' bracket and have drawn a bye to a 9 p.m. semifinal berth Friday against the Valdosta-Central winner. Bainbridge's 13-6 Bearcats are the second-seeded boys' team. They are followed by Lowndes at 12-9, Central, Valdosta and Colquitt at 3-18.

Lowndes' 22-0 Vikes are top-seeded among the girls' teams. They are followed by Bainbridge at 18-3, Colquitt, Central of Thomasville at 13-9, Thomasville at 11-12 and

17-game winning streak in the final semifinal game.

Saturday's girls' final is set for 7 p.m., and the boys' championship is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. All four finalists move on to the region tourney at Tift County High School in Tifton Feb. 23-24 against the four top teams from the north subregion tourney, which is being held at Albany High School this week.

"The last three weeks we've played pretty well," Cowart said of the VHS girls, who have won five of their past eight starts. "Two of the ballgames we have lost have

been on last second shot. Both times it's been 45-44.

"They say those kind of games out. I don't think they have for me in 13 years coaching."

Cowart said stopping Colquitt's 6-0 center Sa Edwards was the "key to ballgame."

"We've got to do a good on her," he said.

Probable starters for Kittens include 5-8 se Maggie Powell, 5-9 se Renee Whitehead, 5-3 se Janice Evans, 5-8 sophomore Cindy Cooper and 5-8 se Vera Crawford.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Sun., Feb. 11, 1979—14-A—

Kittens Fall, 45-44

Tornadoes Clip 'Cats, 75-69

By Times Staff Writer

ALBANY — The Wildcats of Valdosta High fell to host Monroe High School 75-69 in a hard fought contest here Saturday night. The Kittens, who had won five of their last seven starts, lost a 45-44 heartbreaker to the Lady Tornadoes.

The now 18-5 Tornadoes took the lead in the first half but had to give it up to the scrappy Wildcats in the second period. The 'Cats held a six-point advantage at intermission with the score at

47-41.

The third period ended with the clock showing 47 points for each team, and the final period remained even until the Tornadoes took the lead with 5:04 remaining on a free throw by Larry Bruner. The now 5-16 'Cats could not take the lead from the Tornadoes from there on out.

The Tornadoes, tied for third place in the South Georgia Prep poll, outrebounded the Wildcats 43-32.

The Kittens managed to

keep their contest close all the way. It appeared the VHS girls were to chalk up another in the win column until the final five seconds of the game, when the Lady Tornadoes sank the winning bucket.

Greg Powell paced the Wildcats and took game high honors with 25 points. Danie Jones followed Powell with 22 points and Spencer Feix and Nathaniel Caesar chipped in 10 apiece.

Donald Tumblin led the

Tornadoes with 22 points.

Valdosta High's Cindy Cooper had the game high honors in the girls' contest with 23 points. Renee Whitehead chipped in 11 more for the Kittens, who ended the regular season with an 8-13 slate.

Linda Frazier led the 8-13 Lady Tornadoes with 15 points. Valdosta returns to action in the Region 1-AAAA (South) tournament at Lowndes next week.

Valdosta	13	23	31	44
Monroe	12	24	35	45
VALDOSTA (44) — Cooper 23, Whitehead 11, Crawford 3, Evans 2, Powell 3, Wilson 2.				
Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free throws 4 of 12, Fouls 8.				
MONROE (48) — Frazier 15, Frazier 12, Thomas 2, Price 2, Jackson 4, Alford 2, Williams 2, Windom 2, Warren 4.				
Team Totals: Field goals 21, Free Throws 3 of 4, Fouls 15.				

Valdosta	19	27	47	68
Monroe	23	31	47	75
VALDOSTA (49) — Feix 10, Powell 25, Caesar 10, Jones 22, Bond 2, Daniels, Gibb.				
Team Totals: Field goals 26, Free throws 17 of 26, Fouls 15.				
MONROE (75) — Tumblin 22, Shealey 14, Turner 12, Bruner 11, Brown 5, Riggins 4, Howard, Ford.				
Team Totals: field goals 31, Free Throws 11 of 12, Fouls 20.				

Vald Times Tues Feb 13, 1979

Overby Is VHS STAR

By RICK ROUNTREE
What makes a good teacher?

One Valdosta High School student says it's one who "can motivate me but still be a personal friend."

That's how Rusty Overby, named STAR student Thursday at VHS, described Pat Walden who he chose as his STAR teacher.

Overby was given the award sponsored by the state Chamber of Commerce for scoring the highest of any senior on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

Each year the student named chooses a teacher who together will compete with other STAR students and teachers from around the state.

Overby, the son of Doris Overby of 2201 Lakeshore Drive, intends to become a clinical psychologist. He has narrowed his choices of colleges next year to Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and Duke University in Durham, N.C.

"I want to stay in the South. But I want to get into something that will be relevant and interesting. Psychology is something I think I would be good at," Overby said.

Schoolwork is one area Overby's been good at. Especially strong in math, Overby has received numerous academic awards and honors including Governor's Honors. He is a National Merit Semi-Finalist.



PAT WALDEN
STAR Teacher

He's been offered entry into early admission programs at several schools including Harvard. He is working now on a scholarship for next fall.

Mrs. Walden, Overby's Spanish teacher for four quarters, says being his instructor, "is a reward in itself."

"It's been the little things with Rusty. Obviously, he's very bright, catches on very easily. He's not demonstrative, but he and I talk a lot," she said. He was her teacher's aide two quarters.

"That's one of the best things about Rusty. We're close personal friends. I know a lot about what students think, feel and do because he tells me," she said.

For his part, Overby says there was no doubt about who he would select as his STAR teacher.

"She teaches I think the way students ought to be taught. She related to me and can motivate me. She makes her classes interesting because she's really interested in what she teaches," he said.

A Chilean who arrived here



RUSTY OVERBY
STAR Student

in 1970, Mrs. Walden was a Rotary fellow at the University of Georgia. She was the first in her family from Chile to become a teacher. "The teachers here think their pay is bad. It is much worse there," she said.

"It's a noble profession like in the U.S., but economically and socially it's not," she said. Mrs. Walden is married to Phil Walden, Distributive Education coordinator at Lowndes High School.

She has taught at VHS five years.

Overby and Mrs. Walden now move on to district STAR competition, according to a Citizens and Southern Bank spokesman. The bank is sponsor this year of VHS STAR winners.

The state STAR student winner gets an overseas trip, a \$1,000 cash scholarship and a STAR Statuette by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

Overby had the highest SAT score from tests taken in May, June, November and December.

The state STAR banquet is in April in Atlanta.

V-Times

Feb 15, '79

Artist Selected

Valdosta High School senior Jennifer Smith has had a pen and ink drawing selected from among 300 entries for a traveling exhibition of Georgia High School students work.

According to a family spokesman, Miss Smith was one of 42 students whose works were selected for the show. Her work is an abstract black and white pen and ink drawing of seashells. It is called "Ocean Study."

The show is sponsored by the Atlanta College of Art.

The works are to be on display through Feb. 28 at the Atlanta gallery in Colony Square at 14th and Peachtree streets in Atlanta. Then the show is to travel throughout the state.

Vald Times Wed FEB 14, '79

Twirling Champions

One Valdosta twirler is on her way to national competition and another is close behind following wins at the Championship Premiere Princess and Queen competition, according to one mother.

At Fairoaks Community near Atlanta, Tammy Bennett, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bennett, took both Queen and Princess titles. Winning nine first place trophies earned her the Princess title. She was also named Queen following gown and sportswear modeling for judges.

Bernard Williams, a junior at Valdosta High School, won three first place awards in the twirling competition and is just that many away from national competition. He is the son of Margie Williams.

The Fairoaks event is one of about four contests held during the year to select national competitors, said a spokesman.

Both students are twirlers for the Valdosta High School Marchin' Wildcats Band.

Benefits Of Weightlifting

Now Accepted As Fact

Weightlifting was once considered detrimental to an athlete. It was the domain of professional and amateur musclemen and not much more.

Today the claims of "it will weaken your heart" and "weightlifting will make you musclebound" have been cast to the wind. The benefits of weightlifting are generally accepted as fact in the athletic community and now the general public is getting in on the act.

Nick Hyder, football coach at Valdosta High, is one of the many coaches sold on the benefits of weightlifting. Hyder said weightlifting makes up about 25 percent of Valdosta's total offseason program. Valdosta has invested \$20,000 in weight training equipment.

The Valdosta coaching staff mixes weightlifting with other "resistive" exercises to produce strength, quickness, agility, endurance and explosiveness in their athletes. Hyder seeks to develop an athlete's total mental and physical conditioning through the various drills employed.

The body comes first though. As Hyder said, "We feel that before an athlete can be mentally tough, he has got to be physically tough."

The Valdosta football players and coaches meet at VHS in the mornings at 6:15 a.m. and lift until 7:45 a.m. Hyder, who specialized in human anatomy and physiology within his physical education degree, said, "If you know what you are doing, have the right diet, use the proper methods and amount of weight and know the purpose for which you are lifting, only good things come from lifting weights."

Weightlifting can either bulk up an athlete or trim him down. The VHS coaching staff sets up a program to suit whatever the individuals needs are.

Of primary concern to those who employ weightlifting is the 75 pairs of muscles that are involved in the body's movements. There are approximately 434 different muscles in the human body, making up 45 percent of the total body weight.

The theory which governs weight lifting came to the forefront in Progressive Resistance Exercise, a book written by Army orthopedic surgeon Thomas Delorme in 1951. Delorme was a weightlifter himself and sought to apply his knowledge to the treatment of military disabilities.

His thoughts helped to develop the current "progressive overload principle" that stresses using increasing amounts of weight on a regular schedule to increase body strength.

Women athletes are currently becoming more in tune to weightlifting. Judy Phillips, coach of the Valdosta State

Story by Mike Hagood

Photos By Mike Dowse

Women's Tennis Team employs weights on a regular basis to improve her athletes' strength.

Phillips said, "I think the main problem with women athletes is that they are not strong enough."

As far as her tennis players are concerned, Phillips said, "The main weakness is arm and grip strength. We work on improving these areas primarily."

Some women are even getting into the sport competitively.

Rebecca Joubert of Athens, Tenn., was working out in the local health spa and was convinced to attend a weightlifting session at Tennessee Tech. Three weeks later, she was competing in a meet and today, three years later, she holds five world records in her 135-pound weight class.

The VSC Women's tennis team and those not wishing to increase body weight work with lighter weights using a greater number of repetitions of lifts to gain the desired results. Football players and those seeking increased body weight generally use heavier weights with fewer repetitions.

Hyder said that all of his players had benefited from weightlifting. Two primary examples are John Brannen and John Lastinger.

Hyder said Brannen "started lifting as just one of the group and built himself into a hulk."

"He benches everything we've got, well over 300 pounds."

Weightlifting and Valdosta's offseason program made Lastinger into a complete player Hyder said. "I remember when I didn't want to look at him in the shower," said Hyder of Lastinger's lack of weight as a freshman.

Lifting weights is now an integral part of the Valdosta scheme of things. Hyder said, "You can't play football unless you pay this kind of price."

"We work harder now than the rest of the year, but we have to push now."

VOT Officers Elected At Valdosta High School

From Times Staff Reports

Peggy Perry, has been elected president of the Vocational Office Training (VOT) program at Valdosta High School.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Perry, she is secretary of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at VHS. She was Distributive Education reporter for 1976-77, Miss Valdosta High School 1976-77, and was sophomore homecoming representative.

Elected last week with her were Amy New, vice president, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. New; Lisa Weeks, secretary, daughter of Mrs. Ellen Weeks; and Paula Gombas, treasurer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gombas Jr.

VOT, according to coordinator Beth Barfield, is a cooperative work-training program for high school juniors and seniors who have completed one year of typing and who are preparing for full-time employment in office occupations. It consists of three parts, classroom instruction, on the job training and leadership training in the FBLA.

Students, Miss Barfield said, attend regular classes in the morning, including one related instructional period of VOT. In the afternoons, they receive on the job training after being placed in selected offices in the community.

Spring Drills Start Monday

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta High School Coach Nick Hyder expects about 120 candidates on the field when the Wildcats begin spring football drills Monday.

Hyder said the first week of the four-week drills would mainly be spent positioning the players and trying to fill some holes left by soon-to-be graduated seniors.

"We just about got wiped out on defense," Hyder said of the players missing from last season's 14-0-1 team, which wound up as the Class AAAA state co-champion with Griffin's Bears.

"We've also got some empty places on the offensive line," he said.

Hyder said the Wildcats' annual matchup with their Has-Beens would be on March 9. The spring game with Warner Robins is scheduled for March 23. That game is to be played in Warner Robins.

"We'll try to come back in after the Has-Been game and correct some of our mistakes," Hyder said. "I just hope we get some dry weather. We had 16 days in the rain last year."



NICK HYDER
Kicks Off '79 Campaign

Kittens Win, 76-47

Dougherty Drops Wildcats

By MIKE HAGOOD

In each game between Valdosta High and Dougherty, the stronger team came away with victories here Friday night.

Valdosta's Kittens out-classed the visitors from Albany, taking a 76-47 win. A stronger Trojan team dropped the host Wildcats 80-56 in the boys' game.

Walter Spurlin scored 22 points to make a close game at halftime a runaway for the 13-7 Trojans.

Dougherty held a decided edge in the rebounding department on the strength of four players over 6-4. Forwards Dennis Smith and Joe Dawson got into double figures for Dougherty with 16 and 12 points.

Nathaniel Ceasar and Greg Powell scored 15 points each to top the scorers for 5-12 VHS.

Vera Crawford scored 25 points to highlight a productive night for the forwards of Valdosta's girls' team. Cindy Cooper chipped in 17 and Renee Whitehead 16 as all three frontline members made double figures.

The scoring came from the front line, but a solid team game was what brought the 6-11 Kittens their third straight victory.

"We've worked real hard," said Valdosta Coach Larry Cowart. "The girls are doing about as good as they could do."

The Kittens did all they could do in fine style as they dominated every facet of the game. The passing of guards Maggie Powell and Janice Evans was particularly effective in getting the ball to the forwards in scoring position.

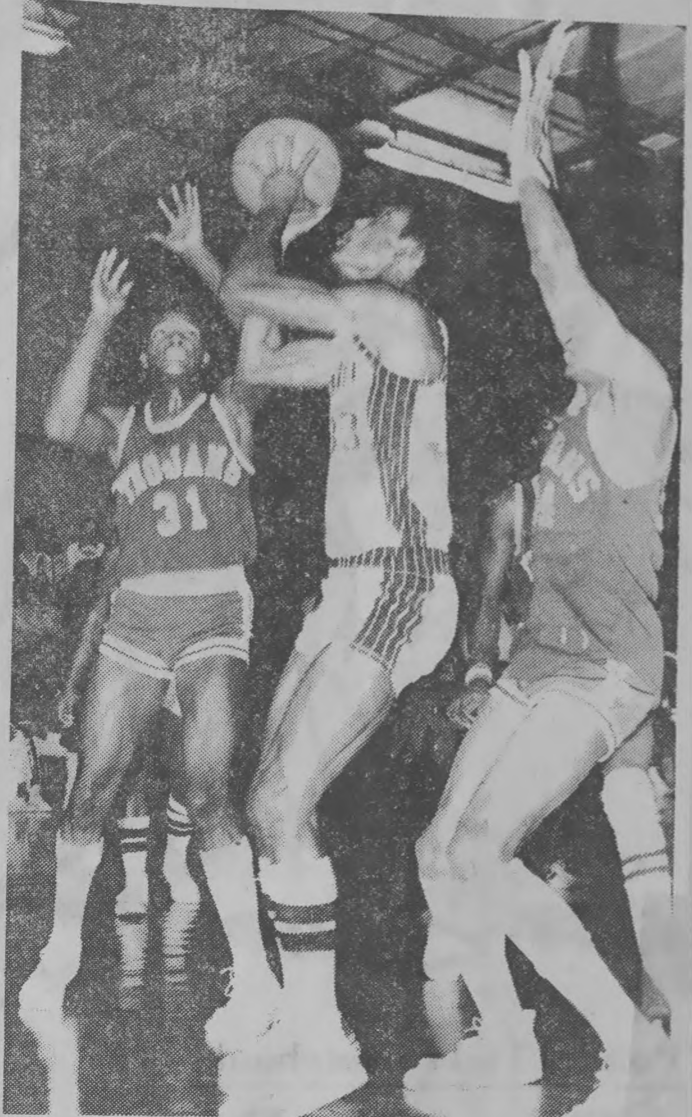
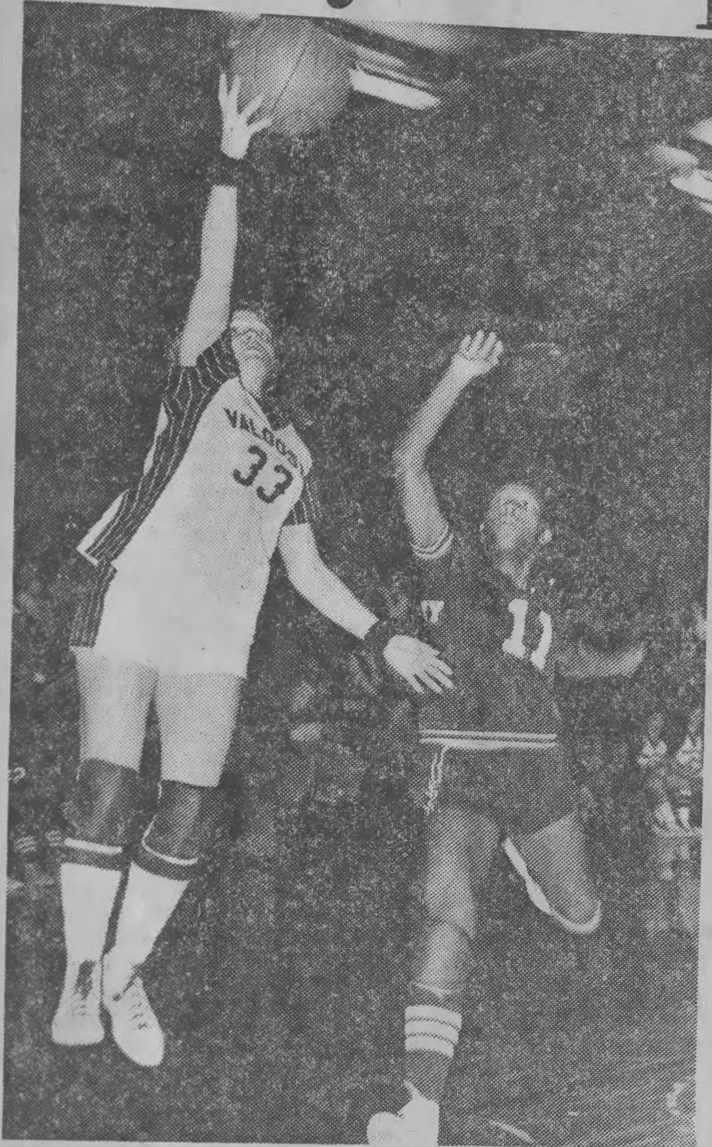
Full court pressure defense was what a key in moving the Valdosta girls to a comfortable 30-20 halftime lead.

The Kittens steadily increased their lead in the second half as they sped past the Trojanettes for numerous fast break baskets. Crawford had great success at grabbing a rebound and taking the ball the length of the floor for two points. She held court inside when VHS set up in the offense and was able to score most of her points from less than five feet.

The Kittens ruled the offensive glass against an ineffective Dougherty two-one-two zone defense.

Ramona Johnson, the Trojanettes usual top scorer, scored eight points in the first quarter, but was held to 14 for the game. Sandra Jackson scored 16 points to take game honors for 6-13 Dougherty.

Ceasar appeared to have



—Times Staff Photos

Kittens' Janice Evans Lays It Up As Nat Ceasar Looks For Opening Under Basket

been deserted by his troops in the boys' game. Valdosta's junior center waged a numbers' battle as the Trojans sent four players to the boards.

Ceasar appeared to be a man alone as the Wildcats were unable to block out a very physically talented Dougherty squad.

"A couple of times we got poor position. Maybe that is to their credit," said Cowart. "We really looked like we weren't where we were supposed to be."

Defensively, the Trojans were able to keep the 'Cats from getting the shots they wanted. The Trojans' man to man defense kept a hand in the face of Valdosta shooters all night.

"After the first half, I thought we had a chance to stay with them," said Cowart of an eight-point 32-24 deficit at halftime. "It is to their

credit that they were able to get us out of our patterns and into a running game for a while."

The Trojans were able to double their halftime lead after six minutes of play in quarter number three. Spurlin scored 10 points in the quarter as Dougherty's transition offense went into high gear.

Three minutes into the third quarter the Trojans had built a 12-point lead. With 4:46 to go in the period, Valdosta's John Bond scored on a drive to the hoop.

Trojan Coach Ken Martin felt Bond had double dribbled and heckled the referees as they came by his bench. Martin was hit with two technicals for his outspoken position on the matter and it appeared the 'Cats would be given new life.

Powell hit three of four technical free throws to bring

Valdosta within seven points and the 'Cats were then awarded the ball. They were unable to get a field goal, and Dougherty came back to score two straight baskets and began to pull away again.

From that point on, the visitors had the game in hand.

"The second half everything they threw up went in. If not, it was tipped in," said Cowart of the Trojans' almost unstoppable second half offensive show. "They did what they had to do."

Friday night was the last home ballgame for Kitten seniors Powell, Crawford, Evans and Whitehead as well as Wildcat seniors Powell, Andy Wildes, Richard Clayton, Bernard Gamble, Mark Gish, Spencer Feix, and Tim Dame.

Valdosta travels to Douglas

to play Coffee County tonight.

Cowart said the key to the game was stopping Coffee's Hank King, who scored 27 points in a 75-68 win for the Douglas boys earlier this season.

GIRLS

Dougherty	12	20	33	47
Valdosta	10	30	52	76

DOUGHERTY (47) — Johnson 14, Thompson 4, Radke, James 5, Morris 2, Jackson 16, Cheeks 4, Gardner 2, Williams, Garner.

Team Totals: field goals 18, free throws 11 of 18, fouls 20.

VALDOSTA (76) — Crawford 25, Whitehead 16, Powell 4, Cooper 17, Evans 6, Wilson 6, Swindle, Irvin 2, Mair, Nelson, Skellon.

Team Totals: field goals 32, free throws 12 of 20, fouls 14.

BOYS

Dougherty	20	32	56	80
Valdosta	14	24	42	56

DOUGHERTY (80) — Spurlin 22, James 8, Smith 16, Dawson 12, Toomer 6, Corhen 6, Lowe 2, Washington 4, Blakely 2, Hunt 2.

Team Totals: field goals 39, free throws 2 of 4, fouls 13.

VALDOSTA (56) — Ceasar 15, Bond 3, Powell 15, New 11, Feix 8, Daniels 4, Gish, Wildes.

Team Totals: field goals 22, free throws 12 of 16, fouls 11.

Only Time Will Tell The Future For VHS Basketball

V. Times
2-25-79

In Year One, Larry Cowart did not cure the basketball ills of Valdosta High School. But the opera ain't over 'til the fat lady sings, and Cowart hopes he has a few more seasons left to make an appearance at centercourt.

"Good coaches take what they've got and win with it," Cowart said. "I didn't do that. The kids did everything I asked them to do. There was no problem there. We did some of the things I wanted us to do but personally I wasn't satisfied."

It doesn't take Billy Packer and Al McGuire to figure out why.

Cowart's Valdosta High Kittens wound up with a 9-14 record for their third straight losing season. Not since Glen Phelps coached the team during the 1975-76 season have the VHS girls won more games than they've lost. The Kittens were 12-7 during that campaign.

Cowart's Wildcats posted a 6-17 record, the worst record for a Valdosta boys' team since the 1966-67 season when VHS won two games and lost 25. Joe Wilson, now the Lowndes High football coach, held the reins of that team which salvaged a split with Lanier County and beat Manor in the Bahira Christmas Tournament for its only victories.

In Wilson's defense, Valdosta did not have another losing season as long as he was the coach. He resigned midway the 1975-76 season to move to Lowndes. Wilson's assistant, Norman Sainz, over and guided the 'Cats to a state tournament berth that year.

Sainz, who never played basketball in high school and who was the junior high football coach at the time, carried one of the most talented VHS teams ever to an 18-3 record in his first full season. LaGrange beat Southwest Macon for the state title that year and Valdosta could have stayed on the court with either one of them.

But basketball is made for upsets, and that team was the victim of a memorable 55-52 spill against Central of Thomasville.

Last year, Sainz' team suffered from the loss of every starter of the fabulous five of the previous season and slumped to a 9-13 mark.

Now the Wildcats have thrown up another set of losing numbers for the second year in a row. During those same two

man to coach both teams against the kind of competition Valdosta faces. Cowart shrugged off the responsibility because it was something he had encountered before.

Nothing's changed about his sentiments.

"It's just like your football coaches at a smaller school who are in charge of offense and defense," Cowart said. "I think it's fun. I've enjoyed it. I've done it at three schools now. It's three things...organization, getting help from your assistant coaches and the kids have to understand the situation."

"If you've got those three things, I can't really see where it's any problem."

As far as the regular season schedule is concerned, there is no problem. The Wildcats and Kittens play on the same night against the same competition. However, the Georgia High School Association has unwisely made it nearly impossible for one man to coach two teams from the same school on the state tournament level. If Cowart had put both VHS squads in the state tourney this season, he would have had to send the Wildcats on to the floor in the Macon Coliseum and a little while later, give the Kittens their instructions at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville.

But that crisis never evolved because for the third year in a row, neither team got out of the subregion tournament. Both did pull first round upsets but suffered a return to normalcy in the semifinals round.

"I think we came a long way this year in a lot of areas," Cowart said. "Nobody else might not see it, but we can."

Both teams suffered from a lack of offensive punch, and both teams lost a lot of close games because of it. It came down to a lack of a clutch player who was going to step in there in that fourth quarter and hit some game-winning hoops. Cowart said the close ones are supposed to even out over the course of a man's career but so far Lady Luck has been leering at him.

Nobody has to tell him that close losses aren't remembered. It's those W's and L's that count. Most folks are interested in results, not excuses.

But in a town where the two local football coaches are cussed and discussed as much as the politicians, Cowart said he hasn't felt the heat.

"Not as far as anybody associated with the high school seasons."

anyway," he said. "I put a lot of pressure on myself. But everybody else has been mighty nice to me."

If there's a coach who's less emotional than Cowart on the bench, you better check his pulse. He's probably passed on to that great whistle and white socks clinic in the sky. It's hard to believe Cowart sat through some of the losses his teams endured without so much as a twitching of his nose. The guy has to be the calmest coach in history when he's on the pine. He doesn't even roll up a program or kick a towel.

Cowart's rock-solid demeanor doesn't follow him off the court. He's usually loose and has a dry wit about him in post-game interviews. More often than not, he finds some area of his coaching strategy to criticize.

It would be nice to end up on a positive note and say Cowart has the talent coming back next season to repeat the only boys' state basketball title the 'Cats have ever won in 1948 and repeat the two girls' state championships the Kittens won in 1957 and 1961.

But it ain't necessarily so.

The VHS girls lose four senior starters including Renee Whitehead, Maggie Powell, Vera Crawford and Janice Evans. The VHS boys lose two senior starters in Greg Powell and Spencer Feix.

The Wildcats will have an experienced front line coming back in Dante Jones, Nathaniel Ceasar and David New and a solid backcourtman in John Bond. Cowart said Bond was just now beginning to come around after a late start because of the football playoffs. New and Bond are both capable of scoring from outside, and Jones and Ceasar should improve their offensive maneuvers under the hoop. Despite the fact there isn't an aggressive rebounder among them, the Wildcats should be improved.

The Kittens will have to rebuild around Cindy Cooper, Tracy Irvin, Dana Swindle and Co. Cowart's reputation is excellent as far as turning out quality girls' basketball teams is concerned but he will be sorely tested to make the VHS gals a contender next year.

Only time will tell if Cowart can revive a patient called VHS basketball which has been on the operating table for two seasons.



Mike

Chason

Times Sports Editor

seasons, the VHS football team has finished in a tie for first in the state and a narrow second in the state. Last year, the Wildcats won the state baseball title and finished fourth in the state golf tourney.

Losing is not contagious but maybe neither is winning.

Somewhere along the line basketball hasn't been drinking of the magic formula that produces so much success in other VHS sports. If there's a secret password, the Valdosta basketball teams have been frozen out in the old schoolyard game of "pass-it."

Cowart scoffs at the notion the Valdosta basketball teams aren't winning because this is a football town, and nobody cares about guys and gals running around in black-and-gold short pants.

"I've been at other schools where we've had a winning program in every sport," he said. "If we can really establish a program and get these gyms open in the summer, I think we can be a winner."

Cowart and assistant coach Roger Rome had the Valdosta Junior High gym open on Saturdays this winter. He would favor leaving it open all spring and summer as well.

When Cowart took over both VHS teams, there were some raised eyebrows as to whether it was practical to allow one

Lastinger, Thomas On All-Star Squad

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School's John Lastinger and Troy Thomas have been named to the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association south all-star football squad.

The two Wildcat standouts are part of a 25-man squad which faces the north all-stars on Aug. 2 at DeKalb Memorial Stadium in Atlanta.

Lastinger was named Offensive Player of the Year in Region 1-AAAA this season when his passing and running heroics led Valdosta to a 10-0 regular season record and through two region playoff games.

In the first round of the state playoffs, Lastinger went down with a shoulder injury. Junior signal-caller John Bond took over and helped the 14-0-1 'Cats to a share of the state Class AAAA title in a 7-7 deadlock with Griffin in the final game.

Thomas is listed as a running back on the all-star squad but played cornerback for Coach Nick Hyder's Valdostans.

Lastinger has already signed a college scholarship with the University of Georgia. Thomas has signed with the University of South Carolina.

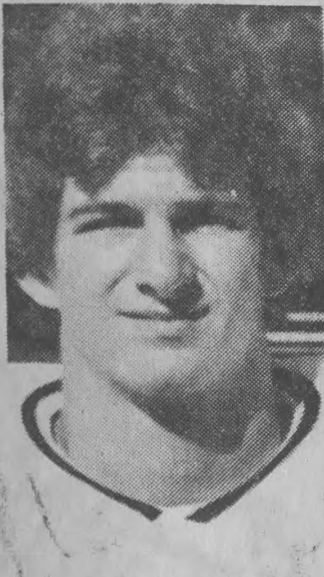
For his performance this season, Thomas was named Defensive Player of the Year in Region 1-AAAA. He also returned punts for the Wildcats.

Players for both teams were chosen by the coaches of the 1978 region winners in all classifications. Five more players are to be added to each squad by the head

Georgia Tech Hires Spurrier

ATLANTA (AP) — Steve Spurrier, who won the Heisman Trophy as Florida's quarterback in 1966, has been hired to teach the tricks of his trade to Georgia Tech's quarterbacks.

"We're going to become more of a pro-type offensive team," Coach Pepper Rodgers said. "We need to develop that through people like Spurrier who have been



JOHN LASTINGER
VHS Quarterback

coaches at a later date.

No more than two players may be selected from the same school.

Coaching the south team is Dewey Alverson, longtime coach at Southwest Dekalb who recently was hired by John High of Gainesville. Lincoln County's Larry Campbell is to coach the north team.

Offense is again to be emphasized in the game. Neither team can punt the ball away unless it is within 30 yards of its own goal line.

Both squads are to report July 29 at Woodward Academy in College Park to prepare for the game. Atlanta's WAGA-TV, Channel 5 is to again televise the game.

Proceeds from the game

in the pro game."

Spurrier, 33, played for the San Francisco 49ers of the National Football League from 1967 to 1975, mostly as a backup. He also played briefly for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Denver Broncos.

Last year, Spurrier was offensive coordinator for his alma mater.



TROY THOMAS
Top Defensive Player

are to go to the Leukemia Society.

The rosters of both teams follow:

NORTH

Quarterbacks — Bob Berry, (6-0, 190), Southwest Dekalb; Gordon Beckham (6-0, 200), Westminster; Homer Jordan (6-0, 170), Cedar Shoals; centers — John Bates (6-5, 245), Gainesville; Richard Povilaitis (6-3, 215), Cross Keys; split ends — Willie Gault (6-1, 185), Griffin; David Painter (6-3, 195), Dalton; tight ends — Roosevelt Hill (6-0, 190), Newman; Wallace Jones (6-4, 252), Cedartown; Joey Browner (6-3, 198), Southwest Atlanta.

Running backs — Johnny Tutt (6-0, 175), East Rome; Danny Westfall (6-1, 185), Dalton; Melvin Dorsey (6-0, 190), Lakeside; Michael Carson (6-0, 175), Buford; Ricky Williams (5-10, 175), Griffin; guards — Jack Lindsey (6-3, 220), Southwest Dekalb; John Schaefer (6-1 1/2, 218), Lakeside; Randy Edwards (6-4, 240), Wheeler; Will Forts (6-1, 210), Fayette County; Ricky Hill (5-10 1/2, 190), Commerce; tackles — Tim Crowe (6-2, 235), Stone Mountain; Ray Brown (6-5, 230), East Rome; Dwayne Puckett (6-9, 317), Cedartown; Box Hix (6-4, 230), Jefferson; Dan Marlow (6-4, 210), Marietta.

SOUTH

Quarterbacks — Cy Pess (6-3, 192), Warren County; Robert Troup (6-0, 170), Swainsboro; John Lastinger (6-2, 185), Valdosta; centers — Dean Terry (6-1, 180), Worth County; Alonzo Terry (6-3, 170), Charlton County; Doug Parrish (6-0, 185), Americus; tight ends — Emanuel Toles (6-3, 190), Mary Persons; Phillip Herren (6-1, 205), Warner Robins; Guy McIntyre (6-4, 225), Thomasville.

Running backs — Chris McCarthy (6-0, 195), Benedictine; Troy Thomas (5-10, 180), Valdosta; Jimmy Grant (5-10, 175), Miller County; Roosevelt Wilder (5-11, 190), Macon Central; Phil Amason (5-11, 150), Lincoln County; guards — John Elias (6-2 1/2, 212), Columbus; John White (6-2, 210), Warner Robins; Terry Meardith (6-2, 235), Dublin; Nate Taylor (6-0, 195), Tift County; Ricky Mikel (6-2, 215), Claxton; tackles — Andrew Province (6-3, 250), Benedictine; Tim Case (6-4, 250), Tift County; Terry Widner (6-4, 250), Seminole County; Wally Cawthon (6-1 1/2, 218), Jackson; Charles Junior (6-1, 175), Waycross.

County High from Quitman Monday in their next trip to the cinders.

High Jump — Ceasar (V), Acree (C), Williams (C), Heights: 5-6.
Pole Vault — Griffin (V), Curtis (V), Gallagher (V) Height: 9'6".
Long Jump — Wilson (V), Richardson (V), Madison (C). Distance: 20'6 1/4".
Triple Jump — Wilson (V), Mitchell (V), Arnold (V). Distance: 42'5".
440-Yard Relay — King, Griffin, Scott, Wilson (V) Time: 46.1.
Shot Put — Yarborough (C), Davis (V), Jenkins (C). Distance: 36'8 1/2".
Discus — Kehoe (V), Reed (C), May (C). Distance: 95'5 1/2".
Mile Run — Jenkins (V), Gallagher (V), Melvin (V). Time: 4:57.5.
440-Yard Dash — Scott (V), Gaines (V), Smith (C). Time: 19.4.
100-Yard Dash — King (V), Johnson (V), Sands (C). Time: 10.5.
120-High Hurdles — Griffin (V), Madison (C). Time: 17.3.
880-Yard Run — Green (V), Jones (V), Pace (C). Time: 2:10.6 (New School Record).
220-Yard Dash — Johnson (V), King (V), Sands (C). Time: 24.4.
330-Yard Intermediate Hurdles — Ceasar (V), Gaines (V), Griffin. Time: 43.00.
Mile Relay — Green, Jones, Ceasar, Scott (V). Time: 3:39.00 (New School Record).

VHS, Colquitt Split

The Valdosta girls' tennis team won its sixth straight match, defeating Colquitt County 7-2 here Thursday. The visitors from Moultrie were undefeated before Thursday's meeting with the Kittens.

The Colquitt boys gained revenge, winning a 6-4 decision over the Valdosta boys.

The VHS girls are now 6-1 and the boys are 3-4.

Both teams are to meet Bainbridge here Monday in their next matches.

Here are the results of Thursday's matches:

GIRLS

Singles — Kim Gandy (V), def. Angie Johnson 6-2, 6-2; Pamela Gore (C) def. Julie Spencer 6-4, 7-5; Linda Hall (V) def. Sonya Barry 6-2, 6-1; Jan Pendleton (V) def. Jackie Marks 6-1, 7-6; Beth Pitts (V) def. Jo Beth Weaver 6-1, 6-1; Maggie Powell (V) def. Sarah Edwards 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles — Johnson-Gore def. Spencer-Hall 6-2, 3-6, 6-1; Powell-Pendleton def. Marks-Weaver 6-0, 6-3; Gandy-Griffin def. Barry-Edwards 8-5.

BOYS

Singles — Patrick Gore (C) def. Biff Taylor 6-2, 6-3; David Scott (C) def. Rodney Childree 6-2, 6-0; Mike Enfinger (V) def. Pierce Gilbert 6-2, 3-6, 6-4; Carew Rowell (C) def. Edwin Wetherington 6-2, 3-6, 6-1; Roger Lond (C) def. Mark Swank 6-2, 6-2; Andy Wortham (V) def. Todd Griffin 6-4, 5-7, 6-0; Nate Thompson (C) def. Bill Elliot 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles — Childree-Enfinger def. Gore-Windom 7-6, 6-1; David Broomberg-Wetherington (V) def. Scott-Gilbert 6-4, 6-2; Land-Thompson (C) def. Lee Redish-Lex Culbreth 7-5, 6-3.

'Cats Clip Colquitt

Valdosta bombed Colquitt County 108-20 in a boys' track meet held here Thursday.

The Wildcats defeated Central of Thomasville Monday 75-68 in their first meet, making the 'Cats 2-0 for the year.

The Wildcats host a triangular meet with Lowndes High and Brooks

Kittens' Track Team Romps For Fifth Victory

From Staff Reports

Valdosta defeated Thomasville and Central of Thomasville 85-43-12 in a triangular high school track meet here Wednesday. The Kittens are now 5-0.

Lisa Jones won three events, the 100-yard dash, the 220-yard dash and the broad jump. She also was a member of two meet-winning relay teams.

Coach Jerry Don Baker also complimented Vera Dotson and Rosalina Jackson for their performances. Dotson won the shot put and ran the fastest leg of the year on the mile relay team. Jackson finished second to Jones in three events and was a part of two relay teams.

The Kittens travel to Sylvester Friday to take part

in the Worth County Relays. Some of the top teams in southern Georgia have been invited to the meet.

High jump: Powell (V), Williams (C), Anderson (T). H: 4'9".
Long jump: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Bryant (V). D: 17' 11 1/2".
Shot put: V. Dotson (V), Rowan (T), McIntyre (T). D: 35' 7 1/4".
Discus: Walden (T), Stephens (C), Parnell (V). D: 98' 8".

440-yard relay: Valdosta (R. Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, V. Dotson). T: 50.9.
Mile run: Turner (T) Gandy (V), Mair (V). T: 6:03.6.

440-yard dash: Thomas (T), Bryant (V), Gray (V). T: 1:06.
100-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T). T: 11.4.
110-yard low hurdles: C. Lawrence (V), J.

Curtis (V), Turner (T). T: 16.83.
880-yard run: J. Dotson (V), J. Hall (V), Morris (C). T: 2:38.
220-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T). T: 26.6.
Two-mile run: Gandy (V), Cochran (T), Mair (V). T: 13:39.
Mile relay: Valdosta (V) V. Dotson, R. Jackson, L. Jones, N. Bryant). T: 4:22.

VHS B-team Rolls

The Valdosta High B-team thumped Brooks County 22-3 in a baseball game here Thursday.

Lowndes Claims A Narrow Win Over VHS Track Team

From Staff Reports

Lowndes' Vikings held off Valdosta's hard-charging Wildcats for a 69-68 victory in a high school track match at the VHS track Monday.

Brooks County's Trojans from Quitman were a distant third in the meet with 31 points.

The Newnan Sanchez-coached Vikings raised their record to 11-2 while Valdosta, coached by Freddie Waters, was left at 3-1 on the year.

Johnny B. Williams captured two events for Lowndes. He won the 120-yard high hurdles in a time of 16.57 and took the 330-yard intermediate hurdles in a time of 41.86.

Chuck Jones also picked up a pair of events for the

100-yard dash: Chuck Jones (L), Mitchell (B), Conway (V), King (V). T: 16.11.

120-yard high hurdles: Williams (L), Griffin (V), Hampton (L), Wyche (B). T: 16.57.

880-yard run: Green (V), Jones (V), Garrison (B), Hargrove (L), T: 2:07.71.

220-yard dash: Chuck Jones (L), Mitchell (B), King (V), Burks (L), T: 23.26.

330-yard intermediate hurdles: Williams (L), Griffin (V), Caesar (V), M. Jones (L), T: 41.86.

Two mile run: Jenkins (V), Lammons (B), McQueen (L), Gallagher (V). T: 10:30.91.

Mile relay: Valdosta (Green, Jones, Caesar, Scott), Lowndes (T: 3:39.16).

Valdosta with a 77.

Lowndes, which hosts Tift County (Tifton) and Westover (Albany) at Francis Lake Friday, is now 9-2 on the year.

Valdosta took top honors in a B-team match with a score of 333. Lowndes followed at 336, and Bainbridge was on the bottom at 424.

VHS Gals On Streak

Valdosta High School's Kittens captured their seventh tennis victory in a row here Monday with a 9-0 conquest of Bainbridge. The VHS girls are now 7-1 on the season.

Valdosta's boys' team raised its record to 4-4 with a 7-2 victory over the visiting Bearcats.

GIRLS

Singles — Kim Gandy (V) def. Lee Ann Harrill 6-1, 6-3; Linda Hall (V) def. Mercla Reynolds 6-0, 6-0; Julie Spencer (V) def. Scarlett Moore 6-3, 6-0; Jan Pendleton (V) def. Susan Hyde 6-0, 6-0; Beth Pitts (V) def. Cathy Burris 6-2, 6-1; Lee Anne Griffin (V) def. Nancy Calbee 6-0, 6-1; Lee Anne Griffin (V) def. Nancy Calbee 6-0, 6-0.

Doubles — Spencer-Hall def. Harrell-Moore 6-2, 6-1; Maggie Powell-Pendleton def. Reynolds-Hyde 6-2, 6-0; Pitts-Griffin def. Burris-Calbee 8-0.

BOYS

Singles — Biff Taylor (V) def. Bill Enlow 6-3, 6-1; Wally Calbee (B) def. Mike Enfinger 6-6, 6-4, 6-4; Edwin Weatherington (V) def. Gerald Sirmans 6-1, 6-3; Mark Swank (V) def. Billy Reynolds 7-6, 6-1; Andy Worthan (V) def. Gerald Sanders 6-0, 6-0; Bill Elliott (V) def. Jay Lovett 6-5.

Doubles — Childree-Enfinger def. Enlow-Calbee 6-4, 6-3; Broomeberg-Weatherington def. Lovett-Reynolds 6-1, 6-2; Sanders-Lovett def. Lex Culbreth-Lee Reddish 6-4, 6-4.

VHS Girls Triumph

Lisa Jones won the broad jump and the 220-yard dash as well as running a leg on the 440-yard and mile relay

teams here Monday to power Valdosta to an 88-16 girls' high school track meet victory over Brooks County.

Jones had a winning jump of 17 feet, nine inches in the broad jump and ran the 220-yard dash in a time of 26.4.

The Kittens won both relay events Jones participated in.

Coach Jerry Baker's Valdosta team is now 3-0 on the season. The Kittens travel to Thomasville Wednesday.

Maggie Powell had one of the top individual performances for VHS Monday when she had a leap of four feet, 11 inches in the high jump to set a new school record.

Shot put: V. Dotson (V), Dunlap (B), Holliday (V), D: 35'9 3/4".

Discus: E. Dunlap (B), A. Holliday (V), Parnell (V), D: 91'11".

High jump: Powell (V), Lawrence (V),

Parnell (V), H: 4'11". (New-school record).

Long jump: Jones (V), Bryant (V), Jackson (V), D: 17'9".

440-yard relay: Valdosta (R, Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, V. Dotson), T: 52.2.

Mile run: Gandy (V), Meyer (V), Hall (B), T: 6:21.0.

440-yard dash: Bryant (V), Gray (V), Coleman (V), T: 1:07.0.

100-yard dash: Jackson (V), Smith (B), Dunlap (B), T: 11.8.

110-yard low hurdles: Curtis (V), Lawrence (V), Williams (B), T: 16.67.

880-yard run: J. Dotson (V), Hall (V), Sapp (V), T: 2:41.0.

220-yard dash: L. Jones (V), R. Jackson (V), Smith (B), T: 26.4.

Mile relay: Valdosta (R, Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, N. Bryant), T: 4:31.0.

VICA Names Leaders, Lifetimers

By Times Staff Writer
Leadership awards and honorary lifetime memberships were presented during the 14th annual Valdosta High Employer-Employee Banquet of the Vocational-Industrial Clubs of America.

Beth Dickson and club president Warren Turner were presented leadership awards during the banquet held recently at the Gold Plate Restaurant, an announcement said.

VHS Principal Lloyd Mims and vice principal James Bridges were named honorary VICA life members, it said.

Among the visitors were Norman Greene, VHS distributive education advisor, Beth Toth, DE Clubs of America state secretary and Phil Walden, Lowndes High School DE adviser and DE Student of the Year Stuart Parker.

Northeast Macon Edges Kittens

SYLVESTER — Northeast Macon edged Valdosta High to win the Worth County Relays here Friday.

Northeast and Valdosta were tied going into the final event, the mile relay. Northeast took first and third places, while Valdosta finished second.

Northeast's meet-winning total was 108 1/2. VHS finished with 104 1/2 points. Following the two leaders was Southwest Macon-79, Vienna 54, Cairo 48, Crisp County (Cordele) 14, Dougherty (Albany) 10, Brooks County (Quitman) 8, Worth County 0, and Terrell County (Dawson).

Long jump: Clifette (NE M), L. Jones (V), L. Kingdom (VI), D: 18'4".

Shot put — V. Dotson (V), Dunlap (B), Brown (NE M), D: 36'2 1/4".

High jump: Kingdom (VI), Cornelius (NE M), Powell (V), H: 5'.

Discus: Harris (C), Anderson (SW M), Parnell (V), D: 107'2".

440-yard relay: Valdosta (R, Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, V. Dotson), T: 49.7 (new school record).

Mile run: Cornelius (NE M), Wright (Ca), Moncrief (SW M), T: 5:38.

440-yard dash: Pitts (SW M), Bowers (V), Green (NE M), T: 1:00.

100-yard dash: Clifette (NE M), L. Jones (V), West (C), T: 11.0.

110-yard low hurdles: Kingdom (VI), Bomer (SW M), Lawrence (V), T: 14.8 (Lawrence new school record).

880-yard run: Spencer (NE M), J. Dotson (V), Hart (SW M), T: 2:29. (Dotson new school record).

220-yard dash: Clifette (NE M), L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), T: 25.0 (Jones and Jackson new school record).

Two-mile run: Cornelius (NE M), Moncrief (SW M) Glover (NE M), T: 12.28.

Mile Relay: Northeast Macon (Clifette, Cornelius, Green, Brown), T: 4:10.

Suwannee Thwarts VHS Comeback Try

By Times Staff Writer
The Valdosta Wildcats were defeated 11-9 by Suwannee High from Live Oak, Fla., here Saturday in what VHS Coach Butch Brooks called "a circus of errors."

Suwannee established a 2-0 lead in the first inning on the strength of its own bats and then scored two runs in each of the next two innings with the help of Wildcat miscues.

The 'Cats came to life with a valiant comeback, but were unable to make up the error strewn distance.

Trailing 6-0, the 'Cats picked up two runs in the bottom of the fourth. John Lastinger slapped a run scoring double and David New had an rbi single to account for the sixth's runs.

Two more Suwannee runs opened an 8-2 gap in the top of the sixth, but the 'Cats closed with three runs in their half of the sixth inning. Valdosta took advantage of its opponents mistakes, scoring David Berryhill, Ashley DeLoach and Wayne Fugett after a Suwannee passed ball and a wild pitch.

A three-run homer by Suwannee's Gene Shepard made Valdosta's task even tougher, as it entered the bottom of the seventh inning down 11-5.

The 'Cats scored four times in their final stand at the plate, but fell short by a two-

run margin.

Ashley DeLoach picked up the pitching loss in his first decision of the year. DeLoach held the mound for the first three innings and allowed only one earned run. David New came in to pitch the final four innings.

Suwannee was playing in its 20th game of the year and moved its record to 18-2. The 'Cats are now 2-4 overall with two Region 1-AAAA (South) games upcoming this week.

Valdosta travels to Thomasville Tuesday and hosts Lowndes Friday.

Suwannee also won a B-team contest with Valdosta prior to the varsity game. The junior 'Cats fell 10-4 at the hands of their visitors.

Donnie Allen went three for four with five runs batted in to key the Suwannee attack. David Parker and William Davis had two hits each for Valdosta.

Phil Washington got the hill win and Jack Sumner was saddled with the loss.

The VHS B-team, now 2-3-1, meets Lowndes on the road Wednesday in its next game.

"It pleased me that we were able to come back, said Brooks of the varsity game." But it does not please me to lose. I do not like to lose anytime.

"I had a feeling when they (Suwannee) came in that

they would be tough. They have had a change in the coaching staff and brought in two good baseball people.

"We are going to practice tomorrow. I'm going to try to put together what I'm going to be going with for about a week or two. I've been playing a lot of people trying to give them a look. We just haven't had that many games."

As far as pitchers for this weeks games are concerned, Brooks said he might throw Fugett some against Thomasville and possibly come back with him against Lowndes.

"I've got to get him (Fugett) in shape. He's always been a slow starter," said Brooks.

Suwannee				Valdosta			
ab	r	h	rb	ab	r	h	rb
Rob 1b	0	0	0	DLch p	5	1	2
DH Ri dh	3	0	2	Dam ss	3	1	0
Wody p	2	0	1	Fug 3b	1	2	0
Swf 2b	2	1	0	Las rf	2	2	1
Rob c	4	1	1	Ruf c	2	1	1
Rob ss	4	2	1	Bla 1b	2	0	2
And rf	4	2	1	New p	0	1	0
Jon p	4	1	0	Wel lf	0	0	0
Cok 3b	3	0	0	Chap dh	2	0	0
Jns cf	3	2	1	Feix 2b	3	0	0
Mrt lf	2	1	0	Bag ph	1	0	0
Shp ph	1	1	3	Bnd cf	0	0	0
Totals	31	11	9	Brhil rf	4	1	2
				Totals	25	9	7

Suwannee		Valdosta	
222	020	3-11-9-0	
E - Dame2, Welch 1, Bond1, Berryhill 1;		LOB - Suwannee 5, VHS 7.	
2B - Riley, Anderson, Lastinger; HR -		Shepherd; SB - Roberts, Anderson 2, Jones	
3; S - Cook; SF - Sweat, Chapman.		ip h r er bb so	
DeLoach (1, 0-1)		3 3 6 1 2 3	
New		4 6 5 2 0 3	
Jones (w, 6-0)		41-3 5 4 2 5 3	
Woolley		12-3 2 5 5 3 0	
Anderson		1 0 0 0 0 1	
HBP - Fugett by Anderson; WP -		Jones; PB - Roberts.	

VHS Students Are Selected

By Times Staff Writer
Four Valdosta High School students are to be at Wesleyan College in Macon this summer as part of the Governor's Honors program, according to a school official.

The four have been chosen to participate in specific areas of study, for six weeks along with high school students from throughout the state.

The four include Timothy Farley, son of Mr. and Mrs. V.T. Farley, in mathematics; Ross Carl Langenbach, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Langenbach, in social studies; William David New, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. New, mathematics, and Deborah Rose, daughter of Elizabeth Davis in social studies.

4/11/79 TMS

Wildcats Blanked By Bearcats, 4-0

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE - The Bainbridge Bearcats defeated Valdosta 4-0 in a high school baseball game here Tuesday.

The host Bearcats scored three runs in the third inning and one in the fourth to hand the 'Cats their third loss in four games this season.

The Bearcats' Jim Chapman limited Valdosta to only three hits in the game to even his record at 1-1.

The first Bainbridge run crossed the plate when VHS left fielder Andy Weldon misplayed a single. Two more runs were scored when Bainbridge first basemen Bubba Eckenrod blasted a triple up the middle off starting pitcher David New.

New was lifted after two men reached base in the fifth inning. Ashley DeLoach came in to close out the game on the hill.

Valdosta's B-team tripped Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) 10-7 in Valdosta Tuesday.

Chris Mayne picked up the pitching victory and slapped a two-run homer for the 'Cats. Mark Cox went two for three at the plate to lead VHS hitters.

David West was the losing pitcher for Lanier.

The now 2-1-1 B-team meets Cook (Adel) on the road today.

Valdosta's varsity hosts Suwannee from Live Oak, Fla., Friday in its next game.

John Lastinger was in the Valdosta lineup Tuesday for the first time this year. He was out of town for the Wildcats' first three games. Tim Dame switched to shortstop after filling in for Lastinger in centerfield.

"We just ain't hitting the ball," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks. "I asked the kids to do some soul searching. We've got to pull it together from somewhere."

VHS				BHS			
ab	r	h	rb	ab	r	h	rb
Wldn lf	4	0	0	Smth 2b	4	0	2
Dam ss	3	0	0	C. Rich	4	1	2
Fug 1b	3	0	1	Cyrs cf	2	1	0
Las cf	2	0	1	R. Ricc	3	1	1
Ruff c	3	0	0	Ecrd 1b	2	0	2
New p	2	0	0	Stpn 3b	3	0	1
DLch 3b	3	0	1	Jnes rf	2	0	0
Snd lf	2	0	0	Chapp	2	0	0
Feix 2b	0	0	0	Will ss	2	1	0
Chap dh	2	0	0				
Totals	24	0	3	Totals	24	4	8

Valdosta		Bainbridge	
000	000	0-0-3	
E - Weldon, Dame, Smith, Willis; LOB -		VHS 8, Bainbridge 8.	
2B - C. Rich, Stephens; 3B - DeLoach		Eckenrod.	
ip h r er bb so			
New (L, 1-1)		4 8 4 4 4 1	
DeLoach		2 0 0 0 2 3	
Chapman (W, 1-1)		7 3 0 0 3 2	



CURT COCHRAN
Acting Award

Cochran Is Winner

DECATUR - A Valdosta High School student took an acting award in Agnes Scott College Foreign Language Drama Contest.

A college news release said, Curt Cochran of VHS won second prize for acting in the French division in the recent contest.

He played Jacquinot in "La Farce du Cuvier".

VHS Gals Win Big

The Valdosta girls' track team overwhelmed Colquitt County (Moultrie) 85-15 in a meet held at Valdosta High Thursday.

Kim Gandy set a new school record in the mile run with a time of 6:01.00 after she set a school record in the 880-Yard Run in a meet Monday.

Cathy Lawrence recorded a new school mark in the 110-Yard Low Hurdles with a time of 16.73.

- High Jump - Powell (V), Lawrence (V), Parnell (V). Height: 4'10".
- Discuss - Parnell (V), Copeland (C).
- Holiday (V). Distance 87'8".
- Shot Put - V. Dotson (V), Copeland (C).
- Holiday (V). Distance 36'3/2".
- Long Jump - Jones (V), Jackson (V).
- Bryant (V). Distance: 17'11".
- 440-Yard Relay - R. Jackson, Williams, Gray, Jones. Time: 51.43.
- Mile Run - Gandy (V), Harper (C), Mair (V). Time: 6:01.00 (New School Record).
- 440-Yard Dash - Gray (V), Bryant (V).
- Coleman (V). Time: 1:08.
- 100-Yard Dash - Jones (V), Jackson (V).
- Louse (C). Time: 11.4.
- 110-Low Hurdles - C. Lawrence (V).
- Curtis (V), Lowery (C). Time: 16.73 (New School Record).
- 880-Yard Run - J. Dotson (V), Gibson (C), Gray (C). Time: 2:47.00.
- 220-Yard Dash - Jones (V), Jackson (V).
- Sapp (V). Time: 26.6.
- Mile Relay - Valdosta (R. Jackson, Gray, L. Jones, Bryant). Time: 4:26.00.

VHS B-Team Loses

Barry Whitehead was the winning pitcher and helped his own cause at the plate, going 2-3 to pace Tift County to a 13-5 victory over Valdosta in B-team baseball action Saturday.

Steve Johnson slammed a pair of homers for the winners. Ty Powell and Pat Mayes were both 2-3 for Valdosta. Chris Mayne was charged with the loss.

The B-team drops to 5-4-1 and plays Colquitt County in Moultrie Monday.

New Calms Cairo, VHS Claims A Win

By MIKE HAGOOD

The Valdosta Wildcats thumped Cairo 8-2 here Thursday to claim their first high school baseball win of the young season.

The 'Cats were propelled by David New's five-hit pitching and home runs off the bats of Mike Ruff, Tim Dame and Wayne Fugett.

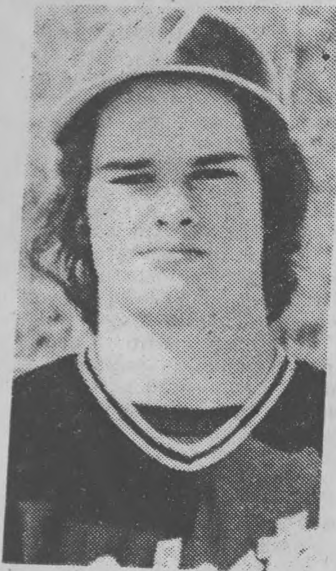
New let the visiting Syrupmakers off the hook only once in the sixth, but the rest of the way it was his game. The 'Cats bats did not exactly rock pitcher Kieth Harrell throughout, but four of Valdosta's eight hits were for extra bases.

Valdosta got two quick runs, one a leadoff homer by Ruff in the first, to establish themselves early in sharp contrast to Tuesday's loss to Coffee County (Douglas). The Trojans struck for five runs in the first in Valdosta's opener.

"The loss sort of deflated our ego. We were all down, but Coach (Butch) Brooks got us back up," said New. "We are not the same team as last year, and we've got to realize that. We've got to play up to our capabilities and not those of last year's team."

New certainly played up to his capabilities by striking out 10 Syrupmakers and reaching his objectives.

"I try to keep the ball down. That is my only objective, that and not to walk anybody," said the junior



MIKE RUFF
First Inning Homer

hurler.

"We played a lot better. Cairo beat Moultrie (Colquitt County) a week ago with the same pitcher so we know we're coming around," said Brooks. "We did not hit the ball as well as I'd like, but we hit the long ball."

After Ruff's towering leadoff shot over the left field fence, Tim Dame connected for a solo homer over the left field scoreboard at Wright Bazemore Field in the fourth inning.

The big blast came in the 'Cats final stand at the plate. Fugett brought home Dame, Spencer Feix and himself with a poke over the right-field power-alley.

The 'Cats find themselves at 1-1 on the year now with a varsity and B-team game in Tifton Saturday with Tift County. B-team action is set to begin at 1 p.m. with the varsity game at 3 p.m.

Tifton was defeated in its opener against Lowndes last Saturday.

Cairo is now 1-1 on the year. Brooks said one of the scheduled games with Westover (Albany) must be changed to a B-team game to accommodate Thursday's Cairo game, which was added to the schedule at the last moment.

Cairo	ab	r	h	bi	VHS	ab	r	h	bi
Ferall ss	3	0	0	0	Ruff c	4	1	2	1
Gnos 2b	3	1	1	0	Dame cf	2	3	1	1
Prce rf-p	3	0	1	1	Widns	3	0	1	0
Horne c	3	0	0	0	Feix 2b	1	1	0	0
Brswl 3b	3	0	0	0	Fgtf 1b	4	2	2	3
K. Harl p-rf	3	0	1	0	DLch 3b	1	1	1	0
Hrpr 1b	1	0	0	0	Bgtf 3b	1	0	0	0
S. Harl 1b	1	0	0	0	New p	2	0	1	1
Elver pg	1	0	0	0	Bryhl lf	3	0	0	0
Pwill lf	2	0	0	0	Sthrs 2b-ss	0	0	0	0
Lewis ph	1	0	0	0	Blst dh	3	0	0	0
Hmphrs cf	3	1	2	0	Swndl rf	2	0	0	0
Totals	27	2	5	1	Wich cf	0	0	0	0

Cairo	000	002	0	2-5-3		
Valdosta	202	103	x	8-8-1		
E—Braswell 2, Humphries, Welch; LOB						
—Cairo 2, Valdosta 6.						
2B—Fugett; HR—Ruff, Dame, Fugett;						
S—DeLoach.						
Harrell (L, 1-1)	ip	h	r	er	bb	so
Pearce	5	2	3	8	6	7
New (W, 1-0)	7	1	3	0	0	1
BALK—Harrell.	7	5	2	1	0	10
WP—Harrell.						

It's Finis For Cracklings

By VICKIE CHANDLER
Times Staff Writer

The final issue of Cracklings, a magazine capturing area history and vanishing ways of life, is to be published in May, says Duane Pitts, Cracklings' adviser.

With it comes the demise of Cracklings.

After seven years of publication by Valdosta High School students, the magazine is being discontinued.

The Cracklings course, in which students produce the magazine, has been canceled for the next school year because Pitts is leaving the system to move to Spokane, Wash.

Cracklings was the brainchild of Pitts and Emily Carey, now a teacher at Cook High School in Adel.

"As far as I know, the magazine won't be published again," Pitts, an English teacher at VHS for eight years, said. "It won't, at least until some other teacher comes along who wants to

pick it up. As yet, that hasn't happened."

Along with the final issue, several long-range projects are to be wrapped up, Pitts said.

Cracklings is on sale now for an advance publication price of \$1.50; the price is to go to \$2 after the May 12 publication date, he said.

The final issue includes an interview with Valdosta native son, Alfred Corn, a poet now living in Connecticut; an article on Macedonia Baptist Church; a series of interviews with persons recalling childhood memories of Christmas and Halloween; and a special pictorial section.

Also included in the final issue is a small street map of Valdosta printed in 1885, Pitts said.

Cracklings students are also to offer a general index for Georgia Magazine, no longer published. The index lists dates and page numbers of major articles from each issue of Georgia Magazine.

"The magazine had some excellent material, but it's just not generally available," Pitts said, adding the index is the first to be compiled on the defunct magazine.

Other projects include:

—Reprinting the Jeremiah Wilson Land Surveys, 1840-1866, an historical document discovered in Brooks County records. It was published for the first time by Cracklings students last year.

—Yellow pages to city, county, state and federal agencies in Lowndes. Pitts described the listings as a "who's who" of officials, with telephone number, address, and a description of the basic function of each agency and head.

—Three slide series, titled Remembering History, The Crescent, and John Henry "Doc" Holliday.

The slide series won't be offered for sale to the public but is to be placed in the VHS library and made available to civic organizations and schools, Pitts said.

A project that won't be finished but printed incomplete is the listing of graves at the city cemetery, Sunset Hill, Pitts said.

Cracklings students for several years have been working to re-create the cemetery records that were lost for the years prior to 1957, Pitts said.

"As incomplete as it is, we're going to publish what we've got. At least it will be something people can use as a reference," Pitts said.

"It will be something the city or another group can build on in the future, if they want to pick up on it."

The cemetery records won't be for sale to the public either but are to be placed in City Hall and area libraries, he said.

"At least these student efforts won't be locked up in a cabinet somewhere," he added.

Pitts said he is moving to Spokane because of a business venture but may teach as a sideline.

VHS Guns Down Lowndes

From Staff, Wire Reports
Valdosta improved its season record to 7-1, defeating Lowndes, 75-61, in a high school track meet Monday at Lowndes.

Lowndes' Chuck Jones won the long jump with a leap of 20-5; the 100-yard dash in 10.09 and the 220 in 23.09.

Double winners were Valdosta's Charlie Jenkins, 4:45.73 in the mile and 10:37.32 in the two mile and Lowndes' Johnny Williams, 15.89 in the high hurdles and 40.24 in the intermediate hurdles.

Lowndes, 12-5 for the year, hosts Valdosta and Brooks County in a triangular meet Wednesday.

Pole vault — Hargett (L), Griffin (V), Stephenson (L), H—10'.
High jump — Caesar (V), E. Jones (V), Foster (L), H—6'4".
Shot — Harris (V), Reddick (L), Wright (L), H—42'.
Long jump — Jones (L), Burks (L), Wilson (V), D—20'5".
Triple jump — Wilson (V), Hargett (L), Williams (L), D—40' 6 1/2".
Discus — Fletcher (V), Gaines (V), Upchurch (L), D—12' 4".
440 relay — LHS (Burks, Baker, C. Jones, S. Jones), T—43.77.
Mile run — Jenkins (V), McQueen (L), Gallagher (V), T—4:45.73.
440 dash — Scott (V), Hunter (V), Walker (L), T—53.24.
100 yard dash — Jones (L), S. Jones (L), King (V), T—10.09.
120 high hurdles — Williams (L), Griffin (V), Caesar (V), T—15.89.
880 run — Green (V), R. Jones (V), Henry

William Davis batted five for five and was the winning pitcher for the 'Cats.
Nate Green and John Jones had two hits each for the visitors from Quitman, now 0-10.
The VHS B-team takes a 5-3-1 record into Saturday's game against Tift County (Tifton) at Bazemore Field. The Valdosta High varsity is to play at 1 p.m., followed by the B-team at 3:30 p.m.

VHS Bombs Bainbridge

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE — Valdosta took a high school tennis twin-bill from Bainbridge here Tuesday.

The Kittens wiped out the Bainbridge girls 8-0, and the Wildcats rocked the Bainbridge boys 6-3. Both Valdosta teams are now 2-1 heading into a match with Tift County here Thursday.

Individual results follow:
GIRLS

Singles — Kim Gandy (V) def. LeAnne Harrell 7-5, 6-3; Julie Spencer (V) def.

Marcia Reynolds 6-1, 6-2; Linda Hall (V) def. Scarlett Moore 6-1, 6-0; Debbie Mink (V) def. Susan Hines 8-1; Jan Pendleton (V) def. Cathy Byrd 8-0; Beth Pitts (V) def. Nancy Catoe 8-0.
Doubles — Mink-Hall def. Harell-Moore 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; Griffin-Spencer def. Reynolds-Hines 6-3, 6-0.

BOYS

Singles — Billy Inlow (B) def. Rodney Childree 6-4, 6-3; Wally Catoe (B) def. Mike Enfinger 0-6, 6-3, 6-3; Biff Taylor (V) def. Gerald Sirmans 6-4, 6-3; Edwin Weatherington (V) def. Billy Reynolds 8-1; Gerald Sanders (B) def. Mark Swank 8-4; Andy Wortham (V) def. Jay Garrett 8-1.
Doubles — Childree-Enfinger def. Inlow-Catoe 6-3, 7-6; Weatherington-David Broomberg def. Sirmans-Reynolds 0-6, 6-3, 5-1; Lee Reddish-Lex Culbreth (V) def. Walker-Chason 6-2, 6-1.

super team, and I guess I've got to be pleased with the run. "I never know what this car's going to accomplish. It's capable of anything sometimes."

Baker downplayed his own role in setting the fastest qualifying speed, but his fellow drivers did not.

"You've got to hand it to anyone who could go out in this wind and run 166 mph," said Bobby Allison, who said he was surprised speeds have dropped off so much here since last fall. "Someone just forgot to tell Baker the speeds were slower."

Allison said he thought his run was good enough for the No. 1 starting berth, except, "I wasn't counting on Baker. I caught him a couple of times on the clock in practice and he sure wasn't running that fast."

Baker noted it was a very good lap that won him the pole and \$2,000 in cash, but not a perfect one.

"It might have seemed like a perfect lap to the people in the stands, but it wasn't," he said. "The car really did push some going into the second turn. But it accelerated good enough when I punched the throttle to cure that."

Drivers blamed a lack of practice and preparation time, a strong wind and slight deterioration of the track surface for holding down speeds somewhat. There was a big jump in speeds here last fall after the track was repaved in the late spring.

Feix Takes Two At VHS Banquet

March 3, 1979

By MIKE HAGOOD
Spencer Feix received two trophies highlighting a pleasant gathering at Valdosta High basketball banquet at the Gold Plate Restaurant here Friday night.

The other highlight of the evening had to be the wit of Coach Larry Cowart during his thank you speech and as he gave out awards. Cowart had a quip for every member of his girls' and boys' basketball teams to emphasize one of his five tenants in sports, fun.

"We may not have had a winning season, but we had a winning year," said Feix of the positive attitude that prevailed on the VHS teams.

The other four things Cowart stresses are pride, discipline, sportsmanship and education.

John Lastinger of the Chamber of Commerce presided over the proceedings. Dr. James Daniels of Valdosta State College gave the invocation. The address was delivered by Dr. A.H. (Skip) Van Nus, of Azalea City Baptist Church.

Van Nus compared the game of basketball and the game of life as situations where there are chances to score points and temptations to foul. As a basketball team has a center, so should Jesus Christ be the center of everyone's life. The church should also be the backboard we use to assist our shots in life, Van Nus said.

"Hard work never hurt some people. Those who don't do any," said Van Nus.

He also said, "the road to success was always under construction."

Feix was tapped for the most outstanding player on the Wildcats and the "Captain's award" for team leadership. The hustling play of the senior captain with double zeros on his jersey was always a bright spot for the 6-17 'Cats, who advanced to the 1-AAAA (South) semifinals.

Renee Whitehead was named outstanding player on the Kittens for her all-around play. Whitehead was the team's number two rebounder, number two free throw shooter and number two field goal shooter. Her contributions helped the Kittens to a 9-14 season and a semifinal berth in the subregion tournament.

Janice Evans was the recipient of the "Captain's award" for the Kittens.

The outstanding offensive player for the 'Cats was Greg Powell, an honorable mention All-Region performer. Vera Crawford was named as the Kittens' top offensive threat.

Two Wildcats received defensive awards, David New and Nathaniel Caesar. Maggie Powell received the trophy as the Kittens' outstanding defensive player.

The most improved girls' player was Beverly Wilson. John Bond and Mark Gish were co-winners of the Wildcats' most improved award.

The spirit award for the boys' team went to Greg Daniels. Cindy Cooper received the Kittens' spirit award for never missing a practice.

All of the varsity players were given certificates for their participation in the basketball program.

The Kitten seniors are Crawford, Evans, Powell and Whitehead.

The Wildcat seniors are

Richard Clayton, Andy Wildes, Feix, Powell, Gish, Tim Jones and Tim Dame.

The Kitten juniors are Renee Skelton, Debbie Mair, Melanie Nelson and Dana Swindle.

The junior 'Cats are David Mayer, New, Bond, George Stewart, and Daniels.

Sophomores for the Kittens are Cooper, Wilson and Tracy Irvin.

Dante Jones is the only sophomore who played for the 'Cats the entire season.

Managers for the Wildcats were Willie Bell, John Lambert and Bill New.

"The Italian Mafia," as Rowan Swells, Evette Marconi and Linda and Janet Swells are known, took care of the managers' duties for the Kittens.

Swindle was named for the "Spazmo award", which was given to the player who had the dumbest play or strangest moment in the season. The "Spazmo award" is a black t-shirt with spazmo written in gold metallic letters on the front.

For the ninth grade boys' team, Jay Hartman received the most improved award. Edwin Robinson was named as the top defensive player and J.D. Tomerson received the offensive award.

The girls' B-team cited Affernette Wilson as their top offensive player, Melanie Nelson as the outstanding defensive player and Rowan Swells as most improved.

On the boys' B-team, Gary Cothran was tapped as the outstanding offensive player, Savoil King was named most improved and Joe Tillman was the top defender.

The ninth grade boys' team is coached by Bob Bolton. Karen Holmes coaches the girls' B-team and Roger Rome is coach of the boys' B-team.

VHS To Receive State Trophy

By Times Staff Writer
Hertz Rent-A-Car is to present a Number 1 trophy to Valdosta High School's 1978 football team here Friday at 9 a.m.

The two-foot trophy is to be presented in VHS Principal Lloyd Mims' office.

Valdosta wound up as the Class AAAA state co-champion last season after Griffin deadlocked the Wildcats 7-7 in the state title game.

Valdosta finished with a 14-0-1 record.

March 1979



WAYNE FUGETT
Still Winless

Big Inning Sends Tift Past Wildcats

By Times Staff Writer
TIFT — Tift County's Blue Devils burned Valdosta for three runs in one big inning here Saturday to secure a 3-0 high school baseball victory over the visiting Wildcats.

The Blue Devils raised their overall record to 2-1 while Valdosta fell to 1-2.

Tift ace Pete Bilson picked up the hill victory by limiting the Wildcats to four hits. Bilson, 1-0, walked three and

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struck out six.

Wayne Fugett, who rolled up a 12-0 record last season

when Valdosta claimed the Class AAA state title, was tagged with his second loss of the season.

The senior righthander had a two-hitter working until the sixth inning when singles by David Baker, Landy Ewing and Ed Troxell and a two-run double by Tim Case broke the game open.

"He just got tired I guess," Valdosta Coach Butch Brooks said of his fireballing number one pitcher. "His curve ball wasn't working too good."

"He pitched real good until about the sixth inning and then those guys just hit the fire out of it. They got about four giants that can flat swing the bat."

Valdosta was without the services of John Lastinger, who was the leading hitter on the team last season. Lastinger has been out of town for the spring holidays.

"This is one of the worst beginnings I've had in a long time," Brooks said.

Valdosta travels to Bainbridge Tuesday for its first Region 1-AAAA (South) encounter.

VHS	ab	r	h	rbi	TCHS	ab	r	h	rbi	
Rufc	4	0	0	0	Bakr	ss	3	1	1	0
Dame	ss	3	0	0	0	Smth	cf	2	0	0
Fugt	p	0	0	0	Ewng	1b	3	1	1	1
Sou	2b	0	0	0	Trxl	3b	3	1	1	0
Bla	dh	3	0	1	0	Whtd	3b	0	0	0
Dlch	eb	3	0	0	0	Case	rf	3	0	1
New	1b	3	0	1	0	Gr	rf	0	0	0
Wldn	cf	3	0	1	0	Hrmdn	lf	0	0	0
Bryl	lf	2	0	0	0	Trmsn	lf	2	0	0
Bgt	lf	1	0	0	0	Wls	2b	3	0	0
Swnd	rf	3	0	1	0	Bilsp	p	3	0	2
						Shiv	c	0	0	0
						Hndsn	ph	1	0	0
Totals	25	0	4	0		Totals	23	3	6	3

Valdosta	000	000	0-0-4-1			
Tift Co.	000	003	x-3-6-3			
E — DeLoach, Baker, Bilson 2; DP — Tift						
1; LOB — VHS 6, TCHS 4.						
2B — Weldon, Case; SB — Troxell; S — Berryhill, Smith, Shiver.						
Fugett (H, 0-2)	ip	h	r	er	bb	so
DeLoach	51.3	6	3	3	0	2
Bilson (W, 1-0)	2.0	0	0	0	0	0
HBP — Thomason by DeLoach; BALK — Bilson 2	7	4	0	0	3	6

Valdosta Fourball Lead Is Shared By Four Teams

By Times Staff Writer
Three teams are tied for the lead after the opening round of the 16th annual Valdosta Country Club Spring Fourball golf tournament.

Marcus Beck and George Gavalas, Scott Coats and Greg Martin and Clarence Owens and Norman Patterson all recorded scores of 66 in Saturday's action.

Those three teams and the rest of the championship flight are scheduled to tee off at 2 p.m. today. An earlier shotgun start for the third and fourth flights is set for 9 a.m.

VCC Pro Richard Beckmann promises a much

tougher course in today's final round.

"The golf course was set up extremely easy today," Beckmann said Saturday. "The players played it real good."

"Tomorrow, it will be set up in championship form, and it will take a true champion to shoot a good score."

One highlight of Saturday's round was a hole-in-one by Ed Blalock, who was playing with Ed Trancygier. Blalock aced the seventh hole with a pitching wedge.

Bruce Edwards and Don Lucas trailed the leaders with a 67 score. They were followed by Frank Eldridge

and Jack Oliver at 68, Bo Williams and Ken Alvey at 69, Ty Edwards and Rusty Clark at 70 and Bruce Dixon and Jim Whidden at 72.

Flight leaders follow:

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

"A" Division

Beck-Gavalas	33-33-66
Coats-Martin	34-32-66
Owens-Patterson	36-30-66

"B" Division

McLeod-Trancygier	37-36-73
Moore-Owen	35-38-73
Armstrong-Armstrong	38-36-74
Colson-Steedley	37-37-74
Almond-Balanis	37-37-74

FIRST FLIGHT

"A" Division

Blanton-McRary	37-34-67
Bass-Stallings	35-33-68
Killgo-Waldron	35-34-69

"B" Division

Thompson-Waters	39-35-74
Chazel-George	40-34-74
Mink-Wells	36-38-74
Griffin-Plair	39-35-74

SECOND FLIGHT

"A" Division

Parker-Sykes	35-35-70
Redner-Robinson	36-36-72
Tyre-Tyre	39-36-75

"B" Division

Lester-Maddox	36-41-77
Parker-Russell	38-39-77
Studdard-Studdard	37-41-78
Connor-Taylor	38-40-78
Burgateiner-Hagan	37-41-78

THIRD FLIGHT

"A" Division

Dasher-Paulk	39-34-73
Martin-Sessions	38-36-74
England-Rowan	39-36-75

"B" Division

Alvarez-Stewart	40-38-78
Langdon-Blair	40-38-78
Blanton-Harris	40-38-78

FOURTH FLIGHT

"A" Division

Paine-Shenton	39-38-77
Clements-Wilkes	37-43-80
Barnes-English	41-42-83

"B" Division

Bentlage-Puckett	41-43-84
Bowen-Phelps	42-43-85
Budd-Dodson	42-43-85
Powell-Swindell	40-45-85

Wildcats Blanked By Bearcats, 4-0

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE — The Bainbridge Bearcats defeated Valdosta 4-0 in a high school baseball game here Tuesday.

The host Bearcats scored three runs in the third inning and one in the fourth to hand the 'Cats their third loss in four games this season.

The Bearcats' Jim Chapman limited Valdosta to only three hits in the game to even his record at 1-1.

The first Bainbridge run crossed the plate when VHS left fielder Andy Weldon misplayed a single. Two more runs were scored when Bainbridge first basemen Bubba Eckenrod blasted a triple up the middle off starting pitcher David New.

New was lifted after two men reached base in the fifth inning. Ashley DeLoach came in to close out the game on the hill.

Valdosta's B-team tripped Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) 10-7 in Valdosta Tuesday.

Chris Mayne picked up the pitching victory and slapped a two-run homer for the 'Cats. Mark Cox went two for three at the plate to lead VHS hitters.

David West was the losing pitcher for Lanier.

The now 2-1-1 B-team meets Cook (Adel) on the road today.

Valdosta's varsity hosts Suwannee from Live Oak, Fla., Friday in its next game.

John Lastinger was in the Valdosta lineup Tuesday for the first time this year. He was out of town for the Wildcats' first three games. Tim Dame switched to shortstop after filling in for Lastinger in centerfield.

"We just ain't hitting the ball," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks. "I asked the kids to do some soul searching. We've got to pull it together from somewhere."

VHS	ab	r	h	rbi	BHS	ab	r	h	rbi		
Wldn	lf	4	0	0	0	Smth	2b	4	0	2	0
Dam	ss	3	0	0	0	C. Rich	4	1	2	1	
Fug	1b	3	0	1	0	Cyrc	cf	2	1	0	
Las	cf	2	0	1	0	R. Ricc	3	1	1	0	
Ruff	c	3	0	0	0	Ecrd	1b	2	0	2	
New	p	2	0	0	0	Stpn	3b	3	0	1	
DLch	3b	3	0	1	0	Jnes	rf	2	0	0	
Snd	rf	2	0	0	0	Chapp	2	0	0	0	
Fex	2b	0	0	0	0	Wilss	2	1	0	0	
Chapdh	2	0	0	0	0						
Totals	24	0	3	0		Totals	24	4	8	3	

Valdosta	000	000	0-0-3-2
Bainbridge	003	100	x-4-8-2
E — Weldon, Dame, Smith, Willis; LOB — VHS 8, Bainbridge 8.			
2B — C. Rich, Stephens; 3B — DeLoach, Eckenrod.			

New (L, 1-1)	ip	h	r	er	bb	so
DeLoach	4	8	4	4	4	1
Chapman (W, 1-1)	2	0	0	0	2	3
	7	3	0	0	3	2

Baker A Leader In Sports For Girls

Jerry Don Baker is involved in the girls' athletic program of the city of Valdosta in a big way. Baker currently coaches the Valdosta High School girls' track team and the Valdosta Recreation Department's girls' gymnastics team.

When Baker joined the staff at VHS in 1976 he wasn't exactly planning to become the local magnate in women's sports, but things just fell in place.

Baker was signed as an assistant football coach. When he got to VHS, he found the girls' basketball team needed a coach. Glen Phelps had taken a job in Dougherty County (Albany).

The job wore Baker pretty thin literally. From a pre-coaching weight of 248, Baker lost 54 pounds from nervousness.

Not that he minded the pressure, "It was just nerves," said Baker. "I like the pressure. If you don't like the pressure, you don't need to coach out here."

During the two years Baker

coached the girls' basketball team, he taught gymnastics classes at the high school. The Valdosta Recreation Department approached Baker and VHS assistant principal Bill Aldrich about the possibility of sponsoring a city gymnastics team.

The idea grew and gymnastics was on the map in Valdosta. The Valdosta team finished third in the state in gymnastics this year, in its second year of existence and first year of competition.

Two girls, Laura George and Sherri Wortham, won state titles. Sherri Green was a third place finisher behind George in the 15 and over age group. Wortham won the 12-14 age title.

"I started fooling around with gymnastics while I was in the army," Baker said. "The national guard barracks where I was stationed at Ft. Polk, La., had a gym beside it."

Baker credits Aldrich for refining his knowledge of the sport. Aldrich was a standout gymnast for Georgia Southern College and just

Maggie Powell cracked an ankle and our 440-yard relay team was disqualified for an exchange zone violation.

"We had one girl who went on to win the state broad jump title, Lisa Jones."

This season Jones and the Kittens have been a ball of flame. The one-two combination of Jones and Rozenier Jackson in the sprints, relays and broad jump has brought home first and second place at almost every meet.

The distance corps, headed by freshman Kim Gandy, has been equally devastating on its female foes. Jacqui Dotson and Debbie Mair have also been formidable in distance events.

"We have more depth this year than last year. From the 880 up, nobody can compete with us," Baker said.

The importance of the girls' track team increases, when the Region 1-AAAA All Sports Trophy is held in mind.

"Coach (Wright) Bazemore (former VHS athletic director) told me that the all-region trophy has

boiled down to what we do," Baker said.

When the region athletic board met two years ago, it was decided that another girls' program was needed. Track was the choice.

In much the same way he came to head the VHS girls' basketball team and the Recreation department gymnastics team with Aldrich, when a track coach was needed they came calling on Baker.

"We knew we had some talent walking the halls. A coach has just got to go out and get them. Some of the girls were asking before it ever got started, if we could have a track team," said Baker.

"The interest has continued to grow. We put a record board up in the gym and people started asking if they could join the team. We started by winning one or two meets and it began to catch on. It's like most anything, when you win, you draw a crowd and people want to get on the bandwagon."

Mike
Hagood

Times Sports Writer



is looking to see how they stack up against some of the top competition in Georgia at the Worth County (Sylvestor) Relays today.

In the girls' track team's first year of existence in 1978, the Kittens finished 5-1 and third in Region 1-AAA (now 1-AAAA).

"We had key injuries going into the region really," said Baker of his '78 finish. "Vera Dotson tore a hamstring. She would have won the 100-yard dash and the 220-yard dash.

missed a slot on the United States Olympic team.

"After the Rec department approached me, we started classes on Saturday mornings. We had 25 little girls and in two years it has grown to 200 girls. We've got our own gym now on Connell Road," Baker said.

Boys' classes are in the making for the first time this spring.

For now, Baker's mind is on track. His Kittens have not lost a meet in six tries and he

—Times Staff Photo.

Jerry Don Baker Voices An Opinion

Rome Chosen As VHS Coach

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High School has turned to a home-grown product to reverse the fortunes of its boys' basketball team.

Former VHS star Roger Rome was named the new head coach of the Wildcats this morning. He replaces Larry Cowart, who resigned last month as the coach of both the Wildcats and Kittens after one season.

"We think Roger has done a good job as an assistant and if you've got a good assistant, you ought to give him a chance at the top spot," Valdosta Principal Lloyd Mims said after making the announcement.

"We look forward to Roger doing a good job. He's a Valdosta High graduate, and he knows the system."

Mims said no decision had been made on hiring a girls' basketball coach.

"We've got several applications," he said. "It will more than likely go to a lady."

Rome, who was graduated from VHS in 1971, was a two-year starter for the Wildcats on the basketball floor and on the football field. He spent his freshman and sophomore seasons at Pinevale High School here, which is now Pinevale-Lomax Elementary School.

Rome attended Dalton Junior College on a basketball scholarship where he was the leading rebounder and second leading scorer for two seasons. He then transferred to the University of Florida on a basketball scholarship.

At Florida, Rome started the first eight games before bowing out with a broken leg. He was never able to recapture his starting role although he did see some action as a senior.

Rome served as an assistant to VHS boys' coach Norman Sainz two years ago and was Cowart's assistant last season.

"It's great," Rome said. "It's something I've always wanted to do. I was hoping if

it ever came open, I would be considered for it.

"Even when I was in high school, it was something I wanted."

After rolling up an 18-3 mark under Sainz three years ago, the Wildcats slumped to 9-13 in Sainz's second season when all five starters were lost via the graduation route.

Cowart took over last season and wound up with a record of 6-17.

"We won't be doing a whole lot this spring other than just playing a lot," the 25-year-old Rome said. "I think if we can do a better job on defense, we can be a little more competitive."

"I emphasize defense. That was one of the things that I was good at and something you really have to play."

Valdosta High School Athletic Director and head football coach Nick Hyder said Rome would still be associated with the football



ROGER ROME
New Hoop Coach

program in a scouting capacity but would have no other assigned duties.

"Roger fits in extremely well with our coaching family here," Hyder said. "He has an excellent background in working with people, and I don't think we could have found someone with a better basketball background."

"We're real proud of this appointment. Roger and his brother (Stan) are probably two of the finest athletes to come down the pike here."

Rome's brother, Stan, was also an outstanding Valdosta athlete. He is now playing pro basketball with Las Vegas of the Western League.



Wayne Fugett Collides With David New Trying To Grab Pop Fly
—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III

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LHS, VHS Try Luck On Friday The 13th

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

There's just something about Friday the 13th which brings Lowndes and Valdosta together.

But neither Lowndes Coach Noel George or Valdosta Coach Butch Brooks believe the supposedly unlucky day will have any effect on the outcome of the two arch-rivals high school baseball matchup Friday.

"They've got to play on semi-darkness when the

Friday the 13th too," George said. "I'm not superstitious," Brooks said. "It's Friday the 13th for them too."

The last time Friday fell on the 13th day of the month was in October. It just so happened that was the same day the two schools met on the football field. Valdosta came away with a 22-0 victory in that much heralded contest.

The game was played in semi-darkness when the

lights went out on the home side of Cleveland. Field so maybe the superstitious day did cast its evil spell.

Friday's 4 p.m. contest is slated for Valdosta's Wright Bazemore Field.

Valdosta enters the game with a 3-4 overall record and a 1-1 Region 1-AAAA (South) mark. Lowndes is 5-3 overall and 2-0 in subregion action.

Brooks has tabbed senior righthander Wayne Fugett, 1-2, as his starting pitcher.

George said either junior righthander Jeff Stokes, 2-0, or sophomore lefthander Keith Hagan, 2-1, would be his starter.

Both teams have had some defensive problems this year. In fact, Brooks pinpointed VHS errors as the primary factor behind his defending state champions' subpar showing.

"Errors... we're just making a lot of errors," Brooks said. "That just goes

with inexperience. We've only got three ballplayers, (Mike) Ruff, (John) Lastinger and Fugett that played much last year.

"We've played some good competition too. Coffee County was in the playoffs last year, and Suwannee has really turned its program around. They hadn't lost but two games when they came here.

"We're not quite as bad as people think we are."

George seemed wary of the Wildcats.

"They started off awful slow, but I think they're starting to pull out of it now," the LHS coach said. "They've still only lost one in the subregion. That's not too bad. They'll be up for us. It'll be just a matter of playing the game and hitting the ball. Fugett's always pitched good against us.

"If I can just keep them from getting too nervous, started. He's just got so many

people back. "You've got to have that experience. We've got a lot of inexperience."

Fugett rolled up a 12-0 record last season but didn't pick up his first victory this year until a week ago against Colquitt County (Moultrie).

The performance of his ace chunker had Brooks worried but he hopes the highly regarded senior is about to come around.

'Cats Win 10-4 Led By Fugett

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Staff Writer

It has been said more than once that a walk is as good as a hit. The Valdosta Wildcats put that old adage to good use, establishing a 4-0 lead in the first inning and then went on to clip Colquitt County 10-4 behind the pitching of Wayne Fugett here Friday afternoon.

Fugett captured his first pitching victory after two painful losses to boost the 'Cats to their second win in five starts and a 1-1 record in 1-AAAA (South) subregion play.

The Wildcats turned a hit by John Lastinger, a fielders choice by Fugett and six walks into a four-run first, giving the senior fireballer a working cushion.

The visitors were held scoreless until the fifth inning. By that time, Valdosta had fashioned an 8-0 lead and seemed well on the way to their second win at Bazemore Field.

"Wayne is gradually getting in shape. He got the ball up. He was a little tired at the end," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks. Brooks may be remembering a 355-foot homerun Fugett yielded to Curt Davis in the seventh in about the only bright spot for the visitors from Moultrie. Fugett went the distance allowing five hits and finding

there in the first and second innings and I was kind of shaky," said Fugett downplaying his performance before an estimated five professional baseball scouts.

"I still had a little trouble at first, but got control later on." As it was Fugett played the stoppers' role, helping the 'Cats to a subregion win.

VHS hosts Suwannee (Live Oak, Fla.) today for a B-team game at 1 p.m. and a varsity contest at 3:30 p.m.

Colquitt now stands at 2-4 overall and 1-2 in 1-AAAA (South) games. Valdosta evens its subregion mark at 1-1.

Valdosta's offense also showed signs of emergence putting together ten hits.

"We're getting wood on the ball for the first time in awhile. Even though not that well," said Brooks in this age of aluminum bats.

"The seniors are coming around and giving us that senior leadership. Instead of falling apart, we're trying to put it together. I think that soul searching brought it out," said Brooks referring to a strong chat with his team after Tuesday's loss to Bambridge.

Mike Ruff singled through the hole, knocking in Fugett, who had singled, for Valdosta's fifth run. The 'Cats then picked up three more runs in the fourth with a single by Tim Dame, a single by Andy Chapman and two errors by Packer second baseman Steve Funderburk.

The Packers closed to 8-3 in the fifth inning on the strength of a three-run double by relief pitcher Dennis Powell.

The 'Cats knocked Powell from the game in their half of the fifth. Ashley DeLoach strated things off with a double and was knocked in by Fugett. Tim Dame, who appeared to be in the middle of every VHS offensive outburst, reached home plate on a single by David Berryhill.

"L.A. was sitting back

Suwannee, 11-9 VHS Comeback Try

By Times Staff Writer
The Valdosta Wildcats were defeated 11-9 by Suwannee High from Live Oak, Fla., here Saturday in what VHS Coach Butch Brooks called "a circus of errors."

Suwannee established a 2-0 lead in the first inning on the strength of its own bats and then scored two runs in each of the next two innings with the help of Wildcat miscues.

The 'Cats came to life with a valiant comeback, but were unable to make up the error strewn distance.

Trailing 6-0, the 'Cats picked up two runs in the bottom of the fourth. John Lastinger slapped a run scoring double and David New had an rbi single to account for the sixth's runs.

Two more Suwannee runs opened an 8-2 gap in the top of the sixth, but the 'Cats closed with three runs in their half of the sixth inning. Valdosta took advantage of its opponents mistakes, scoring David Berryhill, Ashley DeLoach and Wayne Fugett after a Suwannee passed ball and a wild pitch.

A three-run homer by Suwannee's Gene Shepard made Valdosta's task even tougher, as it entered the bottom of the seventh inning down 11-5.

The 'Cats scored four times in their final stand at the plate, but fell short by a two-

run margin.

Ashley DeLoach picked up the pitching loss in his first decision of the year. DeLoach held the mound for the first three innings and allowed only one earned run. David New came in to pitch the final four innings.

Suwannee was playing in its 20th game of the year and moved its record to 18-2. The 'Cats are now 2-4 overall with two Region 1-AAAA (South) games upcoming this week.

Valdosta travels to Thomasville Tuesday and hosts Lowndes Friday.

Suwannee also won a B-team contest with Valdosta prior to the varsity game. The junior 'Cats fell 10-4 at the hands of their visitors.

Donnie Allen went three for four with five runs batted in to key the Suwannee attack. David Parker and William Davis had two hits each for Valdosta.

Phil Washington got the hill win and Jack Sumner was saddled with the loss.

The VHS B-team, now 2-3-1, meets Lowndes on the road Wednesday in its next game.

"It pleased me that we were able to come back, said Brooks of the varsity game. "But it does not please me to lose. I do not like to lose anytime.

"I had a feeling when they (Suwannee) came in that

they would be tough. They have had a change in the coaching staff and brought in two good baseball people.

"We are going to practice tomorrow. I'm going to try to put together what I'm going to be going with for about a week or two. I've been playing a lot of people trying to give them a look. We just haven't had that many games."

As far as pitchers for this weeks games are concerned, Brooks said he might throw Fugett some against Thomasville and possibly come back with him against Lowndes.

"I've got to get him (Fugett) in shape. He's always been a slow starter," said Brooks.

Suwannee				Valdosta				
ab	r	h	rb	ab	r	h	rb	
Rob lb	0	0	0	DLch p	5	1	2	0
DH Rich	3	0	2	Damss	3	1	0	1
Wody p	2	0	1	Fug3b	1	2	0	0
Swf2b	2	1	0	Las rf	2	2	1	1
Rob c	4	1	1	Ruf c	3	2	1	1
Ros ss	4	2	1	Bla lb	3	0	0	0
And rf	4	2	2	New p	0	0	1	0
Jon p	4	1	0	Wel lf	0	0	0	0
Cok3b	3	0	0	Chap dh	0	0	0	1
Jns cf	3	2	1	Feix2b	3	0	0	0
Mrt lf	2	1	0	Bag ph	1	0	0	0
Shp ph	1	1	3	Bnd cf	0	0	0	0
				Brl lf	4	1	2	0
Totals	31	11	9	6	Totals	25	9	7

Suwannee	222	020	3-11-9-0				
Valdosta	000	230	4-9-7-5				
E -	Dame 2, Welch 1, Bond 1, Berryhill 1						
LOB -	Suwannee 5, VHS 7						
2B -	Riley, Anderson, Lastinger; HR -						
Shepherd; SB -	Roberts, Anderson 2, Jones 3; S -	Cook; SF -	Sweat, Chapman				
		ip	h	r	er	bb	so
DeLoach (1, 0-1)		3	3	6	2	3	3
New		4	3	6	4	2	3
Jones (w, 6-0)		4	3	5	3	0	3
Wooley		12	3	5	3	0	3
Anderson		1	0	0	0	0	1
HBP -	Fugett by Anderson; WP -						
Jones; PB -	Roberts.						

Wildcat Box

Colquitt	abr	h	b	r	h	rb
Kudla	3	1	1	0	3	1
Bryce2b	2	0	0	0	0	0
Forry ss	2	0	0	0	0	0
Kenny ss	2	0	0	0	0	0
Clark lb	2	0	0	0	0	0
Davis pf	4	1	1	0	1	1
Austin rf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Walton cf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Parker3b	3	0	0	0	0	0
Rosen lf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Pow p	3	0	0	0	0	0
Blings dh	3	0	0	0	0	0
Thilly c	3	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	27	4	4	0	7	10

Col Co. 000 030 1-4-55
VHS 410 320 8-10-10-2
E - Davis, Kudla 2, Funderburk, Feix, Bond, DP - Colquitt; LOB - Colquitt 9, VHS 10
2B - Parker, Powell, DeLoach; HR - Davis, 5 - Funderburk
ip h r er bb so
Powell (L, 1-2) 4 3 1 4 3 0
Rosen 1 1 3 7 0 3 2
Fugett (W, 1-2) 7 5 4 3 6
PB - Tilley

Jo Ellis Named New VHS Coach

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

A 26-year old Moultrie native anxious to continue the philosophy of fundamentals taught by Larry Cowart has been named the new girls' basketball coach at Valdosta High School.

Jo Ellis, who entered the head coaching ranks at Echols County High School last year, was named this morning to the position vacated by Cowart just over a month ago.

Cowart resigned after one year as head coach of both the boys' and girls' basketball teams at VHS.

"We believe Miss Ellis is someone who can carry on the fundamentals program Coach Cowart had started," VHS Principal Lloyd Mims said after announcing that Ellis had been selected for the job.

"We were particularly looking for a lady," Mims said. "We did interview several fine people. We think Miss Ellis will do a good job."

Ellis, who is not married, attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton



JO ELLIS
Leaves Echols Co.

for two years before moving on to the University of Georgia where she received her B.S. degree in health and

physical education.

For three years, Ellis was then Cowart's assistant at Irwin County High School in Ocilla. Last season she became the Echols County girls' coach. Her Kittens wound up with a 6-15 record and finished second in the Region 2-A (West) tournament.

"We lost seven games at the foul line," Ellis said. "It could have easily been 13 wins. But still that wasn't too bad since we didn't have any starters returning."

"That's why it was such a hard decision to come here. They're going to be a contender over there next year."

Valdosta's Kittens haven't had a winning season since the 1975-76 season when they went 12-7 under Glen Phelps. Last year, the VHS girls finished with a 9-14 mark.

"I look at it as a big challenge," Ellis said. "I'm a very goal oriented person. I'm ready and willing."

"I think the turnaround program started with Larry. He believes in fundamentals, and that's the way I believe also."

"I think he's one of the best coaches in south Georgia. He taught me everything I know. I owe a lot to him."

Ellis said her job wouldn't start until the fall although she may be assisting in a spring game, which is still in the planning stages.

Cowart's position with the VHS boys' basketball team was filled by his assistant, Roger Rome, last week.

Sports In Brief

Kittens' Track Team Romps For Fifth Victory

4/14/79 The Times

From Staff Reports

Valdosta defeated Thomasville and Central of Thomasville 85-43-12 in a triangular high school track meet here Wednesday. The Kittens are now 5-0.

Lisa Jones won three events, the 100-yard dash, the 220-yard dash and the broad jump. She also was a member of two meet-winning relay teams.

Coach Jerry Don Baker also complimented Vera Dotson and Rosalina Jackson for their performances. Dotson won the shot put and ran the fastest leg of the year on the mile relay team. Jackson finished second to Jones in three events and was a part of two relay teams.

The Kittens travel to Sylvester Friday to take part

in the Worth County Relays. Some of the top teams in southern Georgia have been invited to the meet.

High jump: Powell (V), Williams (C), Anderson (T). H: 4'9".

Long jump: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Bryant (V). D: 17' 11 1/2".

Shot put: V. Dotson (V), Rowan (T), McIntyre (T). D: 35' 7 1/4".

Discus: Walden (T), Stephens (C), Parnell (V). D: 98' 8".

440-yard relay: Valdosta (R. Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, V. Dotson). T: 50.9.

Mile run: Turner (T), Gandy (V), Mair (V). T: 6:03.6.

440-yard dash: Thomas (T), Bryant (V), Gray (V). T: 1.06.

100-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T). T: 11.4.

110-yard low hurdles: C. Lawrence (V), J.

Curtis (V), Turner (T). T: 16.83.

880-yard run: J. Dotson (V), J. Hall (V), Morris (C). T: 2:38.

220-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T). T: 26.6.

Two-mile run: Gandy (V), Cochran (T), Mair (V). T: 13:39.

Mile relay: Valdosta (V.V. Dotson, R. Jackson, L. Jones, N. Bryant). T: 4:22.

Dugout Club Meets

The Viking Dugout Club is to meet in the Lowndes High School library at 7:30 p.m. tonight. LHS baseball coach Noel George said prospective members of the boosters' organization are eligible to

attend the meeting as well as members and officers.

LHS B-Team Wins

The Lowndes B-team tripped Colquitt County 5-4 in a baseball game here Wednesday, placing LHS at 3-1 for the year. Jimmy Miley was the winning Viking pitcher.

Valiants Lose

Fred Armentrout and Kevin Mize gave up only five hits between them here Wednesday but their mound

heroics couldn't keep Citizens Christian from taking an 8-3 high school baseball win over Valwood's Valiants.

Armentrout, now 1-2, took the loss after giving up five

hits in four innings of work. Mize came on to shut down the visitors from Douglas County the damage had been done.

Ferrell Scruggs had two hits for the Valiants, who are now 2-8 on the season.

Homers & Hagan Send LHS Past 'Cats In 5-3 Thriller



A Tight-Lipped Wayne Fugett En Route To Five-Hit Showing —Times Staff Photo.

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

Like two world-acclaimed artists each determined to paint a prettier picture than the other, Keith Hagan and Wayne Fugett dueled for seven dramatic innings of high school baseball here Friday afternoon.

When the showdown between the two talented pitchers had ended, it was Hagan who picked up the blue ribbon, thanks to some long range brush strokes by his teammates.

Behind the four-hit pitching of the sophomore lefthander and three home runs off Fugett, Lowndes' Vikings eased past Valdosta's Wildcats 5-3 in the kind of game which keeps baseball as the national pastime.

"It was a good ballgame," a still pumped-up LHS Coach Noel George said after most of the crowd of 1,000 fans had drifted away from Valdosta's Wright Bazemore Field.

"We just came out and played and got a few hits when we needed them and got a few runs. Both teams scrapped hard. It wasn't sloppy at all."

Lowndes raised its overall record to 6-3 and its Region 1-AAAAA (South) mark to 3-0. Valdosta fell to 3-5 overall and 1-2 in the subregion.

The Vikings travel to Bainbridge Tuesday on the same day that Valdosta meets Central in Thomasville. A scheduled doubleheader between the Wildcats and Coffee County (Douglas) here today was canceled due to wet grounds.

Hagan went seven innings for the second time in four days. He struck out 14 in. Lowndes' win over Colquitt County (Moultrie) Tuesday and struck out 12 Valdostans Friday afternoon.

George said it was righthander Jeff Stokes' turn in the rotation but he decided to pitch Hagan instead.

High school hitters have a time hitting lefthanders," George said. "I figured they might be a little more afraid of Hagan than they would of Jeff."

"Sometimes, you can just bear down on a righthanded pitcher."

Hagan, now 3-1, admitted he was scared.

"My stomach was about an inch wide," he said. "I was scared to death. I was so nervous I got tired. I was about to fall out there."

Fugett, off to a rocky 1-3 start, gave up five hits, walked three and struck out 10.

"I just threw a couple of gopher balls," Fugett said. "That's what beat me. They're tough. Don't take anything away from them. Keith's going to be a darn good one."

Fugett jumped on Hagan and went home.

the spokesman said.

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ildren's Choir

Slater St.

each Sunday and next and at 7:30 p.m. nightly

Atlantic District of the

with the Rev. Homer P. S.C., as evangelist, a

nary-Alliance

sonary Alliance Church

lead a revival at Redland Baptist Church Monday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m., a church spokesman said.

Netherland, a Marine Corps retiree after a 26-year career, preached at a Redland revival previously, the spokesman said.

Netherland's church annually leads in baptisms in

Redland Baptist Church

Services are to be 7:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday and at 7 p.m. Sunday, the spokesman said.



From Staff Reports
Francis Lake Baptist Church is to hold its first revival Monday-Friday with the Rev. Terry Taylor, pastor of Green Acres Baptist in Warner Robins, as evangelist, according to a church spokesman.
Taylor, who has preached in Europe and the Mid-East, has baptized 1,000 in less than seven years and his church is rated the eighth fastest-growing church in the Southern Baptist Convention, the spokesman said.
Music is to be led by Green Acres' minister of music, Steve White, the spokesman said.
Services are at 7:30 p.m. nightly, with the Green Acres Youth Choir providing music.

YMCA Rises From The Ashes Of Old Valdosta High

When the old Valdosta High School burned in 1977, the YMCA burned with it. Only in the past few months has the organization begun to dust away the ashes.

"There was a time when there was strong sentiment that we might as well hang it up and forget it," Ralph Lewis, YMCA president for the past two years, said Monday. "We've come a long way since then."

The most visible evidence of that climb back to respectability is the building going up on the YMCA's Gornito Road property. The facility is to house a small conference room as well as office space, according to Nicky Tampas, who is the director of the organization at the present.

The 25-year-old Tampas started to work for the YMCA the week after the fire and hasn't had a whole lot of time to slow down since. The YMCA used the old VHS gymnasium for its offices, its basketball program, its sauna and its physical fitness programs. All were wiped out.

"People didn't know the Y still existed there for a while," Tampas said.

It almost didn't. Valdosta's awareness of the YMCA, which has never been at peak velocity, sank to an alltime low.

But times have changed. Tampas tabbed two major differences since the catastrophe of '77.

"The first thing is that we've gotten out of debt," he said. "The second is that we've had a significant increase in programs."



Mike Chason
Times Sports Editor

The numbers tell the story. The YMCA youth football program has increased from 220 to 340 in the space of the past year. The baseball-softball programs for boys and girls have skyrocketed from 325 last year to 580 this year. From 20 teams last spring, the YMCA now has 38.

Lewis, who has been involved with the organization since he came to Valdosta in 1969, looks at those figures with a grin on his face.

"When I started helping them, we had six T-Bat teams and a

flag football program," Lewis, 34, said. "It just excites me to no end to see how it has grown."

Donating his time to the organization means much more to Lewis than just doing his civic duty. He exhibits a genuine love for the YMCA.

"I see it as an outreach of my Christian life," he said. "I don't see the Y as being an evangelical type organization but I do see it as a place where families can send their kids to and not have to worry about them."

"I've been told we're the largest city in the state that doesn't have a full YMCA (building). That's really something. Here we are number one in everything and Wintersville and all that, and we don't even have a YMCA (building)."

Tampas and Lewis hope that situation is about to change. An indoor pool is to be the first order of business after the office space is completed. The YMCA taught 410 kids to swim last year at a borrowed pool, and Tampas predicts even better response when the indoor facility becomes a reality.

Both men feel that programs for adults will be a priority in the future.

"The biggest void that we have here is in programs for adults," Tampas said. "We feel like we'll be able to provide more and bigger things in the future."

"I see the success of the YMCA as being our getting involved in adult programs," Lewis said. "This doesn't mean we'll be getting out of our youth programs. We'll still have those."

"We want to provide a place where a businessman can come on his lunch hour and jog for 20 minutes, take a shower and go back to work."

For years, the words has been that the Boys' Club and the YMCA here are in competition for the youth of the town and the county. Include the Valdosta Recreation Department in there and you've got the biggest chunk of the away-from-school programs a kid can get involved in.

Lewis has heard the talk. "I don't do this to compete with the Boys' Club," he said. "Stan Reaves (Boys' Club Executive Director) does a wonderful job, and I've sat down and talked with him about it."

"I just want to help make our community a little better place to live. They've got 700 kids in their program and we've got about 600 in ours and I'll bet there's probably another 2,000 out there that aren't in anybody's."

In a sense, there is competition between the organizations when they offer the same programs. But this is the type of competition where neither the Boys' Club nor the Recreation Department nor the YMCA is going to come up a loser.

Any one of them that gets a kid off the street and doesn't put a lot of pressure on him to win when he does get uniformed is doing this ole' town a whale of a good deed.

VHS Team Wins Region

From Staff Wire Reports
TIFTON — Rodney Childree and Mike Enfinger of Valdosta High emerged as the Region 1-AAAA doubles tennis champions with a come from behind victory over Todd Summers and Cliff Branch of Tift County here Monday morning.

Childree-Enfinger lost the first set 4-6, but came back to win the deciding sets 6-3, 6-4.

In the girls doubles final, Julie Spencer and Linda Hall fell to defending state champs Darby Cottle and Becky Thomas. Spencer-Hall won the opening set 6-3, but dropped the last two 5-7 and 1-6 in a hard fought match.

Although the Valdosta girls did not win the singles or doubles titles, they claimed the region girls' championship on the strength of an overall team effort.

The VHS girls scored 14 points to top second place finisher Colquitt County (Moultrie), which had 12 points. This is the third straight year that the Valdosta girls have brought home the region hardware.

In the girls' singles final played Monday evening, Lisa Spain of Colquitt defeated Kim Gandy of Valdosta 6-1, 6-1. The two games Gandy won in the match, were the only games the defending state champ lost in the entire tournament.

Beth Pitts of Valdosta advanced to the quarterfinals where she lost to Spain 6-0, 6-0.

Westover (Albany) claimed the boys' title. The Patriots scored 11 points to edge Thomasville with 10 and Colquitt with 9.

Westover's John Wright laid claim to the boys' singles title with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Tim Bennett of Thomasville.

The doubles team of Jan Pendleton and Maggie Powell of Valdosta advanced all the way to the semifinal round where they were beaten by Cottle-Thomas 6-3, 6-2.

Carey Hunnicutt and Missy Smith of Lowndes were beaten in the opening round of girls' doubles competition.

After an opening round bye, Robbie Spinney and Flint Quisumbing of Lowndes fell in boys' doubles to Summers-Branch 6-0, 6-1.

Edwin Wetherington and David Broomberg of Valdosta fell in the opening round of boys' doubles.

Lowndes' number two doubles team defaulted in the second round.

Biff Taylor of VHS won an opening round boys' singles match and lost to Carew Rowell of Colquitt County (Moultrie) in the second round 7-6, 6-2.

Hank Earnest and Tom Studstill of Lowndes were eliminated in round one of boys' singles. Studstill lost to Bennett of Thomasville and Earnest fell to Phillip Cook of Crisp County (Cordele) 6-1, 6-1.

Andy Wortham of Valdosta dropped out of the tournament in the second round.

After a bye in round one, Wortham was defeated by Patrick Gore of Colquitt 6-2, 6-2.

Kim Fielding of Lowndes lost an opening round match to Holly White of Westover (Albany) 6-3, 6-2.

Sports In Brief

The Valdosta Daily Times, Tues., Apr. 17, 1979-17-

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Valwood Stopped

THOMASVILLE — Brookwood stopped Valwood 8-4 in a baseball game played here Monday.

Fred Armentrout led Valiant hitters with three safeties and was tabbed as the losing pitcher, making him 1-1 for the season. Kevin Mize gathered two hits in the game.

The Valiants are now 2-7 with their next game Wednesday against Citizen Christian (Douglas) at Valwood.

Valiants Beaten

THOMASVILLE — Valwood fell at the hands of Brookwood here Monday by the score of 10-3.

The Lady Valiants take a 1-6 record into their next game, against Irwin Academy (Ocilla) at Valwood Thursday.

Grant Hearing

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — U.S. Attorney Larry Patton said Monday the investigation into the use of federal BEOG grant money for college athletes would not be limited to Oklahoma State University.

A hearing began here Monday into a suit filed by 15 OSU athletes who receive Basic Educational Opportunity Grant money, but because of a new National Collegiate Athletic Association rule have had to return part of the grants to the school.

After the hearing Patton said the matter of the use of the money was brought to his attention by the OSU situation, but "we have no reason to single out that university."

"We will pursue the probe at all state or private universities that receive BEOG money," he said.

The athletes are suing OSU, the NCAA and the Big Eight Conference over the policy that requires them to return all of their grants over \$300. An NCAA rule allows the athletes to receive room, board, tuition, books, fees and up to \$300 annually from BEOG awards.

Nassau Lease

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Nassau County and the New York Islanders have reached final agreement on a new 30 year-lease for the rental of the Nassau Veteran's Memorial Coliseum.

"The new lease will help to keep the financially reorganized Islanders viable as a Long Island entity," Nassau County Executive Francis T. Purcell said.

Sports In Brief

Kittens' Track Team Rom

Vald Times Apr 19, 1979

From Staff Reports
 Valdosta defeated Thomasville and Central of Thomasville 85-43-12 in a triangular high school track meet here Wednesday. The Kittens are now 5-0.

Lisa Jones won three events, the 100-yard dash, the 220-yard dash and the broad jump. She also was a member of two meet-winning relay teams.

Coach Jerry Don Baker also complimented Vera Dotson and Rosalina Jackson for their performances. Dotson won the shot put and ran the fastest leg of the year on the mile relay team. Jackson finished second to Jones in three events and was a part of two relay teams.

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in the Worth County Relays. Some of the top teams in southern Georgia have been invited to the meet.

High jump: Powell (V), Williams (C), Anderson (T), H: 4'9".
 Long jump: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Bryant (V), D: 17' 11 1/2".
 Shot put: V. Dotson (V), Rowan (T), McIntyre (T), D: 35' 7 1/2".
 Discus: Walden (T), Stephens (C), Parnell (V), D: 98' 8".
 440-yard relay: Valdosta (R, Jackson, A. Gray, L. Jones, V. Dotson), T: 50.9.
 Mile run: Turner (T) Gandy (V), Mair (V), T: 6:03.6.
 440-yard dash: Thomas (T), Bryant (V), Gray (V), T: 1:06.
 100-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T), T: 11.4.
 110-yard low hurdles: C. Lawrence (V), J.

Curtis (V), Turner (T), T: 16.83.
 880-yard run: J. Dotson (V), J. Hall (V), Morris (C), T: 2:38.
 220-yard dash: L. Jones (V), Jackson (V), Walden (T), T: 26.6.
 Two-mile run: Gandy (V), Cochran (T), Mair (V), T: 13:39.
 Mile relay: Valdosta (V, V. Dotson, R. Jackson, L. Jones, N. Bryant), T: 4:22.

"This team is well deserving of number one in the nation. If they play like they are capable of, they'll have a good chance at

By Times Staff Writer
 "I think they can do anything as well as in 1971, maybe better," was Wright Bazemore's way of comparing two great teams.

The '71 edition of the Wildcats under Bazemore's direction as head coach was the last Valdosta football team to finish as undefeated state champions. That team wound up with a 13-0 record.

This year's Wildcats will be gunning for their 15th win against no defeats in tonight's state championship game with Griffin here at 8 p.m.

"I don't think Griffin knows what they are getting into," said Bazemore. "I went out to a pep rally today (Friday) and they just get better and better. The students are really reved up. The teachers were dressed up like cheerleaders and (Lloyd) Mims really gets something going."

number one. The only thing is that we might have waited too long (to publicize the 'Cats nationally). They are certainly worthy of national recognition."

Bazemore agreed that the Wildcats unbeaten string this year might be a greater feat than any other of Valdosta's unbeaten year. He said "sure it is a (more outstanding) especially when we play two teams twice in one season. The second time you are certainly at a disadvantage."

The fifteen-game schedule was also of some concern to Bazemore. He felt that fifteen

games were too many for a high school football player to have to play. He stressed that college teams only played 12-game schedules if they compete in bowls.

Rain is in the forecast for tonight here. Bazemore was able to remember one storied championship game played in the rain. He said "in '62 the water was so deep we had to put sand on the field. It looked like Daytona Beach out there. The ball was just floating around."

Bazemore reflected on the possibilities rain might bring into the game. "Well, in ef-

fect we don't like to play in the rain with our offense.

"A team can get two or three breaks and turn the game around." The rain did not affect the 'Cats in '62 though said Bazemore. "We threw the ball all over like we always had."

The Wildcats won that championship 39-0 over Murphy of Atlanta.

Bazemore's 'Cats topped Avondale 62-12 in the last state championship game played at Cleveland Field. The near-legendary coach said, the '71 and '78 Wildcats were similar teams, but a re-

creation of the Avondale game "would be tough against Griffin."

"We played a near perfect game that night. We only made one mistake. We had every chance," he said.

Bazemore believed that other Region 1-AAAA schools could have done well in postseason play this year. He said "1-AAAA competition is always good. They have a great bunch of coaches down here. There are at least five or six teams that could hold their own against any team in the state."

VHS Wins Tri-Meet

By Times Staff Writer
 THOMASVILLE — Valdosta won a triangular track meet with Thomasville and Colquitt County (Moultrie) here Wednesday.

The VHS team scored 86 points to Thomasville's 76 and Colquitt's five.

The 'Cats are now 6-1 prompting Coach Freddie Waters to call this "the best track team at Valdosta since the new high school was built."

Waters and Jim Landrum are in their first year as track coaches.

Nathaniel Ceasar set a new school record in the high jump with an outstanding leap of six feet seven inches. Ceasar also won the 330-yard intermediate hurdles.

VHS dominated the distance events. Frank Green won the 880-yard run. Kenny Gallagher won the mile and Charles Jenkins captured the two-mile.

Sam Fletcher was a winner in the discus.

The 'Cats host a triangular meet today with Lowndes and Monroe (Albany).

Bazemore

Former Coach Says VHS Has Shot At No. 1

Fugett's One-Hitter Stops Bainbridge



WAYNE FUGETT
Keys 9-1 Win

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

Butch Brooks has said all along that the later in the year it gets, the better Wayne Fugett is going to throw.

At sun-splashed Wright Bazemore Field here Friday afternoon, Fugett turned Brooks' prognostication into fact.

Valdosta's ace righthander tamed Bainbridge's Bearcats on a magnificent one-hitter to help give the Wildcats a 9-1 high school baseball victory.

Fugett struck out 15 and walked six. His strikeout total was still short of the alltime VHS record of 19 he whiffed against Central of Thomasville last year.

"My curve wasn't working very well but I was bringin' it pretty good," Fugett said.

Major league baseball scouts from Montreal, Baltimore and Minnesota and the Auburn University baseball coach looked on as Fugett raised his season record to 2-3.

The curly-haired senior had a shutout in the works until the top of the final inning when he walked the first two batters. He then struck out Ell Willis, and Trip Chapman lined out to center field.

Fugett then struck out Cedric Conyers for the fourth time in the game but VHS catcher Mike Ruff couldn't hang on to the pitch. Ruff still had a chance to throw Conyers out at first but David New let the ball get past him.

Mitch Smith raced home with the lone Bainbridge tally.

"It should have been over then," Fugett said. "I shouldn't have walked those two guys. I kind of lost my

concentration when we had that long inning."

The Wildcats exploded for four runs in the sixth after picking up two in the second and three in the fifth off Chapman, now 3-2.

Ruff, who was hitting only .200 coming into the game, led the 13-hit assault with three singles. Spencer Feix and New, both batting below .200 coming in, had two hits apiece as did John Lastinger.

Ashley Deloach came off the bench to slug a three-run

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

the sixth. Ruff, Lastinger, Fugett and New also had base hits in the inning.

"We've been using our whole bench in the last four games," Brooks, the VHS head coach, said. "It was a good one to win. I'm just proud of the kids to fight back like they have. They came to life in the late innings."

Brooks has been constantly re-shuffling his lineup in an effort to find some offensive punch. His team has now won three games in a row and raised its overall record to 6-5.

The Wildcats now trail only league-leading Lowndes in the Region 1-AAAA (South) race with a 4-2 record. Bainbridge fell to 4-5 overall and 3-2 in the subregion.

Blasetti, who had walked, in the first and scored himself on a wild pitch.

John Bond came off the bench to single in two runs in

about it," Brooks said. "We had a little discussion about it before the game. But I like that. I like a guy who wants to play."

Valdosta was to host Tift County (Tifton) here today and travels to Colquitt County (Moultrie) Tuesday.

"We ran the bases stupid and left the bases loaded twice," he said. "We've got to get people to come up there with the idea of hitting the ball."

"Fugett's getting his rhythm back. He's thrown 19 innings in the last six days now, and that's getting him in shape. That's the only way to do it."

Brooks said Deloach was actually scheduled to be the starting pitcher and got a little miffed when he wasn't allowed to show his stuff against the Bearcats. He was scheduled to pitch today.

"He's got a little ticked off

BHS	ab	r	h	bi	VHS	ab	r	h	bi
Conyers, cf	4	0	0	0	Ruff, c	4	1	3	0
St. Rich, lf	3	0	0	0	Lastinger, cf	4	1	2	0
Stevens, 3b	3	0	1	0	Fugett, p	4	1	1	0
St. Rich, c	2	0	0	0	Dame	2	1	0	0
Eckhard, lb	3	0	0	0	New, 3b, lb	3	2	2	1
Smith, 2b	2	1	0	0	Dloch, 3b	2	1	1	3
Jones, rf	2	0	0	0	Beryhl, lf	2	0	0	0
Martin, ph	0	0	0	0	Bond, lf	2	0	1	2
Willis, ss	2	0	0	0	Parkr, ss	2	0	1	0
Chpmn, p	2	0	0	0	Bissett, lb	4	0	1	0
Totals	23	1	1	0	Feix, 2b	3	1	2	1
Totals	30	9	13	8					

Bainbridge	000	1-1	1-4			
Valdosta	020	034	X-9-132			
VHS 7	2B - New 2; DP - VHS 1; LOB - BHS 7, 2B - Lastinger; 3B - Feix; HR - Deloach.					
Chapman (L, 3-2)	ip	h	r	er	bb	so
Fugett (W, 2-3)		6	13	9	9	3
HBP - Dame by Chapman; WP - Chapman 2.		7	1	1	0	6

VHS B-Team Loses
The Times 4/22/79

Barry Whitehead was the winning pitcher and helped his own cause at the plate, going 2-3 to pace Tift County to a 13-5 victory over Valdosta in B-team baseball action Saturday.

Steve Johnson slammed a pair of homers for the winners. Ty Powell and Pat Mayes were both 2-3 for Valdosta. Chris Mayne was charged with the loss.

The B-team drops to 5-4-1 and plays Colquitt County in Moultrie Monday.

Wildcats Romp Past Tift County, 11-2

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Writer

Valdosta High School's fans serenaded Coach Butch Brooks with a stirring rendition of "Happy Birthday" before VHS hosted Tift County Saturday at Bazemore Field.

Then, the Wildcats presented Brooks with the perfect gift for his 33rd birthday. Combining a 14-hit attack with the four-hit pitching of junior righthander Ashley DeLoach, Valdosta romped to an 11-2 triumph.

"We've beginning to put things together. The guys are more confident, more relaxed and it's beginning to reflect in their performances," Brooks

slammed a home run over the leftfield fence. However, that was the only lead the visiting Blue Devils enjoyed all day.

After allowing two hits in the first inning, DeLoach gave up only two more safeties the rest of the game. Mixing a fast ball with an occasional curve, the junior hurler kept Tift's hitters off balance.

Ashley retired the Blue Devils in order in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings. Fred Henderson singled to lead off the fifth, but David Parker, Feix and Wayne Fugett combined for a short, second to first double play to end the threat.

VHS had at least one hit in

every inning except the fifth. The Wildcats jumped on Blue Devil pitcher Ricky Willis for three runs in the first, added four in the fourth and three in the sixth.

Centerfielder John Lastinger went 2-4, including a three-run blast over the right-centerfield fence in the fourth.

"He (Willis) throws a knuckler and a fast ball," Lastinger commented. "He'd been struggling and I figured he would come with the fast ball. I hit the first pitch. I knew I'd hit it pretty good," he said with a big smile.

Lastinger's shot was his first of the season and gave VHS a 8-2 lead. "I hit one over

the fence against Lowndes, but they caught it," John said.

Catcher Mike Ruff, who continues to raise his batting average, was 3-4 for the game. Ruff doubled to open the first for VHS and singles by Wayne Fugett, John Bond and DeLoach coupled with two TCHS' errors enabled the Wildcats to open a 3-1 lead.

Parker singled to left in the fourth and Ruff beat out infield safety off Willis' glove. After Lastinger slammed his homer, Fugett singled to center, went to second on a fielder's choice and scored on a wild throw.

The victory enabled the Wildcats to even the series

since the Blue Devils copped a 3-0 win earlier. TCHS drops to 10-3-1 and 4-1-1 in 1-AAAA North.

"I'm very proud of Ashley. He battled them all the way and kept the ball low," Brooks said. "Tifton has some good hitters."

The perfect climax came with Brooks and his victorious Wildcats happily eating his birthday cake after the contest.

VHS has surged back into contention in the subregion race with its fourth consecutive victory. The Wildcats are on the road Tuesday, playing Colquitt County in Moultrie.



BUTCH BROOKS
Birthdays Present

TCHS	ab r h bi	VHS	ab r h bi
Baker ss	3 0 1 0	Ruff c	4 3 3 0
Maier 2b	0 0 0 0	Loach cf	4 2 2 4
Smith cf	1 0 0 0	Fugett	4 2 2 1
Truman ph	1 0 0 0	Widm pr	0 1 0 0
Bison lf	3 1 1 1	Bishop	0 1 0 0
Txell 3b	2 0 0 0	Bryant	0 0 0 0
Ewing c	2 0 0 0	Corman lf	0 0 0 0
Case rf	2 0 0 0	Bond dh	4 1 2 1
Greer rf	0 0 0 0	Dich p	3 1 2 2
Willis p	3 0 1 0	Damer rf	3 0 1 0
Hinds lf	2 0 1 0	New 3b	2 0 0 0
Shiver lb	1 0 0 0	Snider 3b	2 0 0 0
Whed 2b, ss	3 1 0 0	Bagel 3b	0 0 0 0
TOTALS	24 2 4 1	Parker ss	4 0 2 0
		Welch pr	0 1 0 0
		Feix 2b	3 0 0 0

TFT County	TOTALS	32 11 14 8
Valdosta	101	000 0-2-4-5
E - Bilson, Henderson 2, Willis, New, Ruff, Case; DP - VHS; LOB - TCHS 4, VHS 6.	301	404 x-11-14-2
2B - Baker, Ruff; HR - Bilson, Lastinger; SB - Ewings, Whitehead, Lastinger.		
Willis (L, 1-1)	ip h r er bb so	6 14 11 7 3 5
DeLoach (W, 2-1)		7 4 2 1 3 6
WP - Willis 2.		



MIKE ENFINGER
Good Net Player

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

It is back to Tifton Friday and Saturday for members of the Valdosta High tennis teams participating in the South Georgia Championships.

The Region 1-AAAA boys' doubles champions, Rodney Childree and Mike Enfinger, the region girls' doubles runners-up, Julie Spencer and Linda Hall, and the region girls' singles runner-up, Kim Gandy, all will try to advance to the state semifinals with wins here.

The four southern AAAA regions are all represented here. The Kittens are the only team from 1-AAAA with two units representing them so Coach John Booth has hopes for a state championship in his final

year at the helm of the VHS girls team.

Booth is leaving his job as teacher and coach at VHS to become an insurance salesman in Thomasville next year.

For the Kittens, the job of winning the South Georgia Championship represents their toughest job on the way to a state title. Girls' competition is toughest in south Georgia, where more aggressive net play is the byword, according to Booth.

For Childree and Enfinger, this weekend's tournament represents the first step in an upward climb.

VHS boys' coach, Jim Burroughs, calls his duo "the best he has ever had overall." Like many good doubles teams, Childree, a senior, has the better ground strokes, while Enfinger, a junior and the taller of the two, is

the better net player.

The South Georgia Championships are to consist of two preliminary matches Friday and a final round match on Saturday. For Childree-Enfinger, 5-5 through ten regular season matches, there are no particular favorites on the boys' side.

On the girls' side, the Kittens are well aware of who they must beat. The competition Gandy and Hall-Spencer lost to in the region tournament two weeks ago at Tifton, are the present state champions.

The 14-year-old Gandy was turned aside by Lisa Spain of Colquitt County (Moultrie), the state girls' singles champion for the last two years. Reigning state champions, Becky Thomas and Darby Cottle of Tift County

(Tifton) were the pair Spencer-Hall lost to in a close region final.

Burroughs said Childree and Enfinger are just reaching their peak. The two are said to pick each other up when the other player is down. They also coach each other on the court, Burroughs said.

"They want it more than any of the teams," said Burroughs. "They have been going out a lot on their own at night and working on their game."

Booth said his girls' have an outside shot at a South Georgia championship, the same words he spoke on the Kittens' chances for a region title.

The south Georgia champions advance to the state semifinal a week from Friday in Macon at Mercer University.

VHS Netters Compete In State



RODNEY CHILDRÉE
Solid Ground Strokers

Lowndes Hosts Valdosta Tues.

By MIKE CHASON
Times Sports Editor

It's the second time around for Lowndes and Valdosta here Tuesday but most folks are predicting the same king of tight, knuckle-biting struggle the two local high school baseball teams engaged in back on April 13.

Lowndes grabbed a 5-3 victory in that game, despite a five-hit, 10-strikeout performance by the Wildcats' senior ace, Wayne Fugett.

Wily sophomore lefthander Keith Hagan was the man of the hour for the Vikings as he allowed only four hits and struck out 12.

Both Hagan, 4-1, and Fugett, 3-3, are scheduled to pitch again in Tuesday's 4 p.m. contest at the Lowndes' field.

"They're hot right now," Lowndes Coach



WAYNE FUGETT
VHS Righthander

Noel George in aid of the streaking Wildcats, who have won seven games in a row. "We haven't played all that good in the last three or four games."

"We've been hot and cold," Lowndes dropped a 12-7 decision to Suwannee County (Live Oak, Fla.) Saturday to cut short a six-game winning streak. The Vikings are 10-4 overall and have a league-leading 7-0 record against Region 1-AAAA (South) competition.

Lowndes closes out its regular season with a road game against Thomasville Thursday and a home game against Bainbridge Friday.

Valdosta is 10-5 overall and 6-2 in Region 1-AAAA (South). The Wildcats meet Central of Thomasville here Friday in their last regular season game.

By winning one of its last three games, Lowndes can secure at least a tie for a spot in the region playoffs. The top two teams from each subregion are involved in the double elimination affair.

Valdosta is in a bit more precarious position as far as the playoffs are concerned. The Wildcats and Bainbridge both have two subregion losses. If Bainbridge wins its subregion games this week and Valdosta loses even one of its games, the 'Cats would be eliminated from the playoff picture.

Valdosta could clinch at least a tie by beating Lowndes and Central. If that happened and Bainbridge loses one of its three subregion games this week, the Wildcats would move into the playoffs.

"The safest thing for us to do is win both of them," VHS Coach Butch Brooks said. "I

think our chances are pretty good. "Our hitting has come around, and I think the kids have gotten it together. Our defense has been a little better, and we're just going out there and giving it our best shot."

Brooks figures two Albany schools, Dougherty and Westover, will probably claim the playoff spots in the north subregion. Valdosta routed Westover 17-4 here Saturday.

"It's hard to tell what you're going to do," Brooks said. "These are just high school kids we're dealing with. We might go out there and look like slop ... but I hope not."

George is sure Valdosta will be more fired up than ever for the intra-county rivalry.

"I know they're going to be up for us," he said. "I know they're going to throw Fugett, and we'll just have to try to hit him."



KEITH HAGAN
LHS Southpaw

The Times 4/26/79

Miss VHS Pageant Planned

By Times Staff Writer

Twenty-eight contestants are to vie for the title of Miss Valdosta High School on Saturday at 8 p.m., said a spokesman.

The pageant is to be held at Mathis city auditorium and is sponsored by the VHS junior class. Chairmen of the pageant are Roberta Wetherington and Mary Price Arrington, junior class sponsors.

Those competing are Gretchen Scruggs, Lorrie Thomson, Ouida Mays, Debbie Mink, Laura George, Derrith Nitschke, Penny Cardin, Valorie Hart, Pat Stringer, Bebe Allen, Lisa Holland and Jan Pendleton. Debbie Rambo, Belinda Barden, Lynette Council, Kelly Schroer, Tammy Renfro, Susan Rinehart, Maggie Aguero, Melinda Caddell, Beth Belue, Caffee Lawrence, Leslie Brown, Jill Deese, Karen Loftin, Misty Mock, Susan Kroll and Deborah Beard.

Junior class president David New is to be the master of ceremonies and entertainment is to be by the VHS Swing Choir.

Admission at the door is \$2 but advance tickets may be purchased at \$1.50 each from the contestants or at VHS, said the spokesman.

Vikings Trim 'Cats, 3-2

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

The victory did not come any easier this time between Valdosta and Lowndes High Schools. In the end it was a one-run, 3-2 ballgame in favor of the Vikings from LHS.

Last April 13, the two teams met in a classic struggle that resulted in a 5-3 win for Lowndes.

Two great pitchers once again battled tooth and nail for the precious Region 1-AAAA (South) contest.

Wayne Fugett of Valdosta and Keith Hagan matched three-hitters, with Hagan striking out 13 Wildcats and Fugett giving up just one earned run.

A wild and woolly two-run fifth inning brought the Vikings back from a 2-1 deficit to clinch the subregion title.

Lowndes is now 7-0 in the subregion and 11-5 overall. Valdosta dropped to 10-6 and 6-3.

Colquitt County (Moultrie) gave the Vikings the subregion crown by defeating Bainbridge 9-4 Tuesday. The Packer win also helps the Valdosta cause.

Lowndes travels to Thomasville Thursday and hosts Bainbridge Friday to close out the season. Valdosta hosts Central of Thomasville Friday in its last regular season game.

Fugett rolled through the first three innings, facing the minimum nine batters. On the other side Hagan was struggling with control problems early.



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse

Vikings' DeVane Scores As Wildcats' Ruff Awaits Ball

position early. Hagan closed out the inning with two strikeouts and grew stronger as the day progressed.

"Before the game I was talking to some of the players on whether I should throw hard or throw to spots," said Hagan. "We decided it would work better to throw to spots."

"The first part of the game, I wasn't sure how I was going to pitch. I wasn't confident I could throw to spots."

"The first three men in their lineup can hit," said Lowndes Coach Noel George. "You've got to pitch them real careful and I don't think Keith was quite loose."

Hagan began using his curveball effectively to fan six men in the second and third innings. The fastball then came and Hagan was near invincible the rest of the way.

A walk, an error on Kenny Prather and a bounding hit over third baseman Hal Sprenkle by Tim Dame in the seventh were the only baserunners to reach off Hagan 'he rest of the way.

Fugett was untouchable in the early innings, with his best fastball working like a charm. In the fourth, Schreffler broke the spell with a hard shot to Wildcat third baseman Ashley DeLoach, who was playing shallow expecting the bunt.

DeLoach stopped the ball, but a split second lost as he picked up the ball, gave the speedy Schreffler time to beat the throw to first. Fugett struck out Prather and got Chuck DeVane to force Schreffler at second with an infield grounder.

With two out, Tony Bowden awoke the silver clad Vikings with a line drive double down the right field line. DeVane was running on the pitch and beat the relay on the ball that rolled into the rightfield corner.

safely. "Tony can hit good pitching," said George of the highly important double. "He hits good pitching better than anything."

What happened the next inning had to be seen to be believed. Hagan dispatched the 'Cats 1-2-3, bringing the Vikings up for another try at Fugett.

Sprenkle led off with a shot to DeLoach. The junior third baseman once again had problems coming up with the ball and threw wild to give Sprenkle first. Jay Cobb attempted a sacrifice bunt that rolled along the first base chalkline.

Wildcat catcher Mike Ruff could not let the ball roll any longer and misplayed the ball in an attempt to cut off Cobb at first. Ruff was unable to control the ball and the Vikings had men on first and second with no outs.

A sacrifice bunt by Alan Culpepper advanced the runners to second and third. The next batter, Eric Thomas, sent a bunt back to the mound, trying to squeeze in Sprenkle.

Fugett handled the ball and flipped it underhand to Ruff in the face of a hard-charging Sprenkle. Sprenkle smashed into Ruff as he caught the ball, jarring it loose to produce a tie game.

Thomas made it to second base, but strayed too far towards third and was thrown out by Ruff for the second out of the inning. Cobb advanced to third.

Schreffler came up and hit a lazy pop-up into the swirling winds over shortstop David Parker. As the ball was coming down, Parker fell.

Left fielder Bond was unable to get to the ball as it fell to the earth with a soft thud. Cobb raced home for the go ahead run from third, making it 3-2, Lowndes.

pitched a great game and the other kids just did not play good."

Fugett was noticeably shaken after the Lowndes fifth. Between innings, he sat alone in front of the bench wondering what had gone wrong.

He pitched the rest of the game with a hollow look on his face. The senior hurler said quietly after the game, "We had a bad day in the field. If we beat Bainbridge and they beat Bainbridge, we'll be right back in there for another matchup."

In the end it was George, who savored the victory. His words were, "It was a sweet win."

TOTALS	21	33	2	TOTALS	23	33	2
VHS	200	000	0-2-3-32	VHS	200	170	0-3-3-32
E	Schreffler	DeLoach	2	Ruff	Prather	LOB	VHS 5, LHS 3
28	Lowndes	58	Lastinger	Schreffler	19	Hagan	10
5	Fugett	Culpepper	7	3	3	1	2
			3	3	1	0	5

The Times
5/3/74

VHS, LHS 2nd, 3rd In Track Meet

By Times Staff Writer
THOMASVILLE — Host Thomasville High claimed the Region 1-AAAA (South) subregion track meet, edging Valdosta High 128-126. Lowndes High finished third with 113 points.

Thomasville scored 63 points in field events to lead its closest competitor at that time, Central of Thomasville, with 36. Valdosta had 31 field event points. Lowndes had 29.

Following the top three teams at meet's end was Central with 68, Bainbridge with 58 and Colquitt County (Moultrie) with two.

Johnny B. Williams and Chuck Jones of Lowndes grabbed two individual titles. Jones won the 100 and 220-yard dashes. Williams won the 120-yard high hurdles and the 330-yard intermediate hurdles. Nathaniel Ceasar of Valdosta was an individual

winner in the high jump. Frank Green of VHS claimed the 880-yard run.

Valdosta won the mile relay with a team composed of Frank Green, Rene Jones, Ceasar and Ronnie Scott. Lowndes was victorious in the 440-yard relay.

The top three finishers in each event qualify for the Region 1-AAAA meet at Thomasville Wednesday.

Other qualifiers from Lowndes and Valdosta were

Willie Hargett of Lowndes in the pole vault, David Wilson of Valdosta in the triple jump, David McQueen of Lowndes in the mile and two-mile, Charles Jenkins of Valdosta in the mile.

Also qualifying was Ronnie Scott of VHS in the 440-yard dash, Odell Griffin of VHS in the 120-yard high hurdles, Rene Jones of Valdosta in the 880, Ernest King of VHS in the 220-yard dash, Ceasar in the 330-yard intermediate hur-

dles, Larice Melvin of VHS in the two-mile, Jones of Lowndes in the long jump and the Valdosta No. 2 mile relay team of Griffin, Green, Jones and King.

Lowndes Track Coach Norman Sanchez said, "the meet turned out about like I expected, except much closer. Thomasville did much better in the field event than I thought they could. They and Valdosta scored in every event."

Pole vault: Horton (T), Hargett (L), Smith (T), Hooker (C), Stephenson (L), Griffin (V). H: 12'6".
Shot put: Wilson (T), Eason (C), McIntyre (T), Harris (V), Wright (L), Reddick (L). D: 47'3".
Long jump: Duncan (T), Bobb (B), Chuck Jones (L), Wilson (V), Johnson (C), Close (B). D: 21'8 1/2".
High jump: Ceasar (V), West (C), Harris (C), A. Foster (L), Robinson (T), R. Foster (L), D. Jones (V). (three way tie for fifth). H: 6'7".
Discus: McIntyre (T), Sampson (T), S. Jones (C), Fletcher (V), Eason (C), Gaines (V). D: 135'1".
Triple jump: Green (B), Bobb (B), Wilson (V), Williams (L), Duncan (T), Adkins (L). D: 42'3".
440-yard relay: Lowndes (Burks, Baker, Jones, Jones), Thomasville, Bainbridge, Central, Valdosta No. 1, Valdosta No. 2. T: 43.63.
Mile run: Ingram (C), McQueen (L), Jenkins (V), Moran (B), Gallagher (V), J. Jones (T). T: 4:44.99.
440-yard dash: Williams (T), Scott (V), W. Jones (T), Bethea (L), Hunter (V), Biggles (B). T: 52.20.
100-yard dash: Chuck Jones (L), Wheeler (T), Close (B), Bates (T), King (V), Cedric Jones (L). T: 10.2.
120-yard high hurdles: Williams (L), Griffin (V), Duncan (T), Ceasar (V), West (C), Hampton (L). T: 15.4.
880-yard run: Greene (V), R. Jones (V), Mitchell (T), Hargrove (L), Reese (L), Sharpe (C). T: 2:07.70.
220-yard dash: Chuck Jones (L), Close (B), King (V), Carter (C), Burks (L). T: 22.90.
330-yard intermediate hurdles: Williams (L), Ceasar (V), Horton (T), Griffin (V), Smith (B), West (C). T: 40.42.
Two mile run: Ingram (C), McQueen (L), Melvin (V), Moran (B), Jenkins (V), Jones, L. Jones (T). T: 10:31.90.
Mile relay: Valdosta No. 1 (Green, R. Jones, Ceasar, Scott), Thomasville No. 1, Valdosta No. 2, Lowndes No. 1, Colquitt Co. No. 1, Thomasville No. 2. T: 31.28.



Wildcat Offense In Action: Quarterback Bond (14) Fakes To Fullback King (44)

—Times Staff Photo. By Robert Winter III.

Bond Directs Wildcats To 34-7 Opening Victory

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Editor
THOMASVILLE

Although it might not have been an artistic masterpiece, Valdosta's Wildcats were clearly the dominant team in Friday night's Region 1-AAAA high school football opener.

Battling an improved and fired-up Central squad on the Yellow Jackets' home ground, VHS took control early. The Wildcats scored three of the first four times they touched the ball, and although the Jackets caused them some anxious moments, the outcome was never really in doubt.

Head Coach Nick Hyder and his staff superbly blended their veterans and new players paving the way for VHS' 34-7 victory.

"We were able to play 81 lads and I thought all of them gave a good effort," Hyder said. "Central came after us and I was pleased with the way we responded to their challenge."

The Yellow Jackets made their most serious move in the later stages of the second stanza and early in the third quarter.

With VHS leading 20-0 Central moved 70 yards in nine plays to score with 50 seconds left before intermission. Another big play came on Valdosta's first snap following the kickoff, Tony Wyche intercepting a John Bond pass. However, two Central penalties and the halftime whistle stymied that opportunity.

"We were a little concerned at the half," Hyder said. "We made the necessary adjustments and our defense came out and took charge."

However, there was one more anxious moment. VHS' Irvin Roe bobbled the second half kickoff, but Edward Robinson claimed the elusive pigskin at the 25 for the Wildcats after several Jackets had better shots at it.

Valdosta's defense took command at that stage, Jimbo Hancock, Willie Beaty, Paul Stokes, Anthony Battle, Nathaniel Ceasar, Dante Jones and associates not allowing Central a first down in the third quarter.

The Wildcats limited two tough running backs — Daryl Daniels and Willie Robinson — to 52 and 45 yards rushing respectively. Central had 136 yards passing, the majority of it coming on screen patterns.

"We have people assigned to cover those areas," Hyder said. "That's the inexperience factor. You have to play in game conditions to learn those things."

VHS forced two turnovers, an interception by James Horton and a fumble recovery by Todd Edwards.

Offensively, the Wildcats attacked with the precision of a college unit. Quarterback John Bond is an expert running the option, moving along the line and firing quick darts to open receivers.

Confusing the Yellow Jacket defense with deft fakes to running backs Irvin Roe and Ernest King, the clever Bond kept Central off balance all night.

Bond rushed for 161 yards, scrambling out of the pocket on passing attempts for key yardage. He also completed 8-11 aeriels for 98 yards and scored a two-point conversion.

And, adding to Central's troubles, sophomore Pat Mayes, a sophomore, replaced

second period and marched Valdosta 72 yards to the end zone. It was a banner night for the youngster as he caught and threw a TD pass.

"I thought our backs did a great job protecting the quarterbacks on the roll outs," offensive coordinator Butch Brooks said. "The linemen did an excellent job cutting folks down. John made the correct reads and our execution was excellent."

VHS accumulated 457 yards total offense, 330 rushing and 127 passing. The Wildcats ran 60 plays, 44 rushes and 16 passes.

However, Valdosta was its own worst enemy. The Wildcats had potential scoring drives in the first and third stanzas halted by costly penalties.

"Linemen being downfield on key plays hurt us a couple of times," Hyder said. "But, they're young lads and they'll make some mistakes. Overall, I thought our offensive lines played very well."

Central had the ball for 46 snaps, 24 rushes and 22 passes. The Yellow Jackets went to the air 14 times in the second half, attempting only nine running plays after intermission. Central had 257 yards total offense, 122 on the ground and 136 in the air.

A sunny, hot afternoon gave way to a cloudy evening with a brisk wind coming in North-to-South just before the opening kickoff. Central won the toss and Carl Gains, with the breeze behind him, booted into the end zone.

Central couldn't move and David Leik's punt against the wind travelled only 29 yards to the Valdosta 43.

It didn't take Bond and his mates long to produce the first 1979 TD. The march required 2:19 and seven plays with nine-yard runs by Roe and Bond moving the ball to the 32.

Bond rolled left for 19 to the 13 with Mike Ruff throwing a key block. On second down, Bond connected with Mayes, who made a good catch in the end zone from 13 yards out. Dale Parker converted and the Wildcats led 7-0 with 7:51 on the clock.

Again Central ran three plays and Leik punted 23 yards to the Valdosta 34.

Bond rambled left for 21, hit Robinson for 11 and then eight before an ineligible receiver penalty halted the 'Cats at the 36. Mayes toed a 30-yard beauty, the punt going out of bounds at the six. Central moved the chains

once, before Leik punted to Horton, who made a fair catch at midfield. This time Valdosta moved the distance in five plays.

Bond scrambled for 15 yards, then was sandwiched and the ball rolled forward to the 21 where Kennedy Cooper recovered for the Wildcats. King blasted off left tackle for eight to the eight and on first-and-goal, Bond skirted right end for six points. Roe and King ran convoy, Bond scoring without being touched. Keith Sampson's PAT was perfect and it was 14-0 VHS with 10:49 remaining in the half.

Following Leik's fourth punt of the half, Mayes and the second unit entered the contest. The 'Cats promptly waltzed 72 yards in 10 plays for their third touchdown.

Carl Wilcox blasted up the middle for 17 to Central's 47 and Mayes found Tony Daniels for a 20-yard strike to the 27 to spark the push.

Fourth-and-10 arrived at that juncture, but Mayes unable to locate a receiver, scrambled for 18 yards and first-and-goal at the nine. Mayes rolled right on the next snap and fired a nine-yard scoring bullet to Keith Mitchell. Dale Parker's PAT attempt went wide right leaving the Wildcats ahead 20-0 at 4:38.

Calvin Eason returned the kickoff 25 yards to the 30 and Central went 70 yards in nine plays for its lone touchdown.

Quarterback Tim Sherrod combined with split end Demetrius Brooks for 17 yards to the 47 and Robinson swept left end for eight to the 45, the first time the Jackets had penetrated Wildcat territory.

A pass interference call against Jones on a halfback aerial from Robinson to Brooks moved the ball to the 30 and kept the drive alive.

Jones had good position and appeared to be going for the ball, but the official threw his flag. "It was a judgement call, it could have gone either way," Hyder said.

Four plays later, Sherrod and Mike Wright combined on a five-yard scoring strike. Jeff Bass added the PAT for a 20-7 score with 50 seconds on the clock.

Wyche made his interception on Valdosta's first play in the next series, but the Yellow Jacket cheers were quickly erased. Central was penalized 15 yards for clipping, and lost 15 yards on a holding infraction as time expired.

After Robinson made his crucial fumble recovery at the 25, VHS mounted another strong march with the second half kickoff. Bond had three runs for 29 yards and found Ruff for 12 to the Central 21, but another ineligible receiver downfield blunted the effort.

Faced with first-and-25 from the 40, VHS almost made it. Bond did sneak five yards for the first down at the 22, but a five-yard offsides penalty and incomplete pass stopped the push.

After an exchange of punts, the Wildcats launched their fourth scoring drive. Bond found Ruff for 10, Daniels for 13, rolled left for 22 to the Central 34 and connected with Daniels for 13 to the 21 on the last play of the third period.

Rolling to the right on the next play, Bond forced the corner back to come up, then hit the wide open Ruff for 21 yards and six points. Bond, who holds for the PATs, raced over for two points and a 28-7 Wildcat margin with 11:52 left in the contest.

Eason took the ensuing kickoff at the five and raced to the 39 where Roe, the last VHS defender, made a touch-down-saving tackle.

Sherrod and Robinson combined on two screen passes for 20 and 15 yards as Central marched to the 38. On fourth-and-15, Sherrod hit Wright for 13 yards, Jones and Ceasar combining for the tackle as VHS took over at the 25.

Less than three minutes later, the Wildcats were in the end zone again. Roe, behind superb line blocking, blasted up the middle for 15 and King turned the left corner for 18 to the Jackets' 42.

After Roe narrowly missed the diving Ruff on the halfback pass, Wilcox exploded through the middle for 27 yards, to the 15. Central was penalized half the distance for pass interference and Roe, behind Wilcox' block, swept left end for the final six yards. Sampson's PAT was wide left and the 34-7 count was on the boards at 5:56.

Both teams had scoring opportunities in the late going. Horton's interception and 20-yard return to the 17 gave VHS a shot at 5:15. However, Central managed to stop the third string Wildcat offense at the eight.

The Jackets, on a 38-yard pass from reserve quarterback David Streets to Sam Hopkins, and runs of 13 by Daniels and seven by Edward Haire reached the Wildcat seven.

Haire fumbled when tackled and Edwards recovered for VHS.

"Central came after us, they have some good athletes and figure to be a contender," Hyder said. "We need to gain experience and I'm very proud of all our lads."

SCORE BY QUARTERS:

Valdosta	7	13	0	14-34
Central	0	7	0	0-7

Scoring: V — Mayes 13 pass from Bond (Dale Parker kick); V — Bond 8 run (Sampson kick); V — Mitchell 9 pass from Mayes (kick failed); C — Wright 5 pass from Sherrod (Bass kick); V — Ruff 21 pass from Bond (Bond run); V — Roe 6 run (kick failed).

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: V — King, 8-45; Roe, 7-41; Wilcox, 5-45; Bond, 14-161; Frazier, 3-9; Dav. Parker, 2-7; Patterson, 2-5; Mayes, 3-22.

C — Robinson, 10-45; Daniels, 9-42; Haire, 2-27; Mayes 1-2; Sherrod, 2-141.

Passing: V — Bond, 8-11-1 for 98; Mayes, 2-4-0 for 29; Roe, 0-1-0 for 0.

C — Sherrod, 8-20-1 for 98; Streets, 1-2-0 for 38.

Pass Receiving: V — Mayes, 1-13; Robinson, 2-18; Daniels, 4-56; Mitchell, 1-7; Ruff, 2-31.

C — Brooks, 3-32; Wright, 2-18; Robinson, 3-48; Hopkins, 1-38.

Punt Returns: V — Roe, 2-10; C — none.

Kickoff Returns: V — Roe, 2-42; C — Brooks, 2-35; Eason, 3-6.

Defense (Number of Tackles): V — Horton 4, Ceasar 2, Jones 2, Robinson 1, Moses 1, I. Roe 1, Scurry 1, Dennis 2, Sheppard 2, Moore 4, Harris 1, King 2, Holland 1, Dpel, Battle 3, Carter 2, Stokes 2, Walton 1, Gains 2, Davis 1, Hunter 1, Beaty 2, L. Roe 2, Hancock 2.

C — Rodenberry 7, R. C. Eason 6, Wyche 4, Whittington 5, Jones 5, Robinson 3, Choice 4, C. Eason 3, Williams 3, Bass 3.

Interception Returns: V — Horton 1-20; C — Wyche 1-13.

Bond, King Lead 'Cats Over Crisp

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

By MIKE CHASON
Special Correspondent
Like a hurricane which just wouldn't run out of rain, Valdosta's Wildcats kept pouring heavy doses of John Bond and Ernest King at Crisp County here Saturday night.

In two hours and 15 minutes of high school football, the visiting Cougars from Cor-

YARDSTICK		
	Val.	Crisp
First Downs	27	12
Yards Rushing	366	179
Yards Passing	96	37
Passes	8-13	3-10
Passes Inct. By	2	0
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Punting	3-30.0	4-44.3
Penalties	9-85	6-57

dele never quite found a way to dry up the skies.

When the Valdosta deluge of yards, points and a stubborn defense had ended, the hometown Wildcats had paddled away with a 36-9 victory.

King shook loose from his fullback spot for 173 yards on 23 carries, and scored three touchdowns while Bond the VHS quarterback, picked up 123 yards on 24 hauls and threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Mike Ruff.

Dale Parker booted a 30-yard field goal, and James Horton streaked down the home sideline on a 51-yard interception return to account for the other VHS scoring.

The Wildcats were without the services of talented senior halfback Irvin Roe, who was sidelined with a bruised leg,

"They were keying on our tight end, so we went to an unbalanced line," Blasetti said. "They didn't adjust, so we blew them down. Many times they blitzed themselves right out of the play."

It is a new experience for Blasetti being the "old man" on a young offensive line.

The highly sought after college prospect said, "Everytime I go out there I keep looking for the seniors I had with me last year. It's a big change all-right. I keep looking to my side for Andy Chapman and Bubba Hardin."

"Center (where Blasetti played his prior seasons) is a more complicated position. At tackle I get to downfield block though, which I like."

Two areas where many first-year players are working for the 'Cats is defense and the offensive line. According to coaches and players, improvement can be seen over last Friday's win over Central of Thomasville.

"We were struggling," said VHS defensive coordinator Jack Rudolph of his offense stoppers. "There are some things we have to improve on. I was encouraged with the last half over the first half. They (Crisp) executed very well, but we've got to stop well executed plays. They are a young bunch of kids, which presents problems, but at least after a win like this when the kids play like tonight they made enough mistakes that they will be coachable next week."

"We have to improve to beat a team of Thomasville's caliber. The only thing good about that game is that it is not a sub-region game."

"They (Thomasville) have been sitting over there dreaming about the 'Cats all year," said Hyder. "It's going to be another 'Cat and 'dog fight."

according to VHS Coach Nick Hyder.

Slippery Eddie Ford slithered through the Valdosta defense for 137 yards on 17 carries to account for just about all the Cougars' offense.

Ford, the leading rusher in Region 1-AAAA last season, posted the lone Crisp six-pointer. Alton Harvey kicked a 34-yard field goal for the only other Crisp points.

The Wildcats, ranked number one in the state by the Associated Press, raised their overall record to 2-0 and their Region 1-AAAA (North) mark to 1-0. The 'Cats battle the fourth-ranked and still unbeaten Thomasville Bulldogs in Thomasville Friday.

Crisp fell to 1-1 overall and 0-1 in 1-AAAA (North) action.

"Crisp is an excellent football team," Hyder said. "They're going to figure in this thing before it's over."

"That Eddie Ford had an awful good night."

Valdosta's relentless ground game rolled up and down the green-carpeted floor of Cleveland Field to the tune of 366 yards. Bond hit 8 of 13 passes for an additional 96 yards.

"We were pretty much ground-oriented," Hyder said. "Bond and King really had good nights, and I thought Mike Ruff caught several key passes for us."

Wearing the black jerseys they usually reserve for the road, the 'Cats looked almost like strangers to the partisan crowd of 9,500. Georgia High School Association rules specify the home team must now wear dark jerseys.

But when Bond, King and Co. took the opening kickoff 80 yards in 16 plays for the

game's first score, the home folks got the message early that last year's state co-champions are again a force to be reckoned with, no matter what the color of their shirts.

King did the scoring honors on a 13-yard scamper. Dale Parker kicked the extra point.

Crisp grabbed the momentum right back with a 75-yard march which resulted in a 10-yard touchdown run by Ford. A 24-yard pass form Cougar quarterback Skeebio Musslewhite to Mike Harvey keyed the drive.

The Cougars missed the extra point kick when a penalty put the ball back on the 15-yard line.

With 10:18 to go in the first half, King crossed the goal line again on a 5-yard run. Keith Sampson, with his right arm still in a tight sling from nerve damage suffered in a training camp accident a year ago, kicked the extra point.

Harvey's field goal narrowed the gap to 14-9 with 4:32 left in the half. Parker added three more points to the Valdosta side as time expired in the half.

"We felt like our conditioning would be the difference in the second half," Hyder said. "They moved the ball some but they didn't score any more."

VHS defensive coordinator Jack Rudolph also made a slight adjustment which linebacker Anthony Battle found to his liking. Battle wound up with eight individual tackles from his linebacker position.

Nathaniel Ceasar and Paul Stokes had seven stops apiece, and Jimbo Hancock

and Horton chipped in with six each.

"We knew it was just a matter of holding them to what they already had," Rudolph said. "We were confident the offense was going to get some more touchdowns."

With offensive coordinator Butch Brooks calling the shots and Bond and King pulling the trigger, the Wildcats lived up to Rudolph's prognostication.

Ruff, who caught seven passes for 87 yards, latched on to Bond's touchdown toss with 21 seconds to play in the third period. Sampson kicked the extra point.

With that touchdown, and the first of Horton's two interceptions on the next Crisp series, the Cougars lost their bite.

Freshman Bruce McFarland replaced Musslewhite but couldn't rally his troops. Horton's second interception return for the touchdown nailed the final spike in the already cold coffin with 1:03 remaining in the contest.

For the Cougars, the Valdosta hurricane had long since did its damage.

Score by Quarters:				
Valdosta	7	10	7	12-36
Crisp Co.	6	3	0	0-9

Scoring:	
Val.	King 13 run (Parker kick)
Cri.	Ford 10 run (Kick failed)
Val.	King 5 run (Sampson kick)
Cri.	Harvey 34 field goal
Val.	Parker 30 field goal
Val.	Ruff 3 pass from Bond (Sampson kick)
Val.	King 17 run (Kick blocked)
Val.	Horton 51 interception ret. (Kick failed)

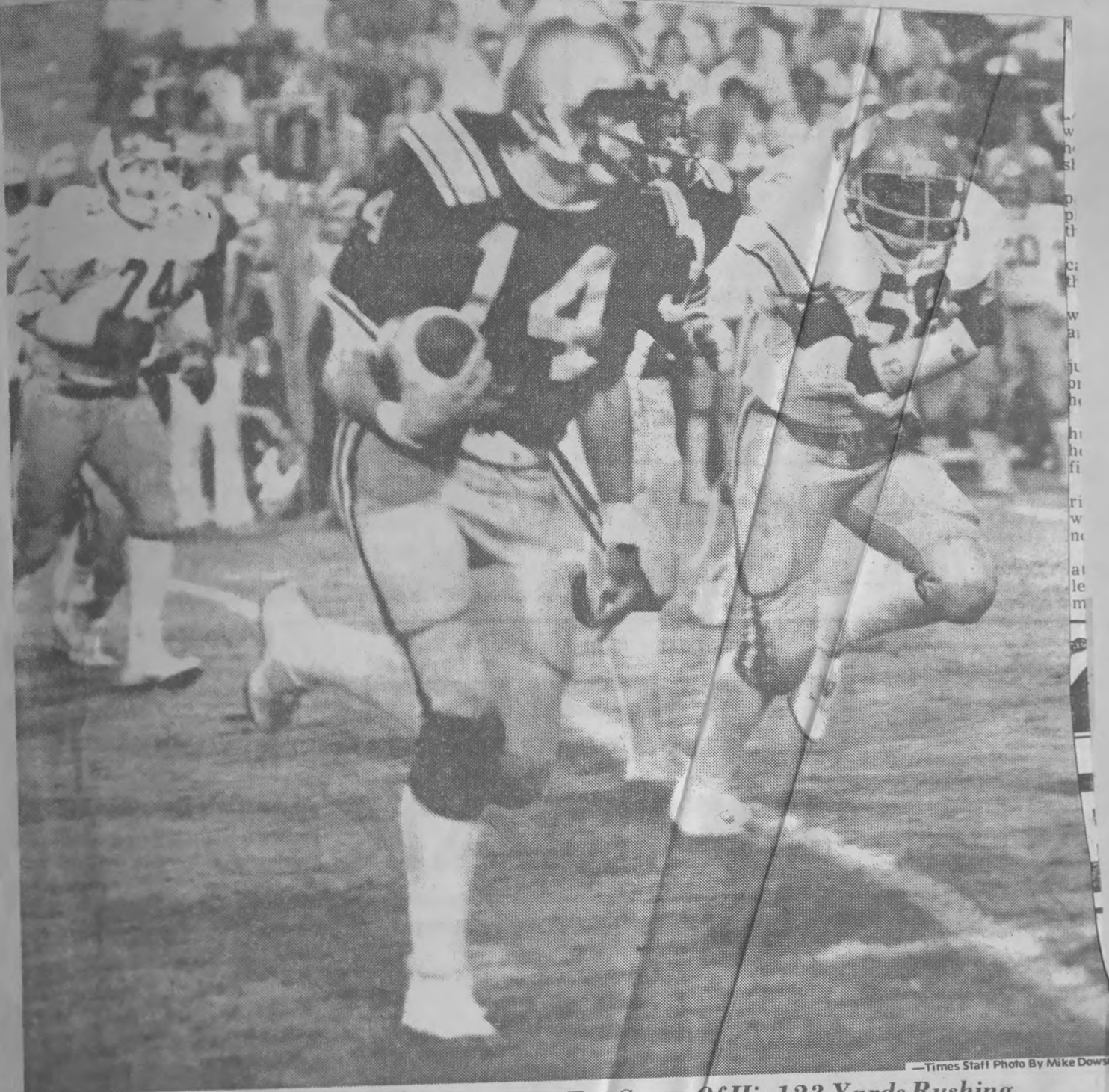
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing:	Valdosta — Bond 24-123, King 23-173, Wilcox 5-26, Frazier 4-44; Crisp — Musslewhite 4-4, Ford 17-137, Harvey 7-16, Jones 3-18, Parham 1-12, McFarland 1 minus 8.
Passing:	Valdosta — Bond 8-13-0-96; Crisp — Musslewhite 3-8-1-37, McFarland 0-2-1-0.
Pass Receiving:	Valdosta — Ruff 7-87, Robinson 1-9; Crisp — M. Harvey 1-24, Jones 1-3, Reeves 1-10.
Punt Returns:	Valdosta — Wilcox 1-9; Crisp — Ford 1-20.
Kickoff Returns:	Valdosta — no returns; Crisp — Jones 3-45, M. Harvey 2-25, A. Harvey 1-12.
Defense (Number of Tackles):	Valdosta — Battle 8, Ceasar 7, Stokes 7, Hancock 6, Horton 6, Hunter 5, Roe 4, Jones 2, Sheppard 2, Holland 2; Crisp — Shell 12, Sims 9, Dean 8, Stuckey 7, Pickens 5, M. Harvey 4, Davis 3, Harper 3, Smith 3, Walker 3, Johnson 2, Jackson 2.
Interception Returns:	Valdosta — Horton 2-71; Crisp — no interceptions.

Handwritten: Miami 4-79 B-Team Wins 4-7 Valdosta outslugged Colquitt County and captured

a 10-8 triumph in B-team baseball action Monday in Moultrie.

Jeff Wiggins, who struck out nine and walked one, was the winning pitcher. Wiggins with a triple and William Davis with a double were the top hitters.

The victory improves the B-team record to 6-4-1 and they play again Thursday at Brooks County (Quitman).



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse

Valdosta's John Bond Turns Corner For Some Of His 123 Yards Rushing

Black Is No Jinx For Wildcats

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

Some Valdosta fans were worried that wearing black jerseys in a Saturday night football game might mean bad luck for their beloved Wildcats.

As things turned out, VHS showed no signs of suffering from a jinx.

Valdosta methodically crumbled any upset dreams Crisp County (Cordele) might have had to win the 1-AAAA (North) opener for both clubs, 36-9.

The 'Cats now stand at 2-0, with an important ride to

Thomasville coming up next Friday. The Cougars' mark evened at 1-1.

The game took on the complexion of an infantry battle in the trenches, rather than an unleashing of the air corps.

"They set out to stop our passing attack," said VHS Head Coach Nick Hyder. "We beat them throwing the ball last year. It was basically the same defensive alignment as last year. If they wanted to stop the pass, that's all right. I'd rather run than throw anyway."

Ernest King and John Bond

were a two-man toting show for the 'Cats. Bond totaled 123 yards in 24 carries, while King had 173 yards in 23 attempts.

On the other side of the coin, Cougar tailback Eddie Ford lived up to advance billing with 137 yards in 17 carries.

"To start with they had a very good offensive plan," said Hyder. "It was similar to the one Clarke Central used two years ago (in the state final). They ran the sprint draw well with a great runningback (Ford.)"

On the VHS side, Bond said

many of his runs were determined by what Crisp was doing defensively.

"I have the option to run or pass," he said. "If the cornerback comes up I throw. If he stays back, I run."

When Bond did throw his primary target was split end Mike Ruff, who caught seven aeriels for 87 yards.

"Sometimes being rushed he's the only one I see," said Bond.

Senior tackle Tony Blasetti expressed how the offense moved from his spot on the offensive line.



—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III

Defensive Back Chip Chastain (53) Pulls Down Bond With Robert Walker's Help

First Quarter Lead Holds For 9-0 Thomasville Win

By STEVE ROBERTS
Times Sunday Editor

THOMASVILLE — It came down to mistakes and breaks. A bone-crushing Thomasville defense forced the mistakes and an opportunistic Bulldog offense took advantage of the breaks, put nine first quarter points on the board and made it stand up for a 9-0 victory over the top-ranked Valdosta Wildcats here Friday night.

YARDSTICK

	Valdosta	Thomasville
First Downs	12	14
Yards Rushing	97	164
Yards Passing	94	32
Passes	8-17	6-14
Passes Inct. By	1	0
Fumbles Lost	3	0
Punting	5-35.6	5-36.4
Penalties	3-45	4-40

An overflow crowd of more than 8,000 jammed Veterans Memorial Stadium to watch two AAAA heavyweights do battle, and what they saw was a fierce defensive struggle unfold between the state's No. 1 and No. 5 rated teams.

Thomasville, a veteran club that had succumbed to Valdosta in Region 1-AAAA title games the last two seasons, played an almost flawless football game.

The Bulldog defense, led by a trio of vicious linebackers, bottled up Valdosta's high-powered offense all night long, repeatedly turning the ball over to the offense in good field position.

The Wildcat defenders were almost as superb, but two defensive lapses were all the Bulldogs needed to produce the nine points.

The victory snapped a seven-game Valdosta winning streak over the Bulldogs and marked the first shutout of a Wildcat team in 58 games. Not surprisingly, Thomasville handed the 'Cats that whitewashing as well when William Andrews led a 40-0 rout in Valdosta in 1974.

The huge Thomasville throng began chanting "defense, defense, defense" before the game started, kept the chant going for more than three quarters then changed it to "we're No. 1" as the clock began ticking toward the triple zeros in the fourth period.

The Bulldog defense answered the fans' roar midway through the first period by

V. Times 9-15-79
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grabbing the first of three costly Wildcat fumbles and setting up the game's only touchdown.

Valdosta had set up shop for its first offensive series on its 29-yard-line after forcing a Thomasville punt. The 'Cats immediately ground out a first down on a 12-yard scamper by halfback Irvin Roe. Then on a second and five play, Roe popped for four yards to the 49 but fumbled the ball into the arms of linebacker Calvin Wheeler who raced down the sideline to the Valdosta 19.

The Bulldogs wasted no time getting into the end zone. On the first play, fullback Cary Clark burst off the right side, ran head-to-head with Valdosta safety Nathaniel Caesar at the five and spilled into the end zone for the six-pointer.

Wheeler's extra point try sailed wide right and with 6:41 remaining in the first quarter Thomasville had all the points it needed.

The second Wildcat mistake of the night helped the 'Dogs pad the lead on their next possession. The aggressive Thomasville defense forced a punt and when Valdosta tackle Phillip James hit the Bulldog receiver before the ball arrived the 'Cats were penalized 15 yards to their 20 and forced to punt again.

The second Pat Mayes' boot traveled only 22 yards and the Bulldogs were in business at the Valdosta 42.

The Wildcat defenders dug in and appeared to have the drive stopped at the 30 when on fourth and 11 Thomasville quarterback Johnny Chastain found tight end Nate Brown open over the middle for a 17-yard completion and a first down at the 13.

Valdosta's defense stiffened again, but linebacker Steve Strickland was perfect

on a 27-yard field goal with 1:04 left in the first period.

Following the three-pointer, defense took over until Valdosta started its only consistent drive of the game from its 20 late in the second quarter.

Helped by a 15-yard piling on penalty against Thomasville, Wildcat quarterback John Bond went to the air and brought Valdosta toward the Bulldog goal.

A 14-yard strike to split end Keith Mitchell gave the 'Cats a first down at their 49. Bond went to the shot gun and found Mayes on the sideline for a 21-yarder to the Thomasville 30.

Battling the clock, Bond hit Roe for five yards to the 25, then drilled a bullet to fullback Welton Frazier over the middle for 11 more and a first down at the 14 with 33 seconds remaining in the half.

An incomplete pass stopped the clock before Strickland trapped Bond for no gain, and Valdosta, with no time outs left, rushed its field goal team on the field. Dale Parker's 31-yard attempt fell short and to the left as the halftime clock ran down.

The second half story was written by Thomasville's defense and some great punting by Chastain.

Valdosta's deepest penetration after intermission was to its own 48-yard-line, being forced by Chastain punts to start drives inside its 20 on three occasions.

The Wildcat offense, which averaged 346 yards rushing in its first two games, was held to 97 yards by the swarming Bulldogs. Linebackers Strickland, Wheeler and Robert Walker combined for 20 tackles, limiting Bond to 14 yards in 14 carries and fullback Ernest King to 18

yards in seven trips.

Roe was the only bright spot in the 'Cats offensive arsenal as he managed 60 yards in eight carries.

Clark was the Thomasville workhorse as he ripped the Valdosta defense for 92 yards in 17 trips, showing great balance and power.

Valdosta's defense was sparked by its only two returning starters from 1978, Caesar and Jimbo Hancock, who divided 18 tackles between them.

Thomasville improved its record to 3-0 with the impressive victory while Valdosta dropped to 2-1. Both teams remain undefeated in subregion play.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	0	0	0	0	0
Thomasville	9	0	0	0	0

Scoring:
T — Clark 19 run; T — Strickland 27 field goal.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing:
Valdosta — Bond 14-14, King 7-18, Roe 8-60, Wilcox 2-5.
Thomasville — Chastain 6 minus 25, Clark 17-92, Kavouklis 13-55, Austin 3-39, Thomas 5-23.

Passing:
Valdosta — Bond 8-16-0-94, Roe 0-1-0-0.
Thomasville — Chastain 5-13-1-32, Clark 0-1-0-0.

Pass Receiving:
Valdosta — Roe 3-31, Ruff 1-15, Frazier 1-11, Mayes 1-21, Mitchell 1-14, Robinson 1-2.
Thomasville — Clark 3 minus 12, Brown 1-17, Duncan 1-13, Kavouklis 1-14.

Punt Returns:
Valdosta — Roe 2 minus 5.
Thomasville — Austin 1-2.

Kickoff Returns:
Valdosta — Roe 1-33, King 1-11.
Thomasville — Clark 1-19.

Tackles:
Valdosta — Hancock 9, Caesar 9, Horton 5, Stokes 7, Battle 7, S. Hunter 4, Davis 4, S. King 4, L. Rbe 3, Holland 3.
Thomasville — Strickland 8, Wheeler 6, Walker 6, C. Chastain 5, Mitchell 5, Broadnax 5, Anderson 4, Thompson 4, Francis 3.

Interception Returns:
Valdosta — Jones 1-0.



Here She Is

The new Miss Valdosta High School is Leslie Brown, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Brown, A junior. Miss Brown was crowned Saturday night during a pageant held at Mathis city auditorium. She was crowned by last year's first runner-up.

Suzanne Sharman, over 27 other contestants. Miss VHS 1978, Mayte Abella, was unable to attend the pageant, said a spokesman. The event was sponsored by the VHS junior class.—Times Staff Photo.

Hyder Gives Credit To His Opponent

By Times Sports Writer
THOMASVILLE — Valdosta's Wildcats don't get beat at their own game very often, but Friday night at Veterans Memorial Stadium here the Thomasville Bulldogs did just that.

A solid Thomasville defense shut down the Wildcats offensively, forcing mistakes that led to a 9-0 1-AAAA victory.

The only excuse Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder used to explain the loss was Thomasville.

"I don't have any excuses," Hyder told newsmen shortly after the rapidly played (an hour and 50 minutes) game had ended. "I wish I could point to something. We just got beat by a fine football team."

"We got beat on offense, we got beat on defense and we got beat in the kicking game. You've got to give Thomasville credit. They executed well."

An obviously happy Bulldog Coach Jim Hughes echoed Hyder's assessment.

"We played well. I thought we played a heady football game. When you play a team as good as Valdosta you better be smart or you'll get embarrassed," Hughes said.

"Our defense gave us great opportunities, and our offense moved the football when it needed to. I was particularly pleased with the way we controlled the ball in the fourth quarter."

The Thomasville offense took more than six minutes of the final period to drive from its 18-yard-line to the Valdosta 13 before turning the ball over on downs with less than a minute to play.

Field position, or lack of it, was another key against Valdosta.

The 'Cats started almost all their drives from deep in their own territory due mainly to some pinpoint punting by Bulldog quarterback Johnny Chastain.

The poor field position, coupled with three lost fumbles, kept the 'Cats offense in arrears most of the night.

"I thought we were able to neutralize Bond and played good defense," Hughes said. "Our defense played a smart football game."

The Bulldog defense made it a frustrating night for quarterback John Bond, who managed only 14 yards rushing in 14 carries. Bond had more success throwing, but had several balls dropped.

Valdosta's inexperience was perhaps a factor or perhaps it was the experience of a veteran Thomasville club, which refused to make any mistakes.

"Yes, we gained valuable experience tonight," Hyder said. "But it was sure costly."

Valdosta, Clarke Central Score Prep Grid Victories

By The Associated Press
Valdosta quarterback John Bond scored two touchdowns in an offensive blitz that led the Wildcats, defending co-champions in Class AAAA, to a 34-7 victory Friday night over Central of Thomasville as the 1979 Georgia high school football season shifted into high gear.

Bond, a 6-foot-3½, 190 pounder, rushed for 161 yards and one touchdown and connected on eight passes and another touchdown as the top-ranked Wildcats picked up to a total of 330 yards on the ground in the one-sided season opener.

No. 2 ranked Clarke Central defeated Northeast Macon 10-6 in another Class AAAA contest. Ricky Green kicked a 30-yard field goal for Clarke Central in the first quarter, and Josh Starl scored the game-winning touchdown on a 20-yard run in the third quarter.

The Savannah Blue Jackets breezed by the racially troubled Brunswick Pirates 29-6 with junior running back Walter Rouse rushing for 150 yards and two touchdowns.

Local black groups demanding the appointment of a black coach at one of the two public schools in Glynn County picketed the Friday night game in Brunswick, but no incidents were reported.

Most of the black Brunswick players who had been boycotting practice during the week as part of the protest suited up for the game.

Pirates running back Warren Lawrence, one of the black players who had taken part in the boycott, scored the team's lone touchdown on a 21-yard scamper around left end in the first quarter.

The effect of the protest was most evident in the stands, as few black spectators were on hand for the game, apparently honoring the picket lines set up at all the gates.

In other Friday night games, sixth-ranked Woodward Academy of Class AAA blanked R.E. Lee 17-0 as quarterback Randy Burton scored one touchdown on a 55-yard pass play and ran eight yards nor a second six-pointer.

Seventh-ranked Waycross pedaled by Appling County 41-7 with tailback Ray Young dominating play with three touchdowns, two on short-yardage runs and a third on a 67-yard pass from quarterback Barry Taylor.

Young picked up 82 yards in nine carries and caught four passes for 86 yards. Taylor completed four of six passes for 104 yards in the Bulldogs romp.

Appling's lone touchdown came at the end of the second quarter on a four-yard pass from quarterback Jeff Williams to running back Troy Gibbs.

In another Class AAA showdown, Marcus James scored one touchdown on a 4-yard run and quarterback Scott Harris iced the cake with a 27-yard touchdown

pass to end Steve Brunnbelow as No. 10 Rockmart swept past Cartersville 14-3.

Elsewhere, West Rome parlayed a balanced offensive attack to defeat Pepperrell 23-8. Sophomore quarterback Mike Slack scored a pair of touchdowns on runs of 11 and eight yards; fullback Willie Wofford led all rushers with 88 yards on nine carries.

Victor Mann scored one touchdown on a 15-yard pass play from Tommy Sims and Michael Welbern ran back a punt 85 yards for a second score as Americus defeated Douglas County 13-7. Harvey Zachery put Douglas County on the board with a three-yard touchdown run.

Adairsville blanked Northwest Whitfield 13-0 as Vic Beasley picked up 74 yards on six carries including a 58-yard touchdown run. The other Adairsville touchdown was scored on a 29-yard run by Perry Carter.

Quarterback Fred Berkley passed for one touchdown and kicked a field goal — all in the second quarter — to lead Cedartown to a 17-8 win over Lithia Springs. Lamar Whatley scored the other Cedartown touchdown on a 7-yard run in the first quarter.

And quarterback Sammy Perren ran for two touchdowns and a two-point conversion and passed for another two-pointer as Paulding County defeated Calhoun 28-16.

Frazier Breaks Loose As Valdosta Romps

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

ALBANY — On the second play of the football game here between Valdosta High and Albany High, senior fullback, Earnest King was helped from the field with a twisted right knee.

King's replacement, Welton Frazier, was definitely up to the task of

YARDSTICK		Valdosta	Albany
First Downs		16	5
Yards Pushing		283	25
Yards Passing		105	74
Passes		11-21	4-11
Passes Incl. By		1	1
Fumbles Lost		2-19	1-2
Punting		4-30	8-34.5
Penalties			9-87

replacing the senior star, as he rushed for 174 yards in 15 carries and crossed the goal line with four touchdowns, leading Valdosta to a 42-7 win over the host Indians.

The 1-AAAA North victory placed the Wildcats at 3-1 on the season and 2-0 in the subregion. Albany fell to 1-3 overall and 0-2 subregion. Next week Valdosta hosts

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Colquitt Co. (Moultrie) in a non-subregion contest.

The Wildcats ground out 388 yards in total offense, 283 rushing, 105 passing.

The Cats' defense was equally effective, holding Albany to minus 25 yards rushing and 75 yards passing. Almost all of Albany's passing yardage was made on the reserve defense in the fourth quarter.

Besides Frazier's four TD's, Irving Roe galloped in from the 11 for another score and David Parker threw six yards to Ashley DeLoach for a fourth quarter

touchdown.

Roe's score was particularly impressive, as he took a pitch-out from Bond and faked out the right side of the Albany defense.

Parker's touchdown throw showed good determination, passing with a defender hanging on his back. The report on King from VHS head coach, Nick Hyder, sounded promising.

"Everything is stable according to Dr. Gampa (Hosea)," said Hyder. It could be bruised — it is certainly twisted. He passed all the reflex tests. "It looks like two weeks. It's hard to say."

King ran 18 yards on the first play of the game. On the game's second play, King was hit hard by Henry Nix going around right end. He was helped from the field and later walked around the track which surrounds the field, with a crutch and a group of managers.

Having Frazier, a 170-pound junior in King's slot "certainly didn't change any calls," said Hyder. "Earnest is stronger and has more experience, but Frazier is a good back with excellent balance.

"The backs aren't a whole lot better than the blockers in front of them anyway." On the defensive side, Hyder had praise for all of

the fired-up defenders, but singled out senior middle guard Hal Dixon for his tough play. Dixon once hit a player so hard that he cracked his own helmet.

Also impressive on the shut-down defense was tackle Jimbo Hancock, end Lynn Roe, linebacker Anthony Battle, and cornerback James Horton.

Albany managed only one first down in the first half. To make up for that first down, the "D" sacked Albany quarterback Mark Oliverio for a loss of 13 yards on the very next play.

All but two Valdosta players saw action in the game according to VHS coach Butch Brooks.

Frazier scored the first TD, culminating an eleven play, sixty-four yard drive with a 2-yard plunge with 8:21 left in the first quarter.

The second touchdown drive took seven plays, covering 67 yards. Roe and Frazier handed the carrying chores.

Frazier blasted off tackle and sped up the middle 24 yards for the score.

The most impressive run of the first half was a 41-yarder by Frazier that came to nothing. He appeared to be going down after eight yards, but he put a hand down to steady himself and motored to the Albany 36. That drive later bogged down.

The Cats toyed with a TD on their last possession of the first half but tippy-turvey play was the order of business.

A fifteen-yard touchdown pass from Bond to Roe was called back on a holding penalty, setting up a second and goal from the thirty yard line. Bond then ran 24 yards to the six.

An illegal motion penalty against VHS moved the ball back to the eleven. Bond was then roughed on an incomplete pass, moving the ball back to the six. The senior quarterback motored around left end all the way to the one, but was stopped as the first half horn sounded.

Albany fumbled on the next possession, with Horton recovering for VHS. It took Bond and company four plays to score, ending in Roe's 11-yard beauty.

By then it was 28-0 and new faces galore began to see action for the Cats.

Albany put together some late game heroics to liven the sparse crowd on the cool September evening.

Reserve quarterback Danny Blaylock hooked-up with split end Emanuel Coleman for a 39-yarder and then a 17-yard scoring pass.

On the 39-yard pass, Coleman had the VHS secondary beat and might have scored, but failed catching the ball.

Score by Quarters

Valdosta	7	7	14	14-42
Albany	0	0	0	0-7
Scoring:	V — Frazier 2 run (Parker kick)	V — Frazier 24 run (Sampson kick)	V — Frazier 57 run (Parker kick)	V — 11 run (Sampson kick)
	V — 11 run (Parker kick)	V — Frazier 5 from Parker (Sampson kick)	A — Deloach 6 pass 17 pass from Blalock (Walker kick)	
Rushing, Individual Statistics				
Bond 13-56	Roe 6-30	King 2-21	Parker 5-11	Moses 2-3
Johnson 1-1	Lasler 4-12	Jones 2-6	Blalock 3-4	Mitchell 1-1
Passing, Individual Statistics				
Parker 6-8 0-90	Albany — Oliverio 0-3 0-0	Blalock 4-8 1-21	Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Robinson 3-30	Johnson 3-31
Frazier 2-11	Roe 1-17	Mitchell 1-8	Albany — Coleman 4-7	Horton 2-35
Punt Returns: Valdosta — Roe 3-31	Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Roe 2-45	R. Jones 1-15	Nix 1-11	Sullivan 1-22
Interception: Returns: Valdosta — Sullivan 1-10	Albany — Montgomery 1-13			



John Bond Brought Down By Ware Of Albany Defenders

—Times Staff Photo by Mike Dowse

Region Track Champs May 1, 1979 Kittens Smother

Rest Of 1-AAAA

By Times Staff Writer
Scoring seven first places including five meet records, Valdosta easily captured the Region 1-AAAA girls' high school track championship Monday in Thomasville.

The Wildkittens, coached by Jerry Baker and Dick Sturtevant, tallied 147 points, more than twice as many as runnerup Thomasville with 72.

Crisp County (Cordele) was third with 61, followed by Dougherty, 32; Colquitt County (Moultrie) 20; Albany 17; Central-Thomasville 16; Tift County (Tifton) 15; Monroe 12; Westover, eight and Bainbridge, one.

"Our superior depth was the key. We have the largest team in the region and 15 girls competed," Butler said.

"We had two performers in every event except one and the second and third places helped us pull away," the VHS coach noted.

VHS's Lisa Jones was a double winner, jumping 18' 2" in the long jump and posting a 25.7 in the 220-dash.

The Wildkittens captured both relay events. (Jackson,

Gray, Jones, Dotson) were clocked in 49.8 in the 440 and 4:09 in the mile.
Nina Bryant was first in the 440-dash with a 1:01; Jackie Dotson posted a 2:30 for first in the 880 and Vera Doston captured the shot with a toss of 36' 1".

The Wildkittens qualified nine girls for the state Class AAAA track meet May 10-12 at Lakewood Stadium in Atlanta.

"I'm very proud of all the girls. They've worked very hard," Baker said. "I thought we could win it, but I'm very surprised at the big margin. I figured it would come down to the mile relay."

VHS posted a 7-1 season record, losing only to Northeast (Macon) by four points in the Worth County Relays.

Long Jump — Lisa Jones (V), Warren (T), Jackson (V), D — 18' 2".
Shot — V. Dotson (V), Rowand (T), Brooks (CT), D — 36' 1".
High Jump — Bryant (CC), Powell (V), Williams (CT), H — 5' 1".
Discus — Walden (T), Harris (CC), James (D), D — 118'.
440 Relay — Valdosta, Thomasville, Dougherty, T — 49.8.
Mile Run — Turner (T), Gandy (V), Wylie (W), T — 5:42.
440 Dash — Bryant (V), Jones (A), Hester (CT), T — 1:01.
100 Dash — West (CC), Jones (V), Lyles (Col.), T — 11.2.
110 Low Hurdles — West (CC), Lawrence (V), Turner (T), T — 15.9.
880 Run — J. Dotson (V), Blunt (CC), Hall (V), T — 2:30.
Two Mile Run — Harper (Col.), Greshman (T), Gandy (V), T — 12:51.
Mile Relay — Valdosta, Thomasville, Albany, T — 4:09.

Packer Golfers Top

By Times Staff Writer
Spurred on by a lifetime low score of 70 by freshman Chad Willis, Colquitt County's Packers held off Valdosta's Wildcats to claim the Region 1-AAAA golf title at Francis Lake Golf Club near here Monday.

Willis, 14, had three birdies and one bogey on the 6,250-yard layout to gain medalist honors.

The Packers from Moultrie shot 296 to nip the Wildcats, who had a 306 total. Both teams are to advance to the state tournament, which is to be held at Francis Lake on May 14.

In the past, only the top finisher moved on to the state tourney but this year the field was expanded to the top two teams. Valdosta had won the region championship the past two years.

Lowndes' Vikings wound up in third place with a score of 318. Other finishers included Tift County (Tifton) at 320, Dougherty (Albany) at 329, Westover (Albany), at 335, Crisp County (Cordele) at 347, Bainbridge at 357, Thomasville at 366 and Albany at 393.

Central of Thomasville and Monroe (Albany) were the only schools which did not enter teams.

"This is the best I've ever shot in a tournament," Willis, who recorded a 71 at Doublegate Country Club in Albany Saturday, said. "I missed four or five other putts, which could have been birdies."



—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter II
Lowndes' John McLachorn Watches Drive

'Cats In Region

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Pat McCrary shot a 72 for Colquitt, which also got a 73 from Willis' brother, Zess and an 81 from Chuck Davis.

Valdosta was led by a 75 by Mike McLeod. Lew Richardson had a 76, Rusty Trancygier had a 77 and Trip Singletary had a 78.

Only the top four finishers from each team counted in the final point standings. "Moultrie just had a very

good day," VHS Coach Jack Rudolph said. "Anytime you can break 300, that's a very exceptional day."

"It was not one of those days where we shot bad but just a case where somebody shot better than us."

Lowndes was led by Jeff Wooley, who had a 77. Mike Killen and Richard Neilson shot 78 and John McLachorn had an 85.

Only one girl participated in the tournament. Rhonda Collins shot 105 for Albany's Indians.
COLQUITT CO. (796) — Chad Willis 70, Pat McCrary 72, Zess Willis 73, Chuck Davis 81.
VALDOSTA (306) — Mike McLeod 75, Lew Richardson 76, Rusty Trancygier 77, Trip Singletary 78.
LOWNDES (318) — Jeff Wooley 77, Mike Killen 78, Richard Neilson 78, John McLachorn 85.
TIFT CO. (320) — Ken Moody 72, George Faircloth 78, Todd Summers 84, Tim Case 84.
DOUGHERTY (329) — Jerry Rust 76, William Pittman 81, Danny Gloria 82, Brett Pittman 90.
WESTOVER (335), Mark O'Conner 81, Pat Sely 84, Allen Welch 84, Rocky Rier 86.
CRISP CO. (347) — John Hughes 78, Steve Burnette 82, Ray Hughes 92, Jeff Matthews 95.
BAINBRIDGE (357) — Stanley Olivent 85, Eddie Jordan 86, Carl Barker 91, Jamie Allen 95.
THOMASVILLE (366) — Harry Vann 73, John Powers 91, Will Watt 98, Joey Willis 104.
ALBANY (393) — Jim Pace 96, Jackie Richardson 97, Mike Mengenthal 97, Ladd Murphrey 103.

**Greg
Larson**



Top S. Georgia junior? It's now a Ty (Edwards)

Ty Edwards has been hanging around the Valdosta Country Club since he was a little fellow.

He's not much bigger now, but he's certainly more talented and wiser.

The 5-foot-8½, 140-pound Valdosta High senior is the hottest thing going in South Georgia junior golf. He's shot 68 and 69 in matches this season and recently recorded his second hole-in-one in a 30-day period.

Edwards hit a pitching wedge into the hole on the Valdosta Country Club's 140-yard No. 7.

"Ty's the most hard-nosed competitor I've ever seen," said Valdosta pro Richard Beckmann. "He has a good all-around game but I like his determination best of all."

As a freshman, Edwards was voted the most improved player on VHS' team. He's had the best average and has been the most valuable player the last two years and is an automatic bet to earn those honors for the third consecutive season.

"Dynamite Goodloe (the legendary South Georgia amateur great) has helped me with my swing quite a bit," Edwards said. "I just hope to be able to get a college scholarship."

Florida State has expressed interest in Edwards and so has the University of Georgia. He'd prefer a scholarship to Georgia so he could enroll in forestry school.

"If I play well in college, I

might want to turn pro," he said. "If not, I'd like to work in forestry or become a club pro."

★ ★ ★