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1979

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Valdosta High School

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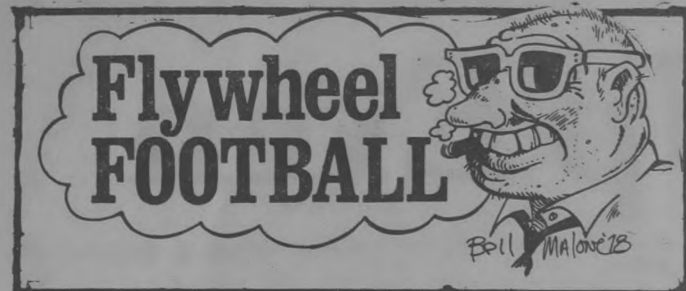
Recommended Citation:

Valdosta High School. "Valdosta High School Scrapbook 29, May 1979 – December 1979".

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Georgia To Win Despite Dooley

Relax Bulldog fans, the Cavaliers have withdrawn and retreated to the hills of Virginia. . . who's afraid of Virginia Wolf. . . Jay Flywheel?

If you are going to Jacksonville for the Gator Roast Saturday drink carefully and fear not, the Dogs are through the tough part of their schedule and have a smooth ride from here to the Sugar Bowl where they could be greeted with gunfire for elbowing Bear Bryant and his Alabama troops out of New Orleans.

I know. . . Coach Dooley County will spend all week baying at the moon about how great the Florida Gators are. . . if you have been spending a lot of time in Turkey and Guam he will tell you that the mighty Gators could whup that Pro Team in Pittsburgh. But if you been hanging round town and can read and hear you know the Gators ain't won a game yet and it's nearly Christmas.

The Gators have all kinds of trouble getting out of the huddle. You can't say they have no offense since they have scored five touchdowns already in only eight weeks, but that is somewhat misleading since they had an open date October 20th, but they didn't score then either.

If the Gators score on Georgia it will be an accident and should be reported to the nearest State Patrol.

The Gators even made Auburn look good on defense, that ain't easy. . . Auburn has been hit with something like 27 touchdowns going on 40.

The Gators sparkling new coach, Charley Pell, couldn't score on the 'Dogs last year when he was master-minding the Clemson Tigers.

The 'Dogs will benefit from that Virginia Clinic and put some points on the board as will the Gators, with the use of certain freshmen and a walk-on.

FEARLESS FOSDICK'S FRIDAY FLYWHEEL FOOTBALL FORECAST. . .

GEORGIA 26, FLORIDA 24. . . Despite the moaning from Dooley County. . . B. Belue and Rex Robinson to the rescue.

ALABAMA 19, LSU 13. . . don't look for no track meet in the swamp.

MISS. STATE 27, AUBURN 25. . . strange things happen when these two tango.

GEORGIA TECH 21, AIR FORCE 7. . . Flyboys one game winning streak comes to screeching halt.

KENTUCKY 26, VANDERBILT 13. . . Commodores one game winning streak comes to screeching halt.

NORTH CAROLINA 14, CLEMPSON 10. . . Tarheels tangle tough Tigers.

N.C. STATE 23, PENN STATE 21. . . Big trouble going on in Penn State ranks.

FLORIDA STATE 21, SOUTH CAROLINA 17. . . Chickens could win if FSU promised not to throw.

TULANE 20, OLE MISS 17. . . Who said Rebels wouldn't make Sugar Bowl this year.

TENNESSEE 20, NOTRE DAME 19. . . Yeah, I know the Vols lost to Rutgers last week. . . Jake White told me twice.

WAKE FOREST 22, DUKE 3. . . Deacons ain't going to let these Duke girls escape this time.

VIRGINIA 20, VIRGINIA TECH 7. . . Cavaliers conduct another clinic for another one of the Dooley County boys.

NEBRASKA 49, KANSAS STATE 0. . . Jarvis Redwine has a Martini in Manhattan. If they played at Illinois he could have a

LHS, VHS Retain Pass, Rush Lead

By Times Sports Writer
Lowndes and Valdosta High retained their number one status in team passing and rushing in Region 1-AAAA, according to the final statistics of the 1979 season. Lowndes totaled 134 completions for 2,023 yards and 28 TDs, while Valdosta rushed 409 times for 2,334 yards.

Eric Thomas of Lowndes took the top passing slot away from Tift County (Tifton) quarterback Ken Hobby, with 90 completions for 1,355 yards and 20 TDs. Lowndes, Steve Player remains first in pass receiving with 57 catches for 938 yards and 14 TDs.

Valdosta's John Bond dropped one spot to fifth in rushing, with 143 carries for 848 yards, while Irvin Roe escalated three spots to

number fifteen. Lowndes Cedric Jones remained eighth. Jones also kept his number one ranking in punt returns, with 22 for 372 yards.

Against the pass, Valdosta moved into the lead from the number two spot, allowing an average of 75.8 yards per game. Lowndes remained eighth, allowing 107 yards a game on the average.

Valdosta dropped a notch to number three in rush defense, surrendering 147 yards on the average. Lowndes remained in sixth place.

Jeff Stokes of Lowndes took the lead in punting, up one space and averaging 39.8 yards a punt. Valdosta's James Horton retained first place in interceptions, having five of them.

BY ELLWOOD MOYER, REGION 1-AAAA STATISTICIAN

CARRIES			
	Yards	Avg.	
1. James, Douch	140	113.7	7.2
2. W. Robinson, Cen.	189	1,012	5.3
3. Ford, Crisp	206	891	4.3
4. Pratt, Mon.	161	873	5.4
5. Bond, Val.	143	848	5.9
6. Clark, T'ville	119	792	6.6
7. B. Williams, Alb.	167	782	4.6
8. Jones, Low.	117	745	6.3
9. Harris, B'bridge	124	672	5.4
10. Hobby, Tift	146	658	4.5
11. Kavouklis, T'ville	125	648	5.1
12. Acree, Col.	120	600	5.0
13. Brown, Col.	88	566	6.4
14. M. Close, B'bridge	78	446	5.7
15. Roe, Val.	81	434	5.3
16. Reed, Low.	74	422	5.7
17. Frazier, Val.	49	409	8.3
18. Mason, Col.	66	380	5.7
19. R. Hayes, Cen.	62	349	5.6
20. King, Val.	66	344	5.2
47. Wilcox, Val.	20	126	6.3
52. Patterson, Val.	19	85	4.4

PASSING			
	Att.	Comp.	Gain
1. Thomas, Low.	173	90	1,355
2. Hobby, Tift	157	68	1,312
3. G. Robinson, Col.	128	63	1,107
4. Chastain, T'ville	138	63	947
5. K. Biggles, B'bridge	140	65	910
6. Norman, Douch	135	48	895
7. Bond, Val.	133	67	769
8. Richardson, Mon.	107	46	725
9. Sifton, West.	100	49	615

PUNTING			
	Kicks	Yds.	Avg.
1. Stokes, Low.	28	1,116	39.8
2. Norman, Douch	46	1,769	38.3
3. Barber, Col.	11	425	38.6
4. Musselwhite, Crisp	38	1,436	37.7
6. Leik, Cen.	40	1,470	37.6
9. Hayes, Val.	34	1,150	33.8

INTERCEPTIONS			
	Inter.	Ret.	
1. Horton, Val.	5	119	
2. Green, Low.	3	78	
3. Wyche, Cen.	7	73	
4. Daniels, Mon.	2	72	
5. Pickens, Crisp	5	60	
9. Mitchell, Val.	2	45	
10. Walker, Low.	1	36	
11. Caesar, Val.	1	36	

PUNT RETURNS			
	Ret.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Jones, Low.	22	372	
2. Acree, Col.	17	291	
3. James, Douch	12	258	
4. Ewing, Tift	27	246	
5. Duncan, T'ville	10	104	
6. Roe, Val.	10	93	

KICK-OFF RETURNS			
	Ret.	Yds.	Avg.
1. M. Close, B'bridge	16	508	
2. Dean, Cen.	14	370	
3. Jones, Crisp	19	361	
4. James, Douch	15	340	
5. Harris, B'bridge	12	334	
11. Jones, Low.	12	220	
13. Reed, Low.	8	150	
14. Frazier, Val.	5	149	
16. Roe, Val.	10	93	

TEAM RUSHING			
	Carr.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Valdosta	409	2,334	5.7
2. Central	401	2,162	5.4
3. Thomasville	405	2,102	5.2
4. Dougherty	363	1,960	5.4
5. Monroe	431	1,925	4.5
6. Tift	366	1,792	4.9
7. Colquitt	408	1,834	4.5
8. Bainbridge	355	1,620	4.6
9. Crisp	407	1,584	3.9
10. Lowndes	302	1,250	4.1
11. Albany	385	1,240	3.2
12. Westover	398	910	2.3

RUSH DEFENSE			
	Carr.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Valdosta	302	1,076	3.6
2. Monroe	376	1,310	3.5
3. Valdosta	333	1,470	4.4
4. T'ville	397	1,465	3.7

TEAM PASSING			
	Att.	Comp.	Inter.
1. Lowndes	242	111	202
2. Tift	177	77	10
3. Colquitt	133	64	10
4. B'bridge	150	71	10
5. T'ville	144	63	15
6. Valdosta	161	77	6
7. Dougherty	140	49	7
8. Monroe	126	51	9
9. W'over	147	40	15
10. Central	145	42	16
11. Crisp	107	44	13
12. Albany	156	41	14

PASS DEFENSE			
	Att.	Comp.	Yards
1. Valdosta	156	58	758
2. Albany	159	54	771
3. T'ville	142	54	785
4. Crisp	132	55	811
5. Colquitt	169	61	882
6. Monroe	151	59	974
7. Tift	161	68	991
8. Low	146	63	1070
9. Central	145	73	1089
10. B'bridge	141	63	1120
11. Dougherty	165	71	1211
12. Westover	158	85	1300

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Bulldogs Playing For Sweet Sugar

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — It may be the first time in history that a New Year's Day bowl committee has a distinct interest in a game matching two teams with only four victories between them this late in the season.

But, such is the case Saturday — because of the Sugar Bowl's tie-up with the Southeastern Conference — when the Georgia Bulldogs and Florida Gators collide before a regional television (ABC) audience at 12:50 p.m. EST.

All four of those victories are in one corner — Georgia's. The Bulldogs are within two victories of clinching no worse than a tie for the SEC title and an automatic berth in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day.

Georgia and top-ranked Alabama currently lead the SEC with 4-0 records. Alabama is unbeaten in eight games, while Georgia has lost all four of its games against outside opposition.

If the two teams tie for the title, Georgia gets the bowl berth because Alabama played in New Orleans last Jan. 1, and would have to go

elsewhere because of a last appearance clause in the contract.

Coach Vince Dooley's Bulldogs are a one-touchdown favorite to dispose of the Gators, still seeking their first victory under Coach Charley Pell. The Gators are 0-6-1 for the year and 0-4 in the SEC.

Six of the last seven meetings between these two old rivals have been decided by five points or less. Georgia has won four of the last five, and holds a 35-20-2 advantage in the series.

Pell's Gators gave 16th-ranked Auburn a major scare a week ago before losing 19-13, and that performance has Dooley worried.

"Florida could have very easily beaten Auburn last week," Dooley said. "I think the real testimony to Florida is that they have so many exceptional athletes. They have had so many injuries, especially on defense, and they have still been able to replace them with quality players."

The Gators are expected to go with junior Larry Ochab at quarterback. He threw for 269

yards against Auburn last week, the best passing day by a Gator since 1972 when David Bowden threw for 319 yards against North Carolina.

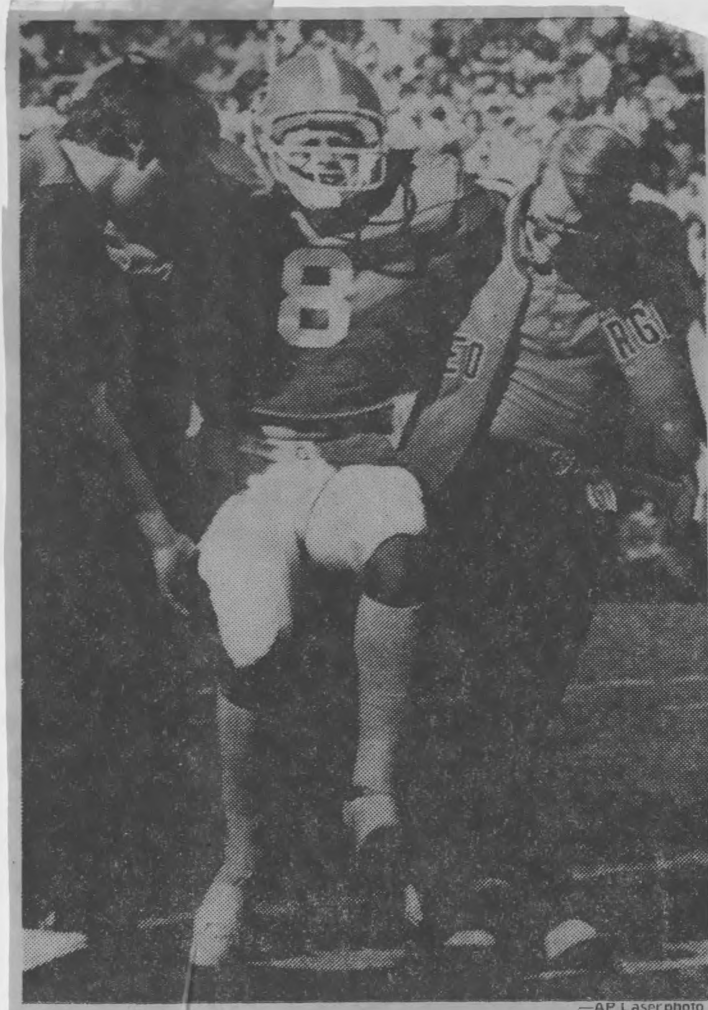
Georgia's attack will be triggered by sophomore Buck Belue, who has passed for 649 yards since taking over the starting spot in Game No. 4 against Mississippi.

Pell, who led Clemson to the Atlantic Coast Conference title last year before taking over at Florida, says Georgia has exceptional experience, with 16 juniors or seniors in the starting lineup.

"Defensively they are a wideyed bunch that will run every stunt against us that you can draw on the board," he said. "They will pressure you until they force you into bad plays."

The Bulldogs will be trying to regroup from one of their most embarrassing setbacks in years — a 31-0 homecoming shelling at the hands of Virginia last week.

MONTERAY JACK
\$1.99 lb.
DOFINO HAVARTI
\$2.89 lb.
USINGER BEEF
& SUMMER SAUSAGE



Belue Carried By Medical Aides

Belue Injures Ankle In Auburn Game

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Sophomore quarterback Buck Belue of Georgia suffered a dislocated left ankle Saturday in the first quarter of the Bulldogs' Southeastern Conference game against 15th-ranked Auburn.

The injury came on Georgia's first play after Auburn's Skip Johnson had punted dead on the Bulldogs' 2-yard line. Belue dropped back in the end zone, where he was tackled for a safety by Auburn's Frank Warren. The ankle was dislocated on the play.

Georgia officials originally said the injury was a broken leg.

College Forecast

LAST WEEK	17-8	21-4	19-6	Worth 19-6
YEAR	160-60	167-53	164-56	156-64
Syracuse at Navy	Navy	Navy	Navy	Navy
Pittsburgh at W. Virginia	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.
Mississippi St. at Auburn	Aub.	Aub.	Miss. St.	Aub.
Georgia vs. Florida	UGA	UGA	Fla.	Fla.
S. Carolina at FSU	FSU	S. Carolina	FSU	FSU
Air Force at Ga. Tech	Tech	Tech	Tech	Tech
Alabama at LSU	Ala.	Ala.	Ala.	Ala.
Clemson at N. Carolina	UNC	Clem.	Clem.	Clem.
Penn St. at N.C. State	N.C. State	N.C. State	Penn St.	Penn St.
Notre Dame at Tennessee	Tenn.	N.D.	N.D.	Tenn.
Mississippi at Tulane	Tulane	Tulane	Tulane	Miss.
Kentucky at Vanderbilt	Ky.	Ky.	VPI	Ky.
VPI at Virginia	Vir.	Vir.	Wake	Vir.
Duke at Wake Forest	Iowa St.	Iowa St.	Mo.	Mo.
Missouri at Iowa St.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.
Nebraska at Kansas St.	Minn.	Minn.	Mich. St.	Mich. St.
Minnesota at Michigan St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Purdue
Iowa at Ohio St.	Mich.	Mich.	Ark.	Ark.
Michigan at Purdue	Ark.	Ark.	Tex.	Tex.
Baylor at Arkansas	Texas	Houston	Okl.	Okl.
Kansas at Oklahoma	Okl.	Okl.	Okl.	Okl.
Arizona St. at UCLA	Ariz. St.	Ariz. St.	UCLA	UCLA
Southern Cal at Washington	USC	USC	USC	USC
Arizona at San Diego St.	San Diego	Ariz.	Ariz.	Ariz.

Air Force Seeks Win Against Tech

ATLANTA (AP) — Coach Pepper Rodgers of Georgia Tech isn't about to let his football team get off to a slow start Saturday when

Winters Keys Win

quarterback in Dave Ziebart, who has connected on 86 of 162 tosses for 745 yards and four scores. He has rushed for another

Tift Coach Tight-Lipped On Outcome

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor
TIFTON — Gene Brodie did not have much to say when his Tift County Blue Devils from here were to come to Cleveland Field in Valdosta for a regular season game with the Valdosta High Wildcats.

Approaching the Region 1-AAAA championship game with Valdosta here Friday, the Tift coach had even less to say.

The Blue Devils have never played in a region championship game. In many ways, Friday's contest represents a coming of age for the Blue Devils.

"A win would be a great boost to our program at Tift County," said Brodie. "We've been in the building process for about three years."

"This game means more than anybody could come right out and say."

"This team has been halfway up and down. They've never been really up. They were good in 1949 and '50, but that was two decades ago."

The Wildcats and the Blue Devils met in regular season with Tift claiming a 13-12 decision at Cleveland Field.

Quarterback Ken Hobby was about the whole Tift show in that game, gaining 75 yards on the ground in 24 carries.

His totals amounted to well over half of Tift's rushing yardage.

Brodie expects a better Valdosta team to line up with the Devils from the regular season meeting. "They are definitely an improved ballclub," said Brodie of the "Cats. "There whole team situation and mental attitude is improved. They are not the same ballclub we faced before."

"I expect the same kind of game, really."

"I'm scared to death," said Brodie. "It's Valdosta and somehow that cream always rises to the top."

"We are both equal in ability as far as being able to win the ballgame. Emotion should play an important factor."

Emotion may be the most important factor in Friday's game, but talent is what has won games for Tift this season. The size and talent of the Blue Devil offensive and defensive lines has been as important as any factor. All of the Tift starting linemen are 185 pounds or better.

That offensive line helped Hobby to a 10th place finish among region rushers and a number two finish among 1-AAAA passers.

Bainbridge Hosts 'Cats In Non-Subregion Game

Control Central To Monroe's Chances

By MIKE HAGOOD

Times Sports Editor
 As Monroe High Head Football Coach
 depending Valdosta High here Friday
 all control.
 is an uncertain quantity. Ten of the
 nders have not played varsity football
 neomas.
 uld control the football and whether his
 anley Valdosta are two questions to be
 he like

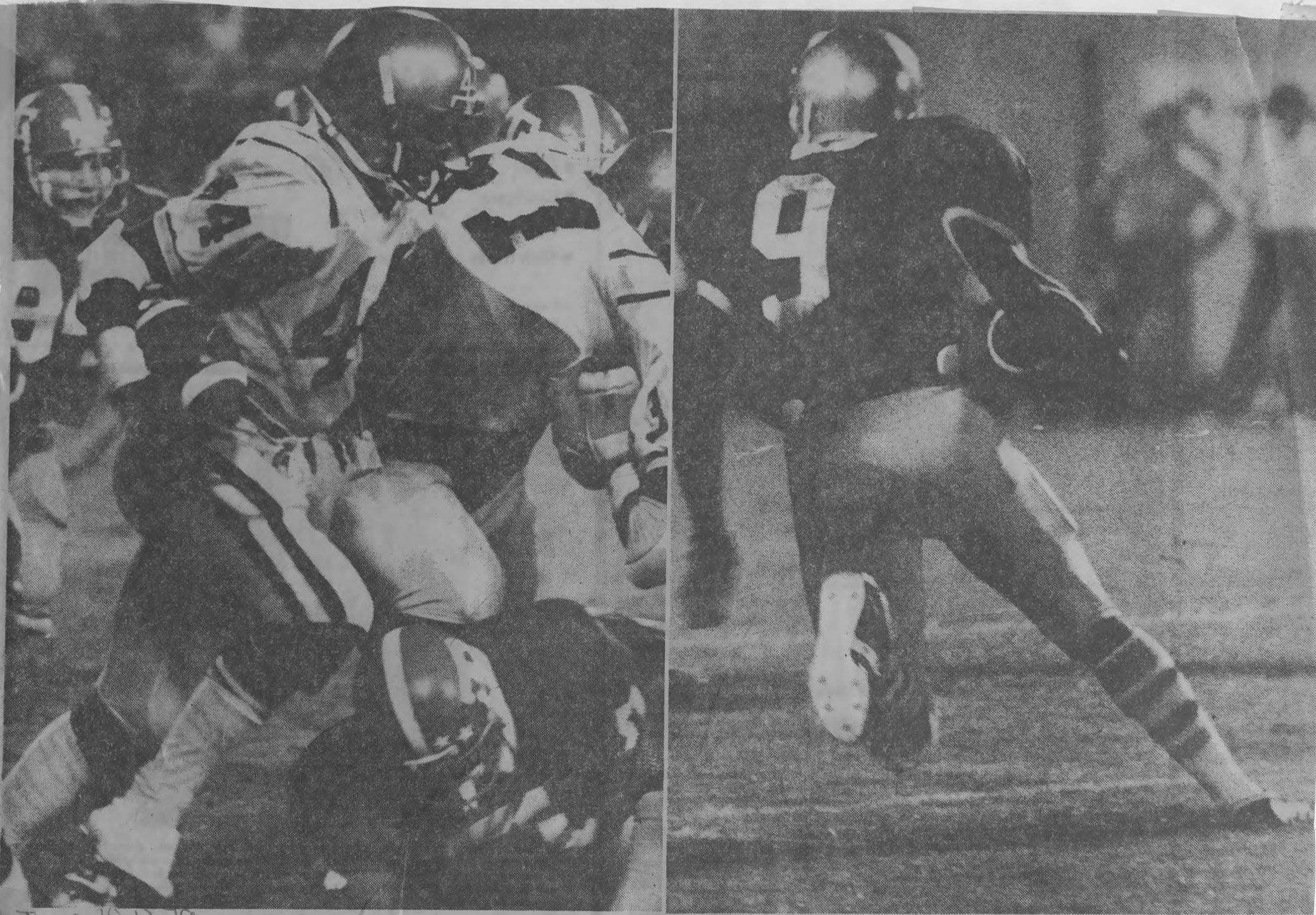
answered at Cleveland Field when the Albany school visits
 host Valdosta.
 The Monroe offense has scored only four points less than
 Valdosta this season (166-162), but the defense cannot claim
 such a glowing statistic. The Tornado defense has allowed 147
 points, 87 more than Valdosta.
 Only four teams in 1-AAAA have allowed more points.
 "Defense has been our biggest problem," said Thomas.
 "We've played well on offense and then the defense breaks
 down."

Monroe comes into the 1-AAAA (North) subregion contest
 with a 4-3 record overall, the same as Valdosta.
 The Tornados are 1-2 in the subregion, which ties them with
 the Cougars of Crisp County (Cordele).
 Valdosta is 2-1 in subregion play, which ties the Wildcats for
 second with the Dougherty (Albany) Trojans.
 Offensively, Monroe boasts the top passer in 1-AAAA, Tony
 Richardson.
 Richardson probably won't lead the stats this week though.

He did not play Saturday night in the 24-21 loss to Bainbridge.
 Richardson is not slated to start against the 'Cats.
 Thomas has decided to go with the veer offense, which is run-
 oriented in the Monroe system. The Monroe veer quarterback
 is to be Rufus Lang, who also plays linebacker at 190 pounds.
 Joining Lang in the backfield is to be Greg Pratt, a 216-pound
 senior that VHS Coach Nick Hyder credits with almost
 defeating the 'Cats single-handedly two years ago.
 Pratt has scored 21 points this year. John Bond of Valdosta
 has five more to lead Valdosta scorers.
 Richardson has 36 points to his credit, 6th best in 1-AAAA.
 Thomas feels that the run is the best way to move the ball on
 Valdosta, though VHS has been less than hospitable to op-
 position runners this season.
 Monroe split end Gary Ellerson has ranked among the top
 five receivers in 1-AAAA all year. His catches have been
 mainly on Richardson passes.
 "There is nothing wrong with Richardson," said Thomas. "I
 just feel like Lang is a better veer quarterback as far as
 moving the offense."
 Defensively, Thomas' plans revolve around "trying to keep
 Bond from turning the corner," he said.

Probable Starters

VALDOSTA	OFFENSE	MONROE
Edward Robinson 165, soph.	E	Gary Ellerson 185, jr.
Keith Mitchell 140, jr.	E	Cornelius Arnold 160, sr.
Tony Blasetti 220, sr.	T	Stan Knighton 255, jr.
Bobby Horne 180, sr.	T	Victor Knighton 228, jr.
Harvey Carter 190, sr.	G	Dario McHoney 175, jr.
Phillip James 185, jr.	C	Robert Rogers 170, jr.
William Davis 140, jr.	CB	Vincent Williams 165, sr.
John Bond 155, sr.	FB	Rufus Lang 190, jr.
Ernest King 180, sr.	HB	Greg Pratt 216, sr.
Irvin Roe 155, sr.	FL	Kelvin Sancho 170, sr.
Mike Ruff 160, sr.		Calvin Cook 160, sr.
	DEFENSE	
	E	Willie Seay 175, jr.
Mark Holmes 180, jr.	E	Tony Jones 185, sr.
Paul Stokes 175, jr.	T	Dario McHoney 170, jr.
Hai Dixon 215, sr.	T	Stan Knighton 255, jr.
Jimbo Hancock 180, sr.	LB	Tim Murray 190, jr.
Calvin Davis 210, sr.	LB	Rufus Lang 190, jr.
Bill Holland 180, jr.	LB	Vincent Williams 165, sr.
Anthony Battle 175, jr.	LB	Greg Pratt 216, sr.
James Horton 155, jr.	CB	David Daniels 165, jr.
Mark Toth 145, sr.	CB	Gary Seay 165, jr.
Dante Jones 175, jr.	S	Charles Martin 165, jr.
Nathaniel Caesar 175, sr.		



Some Mighty Important Folks: Valdosta High Fullback Ernest King, Left, And Lowndes Halfback Glenn Reed, Right

Wildcats To Take Devils This Time Around

From the looks of things, it appears the Valdosta Wildcats face an uphill battle for the Region 1-AAAA championship against Tift County in Tifton. Appearances are often deceiving, though.
 The homesteading Blue Devils are the big, strong boys that walked through their first nine region games without a loss. In the close ones, luck seemed to smile on the Devils. Wins over Dougherty (Albany) and Thomasville in the regular season might well have gone the other way. Any of the nearly 13,000 at Cleveland Field Oct. 3 knew that VHS could have just as easily won the 13-12 decision that Tift took home.
 In game number 10 of the regular season, the luck ran out. Crisp County (Cordele) took advantage of a Tift mistake to win, 6-0. The way Tift won the region playoff opener with Thomasville was from anything but luck. The Blue Devils put together one of their best games against what has been described as a lackluster T'ville team. The Blue Devils won that one by a whopping 42-6 score.
 While things were pretty one-sided in Tifton, it was tooth and nail time at Martin Stadium for the game between Valdosta and Lowndes. Each team put its best foot forward for three touchdowns. A field goal by Keith Sampson provided the deciding points in a 24-21 VHS victory.



Mike Hagood
 Times Sports Editor

I felt prior to the Lowndes-Valdosta game that the two hottest teams in south Georgia would be fighting it out for the right to meet Tift. I hold to that belief and don't see any signs of cooling off for the 'Cats.
 If the old saying "one week at a time" ever held true, this is the week. There is no looking on to next week. Be assured that

there are other good teams around the state that will challenge the winner of the VHS-Tift game, but whichever team wins is going to go a long way.
 The strength of Tift is strength itself. The Blue Devil lines are massive. How the Valdosta lines fare against the Devils in blue is the deciding factor in the upcoming game.
 Moving Landy Ewing and the rest of the big boys from Tifton is a tall order for any team, but that is what the 'Cats must do to win. By the same token, Jimbo Hancock and company have to control the line of scrimmage to keep Tift and Ken Hobby from controlling the ball.
 A key to the Tift end runs is the blocking of flanker Barry Whitehead. His blocking sprung Hobby around right end more times than I'd care to remember in the 13-12 game.
 I spoke about Tift luck earlier. Now for Valdosta luck.
 I wouldn't call Valdosta exactly lucky lately, but I would say that good fortune has been smiling on the 'Cats. Lowndes could have won the region playoff, but didn't. Monroe (Albany) could have won a game against VHS two weeks prior, but didn't.
 After some tough breaks earlier in the year, things have been going more the way of the 'Cat. I feel like that trend will continue in Tifton.
 Tift is a powerful team, but it is also a beatable team as

proven in the prior meeting of the two teams.
 The Blue Devils and Wildcats met once before for the region championship. That was in 1950. Tift had won the regular season championship with a 9-0 record and had defeated the 'Cats 33-13 in regular season.
 In the region playoff, Valdosta pulled through with a 21-20 victory. May history repeat itself.
 If the offensive line can open some holes and the defensive line closes some gaps the score will be... Valdosta, 17-14.
WAKULLA AT MADISON
 Things have been bright for Madison lately. A win over the top-ranked team in the state, Blountstown, Fla., made the lights in Madison, Fla., shine as bright as they ever have.
 Wakulla County (Crawfordsville) is traditionally a very tough team.
 The crystal ball tells me that the game will be... Wakulla 19-7.
HAMILTON AT MONTICELLO
 The Cougars from Jasper, Fla., take on the big boys in this one.
 An outstanding year ends on a sad note... Monticello, 14-10.
FOR THE RECORD
 Hagood the Unknowing picked three of four games correctly last week, making the season record 137-43.

Who Plays Should Decide VHS-LHS Game

Your guess is as good as mine as to who will be on the field when Lowndes meets Valdosta at Martin Stadium tonight.

Comparing these two teams without exactly knowing what "doubtful" and "definitely out" mean is a task for a better picker than I am.

Last week was awful in my first try at this picker's slot. Hagood the Unseeing was 11-7-1 and I even forgot to add the obligatory 20th game.

The column, with the combined efforts of Tommy Desselle, Steve Roberts, Martin Register and me now stands at 61-25 for the year.

It's time to find a crystall ball, because 70 percent doesn't quite get it.

Now to the biggest event in the county.

Nick Hyder wishes the area had a 20,000-seat arena. Joe Wilson wishes some of that possible 20,000 could suit up for the game.

Injuries and what is left afterward should decide which team wins.

John Bond's loss could be devastating to the VHS attack.

The front line defenders Lowndes has lost make the difference between a top-flight defense and one that has given up a lot of points.

The main advantage Lowndes has is the passing game. Valdosta's strength is the defense.

Does Valdosta have the kind of defense that can stop the Lowndes wide receivers, Steve Player and Ray Luke?

Can the Lowndes offensive line keep Jimbo Hancock and



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Editor

friends off Thomas enough for him to throw. Is a patchwork LHS defense capable of stopping the Valdosta running game even without Bond?

These questions are ones that should tell the story.

If Bond plays, my predicted score is 21-17, Valdosta. Without Bond, you can change the winning team to Lowndes 21-17.

My feeling is that Bond will play, so my pick is Valdosta, 21-17.

APPLING COUNTY AT COOK
Mistakes were costly for the Hornets from Adel last Friday, as Cook fell 41-7 to Fitzgerald.

Appling (Baxley) has made enough mistakes to be 1-5 right now. The Hornets should sting the Pirates by a convincing score Cook, 33-7.

BROOKS COUNTY AT COFFEE COUNTY
Sooner or later, Brooks (Quitman) is going to pull one out of the fire.

But an 0-6 club can't expect to hold its own against what appears to be a good Coffee (Douglas) team.....Coffee, 21-7.

FITZGERALD AT BERRIEN
Fitzgerald has stepped into the ranks of Georgia's AAA elite. Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) is yet to join that exclusive club Fitzgerald, 27-14.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY AT CLINCH COUNTY
You don't pick against an undefeated team on its home turf. Except for a season-opening tie, the Panthers are that undefeated team and they are playing in Homerville.

Montgomery (Mt. Vernon) failed to score last week in a loss to Treulton, but the Eagles are a team from a tough Region 2-AA.

This should be a real test of what Clinch is made Clinch, 14-13.

WILLISTON AT HAMILTON COUNTY
Offense meets offense in this game between Florida schools in Jasper. The home field advantage and the desire to get back on the

winning track should mean Hamilton, 21-7.

WESTBROOK AT SOUTHWEST GEORGIA
Neither Westbrook (Dixie) nor Pineland (Moultrie) was able to break the scoring barrier last week. The Cougars should score at will this week Westbrook, 28-0.

ATKINSON COUNTY AT IRWIN COUNTY
A toss-up here. Atkinson is a team that I haven't figured out yet. Some weeks the boys from Pearson are up, some times they are down.

This week, mark down a win in Ocilla Atkinson, 18-14.

OTHER GAMES
In Region 1-AAA, it looks this way.

Thomasville should trounce Albany. Colquitt County (Moultrie) trips Crisp County (Cordele) in a close game. Dougherty (Albany) offenses its way past Central of Thomasville. Tift County (Tifton) blanks Westover (Albany) and Bainbridge gets by Monroe (Albany) Saturday night.

Also, Charlton County (Folkston) tips Patterson, Waycross edges Camden County (St. Mary's), Worth County (Sylvester) nips Ware County (Waycross), Blackshear trims Jeff Davis (Hazlehurst), Cairo routs Early County (Blakely), Clarke Central (Athens) stops Dunwoody (Atlanta) and Warner Robins gets by Baker (Columbus).



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Editor
Vald. Times
Nov 18, 1979

VHS Mood Was Disappointment

Disappointment, rather than dejection, described the mood of the Valdosta High players and coaches after a 24-6 loss to Tift County in the Region 1-AAAA championship game. The 'Cats had time to see it coming.

After the Blue Devils scored their 24th point on the home Tift turf it had to look like a might long way to come to the Wildcats.

It must have been disappointing to play what is possibly the best team in the state on even terms for a half and then see dreams of future glory vanish in the night.

Statistically speaking the first half was even, but actually the better half belonged to Valdosta. The 'Cats moved on Tift like it was just another ballclub, but that final first down that means the difference in a touchdown and a field goal was not to be had by VHS.

If Valdosta could have scored six on two first-half drives, it would have been in the drivers seat. As it was, Tift got the big break before the half to take the 10-6 halftime lead.

John Bond rolled out at a time when I was thinking Valdosta might increase its 6-3 lead. Tift's Jeff Johnson stepped up to pick off the pass. Tift had only one minute in which to score, but as good teams do, that minute was enough to tally a back breaking touchdown.

The 'Cats barely touched the ball the second half. They ran 17 offensive plays in the second half. Tift had 39. The two halves were as different as night and day.

The Blue Devils shuttled in seven backs that had productive nights. Five-yard chunks on the ground is about as safe an offense as can be run. Landy Ewing had an exceptional night blocking, as did the rest of the Tift offensive line. Ewing weighs 230 pounds at about 6-4 and looks like he can barely fit into the largest uniform Tift High School could find.

Expecting the 'Cats to beat a team as talent laden as Tift might be a bit much to ask. But truthfully, I felt the 'Cats were going to do it. There is no reason to go into a game thinking you're going to lose and myself, as a local backer, saw no reason Valdosta couldn't win.

Tift is definitely a powerful football team, with talent in just the right places. The line is awesome and the receivers are much more than adequate. The Devils throw just enough to keep the defenses honest and usually get good yardage. Hobby just doesn't get caught for a loss in the backfield. He throws the ball away when the defense warrants it. That talent shows the poise of a veteran much farther on in years.

Gene Brodie, the Tift head coach, has been to the state title game before. When he was coaching in Macon he took a team with 19 players to a championship.

Brodie has rebuilt respectability to the Tift County program. He has exceptional football players on a team that is many people's choice for state honors this year.

There were many good teams in 1-AAAA this year, but Tift stood out among all the quality ballclubs. For the 'Cats it was a good year. Many people may forget that there were to be only two defensive starters returning and five on offense when the season began.

An inexperienced VHS team won eight of 12 games and qualified for the region title game. It was a good year.

Offensive Lines Are Important Unknowns

How many of us could name all or even most of our high school football teams' offensive linemen without a roster?

Practically everyone knows who our offensive backs are, and many folks have a good idea who's on the defensive line at Lowndes and Valdosta.

Relatively few, I suspect, could say without hesitation that Don Newham, Noel George, Jeff Meyers, Don Hutchinson and Benny Culppepper compose the Viking offensive line, while Tony Blasetti, Bobby Horne, Harvey Carter, Phillip James, William Davis and David Harrison hold the responsibility at Valdosta.

"The offensive line is never the part of the team to get the most of the credit," says Culppepper, in regard to recognition of the line by fans. "We accept it as part of the position."

"The fans do appreciate us, though," adds Don Hutchinson, "they just don't show it as much."

"If we weren't appreciated by the fans, they'd let us

know about it," says Harrison.

In essence, the linemen feel that the fans are aware of their importance, but that the limelight is, and always is to be, focused on the offensive backs.

"We get our credit through the accomplishments of the backs," says Blasetti. "If they get yardage or score, we had to have helped, and I think the fans realize that."

"Most people watch the backs, but the backs know we're out there," says Newham. "That's what counts."

"When we go in the locker room after a game, the team and coaches say 'good job,' and that makes it worthwhile," says Horne.

Besides, the real satisfaction derived from playing the offensive line has little to do with recognition.

"If I do my job right, it pleases me, and it pleases the coaches," says George. "The satisfaction comes when the backs or receivers cross the goal line."

Valdosta's James noted that playing for Offensive

Coordinator Butch Brooks was a pleasure in itself.

"Coach Brooks does everything he can for you," he said, with consent from the other VHS linemen. "He treats you like one of his own kids."

In the same vein, Lowndes Offensive Line Coach Mike Pittman netted praise from his linemen.

Several of the Valdosta and Lowndes offensive linemen have played other positions in the past, such as linebacker fullback, tight end, defensive end and defensive tackle, to name a few. Yet all seem most content with their present position.

Carter would like to try linebacker, James would welcome a shot at tight end, and "Everybody wants to be a quarterback," Blasetti said.

"We'd all like to try something that we haven't done before, but everyone is totally satisfied on the line."

The Lowndes backs harbor no regrets for playing line, either.

"If you're good at one position, that's what you have to stick to," says Meyers.



Lee Freeman
Times Sports Writer

"I like playing on the offensive line because it's always a team effort, where in other positions it's sometimes an individual effort," says George.

Surely, though, playing the offensive line has to have its disadvantages, or so I would think.

Davis, however, didn't think so, and went further to note an advantage in playing the line. "You don't get as many injuries on the line," he said. "It's usually the backs, receivers and the rest who

wind up with broken arms and legs, if anybody does."

"There are a lot of headaches," Carter put in, and I think he meant both actually and figuratively speaking. "But the only real disappointment is when the team loses," said Blasetti.

The Lowndes backs would agree that losing a game is the prime disappointment.

Culppepper said the only real disappointment for him "is when we have a bad game or a bad night." Meyers added that

"messing up a play is a disappointment, because it might have cost the team long yardage or some points, or whatever."

"If you miss a block, you feel kind of down," Hutchinson agreed. "You feel that, maybe if you had tried harder, you could have made the block."

Making all the blocks is a tough assignment, to be sure, but the linemen see that as just part of the job.

Other tasks are just as tough.

"You have to adjust to the different defenses you play, but you gave to stick to the basics, too," said Horne. "Some teams are real big, others are real quick, so adapting the blocking to each is tough," said Blasetti.

"And you've got to match or adjust to the quickness of the opponent," added Carter. Lowndes' Newham finds it difficult, reasonably enough, to "take on a guy one-on-one that's twice your size."

Meyers, who weight 165 pounds, readily agrees. "When you go against people who weigh 250 pounds, you're

a little outmatched."

All of the above is, for the most part, physical hardship, but there's plenty of mental work involved in playing the line, too.

"You have to concentrate, and always keep your mind on what you're doing," said James.

Davis added that "knowing who to block in a split second" is also crucial to success on the line.

"We have a multiple offense, so we have to know everyone's position, not just our own," Blasetti said. "That's where intelligence comes in the most."

Lowndes' George said, "Sometimes I lie in bed at night, dreaming of nothing but football," which pretty well speaks for itself.

"You've got to tell yourself that you're going to do the job, then make yourself believe you can do it," added Meyers.

And getting the job done "like it's supposed to be done" is one of the principal aims of practice sessions in the Valdosta camp, says

Wildcats Remember 13-12 Tift Loss

By MIKE HAGOOD
Valdosta High Head Football Coach Nick Hyder, sees no reason why his Wildcats should have any problem getting ready for a trip to play Tift County in Tifton Friday for the Region 1-AAAA championship.

"My feeling is that most of our players remember (Ken) Hobby taking them on a 78-yard drive on Oct. 5 to beat us 13-12," said Hyder. "That is very vivid in our minds. That rubs out what happened with Lowndes. We also realize that Tift beat Lowndes 28-6 earlier in the year. Plus, the game is in Tifton."

The Blue Devils did indeed top the 'Cats by the closest of margins under a harvest moon at Cleveland Field over a month ago. With time running out, trailing 12-7, Tift drove the length of the field to overtake the 'Cats.

The statistics for each team were very close in that game with Tift gaining two more yards than the 'Cats in total offense.

Over the season the Blue Devils have scored 343 points, second only to Lowndes, and have given up 113 points, second only to Valdosta.

Valdosta led scoring defenses through the regular

season and the first round of the playoffs with 102 points allowed. The Valdosta offense has been the fourth most productive in Region 1-AAAA with 267 points.

Tift held the number one ranking in the state AP Class AAAA poll for most of the year, after Valdosta fell to Thomasville 9-0 in the fourth game of the year and lost the top ranking.

In the final game of the regular season Tift was upset by Crisp County (Cordele) for the second year in a row. The Devils bounced back, though, to top Thomasville 42-6 in the opening round of the 1-AAAA

playoffs.

On the same Friday night Tift was pasting Thomasville. Valdosta was taken to the limit by Lowndes, 24-21.

Crisp scored on an interception for all the points in its upset of Tift.

Hyder said that game "was probably uninspired" for the Devils and "one mistake cost them a touchdown."

"That helped them by (Tift Coach Gene) Brodie's admission," said Hyder. "It made them dig down and reevaluate their situation." "They are a better football team now," said Hyder. "They are more mature and

more experienced. They have a lot of things going for them.

"Many phases of our game are much improved. Still, we have to scratch and claw for everything we get."

"We had to adjust to the loss of several people," said Hyder of the VSC condition in the prior meeting. "We lost two boys for disciplinary reasons and didn't have (Tony) Blasetti or (Ernest) King. We were experimenting. We were running some new sets."

"We are more set than last time."

Hyder said the last game proved "that Hobby is a great

one and that their offensive line is great," said Hyder. "I don't think we stopped them extremely well or moved the ball extremely well. Our young people found problems we had to go to work on. We had to go to work on basic things — techniques, angles, blocking down distance and position."

Should Tift win, it would be the first region championship ever for the Blue Devils. A VHS victory would give the 'Cats their 13th region title in the 19 years Region 1-AAA and then 1-AAAA have been in existence.

"For a lot of our kids this

would be their first region title," said Hyder. "For that reason, pride enters into it."

"This is the best team Tift has had since I have been here and it would be the first title for a lot of their kids."

"They are well coached and highly conditioned."

"Against Lowndes you set for the pass," said Hyder. "Tift runs and throws. They are very good at what they do. If you move the ball from one end of the field into the other end zone, that's fancy. They are a more hard-nose, aggressive group."



NICK HYDER
Tough In Tifton

Valdosta Overturns Waycross, 20-13

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor
Welton Frazier and David Parker led a fourth quarter offensive rebirth that gave Valdosta High a 20-13 win over Waycross High in the Spring Jamboree football game here Friday night.

The Wildcats managed only one first down in the first half of play and trailed 7-0 through three quarters.

YARDSTICK		
	Way	VHS
First Downs	10	10
Yards Rushing	29-57	28-134
Yards Passing	149	47
Passes	9-14	9-22
Passes Inct. By	1	1
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	7-37.2	7-29.7
Penalties	8-80	7-61.5

On the third play of the fourth quarter, Parker capped a 80-yard, 12-play drive with a touchdown pass to his brother, Dale, who made a beautiful fingertip grab in the right corner of the end zone.

The quarterbacking Parker entered the game with 4:23 to go in the third quarter. From that moment the Wildcats looked like a new team.

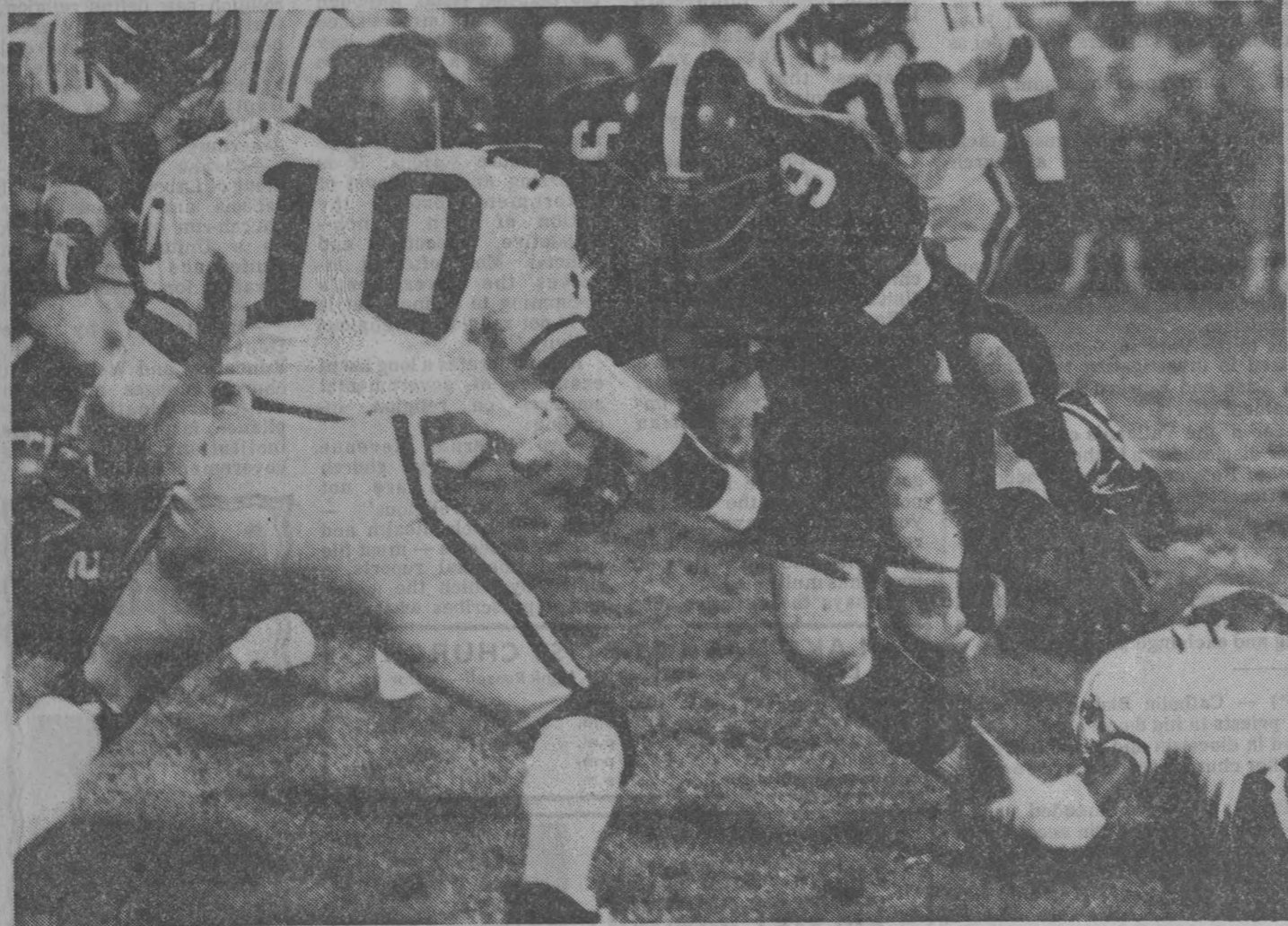
"It was difficult, but we finally solved his (Waycross coach Dale Williams') defense," said VHS Head Coach Nick Hyder.

"We were not strong enough to really block them out of there, so we had to finesse them a little bit. We used a bunch of stuff. Credit my coaching staff for figuring them out."

On the touchdown drive that Parker helped engineer, another important face came to the front — Frazier. His determined running finally began to pay dividends with a first down on the third play of the drive. It was only the second of the night for the 'Cats.

From that point on Frazier was almost unstoppable. He uncorked runs of 16, eight, 25, 13 and seven yards down the home stretch.

"Frazier has a talent I've never had before — great balance," said Hyder. "You



Valdosta's Rembrandt Moses Waits For Onrushing Wingback Charles Green; Frazier Does His Act Up The Middle

—Times Staff Photos by Joey Ivansco

can't stop him unless you bring him down with a gang tackle."

Frazier was far and away the leading rusher in the game with 102 yards in 18 carries.

In the first scoring drive, Parker connected on all four of his pass attempts to give confidence to an offense that had faltered all evening.

"Mentally he helped us," said Hyder of Parker. "His passes were sharp. We had had some dropped passes." Pat Mayes quarterbacked

the first two-thirds of the game for the Wildcats and was hit by hard times. More than one aerial opportunity for long gains was dropped by prospective receivers.

Though the 'Cats came back for the tie, Waycross had six more points in its repertoire.

The first score came on a 67-yard screen pass from Waycross quarterback Mike Cuneo to fleet tailback Tony Taylor with 3:34 left in the first quarter.

Two and a half minutes

after the Parker to Parker score, Cuneo hit Randy Monk in the right flat with another short pass. Monk jukeed VHS cornerback James Horton near midfield and raced to the one where Rembrandt Moses made a saving tackle.

Two plays later, Bulldog fullback Edwin Herrin went in for the score.

The door to the win was left open when Todd Williams, the coaches son, missed the extra point kick.

A fired-up bunch of Wildcats saw one opportunity to

get away when Parker was intercepted by Britt Gail with 7:43 left in the game.

The VHS defense allowed a first down and then stiffened, forcing a Waycross punt.

Fred Motes got things started with an 18-yard punt return and then Frazier went to work.

The 185-pound rising senior appeared to be stopped three times on a 25-yard jaunt back against the grain and then added another first down on a 13-yard hippy hop run. His next rush of seven yards

brought the 'Cats to the three and a half with 2:58 to go.

Two plays later Frazier bulled in for the score. Keith Sampson's kick made the count 14-13, VHS.

A questionable interference call on Dante Jones gave the Bulldogs a first down on their first play of the ensuing with still two minutes left.

Then the VHS defense said it had had enough, sacking the 'Dogs the next two plays for 11 and 15-yard losses.

A clipping penalty gave Waycross a third and 36 situation with 39 seconds left in the game.

Bill Holland intercepted the next pass at the 15-yard line and two plays later, Motes swept to paydirt for the final 20-13 count.

Score by Quarters:	
Waycross	7 0 0 6 13
VHS	0 0 0 20 20

Way — Taylor 62 pass from Cuneo (Williams kick)
VHS — Dale Parker 5 pass from David Parker (Sampson Kick)
Way — Herrin 1 run (kick failed)
VHS — Frazier 2 run (Sampson Kick)
VHS — Motes 9 run (kick failed)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Way — Taylor 91, Cuneo 4 (4), Herrin 9, 21, Green 7, 47; VHS — Mayes 5, 25, Motes 5, 7, Frazier 18, 102.
Passing: Way — Cuneo 9-14-149; VHS — Mayes 5-15-116, Parker 4-7-31.
Pass Receiving: Way — Taylor 5-56, Green 1-16, Monk 3-77; VHS — Mitchell 3-18, Robinson 1-4, Motes 1-2, Sullenberger 2-13, Parker 1-5.
Punt Returns: Way — Howard 1-3; VHS — Motes 4-34.
Kickoff Returns: Way — Taylor 2-26, Green 1-9; VHS — Motes 2-51, Frazier 1-29.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Way — Boggs 7, Howard 5, Muchinson 3, Gail 3, Keys 3, Wooten 2, James 2, Brown 2, Stipe 2; VHS — Roe 5, Stokes 4, Battle 4, Hunter 4, Moses 4, Horton 4, Jones 3, Holland 3, Bealy 3, Cooper 2.
Interception Returns: Way — Gail 1-10; VHS — Holland 1-0.

Hagan, Vikings Topple 'Cats Again, 5-2

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

The rematch of two pitching duels earlier in the year did not materialize in Saturday's meeting between Lowndes and Valdosta. Keith Hagan had the necessary stuff, but Wayne Fugett was not quite right.

In the end the Vikings claimed a 5-2 victory to put themselves in the driver's seat in the Region 1-AAAA (South) baseball playoffs.

The Vikings have a bye in the playoffs until Wednesday when they meet the winner of the Valdosta-Westover (Albany) game here Monday at 4 p.m. Valdosta won a coin flip with Westover in Tifton Saturday for the right to play at home.

VHS Coach Butch Brooks said, the umpires would come from the Albany association.

"It's a great feeling to win," said Lowndes center fielder Chuck DeVane. "It's great because it gives us confidence that we can beat a great team, so we're a great team."

"The winner of this game has to win one out of two. The loser has to win three straight. It's just a great feeling to win. This is the biggest rivalry in Georgia in all sports."

Hagan went the distance, giving up three hits, striking out 11, walking two and holding his crosstown rivals to one earned run. Fugett exited the contest after two and two-thirds innings of rocky mound work. His control problems, caused Brooks to go with reliever David New, who did a credible job.

New did not get the support he needed from his teammates in the field or at the plate in a game that the maroon-shirted Vikings never trailed.

The Vikings got several key hits interspersed with five Wildcat errors on a hot afternoon for players and fans at jam-packed Wright Bazemore Field.

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Jay Cobb and DeVane each had two hits for Lowndes. Jeff Stokes slammed a 390-foot solo blast over the "green monster" in centerfield and Ray Luke singled in the Vikings' fourth run to extend the lead.

Valdosta errors and exciting base running by Lowndes were as important as anything in the Viking success story.

Two of LHS's runs were earned, while one of Valdosta's was legitimate.

The errors produced the same summation of the game from Brooks as after a 3-2 Lowndes victory on May 1. LHS Coach Coach Noel George was just happy to win.

"We gave them the game, said Brooks. "We allowed three unearned runs and two the last time we played."

"We couldn't hit our way out of a wet paper bag. There are three kids hitting over .300 and the rest are not even

Vikings Box

LHS	abr	h	r	bi	VHS	abr	h	r	bi
Schre ss	3	1	0	0	RH c	3	0	1	0
Luke 2b	7	1	1	1	Lstgr lb	7	0	1	1
DVne cf	4	0	2	1	Fgtt p	4	0	0	0
Bwain c	3	1	0	0	Bnd lf	3	0	0	0
Stks dh	3	1	1	1	DLch 2b	3	0	0	0
Spnk 3b	4	0	0	0	Wldn 2b	2	0	1	0
Cobb lb	3	0	2	0	Fek 2b	1	0	0	0
Clppr lf	3	0	0	0	Pkr ss	2	1	0	0
Hlls ph	1	1	0	0	Dme cf	1	1	0	0
Thms rf	1	0	0	0	Bms dh	2	0	0	0
Schrdt ph	1	0	1	0	Wln pr	0	0	0	0
Hgn p	0	0	0	0	Brynl rf	0	0	0	0
					Nwp	1	0	0	0

TOTALS 30 5 7 3

TOTALS 23 2 3 1

LHS 002 011 1-5-7-1

VHS 001 010 0-2-3-5

E - Parker 2, Schreffler, Weldon, Bond, Ruff; DP - VHS 2; LOB - LHS 9, VHS 4

2B - DeVane; HR - Stokes; SB - Schreffler 2, Cobb, Parker; S - Fugett.

ip h r er bb so

Fugett 2 2 3 1 2 1 2 3

New (1, 2 2) 5 13 6 3 1 0 4

Hagan (W, 6 1) 7 3 2 1 2 11

HBP - Schreffler (by Fugett), Thomas (by Fugett); WP - Fugett.

close. There have been 72 runs scored on us. Of those 72, 42 were unearned."

"I feel pretty good," said George. "You can't get too elated, because we haven't won it yet."

"Fugett had his problems. He couldn't get it over the plate. I don't know if he was tired or what. It was hot out there. Hagan got tired too. They didn't hit him, but he still got in trouble when he walked a couple in the fifth. Keith came in after the fifth and almost undressed, so he could cool off."

Thomas was forced at second by a Schreffler fielder's choice in the third. Schreffler proceeded to steal both second and third base giving the Vikes a man in scoring position with one out.

Schreffler used a beautiful fall away slide to elude the tag after a good throw by VHS catcher Mike Ruff.

Luke reached first on a walk setting the stage for DeVane.

He slashed a Fugett fastball down the third base line to score Schreffler and advance Luke to third.

Cleanup hitter Tony Bowden then hit a dribbler to VHS shortstop David Parker. Parker took his eye off the ball to check Luke at third and bobbed the ball allowing the runner to score.

The 'Cats came back with

one run in the bottom of the third inning to tighten the game.

Parker led off with a walk and moved to second on a walk to Tim Dame. Parker strayed off the bag on an attempted bunt by designated hitter Nolan Barnes.

Lowndes catcher Bowden threw to second trying to get Parker in a rundown. Shortstop Schreffler was unable to handle the low cutoff throw and Parker rounded third. Dame at this time was trying for a steal of second. Schreffler tagged Dame, but Parker saw an opening and came home for the tally.

In the fifth inning the Vikings picked up one more run on an odd series of events.

Bowden reached first on a fielder's choice. With two out, Andy Weldon could not handle a hopper off the bat of Stokes and Bowden went to third.

George called for the double steal. Stokes broke for second and Ruff stood up to throw. Weldon, who stepped into the lineup in place of Spencer Fiex, did not move to take the cutoff throw. Ruff held up on the ball, causing a bad throw and Bowden scored easily for a 3-1 lead.

"I didn't try to run at first on Ruff. Maybe that relaxed him a little bit," said George. "I decided to go ahead and make something happen. I wanted to make him throw somebody out and he never did."

The 'Cats weren't ready to lay down and die trailing by two runs. A fielder's choice by Dame, a walk to Barnes and an infield single by Ruff loaded the bases with two outs.

John Lastinger came up to face a tiring Hagan. The situation warranted a chat between Hagan and George. A fired up Valdosta bench chanted "take him out, leave him in" as the Lowndes conversation continued.

Hagan finally pitched and allowed Lastinger a walk to force in Dame with a run. Hagan then got behind three balls and one strike on Fugett, but got him to pop up to Cobb at first to end the



David Parker (44) Slides Into Tony Bowden With First VHS Run

—Times Staff Photo By Mike De

inning. Hagan regained his form in the final two innings, striking out four of the minimum six batters he faced.

The Vikings got one run in each of the last two innings. Stokes' solo homer accounted for the tally in the seventh.

The Lowndes bench contributed in the sixth. Todd Hollis hit a hard grounder through Parker's legs and was advanced on a single by Kris Schmidt.

John Bond made a long run for a deep blast to right-center by Schreffler. The ball

was in his glove, but fell out, putting Hollis on third, Schmidt on second and Schreffler on first. A clutch single by Luke scored Hollis.

"I didn't beat them. We all beat them," said Hagan after the game. "The boys got

some key hits. They

Fugett. "I dreaded this game more than the last time. I enjoyed it, but I'm scared every time."

The win puts the Vikings at 14-5 on the year, while the Wildcats fall to 12-7.

Student-Athlete Bounces Back

Handicap Only A Detour For Sampson

By MARTIN REGISTER
Times Staff Writer

Sixteen months ago Keith Sampson thought his promising athletic career was over when a football injury left him partially paralyzed.

Sampson, a sophomore at Valdosta High School, is still partially paralyzed. But his outlook on the future has changed drastically.

He and his head coach, Nick Hyder, even mention the possibility of an athletic college scholarship.

Sampson had been called one of the finest athletes ever to come up through the heralded youth sports program here when he reported to football practice as an incoming freshman at VHS in 1978.

A football and basketball star at Valdosta Junior High School, Sampson lived up to his name in preseason practices.

The 5-11, 160-pounder earned a starting position at split end, something very few freshmen have accomplished in the highly-competitive VHS football program.

Several persons, including Hyder, have compared the young Sampson to the likes of Stanford Rome and Buck Belue, former Wildcat standouts who have gone on to make names for themselves on a national level.



Keith Sampson Keeps Eyes On The Future

—Times Staff Photo.

"Some players who don't have impaired movement do have other weights that beset them. But when they can see him as an example, that kind of does away with the bad attitudes of the other lads." —VHS Coach Nick Hyder.

Then it happened. Running downfield to catch a pass during preseason drills, Sampson noticed the aerial had been intercepted by a member of the defensive team.

Cutting back, Sampson lunged for the man with the ball, hit him, then felt an awful stinging in his upper torso.

The injury left him without the use of his right arm.

After spending more than a week in hospitals here and in Gainesville, Fla., Sampson felt the high school career he had always known would be had vanished before it ever got started.

It was a devastating thought. Sampson's life had centered around athletics. Sports were his hobbies. Taking away his receiving arm was like taking a leg from a dancer.

Sampson's career probably would have been over, Hyder said, if assistant coach Roger Rome had not taken a special interest in Sampson and urged him to continue playing.

Sampson has become the team's

placekicker. He had perhaps his greatest moment in a 24-21 Valdosta victory over arch-rival Lowndes in the Region 1-AAAA playoffs a week ago.

Sampson was responsible for six VHS points in that contest, including a game-winning field goal.

"He's very much a part of this team," Hyder said. "He's proud to be on it. Last Friday night, we couldn't have won

without him. "He goes through the exercises, the weight program, the running. He's a great example for his teammates. "Some players who don't have impaired movement do have other weights that beset them. But when they can see him as an example, that kind of does away with the bad attitudes of the other lads."

There was a time when it would have been very easy for Sampson to sit back and

Newsmakers

... A Special Insight

set an example of a jaded cynic.

For a while, Sampson was convinced he would never set foot on Cleveland Field again. He was not bitter — "I just don't think that way" — but he did not have confidence that a man could play football with his right arm strapped to his chest.

The road back was not easy. Surprisingly, some of Sampson's teachers were not patient as the 15-year-old struggled to learn to write with his left hand, Hyder said.

At times, the young athlete would wander off alone. But Sampson says there was never any question as to whether he had the desire to continue playing.

"I like football, I always have," he said. "I like being around the other guys and I really like winning."

Sampson's love for basketball has continued, and he plans a tryout for the high school's B-team basketball squad this

There's never a good professional team that doesn't have a good kicker," said Hyder. "It's that way in college now, and it's getting that way in high school. The time that he'll be coming along with his kicking might work out well for him."

year. Meanwhile, he continues to work on his kicking game. The idea of a football scholarship is in the back of his mind.

"There's never a good professional team that doesn't have a good kicker," said Hyder. "It's that way in college now, and it's getting that way in high school."

"The time that he'll be coming along with his kicking might work out well for him."

Hyder's office is crammed with signs proclaiming jock slogans. One which seems particularly appropriate says, "A Chip On The Shoulder Is Too Heavy A Load For Any Athlete To Carry."

Sampson's chip, if ever there was one, no longer exists.

"We've all got handicaps," Hyder said. "A lot have bad attitudes or blame others, saying they've never had a break."

"Well, here's a lad who's got an obvious handicap and has gone on to become a competitor and a winner."

"He's learned something a lot of folks never learn...that we can function, we can compete, whatever the handicap."



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Editor

Bond To Sign With Miss. State

The word is that John Bond is to sign with Mississippi State University. All the drooling will soon be over.

There were scouts from all over the Southeast at Valdosta High games, primarily to view the 6-2, 190-pound senior quarterback. One of the Cleveland Field seats was taken by Emory Bellard, the head Coach of the Bulldogs of Mississippi affiliation.

Bellard liked what he saw in Bond, who was rated third in a list of prep football prospects in Georgia. Bond also liked what he saw in Bellard.

I've found that players tend to sign by the impression people with the institutions involved make. Florida wanted Bond badly. Their scouts tended to smile the most after games. I imagine they offered young John the moon and the stars to study in Gainesville, but everybody else did for that matter.

Bond has family connections with Jackson school which probably effected his choice.

Bond's size, speed, running ability and passing potential made him a top-flight prospect.

The quarterback Mississippi State has is a junior that motors a very average 5.0 in the 40-yard dash. Bond moves at a 4.5 clip. His prospects of starting should therefore be good in at least his sophomore year. Then again, the Bulldogs might sign some other golden boy from Bug Tussle and Bond could end up as a receiver.

That's the way the college game goes. Another great Valdosta quarterback headed out Mississippi-way several years back. Ask Stanley Bounds if you can predict what is going to happen when one hits the rolling green of the college campus. Bounds was injured and never had the years that were expected.

These aren't ill omens. Bond should do just fine.

The signing ceremony is to be at the Bond home next Saturday. Bellard is to be here for the event.

Another Valdosta player has decided to carry his cleats to Auburn, also of the Southeastern Conference school.

Defensive back Nathaniel Ceasar is to go with Doug Barfield's Plainsmen. Ceasar's pure athletic ability makes him a prime prospect for college success.

Ceasar is an outstanding high jumper and hurdler in track and a standout basketball player. Those type of people are the kind that make good defensive backs. You've got to cover a lot of ground in the defensive backfield, especially in the SEC.

I expect we'll here a lot from these young men in the future.

Jones Leading Scorer

'Cats, Vikes Pace Region In Run, Pass

V. Times 11-2-79

By Times Sports Writer
Valdosta High remained the No. 1 rushing team in Region 1-AAAA, according to statistics released today. Lowndes High also retained its lead in passing among 1-AAAA teams.

Valdosta's rushing lead was paced by a collection of players in the top 30 rushers. John Bond ranked highest at No. 4.

Steve Player, of Lowndes was far and away the leading pass receiver in the league, mainly on passes from Eric Thomas, who ranks as the No. 2 quarterback for yardage.

Ken Hobby of Tift County (Tifton) leads Thomas by less than 40 yards.

Cedric Jones of Lowndes is the leading scorer in 1-AAAA with 108 points, topping

Lionel James of Dougherty (Albany) by 18 points. Jones is also the top punt returner and No. 8 rusher.

BY ELLWOOD MOYER,
REGION 1-AAAA STATISTICIAN

Table with columns: Rushing, Car., Yds., Avg., Inters., Punting, Kicks, Yds., Avg.

Table with columns: Player, Team, Yds., Avg.

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Wildcats Regroup For Albany

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer

It is time to regroup and begin the season anew for the Valdosta Wildcats.

Last Friday the Wildcats lost a September game, for the first time since Coach Nick Hyder's inaugural season at VHS.

Errors, such as penalties and fumbles, proved costly in the 9-0 loss. Such miscues are "the price for experience," said Hyder.

Hyder's Wildcats enter

Saturday night's contest with Albany High on the road one week older and wiser, although Hyder wishes that wisdom would have come from a win.

"I don't buy the theory that a loss can help you," Hyder said. "I'd rather learn something from victory."

The Wildcats are now 2-1, trailing undefeated Tift County (Tifton) and Monroe (Albany) in the 1-AAAA (North) race. Albany won its first game in a 1-2 season last Saturday, defeating

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

crosstown rival Westover, 27-0.

Hyder and the VHS faithful are still feeling the effects of the loss in Thomasville, but once again the Wildcats'

mentor is looking ahead.

"First of all, I have great respect for Coach Al Woodham (of Albany)," said Hyder. "I played against him in college. If he is the one I'm

thinking of, he was a Little All-American at Jacksonville State (Ala.).

"By beating Westover 27-0, they scored eight more points than all of last year. Traditionally, Albany has been one of the real tough teams in this league. They are one of the original teams. They've been tough over the past 25 years and extra tough during the '50s and '60s. Coach Woodham is really wanting to rebuild. He has a fierce loyalty for them."

Woodham graduated from

Albany High. After college, he stayed in Albany, commuting to assistant coaching jobs in Cordele, Dawson and Camilla. He served 18 seasons as an assistant.

Hyder does not hint that the 'Cats are going after Albany with particular vengeance after last Friday's verdict.

"No, we won't be at a peak," he said. "When you've climbed up on the mountain and then get down in the valley, it takes a while to get out."

"It is still summertime. The season changes on the 23rd. It's too early to peak."

The loss to Thomasville was of the non-subregion variety, which doesn't really harm the VHS playoff hopes.

"We'd prefer to have every game count, but since it doesn't count we're not out of it. At this point nobody is out of it. The emphasis is on the second half of the season (with three subregion games out of five)."



Hyder Respects Albany Tradition



Wildcat Back Irvin Roe Fight Is Brought Down By A Lowndes Defender

VHS Runs, LHS Passes Tell Story In Classic

V. Times Nov. 10, 79

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

The game was everything one could expect from the number one rushing and passing teams in Region 1-AAAA. The Valdosta Wildcats and the Lowndes Vikings proved conclusively why they headed those categories at Martin Stadium Friday night, but the visiting 'Cats managed to clip their hosts 24-21 in the highly emotional first round of region playoffs.

Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder summed it up perfectly when he said, "It all bore down to our running game against their passing game."

The Wildcats totaled 321 yards on the ground, while

the Vikings passed for 185 yards in the cross-town showdown.

Valdosta's John Bond was, as usual, in command of the Wildcat rushing attack, gaining 120 yards on 20 carries. A full half of those yards came on a single carry late in the fourth quarter, which put the Wildcats ahead for good when Bond found the end zone.

"I faked to the fullback (Wilton Frazier), came around the end, and Irvin Roe blocked the defenders and that was it," Bond said, describing how the winning score came about.

"The game was a barn-burner," Bond said. We knew it was going to be back and forth through it all."

That was no underestimation, as the lead changed four times on the night.

Valdosta's Irvin Roe had praise for the entire Wildcats offensive line. "I loved them all," he said. "But most of all, it was John Bond."

On the Viking side, Lowndes' Eric Thomas passed for 173 yards and Steve Player caught eight passes for 103 yards and all

three of Lowndes' touchdowns.

"Lowndes has an explosive offense," Bond said, "one of the best in the region."

"Coach Wilson is a fine coach," Hyder said between hugs and handshakes of congratulations. "His team did an outstanding job."

With the score tied at 7-7 in the first quarter, the Wildcats attempted a fake field goal, but the Vikings were wise to the strategy.

"Our first impulse was to kick the field goal, but we talked ourselves out of it," Hyder explained. "They were ready for the play. Whenever you take that much time on a play like that, the other team is going to be ready for it."

In much the same way, Lowndes' Tony Crawford was set to nab an interception from Quarter, Hyder said, which led to the second Viking touchdown three plays later.

"Tony was waiting for that one," Hyder said. "Bond was under a heavy rush, and he probably didn't see him."

Hyder said other key factors in the game included "when Danle Jones intercepted that pass in the

second quarter. That score would have made it 21-7 Lowndes, and put them practically out of reach."

Hyder had praise for all of his players, coaches and scouts, and even for his equipment manager. "They all did a great job," he said.

Bond was ecstatic over the performance of the Wildcats, particularly that of the offensive line. "They did great job," he said. "Did you see all of those holes? It was great."

"And we've got the finest coaches in the state of Georgia," he said. "They came out in the second quarter and figured out what we had to do. They were more fired-up then than they've ever been before. That helped us psychologically."

The coaches weren't the only ones fired up for the game. The capacity crowd on both sides rewarded their respective teams with almost deafening applause on every offense gain and defensive hold.

Cheers and chants filled the warm air throughout the game, culminating in Wildcat cries of "We're number one" as the final few seconds disappeared from the clock.

With the victory, Valdosta boosts its record to 8-3, and continues on to face Tift County (Tifton) next week in the 1-AAAA championship. Lowndes ends a successful season at 9-2. The young Viking squad should prove a powerhouse next season, as they were in this one.

Valdosta, Lowndes Lead Region Offense

By Times Sports Writer

Valdosta remained the top rushing team in Region 1-AAAA, according to this week's statistics, but VHS individual rushers dropped down slightly in the standings.

Lowndes overtook Tift County (Tifton) to become the leading passing team in 1-AAAA.

John Bond of VHS dropped from third place to fourth place in individual rushing. Cedric Jones of Lowndes remained fifth.

Eric Thomas is now the No. 3 passer in the region. Bond is No. 7.

Steve Player of Lowndes moved up one position to second place in pass receiving with 12 catches

against Westover (Albany). Ray Luke of LHS stepped up one slot to sixth place, Mike Ruff of Valdosta moved up three positions to ninth place. Jeff Stokes of LHS dropped one position to third in punting. Pat Mayes of VHS made a significant jump from 13th to ninth.

Jones remained the leading punt returner in the league and James Horton of VHS held his lead in interceptions.

BY ELLWOOD MOYER,
REGION 1-AAAA
STATISTICIAN

RUSHING			
	Car.	Yds.	Avg.
1. James, Dough.	101	676	6.7
2. Ford, Crisp	134	607	4.5
3. W. Robinson, Cen.	107	566	5.2
4. Bond, Vald.	88	556	6.3
5. Jones, Lowndes	69	448	6.4
6. Pratt, Monroe	80	413	5.1
7. Clark, T'ville	73	409	5.6
8. Hobby, Tift Co.	85	371	4.3

PASSING				
	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Richardson, Mon.	94	44	707	7.5
2. Hobby, Tift Co.	90	38	689	7.2
3. Thomas, Lownd.	106	55	688	5.9
4. G. Robinson, Cen.	73	34	656	4.6
5. Chastain, T'ville	82	35	598	4.7
6. Norman, Dough.	80	28	530	3.5
7. Bond, Vald.	88	46	510	5.2
8. Musselwhite, Crisp	57	25	398	4.9
9. Sutton, Wover	67	29	363	4.3

PASS RECEIVING			
	Catches	Yds.	Avg.
1. Ellerson, Mon.	29	531	18.3
2. Player, Lowndes	12	483	40.3

PUNTING			
	Kicks	Yds.	Avg.
1. Barber, Colq.	11	425	38.6
2. Musselwhite, Crisp	21	802	38.1
3. Stokes, Lowndes	18	685	38.0
4. Leik, Central	28	1032	36.8
5. Norman, Dough.	31	1093	36.4
6. Patterson, Val.	22	707	32.1

INTERCEPTIONS			
	Inter.	Returns	Yds.
1. Horton, Valdosta	4	91	2
2. Daniels, Monroe	2	72	3
3. Green, Lowndes	1	68	4
4. Bass, Central	2	53	5
5. Smiley, B'bridge	1	50	6

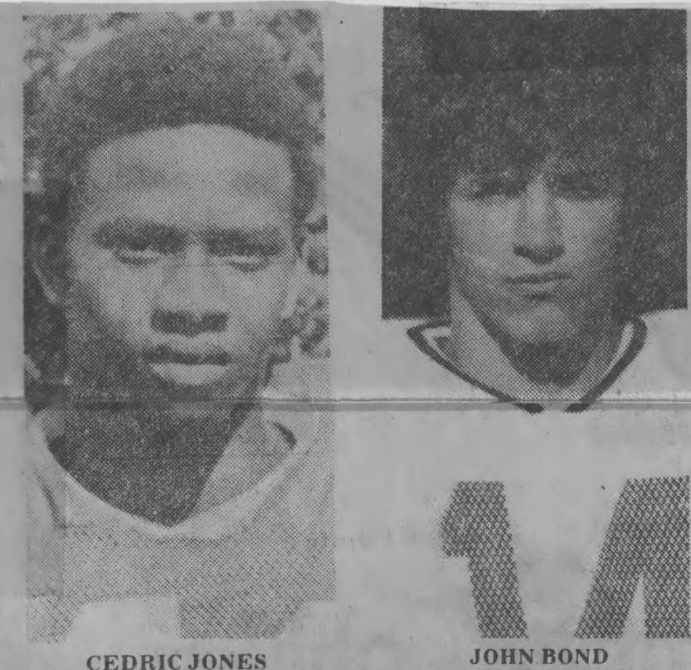
TEAM RUSHING			
	Car.	Yds.	Game
1. Valdosta	231	1361	230.1
2. Central	233	1324	220.6
3. T'ville	233	1180	196.6
4. Dougherty	220	1130	188.3
5. Crisp	254	1381	180.1
6. Monroe	242	1056	176.0
7. Colquitt	240	1051	175.1
8. Tift	219	1014	169.0
9. Bainbridge	218	963	144.9
10. Lowndes	181	831	138.5
11. Albany	236	668	111.3
12. Westover	228	253	42.1

TEAM PASSING				
	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Lowndes	142	78	997	166.1
2. Tift	92	41	780	130.0
3. Monroe	96	46	719	119.8
4. Colquitt	78	25	680	113.3
5. Valdosta	107	54	661	110.1
6. Thomasville	72	35	598	99.6
7. Dougherty	83	20	544	90.6
8. Crisp	69	28	499	83.1
9. Westover	99	34	411	68.5
10. Albany	89	25	398	62.3
11. Bainbridge	67	27	319	53.1
12. Central	86	25	315	52.5

RUSH DEFENSE				
	Car.	Yds.	Game	
1. Crisp	65	23	328	54.6
2. T'ville	80	29	410	68.3
3. Valdosta	92	34	425	70.8
4. B'bridge	74	28	442	73.6
5. Tift	98	39	478	79.6
6. Colquitt	110	43	508	84.6
7. Albany	108	37	544	90.6
8. Monroe	78	33	581	96.8
9. Lowndes	84	32	642	107.0
10. Westover	101	53	794	123.3
11. Dougherty	100	42	798	133.0
12. Central	98	57	894	149.0

PUNT RETURNS			
	Ret.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Jones, Lowndes	11	275	25.0
2. Acree, Colquitt	11	179	16.3
3. James, Dougherty	8	159	19.9
4. Sheil, Crisp	5	66	13.2
5. Roe, Valdosta	8	64	8.0

KICK-OFF RETURNS			
	Ret.	Yds.	Avg.
1. M. Close, B'bridge	10	383	38.3



CEDRIC JONES
Top Punt Returner

JOHN BOND
Number Four Rusher

LHS, VHS To Meet In Playoffs

The Valdosta Daily Times, Sat., Nov. 3, 1979—6—



—Times Staff Photos

Valdosta Starting Quarterback Parker Passes Behind Interference of James and Harrison

'Cats Nail Trojans, 35-14

By LEE FREEMAN

Times Sports Writer
Dougherty's Lionel James may have been the most dynamic rusher in the game, but the combined efforts of the Wildcats, with quarterback John Bond at the

controls, were enough to give Valdosta a 35-14 victory over the Trojans in 1-AAAA (North) action at Cleveland Field Friday night and a first-round playoff berth in the region championship.

"We're just beginning to hit our stride," said Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder after the game. "We haven't played this well all year. This is a good time to begin to mature."

To the 10,000 or so fans attending the Valdosta homecoming, the Wildcats must have appeared at the height of their maturity, particularly on the rush. Valdosta totaled 353 yards, 240 of them coming from a relentless ground attack. Irvin Roe and Bond led the Valdosta rushing onslaught. Roe carried nine times for 96 yards, while Bond had 56 yards and two touchdowns to his name.

Bond also passed for all 93 of Valdosta's aerial yards, connecting twice for touchdowns with split end Keith Mitchell and flanker Mike Ruff. Halfback Eugene Patterson put the other TD on the home side of the scoreboard with an 8-yard run.

Trojan James outran everyone, however, with 20 carries for 166 yards and one touchdown. The score and 127 of the yards came in the first half, as a tough Valdosta defense limited James to 39 yards after the midway point.

With the win, Valdosta closes its regular season at 7-3 and 4-1 in 1-AAAA (North). Dougherty, with playoff hopes shattered by the loss, retires for another season at 3-7 and 2-2 in the subregion.

First quarter action ended in a 0-0 deadlock, as neither team was able to get near the other's end zone.

Dougherty's first drive was halted at the Wildcat 39-yard line, when Calvin Davis sacked Trojan quarterback Chris Norman for a 6-yard loss.

As it turned out, that drive was the most successful one of the quarter. Both teams were restricted to their own territory on every succeeding drive.

The Wildcats started their offensive with quarterback David Parker quite unexpectedly calling the signals. "We wanted him to get some experience," Hyder

explained, "to let him know we have confidence in him. He's a very intelligent athlete."

Bond entered the game on the next Wildcat possession, which ended when he was sacked at the Valdosta 49-yard line.

The Trojans had possession as the second quarter began, but were forced to punt at their own 27 on the first play of the period.

That was when the Wildcat scoring machine clicked into gear. After marching and throwing 38 yards in six plays, Bond connected a 16-yarder with Mitchell, who dodged two defenders and zig-zagged his way into the end zone with 8:55 left in the quarter.

Four short minutes later, Bond dashed into paydirt from 11 yards out to give the Cats a two-touchdown lead. That drive was highlighted by 43-yard sprint by Roe, who would have made a quick TD had he not stepped out of bounds at the Trojan 29.

James led the successful Trojan counter-attack on the following drive, rushing for 70 yards and leaping into the end zone from 2 yards out with :57 to go in the quarter, leaving the score 14-7 in favor of Valdosta at the half.

Paul Stokes ended the first Trojan threat of the third quarter by recovering a fumble at the Dougherty 49-yard line, but the Wildcats were forced to punt three plays later.

Yet Dougherty once again turned over the football to Valdosta, when James Horton intercepted a Norman pass and returned it 20 yards to the visitors' 20-yard line. Four plays later, Bond found Ruff with a 5-yarder in the end zone. The football danced on Ruff's fingertips for a moment, but the receiver brought it under control with 4:48 remaining in the period.

On the first play after the kickoff, Trojan Raymond Walker found a hole in the middle of the Wildcat offensive line and flew 51 yards before being stopped by Horton at the Valdosta 29. Norman put the Trojans' second TD on the board on a 1-yard sprint with 1:47 left in the third.

Valdosta's next drive ended barely a minute into the final period, when Bond completed a 1-yard quarterback sneak, tipping the score to 28-14 after

the PAT.

The Valdosta defense kept Dougherty at its own 13-yard line on the next drive. The Trojans countered by stopping the "Cats" at the Dougherty 49-yard line later. Stokes sacked Norman to halt the final Trojan offensive on the night.

By then, the Dougherty fans were rapidly heading toward the exits, but the Valdosta side of the stadium remained packed. The faithful were well-rewarded for sticking around to the end, as Eugene Patterson scored on an 83-yard run with :19 left in the game. Keith Sampson added the PAT, and the Wildcats trotted off the field with a 35-14 triumph, exactly as advertised.

The Trojans were, exactly as advertised, Coach Hyder said. They strike like lightning. They're the best 3-7 team in the state.

Hyder attributed much of the Wildcats' success to Harvey Carter, Tony Blasetti, William Davis, David Harrison and Phillip James, who compose the offensive line. "They helped us a lot with blocking, opening holes, pass protection and everything else," he said.

As for the playoffs, Hyder said he's "glad to be there. It gives us a chance to keep going."

Hyder is not concerned with the state championship—at least, not at this time. "We play one game at a time," he said. "That's how we always play."

Score by Quarters:
Valdosta 14 7 14—35
Dougherty 0 7 7 0—14

Series:
Valid — Mitchell 16 pass from Bond (Parker kick);
Valid — Bond 1 run (Sampson kick);
Valid — Ruff 5 pass from Bond (Parker kick);
Valid — Ruff 5 pass from Bond (Parker kick);
Dough — Norman 1 run (Adam kick);
Dough — Gordon 1 run (Parker kick);
Valid — Patterson 8 run (Sampson kick).

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
VHS — Roe 9/56, Bond 17/56, Parker 9/37, Moore 2/29, Patterson 5/20, David Parker 2 (TD), James 20/166, Walker 2/54, Norman 2/11, Malone 1/1.
Parker:
VHS — Bonds 14/53, Parker 0-4/0;
DHS — Ruff 4/59, Mitchell 2/7, Roe 2/11, Moore 1/6.
Ruff:
DHS — Ruff 2/37, James 2/22.
VHS — Roe 2/20, Returns:
DHS — James 1/4.
VHS — James 1/4.
DHS — James 2/11, Walker 2/45.

Dismiss (NO of Tracks):
VHS — Horton 4, Caesar 4, James 2, Tom 2, Holland 4, W. Davis 2, Bell 1, Hancock 7, DHS — K. Adams 2, Seymour 6, Bell 3, Moore 5, Wilson 10, Watkins 3, Daniel 6, Goodman 4, Reception Returns:
VHS — Horton 1/20;
DHS — none.

Valdosta Defeats Lowndes, 24-21

Bond Walks Tightrope For Go-Ahead Score

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

John Bond raced 60 yards down the right sideline for the go-ahead score and the Valdosta defense held off a final scoring effort to bring

STATISTICS		
	LHS	VHS
First Downs	18	20
Yards Rushing	27-70	49-321
Yards Passing	185	51
Passes	16-27	6-12
Passes Inct. By	2	2
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	1-39	1-26
Penalties	3-15	3-12

the Wildcats a hard-fought 24-21 victory over Lowndes here Friday night at Martin Stadium.

Valdosta scored first, but trailed 14-7 at halftime as Eric Thomas hooked up with Steve Player for two scoring passes for the Vikings.

A 41-yard Keith Sampson field goal brought VHS closer to 14-10 in the third quarter.

Two Valdosta scores in the final quarter spelled the difference. The first came on a 1-yard dive by Bond after an 80-yard drive that began in the third quarter.

Lowndes answered with another Thomas-to-Player pass of 15 yards, which brought a 21-17 LHS lead.

Bond then broke loose on

Score By Quarters:	
VHS	7 0 3 14 24
LHS	7 7 0 7 21

Scoring:

VHS — Ruff 8 pass from Bond (Sampson kick);

LHS — Player 7 pass from Thomas (Stokes kick);

LHS — Player 4 pass from Thomas (Stokes kick);

VHS — Sampson 21 FG;

VHS — Bond 1 run (Sampson kick);

LHS — Player 15 pass from Thomas (Stokes kick);

VHS — Bond 60 run (Sampson kick).

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing:

VHS — Bond 20-122, Frazier 6-94, Roe 16-88, Wilcox 3-17;

LHS — Jones 12-46, Reed 6-20, Thomas 9-4.

Passing:

VHS — Bond 4-12-151, LHS — Thomas 15-25-173, DeVane 1-2-1-12.

Pass Receiving:

VHS — Ruff 2-22, Roe 2-13, Robinson 1-11, Mitchell 1-5;

LHS — Player 8-100, Stephenson 4-55, Jones 2-20, DeVane 1-27, Luke 1-12, Reed 1-11.

Punt Returns:

None.

Kickoff Returns:

VHS — Roe 2-28, Frazier 1-20;

LHS — Jones 3-70.

Defense (Number of Tackles):

VHS — Holland 7, Cassar 6, Battle 6, Toth 4, S. King 4, Hancock 4, L. Roe 3, Davis 2, Horton 2, Jones 2.

LHS — Reese 10, Mitchell 7, Crawford 7, Cribb 7, S. Davis 5, J. Williams 4, H. Williams 4, Adkins 3, A. Culpepper 2.

Interception Returns:

VHS — Jones 1-20, Hefner 1-0;

LHS — Crawford 1-44, Walker 1-37.

his 60-yard tightrope act down the right sideline after a fake to fullback Welton Frazier and behind the block of halfback Irvin Roe.

"I was that close to the sideline," said Bond of the run with 4:27 left, holding up his hand with a space of an inch between his thumb and first finger. Bond then placed his foot by a yardline on the field, showing that he was actually closer than an inch to the sideline.

Lowndes got the ball back once more before the game ended. For the first time in the game, the 'Cats solved the LHS passing attack.

Lowndes had moved well on the drive on passes from Thomas to Player. The Vikings were faced with third down and 12 on their own 23, but came out of the hole on a 16-yard turn in pattern to Player.

Player then ran the same pattern from both sides of the field and got open to catch two more first-down passes, taking the Vikings to the Valdosta 49-yard-line.

That was as far as the Vikings got.

Jimbo Hancock and Paul Stokes broke through the line to sack Thomas for a 14-yard loss with 2:26 left in the game. On the next play, a screen pass to fullback Glenn Reed was shut down for a 7-yard loss.

Thomas was pressured, looking for a receiver on the next play and fumbled the ball getting back to the line of scrimmage. Defensive tackle Hal Dixon recovered the

fumble and Valdosta then ran out the clock's final minute.

Valdosta's ability to stop Lowndes on the Vikings' final possession was brought on by a slight shift in the defensive set.

"They had been hurting us with Player," said Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder of the receiver that caught eight passes for 103 yards on the night. Tight end Kevin Stephenson had success with similar routes, catching four balls for 55 yards.

"They had some great play calling," said Hyder in praise of Lowndes Head Coach Joe Wilson. "They were running those drag routes all the way across the field and finding seams in the zone."

"We finally did get to them. We knew we had to rush them."

"We had our linebackers up at first concerned with stopping the run. We then had our linebackers back up a step and get involved with the pass coverage and that helped out. That was the only time we stopped them as best I remember."

Hyder's hair was soaked with sweat from the emotion of the game. The entire Valdosta coaching staff showed more emotion than ever before. When Bond scored the winning touchdown, the coaches leaped onto the field in exultation, which has rarely been seen.

Just how much the game meant could not have been shown better than by the reaction of the wives of Hyder and Wilson. Both cried, June Hyder's were tears of joy. Jean Wilson's were tears of utter disappointment.

By winning, Valdosta earns the right to face Tift County (Tifton) for the Region 1-AAAA championship next Friday. A coin flip is to decide the site of that game.

Lowndes ends the season with a 9-2 record, holders of its first 1-AAAA (South) championship and the best record in school history.

Valdosta advances with an 8-3 record.

"It was a tough one to lose," said Wilson after the game. "Both bunches played well. They are just so big and

strong. It was a fine football game, but it's very disappointing not to go any farther."

"We had them on the hook and let them get off," said Lowndes Defensive Coordinator Brad Almon. "It's one of those things that is going to happen. If we'd knocked Bond out of bounds or if somebody had stuck out a hand and tripped him up it might have been another story."

"You regret it. It hurts. If it didn't hurt you should be in a different business."

The two opening drives of the game showed that offense would tell the tale of the game.

Valdosta moved 72 yards on the ground on 10 plays and got the final eight on its first pass, one from Bond to Mike Ruff.

Lowndes came right back with a mixture of running and passing for 69 yards on 14 plays.

The game was almost penalty-free. Each team had three penalties, Valdosta's for 12 yards and Lowndes' for 15.

Valdosta took the ball to the Lowndes 10 from their own 20 on the third possession of the contest. The drive began in the second quarter.

The Wildcats faked a 21-yard Sampson field goal after the drive stalled. Bond, holding for Sampson, flipped the ball to Roe in front of him. Roe was halted short of the first down, turning the ball over to Lowndes at the 14-yard line.

The Vikings were unable to move and punted to the

Valdosta 44. On the second play of the VHS possession, Bond tried a short pass that was picked off by senior cornerback Tony Crawford. Crawford was brought down by tight end Edward Robinson at the VHS 5. Three plays later, Thomas threw to Player for the score.

Lowndes took the second-half kick off to the Valdosta 19, behind the rushing of Cedric Jones and Reed and passes from Thomas to Stephenson. Stephenson had great success running his routes behind VHS middle linebacker Anthony Battle.

Jeff Stokes attempted a 36-yard field goal after the drive stalled. The kick was wide left.

Valdosta came back to get the Sampson field goal. A 50-yard run by Frazier up the middle was the big gainer in the drive. Frazier ran past LHS safety Derrick Mitchell,

but Mitchell recovered to avert a possible touchdown on the play.

Valdosta had moved to a first and goal at the LHS 4, but tackle Steve Davis broke through to sack Bond for a 6-yard loss, forcing the field goal.

"My wife told me to let Sampson kick," said Hyder. "She told me he would be the difference. I didn't let him kick that first time, so the next chance we got I let him kick. He kicked the field goal and three extra points, which we had to have. She had a premonition and talked me into it."

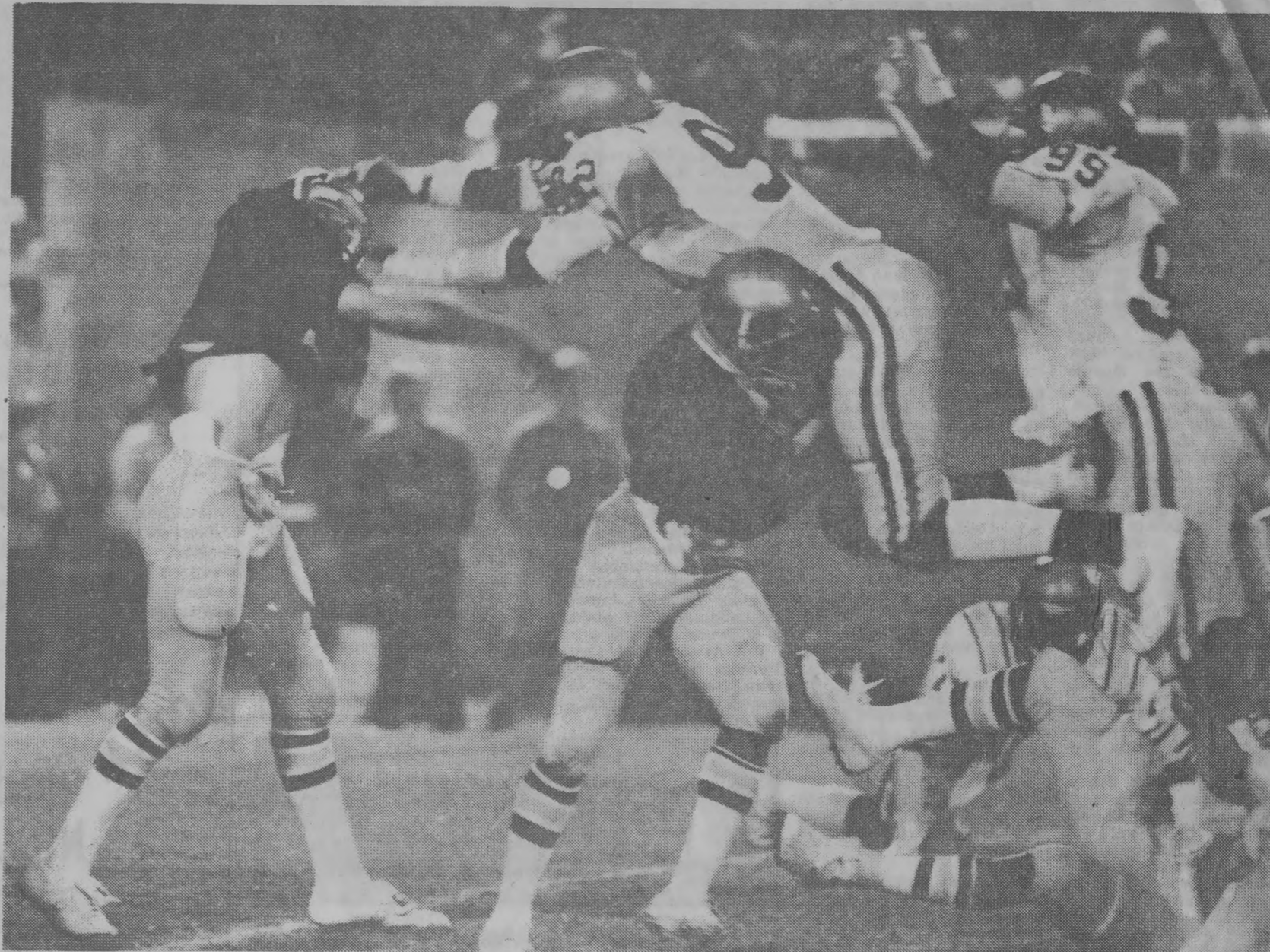
The one-yard Bond keeper put the 'Cats ahead momentarily at 17-14, but Lowndes came back on a 69-yard drive. Player and Jones were the prime movers on the drive with pass catches. Player's touchdown put Lowndes back on top 21-17.

One series that haunted Wilson was the Vikes' final possession of the first half.

The Lowndes defense had stopped Valdosta, forcing the only Wildcat punt of the night. Lowndes had good field position at their own 45. Chuck DeVane took the snap on the third play of the drive and pitched back to Thomas in the backfield. DeVane went out for a pass on the right sideline and picked up 27 yards after a shoe string-catch.

Two plays later, Dante Jones intercepted a pass intended for Ray Luke at the VHS 5. The pass was first in the hands of VHS cornerback James Horton, then in Luke's hands and finally ended up in Jones' grasp. The VHS safety returned the interception 20 yards with :21 on the clock.

"They just didn't take advantage right there before the half," said Wilson.



VHS Middle Guard Calvin Davis Goes Over Lowndes Running Back Cedric Jones To Pressure An Eric Thomas Pass, Followed By Jimbo Hancock (99)

Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter, III

LHS, VHS Once Again Pace Offenses

By Times Sports Writer Lowndes is still number one in team passing in region 1-AAAA, and Valdosta maintained the top spot in team rushing.

LHS has a 197-yard passing average per game, or about 50 yards more than the number two team, Tift County (Tifton). VHS dropped a space from fifth to sixth in team passing, while Lowndes progressed one space to ninth in team rushing.

Defensively, Valdosta is still number two against the rush, while Lowndes moved from seventh to sixth. Valdosta moved up four places in pass defense to the number two position. Lowndes remains at number eight.

Individually, Lowndes' Eric Thomas shoved Tift County (Tifton) quarterback Ken Hobby out of the number one slot in passing. Thomas has 42 completions for 18 TDs and 1,093 yards, with a .521

completion average. Hobby, now number two, has nine touchdowns to his credit. Lowndes' Chuck DeVane has a .731 completion average.

VHS' John Bond retained fourth place in the rush with 199 for 741 yards. LHS' Cedric Jones leads the Vikes at seventh, with 581 yards. Jones is also number six in receiving, having 332 yards and six TDs, and number two in punt returns, with 12 for 249 yards. VHS' Irvin Roe is fifth in that respect, with nine returns for 69 yards.

Lowndes' Steve Player went from third to first in pass receiving, with 47 catches good for 736 yards and 12 touchdowns. He replaced Monroes Gary Ellison, who now stands at 32 catches for 572 yards. LHS' Ray Luke is ninth, while Valdosta's Mike Ruff is 13th.

Bearcat Homecoming

Valdosta Daily Times
Oct 24, 1979

VHS To Visit Bainbridge

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

It is getting close to playoff time and much can be learned about how teams are going to perform in those playoffs by play in the final two regular season games.

The first of the final two for the Valdosta Wildcats is a Friday bout with Bainbridge in that southwestern Georgia City.

Bainbridge scored 30 points in a 53-30 loss to Lowndes last Friday. Valdosta scored 14 points in a 14-0 blanking of 1-AAAA (North) foe Monroe (Albany).

The game is a non-subregion affair, but Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder knows the importance of the upcoming game.

"We can't be looking to the playoffs. We have to get ready for Bainbridge," he

said. Bainbridge totalled 360 yards in offense against Lowndes, while Valdosta was totalling 279 in the Monroe game here.

"It's their homecoming," said Hyder. "This is the first time I can ever remember Valdosta being chosen for homecoming. They are going to come after us."

Bainbridge was able to defeat Monroe 24-21 two weeks ago. The Bearcats held Tift County (Tifton) to 27 points in the season opener. Only Valdosta and Thomasville have held Tift to

s. The indications are that Bainbridge sets to stop the run rather than the pass. Valdosta has lived along the ground this season.

"We are not as good a passing team as Lowndes,"

said Hyder. "Lowndes lives by the pass, by their own admission."

"This game is kind of like last week," said Hyder. "They are a tough team with good speed. (Johnny) Harris and Calvin (Close), the Bainbridge running backs, have good toughness and quickness. They are not like (Greg) Pratt of Monroe. He's the best we've faced since William Andrews, who was a one-man show."

Pratt rambled for 178 yards for Monroe last Friday. Andrews led Thomasville High to two consecutive state titles a few years back and is now a member of the Atlanta Falcons of the NFL.

To beef up the VHS passing attack, Hyder plans to use Billy Joe Gordon at tight end some to free regular tight end

Edward Robinson for some wide receiver duty.

Hyder also expressed pleasure with the play of starting split end Keith Mitchell over the past weeks.

Mitchell caught a touchdown pass in the Monroe game and led VHS receivers with 35 yards on two catches. He also caught a touchdown pass in the 13-12 loss to Tift that put Valdosta ahead until a final Tift scoring drive.

The 1-AAAA (North) game with Dougherty (Albany) here in two weeks decides Valdosta's playoff fate.

A win or tie in that game would give VHS second place in the subregion and a playoff berth.



Wildcats Can Hold Their Heads High

Valdosta Daily Times
Oct 7, 1979

When the final statistics were added up, there was little difference between Valdosta and Tift County Friday night.

One final offensive burst meant all the marbles for the Blue Devils from Tifton.

Tift won the high school football game 13-12, but never in defeat had Valdosta supporters reacted so positively to what they saw.

"I had never been congratulated like that before after a loss," said Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder. "The crowd was exceptional."

The reaction Hyder and the Wildcats received was obviously due, as anyone in attendance could plainly see.

The Wildcats played their hearts out.

Their VHS lockerroom was very solemn after the game. Every player seemed to know how close his team had come to knocking off the No. 1 team in the state and in Region 1-AAAA (North).

In contrast, the Blue Devil lockerroom was jubilant in victory. It was the first time since 1967 that Tift had upended mighty Valdosta.

Tift was placed in a situation where it could win with a score late in the game or travel back to Tifton in a silent bus.

The Devils did what they had to do. They moved the ball 78 yards, converting on three third down situations.



Mike
Hagood
Times Sports Editor

A crucial moment occurred with 2:44 left in the contest. Tift found itself in a third down, five to go situation on the Valdosta 33-yard line.

Tift got the yardage on the same play it had run most effectively all night. Tift quarterback Ken Hobby cut off right end, behind the kick-back block of his flanker, Barry

Whitehead.

Hobby's 9-yard carry, left a feeling in the air that something superhuman was going to be necessary to slow the Tift onslaught.

Of the final drive, Tift Coach Gene Brodie said, "I felt like we were going to have to run four downs each time. We weren't going to punt."

As it turned out, no fourth down conversions were necessary.

No team hates to lose more than Valdosta, but there were positive lessons in the defeat.

It was proven that VHS is capable of playing with, what many people consider, the best team in Georgia.

There can be no claim by Tift that it had an off-night. The Blue Devils showed the same strengths exhibited earlier in the year against Lowndes.

Injuries weakened the Wildcats' bodies, but not their spirit. When the bodies repair, some very good things could be in store for the 'Cats.

Those bodies had better heal quickly though. The Lowndes Vikings loom in the future.

On Friday, the Vikes and 'Cats try to discover who has the best team in the area.

This year's VHS-LHS classic has not had the build-up of last year's game, but it is my guess that the 1979 battle will do all the talking for itself.

Valdosta rips Central 34-7

FTU - Sept 21, 1979

THOMASVILLE, Ga. — John Bond threw for two touchdowns and ran for another leading No. 1 ranked Valdosta past Thomasville Central 34-7 here Friday night.

A 13-yard pass from Bond to Pat Mayes put the Wildcats on the board early in the first quarter. Valdosta scored in the second quarter on an 8-yard sweep by Bond.

The Cats then mounted a 10-play drive from the 28 with Mayes, in at quarterback, tossing a 9-yard pass to Keith Mitchell. Central's only score came on the next series, with a 5-yard TD pass from Tim Sherrod to Buddy Rhoden. It was 20-7 at the half.

Valdosta 34
Central 7
V—Mayes, 13 pass from Bond (Gains kick)
V—Bond, 8 run (Gains kick)
V—Mitchell, 9 pass from Mayes (kick failed)
TC—Rhoden, 5 pass from Sherrod (kick good)
V—Ruff, 21 pass from Bond (Bond run)
V—Rowe, 8 run (kick failed)

Go With the WINNERS



"Baze," America's Number 1 High School Coach

Wilson Spell At Martin Stadium Continues

There must be something about the Martin Stadium-Joe Wilson combination that brings the best out in the Lowndes Vikings football team.

Two years ago, Wilson, in his guise of LHS head football coach, brought the county school its first win over Valdosta High, 7-2.

Friday night, Wilson picked up his second win over VHS in his four years at Lowndes, nipping the Wildcats, 15-14.

The game marked the first time since 1974 that Valdosta has lost two games in a row. The 'Cats recorded a 3-7 record in '74, Nick Hyder's first year as the VHS head coach.

Hyder and Wilson coached together at VHS before Wilson accepted the Lowndes job in 1976. They both use the offensive system developed by former VHS coaching great, Wright Bazemore.

Hyder had said earlier in the week that it would be pleasing to defeat someone he knew so well and disappointing to lose.

The loss might have been a bit more than disappointing for Hyder, since his team dominated the game, but not the score.

The Lowndes win marked the second week in a row that the 'Cats had lost a one-point decision to a top Region 1-AAAA foe. One week before, VHS was defeated on a last quarter score by Tift County (Tifton), 13-12.

The win places Lowndes at 6-1 on the year, Valdosta goes to 3. The subregion marks remain the same, 3-0 for Lowndes



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Editor

and 2-1 for Valdosta.

Next Friday, both teams are to be involved in important subregion games.

Lowndes makes the long ride to Bainbridge for a 1-AAAA (South) game and Valdosta hosts Monroe (Albany) at Cleveland Field in 1-AAAA (North) action.

A win for Lowndes would clinch a berth in the region playoffs. A win for Valdosta would put Monroe out of the playoff picture and move the 'Cats one step closer.

Two weeks after Bainbridge, Lowndes must travel to Thomasville. Valdosta plays host to Dougherty (Albany) in

another essential subregion game, that week-end.

That's a look into the future.

Here's my look back at Friday's game.

It was a good one, a pleasure for ardent football fans.

To use an ABC-TV phrase, it had all the color and excitement of high school football.

The Martin turf was decorated with a maroon and silver L in one endzone and a black and gold V in the other.

At midfield, was a Viking emblem.

Bands joined together for the national anthem, preceeded by a thoughtful prayer for the continuance of excellence at both schools.

When play began, all friendship was left behind.

It was the kind of game where a small player with a lot of heart and determination could contend with a bigger foe.

The little guys on both teams made their presence known to the opposition.

But it was the big offensive line of Valdosta that set the tone of the contest. The VHS front wall moved out a smaller Lowndes defense, to help their backs to big nights.

When it came time to cross the goal line, though, those smaller fellows rose to the occasion.

Statistics so often tell the story in the game, but this year's LHS-VHS game was an exception.

Valdosta recorded 32 first-half rushes to seven for Lowndes, with a 170-65 lead in yardage. Still, the scoreboard said 7-7.

One 80-yard run by Cedric Jones and a Jeff Stokes-kick accounted for the Lowndes seven.

The scoring play was a sprint draw.

"We had seen other people run the sprint draw with success against them," said Wilson.

The fourth-quarter score that brought Lowndes to a 14-13 deficit was on a screen pass-play, from quarterback Churck DeVane to Jones.

"We knew they were vulnerable to that the way they were coming on defense," said Wilson "Chuck waited and waited."

Lowndes offensive line coach Mike Pittman said that Valdosta was in a seven-man defensive line on those plays. In past years, the Vikes were unable to handle that defensive set, masterminded by Valdosta Defensive Coordinator Jack Rudolph.

Friday the Vikes "blocked down" and sprung Jones.

It was also "the first time we held their defensive line out long enough for the quarterback to throw," said Pittman.

Before the final score, defensive safety Derrick Mitchell and cornerback Tony Crawford remembered, "The offensive kept saying, 'Hold them one more time. If you hold them we'll win.' That motivated us to do the job."

The pulling together of the guys with the black and silver Plowboys jerseys gave them a win Friday.

That win is to be remembered and forgotten by both teams.

The thrill of being involved in a game with so much local interest is something to savor.

The fact that more big games are down the line for both teams, should mean that the game has to be put in a valued corner of the mind.

Marchin' Cats Ready For Meet

By ELIZABETH BUTLER
Times Staff Writer

Valdosta High School Marching Cats Band members are "super excited" about an upcoming national band contest in Virginia Beach, Va.

One of the bands they'll compete against May 16-18 is Wilson Senior High School from West Lawn, Pa.

"We competed against them in St. Petersburg (Fla.) in 1977," said band director Mike Chapman.

"We were lucky enough to win the field championship down there, but we beat them only by two tenths of a point. So we know they'll have a revenge factor in mind."

The other bands which the Marching Cats will be competing against include East High School in Westchester, Pa., Holy Cross High School in Riverside, N.J., Hurricane High School in Hurricane, W. Va., Plantation High School in Plantation, Fla., Vineland High School in Vineland, N.J., Warren Hills High School in Washington, N.J., and West Hill High School in Syracuse, N.Y.

This is also the first time the Marching Cats have competed in a contest that had concert competition, Chapman said.

The concert band is composed of 70 of the best players in the Valdosta band.

Chapman said this is one of the farthest trips the band has taken. The group has traveled as far as Washington, D.C., and New Orleans, La., for competition.

"The whole trip is costing \$30,000," the director said. "When you move this many people that far, it adds up."

Rest easy, taxpayers. The students either got the \$130 per student out of their own pockets or participated in fund-raising projects to get the money. Chapman said the Band Boosters also kicked in a large portion of the money.

"The Band Boosters has the concession stand at ball games, and the football team did us a big favor by having so many playoffs this year," the director said.

One hundred and sixty-three band members will pile on five Greyhound buses at 5 p.m. May 15 for the about 14-hour trip. Along with them will be about 30 adult chaperons, including Carl Smith of the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office and Billy Green of the Valdosta Police Department.

"These two people plus all of the parents that will be traveling with us and the parents in the Boosters organization who are unable to go all help us in a million different ways and without them we would probably not be able to go," Chapman said.

The director said he was also appreciative of the help of the school administrators.

The group, who is staying at the Colonial Inn Motel there, expects to arrive in Virginia Beach May 16 at 8:30 a.m. in time for breakfast.

A hectic schedule awaits them, including getting up at 6 a.m. each morning. That Wednesday at 11 a.m. they'll undergo full inspection by a judge. The opening ceremony is at 3 p.m., followed by parade competition at 7:30 p.m.

That Thursday's schedule includes symphonic band competition at 2 p.m. Chapman said the symphonic band would be given two pieces of music that the band has never seen before. The members have five minutes to look the music over and then must perform for the judge.

Thursday night's activities are to conclude with a performance by the honor band — Seminole High School band from Seminole, Fla., who won the contest last year.

The highlight of that Friday's activities will be the field competition at 7 p.m., followed by awards for best in parade, best in concert and best in field. Then the grand champion — the band whose combined score of field and concert competition is the highest — is to be announced.



'War Still Out,' Hyder

It Can Be Lonely At Top For Prep Grid Teams

J. Times 10-16-79

By LAWRENCE KILMAN
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) —

Defending Class AAAA state football co-champions Valdosta and Griffin have suffered rough times recently, and their coaches say the pressure to win can be a burden.

"I worry because of the pressure that was put on our 15- and 16-year-old young men who were out doing the best they can do," said Griffin Coach Lloyd Bohannon, whose team lost 14-0 to Morrow and 14-7 to Fayette County before defeating Jonesboro 17-14 last week.

"That's why the win last week was so big. It worries me when adults put that much pressure on teen-agers. Our coaches keep it in perspective, but it's hard for the fans sometimes."

Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder, whose team lost to Thomasville earlier in the year and then suffered consecutive one-point losses to Tift County and Lowndes the last two weeks, agreed the pressure can be intense if fans are used to winning.

"We get some folks who complain and gripe, and there is constant pressure here," Hyder told The Associated Press in a recent telephone interview. "But they really love their team here. We had close to 30,000 people see our last two games, and I don't think anyone else in the state can say that."

Hyder said he combats the pressure by "trying to be fair to the kids." He added, "The fans don't pressure me more

than I pressure myself. I wouldn't take a job like this if I let the people out-pressure me."

Despite the recent setbacks, both Griffin and Valdosta have a chance to reach the post-season playoffs and repeat their state championship seasons. The two teams tied 7-7 in last year's finals, and they would love a rematch.

Valdosta, 4-3 overall and 2-1 in subregion play, must win its two remaining subregion games against Monroe of Albany and Dougherty to reach the region 1AAAA playoffs.

"We were state co-champions last year, and all those people graduated with the exception of four," Hyder said. "But we're still in contention and we can't help but be proud of the job they've done."

Griffin, 5-2, will be assured a region 6AAAA playoff berth if it wins its remaining games against Forest Park, Riverdale and Newton County, and would still have a good chance to win if they lost one of those remaining games. Unlike most regions, where only subregion games count in the standings, all games in Region 6AAAA count.

"We can still control our destiny because we're still atop our subregion," Bohannon said in a telephone interview. "Our football team still feels like we can win, we have a real fine defensive football team. But we're not anywhere near as explosive as people in Griffin are accustomed to seeing."



'Hard On Fans,' Bohannon

VHS, LHS Drop In Stats

By Times Sports Writer

With losses last Friday for Valdosta High and Lowndes High, predictably, the Region 1-AAAA statistics reflect those losses.

Most individual and team stats show a falling off, rather than a rise to the top.

Lowndes lost 28-6 to Tift County (Tifton), while Valdosta lost 9-0 to Thomasville in last week's games.

John Bond of VHS led the rushing stats last week, but dropped to third with 13 yards gained against Thomasville after better than 100-yard nights the two previous weeks.

Ernest King of VHS was third last week, but is now ranked third.

Cedric Jones of Lowndes fell from fifth to eighth with minus four yards against Tift.

Eric Thomas of LHS moved

department, from seventh to sixth, while Bond held in fifth place.

Steve Player of Lowndes moved from 11th to eighth in pass receiving.

James Norton of VHS held his lead in pass interceptions with the same totals as last week, three for 89 yards.

Valdosta held its lead in team rushing and moved from fourth to second in pass defense.

Fourth Quarter Drive Upends Wildcats

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor
"You've got to give Hobby credit on that last scoring drive," said Valdosta High Head Football Coach Nick Hyder after his Wildcats were defeated 13-12 by Tift County (Tifton) here Friday.
"He had the poise he had to do."

YARDSTICK	
First Downs	10 14
Yards Rushing	75 136
Yards Passing	122 63
Passes	9-19 7-22
Passes Incl. By	0 2
Fumbles Lost	1 2
Punting	5-35 7-42.2
Penalties	9-75 5-65

Tift quarterback Ken Hobby engineered a 78-yard, 13 play drive with 5:20 left in the game that brought the Blue Devils back from possible defeat.

Valdosta had moved into the lead 12-7 on a 34-yard scoring pass from quarterback John Bond to split end Keith Mitchell prior to the final Tift drive.

VHS linebacker Anthony Battle rocked Hobby causing a fumble. On the Wildcats' first play after the fumble Bond rolled right and spotted Mitchell past the Tift defensive backfield.

Tift led 7-0 at halftime on an 11-yard drive after a Valdosta fumble. Bond was hit hard coming out of the pocket, and lost the ball setting up the score.

It was the kind of game that has brought Region 1-AAAA proper claim to the best football in Georgia.

The hitting was everything one could expect when the state's No. 1 team battles No. 4.

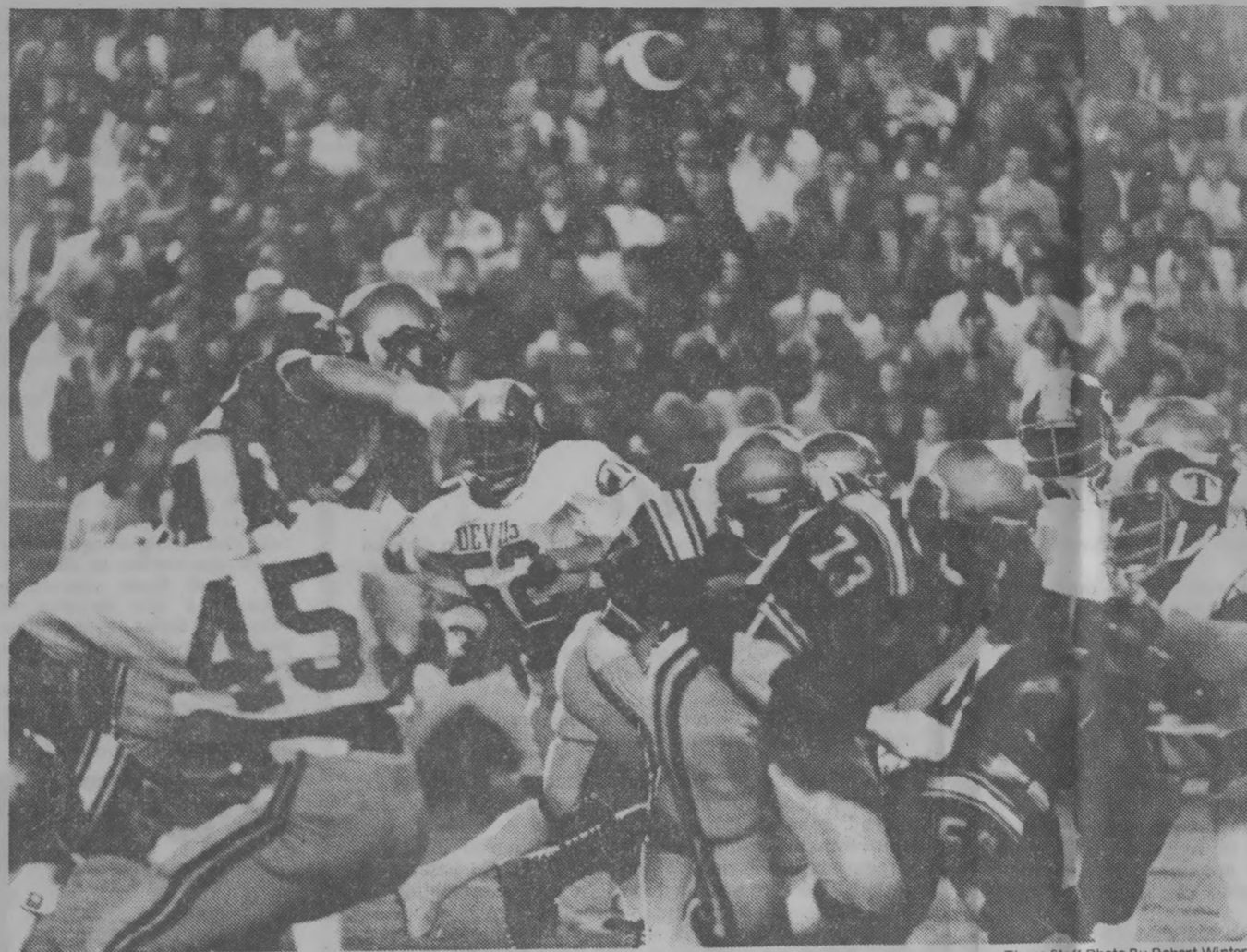
By winning the game, Tift remained in first place in 1-AAAA (North). Valdosta is now in second place.

The Blue Devils stay undefeated with a 6-0 record, 3-0 in the subregion.

Valdosta is 4-2, 2-1 in subregion play.

Next Friday, VHS visits Martin Stadium for a meeting with Lowndes. Tift plays Westover (Albany).

Very few of the 12,500-member capacity crowd at Cleveland Field were seated in the second half Friday. Valdosta apparently did not take kindly to a group of outsiders coming in with the 'Cats' usual first-place



Quarterback John Bond Hurls A Bomb Amid A Pack Of Determined Tift Blue Devils

ranking. Playing with injuries, a patchwork Valdosta group made a proud showing for the black and gold.

Star tackle Tony Blasetti injured a knee in practice and saw little duty. Senior fullback Ernest King played, but with weakness from a bout with the flu and a sore knee from an injury against Albany two weekends ago.

Starting cornerback Buster Scurry was not with the team, leaving last week for disciplinary reasons.

Harvey Carter switched from guard to tackle, filling for Blasetti. One hundred thirty-nine pound David Harrison came in at guard to block the behemoths on the Tift defensive line. Harrison was injured on the

two-point conversion try after the Bond to Mitchell score, but stayed in the game.

Neither team was able to generate much offense in the first half. Most of the offense consisted of end runs by Bond and Hobby.

Valdosta used a new offensive formation on its second series, but Tift was not confused.

A Tift scout had been at VHS practices and knew what was coming, said VHS coach Butch Brooks.

Tift had a tough 11 yards to go for their first half score.

Hobby kept for a first down on a fourth and four situation and then followed left guard for the 1-yard score.

Hobby carried all five plays on the drive. Hobby ran 24 times for 75

yards. No other Tift runner carried more than five times. Bond ran 20 times for 61 yards. No other Valdosta runner carried more than three times.

The Wildcats' first touchdown came with 4:22 remaining in the third quarter.

Hobby passed complete to Curtis Ewing who was crushed by the Valdosta defense, causing a fumble.

The 'Cats took over with 36 yards to travel for six points.

Two offside calls moved Valdosta back ten more yards before an official play was run.

From the 46, Bond passed 17 yards to Welton Frazier coming out of the backfield on first and 20 to go.

Bond then carried for the

first. Four more hard-nosed runs by Bond behind the blocking of King and a rush by Irvin Roe gave the 'Cats six points and new life.

David Parker's extra-point kick was well left, bringing a hush to the then ecstatic crowd.

After the second touchdown, VHS tried for a two-point pass to make up the difference, but Bond was sacked.

Tift came a long way for the winning score.

"Our poise in the last drive is what we've been looking for," said Tift Head Coach Gene Brodie.

Eddie Moore took the kickoff from the six to the 22.



Ken Hobby Leaps Over Fallen Players Picking Up Yardage

Big plays on the drive were plentiful. A 16-yard run by Hobby to Ewing, and a nine-yard run by Hobby on third and five at the VHS 33-yard line, set-up the score. Two more 9-yard runs around end by Hobby and a 10-yard pass from Hobby to Ewing brought a first and goal at the three.

Hobby kept for the six.

About that drive Bond said, "I felt good after their first first down and the second. Then they got the third and fourth and you kind of knew

they were going to score."

Pass Receiving
VHS — Ruff 3-21, Mitchell 2-51, Roe 2-11,
Frazier 1-17, Robinson 1-22;
Tift — C. Ewing 5-55, Whitehead 2-8.

Punt Returns:
VHS — Roe 3-26;
Tift — C. Ewing 4-27.

Kickoff Returns:
VHS — Roe 2-37;
Tift — Moore 1-16, Wilson 1-12.

Defense (Number of Tackles):
VHS — Stokes 7, Hancock 6, Battle 6,
Walton 6, Coates 4, Horton 3, Talm 3, A.
Acree 2, Patterson 2, Dixon 3, Bealy 2,
Davis 2, Carter 2, Jones 2;
Tift — Schafu 7, Corbin 6, Kinchen 5, L.
Ewing 5, Bateman 4, Simmons 4, Tillman 3,
Green 2.

Interception Returns:
Tift — Bateman 1-0, Tillman 1-0.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
VHS	0 0 6 6 12
TIFT	0 7 0 6 13

SCORING	
Tift — Hobby 1 run (Theorio kick);	Valdosta — Bond 2 run (kick failed);
Valdosta — Mitchell 34 pass from Bond	(two-point conversion failed);
Tift — Hobby 3 run (two-point conversion failed).	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing	
VHS — Bond 20-61, King 3-6, Roe 3-5,	Patterson 2-4, Frazier 2-11;
Tift — Hobby 24-75, Hill 5-22, Moore 3-23,	Ferguson 4-8, Atkinson 3-4, Wilson 2-4.
Passing:	
VHS — Bond 9-19-2-122;	Tift — Hobby 7-22-0-63.

★ ★ ★

Quarterbacks, Defense Shine

By Times Sports Writer
Tift County (Tifton) layed sole claim to first place in Region 1-AAAA (North) by defeating Valdosta's Wildcats 13-12 here Friday.

"It was a great football game," said VHS Coach Nick Hyder, accepting fans' thanks for an outstanding effort.

"I hate to lose," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks. "But it doesn't hurt so bad when your kids give 120 percent."

Hyder was downhearted in defeat, but still a gentleman.

He placed blame for the loss on himself. "I didn't make the adjustments I had to make," he said. "That is my job."

Tift Coach Gene Brodie thinks a rematch may be in store in the playoffs later in the year.

"I would like to get that far," he said. "I know Valdosta will be there. I hope we'll be there."

Hyder had all the praise in the world for Tift quarterback Ken Hobby.

"He did an excellent job with what they do best — run him around end. They have two good receivers, frighteningly good receivers," said Hyder.

"Our youngsters were trying their hearts out with our injury situation. We wound up with 10 people out there, after (David) Harrison was hurt on the two-point conversion.

"We did not get organized like we needed to."

"The first half killed us," said Valdosta quarterback John Bond. "We did well in the

second half offensively, but if you don't get it going in the first half it's hard to get it going in the second, it seems."

"One play where the Wildcats did score was a 34-yard pass from Bond to Keith Mitchell.

"About the play, Bond said, "We have been hooking the split end all night. It was not planned. I was just running outside, trying to get the first down and saw him waving at me."

A play that gave Valdosta fits all night was the Hobby roll-out.

VHS linebacker Anthony Battle said, flanker Barry Whitehead blocked down on the defensive end to key the play.

"Number four (Whitehead) would set back and then come down on the end," said Battle. "When I'd pick it up, they had two backs in front of Hobby that I had to fight off."

Houston On Probation, Yeoman Is Reprimanded

HOUSTON (AP) — University of Houston football Coach Bill Yeoman and assistant coach Melvin Brown have been reprimanded by UH President Philip Hoffman after the Cougars were placed on one-year probation for football recruiting

violations. The ruling by the NCAA Committee on Infractions states that the school is banned from post season play this season and from televised games next year. After hearing of the NCAA report Tuesday, Hoffman issued a statement which

said, in part: "The University of Houston reprimands head football coach Bill Yeoman and assistant football coach Melvin Brown for violation (of) their responsibilities in relation to these infractions." Yeoman, who guided the Cougars to a 10-2 record and

Cotton Bowl title last year, spoke tersely in replying. "I don't have any reaction," Yeoman said. "I'm too old to react. Was I surprised? I'm also too old for surprises."

One violation cited by the NCAA said Yeoman, an assistant coach and a representative of UH's athletic interests, were involved in arranging a loan for the mother of a football prospect. The NCAA didn't name the individual. However, the allegations coincide with the published



Scoreboard Philly-LA Box

National at Los Angeles		LOS ANG. ab r h bi	
Angels	0 0 0 0 0	Lopes 2b	5 1 2 1
Playoff Game 1		Russell ss	5 1 0 0
PHILA ab r h bi		Smith rf	4 1 0 0
McBride cf	5 1 2 0	Coy 2b	4 2 4
Bowa ss	5 2 1 0	Garvey 1b	4 0 3 0
Schmidt 3b	5 2 1 1	Baker lf	3 0 1 0
Luzinski lf	3 1 1 2	Burke cf	3 0 0 0
Johnson 1b	4 0 1 2	Monday cf	1 0 0 0
Hutton 1b	1 0 0 0	Yeager c	4 0 0 0
Martin rf	3 0 0 0	John p	1 0 0 0
Jastine rf	1 0 0 0	Grman p	0 0 0 0
McCriv c	3 1 1 0	Lacy ph	1 1 1 0
Edwards	0 0 0 0		
Smore 2b	3 0 0 0	Grote ph	0 0 0 0
Carlton p	2 0 2 1	Sosa p	1 0 0 0
Garber p	0 0 0 0		
Heberg ph	1 0 0 0		
McGrwp	0 0 0 0		
Total	36 7 9 6		
Philadelphia	200 021 002-7 9 0		
Los Angeles	000 010 400-5 9 2		
E—Russell 2 DP	Los Angeles 1 LOB		
Philadelphia 7, Los Angeles 7, HR —	Luzinski 1, Coy 1 SB		
Sizemore	Luzinski, Garvey, S		
	ip h r er bb so		
Carlton	4 2 3 9 5 5 3 3		
Garber W, 1 0	1 1 3 0 0 0 0 2		
McGraw	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		
John	4 2 3 4 4 0 2 2		

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia W L Pct
Los Angeles 0 1 0.000

Game 1
Philadelphia 200 021 002-7 9 0
Los Angeles 000 010 400-5 9 2

Philadelphia (Lomborg 11.4) at Los Angeles (Sutton 14.8), 8:15 p.m.

Friday's Game
Los Angeles (Hooton 12.7) at Philadelphia (Christenson 19.6), 3:15 p.m.

Saturday's Game
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 8:15 p.m., if necessary

Sunday's Game
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 4:15 p.m., if necessary

AMERICAN LEAGUE W L Pct
New York 0 0 0.000
Kansas City 0 0 0.000

Sports In Brief

Reds Eyeing Montefusco?

Lowndes Defeats Valdosta, 15-14

Jones Shines With Two TDs

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

"They dominated the game offensively. They dominated period, but the scoreboard told the story," said Lowndes Head Football Coach Joe Wilson after his Vikings had defeated Valdosta High's Wildcats 15-14 here Friday night in a non-subregion I-AAAAA battle.

Four very big plays spelled 15 Lowndes points. Running 34-7, quarterback Chuck DeVane gave halfback Cedric Jones a screen pass that Jones carried 38 yards for a touchdown.

With 1:11 left in the game, Wilson elected to go for the win with a two-point conversion effort.

Starting quarterback Eric Thomas faded back to pass for the two-point score. He threw to Kevin Stephenson in the end zone, who was unable to catch the ball, as VHS safety Danie Jones was called for defensive pass interference.

The penalty moved the ball one and a half yards closer to the goal line, placing it at the one and a half.

Thomas followed right guard and right tackle with a lunge in the end zone, which gave Lowndes its second win over Valdosta in a 12-year, 13-game series for the two local high schools.

The last time LHS had topped VHS was on the same Martin Stadium turf two seasons ago by a 7-2 score.

The first of the four big plays, in a game with many more outstanding efforts, was an 80-yard run from scrimmage by Jones the first time he touched the ball.

That run gave Lowndes a 7-0 lead in the first quarter on a team that had moved the ball well on two possessions, but had no points on the board.

Valdosta came back immediately to tie the score on an 11-play drive beginning at the Valdosta 19-yard line.

Quarterback Tom Bond carried 30 yards to the VHS 10-yard line. Running back Keith Sampson added the extra-point kick, producing a 7-7 knotted score at the half.

Valdosta opened a lead in the third period with a long drive, passing only once in 11 plays. Bond, who was to be a doubtful starter due to an Achilles tendon tear, carried 11 yards around left end for the score.

Jones' first quarter run on a draw play offset a decided statistical bulge in favor of Valdosta in the first half. The Wildcats had 105 yards more on the ground, 170, and the same amount of passing yardage, 23.

Jones surprisingly was not shocked that he had scored the first time he touched the ball, "I said the junior running score the first time I touched the ball," said the junior running back.

The emotion was so high on Jones' second touchdown that Wilson's mother fainted in the stands, it was reported she was resting well at home later in the evening, Wilson said.

On that day, DeVane came in for Thomas and threw his only pass of the night.

DeVane dropped back and waited for the defensive rush to arrive.

The calvary finally arrived, "I finally finally arrived," said Lowndes Defensive Coordinator Brad Almon at the entrance to the Vikings locker room after his team had defeated Valdosta 15-14 here Friday night.

Head Coach Joe Wilson had said his team was like a wagon train surrounded by Indians, with the calvary nowhere in sight.

"We've got to get ready for in the form of Cedric Jones, Banbridge," said Wilson of next week's game. "This was a good football game, but that balgame Friday night is what we are playing for. That first time you do that, you're going to get beat."

Wilson doesn't really seem to care if his team gets noticed for the first time by the AP Prep Top Ten this week. "The ratings count at the last part of the season," he said.



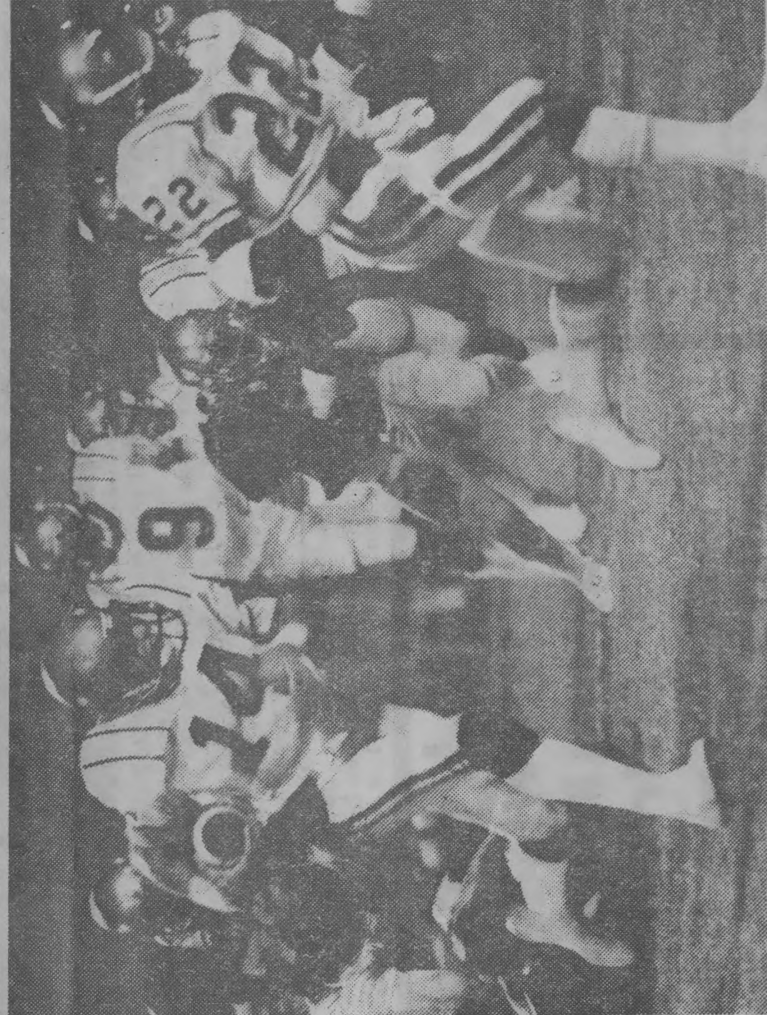
Valdosta Defensive Jimbo Hancock Puts Rushing Pressure On Lowndes' Eric Thomas

develop and found Jones in the left flat behind a wave of Lowndes blockers.

DeVane was hit quite hard above the numbers by a hard-charging Paul Stokes.

As Jones was morking down the sidelines, DeVane was doubled over in pain from the hit by Stokes.

"He hit me pretty hard right on the collarbone where it had broken before, (in summer camp)," said DeVane. "It went dead for a minute. It scared me to death."



Bond Heads For Some Of His 114 Yards Rushing Behind Roe (22)

Wilson Looks Ahead To Subregion Action

By Times Sports Writer

Wilson feels that Jones may be a more noticed player in the future. He rushed only five times, but accounted for 102 yards here Friday.

"In our type of plays, you don't get a lot of yards," said Wilson. "Cedric is of course a super football player. I'm sure he'll show people what he can do with the football when this offensive line matures a little more."

"We've got to get ready for Banbridge," said Wilson of next week's game. "This was a good football game, but that balgame Friday night is what we are playing for. That first time you do that, you're going to get beat."

Wilson doesn't really seem to care if his team gets noticed for the first time by the AP Prep Top Ten this week. "The ratings count at the last part of the season," he said.

Lowndes bench. A reported 12,500 ticketholders saw a game that ranked with any as far as quality of play, pageantry, and psychological buildup.

Players for both sides that were not expected to play did include Bond for Valdosta, Alan Culpepper, Herman Williams and Ray Luke of Lowndes were all "doubtful starters," who played. One "definitely out," Steve Davis of LHS, was also in the game.

In an attempt to gain a psychological edge at game time, Wilson had the Lowndes players don black jerseys with gray numbers and a gray plowboys ensignia on the front.

Wilson got the idea from Notre Dame, which changed from traditional blue to green jerseys before meeting a heavily favored Southern California team a few years ago.

Valdosta's first drive of the game was halted by a Lee Wayser interception, returned from the LHS 16 to the 59-yard line.

VHS drove again on its second possession, but was halted by an offside call in a fourth and half yard situation at the Lowndes 35.

The Wildcats finally found paydirt using the Bond, Irvin Roe and Ernest King running combination.

A possible LHS drive was thwarted on the next series when a Thomas to Steve Player pass was called back by an offensive pass interference call.

Valdosta threatened to score in the second quarter, again missing a field goal. Bond was sacked by Bill Critch, who had a team-high 18 tackles, slowing the onslaught.

The Wildcats scored on their first possession of the second half.

Defense began to play a more important role from that point on.

In the fourth quarter, Valdosta got the ball on a Mark Toth interception. Three plays later, Lowndes defensive end Louie Ferrara cradled a Bond fumble.

Later, the Viking defense stopped Valdosta on three plays after a decisive holding call on the Cats.

Lowndes then got the ball on a Wilson punt, with the DeVane to Joe Wilson interception, returned from the LHS 16 to the 59-yard line.

The ball went over on downs to Lowndes.

DeVane fell to his knees three times on three plays and it was all over.

Ferrera, who played a significant reserve role said after the game, "We ought to go back out there and do it again. I'm a senior and I want to do it again."

VALDOSTA		VHS LHS	
First Downs	18	18	18
Yards Rushing	259	81	81
Yards Passing	371	142	142
First Downs	13	13	13
Yards Rushing	7	11	11
Yards Passing	4	4	4
Penalties	4-0	4-0	4-0
Time of Possession	33:58	26:58	26:58
Interceptions	3	3	3
Fumbles	0	1	1
Blocked	0	1	1
Returned	0	1	1
Scored	0	1	1
Points	0	14	14
Field Goals	0	1	1
Extra Points	0	1	1
Time of Possession	33:58	26:58	26:58
Interceptions	3	3	3
Fumbles	0	1	1
Blocked	0	1	1
Returned	0	1	1
Scored	0	1	1
Points	0	14	14
Field Goals	0	1	1
Extra Points	0	1	1

YARDSTOCK
 VHS LHS
 First Downs 18 18
 Yards Rushing 259 81
 Yards Passing 371 142
 First Downs 13 13
 Yards Rushing 7 11
 Yards Passing 4 4
 Penalties 4-0 4-0
 Time of Possession 33:58 26:58
 Interceptions 3 3
 Fumbles 0 1
 Blocked 0 1
 Returned 0 1
 Scored 0 1
 Points 0 14
 Field Goals 0 1
 Extra Points 0 1

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
 VHS LHS
 Rushing Yards: Jones 114, Roe 14-55, King 20-77, Bond 17-34, Roe 14-55, King 20-77, Bond 17-34, Roe 14-55, King 20-77.
 Passing Yards: DeVane 137, Thomas 116-58, Jones 116-58.
 Points Received: DeVane 14-58, Thomas 116-58, Jones 116-58.
 Punt Returns: Jones 2-16, Thomas 1-13, Jones 2-16, Thomas 1-13.
 Kickoff Returns: Bond 1-16, Jones 1-16, Jones 1-16, Jones 1-16.
 Defensive Statistics: Thomas 11-6-58, Jones 11-6-58, Jones 11-6-58, Jones 11-6-58.
 Interceptions: Jones 3-16, Thomas 3-16, Jones 3-16, Thomas 3-16.
 Fumbles: Jones 1-16, Thomas 1-16, Jones 1-16, Thomas 1-16.
 Blocked: Jones 0-16, Thomas 0-16, Jones 0-16, Thomas 0-16.
 Returned: Jones 0-16, Thomas 0-16, Jones 0-16, Thomas 0-16.

Hyder Credits Jones

By LEE FREEMAN
 Times Sports Writer

The first touchdown came when an Almon punt was intercepted by Cedric Jones. Jones ran for 127 yards on the first drive.

Wilson credits Jones with the key play in the game. "He has great speed," Jones scored again on a 58-yard screen pass from Viking quarterback Chuck DeVane.

Hyder said, "I'm proud of the two-point conversion." Jones made the difference in the game, Hyder said.

"He's a fine athlete, and he had a super night." In essence, Hyder feels that it would have been a whole new game if Cedric Jones had been given the night off.

Wilson said, "Jones deserves credit for a commendable performance, too. Through Valdosta actually accumulated more yardage than we did. We were outplayed on the defensive." Jones' overall record stands at 4-3, but the Cats' mark remains at 2-1. They too mark remains at 2-1. They too mark remains at 2-1.

The Lowndes defense forced some mistakes from the Vikings, particularly that of a Wildcat fumble which Viking Louis Ferrara picked up with 6:29 left in the fourth quarter.

That mistake, Hyder said, was "the turning point in the game. It gave Lowndes the momentum and we never regained any real field position after that."

Other mistakes proved to be costly, too, such as interceptions and various wildcat penalties, but "that's just football," Hyder said.

The Wildcats certainly gave their best to the end. In the last minute of play, they attempted a hurried passing attack in a hurried attempt to retake the lead.

"There wasn't time enough left for a drive, so we decided to throw long," Hyder said. "We were hoping for at least a field goal, but we didn't get it."

And when Lowndes got the ball back, they wisely ran the clock out.

Lowndes' record rises to 6-1 overall with the victory, and the Vikings remain the leaders in the subregion.

Standing in the way of Valdosta's bid for a subregion title is a 1-4-AAA (South) regional battle next week, Valdosta's overall record stands at 4-3, but the Cats' mark remains at 2-1.

They too mark remains at 2-1. They too mark remains at 2-1. They too mark remains at 2-1. They too mark remains at 2-1.

Hyder views the upcoming game as an important one. "Monroe has a fine passing attack, and they're ready to go," he said.

As for the Valdosta-Dougherty subregion match of three weeks hence, Hyder said he'll "worry about when it comes."

Georgia Prep Roundup

By The Associated Press

Chuck DeVane connected with Cedric Jones on a 55-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter to give Lowndes a 15-14 victory over city-rival Valdosta in Georgia High School football action Friday.

A capacity crowd of more than 12,000 jammed Lowndes stadium for the annual match and were treated to the usual intense battle between the two powerful South Georgia teams.

It was Lowndes Coach Joe Wilson's second victory in four attempts against Valdosta.

In other key games Friday, Dublin took the top spot in Region 3AAA with a 6-0 victory over previously undefeated Dodge County. Emanuel County Institute upset previously undefeated Johnson County 3-0; Southwestern Affiliated defeated Northwest Whitfield 15-14 in overtime last night.

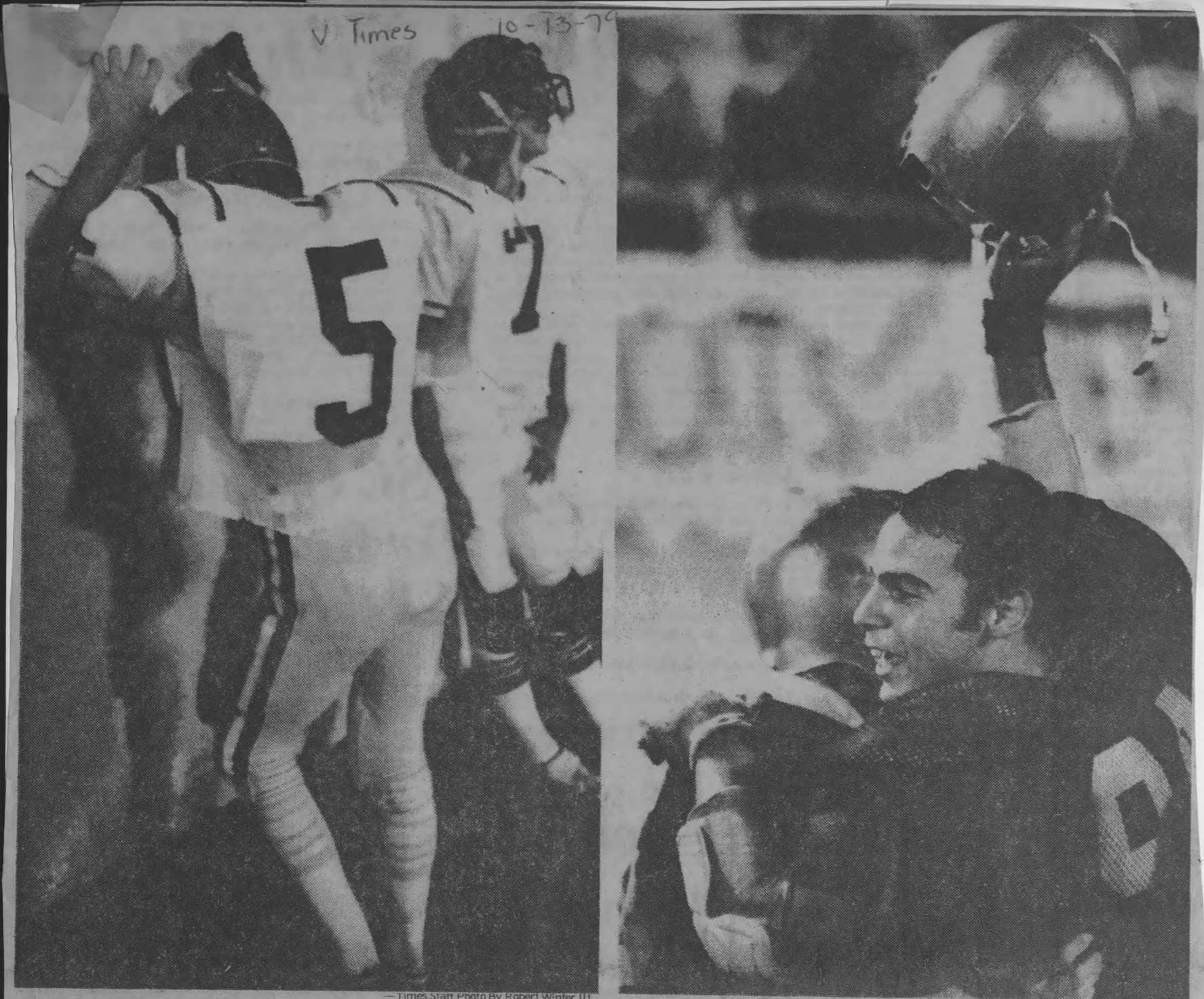
Dougherty defeated Columbus County 20-14; Waycross beat Coweta County 24-14 in a key IAAA matchup; and Commerce beat Jefferson 34-18 in an important subregion 8AA-East game.

Waycross held off a fourth-quarter Camden County rally to notch its seventh victory without a loss this season. Camden, trailing 14-6, was at the Waycross two-yard line when the game ended.

"Our defense had its back to the wall and did a super job keeping them out of the end zone that last series," said Waycross Coach Dale Williams, whose team is ranked No. 1 in Class AAA. "We believe it did us good, to win a big, close game. It might help us down the stretch. We can't enjoy it too much, we have to get ready for Fitzgerald next week."

Camden Coach Ralph Pierce said, "I was real proud of our team's character. We came back from being down 14-0 to a tough loss for us, but Waycross is an excellent football team and Camden's record falls to 5-2."

Jefferson rebounded from last week's loss behind the running of junior running back Ronald Watson to defeat arch-rival Commerce 34-18. The victory ties Jefferson with Commerce, Duluth and Oconee Co. for the lead in subregion 8AA-East.



Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

The Thrill Of Victory, The Agony Of Defeat

It was as advertised. Lowndes County's two outstanding football teams battled tooth and nail for 48 minutes at Martin Stadium Friday night with the Lowndes Vikings using some late game heroics to pull out a pulsating 15-14 victory over Valdosta's Wildcats. These photos tell the story much better

than words ever could. At left, the 'Cats Dale Parker (5) and Ashley DeLoach reflect on the team's second straight one-point loss while across the field the Vikings' Leo Ferrara joins a wild victory celebration. Details of the thriller are in stories on page 7.

Photo Special To The Times

'Cats Win, Eagles Lose Thursday

By Times Sports Writer
Valdosta High's ninth grade football team won its first ballgame of the season 20-0 while the Lowndes Junior High ninth graders dropped their opener by an identical score.
Bob Bolton's Wildcats topped Roger Powers' Hahira Junior High ninth grade squad at VHS. Lindy Evans' Eagles of Lowndes Junior were beaten on the road by Bainbridge.
For VHS, Parnell Bee raced 22 yards for the first touchdown. Ronnie Bell hauled in a 40-yard pass from Herbert Lowe for another and Joe Trapp sped 65 yards for the final tally.
Bolton said his club stayed mainly to the ground, amassing more than 200 yards rushing.
Lowndes suffered the loss of its starting quarterback Phillip Bickery to an injury. He was the eighth starter missing from the lineup, in a year plagued by injuries.
A screen pass was intercepted by a Bainbridge player for a 70-yard score, opening the Eagles woes. One another play, Evans said a Bainbridge running back fell to his knees catching a pitchout, but the officials didn't see it that way and the back went 50 yards untouched for a touchdown. The other Bainbridge score came on an 8-yard run.
Thursday, Lowndes hosts Moultrie. Hahira visits Bainbridge and Valdosta travels to Thomasville. All games start at 4:30 p.m.

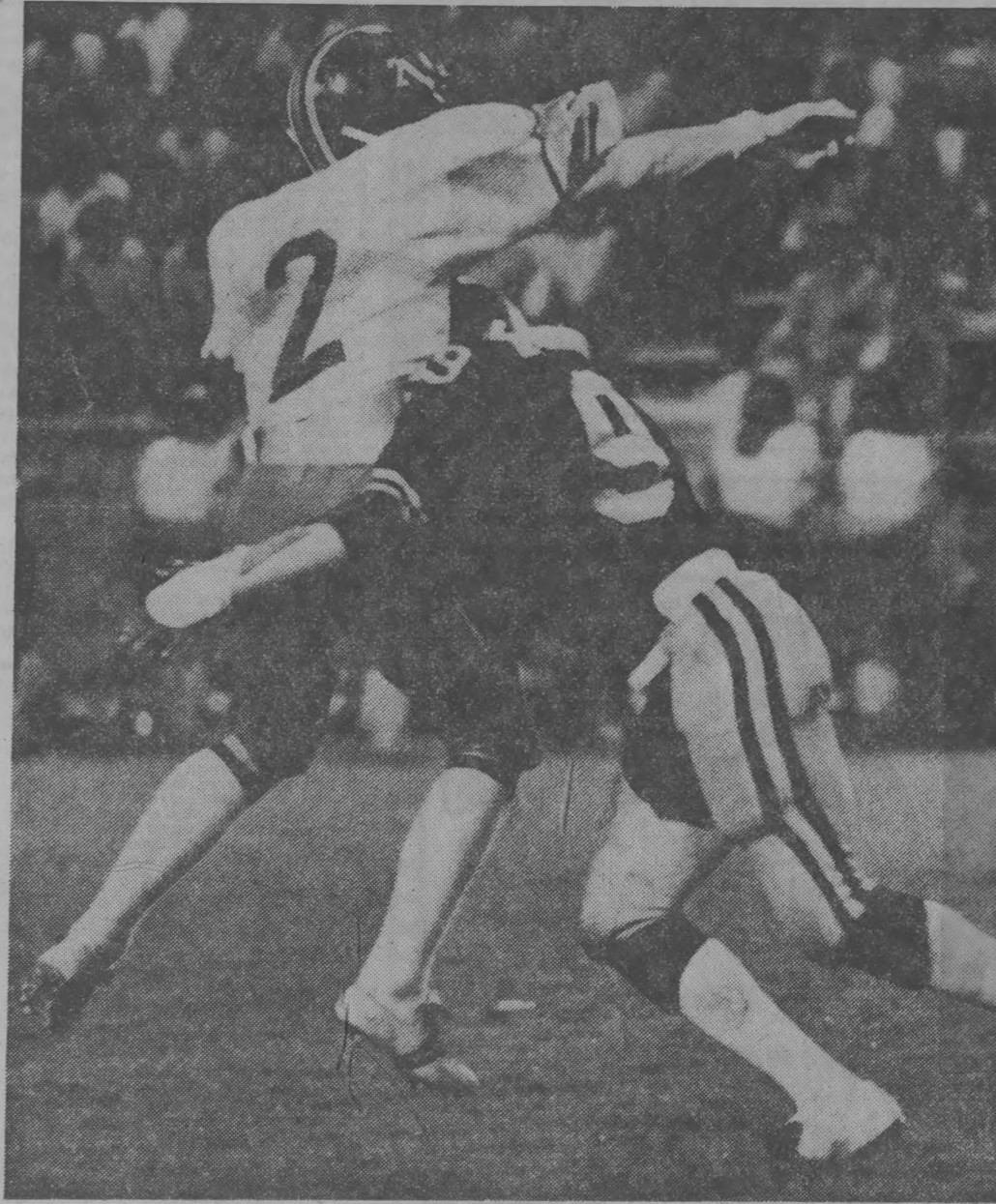
VHS Defense Shines In Romp Over Pack

By MARTIN REGISTER
Times Staff Writer
Valdosta's opportunistic Wildcats capitalized on crucial fourth down mistakes by Colquitt County and went on to throttle the Packers, 28-0, in a high school football game here Friday night.
Wildcat quarterback John Bond battered the Packer defense for 155 rushing yards and passed for 111 more as Head Coach Nick Hyder's 'Cats improved their record to 4-1.

YARDSTICK

	Colquitt	Valdosta
First Downs	5	19
Yards Rushing	62	238
Yards Passing	77	111
Passes	5-14	9-23
Passes Inct. By	0	2
Fumbles Lost	4	1
Punting	8-39	5-32
Penalties	3-35	4-26

Bond, however, was the only player on the field who piled up impressive statistics in a game which was controlled mainly by defense.
The most commanding defense belonged to Valdosta, which shut down the dangerous passing game of the Pack and allowed talented receiver Jamie Wisham just one reception for six yards.
Valdosta finished with 350 yards in total offense, but its offense was less than impressive with its first three backs, Ernest King, Welton Frazier and Carl Wilcox, out with knee injuries.
Colquitt County, from Moultrie, just couldn't seem to generate anything against the smothering tide of Wildcat defenders, led by senior captain Jimbo Hancock's eight tackles.
For three quarters, most of the excitement at Cleveland Field here was generated by a horde of moths which descended on the lighted field shortly after nightfall.
Bond broke away on the Wildcats' first drive, crashing through the Packer line, then outdistancing three Colquitt defenders in a 62-yard scoring run.
After Keith Sampson's PAT kick, the Wildcats led 7-0. Valdosta nursed that lead for almost three quarters, before mistakes began to catch up with the fumble-fisted Pack.
Colquitt mounted its deepest thrust into Wildcat territory early in the second quarter, when quarterback Greg Robinson clicked on two pass plays to Tony Barber and the Packers moved inside the Valdosta 30-yard line.
But a Robinson aerial intended for Wisham, who was circling near the goal line, was picked off by James Hardison on the Wildcat three-yard line.
After that it was all Valdosta, what there was of it.
The VHS defense continually came up with the big play, but several times the Packers did themselves in, with dropped passes and



Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

Colquitt QB Greg Robinson Is Crunched By Jimbo Hancock

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

'Cats bottled up through much of the first half and was largely responsible for the Packers still being in contention as the contest entered its final quarter.

Ronald Patterson took up some of the slack for Valdosta's injured backs, finishing with 44 rushing yards in seven carries.

Hyder had praise for the VHS defense and said he felt the offense played well considering its first three running backs were sidelined.

"We had to fight for it," he said. "But I thought Coach (Butch) Brooks did an excellent job of calling plays. Our kids punched out a little yardage. And I felt like our defense really did a great job."

"We just couldn't run the option," understated Colquitt Head Coach Bob Griffith of his now 2-3 Packers, who had won two straight games before Friday night.

It Can Be Lonely At Top For Prep Grid Teams

By LAWRENCE KILMAN
Associated Press Writer
ATLANTA (AP) — Defending Class AAAA state football co-champions Valdosta and Griffin have suffered rough times recently, and their coaches say the pressure to win can be a burden.
"I worry because of the pressure that was put on our 15- and 16-year-old young men who were out doing the best they can do," said Griffin Coach Lloyd Bohannon, whose team lost 14-0 to Morrow and 14-7 to Fayette County before defeating Jonesboro 17-14 last week.
"That's why the win last week was so big. It worries me when adults put that much pressure on teen-agers. Our coaches keep it in perspective, but it's hard for the fans sometimes."
Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder, whose team lost to Thomasville earlier in the year and then suffered consecutive one-point losses to Tift County and Lowndes the last two weeks, agreed the pressure can be intense if fans are used to winning.
"We get some folks who complain and gripe, and there is constant pressure here," Hyder told The Associated Press in a recent telephone interview. "But they really love their team here. We had close to 30,000 people see our last two games, and I don't think anyone else in the state can say that."
Hyder said he combats the pressure by "trying to be fair to the kids." He added, "The fans don't pressure me more

than I pressure myself. I wouldn't take a job like this if I let the people out-pressure me."
Despite the recent setbacks, both Griffin and Valdosta have a chance to reach the post-season playoffs and repeat their state championship seasons. The two teams tied 7-7 in last year's finals, and they would love a rematch.
Valdosta, 4-3 overall and 2-1 in subregion play, must win its two remaining subregion games against Monroe of Albany and Dougherty to reach the region 1AAAA playoffs.
"We were state co-champions last year, and all those people graduated with the exception of four," Hyder said. "But we're still in contention and we can't help but be proud of the job they've done."
Griffin, 5-2, will be assured a region 6AAAA playoff berth if it wins its remaining games against Forest Park, Riverdale and Newton County, and would still have a good chance to win if they lost one of those remaining games. Unlike most regions, where only subregion games count in the standings, all games in Region 6AAAA count.
"We can still control our destiny because we're still atop our subregion," Bohannon said in a telephone interview. "Our football team still feels like we can win, we have a real fine defensive football team. But we're not anywhere near as explosive as people in Griffin are accustomed to seeing."



Times Staff Photo

'War Still Out,' Hyder

Valdosta Hosts Crisp County

By Times Sports Writer
Valdosta hosts Crisp County (Cordele) tonight at Cleveland Field, highlighting 1-AAAA action. In another 1-AAAA (North) subregion game, Dougherty (Albany) plays Monroe (Albany).
Friday night Thomasville and Tift County (Tifton) were big winners in subregion openers. Thomasville of 1-AAAA (South) swamped host Westover (Albany), 54-0. Tift slammed visiting Albany 40-7 in a 1-AAAA (North) game.
Lowndes came back from a 15-0 halftime deficit to defeat visiting Colquitt County (Moultrie), 35-22 in the 1-AAAA (South) opener for both teams.
Bainbridge clipped Central of Thomasville 28-14 in another 1-AAAA (South) game.
Johnny Kavouklis scored three touchdowns for Thomasville, on runs of 31 and 44 yards and on a 44-yard pass from Johnny Chastain. The Bulldogs picked up 361 yards

in total offense for their night's work.
Tift led Albany by a 17-0 count at halftime on 3-yard and 1-yard touchdown runs by quarterback Ken Hobby and a 20-yard field goal by Carlos Tenario.
In the second half, Hobby threw 14 yards to Rickey Holt for a score, Barry Whitehead passed for a 42-yard touchdown to Curtis Ewing. Hobby ran three yards for a tally and Tenario kicked a 35-yard field goal.
Four different players scored for Bainbridge. Marcus Close returned the second half kick off 91 yards for a touchdown and wine Smiley ran for a 35-yard score, topping the Bearcats' effort.
The Valdosta-Crisp game here tonight looks to be a gem from all indications.
Crisp won its opener 46-0 over Westover (Albany) and Valdosta halted Central 34-7 in a banner night for quarterback John Bond.
Both squads feature returning backfields from last season and young defenses.

VHS, LHS Play Tonight

By Times Sports Writer
The Lowndes Vikings host the Crisp (Cordele) Cougars at Martin Stadium Friday, while Valdosta travels to Bainbridge to do battle with the Bearcats. Both games are non-subregion contests.
In other area football action Friday, Waveross hosts Cook (Adele), and Cairo hosts the Trojans of Brooks County (Quitman). Berrien (Nashville) welcomes Camden County (St. Mary's), while Patterson visits Clinch County (Homerville).
Madison, Fla., travels to Port St. Joe, Fla., and Hamilton (Jasper) hosts Lake Butler, Fla. Westbrook (Dixie) takes on Riverview (Albany) at home, and Wesley Christian visits Gilead Christian (Macon). Bacon County (Alma) hosts Atkinson County (Pearson).

'Cats Bond Paces Region Rushing Stars

By ELLWOOD MOYER
Region Statistician
Valdosta High's John Bond is the leading ground-gainer in Region 1-AAAA after a 156-yard performance against Central of Thomasville last Friday.

Only one other region back, Lionel James of Dougherty (Albany), picked up more than 100 yards in Friday's and Saturday's league openers. James managed 125 yards in a 14-13 loss to Thomasville Saturday.

Bond's running and passing keyed a 34-7 victory for the Wildcats at Central.

The 'Cats senior signal caller stands as the sixth most productive passer in the league with 90 yards on eight completions.

Johnny Chastain of Thomasville leads the pigskin throwers with a 211-yard game against Dougherty.

Eric Thomas of Lowndes rates fourth in the passing

stats after picking up 98 yards through the air in a 29-0 win over Albany.

Cedric Jones of Lowndes is the leading punt returner in the region. His 135 yards against Albany far outdistances the No. 2 man, Bernard Acree of Colquitt County (Moultrie), who gained 34 yards in a loss to Monroe (Albany).

Jones' teammate Jeff Stokes stands as the top 1-AAAA punter with a 39-yard average.

The running of Bond and his Wildcat cohorts placed VHS as the leading rushing team in the league. The 'Cats 326 yards on the ground against Central stands 77 yards ahead of second-rated Tift County (Tifton). The Wildcats also rate as the No. 2 passing team, behind Thomasville.

Lowndes racked up in the defensive ratings with first-place standings in both

defense against the pass and defense against the rush. The Lowndes offense in sixth in passing and 11th in the running department.

VHS To Visit Bainbridge

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

It is getting close to playoff time and much can be learned about how teams are going to perform in those playoffs by play in the final two regular season games.

The first of the final two for the Valdosta Wildcats is a Friday bout with Bainbridge in that southwestern Georgia City.

Bainbridge scored 30 points in a 53-30 loss to Lowndes last Friday. Valdosta scored 14 points in a 14-0 blanking of 1-AAAA (North) foe Monroe (Albany).

The game is a non-subregion affair, but Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder knows the importance of the upcoming game.

"We can't be looking to the playoffs. We have to get ready for Bainbridge," he

said. Bainbridge totaled 360 yards in offense against Lowndes, while Valdosta was totalling 279 in the Monroe game here.

"It's their homecoming," said Hyder. "This is the first time I can ever remember Valdosta being chosen for homecoming. They are going to come after us."

Bainbridge was able to defeat Monroe 24-21 two weeks ago. The Bearcats held Tift County (Tifton) to 27 points in the season opener. Only Valdosta and Thomasville have held Tift to 27.

The indications are that Bainbridge sets to stop the run rather than the pass. Valdosta has lived along the ground this season.

"We are not as good a passing team as Lowndes,"

said Hyder. "Lowndes lives by the pass, by their own admission."

"This game is kind of like last week," said Hyder. "They are a tough team with good speed. (Johnny) Harris and Calvin (Close), the Bainbridge running backs, have good toughness and quickness. They are not like (Greg) Pratt of Monroe. He's the best we've faced since William Andrews, who was a one-man show."

Pratt rambled for 178 yards for Monroe last Friday. Andrews led Thomasville High to two consecutive state titles a few years back and is now a member of the Atlanta Falcons of the NFL.

To beef up the VHS passing attack, Hyder plans to use Billy Joe Gordon at tight end some to free regular tight end

Edward Robinson for some wide receiver duty.

Hyder also expressed pleasure with the play of starting split end Keith Mitchell over the past weeks.

Mitchell caught a touchdown pass in the Monroe game and led VHS receivers with 35 yards on two catches. He also caught a touchdown pass in the 13-12 loss to Tift that put Valdosta ahead until a final Tift scoring drive.

The 1-AAAA (North) game with Dougherty (Albany) here in two weeks decides Valdosta's playoff fate.

A win or tie in that game would give VHS second place in the subregion and a playoff berth.

Hyder Has Eye On Thomasville

By The Associated Press
Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder could still hear the cheers after his Wildcats beat Crisp County 36-9, but he was already looking ahead to next weekend's high school football clash with the Thomasville Bulldogs.

"The offense strikes like lightning," Hyder said about Thomasville, the team Valdosta beat 12-7 to win the Region 1AAAA championship last season. "They've been sitting over there dreaming about the 'Cats. It will be another 'Cat and 'Dog fight."

Valdosta, ranked No. 1 in the Associated Press Class AAAA Georgia high school football poll, tuned up for the meeting with Thomasville by rushing for 366 yards against Crisp County on Saturday.

"They set to stop our passing attack. We beat them last year by throwing the ball," Hyder said, adding, "We'd rather run than throw."

Halfback Ernest King rushed for 173 yards and three touchdowns on 23 attempts Saturday, and quarterback John Bond

rushed for 123 yards on 24 attempts.

In other key games Saturday, Monroe of Albany upset Dougherty 35-28, Stone Mountain beat Stockbridge 47-0, Columbus beat Phenix City Central 21-7, Jenkins defeated Savannah 22-21 in overtime, Benedictine beat Groves 21-14, Peachtree rolled over Clarkston 28-3 and North Clayton beat Riverdale 13-0.

First year Coach Willie Thomas, who came to Monroe from Florida, already has people in Albany talking as Monroe upset perennial region 1AAAA powerhouse Dougherty on Saturday. Monroe has won five games in the last two years, while Dougherty was region champ three years ago, 8-2 two years ago and 6-4 last year.

Monroe rolled up more than 500 yards total offense against the Trojans - 253 on the ground and 249 in the air.

A Winning Program

Like its football team, Valdosta High School has put together a winning game program for each of the Wildcats five home games this year. Parts of the program, which will be sold for \$1, will change for each game. Each cover is to be different, featuring one of the 'Cats state championship years. Inside will be information on that year's champion

as well as other stories and pictures about Valdosta High football. This week's program, held here by VHS Coach Nick Hyder, brings back the 1947 champs headed by the passing combination of Billy Grant to Sonny Stephenson. Succeeding programs are to honor the 1952, 1962, 1969 and 1971 champions. — Times Staff Photo.

the 'Cats scenic spot. The Lowndes High Vikings opt for the air-conditioned comfort and lighted field of Hahira Junior High. The 'Cats cool off with a few fans in the corners of their cabins.

Some of the other area schools have live-in camps. Cook (Adel) travels to Statesboro and Clinch County (Homerville) meets in Fargo.

Westbrook (Dixie) invites teams down to their school to stay and see Dixie.

The activities at the camps tend to be similar. The tasks are basically the same, building an offense and developing a defense.

Most teams have two practices a day. The Vikings are an exception, cramming three sessions into a day.

When one week of drills is completed, a young man often questions if he has what it takes to finish the second week. Overcoming such doubts are how good football players are made.

They "Get up after you've been knocked down" attitude carries a player a long way once the season begins.

When a player finally hangs up the cleats after the final game, as tough as the games were, the time he remembers giving the most of himself was summer camp. That is the way it has always been and the way it will always be.

Lowndes, Valdosta To Win 1-AAAA Game

The season is getting to the point where every game is an important one.

This week marks a return to subregion action for Valdosta High and Lowndes High. Wins in Friday's games are just about essential to forgoing be in good standing when the 1-AAAA playoffs get underway in November.

Last week Hagood the Unknown picked up in the prediction column with a 16-4 record.

With the combined efforts of several revered journalists and myself this column now has an overall record of 77-29 or 73 percent.

LOWNDES AT BAINBRIDGE

The Vikings are to make the long trek to Bainbridge for a game with the up and down Bearcats.

Bainbridge has given almost everybody a tough game, but has come up short in the win column. That is the kind of team that is usually hungry this time of the season.

Lowndes had better be ready or else Viking stew might be the main course at a Bearcat feast.

Coming off a victory over Valdosta two years ago, Lowndes dropped an important game to Crisp County (Cordele).

Most likely, the senior Vikings remember that and will pass



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Editor

along a little elderly advice, to the newer players.

The offense gears up and the defense gets the job done ... Lowndes, 27-14.

MONROE AT VALDOSTA

Valdosta should come back with a vengeance after last week's

15-14 loss to Lowndes. Monroe always puts an interesting team on the field. This year's team appears to be good as well as interesting.

The Wildcat offense should move into high gear to the tune of ... 28-14.

WORTH AT BROOKS

Ware County (Waycross) surprised me by defeating Worth (Sylvester) last Friday. Another upset is not in the cards this week ... Worth, 27-8.

BERRIEN AT APPLING

It is time for Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) to get back into the win column after three weeks on the ropes.

Appling (Baxley) should be easy pickings for the Rebels ... Berrien, 21-0.

CLINCH AT GREENVILLE, FLA.

Those Panthers keep rolling along and Greenville is not team enough to stop the Homerville bunch.

Donald Tison gets win number seven in a shutout ... Clinch, 28-0.

MADISON, FLA. ATHAVANA, FLA.

Fidel Castro couldn't keep the Cougars from joverrunning Havana.

Frank Yanossy has a much improved ballclub, improved

enough to warrant a score like ... Madison, 17-6.

COOK AT CAMDEN

The Hornets from Adel have enjoyed Coach Bud Willis' 100th victory this week.

Victory 101 would be more precious to Willis if it came over Camden County (St. Mary's).

That sounds like a more of a task than is reasonable to ask, ... Camden 21-14.

HAMILTON, FLA. AT NEWBERRY, FLA.

Hamilton County (Jasper) found home a nice place to be last Friday. Now the Trojans must see how friendly the folks in Newberry can be.

Newberry shows its hospitality ... Hamilton, 24-12.

OTHER GAMES

In 1-AAAA Tift (Tifton) bombs Dougherty (Albany), Crisp (Cordele) rakes Albany, Central (Thomasville) outdoes Westover (Albany) and Thomasville beats Colquitt (Moultrie).

Also, Charlton (Folkston) defeats Bacon (Alma), Waycross stops Fitzgerald, Coffee (Douglas) trims Early (Blakely), Bryan (Pembroke) takes Patterson and Warner Robins upends Central of Macon.

Locally, Westbrook tops Brookwood, Wesley Christian falls to Cochran Field and Jeff Davis trims Atkinson County.

Bainbridge, Crisp To Test VHS, LHS

It looks like many of the area teams are going to have upward battles this week.

In Region 1-AAA, Brooks County (Quitman), Cook (Adel) and Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) all play powerhouses.

Madison, Fla., has to make a long drive to Port St. Joe, Fla., and then look for its first win in the last four ballgames.

Here in Valdosta, a very capable Crisp County (Cordele) team is to motor down Interstate 75 with an upset of Lowndes in mind.

Valdosta takes on a Bainbridge team that has nothing to lose in their homecoming game.

Some of the other teams may have it a little easier. Last week, Hagood the Unknown was 15-5 in his attempt to forecast 20 prep games. That is good (or not so good) for a 75 percent rating. This column now boasts a meek 92-34 record for a percentage of 73, up one percent from last week.

VALDOSTA AT BAINBRIDGE

I have a sneaking suspicion that this is the week that Valdosta gets its offense untracked.

The only problem is that Bainbridge is capable of unleashing quite an offense itself.

The Bearcats' 30-point effort in a loss to Lowndes last week was the second highest total the Vikings have allowed this year. Dougherty (Albany) scored 34 against the Vikes earlier in the year.

Bainbridge appears vulnerable to the pass and has a young defensive line. That young line should grow up a lot against the Cats offensive front. Keith Mitchell is a receiver that should



poke holes in the B'cats pass defense. John Bond cranks up his passing arm.....Valdosta 21-7.

CRISP AT LOWNDES

It is the Vikings' homecoming night. All those homecomers and a will to move into the state top ten should be enough to get Lowndes by.

Crisp has enough to test any defense when it puts tailback Eddie Ford on the field. Ford is worth the price of a ticket alone.

The only problem for the Cougars is that Lowndes has more than one player of that caliber.

Cedric Jones seems to put it all together on the Martin Stadium turf. Steve Player catches passes in the stadium, on the way to the stadium and on the way home.

Chuck DeVane gets his first start at quarterback, while Eric Thomas gets to catch a few for a change.

Something tells me it is going to be a close game, though....Lowndes, 21-17.

COOK AT WAYCROSS

Waycross is the top-ranked team in AAA circles. The Bulldogs have proven their mettle with wins over the top teams in 1-AAA.

Cook is not ready to challenge in Waycross....Waycross, 33-7.

BROOKS AT CAIRO

Cairo is a quality ballclub, not quite the caliber of a Waycross, but still quite good.

Brooks is going to win one before the year is over, but not this week....Cairo, 27-12.

CAMDEN AT BERRIEN

This would be a major upset, so major that the "unknowing one" couldn't pick this one....Camden, 35-7.

PATTERSON AT CLINCH

It looks to be tooth and nail time in Homerville tonight. Patterson should scratch and claw Barber's Bruisers, but are unable to find the goal line often enough....Clinch, 21-14.

MADISON AT PORT ST. JOE

Cougar Coach Frank Yanosky said he plans to take his Cougars on this long drive early enough to give them time to

stretch their legs before the game. That walk should help, though not enough....Port St. Joe, 14-13.

LAKE BUTLER AT HAMILTON

These two Florida schools are playing for pride now. As Hamilton County (Jasper) Coach Coy Whitener said, "We lost the wrong games."

The loss to district-leading Greenville, just about put the Trojans out of the race. Lake Butler is winless for the year. Lake Butler stays winless....Hamilton, 33-7.

RIVERVIEW AT WESTBROOK

Buddy Ethridges' Dixie Cougars are going to win the state championship.

Far be it for Riverview (Albany) to beat the upcoming state champ....Westbrook, 28-12.

WESLEY CHRISTIAN AT GILEAD CHRISTIAN

Gilead (Macon) has the experience on Gene DeLoach's boys....Gilead, 24-12.

ATKINSON AT BACON

Bacon County (Alma) has shown signs of having a fine team on various weekends this season. The Red Raiders should have more than the Rebels can handle....Bacon, 22-7.

OTHER GAMES

Dougherty should trounce Westover, Thomasville has a tough time but defeats Monroe, Tift takes Colquitt and Central of Thomasville stops Albany Saturday night. Also, Charlton defeats University Christian, Fla., Jeff Davis tops Irwin, Coffee upsets Worth, Turner takes Macon County and Clarke Central trims Stephens County.

LHS Tops Region Scoring, VHS Paces Point Defense

By Times Sports Writer

The results of the 1979 offensive and defensive performances for Region 1-AAA football show that Lowndes had the top scoring offense and Valdosta was number one in scoring defense. Tift County (Tifton) had the second best offense and the second best defense overall.

Tabulations further show that the Vikings led the Southern Division to a total of 1,272 points compared to 1,248 points for the Northern Division.

Lowndes amassed a total of 330 points to lead the region offensively, and to set a new team record.

Second in points scored was Tift with 301 points. Colquitt placed third with 254 points, the most for the Packers since the 1972 team went 10-0

and scored 374 points.

Valdosta came in fourth with 243 points and Dougherty placed fifth with 238 points. Sixth in total points scored was Thomasville with 219, followed by Central's total of 210 points.

Monroe scored 203 points this season — the most Monroe has scored since the 1969 team scored 232 points in only nine games. Close behind Monroe was Bainbridge with 202 points, and Crisp totaled 171 points to tie their 1977 team total which is their best since coming into the region in 1970.

Albany managed a meager 92 points and Westover loped in last with 57 points.

The region defensive leader was Valdosta and the Wildcats allowed only 81

points, to lead the Northern Division over the Southern Division 1,054-1,466. By allowing only 107 points for their opponents, Tift ranked second in defense, and Thomasville came in third, allowing just 110 points.

Behind Thomasville followed Monroe with 168 scored against them, and Lowndes who allowed 169. Crisp was the sixth leading defense allowing 191, and Colquitt followed with 223 against them.

Dougherty allowed as many points scored against them as they scored — 238, a new high for the Trojans since 1967 when they gave up 288 points and went 0-1. Bainbridge allowed 252. Central gave up 261. Albany allowed 269 and Westover gave up a whopping 451.

Football, Baseball All-Stars

Area Players Prep For Action

By MIKE HAGOOD

Times Sports Writer

Several area athletes are to take part in Georgia High School All-Star football and basketball games in Atlanta Wednesday and Thursday.

John Lastinger and Troy Thomas of Valdosta High and Ronnie Adkins of Lowndes High are members of the South's football squad. Rhonda Rowell of Lowndes and Rose Smith of Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) are on the South girls' basketball team. Charley Mackey of Berrien is a member of the South boys' basketball team. Ken Weeks of Berrien is the South girls' basketball coach.

The all-star basketball games are set for Wednesday at Georgia Tech's Alexander Memorial Coliseum, with the girls' game at 6:30 p.m. and the boys' game at 8:30 p.m. The gridiron clash is scheduled for 8 p.m. Thursday at DeKalb Memorial Stadium with WAGA-TV, channel-five, covering the contest live.

Other athletes of note on the South's teams are Guy McIntyre and Dwight Wilson

of Thomasville, Walt Garard of Charlton County (Folkston), Tim Case of Tift County (Tifton) and Charles Junior of Waycross in football. Bainbridge's LeAnn Harrell, a recent signee to Valdosta State College, is on the girls' basketball team.

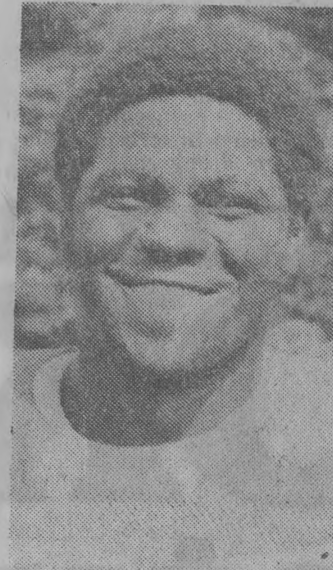
Twenty-five of the 30 football players on each squad were chosen by region winners from all Georgia High School Association classifications. The remaining five slots on each squad were chosen by the head coaches. Ten of 12 slots on each girls' and boys' basketball team were picked in similar fashion to the football selections, with head coaches choosing the remaining two players per team.

Besides Weeks in the coaching ranks are to be Dewey Alverson, formerly of Southwest DeKalb and presently of Johnson High (Gainesville, Ga.), who is the North's head football coach. Larry Campbell of Lincoln County (Lincolnton) is the South's head football coach. Weeks' coaching opponent



TROY THOMAS
Valdosta Cornerback

in the girls' game is Jane Williamson of Haralson county (Tallapoosa). Ron Riley of Dublin and Chuck Miller of Cartersville are to coach the South and North boys' basketball squads respectively.



RONNIE ADKINS
Lowndes Linebacker

Proceeds from the games are to benefit the Leukemia Society.

The games are produced by the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association of which Nick Hyder of Valdosta High is the incoming president. Hyder



JOHN LASTINGER
Wildcat Quarterback

has been vice president of the association in past years and is director of publicity and all-star games coordinator for this year's contests. Football players compete for most valuable offensive and most valuable defensive

awards. Boys' basketball players compete for one on one, slam dunk and MVP awards. Girls' basketball players compete for MVP and one on one awards. A scholarship award is given, also.

Billy Berrien of VHS was the offensive MVP winner, along with Jeff Pyburn in the 1976 contest.

Two public service awards are presented yearly. One is the Dwight Keith Award, pointed toward a coach has contributed to service and sportsmanship, along with an outstanding coaching record.

The Sam Burke Award is given for contributions to high school athletics in Georgia.

This year's Dwight Keith winner is Graham Hixon, Head Football Coach at Woodward Academy in Atlanta. Dr. Fred Allman, founder of the Sports Medicine Clinic in Atlanta, is the Sam Burke winner.

Former Valdosta High football coach Wright Bazemore was a Burke Award winner in 1978.

The National Football League kicked off its exhibition season last weekend and the college and high school campaigns are not too far behind. On the local scene, Valdosta High's Nick Hyder and Lowndes' Joe Wilson have sent their Wildcat and Viking gridders through two-week and one-week sessions respectively.

"We've been stressing conditioning," Hyder said. "The lads' habits were heading in different directions during the summer. Now, we're attempting to become organized and get them in the proper mental frame for camp."

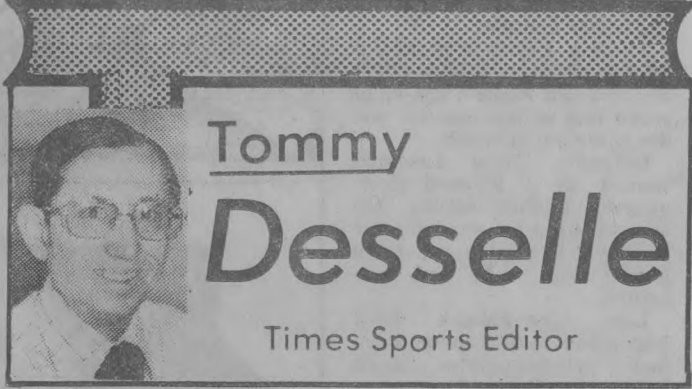
VHS leaves for its annual two-week session Aug. 13 and Hyder wants to make certain his athletes are in the best condition. "It's mainly a pre-camp training," Hyder said. "In order to accomplish what we need to at camp, it's essential we're well organized and ready to go."

The Wildcats are working every evening beginning at 6:30 for about one hour. "We're running, going through balance and agility drills and doing some weight lifting," Hyder commented. Valdosta currently has 84 varsity and 55 ninth grade candidates attending the sessions.

"Basically, we've had a good week," Wilson commented. "The rainy weather has been detrimental, but basically, I've been very pleased. We're working with about 60 players," the Lowndes coach added. "I was expecting 70, but we have some boys who are working on farms with tobacco. They need to come back as quick as possible or they'll be so far behind they can't catch up," Wilson said.

The Vikings are working at the school Monday-Thursday from around 7-8:15 p.m. "It's an introduction period, teaching the fundamentals to the younger players and polishing the skills of the older boys," Wilson said. "We're doing a lot of conditioning work and stressing timing. I've been very pleased with the attitude, hustle and spirit the boys have shown." Lowndes leaves for summer camp Aug. 13.

Flanker Steve Player, who led the region in pass receiving



and yardage gained, is working with the Vikings after missing spring drills due to an ankle injury. It was reported during the spring Player had decided to quit football to concentrate on basketball, but Wilson said an injury forced Player out. Quarterback John Bond, who was reportedly involved in a broken windshield incident, is also practicing with the Wildcats.

— The South has risen again, but not in the Georgia all-star basketball and football games. The North swept all three contests last week in Atlanta, 106-98 in boys basketball; 53-50 in girls basketball and 9-3 in football. The football game was tied 3-3 at the end of regulation and two, five-minute overtime periods were played. Injuries are fairly common in these games since the players are not in top condition. College coaches had to be holding their collective breath as the stars played 10 extra minutes in hot, humid weather.

— Dallas Cowboys running back Tony Dorsett has had a

change of heart about his threat to file a formal grievance with the NFL Players' Association if his \$1,200 fine stands. "If all this is taken the wrong way, it could be disruptive to the team. I don't want that," Dorsett said. "The rapport between the coaches and the players is excellent and it is important we keep that."

Dorsett's fine came for not returning to the Cal Lutheran campus until 7:30 a.m. Sunday after last Saturday's Hall-of-Fame game against Oakland. Linebacker Thomas Henderson, who was fined \$300, arrived one hour late. At issue is the free time contract clause stating for one 24 hour period each week, players have no practice, curfews or meetings.

— Lea Henry, who played basketball for Southwest Georgia Academy (Damascus), has been named to a U.S. Women's all-star team. The 12-player squad is to compete against three foreign squads Aug. 6-11 in Squaw Valley, Calif.

— A state judge has dismissed a series of law suits, clearing the way for the New Orleans Jazz to leave the city. While the ruling allows the Jazz to move to Salt Lake City, it leaves in force a suit seeking damages from the Jazz for breaking their lease with the Louisiana Superdome. The ruling means the Jazz can begin selling season tickets and open a pre-season training camp.

Wildcats Search For Grid Replacements

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Editor

Sending his Wildcats through a series of daily scrimmages near here at the Twin Lakes 4-H Camp, Valdosta High School Coach Nick Hyder and his staff are searching for replacements for the 1978 edition that was depleted by graduation.

The Wildcats have been coming here for 20 years and the players who endure two weeks under the blazing south Georgia sun are ready for action when they return to VHS.

"Football is a collision sport, the survival of the fittest," Hyder said. "Our practices are geared to offense and defense, plus

some time working on the kicking game."

The Wildcats practice from around 9:30-1 a.m. and from 4:30-7:30.

"This is halftime," Hyder said Thursday, referring to the period between lunch and the afternoon session. "We enjoy the nature of competition and we're already looking forward to the next confrontation."

VHS has four players, one on offense and three on defense, who are playing the same position they did last year.

"You can't buy experience," Hyder said. "It's important our young lads get as much scrimmage time as possible.

We've made some progress, but it's difficult to analyze the entire picture because of the inexperienced factor."

The Wildcat defense is running slightly ahead of the offense at the present time. "It's a highly competitive situation and a lot of work needs to be done," Hyder said.

"I've seen things that have pleased me, but by nature I'm never totally pleased. If the defense looks good, it means the offense had a bad day. If the offense is doing its job, the defense has problems. We always line up in pads and scrimmage, I don't believe you can accomplish anything going against

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

dummies," Hyder said.

Tackle Jimbo Hancock, 180-senior, and safety Nathaniel Caesar, 175-senior, have been the leaders in the defensive line and secondary respectively.

Hyder also mentioned middle guard Calvin Davis, 210-senior; tackle Willie Beaty, 190-junior;

linebackers Paul Stokes, 175-junior, and Anthony Battles, 175-junior; ends Lynn Roe, 180-junior, Carl Gaines, 195-junior, and Steve Hunter, 155-junior; corner backs James Horton, 155-junior, and Thomas Shepard, 165-sophomore, and safety Mark Toth, 145-senior, as having good camps.

Standouts on the offensive unit include half-back Carl Wilcox, 155-senior; tight end Kennedy Cooper, 205-freshman; center Joe Wetherington, 170-sophomore; center-guard William Davis, 180-junior; quarterback David Parker, 138-sophomore; split end Edward Robinson, 165-sophomore, and flanker Pat Mays, 140-sophomore.

Hyder has also been impressed with the kicking game. "We're a little ahead of where I thought we'd be at this stage," the VHS mentor said.

Quarterback John Bond and Mays are handling the punting chores. Gaines, Dale Parker and Keith

Sampson are battling for the extra point, field goal and kickoff assignment.

The Wildcats have suffered some bruises and sprains, but have avoided any serious injuries.

"You expect these things because of the nature of football," Hyder said. "Our doctors and trainers have done an excellent job keeping the lads ready."

"Desire is very important in football and means more than talent at this juncture," Hyder said. "We're young, but if the lads want to be successful bad enough, they can achieve that with desire."

VHS has 135 boys in camp, 88 working with the varsity and 45 ninth

graders. The Wildcats have 27 seniors, 38 juniors, 20 sophomores and three freshmen battling for berths.

"Our Touchdown Club and fans have been super," Hyder said. "They line the field and make certain everything is being done correctly. We don't have to be concerned with the small details, we can concentrate on teaching the lads," Hyder said.

Former VHS standouts Buck Belue and John Lastinger are also in camp, preparing for football practice at Georgia which begins later this month. Belue is a sophomore, Lastinger a freshman for the Bulldogs.

Night Games

Cubs Shuffle Cards, 7-3

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Steve Dillard and Bill Buckner belted home runs and Dillard added a pair of doubles to lead the Chicago Cubs to a 7-3 victory over St. Louis Saturday night that snapped the Cardinals seven-game winning streak.

Dillard, who doubled and scored in the eighth and cracked a two-run double in the ninth, homered leading off the sixth inning and broke up a scoreless battle. It was his fourth of the season, all in the last 10 games. Buckner cracked his 12th homer leading off the seventh.

Winner Rick Reuschel, 12-7, pitched out of several early jams and got help from Bruce Sutter in the seventh. Sutter notched his 27th save, including all six Chicago victories over the Cardinals this season, although he yielded all three St. Louis runs.

Cards starter Roy Thomas, 1-2, who retired the first 13 Chicago batters, surrendered both home runs. He allowed four hits, walked none and struck out five in seven innings.

The Cubs got their third run in the eighth when Dillard doubled and scored when reliever George Frazier threw wildly past first base after fielding Sutter's sacrifice bunt, and sewed it up with four in the ninth.

featuring Dillard's two-run double.

Astros-Braves

ATLANTA (AP) — Saturday night's scheduled game between the Houston Astros and the Atlanta Braves was rained out in the bottom of the second inning with neither team having scored.

It will be made up when the Astros return to Atlanta Sept. 24-26.

The game was halted after two delays totaling an hour and 53 minutes.

Rangers, 4-2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Right-hander Brian Allard handcuffed the Cleveland Indians on five hits in 61.3 innings in his first major league start Saturday night and led Texas to a 4-2 victory that snapped the Rangers' three-game losing streak.

The 21-year-old Allard, who was making his second major league appearance since being called up from the minors last Tuesday, allowed two earned runs before being relieved by Jim Kern in the seventh. Kern slammed the door and notched his 19th save.

Allard received plenty of support from veteran John Ellis, who rapped a two-run single in the third inning that provided the winning margin.

The hit knocked in Al Oliver and Richie Zisk, who had singled and doubled off Indians starter and loser Mike Paxton, 7-7.

Yanks-Orioles

BALTIMORE (AP) — Rain forced postponement of Saturday night's game between the New York Yankees and the Baltimore Orioles after the Yanks had been retired in the top of the first inning.

It was rescheduled as part of a doubleheader Sunday when the two teams close out their season series.

Willie Randolph opened the game with a single, was sacrificed to second and stole third. But Scott McGregor retired Lou Piniella on a short fly, with Randolph holding, and struck out Reggie Jackson.

Royals, 11-5

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Hal McRae's three-run homer capped a six-run inning Saturday night as the surging Kansas City Royals downed the Detroit Tigers 11-5 for their sixth victory in their last seven games.

McRae's opposite-field shot to right off loser Jack Billingham, 8-6, was his eighth of the season and his fourth in 10 games since coming off the disabled list earlier this month. He added

a two-run double in the eighth.

The homer, following a run-scoring single by Amos Otis, a two-out error by second baseman Lou Whitaker and a two-run single by Willie Wilson, gave the Royals an 8-2 cushion before Detroit scored three runs on four hits in the seventh. The Royals replied with three in the eighth.

Kansas City starter Paul Splittorff, 11-12, snapped a personal four-game losing streak with help from rookie Dan Quisenberry in the final three innings. George Brett contributed three doubles and a single to Kansas City's 15-hit attack.

Sting Edge Chiefs, 2-0

CHICAGO (AP) — Goals by Karl-Heinz Granitz, his 20th of the season, at 11:30 and Peter Ressel, his 10th, at 73:34, led the Chicago Sting to a 2-0 North American Soccer League victory Saturday over the Atlanta Chiefs.

The victory in Chicago's final regular-season game was its third shutout of the season and second in a row.

Chicago finished the season with a 16-14 record and 159 points, good for second place in the Central Division of the American Conference.

Tift Co. To Host Title Matchup

By Times Staff Writer

Tift County (Tifton) won a coin flip today in Adel and is to host Valdosta's Wildcats for the Region 1-AAAA football championship Friday.

It was also announced at the meeting between Valdosta and Tift officials that Albany Association referees are to call the game.

Tift coach Gene Brodie said the Blue Devils stadium seats 13,000 and has made 6,500 tickets available to Valdosta fans.

Valdosta School Superintendent Ralph Brandon said the same procedure as last week for the purchase of tickets is to be followed.

Students tickets are to be sold to Valdosta High students Monday and Tuesday at VHS. Student tickets cost \$2.

Football players and band members whose parents are season ticket holders may buy that number of tickets Monday and Tuesday at VHS.

Tickets for the remaining season ticket holders are to go on sale on a first come basis Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the old VHS band room on Slater Street. Only one set of tickets may be purchased — either on your own number of seats or those of another season ticket holder who has given you written permission to pick up his tickets.

Brandon said the policy of issuing only one set of tickets per person would be strictly enforced.

Any remaining tickets are to be sold at Baytree Wednesday.



Wait 'Til Next Year

For the lownd... High Vikings it's wait 'til next year as... The big sign behind Palmer... advice, but unfortunately for Vi... ment by the successful... A.C. Wisenbaker... as... Friday night

ns Survive Bucs' Challenge, 13-7

In the final quarter, the... yard pass from Detroit rookie... the second half... while Packers didn't cross the 50-

VHS Ranked 10th Nationally In Preseason Poll

The Valdosta Wildcat football team has been ranked 10th in the nation in the annual preseason poll by the National Sports News Service. Moeller High of Cincinnati, Oh., received the number one endorsement.

The National Sports News Service is the same group that named Valdosta for mythical national titles in 1962 and '71. Thomasville High was named the champion by the service in '74 and Warner Robins was co-champion in '76.

Two Florida schools and one Tennessee school were mentioned as other Southern representatives in this year's look into the crystal ball. Merritt Island, Fla., was ranked fifth, Oak Ridge, Tenn., was 17th and Tallahassee (Fla.) Leon was 18th.

Visions of football players tap dancing across a stage in cleats danced through my head when I heard of a possible musical in the works.

The word is out that a musical play on the life of Wright Bazemore is in the works.

Details are still a little foggy, but the concept is certainly an interesting one.

The VHS legendary coach is probably the most famous Valdostan ever, with the possible exception of Doc Holiday. Baze stands for everything Valdosta is proud of and Holiday represents those things one might rather forget.

Any honor that can be passed Bazemore's way is certainly

due. Such a play would be another way for Valdosta to say thank you to the standard by which they are all judged.

VHS Picked As Contender

By The Associated Press

A high school football team needs three things to be the best in Georgia, Coach Billy Henderson of Athens' Clarke Central High says.

"You've got to have talent. Number two, you've got to have a rich football tradition in your community, and then you have to have some outstanding coaching," he said.

Griffin High Coach Lloyd Bohannon and Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder add one more measure of a team's strength: the number of visits college representatives make to a high school.

"All the college people who've been there keep saying Clarke Central has just an outstanding team," Bohannon said. Hyder said he's heard "an awful lot of talk that Clarke Central and Griffin are the best."

Using past performances as an indication, Clarke Central, Griffin and Valdosta are certain to be in the running for the state AAAA championship this season.

Because of their 7-7 tie in the state championship game last season, Valdosta and Griffin are both defending AAAA state champs. Valdosta finished the season with a 14-0-1 record and Griffin was 12-2-1.

Although Clarke Central was knocked out of the Region 8-AAAA playoffs with a 17-15 loss to Lakeside last season, some pre-season reports say the Gladiators are the best in the state this year.

Some other teams with pre-season hopes of going to the state AAAA championships this year include Cedar Shoals, also of Athens, Peachtree of Chamblee, Thomasville, Sprayberry of Marietta, Warner Robins, Stone Mountain, and Benedictine Military Academy of Savannah.

Of course, pre-season predictions mean nothing once the season gets un-

derway. For about one-third of Georgia teams, the season starts Friday. For the rest, Aug. 31 will mark the beginning of their campaigns.

Bohannon, who coached at Cedar Shoals before moving to Griffin, said he believes the Jaguars will challenge for the top position this year.

"I coached a lot of those kids when I was there," he said, "and they're real optimistic this year. Cedar Shoals could be really good."

But it won't be until Dec. 8 — the date of the state finals — that the best in the state is crowned.

In Class AAA, state runner-up Dalton should challenge for the top spot again this season, and Coach William Chappell says tackle Robert Woods is a key to the offense.

Woods is 5-foot-9 and weighs 235 pounds.

"Don't let Woods' size fool you — he's quick as a cat," said Chappell. "If there's anybody who can block Woods, we're going to have trouble winning."

Dalton had a 13-2 record last season, losing to Westminster 17-0 in the state championship.

Westminster will again field a strong team, although first-year head Coach Stuart Todd said it will be difficult to replace last year's top quarterback-receiver combination. Quarterback Gordon Beckham threw 20 touchdown passes to receiver Cole Egan last year, but both players have graduated.

Tailback Jack Westbrook returns this year, after gaining 1,500 yards last season.

Avondale, which last won a state championship in 1976, should get another shot this year.

"Avondale got everybody back but one from a good defense and they return a quarterback, a flanker, a tight end and a split end from their offense," said Phil Knight of Lithonia, whose Bulldogs handed Avondale two of its three losses in 11 games last season.

Other teams with high pre-season expectations include Americus, Marist of Atlanta, Gainesville, Swainsboro, Woodward Academy of College Park, Lithonia, Central Gwinnett and Rockmart.

Avondale's offense averaged 22.4 points per game last season, and quarterback Bill Fielding, 6-1, 175 pounds, looked strong in spring practice, Coach Crawford Kennedy said.

But it was the defense that was responsible for Avondale's success last season — the Blue Devils gave up just 6.1 points per game during the regular season.

East Rome High School has not lost a football game since Nov. 26, 1976, and the Gladiators will be shooting for their third straight Class AA state championship this season.

Keeping its 30-game win streak alive won't be easy, but Coach Jerry Sharp is confident the Gladiators have a chance at three straight titles.

"The key is for us to win right off the bat," he said. "If we can win those first couple of games and get the momentum going again, we

could be in the running. It all depends on how we get off the ground."

The Gladiators are led by 6-2, 170 pound quarterback Eric Tutt, younger brother of Greg and Johnny Tutt, who are both on scholarship at Auburn. Sharp said Eric should be a major college prospect as well.

East Rome beat Claxton 25-9 in last season's championship game, and Claxton again appears to be a major challenger to East Rome's throne. Coach John Stephens' Tigers were 14-1 last season and return 14 starters.

Other top AA teams include Mary Persons of Forsyth, Jefferson, Lovett of Atlanta, Mitchell County, Lincoln County, Turner County, North Springs of Atlanta, Commerce and R.E. Lee of Thomaston.

Herschel Walker isn't Superman, but he should be strong enough to lead the Johnson County Trojans into contention for the Class A state championship.

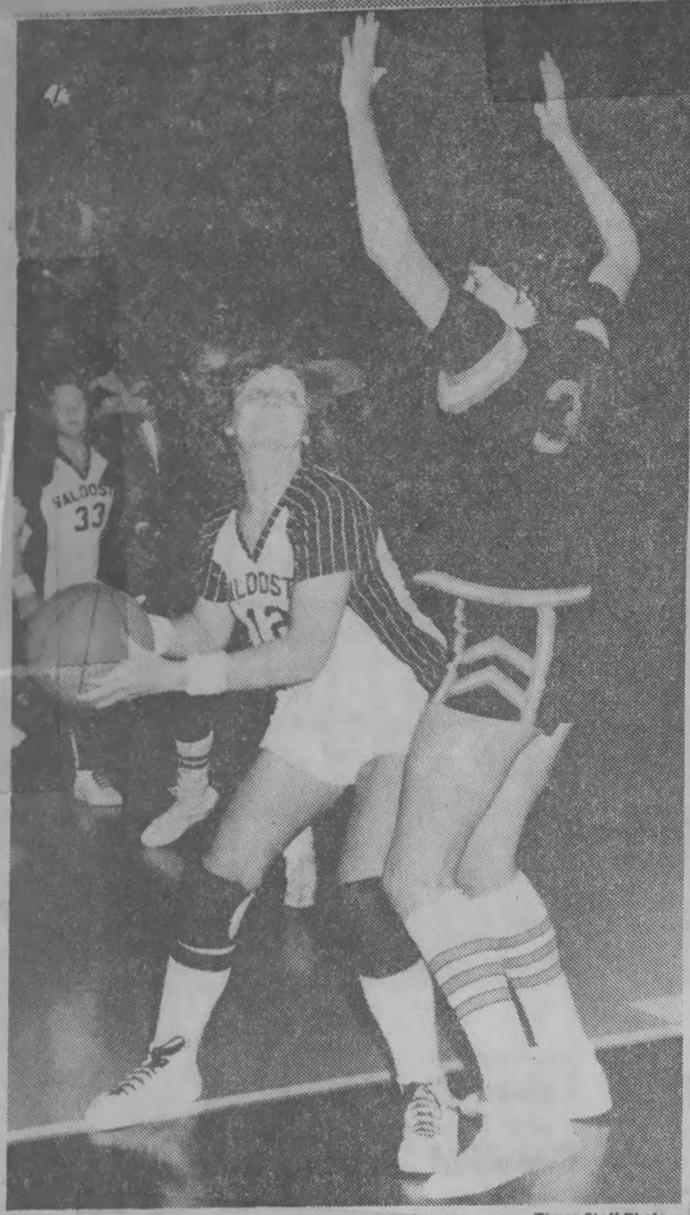
Walker, a 6-foot-1, 216-pound senior, is the defending state champ in the 100-yard dash, 220 and the shot put. He gained 1,983 yards last year and scored 22 touchdowns.

Besides Walker, 13 other players return for last season's 9-4 Region 3-A championship team.

"For a Class A team, we've got more talent than anybody I know about," said Coach Gary Phillips.

Athens Academy is another Class A school expected to do well this season. Last year, its first in region competition, the Spartans managed a 6-3-1 record and are expected to be stronger this year.

Other top teams include defending state champ Buford, Feldwood, Warren County, Hogansville, Charlton County, Clinch County, Miller County, Savannah Country Day and Mt. de Sales.



Renee Whitehead (12) Sets Sights On Goal

Kittens Claim Second Win, Moultrie Turns Back 'Cats

By MARTIN REGISTER
Lisa Feix and Renee Whitehead sank clutch baskets in the final two minutes of play here Tuesday night, lifting Valdosta's Kittens to a 47-44 high school basketball victory over Moultrie.

Moultrie claimed a split of the Region 1-AAA doubleheader when the Packers slipped past the Valdosta boys 60-55 in the nightcap.

Feix blasted down the lane for a layup after Moultrie had pulled to within 43-42, and Whitehead snagged a rebound and stuffed it back in shortly after that, as coach Jerry Baker's Kittens eked out their second win without a loss.

But Wildcat coach Norman Sainz suffered through what he called "the longest ballgame I've ever seen," as turnovers and an icy shooting percentage set the stage for his team's second loss in as many starts.

Baker had praise for his players, but warned that Kitten turnovers couldn't continue against "contending teams."

Valdosta broke a 22-22 halftime tie in the third quarter, mostly on the inside play of Vera Crawford and on long set shots by Shirley Berrian.

Berrian finished with 11 points, while Feix and Crawford hit for 10 apiece.

Big Olga Pittman, who rolled inside for two-pointers near the goal, topped Moultrie with 12.

"Feix did a real good job with the play-making," Baker said. "And Berrian really opened things up with her outside shooting."

"I can't say enough about Maggie Powell, with her hustle and the way she played defense," he said.

The Packers and Wildcats swapped the lead through much of the first half, but at halftime had settled nothing with a 25-25 tie.

Moultrie forged ahead in the third period when the

chilly Wildcat shooting turned ice-cold, and repeated Valdosta turnovers stopped Wildcat efforts to catch up.

"We didn't execute like we should, we had a lot of mental breakdown, and our rebounding killed us," Sainz said.

Valdosta's troubles were partly the result of its football team's participation in the state playoffs.

About half of the team's players, many of whom are considered to be probable starters, are still participating in the football program.

The Wildcats suited out only nine players for Tuesday's game.

Larry Williford, Don Daniel and Terry Webb provided a three-pronged attack for the Packers, hitting for 17, 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Tim Dame managed 16 for Valdosta, mainly on long jump shots.

Moultrie swiped a 52-43 win in a boys' B-team game, despite 11 points each by Valdosta's Bernard Gamble and Andy Wildes.

GIRLS

Valdosta	9	22	38	47
Moultrie	9	22	31	44

VALDOSTA (47) — Berrian 11, Feix 10, Crawford 10, Powell 8, Whitehead 8, Evans, Baker.

Team totals: field goals 18, free throws 11 of 29, fouls 15.

MOULTRIE (44) — Pittman 12, Anderson 9, Edwards 7, Brown 6, Tillman 4, Weeks 2, Davis 2, Seay 2.

Team totals: field goals 18, free throws 8 of 17, fouls 23.

BOYS

Valdosta	7	25	36	55
Moultrie	8	25	42	60

VALDOSTA (55) — Dame 16, Chandler Daniels 8, New 8, Russell 8, Powell 8, Stroud 5, Chris Daniels 2, Feix.

Team totals: field goals 21, free throws 13 of 19, fouls 23.

MOULTRIE (60) — Williford 17, Webb 10, Hall 7, Daniel 12, Pullins 4, Reynolds 4, French 4, Jones 2.

Team totals: field goals 22, free throws 16 of 28, fouls 21.

Bounds Best 1-AAA Passer

By Times Staff Writer
The best passer in Region 1-AAA football history is and may always be Stanley Bounds, the Valdosta High quarterback in 1970-71.

In the past 27 years, Bounds is only the second quarterback to gain more than 1,500 yards through the air in a single season.

As a junior in 1970, Bounds completed 107 out of 186 passes for 1,774 yards and 15 touchdowns. That's a .575 percentage, also among the best marks over the years among throwers who attempted more than 100 aerials.

During Bounds' senior season, he completed 99 out of 192 attempts for 1,978 yards and 19 touchdowns, a .517 percentage.

In addition, Bounds was

only intercepted 15 times in the two seasons. Another Valdosta passer, Bruce Hilton, was intercepted three times in 171 attempts in 1973.

Other impressive efforts over the years have come recently. In 1975 as a sophomore, Buck Belue of Valdosta gained 1,451 yards on 112 completions in 208 attempts.

The next season, Lowndes High's Lynn Pattillo threw for 1,447 yards and 17 touchdowns.

And last fall, Jerry Aubin of Dougherty High in Albany accounted for 17 TDs and 1,181 yards on 50 completions in 117 attempts.

The top passers in Region 1-AAA according to 1-AAA statistician Ellwood Moyr follow:

Year	Player	Att.	Comp.	Inter.	Gain	Td's	Avg.
1951	Cox, R.E. Lee	132	59	16	1,064	10	.447
1952	Cox, R.E. Lee	152	57	12	1,123	15	.375
1953	Clark, Albany	112	47	12	721	8	.420
1954	Mills, LaGrange	65	42	2	764	9	.646
1955	Mills, LaGrange	106	54	7	808	5	.509
1956	Wills, Moultrie	109	42	6	685	8	.385
1957	Railey, Moultrie	92	35	9	408	3	.380
1958	Thomas, Valdosta	67	30	5	659	9	.447
1959	Beverly, Moultrie	110	59	7	799	9	.536
1960	Breedlove, Lanier	116	63	7	945	7	.543
1961	Bennett, Valdosta	84	44	7	965	10	.524
1962	Thomas, Valdosta	118	67	5	1,062	8	.567
1963	Bonifay, Lanier	170	86	4	1,046	6	.505
1964	Perdue, Warner Robins	155	79	18	1,330	10	.510
1965	Davis, Valdosta	121	58	7	906	12	.479
1966	Richardson, Jordan	207	114	9	1,541	11	.551
1967	Oates, Columbus	136	75	7	1,170	12	.551
1968	S. Beasley, Wayne Co.	150	69	10	979	8	.460
1969	Golden, Valdosta	112	59	8	1,025	7	.527
1970	Bounds, Valdosta	186	107	8	1,774	15	.575
1971	Bounds, Valdosta	192	99	7	1,978	19	.517
1972	Hilton, Valdosta	158	70	5	1,409	17	.443
1973	Hilton, Valdosta	171	91	3	1,346	8	.532
1974	Lightie, Albany	167	78	11	988	10	.467
1975	Belue, Valdosta	208	112	14	1,451	9	.538
1976	Pattillo, Lowndes	240	123	8	1,447	17	.513
1977	Aubin, Dougherty	117	50	9	1,181	17	.427

For Tonight's Game

Surprises Left In VHS Offense

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School offensive coordinator and play-caller Butch Brooks says there are still a few surprises left in the Wildcat grab-bag.

"We've got two or three little things in store that we haven't used this year," Brooks said as he and Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder outlined the offensive patterns for tonight's state championship game against Griffin.

"We've got two or three sets we haven't used. We've worked on them all year long. We just never had an opportunity in the ballgame to use them."

"You're liable to see a little bit of it all. We'll probably have to use everything to get by. Griffin is very tough defensively. I just hope we're capable of putting something on the board."

Valdosta averaged 33.5 points a game this year en route to a 14-0 season. The VHS offense was never held to less than two touchdowns and scored less than 20 points only in two wins over Thomasville.

A veteran Valdosta offensive line has made things a lot easier for junior running backs Irvin Roe and Ernest King.

"I've been here seven years, and I would say it's the best offensive line since I've seen here," Brooks said.

"We've had some great athletes on the offensive line but from tight end right on through tackle, this is the best one."

Sam Fletcher is the number one tight end and lines up alongside tackles Scott Griffin, Harvey Carter and Darrell Swindle, guards Andy Chapman, Billy Harvey and Bubba Hardin and center Tony Blasetti.

Griffin, Chapman and Blasetti were all members of the Region 1-AAAA all-star squad.

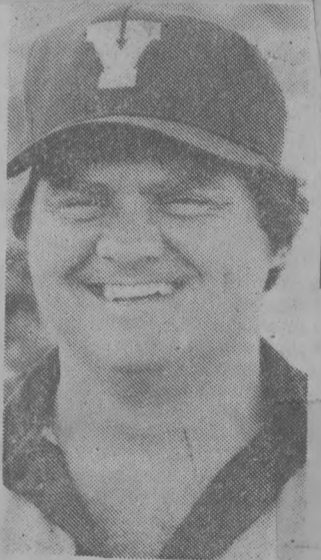
The Valdosta backfield took a jolt in the first round of the playoffs when senior quarterback John Lastinger, named the 1-AAAA Offensive Player of the Year, was sidelined for the rest of the season with a shoulder separation.

Junior John Bond entered the game, scored three touchdowns and helped direct Valdosta to a 52-0 trouncing of Westside (Augusta).

Bond also ran for three scores, including a nifty 48-yarder, in last week's 23-0 win over Benedictine (Savannah), which gave VHS its second straight South Georgia Championship.

The 6-foot-4, 180-pounder did receive a bruised back in the game but is listed as tonight's probable starter.

"He's a little sore," Brooks said. "I think he's going to be all right. Once you get into



BUTCH BROOKS
VHS Play-Caller

the heat of battle, you forget about those things.

"John has a great responsibility there. He's worked at quarterback all year but this is the first time he's had to go fulltime all the way."

"The biggest responsibility John feels is that we don't have a regular quarterback as such after him."

Hyder is proud of the way his teammates have rallied around Bond.

"His teammates have responded to him," Hyder said. "Sometimes there is a jealousy or a rejection but it didn't happen."

"Your quarterback has to be the calmest person around. He's the guy that has to set the fuse on your dynamite. He can't be a cheerleader. He's got to carry that glycerin for you."

— Pompey Keeps Hustling

listen to me, and we always talk everything over. William never has given up easily, and I've kept pushing him."

Every investment, though, hasn't been successful. A service station venture failed "because I was never there and just didn't know enough about it," said Pompey.

In his time at home, Mrs. Pompey says her husband likes to read, "mostly business articles about investing, banking."

But Pompey claims, "I'd sell everything tomorrow if it interfered with my work in the schools system. I like the students. This is the job I love and want to go further in. I really want to be an administrator of some type. I think I can do the job."

Whatever, the short bald-headed man with the ready smile keeps hustling.

"He's always trying to improve himself," said Emanuel. "He's not a lazy man. He wants to get on up in this world."

For the record, Pompey was probably the first black on the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He's a past president and current treasurer of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity; member of the board of directors of the Southside Recreation Center; member of the city, state and national associations of educators; member of the Phi Delta Kappa educational fraternity; and member of the South Side Church of Christ.

— 'Cats End

fought back steadily on the strength of Cindy Cooper's intense play at both ends of the floor and closed to within four points with under two minutes remaining.

The Kittens missed golden opportunities when given two chances at the free throw line to draw to within two points, but both times the shots were off their mark. Valdosta hit only 12 of 30 free throws.

Waycross' girls rode the strength of its two pivot players, Octavea White and Ginger Johnson, throughout the contest. White accounted for 13 points, and Johnson hit for 11 to pace the Bulldogettes.

Cooper tallied nine VHS points. Maggie Powell and Vera Crawford chipped in seven apiece.

But it was the physical superiority of the Bulldogettes that captured the win. Waycross controlled the boards, especially the offensive rebounds, to devastate the Kittens inside.

"We lost it at the foul line, and there is no excuse for that," commented Cowart, who also coaches the Kittens. "We beat them last time by making foul shots . . . this time we lost by them."

The Kittens fall to 3-10 with

the loss. The Bulldogettes are now 5-6. Both Valdosta teams are to play at home Tuesday against Colquitt County (Moultrie). Waycross travels to Appling County (Baxley).

Waycross claimed both junior varsity games, defeating the Valdosta boys 59-50 and the girls 43-37. Savole King scored 26 points for Valdosta's boys junior varsity team, while Affernette Wilson accounted for 12 points in the girls' game.

Valdosta won the ninth grade contest by a 78-77 score. Both Ricky Gibbs and J.D. Thomerson had 20 points for the Valdosta ninth graders.

GIRLS

Waycross	8	23	35	42
Valdosta	7	19	27	36

WAYCROSS (42) — White 13, Johnson 11, Porter 5, Loft 5, Hargrove 2, Morrison 2, Taylor 2, McDaniel 2.

Team totals: field goals 14, free throws 14 of 28, fouls 24.

VALDOSTA (36) — Cooper 9, Powell 7, Crawford 7, Evans 4, Whitehead 3, Irvin 2, Swindle 2, Wilson 2.

Team totals: field goals 12, free throws 12 of 30, fouls 19.

BOYS

Waycross	10	28	38	59
Valdosta	19	33	51	63

WAYCROSS (59) — Junior 23, Swinson 14, Howard 10, Cobb 4, Young 4, Brown 2, Williams 2, Bennett, Bailey.

Team totals: field goals 28, free throws 3 of 8, fouls 21.

VALDOSTA (63) — Felix 16, Powell 16, New 11, Jones 10, Caesar 6, Cothren 4, Bond, Gish.

Team totals: field goals 27, free throws 9 of 16, fouls 10.

'Cats Swamp Thomasville

By Times Staff Writer
THOMASVILLE — The Valdosta Wildcats got back on the winning track with a 13-3 high school baseball win over Thomasville here Tuesday.

The 1-AAAA (South) victory sets up a showdown Friday with Lowndes High at Valdosta's Bazemore Field. The Wildcats are now 3-4 and the Vikings stand at 5-3.

Valdosta put together three big innings to score all its

runs. The 'Cats got four in the first, five in the second and four in the fourth.

Ashley DeLoach went the distance on the mound, spreading three runs over seven innings and giving up six hits.

"We committed seven errors, but they were spaced out enough that they didn't hurt us," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks.

"I feel a lot better than the other day (against Suwannee). They were tough errors. It was not like they were hitting them straight at us.

"DeLoach committed three errors, but he stopped some shots through there. Wayne (Fugett), (John) Lastinger and (David) New hit the ball well. We ran the bases well too."

The 'Cats sent Thomasville starting pitcher David Moore to the bench after one out in the second inning. VHS rocked Moore for five runs. His replacement, Phil Clay, was not treated any better, as the 'Cats gathered five runs off of him in two and two-third innings.

Lastinger had two doubles on the day. His first double scored the 'Cats first run.

DeLoach led off the game with a ball that was misplayed by rightfielder Johnny Kavouklis. Lastinger followed with his first double.

After a walk to Fugett and a single by Mike Ruff to load the bases, an attempted pickoff of Ruff sent Lastinger home. A single by David Berryhill scored another run and a fielder's choice by New accounted for the final run of the inning.

Andy Weldon got two runs batted in on a single, in the second. A wild pitch scored another run and Andy Chapman had an RBI single.

Chapman had another run-scoring single in the fifth. Lastinger had another run-scoring double. Fugett scored a run with a sacrifice fly and Tim Dame scored a teammate with a single.

She Talked Self Out Of Tension

By Times Staff Writer
The new Miss Valdosta High School decided she had to do something about her nerves the day before the pageant. She decided to "forget all the people were there and just enjoy being in front of them."

Apparently it worked, as Leslie Brown, 16, was crowned Miss VHS recently over contestants.

"I had planned to be in the pageant. But I get really nervous before I get in front of a crowd. I have to kind of talk myself into not being nervous," she said, laughing. "I would enjoy being in another pageant."

Miss Brown is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Brown. She is drum major for the VHS band and a flutist in the concert band.

Of all her classes, Miss Brown enjoys German the most.

"I like learning a new language. It's fun," she said.

Miss Brown is also "pretty much" a straight A student, a member of Beta Club and attends Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

She has plans to attend Valdosta State College for two years after she graduates.

"Once I get used to college life here and change my study habits then I would like to move off and attend another college for two years," she said.

She's not sure what she'll study. Modeling is something she's always liked but "never gotten involved in," she said.

For now, Miss Brown is just thinking ahead one year, her year as Miss VHS.

"I hope that I will be able, in some way, to represent VHS. I've been to other cities and talked with friends in other schools and VHS is better. Our programs are more developed," she said.



Miss Brown: VHS Pageant Winner

Wildcat, Viking Gridders Preparing

For Camp

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426-79
**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 Agüero, 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.

Valdosta DE Honor

Daily Times

Aug 9, 1979

Greene Named Best Teacher

By Times Staff Writer

Over the last 12 years Norman Greene of Valdosta has seen his students rack up a lot of awards. This week it's his turn to accept honors.

Greene, in Atlanta attending the annual Georgia Vocational-Education Association conference, was named distributive education (DE) teacher of the year Tuesday.

That was the same day he was elected president of the Georgia Association of Distributive Education Teachers, a 200-member division of the larger Vocational-Education Association.

The latter job also makes Greene a vice president of the GVA and a member of its board. He is to also be on the advisory board for Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA).

"If I had known all that I don't know if I would have taken the job," Greene quipped in a telephone interview.

To get elected GADET president, Greene defeated Tom Burge of the Atlanta area. The organization is composed of high school, junior college and vocational-technical school instructors.

The teacher of the year award is based on a resume of professional, civic and DECA activities.

As coordinator of the Valdosta High School distributive education activities for the last dozen years, Greene had quite a resume to offer.

The Valdosta High chapter has been named No. 1 in Georgia six times



**NORMAN GREENE
Honored By Peers**

and second five times in the last 11 years. In 1971 it was the nation's No. 4 chapter.

Student members have made the national finals several times. The club has produced one state president and has had state officers every year but two since Greene has been adviser, this being one of the years it doesn't have one.

"I'm very happy. It is a great honor anytime you are honored by the people with whom you work. I have to give credit to the people I work with in Valdosta. I couldn't do it without their support," Greene said.

The annual meeting, being held at the Atlanta Hilton, started Tuesday and is to run through Friday.

Valdosta Parents Quiet About Court-Ordered Busing

BY RICK ROUNTREE
Times Staff Writer

In two weeks four out of seven schoolchildren in Valdosta will step up on a yellow school bus, signaling the start of court-ordered busing for elementary schools here.

Yet parents have either quietly accepted and understand where their children will go, or else the realization hasn't struck home yet.

"I bet we haven't got a dozen calls all summer," said school system transportation director Don Simmons about parent interest in where children will be bused.

"I've got a feeling there's an awful lot of parents who don't know where their

kids will be going," he said.

Under the plan set up by a federal judge last spring, the city's elementary schools are organized into clusters of grades. The schools will either house grades one through four or five through six.

Neither the high school nor junior high school is to be affected by the court-ordered busing.

Simmons has spent much of the summer drawing up a system for the busing plan. After all, about 4,000 school children in all grades will be bused this year. Last year the figure was about 2,500.

The plan was designed to bring better racial balance in the city's elementary

schools which the Justice Department had termed still virtually segregated in places. Under the plan those elementary schools which have been overwhelmingly white in racial makeup will get a larger percentage of black children. The predominantly black schools in most cases will remain so.

One key element is a child will still attend a neighborhood school if that school still accommodates the grade in which he is enrolled. Here, for example, is where some students will go:

— A second grader who lives in the S.L. Mason area will go to the S.L. Mason school. A fifth grader living in the area will be bused to West Gordon

Street School.

— A second grader who lives in the W.G. Nunn area will continue to go to the school. A fifth grade student living in the area will be bused to Leila Ellis School.

Simmons predicted a minimum of actual logistic problems with the busing. "We've got the scheduling down pretty good. With three new buses (bringing the fleet to 17 buses) we're hoping it will go smoothly," he said. But Simmons too is realistic.

"It's reasonably new to all of us. I'm sure there will be some bugs. We just hope people will be patient with us. If people have any questions on the busing, I hope they call us. That's what

we're here for," he said. In recent years the earliest buses have started picking up in the mornings has been at 7 a.m. Simmons said he sees no reason why times will have to be any earlier.

"The time for elementary schools is being moved back from 8:15 a.m. to 8:35 a.m. We'll be getting the elementary kids last in the morning so they will have to wait the least time for class to start. We'll also be picking them up first in the afternoon," he said. Confusing as the busing plan seems now, observers say it is relatively mild compared to some systems. "Most people have accepted the fact that it's here, we might as well make the best of it," Simmons said.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Wed., Feb. 14, 1979—18—

Valdosta Plunges Into Tourney Action

By MIKE CHASON
Hope springs eternal in the breast of every postseason tournament participant.

And Larry Cowart is no exception. Cowart's 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-

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 Felix, 6-3 junior David New, 5-3 sophomore Dante Jones, and 6-3 junior Nathaniel Ceasar.

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 Vikettes 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

Valdosta.

In Thursday's opener at 4 p.m., the Central girls meet Thomasville followed by the Central-Valdosta boys' game and the Colquitt-Valdosta girls' game. At 9 p.m., Lowndes' Vikings tangle with Colquitt.

On Friday, Bainbridge's girls meet the Valdosta-Colquitt winner at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Bainbridge boys against the Lowndes-Colquitt winner at 6 p.m. The Lowndes' girls take on the Central-Thomasville survivor at 7:30 p.m., and the Thomasville boys stake their

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

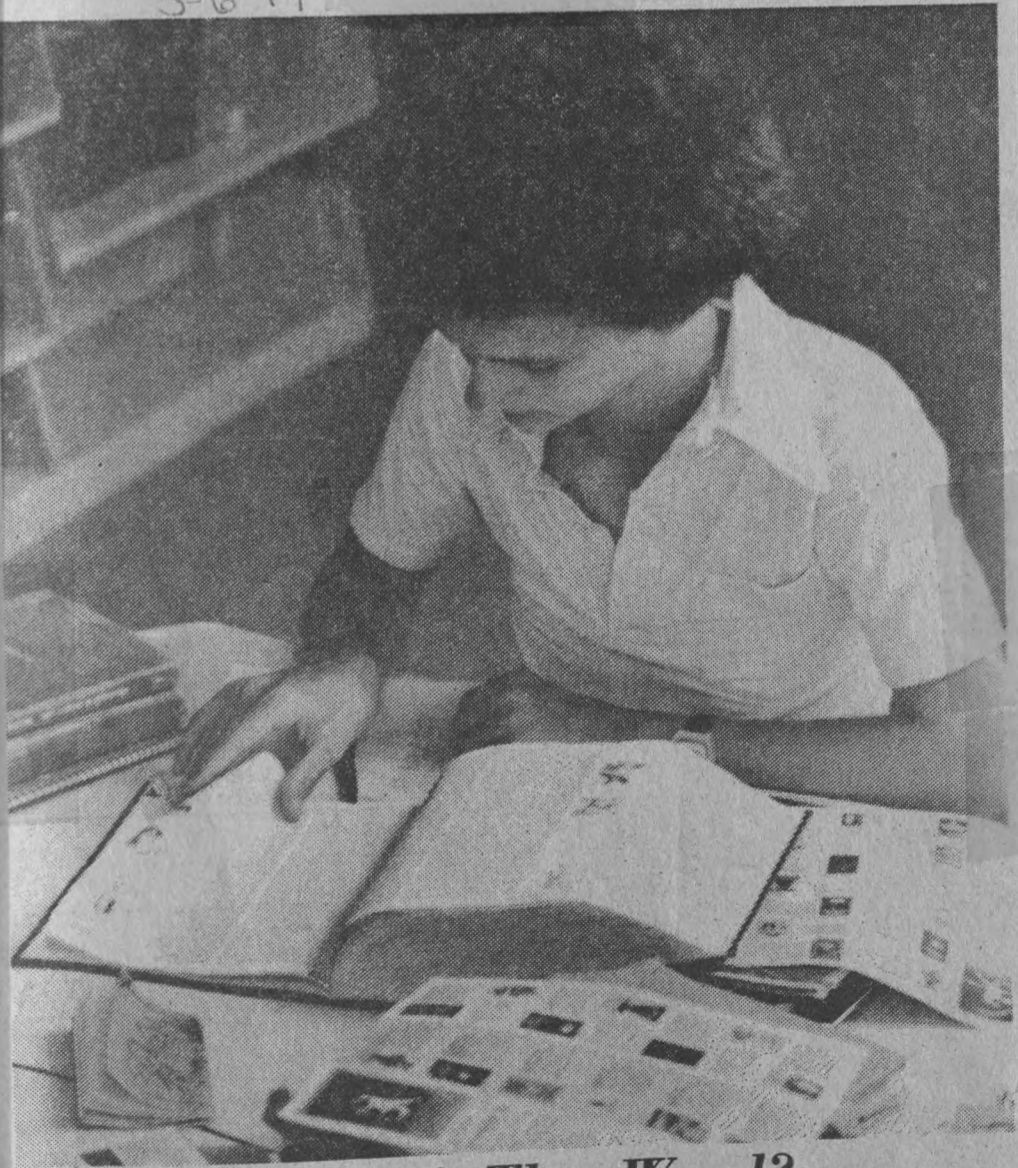
been on last second shots. Both times it's been 45-44.

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

Colquitt's 6-0 center Sarah Edwards was the "key to the ballgame. We've got to do a good job on her," he said.

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

5-6-79



Where's That Word?

A student in one of Duane Pitts' English classes at Valdosta High School checks out the root of a word as part of his classroom assignment. Pitts gave his students specific writing and ad design assignments as part of

the Design-An-Ad Contest and graded them prior to submitting them to the Times. Pitts said he believed the students enjoyed being a part of putting this section together. — Photo by David Pulliam of VHS.

5-6-79

Drawn In

Melody Sturgis, a student in Patsy Smith's art class at Valdosta High School, appears to be enjoying her work on the Design-An-Ad Contest for The Valdosta Daily Times.

Many of the ads in this section came from Mrs. Smith's class. — Photo by David Rush of VHS.



City Schools Are Ready

By Times Staff Writer

Summer is almost over for children and city schools are ready to take the students in. This word came Monday night at the Valdosta Board of Education meeting.

According to superintendent Ralph Brandon, current building projects in city schools are almost complete.

Carpet is down in six new class rooms at S.L. Mason Elementary School. Temporary windows have been placed in the class rooms until permanent ones arrive. Brandon told board members the latest date for completion of the windows is to be Sept. 25.

West Gordon Elementary school is completely partitioned.

"It looks like a school ought to look now," said Brandon.

The school was constructed as an open concept school. However, the innovative school failed to work out.

In other construction projects, air conditioning in Lomax-Pinevale is to be completely installed by Monday.

The cafeteria at Junior High is air conditioned along with one wing. Brandon said he hoped all six wings would be air conditioned by the end of next week.

The drivers education range at the high school is

complete.

"We now have a complete four phase drivers education program at the high school."

"We have been working on this project for six years now," said Brandon.

In other activity:

The board agreed to advertise for the sale of a plot of land adjacent to the Lomax-Pinevale Elementary School.

"It is a jungle. We looked at the property and don't see any educational purpose for the land," said Brandon.

Permission was granted to use \$250,000 in state renovation funds to fix the roof and ceiling at Sallas-Mahone Elementary School.

Board members agreed to grant the Department of Transportation the requested five feet of right-of-way on Patterson Street if DOT would put into writing the promise to fix the drainage problem at VJHS.

The requested right-of-way runs from the tennis courts on Burton Street, north to the track.

DOT had made an oral promise to correct the drainage problem behind the school's cafeteria if the right-of-way was received.

David Waller, chairman of the athletic committee, told board members the field house at Cleveland Field is to be constructed by Sept. 5.



RALPH BRANDON
Projects Complete

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Clarke Central Has Lofty AAAA Goals

By Steve Figueroa
Constitution Staff Writer

Class AAAA Preview

Clarke Central Coach Billy Henderson thinks his Gladiators are going to win the Class AAAA championship this year.

There's nothing particularly unusual about that, however. Henderson has those thoughts at this time every season.

"That's been our goal every year," said Henderson with a laugh. "Of course, it didn't always work out that way. But if you don't shoot for the top, you're not being fair to yourself or your boys.

"Every year at this time, I think about a state championship. This year is no different. The other day, I was doing my jogging and I came up by the gym and heard the band playing, and I felt like I was 16 again. If the boys are as fired up as I am, we'll be okay.

"It takes more than talent and determination, though. You've got to have a little luck to win a state title."

Nobody can guarantee the luck, but Henderson's squad appears to have the talent. So much so, in fact, that Clarke Central is The Constitution's preseason pick to win the AAAA title.

The Gladiators weren't that far from state contention last season, losing 17-15 to a powerful Lakeside team in the Region 8-AAAA playoffs, and a nucleus of those players return to the Clarke lineup this year.

"On paper, we're better than we were

last year," admitted Henderson. "But you never know. Last year's team got as much out of what it had as any I've ever been associated with."

Charley Dean, a three-year starter at safety, has been moved to quarterback for this season and will be counted on heavily for leadership.

The 6-1, 170-pound senior is being recruited by several major colleges.

Dean will be joined in the backfield by senior halfback Dwayne Harden (5-10, 185), who runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds.

The Gladiators have another college prospect in Josh Starks, a 6-1, 210-pound senior who is the defending Region 8-AAAA 100-yard dash champion and can run 40 yards in 4.6 seconds. He will start at linebacker and see spot duty at fullback, according to Henderson.

Tackle Rufus Paine (6-2, 190) returns to anchor the defensive line, while Chip Tardy (6-2, 190) plays a similar role on offense.

"We need to find a safety to replace Charley Dean," said Henderson. "And we need a fullback because I don't want to have to play Josh Starks both ways. But other than that, we look pretty good."

See CLASS AAAA, Page 4-E

Region 1-AAA (North)

Competition plentiful

By GARY ROBINSON
T-U Correspondent

Wildcats are odds-on favorites to repeat as Region 1-AAA champions for the third consecutive year according to region observers, the Wildcats may have their hands full just getting to the region playoffs, with the likes of Tift County, Dougherty, and Crisp County after the champs.

Last year the Wildcats capped a perfect regular season by defeating crsstown rival Lowndes in the first game of the region's two-game playoff system and then tripped Thomasville, which had defeated Tift County in the other semifinal.

While the Cats and Tift's Blue Devils were the class of the North sub-region in 1978, the Cougars of Crisp County and Dougherty's Trojans are equal to the task of making post-season appearances in 1979 should one of last year's two representatives falter.

Tift County

Tift, however, appears to be strong enough to uphold the playoff tradition it started last fall.

Although the Devils, under Gene Brodie, lost five offensive starters from a club that went 8-3, Tift has the luxury of a returning quarterback for the first time since Brodie took over. Ken Hobby, a 185-pound junior, grabbed the starting reins last year as a sophomore and propelled the Devils into the post-season derby. He was knocked out in Tift's final game against Crisp and his teammates weren't the same afterward, losing to the Cougars to end the regular season and then to Thomasville in the play-

off.

tackle, will anchor the offensive line and lend experience to several newcomers.

Eight Blue Devil defensive starters went the graduation route, including the entire secondary, leav-

ing defensive tackle Ewings, junior defensive end Ricky Holt, a 220-pounder, and linebacker

Joe Schath as returners. "A lot of people will have to grow up in our first two games (Bainbridge and Albany)," Brodie said. "We have got to win the first two with our young people in order to be ready for Lowndes by the third game. If they can come across early, our prospects will look that much brighter."

"The spring game

against Lowndes showed our inexperience," he continued. "The defense did a super job for a half, but they just didn't move in for the kill. It takes game experience to be able to go ahead and put people away."

Dougherty

The Dougherty Tro-

(See 1-AAA [North], Page 23)

(From Page 22)
jans of coach Luther Welsh hope to put people away with a strong air attack.

Although the Trojans will operate out of the same veer offense they've been employing the last

few years, Welsh vows and declares, "I'm gonna throw the ball. We've got someone who can throw it and we have people who can catch it."

The youngster who can

throw it is Chris Norman, a 180-pound senior, who plays a quarter back on offense. Lionel Jackson can go ends Junior Bobby (175), Senior Bobby Hill (165) and Junior Fred



5-6-79 Ahead Of The Game

Valdosta High School junior John Sylvester apparently doesn't take the term homework literally. A school photographer caught him at one of the three specialized libraries at VHS getting the jump on the next day's assignments. — Photo by David Pulliam.

James will also be a threat as a runner. Welsh hopes the speedster will again show the style that took him to the No. 3 spot in the region rushing stats last year. He will team with the oft-injured Alonzo Hall, a 187-pound senior.

Crisp County

An experienced and talented offensive backfield could lead Crisp County to an improvement over its 1978 showing of 5-5. Coach Ferrel Henry has a trio of three-year starters who figure to put a lot of Cougar points on the board. Quarterbacking the Cougars will be 180-pound senior Skeeto Musselwhite and 190-pound senior fullback Alton Harvey provide a strong ground attack.

Monroe

Monroe and Albany round out the region. Both teams are rebuilding with new coaches — Willie Thomas at Monroe and Al Woodham at Albany — and neither should be in contention for the subregion title. Through the desegregation and rezoning of the Dougherty County school system, the Tornadoses, 3-7 last year, lost many of the starters on whom Thomas had depended in the spring, but husky Gregory Pratt should stand out at full back on offense and at linebacker on defense.

Albany

Woodham is having to start out at the bottom with the Indians, who were winless in 1978. Compounding the obvious problems, starting quarterback Danny Blaylock broke his jaw playing baseball this summer and won't be available for duty until the third week.



Again, it's year of QBs

The Super 11

Clayton Fowers

By LAWRENCE DENNIS
Times-Union Correspondent

The offensive linemen finally got a little bit of glory last year — at least as far as college recruiting went in South Georgia.

There was the usual bumper crop of "glory guys", the quarterback backs, running backs (especially running backs) and pass receivers, who grab all the headlines and score all the points.

But ask just about any college recruiter who covered the South Georgia area, and he'll tell you about big, quick linemen, like Tift County's Tim Case, Savannah's Guy McIntyre, Savannah Benedictine's Andrew Province and Camden County's Tyrone Jones.

They're all gone now, and if college recruiters decide to tag this year's crop of standout athletes, they may well call the 1979 season the year of the quarterback.

There have been many "years of the quarterback" in South Georgia high school history, but this season could go down as the best season ever for signalcallers.

For instance, no fewer than three of The Times-Union/Journal's 1979 Super 11 pre-season players — those who should be the cream of the South Georgia prep crop — are quarterbacks. Another might have been on the list if a broken collarbone in early

drills hadn't sidelined him for 6-8 weeks.

Chuck DeVane is a 6-foot-1, 170-pounder who would have been the starting quarterback at Lowndes in Valdosta again this year. He'll be sidelined by his injury for at least the first half of the season, meaning that he won't get the chance to lead Region 1-AAAA in passing. Last season, he made good on 73 of 171 tries (with five interceptions) for 972 yards and 15 touchdowns in South Georgia. Only to highly-recruited John Lashinger of Valdosta, who signed with Georgia.

DeVane's loss diminishes the number of top signalcallers, but there are still some good ones returning. All have impressive credentials.

The most prolific, in terms of passing yardage, is Waycross senior Barry Taylor, a polished 6-1, 190-pounder who will be starting for the third straight year.

Taylor hit on 76 of 168 passes for 1,108 yards and 11 touchdowns last fall in guiding the Bulldogs to a 9-2 season. His total placed him right up there with Lashinger, a 6-1, 170-pound senior at Tift County in Tifton, might be the best of the lot. At any rate, he's the most unusual. Hobby is a switch-thrower. He can throw righthanded or lefthanded.

Last year, he completed 46 of 100 attempts for 612 yards and eight TDs

(See SUPER 11, Page 25)

AUGUST 11 AUGUST 18

Listed below are 25 players who are listed below Super 11 caliber. All are top-notch players, selected in good as far as we can tell from those on the Super 11 list.

Offense

QUARTERBACKS
Johnny Clark, Albany, 6-3, 175, Sr.; John Sisco, Washington, 6-2, 185, Sr.; John Lashinger, Valdosta, 6-1, 170, Sr.; Barry Taylor, Waycross, 6-1, 190, Sr.; Chris Norman, Albany, 6-2, 180, Sr.
RUNNING BACKS
Gregory Profit, Albany, 5-11, 205, Sr.; Tim Case, Savannah, 6-1, 200, Sr.; Tim Case, Savannah, 6-1, 200, Sr.; Ernest King, Valdosta, 5-11, 180, Sr.; Cadet, 5-9, 155, Sr.; Ted Matricus, Vin Rowe, Valdosta, 5-9, 155, Sr.

Defense

Chris Jenkins, Lehigh, Brunswick, 6-4, 275, Sr.; Paul Worre, 6-5, 225, Sr.; Mack, Nathaniel Casser, Valdosta, 6-4, 275, Sr.

The best of the best

NAME	SCHOOL	HT.	WT.	YR.	POS.
Tony Blasetti	Valdosta	6-4	220	Sr.	OT
Steve Player	Valdosta	6-2	185	Sr.	RB
Freddie Parrish	St. Mary's Camden Co.	6-2	190	Sr.	RB
Johnny Robinson	St. Mary's Camden Co.	6-2	205	Sr.	QB
Johnny Kavonikis	Tifton Tift Co.	5-8	175	Sr.	RB
Barry Taylor	Waycross	6-1	175	Sr.	RB
John Chaney	Waycross	6-1	190	Sr.	QB
Adam Reese	Valdosta Lowndes	6-2	205	Sr.	C/LB
Jimmy Walsh	Savannah Benedictine	5-11	175	Sr.	DE
Landy Ewing	Tifton Tift Co.	6-4	240	Sr.	TE/DE

Super 11

...available as to how many (no statistics) with which hand), with sev- ... that total doesn't seem overpowering, but keep in mind that Tift was a running team last year — Hobby rushed for 567 yards on 137 carries.

The biggest bruiser in the ranks of proven signalcallers this year is Camden County's Johnny Robinson, a 6-3, 200-pound senior and a three-year starter at St. Mary's. Robinson had one of the best completion percentages in South Georgia last season. He hit 61 percent of his passes for more than 1,000 yards and added another 338 on the ground.

Last year's premier senior passer-catcher was Waycross' Charles Junior, but a young sophomore at Lowndes almost matched the Bulldog superstar's statistics.

Steve Player is back in the lineup for the Vikings after leaving the team briefly in the middle of spring practice. Player, a 6-2, 185-pound split end, might be the best wide receiver in South Georgia history before he's through.

At any rate, it'll take a major disaster to keep him from matching or improving his total from last year — 625 yards on 31 catches.

As far as running backs are con-

Parrish, a 5-11, 190-pounder, is another rusher whose 1978 statistics are misleading. He gained 788 yards, but that real estate was picked up while serving in a backfield corps that rushed for a total of 2,400 yards.

Which brings us back to linemen. Perhaps this season's near-equivalents to those superstars of last year are Valdosta's Tony Blasetti and Benedictine's Jimmy Walsh.

Blasetti (6-4, 220) was a two-year starter at center, but Widecat coach Nick Hyder may shift him to offensive tackle to shore up a forward wall that was devastated by graduation.

Walsh, the son of Cadet Coach Jim Walsh Sr., is a 6-0, 230-pound defensive end, who some recruiters compare to his teammate of last year, Province.

Waycross' John Chaney is the younger brother of Rick, who helped the Bulldogs to a state championship and earned himself South Georgia defensive player of the year honors in 1977. The 6-2, 205-pound linebacker/center wasted little time making a name for himself at Waycross his first two years.

Lowndes' Adam Reese is billed by Lowndes coaches as the best football player on the Viking team. As a 5-11, 175-pound nose guard, he'd better be. The small, but

Times

MI

The Valdosta Daily Times, Sun., May 6, 1979-8-C-



Looking For Ideas

Valdosta High School juniors Tony Blasetti, left, and Steve Teffeteller kill two birds with one stone here. They are researching current events for a history project and

looking for ideas for the Design An Ad Contest at the same time. — Photo by David Rush of VHS

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Vikes Take Heart-Stopping Win

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

Ray Luke sank a 15-foot jump shot as the horn sounded to give Lowndes a 41-39 victory over Valdosta here Tuesday in a high school basketball game.

The Lowndes Vikes won their half of the Region 1-AAAA (South) doubleheader defeating the VHS Kittens, 47-29.

The Vikes stretched their winning streak to 95. They moved to 5-0 on the year and 3-0 in the subregion.

The win placed the Vikes at 2-1 in the subregion and 3-2 overall.

The Wildcats dropped to 2-1 overall and 1-1 in the conference.

Lowndes next game is with Thomasville in Thomasville Friday. Valdosta is to play Bainbridge on the road Friday.

GIRLS
LHS 5 28 38 47
VHS 12 12 16 29
LHS (47) — Johnson 15, Griffin 9, J. Williams 6, Walters 8, F. Williams 8, Vickers, Latte, McCullough, McFarland, Forth, Carter, Parker, Waters, Culpepper, Branch, Waters 1.
Team totals: Field goals 21, Free throws 5 of 6, fouls 11.
VHS (29) — Cooper 4, Swindie 8, Wilson 2, Porter, Lewis 11, Wair 3, Nelson, Swells 1, Dolson, DeCarlo.
Team totals: field goals 12, Free throws 5 of 7, fouls 19.

BOYS
LHS 10 23 32 41
VHS 10 20 33 39
LHS (41) — Chandler 6, Foster 6, Carter 3, Player 14, Luke 12, Moore, Allen.
Team totals: field goals 19, Free throws 3 of 8, fouls 14.
VHS (39) — Daniels 6, New 17, Bond, Jones 7, Ceasar 6, Marable 2, Bernard 1, Coltran.
Team totals: field goals 15, Free throws 9 of 14, fouls 8.



Johnson Blocks Beverly Wilson Shot
—Times Staff Photo.

Luke's shot put the lid on the tense, crowd-thrilling contest.

Lowndes got the ball with :54 left in the game and the score tied 39-39. The Vikings ran the clock down to 10 seconds and called time, setting up the final shot.

The play Viking coach Terry Wilkes designed was actually to go inside, but the lanes were cut off.

"I checked the clock and there were three seconds left," said Luke, a junior guard. "I let fly. I couldn't do it again if I tried."

"It wasn't what we set up," said Wilkes. "But we'll take it. It worked."

The game was slow-paced, and deliberate. Each team was content to work the perimeter, looking for an open shot.

The girls game was also a slow affair, as the score indicates.

"Our goal was to keep them under 50 and not get beat 30 or 40 points," said Kitten Coach Jo Ellis.

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

The slow-down approach kept the score closer than it might have been, but after the first quarter Lowndes took control of the game.

The effort was not particularly pleasing to Vickette Coach Charles Cooper. "That was a poor excuse for girls' basketball," said Cooper. "It was a bad ballgame for us. They outthrustled us all over the floor."

"I feel good about it, because we played so badly and still won by 18. That must be a good sign. There is no way we could play any worse."

The Vickettes used a half-court zone press to pressure the Kittens at midcourt, a tactic that provided some fast breaks after steals. But what made the difference was a tall 1-3-1 zone defense that kept the Kittens from getting anywhere near the hoop.

As Ellis said, "they were just so dad gummed tall." Alphanette Waters had the sharpest first half of any of the Vickettes. In the second half Janice Williams and Faye Williams got things rolling on the break.

Pam Johnson finished as the top Vickette scorer with 15 points, mostly coming inside. Armeula Lewis topped VHS

with 11 points. The boys game was close all the way.

The shooting of Al Chandler of Lowndes and David New of Valdosta was the primary weapon in the early going.

New finished the game as high scorer with 17 points. He was probably the top individual on the floor with his high jump shots that seemed would never come down and assist from his tall guard position.

Steve Player was highly effective inside for Lowndes. He topped the Vikes with 14 points. Luke added 12 on six for eight shooting from the field.

Player set at the endline and broke to the hoop for 15

foot jump shots with regularity.

"I give him a little eye contact and he'll break to the middle or wherever," said Luke of his teaming with Player.

The pace was slow by plan. "I didn't think we could run and shoot with them," said Wilkes. "We had to take the good shot."

VHS Classes Of 1929, 1929½ Hold Reunion Here

By Times Staff Writer
Thirty-four members of the Valdosta High School Class of 1929 and five members of the Class of 1929½ gathered for a 50th class reunion Sept. 22 at the Sheraton Motor Inn here.

It was the first time the 82-member class had met together since graduating, said class member Ruth Arnett Mooshian of St. Petersburg, Fla.

A luncheon at the Sheraton was attended by about 41 persons, including class members and their spouses.

One of the class members, who is paralyzed, asked as many as could to drop by her North Street residence. Dorothy Ford gave those who

came pink carnations, which was the class flower, with ribbons which said "Class of '29."

The group also were given a tour of the new Valdosta High School by Principal Lloyd Mims.

"That was quite a revelation," Mrs. Mooshian said. "When we went to school we didn't have anything like that."

"That was fantastic." More than 80 persons, including classmates and spouses, attended the dinner at the Sheraton that night.

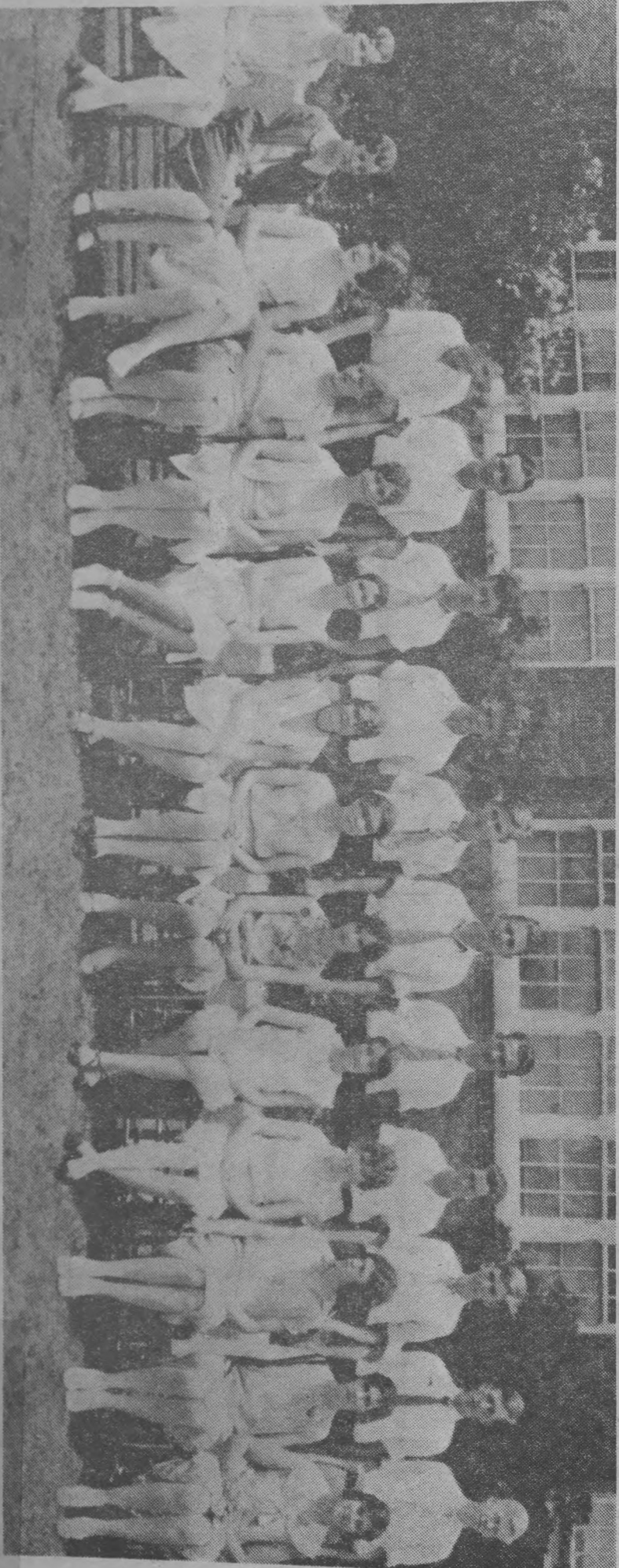
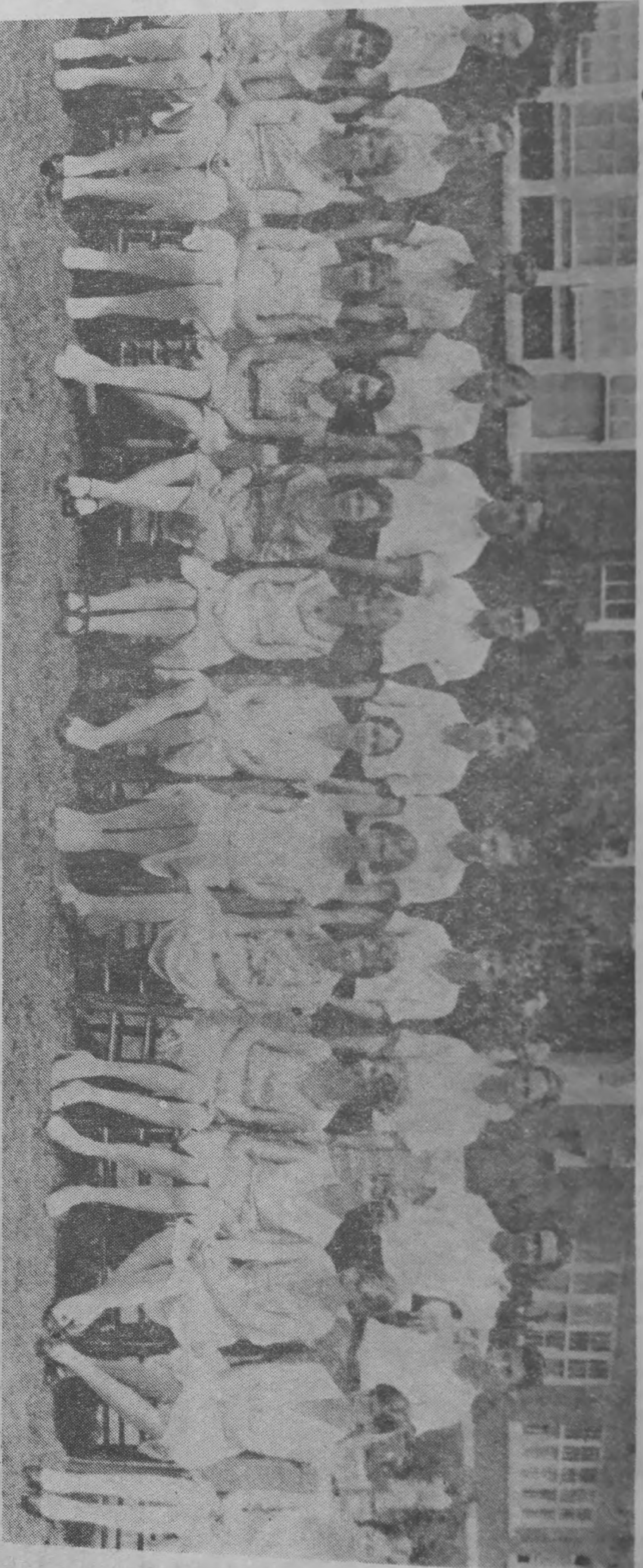
Class members who came to the reunion included: Mrs. Mooshian, Olga Carter Ledford of Naylor, Louise Clifford Coleman and Pearl Madeline Strong Davis of Twin Lakes, Virginia Dalton Puckett of Perry, Fla.; Grace Donahue Greer and Thomas Corley Wells of Atlanta.

Also, Inez Dugger Hinchcliffe of Le High Acres, Fla., Martha Lynn Everette Scarborough of Columbus, Chrystelle Fielding Baker of Leesburg, Fla., Sibyl Hinson Harris of Jacksonville, Fla., Curtis Jackson of Cordele, Sara Coral Jones Sears of Orlando, Fla.

And Thomas Ardell Kemp of Lexington, Ky., Bluma Leviton McCrary of Fargo, Mary Virginia McKey Shirley of Macon, Mary Alice Mosely Lee of Homerville, Robert E. Pindar of Albany, Lucille Pope Sessions of Warner Robins, Mary Francis Smith Hunter of Clayville, William Lee Stokes of Anniston, Ala., William P. Yarbrough of Lyons.

From Valdosta came Emma Lou Arnold Smith, Elizabeth Bell Godwin, Ethel Arnold Rehberg, Harmon Boyette, Frank P. Bracewell, Dorothy L. Denmark, Dorothy Estelle Etheridge Scruggs, Laura Lee Jones Wisenbaker, Alex Little, Hugh McIntyre.

Also, Edith Miriam Mixson Anderson and Cam U. Young. From the Class of 1929½, came Sherwood C. Dennis, T. J. Lake, Ralph Richardson and Clement Green of Valdosta and Fred Voigt of Marietta. They were graduated six months after the class of 1929.



Valdosta High School's 1929 Graduates: How Many Faces Can You Recognize?

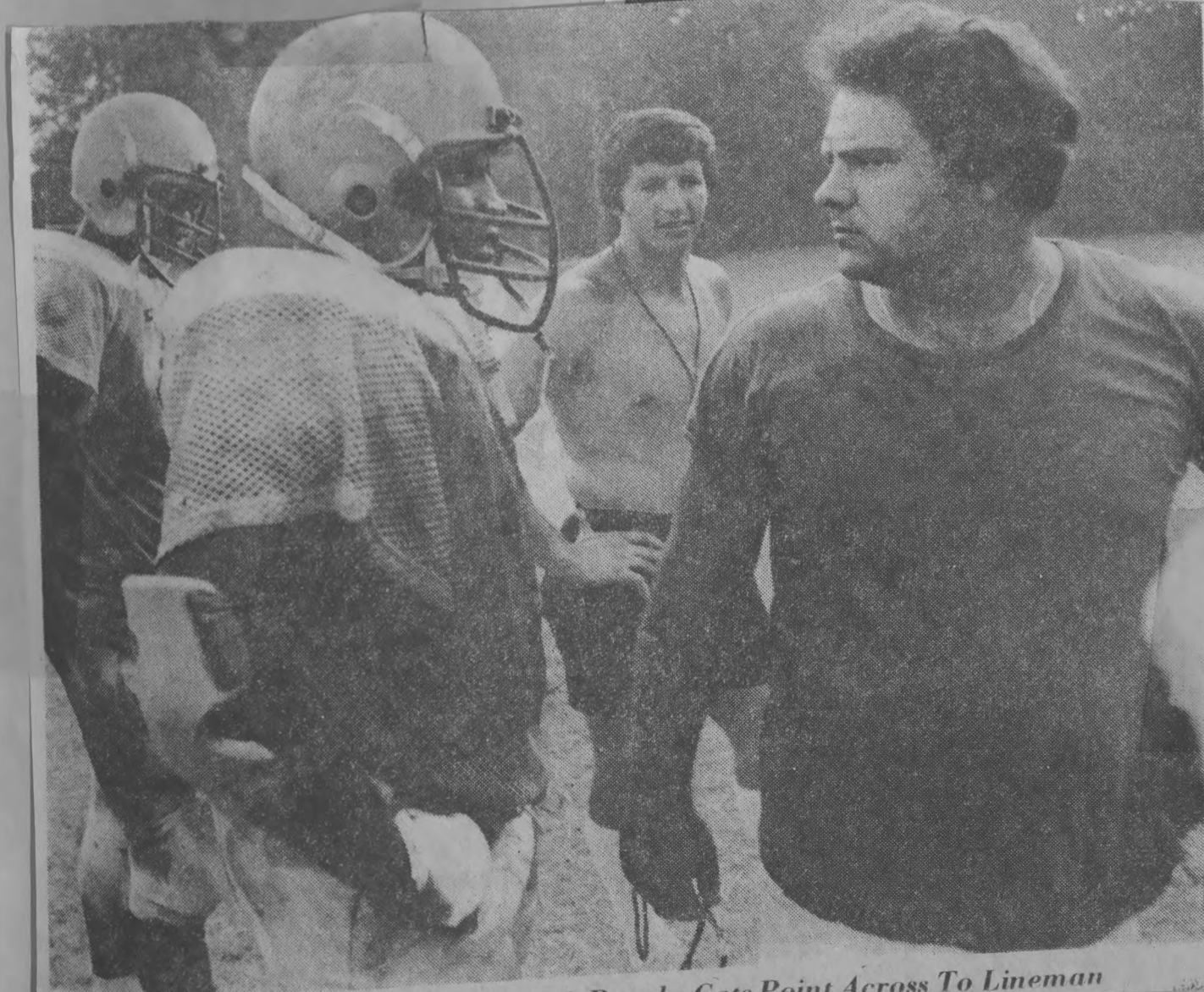
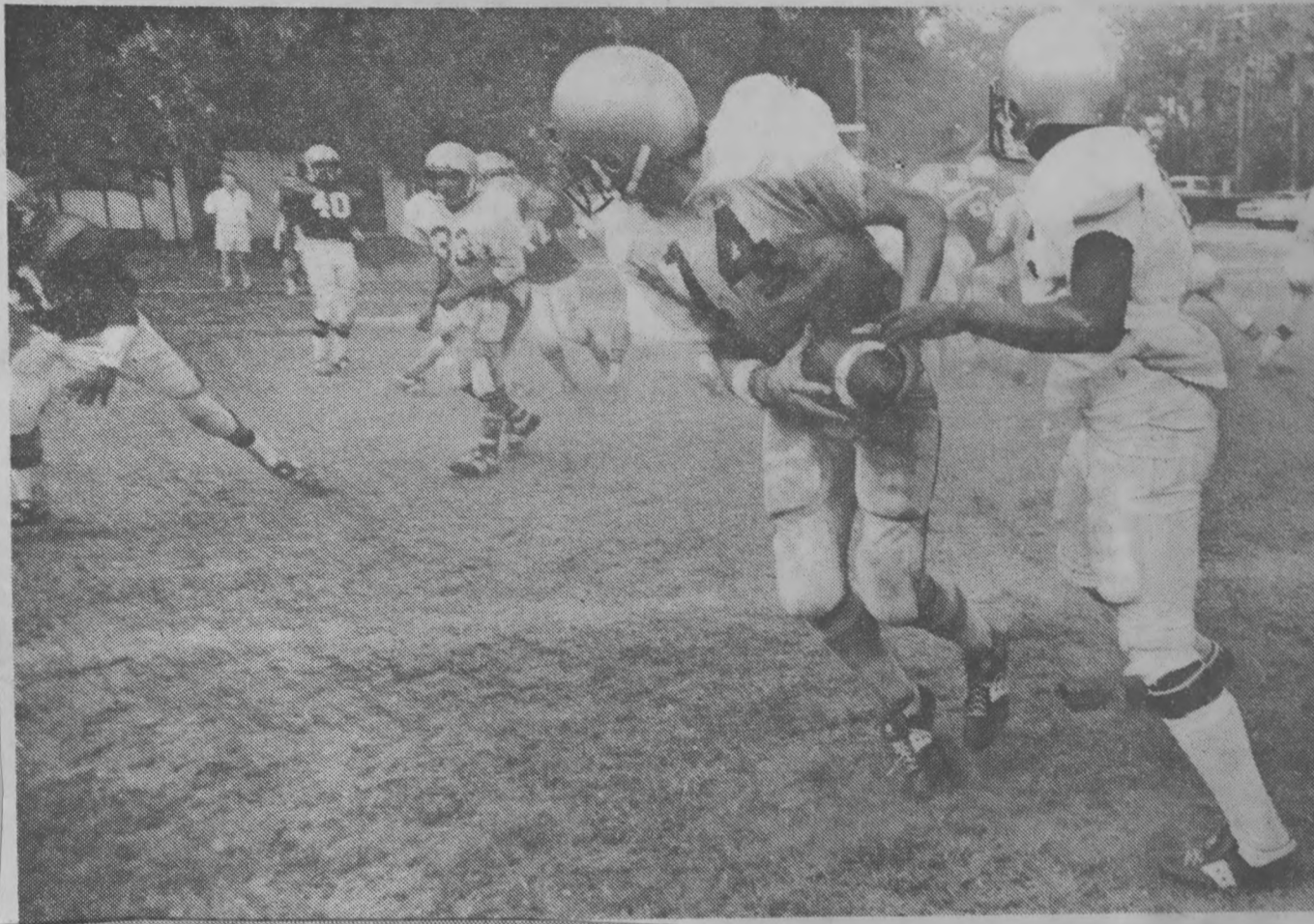
Photo Special To The Times

The Valdosta Daily Times

Valdosta, Georgia, Sunday Morning, August 26, 1979

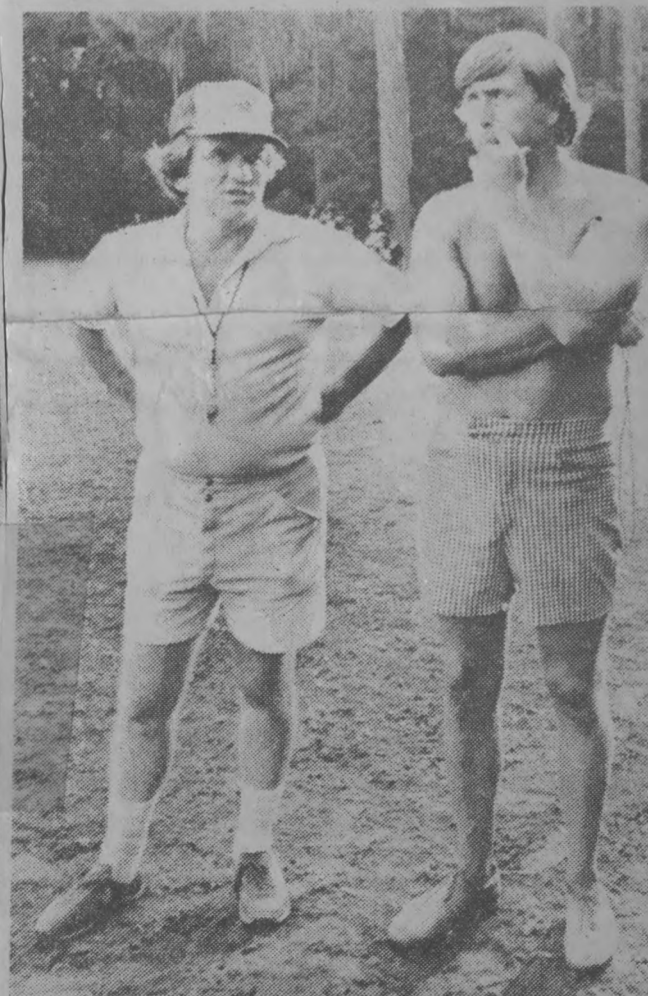
SECTION
B

Football Is In The Air



Wildcat Offensive Coach Butch Brooks Gets Point Across To Lineman

Hides Football, Looks For Receiver



*VHS Head Coach Nick Hyder, L,
Defensive Coach Jack Rudolph*

For a look at Region 1-AAAA (North), see page 22.

By ED ENGLISH

Times-Union Sports Writer

Valdosta High School football coach Nick Hyder has a problem.

His tradition-steeped program has cranked out a college quarterback each of the past two years. The only problem with this is that it makes it harder for the next replacement.

Recently, Hyder's solution to keeping pressure at a minimum borders on genius. Instead of preparing them on the sidelines with rigorous chores like holding the headphones, Hyder plays them at split end.

The theory here is that it's not as bad following in footsteps as it is hearing footsteps — like the ones a receiver hears when a defensive back is zeroing in for the kill.

Last year, it worked.

John Lastinger moved in from split end after a season of catching passes from now University of Georgia quarterback Buck Belue. He performed admirably enough to also receive a football scholarship from Georgia.

While Lastinger was quarterbacking, John Bond (6-foot-4, 198) was receiving. But when Lastinger separated a shoulder in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs, Bond assumed the reins he is expected to hold until next December.

Bond finished up a 52-0 win over Augusta Westside, then led Valdosta to a 23-0 win over Savannah Benedictine in the state Class AAAA semifinals and a 7-7 tie against Griffin in the state final.

Hyder hopes the experience in those two starts will help Bond guide his defending state co-champions back into the playoffs.

"[Starting] is like piloting an airplane," Hyder said. "It's a lot different taking off and landing than it is taking over in mid-flight."

The only difference now is that Bond's flight attendants are a little wetter behind the ears. Only six starters return: Four on offense, two on defense.

As a result, Hyder has the carpentry tools out for a little rebuilding.

"It's kind of like the SALT talks," he said. "We're more limited in what we can talk about this year. Last year, we had a



The offense is fine with Bond (left) . . .

Valdosta



. . . but Caesar (above) will need help on defense

ning back. King (5-11, 185-pounds) runs a 4.5 40-yard dash. He'll team in the backfield with another returner — 5-9, 155-pound Irvin Roe.

Up front, the Wildcats have two seniors back, both with two years' starting experience in Harvey Carter (5-10, 200) and Tony Blasetti (6-1, 230).

But even if the offense measures up man-for-man with last year's unit, it may not score as many points — or at least that's what Hyder fears because of Valdosta's green defense.

"Defense is the difference," he said. "We've got real good kids, but they don't have the experience. The chances you get [field position] make an awful lot of difference."

His only defensive holdovers are also two-year starters. Nathaniel Ceasar (6-4, 175) is back for his third year at safety, while Jimbo Hancock (5-11, 180) is back for his third year at defensive tackle.

The kicking game was depleted by graduation. "Punting is up in the air," Hyder said. "Bond is working on it, but he has no experience. Our punting is like a smorgasbord — we're looking at everybody. We've got two or three good kids, but it remains to be seen how they'll do."

Carl Gaines will handle kickoffs and field goals, while either Keith Simpson or Dale Parker will kick extra points.

Although Valdosta does not have many returnees, the quality of these athletes is above average. Hyder, whose program has produced 16 players active in the collegiate ranks, said all six returning starters have college potential.

But, he adds, this is not a prediction of a repeat for Valdosta in the state finals.

"Our chances are about one in 112," Hyder said. "That's because there's 112 teams in AAAA football."

"You can have an excellent football team in our region and go 5-5 or 4-6," he added. "The teams in this region will jump up and smite you in the face."

That probably won't be the case for Valdosta. But, by some small chance, if it happens, at least Hyder has a quarterback who could sing "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain."

"Temperment is the main thing," Hyder said. "[Belue and Lastinger] were both real high-strung, fiery competitors. Bond is calm . . . cool. You could slap him in the face and he'd still smile at you."

Using more figurative language, Hyder took the comparison even further. "The other two sing like Elvis," he said. "He [Bond] sings like Willie Nelson."

Traditionally, quarterbacking is the name of Valdosta's game, but as Hyder is quick to point out, not even the Wildcats' traditionally-great signal-callers can do it all.

Backing Bond up on offense will be Ernest King, a three-year starter at run-

bunch of X-15s. This year, we've had to fall back."

However, Hyder considers Bond just as big a weapon as his last two quarterbacks.

"He's [Bond] bigger. His natural body structure is bigger than we've had the last five years," Hyder said. "As a passer, he may have as strong an arm as we've had."

"Speed — he may be a little bit faster [Bond runs the 40 in 4.6] . . . he's right with them," he added.

Physical comparisons are one thing, but leadership ability is what sets Valdosta quarterbacks apart. Hyder described Bond's nature as different, but effective.

V. Times 8-28-79
**VHS Grid
 Tickets Go
 On Sale**

By Times Staff Writer
 Regular season ticket sales for Valdosta High School football ended this past weekend but ticket sales for the upcoming Central of Thomasville game began today.

According to school officials, tickets for the parents of football players and band members went on sale today. The number of tickets purchased are to be limited to the number of season reserve tickets the parents bought.

On Wednesday regular season ticket holders can purchase as many tickets as they have season reserve seat tickets. The time of the sale is from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the superintendent's office on Slater Street.

Beginning Thursday tickets are to be sold at Baytree Pharmacy from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. On Friday tickets are to be sold there from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Student season ticket sales are underway this week and next at all schools. Season ticket books are \$7.50. School Finance Director Jack Kent said no student tickets for any home game are to be sold at the gate.

Admission at the gate for the Central game for reserve seats is to be \$3.50. The price for general admission is to be \$2.50. Student tickets are to be \$2 and advance reserve tickets are \$3.

For the first home game against Crisp County Sept. 8 tickets at Baytree Pharmacy are to be sold beginning Saturday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Tickets for the game are to be sold also during the following week from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sept. 8, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

V. Times 8-28-79
VHS Grad Honored

ATLANTA — John Branan, who graduated from Valdosta High School last spring, was named Georgia's scholar-athlete-of-the-year here Thursday night.

Branan, co-captain of the football Wildcats and a member of the tennis team, received a plaque at halftime of the North-South All-Star Football Game at DeKalb Memorial Stadium.

The young Valdostan was a National Merit scholar, honor graduate, senior superlative and outstanding senior. He was a member of the math team, Beta Club and the Academic Bowl.

Branan, a winner of the state English writing award, is also a finalist in the Mr. Teen-Age America competition.

His parents, Dr. and Mrs. John M. Branan, were also present at the awards ceremony.



— Times Staff Photo. By Robert Winter III.

V. Times 8-29-79
Irvin Roe Tackled From Behind

Wildcats First In Poll

ATLANTA (AP) — Dalton and Marist are the best Georgia high school football teams in Class AAA, according to sportswriters and broadcasters who voted in the season's first Associated Press Georgia prep poll.

Dalton, the state runner-up last season, and Marist, which beat ninth-ranked Gainesville 27-20 last week, compiled 83 points each to tie for the top ranking in Class AAA.

Westminster, last year's state champion in AAA, dropped to eighth in the first poll of the season.

In Class AAAA, Valdosta tops the AP poll and is one of three region 1AAAA teams ranked in the top 10. Second-ranked Clarke Central is the best of four region 8AAAA teams in the top 10.

Other region 1AAAA teams in the top 10 include sixth-

ranked Thomasville and seventh-ranked Tift County.

Other region 8AAAA teams include fourth-ranked Cedar Shoals, ninth-ranked Peachtree and 10th-ranked Lakeside.

Griffin, last season's co-state champion with Valdosta, is ranked third.

In Class AA, East Rome tops the poll, on the strength of its 31-game winning streak and back-to-back state championships. East Rome compiled 96 points and nine first place votes.

Mary Persons is ranked second in Class AA and Claxton third.

In Class A, Johnson County dominated the balloting with 96 points and seven first place votes. Athens Academy took second place.

Buford, the defending Class A champion, fell to ninth this year after losing 13-12 to

Crestwood Friday.

Two other teams which suffered opening-game losses also rank in the top 10. Gainesville, which lost to Marist, is ninth in AAA. Jefferson, which lost 35-23 to Roswell, is ninth in AA.

With seven of the top 10 AAAA teams in the early season poll coming from regions 1AAAA and 8AAAA, it looks like some of the best teams in the state will not participate in the state playoffs.

Since only the region champion goes to the state playoffs at the end of the season, some of the top-ranked teams from 1AAAA and 8AAAA will not get past their region playoffs.

But the teams that represent those two regions in the state playoffs are certain to earn the respect of everyone else.

Preview

Continued From Page 1-E

The Gladiators flexed their muscles in the spring, crushing Central Macon 48-19 to give fair warning to the rest of AAAA.

Clarke must contend with several strong challengers in 8-AAAA, however, including cross-town rival Cedar Shoals and Dunwoody.

Cedar's Jaguars, who handed Clarke its only regular-season loss (12-3) last year, will again field a talented team, led by yet another college quarterback prospect, Tyrone Davis.

Dunwoody, which got its first taste of the playoffs last year, expects to be back for more this season. The Wildcats of Coach Roy Sparks return a veteran lineup, led by college prospects Tom Lewis (6-1, 195) at quarterback and Tom Carroll (6-2, 185) at wide receiver.

As usual, the Region 1-AAAA champion is expected to have something to say about the state title. This year, the favorites in Region 1-AAAA are Valdosta and Tift County.

In fact, Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder says he would rate Tift ahead of his Wildcats. "We've got some good athletes coming back," said Hyder, whose team tied Griffin 7-7 for the state crown last year. "But I think you have to look in Tifton for the team to beat. They should have a super team."

Indeed, Coach Gene Brodie's Blue Devils have several key starters returning from last year's 8-3 playoff squad.

Junior quarterback Ken Hobby (6-1, 180) can throw the ball effectively with either hand, although Brodie says, "We only let him throw right-handed during the game."

The Tift line is strong, as junior Ricky Holt (6-5, 222) plays tight end and defensive end, while senior Landy Ewing (6-3, 250) plays defensive tackle and some tight end.

Valdosta could return to the playoffs again, however, if the Wildcats can rebuild their defense in time. The Cats appear to be sound on offense with John Bond (6-4, 201) at quarterback, Ernest King (6-0, 180), who runs at a 9.9 100-yard dash, at fullback, three-year starter Tony Blasetti (6-1, 225) at center and Harvey Carter (5-10, 205)

Class AAAA

Preview

Preseason Top Ten

1. Clarke Central
 2. Valdosta
 3. Tift County
 4. Griffin
 5. Cedar Shoals
 6. Warner Robins
 7. Dunwoody
 8. Sprayberry
 9. Stone Mountain
 10. Benedictine
- Also receiving consideration: Cherokee, Columbia, Forest Park, Lowndes, Marietta, Morrow, Newnan, Peachtree, Pebblebrook, Savannah, SW DeKalb, Thomasville, Westside.

Players To Watch

Charley Dean, QB, Clarke Central; Josh Starks, LB, Clarke Central; Dwayne Harden, RB, Clarke Central; Daryl Purvine, LB, Campbell of Smyrna; Jeff Crowe, RB, Marietta; Chuck Houston, LB, Marietta; Larry Hardy, T, Willis; Tyrone Davis, QB, Cedar Shoals; Lamar Owens, RB, Tompkins; Kim Davis, QB, Washington; Terry Burns, QB, Jonesboro; Lenwood Smith, LB, Statesboro; Tommy Rose, T, Peachtree; David Scandrell, T, North Cobb; Todd Roper, LB, South Gwinnett; Jamie Englett, RB, Pebblebrook; Bobby Pyles, RB, Cherokee; Quincy Williams, E, Douglas County; James Bing, DE, Laney; Walter Williams, SE, Westside; Landy Ewing, T, Tift County; Ken Hobby, QB, Tift County; Eric Jarvis, T, Wheeler; Tommy Carroll, SE, Dunwoody; Tom Lewis, QB, Dunwoody; Spencer Nelms, T, Lakeside; Don Anderson, LB, St. Mountain; Gary Cunningham, T, South Cobb; David Phiel, DB, Tucker; Mike White, C, SW DeKalb; Warren Gray, T, Fayette County; Freddie Gilbert, T, Griffin; Jeff Jackson, LB, Griffin; Adam Reese, LB, Lowndes; Bob Yarbrough, LB, Morrow; Rodrick Florence, RB, Newnan; Joe Douglas, LB, Newnan; Jeff Autry, LB, Newton County; Mark Herald, NG, Sprayberry; Steve Taylor, T, Sprayberry; Stan Sparks, T, Wayne County; Art Osborne, T, Columbus; Steve Sheheane, QB, Columbus; Milton Walker, QB, Northside of Warner Robins; Winford Hood, T, Therrell; Michael Duncan, NG, Therrell; John Bond, QB, Valdosta; Ernest King, FB, Valdosta; Tony Blasetti, C, Valdosta; Rory Graves, T, Columbia; Chris Norman, QB, Dougherty; Dante Bramblett, LB, Forest Park; Daryl Jones, QB, Carver of Columbus; Bobby Davis, QB, Warner Robins; Greg Pratt, RB, Monroe; Eddie Ford, RB, Crisp County; Johnny Chastain, QB, Thomasville.

— called by Hyder "one of the best offensive blockers to play at Valdosta in a decade"

— at guard.
The Griffin Bears are again expected to capture the 6-AAAA crown, although Newnan, Morrow, Forest Park and Jonesboro could challenge for the title.

At Warner Robins, Coach Bob Davis' son Bobby is expected to lead the Demons back into the playoffs after a year's absence. The 6-3, 184-pound senior quarterback is considered a college prospect.

Size is the keyword at Sprayberry, as Coach John Paty's Yellow Jackets are a slim pick over Marietta to repeat as Region 5-AAAA champions. Steve Taylor (6-3, 265), Randy Kirk (6-3, 235), Mark Herald (6-2, 215) and Steve Allison (6-1, 205) are the "big" reasons Sprayberry is ranked No. 8 in the preseason poll.

Central's Experience Has Valdosta Coach Concerned

By TOMMY DESSELLE

Times Sports Editor

"We've reached the point where we need to play a game to find out what areas we need the most work on," Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder commented before the Wildcats practice session Tuesday.

"Overall, we've done a great deal of hard work and have laid a concrete foundation for our program," Hyder said. "Now, we need to build from this level."

VHS launches its 1979 season Friday night, clashing with Central in a non-subregion contest in Thomasville. Central went 3-7 last fall, but Hyder expects

the Yellow Jackets to be improved.

"Don (Garland) is a very intelligent coach and he has put together a sound football team," Hyder said. "Central has the talent to be a factor in the sub-region race."

"Willie Robinson has the power and size to be one of the top running backs in the region. Darrell Daniels and Richard Hays are also capable backs," Hyder said.

"They have experienced quarterbacks in Tim Sherrod and Frank Spires." On defense, Central returns its secondary of Tony Wyche, Marcus Majors, Calvin Eason and Robinson along with linebackers R.E. Eason

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

and Steve Jones and middle guard Steve Williams.

"Central has basically the same team returning, plus they're sounder and more mature," Hyder said. "They have nine starters back on defense."

VHS has been working to develop more depth. "It's

difficult to distinguish between the front line troops and reserves," Hyder said. "We're working a number of lads at different positions."

The Wildcats' mentor said the offense was more settled than the defense at this juncture.

"The lads seem to know their assignments better and are a little sharper on offense," Hyder said. "We're also stressing all phases of the kicking game. An illegal block on a punt return nullified a touchdown and cost us the state title last year against Griffin (7-7 tie)."

Pat Mayes and John Bond are handling the punting chores with Keith Sampson, Dale Parker and Carl Gains competing for the extra point and field goal chores.

"The kicking game is important, you must be able to execute all phases and also defend against them," Hyder said.

After two rough weeks at camp, the Wildcats held a scrimmage session Tuesday, then begin tapering off today and Thursday for the Yellow Jackets.

"Basically, we were pleased with the results at camp," Hyder said. "We only had one lad to quit the team, he fell in love and he wanted to spend more time with his girl friend."

Central has an edge in experience and also the home field advantage for Friday's contest.

"Football is an emotional game that involves a great deal of courage," Hyder said. "I believe we can find enough lads to stand up and withstand the pressure under fire. Experience and character must take charge when they're in the huddle on the field alone. We need to attain that emotional peak Friday."

The contest is expected to attract a sellout crowd. Thomasville plays Dougherty Saturday night in Albany and the Bulldog fans are to join the Wildcat and Yellow Jacket boosters.

VHS Mood Was Disappointment

Disappointment, rather than dejection, described the mood of the Valdosta High players and coaches after a 24-6 loss to Tift County in the Region 1-AAAA championship game. The 'Cats had time to see it coming.

After the Blue Devils scored their 24th point on the home Tift turf it had to look like a might long way to come to the Wildcats.

It must have been disappointing to play what is possibly the best team in the state on even terms for a half and then see dreams of future glory vanish in the night.

Statistically speaking the first half was even, but actually the better half belonged to Valdosta. The 'Cats moved on Tift like it was just another ballclub, but that final first down that means the difference in a touchdown and a field goal was not to be had by VHS.

If Valdosta could have scored six on two first-half drives, it would have been in the drivers seat. As it was, Tift got the big break before the half to take the 10-6 halftime lead.

John Bond rolled out at a time when I was thinking Valdosta might increase its 6-3 lead. Tift's Jeff Johnson stepped up to pick off the pass. Tift had only a minute in which to score, but as good teams do, that minute was enough to tally a back breaking touchdown.

The 'Cats barely touched the ball the second half. They ran 17 offensive plays in the second half. Tift had 39. The two halves were as different as night and day.

The Blue Devils shuttled in seven backs that had productive nights. Five-yard chunks on the ground is about as safe an offense as can be run. Landy Ewing had an exceptional night blocking, as did the rest of the Tift offensive line. Ewing weighs 230 pounds at about 6-4 and looks like he can barely fit into the largest uniform Tift High School could find.

Expecting the 'Cats to beat a team as talent laden as Tift might be a bit much to ask. But truthfully, I felt the 'Cats were going to do it. There is no reason to go into a game thinking you're going to lose and myself, as a local backer, saw no reason Valdosta couldn't win.

Tift is definitely a powerful football team, with talent in just the right places. The line is awesome and the receivers are much more than adequate. The Devils throw just enough to keep the defenses honest and usually get good yardage. Hobby just doesn't get caught for a loss in the backfield. He throws the ball away when the defense warrants it. That talent shows the poise of a veteran much farther on in years.

Gene Brodie, the Tift head coach, has been to the state title game before. When he was coaching in Macon he took a team with 19 players to a championship.

Brodie has rebuilt respectability to the Tift County program. He has exceptional football players on a team that is many people's choice for state honors this year.

There were many good teams in 1-AAAA this year, but Tift stood out among all the quality ballclubs.

For the 'Cats it was a good year. Many people may forget that there were to be only two defensive starters returning and five on offense when the season began.

An inexperienced VHS team won eight of 12 games and qualified for the region title game. It was a good year.

Teaching: It's A Family Affair For Four At VHS

By MARCIA McRAE

Times Features Editor

Nelle Wade and three of her four daughters get together every morning — not over coffee but over the Valdosta High School sign-in sheet.

It's the only time they can be sure to see each other, said the four new VHS faculty members.

None knew the others had applied for jobs when they sought jobs here this spring.

In an interview Jill Powell,

College.

What Mims didn't know was he hired the women's mother when he hired Mrs. Wade, an English teacher "a full 24 years."

But that left Ava Mills, 24, with a problem.

"I was afraid to apply because I knew mother wanted to come here. And I didn't know if they'd hire that many in one family."

When she found they would, she too applied. Her husband Jimmy Mills, Brooks County Junior High School coach, student taught at VHS in the spring.

With his going to Quitman, Mrs. Mills decided she needed to be closer to home and not commute to Echols County School. She taught English there four years.

Mrs. Wade, 56 and a divorcee, came here from Crisp County High School. She taught at old VHS in the late 1950s. "I expect I'll be teaching some of the children of children I taught then," she said.

She wanted to return to Valdosta for two reasons. She loved teaching at VHS and she wanted to be near her daughters and two new grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills have a son, Russ, 11 months. Mr and Mrs. Powell have a daughter, Rachel, 6 months.

Mrs. Faulk and her salesman husband Leonard Faulk have a daughter, Jennifer, 10.

While she's "quite content" to be close to her daughters daily, especially with Mrs. Mills teaching next door, Mrs. Wade said she expects difficulty with names.

In fact all four women expect to have more trouble with their relationship than any students they may have in common, they said.

The big adjustment is to calling each other "Mrs. . . ."

Mrs. Faulk and Mrs. Mills have a head start. They faced the dilemma in their mother's classroom in Cordele.

"I flunked French," said Mrs. Faulk, Vocational Office Training coordinator.

"You didn't," interjected her mother.

"Well, she passed me," Mrs. Faulk admitted. "But I probably would have failed."

Mrs. Faulk said her mother and sisters are naturals at teaching. "I had to be forced into teaching," she said. Her mother finally convinced her she'd like the field to have hours coincided with her

daughter's.

"Mother kept saying, 'Go back to school and you can teach secretaries,'" said Mrs. Faulk who calls typewriters and shorthand her "natural environment."

She was a state secretary in Tallahassee, Fla., and has a business education degree from VSC.

So although she's the oldest of the sisters, she has the least teaching experience, three years at Cook County High School.

She came to VHS because she wanted the VOT position, she said, adding they're hard to come by.

The other sister, Teresa Powell of Albany isn't in the profession, although she started work in it, said Mrs. Wade who has an advanced teaching degree from Auburn University and a master's from Mercer University.

It's Mrs. Faulk who expressed wonder at why the four were hired at VHS.

"Was it individual merit or as a group," she asked. "Was it because they saw one was good and they assumed all would be," she said.

Mrs. Mills was Echols STAR teacher last year. Mrs. Wade has been selected a STAR teacher twice.

A check with Mims quickly made it clear, "it was all individual."

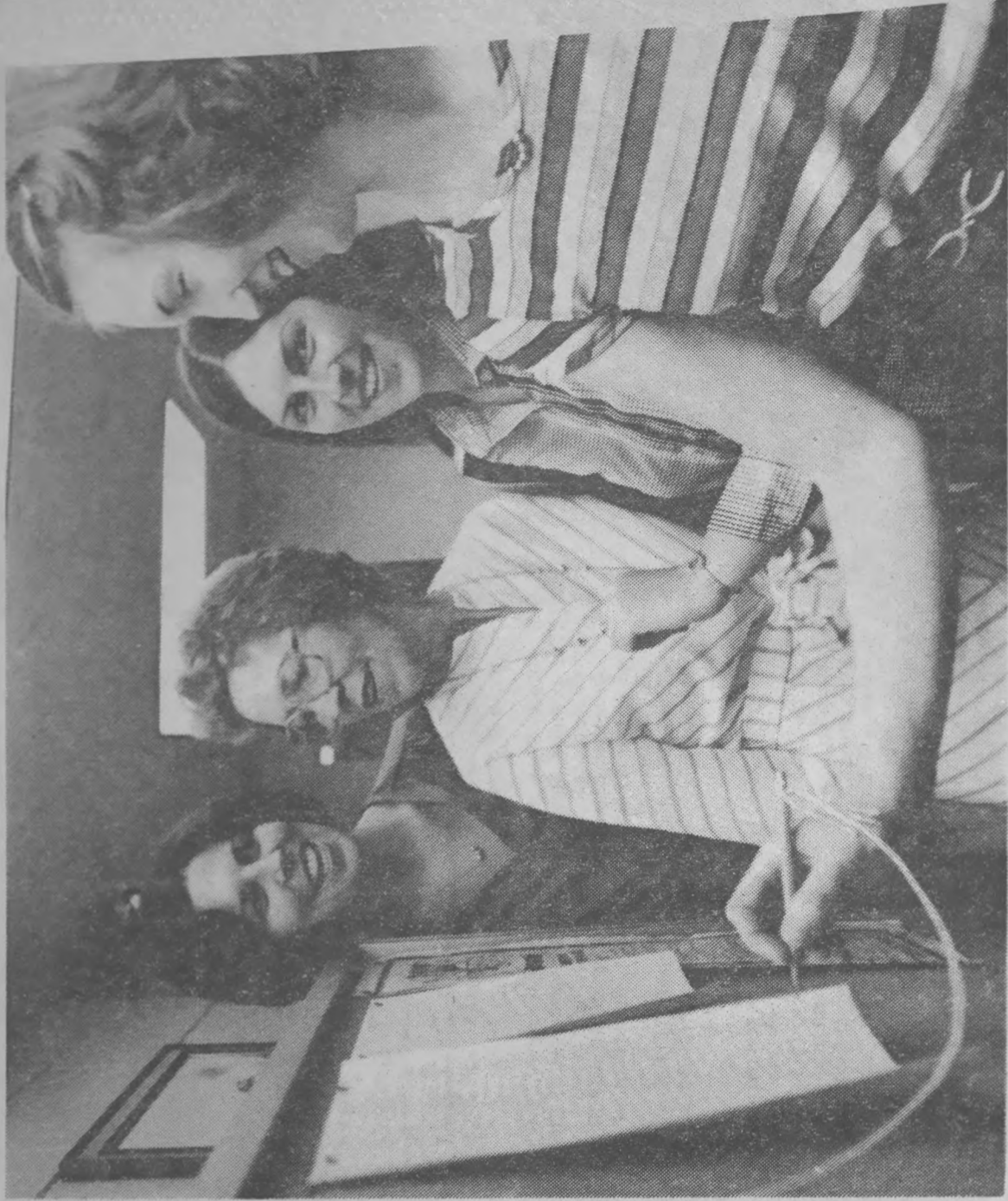
But now that he has the team of women there, he's glad of one family trait — their height. With the group of 6-foot-plus-tall women, he wants to form a faculty basketball team.

But the women may not have time for that.

Mrs. Mills said her spare time is busy "teaching a baby to walk and diaper washing."

Mrs. Powell said she's been booked up with graduate school, leaving her little time for her hobbies, bowling, tennis and church work in the Baptist church.

Mrs. Wade said she likes to spend her time reading,



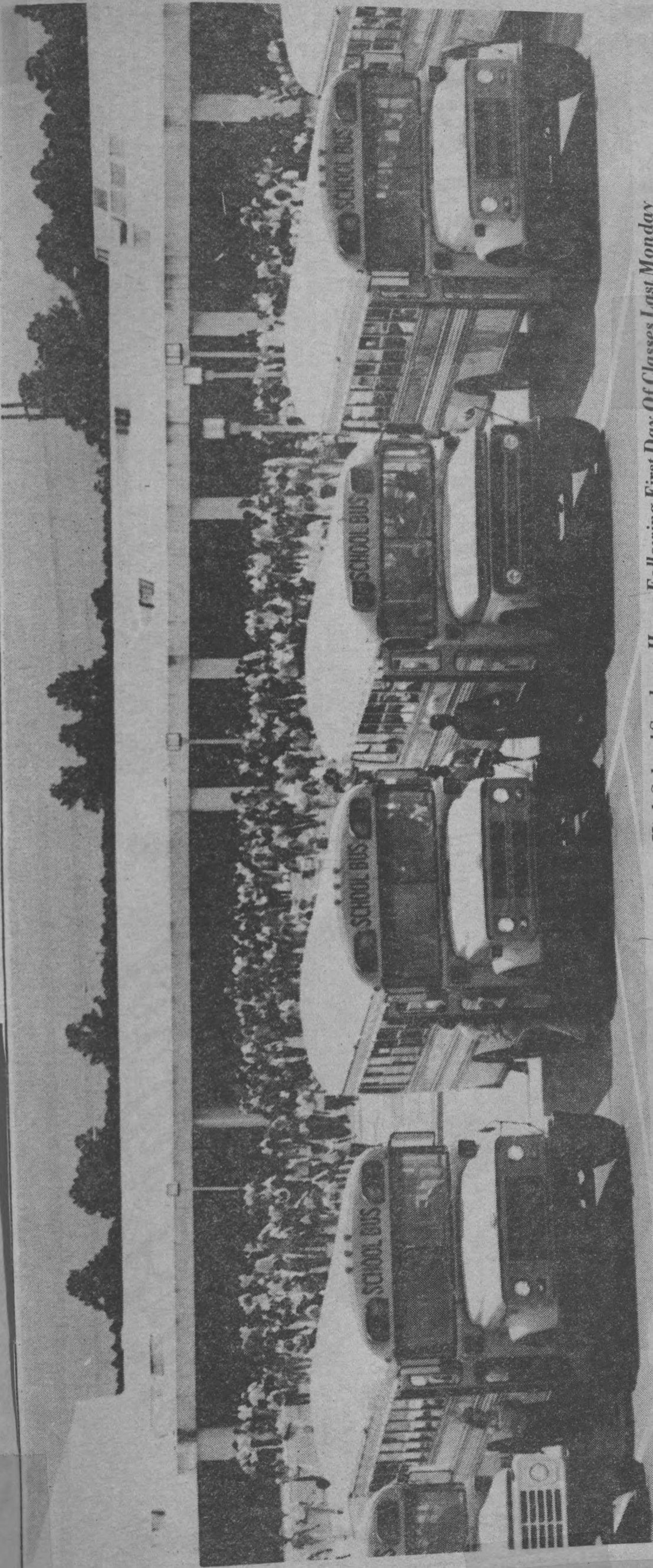
—Times Staff Photo.

Sign In, Please: Mrs. Faulk (L), Mrs. Wade, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Powell

sewing, gardening and just being outdoors.

Mrs. Faulk claims until June she won't have time for her interests in reading nonfiction, trying recipes for anything but hotdogs and sewing.

Valdosta, Georgia, Sunday Morning, September 2, 1979



Daily Lineup: Fleet Of Buses Waits To Transport Valdosta High School Students Home Following First Day Of Classes Last Monday

YOU ARE THE CATS
WELCOME FRESHMEN
YOU ARE NOW WILDCATS

Big Black And Gold Signs Make VHS Freshmen Feel At Home

WELCOME TO MATH



• BRIDAL REGISTRY
• PAPER TROUSSEAU
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Wedding Plans?
WE'RE HERE TO HELP...

Black Is No Jinx For Wildcats

V. Times 9-9-79

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 totting 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 in 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 aerials 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.

"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."

Bond, King Lead 'Cats Over Crisp

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	86	37
Passes	8-13	3-10
Passes Inct. By	2	0
Fumbles Lost	3-0-0	4-4-3
Punting	9-85	6-57
Penalties		

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,

according to VHS Coach Nick Hyder.

Slippery Eddie Ford 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

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 to 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:		7	10	7	12-36
Valdosta	Crisp Co.	6	3	0	0-9

Scoring:	
Val	— King 13 run (Parker kick)
Frd	— Ford 10 run (kick failed)
Cri	— King 5 run (Sampson kick)
Val	— Harvey 24 field goal
Cri	— 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 24-122, 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 8-13-96; Crisp — Musslewhite 3-8-1-37, McFarland 0-2-10.
Pass Receiving:	Valdosta — Ruff 7-87, Robinson 1-9; Crisp — Mc 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, Doan 8, Stuckey 7, Crisp 5, M. Harvey 4, Davis 3, Harper 3, Smith 3, Walker 3, Johnson 2, Jackson 1.
Interception Returns:	Valdosta — Horton 2-71; Crisp — no interceptions.

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

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 from Cougar quarterback Skeebo 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



—Times Staff Photo By Mike Dowse

Valdosta's John Bond Turns Corner For Some Of His 123 Yards Rushing

V. Times 9-16-79

'Dosta Outlook Succumbs

By LA-VOE GRIFFIN
Times Staff Writer

'Dosta Outlook is no longer in print. Like many publications around the country, the newspaper at Valdosta High School has fallen victim to inflation and the high cost of printing.

"A high school the size of quality of VHS should have a newspaper," said Eloise Terry, former faculty advisor for the Outlook.

"But we just can't because of the cost."

Funds for the newspaper came solely from the revenue from programs sold at football games and the advertisement in the programs she said. The publication has never received any subsidy from the board of education.

"With a few bad years in sales at football games, the newspaper was just wiped out," she said.

"The cost of printing has gone up, paper is expensive and we just couldn't cover the cost."

The cost of printing the paper would be anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 per month, said Miss Terry.

Debts left over from previous poor football program sales are blamed for



ELOISE TERRY
Former Advisor

most of the newspaper's financial problems. Last year's programs sold well and would have paid for printing the newspaper during 1978-79 year if there had not been so many debts to pay off, said Miss Terry.

Because there was no student reaction last year when the Outlook was not printed, the administration

decided not to offer any courses in journalism this year.

"The administration decided that if students were not willing to support the paper that it just wouldn't publish one," said Lloyd Mims, VHS principal.

"We need it, I know that," he said. "But due to financial reasons the newspaper just couldn't make it."

Students weren't buying enough papers to cover printing costs, said Mims. A few students would buy the paper and then pass it on to their friends, he said.

"With inflation eating everything up and advertisements down, the small sale of papers made it impossible for the Outlook to cover its cost."

The printing press at VHS could be used to print a newspaper if the students wanted it, said Mims. But, the quality of the paper would not be what it has been in the past and students want high quality if they are going to have it at all, he said.

"It was really a personal choice of mine not to let the school print the paper," said Miss Terry.

"We had always used the

slick enamel paper and I wanted to continue with that high quality paper. The press at the school could print on slick paper but it wouldn't be the quality we had had."

The cost of using the off-set printing press at VHS would be less than the cost of using a commercial printer. But, the paper and supplies would still be too costly for the newspaper to finance.

"They could do a good job out here but it wouldn't be a freebie by any means," she said.

Students' lack of interest in the newspaper is the major reason nothing has been done to get the paper started again, said Superintendent Ralph Brandon. There has been no request made by students or faculty to the board of education asking for help, he said.

Miss Terry says it is difficult to get students to help on the newspaper staff now. They are willing to work during school hours, but most students have jobs and other outside activities that keep them busy after school, she said.

Valdosta Upset, 9-0 Atlanta Journal 9-16-79

Thomasville Gets Even With An Old Antagonist

By CHRIS JONES
Special Correspondent

THOMASVILLE — Thomasville ended five years and seven games of frustration Friday night when the Bulldogs shut out arch-rival and third-ranked Valdosta 9-0 before 12,000 fans.

"It was a typical Valdosta-Thomasville game, but this time we won," said Thomasville Coach Jim Hughes.

Thomasville, ranked fifth by The Journal in Class AAAA, capitalized on a Valdosta turnover in the first quarter when defensive tackle Calvin Wheeler fell on a fumble deep in Valdosta territory. Three plays later, fullback Cary Clark rambled 12 yards to score what turned out to be the game's only touchdown.

Thomasville upped the margin to the final 9-0 count late in the opening quarter when Steve Strickland kicked a 25-yard field goal, capping a 62-yard drive that took 11 plays.

"It was a matter of field position and our punting," said a happy Hughes. "Johnny (Chastain)'s punting was high and accurate all night long and it allowed us to minimize their return yardage. Our defense was excellent, too, at getting our offense the ball in good field position."

Clark was the game's leading ball carrier with 81 yards on 16 attempts, including the touchdown. Valdosta's Irvin Rowe rushed seven times for 55 yards.

Chastain, Thomasville's quarterback, did not have one of his better passing nights, hitting just six of 14 for 34 yards, while John Bond completed eight of 16 for 96 yards for Valdosta.

Strickland, when he wasn't kicking, spent a busy night harrassing the Valdosta offense. He was the game's leading tackler with eight individual stops and led a defensive effort that never allowed Valdosta to penetrate inside the Bulldogs' 20-line yard.

Teen Keeps Spirits Up

By ELIZABETH BUTLER
Times Staff Writer

Two years ago last month a Valdosta youth dived into a swimming pool, struck the bottom and was instantly paralyzed from his shoulders down.

In February of this year that same teen-ager was involved in a car accident which shattered both knees, broke both legs and one of his arms and cut his face in numerous places.

Each day Brad Guthrie has to take 27 pills to keep his body functioning properly.

If anyone has a right to feel bitter, depressed and sorry for himself, Guthrie surely does. But the 16-year-old Valdosta High School student feels none of those emotions.

"Being paralyzed is a real traumatic situation, but he handles it better than anybody I know," said his father, Herman Guthrie, who owns a Gulf service station on St. Augustine Road.

"He's the same as before he was hurt. He just can't walk."

But the teen-ager is hopeful medical research will some day find the answer to his walking again.

"I think some day they'll find a way to splice the spinal cord," said the teen-ager who reads everything he can on

spinal research. "They have done it on dogs."

Guthrie also said the Russians were experimenting with enzymes "that eat up scar tissue" to take the pressure off the spinal cord.

Does he ever get depressed?

"Oh, sure," he said, smiling, "but not any more than anybody else."

"And not very often," his father said.

"He has never had a bad attitude and never said, 'Why did this happen to me?' or anything else."

Recalling the swimming pool accident at their Wood Valley residence, Guthrie said his son dived off the side of the pool about a half inch too low.

"I remember hitting and it was like a shock," the younger Guthrie said. "Then I floated up and waited for someone to pull me out of the water."

The teen-ager could see the legs of his friends who were swimming with him and could hear them talking, but couldn't move. He felt no pain.

The youth heard some of his friends say that he had been floating a long time and they had better pull him out. Ten minutes after he was out, he told them to call an ambulance.

Dr. Wade Renn, a neurosurgeon here drilled holes in his neck to hang traction and to stretch his neck. He stayed in the intensive care unit of South Georgia Medical Center here for a week and on

hospital four months, getting out in June.

Just two months prior to the accident, the teen-ager had moved his foot on Christmas day.

He chalked up his two bad experiences to "just bad luck, I guess. It wasn't really anybody's fault."

The teen-ager, who has a wheelchair, attends school for half a day.

How does he like school?

"I like it as good as I ever did," he said, wryly. "I hate it."

In his leisure time he enjoys listening to and collecting records, riding around with his friends and going to an occasional party.

the fourth floor for six weeks.

He was taken to Shepherd's Spine Center in Atlanta for two months where surgery was done to fuse two vertebrae together. He also went through a rehabilitation program there.

"He has broke more bones than Evil Knivel," his father said, recalling the car accident last winter.

The teen-ager was riding around in a car with a couple of friends at night.

"It was raining and that's all I remember," he said.

Guthrie said a dog ran out in the car in which his son was riding and the driver swerved to miss it.

The youth was in the



Science Class: Guthrie Gets Notes Taken By Tanya Brooks

—Times Staff Photo.

9-17-79

Something's Got To Give When 'Dogs Meet 'Cats

By STEVE ROBERTS
Times Sunday Editor
THOMASVILLE — The script is a good one.

Thomasville's Bulldogs are 2-0 following two straight trips to Albany. Valdosta's Wildcats are 2-0 with one of the wins coming here against Thomasville's crosstown rival Central.

Valdosta is the top-ranked team in the state in Class AAAA. The Bulldogs are ranked fifth in the latest Associated Press poll.

It's Thomasville's home opener in friendly Veterans Memorial Stadium, affectionately known here as the Doghouse.

The Wildcats have won the last seven meetings between the two schools, including four straight here, and lead the series 43-15-5.

The game won't affect the Region 1-AAAA race because the two teams campaign in different subregions, but Bulldog boss Jim Hughes considers Friday's dog and cat fight a most important contest.

"Anytime Thomasville plays Valdosta it's more than a routine game," Hughes said. "I don't think either one of us would want it to be any different. It's a great rivalry, one Valdosta has had its way recently. It's a game we look forward to playing."

Nick Hyder, Hughes' counterpart at Valdosta, believes this Bulldog edition

Probable Starters

VALDOSTA

Edward Robinson 160, Soph.
Pat Mays 140, soph
Tony Blasefth 220, sr.
Bobby Horne 180, sr.
Harvey Carter 190, sr.
Phillip James 185, jr.
William Davis 160, jr.
John Bond 185, sr.
Irvin Roe 155, sr.
Ernest King 180, sr.
Mike Ruff 160, sr.

Lynn Roe 180, jr.
Steve Hunter 155, sr.
Willie Bealy 190, jr.
Jimbo Hancock 180, sr.
Calvin Davis 210, sr.
Anthony Battles 175, jr.
Paul Stokes 175, jr.
Greg Scurry 150, soph.
James Horton 155, jr.
Mark Toth 145, sr.
Nathaniel Caesar 175, sr.

OFFENSE

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G
C
QB
HB
FB
FL

DEFENSE

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NG
LB
LB
CB
CB
S
S

THOMASVILLE

Nate Brown 185, sr.
Harold Guy 160, sr.
Derrick Bentley 185, jr.
Charles Dixon 195, sr.
Bernard Thomas 185, sr.
Brad Lawson 190, sr.
Buddy Floyd 160, sr.
Johnny Chastain 170, sr.
John Kavouklis 175, sr.
Cary Clark 190, sr.
Darrell Duncan 160, sr.

Robert Walker 180, jr.
Darrell Jordan 160, sr.
Mike Thompson 200, jr.
Tony Anderson 220, sr.
Chip Chastain 175, sr.
Steve Strickland 190, sr.
Calvin Wheeler 185, sr.
Jimmy Francis 140, soph.
Leroy Grant 160, jr.
Willie Mitchell 165, sr.
Jimmy Macklin 160, sr.

own. Quarterback Johnny Chastain is one of the leading passers while running backs Cary Clark and Johnny Kavouklis are proven performers in AAAA warfare.

"Valdosta can hurt you in several places," Hughes said. "We have to be solid on defense both inside and outside, and if we do one thing to the exclusion of others they could hurt us. We just try to take away what they do best," Hughes said.

"I think this game will be a good indicator as to whether we're strong enough to get into the playoffs," Hughes continued. "Valdosta is the best team we've seen this year. What we want to do is match up with them. It will be a good test for our football team."

The Bulldogs tuned up for the battle with a come from behind 14-13 win over Dougherty on opening night and a 54-0 massacre of weak Westover last week.

Valdosta is yet to be seriously tested, beating Central of Thomasville 34-7 in its opener and handling Crisp County 36-9 in its first subregion game Saturday.

A capacity crowd is expected to jam Veterans Memorial Stadium, with or without fallout from Hurricane Frederic which slammed into the Gulf Coast Wednesday night.

determine when they'll do each of those things. If you have a horse like Bond, I guess you should ride him."

Hughes of course was referring to Valdosta quarterback John Bond, who is off to an outstanding start with 465 yards of total offense in two games.

Bond has plenty of help in his backfield with fullback Ernest King who has picked up 218 yards in two outings, including a 173-yard rushing night against Crisp County Saturday. Also, speedster Irvin Roe, who sat out the Crisp game with a bruised thigh, is expected back.

The Bulldogs, however, counter with a veteran offensive backfield of their

will approach this game with a more offensive-minded game plan than in past years when Thomasville seemed to rely more on its defense.

"Actually, we're approaching this game exactly like we have in other years. We have to stop Valdosta and we have to generate some points. There's no major differences," Hughes said.

Hughes expects no surprises from this Valdosta team apparently because nobody has been able to consistently stop what the 'Cats do.

"We know what they'll do. They'll run off tackle, try to trap us now and then and throw the ball," he said.

"The trouble is trying to

9-8-79

Athletes Of Year Named At Banquet

By Times Sports Writer
Rhonda Rowell and John Lastinger were co-winners of the Athlete of the Year Award at Monday night's Valdosta-Lowndes County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet at the Valdosta Elks Club.

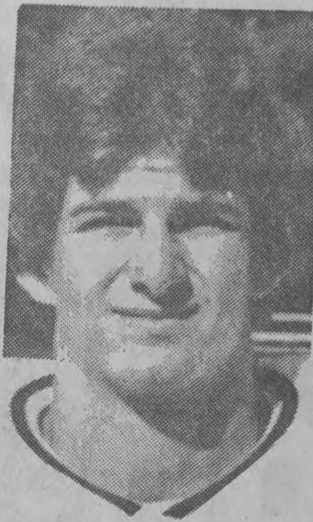
Rowell was a three-year starter for a Lowndes High Vickette team that earned three state and three national championships in girls' basketball.

Lastinger piloted the Valdosta High football team at quarterback and was an outstanding contributor to the Wildcats' baseball team.

Rowell is to attend Valdosta State College on a basketball scholarship, while Lastinger is at the University of Georgia playing football.

Other outstanding individuals and teams were honored at the banquet. Ten new members were also inducted to the Hall of Fame.

The new inductees were A. Gamble Cleveland, Frank D. Rose, Alton Boone, Charles Cooper, Bill Grant, Sonny Stephenson, Homer Passmore Jr., Harry B. Anderson, R.W. Murphy and Robert Oliver.



JOHN LASTINGER
Former VHS Quarterback



RHONDA ROWELL
Former LHS Forward

Colson and Deland Guthrie - Georgia Christian Basketball, Clela Colson - Georgia Christian Girls' Basketball, Tim Pitts and Paul King - Valwood Soccer, Fred Armentrout - Valwood Track: 100 Yard Dash, Deana Garvin - Valwood Softball, Mark Bossardet, Jack LeMaster, Bret Watzka and Andy Fortier - Valdosta State Cross Country, Eddie Brown - Valdosta State Basketball, Georgia College Player of Year, Carol Chason, Susan Taylor, Coretta Bloom and Cathy McCurdy

Valdosta State Women's Basketball, Nancy Irby, Tori Stewart, Leigh Mosley and Gina Clayton - Valdosta State Women's Tennis.

ALL-AMERICAN HONORS
Rhonda Rowell - Lowndes Girls' Basketball, Steve Martinez and Bret Watzka - Valdosta State Cross Country, Carol Chason and Susan Taylor - Valdosta State Women's Basketball, Frank Gonzalez, Sal Amadeo and Jimmy Wall - Valdosta State Baseball.

9-17-79

'Cats Slaughter Brooks

By Times Sports Writer
In a game at Cleveland Field Saturday night, the Valdosta High B-team demolished the B-team of Brooks County (Quitman) 68-0.

For the final game of the B-team season, the Valdosta players put on an offensive spectacular, with four gridgers scoring two touch-

downs apiece.

Eugene Patterson scored twice, as did Fred Motes, Bo Callaway, and Dale Parker. Ashley DeLoach and Joe Henry each scored one touch-

down to add additional impetus to the runaway.

The Valdosta B-team was not defeated in season competition, and end regular play with a 3-0 record.

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	
First Downs	Valdosta Albany
Yards Rushing	16 5
Yards Passing	283 25
Passes	105 74
Passes Inct. By	11-21 4-11
Fumbles Lost	1 2
Punting	2-19 8-34.5
Penalties	4-30 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

Colquitt Co. (Moultrie) in a non-subregion contest. Albany visits Bainbridge.

The Wildcats ground out 388 yards in total offense, 293 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

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's' 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 topsy-turvy 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 0-0
Scoring:	V — Frazier 2 run (Parker kick), V — Frazier 24 run (Sampson kick), V — Frazier 57 run (Parker kick), V — 1. Roe 11 run (Sampson kick), V — Frazier 5 run (Parker kick), V — DeLoach 6 pass from Parker (Sampson kick); A — Coleman 17 pass from Blalock (Walker kick).

Individual Statistics
Rushing: Valdosta — Frazier 15-174, Bond 13-56, Roe 6-30, King 2-21, Parker 5 minus 11, Motes 2-3, Johnson 1-2; Albany — Williams 8-16, Lester 4-12, Jones 2-6, Glover 1-4, Nix 1 minus 4, Oliverio 6-(-34), Blalock 3-(-26).

Passing: Valdosta — Bond 5-13-155, Parker 6-80-50; Albany — Oliverio 0-0-0, Blalock 4-81-74.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Robinson 3-30, Johnson 3-31, DeLoach 2-11, Roe 1-17, Frazier 1-8, Mitchell 1-8; Albany — Coleman 4-74.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Roe 3-31, Horton 2-35; Albany — none.
Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Roe 2-45, R. Patterson 1-19; Albany — Montgomery 2-49, Jones 1-15, Nix 1-11, Solomon 1-22.
Interception Returns: Valdosta — Sullenberger 1-0; Albany — Montgomery 1-11.



—Times Staff Photo by Mike Dowse

John Bond Brought Down By Wave Of Albany Defenders

High School Should Revive 'Dosta Outlook

My first venture in journalism was inauspicious, to say the least. Buddy West recruited me, because my arm wasn't broken. My job was to turn the crank on the mimeograph machine.



By
**TENNEY
GRIFFIN**

Buddy was the 'Dosta Outlook editor, and he was out of commission with a broken arm, the victim of phys-ed touch football. But the editions had to continue.

For Valdosta High School to operate without the 'Dosta Outlook in those days was unheard of. How would anybody, for instance, know which boyfriend was cheating on which girlfriend without reading Mo Brummitt's

gossip column.

VHS journalism then was an exercise in fun and games and lots of us fell victims to the "pen" of the Outlook's gossip columnist. We expected that. That's why we couldn't wait for the next edition.

The Outlook had a staff of

more than two dozen. Just about everybody had a title. There were mostly chiefs and a few Indians. Editor West, though, never gave me the title of pressman. I just turned the crank.

Bubber Mellon was the assistant editor. He got his name in the gossip column more than anyone, and properly so.

Barry Phillips was the sports editor. It was a conflict of interest, because Barry was the Wildcat captain. That didn't prevent him from writing about what a great game he played the prior Friday night, however.

Plowden Rabun was the

business manager and for some reason there was always enough money to buy mimeograph paper. Jack Alexander was the advertising manager, but for the life of me I can never remember our mimeographed editions carrying any advertising.

Miss Rubye McKinney was the Outlook's advisor and her job was to keep us in line, an impossible task.

Dr. Cleveland was the superintendent and he was always there to get one of the first copies off the "press." He wanted to know who was cheating on who, too. So did Mr. Bridges, the principal.

These memories were jogged by the story we had in Sunday's paper: "'Dosta Outlook Succumbs.'" And that's a pity.

How can VHS possibly survive without the 'Dosta Outlook. It has been an institution at the school since 1934, and unlike our war-time mimeographed editions, has been one of the leaders in high school journalism in Georgia over the years.

"A high school the size and quality of VHS should have a newspaper," said Eloise Terry, the former Outlook advisor. Agreed!

There are all kind of reasons the Outlook has succumbed: inflation, high printing costs, student indifference, low advertising sales, unpaid bills.

It is amazing, isn't it, that Buddy West and the Outlook staff 30-some-odd years ago had all these reasons, too, not to publish. Well, all but one. We were not indifferent. We couldn't wait to get our hands on that primitive mimeograph copy.

See, it wasn't how it looked. It was the content that counted.

Valdosta High has come a long way in 30 years. It even has its own printing press, an off-set machine, far superior to that ancient mimeograph of those by-gone "good old days."

The students may be indifferent to their newspaper. But is it because the newspaper is indifferent to the students?

I hate to see these little things go by the boards, because it is the little things that make for a fine high school, and VHS is that. It won't be, though, if the little things keep going.

The 'Dosta Outlook has a great tradition. It ought to be revived. Maybe some thick-headed football player could be recruited to turn the crank. Maybe even another Mo Brummitt would come forth to tell everyone who is cheating on who.

Women: You Can Survive Football

Football coach Jack Rudolph of Valdosta believes 90 percent of moviegoers don't know what it takes to produce a good movie. "But they know when they've seen one," he said.

The former professional



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Valdosta vs. Albany

John Bond, Ernest King, and Co. attempt to bounce back from a stinging loss to Thomasville against the 1-2 Indians in a 1-AAAA (North) subregion game tonight.

Valdosta Gymnasts Win

A team representing Valdosta finished first in a three-way girls' gymnastics meet held here Saturday.

Valdosta finished with 159.8 points, followed by Bainbridge with 155.3 points and a team made up of clubs from Waycross and Douglas, which wound up with 143.8 points.

It was the second win in as many starts for the Valdosta Parks and Recreation Department-sponsored team, coached by Jerry Baker.

Kellie Sessions placed first for Valdosta in the 6-8 age group, while Jill Singletary was third.

Patricia Webb of Valdosta finished second in the 9-11 age group, while Becky Broadfoot wound up fourth and June Powers was fifth.

In the division for those 12 years of age and older, Valdosta's Tammy Parker was first. Herry Frassrand was third, Lysbeth Simmons wound up fourth and Stephanie Meuse was fifth.

Valdosta is to compete again next Saturday, when it hosts Albany.



WRIGHT BAZEMORE
'Watch One Player'

Bazemore Offers Football Fans Tips

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a two-part series on former Valdosta High Coach Wright Bazemore. Part one ran in Sunday's edition of the Times.

By ARCHIE MCKAY
Times City Editor

Now that he is on the sidelines anymore, Wright Bazemore can sit in the stands at Cleveland Field and watch football games. He has a leg up on most fans because he can see more.

The longtime and highly successful coach at Valdosta High School has often said he had a way of seeing all the players as a coach and this

helped his play calling.

"I was in the Navy and standing watch you had to develop your vision... I think that helped me when I was coaching," said Bazemore, in an interview at his residence.

There are some things the fans can watch for and enjoy in the game more, according to Bazemore.

"I think you do it wrong if you just watch the ball carrier and not the blocking," said Bazemore.

Getting into a three point stance on the floor Bazemore showed some of the things a defensive team looks for across the line.

"If a back is leaning for-

ward on his hand it is generally a straight run but if his weight is to the back it probably is a wide sweep or pass," said Bazemore.

The retired coach suggests a fan keep his eye on the line of scrimmage.

"From the end down, look

the way they are blocking and you will usually see the play.

The end on offense sometimes lines up wide for a pass but if they edge in to the line it is usually a running play... these are the things the coaches and defense look for," said

Bazemore.

Further down the line the guards are good to watch, said Bazemore, since they often pull on running plays.

Guards "pull" by dropping back a step from the line and either set up a trap play or lead the blocking on a sweep.

"That's what the defense keys on," said Bazemore.

Looking for a pass or running play is what keeps coaches guessing but Bazemore says there are some keys.

"If it is going to be a long pass play the line will step back or set up for pass protection, you can see that immediately... if it is a play

weakness," said Bazemore.

Coaches — and fans — can spot trends in the game especially when one team is physically beating the other.

Jerseys get dirty, "sometimes they don't get up as quickly or just walk back the huddle," said Bazemore, noting these are weaknesses a good team can capitalize on.

"I would suggest the fans in the stands now and then pick out one boy, a guard or tackle, and follow his every movement, whether he is blocking or just standing around... you'll get a big kick out of it," said Bazemore.

action or run they will fire out.

"The defense looks over the line trying to spot these keys. If they catch somebody leaning they can key on the play," said Bazemore.

The VHS Wildcats only run about eight to 10 plays but these are run off a number of sets, from pro set to the I formation.

"These are the same basic plays just run off different sets and this puts pressure on the defense.

"Football is a lot like checkers because you move around to find the weakness in the defense and then it is just your strength to the

National Football League

Payton, Bears Take On Dallas

By The Associated Press

In two games, Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears has run up 307 yards — but on Sunday he runs into the Dallas Cowboys, who have never let him run very far.

He has gained 101 yards against them — but it's taken him two games and 36 carries to do so. Still, the National Football League's leading rusher this year and National Conference's ground-gaining champ last year is not to be ignored.

And Tom Landry is not ignoring him. "Payton is just so strong," says the Cowboys' coach. "He just runs right through defensive linemen. They hit him and he doesn't even ripple, just knocks 'em back. He has incredible balance. He doesn't care how he gets his yards. He just knocks you down."

The Bears, like Dallas, are unbeaten in this young season. That's building the players' self-image, a key ingredient according to Coach Neill Armstrong. "They have confidence and better talent than last year's team," he said. "You need confidence to play Dallas, and execution, too. At this point I don't know how good we are — but we'll find out some things in a hurry."

Payton isn't the only running back on Landry's mind. "How well we do depends on stopping Payton and getting our running game going," he says, reflecting on Tony Dorsett and Robert Newhouse. Dorsett, who broke a toe before the season when he dropped a mirror on it, made his first ap-

pearance of the season last Sunday in Dallas' 21-13 victory at San Francisco. Newhouse has gained 147 yards in two games, ninth in the league.

In Sunday's other games it's Pittsburgh at St. Louis, Denver at Atlanta, New England at Cincinnati, Detroit at the New York Jets, Baltimore at Cleveland, Philadelphia at New Orleans, Kansas City at Houston, Miami at Minnesota, Tampa Bay at Green Bay, Buffalo at San Diego, Oakland at Seattle and San Francisco at Los Angeles. On Monday night it's the New York Giants at Washington.

Last year Earl Campbell of Houston, the NFL rushing champion as a rookie, became only the third running back in NFL history to gain 100 yards in each of his first two games as a pro. This year two more did it, Otis Anderson of St. Louis and William Andrews of Atlanta.

They're second and third in rushing this far, Anderson with 302 yards and Andrews with 288. Campbell, incidentally, is fourth with 204 yards.

And, like Payton, both Anderson and Andrews are running into defenses that know how to handle the run. A week ago, the Steelers limited Campbell to 38 yards, the lowest of his young career, on 16 carries. (Pittsburgh also demolished Houston's aerial game, intercepting three Dan Pastorini passes, sacking him five times and allowing just four completions for 16 yards.)

Pittsburgh, not surprisingly, is No. 1 in American

Conference defense. And No. 2 in rushing defense in the AFC is Denver. The Broncos and Steelers will be trying to keep Andrews or Anderson from becoming the first rookie to gain 100 yards in his first three games.

Speaking of running, the New England Patriots, who ran roughshod over the Jets 56-3 last Sunday, visit the Bengals, who are still smarting over the 51-24 shellacking administered by Buffalo.

Last week it was the ground game — namely four TD runs by Roland Hooks — that killed Cincinnati. This time the Bengals have to worry about the air assault. Steve Grogan beat the Jets with five TD passes.

The Colts have had virtually no air attack going since Bert Jones went down with a shoulder injury in their season opener. Now Baltimore has to worry about the Browns, 2-0 and hoping to repeat last year's 45-24 romp.

Philadelphia quarterback Ron Jaworski suffered a broken finger in last Monday night's loss to Atlanta, but he insists he'll start against the Saints, still looking for their first victory and looking for a consistent kicking game with Russel Erxleben sidelined.

Oakland was rocked by San Diego last week when the Chargers "got even" for the famous Ken Stabler fumble of a year ago. Now the Raiders have a little getting even on their minds. In 1978 Seattle became the first team in 13 years to sweep a season series from the Raiders, beating them 27-7 and 17-16.



Teen Drinking

Problem Here, Elsewhere ^{V-Times} Sept 23, 1979

By LA-VOE GRIFFIN
Times Staff Writer

Alcoholism is a serious problem among the nation's teen-agers and young people in Valdosta are no exception.

"There is a problem with teen-age drinking here and it is about time parents realized what is going on," said one Valdosta High School teacher.

One out of four teen-agers in the country gets drunk at least four times a year and close to 60 percent of America's teen-agers get drunk at least once a year, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. These statistics translate into 45,000 Georgian teen-age alcoholics.

"I am very concerned with the problem of young people drinking," said Jenny Wisenbaker, guidance counselor at VHS.

"We have a problem here and we don't need to stick our head in the sand and act like it is going to go away."

The problem was brought home last week when seven VHS students were suspended from the school when they arrived there under the influence of alcohol.

"The recent events here go to show that we do indeed have a problem," said the VHS teacher.

While most persons confirm there is a problem, no one has a definitive answer for why the problem exists.

B.C. Williams, senior guidance counselor at Lowndes High School, blames the emphasis placed on marijuana and pills during the last 10 years for the rise in teen-age drinking.

"Everyone has been so concerned with drug abuse among teen-agers that they ignored the problem of alcohol. It has always been more of a problem than other drugs because of the availability of it," he said.

Mrs. Wisenbaker agrees the easy

access to alcoholic beverages contributes to the problem. She says something must be done about establishments which sell liquor to minors.

The one factor which most experts agree is primarily responsible for teen-age alcoholism is the break down in parental authority.

"The parents are to blame for the problem," said the VHS teacher.

"They want to know why the school won't do anything about the problem. The problem is that parents have not done anything in the home."

Parents have blind trust in their children and allow things to go on which they shouldn't, said Mrs. Wisenbaker.

"Parents have got to wake up to what

is going on here," she said. "I wonder how many parents stay awake at night until their teen-agers come in from a date. I think they would be surprised how much their kids are drinking if they waited up."

Teen-age drinking is more than a social problem. It is also a moral problem which church leaders say must be dealt with in the church.

"The problem has to be looked at from the Christian point-of-view," said Ron Creque, associate pastor of First United Methodist Church here.

"We are planning a program later this fall on alcohol abuse and what it means to a Christian."

Creque said the problem with teen-
(See Problem, page 2)

Vald Times Problem Here

SEPT 23, 1979

age drinking is at the point the public needs to know what is going on. There are a lot of teen-agers drinking in Valdosta and the family needs to be aware of the problem, he said.

"I tend to look at alcoholism as the symptom of a deeper problem rather than a sole problem unto itself. If a person is drinking, especially a young person, something must be very wrong in their life."

Loren D. Archer, a top official of the NIAAA, told a state Senate committee created to study the problem of teen-age drinking that the fact teen-agers are drinking is symptomatic of a greater problem.

Speaking before the committee in Atlanta Thursday Archer said "a tied of social change has swept over this country in the past decade.

"...Given the fact that society in general is depending more and more on chemicals as a coping mechanism, it should become apparent that teens are simply imitating grown-ups — those they see at home and those they see vicariously, both on television and in the slick, attractive pages of national magazines."

Norwal Smith, director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center here, agree the acceptance of alcohol in society at-

tributes greatly to the problem of teen-age drinking.

"Alcohol is considered an adult drink and drinking marks arrival into the adult world," he said. "Young people see their parents and other adults drinking and want to participate to prove they too, are grown-up."

The problem is easier to discuss than it is to solve, agree experts.

"Law enforcement agents are going to have to crack down on sale of alcohol to teen-agers," said Mrs. Wisenbaker.

"The kids are getting the alcohol from somewhere, they aren't making it themselves."

But, law enforcement officials can only do as much as the community insists they do. If parents get angry enough about the problem perhaps they will begin insisting on strict control of alcohol sale, she said.

Old ways of discipline and respect for authority must be taught in the home before the problem can be dealt with in schools said the teacher.

"If kids don't have any respect for authority they aren't going to have any qualms about coming home or to school drunk," said the teacher.

Smith said his clinic can not deal with the teen-age alcoholism until a person seeks help. Realizing the problem

exists is especially difficult for teen-age drinkers, he said.

"The reason many teen-agers do not seek help is because alcoholism is not considered a problem until later in life," he said. "Everyone hopes the problem will go away if they ignore it. But, it just doesn't work that way."

Smith said most teen-agers who come to his clinic for help have been referred by a parole officer.

Juvenile Court Judge Wayne Ellerbee said most cases brought before him involve alcohol in some form. Most delinquent acts are committed while the young person is under the influence of alcohol, he said.

State legislatures are considering implementing programs into the state's schools to educate teen-agers on the effects of alcohol.

Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Human Resource Dr. Douglas Skelton told the state Senate committee teen-agers should be the targets, of government-supported education programs on alcoholism as well as prevention and treatment programs.

At the present time there is no program at VHS or LHS dealing solely with alcoholism.

'Cats Travel To T'ville For Annual Fall Classic

By STEVE ROBERTS
Times Sunday Editor
Thomasville vs. Valdosta.
Forget the fact it's not a subregion game. Forget the fact both teams are 2-0 and are two of the top-ranked teams in the state. Forget the fact Valdosta has won the last seven meetings.

In other words, throw the record book out the window. It's time for a good, old-fashioned dog and cat fight.

The No. 1 ranked Wildcats put their 2-0 record on the line Friday night against a tough bunch of Bulldogs at Thomasville's Veterans Memorial Stadium.

VHS Head Coach Nick Hyder considers the game a most difficult test for his inexperienced but fast improving club.

"There are two teams that eat, live, breathe and sleep to beat Valdosta," Hyder said before a practice session Tuesday. "One is in the same county as us. The other is Thomasville."

Hyder is well aware of the success his 'Cats have had against Coach Jim Hughes' Bulldogs since Thomasville won 40-0 en route to its second straight state title five years

ago.
A fullback named William Andrews played on that Bulldog edition, and Hyder will never forget him.

"That was a great Thomasville team, and Andrews was a big reason. You don't forget getting beat 40-0."

But that was long ago. Recently Valdosta has had everything its way. The wins haven't come easily, but they've come and the Wildcats now lead in the long series between the two schools 43-15-5.

VHS added its two latest wins to that total last season. The games were classics and were the 'Cats biggest tests of the season with the exception of the 7-7 tie with Griffin in the state title game.

Valdosta won 16-7 in the regular season in a game that was much closer than the final score and came from behind to win 12-7 for the Region 1-AAAA championship.

"The difference in both those games was a matter of fractions," Hyder said. "Those were two excellent football teams playing."

But again, that was last

year. Bragging rights are up for grabs again and it's time to put up or shut up.

Not surprisingly, this Thomasville team, ranked No. 5 in the latest Associated Press prep poll, impresses Hyder.

"This year Thomasville has a more balanced attack. Their approach to us has always been defense. This year I think their approach will be offense," Hyder said.

The Bulldogs are a veteran offensive football team. Like Valdosta, they return their entire backfield from a year ago. . . Johnny Chastain at quarterback and runningbacks Cary Clark and Johnny Kavouklis.

"Offensively, they're a machine. They strike like lightning. Chastain has great timing. Clark is an outstanding multi-purpose back. Kavouklis is unique. Unique means one and only," Hyder said.

According to Hyder, the Bulldogs' offensive line is not as big as in the past but has great quickness.

While Hyder expects Thomasville to be more offensive-minded, he doesn't expect his team to be able to

run and pass up and down the field.

"Oh, I don't mean they've forgotten about defense over there. There's no less emphasis on defense. Thomasville is always a sound defensive football team."

The Bulldogs obviously pose a serious threat to Valdosta's No. 1 ranking in this week's AAAA poll.

The 'Cats earned the No. 1 spot by sharing the state title in 1978 and winning the first two games of 1979 in convincing fashion.

Only seven starters returned from that state championship club, but those seven have provided the leadership in the early going this year.

"Experience pays off," Hyder said. "We're living off those experienced players right now. We're not where we'd like to be, but the kids have worked hard, are working hard."

Some good news from the Wildcat camp is that halfback Irvin Roe, who missed last week's Crisp County game, is listed as a probable starter this week. Roe bruised a thigh and sat out the 'Cats 36-9 win over Crisp.

If Roe is ready, he'll join fullback Ernest King and quarterback John Bond in the backfield. Bond and King had outstanding games last week, gaining almost 300 yards rushing between them. Roe gives VHS an added dimension because like Thomasville's Clark he is a solid all-purpose back.

The Bulldogs should give Coach Jack Rudolph's defenders their biggest test of the still young season. Only two 'Cat starters are back from last year's superb defensive unit.

Thomasville tuned up for Friday's slugfest with a 54-0 rout of Westover last week following a 14-13 squeaker over Dougherty two weeks ago.

"They've played Dougherty and Westover, but they've been practicing for us for three weeks," Hyder said. "Their scout team quarterback has been wearing No. 14 (Bond) and the runningbacks have been wearing No. 44 (King) and No. 22 (Roe). There's no doubt who they've had their mind on."

A full house is expected for the 8 p.m. kickoff Friday.

'Cats Ground Game To Slow Thomasville

Nick Hyder, head football coach at Valdosta High, has said more than once lately that his offense takes what the opposing team's defense allows them to have.

Joe Wilson of Lowndes has used the same sentence himself. That kind of thinking turns the gridiron into something resembling a chessboard with the two head coaches as the players.

Ferrell Henry of Crisp County (Cordele) and Hyder played their version of chess Saturday night, with Hyder emerging a convincing 36-9 winner.

Two grandmasters meet for another game of grid chess Friday, when Hyder and Jim Hughes of Thomasville take their places on the sidelines.

I guess from this desk is that Hyder and company hope to take a few chess pieces away from Thomasville before the match ever begins.

Time of possession and ball control are nearly synonymous terms that usually apply to the team that wins a football game. The team that has the ball longer most generally scores more.

Hyder's 'Cats have controlled the football in 35 and 36-point efforts in their first two games this season. By controlling the football, the 'Cats have taken a few chess pieces away from their opponents. The way those pieces are taken away is with a ground oriented attack.

The Wildcats threw 16 times in the first game and 13 in the second.

One reason the Wildcats want to hold onto the ball is the striking power of their opponents. Scoring 54 points against Westover (Albany) shows offensive talent, as T'ville did.

The VHS backfield is rated as good as any in AAAA, but the team trio that stands alongside John Bond, Ernest King and Irvin Roe is Johnny Chastain, Cary Clark and Johnny Kavouklis of Thomasville.

This week's comparison about tells the region story at this early point in the season.

The two finalist battled to a 12-7 decision on a balmy evening in T'ville last November.

An indication of how much respect VHS has for both Crisp and Thomasville is how long Bond and King stayed in Saturday's game.

Freshman Cougar quarterback Bruce McFarland came into the game midway through the fourth quarter, while King and Bond continued their exploits.

"I felt like it was wise to give the young quarterback a chance," said Henry. "I didn't see there second string come in."

The need, Hyder may feel, to hone his offense for T'ville and the rest of the league is shown by keeping King and Bond



Mike Hagood
Times Sports Writer

plugging away.
Henry was a bit upset after the game. The Cougars' performance didn't seem to please him. "We would have won except for several mistakes," he said.

It surprised me that Henry didn't go to Eddie Ford sooner. The reason said Henry was, "They were ready to stop Ford."

Crisp was admittedly a solid ballclub. Much improved over last year, as is Colquitt County (Moultrie).

I see what kind of job William Andrews is doing for the Falcons and I remember the kind of rushing job King did against Crisp.

It was like he and Bond felt the need to make up for the absence of Roe, who was nursing a bruised thigh. Believe me, some Crisp linebackers will remember King. Those Cougars woke up Sunday morning remembering his blasts.

Bond talked about how he would feel the next morning saying, "When you wake up it's tough. You find sore places you didn't even know you had."

"Crisp was a lot tougher team than we thought. They had a big front line and were tough with the blitz. That guy that weighed 240 benches 450 was really good."

This sportswriter won't get a chance to see the Wildcats take on the Bulldogs. I'll be in Tifton for Lowndes against Tift County.

The two groups of Valdosta-Lowndes County's finest take the city's banner to a couple of our south Georgia neighbors' stadiums.

Bringing those banners back is going to take everything they can muster.

The 'Cats Will Come Back ... And Soon

V. Times 9-16-79

Winnersville has taken it on the chin this weekend. It was bound to happen, a weekend when both high school football teams would get beat as well as the University of Georgia. It was bound to happen, but it doesn't make it any easier to take.

Thankfully Georgia Tech had the weekend off. The team that is perhaps most responsible for the Winnersville slogan that the area so proudly wears ran into a buzz saw in Thomasville Friday night.

Valdosta's Wildcats, defending Class AAAA state co-champions, were shut down offensively by a tenacious Thomasville defense and dropped a 9-0 decision to the revenge-minded Bulldogs.

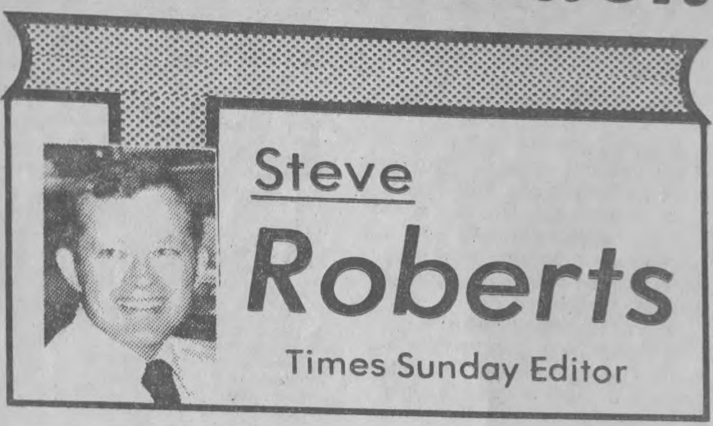
VHS Coach Nick Hyder, as gracious in defeat as he is in victory, offered no excuses. His young club was beaten by a better football team Friday night.

Even the most rabid Wildcat fans had to give the 'Dogs their due following the hard-fought defensive struggle in Thomasville's Doghouse.

The Bulldogs' execution was letter perfect in a game where any mistake was critical. Thomasville is a veteran football team that makes few mistakes any time. Friday night the 'Dogs made none.

At this early stage of the season, Valdosta is an inexperienced football team and inexperience breeds mistakes. The 'Cats didn't make many, but on this particular night it didn't take many.

But one loss, especially one that doesn't count in the subregion race, certainly won't create a panic situation in the Valdosta camp.



The Wildcats are an excellent football team, one that will get better and better with each outing. I will be surprised if Valdosta doesn't get another shot at the Bulldogs this year come playoff time.

Right now, however, Hyder and his 'Cats aren't thinking about the playoffs. Hyder wants to make sure his club profits from Friday night's lesson.

Gaining experience can be painful or as Hyder said Friday night it can be costly. But many times a team learns more from losing than it does from winning.

Valdosta's young defense, which returned only two starters from last year's superb unit, grew up a lot Friday

night. The two veterans, Jimbo Hancock and Nathaniel Ceasar, are providing leadership by example. Each had nine tackles Friday, and Hancock handed out some vicious licks.

Those veterans are starting to get some help especially from two junior linebackers who are becoming more and more active. Backers Anthony Battle and Paul Stokes divided 14 tackles between them Friday and are beginning to play more like defensive coordinator Jack Rudolph demands.

The offensive line, which was also stripped by graduation, failed its first tough test Friday, but as Hyder said you have to credit an inspired Thomasville defense.

The talent is there among Tony Blasetti, Harvey Carter, William Davis, Phillip James and Bobby Horne to get the job done. That group's biggest failure Friday was not allowing quarterback John Bond enough time to throw the football. That's where experience comes in.

The 'Cats offensive experience right now is in its backfield where Bond, fullback Ernest King and halfback Irvin Roe are as good a trio as there is in the state.

They are carrying the load right now, but their playmates are growing up. Unless I miss my guess, Valdosta will have the most to say about who wins the Region 1-AAAA title this year.

And when it's all said and done, I won't be surprised if the 'Cats don't retain the league crown they've won the last two years.

After all, one bad weekend won't cost us our Winnersville reputation.

★ V. Times 9-15-79 ★

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."

Newly-elected officers of the Future Business Leaders of America at Valdosta High School include Karla Parrick, president, Angie DeVane, first vice president, Renee Marshall, second vice president, Pam Bumgarner, secretary, David Parker, reporter, Shirley Williams, parliamentarian.

All the officers are seniors.

VOT STUDENTS READY TO WORK

Area businesses that need part-time secretaries may find the help they need through Vocational Office Training (VOT) students at Valdosta High School.

Mrs. Bonnie Faulk, VOT coordinator, said she has 25 to 30 junior and senior girls who are capable of doing typing, shorthand, accounting, data processing, filing and general office duties.

Working under the VOT program, the girls take morning classes at VHS then leave at noon to work in a job that is based on their background and career objectives. The part-time job is a training station or laboratory in which they can relate classroom instruction to real office situations.

Mrs. Faulk also explained that employees will get a tax credit for students' minimum wages. The employer can receive a tax credit of 50 percent of a student's wages the first year and 25 percent tax credit the second year.

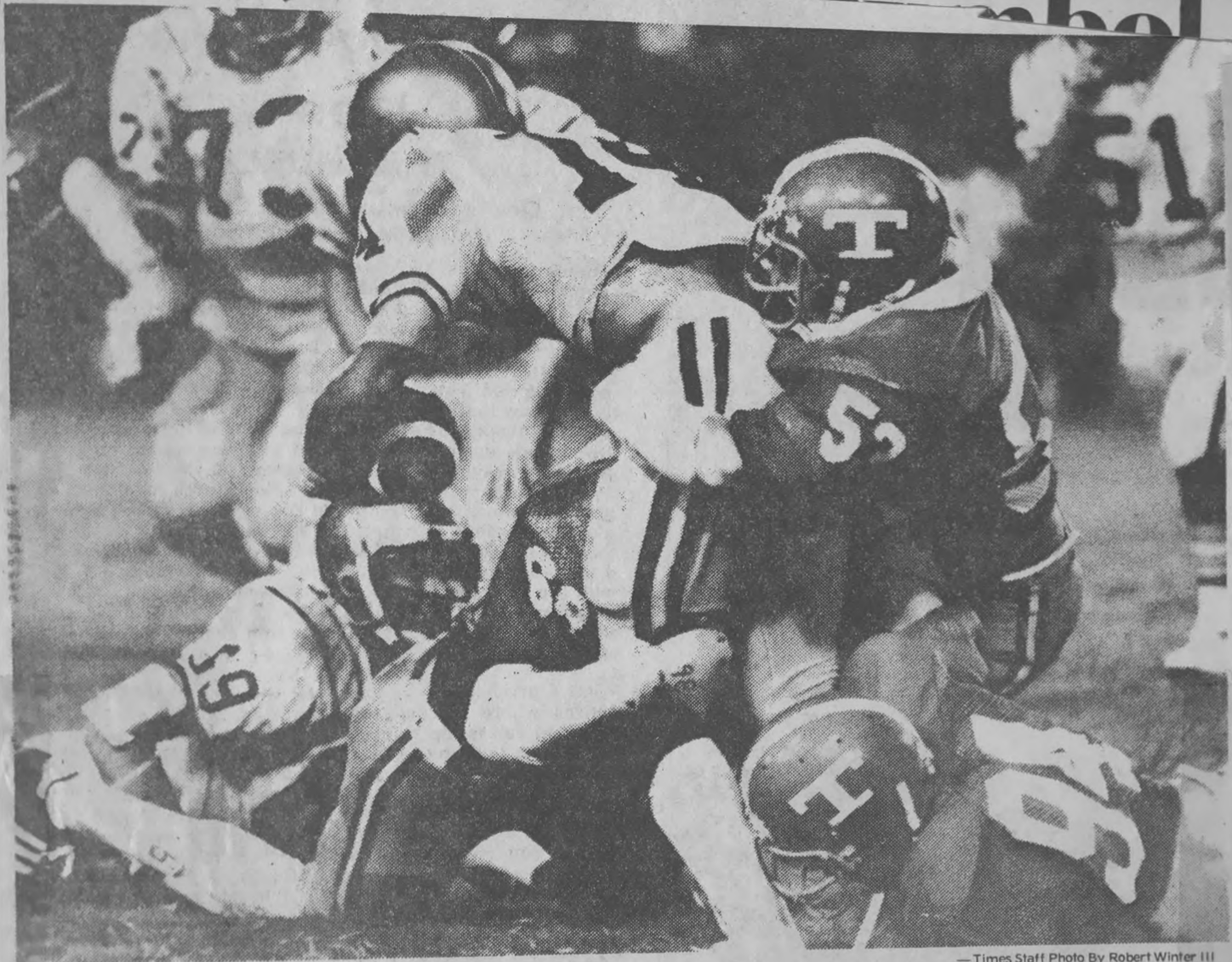
This is a new tax ruling passed in 1978 under the targeted jobs tax credit for employers of students in cooperative education programs.

The students receive a grade and credit for work experience. They are required to work a minimum of 15 hours. Mrs. Faulk can be contacted at VHS at 242-8116 for more information concerning the VOT students.



VOT Students In Class At Valdosta High School

Membership Meet Held This Month



—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		17	14
Yards Rushing		97	184
Yards Passing		94	32
Passes		8-17	6-14
Passes Incl. 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 Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

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 Ceasar 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

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

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, Ceasar 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:		0	0	0	0
Valdosta	Bond	8	16	0	94
Thomasville	Chastain	5	13	1	32

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, Ceasar 9, Horton 5, Stokes 7, Battle 7, S. Hunter 4, Davis 4, S. King 4, L. Roe 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.

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.

DECA President Sets High Goals

By Times Staff Writer

It's a busy Valdosta High School junior that's been named next year's president of the Distributive Education Clubs of America. And she plans to be even busier next year.

Margaret Aultman, 17, was recently elected to the top position in the club. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Richardson Jr. of Valdosta.

Miss Aultman has set a high goal for herself and her club. But it's one she is confident they can meet together.

"I want to lead our DECA chapter to win state chapter of the year and possibly national chapter of the year," she said.

"We put together a chapter of the year book with all our civic activities, all our meetings and special projects done through the year," she said.

This book is judged to determine the chapter of the year.

Some of the DECA projects for the upcoming year are to be preparing food baskets for the needy at Thanksgiving, a Christmas toy drive and working with the Boys Club-Girls Club Inc., she said.

Miss Aultman said, she became involved with DECA through the VHS distributive education class and her sister, Kathryn Aultman.

"My sister was in it and I thought it was just something



MARGARET AULTMAN
'Going To Be Busy'

I would enjoy. It's a good way to get a job and learn about the business world," she said.

Miss Aultman was also elected next year's president of Pi Gamma Phi sorority, is a member of BETA Club and Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

"That's it I guess. I'm going to be busy that's for sure," she said laughing.

Miss Aultman said, her future plans include going to the University of Georgia to major in business management. She would like to work in the area of fashion and design.

'Cats, Vikings Try Again Today

By Times Staff Writer
After being postponed by rain showers Thursday afternoon, the Region 1-AAAA baseball playoff contest between Lowndes and Valdosta was rescheduled for 4 p.m. today at Wright Bazemore Field.

The Vikings, 1-AAAA (South) champions and the Wildcats, subregion runnerup, advanced in the round robin, double elimination tournament via victories earlier this week. Lowndes defeated Westover, 6-2, while Valdosta edged Dougherty, 3-2. VHS Coach Butch Brooks won a coin toss against LHS mentor Noel George, giving the Wildcats the home field ad-

vantage against their cross-town rivals.

Today's contest marked the third time LHS and VHS have clashed on the diamond. The Vikings won the first two contests with sophomore southpaw Keith Hagan out-dueling senior right hander Wayne Fugett by 5-3 and 3-2 scores.

Fugett hurled a four-hitter against Dougherty Tuesday and enjoyed an extra day's rest due to the rainy weather.

The winner of today's game advances to the final round of the region playoffs Monday. The loser plays the winner of the Dougherty-Westover contest tomorrow.

Westover, the 1-AAAA (North) runnerup, held a 3-

0 lead over subregion winner Dougherty in yesterday's game. The two teams had played five innings when the rains came and the contest was to be completed today.

The Westover-Dougherty loser is eliminated. The coach of the winning team has to contact the losing coach between LHS-VHS for another coin flip, to determine the site for tomorrow's game.

LHS defeated VHS, 5-3, in the first contest on the Wildcats' field and took the 3-2 decision on their home ground.

The Vikings are 13-5, the Wildcats are 12-6 heading into today's action.

Kittens Qualify At State Meet

By Times Staff Writer
ATLANTA — Sparked by a record-setting performance from its mile relay team, Valdosta's Wildkittens qualified for the finals in four events in the state Class AAAA girls track meet Thursday at Lakewood Stadium.

VHS's mile relay team (Roseziner Jackson, Annie Gray, Lisa Jones, Vera Dotson) ran a 3:59.2.

"That's the best time posted in girls track regardless of classification," Coach Jerry Baker said. "They did a great job."

The same quartet also tied

the existing state mark with a 48.4 clocking in the yard relay.

Jones equaled two state records to qualify for the finals in the 100-yard dash (11.0) and the 220-yard dash (25.4).

VHS had three contestants in the field event finals today. Vera Dotson, shot; Maggie Powell, high jump and Jones, long jump competed for the Wildkittens.

The finals in the running events in all four classifications are to be run tomorrow night on Lakewood's all-weather track.



Valdosta High Bat Girls Cool Off The Umpire 5-13-79

Both Lowndes, Valdosta Had Good Baseball Years

The superiority of the baseball played by Valdosta High and Lowndes High over the rest of Region 1-AAAA and the entire Southwest section of the state was quite evident this past season.

After battling through the season, the same two teams met again to decide the region title. Comparing Lowndes or Valdosta to the team Northeast Macon put on the field in the opening round of the state playoffs would be like comparing a Mercedes to a motor scooter. The talent on VHS and LHS made the rest of 1-AAAA look like the poor farm.

The quality of local baseball has to be traced back to something more than good coaching by Noel George and Butch Brooks. Coaching helped LHS and VHS along this year, but the young men who made up those teams developed as athletes years ago, for the most part.

The emergence of baseball players an athletes in general in Lowndes County has to be credited to youth athletic programs, interest of parents and other qualified adults and a competitive atmosphere here.

When one compares local athletes with those of other areas in south Georgia in most every high school sport Valdosta comes up smelling like a rose or one might say more appropriately, like an azalea. The point spread of some of the victories of the VHS football team last season was impressive, but baseball was where I saw the greatest indication of local athletic superiority.

When looking at the Lowndes baseball team of 1979 the word that comes to mind is depth. The term that describes best the '79 version of VHS baseball is stars.

From top to bottom this year's Viking crew was an outstanding assemblage of hitting talent. The LHS bench even showed signs of having five or ten more players with a base rap or two in their repertoire. With all that batting prowess and the top pitcher of the year in the area, sophomore Keith Hagan, visions of a state title may have rightly danced in the heads of the Viking players. Windsor Forrest of Savannah dashed any hopes LHS might have had though.

Such a state title would have come on the heels of a national championship by the Valdosta State College baseball team and added one more notch in the Winnersville banner.

"We had seven in the lineup, who were pretty good hitters," said George of LHS. "When one was not hitting the others would pick up the slack."

"But we didn't hit the ball all year like I had planned. If anything, I'd say the mound was a little stronger than I had anticipated, defense was about like I expected and the hitting wasn't quite as good. A lot of things made our year, but I'd have to say the pitching staff made our season."

Everyone remembers the exploits of Hagan, who won nine games in the Vikes' 17-8 season, but George talks about the effectiveness of his entire staff.

"Our pitchers were hit only one time," said George. "That was against Suwannee (Live Oak, Fla.). We were leading 5-0 and they hadn't hit Keith at all. I put Jeff (Stokes) and Buddy (Pitzing) in and they got bombed."

George, like Brooks at VHS, was uncertain as to how good his team would be before the season began.

"You didn't know how good we would be," said George. "we had four or five sophomores starting. You never know how they will do."

"Our main objective was to win the subregion. When we did that, we set a goal to win the region. Then we tried to go all the way, but didn't quite make it. We accomplished more than we really set out to do."

"At most, I figured we'd split with Valdosta in the regular season. I definitely didn't think we would beat them four times. I was really looking to next year this past year. We only had three seniors and two juniors."

"Our goal at first, with the people we had returning and the young players experience wise, was to get in the playoffs," said Brooks of a 13-8 year for the Wildcats. "We came from nowhere and made something happen. A hit here or there and we would have been right in there."

It was a topsy-turvy year for the Wildcats, but not a season without its rewards.

"There was a lot of agony sometimes, but there were great times, too," said Brooks. "The best I felt all year was when we defeated Dougherty (Albany) in the first round of the playoffs over there. The other big thrill had to be when we came from behind to beat Westover (Albany) when Ruff hit the home run."

The season began for Valdosta with the first meeting of the year with Central of Thomasville, Brooks said.

"We were 1-3 when we went to Central and beat them 7-3. Fugett (Wayne) pitched the first four innings and looked



strong. He started to come around then and the hitting and defense seemed to come together, too. After the first three losses we won something like seven in a row. That win built our confidence and the seniors started coming through and providing the leadership we needed."

That elusive hit that never came made the difference in the Wildcats' year in Brooks' mind.

"The good hitting ballclubs get the hits when they need them," the VHS mentor said. "The key people, who got the hits last year, couldn't make contact in those crucial situations. The younger kids off of the B-team hit better than those I was counting on. When we had to have the hit by some key people, they seemed to have already used up their hits."

Some of the key people did shoulder much of the burden to bring the success that did come the 'Cats way in '79. Seniors John Lastinger and Fugett were given an indication of their talent when they were chosen in this year's major league free agent draft.

Brooks explains the greatness of Lastinger and Fugett in baseball in this way. He said, "I expect them to get the job done. They are the type of kids who have the intestinal fortitude to go out and give what they are supposed to. They are the kind of kids that will stay after practice and work on their own. That's what makes them standouts: they work at it."

"They are both supposed to go to Georgia (the University of). I'm happy to hear they got drafted. They probably would have gone higher like David (White) and Buck (Belue), if we had had a better season."

A team outlook was what George pointed to overall for the Vikings' success.

"We worked hard and pulled together," said George. "We had a big team and a lot of times on a big team people start griping about not getting to play enough. Even some of the seniors who didn't play much did what they could to help out."

Possibly the real turning point in the year for both teams was the first meeting of the two squads at Bazemore Field. Even up to game time George was uncertain who his starting pitcher would be.

George explained his thinking at the time saying, "I was flipping a coin at that time. What made me go with Keith (Hagan) was that with his curveball and control he could do a good job. And with Keith pitching, we had our strongest hitting lineup in there with Stokes (Jeff) at designated hitter."

As far as next season is concerned both coaches see reason for optimism.

"I think we'll have a heck of a ballclub. All of our pitchers will be back and I have only three spots to fill, first, shortstop and third. We had a taste of the playoffs and next year we've got to go all the way or else," said George with a slight chuckle.

"Next year we will not have the great talent laden team," said Brooks. "If the pitchers come through and work in the offseason, like they are supposed to do, we should do well. The defense should be fairly sound, but the offense will still be a scratch game. DeLoach (Ashley) along with David New could be good surprises on the pitching staff. The scouts have actually been asking me about DeLoach. They like his delivery and he gets something on it, too."

Already, six players in Brooks' six season as head coach of the VHS baseball team have been drafted by the major leagues. Twelve players have gotten four-year scholarships to colleges. DeLoach might just be the next one.

I am one who thinks that a lot more players will be drafted and receive scholarships if baseball continues at the high level it is currently holding. Regardless, this writer is one who tips his hat to George and Brooks and all the players at the two local high schools for the great job they did this year.

Fourth Quarter Scores Down Monroe

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Wildcats broke free for two fourth quarter touchdowns to break a scoreless tie with Monroe and bring the 'Cats a hard fought 14-0 1-AAAA (North) subregion victory here Friday.

YARDSTICK		VHS	MHS
First Downs		18	16
Yards Rushing		223	277
Yards Passing		56	0
Passes		5-12-0	0-7-2
Passes Inct. By		2	0
Fumbles Lost		1	3
Punting		4-40.0	2-37.3
Penalties		2-30	3-35

Valdosta got moving offensively in the second half after Monroe of Albany had run its game plan effectively in the first two quarters.

Monroe picked up 144 yards rushing in the first half on 31 carries, while the 'Cats had the ball only long enough to get 27 yards in half the number of carries.

Forced turnovers kept the Golden Tornadoes from the end zone. Mark Toth intercepted a pass as Monroe approached the goal line and recovered a fumble in the end zone when Monroe had travelled all the way to the Valdosta 1-yard line.

Jimbo Hancock recovered a fumble on the final Tor-

nado drive to put to rest any Monroe playoff hopes and boost the 'Cats to a 3-1 subregion mark.

Valdosta is to play Dougherty (Albany) here in the final game of the season to decide the playoff seeding.

The Trojans host Tift County (Tifton) tonight. Valdosta found the end zone on its first possession of the fourth quarter.

For the first three quarters, Irvin Roe had carried the lion's share of the running chores.

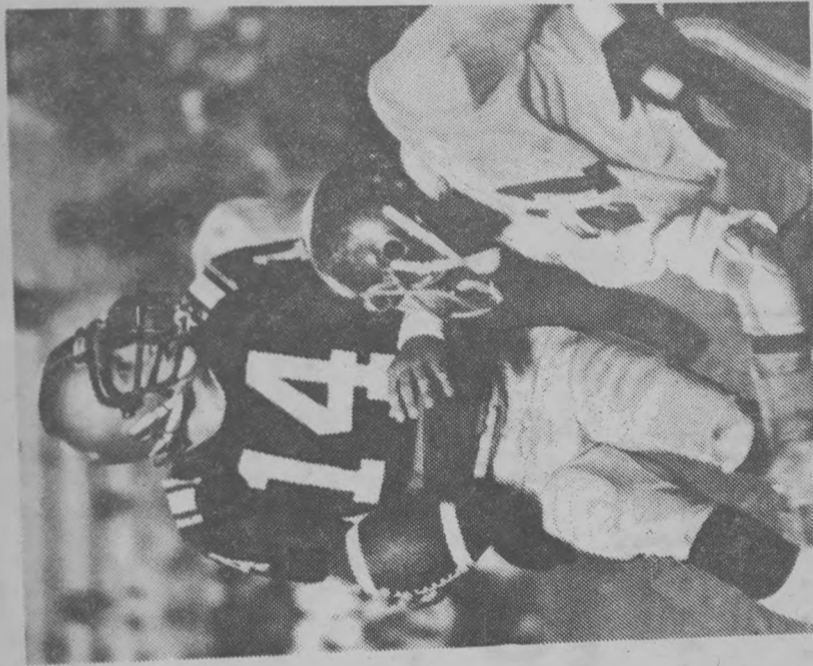
On the scoring drive, a fresh Welton Frazier came into the game, bringing new life.

Many of the Monroe players played both offense and defense. The unwinded Frazier was more than the Tornadoes could handle.

A 29-yard run around end by quarterback John Bond, after a fake to Roe and behind a key block by split end Pat Mayes, gave the 'Cats good field position. Field they had lacked much of the game.

Grinding it out, Frazier and Bond brought the ball to the 19-yard line, where Bond uncorkeed one of his prettiest runs of the year.

Bond followed Ernest King



John Bond Sets Up, While Monroe's Pratt Rushes Left Behind Blocker Towards Willie Beauty (95)

The fourth quarter served in sharp contrast to the first half.

Monroe Coach Willie Beauty

Thomas had said that his team was coming to town, planning to control the football on the ground.

Well executed plays in the veer offense piled up sizeable yardage for Monroe, fullback Greg Pratt in particular.

The old saw, the defense bent but never broke, applied well for a bruised bunch of Wildcat defenders.

Pratt ramblled for 178 yards in 27 carries for the best night a back has had against Valdosta this season.

But as Monroe approached the scoring area, the yardage came tougher.

On Monroe's second possession, the Tornadoes went from their own 20 to the Valdosta one-yard line behind Pratt and Lang exclusively.

Pratt attempted to hurdle the pile-up at the goal and fumbled into the endzone where Toth recovered.

After a Mayes punt, Monroe powered down to the 25 on their next scoring try.



John Bond Sets Up, While Monroe's Pratt Rushes Left Behind Blocker Towards Willie Beauty (95)

The drive stalled on downs. VHS stalled as well on its next series.

A Bill Holland interception of an infrequent Lang pass, gave the 'Cats their first good field position as time was rolling off the first half clock.

Valdosta made it to the Monroe 10, where a Keith Sampson field goal attempt was wide as time ran out.

In a new half, Valdosta mounted a drive that ended in a fumble on its second possession.

The fourth quarter began with Toth stepping in front of split end Gary Ellerson at the 12, setting up Valdosta's first score.

Valdosta is now 5-3 overall, while Monroe falls to 3-5, 1-3 in the subregion.

The 'Cats travel to Bainbridge for a non-subregion game next Friday.

Score by Quarters:		0	0	0	14-14
VHS	MHS	0	0	0	0-0

Scoring:
VHS—Bond 19 run (Sampson kick);
VHS—Mitchell 12 pass from Bond (Sampson kick).

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing:	
Valdosta—Frazier 87, Roe 16, Bond 14, King 3, Robinson 1 (3);	
Monroe—Pratt 27, Lang 14, Seay 8	
25, Cook 1, Richardson 1 (1), Sancho 2, Dozier 1 (1).	
Passing:	
Valdosta—Bond 5-11-56, Roe 0-1-0	
Monroe—Lang 0-6-10, Dozier 0-1-0	
Pass Receiving:	
Valdosta—Mitchell 2-35, Ruff 2-14,	
Robinson 1-7	
Monroe—None	
Punt Returns:	
Valdosta—Roe 1 (2);	
Monroe—Sancho—1-0.	

Kickoff Returns:	
Valdosta—None	
Monroe—Sancho 2-46, Pratt 1-10, Works 1-9.	

Defense (Number of Tackles):	
Valdosta—Battie 14, Hancock 10, Coisar 10, Holland 8, Dixon 4, Holmes 4, D. Jones 3,	
Beauty 3, Toth 3, Horton 2, C. Davis 2;	
Monroe—V. Williams 8, Lang 8, Murrey 7,	
G. Pratt 5, Martin 5, McHaneey 4,	
Knighon 4, Works 3, T. Jones 3, Seay 2.	

Interception Returns:	
Valdosta—Holland 1-14, Toth 1-9.	

VHS, LHS Pace V. Times's Offense Again

By Times Sports Writer
 Valdosta retained its top position in team rushing and second place standing in rush defense for Region 1-AAAA this week, and Lowndes kept the number one spot in team passing, according to the latest statistics.

Valdosta dropped from third to sixth in pass defense, while Lowndes progressed a notch to eighth.

John Bond of VHS held at fourth place in individual rushing, while Lowndes' Cedric Jones dropped from fifth to sixth place. Jones also dropped from first to third in punt returning.

Eric Thomas of LHS moved up a notch in passing, making him the number two passer in the region. Bond remained at the number seven slot. Lowndes' Steve Player dropped from second to third

in pass receiving, while his teammate Ray Luke remained in sixth place in the region. Valdosta's Mike Ruff dropped from ninth to twelfth place in the receiving category.

James Horton of VHS retained his lead in interceptions, and Lowndes' Bob Green kept third place honors.

BY ELLWOOD MOYER, REGION 1-AAAA STATISTICIAN

Rushing			
Car.	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. James, Dough.	111	7.9	6.8
2. Ford, Crisp	150	7.0	4.8
3. W. Robinson, Cen.	131	6.7	5.1
4. Bond, Valdosta	89	5.8	6.5
5. Clark, T. Ville	74	5.0	7.4
6. Jones, Lowndes	96	5.0	6.6
7. Pratt, Monroe	75	4.7	5.8
8. Kavulakis, T. Ville	88	4.0	4.6
9. Williams, Alb.	89	3.9	4.4
10. Hobby, Tift	89	3.9	4.4
11. Brown, Cold.	52	3.8	7.4
12. Acree, Cold.	84	3.8	4.5
13. Harris, Bridge	92	3.9	4.2
14. Kind, Valdosta	63	3.8	5.4

PASSING			
Att. Comp.	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. Horton, Valdosta	104	4.5	4.3
2. Thomas, Lowndes	123	4.0	5.0
3. G. Robinson, Cen.	82	4.4	4.8
4. Richardson, Mon.	94	4.1	4.5
5. Chastain, T. Ville	91	4.1	4.5
6. Norman, Dough.	95	3.3	3.7
7. Bond, Valdosta	49	5.4	5.0
8. T. Sherrill, Cen.	92	3.4	3.6
9. Sutton, Westover	76	4.3	4.7
10. Musselwhite, Crisp	62	2.6	4.9
14. Devane, Lowndes	16	2.0	7.9

PUNT RETURNS			
Ret.	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. Acree, Cold.	15	2.8	2.0
2. James, Dough.	9	2.0	1.6
3. Jones, Lowndes	7	1.6	1.7
4. Shell, Crisp	5	6.6	6.5
5. K. Sanchez, Mon.	7	7	5.9
6. Roe, Valdosta	9	9	5.9

KICK-OFF RETURNS			
Ret.	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. M. Ciese, B. Bridge	10	3.8	3.3
2. Dean, Central	13	3.3	2.8
3. James, Dough.	10	2.8	2.5
4. Acree, Cold.	14	2.4	2.2
5. Jones, Lowndes	12	1.2	1.9
9. Jones, Lowndes	5	5	1.2

TEAM RUSHING			
Car.	Yds.	Game	Avg.
1. Valdosta	276	1483	211
2. Thomasville	276	1456	208
3. Central	276	1279	182
4. Monroe	246	1275	182
5. Dougherty	287	1268	181
6. Colquith	292	1238	176
7. Crisp	258	1052	150
8. Bainbridge	249	1215	173
9. Tift	203	912	130
10. Lowndes	203	912	130

TEAM PASSING			
Att. Comp.	Yds.	Game	Avg.
1. Valdosta	74	29	4.8
2. Bainbridge	82	31	4.8
3. Colquith	116	44	5.7
4. Thomasville	107	34	5.4
5. Tift	110	42	5.6
6. Valdosta	123	43	6.0
7. Albany	94	35	6.7
8. Lowndes	92	38	6.9
9. Monroe	113	42	9.4
10. Central	126	66	9.9
11. Westover	123	66	9.8
12. Dougherty	123	66	10.1

RUSH DEFENSE			
Car.	Yds.	Game	Avg.
1. Tift	198	630	90.0
2. Valdosta	199	749	107
3. Monroe	267	906	129
4. Thomasville	258	952	136
5. Albany	255	1055	147
6. Colquith	267	1148	167
7. Lowndes	295	1170	167
8. Dougherty	300	1191	170
9. Westover	242	1476	210
10. Crisp	335	1476	210
11. Central	277	1554	222
12. Bainbridge	316	1685	240

INTERCEPTIONS			
Inter.	Yds.	Game	Avg.
1. Horton, Valdosta	4	72	18.0
2. Daniel, Monroe	1	68	68.0
3. Green, Lowndes	1	53	53.0
4. Bass, Central	2	53	26.5
5. Smiley, B. Bridge	1	50	50.0
6. Walker, Lowndes	1	36	36.0

PUNTING			
Kicks	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. Barber, Cold.	11	425	38.6
2. Musselwhite, Crisp	26	1003	38.5
3. Norman, Dough.	36	1326	37.8
4. Stokes, Lowndes	22	830	37.7
5. Leik, Central	33	1197	37.4
11. Maves, Valdosta	26	867	32.1

CATCHES			
Car.	Yds.	Avg.	Game
1. Ellerson, Mon.	32	572	17.9
2. Ewing, Tift	22	514	23.3
3. Player, Lowndes	38	509	13.4
4. Coleman, Albany	19	390	20.5
5. Rush, Dough.	16	359	22.4
6. Luke, Lowndes	18	288	16.0
7. Wislam, Cold.	10	257	25.7
8. Brown, B. Bridge	10	229	22.9
9. Harris, Bridge	10	217	21.7
10. Brooks, Cen.	14	217	15.5

M d i k i n a l M v c
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V. Times 9-20-79

DECA Officers Elected At VHS

From Times Staff Reports

Valdosta High School Distributive Education Clubs of America met Wednesday morning for an officer election breakfast.

Beth Toth, 1978-79 state DECA secretary, spoke on the importance of electing good officers dedicated to doing an excellent job.

She challenged the club members to put out a winning effort this year and to dedicate themselves to winning the state DECA chapter of the year.

Officers for 1979-80 school year elected Wednesday morning are:

Vice president, Bart Bosch, senior, of 3330 Plantation Drive, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bosch; secretary, Carol Huling, senior, of 2216 Azalea Drive, daughter of Billie Ann Huling; treasurer, Keith Adams, senior, of Smithbriar Drive, son of Mr. and Mrs. Randall Adams; reporter, Bryan Griffin, senior, of 1 Fox Hollow Circle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tenney Griffin; historian, Bobby McCall, senior, of 2808 Northfield Road, son of Mr. and Mrs. R.W. McCall;

Division I vice president, Cheri Greene, junior, of 1509 Hickory Road, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Greene; Division II vice president, Marie Emery, senior, of 1206 W. Alden Ave., son of Jon and Joan Emery; Division III vice president, Amy Gunter, senior, of 103 Sunnymead Drive, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Gunter; division IV vice president, Lisa Holland, senior, of 10 Lakeshore Drive, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Holland; chaplain, David Harrison, senior, of 818 Colson St., son of William Harrison; sweethearts, Lisa Holland and Jennifer English, junior, of 2325 Frederick Place, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard English.

President Margaret Aultman, senior, of 103 Lakeshore Drive, was elected during the spring quarter last year. She is the daughter of Bill and Mittie Richardson.

V. Times 10-20-79

'Cats Get Out Of One-Point Syndrome

By Times Sports Writer

The one-point sting fell by the wayside as Valdosta got back on the winning track here Friday, defeating Monroe (Albany), 14-0.

The game was not an easy one for Valdosta, which had been nipped at the buzzer by one point in highly emotional games against Tift County (Tifton) and Lowndes the past two weeks.

"Things were a little shakey. Then we started playing our game with confidence," said Valdosta

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Head Coach Nick Hyder. "In the fourth quarter you saw what Valdosta can do. We were running a variety of offensive plays.

"The defense bent but never broke, which gave the offense enough time to catch up and come on. "We turned around a

downward plunge we have been involved in but we're stuck on two touchdowns. That seems to be all we are able to get."

"We were flat," said VHS Coach Butch Brooks. "It's hard to stay sky-high after two one-point losses."

VHS quarterback John Bond was pleased with the winning trend.

"Things haven't been going our way lately," he said. "They finally worked out for us."

Bond scored the first VHS touchdown. He eluded a Monroe crowd near the goal line.

"I wasn't going to fall down at the 3," he said. "There weren't too many people in the stands down there, but I was going to score."

Jimbo Hancock led a defense that did not allow a score. Hancock grabbed a fumble that snuffed out the last Monroe threat.

"We knew we had to play tough," he said. "The offense was doing their job. We had to do ours."

VHS Classes Of 1929, 1929½ Hold Reunion Here

By Times Staff Writer
Thirty-four members of the Valdosta High School Class of 1929 and five members of the Class of 1929½ gathered for a 50th class reunion Sept. 22 at the Sheraton Motor Inn here.

It was the first time the 82-member class had met together since graduating, said class member Ruth Arnett Mooshian of St. Petersburg, Fla.

A luncheon at the Sheraton was attended by about 41 persons, including class members and their spouses.

One of the class members, who is paralyzed, asked as many as could to drop by her North Street residence. Dorothy Ford gave those who

came pink carnations, which was the class flower, with ribbons which said "Class of '29."

The group also were given a tour of the new Valdosta High School by Principal Lloyd Mims.

"That was quite a revelation," Mrs. Mooshian said. "When we went to school we didn't have anything like that."

"That was fastastic." More than 80 persons, including classmates and spouses, attended the dinner at the Sheraton that night.

Class members who came to the reunion included: Mrs. Mooshian, Olga Carter Ledford of Naylor, Louise Clifford Coleman and Pearl Madeline Strong Davis of Twin Lakes, Virginia Dalton Puckett of Perry, Fla., Grace Donahue Greer and Thomas Corley Wells of Atlanta.

Also, Inez Dugger Hinchcliffe of Le High Acres, Fla., Martha Lynn Everette Scarborough of Columbus, Chrystelle Fielding Baker of Leesburg, Fla., Sibyl Hinson Harris of Jacksonville, Fla., Curtis Jackson of Cordele, Sara Coral Jones Sears of Orlando, Fla.

And Thomas Ardell Kemp of Lexington, Ky., Bluma Leviton McCrary of Fargo, Mary Virginia McKey Shirley of Macon, Mary Alice Mosely Lee of Homerville, Robert E. Pindar of Albany, Lucille Pope Sessions of Warner Robins, Mary Francis Smith Hunter of Clyattville, William Lee Stokes of Anniston, Ala., William P. Yarbrough of Lyons.

From Valdosta came Emma Lou Arnold Smith, Elizabeth Bell Godwin, Ethel Arnold Rehberg, Harmon Boyette, Frank P. Bracewell, Dorothy L. Denmark, Dorothy Estelle Etheridge Scruggs, Laura Lee Jones Wisenbaker, Alex Little, Hugh McIntyre.

Also, Edith Miriam Mixson Anderson and Cam U. Young. From the Class of 1929½, came Sherwood C. Dennis, T.J. Luke, Ralph Richardson and Clement Green of Valdosta and Fred Voigt of Marietta. They were graduated six months after the class of 1929.

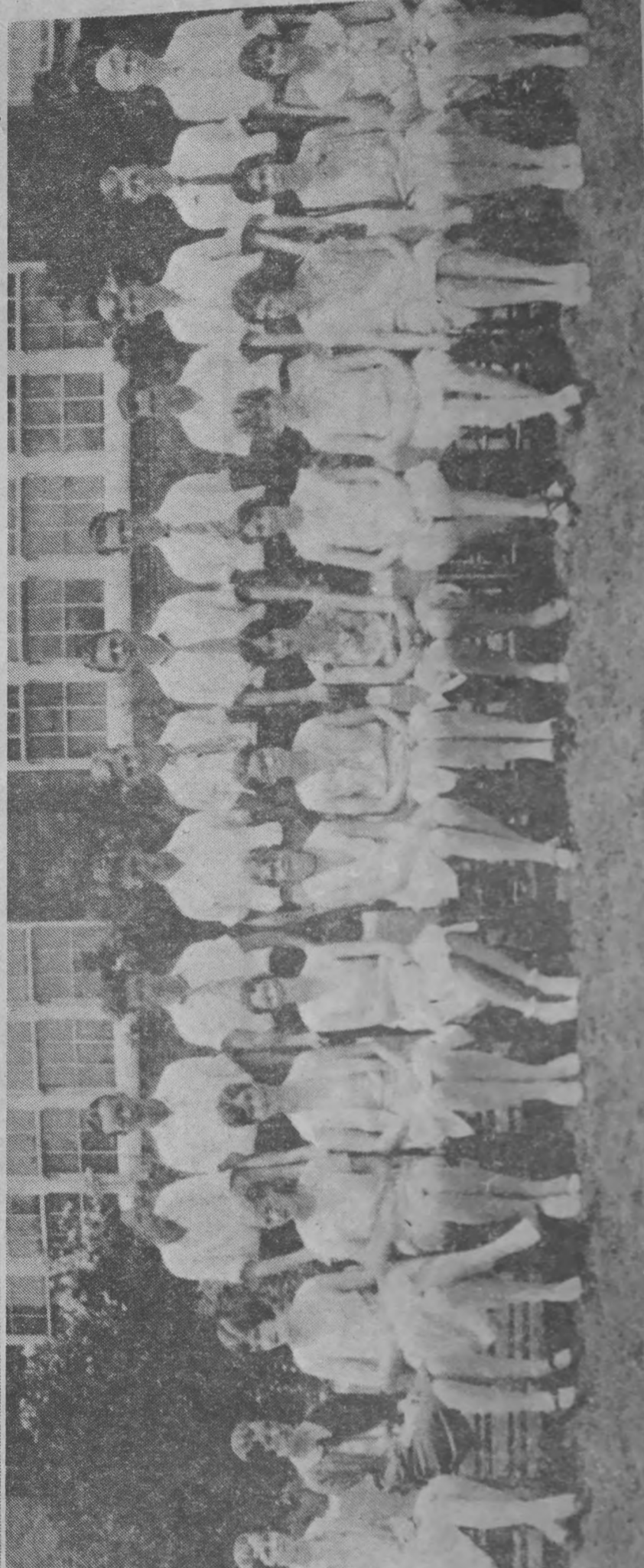
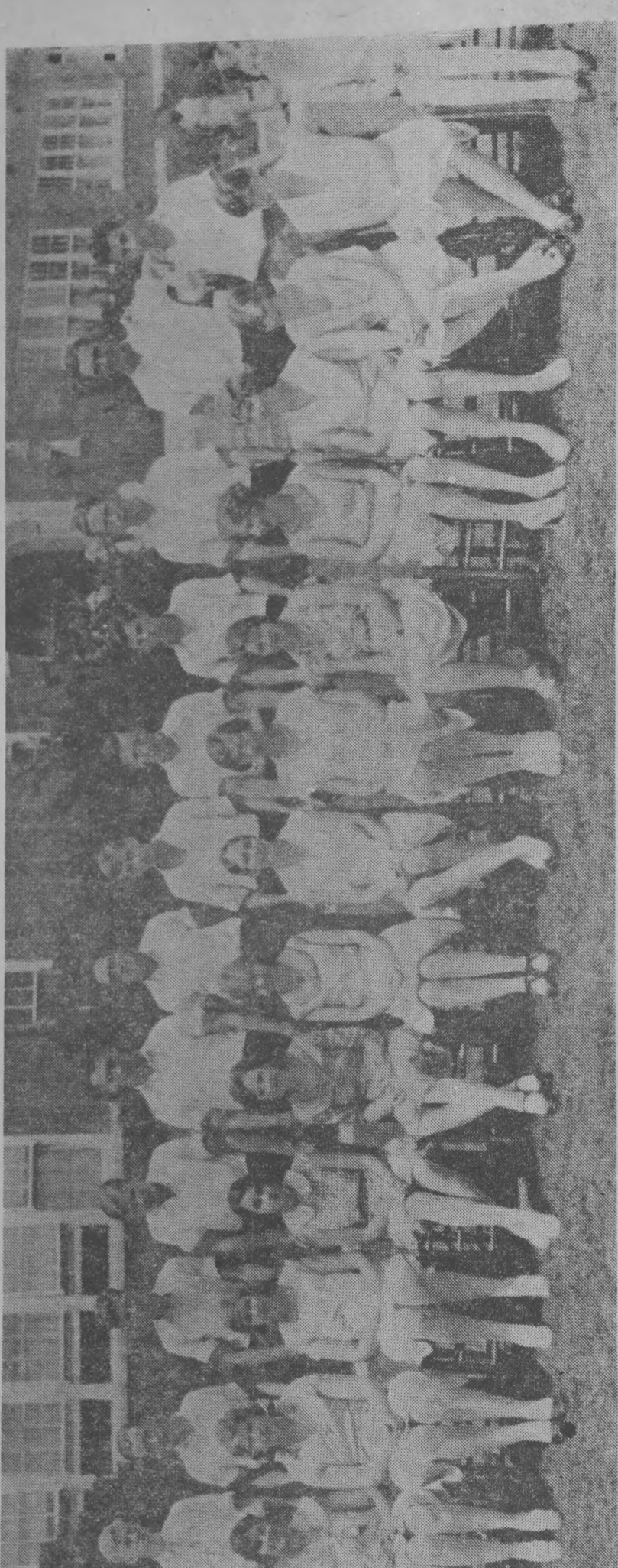


Photo Special To The Times

Valdosta High School's 1929 Graduates: How Many Faces Can You Recognize?



— Times Staff Photo.

Carl Wilcox Follows The Block Of Irvin Roe On Bainbridge Linebacker Clark Lively

V. Times 10-27-79

VHS Puts It Together, Defeating Bainbridge

By MIKE HAGOOD
Time Sports Editor

BAINBRIDGE — People here were remembering the last time Bainbridge beat Valdosta this past week. They went so far as to replay the radio broadcast of the 1974 19-14 game. Many were predicting a repeat of that score this year.

YARDSTICK

	VHS	BHS
First Downs	19	19
Yards Rushing	234	196
Yards Passing	97	132
Passes	6-16	10-23
Passes Incl. By	2	1
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punting	0	1-21
Penalties	5-45	9-75

The Valdosta High Wildcats put to rest any fantasies the Bearcats might have had in that direction, soundly thrashing their hosts 28-7 in a Region 1-AAAA non-subregion game here Friday night.

It was a game where no individual stood out particularly for Valdosta; everyone stood out.

"The game pleased me, because we were able to play about 75 people. That is Valdosta-style football," VHS Coach Nick Hyder.

"All the backs ran well. That takes up the slack for the game, due to injury.

Indeed it was a night for every Wildcat back to shine. Four Valdosta backs gained over 30 yards in a balanced attack.

Irvin Roe scored the first VHS touchdown in the first quarter and gained 52 yards on the ground. Welton Frazier totalled 58 yards and scored the second touchdown in the second quarter. John Bond accounted for 50 yards and scored the third VHS touchdown. Carl Wilcox rambled for 33 yards and powered to the goal line for the final score of the night.

It was a game where Valdosta defenders also showed their skill. Jimbo

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Hancock led the tackle parade with 13 and brought a new meaning to the term "popping leather." Hancock made his shoulder pads sing on several occasions.

Anthony Battle and Nathaniel Ceasar followed Hancock closely in tackling efficiency and end Paul Stokes closed down any thoughts Bainbridge may have had about running to his side.

On the evening, Bainbridge almost equalled Valdosta in total offensive yards, 331-328, but once again, when the opposition tried to cross goal it was no doing.

Seventy-five yards in penalties also slowed the Bearcats, who are blessed with as talented a group in the backfield as there is in 1-AAAA.

Although Bainbridge moved the ball on almost every possession, it did not have what it took to score. It was evident after the early stages of the first half that Valdosta was the dominant team.

The Wildcats scored the first time they had the ball after a Bainbridge drive stalled at the VHS 32.

The 'Cats took the ball to the goal with passes to Keith Mitchell and Mike Ruff and the running of Bond, Roe and the starting Wilcox.

Two runs up the middle by Roe were crucial in a third and 13 to go situation at the 25. The swift senior ran a counter play for 11-yards for the first down at the 12-yard

line. Wilcox set up the score for Roe with a punt to the three-yard line out with 2:46 left in the first quarter.

Bainbridge then threatened, going all the way to the Valdosta 17, led by fleet Johnny Harris, but gave the ball back on downs.

An interception stopped VHS momentum.

On the next series the only punt of the evening was forced, giving Valdosta good field position at its 31-yard line.

An incompleated pass to Ruff and a screen pass to Roe set up the play of the evening.

Bond hit Mitchell turning in from the right sideline across midfield. Edward Robinson roll blocked three Bearcat defenders an Mitchell was off to the races, cutting across the field and down the left sideline for a 51-yard gainer.

On the next play, Frazier ran determined up the middle for the score.

In the third quarter, Valdosta ground out another score with Bond doing most of the work. He had carries of 13, 14 and 15 yards on the drive and scored from two yards out.

Roe blocks sprung Bond on end runs on the 13 and 14-yards. The 15-yarder came on a fourth and seven to go situation at the Bainbridge 24. On that play Bond put his head down for a thunderous collision. He slipped off the tackle for extra yardage, but stood up in a daze. Roe had to help Bond back to the huddle.

but the gutsy senior stayed in the game.

Bainbridge got on the board on the second play of the fourth quarter, after an extended drive, following the Valdosta score.

Harris carried in from the 3 for the touchdown.

On that drive new faces were already popping up in the Valdosta lineup.

Some of those new offensive faces helped the 'Cats to their final score on the next possession after Frazier sped up the middle for a 56-yard kickoff return.

Wilcox ran through a huge hole for a 22-yard score.

Score by Quarters:

VHS	7	7	7	28
BHS	0	0	0	7

Scoring:

VHS-Roe 3 run (Parker kick);
VHS-Frazier 13 run (Sampson kick);
VHS-Bond 2 run (Parker kick);
BHS-Harris 3 run (C. Close kick);
VHS-Wilcox 22 run (Sampson kick).

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing:

VHS — Frazier 7-58, Roe 9-52, Bond 7-50, Wilcox 4-33, Motes 4-16, R. Robinson 1-10, E. Patterson 1-9, Mayes 1-8, David Parker 1-2.

BHS — Harris 12-88, M. Close 12-53, C. Close 8-28, Biggles 6-22, Baldwin 1-12, Gadson 2-3, Loeffler 3-10.

Passing:

VHS — Bond 4-11-180 David Parker 2-40-17 Roe 0-1-0-0;
BHS — Biggles 8-21-2-117, Loeffler 2-20-15.

Pass Receiving:

VHS — Mitchell 2-62, Ruff 1-13, Daniels 1-9, Motes 1-8, Roe 1-5; BHS — Harris 4-81, Rich 2-28, Martin 1-19, R. Biggles 1-7, C. Close 1-1, Gadren 1-4.

Punt Returns:

VHS — none; BHS — none.

Kickoff Returns:

VHS — Frazier 1-56; BHS — M. Close 4-79, Harris 2-51.

Defense (Number of Tackles):

VHS — Hancock 13, Battle 9, Ceasar 9, Toth 6, Moore 6, Stokes 6, W. Bealy 5, Horton 4, Holland 4, H. Dixon 2, Gains 2, Holmes 2.

BHS — Jefer 8, Howard 6, Shoats 5, Johnson 4, Holton 4, Bouie 4, Jenkins 2, Lively 2, Simmons 2.

Interception Returns:

VHS — Ceasar 1-34, Jones 1-15; BHS — Howard 1-0.



HYDER OF VALDOSTA



Actually Jay Cobb, At Left, Wasn't Looking At VHS Bat Girls, But Who Would Blame Him

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Sept. 6, 1979-18-

Subregion Opener Saturday

High-Powered Crisp Visits VHS

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer
Crisp County visits Cleveland Field Saturday night with what Valdosta High Head Football Coach Nick Hyder calls "the best team they've had."

The Cougars from Cordele are fresh off of a 46-0 shellacking of Westover (Albany), as well as a final game win over playoff rep Tift County (Tifton) last season. Valdosta won its opener over Central of Thomasville by a convincing 34-7 score.

A top flight backfield as well as a sizable offensive line make 1-AAAA (North) Crisp a tough opponent in Hyder's estimation.

"They've got Muslewhite (Skeebo, the Cougars' quarterback), Harvey (Alton, the Crisp fullback) and Ford (tailback Eddie) for the best backfield they have produced," said Hyder. It's the same backfield they had last year.

"Ford led the region in rushing last year. He is a real lightning blitzer, an

experienced runner. He'll be one of the top runners on this field in a long time.

"They are flat saying up there that they've got a good football team and they are coming down here and beat us."

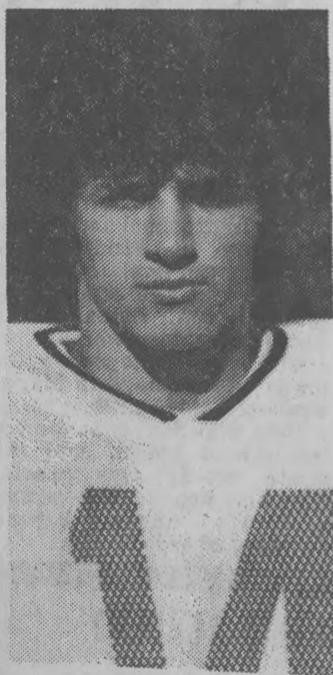
Another factor that concerns Hyder is the man that is to stand across the field from him, Crisp Head Coach Ferrell Henry. Hyder has high regard for Henry.

As good as Crisp may be, the Cougars have received no mention in the rankings of Georgia prep teams. Valdosta's Wildcats, on the other side of the coin, are the top ranked AAAA football team in Georgia in the last two AP polls.

Hyder's 'Cats scored three of the first four times they had the ball and amassed 457 yards in total offense, while holding some talented Central backs to well below their rushing averages last Friday.

"Central is better than that score indicated," said Hyder. "They'll prove that as they go along."

"They had first-game



JOHN BOND
Impressive Opener

jitters and so did we. In a lot of ways Central defeated themselves. They didn't take advantage of the available opportunities.

We didn't 100 percent of the time. There were two or three scoring opportunities for us that we didn't cash in on.

"I was awfully pleased with us at the first of the ballgame and then things set in on us for awhile and we had to work for it.

"There was a time when it could have been 20-14, which would have completely changed the complexion of the game."

Leading the charge for the 'Cats was senior signal caller John Bond, who ran for 161 yards, scored one touchdown and passed for two more scores. He also connected for 72 percent of his passes, (eight of 11).

The fact that Bond was Valdosta's top rusher came as no surprise to Hyder, who said, "That has been the style of our quarterbacks since Buck Belue. That was a change in philosophy when I took over as head coach. When Joe Wilson was a coach here he did a great job with the passing game, but my philosophy is to have the

quarterbacks run the football. That is my coaching style."

Wilson is currently the head football coach at Lowndes High after being an assistant at Valdosta High under Wright Bazemore.

"A lot of John's yardage was scrambling yardage. Half of it was his decision and half of it was called. When he saw the passing routes weren't open he took off."

Hyder said that his offensive line "did a fine job across the board and that the defense "had crossed the furst hurdle."

Continuing about the defense, Hyder said, "The experience is still very limited. They now have one game under their belt which begins to whittle away at the argument of lack of experience."

Asked if he expected a high scoring game against Crisp Hyder said, "No, I can't speak for them, but I think it is going to take a lot of hard work to score in this game."

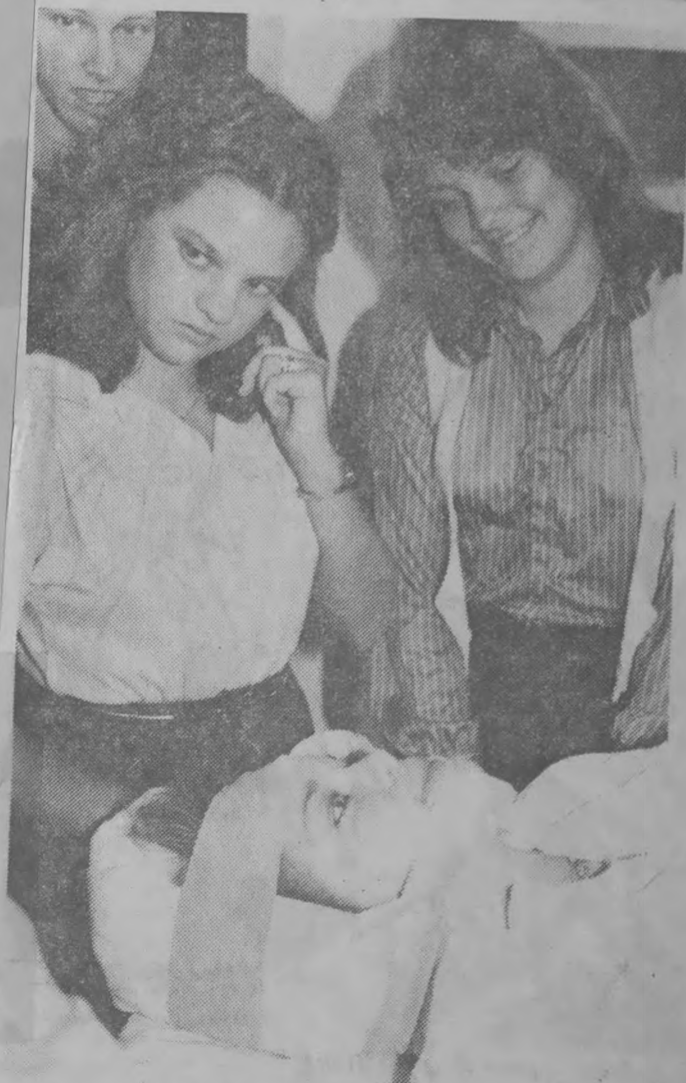
V. Times 10-12-79



That Time Again

It's Lowndes versus Valdosta. Enough said. Signs, banners, posters and placards of every description abound at both high schools here as the buildup for tonight's football game between the two grows minute by minute. A capacity crowd is expected for the 8 p.m. kickoff at Martin Stadium. Other photos on page 3. Story on page 12. — Times Staff Photos by Robert Winter III

V. Times Oct. 4, 1979



Left Speechless

Tammy Vickers, 16, is regarded curiously by her fellow classmates as she plays the role of demonstrator victim with a broken neck during health occupations class at Valdosta High School Wednesday. Instructor Beverly Smith had just placed the lower elastic bandage over Tammy's mouth. "This would be a good place for some of you in this class," she said, maybe not completely tongue-in-cheek. — Times Staff Photo.

Vocational Facilities At VHS 'Excellent'

By Times Staff Writer

The vocational education facilities at Valdosta High School are outstanding and should be looked at as a model of what a comprehensive high school can offer, George Chance told a group of local politicians, businessmen and educators Tuesday.

Chance, chairman of the house subcommittee on vocational education, was at VHS with three other members of the subcommittee to tour the facility.

"We are here to see the excellent vocational department at VHS in order to better understand what a vocational education can offer," said Chance.

The group spent about four hours at the school, said James Bridges, supervisor of vocational education in the city schools. During that time they saw a slide presentation on VHS and toured the classrooms while students were working in them, said Bridges.

"The group was here to better familiarize themselves with comprehensive education," he said.

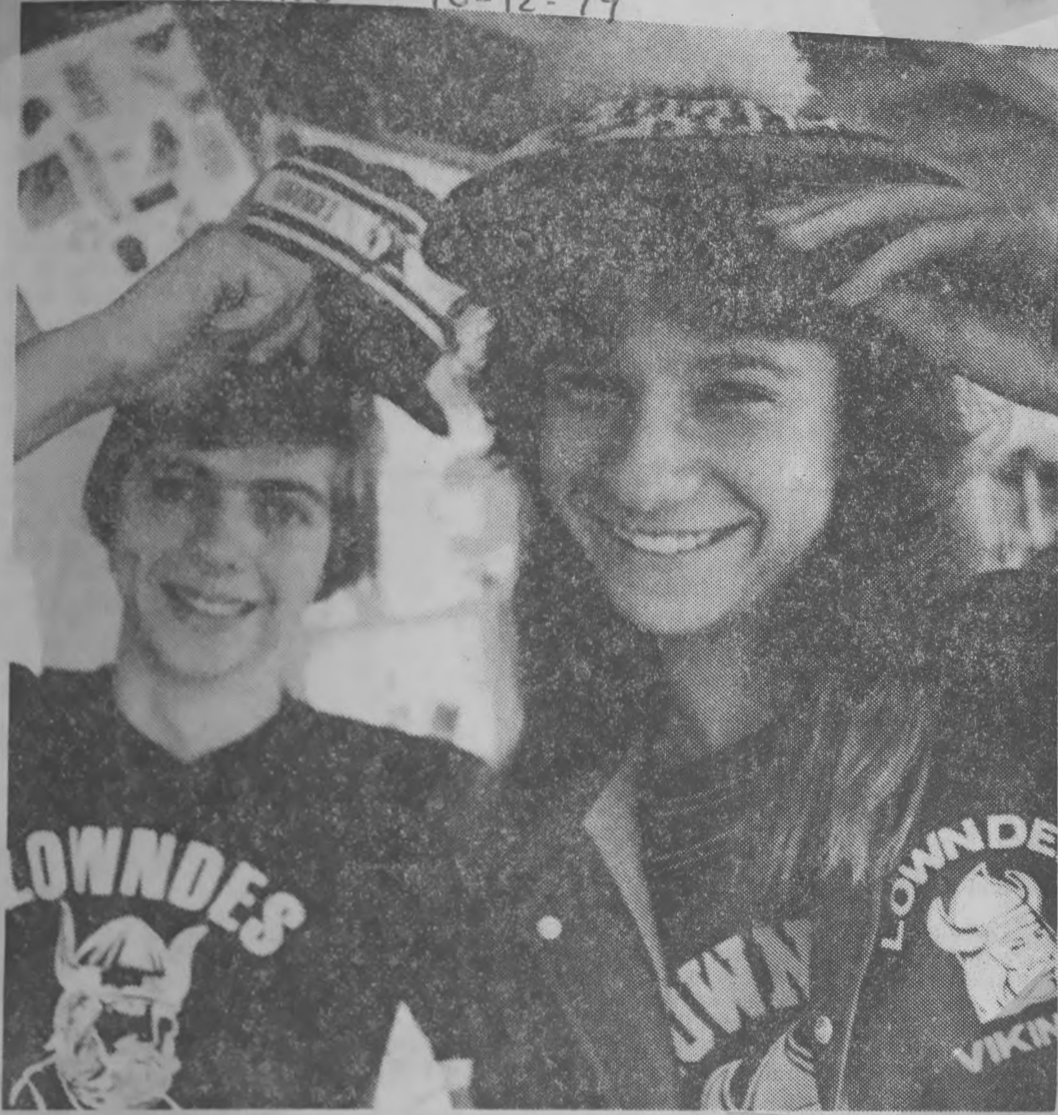
"They seemed to be impressed with our school."



James Bridges Of VHS, Left, Briefs Local, State Officials On Vocational Education

—Times Staff Photo

V. Times 10-12-79



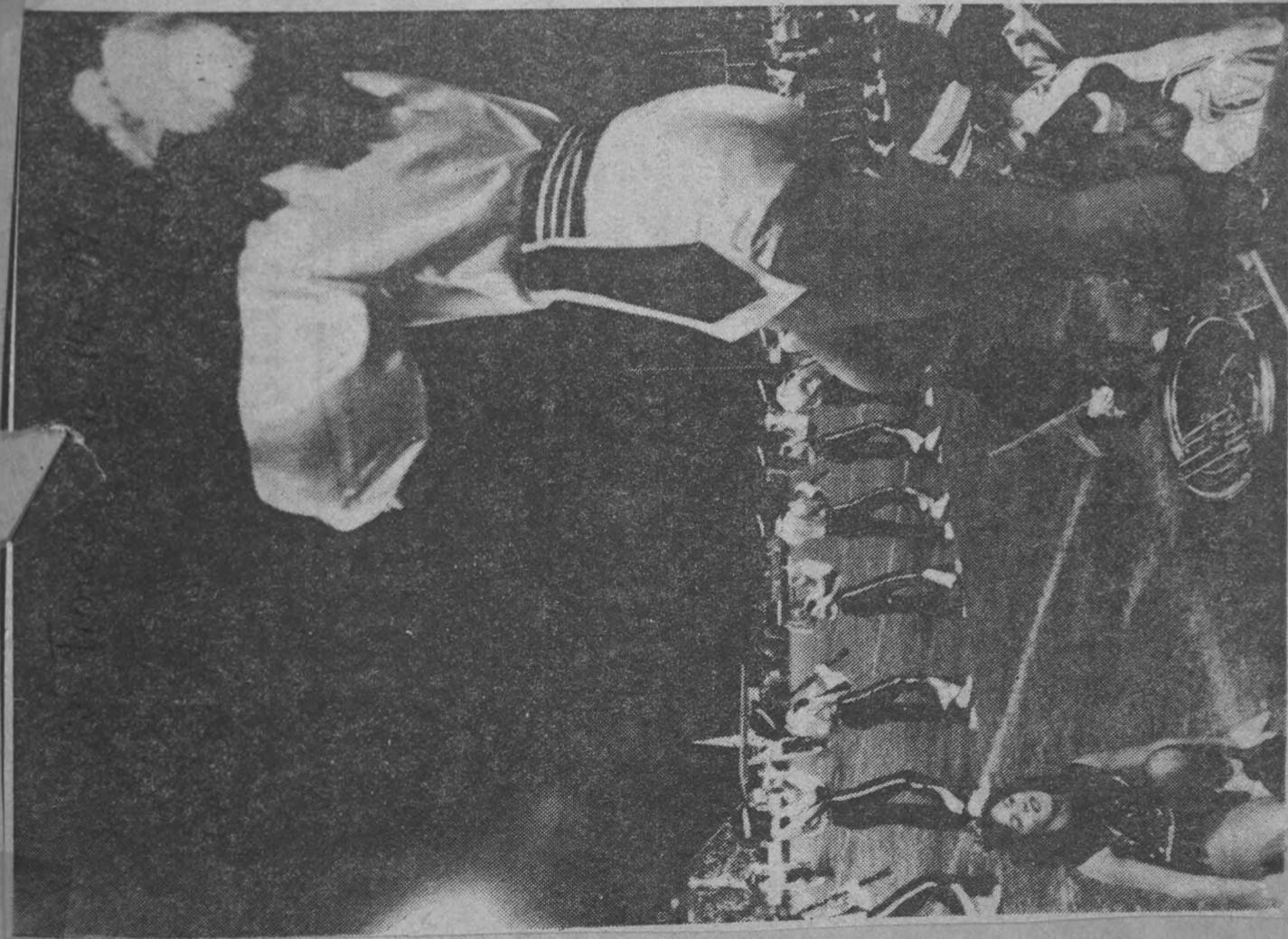
★★★★★

Spirit Building

Students at both Lowndes and Valdosta high schools are obviously in the spirit of things as enthusiasm builds for tonight's football game between the two schools. LHS students Sandy Yanconish and Wally Goodloe show their true colors while the poster at VHS proclaims the 'Cats' superiority. — Times Staff Photos.

★★★★★





Excellent High School Bands Have Big Fan Following



Science At Work: VHS Chemistry Students Debra Crawley, Billy Taylor, Bruce Judd Experiment



TIFFETON

V. Times Oct. 14, 1999



Big Bucks

Norman Sainz is shown with two deer he brought down last week from a tree stand north of here. One of the deer, a 10-pointer, (left), weighed 260 pounds, while the other, a five-pointer, weighed 200 pounds. Sainz killed the deer about an hour apart. — Times Staff Photo.



The Valdosta Daily Times, Sun., May 13, 1979

VHS Golfers Enter State

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Editor

Aiming to improve its second place finish in the region, Valdosta High School's golfers are one of 16 teams shooting for the state Class AAAA title Monday at Francis Lake Country Club.

The region winners and runnersup from the eight AAAA classes around the state qualified for the one-day, 18-hole event.

"I hope we can shoot a better score. You have to figure to break 300 to be competitive," VHS Coach Jack Rudolph said.

The Wildcats played their home matches at Francis Lake, but that might not be much of an advantage.

"It's great not having to travel," Rudolph said. "However, with all the rain we've had the past week, we haven't been able to work in any practice rounds. The weather has kept us off the course."

VHS shot a 306 in the region meet, finishing 10 strokes behind winner Colquitt County (Moultrie) at 296.

Chad Willis, 70, Pat McCrary, 72, and Zess Willis, 73, were the low scorers for Colquitt County.

VHS was paced by Mike McLeod, 75, and Lew Richardson, 76. Rusty Trancygier and Trip Singletary followed with a 77 and 78 respectively.

Ty Edwards and David Parker are the other two members of the Wildcat squad. Only the four low scores count in the team total.

Francis Lake measures 6,250 yards long with a par of 72, 36 on both the front and back nines.

Other region champions and runnersup are Hardaway and Warner Robins, region two; Glynn Academy and Bradwell, region three; Central (Macon) and Westside, region four; Walton and North Cobb,

region five; Heritage and Griffin, region six; Stone Mountain and Shamrock, region seven and Lakeside and Dunwoody, region eight. Central and Westside both posted 291s with Central winning a playoff. Hardaway and Glynn shot 302s. Tee-off time Monday is 9:30 a.m. The region winners start on number one, the runnersup begin on number 10.



V-Times 5-27-79 **State Track Champions**

Three members of Valdosta High School's state record setting relay teams hold the baton stating their achievement. Roseziner Jackson, Vera Dotson and Lisa Jones, from left, combined with Annie Gray, who was sick,

and not pictured, placed first in the 440-yard and mile relays in the state AAAA girls track meet. Their times of 48.5 and 3:39.2 seconds established state marks. Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III.

Branan Is Selected

John Branan, son of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Branan of Valdosta, was selected to participate in the country's first Mr. USA Teen Program, a news release said. The contest is to be in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 3-13.

The 100 young men selected to participate were selected for achievement and general school and community service, it said. The program is a combination of honors-recognition, fellowship and social development experience for this year's male high school graduates, it said.

Branan was graduated from Valdosta High School.

The program is to find well-rounded young men for scholarship prizes, it said.

During the program, participants are to meet sports and governmental figures and participate in a variety of recreational activities, the news release said.

The program is sponsored by "Who's Who Among American High School Students," Encyclopedia Britannica and the Mr. USA Teen Scholarship Foundation.

VHS Earns Trophy

Congratulations to Valdosta High School for winning the Region 1-AAAA all-sports championship trophy for the fourth consecutive season. VHS' athletic teams scored 83 points, finishing 10 points ahead of Thomasville. LHS was third with 67 points giving the county two of the top three places in the competition for the championship trophy.

VHS finished first in football, girls tennis and track, second in golf and baseball and fourth in boys tennis for the majority of its points. LHS placed first in girls basketball and baseball, was third in golf and tied for third in boys basketball. Points were awarded on 12 for first, 11 for second and so on. VHS received its all-sports trophy last week.

Hagan, Schreffler Key Viking Victory

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Editor

Combining the drama and suspense created by the region playoffs with their usual intense rivalry, Valdosta and Lowndes kept an overflow crowd on the edge of their seats or on their feet Wednesday at Viking Field.

It's always a classic when the Wildcats and Vikings clash in any sport and yesterday was no exception. It was the fourth time LHS and VHS have clashed in high school baseball this season and the results were the same.

However, this victory was the biggest of the quartet for Lowndes. The Vikings' 6-5 triumph clinched the 1-AAAA title (their first since 1975) and propelled them into the state playoffs next week.

LHS improved its record to 15-5, going 3-0 in the weird playoff system, while VHS finished with a 13-8 mark. It was the second time the Vikings had defeated the

LHS-VHS Box

VHS

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Wildcats by a one-run margin and the contest was close enough so fans on both sides could cheer their heroes.

Either LHS or VHS scored in every inning except the second. The Wildcats built a 2-0 lead through four, before the Vikings rallied for a 3-2 edge.

VHS tied the contest in the fifth, but LHS scored twice in its half for a 5-3 edge. The Vikings pushed across one tally in the sixth and that turned out to be the winning margin.

Battling to duplicate Monday's feat when a three-run seventh turned apparent defeat into sudden victory, the Cats rallied for two runs. VHS had runners on first and second with one out, but LHS' crafty sophomore southpaw Keith Hagan was equal to the challenge. He retired John Bond on a pop to the catcher and after walking pinch-hitter Darrell Swindle to load the bases fanned Dale Parker to end the VHS hopes.

"Sure I was a little nervous. I've pitched against them four straight times," Hagan said. "They had a better idea of what I was going to throw and it made my job tougher. They hit me all over the place, our guys made some great plays behind me."

Hagan, who usually has

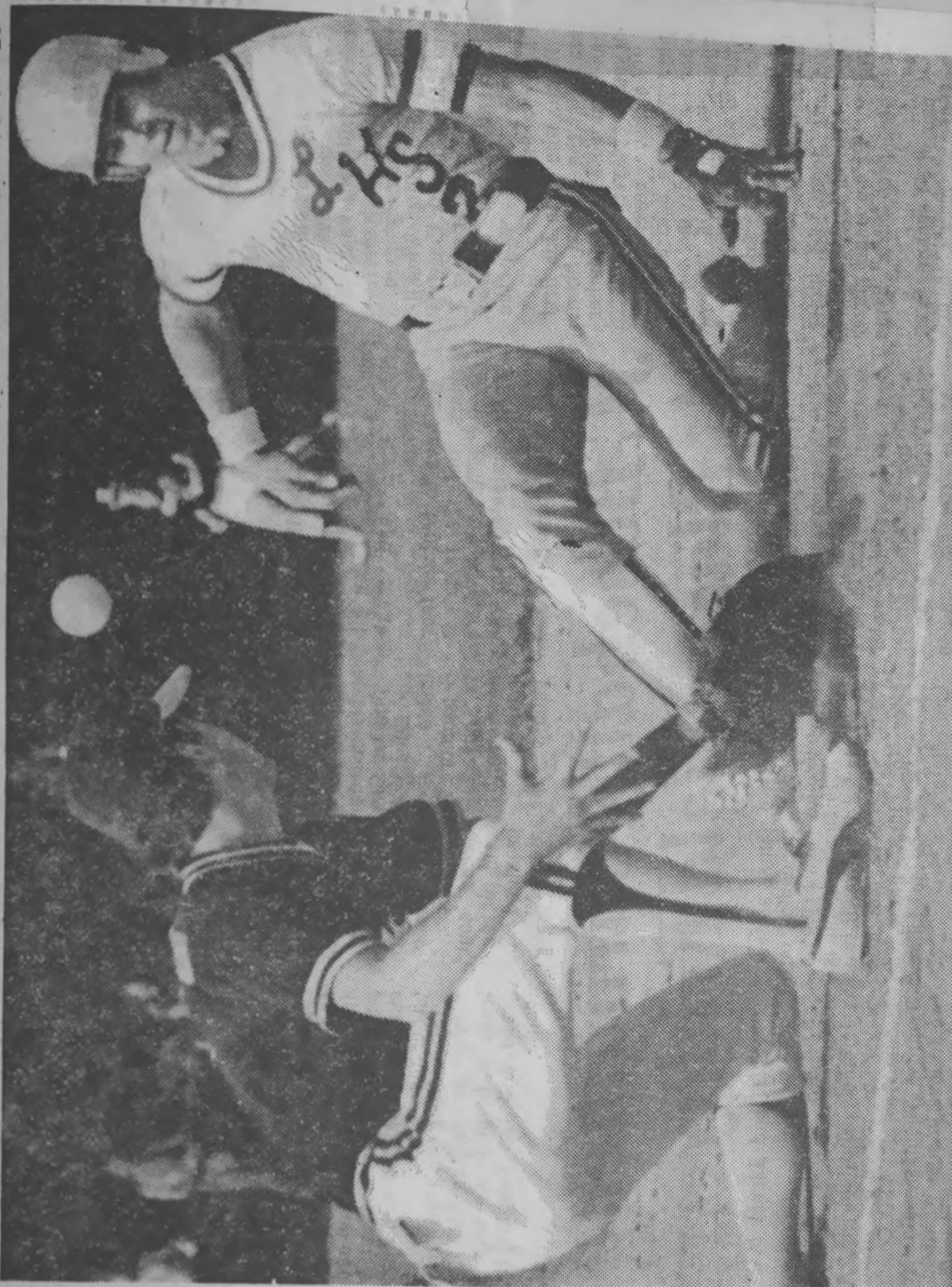
Defensive standouts included Hagan, who stopped John Lastinger's shot up the middle to nip a VHS rally in the second; Schreffler, who threw out Mike Ruff from deep short and centerfielder Chuck DeVane, who ranged to stop Ashley DeLoach twice and New's bid for hits.

VHS first baseman Wayne Fugett survived a first inning collision with Ruff to catch DeVane's pop, third baseman DeLoach spreaded Hal Sprenkle's liner and centerfielder Lastinger caught Jay Cobb's blast for VHS' top defensive plays.

The Wildcats drew first blood as Lastinger beat out an infield hit to short and went to second on a wild pitch. Fugett lined a single to left that scored Lastinger and advanced on a boot. However, Hagan retired the next two hitters.

Hagan walked New and David Parker and Dale Parker's perfectly placed bunt down the third base line loaded the bases with one out in the second. That brought Ruff to the plate, but the Wildcat receiver couldn't hit his white sign with a red bullseye beyond the leftfield fence. He went down swinging but Lastinger hit his shot back through the box.

Hagan got enough of his glove on the ball to slow it down, losing his glove but throwing the ball to first to retire Lastinger. Fugett, who was the game's top hitter with 3-4, opened the third with a line drive single to center. DeVane caught DeLoach's liner, but Tim Dame's sacrifice moved Fugett to second.



—Times Staff Photo.

Hal Sprenkle Beats Throw To Ashley DeLoach In Close Play At Third

New walked for the second time and John Bond sent pinch-runner Andy Weldon across with a clutch, two-out single to left.

LHS came to life in the third. Schreffler blasted his roundtripper over the scoreboard, ruining New's no-hitter and shutout with one swing.

DeVane singled to center and went to second when New hit Tony Bowden. Jeff Stokes fanned and New, after faking to second, almost caught Bowden off first on the pickoff. Sprenkle followed with a run-scoring single to left and Cobb's single to center chased Bowden home with the third Viking run.

Fugett led off the VHS fifth with his 10th home run, tying the contest with a blast over the scoreboard in left. New also hit the ball hard, but

DeVane made a good catch. The Vikings moved ahead for the second time in their half of the frame. Schreffler singled to left and stole second. Ray Luke followed with a single to center, but Schreffler tripped rounding third, Luke going to second on the throw home. DeVane whiffed for the second out, bringing Bowden to the plate.

Brooks argued with the umpire Bowden was taking a step out of the batting box when he made contact and should be called out. The ump didn't see things Brooks' way and Bowden's single to right scored Schreffler and Luke for a 5-3 lead. Bowden was out at second, attempting to stretch his hit into a double.

Stokes led off the Vikings' sixth with a single to left, but was erased as Sprenkle reached on a fielder's choice. Sprenkle went to second on another fielder's choice and scampered across with what proved to be the game winner

as pinch-hitter Todd Hollis singled to right. The Cats kept the pressure on to the end. Lastinger led off the seventh with a single to left and crossed on DeLoach's bouncing double down the third base line.

Dame reached on Schreffler's boot and New sliced an opposite field double to left, scoring DeLoach and moving Dame to third. With the crowd roaring on every pitch, Bowden made a great catch against the screen to retire Bond.

"I thought about taking Keith out then," George said. "I was expecting a squeeze play. I breathed a sigh of relief when Keith got him."

LHS plays Northeast-Macon in a best-of-three series next week. Northeast won the 4-AAAA championship defeating Richmond Academy, 6-0 and 7-6 after losing the second game 9-4.

More Seating OK'd At Cleveland Field

By RICK ROUNTREE
Times Staff Writer

The city school board has agreed to spend about \$100,000 for both a seating addition at Cleveland Field and construction of a field house at Valdosta High School.

The board agreed to loan the athletic fund \$50,000 for the 1,000-seat addition at Cleveland Field, to be paid back during the next three years.

The seating addition was spurred in part to increase season ticket sales and to insure football's position as the prime money-maker, according to Superintendent Ralph Brandon.

The board agreed with member Stan Bishop ab-

staining, to put 1,000 additional end zone seats at the Williams Street side.

The project is expected to cost \$49,000 including \$1,337 to move a strategically-placed light pole, Brandon said.

Faced with increasing requests for season tickets, Brandon said several visiting teams have done little to add money to the athletic program here.

"With teams like Bainbridge, Albany and Monroe, it's rare they even give away all their complimentary tickets, Brandon said.

"We've got to sell the program at home," he said. "We've got to have our people there to insure the good shape of our program.

"When it rains, in spirit our

fans will be there because their tickets are paid for," Brandon said only half in jest referring to season ticket holders.

However, Brandon sobered some board member's optimism when he said he "doubted" the expansion project would be completed for the first game of the football season.

Bishop said he thought the board was "moving too quick" in reaching its decision. He suggested the board move other light poles at the opposite end of Cleveland Field, in anticipation of even more expansion plans down the road.

Brandon cautioned however that building at the other end would be too expensive because of the large amount of steel needed for the highly-elevated area.

"At the opposite end it would cost about \$75 a seat. At the end we're going to its about \$50," Brandon said.

At the same time the board approved \$50,000 for construction of a steel building field house to go near the track field at VHS.

Brandon said wrestling, track and gymnastic equipment is wearing out too fast now because it is not properly stored due to space shortages.

There has been talk for several years of a field house but Brandon said now is the first time the board has had the money for the project.

He said the building is to be used for the wrestling and weightlifting programs and will include an area for storage of athletic equipment.

Ware Edges Wildcats; Kittens Win

By E.C. PAINTER
Times Sports Writer

The Valdosta Wildcats were defeated by the Ware County (Waycross) Gators 52-51 here Saturday night in a non-region basketball game, when a last minute comeback attempt was thwarted by costly fouls.

In the opening game, the Kittens trounced Gatorettes by a score of 81-52 in a fast-paced, shoot-'em-up ballgame.

The disappointment for the Wildcats drops their record to 3-3 overall, though they remain 3-2 in the subregion. The Gators move up to 2-5 overall.

Although Valdosta trailed by one point for the majority of the game, the game was decided in the fourth quarter when two costly fouls choked off their come-back effort.

After calling a time-out

with 3:57 left in the game, Valdosta went into a full-court press, and used it effectively to cut a 43-38 deficit to 43-42.

With 2:14 left, David New put the Wildcats ahead on a field goal for the first time since the end of the second quarter.

The press continued to work for Valdosta, and the Wildcats called their last time-out to put a stall together with a 48-45 margin.

But Ware cut the lead to two on a jumper by Mike Waters and went into a press of their own. The pressure stopped Wildcat ball handler Greg Daniels at half court on a trap play.

Though it appeared that Daniels could have moved the ball across the half-court line under the penalty time, he elected to call a time-out that

cost Valdosta a technical foul.

Mike Waters hit the free throw allowed by the technical to knot the game at 48-48 with :58 left. On the inbounds, Ware made two more points after running down the clock to take the lead again.

On a last attempt by Valdosta, New was fouled on a 20-foot jumper that he turned into a three-point play that gave the Wildcats a 51-50 edge with :08 left to play.

But on the after-basket press Daniels committed the second costly foul that enabled Travis Peavy to connect twice on the 1-1 free throw try to give Ware the victory.

Wildcat coach Roger Rome said after the game, "The technical called for the extra time-out was the critical point of the game." New led the Wildcats with 23 points, and Dante Jones and Nathaniel Caesar put in ten points apiece for Valdosta.

Peavy paced Ware with 12, and four other Gators added nine points apiece to gain the win.

The Kittens' game was

quite another story. After trailing for a short time in the first quarter, the Valdosta girls put together a pressure defense and a running offense to run away from the Gatorettes.

When the Kittens were behind, Coach Jo Ellis was heard to yell to them, "You're not playing like a Wildcat team," to spark the girls' play.

She said after the game, "I told them that I was displeased with the stupid mistakes, and that they should have a little pride in their play."

The talk must have done some good, because the Kittens played fire-up ball afterward, effectively using the press and fast break. They even held the Gatorettes scoreless in the fourth quarter until 3:25 was left on the clock.

Dana Swindle was the leading scorer for the Kittens with 20 points, and Beverly Wilson added 17 more points for Valdosta. Debbie Mair hit for 13 for the Kittens and Annie Porter was the leading

rebounder for Valdosta with nine rebounds to her credit. Tee Dixon paced the Gatorettes with 13 points, and Robin Sharp followed with nine points in their loss.

The Kittens are now 4-3 and 2-3 in subregion action.

Both the Wildcats and the Kittens have an open date this Tuesday, and look forward to the Lowndes Christmas Tournament to begin next Thursday at Lowndes High School.

GIRLS

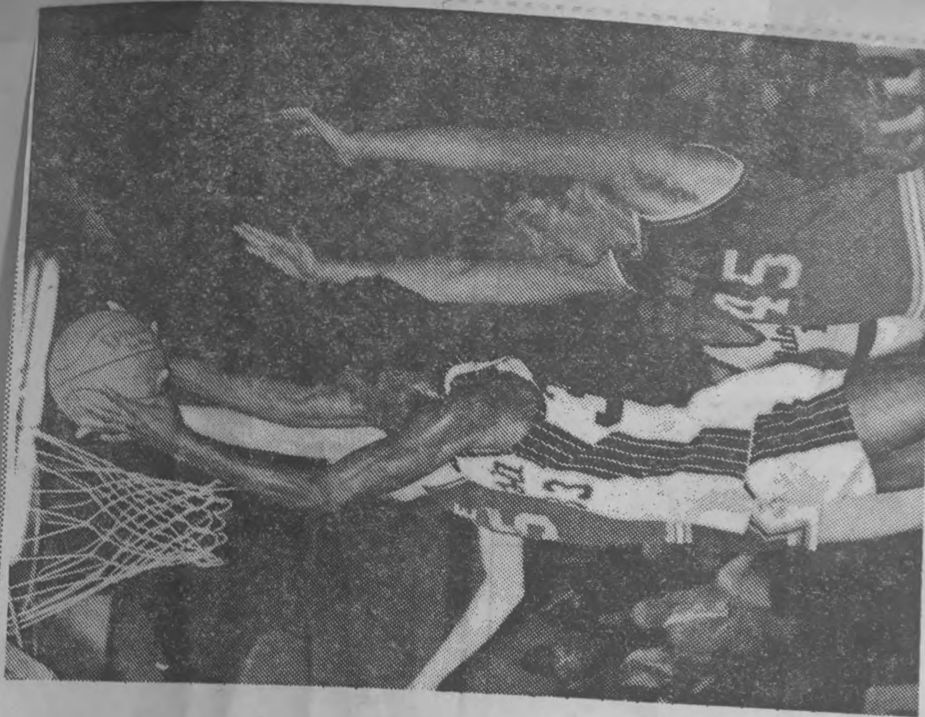
Valdosta 20 48 62 81
Ware 11 26 38 52
VALDOSTA (81) — Swindle 20, Wilson 17, Mair 13, Cooper 12, Nelson 6, DeCarlo 2, Lewis 2, Swails 1, Porter 8, Doison, Harrell.
Team Totals: Field goals 35, Free throws 11 of 16, Fouls 20.

WARE (52) — Dixon 13, R. Sharp 9, Monroe 8, Fraley 5, Strickland 5, Williams 5, Lee 3, Smart 3, Barfield 1, B. Sharp.
Starting: —
Team Totals: Field goals 15, Free throws 22 of 27, Fouls 15.

BOYS

Valdosta 9 19 33 51
Ware 8 20 34 52
VALDOSTA (51) — New 23, Caesar 10, Jones 10, Daniels 4, Bernard 2, Merrable 2, Bond, Cochran, Gaines, Stewart, Thomerson.
Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free throws 11 of 18, Fouls 12.

WARE (52) — Peavy 12, Culpepper 9, Green 9, Tanner 9, Walters 9, Burse 4, Pearson.
Team Totals: Field goals 22, Free throws 8 of 13, Fouls 15.



—Times Staff Photo.

Nathaniel Caesar Muscles In

'Cats Halt Central Of Thomasville

By Times Sports Writer

THOMASVILLE — Playing what was perhaps their finest team effort of the year, the Valdosta Wildcats stormed marking the first time this season that three VHS players reached double figures in the same game. Yet another key figure in the victory was Greg Daniels who threw in six important points down the stretch in the fourth quarter.

"I was just pleased with the entire effort," Coach Rome said, "everyone that played contributed something — it was just a great team effort." Rome was also pleased with the way his team kept Central off the offensive boards in the second half.

The win moves the Cats to 9-4 on the year with a subregion mark of 5-2. VHS is in action again next Tuesday when they travel to Moultrie to take on Colquitt. The VHS Kittens were not scheduled to play here Saturday.

John Bond was another second-half hero with 16 of his game-high 24 points coming in that half while shooting 12 for 17 from the floor for the

boards in the second half with Danie Jones, David New, and Nathaniel Caesar all pulling down eight rebounds each.

Two Valdosta wrestlers, Donaldson and Griffin, remained undefeated with pins Wednesday.

The win moved the Wildcats over the .500 mark to a 4-3 record.

Winning matches by pin for VHS were: Ted Welch, Otis Henry, David Harrison, Willie Donaldson, and Odell Griffin. Three other VHS performers won by forfeit.

7:30 p.m.

Valdosta is to take part in a 16-team invitational tournament Friday and Saturday at Southwest High in Macon. The Wildcats next home match is to be Wednesday against Monroe of Albany at

By Times Sports Writer
Valdosta High swamped Dougherty High of Albany 54-10 in a wrestling match here Wednesday.
VHS won all matches except for the upper three Area Round...

Valdosta Wrestlers Manhandle Dougherty

Bounds Remembers With No Regrets

Coach Bazemore's talks. He commanded respect and got it, whether he was looking for from us, and he got 101 percent. I can't say enough good about him.

"The last time I saw him was at the Valdosta-Griffin championship game, and the first thing he said to me was 'Ah, there's my quarterback.' That made me feel good."

Bounds has some favorite memories from his college days to look back on, too.

"I'll always remember my friends, and my good relations with the FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) there," Bounds said. "And beating my dad's alma mater was fun, too. We kidded each other a lot about it."

Bounds very well might have had such memories in a career of baseball, for he was also a fine pitcher and centerfielder in high school. But football, as he has said, was his main love, so he decided not to pursue baseball in college.

Yet had he done so, Bounds thinks that he might still be playing today. "I don't know in what capacity, but I probably would have been able to stay in baseball a lot longer than football," Bounds said.

Despite that sentiment, Bounds has no regrets that he chose the football field over the baseball diamond.

"The experiences I've had as a football player made it all worthwhile," Bounds said. "I don't think I would have gotten the same quality education had I chosen baseball, either. Most schools want me as a football player, essentially, but I also do a lot of work climbing on the telephone poles," Bounds said. "At first, Southern Bell was reluctant to hire me, because of my knee injury — I had to prove to them that I was able to play football for a year after the operation before I could get the job."

What's it like, one might ask, to pass from starting quarterback at Valdosta High to reserve lineman for Southern Bell?

"I love my job," Bounds said. "I don't think I'm ready to get behind a desk yet, but I'm hoping to eventually work up to a desk job. I'd also like to get into the engineering section, so I may take some college courses soon to be able to."

Bounds is content with his post-gridiron life, and he's looking forward to raising a family. "I do miss playing a post-gridiron life, and he's looking forward to raising a family," he said. "but I've gotten over the competitive feeling at first, and I don't think I'll ever get it completely out of my system, but I've settled it within myself."

And Bounds will always have the high school memories.

"Valdosta is football by itself. I love the town, I love the people in it, and I'll never forget those times," Bounds said. "And I'll never forget course."



STANLEY BOUNDS
Former VHS Great

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

Stanley Bounds, for most of us, needs no introduction. No true Valdosta sports fan of long standing would forget one of the best Wildcat quarterbacks ever, the young man who led the 1971 'Cats to a 13-0 season and the high school football national championship.

But for the relative newcomer or the relatively uninformed oddmer, Bounds rushed for 23 touchdowns and passed a phenomenal 2,300 yards for 20 additional TDs in his senior year at Valdosta High.

After the 68-12 Wildcat devastation of Avondale in the 1971 state championship, Bounds was voted AAA Back of the Year by the Atlanta Constitution, and was ready to perform his football magic at the University of Mississippi.

"When I got out of high school, football was my main love," Bounds said recently. "I was looking forward to playing college ball at Old Miss, and the first thing on my mind was a professional football career."

Bounds began college ball in 1972 as starting quarterback for the Mississippi freshmen team, leading it to a perfect 5-0 season. He went on to start five games for the Old Miss Rebels, but soon he was permanently moved to the second string quarterback slot. He scored only five touchdowns during his entire career with the Rebels. Needless to say, he didn't make the pros.

I've heard many people wonder aloud, "What ever happened to Stanley Bounds? He should be in the pros by now," or something like that.

The answer begins in Bounds' senior year at VHS. "During that year, I noticed that my left knee was hurting at basketball practice," Bounds said. "Then at the Has Been-Will Be game, I pushed off on my left leg once, and it felt like a knife to the doctor, and he said I had torn the outside cartilage."

Yet the injury didn't concern Bounds too much at the time. He managed to complete two years of football.

Chip Bounds also played baseball in 1971-73 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, where he received the golden glove award for fielding third base. He later joined Stan at Old Miss on a baseball scholarship.

It seems the entire Bounds clan has moved on to other things, but they're all still sportsmen at heart.

Stan Bounds says he'll probably get down in the Valdosta sometime in the spring. He's welcome, of course.

GOING FISHING?

- Licenses
- Florida Pond Worms
- African Reds
- Red Wigglers
- Giant Mealy Worms
- Sand Maggots
- Crickets
- Turfite Minnows
- Shiners
- Rod and Reel Repairs

SHAN'S
510 S. Patterson Street

Wreck Victim Released

By Times Staff Writer 1-20-80

A Valdosta girl was released from a hospital Saturday in Gainesville, Ga. after treatment for injuries she received in the accident. Melinda Caddell, 18, of Valdosta was killed in the crash. A third girl, Tammy Sue Dinnerman, 18, of Adel was unharmd.

According to reports from the Georgia Highway Patrol, Miss Schroer was driving a 1978 Chevrolet and traveling north on Georgia Highway 365 near Gainesville when the accident happened.

The car ran off the shoulder onto the medium where it struck a guard rail and overturned at least twice, according to Patrol reports. The accident occurred about 3 p.m. Friday.

Reportedly, the girls were on their way to Brenau College in Gainesville. An earlier report of a boy in the car was incorrect. The three girls were the occupants of the car.

Wreck Kills VHS Student

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta High School student Melinda Caddell, 18, was killed Friday as a result of an automobile accident near Gainesville, Ga.

According to a spokesman for the Georgia Highway Patrol an investigation is continuing into the accident, which occurred about nine miles south of Gainesville.

Although all the details of the accident were not known at press time, a Highway Patrol spokesman said Miss Caddell was traveling with two other people in a northbound car on Georgia Highway 365.

Officials believe the driver lost control of the vehicle and hit the guard rail at the side of the highway. Names of the other two passengers were not available. Patrol officials did say one, a boy, was injured in the accident while the other passenger was unharmd in the wreck.

Wildcats Fall To Bulldogs; Kittens Win

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

Midway through the first quarter, the Valdosta High Wildcats had jumped to a 9-0 lead over the visiting Thomasville Bulldogs, a favored subregion foe in basketball action here Tuesday night.

By the half, the number six team in the state had narrowed the gap to 30-29 and the Bulldogs went ahead to take the contest 60-52 in a game that was largely decided in the last minute of play.

"I was pleased with our team play, but we need a little more killer instinct," said Valdosta Head Coach Roger Rome, whose 'Cats reluctantly fell to 10-5 and 6-3 in Region 1-AAAA (South) with the defeat. "When we get them down like that we need to keep them down."

Yet statistics show that keeping the Bulldogs down is no easy task, as they climbed to 15-1 overall and a perfect 8-0 in the subregion with the win.

Earlier in the evening, Coach Jo Ellis' Kittens posted an 8-7 and 4-5 subregion mark by handing the Thomasville Lady Bulldogs a 55-48 spanking. Both Valdosta squads play at home Friday when region opponent Albany High comes to town in a non-subregion matchup.

Ellis outlined Kitten board play, and particularly rebounding, as central to the victory over the Lady Bulldogs, who dropped to 10-8 and 5-4 with the loss. With that, the Kittens "should

have put the game on ice," she added, "but we didn't, we made some mistakes. In the first half it was the foul line that kept them in the game." Thomasville hit eight of 14 free throws in that period, and only one of five in the final half.

Pacing the Valdosta boys effort was 6-4 guard David New, with a game-high 22 points and 13 rebounds to his credit. Dante Jones, a 6-4 Valdosta forward, hit for 16 points, and was the only other Wildcat to manage double figure scoring against a tight zone and aggressive man-to-man Bulldog defense.

"We got ahead against their zone, but it's a lot tougher to score against their man-to-man," said Rome, who stuck with 1-3-1 and 3-2 zone defense throughout the contest. "And their outside shooting was a deciding factor. That's their trademark."

The Bulldogs, often scoring from 20-30 feet out, hit 11 of 14 field goals in the final half, where the 'Cats went a bit cold at seven of 22 attempts. Thomasville's 6-5 center Fred Brown managed 18

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

points and the most rebounds for the visiting team, while guards Jeff Putman and Kenneth Hayes tallied 14 and 12 points in the win.

The Wildcats took a 17-7 edge into the second period, but with three steals and not a little help from the free throw line, the Bulldogs scored nine straight points and then on an equal footing with Valdosta to make it a one-point ballgame by the half.

With a Bulldog switch to man-to-man and an outside shooting game that finally clicked, the lead changed hands nine times in the third quarter with Thomasville ahead 45-42 at its end.

Hayes and Putman hit a couple 25-footers in a row to give Thomasville a seven-point lead.

The 'Cats countered with six consecutive points, highlighted by a steal by Wildcat Greg Daniels that John Bond made good for a dunk, leaving the score 53-50 with 3:27 remaining.

New hit one-and-one from the line to make the score 53-52 with under two minutes left, but Daniels fouled Bulldog Cedric Fann with one

minute to the buzzer. Fann hit the one-and-one.

Daniels stole another Bulldog pass and attempted a layup that would have again made it a one-point ballgame, but the shot fell to the left of the hoop with 38 seconds remaining.

Thomasville scored its last five points at the foul line, as the 'Cats tried desperately but unsuccessfully to retake the lead.

The girls game was not nearly as down to the wire, as the Kittens kept an eight to 12 point lead throughout most of it. Cindy Cooper, Dana Swindle and Beverly Wilson scored 12 points apiece to pace the Kittens, and Wilson nabbed 11 rebounds.

Working from a 1-3-1 and 2-1-2 zone defense, the Kittens took full advantage of a risky Lady Bulldog passing game and dominated under the boards to take the win.

Priscilla Waiden, Thomasville's 6-2 center, hit for 18 points and was the only real under-the-board threat the Lady Bulldogs had, nabbing by far the majority of Thomasville's rebounds. Teammate Cassandra McIntyre added 10 points.

GIRLS

Thomasville	6	18	30	48
Valdosta	14	33	45	55

TVILLE (48) — Waiden 18, McIntyre 10, Anderson 7, Roan 4, Johnson 2, Grant 3, Graham, Cochran, Grimsley.
Team Totals: Field goals 18, Free throws 12 of 21, Fouls 12.

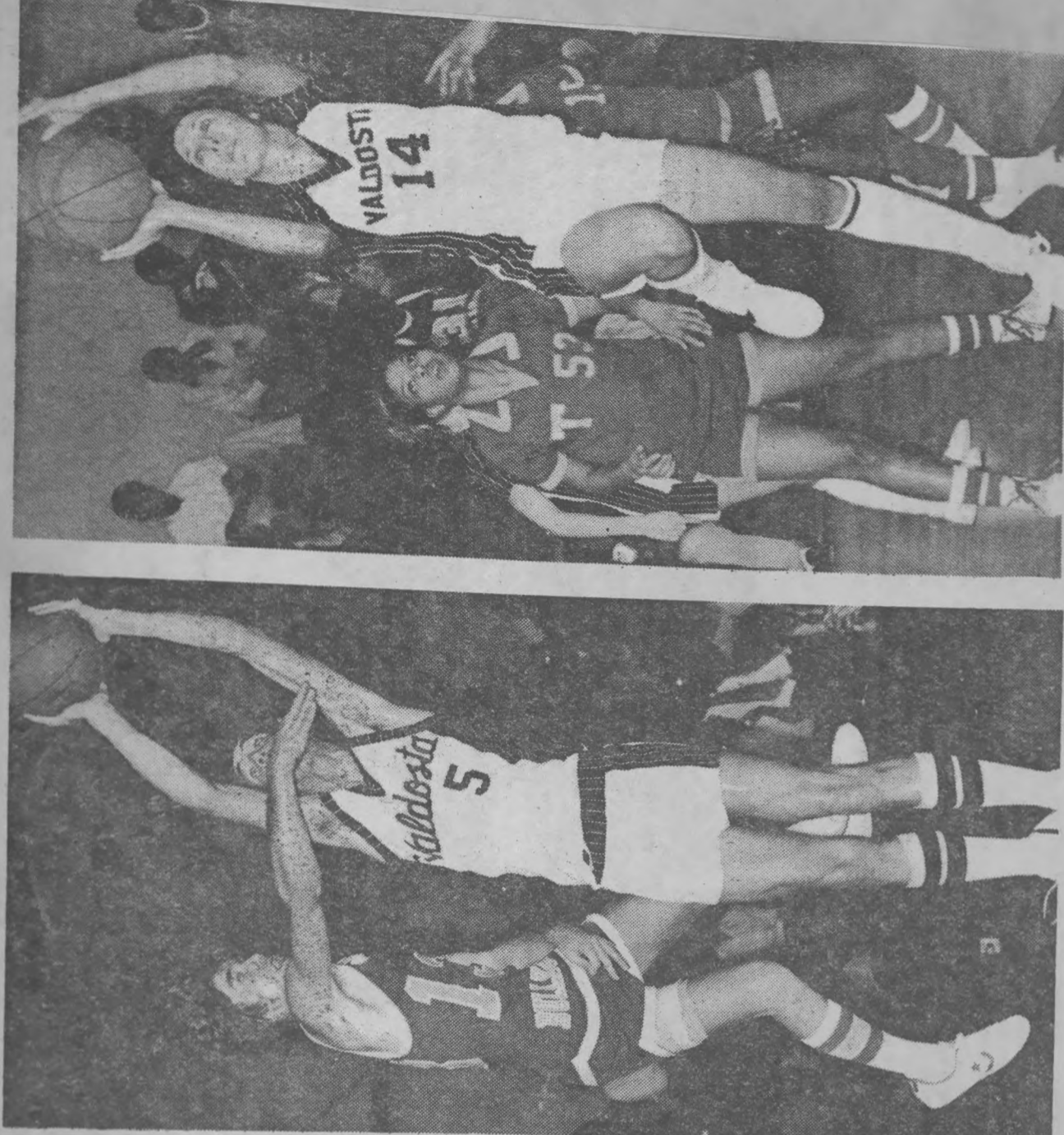
VALDOSTA (55) — Cooper 12, Swindle 12, Wilson 12, Porter 6, Lewis 5, Nelson 4, Tolson 2, Swells 2, Weir, DeCarlo, Harrell.
Team Totals: Field goals 23, Free Throws 9 of 18, Fouls 19.

BOYS

Thomasville	7	29	45	60
Valdosta	17	30	42	52

TVILLE (60) — Brown 18, Putman 14, Hayes 12, Bell 6, C. Fann 4, Henderson 4.
Team Totals: Field goals 22, Free Throws 14 of 17, Fouls 14.

VALDOSTA (52) — New 22, Jones 16, Daniels 4, Bond 4, Casar 4.
Team Totals: Field goals 18, Free Throws 16 of 20, Fouls 18.



New Fights Off Putnam; Cooper Drives To Basket

—Times Staff Photos by Joey Ivantco

Area Hoop Roundup

Once-Beaten Bulldogs

Visit VHS Tuesday

By Lee Freeman

The Westover Patriots of 1-A AAA (North) proved that the Thomasville Bulldogs of 1-A AAA (South) were not unbeatable by handing them a 90-81 loss Friday night in Albany.

Valdosta Head Coach Roger Rome, whose Wildcats must contend with Thomasville in subregion action here Tuesday night, views that as a disadvantage for his 10-4 squad.

"I was hoping they would come in undefeated, because then they might not have been as up for us psychologically," he said.

"Now they're facing two losses in a row."

Earlier this season the Bulldogs, who are 14-1 and 7-0 in the subregion, handed a 26-point loss to Valdosta, which Rome expects a closer contest to unfold this time around.

"I think our guys are going to be more conscientious of Carolina, while the Blazers host Florida Memorial at Blazer Fieldhouse and the Blazers travel to South Valdosta State College Lady basketball action, the

area Monday's blow us out like before."



Wildcat Head Coach ROGER ROME

welcome the Taylor County, Hamilton County girls Blazer Memorial at

Fla., girls squad to Jasper, defeated Valdosta so handily earlier in the season.

In other action Tuesday, Lanier County of Lakeland, Ga., travels to Pearson to contend with Atkinson County, Brooks County visits Cook in Adel, Berrien welcomes Cairo to Nashville, Ga., and Lowndes travels to Thomasville to take on Central from there.

In Tuesday's SEAS action, Valdosta travels to Southwood of Waycross, and Georgia Christian journeys to Dixie near Quitman for a confrontation with Westbrook. In Florida, Madison visits Mayo, North Florida novers against Thomasville and beat them.

Rome said that, if the Wildcats play well, they should stand a good chance to win the game. "We're playing at home, and we know what to expect from guard Greg Daniels, 6-4 for-ward David New, 6-4 for-ward John Bond, 6-4 forward Dante Jones and 6-3 center Nathaniel Ceasar, Rome isolates turnovers and an aggressive Bulldog defense as the primary reasons that Thomasville



The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Jan. 24, 1980-17-

Valdosta's David Parker Pins Monroe Wrestler

VHS Matmen Pin Monroe

By Times Staff Writer

The Valdosta High Wrestling team upped its season record to 5-3 with a win over Monroe of Albany in a duel meet here Wednesday. The visitors won only two of 12 matches to fall to the Wildcats, 50-14.

Willie Donaldson and Odell Griffin began win streaks anew after losses in Macon last weekend. Donaldson recorded the quickest pin of the season in the 147-pound

class, defeating his opponent in 21 seconds. David Parker put his man's shoulders to the mat in 26 seconds in the 134-pound class.

The wrestlers are to take part in the Lincoln Invitational Tournament at Lincoln High in Tallahassee, Fla., Friday and Saturday. The next VHS home match is to be Jan. 31 against Tift County of Tifton. Results of Wednesday's matches follow:

- 110 lb. Greg Prine (v) pin over Ken Malone (m)
- 107 lb. Tommy Connel (v) Pin over Chris Bailey (m)
- 114 lb. Greg Jenkins (v) pin over James Daniels (m)
- 121 lb. Alfred Aguerro (v) won by forfeit
- 128 lb. Joe Sanders (v) pin over Mark Corey (m)
- 134 lb. David Parker (v) pin over Mark Smith (m)
- 140 lb. David Harrison (v) tied Gary Seay (m) 7-7
- 147 lb. Willie Donaldson (v) pin over Jess Cidon (m)
- 157 lb. Derrick Davis (m) decided
- 167 lb. Eric Burch (v) 10-9 won by forfeit
- 187 lb. Anthony Battle (v) pin over Elvin Strain (m)
- Heavyweight Greg Pratt (m) decided Jim Kehoe (v) 8-3

New Awaits Call From College Scouts

David New is a young man with a world of possibilities. New stands to finish his senior year at Valdosta High this year either first or second in his class and also has the chance of playing college basketball or baseball.

A problem for New is that he has not been contacted by major schools about his basketball future. If he isn't able to go to a school with a strong academic history to play basketball, he said he won't worry about basketball. It's books before basketballs for New.

New is currently the leading scorer on the Wildcats varsity with a 16 point average. He tied for the scoring lead on the team last year with Greg Powell at 12 per game.

New is not only a scorer. He plays the total game and stands almost 6-5, 185. With all the credentials he shows on the court, nobody seems that interested in his services as of yet.

"Georgia Tech said they would send a scout, but I haven't heard from them yet," said New. "I've also been contacted by the service academies, but not much else."

Tech is where New would like to go. Even without an athletic scholarship he said he may go anyway to get an engineering degree.

"You've got to get the big numbers or be on a team that goes a long way to get recognized," said New of scouts' affection for high scorers. "We never run plays toward me. Our offense is designed to go inside against a man-to-man."

"The scouts have got to get down and see you to know that you're a team player and play good defense."

"I've got to look at how I can benefit the team. I tell myself I can't get frustrated, because the team is winning. As everybody else's scoring has gone up, mine has gone down respectively."

Although New has always dreamed of playing college basketball, he knows that there is a lot more than sports to life.

"God is first with me," said New. "That is really important



Mike

Hagood

Times Sports Editor

to me. I don't push it as much as some other people do, but that's what's most important. My family comes second. Academics come third and athletics comes fourth.

"For awhile, I thought I might not want to play college ball, because of the time involved. Sure, I'd like to play in college, but academics would still come first."

Playing in another area, New feels things might be different, but south Georgia is not one of the major stops for top level basketball scouts.

"I feel sort of short-changed in the amount of publicity I've gotten, but the program at VHS is not what it is elsewhere," said New. "Places like Dougherty or Southwest Macon have much more basketball tradition."

"I think the basketball down here is underrated. People assume that since football is number one that there isn't any talent down here."

The Valdosta team that New is on has gotten some recognition as of late. The Atlanta Constitution Class AAAA Top Ten listed VHS for honorable mention last week. The Cats have won five straight games and face Region 1-AAAA (South) leader Thomasville at the Valdosta Junior High gym Tuesday.

"We have as good a team as Valdosta has had since Lawrence Lowe was a senior," said New. "We could very easily be 13-0."

One of the things New would like to see to help local basketball hopefuls is a summer hoop league. Without a chance for competition in the off season, he went ahead and ran and shot over the summer with his good friend Greg Daniels. Daniels is a point guard for the Wildcats, but stands close to eight inches shorter than New. Playing each other in the off-season was not that much help for either one. So the two worked on shooting and conditioning.

"I'd like to play organized ball against the best to see just how good I am," said New. "You've got to play the best to be the best."

New played football until his junior high days and then decided to stick to basketball and baseball. "I saw how much time was involved with football. I enjoyed football and liked playing quarterback, but I enjoyed basketball and baseball more."

New's older brother Wayne was a standout football player at VHS and went on to play for Georgia Tech.

"I like to pitch as much as anything. You are in control of the game," said New of baseball.

Baseball drills have already begun at VHS, so New will be involved with practice on the hardwood and on the baseball diamond.

It's basketball season now though, and New has an aspiration to go to the state playoffs. "I want to play in Macon Coliseum at least one time before I graduate," he said.



Times Staff Photo.

Books Before Sports For New

extra year in eighth grade to play football. They accentuate the positive. . . .

"In our school system," says Raye Nitschke, John's mother and a secretary at Valdosta High, "you're not allowed to hold them back just for football. John had been in a system where he started school at 5. He had gone along time till the beginning of eighth grade. And he always had said, 'I'm the baby of my class, did you know?' You could see the gap increasing between him and the other children in his class. That was the reason. He just started having trouble keeping up with the other ones."

"Well, we had heard about it being done (holding a football-playing child back in eighth grade). In our other school system here (Lowndes), they hold quite a few back. I asked some four or five juniors and seniors who had done it — and I got them aside when their parents weren't around — 'Do you regret staying back?' They said no, they're more at ease and secure now."

"Most of the teachers and administrators were against it. But it has to be a very individual thing. For a long time, my son had been an A and B student, and his grades had dropped off in the eighth grade to C's and D's. When he started football practice in the spring, he'd come in physically and mentally exhausted — we play a very mentally tough brand of football here. He seemed to get more and more discouraged. We decided after spring practice last year to do this."

Education is often the justification for the Georgia Syndrome. Georgia is thought to be the last state to convert from 11 years of mandatory schooling to 12 — in the early 1950s — so there are parents around here who say they don't want their children feeling like babes in the wilderness upon starting college, as they say they did. There are parents who rationalize that, if their children started school before they were 6, that extra year — along about junior high — will get them in better sync, emotionally, physically and academically.

Hey, neighbor, a \$40,000 athletic scholarship is a possibility for an exceptional high school football player. And a boy's extra year of growth just might increase the minute odds. Turn little uns into big uns. But the reality, according to the National Federation of State High School Associations, is that slightly more than one million boys are playing high school football in the United States this fall and, of those, only about 7,500 will get even partial scholarships to National Collegiate Athletic Association schools next year. Most boys in Georgia, as everywhere, will not continue playing the game beyond high school.

Indications are that the Georgia Syndrome isn't for the future, anyway, it isn't really for a college scholarship or eventual maturity. It is for these few high school years. Right here where the state motto is "Wisdom, Justice and Moderation." Right now, where football has a peach of a stature among the populace, Valdosta High School counselor Virginia Wisenbaker, though concerned that retaining a football player in eighth grade is "very risky business," nevertheless observes that "there's a lot of prestige involved playing football. A football player is more popular in school. Our school is 2,000; that's a big school for around here, and still kids have a tendency to get lost in the crowd. But if you're playing football, you have an identity."

On a scale of 1 to 10, football in Georgia is probably a touchdown and a field goal — give or take the extra point, '9 or 10'. Its power is such that school administrators are in no hurry to claim authority to question the Georgia Syndrome. "Who am I to say what a parent says isn't best for his child?" asks Hugh Kinard, Buford High School head of curriculum. "If a parent and a child feel there is a goal that is very important, maybe it transcends what we feel is important. A kid may be an excellent pianist; should we allow that child to take three hours off from school to practice every day? By and large, the philosophy of our administrators and counselors is that we advise against (holding back football-playing boys). But we still do not have that jurisdiction. We have very little to do with the decision."

The Georgia High School Association controls only high schools, throughout the nation, junior highs are pretty much on their own concerning athletic eligibility rules. And it has evolved that players wishing not to violate the association's eligibility rule (eight consecutive high school semesters) are able to stretch the age limit of 19 simply by staying back a year in seventh or eighth grade. The state school superintendent's office does not interfere, according to administrative assistant Bill Gambie, because student retention and promotion are left entirely in the hands of the local school districts. "There are no laws against this, and there is no state school policy being violated," Gambie says.

Association executive director Bill Fortham wonders if "the taxpayers eventually are going to get up in arms (paying for all these students to run through an extra year of schooling). Eventually, perhaps. But right now, Gambie says, "there's been no one up in arms." He estimates the cost per pupil to be about \$1,500.

Valdosta knows court decision to mean busing

By MIKE DILLIN
Times-Union Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — This September the Valdosta City school system will take its last hesitant step toward desegregation.

Although it has been 25 years since the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its order abolishing dual school systems, virtually half of Valdosta's elementary schools are almost totally segregated.

Three of its seven elementary schools remain 97 percent black and another is 90 percent white.

However, that will change this fall as the result of an order reluctantly handed down April 10 by U.S. District Judge J. Robert Elliott of Georgia, calling for desegregation of the city's elementary schools.

Elliott, in his order, said he recognized the decision would "dilute the quality of education" and made it clear he was acting under a mandate issued by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The appellate court and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare had rejected an earlier desegregation plan and ordered Elliott to devise a new one. The court further suggested an expert be employed to devise the new plan.

But Elliott refused, and drew up the plan himself.

"This means busing," Elliott said. "We don't need an expert to tell us that."

While the tone of Elliott's order made his skepticism of busing clear, townspeople seem reluctantly prepared to accept the inevitable.

"I'd rather her go to her neighborhood school," Shirley Clayton said of the 5th grade daughter who attends

High School Football's Gladiators Are Georgia's Pride and Royalty

By JOHN JEANSONNE
Newspaper
Georgia

Just take a look around. Look at the huge bedsheet stretched across the face of Valdosta's city hall: "Go Cats, All the Way in AAAA." Look at the temporary sign at the orphanage on the outskirts of Athens: Football sitting, 9 AM-10 PM Saturdays." Look at the front page of the Tifton Gazette, leading off the announcements of the day's activities with this: "Tift High Blue Devils Booster Club will meet tonight at 7:30. . . . Films of Friday night's playoff win over Thomasville will be shown." Georgia, jaw-jaw, has football on its mind.

Look closer. . . . Eighth-grade classrooms throughout the state have welcomed back some familiar faces this fall — football players. They are repeating a year of junior high school. One or two in this school district, a half dozen in that school district. Maybe some of the little gridlers aren't quite big enough or durable enough yet to handle the two-on-one tackling drills, or maybe they are just now beginning to show some real possibilities, and once they start high school they are allowed only four consecu-

tive years of athletic eligibility. Recycling oneself through eighth grade is the answer to all their prayers. Because not only is there no law against it, it's as natural as magnolias and cotton in Georgia. It has been going on for years.

The way it works is that the high school football coach sometimes will suggest to a boy in eighth grade that, by putting himself on hold for a year, the boy's career as a starter on the varsity likely will be lengthened. Or sometimes a boy sees his friends staying back, and sees how neat it is to be a high school football hero, and suggests the idea to his parents. Or parents, envisioning popularity and stardom for their son — and maybe even a \$40,000 college football scholarship — plant an expectation that the son will stay back.

Anyone who is startled to learn this is not from Georgia. "Well, it's commonplace," says Bill Jones, who a decade ago stayed back in seventh grade in football-intense Valdosta, and now is an insurance man in football-intense Valdosta. "Nine guys in my grade stayed back. The next year five or 10 more stayed back. It wasn't, 'Did you hear so-and-so stayed back?' It was, 'Well, who's staying back this year?' And if nobody stayed back, they'd have said, 'Nobody's staying back? Huh?'"

Valdosta is just an example. Typically outgoing in its Southern nature ("There are no strangers in Valdosta, Ga.," say the billboards on the interstate and the small window stickers at local businesses). Typically a day-to-day sort of place, as all smallish (pop. 35,000) cities are, so its high school football team logically mesmerizes the natives.

Some 11,000 attended Valdosta High's final playoff game just before Thanksgiving to witness the magical transformation of small-town high school football. Boys in T-shirts and blue jeans turn into warriors in shining helmets, bearers of the town's pride, and girls become princesses of the organized cheer.

In his book, "The Death of an American Game," John Underwood wrote that former Valdosta High School coach Wright Bazemore's effect on Valdosta "was not to make football the logical focal point of the town's pride, but to make football the town's purpose. . . . A Touchdown Club was organized, at \$10 a member, and the club donated \$3,500 a year so that Wright could take 110 players to a deluxe two-week football camp in the summer. The club provided plate money so that each player could have chubs and steaks when other kids in school were eating unatish."

Just this fall, southern Georgia was all stirred up over Valdosta's cross-town rivalry which featured Lowndes High's upset of traditional power Valdosta High. They say the Lowndes coach found a new pickup in his driveway the morning after. None of this is atypical. Nor the fact that a boy grows up with the tempting thought of performing to a full house once a week.

In this environment, 14-year-old John Nitschke "wanted very much" to stay back in eighth grade this year, according to his mother, Faye. He knew it could lead to three years of being a starter for the Valdosta Wildcats. "He would have been so frustrated if he hadn't been able to," she said. So he did.

Nobody twisted 17-year-old Don Hutchinson's arm over at neighboring Lowndes High, either, according to his father, Jack. "Don wanted to do this. In fact, the kids all wanted to stay back. You're not talking about no lame brains — kids who couldn't handle the books."

Understand that the case histories of John Nitschke and Don Hutchinson are not the least bit rare. And their parents seem to have rationalized the Georgia Syndrome of staying an

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Cats Crush Crisp, Kittens Fall Short

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Kittens dug a deep hole that they came very close to getting out of and the VHS Wildcats shoveled earth on Crisp County from the beginning of their game in high school basketball action at Valdosta Junior High Friday night.

The Kittens made a thrilling comeback in the final quarter, only to lose, 58-56. The boys game was never really in doubt, as the Wildcats caught fire early and cruised to a 72-44 win.

The games were non-subregion 1-AAAA contests. Tonight, both VHS teams travel to Thomasville to play Central for make-up games. Earlier in the year the two teams were to meet, but electricity went out at the game, causing them to be cancelled. Both are valuable 1-AAAA (South) games.

The 'Cats enter tonight's action 8-4 overall and 4-2 in league play. The Kittens are now 7-6 and 3-4 in the subregion.

The Crisp Cougarettes entered Friday's game with only one loss. VHS Coach Jo Ellis admitted that her girls were a little intimidated by facing a team of Crisp's stature.

In the early going the Cougarettes looked to be the game's dominant force, as Valdosta had trouble getting any offense underway.

Entering the final quarter, the Kittens trailed by a full 16 points. Methodically, VHS began to close the margin with the play of Cindy Cooper and Armeula Lewis in the

Valdosta press, the baseline jump shots of Beverly Wilson and the consistent board work of Annie Porter.

With two and a half minutes left in the game, VHS still trailed by eight points, but an excited crowd picked things up. A steal by Lewis and the ensuing layup brought Valdosta to two behind, 55-57, with 56 seconds to play. The crowd was then beside itself.

With 41 seconds left, Wilson stepped to the free throw line with a one and one chance. She hit the first, but the second bounced off the rim. Lewis grabbed the rebound and took an unbalanced shot, rather than setting up to run some clock.

VHS still had two more chances to win. A Crisp player missed the second half of a one and one, with Porter getting the rebound, but the shooter stole back the ball and was fouled. She missed her free throw, giving Valdosta life with 12 seconds remaining. A bank shot by Dana Swindle rolled out of the hoop with 2 seconds on the clock, giving Crisp the win.

Porter scored 19 points in her best game as a Kitten. Wilson was good for 17, while Cooper added 14.

Hot shooters Gwen Harris and Sandra Felton topped Crisp with 14 each. Crisp is now 12-1 on the year.

"We missed 31 two-foot shots and 14 free throws," said Ellis, knowing how close her team had come to an upset.

"We didn't do anything in the first half. If we had played the first half like we did the second we would have won.

"Their quickness threw us off in the first half, but once we got used to it, we were alright. We were down 17 points, but kept coming.

"I told them it was the best game we had played all year and if we had played like that all year we would have won some we lost."

Wildcat Coach Roger Rome was thrilled with his team's performance.

"That was the best four quarters of basketball we have played all year," he said. "We played with more intensity than in the last four minutes of the Lowndes game. We continue to improve every game."

Dante Jones and David New again led the offense that shot 52 percent from the field. Jones had a game-high

24 points, hitting 10 of 12 field goals. He and Nathaniel Ceasar also led VHS rebounders with eight each.

New was a ball of fire in the first half. He ended the game with 20 points. He had nine of the 'Cats first 19 points, taking the ball to the hoop effectively on a smaller Cougar team.

A sign of the course the game would take was seen in the first quarter. Whenever Crisp missed a shot, there were no blue jerseys anywhere near the basket. VHS completely controlled the rebounding area on defense. Crisp got one shot and no more.

Highlighting the Valdosta offense was its unselfishness. New and Jones were the hot hands and their teammates made sure they had the ball to do the damage.

On defense, a one-three-one zone had the 6-7 Cougars shaking their heads.

GIRLS
Crisp 13 25 46 58
VHS 7 14 30 56
14, Lewis 4, Mair 2, Swindle, Dobson, Nelson.
Team Totals: Field goals 20, Free Throws 20 of 35, Fouls 19.

CRISP (58) — Felton 14, Harris 14, Doster 7, Harvey 7, Jones 9, Bryant 4, Forrester 2, Turion 1, Roche, Johnson, Dexter, Polke.
Team Totals: Field goals 24, Free Throws 10 of 18, Fouls 21.

BOYS
Crisp 19 23 32 44
VHS 16 23 48 72
Bernard 3, Bond 6, Ceasar 6, Gaines 4, Allen 1, Thomerson 2, Sullenger.
Team Totals: Field goals 25, Free Throws 20 of 35, Fouls 14.

CRISP (72) — Brown 14, Floyd 8, Pickens 1, Team 11, Mack 4, Fenn 6.
Team Totals: Field goals 17, Free Throws 10 of 14, Fouls 22.



Bond Finds Ceasar With Pass

Gymnastics To Host Meet

By Times Sports Writer
The Valdosta Gymnastics are to host a competition. No admission is to be charged.

Competition is to be divided into the 9-11, 12-14 and 15-and-over age groups, and is to consist of floor routines, beams, bars and vault

By Times Sports Writer
Gymnastics' gymnasium which is to be held at the Two and Three competition, enter 16-17 girls in the Class. The gymnastics are to member team from Atlanta. Saturday at 9 a.m. with a 13-gymnastic competition here

VHS Wrestlers Waltz In Opener

By Times Sports Writer
The Valdosta High School wrestling team look an overwhelming 66-6 decision from Westover (Albany) in the opening wrestling match for both teams here Thursday.

Other Valdosta winners were Ted Welsh, who pinned Billy Barnes in the 119-pound class, Joe Sanders, who topped Gary Lanier in the 132-pound class, and David Harrison, who defeated Eric Finch in the 138-pound class.

Carl Jarmillo in the 105-pound class, Jimmy Cullipher in the 126-pound class, and Anthony Battles in the 187-pound class.

Valdosta's Willie Donaldson pinned Claude Green for the 145-pound title, and Odell Griffin took Derrick Wiley in the 155-pound class. Danny McCleod topped Jimmy Ivey in the 167-pound class.

Westover's sole win came in the 112-pound class, when Joe Buckles pinned Tommy Connell. "I thought the guys did a good job of being aggressive and working for learn."

Valdosta is to host Colquitt County (Moultrie) Dec. 13 in its next match, to begin at 7:30 p.m. A junior varsity match is to be held also, slated for 6 p.m.

Bond Signs With Mississippi St.

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

In 10 minutes, John Bond was transformed from a Valdosta Wildcat into a Mississippi State Bulldog.

In a special signing ceremony at the Andrew J. Bond residence at about 10 minutes after noon Saturday, Bond committed himself to Mississippi State University by putting his signature on a prepared contract provided by MSU Bulldog Head Coach Emory Bellard.

Bellard, dressed in a three-piece grey suit, readily announced after the signing that there was not a human being alive happier than himself.

Bond, shoeless and in casual dress, smiled, accepted congratulations, and shook about 30 hands.

"It feels like I'm going home," said Bond, who was born and lived for 10 years in Starkville, Miss., where MSU is located. "I've met all the coaches, and I like all of them. They're all nice people. I like the players on the team, too. I think coach Bellard will have something good going next year."

Before it was over, about forty persons, dressed from jeans to vested suits, were on hand to give Bond a hearty sendoff.

Bond's parents, were there, of course, and Mr. Bond said that it "feels great" to have his son sign with MSU. "It's like he's fulfilling a boyhood dream. I used to drag him to football games before he was 2 years old."

As might have been inferred from the MSU dormrats and wall hangings at the Bond home, Mr. Bond was himself a MSU graduate, as was Mrs. Bond. The father of the newest MSU Bulldog was also affiliated with the school from 1960-1971, as admissions counselor, director of financial aid, and, lastly, as

acting Dean of Students before coming to Valdosta for a position with Valdosta State College, as Dean of Students.

Mr. Bond also has a daughter and brother who attended MSU. "We've been a (Mississippi) State family for a long time," he said. "I'm real happy that John signed. It's what he wanted."

Mrs. Bond would, and did, agree with that sentiment. "It's great," she said of her son's signing. "He's going home. A lot of emotion was involved in this."

Mississippi State, Mrs. Bond said, "is good academically, it has a good atmosphere, and nice athletic facilities." "The only disadvantage," she added lightly, "is how far we have to travel for the games. But we plan to go to as many as we can."

Coach Bellard, Mrs. Bond said, "seems like one who really looks after his players."

Bellard completed his first season as head coach at MSU last year. Coming first from the University of Texas and then from the head coaching position at Texas A&M, Bellard settled into his present position "when the opportunity presented itself," he said. "I resigned from Texas A&M, and looked into it, and liked the program."

"John Bond is a super young man," Bellard said of his newest recruit. "He has great command about him. And besides all the intangible qualities he has, he's a fine young athlete."

Bellard, with a busy Friday night schedule at MSU, has never had the opportunity to see Bond live in action, he said, but "but just about every other coach (at MSU) has," he said. "I've seen him many times on film, and it really only takes

once. I've known about John Bond nearly ever since I've been at Mississippi State."

Bellard has never scouted in Valdosta before, and when asked why he chose to do so this time around, he replied, simply, "I think the reasons are obvious."

Among the several guests at the ceremony were a couple of other Bulldog quarterbackbacks, though not from Mississippi. Georgia's Buck Belue and John Lastinger were there to watch their old VHS teammate go the college route as they themselves did earlier.

VHS coaches on hand were Butch Brooks, Jack Rudolph, Roger Rome and, of course, Nick Hyder, who has now witnessed about a dozen former Wildcats sign on with various colleges throughout the nation.

Coach Hyder actually arrived after the signing had already taken place, for he was attending another important occasion for the Valdosta Wildcats. At noon Saturday, Wildcat Nathaniel Ceasar also placed his moniker on a college contract, with the Auburn University Tigers.

"We're awful proud of these youngsters," Hyder said, in essence. "This is what it's all about."

Ceasar, Hyder said, signed with "Elliot Bibbs, the offensive coordinator of Auburn, on a full scholarship — the maximum allowed."

Bond, by the way, also received a full scholarship. Other Wildcats presently being considered by various colleges include Harvey, Tony Blasetti, Ernest King, Calvin King, Calvin Davis and Hal Dixon, Hyder said.

Bond is to begin his MSU football career in autumn of 1980. "I'm really looking forward to it," he said.



Times Staff Photo by Joey Ivansco

Bond, Now A MSU Bulldog

Kittens Waltz Past Central

By Times Sports Writer
THOMASVILLE —

The Valdosta High School Kittens netted a 69-45 win over the Central girls basketball team from here Friday, placing the Kittens at 3-3 and 2-3 in Region 1-AAA (South).

The Valdosta Wildcats' game with Central was canceled due to a lengthy blackout. Valdosta Head Coach Roger Rome said that a rescheduled date for the tilt has not yet been set. "We didn't look like the same ball club that lost to Thomasville last Tuesday," said Kittens Head Coach Jo Ellis. "The hustle was there, and the spirit was there, and overall I was pretty pleased with the

effort."

Leading the Kittens to victory was Cindy Cooper with 19 points and 15 rebounds on the night. Beverly Wilson added 15 points to the winning effort, and Dana Swindle contributed 12.

"We looked a lot better on the press," Ellis said. "We got a lot of steals with it." The Kittens jumped to an 8-1 lead early in the going, but Central came back to leave the score at 12-9 in favor of Valdosta at the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, "We got a 10-point lead, and they came back up again," Ellis said. "We did a lot better in the second half."

Every Kitten saw play time in the contest, and Worth said she was pleased with the performance of the substitutions.

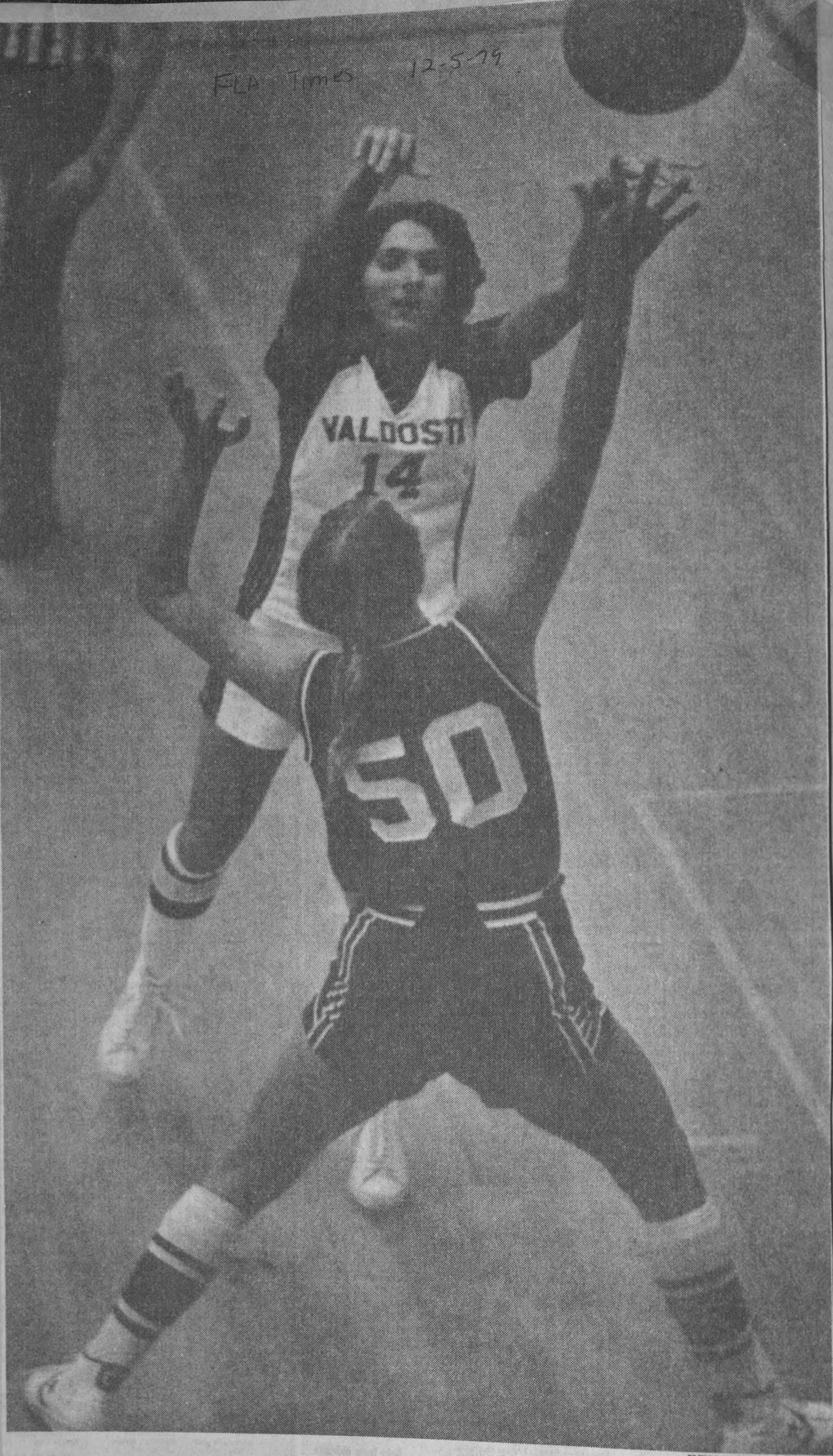
Valdosta is to host Ware County (Waycross) tonight for two games, and Ellis has little idea what to expect from the club. "I'm going to get on the phone and call some people about them," she said.

Valdosta	12	33	47	49
WALDOSTA (49)	9	20	35	45
Swindle 12, Wilson 15, Lewis 5, Meir 6, Nelson 6, Hurrell 1, Roberts 3, Rowan, Swails, Vera, Dolson, DeCarlo.				
Team Totals: Field goals 30, Free Throws 9 of 27, Fouls 10.				
Central (45):				
Man 19, Davis 8, Abrams 6, Heater 2, Davis 3, Robinson, Jones, S. S. Davis 2, Thompson 2, Robinson, Jones.				
Team Totals: Field goals 18, Free Throws 9 of 21, Fouls 25.				

Pompey To Seek City Post

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta businessman and school librarian William Pompey has announced plans to run for a Council post being vacated by Ruth Council. Pompey is the first black to announce for the Feb. 14 city election. Mrs. Council is the only black on the seven-member Mayor-Council. Pompey, 45, has been in public education 18 years and is a librarian at Valdosta High School. Pompey is one of several candidates who has announced plans to run a month in advance of qualifying, setting the stage for an active race. Pompey said issues in February's race could center around a railroad bypass, improved housing and rebuilding of the downtown area. He has been a school teacher, owns apartments and a billiards center and is married with two children. He has been involved with a number of community activities both in and outside the black community. He has been chairman of the Southside United Way Drive, the American Legion and is a member of the Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc. and Lowndes County Community Action Committee. Four vacancies are expected to be open on Mayor-Council including one to fill a two-year term for Ernest Nijem who has said he is resigning to run for mayor. Mayor Gil Harbin has said he will not seek a fourth term and instead has indicated he will run for Congress. Qualifying begins Jan. 7 and lasts five days.

FLA Times 12-5-79



**Win No. 94
and counting**

Lowndes' girls basketball team extended its consecutive win streak to 94, with a 47-29 win over cross-town rival Valdosta Tuesday. Lowndes (4-0) this season, was led by Pam Johnson and Kim Griffin (No. 50) with 15 and nine points respectively. Lowndes took a 28-12 halftime lead and extended it to 38-16 at the end of the third quarter. Lowndes plays host to Thomasville Friday night.

— KEN KLANICKI/Staff

VHS Band Allotment Increased

By RICK ROUNTREE
Times Staff Writer

A city school board member has played a tune of her own and may have won the music and band programs a four-fold increase in their budget for next year.

The most telling remark board member Joella Blackburn may have made in getting a \$15,000 projected increase for musical instruments were comments about Valdosta High School's band in recent competition.

A critique of the band's performance at competition at Virginia Beach, Va., earlier this month found fault with some of the musical

instruments. Though the marks of the band's performance were high some of musical instruments got anything but good reviews.

Mrs. Blackburn read the critique at a school board meeting last week during her efforts to get an increase in the system's music budget.

Judges in the competition said "instruments owned by members were ... in excellent condition. However, school-owned baritone (and other instruments) were bad."

Chairman of the band committee, Mrs. Blackburn said she learned the budget for the system's bands has remained at about the same

level in recent years.

In spite of the purchase of more than \$6,000 worth of instruments last year, Mrs. Blackburn said she learned the condition of some school-owned instruments was poor.

"This came from a number of parents...it wasn't the band directors just looking for more money," Mrs. Blackburn said.

School system officials now have the system's music program earmarked for a \$15,000 increase from \$5,000 to \$20,000. The increase is to come up for school board approval when the full budget is reviewed in June. About \$10,000 of the increase would

go for replacement of band instruments while about \$5,000 would go for repairs.

"I'm not trying to pit athletics against the bands. I'd just like to see us have proper equipment," she said after the school board approved \$100,000 for athletic-related projects. Mrs. Blackburn voted for the two projects. "We have so many children that benefit from the band programs at the schools," she said.

There are about 600 students in the city school system who are in some type of music program, including

250-300 in the high school.

In especially poor condition are the instruments not commonly bought by students. Tubas, melophones, baritones were in the worst condition, said Valdosta High School Band Director Mike Chapman. He said the VHS marching band is expected to increase from 162 members to 200 next year putting more strain on school-owned instruments.

"The school board has been great to us...it's like Christmas," said Chapman of the projected increase.

"They have bought us a lot in the past like new uniforms," he said. "But some of our instruments are 10 or 15 years old."

In addition Mrs. Blackburn said a number of band members are graduating this year taking some of the one-of-a-kind instruments they own with them.

"I think we need this extra money to nurture the program," she said. "It's just that the band touches a number of children and we ought to give it full support," she said.

She said the additional money should help replace instruments at Valdosta Junior High School, considered to be in the worst condition.

Pins Colquitt, 50-16

Valdosta Wins Wrestling Match

By Times Sports Writer

The Valdosta High School wrestling team took nine of 12 weight classes to score a 50-16 win over the Colquitt County (Moultrie) wrestling team here Thursday, seven of the wins coming through pins and the other two by decision.

Colquitt took the heavyweight, 187-pound and 167-pound class wins, however, with an 11-0 decision in favor of Colquitt heavyweight Carl Brown over Phillip James, and pins by Alan Ross and McArthur Anderson over Valdosta's Anthony Battles and Eric Burch.

All other classes belonged to Valdosta, as Odell Griffin pinned Tommy Flowers in the 155-pound class, Willie Donaldson topped Jerome James in the 145-pound class, and David Harrison took a 15-1 decision over David Simpson in the

138-pound class. Ted Welch scored a 12-5 decision over Todd Logan in the 119-pound class.

Other Valdostans to pin their opponents were Joe Sanders in the 132-pound class, Otis Henry in the 126-pound class, Carl Jaramillo in the 105-pound class, and Greg Prine in the 98-pound class.

The Valdosta junior varsity wrestling team held a match with Colquitt preceding the varsity match, and took the contest 23-14.

Winners for Valdosta were Terry Worthham in the 98-pound class, Greg Jenkins in the 112-pound class, Scott Wells in the 138-pound class, and Danny McCleod in the 167-pound class.

The next varsity match is to be Jan. 5 in Fitzgerald, a dual affair against Warner Robins and Baldwin County.

Thomasville Wins Two Over VHS

By Times Sports Writer

THOMASVILLE — The Kittens of Valdosta High fell by one point 58-57 to the Thomasville Lady Bulldogs here Tuesday night.

The Thomasville boys kept in tact an undefeated record with an 81-55 victory over the Wildcats.

The Kittens had chances to win in the final quarter, but were unable to cash in.

Armeula Lewis hit half of a one and one free throw to put the Kittens behind by one with 20 seconds left in the contest.

Thomasville rebounded and held the ball. With a few seconds left the Lady 'Dogs shot and VHS rebounded. The

Kittens shot once more as the buzzer sounded.

Coach Roger Rome's 'Cats ran into a hot Bulldog team that moved to 7-0 with the convincing win.

"We played even in the first half," said Rome. "They jumped on us in the second."

"They are a much more balanced team than Bainbridge. They don't depend on one or two people to score. They are the best shooting team we have seen."

"In the third quarter, they made several big baskets and we started kind of slow. They put us away there."

The 'Cats dropped to 3-2 overall and 2-2 with the Region 1-AAAA (South)

subregion loss.

The Kittens' mark went to 2-3 overall and 1-3 in the subregion.

Both VHS teams are to return to Thomasville Friday for two subregion games with Central.

Kenny Hayes and Jeff Putnam were the big guns for the Bulldogs with 22 and 19 points. David New topped the 'Cats with 12, while Gary Cothran added 10.

Lewis was the leading scorer for the Kittens with 16. Annie Porter accounted for 12 more.

Patricia Walden led the Thomasville girls with 16.

Thomasville's ladies are now 3-4 on the year.

GIRLS	
Valdosta	19 32 44 57
Thomasville	20 33 42 58
Valdosta (57) — Lewis 16, Porter 12, Wilson 9, Swindle 8, Cooper 7, Mair 5, Swails, Dotson 6.	
Team Totals: Field goals 24, Free throws 9 of 11, Fouls 17.	
Thomasville (58) — Walden 16, Johnson 14, Jones 14, Roan 7, Graham 6, Grimsley 1, Cothran, McIntyre.	
Team Totals: Field goals 27, Free Throws 4 of 10, Fouls 15.	
BOYS	
Valdosta	12 34 44 55
Thomasville	16 36 58 81
Valdosta (55) — New 12, Cothran 10, Daniels 8, Jones 8, Bernard 7, Marable 6, Ceasar 4.	
Team Totals: Field goals 26, Free throws 3 of 10, Fouls 13.	
Thomasville (81) — Hayes 22, Putnam 19, Bell 10, Fann 6, Johnson 6, Henderson 4, Brown 8, Bush 4.	
Team Totals: Field goals 36, Free Throws 9 of 14, Fouls 14.	

'Cats Seek End To 1-Point Sting

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

The task the Valdosta Wildcats face is squarely before them. Two 1-AAAA (North) subregion games in the final three contest of the year decide if VHS is to make the four-team region playoffs.

Victories against Monroe (Albany) here this Friday and Dougherty (Albany) in the final game of the season would assure the Wildcats of a playoff spot.

Monroe has a 1-2 record in 1-AAAA (North), while Valdosta is tied with Dougherty with 2-1 subregion mark.

A victory over Monroe could put the whole year down to one game, when Dougherty visits Cleveland Field Nov. 2.

Dougherty hosts subregion-leading Tift County (Tifton) this Friday.

"This race is going to boil down to the 10th game," said Valdosta High Head Coach Nick Hyder. "The only teams that are out of it are Albany (of the North subregion) and Westover (another Albany team, from 1-AAAA (South))."

The 'Cats enter Friday's game with the Tornados after two straight one-point losses, one 13-12 to Tift and 15-14 to Lowndes last Friday.

"Monroe is an improved football team," said Hyder. "They are not the team that once caused everybody to sit back and say, we won't go this week."

"They have one of the finest athletes in south Georgia in Gregory Pratt a 205-pound fullback-linebacker."

Monroe quarterback Tony Richardson is leading 1-

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

ahead in the fourth quarter and then we can't seem to hold on.

"There is no way we can blame anybody. We just got beat. We scored two touchdowns and the other team scored two touchdowns.

"We need to take advantage of our scoring opportunities and have continued good defense."

The problems Valdosta has had with putting the ball across the goal line boils down to, "relaxing when we got down there," said Hyder. "We need to improve on the passing game. I think the running game is in good shape with (Ernest) King, (John) Bond and (Irvin) Roe."

"Our lads are playing good football," said Hyder. "So many people associate this team with last year's group. With a few exceptions, this is almost a new bunch."

"Our defense is brand new, but the last time I looked we were one of two teams in the league that had allowed only eight touchdowns. Tift is the

Waltrip Holds

NASCAR Lead

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP)- With three races left this year, Darrell Waltrip is only 17 points ahead of

other one."

Summing up, Hyder said, "We're bruised and bleeding. We have had the favorites role for a long time. Now let's see how Tift, Thomasville and Lowndes handle the pressure. The shoe is now on the other foot."



—Times Staff Photo.

'We're Playing Well,' Hyder

VHS Club President Has High Hopes For Success

Special To The Times

The Valdosta High DE Club has high hopes for this year and the one to lead the club in obtaining its goals is Margaret Aultman, president of the club for 1979-1980.

The 17-year-old senior is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Richardson and the late James V. Aultman. She is a second year DE Student at Valdosta High, a member of the Beta Club, and president of Pi Gamma Phi Sorority.

When asked about the club's activities, Miss Aultman said, "The busiest time of the year for the club is approaching as we prepare for competition on the district, state, and national level."

Last year Miss Aultman attended the state convention in Atlanta where she received third place for her project on

Free Enterprise. She also attended the national convention in Houston, Texas, where she represented the club in the Chapter of the Year competition.

The club's main project at the time is their annual DE Day. To highlight the day a luncheon will be held and the mayor will be invited to officially proclaim the day.

"Other projects that will inform the community about our club and will also qualify the club for the Chapter of the Year Award are being planned and will be carried out during the coming months," added Miss Aultman.

Miss Aultman has been accepted at the University of Georgia where she plans to enroll next fall and major in the business field.

VHS DE Club Is An Active One

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. Throughout the year the club is involved in school-wide activities, civic affairs, and program development projects.

To support the Wildcats and, the student body of VHS, DECA paints spirit

signs, sells Homecoming Mums, participates in the Homecoming Parade, and puts up bulletin boards around the school.

The DE program is concerned with civic consciousness and emphasizes the importance of recognizing the needs of others.

In the course of the year, the club works the booths

at the annual Boys' Club Halloween Carnival, provides Christmas presents for the needy children, and helps the Girls' Club with their Valentine's Day Party.

The club is also concerned with program development and informing others about the purpose of distributive Education.

The program development project is highlighted by a newspaper spread in the Valdosta Daily Times. The club places messages on marquees throughout the city, places posters in places of business, and airs commercials on radio and television.

Each year the club presents an informative

display at the South Georgia Legion Fair. The club uses topics concerned with the goals, purposes, and teachings of distributive Education.

In the past the club has built displays concerning shoplifting, free enterprise, channels of distribution, and distributive Education itself.



Homecoming Queen

Laura George shows her mixed feelings of happiness and surprise when she heard her name called out for the 1979 Valdosta High School Homecoming Queen. The announcement came in pre-game ceremonies at Cleveland Field Friday night. Miss George, a senior, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.K. George...Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III.

Scoring Key To VHS Challenge

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

The challenge the Valdosta Wildcats face when they host the Dougherty Trojans in 1-AAAA (North) action at Cleveland Field Friday is a decisive one. If they win, they advance to the playoffs. If they lose, the Trojans fill that slot. The pressure is on, perhaps more intensely than ever before this season.

Yet pressure has never been a stranger to the Valdosta club. "We have pressure every week," says Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder. "We'll do what we always do, we'll try to work for improvement."

The Wildcats enter the contest with a 6-3 overall and 3-1 mark in the subregion, while Dougherty is 3-6 and 2-

2. Those stats may be deceiving. Though the Wildcats are considered the favorite in the game, that is "only because of tradition," Hyder said. "This year, you would have to go by scoring. They (the Trojans) can score

big as well as any team we've played this year. I think it will be a close game."

Scoring is definitely a department in which Dougherty has been effective this season. The Trojans rank third in total points in the region at 224, behind only the two present leaders of each subregion, Tift County (Tifton) and Lowndes.

"They've got the best running game we've faced, and enough ability to pass to be a balanced offense," Hyder said of the Trojans. "They execute the veer extremely well. They're the best 3-6 team in the history of the region."

If any individual on the Trojan squad is to be given top credit for the success of the Dougherty offense this year, perhaps it should be Lionel James, the number one-ranked rusher in 1-AAAA.

"He has the speed, the quickness, the balance and the toughness to be a great back, and he's proven it this year," Hyder said of James, also the number four punt

returner in the region. "The (Trojan) offensive line blocks for him very well, too. Catching him will be difficult."

Hyder also feels that the combination of Trojan quarterback Chris Norman and receiver Bobby Rush poses a threat to Valdosta, being the number four passer and number five receiver in the region.

Norman, says Hyder, "is a very effective athlete. He can throw the ball 75 yards, has great strong-arm ability."

"And Rush is a good deep threat. He matches Norman's

strong-arm ability well."

Hyder also expressed admiration for Norman's punting game. "He is the best punter I've seen in South Georgia," he said.

All things taken into account, Hyder said the main challenge Valdosta has is "to slow their offense down. It seems they've got more speed than we've got."

Defensively, however, Valdosta may have the edge. The Trojans have surrendered many more points than Valdosta this year, and are

rated number eight in rush and twelfth in pass defense. Valdosta has allowed less points than any 1-AAAA team.

"The main problem is that they're young and inexperienced," Hyder said of the Trojan defense. "But they're always aggressive, always tough. We should match up about even point-wise."

Valdosta's offense is healthy for the game, with the exception of Ernest King, whose knee injury keeps him in the doubtful category for Friday.

The game is the Valdosta High School homecoming, and the Wildcats are well-aware of the importance of a win. Will they be ready?

"We won't know until about 8:15 Friday night," Hyder said. "You hope to win, but you have to give the other team credit."

Dougherty, of course, is looking for its third subregional win and a playoff berth. In case of a tie after overtime, the team with the best offensive penetration advances to the playoffs.

As for the Wildcats' future plans to spend "a lot of time with the younger people" on this season, Hyder said he is a "good, deep threat." Hyder said.

Finally, Bobby Rush, Dougherty's talented flanker, is a "good, deep threat."

Finally, the scouting report prepared by Coaches Norman Sainz, Bob Fields and Roger Rome was a central aid in the victory. "They prepared an excellent scout report for the ball game," Hyder said. "We live and die by our scout report."

Hyder had praise for certain individuals on the Trojan squad, too, and not the least of which was Lionel James, who rushed for 166 yards and one touchdown in the contest.



Hyder Faces Balanced Trojan Offense
—Times Staff Photo.

Hyder Tells Keys

By Times Sports Writer

Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder isolates three reasons why his Wildcats defeated the Dougherty Trojans 35-14 at Cleveland Field Friday night.

The first is, not surprisingly, the Valdosta offense. The backs performed exceptionally well. Hyder said, and the offensive line performed at a peak. "Keith Mitchell and Mike Ruff made some fine catches, too."

A second reason for the victory was the Trojan turnovers, a costly fumble and interception in the third quarter. "Our offense and their turnovers made the difference in the game," he said.

Finally, the scouting report prepared by Coaches Norman Sainz, Bob Fields and Roger Rome was a central aid in the victory. "They prepared an excellent scout report for the ball game," Hyder said. "We live and die by our scout report."

Hyder had praise for certain individuals on the Trojan squad, too, and not the least of which was Lionel James, who rushed for 166 yards and one touchdown in the contest. "James was as advertised, like lightning," he said. "He's tiny, but I've seen him in a basketball uniform, and he's built well, like a mobile fireplug."

Hyder said that he would

Dosta Wins Openers With Tift

11-21-79

By Times Sports Writer
TIFTON — The Valdosta Wildcats and Lady Wildcats won their season openers here Tuesday night over homestanding Tift County.

David New scored 14 points to key a 48-45 win for the "Cats. Four Lady Wildcat starters hit for double figures to key a solid 75-53 win for the VHS girls.

A rebounding edge of 37-22 helped the "Cats defeat a better shooting team for the evening.

A full court press by the Blue Devils caused VHS problems in the later going.

"They (the Wildcats) panicked on the press," said first-year Wildcat Coach Roger Rome. "New had a

good game. It was a combination of our rebounding and his scoring."

Coach Jo Ellis' Lady Wildcats shot 55 percent for the evening and had success getting inside for easier baskets.

Ellis had scouted Tift earlier and switched defenses and offenses effectively from what she had learned.

Cindy Cooper was praised for her playmaking role in the victory.

Beverly Wilson led scorers with 18 points. Dana Swindle shot in 14 in her first varsity start. Annie Porter and Debbie Mair had 10 each.

Valdosta opens 1-AAAA (South) action next Tuesday against Colquitt County (Moultrie) in Valdosta.

VHS	TIFT	GIRLS
VHS (75) — Swindle 14, Lewis 9, DeCarlo 2, Team Totals: 13 of 23, Fouls 19.	Tift (53) — Turner 8, Wallace 2, Team Totals: 7 of 23, Fouls 19.	23 43 57 75 15 27 38 53 Beverly Wilson 18, Dana Swindle 14, Annie Porter 10, Debbie Mair 10, Cooper 8, Nelson 2, Swells 2.

VHS	TIFT	BOYS
VHS (48) — Ceasar 5, Ward 2, Team Totals: 12 of 19, Fouls 10.	Tift (49) — K. Howard 12, Team Totals: 3 of 4, Fouls 18.	13 26 39 48 10 22 41 45 New 14, Marable 9, Coffran 7, Daniels 3, Jones 4, Bond 2, Bernard 2.



Who's Number One?

Apparently there's a difference of opinion on that question between supporters of Lowndes High School's Vikings and the Valdosta High School Wildcats. A 'Cat supporter at the VHS pep rally Thursday night demonstrates her opinion with a large numeral while LHS students rally 'round the oaken

Viking at the school with fingers upraised this morning. The question will be answered tonight at 8 p.m. when the two football teams take the field at Martin Stadium in the first round of the Region 1-AAAA playoffs. — Times Staff Photos by Robert Winter III

V. Times 11-11-79

VHS Emerged Victorious

A football game was played at Martin Stadium Friday night. Though only a football game, much more was at stake, since it was Valdosta playing Lowndes.

When the smoke cleared, Valdosta emerged a 24-21 victor in the Region 1-AAAA high school playoff opener.

The game allowed some things to continue and put others to rest.

After the game, the jubilant VHS faithful was a sea of congratulations. As I took the field, present VHS Coach Nick Hyder was arm-in-arm with former Wildcat Wright Bazemore, posing for a photograph. College scouts were all over the field smiling at John Bond and other prospects.

Without a win, a scene such as this would not have been possible. Congratulations would have been replaced with harsh comments for Hyder and the 'Cats.

I had heard that it was a do or die situation in more ways than one at Valdosta. The criticism had been flowing freely earlier in the year. VHS had suffered losses to three excellent football teams, Thomasville, Tift County (Tifton) and Lowndes.

I find such commentary deplorable. Valdosta had played its heart out in three games and had lost, which is something that happens to the best of teams in any classification.

Hopefully, the win Friday night will silence the Monday morning quarterbacks for at least a while.

The game was a thing of beauty for those who enjoy quality football. The atmosphere was much different than the regular season meeting of the two local powerhouses. Prior to the 15-14 Lowndes win, the crowd was buzzing. The people in attendance just seemed happy to be at the event.

This Friday, the mood was quieter. Fans, it seemed, had come for one reason, to see a football game.

It became very apparent that it was not to be a defensive struggle. There were only two punts, which showed how productive both offenses were. In the end though, it was the Valdosta defense that decided the game.

I imagine, no one in the crowd would have been surprised if the Vikings scored on their final possession. They had moved the ball well all evening.

The pass rush got to Lowndes quarterback Eric Thomas to weaken LHS hopes near midfield. A screen pass to Viking fullback Glenn Reed was stopped for another loss, making the Lowndes picture bleaker. Then Thomas fumbled and VHS victory was virtually assured.



LHS Coach Joe Wilson allowed after the game that the Reed screen was supposed to develop on the opposite side of the field from which it did. Had the screen developed properly, who knows what might have happened? But that is second guessing, which amounts to little in the final score.

After the game, the VHS players were as happy a bunch as I have ever seen. In contrast, the Lowndes lockerroom was totally empty by the time I made the walk from Martin Stadium to the Lowndes gymnasium.

The eyes of the Lowndes players and coaches that I did see were a bit misty.

The extra effort of the offensive backs on each side impressed me as much as anything. That showed that it was more than a game. When a back tries to squirm free with his legs held by a defender, he is fair game for quite a hit.

For the Lowndes seniors, this was the last high school game in some outstanding careers. Jeff Stokes, Chuck DeVane, Tony Crawford, Curtis Register, Wilburn Holland, Derrick Mitchell, Reno Roster, Terry Allen, Adam Reese, Steve Davis, John Stephenson, Alan Culpepper and Louie Ferrera will not see action in Plowboy jerseys again. In all honesty, I would like to say that those young men are as fine a group as I have come in contact with.

For the Valdosta seniors, it is now time to prepare for a very good Tift County team. Judging from the 42-6 romp over Thomasville in the other 1-AAAA playoff opener, the Blue Devils will be a force to be reckoned with.

SAGE Elects Officers Here

By Times Staff Writer
Southern Association of
Georgia Educators (SAGE)
at Valdosta High School
elected officers Friday.

Officers for the 1979-80
school year are president,
Marilyn Williams; vice
president, Darlene Rowe;
recording secretary, Lateris
Small; president elect,
Jacquelyn Scott; treasurer,
Chanel Baker; project
chairmen, Tranquila Wright
and Glenda Williams; and
corresponding secretary,
Sharon Twine.

The club is composed of
students interested in being
teachers. Marilyn Williams
president, said the club hopes
to go to W.G. Nunn
elementary school soon and
work as teachers aids.

Faculty advisor for the club
is Kelly Dees.

The club is to meet
Thursday at 7:30 p. m.

GRAFFITI
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THESE DAYS
YOU HAVE
TO TAKE
THE BAD
WITH THE
WORST

Valdosta High School Distributive Education Clubs of America sweetheart's Lisa Holland, 17, left, and Jennifer English, 16, display the four point diamond of DECA. The four points represent vocational understanding, civic consciousness, social intelligence and leadership development respectively. In the center of the diamond is a wrapped package which stands for the well-done and well-rounded education. — Times Staff Photo.

DECA's Diamond



Baseball Wildcats Feted

By Times Staff Writer
Seniors Wayne Fugett and John Lastinger were the major trophy winners at Valdosta High School's annual baseball awards banquet Wednesday night.

Fugett, who compiled a career record of 28-5, received trophies as the best pitcher and best offensive player for the Wildcats. Lastinger, who is VHS' captain, hit in 40 of his last 41 games and posted a .492 batting average to earn most valuable player honors.

Other trophy winners were Tim Dame, spirit award; Ashley DeLoach, most improved; David New, outstanding in the playoffs; Mike Ruff, best defensive player and Tag Welch, sportsmanship.

Head coach Butch Brooks and his assistants also presented color team pic-

tures to each player. The managers and bat girls were awarded gifts and trophies.

"This was the hardest working group I've been associated with," Brooks said. "They never quit battling or fighting."

The Wildcats rebounded from a 1-4 start, winning 12 of their last 16 games en route to a 13-8 mark and second place in 1-AAAA South. VHS posted a .251 team batting average, .920 fielding average and scored 163 runs. The Wildcats gave up 87 runs, 46 being unearned.

VHS competed in the playoffs for the sixth consecutive season and Brooks issued a challenge to the returning Wildcats.

"We want to set our goal now to win the region and return to the playoffs," Brooks said. "We can accomplish this with hard

work."

B-team trophy winners were William Davis, most valuable; David and Dale Parker, best defensive players and Nolan Barnes, best offensive player.

The team presented a plaque to Brooks as did the VHS seniors.

The coaching staff were presented gifts and gift certificates by the Wildcat baseball boosters club.

Fugett-Led Wildcats Stun Dougherty, 3-2



DAVID BERRYHILL
Key Defensive Player

By TOMMY DESSELLE
Times Sports Editor
ALBANY — What began on a cloudy, overcast drizzling rainy afternoon at Albany's Satterfield Park turned into a bright, sunshining day for Valdosta's Wildcats Tuesday.

A brief shower fell on the patchy-sodded infield just before the opening pitch in the 1-AAA playoff series. It wasn't enough to stop the contest and Coach Butch Brooks' Wildcats responded with a heart-stopping 3-2 victory over Dougherty, the 1-AAA (North) champions.

Senior righthander Wayne Fugett battled Dougherty ace Chris Norman pitch-for-pitch en route to the victory. However, it almost got away from the Cats in the bottom of the seventh.

With one out, Phil Brooks lofted a pop fly single to left,

the Trojans' first safety since the third. Bruce Pollock flied to right, but John Bond misjudged the ball, turning the game into a crucial second and third situation.

Dougherty attempted a suicide squeeze twice, but Chris Johnson fouled out both chances. Incredibly, the Trojans tried the same ploy on strike three.

Fugett threw the ball past Johnson to record his 10th strikeout. However, Wildcat catcher Mike Ruff's throw to third sailed into leftfield. VHS leftfielder David Berryhill was in perfect position and his relay to Fugett at the plate nailed Brooks for a wild, game-ending double play.

"We'd picked up their bunt sign. I was trying to keep it outside," Fugett said with a

big smile. "It's really a great feeling to win a playoff game."

The Wildcat ace improved his record to 5-4 and also proved a thorn in the Trojans' side going 2-3 at the plate. He was superb in the middle innings, retiring 11 of 12 batters at one stretch.

"I was a little nervous at first. I decided to bear down and just go with my fast ball," Fugett said. "I felt stronger and more confident as the game progressed. The

wind was blowing in and that was also in my favor."

Flashing his biggest smile since guiding the Wildcats to the state title last spring, Brooks praised his squad for battling back.

"We made some mistakes, but we didn't quit when they

went ahead in the third," Brooks said. "I know we can do a better job defensively. We stunk up the place, but David was in the right place at the right time."

"Wayne was sensational. He didn't give them anything," Brooks said. "We could have caught all of their base hits."

Fugett and Norman both allowed four hits and they each had triples to spark their club's hitting attack.

VHS broke on top with one run in the first. John Lastinger beat out an infield roller that Norman gloved, but couldn't throw him out.

On a perfect hit-and-run, Fugett grounded a single to center through the hole vacated by second baseman Johnson. Lastinger never stopped running, crossing the plate on a boot by the centerfielder.

Dougherty threatened in the first on Johnson's wind-blown double to right. Don Clark grounded to Ashley Deloach at third, but Spencer Feix dropped his throw at second. The runners advanced on a wild pitch before Fugett fanned two and retired the Trojans on a grounder to second.

Lastinger was on the lone Wildcat base runner in the

middle innings. He drew a two-out walk in the third, but was stranded as Norman handcuffed the Cats.

Dougherty moved to its 2-1 lead in the third. Pollock, the ninth man in the order, walked and went to second on Johnson's single to left. Clark's sacrifice bunt advanced both runners.

With two outs, Norman slammed his triple down the rightfield line, sending both runners across the plate. Fugett struck out the next Trojan batter and he allowed only a fifth inning walk until the hectic seventh.

VHS came to life in the sixth. Ruff opened with a solid single to center, the first Wildcat hit since Fugett's safety in the first. Ruff was forced at second on a fielder's choice by Lastinger.

Fugett came through again, ripping a triple to right that tied the game. Bond's shot down the first baseline was knocked down, but pinchrunner Tag Welch scampered home with what proved to be the winning run.

And, although the scoring was over, the excitement was far from finished. The contest shifted with dramatic suddenness twice in the bottom of the seventh, but the Wildcats escaped with the

one-run decision.

"We haven't had many breaks go our way this year. It's about time the ball fell for us," Brooks said.

The victory improved VHS' record to 12-6, while Dougherty dropped to 12-4.

VHS advances in the round-robin double elimination tournament against the winner of the Lowndes-Westover game. Dougherty plays the loser.



WAYNE FUGETT
First Four-Hitter

Wildcats Overrun Colquitt County

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Writer
Board strength and depth helped the Valdosta Wildcats to a 61-51 victory over Colquitt County in the VHS Spring Basketball Game.

A senior dominated club from Moultrie stopped a young pride of Kittens 62-47 in the girls' contest.

In a B-team game, the Packers nipped the Wildcats, 61-59. Valdosta crushed Colquitt 58-29 in an eighth grade game.

With Dante Jones, Dwayne Richardson, Carl Gaines, David New and John Bond handling the inside play and George Stewart and Greg Daniels running the team from the outside the Wildcats showed a potentially much improved team over last years' ballclub.

The 'Cats put their running game in high gear to help Roger Rome to his first win as a varsity head coach.

"I can't believe it. It was great," said Rome. "Our guys were really fired up. We've been talking basketball more than practicing basketball. I'm trying to get them thinking about the game."

The hard conditioning program Rome has put his

club through this spring showed its effects, as the 'Cats never slowed down the pace. Rome sent 13 players onto the floor without losing any effectiveness.

Leading scorer for Valdosta was Dante Jones with 17 points. Jones showed the touch from the top of the key he is reputed to have and was the team rebounding leader. Richardson, a senior playing in his first varsity game, was a ball of fire on defense. Any ball that was loose on the floor seemed to end up Richardson's prize.

Daniels was his usual quick self running the team and found the net on four of four shots, providing outside punch. Stewart was equally sharp as a floor leader.

The rest of the squad looked like interchangeable parts. Bond and New came in to contribute straight from the region baseball playoffs. Gaines was a force inside, an element the 'Cats sorely lacked last season.

David Allen came in to get six clutch points as VHS was solidifying its lead.

Young players off of Rome's B-team showed that they were ready to contribute to the team.

All in all it was a quite

impressive outing.

The Kittens found tough going against the Packerettes.

"The inexperience showed," said new Kitten Coach Jo Ellis. "I'm going to find five girls that will work together as a unit. The floor mistakes really hurt us."

"There were some bright spots, though. Amelia Lewis, Cindy Cooper and Beverly Wilson looked good on offense. Debbie Mair and Dana Swindle did well on defense."

Wilson was the Kittens leading scorer with 16 points, followed by Affernette Wilson with 10.

'Cats Open Year Against Central

COLUMBUS — The Valdosta Wildcats, who scored 14 wins and then battled Griffin for a 7-7 tie in the finals of the class AAAA play-offs last year, open the 1979 football campaign along with the other 11 Region 1-AAAA machines Friday, August 31, this fall.

The 'Cats open at Thomasville against Central while Albany is at Lowndes, Westover at Crisp County, Colquitt County at Monroe and Tift County at Bainbridge.

The following night Thomasville is at Dougherty, Saturday, September 1.

The 1979 regular season play runs through Saturday, Nov. 3, at which time Monroe is at Albany.

The region play-offs again have the North number one team playing the South team number two, while the South number one meets the North number two in the first-round.

Last year Valdosta scored a total of 68 touchdowns and 477 points in 15 games while giving up only seven touchdowns and 49 points.

Eight times the 'Cats blanked the opposition and no

team scored more than one touchdown against Valdosta.

The Wildcats shut out Thomasville Central, Albany, Colquitt, Lowndes, Monroe, Bainbridge, Augusta Westside and Benedictine.

In the region play-offs last year, Valdosta stopped Lowndes 21-7 and Thomasville won from Tift County 28-16 in the first round.

Then the 'Cats took a 12-7 decision from Thomasville. Earlier the Valdosta team beat Thomasville 16-7.

In the state play-offs, Valdosta won over Augusta Westside 52-0 and Benedictine 23-0 before playing a 7-7 tie game with Griffin.

Thomasville finished the regular season 8-2, the same record Tift County posted. Lowndes went 7-3 during the regular campaign.

In the Northern Division, behind Valdosta and Tift County came Dougherty 6-4, Crisp County 5-5, Monroe 3-7 and Albany 0-10.

Behind Thomasville and Lowndes in the Southern Division came Bainbridge 5-5, Colquitt County and Thomasville Central 3-7, and Westover 2-8.

ab	r	bi	h	bi	so
Ruff	3	0	1	0	0
Fugett	2	2	1	0	0
Johnson	3	0	1	0	0
Deloach	3	0	0	0	0
Feix	2	0	0	0	0
Norman	1	0	0	0	0
Pollock	2	1	0	0	0
Jones	1	0	0	0	0
Brynn	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	25	2	4	2	0

ab	r	er	bb	so
Fugett (W, 5-4)	7	4	2	2
Norman (L, 5-2)	7	4	3	2
WP — Elliott	1	0	0	0

ab	r	er	bb	so
Valdosta	100	002	0-3-4-2	
Dougherty	002	000	0-2-4-1	
LOB — VHS: 2; DHS: 5				
2B — Johnson: 3B — Norman; Fugett: S — Clark.				

LHS-VHS Games

Slated Tonight

Lowndes High and Valdosta High are to have another one of their seasonal get togethers tonight. Just spread the word that the two schools are to engage in a competition and a crowd is bound to draw.

Tonight's sport is basketball. The match-up at this same site last year, caused a few surprises. The Vikettes were highly favored, as they have been for ages. The Vikings were supposedly head and shoulders better than a struggling Wildcat team.

The Kittens made a go of things for about a quarter and a half. The press that many teams attempt against Charles Cooper's Vikettes was effective for awhile, but as has happened for over three years now, LHS pulled away and won.

This year new Kitten coach Jo Ellis wants her girls to be Lady Wildcats. On the surface that would seem like a reasonable enough thing to want to be in this day of equality for men and women.

It seems that a Kitten cannot be a Wildcat until it goes through the proper channels. A vote and an okay here and there and then possibly there will be some lady felines in the area.

One reason Ellis wants her girls to be Lady Wildcats is to get away from the docile stigma attached to a kitten. But tradition is to hold on this matter for now.

A Kitten would need to be a Wildcat to defeat the Vikettes. Those Norse women are anything but docile and it will take one fine team to stop their 93-game winning streak.

Ellis plans to pressure Cooper troops again. Her team is young and inexperienced, but Cooper would like to point out that only one of his players this year was a starter last season. That was the powerful Pam Johnson.

Colquitt County (Moultrie) beat the Kittens badly. The Vikettes turned around and beat the Packerettes by the same margin.

It would be easy to predict the outcome of this game. Go on past history. A heavily favored team still has to go out and win on the field. Ask the San Diego Chargers about that.

At first glance, the boys nightcap between Valdosta and Lowndes should be decided by strength. But ask Roger Rome of VHS and Terry Wilkes of LHS and they'll say they expect a close game. They have seen too many games, even as players themselves, to expect it to be any other way.

Last year Donnie Carter was the same sort of force that Johnson is for the Lowndes girls now. Carter's presence was enough to guide the Vikes after a testy three and a half quarters.

This year there is no Carter in the boys game. The top performer could emerge as easily from one team as the other.

Reggie Miller of Lowndes is a tremendous basketball talent. At 6-2 he can leap as high as Carter ever thought about soaring. His jump shot can be deadly. He, like the other Lowndes players, are diamonds in the rough. It's a question of when the polish comes as to how well the Vikes will do in this game and in the future.

Valdosta has a deeper team than Lowndes. Rome has two teams, a quick team and a power team. Each serves its purpose well.

Six-four David New, John Bond, Nathaniel Ceasar and Dante Jones are capable of exploding at any time. Louis Bernard is a player that can do many things with his intensity and leaping prowess.

From early indications, Valdosta seems to be a team that can contend for the region title. Bainbridge might be the team to beat in 1-AAAA (South). Lowndes can be a factor, but must improve to be a contender.

The Lowndes girls already appear to be the class of the subregion. The competition they may see from the Northern teams is yet to be seen.

Wildcats, Kittens Win

By MIKE HAGOOD
Time Sports Editor

The Valdosta Kittens and Wildcats played outstanding games to defeat Bainbridge here Friday night. Each team took a valuable Region 1-AAAA (South) victory with ease, as it turned out, the 'Cats stopping the highly talented Bearcats 69-50 and the Kittens walloping the Bearkittens, 58-35.

The 'Cats upped their league mark to 3-2 and 5-4 overall. The Kittens climbed to 4-3 in the subregion and 6-4 in all games.

Tonight, both VHS teams are to face Ward County for non-region games in Waycross. Tuesday, VHS travels to Lowndes for something more than two subregion games.

Both games Friday were struggles in the early going. It just took the Wildcats a little longer to put the Bainbridge jumping jacks away.

Many of the points the 'Cats were scoring along the way came from accurate free throw shooting. BHS had a bad case of reaching and slapping that put the 'Cats on the line 43 times. They connected 33 times for a 73 percent efficiency rating. In contrast, Bainbridge went to the line only eight times, hitting four.

Somebody had to be

committing the fouls and bad for Bainbridge, it was its two highest scorers LaRae Davis and Kenneth Biggles. Both players exited with five fouls early in the fourth quarter and from there out the game was firmly in VHS's grasp.

The Kittens opened a solid lead in the second quarter by running the ball up the court quickly and keeping the taller Bearkittens far from the basket with a zone defense. As the game wore on it became apparent that Valdosta's Kittens were in much better condition and that Bainbridge did not have the shooters or the quickness to get back into the game.

That was the same way the Kittens won an earlier matchup between the two clubs, 46-33.

"It was obvious that they were dragging, though the game was not out of hand," said Kitten mentor Jo Ellis. "We came out kind of timid, but then got things going. We switched defenses and they did a real good job in the second and fourth quarters."

The Kittens got balanced scoring from their starters and were able to play the entire team. Annie Porter led with 13 points. Three other starters, Dana Swindle, Beverly Wilson and Cindy Cooper, scored 10 points each. Wilson was particularly effective in the early going,

collecting eight points in the opening half, beating the Bearkittens down the court on the break.

"We knew their two best scorers were in foul trouble," said Wildcat Coach Roger Rome. "We didn't run plays at them. It's just that they play so aggressive. If the refs are ready to call a close game, they are going to get caught."

David New, John Bond, Greg Daniels and Dante Jones led the march to the line. New hit 12 of 15 tries, Jones eight of 10, Daniels six of six and Bond five of six. New led VHS scorers with 22.

Jones came through with 20, in one of better offensive games. "That's what we need out of him," said Rome of Jones.

GIRLS

Bainbridge 11 16 28 35
VHS 14 29 44 58
BAINBRIDGE (35) — Gadson 8, Moore 8, Close 4, Pierce 4, Castell, Gibson 3, Flowers 2, Zorn 6, Cooper.
Team Totals: Field goals 11, Free Throws 7 of 13, Fouls 18.
VHS (58) — Cooper 10, Swindle 10, Wilson 10, Porter 13, Mair 4, Lewis 7, Dotson 2, Swails, Nelson, DeCarlo, Harrell, Roberts 2.
Team Totals: Field goals 22, Free Throws 8 of 14, Fouls 17.

BOYS

Bainbridge 17 31 43 50
VHS 17 38 48 69
BAINBRIDGE (50) — K. Biggles 8, Swiley 1, Harris 29, Davis 10, Gaines 2, Rogers, R. Biggles, Jones, R. Choice.
Team Totals: Field goals 23, Free Throws 4 of 8, Fouls 30.
VHS (69) — Bond 9, New 22, Ceasar 8, Daniels 6, Jones 20, Sullenberger 2, Gaines 2.
Team Totals: Field goals 18, Free Throws 33 of 43, Fouls 11.

Tift Lead Solid, VHS Ranked 9th

ATLANTA (AP) — Waycross High School was named No. 1 in The Associated Press Class AAA high school football poll this week after previously top-ranked Americus joined eight other of the best teams in the losers' column.

Almost one-fourth of the top teams lost their weekend contests. Three of the top 10 teams in Class AAAA, four in Class AAA, one in Class AA and two in Class A lost their games.

Americus tumbled to seventh after losing to Dublin 7-0, while Waycross rose from second to first after a 41-0 shutout of Berrien County.

No. 5 Cedartown, No. 8 Swainsboro and No. 10 Lithonia all tumbled from the Class AAA top 10 after losses, to be replaced by Southeast Whitfield, Dublin, Parkview and Fitzgerald. Southeast Whitfield, a 26-8 winner over Adairsville, was ranked eighth; Dublin was ranked

ninth after its victory over Americus; and Parkview and Fitzgerald tied for 10th, according to the sportswriters and broadcasters voting in the AP poll.

In Class AAAA, Tift County took over sole possession of first place after being tied with Clarke Central for the top spot last week. Tift defeated Valdosta 13-12, while Clarke — which fell into a second-place tie with Warner Robins — was idle.

Valdosta fell from fourth to ninth after the loss. Thomasville, ranked No. 5 last week, fell from the top 10 after a 23-21 loss to previously-winless Central of Thomasville. Griffin, ranked seventh last week, also fell from the top 10, losing 14-7 to Fayette County.

Griffin, ranked No. 1 two weeks ago, fell from the top 10 after back-to-back losses.

Bradwell Institute, ranked eighth, and North Cobb, ranked 10th, fill the vacancies

left by Griffin and Thomasville.

Mary Persons was again ranked No. 1 in Class AA, and Johnson County held on to its top spot in Class A.

Manchester won its way back into the Class AA poll, appearing in the ninth spot after a 28-0 victory over Jackson. In Class A, Patterson moved from eighth to sixth; Clinch County moved from 10th to a tie for eighth; and Greenville moved from ninth to seventh. The moves were made possible by Adairsville's loss to Southeast Whitfield.

Clinch Moves Up

CLASS AAAA
1. Tift Co., 6-0, 96, 7
2. Tie, Warner Robins, 6-0, 85, 2
3. Tie, Clarke Central, 6-0, 85, 1
4. Benedictine, 5-0, 64
5. Morrow, 6-0, 51
6. Peachtree, 6-0, 43
7. Westside-Augusta, 6-0, 42
8. Bradwell Institute, 6-0, 25
9. Valdosta, 4-2, 16
10. North Cobb, 7-0, 10
Others nominated: Fayette County, 5-1; Griffin, 4-2; Laney, 5-0; Northside-Warner Robins, 5-1; Statesboro, 1-4; Stone Mountain, 5-1; and Thomasville, 4-2.

CLASS AAA
1. Waycross, 6-0, 99, 9
2. Dalton, 5-0, 76, 1
3. Marist, 6-1, 67
4. Dodge County, 5-0, 66
5. Woodward, 5-1, 57
6. Gainesville, 5-1, 37
7. Americus, 4-1, 33
8. S.E. Whitfield, 7-0, 19
9. Dublin, 4-1, 14
10. Tie, Parkview, 6-0, 13
11. Tie, Fitzgerald, 5-0, 13
Others nominated: Camden County, 5-1; Cedartown, 5-1; Collins, 5-1; Redan, 5-1; Rockmart, 5-1; Swainsboro, 2-3; and Thomson, 4-1.

CLASS AA
1. Mary Persons 5-0, 92, 6
2. Lincoln County, 6-0, 89, 2
3. Commerce, 6-0, 81, 2
4. East Rome, 5-0, 1, 65
5. Claxton, 6-1, 42
6. Model, 6-0, 39
7. Turner County, 5-1, 26
8. Cedar Grove, 6-0, 24
9. Manchester, 6-0, 22
10. Mitchell County, 5-1, 17
Others nominated: Archer, 6-0; Dufuth, 5-1; Douglass-Montezuma, 4-2; Fulton, 5-0; Harlem, 4-2; Jefferson, 5-2; Oconee County, 5-1; Pelham, 5-1; Putnam County, 4-1; Randolph County, 5-1; Reidsville, 4-2; R.E. Lee, 4-2; and Vidalia, 5-1.

CLASS A
1. Johnson County, 6-0, 98, 9
2. Hogansville, 5-0, 88, 1
3. Athens Academy, 6-0, 80
4. E.C.I., 6-0, 72
5. Feldwood, 4-1, 52
6. Patterson, 5-0-1, 37
7. Greenville, 5-1, 35
8. Tie, Adairsville, 5-2, 18
9. Tie, Clinch County, 5-0-1, 18
10. Metter, 4-2, 12
Others nominated: Buford, 1-5; Charlton County, 4-2; Dacula, 4-2; Gordon Lee, 3-2-1.

Bearcat Homecoming

VHS To Visit Bainbridge

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

It is getting close to playoff time and much can be learned about how teams are going to perform in those playoffs by play in the final two regular season games.

The first of the final two for the Valdosta Wildcats is a Friday bout with Bainbridge in that southwestern Georgia City.

Bainbridge scored 30 points in a 53-30 loss to Lowndes last Friday. Valdosta scored 14 points in a 14-0 blanking of 1-AAAA (North) foe Monroe (Albany).

The game is a non-subregion affair, but Valdosta Head Coach Nick Hyder knows the importance of the upcoming game.

"We can't be looking to the playoffs. We have to get ready for Bainbridge," he

said. Bainbridge totalled 360 yards in offense against Lowndes, while Valdosta was totalled 279 in the Monroe game here.

"It's their homecoming," said Hyder. "This is the first time I can ever remember Valdosta being chosen for homecoming. They are going to come after us."

Bainbridge was able to defeat Monroe 24-21 two weeks ago. The Bearcats held Tift County (Tifton) to 27 points in the season opener. Only Valdosta and Thomasville have held Tift to

ts. The indications are that Bainbridge sets to stop the run rather than the pass. Valdosta has lived along the ground this season.

"We are not as good a passing team as Lowndes,"

said Hyder. "Lowndes lives by the pass, by their own admission."

"This game is kind of like last week," said Hyder. "They are a tough team with good speed. (Johnny) Harris and Calvin (Close), the Bainbridge running backs, have good toughness and quickness. They are not like (Greg) Pratt of Monroe. He's the best we've faced since William Andrews, who was a one-man show."

Pratt rambled for 178 yards for Monroe last Friday. Andrews led Thomasville High to two consecutive state titles a few years back and is now a member of the Atlanta Falcons of the NFL.

To beef up the VHS passing attack, Hyder plans to use Billy Joe Gordon at tight end some to free regular tight end

Edward Robinson for some wide receiver duty.

Hyder also expressed pleasure with the play of starting split end Keith Mitchell over the past weeks.

Mitchell caught a touch down pass in the Monroe game and led VHS receivers with 35 yards on two catches. He also caught a touchdown pass in the 13-12 loss to Tift that put Valdosta ahead until a final Tift scoring drive.

The 1-AAAA (North) game with Dougherty (Albany) here in two weeks decides Valdosta's playoff fate.

A win or tie in that game would give VHS second place in the subregion and a playoff berth.

Oct 24, 79 V.D.T.

VDT 10-10-79

'Cats Seek End To 1-Point Sting

V-Times Oct. 17, 1979

By MIKE HAGOOD
Times Sports Editor

The task the Valdosta Wildcats face is squarely before them. Two 1-AAAA (North) subregion games in the final three contests of the year decide if VHS is to make the four-team region playoffs.

Victories against Monroe (Albany) here this Friday and Dougherty (Albany) in the final game of the season would assure the Wildcats of a playoff spot.

Monroe has a 1-2 record in 1-AAAA (North), while Valdosta is tied with Dougherty with 2-1 subregion mark.

A victory over Monroe could put the whole year down to one game, when Dougherty visits Cleveland Field Nov. 2.

Dougherty hosts subregion-leading Tift County (Tifton) this Friday.

"This race is going to boil down to the 10th game," said Valdosta High Head Coach Nick Hyder. "The only teams that are out of it are Albany (of the North subregion) and Westover (another Albany team, from 1-AAAA (South))."

The 'Cats enter Friday's game with the Tornados after two straight one-point losses, one 13-12 to Tift and 15-14 to Lowndes last Friday.

"Monroe is an improved football team," said Hyder. "They are not the team that once caused everybody to sit back and say, we won't go this week."

"They have one of the finest athletes in south Georgia in Gregory Pratt a 205-pound fullback-linebacker."

Monroe quarterback Tony Richardson is leading 1-AAAA in passing yardage.

The way to get back on the winning trail said Hyder is "generally, to get all our people together and get over this one-point sting. The last two weeks we have pulled

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

ahead in the fourth quarter and then we can't seem to hold on.

"There is no way we can blame anybody. We just got beat. We scored two touchdowns and the other team scored two touchdowns.

"We need to take advantage of our scoring opportunities and have continued good defense."

The problems Valdosta has had with putting the ball across the goal line boils down to, "relaxing when we got down there," said Hyder.

"We need to improve on the passing game. I think the running game is in good shape with (Ernest) King, (John) Bond and (Irvin) Roe."

"Our lads are playing good football," said Hyder. "So many people associate this team with last year's group. With a few exceptions, this is almost a new bunch."

"Our defense is brand new, but the last time I looked we were one of two teams in the league that had allowed only eight touchdowns. Tift is the

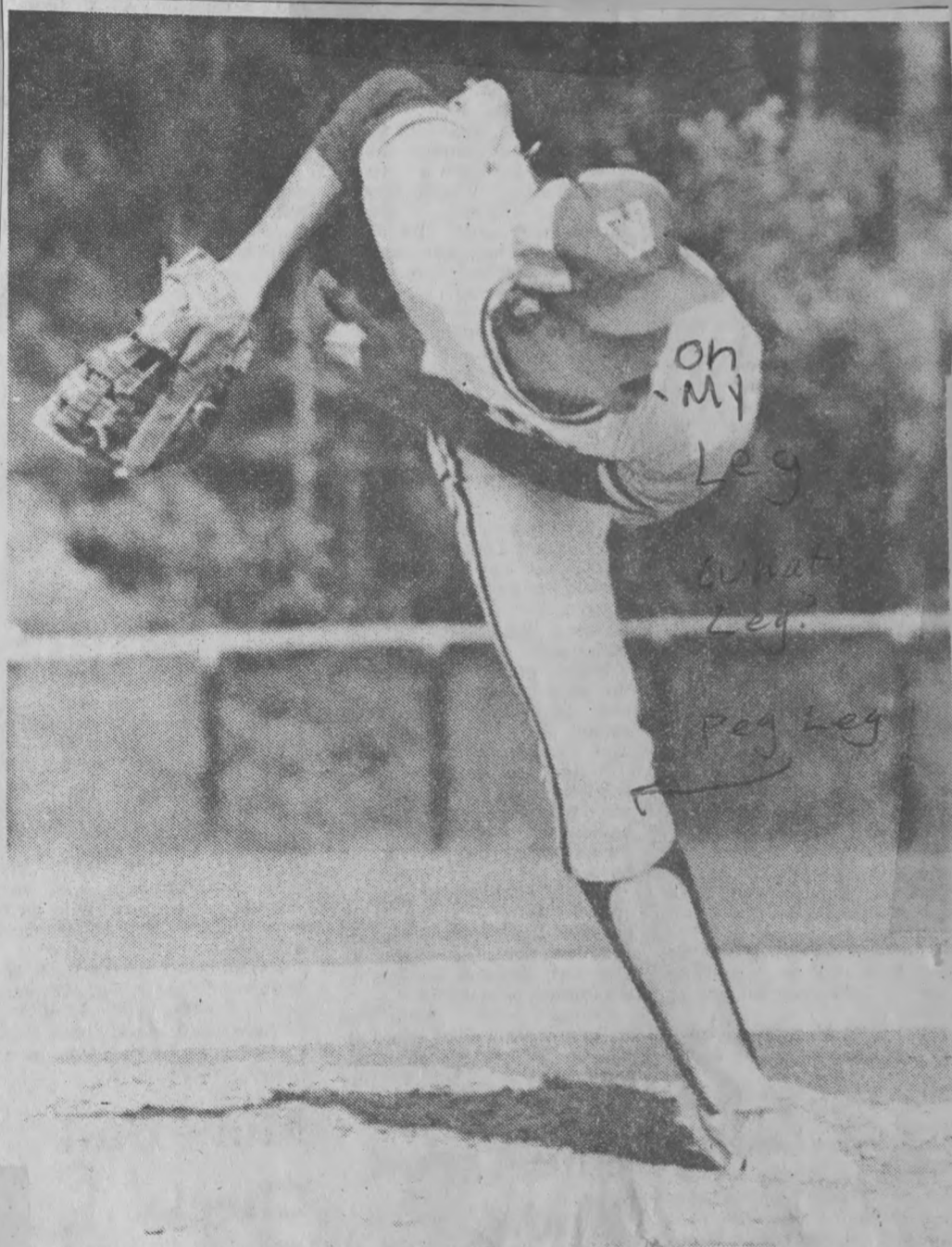
other one."

Summing up, Hyder said, "We're bruised and bleeding. We have had the favorites role for a long time. Now let's see how Tift, Thomasville and Lowndes handle the pressure. The shoe is now on the other foot."



—Times Staff Photo

'We're Playing Well,' Hyder



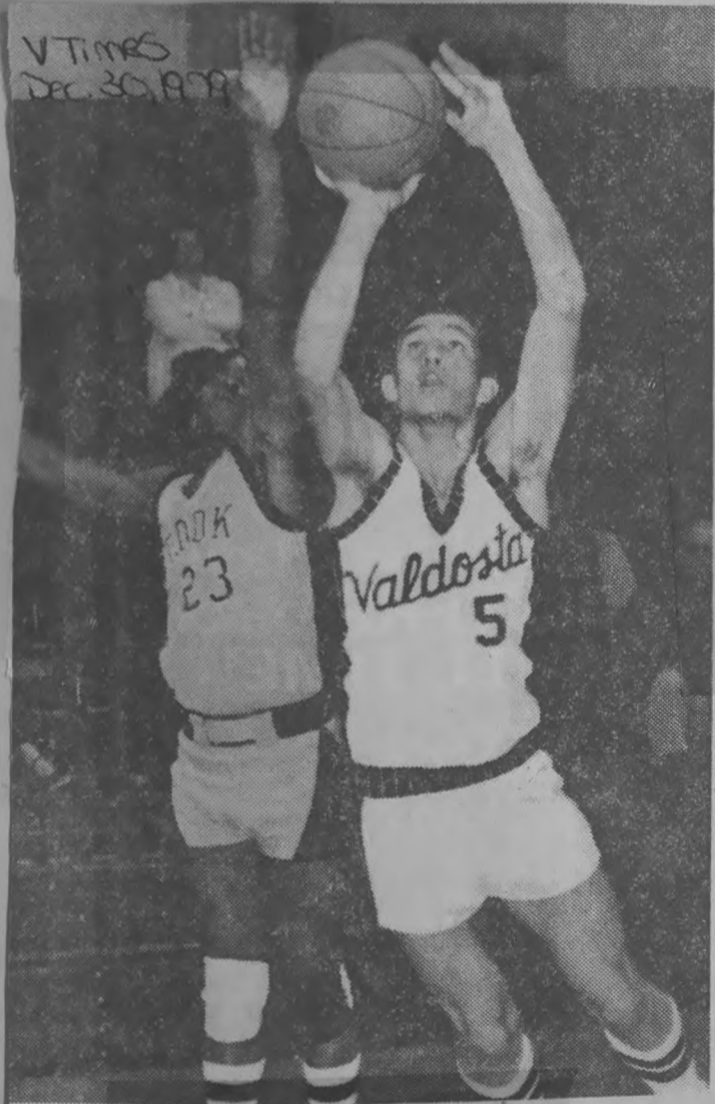
oh my Leg
what Leg?
Peg Leg

Pitching Poise

Westover High School pitcher Mike Murphey displays beautiful pitching form here Monday in a game against Valdosta High at Bazemore Field. Murphey's good form was effective until the fifth inning when the Wildcats began a comeback from a 5-1 deficit. VHS catcher Mike Ruff drilled a

dramatic three-run homer in the seventh inning to lift the 'Cats to an 8-7 victory and keep alive their hopes for the Region 1-AAAA baseball championship. Details of the game plus other pictures are on page 12. — Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III.

V-Times Dec. 30, 1979



Wildcat David New Goes Up For Two

Area Roundup

Second-Place Valdosta Welcomes Westover

By LEE FREEMAN
Times Sports Writer

Having sewn up second place in Region 1-AAAA (South) by way of Tuesday's 54-52 win over subregion foe Central of Thomasville, the Valdosta Wildcats have only a couple of Albany teams, Westover and Monroe, of 1-AAAA (North) to contend with before the subregion tourney.

Though Valdosta Head Coach Roger Rome is already thinking in terms of the subregion tourney, he doesn't plan to let his 13-7 and 7-3 squad forget the challenge they face Friday, when the Westover Patriots come to town for the non-subregion battle.

"This would be a good time to do a little substituting, a little experimenting, but the game itself will dictate that," said Rome. "Westover is capable of beating anybody. They proved that by beating Thomasville. We're going to try to put together a better game, a sharper one than we played Tuesday night."

In Thursday's area hoop action, the Valdosta State

College Lady Blazers take on Mercer College of Macon, a Georgia Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, Division I rival, at Blazer Fieldhouse. North Florida Junior College of Madison travels to Chipola, Fla., and Wakulla, Fla., journeys to Madison.

Other games Friday have Lowndes on the road to Bainbridge, while Berrien travels to Waycross, Atkinson County of Pearson invites Nicholls, Lanier County ventures to Charlton County, and Clinch invites Broxton Georgia to Homerville for the final game to be played in "the Barn".

Also on Friday, Valwood travels to Ocmulgee and Georgia Christian School of Dasher near here goes to Waycross for a bout with Brookwood in SEAIS action, Cook of Adel hosts Ware County of Waycross, Brooks invites Early County of Blakely to Quitman, and Hamilton, Fla., travels to Key Stone Heights, Fla.

Saturday, the VSC Blazers take to Carrollton, Ga., for a

South Atlantic Conference bout with west Georgia College, Valdosta ends regular season play with a trip to Monroe of Albany, Echols County of Statenville travels to Patterson, Ga., and NFJC journeys to Central Florida Community College.

Probable starters for the 'Cats against the 8-13, and 3-7 Patriots are to be Dante Jones and John Bond at forward, Nathaniel Ceasar at Center, and any two man combination of Greg Daniels, David New and David Marable at guard.

Marable is included as a probable starter this time around because, Rome said, "he has played really well recently, and has been the most consistent off the bench."

The Wildcats' scoring leader has been 6-4 New, who averages roughly 17 points a tilt. He is followed by Jones with a 12 point average, while both of them nab about 10 rebounds per game.

New and Daniels are also 77

percenters from the free throw line, while Bond and Ceasar afford the club fairly consistent ball-handling and under-the-board strength.

Four of five probable starters for Coach Jo Ellis' Kittens, presently at 11-9 and 5-5, are Cindy Cooper, Beverly Wilson, Dana Swindle and Anne Porter.

The Kittens position in the subregion is not yet secure, as other teams have yet to play subregion games. At this point, they stand at fourth in a field of six.

Rome expects Westover to use a lot of full-court pressure in either man-to-man or zone form, and possibly both.

"We'll need to work on our own man-to-man plays, and probably have to concentrate on our Westover's zone press," he said. "They really try to wear you down."

This is the first meeting between the two squads this season, though Westover took a convincing win over the 'Cats last year.

Rome feels his squad is



ROGER ROME
Readies For Tourney

ready. "We seem to play as well as our competition, we don't do a whole lot to beat ourselves. We don't get blown away, but, then again, we don't blow people away, either. It should be a good game."