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1960-1961

## Valdosta High School Scrapbook 1, September 1960 - January 1961

Valdosta High School

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IT'S 60-58

## Valdosta's Bennett Crowds Past Dickens in 1-AAA Race

By ELLWOOD MOYER  
Special to The Constitution

COLUMBUS—When Bruce Bennett scored one of the three Valdosta touchdowns in the Wildcat win over the Moultrie Packers Friday, he replaced the ideal Joel Dickens of Willingham as the leading scorer in 1-AAA.

At the same time sophomore Kenny Ruffer picked up the other two Valdosta scores, one on an 85-yard punt return, the other being a 45-yard pass from Bennett, to move into third place in the scoring race.

Thus with three weeks of play yet to go, Bennett paces the 10-team region in scoring with a total of 60 points while Dickens is two points away with 58 and Ruffer is six points shy at 54.

Also still in the race is Lanier's Mickey Rivers who has 48 points as he scored the Poets' only touchdown in the LaGrange game. Jerry Doyal of Albany added two touchdowns in the Baker game to move into fifth place with 42 points.

While the individual race remains a five-way affair, the Valdosta Wildcats of Coach Wright

Bazemore moved another step closer to the 1960 Region football championship as they disposed of Moultrie, 21-0, and now only Willingham, Warner Robins and LaGrange stand in the way of an undefeated season for Valdosta.

The Rams and Demons do not figure to give the 'Cats too much trouble but the final game of the season on Nov. 11 with LaGrange at LaGrange could be a close one.

The Grangers of Coach Oliver Hunnicutt have lost but one game this season and that was 6-0 to Albany. However should LaGrange upset Valdosta, then it is possible for the Cats, the Grangers and the Albany Indians all to end up in a three-way tie.

**Albany, a 6-0 winner over LaGrange in LaGrange, lost to Valdosta there, 7-0. The Indians played these two machines on successive weekends.**

The Valdosta record this season is a most impressive one. The 'Cats, in rolling up their seven straight wins, have scored a total of 27 touchdowns, converted 20 times for a 185-point total with a field goal by Giles Smith thrown in against Thomasville.

Incidentally, only four touchdowns have been scored against the 'Cats this season and two of these were by the Baker Lions in the season opener.

Chances are now that the leading individual scorer in the region will fall short of the 100-point total.

A check-through play for the past 11 years finds that five of these past leaders went over the 100-point total.

The region scoring record was

## 'Dosta Kept Nulling Until Tough Rams Were Beaten

Coach Wright Bazemore will give only a sly grin when you ask what he had to say to his Valdosta Wildcats at half time during their game with the Willingham Rams.

But one must admit that the situation in the last two periods offered quite a contrast to what happened in the first two stanzas.

Valdosta notched a 21-0 victory, but for two stanzas the Rams played them to a virtual stand still.

However, the mark of a good team is one that can shake off early setbacks and keep nulling until the opposition gives. That's exactly what the 'Cats did and they came off the field winners of their eighth straight game and still in possession of the Region 1-AAA lead.

It was rather ironical that on Saturday morning after the game I received a letter from a pair of Emory University students named Freeman Dennis and Jimmy Parrish chiding me for saying VHS was facing a "toughie" in Willingham. The letter was written before the tilt.

I was accused of being a "pessimist" in regards to the Wildcats chances against a team like Willingham which had a so-so 3-3-1 record. They obviously felt the 'Cats would romp to an easy win.

Let's just say that I always have and always will take a realistic approach to high school football.

In a league as well balanced as 1-AAA anyone can beat anyone else in any given game. And I learned early in my journalist career that won-loss records in football can not be used as an accurate measure of a team's real strength.

### Victories Must Be Earned

Valdosta's scout report indicated Willingham was "tough." Many other coaches around the league who had played and beaten the "Rams" rate coach Billy Henderson's crew "tough."

And for two periods last Friday night they more than lived up to their reputation. Dennis and Parrish can get confirmation of this from the VHS players who saw action against the visitors from Macon.

The view expressed by the boys from Emory is typical of that of many fans. They let the winning glitter of the team they are pulling for blind them to the fact that triumphs are not handed out on silver platters, but must be earned by hard work and determination against stiff competition.

**It is easy to be an "authority" after a foe has been met and beaten. But it is a different matter to try to call the shots before a game is played. The Emory students tried it in the case of the Willingham Rams and missed the mark by a mile. Now they know how we sports writers feel when we either underestimate or overestimate the strength of a team.**

But then I'm no prophet. I'm simply a reporter who takes the facts which are available and evaluate them with the experiences I've had in this crazy mixed up business they call sports. Sometimes I'm right and sometimes I'm wrong. I'd say my score down through the years is about even.

I will say that I was wrong about my preseason estimate of the Wildcats. I honestly did not believe that a team as small and young as this one would reach this stage of the season unbeaten and ahead of the 1-AAA pack. But then that same view was shared by many others around the league.

### Always Two Sides to A Story

It is a decided credit to the Wildcats and to the men who guide them that they have proved me and the others wrong. The Valdosta players have "paid the price" and they must keep paying it if they are to have a chance to gain championship honors.

But let's get the record straight on one count. I'm darn glad the Wildcats are rolling along just as they are. On the one hand I'm a Wildcat fan who truly believes they are the greatest. On the other hand, as a reporter I must always keep in mind there are other teams which deserves recognition for the talent and ability they have to offer.

**There are always two sides to any story. Any readers who are offended because I try to give my honest views on both sides of the story had best start passing up the reading of my articles. I don't plan to change my ways in regards to this matter.**

Here, in a few words, is my opinion about the VHS-Willingham game. The Rams are a tough, well coached team. But Valdosta, with its second half surge, proved its superiority. The Wildcats won by a three touchdown margin. But they had to work for the triumph. There was no time for coasting last Friday night at Cleveland Field. And the won-loss records of the two teams gave no indication of what was going to happen when they met.



GLASSMAN

# VHS Faces Baker In Opener

## Lions To Send Veteran Crew Against Wildcats

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's young, but hopeful Wildcats will be facing a veteran crew when they go against the Baker Lions of Columbus in their season opener here Friday night.

The contest, an important Region 1-AAA affair, is slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore and Lions' coaching chief Bubba Ball announced their probable starting lineups. There is a decided contrast between them.

The Wildcats will go with five sophomores, two juniors and only four seniors on its attack unit. Baker will counter with a starting eleven that will be composed of 10 seniors and a junior.

"We donated that ball game, Valdosta in 1959," the Baker coach said. "We don't plan to do it again this year."

Bazemore is taking a wait-and-see attitude about his team.

"We've had good spirit in pre-season practice and we are in pretty good physical shape," the veteran mentor said. "We hope we are going to be improved over last year. We will start finding out on Friday night."

While the VHS line will average just 168 and the backfield 157, the Lions have a 186 average in the line and a 169 pounds-per-man setup in the backfield.

Here's the way they will look:

**VALDOSTA** — Ends Bill Holtzclaw (150, soph.) and Bunky Henry (160, jr.), tackles Bill Schroer (175, soph.) and Bill Middleton (183, soph.) or Skipper Prewitt (178, jr.), guards Jimmy Adams (182, sr.) and Ray Bennett (163, sr.), center Allen Holt (165, sr.), quarterback Bruce Bennett (155, jr.), halfbacks Kenny Ruffer (158, soph.) and Giles Smith (150, soph.) and fullback Burnice Hiers (165, sr.)

Also slated for heavy duty are ends Bill Blocker (180, sr.) and Charlie Harris (135, sr.), halfbacks Stan Reaves (150, soph.) and Cloy Blanton (145, fresh.) and quarterback Tommy Tart (165, sr.).

**BAKER** — Ends Earl Hayes (160, sr.) and Mike Cofer (155, sr.), tackles David Roberson (210, sr.) and Ismael Nazario (230, sr.), guards Thomps Gray (190, jr.) and Ken Wessner (190, sr.), center Bill Callahan (175, sr.), quarterback Jim Barron (145, sr.), halfbacks Eddie Bowen (155, sr.) and David Kirk (185, sr.) and fullback Bill Heldrega (180, sr.).

Seven of the Lions' starters, Roberson, Callahan, Wessner, Nazario, Cofer, Bowen, Heldrega and Kirk are returning regulars.

In addition to the fact that regional honors will be at stake, both teams have plenty of reasons for wanting a victory.

The Wildcats finished the 1959 season with a 5-5 mark. They have expressed a strong desire to improve on that showing this time out.

Baker's Lions failed to gain a victory in 1959. In fact they have a 16-game losing streak going. They are hungry for a triumph.

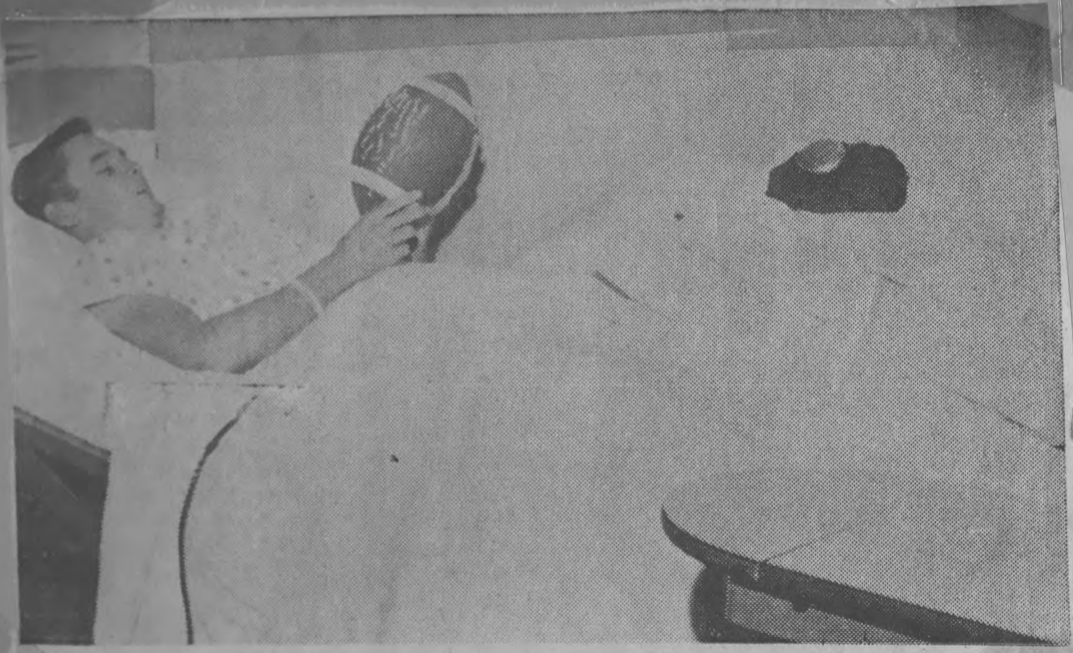
Last season the Wildcats beat the Lions, 24-12, in a contest even closer than the score indicated.

Ball has let it be known that he wasn't pleased with the way things went last year.



—Times Staff Photo

**Valdosta Quarterback Corps Ready To Go On Firing Line**  
Rick Thomas, Bruce Bennett, Tommy Tart and Butch Luke Warm Up



**Injured Valdosta Player Bunky Henry**  
Holds Football Presented To Him By His Teammates

# VHS, Baker Clash Tonight



**This Trio To Anchor Center Of Valdosta Line**  
Allen Holt, Foy Norwood, Bobby Dasher Form Center Corps

## Wildcats Meet Regional Foe In Football Opener

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's football Wildcats have ambitions to improve on their 1959 showing, and tonight they will get the chance to show whether they can or they can't.

Coach Wright Bazemore's charges will lift the curtain on a rugged, 10-game, 1960 slate when they go against the Baker Lions of Columbus.

The game is scheduled to begin at 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field, and if fair weather prevails a capacity crowd is expected.

It will be a Region 1-AAA en-

Fans may park their cars tonight during the Valdosta High School vs. Baker High football game for 25 cents on the school campus.

The Student Council at VHS is sponsoring this project as a means to raise money for Homecoming weekend this fall.

tips the scales at just 183.

Others slated for heavy duty are ends Bill Blocker and Charlie Harris, halfbacks Stan Reaves and Clyo Blanton and quarterback Tommy Tart.

Starting for Coach Bubba Ball's Lions will be ends Earl Hayes (160) and Mike Cofer (155), tackles David Roberson (210) and Ismael Nazario (230), guards Thomps Gray (190) and Ken Wessner (190), center Bill Callahan (175), quarterback Jim Barron (145), halfbacks Eddie Bowen (155) and David Kirk (185) and fullback Bill Heldrega (180).

counter, with both the Wildcats and Lions ready to go all out for a victory.

Last season was a start-over year for the Wildcats. They had to go with a squad top-heavy with freshmen and sophomores and finished with a 5-5 mark.

The 1960 edition is a little older, but still definitely on the small and youngish side. Five sophomores are slated for action when the Wildcats take the attack. The line averages just 168 and the backfield only 157.

In contrast, the Lions have 10 seniors and a junior in their starting lineup. They average 186 in the line and 169 in the backfield.

But the Wildcats have been stressing offense in their month-long preparations for the game and are hoping it will start paying touchdown dividends tonight.

In the go-unit backfield will be quarterback Bruce Bennett, halfbacks Kenny Ruffer and Giles Smith and fullback Burnice Hires.

Bennett, the rushing leader for VHS in 1959, is regarded as one of the key men in the operation. He's worked at halfback and fullback in pre-season drills, in addition to devoting time to his quarterback duties.

Up front will be ends Bill Holtzclaw and Bunky Henry, tackles Herb Schroer and Bill Middleton or Skipper Prewitt, guards Jimmy Adams and Ray Bennett and center Allen Holt. Heavyweight in the group is Middleton, and he

All are seniors except Gray. Seven on the list — Roberson, Callahan, Wessner, Nazario, Cofer, Bowen, Heldrega and Kirk—are returning regulars.

While quarterback Barron saw action in just three games in 1959, he completed enough passes to rank 11th in the region in that department.

One of his favorite targets is Kirk, a big halfback who combines both speed and power.

The Wildcats remember Kirk well from 1959. He was Baker's assault leader in that contest.

While VHS beat the Columbus team, 21-12 last year, it was an uphill struggle.

Ball has let it be known that his charges are coming to Valdosta tonight to seek revenge.

## RUFFER, BENNETT

### VHS Back, Lineman Named to Star Roll

By ROSS M. HAGEN

Associated Press Sports Writer

A 170-pound senior who hits with the force of a kangaroo's tail in leading Benedictine's defensive charge is The Associated Press high school Star of the Week.

Although John Mikowski is not very big for a lineman—he weighs 170 pounds—he packs such a potent punch in his defensive lunges that more times than not the man he hits stays down.

To John goes credit for a key tackle which started Benedictine on its jarring 31-13 defeat of defending Triple A champion Albany on the Indians' home field Friday night.

He hit the Albany ball carrier so hard that the back fumbled and Benedictine recovered. Coach Vic Mell's Cadets scored minutes later and the tide of the battle turned.

Another gem on defense for Benedictine was linebacker David Smith, a 195-pound senior rated by Mell as one of the top linemen in the state.

Halfback Randy Harvey carried Moultrie's offensive load, gaining 101 yards in 17 carries and scoring the first Packer touchdown.

Here are the other players who made the AP roll call of stars:

#### BACKS

Hank Lehwald, Barry Wilson and Egan Sheppard, Benedictine; Jerry Doyle, Bill Sutton and Jimmy Gray, Albany; Howard Daughtry, Brooks County; Ray Brooks

and M. T. Clements, Tifton; Lynn Gammage, Cedartown; George Herring and Doug Vick, Thomasville; Jackie Nix, Ed Varner and Fred Barber, Bainbridge; Jerry Reves, Bobby Speck and Dan Reeves, Americus; Kenny Ruffer, Valdosta; Jimmy Barron, Baker; Ronnie Ploeger, Glynn Academy; George Kennan, Aquinas; Jim Rice, Robert E. Lee; Pete Dickens, Athens; Bobby Savage and Don Cameron, West Rome.

#### LINEMEN

Jack Wilkerson, Aquinas; Buddy Sutton, Glynn Academy; Ray Bennett, Valdosta; Steve Siker and Comer Ward, Bainbridge; Donald Tye and Franklin Brewer, Americus; James Richards, Thomasville; John Chandler, Cedartown; Mickey Hardin, Brooks County; Halloway and Darrell Willett, Tifton; Jim Carroll, Marist; Sparky Fleming, Walter George; George Lokey, Thomson; Ford Gravitt, Forsyth County.



Valdosta High Band, Directed By Steve Pyron, Sits For Picture



—Times Staff Photo

**Wildcats' Cloy Blanton (16) Hurdles Defender**  
Halfback Turned Pass From Rick Thomas Into 29 Yard Gain

# Wildcats, Poets Tangle Tonight

## Unbeaten 1-AAA Elevens Risk Championship Hopes

Valdosta's Wildcats, who started the season rated as an also-ran but are now regarded as possible Region 1-AAA title contenders, should start finding out tonight where they really fit in the picture.

Coach Wright Bazemore's young, but spirited, Wildcats tangle with coach John (Cotton) Harrison's Lanier Poets in a tilt slated for 8 p. m. at Macon. Lanier was given a lofty spot on the pre-season form chart in 1-AAA. So far the Poets have lived up to their advance billing by beating Warner Robins (32-13), Moultrie (13-0) and Columbus (14-7).

The Wildcats, youngish, smallish and only so-so performers in 1959, left the starter's gate with virtually no one considering them championship material.

But after clicking off victories over Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6) and Jordan (27-6) Valdosta's stock has climbed.

Bazemore, delighted with his team's showing so far, isn't ready to start climbing out on any limbs yet.

"We've won three games, but we haven't gone against anyone in Lanier's class," Bazemore said. "We are in no position to start crowing. Our boys will find out what tough football is like tonight. Lanier has a well balanced team and we are going to be at our very best if we expect to have a chance to stay with them."

This will be the third meeting between the Wildcats and Poets in a series which started in 1958. The fact that Valdosta beat Lanier 19-0 in 1958 and 20-9 last fall hasn't exactly left the Poets with a feeling of fondness for the Wildcats.

Harrison's present crew is rated much stronger than the teams he fielded in 1958 and 1959. The Poets will be out to prove that point tonight.

While Lanier owns a weight and experience advantage, the Poets are similar in many ways with VHS. Both use T-style attacks and depend on swift strikes rather than brute force to make their offense go.

Mickey Rivers, a 155-pound senior, and Ted Musial, a 175-pound senior, are the Poets' attack leaders. Rivers is a speed merchant. Musial combines power with speed.

Quarterback John Breedlove (175, sr.) is the Poets' air-arm and fullback Buddy Chase (165, sr.) is the line-buster.

Manning the forward wall are ends Bunny Richardson (175), Don Burton (170) and Jack Jones (150), tackles Paul Ward (215), Tommy Seward (190) and Danny Rutherford (185), guards Luther Farless (165), Ernie Hill (150) and George Edwards (185) and center Henry Bowden (160). Richardson and Seward are the leaders of this crew.

As he has in the past three games, Bazemore plans to use a modified-platoon system.

Likely to see action are ends Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw and Wally Colson; tackles Bobby Grondahl, Jerry Reaves, Bill Myddleton, Bill Schroer and Skipper Prewitte; guards Jimmy Adams, Ray Bennett, Gary Minchew and Frank Wetherington; centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood and backs Bruce Bennett, Butch Luke, Rick Thomas, Tommy Tart, Giles Smith, Stan Reaves, Bud Hatcher, Keny Ruffer, Cloy Blanton, Burnice Hiers and Walter Zant. While on the attack the combo of quarterback Bennett, halfbacks Ruffer and Smith and fullback Hiers has been used most often.

# Wildcats Trim Baker

Continued from Page One  
Wetherington and center Allen Holt and Foy Norwood paved the way.

Backfield attack leaders for VHS were Ruffer, 97 yards on eight carries; Bennett, 62 yards on eight carries; fullback Walter Zant, 44 yards on five carries, Smith, 32 yards on four carries and fullback Burnice Hiers, 26 yards on four carries. Thomas completed three of seven passes for 101 yards.

Bennett and Hiers were defensive backfield stickouts along with quarterback Tommy Tart and halfbacks Bud Hatcher, Stan Reaves and Cloy Blanton.

Luke made 10 tackles to lead in that department. He was followed by Ray Bennett, 7; Stan Reaves, Bruce Bennett and Hiers, 5 each; Charlie Harris and Tart, 4 each; Blocker, Holtzclaw, Colson, Myddleton, Wetherington and Allen Holt, 3 each.

Scoring in the game went like this:

**FIRST QUARTER** — Valdosta kicked off. The Lions were moving when they fumbled at their 46 and Myddleton recovered. On the first play from scrimmage, Ruffer went off left tackle for a TD. Henry booted the extra point. After losing the ball on a fumble at their own 27, the Wildcats stopped the Lions at the 25. Then they moved the 75 yards back up the field in 13 plays to score again. Thomas got the marker on a one-yard plunge. Henry made good on the PAT try. Bennett chipped in during the drive with runs of 3 and 6 yards. Ruffer gained 5, 12, and 1. Hiers moved 9 yards. Smith gained 2 and 7. Zant romped 8 and 5. Thomas set up the mark-

er with a 15-yard romp that carried to the six.

**SECOND QUARTER** — Valdosta moved 49 yards in three plays for its third tally. The payoff was a 31-yard pass from Thomas to Henry. A 22-yard run by Bennett and a six-yard gainer by Zant accounted for the other yardage. Smith's placement for the PAT was wide to the left. Baker's Kirk returned the kickoff after the score 48 yards to the Wildcats' 27. Barron passed 20 yards to Kirk, moving the ball to the sev-

STATISTICS		
	VALDOSTA	BAKER
Yards Rushing	210	80
Yards Passing	101	61
First Downs	15	8
Passes	3-7	5-6
Passes Intc. by	0	0
Fumbles Lost	2	2
Punting	0-0	4-27.7
Penalties	5-35	6-50

en. Three plays later Barron sneaked over from the one. Center Bill Callahan kicked the PAT. The Wildcats came right back, covering 65 yards in a half dozen plays for tally No. 4. Ruffer scored on a 10-yard sweep around right end. A Thomas-to-Smith pass, which covered 41 yards, was the key play in the drive. Runs of 3 yards by Hiers and 5 by Zant helped the cause. Henry split the uprights with the PAT effort.

**THIRD QUARTER** — VHS started the second half with a 56-yard TD march. Bennett climaxed the 11-play drive with a 12-yard scoring run. A 21-yard jaunt by Smith and a 15-yard effort by Ruffer were key plays in this journey toward paydirt. The PAT try missed. Just moments later Ruffer wiggled his way 52 yards on a punt return to score, but it was nullified by a penalty. Three plays

later he got another chance. This time he sprinted 79 yards, with Hiers throwing a key block at mid-field to help keep his path clear. Smith kicked the extra point this time. That ended the Wildcats' scoring.

**FOURTH PERIOD** — Baker moved from its own 37 to the VHS 10, but the Wildcats' defense stiffened and the Lions were shoved back out to the 23. But the 'Cats fumbled and the visitors had another chance, this time at the 11. A penalty moved Baker out to the 17 and then Barron connected with Kirk for a tally. Callahan made good on his second PAT boot.

**LINEUPS**  
**VALDOSTA**  
Ends — Henry, Blocker, Luke, DeLoach, Holtzclaw, Colson, R. Harris, C. Harris.  
Tackles — Myddleton, Prewitte, Robinson, Schroer, Dennis, J. Reaves, Oliver, Grondahl, Harnage.

Guards — Patterson, Wetherington, Tindall, B. Holt, Adams, Reams, R. Bennett.

Centers — A. Holt, Norwood, Dasher.  
Backs — Zant, Barker, Hatcher, Thomas, Blanton, Hiers, Ruffer, S. Reaves, Tart, B. Bennett, Smith.

**BAKER**  
Ends — Hayes, O'Conner, Cofer, Pierce.  
Tackles — Roberson, Tilton, Nelson, Nazario.

Guards — Gray, Wessner, Cooper.  
Centers — Gilley, Callahan.

Backs — Waldrop, Barron, Gooze, Bowen, John Bolles, Greene, Heldreth, Kirk, Jim Bolles.

Score by quarters:  
Valdosta 14 13 13 0—40  
Baker 0 7 0 7—14

Scoring TD's—Valdosta—Ruffer 3 (46, 10 runs, 79, punt return), Thomas (1, run), Bennett (12, run), Henry (31 yard pass from Thomas); Baker — Barron (1, run), Kirk (17 yard pass from Barron); PAT's—Valdosta — Henry 3 (placements), Smith 2 (placements); Baker—Callahan 2 (placements).



Staff Photo—Charles Vaughn

**DICK EICKHOFF FINDS RUNNING ROOM THROUGH MARIST FOREWALL**  
Decatur High Halfback Goes For 11 Yards and a First Down

# RUFFER IGNITES FUSE IN 'DOSTA EXPLOSION

## Halfback Scores Three Times As Baker's Lions Fall, 40-14

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
VALDOSTA, Ga., Sept. 10—Valdosta's Wildcats exploded for a touchdown on their first play from scrimmage and went on from there to a 40-14 football victory over the Baker Lions of Columbus here Friday night.

Halfback Kenny Ruffer, a 158-pound sophomore, lit the VHS scoring fuse. The game was less than two minutes old when tackle Bill Myddleton claimed a Baker punt for Valdosta on the Lions' 46-yard line. On the first play Valdosta tried, the forward wall blasted open a hole at left tackle and Ruffer sailed through on a 46-yard touchdown jaunt.

Ruffer went on to tally two more times, once on a 10-yard sweep and another time on a brilliant 79-yard punt return.

counted for one marker on a 1-yard plunge in the opening period. He also hit end Bunky Henry with a 31-yard scoring pass and connected with halfback Giles Smith on a 41-yard pitch that set up another tally.

A 12-yard romp by quarterback Bruce Bennett accounted for the Wildcats' other score. Henry booted three extra points and Smith kicked two.

Quarterback Jimmy Barron and halfback David Kirk figured in both of Baker's TDs. Barron

Quarterback Rick Thomas ac-

THE YARDSTICK			
VALDOSTA (40)	First Downs	BAKER (14)	
15	8	8	
210	80	61	
101	61	61	
5-35	6-50	6-50	
Score by quarters:			

scored on a 1-yard plunge after a 48-yard kickoff return by Kirk had started the Lions rolling. Then Barron passed 17 yards to Kirk for the other.

Valdosta, which held the upper hand in the line on both offense and defense, had a three-touchdown margin before Baker reached paydirt in the second period. Such line standouts as ends Billy Holtzclaw, Henry, Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Butch Luke and Wally Colson.

Valdosta	14	13	13	0-40
Baker	0	7	0	7-14

Scoring TDs—Valdosta: Ruffer 3 (46, 10 runs 79, punt return), Thomas (1 run), Bennett (12, run), Henry (31-yard pass from Thomas); Baker: Barron (1, run, Kirk (17-yard pass from Barron)). PATS—Valdosta: Henry 3 (placements), Smith 2 (placements); Baker: Callahan 2 (placements).



—Times Staff Photo

## Pretty Little Cheerleaders Ready to Give Big Cheer

These two young misses are mascots for the Valdosta Wildcats. They are Pam Bazemore (left) and Carolyn Bennett. While they are just four years old, a shade too young to understand all about football, you can be sure they cheer long and hard for the Wildcats. Their fathers are Wright Bazemore and Bill Bennett, members of the VHS coaching staff.



—Times Staff Photo

**Kenny Ruffer (21) Slips Out Of This Trap**  
Valdosta Halfback Gets Away From Baker Defender

# Wildcats Explode To 40-14 Victory

## First Play Sets Fast Pace In Impressive 'Dosta Win

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's ambitious Wildcats exploded for a touchdown on their first play from scrimmage and went on from there to a 40-14 football victory over the Baker Lions of Columbus here last night.

Coach Wright Bazemore's young, but hopeful charges have set two major goals for themselves this season. First, they want to improve on their 5-5 showing of 1959. Second, they want their attack to click more smoothly than it did last fall.

An opening night crowd of approximately 5,000 saw the VHS eleven get started in the right direction toward fulfilling those ambitions. Since the victory over Baker counts in the Region 1-AAA standings, it also means the 'Cats are still in the title picture, even though any serious thoughts of a championship are premature at this time.

Halfback Kenny Ruffer, a 158-pound sophomore, lit the VHS scoring fuse. The game was less than two minutes old when tackle Bill Myddelton claimed a Baker punt for Valdosta on the Lions' 46 yard line. On the first play Valdosta tried, the forward wall blasted open a hole at left tackle and Ruffer sailed through on a 46-yard touchdown jaunt.

Ruffer went on to tally two more times, once on a 10-yard sweep and another time on a brilliant 79-yard punt return.

Quarterback Rick Thomas accounted for one marker on a one-yard plunge in the opening period. He also hit end Bunky Henry with a 31-yard scoring pass and

connected with halfback Giles Smith on a 41-yard pitch that set up another tally. A 12-yard romp by quarterback Bruce Bennett accounted for the Wildcats' other score. Henry booted three extra points and Smith kicked two.

Quarterback Jimmy Barron and halfback David Kirk figured in both of Baker's TD's. Barron got one on a one-yard plunge after a 48-yard kickoff return by Kirk had started the Lions rolling. Then Barron passed 17 yards to Kirk for the other.

Valdosta, which held the upper hand in the line on both offense and defense, had a three touchdown margin before Baker reached paydirt in the second period. The Lions' second tally came late in the final period.

The Wildcats came out of the game with a 15-8 edge in first downs and a 311 to 141 advantage in total yardage gained.

Such line standouts as ends Billy Holtzclaw, Henry, Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Butch Luke and Wally Colson, tackles Myddelton, Skipper Prewitt and Herb Schroer, guards Jimmy Adams, Ray Bennett and Frank

Continued On Page 2

# Cats Meet Bulldogs Friday



## Wildcats' Guard Corps Ready for Invading Bulldogs

With its heaviest member weighing only 175, the Valdosta guard corps is on the small side this season. However, it performed well in last week's opener with Baker. Players shown are (L to R), kneeling, Gary Minchew, Jimmy Adams, Ray Bennett; standing, Christy Patterson, Bill Holt, Frank Wetherington and David Tindall.

## Valdosta Puts Emphasis On Defense In Practice

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Wildcats have been devoting extra time to defense this week—and for very good reasons.

The Thomasville Bulldogs, who will furnish the opposition for coach Wright Bazemore's charges here on Friday night, have a sharp attack led by a fullback ranked with the best in the state.

The clash between the traditional rivals is scheduled for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field. A capacity crowd is expected.

Attack leader for coach Joe Sumrall's forces is George Herring. He packs 187 pounds on a 5-8 frame. Now a senior, Herring is a three-year veteran. College scouts have been keeping a watchful eye on him since his freshman campaign.

Herring combines power with exceptional speed for a back his size. The Wildcats remember him well from 1959 and 1958. Last season he ripped the Valdosta defense for almost 100 yards. In 1958 he scored two touchdowns against the 'Cats. One came on a 60-yards plus jaunt.

But Thomasville is no one-man team, and the Bulldogs proved it in their season opening 27-0 romp over Berrien County (Nashville) last week.

Herring's running mates in the backfield are a trio of seniors, quarterback Doug Vick (155) and halfbacks Jerry Hand (165) and John Matthews (160). The four starting THS backs each scored a TD against Berrien.

Vick is an elusive type runner and a much better than average passer. He also excels on kick returns. Hand and Matthews are quick starters who can go all the way if they see daylight.

This foursome operates behind a solid line, well stocked with experienced performers. The regulars up front include ends Billy Wilder (190) and James Richards (165), tackles Elliot McCollum (195) and Dallice Law (208), guards Jimmy Stroud (185) and Ted Singletary (170) and center Emmett Mitchell (155). All except Richards and Law are seniors. They are juniors. All were regulars in 1959 with either the Bulldogs' offensive or defensive units.

To top it off the Bulldogs have a reputation for playing "hard-nose" football, the kind that has earned them five straight Region 1-AA championships in a row.

While the Bulldogs will have a decided weight advantage over the Wildcats, Valdosta was able to overcome a similar situation in their lidlifter with Baker of Columbus last Friday. The 'Cats licked their Region 1-AAA rival, 40-14.

"Sure Baker was big and we handled them okay," Bazemore said. "But Thomasville is different. It has size, plus speed and toughness.

Although the 'Cats were successful in their first venture Bazemore has been doing some experimenting in practice this week and a revamped starting lineup may be in the offing.

He listed a total of 28 players, saying the starters will come from that group with the final selection to be made just before game time.

The group includes ends Bunky Henry, Bill Holtzclaw, Bill Blocker, Charlie Harris and Wally Colson; tackles Skipper Prewitt, Bill Schroer, Bill Myddleton, Jerry Reaves and Bobby Grondahl; guards Jimmy Adams, Gary Minchew, Ray Bennett and Frank Weatherington, centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood and backs Bruce Bennett, Tommy Tart, Rick Thomas, Kenny Ruffer, Cloy Blanton, Stan Reaves, Bud Hatcher, Burnice Hiers, Walter Zant, Sirosis Barker and Butch Luke.

All in this group saw front-line action on either offense or defense against Baker.

Ruffer, a 158 pound sophomore, led the attack by gaining 97 yards

SAMMY

# GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

## Kittens Follow Coach's Demand For Improvement

Coach Bill Davis rated the Valdosta Kittens as a "question mark" team before the season got underway.

The Valdosta sextet has passed the midway point in its regular season with a 14-1 record, but Davis still regards his charges as a "question mark" outfit.

Of course, you've got to know Davis to understand his feelings. As they say in the trade, he's an exacting task master. In other words, Davis urges his players to strive for perfection.

"There's just one course to follow," Davis said. "A player must work for improvement. When a team becomes self-satisfied that's when it starts losing."

Certainly the Kittens haven't become self-satisfied and their current nine-game victory streak shows they are following Davis' demands for constant improvement.

Their lone defeat came against Doerun early in the season. The Kittens dropped a 58-48 decision to coach J. C. Fincher's Deers.

In a return engagement the Valdosta lassies romped to a 75-56 triumph over Doerun.

But there are factors that leave Davis wondering about the future.

One is forward Evelyn Wilkes' ailing knee. She suffered the injury near the close of the 1959-60 campaign. Because of it she was late reporting this season.

In a game last Saturday she re-injured the knee and her status for the remainder of the season is uncertain.

Wilkes is a 5-8 senior and a standout offensive performer. She was the Kittens' second leading scorer in '59-'60 and has shown very well the little she has gotten to play this season.

When Wilkes is out of the lineup, Davis usually calls on Shelby Blanton, a 5-5 senior; Lucille Dawson, a 5-7 sophomore and Patty Nichols, a 5-11 senior to play at forward. The guards are Mary Ann Mayo, a 5-8 senior; Delores Lashley, a 5-7 senior and Sue Katz, a 5-9 senior.

During the time that Wilkes has been able to play, Nichols has seen action at guard and Katz has been held in reserve.

### Adjusting Necessary

"Patty Nichols does a very good job at forward, but she is our tallest player and with her at guard it gives us added rebounding strength," Davis said. "But she is a hard worker and if she has to go the remainder of the way at forward I'm sure she will do a good job. Sue (Katz) has limited experience, but she also is a hard worker. She has been doing a good job at guard and I'm sure she will continue to do so."

"But we had to do some adjusting at the start of the season when Evelyn (Wilkes) was not out. Then we readjusted when she got back in the lineup. Now we've got to adjust again while she's on the sideline."

"But I've told the girls that the really good team is the one that can adjust to the unexpected things that occur during the course of a season."

Just three schools in Region 1-AAA beside Valdosta field girls basketball teams. They are Warner Robins, Albany and Moultrie. They settle the league championship on the basis of regular season won-loss records against loop foes.

The Kittens have played only one region game, and just got by Warner Robins, 50-48, in that one. They must meet Robins again at Warner Robins and have home-and-home series with Albany and Moultrie.

### 'They All Stay Busy'

"Of course any coach would be pleased with the record we have compiled so far," Davis said. "But the region games are the most important ones and we still have five of them to play. I don't have to tell the girls there isn't going to be any time for relaxing."

I have said before the thing which has impressed me about the Kittens is their balance. Scoring among the forwards is usually evenly distributed and the guards give the kind of unit effort needed to get the job done properly.

They are well coached and as one opposing mentor puts it "they all stay busy." But those have been trademarks of the many fine teams Davis has turned out during the past 12 seasons.

The Kittens have done very, very well so far, and here's hoping they can continue to travel the victory trail.



GLASSMAN

# Valdosta Faces Albany Tonight

## Championship Overtones Add Interest To Contest

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's brash young Wildcats meet headon with the Albany Indians, kingpins in Region 1-AAA, in a mid-season football game here tonight that has championship overtones.

A capacity crowd is expected for the tilt which is slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats will put a four-game victory streak on the line. Coach John Tillitski's Indians will come into the game with a 3-1 chart that includes triumphs in their last three outings.

They are traditional rivals and they share the top spot in the 1-AAA standings with matching 3-0 loop records. Both are ranked among the top-ten teams in the state at the "AAA" level.

Those are just a few of the reasons why the game is attracting state wide attention.

This is only the fifth start for the 'Cats and the Tribe and neither can come close to clinching the 1-AAA title tonight. However, both regard a victory as a "must" if they are to have a chance to fulfill their title ambitions.

This is Valdosta's third year of play in the league. It finished among the also-rans in 1958 and 1959. However, the Wildcats are hoping for better things this time.

Albany, a long-time member of 1-AAA, has had a full taste of championships. Last season it swept to the regional and state crowns. In a span covering parts of three seasons, the Indians have won 21 of 22 games. In their string are triumphs over Valdosta in both 1958 and 1959.

While both coaches are claiming the underdog role for their teams, in most quarters Albany is being rated a one to two touchdown favorite even though the Wildcats will have the home field advantage. The Indians have size and experience in their favor.

They have met no mutual foes, so there's no way to compare scores. Since being surprised by 2-AAA power Benedictine, 31-13, in their opener, the Indians have licked Columbus, 32-13; Warner Robins, 53-6, and LaGrange, 6-0.

LGrange ranked just a notch behind the Tribe on the pre-season form chart. With one TD nullified by a penalty and another scoring drive halted by a rule infraction, Albany's triumph over the Grangers was even more impressive than the score indicated.

Valdosta has beaten Baker, 40-14; Thomasville, 3-6; Jordan, 27-0, and Lanier, 19-7.

To lick the Poets last week, the Wildcats had to withstand a second-half rally by the Macon eleven.

The game will match two of the region's leading rushers. Valdosta's 155-pound junior quarterback Bruce Bennett is the 1-AAA yardage leader, while Albany's 180-pound junior halfback Jerry Doyal is a very close third on the list.

Bennett's backfield helpmates

Butch Fain (185), Johnny Palmer (190) and Frankie Morris (185); guards Cantey Davis (180), Jimmy Prevatte (180) and Stan Harp (185) and center Jack Andrews (190).

While the VHS squad is top heavy with sophomores, all of the Albany regulars are seniors and juniors.

include Kenny Ruffer, Giles Smith, Burnice Hiers, Tommy Tart, Butch Luke, Rick Thomas, Stan Reaves, Bud Hatcher, Cloy Blanton and Walter Zant.

Two of the Wildcats' talented linemen will be on the sideline tonight. End Bunky Henry is out with a broken leg. A knee injury suffered by guard Gary Minchew against Lanier last week will "definitely" keep him out of action tonight.

But ready to go are ends Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw and Wally Colson; tackles Bobby Grondahl, Bill Myddleton, Bill Schroer and Skipper Prewitte; guards Ray Bennett, Frank Wetherington and Jimmy Adams and centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood. All in this group saw considerable front line action in VHS first four outings.

Albany not only has a poundage advantage, but match the Wildcats in depth and the Indians are considered even faster than the swiftstriking VHS crew.

Backfield regulars, in addition to ace Doyal, include quarterback Jerry Gerst (150), halfbacks Bill Sutton (145), Larry Watons (185), Steve Heidt (160) and E. G. Beckwith (150) and fullback James Gray (185).

Forward wall leaders include ends David Martin (170), Jack Brice (175) and Mike Lane (170); tackles Don Dunbeam (190).

# Eagles Top 'Cats; Kittens Win 14th

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Lowndes County's Golden Eagles and Valdosta's Kittens kept victory streaks going as they triumphed in a basketball double-header here last night.

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles notched their eighth straight win with a 61-46 triumph over coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats. The LOHI quintet now has an overall mark of 14-5 and has won in 11 of its last 12 outings. The 'Cats are 7-8.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens rolled to a 57-15 win over coach Noel George's LOHI sextet. The Kittens stretched their current winning streak to nine games and boosted their record for the season to 14-1. The LOHI lassies have a 3-14 chart.

The Eagles and Wildcats, cross-town rivals, tangled for the third time. Lowndes' triumph on its home court gave Adams' charges a 2-1 edge in the series.

Val Walden dropped in a field goal when the game was just seconds old to give LOHI a 2-0 lead. The Eagles never tangled after that. However, for three quarters the Wildcats stayed very much in contention.

But the Eagles poured in 20 points during the final stanza to chill any plans the 'Cats had about catching up.

In the girls game it was the Kittens who took an early lead and were never headed. Valdosta got off to a 21-1 lead and the LOHI girls saw their chance of victory go by the boards.

The Eagles' five starters went all the way against the Wildcats. Beside Walden they were Bobby Eason, Calvin VanVlake, Jerry Goodson and David Cowart.

Eason was the attack leader with 22 points. Walden got 15, VanVlake 13, Goodson 9 and Cowart 2.

With Walden picking off 17 rebounds and Eason and Goodson each grabbing 11, the Eagles held the edge in the battle of the boards.

Alvie Steele, with a sparking 20-point effort, was the offense leader for 'Dosta. Bill Wisenbaker was next in line with eight. Ike Harrell and Wisenbaker were the 'Cats' top rebounders.

LOHI scored 22 field goals and sank 17 of 29 foul shots. The Eagles were charged with 13 fouls. Valdosta sank 17 field goals and hit on 12 of 18 tries from the charity line. The Wildcats were charged with 19 fouls.

Patty Nichols and Shelby Blanton each scored 18 points and Lucille Dawson accounted for 10 to lead the Kittens' balanced attack. The guard trio of Mary Ann Mayo, Sue Katz and Delores Lashley did the big defensive job for the VHS sextet.

Amy Hare, with seven points, was top scorer for LOHI.

Individual scoring follows:

## GIRLS

Valdosta 19 34 48 57

Lowndes Co. 1 5 10 15

VALDOSTA (57) — Blanton 18, Shenton, Martin, Dawson 10, McClenny 2, Smith, Hamill 6, Elliott, Mayo, Bazemore, Rodgers, Lashley, Knoll 3, Geer, Katz, Nichols 18, Martin, Quattlebaum, Sessions.

LOWNDES COUNTY (15) — Allen 1, Porter, Jones 2, Connell, Copeland 3, Shelton 2, Trammell, Spence, McLane, Starling, Dun-

can, Hersey, Carter, Dasher, Wisenbaker, Swilly, Hare 7.

## BOYS

Valdosta 10 22 32 46

Lowndes Co. 14 29 41 61

VALDOSTA (46) — Steele 20, Johnson 2, Harrell, Wisenbaker 3, Wells 3, Register 4, Gayle, Smith 4, Blanton 3, Thomas 2, Schroer.

LOWNDES COUNTY (61) — Eason 22, VanVlake 13, Walden 15, Goodson 9, Cowart 2.



—Times Staff Photo

## Val Walden (43), Ike Harrell (22) Go Up

LOHI, Valdosta Players Try To Snag Rebound

# VALDOSTA 'TERRORIZES' HELPLESS THOMASVILLE

## Wildcats Win Second Straight, 37-6, But Lose Star Henry

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Sept. 17 — Razor-sharp blocking, an alert defense and some dazzling broken-field running by Bruce Bennett and Kenny Ruffer paid victory dividends for the Valdosta Wildcats here Friday night as they licked the Thomasville Bulldogs, 37-6.

A crowd of approximately 7,000 was on hand as Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats, members of Region 1-AAA, clicked off their second win of the season and ran their victory string to eight straight games against traditional foe Thomasville.

The defeat leveled the Bulldogs' record off at 1-1.

While the triumph was a pleasing one, it was also costly for Valdosta. Bunky Henry, a talented offensive end and place-kicking specialist, suffered a broken leg and will be lost to the Wildcats for the remainder of the season.

The bone in his left leg between his knee and ankle was fractured in two places. He was injured just before the second half ended and left the field in an ambulance.

BENNETT, a 155-pound junior, led the Wildcats' explosive attack. He scored three touchdowns on runs of 54, 43 and 20 yards. Ruffer tallied once on a 26-yard run.

He returned a punt 85 yards for another marker, but it was nullified by a penalty. A quarterback Rick Thomas to halfback Bud Hatcher pass, which covered 71 yards, was good for a TD.

Halfback Giles Smith climaxed his point parade with a field goal from the 8-yard line in the final period.

Thomasville's only touchdown came just before the first half ended. Quarterback Doug Vick intercepted a pass and put the Bulldogs in business at the Valdosta 38. He then connected on a 25-yard air strike to halfback Sonny Thompson and three

THE YARDSTICK		THOMASVILLE (6)	
VALDOSTA (37)	14	First Downs	5
	275	Yards Rushing	59
	74	Yards Passing	41
	53	Penalties	43

plays later fullback George Herring crashed over from four yards out.

While the score was 14-6 at the half, meaning the Bulldogs were still in the ball game at that time, the Wildcats struck for a touchdown early in the third period and remained in command from there on in.

Valdosta's line force was the master of the situation with ends Henry, Billy Blocker, Billy Holtz-

claw, Wally Colson and Charlie Harris; tackles Bill Myddleton, Skipper Prewitt, Billy Schroer, Jerry Reaves and Robert Gron-dahl; guards Gary Minchew, Ray Bennett, Jimmy Adams and Frank Wetherington, and centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood the leaders.

Besides those figuring in the scoring, the backfield stickouts included Eddie Zant, Cloy Blanton, Burnice Hiers, Butch Luke, Stan Reaves and Tommy Tart.

Score by quarters:

Valdosta	7	7	7	16	37
Thomasville	0	6	0	0	6

Scoring TDs: Valdosta—B. Bennett 3 (54, 43, 20, runs), Ruffer (26, run), Hatcher (71, pass from Thomas, Thom-asville—Herring (4, run), Field goals—Valdosta—Smith; ATs—Valdosta—Henry 2 (placements), Smith 2 (placements).

## MITCHELL GOES BY AIR

# Valdosta's Bennett Gains on Dickens

By ELLWOOD MOYER

Special to The Constitution

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Valdosta's Bruce Bennett made the big gains "three ways" as Wright Bazemore's Wildcats thrashed Thomasville last Friday night, 37-6.

Valdosta's Rick Thomas, who completed 3 of 6 for 94 yards, and now leads all passers with 195 yards. Warner Robins' Jack Hammond has fired for 184 yards.

Bennett, with 138 yards in only six carries, was the week's number one gainer in Region 1-AAA circles. He also made the big gain in the rushing listings, moving up to second place with 210 yards in two games.

And his three touchdown runs gave him top honors in that department for the weekend.

# 'Cats, Jordan Tangle Friday

## Rated Top Attraction On Region 1-AAA Card

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

In a game rated the top attraction on this week's Region 1-AAA card the Valdosta Wildcats will meet the Jordan Red Jackets of Columbus here Friday night.

The game is scheduled for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

It will be the third game in a series which had its beginning in 1958. Valdosta is two-up in the set, but just got by 7-6 last year on a last-minute, 98-yard pass interception return.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats have a 2-0 record after beating league foe Baker (Columbus), 20-14, and non-regional opponent Thomasville, 37-6.

Coach Bob Donaldson, the Red Jackets' new grid boss, has seen his Jordan eleven split a pair of regional contests. They beat Moultrie, 19-12 and lost to La-Grange, 13-7.

Donaldson, whose teams lost just one game in five seasons of prep competition in South Carolina, has a veteran crew which he has taught some new and difficult to stop offensive tricks.

Jordan represents hurdle No. 3 in the Wildcats' plan to improve on their 5-5 showing in 1959.

Slated for heavy action for the Jackets are ends Gene Brown (160, sr.) and James Burtin (143, sr.), tackles Larry Overby (170, sr.) Jerry Gill (230, sr.), Ross McCain (195, jr.) and Larry Buchanan (270, soph.), guards Joe Allen (167, jr.) and Sonny Buchanan (240), center Larry Jones (167, sr.), quarterbacks Mike Welch (155, sr.) and Tommy Garnto (160, sr.), halfbacks Sam Fulford (155, jr.), James Rutland (155, sr.) and Al Tillman (150, jr.) and fullbacks Tommy Hart (160, sr.) and Gene Burkette (175, sr.).

Well stocked with heavyweights in the line, Jordan has a reputation for defensive toughness.

It offers a varied attack, using the T-formation, winged-T and TCU-spread.

With Welch, Garnto and Fulford doing the pitching, the Red Jackets have made their aerial attack click for 301 yards and three touchdowns in two games. They have completed 20 of 30 passes for a dazzling .666 average.

The Wildcats, trying to make up for their lack of size with a modified two-platoon system, have made their ground game click so far.

But how well such small, but

hard hitting, Valdosta backs as Bruce Bennett, Kenny Ruffers, Giles Smith, and Burnice Hiers will do tomorrow night remains to be seen. They have been the attack leaders, and Hiers, at 165, is the heavyweight in the bunch.

Against Baker and Thomasville Bennett, Ruffer and Smith all got loose for long runs. Hiers has been a steady offensive performer and has impressed with his blocking.

Their backfield helpmates will include Rick Thomas, Stan Reaves, Butch Luke, Cloy Blanton, Walter Zant, Tommy Tart and Bud Hatcher.

The VHS line force will have to get along without the services of Bunky Henry, a talented offensive end who doubled as a place kicking specialist. Henry is sidelined with a broken leg. He underwent an operation yesterday to have a pin inserted in his injured leg.

But set for duty are ends Bill Holtzclaw, Bill Bocker, Charlie Harris and Wally Colson, tackles Skipper Prewitte, Billy Schroer, Bill Myddleton, Bobby Grondahl and Jerry Reaves, guards Jimmy Adams, Gary Minchew, Ray Bennett and Frank Weatherington and centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood.

The Valdosta line more than held its own in the battles with the Lions and Bulldogs, but hasn't gone against an up-front crew with the size and the talent of the



Wildcats' Fullback Burnice Hiers  
Heavyweight In VHS Backfield At 165

—Times Staff Photo

BOYS		GIRLS	
Valdosta	18 36 51 70	Valdosta	14 36 51 66
Willingham	9 24 36 42	Willingham	9 24 36 42
VALDOSTA (70) — Wisenbaker		VALDOSTA (70) — Wisenbaker	
6, Gayle 2, Schroer, Steele 22,		6, Gayle 2, Schroer, Steele 22,	
Smith 8, Johnson 7, Reaves 2,		Smith 8, Johnson 7, Reaves 2,	
Harrell 5, Thomas 2, Wells 16,		Harrell 5, Thomas 2, Wells 16,	
Bennett, Blanton, Norwood.		Bennett, Blanton, Norwood.	
WILLINGHAM (42) — Bannister		WILLINGHAM (42) — Bannister	
er 2, Cheek 2, Gaines 2, Clay 2,		er 2, Cheek 2, Gaines 2, Clay 2,	
Pullin 8, Olson, Reid 2, Leverette,		Pullin 8, Olson, Reid 2, Leverette,	
Shenton, Martin 2, Dawson 16,		Shenton, Martin 2, Dawson 16,	
VALDOSTA (66) — Blanton 17,		VALDOSTA (66) — Blanton 17,	
7 18 31 47		7 18 31 47	
Coffee Co.		Coffee Co.	
14 36 51 66		14 36 51 66	

Individual scoring follows:

Douglas sextet.  
Coach Bill Davis' Kittens down-  
ed the Coffee County Comets  
from Douglas, 66-47, to run their  
current victory string to six  
games. The Valdosta sextet now  
has an 11-1 chart for the season.

The game between the Wildcats  
and Rams was a rough-and-  
tumble affair. One Willingham  
player, Tommy Reid, was ejected  
from the game and another,  
Jerry Leverette, was forced to  
the sideline with a cut over his  
right eye which required five  
stitches to close.

A total of 44 fouls were called.  
Valdosta was charged with 19 and  
Willingham with 25.  
Through it all the Wildcats  
gave a smooth performance and  
the 70 points they scored was  
a new single game high for them  
this season.

The 'Cats got off to a 5-0 lead  
and were never headed after  
that. They had a 19-8 advantage  
at the end of the first period  
and kept building to their lead  
as the game progressed.

Alvie Steele and Leo Wells led  
the Dosta attack. Steele hit for  
22 points and Wells wished the  
nets for 16. Nine other Valdosta  
players broke into the scoring  
column, with Giles Smith getting  
eight points, Tommy Johnson sev-  
en, Bill Wisenbaker six and Ike  
Harrell five.  
Stan Reaves picked off seven  
rebounds to lead the VHS quintet  
in that department. Next in line  
were Wisenbaker, Harrell and  
Bobby Bryant was attack lead-  
er for the Rams with 12 points.  
Willingham's Lewis was ejected  
from the game after colliding  
with Steele in the first period.  
Steele was going in for a layup  
shot and the impact of the  
"crash" drove him into a stage  
at one end of the VHS court.  
Leverette suffered the cut over  
his eyes in a pileup of several  
players in the third period.

In the girls game the Kittens

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

# 'Cats Thump Rams; Kittens Top Comets

# Grangers Top 'Cats, 45-36

Valdosta Plays Jordan, Echols In Doubleheader Here Tonight

Valdosta's Wildcats, stone cold in the opening period, dropped a 45-36 basketball decision to the LaGrange Grangers here last night.

The 'Cats accounted for just one point in the first stanza, fell 11 points behind the Grangers and never recovered in the Region 1-AAA outing.

The setback left the Wildcats with a 6-7 record in all games and a 1-5 regional chart. The triumph was the ninth in 10 starts for the Grangers.

Valdosta's Kittens were idle last night, but they will meet Echols County (Statenville) tonight while the 'Cats clash with Jordan (Columbus) in a twin-bill slated for 7 p. m. here at the VHS gym.

The Kittens have a sparkling 12-1 record and defeated Echols in an earlier game at Statenville. The 'Cats will be meeting Jordan, a 1-AAA member, for the first

time this season

In last night's game, LaGrange got off to an early 10-0 lead. The Wildcats battled on fairly even terms after that but were never able to make up the lost ground

Bubba Fowler hit for 13 points and Jimmy Smith scored 10 to pace the Grangers' attack.

Bill Wisenbaker and Leo Wells, with eight markers each, were top scorers for Valdosta.

Individual scoring follows:

## BOYS

Valdosta	1	11	21	36
LaGrange	12	21	32	45

VALDOSTA (36) — Wisenbaker

8, Wells 8, Steele 7, Johnson 6,

Smith 4, Register 2, Harrell 1.

LAGRANGE (45) — Fowler 13,

Smith 10, Mahaffey 9, Lord 7,

Culver 3, Solomon 2.

ON FRIDAY

# VHS Plays Hahira; Eagles Meet Ware

Friday's high school basketball slate calls for Valdosta's cagers to make their first trip of the season while Lowndes County's hardwood force stays home to "entertain" a tough regional foe.

Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens will meet Hahira in a twin-bill tomorrow night at Hahira after four straight "home" games.

LOHI will face Region 1-A (East) opponent Ware County (Waycross) in a doubleheader at the Lowndes County gym.

\* \* \*

In other Friday night action, Cook County (Adel) will play at Thomasville, Hoboken at Clinch County (Homerville), Brooks County (Quitman) at Cairo and Jasper, Fla., at Mayo, Fla.

The Valdosta quintets and sextets will be playing return engagements.

In earlier meetings the Wildcats edged coach Jack Jarrard's Tigers, 49-48, while coach Bill Davis' Kittens defeated the Hahira girls, 55-31.

The 'Cats now have a 2-2 record and the Kittens can boast of a perfect 4-0 mark. The Hahira teams have matching 3-4 records.

LOHI and Ware will also be playing return engagements.

In an earlier meeting the Gators shaded the Eagles, 42-40, while the Ware girls turned back the Lowndes sextet, 61-51.

\* \* \*

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles have a 4-4 record in all games, and a 1-3 chart in loop play.

Sub-division titles will be decided by tourney play. However, regular season records against regional foes will determine seeding for the tournaments.

The Lowndes girls are 1-7 for the season and are seeking their league triumph.

Both the Cook County boys and girls are going well this season. Coach Wyatt Grimmer's Hornets have a 5-3 record and the Cook girls team has a 6-2 chart.

Clinch County's Panthers will be out to extend a three-game victory streak in their meeting with Hoboken. The Homerville quintet is 7-1 for the year.

\* \* \*

Brooks County's cagers will be out to improve on already sparkling records. Coach Charles Cooper's Tigers have a 5-1 mark. Coach George Eanes' Brooks sextet has clicked for six triumphs without a loss.

The Tigers can expect tough sledding against coach Tommy Taylor's always tough Cairo Syrupmakers.

# Valdosta's Stop 'Em Crew Chills Jordan Attack, 27-0

**B. Bennett, Ruffer Key Offense; Smith, Myddleton Lead Defense**

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
 VALDOSTA, Ga., Sept. 24—With its hard-charging offensive unit stopping Jordan's new-look, and up to a low potent, attack cold, the Valdosta Wildcats gained a 27-0 victory over the Red Jackets from Columbus here Friday night.

While Coach Wright Bazemore's charges rang up touchdowns in each quarter, it was to the Wildcats' stop 'em crew that the major share of the credit belongs.

A crowd of approximately 5,000 was on hand as Valdosta rolled

THE YARDSTICK		JORDAN (0)
(27) VALDOSTA	First Downs	4
15	Yards Rushing	-15
189	Yards Passing	39
116	Yards Penalized	50
60		

to its third straight victory and boosted its Region 1-AAA records to 2-0. The loss was the second in three regional starts for Coach Bob Donaldson's Jackets.

The Wildcats' high-flying stop 'em unit limited Jordan to minus 15 yards rushing and held the Jackets' vaunted passing attack off the TCU-spread to a scant 39 yards. The Jackets made just one timid thrust into Valdosta territory. In the opening period Jordan drove to the 24, but was shoved back to the 44. The Jackets failed to get back across the mid-field stripe.

Defensive excellence, also, after that, allowed the Wildcats to strike for touchdowns from fairly close range.

However, the first Valdosta TD effort came on a six-play, 61-yard march the first time the Wildcats got their hands on the ball. Halfback Bruce Bennett made it on a seven-yard sweep around end, after setting it up with a 34-yard jaunt.

In the second stanza the 'Cats covered 33 yards in four plays, with Bennett scoring from 12 yards out. A key block by end Wally Colson helped make this play click.

\*\*\*  
 VALDOSTA moved 28 yards in four plays for its marker in the third period. Halfback Kenny

Ruffer plunged over from the one after moving the ball in close with a determined 13-yard jolt up the middle.

In the closing stanza, the Wildcats moved from their own 43 to the Jackets' two, with a 38-yard air strike from quarterback Rick Thomas to Colson the big gainer in the march. However, a fumble halted things. But Jordan got to keep the ball just two plays then guard Ray Bennett reclaimed the pigskin for the Wildcats at the two. Fullback Burnice Hiers plunged over from there.

Beside halfback Bruce Bennett, a double-duty man, and guard Ray Bennett, the stop 'em crew leaders included halfbacks Stan Reaves, Cloy Blanton and Bud Hatcher, fullback Butch Luke, ends Charlie Harris and Bill Blocker, quarterback Tommy Tart, tackles Bill Myddleton and Bobby Grondahl and center Allen Holt.

Myddleton led in the tackles made department with eight. The 183-pound sophomore made most of his stops well behind the line of scrimmage.

The attack leaders were Bruce Bennett, Thomas, Ruffer, Hiers and halfback Giles Smith.

Bennett made 81 yards in 11 rushing tries and connected on

three of four passes to help account for 49 more yards.

Smith turned in a solid performance. He gained 21 yards on four running tries, caught a pair of passes that were good for 34 yards, got off punts that sailed 55 and 42 yards, made good on three of four PAT tries, did his share of the blocking and was in on virtually every tackle made while covering kicks.

Valdosta ..... 7 7 6 7-27  
 Jordan ..... 0 0 0 0-0  
 Scoring TDs: Valdosta—B. Bennett 2  
 (7, 12 runs), Ruffer (1, run), Hiers (2, run). PATs: Valdosta—Smith 3 (placements).

DICKENS LEADS

# Ruffer, Bennett 2nd On 1-AAA Point List

BY ELLWOOD MOYER  
Special to Times

COLUMBUS — As Region 1-AAA enters the third week of play, only four of the 10 teams in the loop still remain undefeated in league play as both Willingham and Jordan fell by the wayside this past week, the Rams being upset 12-13 by Baker while the Red Jackets lost 13-7 to LaGrange.

Thus Lanier, LaGrange, Albany and Valdosta now alone remain unbeaten in loop play.

These four clubs are all in action this week against region opponents, and all play home games. Lanier takes on Columbus, Valdosta clashes with Jordan, LaGrange is host to Willingham, and Albany meets Warner Robins.

In the two non-region games, Baker takes on Central of Phenix City, Ala. in a Bi-City clash while Moultrie journeys to Thomasville.

In action this past week, the LaGrange Grangers, who had not been scored upon since the third period of the Albany game last season, had their goal line crossed for the first time since then when Jordan's Mike Welsh hit Sammy Fulford on a 17-yard touchdown pass play in the third period Saturday night.

Thus was ended a streak of 31 periods without a score on the LaGrange team over a two-year period.

Meanwhile the Baker Lions scored a surprising 13-12 upset win over the Willingham Rams in Macon to snap a 17-game losing streak. The last previous Baker win was a 26-13 decision on Sept. 26, 1958, against the Central Red Devils, the Lions' opponents this week-end.

Junior fullback Joel Dickens, who had previously added seven out of eight extra-point placements, missed twice last week in the Baker game and as fate would have it, this was the dif-

ference between a win, a tie and a loss for the Willingham Rams.

The 185-pounder, who picked up a net of 99 yards rushing in the game, retained his hold on the scoring lead in the region as he tallied once to run his scoring total for the year to 37 points in three games.

Kenny Ruffer and Bruce Bennett of Valdosta, in one less game, both have scored 24 points and are tied for second-place.

Mickey Rivers of Lanier got one of the two Poet scores against Moultrie and holds fourth place in the scoring parade with 18 points. Ray Crawford, Columbus end, scored all 13 of the Blue Devils' points against Albany and moved into fifth place with that total.

A total of five players are then tied for sixth place with a total of 12-points each.

Teams	W	L	pt.	op.
Lanier	2	0	45	13
LaGrange	2	0	26	7
Valdosta	2	0	27	20
Willingham	2	1	69	26
Albany	1	1	45	44
Jordan	1	1	26	25
Baker	1	1	27	52
Warner Robins*	0	2	19	81
Columbus	0	2	26	46
Moultrie	0	2	12	32
Totals	11	10	372	346

Teams	W	L	pt.	op.
Lanier	2	0	45	13
LaGrange	1	0	13	7
Albany	1	0	32	13
Valdosta	1	0	40	14
Willingham	2	1	69	26
Jordan	1	1	26	25
Baker	1	1	27	52
Columbus	0	2	26	46
Moultrie	0	2	12	32
Warner Robins	0	2	13	75
Totals	9	9	303	303

Columbus at Lanier
Central at Baker
Jordan at Valdosta
Willingham at LaGrange
Warner Robins at Albany
Moultrie at Thomasville

Player	Team	G	tds	pat	T
Dickens	Willingham	3	5	7	37
Ruffer	Valdosta	2	4	0	24
Bennett	Valdosta	2	4	0	24
Rivers	Lanier	2	3	0	18
Crawford	Columbus	2	2	1	13
Musial	Lanier	2	2	0	12
Fulford	Jordan	2	2	0	12
Wheeler	Willingham	3	2	0	12
Doyal	Albany	2	2	0	12
Mucha	Warner Robins	3	2	0	12
Henry	Valdosta	2	1	5	11
Richardson	Lanier	2	1	3	9
Buttrum	LaGrange	2	1	2	8
Smith	Valdosta	2	0	3	7
Hammond	Warner Robins	3	1	1	7

# Poets Face Valdosta With Eyes On Crown

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Lanier, onetime power in Region 1-AAA, hopes to use a victory over Valdosta's Wildcats as a stepping stone that will help them climb back to the football throne room.

Coach Wright Bazemore's VHS eleven will meet coach John (Cotton) Harrison's Poets in a league battle at Macon on Saturday night.

Lanier, a charter member of the circuit and winner of a long list of region sports titles, has had to endure a championship drought in recent years.

While the Poets compiled a 5-5 record last fall, they finished strong and offered promise of better things to come.

So far they've been running right on schedule. They top the 1-AAA standings after beating Warner Robins, 32-13; Moultrie, 13-0 and Columbus, 14-7.

The Wildcats also have a three-game victory streak going. They have turned back Baker (Columbus), 40-14; Thomasville, 36-7, and Jordan (Columbus), 27-0.

However, only Baker and Jordan were league foes. With a 2-0 regional chart, the Wildcats share second place in the standings with Albany and LaGrange.

Bazemore cautioned his charges to expect trouble in their first three games. However, with sharp team efforts, they won them all by comfortable margins.

But the Valdosta mentor believes that odds can catch up with a team, and this might be the week when a combination of a tough opponent and fate deals the Wildcats a full share of trouble.

While Lanier has clicked off three straight victories observers close to the scene says the Poets haven't hit full stride — yet.

They beat Columbus last week,

14-7, despite losing four fumbles and drawing penalties at crucial times. They had similar trouble against Warner Robins, but came through with a bone-crushing finish.

"Lanier has won three straight," Bazemore said. "That in itself is a noteworthy accomplishment. But they've won despite getting more than their share of the bad breaks. Just think what kind of trouble they are capable of dealing out when things are going their way."

"Sure, we've also won three in a row. We've played good football so far. But we have a young team, the kind that can have a bad night. We've got to try to guard against that."

"Our scout report shows Lanier has much better balance than any team we've played. They mix their running and passing game well. They have good size and very good team speed. Lanier is an extremely tough defensive team."

The Poets have yielded just three touchdowns in three games.

However, Valdosta can also boast of a similar accomplishment. But they have met no mutual foes, so there is no basis for comparison.

Valdosta, lacking size, depended on swift strikes to subdue Baker, Thomasville and Jordan. If the Poets, who will own a weight advantage, can match the Wildcats in the speed department Bazemore's charges may see their attack stalled.

"Until you actually play a team you have no way of knowing how you really compare," Bazemore said. "But when we scouted Lanier it showed fine speed, plus toughness. It is a solid, well-coached ball club. We've got to be at our best to have a chance."

Along about now Harrison must be telling his Poets the same things about Valdosta. The two use very similar offensive and defensive patterns. They have similar records and both want to stay in contention for the region championship. The game should make for an interesting night of football.

# Wildcats, Jackets May Offer Ground-Air Duel

Now I know exactly how a baseball player feels when his batting average starts to dwindle.

After checking the returns on last week's prep and college football games my prediction average was .704. I got 19 right and missed on eight. There were several tie games and my policy is to toss them out, counting them as neither right or wrong.

While a .704 effort isn't too bad, especially for me, it did drop my average for the season from .765 to .738. But I'm not discouraged. I'm going to keep on trying.

Here's the way I figure some of this week's high school tilts.

### VALDOSTA VS JORDAN—

Coach Wright Bazemore said his Wildcats might have trouble against Baker and Thomasville, but they didn't. He has tossed out the same kind of warning about the Red Jackets, and this time I think he's right. Coach Bob Donaldson's boys from Columbus have experience, size and a slick passing attack that works from the TCU-spread. The 'Cats ground attack has worked well

so far. The game may boil down to a running vs passing duel of battle that could go either way. I'm picking Valdosta and have my fingers crossed hoping it is a correct forecast.

to a running vs passing duel of battle that could go either way. I'm picking Valdosta and have my fingers crossed hoping it is a

# Lanier, VHS Could Offer Scoring Duel

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

If a dry track is in the offing, Saturday night's clash in Macon between Valdosta's Wildcats and Lanier's Poets may produce some offensive fireworks.

Both of the Region 1-AAA entries have the type backs that can give the opposition plenty of worries when it comes time to planning the defense.

Coach John (Cotton) Harrison's Poets have been led to victories over Warner Robins (32-13), Moultrie (13-0) and Columbus (14-7), by a quartet of talented seniors.

Lanier's attack leaders are quarterback John Breedlove (175), halfbacks Mickey Rivers (155) and Ted Musial (175) and fullback Buddy Chase (165).

It is a combo that has good size, fine speed and balance.

Breedlove is an impressive passer. He has completed 14 of 32 tosses for an even 200 yards. He unleashed one 40-yard aerial bomb against Columbus.

Rivers is the smallest member of the foursome, but he's a speed merchant capable of going all the way anytime he carries. He has gained 200 yards on 34 carries. Against Warner Robins he scored on an 84-yard kickoff return. Last week against Columbus he scampered 40 yards for the Poets' winning tally. He is also a fine pass receiver. It was to Rivers that Breedlove pitched for the tally against Imps.

Musial has combined power

with speed to pile up 230 yards on 36 tries. He is also capable of hitting the "home run." The big halfback scored against Moultrie on a 45-yard romp.

Chase is a steady type performer who has gained 127 yards the 20 time he has lugged the pigskin. He operates from fullback because of his line busting ability.

Valdosta, with victories over Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6) and Jordan (27-0) to its credit, also has some talent in the backfield.

While the members of the Wildcats' attack unit are smaller and younger than Lanier's "Go-Go" boys, they can also boast of some impressive statistics.

Bruce Bennett, a 150-pound junior who plays quarterback, halfback and fullback, has set the pace. He has gained 271 yards on 26 tries and has completed three of five passes for 67. He leads VHS and stands second on the region list in scoring with 36 points.

Kenny Ruffer, a 158-pound sophomore, is next in line. He's gone 183 yards on 24 tries from scrimmage and has returned a dozen punts a total of 170 yards. Both Ruffer and Bennett have scored on long runs. Ruffer has 30 points to his credit.

Giles Smith, a 150-pound sophomore, is another halfback with talent. He's gained 75 yards on 13 rushing tries and has caught three passes that accounted for 85 more. He's the

Wildcats' punting and place kicking specialist.

Fullback Burnice Hires, a 165-pound senior, has romped for 99 yards on 23 carries. He is also a sharp blocker. Rick Thomas, a 145-pound sophomore quarterback, has shown passing talent with nine completions in 18 tries for 204 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Others who have helped with the backfield chores on offense and defense are Stan Reaves, Bud Hatcher, Butch Luke, Cloy Blanton, Tommy Tart, Walter Zant, Sirosis Barker and Jerry Varnedoe.

While both the Wildcats and Poets have shown potent attacks so far, there is no guarantee that a scoring duel will develop. Both also have a reputation for defensive toughness. Each has yielded only three touchdowns and each has a "shutout" to its credit.

## Race Hot In 1-AAA Grid Play

By BOB PRICE  
Times-Union Sports Writer

Region 1-AAA's torrid football race reaches a new boiling point tonight with two of its undefeated leaders clashing and the other meeting the 1959 champion in the top grid tests of the South Georgia schoolboy ranks.

Valdosta and Lanier, boasting perfect 3-0 showings for 1960 get together at Macon while LaGrange, 3-0, plays host to once defeated Albany. Albany has bounced back from an opening night loss to Benedictine with two consecutive victories.

Jesup, the AA defending king, steps out of its division for a home battle with AAA Savannah High. Both are sporting perfect 3-0 records.

Winningest teams in South Georgia, Bainbridge and Tifton in AA and Patterson in B are on the road this week with the Bearcats invading Nashville while the Eagles fly into Pearson, and Tifton visiting Thomasville.

Waycross, the other perfect 3-0 eleven in South Georgia, stays at home for an intra-city clash with Ware County.

Glynn Academy of Brunswick plays host to Beaufort, S.C. and Folkston entertains Madison, Fla., in the only inter-state affairs this week.

Coach Wright Bazemore's potent Wildcats depend on Kenny Ruffer, Bruce Bennett and Rick Thomas to key its offensive movements while Bill Myddleton, Giles Smith and Allen Holt lead the defense.

## Saturday Is 'Lucky' Night For Wildcats

Notes On This And That:

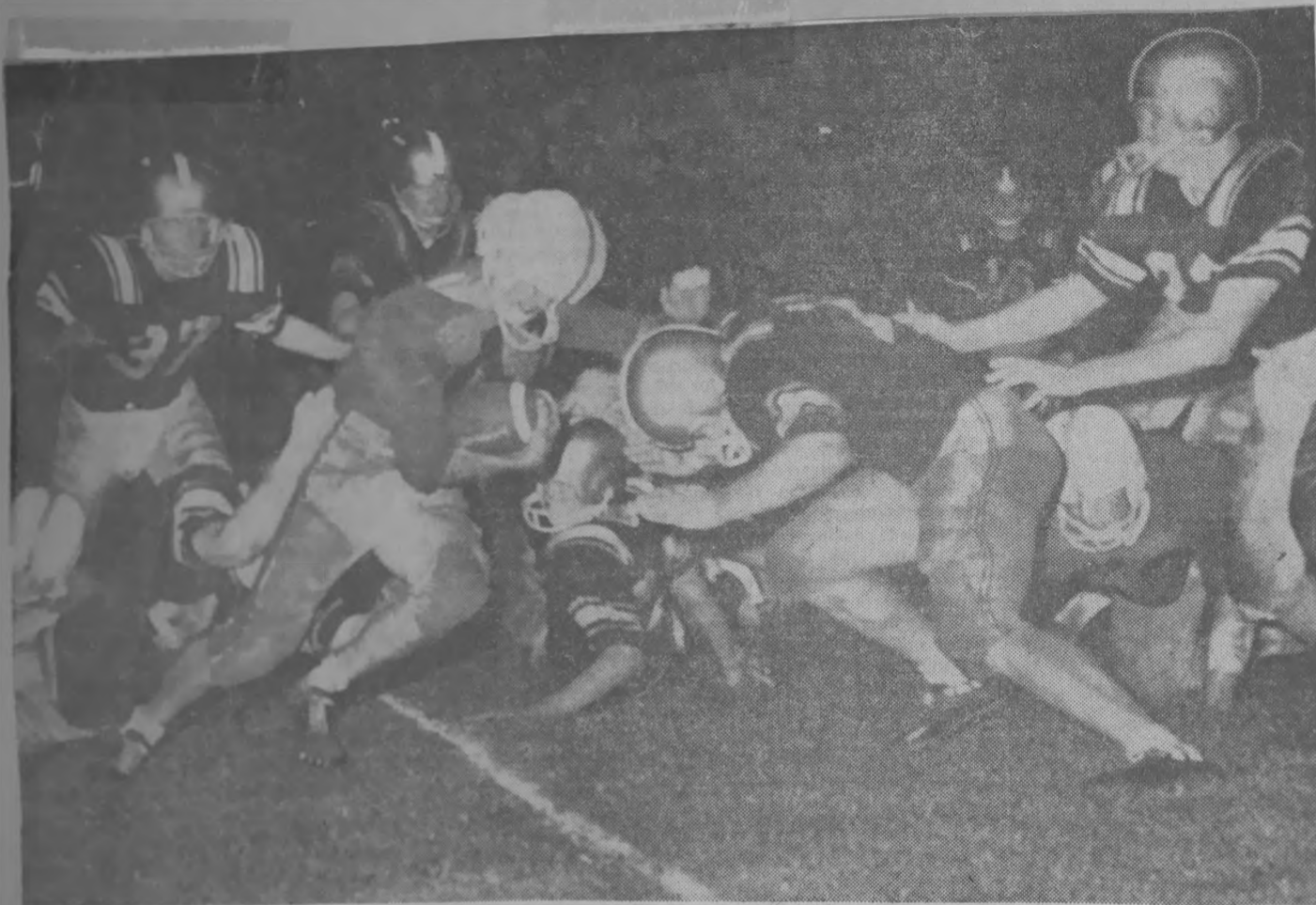
One really couldn't blame Bill Kittrell, the Valdosta Wildcats' hoop boss, if he tried to arrange a schedule next season where his team played only an Saturday night.

Certainly Saturday has been the 'Cats' "lucky" night this season. A little research by Johnny B. Lastinger turned up the fact that the Wildcats have a 6-1 record in Saturday night affairs. That lone defeat was by one point to Baker of Columbus. In games on weekday nights the VHS quintet had a 2-8 mark before meeting Berrien County at Alapaha.

In answer to a request by Kittrell I'll explain the Wildcats' record against Region 1-AAA opponents. In all games against league foes they have a 3-6 mark. But one tilt with Warner Robins does not really count in the standings that will be used to determine the seeding for the regional tournament.

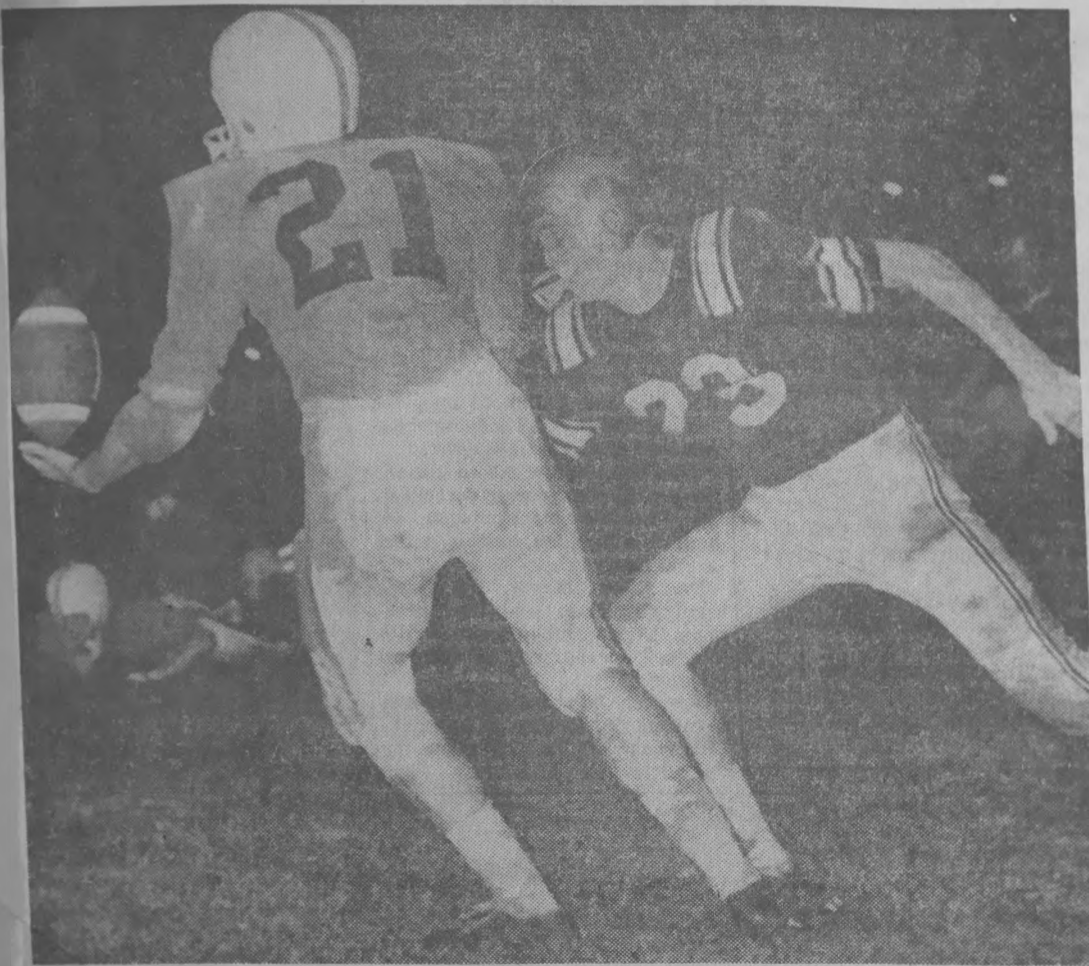
So the VHS quintet's official regional record is 3-5. This gives you an idea of how complicated basketball record keeping can get.

For the football fans who are interested coach Wright Bazemore has set March 6 as the tentative date for his Wildcats to start spring grid practice.



ALBANY'S BILL SUTTON FINDS ROUGH ROAD AHEAD THROUGH VALDOSTA FRONT LINEMEN  
Indian Halfback Seems to Be Getting Hit From All Sides as Wildcats Move In for Tackle

Staff Photo—Darrell Thompson



ALBANY'S JERRY DOYAL APPEARS TO HAVE BALL BALANCED ON HANI  
Stan Reaves of Valdosta Is Successful in Breaking Up Play

Staff Photo—Darrell Thompson

## 'CATS FINISH ALBANY, 7-0

Valdosta's Bennett Scores TD;  
'Had to Win,' Says Bazemore

By GENE ASHER

Atlanta Journal Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga., Oct. 8—Valdosta High's Wildcat forged a new link in their golden chain of football victories Friday night.

The Wildcats, who in the '50s dominated the state's A and AA classifications, began to take over in Class AAA as they all but dethroned state champion Albany, 7-0, before 7,500 fans.

The victory left them the only undefeated team in Region 1-AAA with a perfect 5-0-0 record.

Striking with lightning-like speed on a wet and slippery turf, they scored in two minutes and 45

THE YARDSTICK		
VALDOSTA		ALBANY
9	First Downs	6
143	Yards Rushing	69
0	Yards Passing	49
5	Yards Penalized	15

seconds, then out-tackled and out-blocked the champs the rest of the way.

"This was the game we had to win," Valdosta Coach Wright Bazemore said afterward. "This could be the key to the season but we will need a lot of luck."

Against Albany, it was a case of speed, not luck. From the moment Kenny Ruffer set up the first touchdown with a 34-yard punt return until the final whistle the Wildcats led the chase.

Their line got the jump on the Albany forewall incessantly and their backs were seldom stopped short of the Albany secondary.

Valdosta out-rushed the visitors, 143-69, and out-first downed them, 9 to 6.

It required only six plays for the touchdown the first time Valdosta got its hands on the ball. Ruffer, a sophomore, took a Richard Howard punt on his 32, cut to the outside, faked two tacklers out of the way and raced to the Albany 36-yard line.

Quarterback Bruce Bennett moved it to the one on a 23-yard run and then kept himself for the score. Giles Smith place-kicked the extra point.

Albany made its lone serious threat early in the second quarter on a 40-yard drive to the Valdosta eight. But the Wildcat forewall bolstered by Capt. Allen Hilt, Bill

# Valdosta's Young, Light Team Promises

By BOB PRICE  
Times-Union Sports Writer

Twenty-one years ago Wright Bazemore assumed the reins of Valdosta's Wildcats. Little did he dream that in 1960 he'd be fielding the lightest and youngest eleven of his highly successful career.

One will have to do a lot of thumbing to find a club to match Valdosta in youth. The Wildcats have eight sophomores on the starting offensive eleven and three on defense. And to top

that, a pair of 14-year-old freshmen—quarterback Rick Thomas and tackle Jimmy Robinson—are seeing a lot of action. Another frosh, Clyde Blanton, is a regular on the defensive unit.



**Bazemore** A lot of the experts are up in arms over the 1960 Wildcats, but Bazemore is very cautious. "We're just too young and too light," is his answer when one questions the possibility of Valdosta going all the way this season.

However, Bazemore isn't a bit bashful at admitting his eleven will be a team to watch in 1961 and 1962. "I played most of these youngsters last year as freshmen and they gained a lot of experience getting racked. Now this year they're getting more game savvy and are winning a few."

Seniors are a rarity on the Valdosta offensive team and one of the few last year men on the defensive unit is Billy Blocker, who has been next to sensational at end.

The young club has scored 18 touchdowns this fall and has added 12 conversions and a field goal. Bruce Bennett, a sweep specialist who picked up 281 yards in his first 26 carries this fall, and Kenny Rufer romped to 183 in 24 attempts, mostly on off-tackle smashes.

Bazemore may not have realized his '60 club would be young and light, but his future has never been brighter in 21 years of tutoring.

## 'Dosta Bees Open Season Here Tonight

The Valdosta High "B" football team will open its 1960 season here tonight against Moultrie.

The game is slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

Coach Bill Bennett's Baby Wildcats are hoping to improve on their 1-4 showing of 1959. They have a six-game slate.

Other games scheduled are as follows:

Oct. 6, Waycross, there; Oct. 27, Moultrie, there; Nov. 3, Albany, here; Nov. 10, Waycross, here.

A date for a game with Albany at Albany will be set later.

Probable starters for the Baby Wildcats for tonight are as follows:

Ends Dick Bender (150) and Bruce Buie (135), tackles Jimmy DeCeasare (165) and Larry Green (155), guards Bo Hall (145) and Don Reames (135), center Newton Edmonds (135), quarterback Charles Guess (120), halfbacks Joe Johnson (125) and Butch Fussell (130) and fullback Bill Bernard (125).

Also slated for heavy duty are quarterback Tommy Akins (140), fullback Ralph Hires (130) and halfback Brinson Taylor (130).

## Lead Is Held By Valdosta

ATLANTA, Oct. 25 (AP) — The five leaders remained unchanged and there was little shuffling in the ranks of the top ten of Georgia high school football this week.

Three new teams gained ratings as a result of last week's showings. They are West Rome in Class AA, Ware County in A and Rabun County in B.

The selections are made by a state-wide rating board of 10 sports editors and writers.

This week's lineup:  
AAA—Valdosta, Richmond Academy, North Fulton, Avondale, Southwest, Northside, La Grange, Albany, Savannah, Benedictine.

AA—Waycross, Bainbridge, Rossville, Newnan, Wayne County, Chamblee, Cairo, Westminster, Gainesville, West Rome.

A—Carrollton, North Habersham, Summerville, Dublin, Stephens County, Cartersville, Swainsboro, Irwin County, Winder-Barrow, Ware County.

B—Patterson, Turner County, Morgan County, Rockdale County, Jefferson, North Cobb, Washington-Wilkes, Thompson, Blakely-Union, Rabun County.

C—Lincolnton, Coosa, Dade County, Georgia Military College, Sparta, Monticello, Chattahoochee Valley, Putnam County, Bremen, School for Deaf.

## Valdosta, LOHI Land In Top Ten

ATLANTA (AP) — The leaders held firm to their positions in the Top Ten of all five classes of Georgia high school football this week in the second rating of the season.

Morgan County tightened its grip on first place in Class B by gaining all 10 first place votes among members of the State Rating Board. Never before has a team made this unanimous showing before midseason.

Benedictine continued to ride the crest in Class AAA; Bainbridge in AA; Dublin, A; and Lincolnton, C.

Moving in with the elite of Class AAA were Valdosta and Atlanta's Southwest DeKalb; Gainesville, Dalton and Cairo gained the Top Ten of Class AA; Summerville and Lowndes County, Class A; Patterson, B; and

The ratings are sponsored by the Atlanta Journal.

The Top Ten by classes:  
AAA — Benedictine, Richmond Academy, Avondale, LaGrange, North Fulton, Lanier, Savannah, Valdosta, Southwest DeKalb, Southwest.

AA—Bainbridge, Wayne County, Newnan, Rossville, Waycross, Gainesville, Chamblee, Dalton, Cairo, Thomasville.

A — Dublin, Stephens County, Carrollton, Cartersville, Irwin County, Monroe, Lakeview, North Habersham, Summerville, Lowndes County.

B — Morgan County, Rockdale County, Terrell County, Patterson, Blakely-Union, Hawkinsville, Perry, Turner County, Fort Valley, Stone Mountain.

C—Lincolnton, Monticello, Sparta, Coosa, Putnam County, Dade County, Bremen, Chattahoochee Valley, Tallapoosa, West Side.

# Kittens At Tifton; LOHI Plays Hahira

High school basketball teams in the area will move along at a brisk pace this week with heavy action on tap tonight, Friday and Saturday.

Valdosta's Wildcats will be idle tonight, but the VHS Kittens will be playing Tifton at Tifton.

In other games, Lowndes County will be at Hahira, Clinch County (Homerville) at Lanier County (Lakeland), Georgia Christian Institute at Jasper, Fla., and Berrien County (Nashville) at Thomasville.

On Friday the Kittens will take a "rest" while the Wildcats go against LaGrange here.

The Friday agenda also calls for Lowndes County to play at Brooks County (Quitman), Hahnicholls at Lanier County, Lake Butler Fla., at Jasper, Fla., and Echols County at Georgia Christian Institute.

On Saturday the Kittens will tangle with Echols County and the 'Cats will go against Jordan (Columbus) in a twin-bill here.

The slate that night also calls for Bacon County (Alma) to play at LOHI, Brooks County will meet Berrien County at Alapaha and Cook County will be at Tifton.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens will carry an 11-1 record into their game tonight at Tifton. The VHS girls have a six-game winning streak going.

Cross-county rivals, Lowndes and Hahira will be meeting for the second time tonight at Ha-

Hahira sextet, 48-46, in their first meeting.

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles have a 10-5 record. They have won four in a row and captured six of their last seven starts. Coach Jack Jarrard's Tigers have a 7-6 chart. The LOHI girls are 3-11 and the Hahira lassies are 6-6.

Two of the area's outstanding boys teams will be meeting when coach Billy Pafford's Lanier County Bulldogs tangle with coach Charlie Bennett's Clinch County Panthers tonight at Lakeland.

The Bulldogs have a 13-2 record while the Panthers have a 12-1 mark.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats will be meeting a pair of Region 1-AAA foes when they

swing into against LaGrange.

The 'Cats all games against al foe William last outings the Rams victory in

The Valdosta meeting began for the

# 'Cats Bow, 51-38 Face Lions Tonight

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

COLUMBUS — Columbus' Blue Devils rode a second half uprising to a 51-38 Region 1-AAA basketball victory over Valdosta's Wildcats here last night.

For two periods coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats fought it out on even terms with the Imps

The score was tied 20-20 at the half.

But in the third stanza, Columbus outscored 'Dosta 17-6 to take command.

The victory boosted Columbus' record to 5-3. The defeat left the 'Cats with a 5-4 mark. It was their second setback at the hand

of a loop foe.

The Valdosta quintet will swing back into action here tonight, meeting Baker's talented Lions in another regional encounter.

Against Columbus last night, Tommy Johnson swished the nets for 17 points to pace the VHS attack. Bill Wisenbaker was next with 15.

Chuck Harris scored 14 points to lead the Imps' balanced attack. Ten of his markers came in the last two stanzas to spark Columbus' second half uprising.

Valdosta scored 12 field goals and made 14 of 24 throws. The Wildcats were charged with 17 fouls. Columbus sank 19 field goals and hit 13 of 24 foul shot tries. The Imps were charged with 22 fouls.

Individual scoring follows:  
Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 10 20 26 38  
Columbus \_\_\_\_\_ 8 20 37 51  
VALDOSTA (38) — Johnson 17, Wisenbaker 15, Steele 4, Wells 1, Reaves 1, Thomas, Watson, Register, Harrell, Schroer, Gayle.  
COLUMBUS (51) — Harris 14, Smith 8, Mitchell 8, Crawford 5, Wilson 5, Sonich 7, Hunes 2, Mc-

# Here and There

90 central and south portions. Low tonight 70 extreme north to near 80 in the keys.

**EXTREME NORTHWEST FLORIDA and EXTREME SOUTHWEST ALABAMA:** Considerable cloudiness with scattered showers today. Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday. No important temperature changes. High today 78 to 85, low tonight 66 to 70.

## Skirts Too Short Lead To Trouble In High School

**YORK, Pa. (AP)—**Short skirts have resulted in the suspension of 96 high school pupils—girls who wore the skirts and boys who joined in a sit-down strike.

Principal William N. Craley told pupils of the Central Union High School Wednesday he felt certain of the skirts—sometimes called kilties—were indecent.

They had hemlines above the knee. Some were several inches above.

The 96 pupils refused to leave the school cafeteria Friday, awaiting a "reasonable explanation."

Richard E. Walters, assistant principal, immediately suspended the strikers.

Craley said none would be reinstated until each student, accompanied by a parent, comes to the school to talk things over.

## U.S. Protests Cuban Plane Buzzing Sub

**WASHINGTON (AP)—**The United States protested today that a Cuban air force fighter plane buzzed a U.S. submarine for 37 miles Friday only 28 miles off the coast of West, Fla.

A note delivered to the Cuban embassy demanded that Fidel Castro's government take immediate steps to prevent the repetition of any such incidents.

State Department press officer William Blair said the U.S. Sub-



## Valdosta Players Take Smiling Wright Bazemore For 'Ride' Stops Tribe At Six

Part of On-the-Field Victory Celebration After the Game

**Continued From Page One**

savage duel that had Bazemore a rightfully claiming a great team effort pulled up through against a really tough opponent.

Albany had its moments. It got within striking distance twice. In the second period the Indians moved from their own 48 to the Valdosta six, but a great goal line stand by the Wildcats halted this most serious threat.

A 24-yard pass from quarterback Jerry Gerst to end Jack

**STATISTICS**

First Downs	Val.	Alb.
Yards Rushing	143	48
Yards Passing	9	49
Penalties	6-1	4-10

VHS in that department. He had plenty of helpers. Blocker, a key man in the Valdosta defensive plan, got credit for seven stops. Luke and Stan Reeves each made six. Bruce Bennett, a sparkling two-way performer, made five tackles, as did Schroeder, who helped the attack move with sharp blocking. Tart, Myrdleton and Ray Bennett each made four stops.

But it wasn't an all defensive show. Hiers battled his way against the tough Albany defense for 44 yards on six tries. Bruce Bennett got 41 on 13 tries. Rutherford, in addition to his key punt



## IN THRILLER Daughtry Stars Edges Past Am

By JACK P... Times Sports Ce

**QUITMAN —** Halfback Roy Daughtry, 195 pounds of sheer speed and power, then broke off-lackie to give the Tigers the point for the all-important Region 1-A (West) victory.

Jerry Reeves, Americus' fine halfback, scored for the Panther in the second period when he raced through the middle for 4 yards. The try from placement

**STATISTICS**

First Downs	Brooks	Amer.
Yards Rushing	2	12
Yards Passing	102	183
Penalties	34	43
	75	43

for the extra point failed, and the two teams left the field at halftime with the Panthers leading.

## Bearcats Gun Down T'Ville

**BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Waycross and Bainbridge reined today as the clubs to battle among South Georgia Double football teams.

Waycross roared to a 55-7 victory over Crisp County in Cordova in a IAA North contest Friday night while Bainbridge settled for a 20-13 loss to Thomasville's hash, 20-13, in 1A South.

The Bainbridge-Thomasville affair was billed as the game of the week in Double A activity and lived up to the billing. In a brutal ground game, Bainbridge had Ed Varner, Fred Barber, Forrest Caldwell and Jackie Nix were just a shade better than the Thomasville ball carriers.

In other AA conference games Appling County tripped Fitzgerald 27-12 in IAA North. Tifton and Berrien County fought to a scoreless tie in IAA South. Jonesboro defeated Henry County 19-0 and Truitt stopped North Clayton 21-0.

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# The Valdosta Daily

VALDOSTA, GA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1960

## NIKE TO STUMP N.Y. WITH NIXON

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—President Eisenhower and Vice President Richard M. Nixon will speak at a political rally—and on nationwide television and radio—in New York Nov. 2, six days before the election.

Eisenhower personally announced his plans to join with Nixon, the Republican presidential nominee, at the rally in New York's Coliseum.

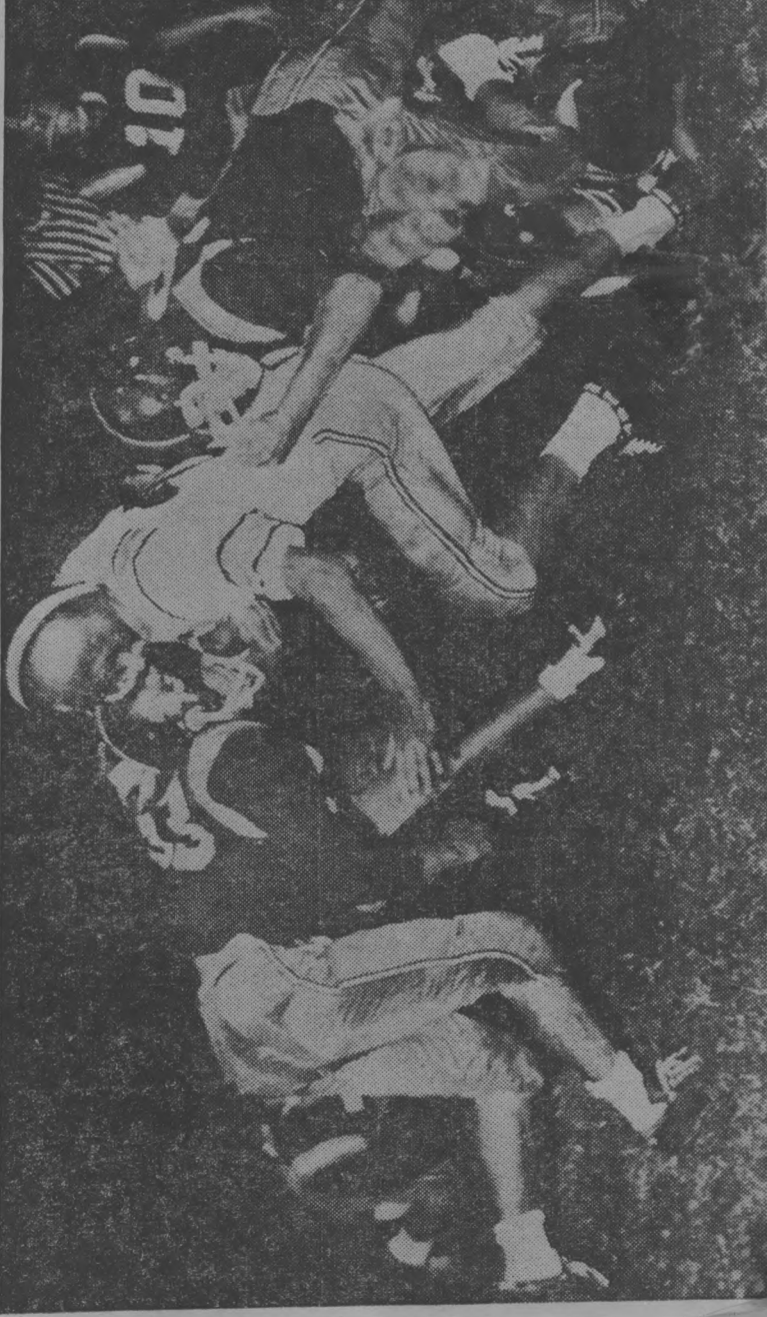
Henry Cabot Lodge, Nixon's running mate,

also will take part. Eisenhower, taking a weekend break from his cross-country speaking tour, called newsmen to him at the Eldorado Country Club golf course just before he started his morning round.

"I am going into the political field Nov. 2," Eisenhower said.

"I am going up to New York to engage in a combined party at the Coliseum with the vice president," the President added.

## GOP Boosts Democrats To



## Baptists Oppose Kennedy For

### Valdosta Assn. Adopts Anti-Catholic Pledge At Meet by Unanimous Vote

By TENNEY GRIFFIN

The Valdosta Baptist Association officially is opposing the election of a Catholic as president of the United States.

As expected, the 36-church group from six Valdosta area counties adopted a resolution Friday opposing any public official who is bound by the demands of his church.

The resolution, identical to the one adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention at Miami in May, does not name Democratic nominee Sen. John F. Kennedy, a Catholic, or refer by name to his church. But there is no doubt of

between now and election day. A whole host of other matters were taken up by the Valdosta Association at its two-day meeting in which about 250 participated.

Reports from various committees were heard and a \$9,000 Association budget was adopted. In addition to the regular budget, all churches of the Association were asked for gifts to help retire the debt on the swimming pool at the Pearl Todd Baptist

## Packers Cracked Cats All Night

Bruce Bennett Finds Going Tough in Third Quarter

## 'DOSTA BLASTS

# Play Opens Tuesday In Hahira Tourney



'Dosta Forward Lucille Dawson  
Practicing For Hahira Tournament

The high school basketball spotlight will be on Hahira when its ninth annual Christmas Invitational tournament begins Tuesday.

A total of 16 teams representing 11 schools will battle it out for championship honors during the four-day event.

Opening night — Tuesday — and Wednesday will be devoted to first round games. The semi-finals are on tap Thursday and the finals are slated for Friday.

Coach Bill Davis' Valdosta Kittens and coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira Tigers are defending champions.

The Kittens won the 1959 girls division title with a 57-56 victory over Doerun in the finals.

Doerun is not in the field this year, but ready to challenge 'Dosta for the girls championship are Berrien County (Nashville), Hahira, Nichols, Coffee County (Douglas), Central (Thomasville) and Cook County (Adel).

Valdosta, with a 5-1 record, and coach Wyatt Grimmer's Cook County sextet from Adel which has a 7-2 mark, rate high on the pre-tourney form chart.

Jarrard's Tigers took the boys division crown last year with a 47-39 triumph over Cook County in the title round.

Hahira and Cook are back for another shot at the boys championship along with Valdosta, Brooks County (Quitman), Nichols, Lowndes County, Echols County (Statenville) and Lanier County (Lakeland).

There is no clear cut favorite with Lanier County (9-1), Brooks County (7-2), Cook County (5-3), Lowndes County (5-4) and Hahira (4-4) all boasting good records.

Games set for opening night are as follows:

Valdosta vs Berrien County (girls), 5:30 p. m.; Hahira vs Echols County (boys), 6:45 p. m.; Central vs Cook County (girls), 8 p. m.; Valdosta vs Brooks County (boys), 9:15 p. m.

The Wednesday slate follows: Coffee County vs Lowndes Coun-

ty (girls), 5:30 p. m.; Lowndes County vs. Nichols (boys) 6:45 p. m.; Hahira vs Nichols (girls), 8 p. m.; Cook County vs Lanier County (boys), 9:15 p. m.

Valdosta and Berrien County, first night foes in the girls division, have met once in regular season play. Davis' Kittens notched a 55-31 in that outing.

After winning their first five, the Kittens dropped a 58-48 decision to Doerun in their final regular season outing before the holiday break.

That means both the Valdosta and Berrien sextets have plenty of reasons for wanting a triumph tomorrow night.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats will be underdogs in their tourney opener against coach Charles Cooper's Brooks County Tigers although this will be their first meeting.

The Wildcats were beaten by Lowndes County, 53-49, a team which in turn lost to Brooks County, 43-41.

Valdosta compiled a 2-3 record in action before the holidays.

## TIGERS RAP WILDCATS; KITTENS COP FIFTH

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

HAHIRA — Valdosta's Kittens ran their unbeaten string to five games, but the Wildcats took it on the chin in a hardwood twin-bill with Hahira's Tigers here last night.

Coach Bill Davis' VHS sextet, trailing by a point at the half, turned on the steam in the last two stanzas to gain a 52-44 triumph.

The battle between coach Jack Jarrard's Tigers and coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats was a low score, but close affair. Hahira finished with a 39-34 edge.

In the girls game Hahira hit for a field goal just before the buzzer sounded ending the first

half. The two-pointer gave the home team a 28-27 edge.

But the Kittens regained the lead in the third period and stayed out front from there on in.

Point leaders for the Kittens were Shelby Blanton, 18; Patty Nichols, 19, and Lucille Dawson, 15. Mary Ann Mayo, Sue Katz, Delores Lashley, Betty McClenny and Barbara Knoll played major roles in the triumph.

Hahira's and the game's leading scorer was Sandra Layton with 21. Next in line was Linda Stalvey with 15. The Hahira girls now have a 3-5 record.

The trio of David Sorrell, Jerome Oglesby and Tommy Bradford set the scoring pace for the

Tigers as they leveled off their record at 4-4 with the win over the 'Cats.

Sorrell scored 11 points, Oglesby 10 and Bradford 8.

Bill Wisenbaker, with 10 points; Alvie Steele, with 7, and Stan Reaves, with 6, were top scorers for Valdosta.

The Tigers, seeking revenge for a previous one-point loss to VHS, took an early lead in the game. Valdosta pulled even in the second period, but Hahira moved out front again.

Hahira started the final period with an eight point bulge. Valdosta managed to cut the lead some, but was trailing by five when the contest ended. The 'Cats now have a 2-3 mark.

Last night's game was the final one before the Christmas holidays for the Valdosta boys and the Hahira boys and girls.

VHS' Kittens are to meet Doerun in Doerun next Tuesday. All four Valdosta and Hahira teams will take part in the ninth annual Christmas Invitational tourney that opens Dec. 27 at Hahira.

### GIRLS

Hahira	16	28	34	44
Valdosta	17	27	40	52

HAHIRA (44) — Stalvey 15, Layton 21, Bradford 8, Coppage, Legette, Clyatt, M. Stalvey.

VALDOSTA (52) — Blanton 18, Nichols 19, Dawson 15, Mayo, Katz, Lashley, McClenny, Knoll.

### BOYS

Hahira	6	17	30	39
Valdosta	3	10	22	34

HAHIRA (39) — Sorrell 11, Oglesby 10, Bradford 8, Cain 5, Reeves 5.

VALDOSTA (34) — Wisenbaker 10, Steele 7, Reaves 6, Register 3, Gayle 2, Norwood 2, Wells 2, Johnson 2.

# Wildcats Trim Poets, 19-7

## Victory Moves Valdosta Into Tie For Loop Lead

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

MACON — Valdosta's Wildcats, pegged for a second division finish on the pre-season form chart, today found themselves deadlocked for first place in the Region 1-AAA title race after a 19-7 victory over the Lanier Poets here on Saturday night.

The triumph was the fourth in a row for coach Wright Bazemore's youthful, but enthusiastic, charges and gives them a 3-0 regional chart just like the one owned by the Albany Indians, the defending state "AAA" champions and 1-AAA favorites.

It was the first setback for coach John (Cotton) Harrison's Poets in four league outings and knocked them out of the lead in

an early 6-0 lead, Bennett got lose for 45 yards. This run sparked a thrust which carried to the Lanier five. Mid-way the third period VHS moved from its own 42 to the Lanier 15, but had to give up the ball on downs.

In the third stanza, a 31-yard pass from Breedlove to Richardson helped the Poets move to the Valdosta 16. But Myddleton recovered a fumble to nip off this threat.

Sharp tackling was in part responsible for the half dozen fumbles that the Poets made.

Play in the line featured some old fashion head knocking, with Valdosta's lighter forward wall crew dealing out hard lick for hard lick.

Ends Billy Blocker, Billy Holtzclaw, Wally Colson and Charlie Harris; tackles Myddleton, Skipper Prewitte, Jimmy Robinson, Billy Schroer and Bobby Gron-dahl; guards Gary Minchew (who was injured early in the game), Cristy Patterson, Ray Bennett, Frank Wetherington, Bill Holt and Jimmy Adams and centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood saw action in the line and all helped the cause.

Beside Bruce Bennett, Smith, Ruffer and Hiers, Walter Zant, Bud Hatcher, Rick Thomas, Cloy Blanton, Jerry Varnedoe, Stan Reaves, and Tommy Tart were backs who did their share in the victory effort.

Blocker had a fine night on defense, leading the Wildcats with six tackles. Myddleton made five stops, plus his alert action when the Poets fumbled. Tart got credit for four tackles, making him high man in that department among the VHS backs.

Bruce Bennett, who gained 64 yards on 11 tries, was the Wildcats' attack leader. Ruffer picked up 23 yards on 11 carries, beside making his long punt return that set up a TD. Hiers bulled his way for 31 yards on six tries. Smith carried six times and netted 23 yards.

While VHS dented Lanier for three TD, most of the night the Wildcats had trouble moving against the defense-minded Poets. And one big reason was tackle Tommy Seward, a 6-3, 195-pound senior. Seward got credit for 10 tackles, and he made his stops at points all over the field.

Breedlove, who stood his ground and threw with accuracy although rushed hard most of the time, connected on 11 of 23 passes to help account for 153 yards. Richardson snagged six of the tosses that went for a total of 109 yards.

Lanier's fleet halfback Mickey Rivers was limited to 33 yards on 11 tries, but on several occasions, particularly in the first half, he came within a whisker of breaking into the clear.

The Poets made their running game click for just 65 yards, but caused the Wildcats more than a little trouble with their aerial assault.

VALDOSTA	STATISTICS	LANIER
7	FIRST DOWNS	13
155	YARDS RUSHING	65
12	YARDS PASSING	153
2-5	PASSES	11-23
2	PASSES INT. BY	0
0	FUMBLES LOST	4
5-42.4	PUNTING	4-28.1
4-40	PENALTIES	3-25

the close and still far from settled scramble for the crown.

To lick the Poets before approximately 6,000 fans, the Wildcats made their attack click for touchdowns against Lanier's rugged defense in each of the first three quarters. These TD strikes were combined with a spirited and alert defensive effort that was put to a severe test in the second half by a furious, and effective, Lanier aerial bombardment. The Poets set up their tally in the final stanza with successful air strikes.

Halfback Kenny Ruffer paved the way for Valdosta's first tally with a 41 yard punt return behind good blocking to the two. Two plays later Ruffer plunged over for the marker. It came with 4:30 to go in the first period.

In the second stanza Valdosta center Allen Holt recovered a fumble at the Lanier 12, and on the next play quarterback Bruce Bennett went all the way on a sweep around left end. A sharp block by Ruffer helped clear the way. The bobble Holt recovered was one of four Lanier fumbles that alert members of VHS' defensive crew claimed.

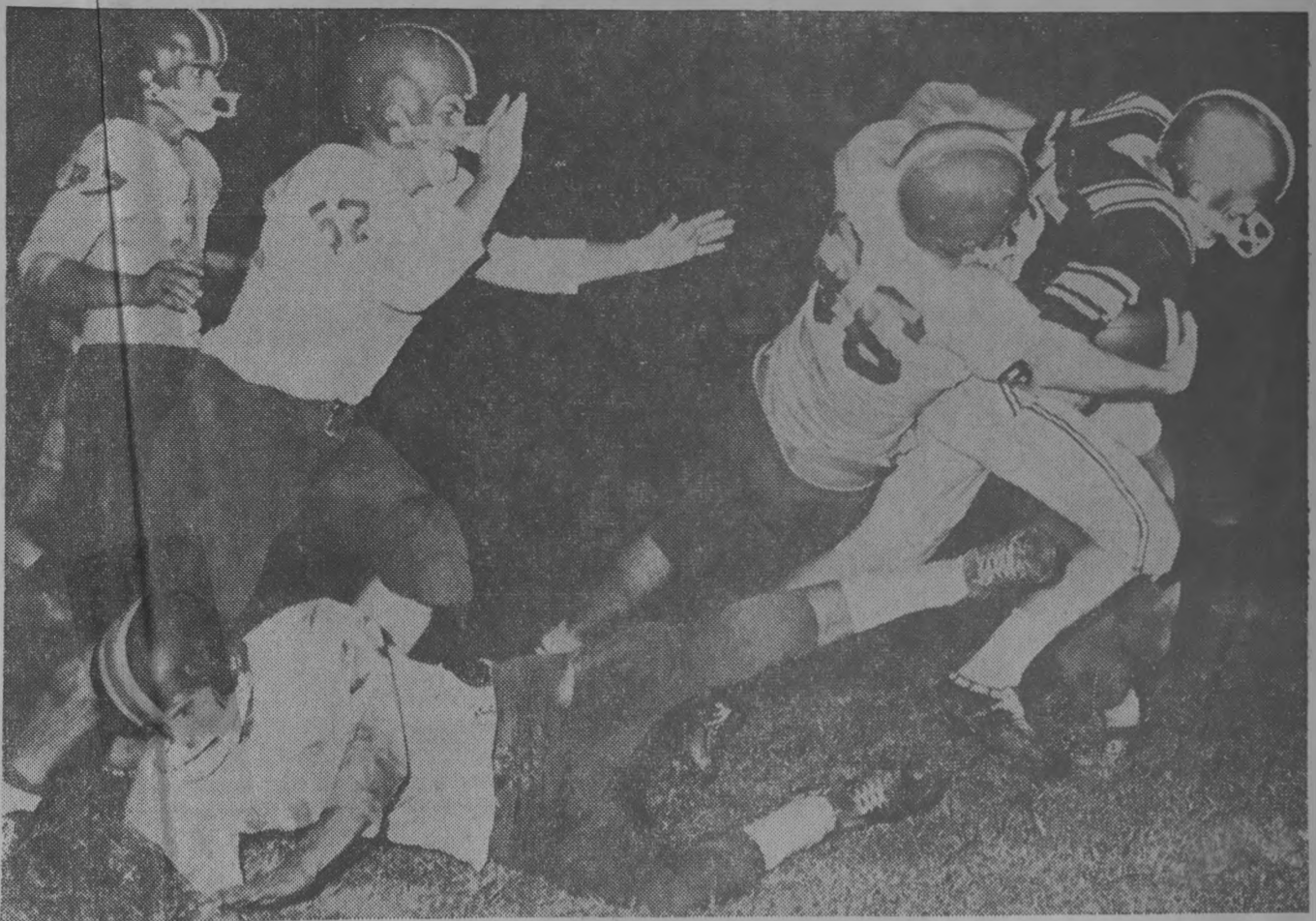
The third period saw tackle Bill Myddleton perform the fumble recovery act at the Lanier 33. Five plays later fullback Burnice Hiers scored on a four-yard jaunt.

A key man in the Wildcats' plan of action was halfback Giles Smith. The little sophomore boomed five punts an average of 42.4 yards per try. With Smith booting them long and VHS covering the kicks well, Lanier had to go on the attack on every occasion deep in its own territory. And the Valdosta defense managed to check the hard-hitting Poets short of paydirt except on one occasion in the final period.

That time Lanier moved 60 yards in nine plays to score. The tally came on a seven-yard run by fullback Bobby Fincher. But it was the accurate right arm of quarterback John Breedlove that got Lanier down in to scoring range. On the march he completed passes good for 7, 12, 6 and 27 yards. His favorite target was end Bunny Richardson.

In the closing minutes of the game Lanier mounted another aerial assault, but Bruce Bennett halted this one with a pass interception at the four.

Beside the three times he scored, the Wildcats got close two other occasions. In the first period, after Valdosta had taken



Valdosta's Bruce Bennett Plows Way Through Poet Defense

Lanier's Jimmy Seward (36) Hangs On Until Help Can Arrive

—Times Staff Photo

# Albany Forming 'Raiding Party'

## Indians Set To Invade Valdosta Friday Night

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

If Valdosta's Wildcats think Lanier was a tough ball club, they haven't seen anything yet, according to their grid boss Wright Bazemore. Valdosta tangles with Albany's Indians here on Friday night in a crucial Region 1-AAA contest, and the VHS mentor says the Tribe deals out football punishment in a king-sized dose.

Albany is the defending 1-AAA and state champion. In spring which covers parts of three seasons, the Indians have accounted for 21 victories in 22 outings.

While the Wildcats licked the Poets, 19-7, for their fourth victory of the year and third straight 1-AAA triumph, Bazemore is of the opinion that his boys don't have much to celebrate

terback Jerry Gerst, a talented passer and runner.

The Indians have a dozen forward wall regulars, with the lightest one tipping the scales at

the "doubtful" list for the encounter with Albany.

It's no wonder Bazemore and the other members of his staff are wearing frowns as they try to get their charges ready to meet the Indians' raiding party.

General admission tickets for Friday night's game here between Valdosta and Albany are now on sale at Barnes Drug Store. A capacity crowd is expected for the tilt. Ticket prices are: adults, \$1.75; students, 50 cents and children, 25 cents.

170 pounds. Seven of them are in the 180 to 195 pound class. All are seniors and juniors.

That will give the Indians a decided weight advantage over Valdosta.

So far the Wildcats have been able to offset their lack of bulk with speed and determination. But Albany also has a reputation for fleetness. Many who have seen both in action, rate Albany not only much bigger but faster than 'Dosta.

With end Bunky Henry already out of action with a broken legs, VHS may be without the services of another talented lineman this week. Guard Gary Minchew suffered a knee injury against Lanier and for the present is on



TRIM HAHIRA

# Valdosta Cagers Win In Hardwood Openers

Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens have their basketball ships sailing a victory course today after opening their 1960-61 seasons here Saturday night with victories over Hahira.

Coach Bill Kittrell's 'Cats edged coach Jack Jarrard's Tigers, 49-43, on a dramatic field goal by Tommy Johnson with only three seconds to go before the final buzzer.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens took an early lead and were never headed as they trimmed the Hahira sextet, 55-31.

The defeat was the second in as many outings for the Tigers. The Hahira girls now have a 1-1 record.

While the games were typical early season affairs in that the play was ragged at times, both were spirited, fast-moving contests.

The boys game was the thriller.

After a see-saw first period, Hahira built up an 11-point lead in the second stanza. The Wildcats rallied in the third period to knot the count at 27-27. The Tigers forged ahead again. With six minutes to go Hahira was out front 42-35.

Then the 'Cats surged. With 2:30 to go they pulled even at 46-47 on a pair of foul shots by Johnson. Johnny Gayle hit on a foul shot with a minute to play to put VHS ahead, 47-46.

When the Tigers' sharpshooter Jack Merwin sank a pair of charity tosses under real pressure with only 29 seconds left it put Hahira ahead, 48-47.

The 'Cats brought the ball down to their end of the court. Johnson glanced over his shoulder at the clock, took dead aim from the head of the free throw lane hit for the game-winning field goal with only three seconds of playing time remaining.

Johnson finished with a 13-point total to lead the VHS attack. He got all of his markers in the second half. He had plenty of offensive help from Ike Harrell who scored 12 points; Bill Wisenbaker, 8 and Leo Wells, 7. Harrell, Wisenbaker, who fouled out in the third stanza, and Wells were the Wildcats' top rebounders.

Hahira's Merwin was the game's leading scorer with 24 points. Other attack leaders were David Sorrell, 12; Tommy Bradford, 8 and Johnny Cain, 5. Bradford and Sorrell were the big men in the "battle of the boards" for the Tigers.

A total of 50 fouls were called in the game. VHS was charged with 30, Hahira with 20. The Wildcats scored 15 field goals and hit on 19 of 27 foul shots. Hahira accounted for 13 field goals and made 22 of 38 foul shots. Four VHS and one Hahira player fouled out.

Lucille Dawson, who hit for four field goals and sank 13 of 15 foul shots, was the Kittens' offense leader with 21 points. Close behind was Shelby Blanton, with 18, and Mary Ann Mayo, with 15. Guards Sue Katz, Barbara Knoll, Delores Lashley and Patty Nichols were the defensive standouts. Nichols' rebound work was an important factor in the VHS girls' triumph.

Linda Salvey scored 14 markers and Sandra Layton swished the nets for 12 to pace the Hahira sextet in the scoring department. Ruby Coppage, Joann LeGette and Elaine McNeese were the defense leaders.

The Kittens had a three point lead at the end of the first period. They had an 11-point bulge at the half. Hahira cut the advantage to eight points in the third period, but Valdosta pulled away after that and went on to victory.

**GIRLS**

Valdosta	9	25	36	55
Hahira	6	14	26	31

VALDOSTA (55) — Blanton 18, McClenny 1, Dawson 21, Rodgers, Mayo 15, Katz, Knoll, Lashley, Bazemore, Nichols.

HAHIRA (31) — L. Stalvey 14, Bradford 5, Layton 12, Yanconish, A. LeGette, Coombs, Coppage, J. LeGette, McNeese, M. Stalvey.

**BOYS**

Valdosta	9	19	31	49
Hahira	9	26	36	48

VALDOSTA (49) — Steele 2, Watson 2, Johnson 13, Harrell 12, Wisenbaker 9, Wells 7, Register 4, Gayle 1, Crowe.

HAHIRA (48) — Sorrell 12, Bradford 8, Cain 5, ...

# Valdosta Cagers Win 2 Games With Berrien

Valdosta High's Kittens extended their unbeaten string to three games and the Wildcats got back in the victory column with a pair of triumphs over Berrien County here Saturday night.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens withstood a closing rally by Berrien for a 49-46 victory. Coach Bill Kittrell used "two-platoon" tactics as the 'Cats gunned down the Rebels from Nashville, 54-39. The Wildcats now have a 2-1 record.

The Kittens used a balanced attack with Shelby Blanton scoring 18 points, Lucille Dawson, 11; Mary Ann Mayo 8, Patty Nichols 7 and Betty McClenny 5 to offset a sparkong 24-point effort by Berrien's Gloria Pounds.

Nichols, who played guard and forward and Sue Katz, Barbara Knoll and Delores Lashley were defensive standouts for 'Dosta.

In the boys game the Wildcats used 13 players with Kittrell sending them in in relays.

The Wildcats got off to an 8-0 lead and were never headed. The Rebels moved up within six points in the second and third period, but could come no closer.

Attack leaders for the 'Cats were Bill Wisenbaker, 14; Alvie

Steele, 11; Roy Register and Leo Wells, 8 each.

Dan Hand swished the nets for 18 points to become offense leader for the Rebels.

Wells was VHS' leading rebounder with 11, followed by Wisenbaker 8 and Harrell 6. Reaves and Smith drew praise from Kittrell for their defensive work.

In a boys' "B" team game, Valdosta was a 46-44 winner. Mark Holloway, with 16 points, and Clyo Blanton with 14, were attack leaders for the winners. Roger Milam scored eight and showed well on defense. Mike Cornelius, with 14 markers, was point leader for Berrien.

**GIRLS**

Valdosta	13	29	40	49
Berrien Co.	12	24	33	46

VALDOSTA (49) — Blanton 18, Dawson 11, Mayo 8, Nichols 7, McClenny, Katz, Knoll, Lashley.

BERRIEN COUNTY (46) — Pounds 24, Johnson 13, Carter 7, Sanderson 2, Vickers, Gaskins, Jacobs, Griffin, S. Johnson, Quinn.

**BOYS**

Valdosta	12	29	22	54
Berrien Co.	6	22	31	39

VALDOSTA (53) — Wisenbaker 14, Steele 11, Register 8, Wells 8, Johnson 4, Gayle 4, Harrell 3, Watson 2, Smith, Reves, Crowe, Norwood, Thomas.

BERRIEN COUNTY (39) — Hand 18, McClellan 9, Bradham 7, Walker 4, Bennett 1.

# Kittens Meet Doerun; Pearson Faces Clinch

With the Christmas holidays already underway only a pair of doubleheaders involving teams in the area are slated for tonight.

Valdosta's Kittens are to meet Doerun's highly regarded sextet at Doerun tonight. VHS' Wildcats, will be idle but the Valdosta Bees will make it a twin-bill by playing Doerun's Deers.

The light holiday slate also calls for Atkinson County (Pearson) to play at Clinch County (Homerville).

There are no games slated for Friday or Saturday.

While there will be no regular season games on tap next week, the ninth annual Christmas Invitational Tourney will be staged at Hahira. It gets underway on Tuesday, Dec. 27, and will last for four days.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens will be going after their sixth straight victory at Doerun tonight.

While building a five-game win streak they have take a pair from Hahira and captured single games with Warner Robins, Berrien County and Lowndes County.

The Kittens face a stiff test at Doerun, a school with a reputation for turning out strong girls basketball teams.

Valdosta's Bees have a three-game victory streak going, but this will be their first outing against a varsity quintet.

Clinch County's Panthers have an 8-1 record and the girls team at the Homerville school has a 3-5 mark.

The only loss so far for coach Charlie Bennett's Panthers was to Ware County by a single point.

Since the Clinch quintet won only eight games all last season, it can top that total by licking Atkinson County tonight.

# Robins Tops 'Cats; Kittens Win, 50-48

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta and Warner Robins broke even in a pair of fast-paced Region 1-AAA basketball games here last night.

Coach Bill Davis' VHS Kittens posted a 50-48 victory and got started in the right direction down a trail they hope will lead them to the region championship again. They now have a 2-0 mark for the season and the Robins girls have a 2-2 record.

The Demons from Warner Robins set a blistering pace in the first half of the boys game, which won't figure in the title issue, to get the jump on Bill Kittrell's Wildcats. The 'Cats battled back hard in the second half, but still came out on the short end of a 59-49 score. The loss leveled the 'Cats record off at 1-1. It was the third straight triumph for the Demons.

The Valdosta Cagers swing back into action tonight meeting Berrien County in a doubleheader slated to begin at 7 p. m. here at the VHS gym.

Since the girls championship in the loop will be determined on a won-loss basis against regional foes, last night's win was an important one for the Kittens. They had to work hard to get it.

During the early going the lead changed hands eight times. Valdosta went ahead in the second stanza and at one stage of the third period had a seven-point

lead.

But Robins got a rally started and came within one point of pulling even with only five seconds to go. The Kittens, with standout play in the clutch, withstood the uprising to triumph.

Shelby Blanton, with 24 points; Lucille Dawson, with 14, and Mary Ann Mayo, with 12, gave the Kittens a balanced attack. Guards Sue Katz, Barbara Knoll, Delores Lashley and Patty Nichols did the big job on defense. Eight of Dawson's 14 points came in the final period. The Kittens got just nine markers in the stanza.

Nichols picked off an all-important rebound in the final seconds of play to make sure Robins didn't get a chance to try for a field goal that would have put them ahead.

With four players in the 6-2 to 6-4 range, the Demons owned a decided height advantage over the Wildcats. Coach Don LaBlanc's charges dominated both backboards, forced the 'Cats to fire at long range most of the time and usually limited them to just one try at a time at the baskets.

Warner Robins moved off to a 15-8 lead in the first period and the Demons were ahead 33-21 at the half. Showing hustle and scrap, the Wildcats outscored Robins 28-26 in the second half, but that wasn't enough to make up all the ground lost earlier.

Bobby Cribb, Bob Davis and Buster McConnell, three of the Demons' big men, were the attack leaders for the visitors. McConnell got 17 points, Cribb 16 and Davis 12.

Bill Wisenbaker, with 12 points, and Leo Wells and Alvie Steele, with nine each, were top scorers for VHS. In the rebound department, Wisenbaker led with 11, followed by Wells, nine, and Ike Harrell, seven.

Valdosta scored 18 field goals and made good on 13 of 20 foul shots. Robins hit for 23 field goals and sank 13 of 22 shots from the foul line. The Demons were charged with 14 fouls and the Wildcats with 15.

In the girls game the Kittens made 20 field goals and hit on 10 of 21 foul shots. The Robins sextet scored 19 field goals and was successful on 10 of 20 free throws.

### GIRLS

Valdosta 14 29 41 56  
Warner Robins 11 24 37 48

VALDOSTA (50) — Blanton 24, Dawson 14, Mayo 12, Katz, Knoll, Lashley, Nichols.

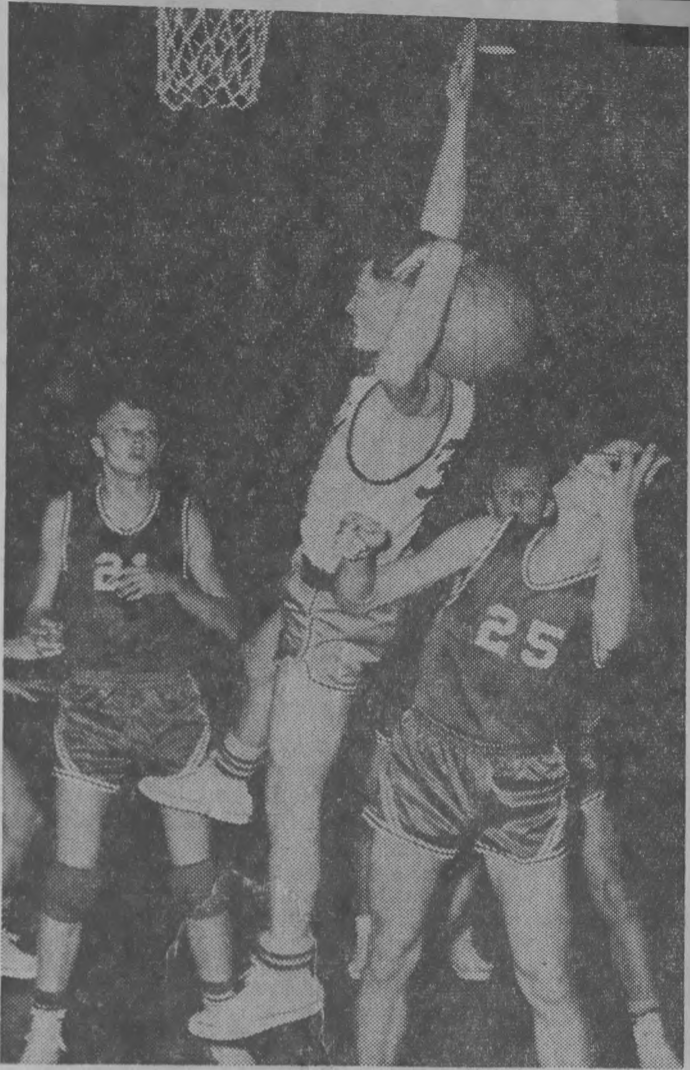
WARNER ROBINS (48) — Watson 24, Dixon, Kirksey 10, Thompson 14, Houck, King, Ferguson, Kirk.

### BOYS

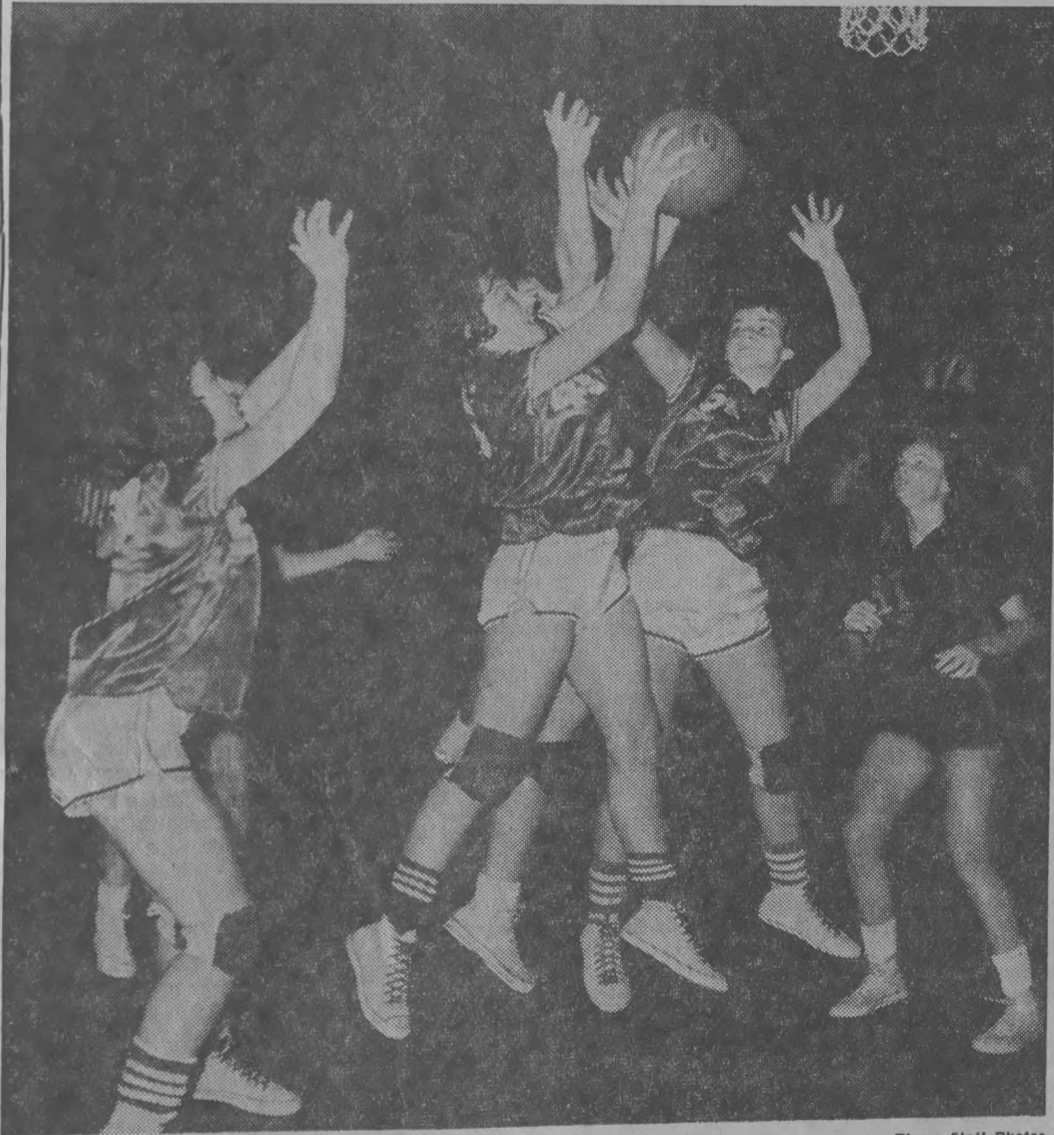
Valdosta 8 21 35 48  
Warner Robins 15 33 45 59

VALDOSTA (49) — Wells 9, Register 4, Wisenbaker 12, Harrell 3, Johnson 7, Watson, Steele 9, Gayle 3, Smith 2, Reaves, Schroer.

WARNER ROBINS (59) — Cribb 16, Prince, Davis 12, Adams, Muha 6, Talton, McConnell 17, Collins 1, Lightsey, Bass 5, Yates 2.



**Puts Shoulder Into His Work**  
Valdosta's Leo Wells Got This Rebound



—Times Staff Photos

**Arms Get Tangled In Try For Basketball**

Warner Robins Guard Rhea Houck (45) Makes Catch

SAMMY

# GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

## Final Tally Shows Title Game Crowd Near 10,000

As a crowd guesser at athletic contests I'm the world's worst. That point was proved definitely when I estimated the attendance at last Friday's Valdosta-Avondale game at 8,500.

Official figures are now out. Paid attendance at the game was 9,256. Gross receipts were \$11,257.75.

Including band members, players, folks needed to sell tickets, to usher and to operate concession stands, scouts, sports scribe and sportcaster and all others like that, actually attendance at the game was probably close to 10,000.

I won't say it is the largest football crowd in Valdosta's history, but veteran fans allow they can't remember a bigger turnout.

It is estimated that after expenses and the cut that will go to the Georgia High School Association, VHS' share of the money is expected to be around \$3,500. Avondale will get a similar share, plus a travel allowance as the visiting team.

But if you think the crowd here that night was big, they say better than 20,000 turned out at Georgia Tech's Grant Field in Atlanta to see Avondale and North Fulton battle for the North Georgia "AAA" crown.

If Cleveland Field were bigger, I'm sure the game here would have still drawn an overflow audience. Many fans elected to pass up the game because they knew there would be more spectators than seats. Under usual circumstances the local stadium is quite adequate to handle the football crowds here.

### Band, Cheerleaders Deserve Praise

While I was passing out congratulations to the folks who helped the Wildcats' state championship cause, I overlooked two very hard working groups. They are the VHS band and cheerleaders. None in these two groups threw a block or made a tackle, but they did more than their part to help urge the 'Cats on to victory. And besides, football just wouldn't be football without a band and cheerleaders. And certainly VHS' band and cheerleaders are among the best in Georgia.

Those who took part in the state's two, five-day deer hunts had about a one in 12 chance of making a kill. A total of 11,516 persons took part in the hunts and they bagged a total of 958 deer. One cheery note in the reports says luckily none of the hunters was killed or wounded.

Center Rooks Boynton of Adel was one of 44 freshman grid-ers who were awarded numeral sweaters by the University of Georgia. Other South Georgians on the list included Billy Rowan of Bainbridge, Tommy Ross of Albany, Don Porterfield of Moultrie, Jimmy Burrows of Waycross, Len Hauss of Jesup, Ed Ogletree of Albany and Dinkie Blount of Waycross.

Back when Yogi Berra made his ninth hit in World Series play against Clem Lebine, the Pirate relief pitcher yelled over to Berra at first base: "Next time, I'll throw the resin bag up there." Over the years, Berra has nine series hits in 14 efforts against Lebine, a former Dodgers relief ace. They have met four times in series play.



GLASSMAN

# Wildcats, Eagles Meet League Foes

Heavy action is scheduled on the high school basketball front in the area this weekend with a generous slice of the hardwood excitement to be served up here in Valdosta.

Valdosta and Lowndes County cagers are set for home court play on both Friday and Saturday nights.

Tomorrow night Valdosta's Kittens will meet Doerun's Deers while the Wildcats go against Lanier's Poets from Macon in a twin-bill at the VHS gym.

At the same time the Lowndes County cagers will be facing the Irwin County quintet and sextet from Ocilla in a doubleheader at the LOHI gym.

In other games tomorrow night, Norman Park will be at Hahira, Berrien County (Nashville) at Cook County (Adel), Clinch County (Homerville) at Georgia Christian Institute and Jasper, Fla., at Jennings, Fla.

The VHS and Lowndes teams will remain at home for more action on Saturday night.

Valdosta's Kittens will go against the Coffee County (Douglas) Comets while the 'Cats are to tangle with Macon's Willingham Rams. Cook County will furnish the opposition for LOHI.

The Saturday slate also calls for Hahira to play Echols County at Statenville.

Valdosta's Friday games will be "sponsored" by the Citizen and Southern, First National and First State Banks. They are offering fans free tickets to the twin-bill.

A pair of good games is in the offing.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens have a 9-1 record. Their lone defeat came by a 10-point margin at the

hands of the Doerun sextet they will be meeting.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats are 5-5 for the season, but are still looking for their first win against a Region 1-AAA foe. They hope to get it against loop member Lanier. The 'Cats have dropped three regional tilts.

However, coach Tom Porter's Poets will come to town with an impressive 6-3 record and some definite ideas of their own about which team is going to win.

The LOHI cagers will have revenge on their mind when they tangle with Region 1-A (East) opponent Irwin County.

In earlier games at Ocilla, the Indians turned back the Golden

Eagles, 46-41, and the Irwin girls trimmed the Lowndes sextet, 50-31.

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles have an 8-5 record after winning five of their last six starts. They have a 2-3 mark in regional competition. The LOHI lassies are 3-9 for the season and 1-4 in regional play.

Hahira and Norman Park will be getting together for the second time on Friday.

In earlier games at Norman Park, the Trojans clipped coach Jack Jarrard's Tigers, 61-48, while the Hahira girls downed the NP sextet, 50-45.

Both Hahira teams have identical 5-6 records.

# Battered Wildcats Hold Brisk Drill

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats, still nursing a full set of bruises collected in a tough game with Richmond Academy, are going at it full speed in preparations for their meeting with Avondale's Blue Devils.

The Wildcats and Imps tangle here Friday night in a game that will decide the state Class AAA football championship.

Both Valdosta and Avondale are surprise finalists.

The Wildcats upset the form chart to win 10 straight regular season games and claim the 1-AAA crown.

In the South Georgia playoff last Friday they edged the favored Musketeers, 2-0, on "penetrations."

That means VHS will go into the title match with an 11-0 record.

Coach Calvin Ramsey's Blue Devils from Avondale boast a perfect 12-0 mark.

They won 10 in a row during the regular season and claimed the 4-AAA (East) crown. A one-side triumph over South Cobb, the 4-AAA (West) victor, gave the Imps the overall 4-AAA championship.

In last Friday's North Georgia playoff, Avondale licked favored North Fulton, 13-6.

Avondale, a newcomer to the AAA ranks this year, is no stranger in state title circles. The Imps were Georgia co-champs in "AA" in 1958.

Valdosta has ruled as both the "A" and "AA" state football king. However, this is the Wildcats' first try at the "AAA" title. VHS moved up to Class AAA in 1958.

"We had a tough game at Augusta and we've got the bruises to prove it," Bazemore said. "However, we certainly can't afford to take it easy. Avondale is a tough, well-coached team and they have 12 straight

victories to prove that."

Before the close call at Augusta, the Wildcats had to rally for a pair of touchdowns in the final eight minutes of play to defeat LaGrange, 14-13.

Beside the wins over LaGrange and Richmond, Valdosta has beaten Baker, Thomasville, Jordan, Lanier, Albany, Columbus, Moultrie, Willingham and Warner Robins.

In addition to the pair of playoff victories, the Blue Devils measured Sylvan, Briarcliff, Gordon, Athens, R. E. Lee, Decatur, Cross Keys, Southwest DeKalb, Marist and Druid Hills in regular season play.

# Wildcats, Imps Meet Friday



**Youthful Valdosta Tackle Bill Schroer**

One Of Wildcats' Talented Sophomore Linemen

## VHS Puts League Lead, Lofty Rating On Line

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Wildcats will go against Columbus' upset-minded Blue Devils in a Region 1-AAA encounter here Friday night.

Action is scheduled to begin at Cleveland Field at 8 p.m.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats have clawed their way to the top of the standings with a string of five straight victories.

Columbus, with a 1-4 record in all games and a 1-3 league chart isn't a title contender, but the Imps would like to erase the memories of their poor start with a triumph over the high-riding VHS eleven.

However, there are some psychological facts that should help prevent the Wildcats from being caught napping.

They promised before the season began to make an all out effort to improve on their 1959 mark of 5-5. One more triumph will get them over the hump.

Columbus beat Valdosta 6-0 last fall, so that gives the Wildcats a revenge angle to mull over in their minds.

Despite the contrast in records, Valdosta coach Wright Bazemore has cautioned his charges to expect real trouble from coach Fred McManus' Imps.

McManus described his team's effort against Moultrie "as the first time this season we have played up to our potential." It means he also thinks the Imps' won-loss chart is not a true indicator of their ability.

Valdosta will be in a "new" situation tomorrow night. For the first time this year, the Wildcats will be almost a match in size for an opponent. Like the Wildcats, the Imps depend on speed to offset a lack of bulk. It could be that this small, but quicker opponent will be harder for VHS to

handle than some of the big, but relatively slow teams they have gone against.

Regulars for the Blue Devils include quarterback Dennis Mitchell (145, sr.); halfbacks Mike Immell (155, jr.); Jack Royal (155, sr.) and Mike Rozecki (175, sr.); fullback Gabriel Hoard (165, sr.), ends Harry Wilson (170, sr.), Ray Crawford (185, sr.) and Don Tillery (160, sr.) tackles Carter Moss (180, sr.), Mike Stumphofer (190, jr.), Melvin Tennyson (185, sr.) and Butch Wolfe (180, sr.), guards Mike Jackson (165, jr.) and Ralph Leary (175, sr.) and center Doug Jackson (145, sr.).

Immell is the backfield leader. Last week against the Packers he gained 93 yards on 13 carries. In Wilson and Crawford the Imps have a pair of standout ends. This duo rates even better than the flank corps Lanier's Poets used to slow down 'Dosta's running sweeps.

As they have all season, the Wildcats will employ a large number of their "troops."

Likely to see front-line action are ends Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw and Wally Colson; tackles Bobby Gron-dahl, Jerry Reaves, Bill Schroer, Bill Myddleton, Skipper Prewitte and Jimmy Robinson; guards Jimmy Adams, Ray Bennett and Frank Wetherington, centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood and backs Tommy Tart, Butch Luke, Rick Thomas, Bruce Bennett, Giles Smith, Stan Reaves, Bud Hatcher, Kenny Ruffer, Burnice Hiers, Cloy Blanton and Walter Zant.

### PASS RICHMOND

## Wildcats Take Lead On AAA Rating Chart

ATLANTA (AP)—Valdosta of Triple-A and Waycross, Double-A, have now climbed to the pedestals of their respective classes in the Top Ten of Georgia high school football.

The Valdostans did not make the season's first weekly rating but their 7-0 conquest of Albany—their fifth victory in a row—enabled them to oust Richmond Academy this week from top spot in their class.

The statewide rating board of 10 sports editors and writers gave Valdosta 95 points and Richmond 90.

Waycross already was within a

point of Bainbridge in Class AA and topped its rival 95 points to 91 on the strength of last week's 55-7 win over Crisp County.

Dublin retained its leadership in Class A, Morgan County in B and Lincolnton in C.

Six teams made the Top Ten rating for the first time. They are Atlanta's Northside in AAA; Swainsboro and Winder-Barrow in A; Washington-Wilkes and Thomson in B; and Gordon Military in C.

The selections are sponsored by the Atlanta Journal.

This week's standings:

AAA — Valdosta, Richmond Academy, North Fulton, Avondale, Benedictine, Southwest, Albany, LaGrange, Southwest De Series."

AA — Waycross, Bainbridge, Newnan, Rossville, Gainesville, Wayne County, Cairo, Chamblee, Milton, Thomasville.

A — Dublin, Carrollton, Stephens County, Irwin County, North Habersham, Summerville, Cartersville, Commerce, Swainsboro, Swainsboro, Winder-Barrow.

B — Morgan County, Patterson, Turner County, Hawkinsville, Blakely-Union, Tucker, Jefferson, Washington-Wilkes, Thomson, Rockdale County.

C — Lincolnton, Coosa, Dade County, Monticello, Georgia Military College, School for Deaf, Sparta, Chattanooga Valley, Putnam County, Gordon.

## Pritchett Big Gun For Confident Imps

Avondale's confident Blue Devils, with no more football worlds to conquer in North Georgia, invade Valdosta on Friday night to challenge the Wildcats for the state Class AAA grid crown.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats rule as the South Georgia titleholders.

Avondale mentor Calvin Ramsey will bring a battle-tested crew of seniors here to face the Wildcats.

While rolling to 12 straight wins, the Imps made a big impression on the all-star pickers. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution listed nine Avondale players on its Class AAA All-State squad.

Tabbed for first team honors were Edwin Pritchett, a 170-pound do-it-all quarterback and Mike Herron, a 165-pound jack-of-all trades lineman.

On the Honorable Mention list

were end Freddie Guy (180), tackles Larry Puckett (175) and Calvin Lott (175), guard Ronnie Campbell (170), center Stanley Hunt (135) and halfbacks Chuck Belcher (150) and Jimmy Thompson (155).

They are all seniors, as are the Imps' other regulars, end Butch Van Dyke (155), guards Bruce Tallant (160) and Gene Reed (180), fullback Andy Wiley (160) and halfback Tommy Carlisle (155).

Pritchett, sought after by more than a dozen colleges, has been a super-star all the way this year.

In regular season play he gained 686 yards on 102 tries for a 6.7 rushing average. He connected on 29 of 65 passes for 556 yards and a half dozen touchdowns. He scored 11 TD's himself and boot-ed 18 PAT's. His punting average is 37.4. He has returned 18 punts 189 yards and lugged back seven

kickoffs 142 yards. Beside all this he is one of the Imps' most talented defenders.

While leading the Blue Devils to a 13-6 upset win over North Fulton in the North Georgia play-off, the fabled Pritchett romped for 121 yards and scored two touchdowns.

Herron, who plays end, guard and anywhere else coach Ramsey asks him to, was credited with the fantastic total of 112 tackles and 116 assists in 10 regular season tilts. The figures may sound fantastic, but they are accurate.

Pritchett has four other backfield mates who have glittering offensive records. Belcher, Wiley, Thompson and Carlisle all have averaged better than six yards per carry.

Herron is the leader in the line, but the Imps have talent in depth along the forward wall.

Avondale is a newcomer to the Class AAA ranks, but no stranger

59  
58  
71

By GENE ASHER  
The Avondale-Valdosta State Class AAA high school football finals Friday night at Valdosta may produce more tears before the game than after it.

Although both teams are undefeated and untied in 12 games, you never would know it listening to the coaches.

"We are two years away," insists Valdosta's Wright Bazemore. "We've been mighty lucky in all our games."

Comments Avondale's Calvin Ramsey, "Valdosta might blow our line off the field. They can beat you with sheer power. They block sharply and tackle sharply. We've gone a long way on spirit and desire but you need more than that when you play a great team like Valdosta."

In their weaker moments, both coaches allowed that their teams played superior football in last week's state semifinals. Avondale upset Atlanta city champion North Fulton, 13-6, and Valdosta trimmed Richmond Academy of Augusta on penetration, 2-0.

"I thought we played our best game," Ramsey said. "Anything less and we never would have beaten North Fulton."

"When did I think we had it won? When the time ran out. There were a lot of key plays. I guess two of the most important ones were the fourth and one-yard play at our 20 and the time Pritchett (Avondale quarterback Ed Pritchett) hit Truby (North Fulton halfback David Truby) in the last minute."

WITH A FOURTH and one-yard situation at Avondale's own 20, late in the third quarter, Ramsey elected to run for it. Pritchett sneaked for two yards and a first down.

"We needed to control the ball," Ramsey explained. "Sure, if we hadn't made it it would have set North Fulton up for the tying touchdown, but frankly I knew Pritchett would get the yardage. I would have let him go for it if the ball had been at our five-yard line."

In the last minute, North Fulton quarterback Jimmy Sudderth hit Truby with a down-the-middle pass at the Avondale 12-yard line.

Only Pritchett stood between Truby and the goal line. Truby gave Pritchett a fake but Pritchett didn't take it. He unloaded on the Bulldog with a solid tackle.

Other than Pritchett, Ramsey paid tribute to the line play of guards Bruce Tallant and Calvin Lott whose blocking and gang-tackling was a major factor in the outcome.

Bazemore said his team played a "great football game" against Richmond Academy. But Bazemore wanted to talk more about Avondale than Richmond.

"I wasn't surprised at Avondale's victory," he stated. "I knew all along they had a great football team. We've got a man-sized job Friday night."

# Tough Avondale Visits Valdosta's 'Graveyard'

## Wildcats Picked In Title Clash

By CHARLIE ROBERTS  
Constitution Sports Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga.—Knowing not whether they'll find a championship pot-of-gold or a "Dead End" sign, the Avondale Blue Devils will reach the end of the football rainbow here Friday night.

Success has followed success along a 12-game chain for Calvin Ramsey's impish Imps this unpredictable season. And still another must follow them into Valdosta's graveyard of championship dreams if they are to claim Georgia's 1960 Class AAA crown.

So many have challenged the Wildcats in their own habitat in the last 20 years, and so few have skinned the 'Cats that the odds are heavy against the brash Avondalers accomplishing their mission.

But come 8 p.m., they'll be here trying to do the near impossible, just as they did in 1958 when they invaded Thomsville and came out with a 13-13 stalemate and a tie for the only state grid crown they ever owned.

They'll bring with them a remarkable record of 34 victories in their last 35 battles and a quarterback (Ed Pritchett) who has been acclaimed the state's most glittering AAA back.

But matching records with Valdosta, 11-0 on the season and champion of all South Georgia, is like arguing with a woman. It can't be done with any chance of success.

For the Wildcats in the 21 years of Coach Wright Bazemore's regime have compiled a won-lost-tied chart of 168-34-4, won 7 state diadems and been runners-up twice. Bazemore-titled elevens took it all in Class B in 1940 and 1947, in Class A in 1951-52-53 and

## Roberts' Picks

(Home Team Listed in Black Type)  
WINNER Valdosta  
LOSER Avondale  
Valdosta  
Avondale  
Cattullos (Thomaston) Dublin  
Washington-Wilkes Jenkins County  
Lincolnton (Alpharetta) DeKalb County

LAST WEEK'S PLAYOFFS: Won 5, Lost 2 (2 defeats on the last tie penalty). ALL PLAYOFFS: Won 17, Lost 8, Tied 4. REGULAR SEASON RECORD: Won 48, Lost 114, Tied 34.

in AA 1956 and 1957. Second place seasons were 1950 and 1955.

Bazemore's marvelous coaching job put this light, swift sophomore-studded squad in the winner's circle two years early. And Ramsey's clever offense, featuring split-second play timing and triple-threat Pritchett's excellence, have made Avondale a year-long winner.

A duel between Pritchett, 170-pound senior, and Valdosta QB Bruce Bennett, 160-pound junior, is an almost certainty. Each gained 600 yards plus on rallies. Pritchett scored 112 points, Bennett 72.

Avondale is even more concerned, perhaps, over fleet Kenny Ruffier, a soph who ran for 419 yards and smashed all Region 1-AAA punt return records by gauling 28 boots 536 yards.

And Bazemore has warned the Wildcats that Chuck Belcher, Jimmy Thompson, Andy Wiley and Tommy Carlisle can carry the mail, too. That quartet has rolled up 1,537 yards and 16 touchdowns.

Allen Holt, 180-pound senior

CIRCULATION

13,461

For Friday, Oct. 14

Member Audit Bureau of Circulations

VOL. 55—No. 313.

# The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA, GA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1960

yards during the move goalward.  
got lose for gains of 13 and six



—Times Staff Photo

**Giles Smith Sets Sail For First Score of Night**  
Bone Rattling Block By Hires Springs Halfback Loose

## Wildcats Trounce Blue Devils, 34-0

### Smith Leads 'Dosta Attack, Scores, Sets Up Another

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta kept its victory express rolling along as the Wildcats trounced the Columbus Blue Devils, 34-0.

#### WHAT'S WHAT?

*Valdosta police are attempting to give away 10 hubcaps.*

*Of course, they want the right persons to get them. Police recovered the stolen hubcaps this*

## Valdosta 2 Hurt In

### Two Cars Hit Outside City

By TIMES STAFF WRITER

A 33-year-old Valdosta man was killed and two others injured in a two-car collision west of the city limits on Georgia 94 Friday night.

Willard Miller Farmer of 1001 N. Ashley St. died in the wreck at the intersection of Bay Tree Road Extension and River Street Extension, reported the State Patrol.

The injured were B. M. Coody, 54, of 324 River St. and Alvin Turner Bazemore, 51, of Rt. 2, Valdosta. Both were admitted to Pineview General Hospital.

Farmer, traveling west on Georgia 94, made a left turn at the grocery store and a car being driven east on the highway slammed into Farmer's automobile, reported the patrol.

Coody was riding in the car with Farmer, said the patrol.

Coody's condition was listed as good this morning at the hospital. Bazemore was reported in "fairly good" condition.

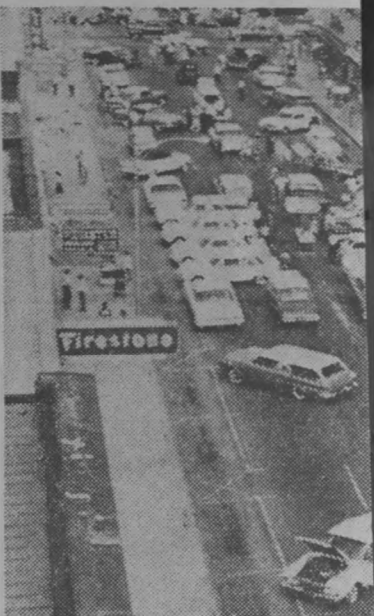
No charges had been filed this morning in connection with the wreck, said the state patrol.

Both automobiles were heavily damaged.

No wrecks were reported Friday and today elsewhere in Lowndes County and the surrounding area.

This is the second straight Friday a person has died on the highway in the Valdosta area.

The wreck on Georgia 94 was investigated by Cpl. W. R. Robertson and Trooper J. P. Coxwell





—Times Staff Photo

**Coach Wright Bazemore Steps To Mike To Express Thanks**  
Valdosta Mentor Honored By Friends, Fellow Coaches, Former Players

# VHS Coach Honored At Church Program

BY MARY DICKEY

"This is Your Life — Wright Bazemore" was presented by the First Methodist Youth Fellowship Sunday night.

The Valdosta High School athletic director's life was reenacted before a crowd of over 400 people.

Patterned after the television show the unsuspecting Bazemore thought the MYF was honoring the coaches and the 1960 Wildcats.

Misses Laura Ann Milbey and Fan Dewar were the narrators.

He was presented with an identification bracelet which carried out the theme "Sterling Qualities" and his Christian influence on the young people in Valdosta.

Flash pictures of Bazemore during his high school career initiated the program.

Weighing only a scant 89 pounds, as a high school freshman he scored 10 touchdowns a game twice and racked up some 250 points in a single season.

This bit of unusual play won him a mention in Ripley's Believe it or Not.

He lettered every year in high school and was a five letter man in college.

Several of the pictures brought back memories for the coach and laughter from his students.

One showed him weighing 250 pounds while in the Navy.

Sports was not the only thing he excelled in. His report card was flashed on the screen — above 90 in every subject.

Bringing the audience up to date on his accomplishments the following was mentioned: His teams have played 223 games, winning 194, losing 26 and tying 3.

During that time he won the Peanut Bowl twice, won the state championships seven times and had winning streaks of 40 consecutive games at one time and 30 games another time.

In basketball, he has produced state championship teams also. He has won 176 games and lost

22. Again in tennis he has won state honors with his players.

The year he coached baseball Valdosta was the district champion.

His most recent honor was that of being elected to the Georgia High School Sports Hall of Fame of 1960.

Other honors have been Region Coach of the year six times, Coach of the Year regardless of classification for two years, South Georgia Coach.

During his coaching career in football, he has produced 46 all-state players, 8 all-southern players, and three third-team all-Americans.

Ben Smith and Sonny Stephenson were among the out-of-town former football stars who returned to pay tribute to the coach.

Messages and telegrams from dozens of other VHS stars were read during the show.

Former players now coaching who took part were Billy Grant, Knuck McCrary of Moultrie, Carlton Adams, Noel George, Earl O'Neil and Booby Hooks.

Buddy Webb, representing the Park Avenue Methodist Church of which Bazemore is a member, spoke on the coach's influence in the church.

Members of his family present were his children Connie, Pam, and Curt; his wife; his sisters

## Pyron Honors VHS Gridders With March

To the strains of "Dixie Fanfare" the Wildcat band lined up company-front fashion on the goal line and began the annual Homecoming festivities at the Valdosta-Columbus clash last night.

Playing "Colonel Bogey," better known as theme to "Bridge on the River Kwai," the band marched slow-style down to the forty-yard line. There the tempo music and marching increased with "Notre Dame Victory March." A pause and a rear march brought the band into facing company fronts.

A crisscross and pick-up routine followed as the band played "Men of Ohio" trio. Next revolving wheels were performed, and then the band moved back into the facing company fronts.

The letters UF for United Fund were formed as the band played "Billboard March." In three company fronts facing the home stands, the band played trio of "Men of Ohio", and "Billboard March" as the majorettes twirled fire.

In honor of the Homecoming court, a crown was outlined and "Homecoming Medley" was played. Then the band introduced "Fighting Cats," a pen tune written by Steve Pyron, director, and dedicated to Coach Bazemore and the 1960 Wildcats.

The traditional "Alma Mater" followed and then the band left the field on a drum cadence.

# Point Race Close

COLUMBUS—Willingham's Joel Dickens went scoreless this past week in the Albany game, but Macon back still retained his lead on the individual scoring chart in Region 1-AAA.

However Valdosta's Bruce Bennett got one of the 'Cats' five touchdowns against Columbus and moved to within four points of Dickens.

In seven games, Dickens now has a total of 58 points, while Bennett has a six-game total of 42 points.

Third-place is a two-way tie between Kenny Ruffer of Valdosta and Mickey Rivers of Lanier, both of whom have 42 points. Ruffer, like Bennett, got one touchdown this past week while Rivers tied twice against Jordan.

Sandy Harvey, who scored two touchdowns in his five games against Warner Robins, moved

into fifth place with a season total of 30 points.

The Valdosta Wildcats continue to lead in both team scoring and defense for the season.

The 'Cats have jumped off to a total of 24 touchdowns in six games and added the extra points 17 times, to go along with a field goal, for a total of 164 points for a 27.33-average.

Defensively Coach Wright Bazemore's club has given up only four touchdowns and three extra points for a 27-point total. This averages out to a 4.50 game average.

Five of the 10 teams in the region have already scored over 100 points. Albany has 135, Lanier 118, Willingham 108 and LaGrange 105.

The league over-all picture picture shows a total of 136 touchdowns and 77 extra points, along

with a field goal and safety, for 892 points in 61 games. This averages out to a 14.72 game mark.

Defensively the 10 region teams have given up 126 touchdowns, 70 extra points, a field goal and safety, for 831 points or a 13.62 average.

**SEASON RECORDS**

TEAMS	W	L	T	Pts.	Opp.
Valdosta	6	0	0	164	27
Lanier	5	1	0	118	45
LaGrange	5	1	0	105	37
Albany	4	2	0	135	57
Willingham	3	3	1	108	83
Jordan	2	3	1	45	91
Moultrie	2	4	0	74	65
Baker	2	4	0	46	91
Columbus	1	5	0	66	120
Warner Robins	0	5	1	37	215

**REGION RECORDS**

TEAMS	W	L	T	Pts.	Opp.
Valdosta	5	0	0	127	21
Lanier	4	1	0	99	39
LaGrange	4	1	0	92	37
Albany	4	1	0	122	26
Jordan	2	3	1	45	91
Willingham	2	3	1	81	83
Moultrie	2	3	0	67	52
Columbus	1	4	0	53	101
Baker	1	4	0	33	91
Warner Robins	0	5	0	31	209

**INDIVIDUAL SCORING LEADERS**

Player, Team	G	Td	PA	Pts
Dickens, Willingham	7	8	10	58
Bennett, Valdosta	6	9	0	54
Ruffer, Valdosta	6	7	0	42
Rivers, Lanier	6	7	0	42
Harvey, Moultrie	6	5	0	30
Smith, Valdosta	6	1	13	22*
McClendon, LaGrange	6	3	2	20
Crawford, Columbus	6	3	1	19
Greer, Baker	6	3	0	18
Immel, Columbus	6	3	0	18
Hunnicut, LaGrange	6	3	0	18
Calhoun, LaGrange	6	3	0	18
Sutton, Albany	5	3	0	18
Doyal, Albany	5	3	0	18
Gerst, Albany	5	3	0	18
Hiers, Valdosta	6	3	0	18
Richardson, Lanier	6	1	10	16
Hart, Jordan	6	2	3	15
Musial, Lanier	6	2	0	12
Burton, Lanier	6	2	0	12
Chase, Lanier	6	2	0	12
Kirk, Baker	6	2	0	12
Wilson, Columbus	6	2	0	12
Fulford, Jordan	6	2	0	12
Brown, Moultrie	6	2	0	12
Wheeler, Willingham	7	2	0	12
Muha, Warner Robins	6	2	0	12
Robbins, Warner Robins	6	2	0	12

\*—FIELD GOAL

## THIS WEEK

# 'Dosta Plays Imps;

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats, who have arrived so far on high-pressure football, can expect another full dose of it this week.

Coach Wright Bazemore's charges, with a five-game victory streak going, took over undisputed possession of Region 1-AAA with a triumph over Albany last week.

But if the VHS gridders have any idea about relaxing this week, they had best forget it. That's the advice their coach is giving them.

The Wildcats will meet the Columbus Blue Devils here Friday night. It will be another regional encounter. And while coach Fred McManus' Imps aren't among the league leaders, Columbus showed it can be hard to handle with a 20-7 victory over the Moultrie Packers last Friday at Moultrie.

Valdosta's clash with Moultrie is just one of many games on tap in the area.

Lowndes County's Golden Eagles, after an open date last Friday, will swing back into action against the Bacon County Red Raiders at Alma on this coming Friday night.

In other games Patterson will be at Hahira, Brooks County (Quitman) at Blakely, Berrien County (Nashville) at Cairo, Jennings, Fla., at Clinch County (Homerville) and Cook County (Adel) at Sylvester.

The Columbus team Valdosta will be facing this week has a 1-4 record in all games and a 1-3 regional chart. But Bazemore has cautioned his charges not to be fooled by the Blue Devils' re-

# Wildcats Cautioned About Blue Devils

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Coach Wright Bazemore has struck a verbal blow to block off any idea his highriding Valdosta Wildcats have about becoming overconfident.

With five straight victories to their credit the 'Cats are leading the Region 1-AAA standings at mid-season. They are also pegged No. 1 Class AAA team in the state on the Associated Press rating chart.

Bazemore is justly proud of both accomplishments, but cautions that just one defeat can strip Valdosta of both honors.

And he goes on to warn that unless the 'Cats are ready, both physically and mentally, the Columbus Blue Devils they meet here on Friday night could knock VHS off its perch.

Compared with 'Dosta's sparkling 5-0 record, the Imps' 1-4 chart appears rather drab.

But the Columbus team's record does not tell the whole story. Coach Fred McManus' charges lost to Willingham, 14-13; to Lanier, 14-7 and to Central, Ala., 19-13. A total of just 14 points meant the difference between three victories and three losses.

And last week the Blue Devils discovered the winning formula to gain a well-earned 20-7 triumph over Moultrie.

In building its victory streak, Valdosta has beaten Baker, 40-14; Thomasville, 37-6; Jordan, 27-0; Lanier, 19-7 and Albany, 7-0.

The Wildcats reached both a playing and emotional peak in last week's important triumph over Albany.

"The boys were really 'up' for Albany," Bazemore said. "I know its asking a lot but they've got to stay 'up.' This Columbus team is much better than its record shows."

"We went against Columbus last season thinking we could

beat the Blue Devils. They knocked us off 6-0. The boys all remember that one."

After yielding a pair of TD's in their season opener, the Wildcats have given up only two more touchdowns since. It goes without saying that the VHS coaching staff has been satisfied with that kind of defensive effort.

With the competition getting tougher each week, the Wildcats' game-to-game point production has gone down.

The major objective now is to hold at the present defensive

level and to try to get the attack a shade smoother. The Wildcats are stressing offense in drills this week.

"Five teams have tried, but none of them have been able to keep Columbus from scoring at least two touchdowns," Bazemore said. "That means we are going to have to be at our best on both offense and defense. If it turns out that we are like the others and can't hold them, then we've got to try to outscore them. It's going to be a tough game anyway you consider it."

# VALDOSTA 'II' RIPS COLUMBUS

## Smith, Heirs Lead Wildcats To Sixth 1960 Win, 34-0

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
VALDOSTA, Ga., Oct. 15—Valdosta kept its victory express rolling along as the Wildcats trounced the Columbus Blue Devils, 34-0, here Friday night.

With the triumph, Coach Wright Bazemore's VHS eleven extended its winning streak to six games. The 'Cats boosted their Region 1-AAA mark to 5-0 and held on to first place in the league. The

VALDOSTA	COLUMBUS
16 First Downs	11
301 Yards Rushing	120
30 Yards Passing	34
115 Yards Penalized	15

Wildcats also got a measure of revenge for the licking Coach Fred McManus' Imps handed them last fall.

It was the fifth defeat in six outings for Columbus and was the Blue Devils' fourth loss to a regional foe. The Wildcats mixed

a hard-hitting attack with a solid defense to measure Columbus before approximately 6,000 fans. They scored single TDs in the first, second and fourth quarters, and got a pair of tallies in the third stanza.

While the Imps got inside the 20 on three occasions, they didn't crack the tough Valdosta defense for a score. It was their first whitewash job. In fact, Valdosta is the first team in six tries to limit the Blue Devils to less than two touchdowns. Giles Smith got the first VHS score on a dazzling 38-yard run early in the opening period and went on to have his best night of the season on offense.

When it was over the 145-pound sophomore halfback had 103 yards to his credit on 10 tries. Smith kicked four of five PATs.

Fullbacks Burnice Hiers and Sirois Barker, quarterback Bruce Bennett and halfback Kenny Ruffer also got in on the scoring act.

Hiers tallied on a two-yard run, Barker on a five-yard jaunt, Bennett on a 10-yard end sweep and Ruffer on a seven-yard ramble.

The Valdosta line force, spearheaded by center Allen Holt, guard Jimmy Adams and end Billy Blocker held the upper hand all the way. Holt led in tackles with six. Blocker got credit for five stops. Adams blocked with authority to help keep the attack moving.

Valdosta came out with a comfortable victory margin despite drawing 11 penalties which cost them 115 yards. The Wildcats' limited the Imps to a total of just 154 yards rushing and passing. Pass interceptions by Tommy Tart and Butch Luke, and a key fumble recovery by end Bill Holtzclaw were spotlight plays in a fine over-all stop'em effort.

Valdosta 7 7 13 7-34  
Columbus 0 0 0 0-0  
Scoring Tds: Valdosta—Smith (28 yds., run); Hiers (2 yds., run); B. Bennett (10 yds., run); Ruffer (7 yds., run); Barker (5 yds., run); PATs: Valdosta—Smith (4 placeknts).

THIS WEEK

# VHS At Moultrie; Eagles Face Rebs

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats, hoping to extend their victory streak to seven games, will go against the Moultrie Packers, a traditional rival, in a Region 1-AAA game at Moultrie on Friday night.

In other games in the area, Lowndes County will be at Berrien County (Nashville), Brooks County (Quitman) at Cook County (Adel) and Habira at Folkston.

Clinch County's Panthers have an open date this week. The Homerville eleven will swing back into action on Oct. 28 when it goes to Branford, Fla., for a game.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Dosta crew will carry a 6-0 record for the season and a 5-0 league mark into the contest with the Packers.

Coach Knuck McCrary's charges have a 2-4 mark for the year and a 2-3 league chart.

Tickets for Friday night's game between Valdosta and Moultrie are now on sale at Belcher's Drug Store. There are approximately 500 reserved seat tickets plus general admission and student ducats. Tickets must be purchased by Thursday.

But fans who have been following the series between the two down through the years know that comparing records doesn't always give a true indication of who is going to win. Both the Packers and Wildcats have sprung major upsets against each other.

Valdosta has beaten Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6), Jordan (27-0), Lanier (19-7), Albany (7-0) and Columbus (34-0) for its six wins.

Moultrie has licked Baker (13-0) and Warner Robins (35-0), while bowing to Jordan (19-12), Lanier (13-0), Thomasville (12-7) and Columbus (20-7).



**Wildcats' Tommy Johnson**  
Sharpens Eye For Game With Moultrie

# Wildcats, Packers Tangle



**Valdosta Punter Giles Smith**  
Ranks Second Among Region 1-AAA Kickers

## Tension Mounts As VHS Goes After Seventh Win

With the tension mounting, Valdosta's league-leading Wildcats shoot for their seventh straight football triumph at Moultrie tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's VHS eleven has clicked off six straight wins. It has beaten five Region 1-AAA foes to climb atop the loop standings.

Tonight it will risk both its unblemished record and regional lead against traditional rival Moultrie.

While coach Knuck McCrary's Packers have a 2-4 mark, no one has found them an easy mark. Last week they trounced Warner Robins, 35-0, showing football poise in the process.

Whenever a team generates a winning streak, there is always tension which goes with it. The Wildcats know how it feels to be the No. 1 target in the loop. The pressure is great.

Moultrie and Valdosta have met 36 times since the series began in 1913. The Wildcats hold a 27-6 edge in the set and there have been three ties. However, it has been three years since VHS licked MHS.

In 1958 they battled to a 7-7 tie. Last fall Moultrie was a 41-20 victor.

The Packers have a solid line that has veterans Charlie Marshall (175) and Wayne Tucker (172) at end and Bernard West (180) and Van Ellis (200) at tackle. All four are seniors and all were regulars last fall.

Halfback Randy Harvey and quarterback Clyde (Piggy) Isom are the Packers' attack leaders. With 475 yards to his credit, the 155-pound Harvey is the top rusher in 1-AAA. Isom stands ninth on the regional rushing list with 340 yards. He's completed 10 of 23 passes for 194 yards. Isom ranks seventh among regional passers.

The Wildcats will again use their modified two-platoon plan, which so far has worked to perfection. Bazemore uses more than

20 players as regulars on offense or defense.

In the "Go-Team" backfield are Bruce Bennett, Kenny Ruffer, Giles Smith and Burnice Hiers. Bennett has gained 426 yards to stand fourth on the regional rushing list. Ruffer has 280 yards to his credit, Smith has 229 and Hiers 226.

Other backs likely to see action are Tommy Tart, Butch Luke, Rick Thomas, Stan Reaves, Cloy Blanton and Walter Zant.

Linemen who have seen extensive front line duty include Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw, Wally Colson, Bobby Grondahl, Jerry Reaves, Bill Myddleton, Bill Schroer, Skipper Prewitte, Ray Bennett, Frank Wetherington, Jimmy Adams, Allen Holt and Foy Norwood.

Two standout members of the forward wall force — Bunky Henry and Gary Minchew — are sidelined with injuries.

## Moultrie May Have Surprise For 'Cats

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

A pair of teams that have turned in unexpected performances so far this year will be meeting when Valdosta's Wildcats go to Moultrie Friday night to meet the Packers.

On the pre-season form chart coach Knuck McCrary's Packers were ranked with the title contenders, while coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats were pegged for a second division finish.

But with the season already into the second half, the Wildcats

are leading the Region 1-AAA race and the Packers are out of the title picture.

VHS has a six-game victory streak going and a 5-0 regional record. Moultrie has a 2-4 chart for all games and a 2-3 record in league play.

Last season Moultrie had a strong team that stayed right in the thick of the championship scramble right up to the end.

While some of the Packers' 1959 stars are missing, the current Moultrie team is well stocked with returning regulars.

The feeling around the circuit is that Moultrie has the potential, but just hasn't "jelled." It is one of those things that can happen to a team even when it has a veteran and talented coach like McCrary at the helm.

But there are definite signs that Moultrie is ready to hit its stride. The Packers were extremely sharp in a 35-0 romp over Warner Robins last week.

"Moultrie was hit pretty hard at graduation time," Bazemore said. "but it has enough experienced hands to be a good, tough football team. Our scout report shows the Packers have good size and speed.

"You can always count on a team turned out by Knuck McCrary to be well coached and ready to play it tough.

"We are going to Moultrie expecting a tough game, and I'm sure we are going to have one."

This will be only the second "road" trip for Wildcats. In their only out of town game they had their troubles gaining a 19-7 victory over Lanier at Macon.

Since this is a regional game, Valdosta must win to stay atop the standings. The Wildcats would also like to keep their winning streak going.

They will also be shooting for their first triumph in three years against the Packers, a traditional rival.

In 1958 Valdosta and Moultrie battled to a 7-7 tie. Last year the Packers gunned down the Wildcats, 40-21.

While the Packers have seen their championship hopes vanish this year, a victory over the Wildcats would make their season a "success" regardless of what kind of won-loss record they might have at the close of the campaign. So McCrary's charges have plenty of reasons for going all out to triumph.

## 'Dosta Band Performs At Moultrie

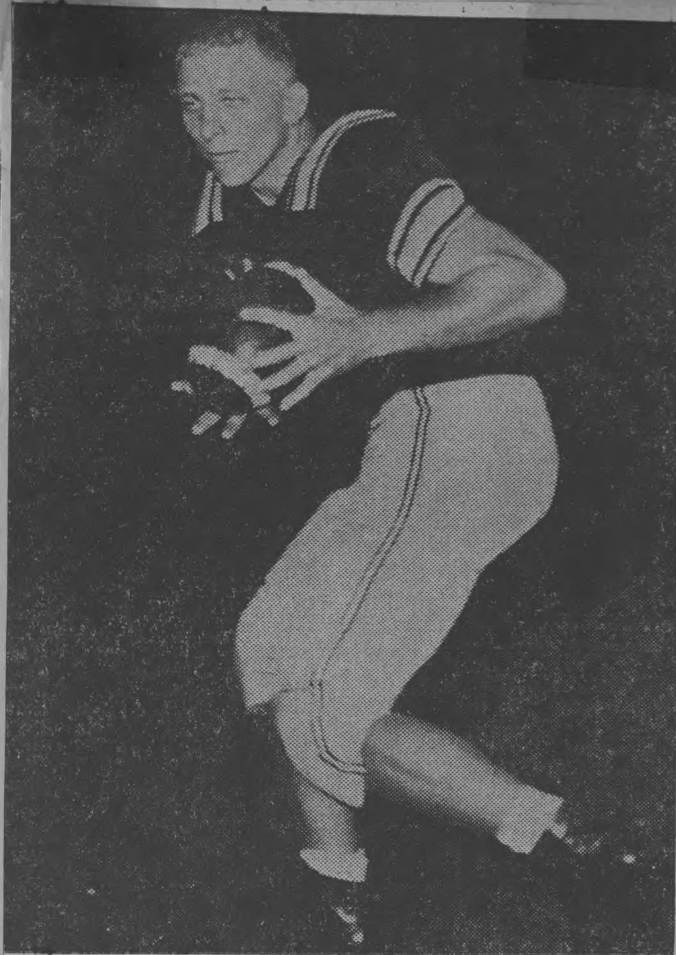
A "Dixie Fanfare" featured the Valdosta High band's halftime program at the Valdosta-Moultrie football game last night at Moultrie.

"Colonel Bogey" was the tune played as the band marched slow-style down the field to the forty-yard line. Here marching style and tempo increased with the playing of "Notre Dame Victory March."

A pause and a rear march brought the band into two facing company fronts. "Men of Ohio" was played as a crisscross and pick-up routine was executed.

Following, revolving pin-wheels were formed. Then a silent drill was performed. "Lassus Trombone," featuring the entire trombone section, was played next.

Then the band left the field playing the VHS "Fight Song."



**Talented Flankman Billy Blocker**  
Standout Member Of Valdosta Line Crew

# Wildcats Meet Packers Friday

## Renew Prep Grid Series Which Had Start In 1913

Valdosta's football Wildcats will renew a gridiron series which dates back to 1913 when they go against the Moultrie Packers Friday night at Moultrie.

The Wildcats will be out to extend their 1960 victory streak to seven games and to hang on to first place in the Region 1-AAA standings.

Moultrie, fresh from a 35-0 romp over Warner Robins, will be out to improve on a 2-4 record.

Coach Knuck McCrary's Packers, always dangerous regardless of their won-loss record, will be shooting for a triumph that would turn a season which has been disappointing so far into a "success."

While the Packers have lost four games, no one has found them an easy mark and coach Wright Bazemore has warned his charges that real trouble will be brewing for them at Mack Thorpe Stadium in Moultrie.

In addition to the win over Robins, the Packers licked Baker, 13-0. They have bowed to Jordan (19-12), to Lanier (13-0), to Thomasville (12-7) and to Columbus (20-7). Last season McCrary's charges knocked off the Wildcats' 41-20. Many regulars from that team are still around.

The returnees include ends Charlie Marshall (175, sr.) and Wayne Tucker (172, sr.), tackles Bernard West (180, sr.) and Van Ellis (200, sr.), quarterback Clyde (Piggy) Isom (175, jr.) and halfbacks Pete Sayeski (160, sr.) and Randy Harvey (150, jr.).

In Harvey, Moultrie has one of the top ground gainers in 1-AAA. He has outstanding speed, and packs a hard wallop for a back his size.

Others certain to see front-line action for the Packers are guards Buddy McCoy (172, jr.) and Sam Freeman (175, jr.), center Reid Carlton (150, jr.), tackles Sam Ellis (165, sr.) and Bernard West (180, sr.) and halfbacks Charlie Pippin (150, soph.), David Ingram (170, sr.) and Kenneth Brown (140, soph.).

With the exception of end Bunky Henry, out with a broken leg, and guard Gary Minchew, sidelined by a knee injury, the Wildcats will go into the game in pretty good physical condition.

Likely to see action for the 'Cats are ends Billy Blocker,

Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw and Wally Colson; tackles Bobby Grondahl, Jerry Reaves, Billy Myddleton, Herb Schroer and Skipper Prewitte; guards Ray Bennett, Frank Wetherington and Jimmy Adams, centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood and backs Tommy Tart, Butch Luke, Rick Thomas, Bruce Bennett, Giles Smith, Stan Reaves, Kenny Ruffer, Cloy Blanton, Burnice Hiers and Walter Zant.

To build their current victory string the Wildcats have defeated Baker (41-14), Thomasville (27-6), Jordan (27-0), Lanier (19-7), Albany (7-0) and Columbus (34-0).

# VALDOSTA TOPS MOULTRIE, 21-0

## Ruffer Scores Two Touchdowns As Wildcats Extend Win Streak

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

MOULTRIE, Ga., Oct. 22—Who ever said "you can't win with sophomores and juniors" apparently didn't pass this bit of information along to Wright Bazemore.

If he did, Bazemore didn't believe a word of it, because he has been proving this old football superstition wrong all season.

Friday night was no different as his Valdosta Wildcats mastered the Moultrie Packers, 21-0, in chilly Mack Tharpe Memorial Stadium.

Bazemore's 'Cats amazed an estimated 5,000 grid fans as they danced off a pair of touchdowns in the second period and another in the fourth to prove they had come to town to stretch their string to seven consecutive wins.

Kenny Ruffer, a sophomore, chalked up two touchdowns for the evening's work. He returned

a punt for 85 yards and paydirt and found the handle on a Bruce Bennett pass for another six points.

Giles Smith, another Valdosta sophomore, registered all three of the PATs. He also booted four punts for 177 yards.

Bennett, a junior, tallied the 'Cats' other six points.

Bazemore, a prep Hall of Famer, and his young, wild, wild 'Cats have been proving this bit of pigskin philosophy as just so much boulder-dash all season long.

NO ONE figured the Bazemore special to come on very strong this round because his team was infested with youngsters. However, in just seven games the 'Cats have taken over the top round of the ladder in state AAA football. They are undefeated and untied.

Moultrie had one little back, Randy Harvey, a junior, who stole the running show by dashing off 73 yards. This was tops for the evening.

However, the difference was in the number of backs that ran. Bazemore had three that ran well, to Moultrie's one.



### With Espionage In New York

left, a Russian employed at United Nations head-  
istrator Willie Hirsch, right, are shown in cars out-  
ork City. They were enroute to federal lockup after  
counts of espionage. They are accused of trying to  
obtain intelligence information pertaining to national defense.

# Last Half Spurt Gives 'Cats Win

## Locals Down Rams, 21-0

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Stopped cold in the first half by a souped up Willingham defense which featured two blocked punts and a pair of pass interceptions, the Valdosta Wildcats unreeling touchdown marches of 58 and 59 yards in the third period on their way to a 21-0 victory over the Rams from Macon here last night.

It was the eighth straight win for coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and left them atop the Region 1-AAA standings with a 7-0 league record. The defeat left coach Billy Henderson's Rams with a 3-4-1 mark.

The Valdosta fans in the crowd of approximately 4,000 sat in stunned silence during most of the first half as the Rams put a defensive leash on the Wildcats that held them to only 26 yards rushing.

But the VHS crew had the hometown fans standing and screaming during the second second half. The first time they got possession of the ball in the third stanza they wheeled 58 yards to paydirt on a smooth, 30-play touchdown assault led by quarterback Bruce Bennett.

Bennett got the marker that broke the 0-0 deadlock on a two-yard plunge. In the drive goalward he turned in gains of 10, 11 and 8 yards. Halfback Giles Smith, with runs of 11 and 5 yards, and fullback Burnice Hiers with romps of 4 and 5 yards, did their part.

The next time Valdosta got the pigskin it moved 59 yards in seven plays. A 27-yard air strike from Bennett to halfback Bud Hatcher and a weaving determined 16-yard romp by Smith, which carried to the three, were the big gainers. Smith tallied on a three-yard jaunt.

With the Wildcats' defense holding solid all the way, those two third period scores settled the issue. But VHS went on to an insurance marker in the final period.

Willingham gambled for a first  
Continued On Page 2

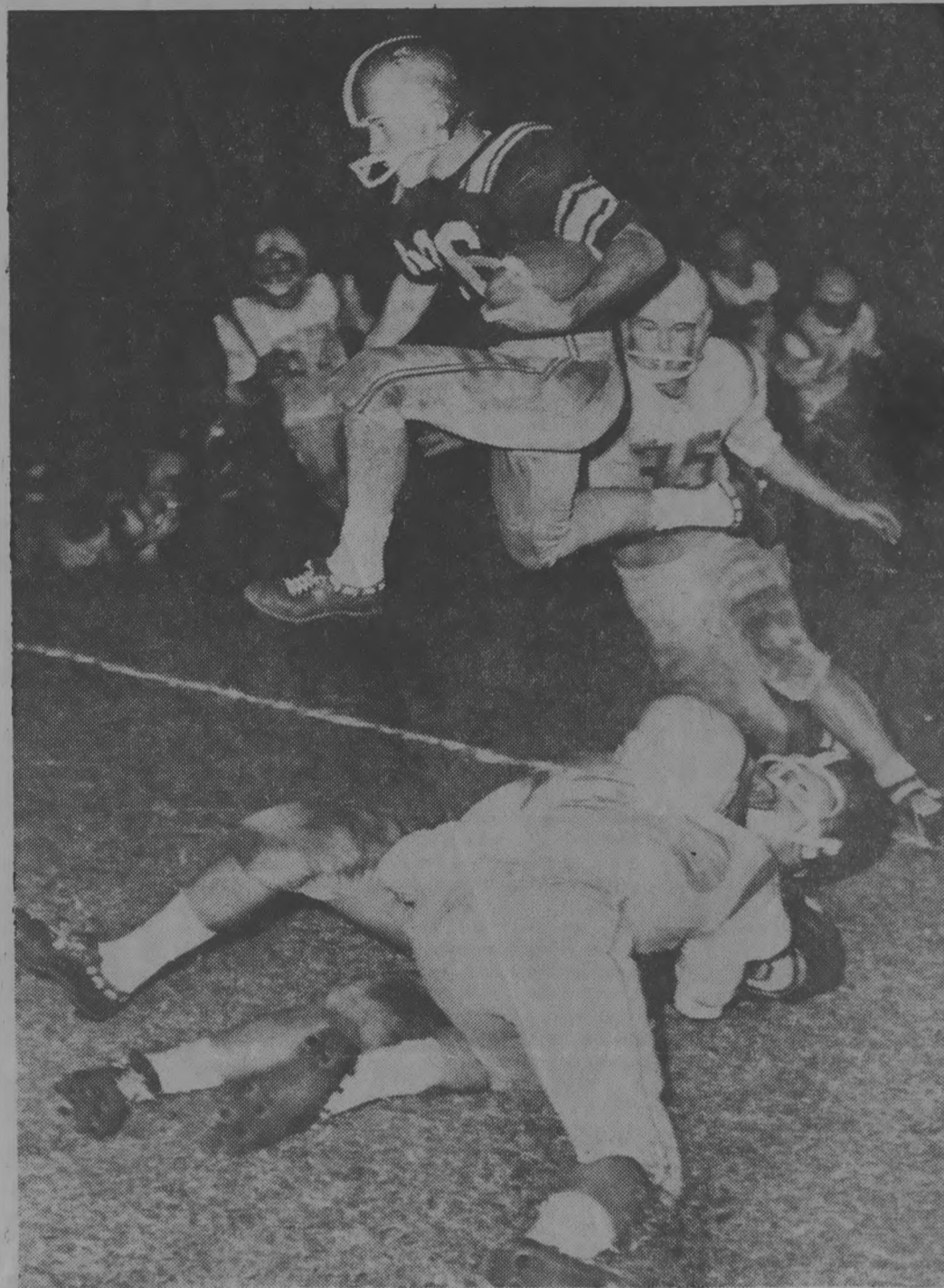
### 'Possum Trap' Hangs Cocker On City Stream

They're trapping along Two-Mile Branch in urbanized Valdosta.

J. D. Glass of 311 Canina Dr. found his show dog — a cocker spaniel — hung in a "possum trap" on the creek bank today.

Glass doesn't like for his dog to be trapped, but he's more worried about harm coming to children playing in the area.

Authorities, who are investigating the incident, point out trapping is much better in places where less people live and chil-



—photo by Barclay Woodward

Smith Takes to Air On Determined Run  
Third Quarter Jaunt Set Up Valdosta's Second Score

### UNION CHIEFS ARE CONVICTED IN ROAD BRIBE

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Three top officials of the Carpenters Union were convicted Friday night of bribing an Indiana highway official in quick-profit right-of-way deals, climaxing a highway scandal case that dated back nearly three years.

Maurice A. Hutcheson, president of the 850,000-member international union; O. William Blaier, vice president, and Frank M. Chapman, treasurer, displayed no emotion as Criminal Court Judge M. Walter Bell read the verdict.

Bell ordered a presentence investigation and set Nov. 28 for sentencing. The conviction carries a 2-14-year prison sentence and a maximum fine of \$15,000 each.

The jury of seven men and five women deliberated less than three hours before finding all three guilty of bribing and conspiracy to bribe Harry A. Doggett of Greensburg, former right-of-way purchasing director for the Indiana Highway Department.

### ills 5th

Scribners telegram today made a point of saying negotiations had progressed to the point that he and Reinsch had agreed on a time and place for the broadcast and had asked for a meeting with network representatives today to complete

# New Castro Blast At U. S. Expected

## Cubans Show Great Concern For Marine Landing At Base

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAVANA—The arrival of a contingent of U. S. Marines at Guantanamo naval base today for the weekend was expected to launch Prime Minister Fidel Castro into a new round of charges that the United States is grooming an invasion force.

Cuban officials showed great interest in the announcement from Washington that 1,450 Marines on maneuvers in the Caribbean will land at the U.S. naval base at the east end of Cuba for a few days of rest and recreation.

Cuban officials did not comment. Castro was to make a nationwide television speech today, the time of which was indefinite. The Washington announcement coincided with other developments in plummeting U.S.-Cuban relations.

The government-controlled press in war-type banner lines said 300 Marines already at Guantanamo were polishing up their training with realistic combat ex-

Khrushchev gave Cuban newsmen in which the Soviet news agency quoted the premier as saying his promise of rocket support to Cuba in event of American aggression "should be considered symbolic."

Earlier, Revolucion, the Castro organ, had said Khrushchev was asked if Soviet rockets were ready to assist Cuba in cases of need and quoted him as answering: "Unquestionably. But it's better that there be no aggression, as we will do everything possible to avoid using our rockets."

Tass further quoted Khrushchev: "It is essential that the imperialism threat to intervention against Cuba should not materialize into military operations and then there will be no need to

### WHAT'S WHAT?

Be a goblin on Halloween night but not a destructive one, pleads the Valdosta High Tri-Hi-Y.

The high school group is waging a campaign against vandalism on the night filled with human ghosts.

The Tri-Hi-Y appeals to youngsters not to go beyond a prudent prank.

### Cubans 'Steal' Plane After Gun Battle

HAVANA (AP) — The government radio reported today one person was killed and several were wounded in a gun battle aboard a Cuban Airlines plane enroute from Havana to the Isle of Pines.

# Woman's World

## Society Events

Elizabeth Ashley, Editor

### Miss Jane Hickman to Wed Mr. Lastinger at Church

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Hickman of Barney announce the engagement of their daughter, Jane, to Norman Linger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gaines Lastinger of Pearson.

The wedding will take place Nov. 6, at 4 p.m. in the Barney Baptist Church. No cards.

Miss Hickman is a graduate of the Morven High School in Valdosta.

Mr. Lastinger is a graduate of the Pearson High School in Pearson.

### Earn Beauty Without a Shortage

years of more.

One intriguing item is a special vitamin-enriched eyelash creme that darkens and nourishes eyelashes. "Blue and green eye shadow are absolutely out," she declared. "Mascara is awful and men must hate to kiss a woman all painted up with black eyes. A simple eye liner and my creme makes eyes look the way they should."

All is not necessarily nature's own, according to Mme. Elmes, but she does despise the mounds of makeup American

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Boys Club Annual

It's Carnival Time!!! And Call Attention all girls (and boys, too) to the Valdosta Girls Club and Boys



JOANN VERNER

requested to come in costume to and will be decorated throughout with black cats, ghosts and witches. It's **free** and open to everyone.

A reminder for the Girls Club October 31st so everyone must bring their costumes to the Girls Club Activities for girls 6-11 and the day after tomorrow, Monday, arts and crafts, Tuesday, Thursday, charm and Friday, cooking of these and they will begin on

The club is open every day from 10:00 to 12:00 on the days of your activities and to use the game room. Friday is the day at the Boys Club.

Saturday we will be open from 10:00 to 12:00 including birthday parties, scavenger hunts, etc. The membership dues are \$1.00 for everything for the year plus free

The Teen-Agers, any girls in the club are invited to bring on Wednesday, November 2nd to pick up their new program. Activities include modeling, field trips, membership dues for this group also includes swimming and also movies, dances and special

See you soon at the Club

# 'Cats, Rams Clash

## Valdosta Needs Triumph To Keep Lead In Region

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Wildcats and Willingham Rams who meet here Friday night have a common objective — they want to enhance their reputations in Region 1-AAA.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats moved into the league in 1958 after winning a long string of Class AA state championships.

They've done alright in two seasons. In '58 they had a 6-3-1 record. Last fall they were 5-5.

But with a string of seven victories going this year, the 'Cats have ambitions to become regional champs. They lead the circuit with a 6-0 mark, but must beat the Rams to stay ahead of such close contenders as LaGrange and Albany.

Willingham, a school that was opened in Macon just three years ago, is a newcomer to the circuit this season. Coach Billy Henderson's Rams are 3-3-1 at this stage of the campaign.

They are out of the title race, but if they can knock off the Wildcats tomorrow night it would mark their "arrival" as a football power in the region.

The game, slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field, will be the final home appearance of the regular season for the 'Cats. After tomorrow night they still must meet loop foes Warner Robins and LaGrange on the "road."

While VHS has scouted the Rams this season, the Wildcats still aren't sure what Henderson's charges might have in their bag of football tricks.

Willingham operates from a variety of offensive formations. They had an open date last Friday, which means they've had two weeks to cook up something new to try against Valdosta.

One thing for sure that the 'Cats know, Willingham has some talented players in both the line and backfield.

The backfield regulars include quarterback Randy Wheeler (170, jr.) and Turner Gaines (145, soph.), halfbacks Carson Hardison (171, jr.), Robert Mathews (151, sr.), Roger Duffy (153, jr.) and Larry Stokes (132, sr.) and fullbacks Joel Dickens (185, jr.) and Jeff Wagner (153, soph.).

Both Wheeler and Gaines are talented passers. Dickens is one of the leading rushers and scorers in the region.

In the forward wall are ends Jimmy Hammond (170, sr.) and Dwight Payne (160, sr.), tackles Jasper Hardison (185, sr.) and Wilton Marchman (205, sr.) guards Charlie Holder (160, sr.) James Hallman (177, sr.) and Raymond Kania (176, soph.) and centers Richard Crosby (155, jr.) and Clyde Davis (170, sr.).

During most of the season Bazemore has used a modified two-platoon plan with more than 20 boys used as regulars.

But he expressed displeasure at certain phases of the Wildcats' play against Moultrie last week and says some changes may be made this week.

"We are going to start the boys who have shown us in practice this week that they really want to play," Bazemore said.

The Wildcats beat Moultrie, 21-0, but they had trouble with the Packers. Before that VHS turned back Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6), Jordan (27-0), Lanier (19-7), Albany (7-0) and Columbus (34-0).

Willingham has beaten Warner Robins (43-0), Baker (14-13) and Groves (27-0). The Rams tied Jordan 7-7. They lost to LaGrange (20-6), Columbus (14-13) and Albany (31-0).

# Valdosta Scout Rates Willingham 'Tough'

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

If Valdosta's Wildcats figure to make Willingham's Rams their eighth football victim then they are going to have to play much better than they did last week against Moultrie.

That was the advice coach Wright Bazemore gave his charges as they began preparing for the Region 1-AAA encounter here Friday night with coach Billy Henderson's Rams from Macon.

The Wildcats licked Moultrie, 21-0, last week for their seventh triumph of the season and their sixth regional win. They are leading the 1-AAA race at the present.

Willingham, a newcomer to the circuit and a relatively new school, has a 3-3-1 chart. But the enthusiastic Rams have already earned a solid football reputation. They have certainly impressed the Wildcats' scouts.

"Our scout report indicates Willingham is a tougher and more solid ball club than Moultrie," Bazemore said. "Moultrie's enthusiastic Rams have already certainly gave us trouble. If we don't play better this week we stand a good chance of getting our ears pinned back. Even if we play our best, it is going to be a tough grind."

Bazemore was displeased with his charges' performance right after the Moultrie tilt. After viewing films of the game he announced some lineup changes may be in the offing.

"Let's just say our blocking was poor and our defensive effort left a lot to be desired," the coach said. "We are going to be looking for our best football players in practice this week. Those that want to play Friday night are going to have to show us in practice."

"Sure, we've won seven in a row. But we can't sit back and relax. Other teams are improving and we seem to be standing still. Everyone knows what will happen if that situation does not change."

Against the Packers the Wildcats scored with a long punt return and a pair of aerial assaults. They had little success with their up-to-now potent running game. While Moultrie was held scoreless, the Packers made both their ground and air attack click against the Wildcats.

Willingham, led by fullback Joel Dickens, has beaten Warner Robins (43-0), Columbus (14-13) and Groves (27-0). The Rams played Jordan to a 6-6 tie. The

Macon eleven lost to Baker (13-12), to LaGrange (20-6) and to Albany (31-0).

Dickens, a 185-pound junior, has been one of the region's leading scorers and ground gainers all season.

Last Friday, Moultrie's 150-pound junior halfback Randy Harvey ripped the VHS defense for 73 yards.

\* \* \*  
"If our boys think Harvey was

hard to stop, wait until they get a look at Dickens," Bazemore said. "The Willingham fullback is just as fast as Harvey, but heavier and runs even tougher."

To run up their string of seven wins and gain the 1-AAA lead and top ranking at the "AAA" level in the state, the Wildcats have licked Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6), Jordan (27-0), Lanier (19-7), Albany (7-0), Columbus (34-0) and Moultrie (21-0).

## Valdosta's Hard-Hitting Center Allen Holt

Senior Lineman Standout Member Of Stop'em Crew

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#### VALDOSTA VS WILLING-

**HAM** — Although the Wildcats beat Moultrie last week, coach Wright Bazemore was not entirely pleased with the performance. He's had the pressure on all week in practice. The main reason is that Willingham is rated stronger than Moultrie. This will be the first meeting between the 'Cats and the Rams from Macon. I've gone along with VHS all season. I'm not about to change now. My pick is Valdosta.

# Coaching 'Giants' Collide In Albany-Valdosta Match

By GENE ASHER  
Atlanta Journal Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga., Oct. 6. The "Coach of the Year" meets the "Coach of the Decade" Friday night when Valdosta hosts Albany for the inside track to the Region 1-AAA high school football championship. An overflow crowd of 8,000-plus is expected.

Valdosta High's Wright Bazemore, the perennial pessimist, boasts the finest coaching record in Georgia. His clubs have posted a 145-30-2 won-lost-tied record and have won five state championships in the past nine years.

Tillitski made his coaching debut last season. He won 13 straight, including the State Class AAA championship and the state's annual all-star football game. His '60 club lost its opener but has since won three straight, all region games.

The collision of these Class AAA coaching giants highlights the most attractive prep football slate of the year. In other important games, Bainbridge in-



**VALDOSTA'S TOMMY TART TAKES AIM**  
He Hopes to Shoot Down Albany High

vades Thomasville, Blakely-Union visits Mitchell County, Hawkinsville goes to Perry, Chattahoochee Valley entertains Dade County, and Summerville is at home against Lakeview.

Valdosta, supposedly "a year away," arrived last weekend against Lanier. It went into the Macon trap and thrashed the region cofavorites, 19-7.

It was the fourth straight victory for the undefeated and untied Wildcats. And a win over Albany would put them in the

Georgia, halfbacks Ed Varner and Fred Barber.

Bainbridge is top-ranked in The Journal's Class AA ratings, Thomasville is unranked.

Winner will become the odds-on favorite to win the Region 1-AA South title.

## ASHER'S PICKS

### THURSDAY'S GAMES

Winner	Loser
Roosevelt (Cheney Stadium E. Atlanta)	Northside (Grady Stadium) O'Keefe
Saint Pius (Chamblee) Monroe	
Last Week's Record: 91 right; 18 wrong—935.	
Season Record: 397 right, 112 wrong—780.	

region driver's seat with only a date at LaGrange left as a major obstacle.

But Bazemore was buying none of that.

"We're not ready to play Albany," he said. "We are too small and too inexperienced. We'll get run out of the stadium."

\*\*\*

WHAT BAZEMORE failed to point out, however, is that his club boasts the leading ground-gainer in the region, Bruce Bennett, and one of the top passers, Rick Thomas.

Bennett has gained 350 yards for a 9.5 average and Thomas has completed nine of 19 passes for 473 yards.

"Our coaches think Albany is just as good as it was last year," Bazemore moaned. "Our only hope is a slim one. We will try and run wide, though, because we know we can't go through the middle."

Valdosta has beaten Baker, 40-14; Thomasville, 37-6, and Jordan, 27-0, besides Lanier.

Albany, upset by Benedictine in its opener, stopped Columbus, 32-13; Warner-Robins, 53-6, and LaGrange, 6-0.

"We've improved a lot since that Benedictine game," Tillitski said, "but we've got a big job against Valdosta. They have more speed than we do. We need to be tough on the flanks."

Albany, predominantly a running team, is expected to take the air. Lanier located several flaws in the Valdosta pass defense and the Indians hope to exploit them.

Jerry Gerst and Roger Beavers are expected to handle the Albany passing game with halfback Jerry Doyal on the receiving end.

DOYAL ALSO is a solid ground threat. He is third best rusher in the region with a 5.4 average.

Valdosta is ranked second in The Journal's statewide high school poll, Albany seventh.

Bainbridge will be out to snap a 12-year losing streak against Thomasville. The Bearcats have not beaten the Bulldogs since 1948.

The Bearcats boast two of the night-after halfbacks in



—Times Staff Photo

## Bazemore Ponders Chances on Wet Turf

A worried Wright Bazemore, coach of the unbeaten Valdosta Wildcats casts a doubtful eye skyward. He just doesn't know what the wet turf will do to his chances tonight against the powerful Albany Indians. A full house is expected at Cleveland Field for traditional grid clash despite the doubtful weather.

# Wildcats Seek Playoff Crown

## Richmond Academy Given Edge In Game At Augusta

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats and Richmond Academy's Musketeers, survivors of a pair of tough region races, are to meet head on tonight at Augusta in a struggle for the South Georgia Class AAA football championship.

Both will be risking perfect 10-0 records. Reward for the winner will be a berth in next week's playoff for the state "AAA" crown.

Coach Frank Inman's Musketeers, boasting one of the strongest backfields in the prep ranks, have been established as a one to two touchdown favorite.

However, coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats upset the form chart to capture the 1-AAA crown and they left on the long 241-mile trip to Augusta this morning with high hopes of springing a surprise against the Musketeers tonight.

This is the first playoff venture for VHS since it moved to the "AAA" ranks in 1958. However, the Wildcats claimed state championships at both the "A" and "AA" levels in the past.

Richmond, beaten by Albany in last year's South Georgia test, is determined to gain the South Georgia championship this time out.

This will be the first action for the Wildcats in two weeks. They edged LaGrange 14-13, in their regular season finale on Nov. 11, then were idle last week while the 2-AAA teams finished their race.

The extra time gave VHS a chance to get several injured players back in playing condition. Still, coach Bazemore is worried that the layoff might rob his charges of their keen playing edge.

Richmond "warmed-up" for the playoff fray by polishing off Aquinas, 46-7, last Friday. The Musketeers haven't even had a close call this year. Their smallest victory edge has been a comfortable 14 points.

The Augusta team's vaunted attack is led by quarterback Billy Wood, halfback Forrest Inglett and All-State fullback Buddy Robinson.

Robinson weighs in at 205 pounds and has scored 92 points this season.

The big and talented Richmond forward wall is anchored by end Glenn Gray, a 180-pound glue-fingered pass receiver; tackle Lee Lucky, a 180-pounder with the speed of a back, and guard Jim Carroll, a hard-hitting 165-pounder.

Wood is noted for his excellence on running pass plays. The Wildcats' pass defense has proved to be leaky on more than one oc-

Beside the four backs already named, those who have seen considerable front line action are Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw, Bill Myddleton, Bill Schroer, Foy Norwood, Allen Holt, Ray Bennett, Gary Manchew, Frank Wetherington, Jimmy Adams, Tommy Tart, Hutch Luke, Stan Reaves, Clyo Blanton, Bud Hatcher and Walter Zant.

Wetherington and Luke missed LaGrange game because of injuries. However, both are expected to play tonight.

casation this year.

Valdosta has gained its success by depending more on overall team excellence rather than individual brilliance.

However, quarterback Bruce Bennett, an All-State selectee, has been the attack leader. He's averaged better than six yards per carry and has scored 72 points.

Halfback Kenny Ruffer, who set a new 1-AAA punt return record, stands second on the VHS scoring list with 66 points.

Their Go-team backfield mates are halfback Giles Smith and fullback Burnice Hiers.

Smith has a close to 40 yards per try punting average and set 1-AAA mark by making good on 24 PAT boots. Hiers, the Wildcats' backfield "heavyweight" at 165 pounds, is a hard runner and blocker of note.

To overcome his team's lack of size, Bazemore has used a modified two-platoon system this year.



Valdosta Guard Jimmy Adams  
Member Of Cats' Talented Line Crew

...TS- No. 2/6

...d 16-yard romp by Smith, which carried to the three...

...Gun Battle

...The Washington announcement ing. "Unquestionably, But it's bel-... stand with other developments, for that there be no aggression...

## VHS Band 'Sparkles' At Grid Tilt

The Valdosta High band, as usual, turned in a sparkling performance at last night's game between the Wildcats and Willingham Rams.

At the pre-game show the band in mid-field played the "Star Spangled Banner." Moving to the sidelines, the band played "Peggy O'Neil" in honor of Mrs. Zollie Royal, who was saluted by the Touchdown Club as a faithful football fan through the years.

At the half, the band lined up company front fashion on the goal line and played "Dixie Fanfare." Then it played "Men of Ohio" with stop-time. At the forty-yard line, the band executed two forms of eschalon while playing "Notre Dame Victory March" and "Trojan Warrior."

In two facing company fronts, the band executed a zipper routine as the majorettes marched down the middle of the zipper.

A whip turn brought the band to face the visitors' stands. In this formation, "Sweet Georgia Brown" was played.

With a rear march, the band faced the home stands and presented the popular tune "Bill Bailey."

As is traditional at the last "home" game, the seniors in the band were recognized. The seniors are Karen Clary, Ginny Parkerson, Susan Leonard, Susan Coppage, Albert McLane, Ed Barr, Bill Wright, Sammy Allen, Sammy Webb, Martha Baugh, Adrienne Spieler, Ted Brinson, and Tommy Duggar.

After playing the "Alma Mater," the band left the field playing the "VHS Fight Song."

## Amazing Wildcats Earned Right To Wear SG Crown

Coach Wright Bazemore isn't one for making profound statements about his football team. He believes in giving credit where credit is due. He doesn't try to use gushy words when handing his charges a verbal pat on the back.

He smiled a big grin when I asked what he thought of the Wildcats' victory over Richmond Academy's Musketeers in the playoff for the South Georgia Class AAA football championship.

"I'll tell you one thing for sure, Doc," the mentor said in deadly seriousness, "these boys are real scrappers."

For a quick, right to the point description, I don't think the 1960 Wildcats could be called anything but scrappers.

They've won 11 straight games and own two championships. This coming Friday night they will play Avondale for the state "AAA" crown. They haven't traveled an easy road. They've had to scrap hard all the way to make every inch of headway.

In the process they've amazed everyone, including their head coach.

When the 'Cats and Musketeers came out for pre-game warm-ups the pressbox buzzed as everyone noted the obvious poundage difference between the two.

"Will you look at the size of those Richmond boys," a scout from Avondale said. "There are no short round boys in the bunch. They are rangy and really big."

Then this same guy glanced toward the smaller VHS boys.

"Richmond should take Valdosta without too much trouble, but I'd sure like to see it go the other way," the scout said. "If we get lucky and beat North Fulton for the North Georgia championship (which Avondale did, 13-6) I think we would have a good chance against a small team like Valdosta. Richmond would flatten us."

As it turned out the Avondale scout got his wish. But we will have to wait and see if the 'Cats victory is really a break for Avondale. That issue will be settled in the state championship bout here Friday night.

Richmond may have flexed some big football muscles, but they failed to either frighten or flatten the Wildcats. Valdosta's small backs and linemen were pounded hard as they tried to block, tackle and run against the college-size Augusta crew.

### Came Through In 'Clutch'

But as the game drew to a close it was the Musketeers who were reeling. The Wildcats may have been cuffed around some in the early rounds. They went out at the half trailing in all statistical departments. But in the second half there was never any doubt about which was both the better and tougher team. VHS made a clean sweep of all honors.

In the closing stages of the game when it became evident that statistics and not touchdowns might decide the issue, the Wildcats knew exactly what they had to do to keep the advantage they had gained during a 14-play march that netted three first downs, 61 yards and a penetration early in the final stanza.

**With time running out Richmond was on the move and was in danger of pulling ahead in first downs and yards gained. The Musketeers had to be stopped. And as they have all season at crucial times, the 'Cats "did what had to be done."**

It was third down and a yard to go for Richmond at the Valdosta 43. At the time the teams were even in first downs with 11 apiece. According to official statistician Erskine Mills, Richmond needed to gain only 15 more yards to pull ahead of VHS in that department.

But instead of blasting for the first down and trying to keep moving for the yardage needed, the Musketeers tried a pass. Bill Wood was thrown for a nine-yard loss on a great defensive play by Bill Myddleton and Bill Schroer. Wood did connect with an eight-yard pass on the next play, but it was two yards short of a first down.

### Issue Settled On Playing Field

The Wildcats got possession, fullback Burnice Hiers crashed for two yards and then sailed 16 for a first down. Valdosta now had more than enough first downs and yardage. They ran out the clock and rightfully claimed the victory.

Richmond coach Frank Inman says he got "some bad information" concerning the statistics at the time the controversial pass play was called. For whatever reason that particular play was called, it was Richmond's undoing. But then it might not have been except for VHS' defensive excellence.

**It could have been a good call. A less alert team might have been expecting Richmond to try a play up the middle for the first down and been caught napping by a passing try. More than one team has gotten off a long pass at a time when the defense is expecting an assault up the middle.**

But the Wildcats weren't fooled. With the pressure thick they did what had to be done to win.

It was a close ball game between two hard-hitting teams. But any way you look at it and any way you review the strategy used by either side, Valdosta deserved the triumph. The issue was settled by the way the boys played the game. Certainly the Wildcats played well enough to win and they can wear their South Georgia championship with pride.



GLASSMAN

# Valdosta Shaves LaGrange, 14-13

Smith's Two Extra Points Bring Bazemore's Wildcats Tense Victory

By DAVID CLEGHORN  
Atlanta Journal Staff Writer

LAGRANGE, Ga., Nov. 12—Valdosta and LaGrange staged the game of the year here Friday night, and there were so many tears after the classic that it was hard to tell who won.

Valdosta put on a tremendous fourth-quarter surge to win, 14-13, before 6,000 nerve-wracked fans, but it was the way the Wildcats won that left them weeping in the aisles and on the field.

Trailing 13-0 as a result of a fired-up LaGrange effort, Valdosta displayed the spirit of a champion and scored two last quarter touchdowns to earn a perfect 10-0-0 record and the 1-AAA championship.

Kenny Ruffer started it off for the Wildcats with a 65-yard punt return for a touchdown. To add drama to the run, Ruffer dropped the ball, kicked it five yards in front of him, recovered, and tore down the right sideline without too much trouble with 8:08 left in the game.

A FEW MINUTES later, destiny entered the game for Valdosta. LaGrange's Travis Calhoun's punt was partially blocked and wobbled eight yards to the Granger 22.

On the next play, Wildcat quarterback Bruce Bennett tossed a screen pass to Bud Hatcher who,

VALDOSTA (14)	LA GRANGE (13)
6	4
96	27
22	71
31	25

with the assistance of some scythe-like blocking and determination, reached the end zone with a bare 1:16 remaining.

Giles Smith kicked his second extra point of the night, causing one lady in the Valdosta stands to pass out and sending the home folks into abject misery.

Valdosta Coach Wright Bazemore was beside himself with glee. "That serves them right," he chortled. "We got even with that son of a gun for kicking that field goal two years ago," he said, referring to Jerry Buttrum's 37-yard field goal which beat Valdosta 23-21 in the dying moments of their game.

Friday night, Buttrum, now a senior, missed one of his extra-point attempts, which was the margin between victory and defeat in the final outcome.

For a while, it seemed as if that one point wouldn't be needed because LaGrange completely dominated the game for the first three quarters. Valdosta did not get past midfield in the first half.

Pat Hunnicutt, son of LaGrange Coach Oliver Hunnicutt, scored the first touchdown for the Grangers with 5:40 left in the first quarter on a one-yard plunge. The situation was brought about when Bubba Darden recovered a Valdosta fumble on the Wildcats 18.

In the second quarter, Granger center Chuck Nixon intercepted one of Bennett's passes on the Valdosta 49 and returned it to the 36. Ted Alford and Hunnicutt collaborated on a 30-yard pass play to the six, and Calhoun lunged



Staff Photo—Darrell Thompson

## VALDOSTA'S KENNY RUFFER TRIES TO GO LaGrange Tackler Holds On to Wildcat Ace

across from the one with a meager 16 seconds left in the second quarter to give LaGrange a 13-0 halftime lead.

Valdosta	0	0	0	14	14
La Grange	6	7	0	0	13

Valdosta Scoring: TDs—Ruffer (65, punt return); Hatcher (22 pass from Bennett). PATS—Smith, 2 (kicks).  
La Grange Scoring: TDs—Calhoun (1, run); Hunnicutt (1, run). PAT—Buttrum (kick).

# VHS Faces Demons Friday

## Open Another New Series In Game At Warner Robins

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

For the second week in a row the Valdosta Wildcats get a brand new football series started.

The 'Cats go to Warner Robins on Friday night to meet the Demons in a Region I-AAA encounter.

Warner Robins is a new comer to the league and is appearing on the Valdosta schedule for the first time.

The game is a crucial one in the drive the 'Cats are hoping will lead to the I-AAA championship.

VHS has clicked for eight straight triumphs and leads the I-AAA standings with a 7-0 league mark.

A triumph over the Demons is a "must" if Coach Wright Bazemore's charges are to remain ahead of hard-pressing LaGrange and Albany.

If a comparison of record means anything—and sometimes it does—and sometimes it doesn't—Valdosta will beat the Demons to run its unbeaten string to nine games.

The Demons are winless after eight outings this year. They've been licked by seven regional foes and played a 6-6 tie with Class B. Perry.

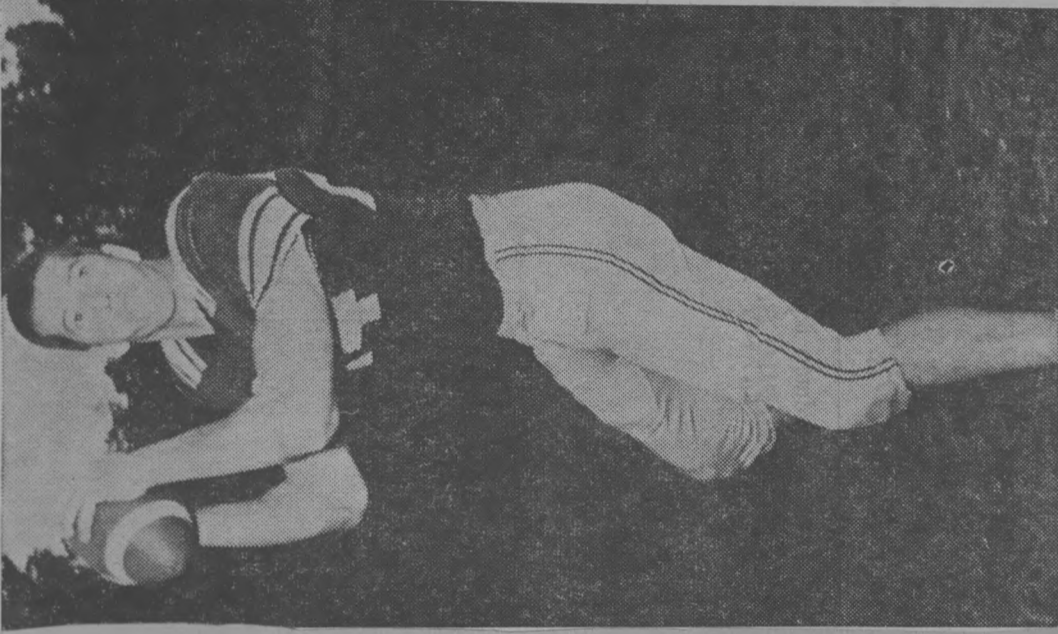
While the Demons look like a "soft touch" on paper, Bazemore has set a fast practice pace for his charges this week.

"There are no sure things in football," Bazemore said. "It's a region game and one we've got to win to keep our lead."

Warner Robins' probable strategists are Buster McConnell (160, sr.) and Ken Muha (165, jr.), tackles Bob Savage (190, sr.) and Van Herrington (195, sr.), guards Lloyd Odum (170, sr.) and Robert Apple (170, jr.), center Jimmy Joiner (151, jr.), quarterback Jackie Hammond (145, jr.), halfbacks Larry McClure (145, jr.) and Johnny Stewart (170, sr.) and fullback Noel Robbins (160, sr.).

The Wildcats have more than 20 players who are considered regulars on either offense or defense. If the game follows the expected script, even more Wildcats than that will see action against the Demons.

The spotlight has been on offense in VHS drills this week. While the 'Cats defeated Willingham 21-0 last week the Rams



Times Staff Photo  
 'Dosta Quarterback Tommy Tart Praised For Play Against Willingham

Teams on opposite ends of the Region I-AAA standings will be meeting when Valdosta's Wildcats clash with the Warner Robins Demons at Warner Robins tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats are leading the pack with an 8-0 record for the year and they have to make the long journey to LaGrange for the battle with the Grangers.

Coach David Barker's Demons have lost to seven league opponents and are resting in the "basement."

This will be the first meeting between the football forces of 'Dosta and Robins. The Demons joined Region I-AAA this season and are appearing on the Wildcats' schedule for the first time.

While the 'Cats will go into the game as heavy favorites, Bazemore has pressed his charges hard in drills this week.

Virtually everyone in the VHS camp has been looking past the Demons to next weeks showdown battle with the powerful LaGrange Grangers.

If the Wildcats beat Warner Robins and then either the or defeat the Grangers they will gain the I-AAA title. LaGrange and Albany, with matching 6-1 league standings. Both are still very much in the championship race.

With all these factors lumped together, plus the fact that the Demons will have the home field advantage, it means Warner Robins has football psychology working in its favor.

Robins' season has been a bust up to now, but a surprise win over the 'Cats would give them a high-note finish.

'Dosta has had a pair of samples of how teams with so-so records can be hard to beat when they are in the right frame of mind.

On successive Friday's, Moultrie and Willingham proved tough before submitting by identical 21-0 scores.

However, the Demons are not rated as highly as either Moultrie or Willingham.

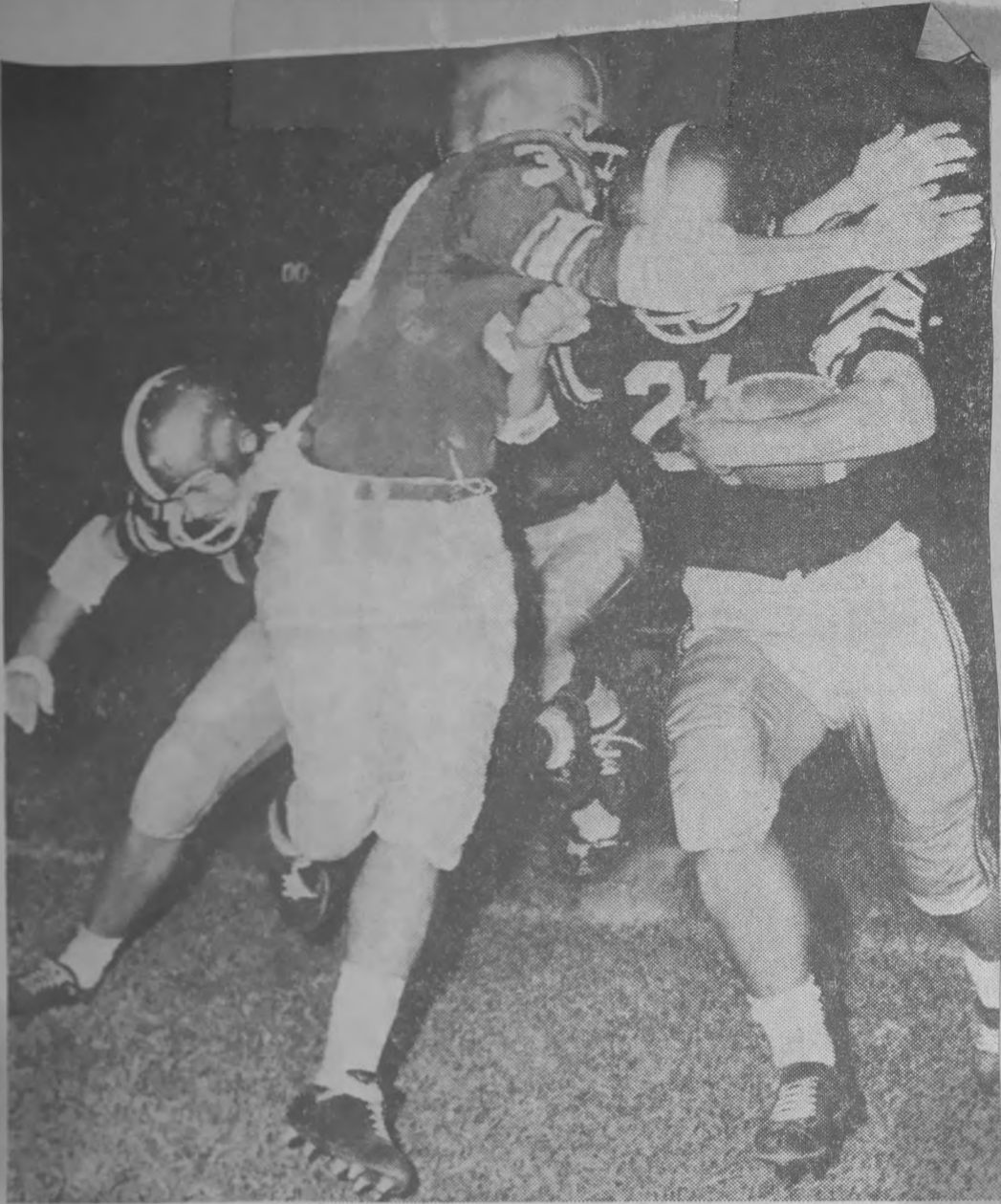
"Warner Robins is certain to be sky high for the game," Bazemore said. "We've still got to beat them on the playing field. We can't do it just by talking and matching out won-loss record with theirs."

# 'Dosta, Robins Tangle Tonight

## Wildcats Going After Ninth Straight Triumph

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
 Times Sports Editor

Wildcats Going After Ninth Straight Triumph



—Times Staff Photo

### Valdosta's Kenny Ruffer Flying Blind

Noel Robbins Trying To Corner Fleet Back

# 'Cats Blast Demons

Continued From Page One

Individual rushing figures for the backs follows with number of carries first and net yards gained next:

Zant, 6-7; Ruffer, 2-38; Giles Smith, 3-43; B. Bennett, 3-38; Hiers, 4-24; S. Reaves, 3-25; Sir-ouis Barker, 11-30; Tart, 4-16; Clyo Blanton, 4-16; Varnedoe, 6-20; Hank Lee, 2-2.

Thomas completed three of four passes for 74 yards. Hatcher was on the receiving end of three "pitches" which accounted for a total of 78 yards. Smith kicked three out of four PAT's.

Scoring in the game went like this:

**FIRST PERIOD** — The game had just gotten underway when Adams recovered a fumble at the Robins 20. Three plays later Hiers romped 11 yards to score. Just seconds later Ruffer went 43 yards on a punt return which carried to the Demons' 36. On the next play Bennett went all the way to score. Before the opening period ended the 'Cats covered 55 yards in two plays for another TD. Smith sailed 19 yards to the 36. Ruffer went the remaining distance on the next try.

**SECOND PERIOD** — After Bill Holt intercepted a pass Thomas

hit Hatcher with a 30-yard scoring pass, but it was nullified by a penalty. On the next play he tossed one to Reaves for a marker that was allowed to stand. This one covered 35 yards. Bill Holt intercepted a Robins pass and returned it 10 yards to the Demons' 30. Six plays later Zant tallied on a one-yard plunge. A 10-yard run by Blanton and 14-yard pass from Thomas to Hatcher accounted for most of yardage on this march.

**THIRD PERIOD** — Hatcher recovered a fumble and the Wildcats moved 45 yards in seven plays to paydirt. Tart got the TD on a three-yard run. Thomas pegged one 29 yards to Hatcher

STATISTICS		
	Val.	Robins
First Downs	17	1
Yards Rushing	258	-3
Yards Passing	128	6
Passes Intc. By	5-8	2-10
Fumbles Intc.	4	0
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Punting	2-40.1	8-32.3
Penalties	6-60	1-5

on the key play of this thrust. Zant helped the cause with runs of 5 and 2 yards. Varnedoe intercepted a pass at the midfield stripe. Three plays later Thomas connected with Hatcher on a 35-yard scoring aerial.

**FOURTH PERIOD** — With freshman quarterback Lee at the

throttle, the Wildcats moved 55 yards to "glory land" in 12 plays. Pearson climaxed the drive with a one-yard plunge for the TD. Varnedoe produced gains of 3, 2, 3, 1, 1, 3 and 7 yards while Barker ripped for 4, 6, 4, 3, 3, and 2 during this journey goalward.

Warner Robins, stalled on both the ground and in the air, got to the Valdosta 46 in the second period and to the 37 in the final stanza. That was a close as they came to TD territory.

**LINEUPS**  
**Valdosta**  
**ENDS** — Hendley, Blocker, DeLoach, Holtzclaw, Colson, R. Harris, C. Harris.  
**TACKLES** — Myddleton, Prewitte, Robinson, Schroer, Dennis, J. Reaves, Oliver, Grondahl, Harnage, Sanders, Hunter, Schroer.  
**GUARDS** — Patterson, R. Bennett, Wetherington, Tyndall, B. Holt, Adams, Reams.  
**CENTERS** — A. Holt, Norwood, Dasher.  
**BACKS** — Pearson, Zant, Barker, Hatcher, Thomas, Blanton, Varnedoe, Hiers, Ruffer, Luke, S. Reaves, Tart, B. Bennett, Smith, Lee.  
**Warner Robins**  
**ENDS** — Hill, Gard, Knight, Muha, Perry.  
**TACKLES** — Herrington, J. Stewart, Savage, Lawson, Onsbrud, Sullivan.  
**GUARDS** — Apple, Baugher, Patton, Bozeman, Odum.  
**CENTERS** — Joiner, Bowman.  
**BACKS** — McKenzie, Hammond, McConnell, Gates, McClure, Baygents, Nixon, Swann, Robins, Merritt, Lambert, W. Stewart.  
**Score by quarters:**  
 Valdosta 20 13 12 6—51  
 Warner Robins 0 0 0 0—0  
**Scoring** — TD's Valdosta — Hiers (11 yd., run), B. Bennett (36 yd., run), Ruffer (36 yd., run), S. Reaves (35 yd. pass from Thomas), Zant (1 yd., run), Tart (2 yd., run), Hatcher (35 yd., pass from Thomas), Pearson (2 yd., run); PAT'S — Valdosta — Smith, 3, (placements).

# 'Dosta Rips WR, 51-0

## Wildcats Extend Victory Streak in One-sided Affair

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
 Times Sports Editor

WARNER ROBINS — It took the Valdosta Wildcats less than four minutes of playing time to score two touchdowns as they started on their way toward a 51-0 victory over the Warner Robins Demons here last night.

Coach Wright Bazemore used reserves most of the way as the 'Cats rolled to their ninth straight triumph of the season and boosted their Region I-AAA record to 8-6. They pace the circuit. The defeat left the Demons with an 0-8-1 record.

The Wildcats began sending in substitutes in the opening period. Before it was over every able bodied man on the squad had seen action.

Valdosta piled up 258 yards rushing and 128 passing. The Demons ended up with minus three yards rushing and only six passing. Warner Robins never got closer to paydirt than the Valdosta 37.

Nine backs figured in the scoring of VHS' eight touchdowns. Scoring on runs were Burnice Hiers, 11 yards; Bruce Bennett, 36 yards; Kenny Ruffer, 36 yards; Walter Zant, 1 yard; Tommy Tart, 2 yards and Wayne Pearson, 2 yards.

Rick Thomas passed for the other two markers. Each payoff pitch came on plays that covered 35 yards. Stan Reaves caught one and Bud Hatcher the other.

Two more Valdosta tallies, one on a 29 yard run by Bennett and another on a 30 yard pass from Thomas to Hatcher, were nullified by penalties.

There were many heroes in the line. The standouts included guards Christie Patterson and Bill Holt, tackles Randy Hunter and Jimmy Robinson, end Danny Hendley and center Bobby Dasher.

The Wildcats accounted for four pass interceptions and recovered two Warner Robins fumbles. Dasher picked off two of the aeriels while Jerry Varnedoe and Bill Holt each snagged one. Guard Jimmy Adams and Hatcher recovered the two Demons' fumbles.

Continued On Page 7

# 'Dosta Clinches Tie For Regional Crown

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There's little definite yet in the 3AAA Region of Georgia high school football—except that there will be a new state champion this year.

Valdosta assured this Friday night by clipping Warner Robins 51-0 and gaining at least a part of the 1AAA title.

Even though Albany, the defending 1AAA and state champion, defeated Jordan of Columbus 33-0, the Indians are out of the race because of a conference rule.

Valdosta and LaGrange, winner over Columbus 31-6, meet in LaGrange next Friday night. If Valdosta wins, it will mean a region title and a shot for state honors. However, if once-beaten LaGrange wins, the Grangers will tie Valdosta and a play-off game would have to be held.

Albany and LaGrange are 7-1 in conference standings, but Albany is 7-2 overall while LaGrange is 8-1 and Valdosta is 9-0. Albany's poorer over-all mark costs the Indians any chance for the playoffs.

Only two of the six region or sub-region titles have been decided and they were determined before this week. Avondale led its 4AAA East title cake with a 25-0 shellacking of Druid Hills. South Cobb, 4AAA West champion, edged North Cobb 12-0 in a non-league match.

Northside and Southwest are making it a battle to the wire for 3AAA West honors. Both won Friday night, Northside snipping West Fulton 14-13 and Southwest Walking over Brown 33-0. This leaves Northside and Southwest deadlocked for the lead with 5-0 records in league play and 8-1 overall.

The big game tonight sends unbeaten and unscored-on North Fulton against Grady in a battle for 3AAA East honors. Grady hasn't been beaten in conference play, but is 6-2 overall.

The 2AAA title is also in doubt

and probably will remain so until the final week of the campaign.

Richmond Academy, Savannah and Benedictine of Savannah are still in the running. Richmond has a 5-0 league mark and is 8-0 overall. Savannah is 5-0 and 6-1-1 while Benedictine trails with 5-1 and 6-3.

Savannah jolted cross-town rival Jenkins 25-13 Friday night. Benedictine had whipped Glynn Academy 33-7 Thursday night. Richmond Academy was idle.

Savannah is at Richmond Academy next Friday night in a struggle which could all but determine the title. If Richmond wins, the Musketeers would practically be assured of the title since their last game is against punchless Acquinas.

Savannah has a rugged road ahead. After the Richmond game, the Blue Jackets must face Benedictine.

Albany will be remembered this year as the team that found itself too late.

The Indians dropped their first game to Benedictine—a non-conference loss which seemed inconsequential at the time but now proves the final blow to title hopes. Later, Albany bowed to Valdosta, then started rolling and handed LaGrange its lone loss of the year.

Quarterback Jerry Gerst was the big gun Friday night as Albany took the air route in downing Jordan. Gerst missed the first two passes he threw, then completed the next 11. His replacement, Rodger Beaver did nearly as well, completing four out of five.

End Mike Lane was the top lineman for Albany.

Here are the other AAA scores: Athens 21, Southwest DeKalb 6; Lanier 26, Baker 0; R. E. Lee 26, Cross Keys 13; Fulton 13, Smith 0; R. L. Osborne 14, G. M. A. 6; Marist 13, Gordon 6; Griffin 47, Cherokee 21; Marietta 19, Decatur 7; Russell 21, Sprayberry 6.

SAMMY

# GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

## Only VHS, LaGrange Still In Race For 1-AAA Crown

After many weeks of toil and struggle, the race for the Region 1-AAA football championship has narrowed down to two teams—Valdosta and LaGrange.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and coach Oliver Hunnicutt's Grangers could settle the issue when they meet in LaGrange this coming Friday night. I'll explain why I said "could settle the issue."

If Valdosta gains either a tie or victory over LaGrange, the Wildcats will become 1-AAA champs and move into the South Georgia Class AAA play-offs against the Region 2-AAA victor.

Should LaGrange beat Valdosta, a thought which is certainly not pleasant but must be considered, the two will have to meet again in a playoff that would settle the regional issue.

Here is the way things stand. Valdosta has a 9-0 record in all games and an 8-0 regional mark. LaGrange is 8-1 for the year and 7-1 in loop play. Albany has a similar record in both departments.

If the 'Cats tie or win next week they will claim the championship with no strings attached.

Should Albany win in its windup game with Moultrie and LaGrange beat Valdosta, there would be a three-way tie. Valdosta, LaGrange and Albany would all finish with 8-1 regional marks.



GLASSMAN

# Wildcats, Imps In State Finals

## Sale Of Tickets Slated To Begin On Wednesday

More than 200 high schools in Georgia fielded football teams, but only eight are still in the running as state championships in four classifications go on the line this week.

Valdosta's Wildcats are in the select group of eight survivors.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats will go against coach Calvin Ramey's Avondale Blue Devils here on Friday night in the Class AAA state championship showdown.

Linup of other games follows:  
Class AA — Waycross at Gainesville.

Class A — Carrollton vs Dublin, site undetermined.

Class B — Jenkins County at Washington-Wilkes.

Class C — Lincolnton vs Dade County, site undetermined.

Dublin, winner of the "A" title in 1959, is the only defending champion in the group.

Other defending champions — Albany, Wayne County, Morgan County and Hawkinsville — failed to make it to this year's finals.

Valdosta has claimed both the state "A" and "AA" crowns in the past year, but the Wildcats have their first shot at the Class AAA championship since moving up to that classification in 1958.

Avondale, which was the "AA" co-champ in 1958, is a newcomer to Class AAA this year. That means the Imps are also going after their first state title at that level.

The Wildcats moved into the finals with a 2-0 "statistical" victory over Richmond Academy in the playoff for the South Georgia "AAA" title.

Avondale turned back North Fulton, 13-6, in the North Georgia playoff.

Under a rotation plan, Valdosta automatically became the host team for the state championship game.

Tickets for the contest will go on sale here Wednesday morning at Barnes' Drug Store.

Local fans who purchased season reserved seat tickets for VHS' home game will have until noon Thursday to buy reserved tickets for their same seats at the

state championship fray. All unsold reserved tickets will be offered on a first-come-first-serve basis after that.

Adult general admission and student tickets will also be offered for starting sale, Wednesday morning.

Prices are, reserved seat — \$2.25; adult general admission — \$1.75; all students — 75 cents.

# Undefeated 'Cats Eye Ninth Triumph

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

It has been said that Coach Wright Bazemore would worry about the outcome of the game even if his Wildcats were about to play an intra-squad tilt.

The veteran mentor really isn't that bad, but during his many years of coaching he's become a firm believer in the adage that there are no sure things in football.

That's why he is deadly serious as he prepares his undefeated

Wildcats for this Friday's battle with the winless Warner Robins Demons.

The 'Cats have an 8-0 record for the season and lead Region 1-AAA with a 7-0 mark. Warner Robins has an 0-7-1 chart. All of their lickings came at the hands of league foes. The tie was a 6-6 affair with Class B Perry.

"I've learned the hard way there are no sure things in football," Bazemore said. "We've got to beat Warner Robins to keep our lead in the regional race. We've got to beat them on the playing field, we can't do it just by comparing records."

The Wildcats are now within striking distance of the 1-AAA championship. However, they need a victory over Warner Robins this week plus a tie with or win over LaGrange in the regular season finale next week to clinch the crown.

That battle with the Grangers at LaGrange figures as the big one. LaGrange shares second spot in the loop standings with Albany, another team which is still very much in the race.

Bazemore wants his charges to be "ready" for the Grangers, but he says now isn't the time to start pointing for that one.

"We play Warner Robins this week and that's the one we've got to be ready for," Bazemore said. "When the time comes we will turn our full attention to LaGrange. Now isn't the time for that."

In their last two outings the

'Cats had trouble with Moultrie and Willingham, a pair of teams with only so-so records. They won both tilts 21-0, but had to work for the triumphs.

However, Moultrie and Willingham were among the seven teams that have handed the Demons one-sided lickings.

Warner Robins bowed to Moultrie, 35-0 and to Willingham, 6-0. Other setbacks for the Demons were handed out by Lanier, 24-0; Albany, 33-6; LaGrange, 46-12; Columbus, 20-6 and Jordan, 21-0.

Valdosta's string of wins has been over Baker (40-14), Thomasville (37-6), Jordan (27-0), Lanier (19-7), Albany (7-0), Columbus (24-0) plus the matching 21-0 triumphs over Moultrie and Willingham.

Bazemore said there are no sure things in football, but the Wildcats will go to Warner Robins as heavy favorites.

# 'Cats At LaGrange Friday

## 'Dosta Needs Tie Or Win To Clinch Regional Title

Valdosta's Wildcats will meet the LaGrange Grangers at LaGrange on Friday night for only the fifth time, but it will be the fourth occasion in which they've gotten together with a championship involved.

The Region 1-AAA title is at stake this time. Valdosta, 9-0 for the season and 8-0 in league play, can clinch the crown with a tie or win tomorrow night.

LaGrange, 8-1 in all games and 7-1 in loop competition, can earn a tie and force a playoff if it wins.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and coach Oliver Hunnicutt's Grangers met in 1952 and 1953. The state Class A championship was at stake on those two occasions and VHS triumphed, 30-0 and 48-7.

The next meeting was in 1958. It was the Wildcat's first season of Class AAA ball. The Grangers won a 23-21 thriller at LaGrange that gave them the 1-AAA title. They went on to become state "AAA" champs.

Last year they met again with LaGrange taking a 7-0 win to deadlock the series. No championship issue was involved in this one.

However, both sides consider those four other games "past history." This is a new season and a brand new deal. Tomorrow night's game is being rated a toss-up.

Considering the physical condition of the Valdosta squad and the fact that the Grangers will have the home field advantage, Bazemore is of the opinion that the odds should be in favor of LaGrange.

The Wildcats have five regulars on the injured list. End Bunky Henry has been out since early in the year with a broken leg. Guard Gary Minchew has a damaged knee. While he donned pads for practice for the first time in several weeks, he's stiff far from able to go at full speed.

The latest casualties are guard Frank Wetherington (hand) and linebackers Stan Reaves (shoulder) and Butch Luke (elbow). Henry definitely won't play, the other four are "very, very doubtful."

Valdosta, which depends heavily on sophomores, will be meeting a veteran crew at LaGrange.

The Granger regulars include ends Don Warlick (142, jr.), Jim McClendon (160, sr.) and Randy Mahaffey (165, soph.), tackles Harris Bagley (183, sr.) and Joel Darden (193, sr.), guards Ronnie Lanier (150, sr.) and Bob Albright (188, sr.), centers Danny Daniels (155, sr.) and Lloyd Cummings (165, jr.), quarterback Ted Alford (145, sr.), halfback Travis Calhoun (175, sr.), Pat Hunnicutt (155, sr.) and Bob Taylor (140, jr.) and fullbacks Jerry Butrum (178, sr.) and Charles Knight (165, sr.).

LaGrange is rated as a well balanced team with a tough defense, a sharp passing attack and a strong running game. It is classified as "superior" in the team speed department. Like all of the many teams turned out by Hunnicutt, it is an alert, "hard-nose" outfit.

Alford is an aerial sharpshooter. All of the LaGrange backs are good pass receivers and flankman Mahaffey is a real glue-fingered receiver.

Pat Hunnicutt, son of the LaGrange grid boss, Calhoun, Butrum and Knight are all talented runners.

Calhoun is also a punting specialist. He has a knack for booming high ones, the kind that are the easiest to cover. He and the Wildcats' Giles Smith could stage a kicking duel that might have a lot to do with the outcome. Smith has averaged over 38 yards per try on 22 punts this season.

The Wildcats' attack has featured a swift-moving running game this season. They've passed relatively little.

Prominent members of the Go-team backfield are Smith, quarterback Bruce Bennett, halfback Kenny Ruffer and fullback Burnice Hiers.

Bennett shares the 1-AAA scoring lead with Willingham's Joel Dickens and is the loop's sixth leading rusher.

The Wildcats also have a reputation for defensive toughness. They've allowed only four touchdowns in nine games and have blanked the last five teams they've met.

Beside the offensive backfield foursome and the five injured regulars, others who have seen front-line action are ends Billy Blocker, Charlie Harris, Bill Holtzclaw and Wally Colson; tackles Bobby Grondahl, Billy Myddleton and Bill Schroer; guards Ray Bennett and Jimmy Adams, centers Allen Holt and Foy Norwood and backs Tommy Tart, Rick Thomas, Bud Hatcher and Clyo Blanton.

SAMMY

## GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

### Valdosta-LaGrange Game In Football Spotlight

Now that the presidential election is over folks in this neck of the woods can turn their full attention to the question of which team is going to be the victor when Valdosta meets LaGrange at LaGrange on Friday night.

The truth of the matter is that some of the more ardent football fans here have thought of virtually nothing but the impending clash between the Wildcats and Grangers — with only token concern about the race between Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Nixon. I'm kidding, of course.

However, football fever is running high and with a championship riding on the outcome that is to be expected.

Valdosta has a 9-0 record for the season and leads the Region 1-AAA standings with an 8-0 mark. LaGrange is 8-1 for the year and 7-1 in loop play.

This is the Wildcats' third season in 1-AAA. They have a chance to nail down the championship for the first time.

Actually, the Wildcats can clinch the championship if they and the Grangers battle to a tie. But you can't really plan on a game ending in a deadlock. Ties just happen.

Coach Wright Bazemore and his charges aren't thinking of a tie. They've set their sights on a victory. Coach Oliver Hunnicutt's Grangers are just as determined to gain a triumph.

LaGrange is in the position of having to beat Valdosta twice to gain the regional race. Should the Grangers win this week it would knot the final regular season's standings and result in the 'Cats and Grangers meeting again in a playoff.

"Right now we aren't thinking about a tie or the fact we might have to face LaGrange again in a playoff," Bazemore said. "We have our full attention on this game. But all of the coaches and all of our boys realize what a tough assignment we have."



GLASSMAN

# Valdosta Chases Demons Off Field

Hiers, Bennett, Ruffer, Zant, Reaves, Hatch Score TDs in 51-0 Romp

Special to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

WARNER ROBINS, Ga., Nov. 5—It took the Valdosta Wildcats less than four minutes of playing time to score two touchdowns as they started on their way toward a 51-0 victory over the Warner Robins Demons here Friday night.

Coach Wright Bazemore used reserves most of the way as the 'Cats rolled to their ninth straight triumph of the season and boosted their Region 1-AAA record to 8-0. They pace the circuit. The defeat left the Demons with an 0-8-1 record.

The Wildcats began sending in substitutes in the opening period. Before it was over every able bodied man on the squad had seen action.

Valdosta piled up 258 yards rushing and 128 passing. The Demons ended up with minus three yards rushing and only six passing. Warner Robins never got closer to paydirt than the Valdosta 37.

Nine backs figured in the scoring of VHS' eight touchdowns.

THE YARDSTICK		ROBINS (0)
VALDOSTA (51)	First Downs	1
17	Yards Rushing	3
258	Yards Passing	6
128	Penalties	1-5
6-60		

Scoring on runs were Burnice Hiers, 11 yards; Bruce Bennett, 36 yards; Kenny Ruffer, 36 yards; Walter Zant, 1 yard; Tommy Tart, 2 yards and Wayne Pearson, 2 yards.

RICK THOMAS passed for the other two markers. Each payoff pitch came on plays that covered 35 yards. Stan Reaves caught one and Bud Hatcher the other.

Two more Valdosta tallies, one on a 29-yard run by Bennett and another on a 30-yard pass from Thomas to Hatcher, were nullified by penalties.

There were many heroes in the line. The standouts include guards Christie Patterson and Bill Holt, tackles Randy Hunter and Jimmy Robinson, end Danny Hendley and center Bobby Dasher.

The wildcats accounted for four pass interceptions and recovered two Warner Robins fumbles. Dasher picked off two of the aeriels while Jerry Varnedoe and Bill Holt each snagged one. Guard Jimmy Adams and Hatcher recovered the two Demons' bobbles.

Valdosta	20	13	12	6-51
Warner Robins	0	0	0	0-0
Scoring TDs: Valdosta—Hiers (11, run), B. Bennett (36, run), Ruffer (36, run), S. Reaves (35, pass from Thomas), Zant (1, run), Tart (2, run), Hatcher (35, pass from Thomas), Pearson (2, run); PATs: Valdosta—Smith 3 (placements).				



**VHS Flankmen Ready for Game at LaGrange**  
Blocker, Colson, Hartzclaw, Harris Key Men

—Times Staff Photo

# 'Cats, Grangers Tangle Tonight

## Valdosta Going After Perfect Season, Crown

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats go after two desirable football plums—the Region 1-AAA championship and a perfect season—when they meet the tough and successful LaGrange Grangers at LaGrange tonight.

While coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats have won many titles and had more than just a few unbeaten and united seasons, this is the first time they have a chance to reach either of those objectives since assuming Class AAA status in 1958.

During their first year of campaigning at the "AAA" level, the 'Cats were 6-3-1. Last fall they had a 5-5 mark.

Their major objective at the start of the current campaign was to improve on their 1959 record. But with a nine-game victory streak going, including eight straight league wins, they've now elevated their sights.

Actually, VHS can clinch the 1-AAA crown if they tie with the Grangers. But football deadlocks just happen there's no such thing as planning for a tie.

If the Grangers win, and they are rated an even chance of doing just that, the two will have to meet again in a playoff for the crown.

The Grangers have licked the Wildcats in their last two tries. LaGrange won over Valdosta, 23-21, in 1958, and triumphed by a 7-0 count last fall.

LaGrange has an impressive 8-1 record in all games this year and a glittering 7-1 loop mark.

Both the Wildcats and Grangers have defeated Baker, Jordan, Lanier, Columbus, Moultrie, Willingham and Warner Robins. LaGrange can also boast of a victory over Lanett, Ala., while VHS downed Class AA Thomasville.

Their action against Albany produced the differences in the records. Valdosta edged Albany, 7-0. Albany, in turn, edged LaGrange, 6-0. Both games were the kind that could have gone either way.

The Wildcats and Grangers are similar on several counts. They are a fairly even match in size, with LaGrange owning a pound-age edge in the backfield.

Both are noted for their speed and for their defensive toughness.

A swift moving ground attack is the Wildcats' strong suit on offense. The leaders are quarterback Bruce Bennett, halfbacks Giles Smith and Kenny Ruffer and fullback Burnice Hiers.

The Grangers offer a balanced attack, with both a strong aerial

and running game. Quarterback Ted Alford is sharp-shooting "pitcher." The ground troops are led by halfbacks Travis Calhoun and Pat Hunnicutt and fullbacks Jerry Buttrum and Charles Knight.

Smith and Calhoun rank with the best punters in the region, giving each side a kicker with exceptional ability.

The Grangers do rate the edge on three counts. First, they will have the home field advantage. Second, they have a senior dominated team giving them an advantage in experience over the sophomoreish Wildcats. Third, Valdosta is in its worst physical peak of the year.

Beside end Bunky Henry, who has been out since the second game of the season with a broken leg, three other regulars are certain to miss the tilt. Guard Frank Wetherington has a damaged hand. Linebacker Butch Luke is out with an elbow injury. An injured shoulder will keep linebacker Stan Reaves on the sideline.

Guard Gary Minchew, who has been hobbled with a knee ailment since mid-season, has rejoined the fold. While he has taken part in drills this week, he's still unable to go full speed. He may or may not play tonight.

# Semi-Finals Set At Hahira

## Lanier Turns Back Cook In Second Night Feature

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

HAHIRA — Eight survivors of an original field of 16 go at it in the semi-finals of the Hahira Christmas Invitational Basketball tournament here tonight.

At stake in the pair of girls and boys contests are berths in Friday's championship round.

First round action was completed last night with Lanier County beating Cook County, 67-59, and Lowndes County turning back Nicholls, 61-32, in the boys division while Coffee County trimmed Lowndes County 41-37, and Nicholls edged Hahira, 50-47, in the girls section.

The schedule for tonight's semi-final round games is as follows:

Valdosta vs Nicholls (girls), 5:30 p. m.; Valdosta vs Lowndes County (boys), 6:45 p. m.; Coffee County vs Cook County (girls), 8 p. m.; Lanier County vs Hahira (boys), 9:15 p. m.

The Valdosta Wildcats and Kittens, Hahira's Tigers and the Cook County girls earned berths in the semi-finals with victories on Tuesday.

The Valdosta girls and Hahira boys are defending champions.

For the second night in a row the tourney drew an overflow crowd of more than 1,000. With the tournament getting down to the crucial stage, an even larger turnout is expected tonight.

All four games tonight offer promise of being good ones, but the two boys tilts are in the spotlight.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats and coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes County Golden Eagles are cross-town rivals. In a regular season affair LOHI beat the 'Cats, 53-49, in a see-saw duel.

Coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira Tigers and coach Billy Pafford Lanier County Bulldogs have also tangled once before this season. The Tigers came out as 88-82 victors to hand the quintet from Lakeland its only setback in 11 outings.

Action in last night's games went like this:

### COFFEE 41, LOHI GIRLS 37

Coach Bill Meeks' Coffee County Comets used a torrid third quarter to gain its triumph over coach Noel George's Lowndes County girls.

It was a see-saw affair during the early going. LOHI went out at the half with a 15-13 lead. But Coffee outscored LOHI, 16-5, in the third stanza to build up a nine point lead.

Lowndes got within four points during the final stanza, but could come no closer.

Mary McNeal, with 14 points, and Marilyn Smith and Sybil Simmons, with 13 each, paced the Coffee attack. Top scorers for LOHI were Linda Allen, 19, and Connie Copeland, 13.

### EAGLES 61, REDSKINS 32

Lowndes County's Golden Eagles mixed a smooth working attack with a rugged defense to gain its onesided triumph over coach James Moore's Nicholls Redskins.

The Eagles jumped off to a 4-0 lead and were never headed after that. LOHI had a 12-point lead at the half and quickly settled the issue by going ahead by 7 early in the third stanza.

Bobby Eason gunned in 24 points and picked off 12 rebounds to lead the Eagles in both departments. Calvin CanVlake was next in the scoring department with 16 points and Val Walden was close behind with 11.

Jerry Goodson got nine rebounds and Walden eight to help Eason in that department.

Raymond Morgan, who hit well

Cook County staged a hard-fought scoring duel that had the fans screaming all the way.

During the first half the lead changed hands 13 times until Lanier County gained a 31-27 edge at the mid-way point.

The Bulldogs were never behind after that, but the Hornets kept the pressure on all the way.

Early in the final stanza Lanier was ahead by 16 points and looked like it might have clear sailing.

But Cook rallied, sliced the lead to six points and it was a real contest again. The Bulldogs, playing steady under pressure, remained on top and gained the victory.

John Bass gunned in 26 points and Bill Exum hit for 23 to set the scoring pace for the Bulldogs. Bass connected with deadly accuracy from long range, while Exum got most of his on drives under the basket. Exum was Lanier's leader in the "battle of the boards."

James Davis clicked for 25 points and Jim Scruggs got 15 to keep the Hornets' attack in high gear. Avery Sumner helped the Cook cause with 11 markers and did the big rebounding job for the quintet from Adel.

### BOYS

Lowndes Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 11 29 50 61  
Nicholls \_\_\_\_\_ 5 17 22 32

LOWNDES COUNTY (61) — Eason 24, VanVlake 16, Walden 11, Goodson 4, Cowart, Pike, Newham 2, Price 2, Anderson, Green 2, England.

NICHOLLS (32) — Morgan 16, Street 1, Tanner 1, Johnson, W. Street 7, Wilcox, Heaton, Carter 2, Nipper 2, Kirkland 2, Melvin.  
Lanier Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 16 31 53 67  
Cook Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 16 27 40 59

LANIER COUNTY (67) — Bass 26, Bentley 11, Exum 23, Hough 2, Murray 3, Smith 1, Fender 1, Shaw.

COOK COUNTY (59) — Byrd 2, Sumner 11, Scruggs 17, Davis 25, O'Quinn 4, Fulp.

### GIRLS

Coffee Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 13 29 41  
Lowndes Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 6 15 20 37

COFFEE COUNTY (41) — Smith 13, McNeal 14, McKinnon, Cooper 1, Simmons 13, Cross, Lancaster, Cole, Johnson, Worth, Paulk.

LOWNDES COUNTY (37) — Jones 5, Allen 19, Copeland 13, Trammell, McLane, Starling, Duncan, Hersey.

Nicholls \_\_\_\_\_ 12 22 39 50  
Hahira \_\_\_\_\_ 12 27 36 47

NICHOLLS (50) — Sullivan 29, Spell 12, L. Rowell 7, Kirkland 2, Barnes, M. Rowell, Gillard, Pearson, Meeks.

HAHIRA (47) — L. Stalvey 22, Layton 19, Bradford 6, Coppage, McNeese, Clyatt, M. Stalvey.

## PREP STARS OF THE WEEK

# VALDOSTA, GREER WIN ACCOLADES

By TOM STODDARD

Coach Wright Bazemore's Valdosta Wildcats and Bob Greer of Southwest were named team and coach of the week by the Constitution after title-winning performances on Thursday and Friday night.

Valdosta, trailing LaGrange 13-0 at the half, rode the passes of Bruce Bennett to a final-seconds 14-13 win, bringing with it the I-III title. For Valdosta, which moved up from a lower bracket four years ago, it was the first region title.



VHS Tackles Go Full Speed As Tilt With LaGrange Draws Near

—Times Staff Photo

Grondahl, Robinson, Prewitte, Schroer, Myddleton, Reaves "Charge"

# VHS At LaGrange;



Staff Photo—Darrell Thompson

PLAYERS CARRY COACH WRIGHT BAZEMORE OFF FIELD AFTER VICTORY  
Valdosta Clinches 1-AAA Football Championship With 7-6 Win Over LaGrange

# Obituaries

## MCKINLEY EDWARDS

McKinley Edwards, 64-year-old uncle of H. B. Edwards Jr. and Jesse T. Edwards of Valdosta, died at his home in Bryson City, N. C., Friday. Edwards was a lawyer and was a former state representative from Swain County, N. C. Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Sunday at Bryson City.

## E. T. PARKER

Edward T. Parker, 65, died this morning at Pineview General. He was born in Macon but lived in Remerton for the past 15 years. He was a member of Remerton Methodist Church. Survivors include his wife, five daughters, Mrs. Hazel Anchors of San Diego, Calif., Mrs. J. L. ... Mrs. K. E. Williams of ... Mrs. Celia Sheppard, and ... S. L. E. Paulk of Jacksonville. ... four sons, H. V. Parker of ... Chattanooga, Tenn., J. B. Parker ... New York, N. Y., G. W. Park- ... and J. E. Parker of Savan- ... Grandchildren and one great ... grandchild also survive. Three ... others, W. R. Parker of Remer- ... J. H. Parker and Harry ... Parker of Macon, a sister, Mrs. ... Vinson of Macon.

# Will Keep

**Continued From Page 1**  
the same time the proposal would She formerly was married to James Dougherty, a Los Angeles policeman, and to Joe DiMaggio, the former baseball star. Miller's first wife was the former Mary Grace Slattery. allow local authorities to set the salaries, he said.

A bill to eliminate the fee system died last year amid complaints some county governments could not pay the minimum \$7,500 salary recommended for sheriffs.

At a Waycross forum Friday night, Sanders had a suggestion as to how Georgia might get more out of its school teachers.

The senator said perhaps a solution to crowded schools and underpaid teachers might be a rotation of school terms to keep the schools open all year.

All pupils would be assured of their usual three months of vacation, he said, but the off-periods would be different for various groups. Teachers would work all year instead of nine months and the state would pay them proportionately.

Twitty told the Waycross group he believes there may be legislation in January to lay down ground rules for independents who want to run in General Elections. He said the proposed bill probably would prevent the situation where a candidate beat an opponent in the Democratic primary and then had to face him again the General Election.

# Viet Nam

**Continued From Page 1**  
failed to obey the right cause," he said. "I therefore, gave orders to the Vietnamese armed forces to settle the matter with them." The armed forces fulfilled their duty, he added, and the insurgents will be punished. He paid tribute to "those courageous combatants who died for the right cause."

The city had awakened to the sounds of gunfire.

Within 45 minutes pro-Diem broadcasts began coming from the radio station that had been in the hands of rebel paratroopers.

By afternoon the situation in the city was becoming calm again.

But a full assessment of the consequences of the apparently short-loved insurrection was not possible.

Large crowds of demonstrators and various political groups supported the insurgents during the uprising Friday.

Tryong Vinh Le, speaker of the pro-Diem national assembly, went on the air today and accused the insurgents of complicity with Communists and demanded that they be denounced and publicly punished.

The leaders of the revolt said they acted to overthrow Diem's "family dictatorship" and to strengthen the nation against Communist infiltration from North Viet Nam. Most of them have been labeled pro-Western in their sympathies.

The counterattacking army, navy and armored units, styling themselves the "liberation forces" broadcast that they recaptured the radio station, police and security headquarters and other key positions in the first 45 minutes.

# Hero of Greece Enters Politics

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Gen. George Grivas, hero of the underground struggle that brought independence to Cyprus, has entered politics in Greece. He says he wants "to create an honest



# Wildcat Billy Holtzclaw Nails Unidentified Granger

Valdosta Quarterback Bruce Bennett Closes In To Help Teammate with Tackle

# Cats Claw In Clutch

**Continued from Page 1**  
ing time remaining when Smith kicked the extra point that provided the Valdosta's margin of victory.

The LaGrange fans, a crowd of 7,000, at beautiful Callaway Stadium, were stunned. Many headed for the exit gates still trying to figure out how it happened.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	LaGrange
First Downs	6	4
Yards Rushing	92	36
Yards Passing	21	75
Passes	1-9	6-8
Passes Intercepted	0	1
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	6-29.4	10-28.8
Penalties	3-35	3-25

Valdosta's large delegation at the game poured onto the field and went more than slightly wild.

Bazemore, who has seen his team win many close ones, called it a "great finish by a great group of boys."

Burly line coach, Bill Kittrell wept tears of joy.

"Every boy who played did his part," Bazemore said.

Beside Ruffer, Bennett, Hatcher, and Smith the honor roll in-

# CHAMPS BY TOE

cludes Walter Zant, Clyo Blanton, Billy Blocker, Burnice Hiers, Stan Reaves, Tommy Tart, Bill Holtzclaw, Gary Minchew, Bill Myddleton, Skipper Prewitte, Ray Bennett, Charlie Harris, Bill Schroer, Alan Holt, Foy Norwood, Gerry Reaves, and Jimmy Adams.

It was all LaGrange in the first half. Besides their two scoring efforts the Grangers threw up a defense which kept the Wildcats on their side of the mid-field stripe.

In the second half it was VHS. The Wildcats had a thrust early in the third period halted by a penalty at the 20-yard line. At that time it looked like they had been dealt a crippling body blow.

However, they were only staggered, not knocked down. They took everything the Grangers threw at them for three periods then unleashed their own knock-out punch.

Although trailing most of the way and battling to overcome many bad breaks, the Wildcats never lost their poise or the desire to carry "the fight" to La-

Grange. The Grangers struck for a touchdown with unexpected swiftness in the first period. On Valdosta's first play from scrimmage, the Wildcats fumbled and tackle Joel Barden claimed it for the Grangers at the VHS 15.

Valdosta bowed its back and shoved LaGrange out to the 25. Then quarterback Ted Alford hit end Jim McClendon with passes good for 11 and 9 yards. Three plays later halfback Pat Hunnicutt scored from the one. Fullback Jerry Buttrum's PAT boot was wide and as it turned out the Grangers lost the ball game right then and there.

However, it didn't look like an extra point was going to figure in things when center Chuck Nixon intercepted a Valdosta pass as the close of the second quarter drew near.

He went 13 yards with the "theft" to the Valdosta 37. On the next play, Alford passed one to Hunnicutt which covered 31 yards and carried to the five. Three plays later Travis Calhoun plunged one yard for the Grangers second tally. Buttrum's placement was good this time.

The Granger's didn't know it at the time but they had had their timing and it was Valdosta's turn to bat.

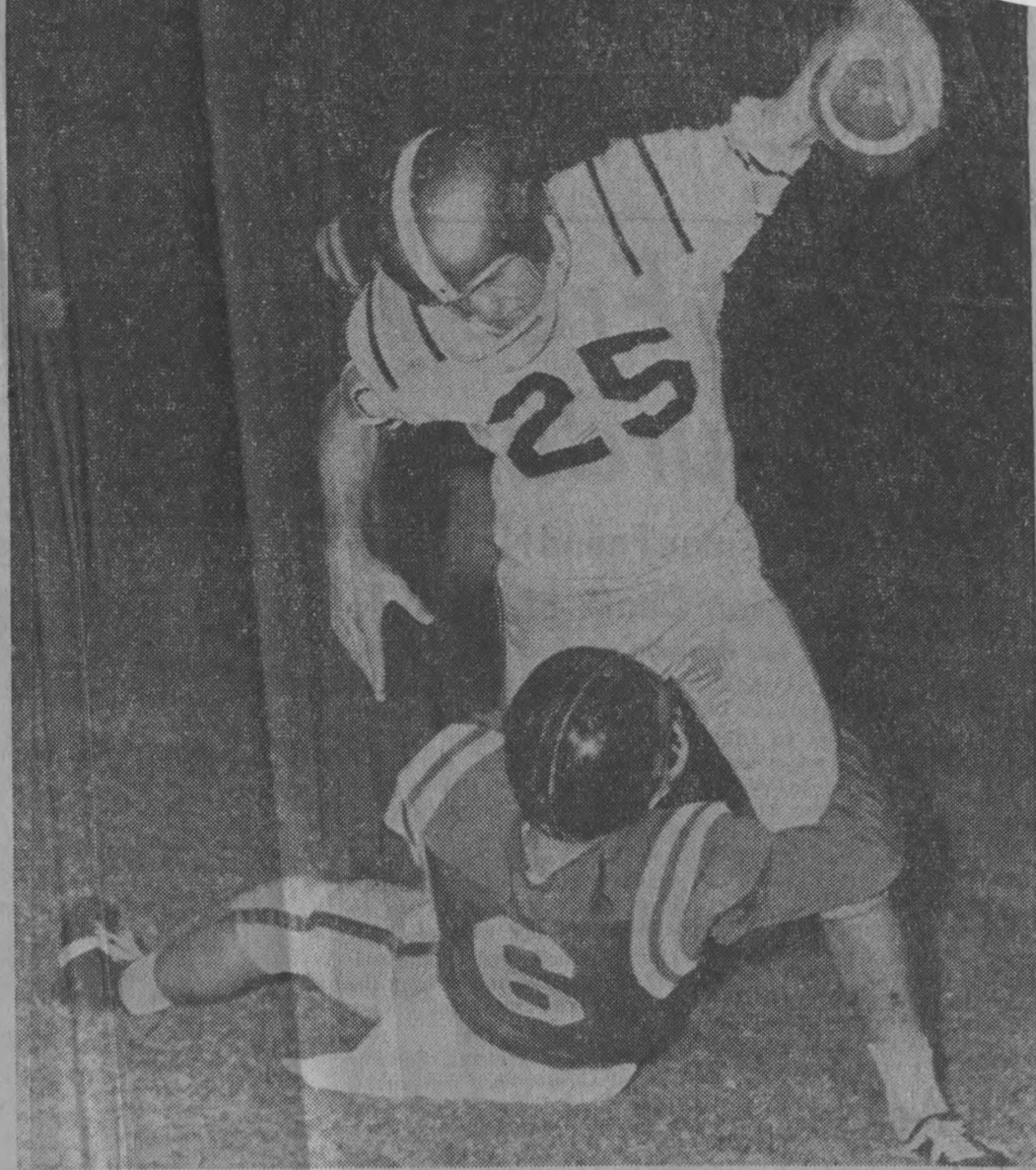
The Wildcats made their ground attack move well in the third stanza. In the fourth period they cracked the vaunted Granger defense down the middle. When Bennett threw the TD strike to Hatcher it was the first time in nine tries he had been able to connect.

Valdosta finished with only 92 yards rushing, but the Grangers got only 39. The defensive play was furious all the way.

Individual rushing figures for the Wildcats were Bennett, 13-37; Hiers, 10-27; Ruffer, 7-27; Smith, 3-7. Ruffer's punt return, Bennett's to Hatcher pass and Smith's accurate toe work, plus a rock-ribbed second half defense, were the weapons the Wildcats used to win.

Score by quarters:  
Valdosta 0 0 0 14 14  
LaGrange 6 7 0 0 13

Scoring TD's — Valdosta-Ruffer (60 yards punt return), Hatcher, (22-yard dash from Bennett); LaGrange, Hunnicutt, (one yard rush); Calhoun (1 yard run); PAT's Valdosta, Smith 2 (placement); LaGrange, Buttrum 1,



—Times Staff Photos

# Leggo or I'll Bop You with This Ball!

Granger Chuck Nixon Gets Ankle Hold on Dancing Quarterback Bennett

# DAUGHTER'S IN

By JACK POLLOCK  
Times Sports Correspondent  
QUITMAN — Fullback Howat Daughtry powered his way for 225 yards rushing and scored for

STATISTICS

	Brooks	Centr
First Downs	17	1
Yards Rushing	329	83
Yards Passing	36	2
Passes	2-6	1-1
Passes Intercepted	0	0

# VHS Plays Richmond Friday

## South Georgia Grid Title Up For Grabs At Augusta

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats and Richmond Academy's Musketeers, a pair of unbeaten football titans, will battle it out for the South Georgia Class AAA grid crown at Augusta on Friday night.

Valdosta, the 1-AAA champ, and Richmond, the 2-AAA titleholder, will carry matching 10-0 records into the game.

This will be the first meeting of football teams from the two schools.

Richmond made a bid for the South Georgia crown last year, but was beaten by Albany, 14-7.

This is Valdosta's first shot at the important championship since moving up to the "AAA" ranks in 1958. The Wildcats have ruled as state champions in both Class A and Class AA.

Richmond, top-ranked in the state and with a poundage edge and the home field advantage, has been pegged as a one to two touchdown favorite.

However, the young, but enthusiastic VHS crew upset the pre-season form chart, by winning 10 in a row during regular season play to claim the 1-AAA title. Their ambition now is to pull a major surprise and beat the Musketeers.

As is the usual custom for playoff games a statistical formula will be applied to break a deadlock in the event Valdosta and Richmond tie.

If the Wildcats and Musketeers finish even, the team with the most penetrations inside the other's 20 yard line will get a point, the one with the most first downs will get a point and the one with the most yards gained rushing and passing will get a point.

Tomorrow night's winner will claim a berth in the state finals against the North Georgia "AAA" champ. Avondale and North Fulton will meet to decide that issue on Friday.

Valdosta will be close to full strength for the "battle" at Augusta. Guard Frank Wetherington and linebacker Butch Luke, who missed the game with LaGrange two weeks ago, have rejoined the fold and are expected to play against the Musketeers.

The Wildcats had an open date last Friday while they waited for the 2-AAA race to end. They used the extra time preparing for the playoff fray and resting their injured.

"We are in pretty good physical shape," VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore said. "However a team can lose its sharp playing edge during a long layoff like we've had. We will just have to wait and see if the week off helped or hurt us."

Beside Wetherington and Luke, those likely to see action for Valdosta are Bill Blocker, Bill Holtzclaw, Bill Schroer, Bill Myddleton, Jimmy Adams, Ray Bennett, Allen Hot, Foy Norwood, Charlie

Harris, Walter Zant, Tommy Tart, Bruce Bennett, Kenny Ruffer, Giles Smith and Burnice Hiers.

Bazemore has used a modified two-platoon system throughout the season, so he may employ even more "troops" than those listed.

Richmond's regulars include ends Glenn Gray (180, jr.), John Perrow (165, sr.) and Johnny McCarthy (160, sr.), tackles Lee Lucky (180, sr.) and Bill Neighbors (215, jr.), guards Jim Carroll (165, jr.), Oliver Brown (175, jr.) and Donnie Williams (180, sr.), centers Paul McNeal (190, jr.) and Randy Smith (185, jr.), quarterbacks Billy Wood (170, sr.) and Jim Neuhaus (170, jr.), halfbacks Forrest Inglett (185, jr.) and Grady Luckey (170, sr.) and fullback Buddy Robinson (205, sr.).

Each team will have an All-State selectee in the backfield. Richmond's Robinson and Valdosta's Bruce Bennett were picked for those honors by the Associated Press this week.

The Wildcats built their spotless record by defeating Baker, Thomasville, Jordan, Lanier, Albany, Columbus, Moultrie, Wilingham, Warner Robins and LaGrange.

Richmond has rolled past Columbia, S. C.; North Augusta, S. C.; Glynn Academy, Riverside, Groves, Coffee County, Benedictine, Jenkins, Savannah and Aquinas.

Richmond has not had a close call this season. The Musketeers won all their games by at least a two-touchdown margin.

Valdosta had to go all-out for a 7-0 win over Albany and had to rally for a pair of TD's in the final eight minutes of the game to get by LaGrange, 14-13.

# Valdosta Will Seek Crown Tonight

By BOB PRICE

Times-Union Sports Writer

Valdosta's youthful and surprising Wildcats will attempt to add the South Georgia AAA championship to their 1960 laurels tonight in a test against big and experienced Richmond Academy on the Augusta team's home field.

Meanwhile, Waycross and Patterson will be shooting for South Georgia crowns in AA and B

divisions, respectively. Waycross journeys to Atlanta for a joust with Westminster while Patterson travels to Millen for a date with Jenkins County.

Valdosta, once the scourge of the AA ranks, will be making its first bid for a South Georgia title since hitting the AAA fold.

## Even Coach Surprised

This season was labeled as "rebuilding" one for Valdosta since the Wildcats are loaded with sophomores and freshmen. However, even wily Wright Bazemore, who is in his 21st season as Valdosta's head coach, was surprised when the Wildcats moved through 10 regular season opponents without a blemish.

Richmond, because of its size and experience, would enter the showdown battle a slight favorite, but the Wildcats were tagged the underdogs in at least three 1-AAA battles and came out on top each time.

The Augusta eleven will outweigh Valdosta's club around 15 pounds per man and the hefties include Don Gray, 220, Pete Gray,

180, at the ends; Buddy Neighbors, 215, and Ed Leggett, 205, at tackles.

Augusta's backs are also on the large size with Jim Robinson, a 215-pound fullback, Paul Inglett, 185, and Jimmy Luckie, 175, the club's leading scorers.

## Top Threats

Valdosta will send out 13 sophomores and two freshmen on the starting offensive and defensive units. Leading the Wildcats' scoring punch will be Bruce Bennett and Ken Ruffer with Giles Smith and Bernie Hiers holding down the other back spots.

Up front center Alan Holt, end Billy Blocker and guards Ray Bennett and Jimmy Adams carry the big load.

It will be the first meeting between Richmond and Valdosta, a school which wrapped up four AA state championships before joining the AAA division.

Waycross, with its first AA Region title salted away, takes aim on the state crown and its first hurdle will be Westminster. While this game is billed as the South Georgia championship affair, it is misnamed since Westminster is in the northern section. This is due to the fact that three of the four AA regions are in the north and 2-AA is the closest to the south region.

## Hurst Fabulous

Coach Earl O'Neal's outfit is led by fabulous Marvin Hurst, a hard-running halfback who led all 1-AA scorers, and stylish Darrell Page, a nifty ball-handler and aerial artist.

Patterson, still shaking from its narrow 2-1 penetration victory last Friday, runs into another strong defensive aggregation in Jenkins County.

However, followers of Region 1-B doubt if the Eagles offense led by Ray Kicklighter, Jim Boatwright and Eddie Echols will be contained two weeks in a row.

Tonight's playoff schedule with predicted winners in capital letters:

Valdosta, 1-AAA at RICHMOND ACADEMY, 2-AAA  
North Fulton, 3-AAA at AVONDALE, 4-AAA  
WAYCROSS, 1-AA, at Westminster, 2-AA  
ROSSVILLE, 3-AA at Gainesville, 4-AA  
Ware County, 1-A at DUBLIN, 2-A  
CARROLLTON, 3-A at North Habersham, 4-A  
PATTERSON, 1-B at Jenkins County, 2-B  
HOGANSVILLE, 3-B at Washington-Wilkes, 4-B

Last week's predicting record—four right, one wrong; season record—172 right; 38 wrong.

## VALDOSTA INCREASES FOOTBALL DRILL PACE

Valdosta's Wildcats have started serious work for a Friday night football meeting with the Richmond Academy Musketeers at Augusta.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats, the Region 1-AAA champs, will be meeting coach Frank Inman's Musketeers, the 2-AAA titleholders, in the playoff for the South Georgia "AAA" crown. The winner will get a shot at the state championship.

Last week, while VHS waited for the 2-AAA race to finish, the

'Cats followed a slowed-down drill program. But it will be full speed ahead for the Wildcats during the four days remaining before the championship battle.

Both Valdosta and Richmond are unbeaten.

The 'Cats compiled a 10-0 record by defeating Baker, Thomasville, Jordan, Lanier, Albany, Columbus, Moultrie, Wilkes, Warner Robins and LaGrange.

Richmond has an equally impressive 10-0 chart after triumphs

over Columbia, S. C.; North Augusta, S. C.; Glynn Academy, Riverside, Groves, Coffee County, Benedictine, Jenkins, Savannah and Aquinas.

The Musketeers are rated the number one Class AAA team in the state by the Associated Press. Valdosta is ranked second.

"We may have slowed down a little last week," Bazemore said.

Tickets for Friday's game between Valdosta and Richmond Academy went on sale here today at Belcher's Drug Store. Reserved seat, adult general admission and student tickets are being offered. Deadline for purchasing the tickets is Wednesday. Valdosta plays Richmond at Augusta on Friday for the South Georgia Class AAA football championship.

"but we have got plenty we want to try to do this week.

"Our scout report indicates Richmond is stronger than any team we played in our region this season. It has size, speed and depth. It's a better team than LaGrange and the boys know what that means."

The Wildcats had to rally for a pair of touchdowns in the final period to edge LaGrange, 14-13, in the game which clinched for them the 1-AAA crown.

This is Valdosta's first try at the South Georgia championship since moving up to "AAA" ranks in 1958. The 'Cats ruled as state champions on numerous occasions when they campaigned in the Class A and Class AA ranks.

Richmond has long been a state power in football and other sports. The Musketeers are in the South Georgia playoff for the second straight year. They were beaten by Albany, 14-7, in 1959.

BACK AT WORK NOW

## Wildcats Get First 'Football Holiday'

Valdosta's Wildcats went back to work on Tuesday after enjoying a rare "football holiday" on Monday.

Coach Wright Bazemore gave the newly crowned Region 1-AAA champs the day off Monday "as a reward for their victory over LaGrange." This coming Friday has also been declared a "football holiday" for the 'Cats.

The Wildcats beat LaGrange 14-13 last week to finish regular season play with a perfect 10-0 record, clinch the 1-AAA crown and earn a berth in the South Georgia "AAA" playoffs.

They must wait until Nov. 25 for the South Georgia championship battle, and they are slowing their drill pace some this week. Since mid-August when they launched pre-season drills, the Wildcats have practiced and played without interruption. They did not have an open date during the regular season.

Coaches are never sure whether a delay like the one the Wildcats are faced with now will help or hurt their team's chances in a tough encounter.

Sometimes a team will lose its sharp playing edge during a long wait. On the other hand, injured players have extra time to mend and often the "rest" will give the team renewed vitality.

"There is no need to worry about whether this extra time off will help or hurt us" Bazemore said. "We've got to wait and there's nothing we can do about it."

Valdosta will meet the 2-AAA champion in the South Georgia playoff. The race in that region

isn't settle yet, but Richmond Academy's Musketeers look like a lead-pipe cinch to finish ahead of the pack.

Richmond can sew up the title by beating Aquinas, a team with a so-so 2-5-2 record, this week.

The Musketeers have won nine in a row. They sailed past highly regarded Savannah, 28-7, last Friday.

This impressive victory moved them past Valdosta into the top ranked spot on the Associated Press high school rating list.

The Wildcats have already scouted Richmond and the Musketeers have sent scouts to see Valdosta in action.

If Richmond beats Aquinas this week as expected, under a rotation plan now in force, the Wildcats will have to go to Augusta for the playoff game next week.

# Valdosta's Bennett On All-State Team

By ROSS M. HAGEN  
Associated Press Sports Writer

Sixteen schools are represented on the Associated Press 1960 Georgia High School Class AAA All-State football team, one of the most evenly-balanced "cream-of-the-crop" squads the state has produced.

Six of the schools placed two men apiece on the dream team. Each of the others has one.

Bruce Bennett, Valdosta's master field general, is the only junior on the 22-man squad selected by the coaches for The Associated Press.

The line averages nearly 191 pounds a man and the backfield men weigh an average of 181 pounds.

The only repeater from the 1959 team is Winfred Bailey of Atlanta's O'Keefe High School. Bailey made the team this year as an end, although his coach, Dan Kennerly, said the rugged 175-pound senior plays fullback much of the time.

"He is the finest pass receiver I have ever seen," said Kennerly. "He is also a great linebacker."

Named to the other end posts were Bunny Richardson of Lanier, Jimmy Ney of Northside and

Ray Crawford of Columbus.

Crawford's coach, Fred McManus, had this to say of his star flankman: "I believe he is one of the finest players in the state."

Anchoring the tackle position is Jim Seward of Lanier, one of the most eagerly sought after high school players in Georgia. Harley Bowers, Macon Telegraph sports editor, rates Seward as easily the best high school lineman in the state and says he was in on nearly 80 per cent of his team's tackles this season.

The other All State tackles are Mike Earing whose bruising play helped North Fulton to an unbeaten record in regular season play; Joel Darden of LaGrange and Van Ellis of Moultrie.

Two Atlanta players, Jimmy Hobson of Murphy and Walter Preston of Southwest, dominated the guard position. They were joined in the glitter squad by Canteley Davis of Albany and David Smith of Benedictine.

Competition was roughest for center. Steve Slay of Atlanta's Southwest easily took one of the spots, but the other went to Johnny Williams of Savannah by a hair. Pushing him hardest for it were James Carroll of Marist, an All-Stater last year, and Jerry Davis of Grady.

Pete Dickens of Athens joins Bennett as the top prep signal callers in the state. He edged out Avondale's superb Eddie Pritchett and Jerry Gerst of Albany.

As usual, the state produced a bevy of talented halfbacks and coaches had trouble agreeing who was best. Their selections are David Truby of North Fulton in Atlanta, Jerry Doyal of Albany, Doug Jones of Richmond Academy and Alex Povilaitis of Grady.

Two big, rough boys share fullback laurels. They are Buddy Robinson of Richmond Academy, leading scorer in the state, and Billy Joe James of Savannah. Balloting was close with Valdosta's Kenny Ruffer and LaGrange's Jerry Buttrum pushing the leaders hardest.

**team**  
**ENDS**  
Bunny Richardson, Lanier 165 5-11 17

Jimmy Ney, Northside 182 6 18  
Winfred Bailey, O'Keefe 175 6 17  
Ray Crawford, Columbus 185 5-11 18

**TACKLES**  
Jim Seward, Lanier 195 6-1 17  
Mike Earing, North Fulton 205 5-11 18  
Joel Darden, LaGrange 193 6-2 18  
Van Ellis, Moultrie 195 6-2 18

**GUARDS**  
Jimmy Hobson, Murphy 210 5-10 18  
Canteley Davis, Albany 180 6-2 18  
Walter Preston, Southwest 185 6 17  
David Smith, Benedictine 195 5-11 17

**CENTERS**  
Steve Slay, Southwest 200 6-2 18  
Johnny Williams, Savannah 205 6 17

**QUARTERBACKS**  
Bruce Bennett, Valdosta 160 5-11 14  
Pete Dickens, Athens 180 6-1 17

**HALFBACKS**  
David Truby, North Fulton 165 5-11 17  
Jerry Doyal, Albany 182 5-11 17  
Doug Jones, Richmond Acad. 170 5-11 18  
Alex Povilaitis, Grady 188 6 18

**FULLBACKS**  
Buddy Robinson, Rich. Acad. 205 6-1 17  
Billy Joe James, Savannah 195 6-1 17

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
**TACKLES**  
Jerry Gill, Jordan; Bob Hennacke, Druid Hills; Calvin Loft, Avondale, Jim Smith, Athens; Buck Lofton, R. E. Lee; Dennis Kirk, Murphy; Tommy Tolbert, Roosevelt; Jerry Roper, Bass; Bill Jollock, Russell; Ray Richie, Southwest; Wesley Mashburn, West Fulton; Buddy Samples, North Fulton.

**ENDS**  
Tom Lewis, Southwest; John Steele, Grady; Don Baxter, Grady; Jerry Connor, Fulton; Jon Kilgore, North Fulton; Freddie Guy, Avondale, Howard Cook, R. L. Osborne, O. H. Barnard, Savannah; Charles Casey, Brown; Bob Crutchfield, East Atlanta; Don Burton, Lanier; Jack Brice, Albany; Chef Tucker, Athens; Carl Ackerman, Marist; Gene Brown, Jordan; Billy Boston, Cherokee; Billy Becker, Valdosta.

**GUARDS**  
Eddie Gorcha, Marietta; Butch Martin, R. E. Lee; Charles Hollaway, Northside; Bill Byddleton, Valdosta; Bill Schroer, Valdosta; Ronnie Scott, Southwest Dekalb; Lathrop Holder, Willingham.

**CENTERS**  
Jim Carroll, Marist; Claude Eskew, Smith; Danny Daniel, LaGrange; Allen Holt, Valdosta; Jerry Davis, Grady; Billy Seabrook, Sylvan; Bobby Guy, Athens.

**QUARTERBACKS**  
Edwin Pritchett, Avondale; Barry Wilson, Benedictine; Lynn Hughes, West Fulton; Jerry Gerst, Albany; Tommy Roberts, Sylvan; Jim Sudderth, North Fulton; Buddy Blankenship, O'Keefe; Wayne McDaniel, Murphy; John Breedlove, Lanier; Jimmy Pitts, Moultrie; Johnny Carson, Southwest.

**HALFBACKS**  
Ted Musial, Lanier; Mickey Lowery, Cherokee; Jerome Prince, South Cobb; Kenny Morris, Russell; C. Moore, Russell; Gordon Keenan, Aquinas; Johnny Tibbitts, Smith; Paul Jenkins, Southwest; Mickey Rivers, Lanier; Billy Haynes, Savannah; Cam Crockett, North Fulton; Ben Hinson, Northside; Bobby Hulsey, West Fulton; Hank Lehwald, Benedictine; Bill Sifton, Albany; Ralph Bray, Athens; Pat Hunnicutt, LaGrange; Jimmy Cavan, R. E. Lee; Larry Greene, Murphy.

**FULLBACKS**  
Dan Hughes, Fulton; Gene Drennon, Druid Hills; Johnny O'Kelly, Athens; Kenny Ruffer, Valdosta; Alfred Spence, Sylvan; Joel Dickens, Willingham; Mike Holston, West Fulton; Butch Norris, Russell; Mike Immell, Columbus; Jerry Buttrum, LaGrange.



**VHS Quarterback Bruce Bennett**  
Only Junior On AP All-State Team

## VHS THIRD

# Richmond Holds Lead In Class AAA Ranks

ATLANTA (AP)—All of this week's leaders in the Georgia High School football ratings will see action in playoff games Friday night.

The ratings are made by a board of 10 sports editors and writers representing all sections of the state. The poll is conducted by the Atlanta Journal.

This week's top 10 by classes:  
AAA — Richmond Academy, North Fulton, Valdosta, Avondale, Albany, Athens, Southwest, LaGrange, North side and a tie for 10th place between Benedictine and South Cobb.

Valdosta meets Richmond Academy at Augusta for the South Georgia championship. Avondale will play host to North Fulton for the North Georgia AAA title.

AA — Waycross, Rossville, Gainesville, Westminster, Newnan, Bainbridge, West Rome, Chamberlaine, Cairo and Wayne County.

The South Georgia AA playoff between Waycross and Westminster will be held in Atlanta's Grady Stadium. Rossville visits Gainesville for the North Georgia AA championship.

A—Carrollton, North Habersham, Dublin, Ware County, Cartersville, Statesboro, Winder, Americus, Summerville and Brooks County tied for 9th.

In playoffs, Ware County is at Dublin and Carrollton at North Habersham.

B—Patterson, Washington-Wilkes, Hogansville, Turner County, Bowdon, Jenkins County, Morgan County, Vidalia, Roswell and Rabun County.

Class B playoffs will feature Patterson at Jenkins County and Hogansville at Washington-Wilkes.

C — Lincolnton, Dade County, Coosa, Sparta, Georgia Military College, Putnam County, Bremen, Monticello, Georgia School for Deaf and Warren County.

The Site of the Class C state championship game will be decided at a meeting of Dade County and Lincolnton officials this afternoon in Atlanta.

NET PAID

CIRCULATION

13,328

For Fri., Nov. 25

Member Audit Bureau of Circulations

# The Valdosta Daily Times

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and slightly warmer today with a high of 72. Fair and mild tonight with a low of 55. Fair and mild Sunday with a high of 72.

VOL. 56—No. 36.

VALDOSTA, GA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1960

Member of The Associated Press

## Valdosta Beats Richmond, 2-0; To Play State Title Here Friday



Kenny Ruffer Finds Small Hole, Makes Short Gain

Big Richmond Line Held Wildcats to 0-0 Tie



Wildcat Fullback Burnice Hires Fights For Yardage

Valdosta Captain Was Workhorse of Attack in Hard Fought Battle At Augusta

### Penetration Cats' Margin

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

AUGUSTA — Valdosta's wonderful Wildcats stand knocking at the Class AAA state football championship door after staging a second half uprising here Friday night to earn a 2-0 "statistical" victory over Richmond Academy's favored Musketeers.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and coach Frank Inman's Musketeers swapped bruises for four periods. When it was over the count was 0-0.

But by the margin of one first down and 36 yards VHS garnered two points under a statistical formula used to break playoff game deadlocks.

That gave the 'Cats their 11th straight triumph, the South Georgia AAA championship, and a shot at the state crown. The Wildcats will meet Avondale, the North Georgia titleholder, in the state championship showdown next Friday at Valdosta.

Ancient, wooden-decked Richmond Academy Stadium groaned from an overflow crowd estimated at 10,000 as the Musketeers, listed first on three different rating charts, came out second best to an outweighed but not outplayed underdog VHS crew. It was the first setback for the Augusta eleven after 10 straight wins.

When the final horn sounded with a score 0-0, official statisticians Erskine Mills and Jack Croft checked their figures. VHS led in first downs, 12-11. That gave the Wildcats one point. In the total net yards gained department 'Dosta was ahead, 187-151. That was good for another VHS point. Each team made two penetrations inside the other's 20 yard line. Neither side first.

Continued On Page 2

### Road Deaths Pass 200 Mark in U. S.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nation's highway death toll mounted past the 200 mark today as normal weekend travelers swelled the volume of Thanksgiving holiday traffic.

### \$200,000 Ransom Frees Rich Sportsman in Calif.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. — A wealthy sportsman held 24 hours by kidnapers was reportedly under guard today as authorities sought a convicted murderer they said helped kidnap him.

### WHAT'S WHAT?

Keep up the highway alertness in this area, plead traffic enforcement authorities.

Only one injury has been reported in the area since the long Thanksgiving holiday began on Thursday.

Officers point out this is a great improvement for an area which has nearly doubled its number of traffic fatalities during this year.

So watch them — and yourself — on the highways.

### Hahira Gets Grant For Sewer System

### Negroes Picket Despite Appeal

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Negroes resumed picketing of department and variety stores Saturday despite an appeal from the klansmen.

Thirty hooded but unmasked klansmen paraded in single file in front of Rich's department store, mingling with holiday shoppers crowding the sidewalks.

Shortly before noon, Negro pickets appeared on opposite sides of streets around the store.

Klan leaflets passed out to shoppers called for "action now" to maintain segregation. Negroes handed out leaflets headed "your turn to act for freedom."

A leader of Negro sit-in demonstrations against segregated eating facilities at the stores said

### MOUS

### Kennedy Feels Fine and New Son

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. John F. Kennedy visited his son today and reported both were

...ing he, too, felt "fine." ...e went to Florida on Thanksgiv-

# Valdosta, Waycross Represent South Georgia in Grid Playoffs

By BOB PRICE  
Times-Union Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga., Nov. 26—Deep South Georgia owns representatives in the top two brackets of the Georgia High School Association's football playoffs as AAA Valdosta defeated Richmond Academy on penetrations here last night and Waycross ran wild for a 33-0 victory over Westminster in an AA affair at Atlanta.

Next Friday is championship night and Valdosta will take on Avondale, a 13-6 victor over Atlanta North Fulton, and Waycross will meet Gainesville, which blanked Rossville, 12-0, last night.

Elsewhere in the title picture—Patterson lost a penetration duel to Jenkins County in Class B; Ware County of Waycross was ousted in Class A by defending champion Dublin, 28-7; and Carrollton gained the other A title berth by shutting out Habersham, 19-0.

Valdosta Coach Wright Bazemore didn't mind a trip to the swimming pool despite dipping temperatures and he wasn't too concerned over winning on pen-

trations. "We won and that's what counts," grinned Bazemore as he shuddered in the night air after pulling himself from the water.

## Pair of Firsts

It will be the first AAA championship game for Valdosta, which ruled the AA throne room four times, and it is the first AA crown chance for Waycross. Both teams sport perfect 11-0 records.

Valdosta treated its backers, who comprised about one-tenth of the 10,000 on hand for the affair, with the same type of game the Wildcats have played all season to record their perfect 11-0 figure. The Wildcats used speed and trickery to baffle their foe, which outweighed them 20 pounds per man.

All-State quarterback Bruce Bennett was the triggerman in the Valdosta backfield, but it was the line work, led by center Allen Holt, tackles Robert Gron-dahl and Billy Schroer and ends Billy Blocker and Butch Luke which was the real difference.

Except for the early portion of

the game the little hustlers from Valdosta submarined, gang-tackled and out-charged the hefty Musketeers, who were paced in the line by Bill Neighbors, Glenn Gray and Paul McNeal.

## Workhorses Plentiful

Both clubs displayed real workhorses with Bennett and Burnice Hiers, a power-laden swift, carrying the Valdosta offensive burden while all-state fullback Buddy Robinson and halfback Grady Luckey were the Richmond mainstays. Bennett carried the ball 11 times for 42 yards and passed 12 times for 82 while Hiers made 93 yards in 18 attempts. Luckey was the busiest Musketeer with 59 yards in 16 efforts and Robinson had 43 in 13 trips.

Richmond entered the game a two-touchdown favorite and the Musketeers gave early evidence of living up to their reputation. In four plays after the opening whistle Richmond carried the ball to the Valdosta 45 before losing possession due to a fumble. And before the first period was over the Musketeers had their first penetration, reaching the Valdosta 19 before being halted. And mid-way in the second quarter Richmond collected its other penetration by reaching the Wildcats' 14 before the Valdosta crew stiffened to take over.

Valdosta gained only 39 yards in the first half, but with Bennett and Hiers working smoothly on running plays and little Kenny Ruffer keeping Richmond loose with his long punt returns, the Wildcats controlled the second half.

## Coach Takes Blame

Richmond Coach Frank Inman declared blame for the loss was his. "They did everything I told them to do, but we gave them the wrong dope in the late stages. We thought we needed only four first downs to win and they made that methodically, then we were told that we had to score and our efforts to do that just failed. However, all we'd have had to do to win was penetrate the Valdosta 20, but instead we went for the 'home run' score. On the other hand we were defeated by a good ball club and their hustle and determination paid off."

Bazemore, who is in his 21st year at Valdosta, isn't going to think about Avondale until Monday. The genial Wildcat skipper was all grins after the game and said, "Shoot, man, I liked it. We beat a good ball club. I'm real proud of these boys. I told you they'd scrap and wouldn't give up real easy."

Bazemore said, "I had a man walking right along with that Georgia High School Association statistician and he was keeping up with what was going on."

# AVONDALE WON'T KICK TO VALDOSTA'S RUFFER

## Wildcats' Scatback Claims 543 Yards on Punt Returns

By GENE ASHER

Avondale High's Blue Devils will face the state's most dangerous punt returner Friday night.

Kenny Ruffer, Valdosta's 155-pound sophomore safety man, has run back 28 kicks for 543 yards. He has scored touchdowns on six of the returns and set up touchdowns on three others.

Ruffer helped denture State AAA champion Albany this year with a 20-yard return the first time he touched the ball and he helped eliminate LaGrange from title contention with 65-yard returns in the final quarter.

"Ruffer," commented Valdosta coach Wright Bazemore, "is one of the finest running prospects we have had here. He gets away quickly and does a great job of pointing out blocks and following interference."

Avondale will take no chances with the elusive scatback when it bids for the State Class AAA championship Friday night at Avondale.

"There is only one way to stop Ruffer," Avondale coach Calvin Ramsey said Wednesday. "Don't kick to him. We plan to punt out of bounds every time we have to punt."

"I don't care how shallow the kicks are," Ramsey added, "as long as Ruffer doesn't get his hands on any of them."

Avondale and Valdosta are

expected to be at near full strength for the title battle. The Blue Devils will be missing only Mike Stinson who hasn't played since the final game of the regular season. Harry Glenn has been working in his place. The Wildcats will have every man ready but end Bunky Henry who hasn't played a game this year. He fractured a leg before the season started.

The Blue Devils will start an all-senior team against the young but cat-quick Valdostans. Fifteen seniors are scheduled for duty, including three who played in the State Class AA championship game with Avondale two years ago.

QUARTERBACK ED Pritchett, tackle Calvin Lott and guards Bruce Tallant and Mike Herron all made the trip to Thomasville in 1958 when the Blue Devils won a share of the title. Pritchett, Tallant and Lott all started.

Avondale worked out in sweat clothes Tuesday and planned to work only lightly Wednesday and Thursday.

"From here on," Ramsey said "all we will do is sharpen our



Bruce Tallant      Ronnie Campbell

timing, and practice kicking—out of bounds."

The Blue Devils will leave Avondale for Valdosta at 6 a.m. Friday. They will be followed by approximately 1,500 fans.

# Valdosta-Richmond Game At Least 3rd In Series

Notes On This And That:

Richmond Academy coach Frank Inman and I are in the same boat. Last week we both got hold of "some bad information."

Inman's "bad information" was that in the closing stages of last Friday's game with Valdosta he thought his Musketeers had to have a TD to win. Instead they needed only a first down and 15 more yards.

Inman called for a pass play, but great defensive work by VHS' Bill Schroer and Bill Myddleton made it backfire and the 'Cats went on to claim the South Georgia Class AAA championship.

My "bad information" didn't result in anything quite that serious. Before Valdosta went to Richmond I claimed in a story that it was the first gridiron meeting for the Wildcats and Musketeers.

Thanks to Fred Nijem, I now know that isn't correct. Valdosta and Richmond met in 1933 and 1934. Nijem should know. He was a guard on those VHS teams coached by Bobby Hooks.

In 1933 the Wildcats trimmed the Musketeers, 32-14. In 1934 Richmond was a 21-8 victor.

So instead of the first, it was at least the third football game between Valdosta and Richmond. I say at least, because there might have been other contests even before Nijem's time.

Speaking of that controversial call for a pass play last Friday, Inman takes the blame for the decision. "I sent in a substitute with instructions to try a pass," Inman said. "Our quarterback (Billy Wood) shouldn't be blamed."

Asked to summarize the Valdosta team after the playoff affair, Inman said "they play like they are supposed to."

## Don't Mention Penetrations

One couldn't blame the Richmond folks if they favor abolishing the use of a statistical formula to break playoff game deadlocks.

I was at Augusta in 1947 when Richmond ran all over Lanier. But the game ended in a tie and Lanier won on "penetrations," the only factor considered as a tiebreaker in those days.

I also understand the Musketeers lost to Albany on "statistics" in 1952.

That Richmond-Lanier affair in 1947 resulted in the present three-point formula where first downs, total yards gained and penetrations are all considered.

The All-State results for Class AAA are in now, and a half-dozen Valdosta players are to be congratulated. On the AP list Bruce Bennett was a first-team selectee and Allen Holt, Bill Schroer, Bill Myddleton, Bill Blocker and Kenny Ruffer were picked for honorable mention.

Next out was the Atlanta Journal-Constitution picks. Holt was tapped for first team honors and Blocker, Bennett and Ruffer were on the Honorable Mention list.

All these Wildcats deserved the honors they received and more. But according to my way of thinking there are quite a few other VHS players who deserve places on the All-State squads.

## Ticket Deal Explained

But picking all-star teams is a difficult task. There are never enough berths to include all the boys who should be honored.

And the real truth of the matter is that overall team excellence and not individual brilliance is responsible for Valdosta getting a shot at the state championship.

Here is the full deal on the sale of reserved seat tickets for the Valdosta-Avondale game. The sale starts Wednesday morning at Barnes' Drug Store.

Fans that had reserved seats during the regular season have until noon Thursday to purchase their same seats for the championship affair. At the same time there will be other reserved seat ducats offered on a first-come-first-serve basis with a limit of four to a customer.

Cleveland Field's normal seating capacity is 6,400. There will be seats added for the state title battle, raising the seating capacity to 8,000. A full house is expected—no doubt.



GLASSMAN

# High School Gridders At 'Moment of Truth'

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The playoffs are finally over and the stage is being set today for the final act of the 1960 Georgia high school football campaigns.

Seven regional champions were named Friday night, joining three who had won titles earlier.

The Class B title game was the only one definitely scheduled. It will be played Friday night in Washington between Washington-Wilkes and Jenkins County.

Dates and sites of the other four title games were not announced immediately.

Here are the opponents, by class:

- AAA—Valdosta vs. Avondale.
- AA—Waycross vs. Gainesville.
- A—Dublin vs. Carrollton.
- C—Dade County vs. Coosa.

In games played Friday night, Valdosta edged Richmond Academy 2-0 for the South Georgia AAA title; Avondale upset North Fulton 13-6 in the North AAA championship game; Waycross rolled over Westminster 33-0 for the South AA crown; Gainesville stopped Rossville 12-0 in the North AA finale; Carrollton whipped North Habersham 19-0 for the North A crown; Dublin upended Ware County 28-7 for South A honors and Jenkins County edged Patterson 15-13 for the South B championship.

Washington - Wilkes won the North B title earlier. The Class C finalists, Dade County and Coosa, also were determined earlier.

Avondale found the golden path to a state championship title shot in its first year in AAA competition on the winged feet of quarterback Ed Pritchett.

He scored twice on 28 - yard runs and skirted end for an extra point, thus accounting for all of Avondale's points.

North Fulton scored first when Ronnie Fowler smashed over from the 1 and it appeared the Atlanta outfit would march to an easy victory. But Avondale surprised the overflow crowd of 12,000 by stealing the play away from the Bulldogs.

Waycross squelched any doubts about its prowess as a football power by the way it walked over a good Westminster team. Only 4,000 persons turned out in Atlanta's Grady Stadium to witness the lop-sided affair.

Fullback Harry Bennett hit pay dirt twice for Waycross. Darrell Page, Joey McQuaig and Bryan Clarke scored the other TDs. Jimmy Guy, a 6-foot-5, 235 - pound tackle, kicked three extra points.

The ponderous Waycross line effectively contained Westminster's hard running back, Peyton Robinson.

Gainesville's Red Elephants had plenty to trumpet about after their conquest of Rossville. Although they came out on the short end of the statistics, the victorious Elephants bore down when it counted. Gainesville's touchdowns came on a 1-yard plunge by John Rogers and a 98-yard pass interception by Royce Anderson.

Dublin, the only 1959 champion with a chance to repeat, scored in every quarter to down Ware County and again win the South Georgia A crown. Halfback Billy Riner, end Wayne Thomas, quarterback Ronnie Baggett, Tennyson Coleman and Ben Snipes each scored one touchdown for the victorious Irish.

Carrollton earned a shot at Dublin's crown by upending North Habersham for the North Georgia A title. Fullback Howard Nixon was the triggerman in Carrollton's attack. He gained 122 yards and scored a touchdown.

Walter Landing scored both of Jenkins' touchdowns against Patterson, one on a 70-yard punt return. Quarterback Roy Kicklighter scored one of Patterson's TDs and passed for the other. Jenkins won the game by making more first downs and more moves inside the opponents 20-yard line.

LOOK ALIKES

# Valdosta's Just Like Avondale--- Can't Do Anything But Beat You

By CHARLIE ROBERTS

Valdosta's Wildcats and Avondale's Blue Devils may think they are looking in a mirror when they meet Friday night in Valdosta (8 o'clock) for the state Class AAA high school football crown. They are "look alike."



Wright Bazemore

Wright Bazemore's bounders, like Calvin Ramsey's up-state kings, are exceptionally small for championship contenders. They have great team speed, lean heavily on a quarterback who can move the ball with the best.

The Wildcats (11-0), like the Blue Devils (12-0), were only dark horses when the season began, but went all the way. Both teams two-platoon at from six to 10 positions to a confusing degree, moving ends to linebacker, guards to tackle, etc., etc., etc.

You may not be able to tell who's in the ball game even with a program. But you'll always be cognizant of the fact that Bruce Bennett, Kenny Ruffer and Allen Holt are in the Valdosta lineup with or without a program—just as you'll realize that Ed Pritchett, Chuck Belcher and Mike Heron are doing heavy duty for Avondale.

Bennett, 145-pound junior, beat out defensive whiz Tommy Tart for the offensive quarterback spot early in the campaign for a simple reason. He could move the ball better.

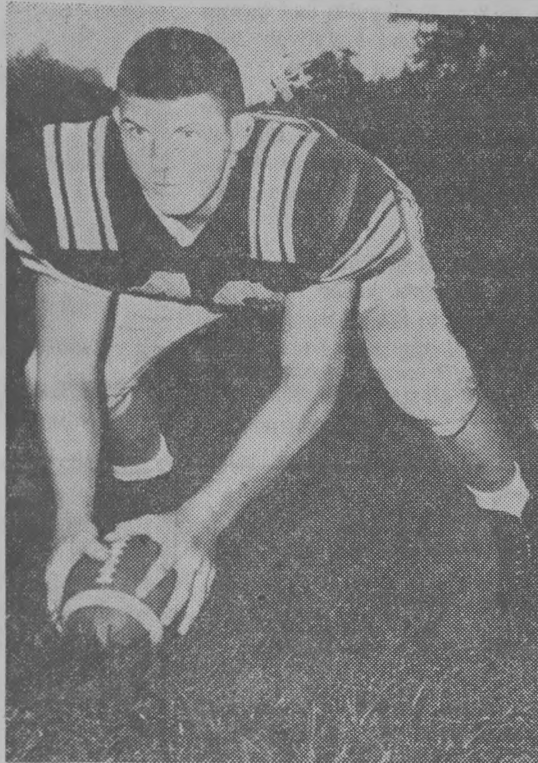
He's been moving it all year as the Wildcats rolled up 271 points to 40 for 10 regular-season foes. He's been his own best "horse," rolling up 601 yards on 91 keepers for a 6.6 yards-per-carry average. And he scored 72 points.

Some folks say Bennett, an Associated Press all-state selectee, can't pass. But Oliver Hunnicutt, veteran LaGrange coach, warns, "Don't let anybody tell you that. Valdosta's not basically a throwing team, but Bennett's a very good passer."

Ruffer, sensational and very fleet 158-pound sophomore, has galloped 419 yards on 78 totes (5.4), but his forte is returning punts. Ruffer hauled back 28 boots for a fantastic 536 yards, fracturing the old Region 1-AAA mark (320 yards) set by Jordan's Ray Timmons in 1955.

Holt, a 180-pound senior center, is a brilliant defensive performer and was picked to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution all-state team. He and Billy Blocker, 175-pound senior end, lead the knifing, fast-striking defensive troops along with Bennett.

Halfback Giles Smith, brother of Georgia Tech fullback Ben Smith, hauled leather 63 times for 339 yards and a 5.4 average. Tabbed for future greatness, the 145 pounder led 1-AAA punters this



## VALDOSTA'S ALLEN HOLT

All-Stater Faces Avondale

term by averaging 36.75 on 28 boots. Smith, pressed into extra-point duties when PAT artist Bunky Henry was injured in the second game, has place-kicked true on 24 occasions.

Burnice Hiers, 165-pound senior fullback, gouged out 345 hard yards on 75 trips (4.6) and proved his ruggedness by leading all luggers in the 2-0 "penetration system" playoff victory over Richmond Academy last week. Hiers tramped 81 yards on 20 carries while Bennett was rushing for 47 and completing seven of nine passes for 63 yards against the Augustans.

Bazemore goes on offense with Bill Holtzclaw, 145-pound junior, and Charlie Harris, 140-pound senior, at ends. Tackles are sophs Bill Schroer (178) and Bill Myddleton (183), both very outstanding. Senior 165-pounders Ray Bennett, no kin to Bruce, and Jimmy Adams, man the guards.

Soph Stan Reeves (140), junior Butch Luke (160) and soph Cyo Blanton (160) are linebacking specialists, and senior Tart (160) is a sound defensive sideback.

"This club won't impress you or overpower you," says Sam Glassman Jr., sports editor of the Valdosta Times. "But these players, like all of Bazemore's in the past, will strike you—and beat you."

# Valdosta Takes Triple-A Crown

By BOB PRICE  
Times-Union Sports Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga., Dec. 2—Valdosta's fighting sophomores, sparked by junior quarterback Bruce Bennett, cashed in on a one-foot plunge with just 29 seconds left in the game to defeat Avondale, 20-14, and win the Georgia AAA football championship here tonight before 9,000 in Cleveland Stadium.

Bennett's plunge capped a drive of 59 yards which took 17 plays and every inch was made on quick-opening thrusts up the middle.

Capt. Allen Holt led the Wildcats' spirited play which held Avondale to a mere six yards by rushing.

However, Avondale, with All-State quarterback Eddie Pritchett doing the pitching, made it a ball game all the way as the Blue Devils netted 163 yards on five completions in 11 attempts.

Ray Bennett, Foy Norwood, Jimmy Adams, Billy Holtzclaw and Billy Blocker were among other linemen who made it next to impossible for Avondale to gain on the ground.

This was Valdosta's first AAA crown but the Wildcats, under the tutelage of Coach Wright Bazemore, have won six AA titles in the last 21 years. The last championship for Valdosta was in 1957.

Valdosta, which was supposed to be two years away from title contention, finished its 1960 campaign with 12 straight wins, including a penetration victory over highly-favored Richmond Academy last week in Augusta.

Valdosta meant business tonight, scoring the first two times it gained possession of the ball. Bennett was the first to hit paydirt, sweeping wide around right end from the one to complete a drive of 45 yards in 13 plays with 3:50 left in the first quarter. This march was started when Pritchett, badly rushed, kicked off the side of his foot for only seven yards.

Giles Smith made it 7-0 when he connected on the first of two placements. Midway in the second period, Valdosta took over again and moved 63 yards in 12 plays with Smith going the last 29 on a beautifully executed pass from Bennett.

Avondale took to the air for its first TD with 5:38 left in the second quarter. Pritchett, faking an end sweep, fired a 30-yard pass to Jimmy Guy who was in the clear and breezed over the last 22 for a 52 yard touchdown play. Guy added the point and it was 14-7 in favor of Valdosta at halftime.

The Blue Devils went to the air again with 5:49 left in the third period as Pritchett, first faking a throw to Guy, threw crossfield to Mike Herron for 26 yards and the score. Pritchett tied it up with a perfect boot from placement.

The ball game rocked between the 30s until Valdosta took over on its own 41 for the game-winning march.

Statistically, the Wildcats had it all their own way, making 17 first downs to seven for the visitors. The hometowners also rolled up 230 yards from scrimmage with Kenny Ruffer being the big gainer with 91 yards in 17 carries.

Following the game, Bazemore, who is scheduled to enter the

hospital tomorrow for a kidney operation, was presented with a new automobile by the Wildcat fans.

# Devils, Valdosta Hit Hard, Fast

(Jack Fligg, head coach of Grady High, scouted Avondale against South Cobb. Avondale beat South Cobb, 33-13.)

By JACK FLIGG

Avondale High's football team is soundly schooled in fundamentals. It does everything well—run, block, tackle, pass and kick.

It can play control football and deliver the home run. And it can prevent a break-a-way type offense from making the long gain.

Ed Pritchett, the quarterback, is one of the most dangerous football players I've seen. He can beat you with a run, pass, kick or defensive play.

Basically, Avondale is a T formation team. It runs most of its plays from the double slot and occasionally uses a wing slot. It most always sends one of the halfbacks in motion.

Although Pritchett is the key to the offense, the backfield is well-balanced. Pritchett rolls out on every play, faking to the halfbacks or fullback or handing off. Both of the halfbacks, Chuck Belcher and Jimmy Thompson, and the fullback, Tommy Carlisle, are fast enough to go all the way. Belcher,

(Lawrence Thompson, head coach of Murphy High, scouted Valdosta against Richmond Academy and LaGrange. Valdosta beat Richmond Academy, 2-0, on the penetration system and LaGrange, 14-13.)

By LAWRENCE THOMPSON

Valdosta High's Wildcats hit harder and faster than any team I've seen. They have great team pursuit. Everybody goes for the ball carrier. It is almost impossible to run wide on them.

They can score from any point on the field. They are dangerous with the off-tackle play, the sweep and up the middle. And they can kill you with a punt return.

Valdosta has no individual stars. Its most dangerous runner is a sophomore, Kenny Ruffer, the safety man. But the team is well-balanced.

Valdosta runs from a straight T formation and most always flanks a man and splits an end. It occasionally works from a double-wing setup.

The bread-and-butter play is the quarterback option with Bruce Bennett running or passing. Bennett runs well inside and outside. He is an average passer. Fullback Burnice Hiers also can



Mike Herron



Calvin Lott



Ed Pritchett

in particular, is a threat on the reverse and off-tackle run.

Pritchett is not a great passer but he throws well enough to keep the defense honest. Avondale sticks mainly to a ground game so the passing plays only a minor role.

The entire team has exceptionally good speed. The line is small, averaging about 175 pounds, but it hits with force and it gets away quickly. Every man on the team is a good blocker.

The bread and butter play is the option on which Pritchett rolls out and either runs, passes or hands off.

Defensively, Avondale uses mainly a 6-2-2-1. The line does a good job of getting to the ball. Tackle Calvin Lott and guard Mike Herron are difficult to block and usually stop every play coming in their vicinity.

The defense does an outstanding job of protecting against the home run. Pritchett is an excellent safety man. It is suicide to throw in his zone. If he makes an interception he is liable to take it back all the way.

The team as a whole has no obvious weakness. The club is small but it makes up for it with great team speed and good execution of plays.

go wide or up the middle. His favorite play is the off-tackle run. He's dependable in the clutch.

Although Bennett is no great passer, he can get the job done. He throws a short pass well.

With Ruffer running punts back, Valdosta is as dangerous on defense as it is on offense. Ruffer gets started quickly. He beat LaGrange with a 65-yard punt return and beat Albany with a long return.

Not only does Ruffer get a quick start but so does everyone else. The linemen set up a wall for the return almost immediately after the ball is snapped. Ruffer will have at least three blockers in front of him as soon as he gets under way.

Valdosta uses a 5-4 defense with the tackles inside and the linebackers outside. The line is light, averaging about 165 pounds. But it starts quickly, gets good penetration and gang tackles well.

Allen Holt, who plays head-on the center; Bill Myddleton and Robert Grondahl, the tackles, and Foy Norwood, the center, form the core of the defense.

If the team has any fault, it is covering enemy pass receivers. But they offset this by putting tremendous pressure on the passer.

## Valdosta Seeks AAA Football Title Tonight

By BOB PRICE  
Times-Union Sports Writer

Valdosta is the only South Georgia City hosting a Georgia High School football championship game tonight and the hometown Wildcats will rule as slight favorites over Avondale in AAA.

Waycross, rated as Georgia's top grid team regardless of class, travels to Gainesville for the AA title clash while the Class A championship will be determined at Thomaston between defending champion Dublin and Carrollton.

Washington-Wilkes will entertain Jenkins County of Millen in the Class B championship while Lincoln and Dade County tangle for the Class C bunting.

### New Champions Seen

There will be at least four new champions after tonight as Dublin is the only 1959 king in the finals' lineup and the South Georgians are favored to keep the flag for a second straight year.

The other 1959 kingpins—Albany, Wayne County, Morgan County and Hawkinsville failed to make it this year. The first three were ousted in region action while Hawkinsville was moved up in class and finished second in its B region.

Valdosta, which was supposed to be in the rebuilding stages, completed its regular season with 10 consecutive victories and then edged Richmond Academy, 2-0, last Friday by leading in first downs 12-11 and in yardage gained 187-155.

The Wildcats are loaded with undergraduate talent as 13 sophomores and two freshmen are on the starting offensive and defensive units.

### First AAA Shot

This will be the first AAA title shot for both Valdosta, which won four AA crowns before graduating to the top bracket. Avondale, playing its first year in AAA circles, gained the final round by pulling a mild upset over Atlanta North Fulton, 13-6, last Friday.

Waycross, which plastered defeats on two AAA clubs—Benedictine, unbeaten at the time, and Coffee County on its way to a perfect 10-0 regular season, will be seeking its first AA championship. The well-balanced Bulldogs thumped Westminster, 33-0, in the semifinals last week while Gainesville blanked Rossville, 12-0, for the North Georgia banner.

Dublin will be playing on the same field where it won the 1959 crown. Last year's victim was Summerville. The Irish had to perk up on defense last fall to quell three Summerville threats within the seven-yard line.

The B title clash is a rematch affair since Washington-Wilkes defeated Jenkins County in a regular season contest. However Jenkins finished the year strong and the game is rated as a toss-up. Jenkins needed a 2-1 edge in penetrations to oust previously unbeaten Patterson, 15-14, in a game which ended in a 13-13 deadlock.

Every title game will be loaded with stars both in the line and backfield. Among the top performers will be Valdosta's Kenny Ruffer, a breakaway artist; all-state Bruce Bennett, a slight-of-hand signal caller; Allen Holt and Billy Blocker; Waycross' Darrell Page and Marvin Hurst; Avondale's Ronnie Campbell and Bruce Talant; Gainesville's Royce Anderson and Jimmy Kemp; Rossville's Billy Arnold and Bud Blansit; Dublin's Ronnie Baggett and Wayne Thomas; Washington-Wilkes' Johnny Gresham and John Harvey; Carrollton's Jack White, Howard Nixon and Robert Williamson.

Tonight's schedule with predicted winners in capital letters: Avondale at VALDOSTA; WAYCROSS at Gainesville; DUBLIN vs. Carrollton at Thomaston; Jenkins County at WASHINGTON-WILKES; LINCOLN at Dade County. Last week's winning record—five right, two wrong. Season record—17 right, 28 wrong.

# Packed House, Cold Seen For Grid Duel

State Title Goes On Line

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Clear, but cold, weather and a record crowd are in the offing for tonight's state championship football battle here between the Valdosta Wildcats and Avondale Blue Devils.

The weatherman says temperatures will be in the 40 to 45 degree range when the gridiron action gets underway at 8 p. m.

But more than 8,000 fans, "armed" with overcoats, ear muffs blankets and other assorted cold weather gear, are expected to be on hand at Cleveland Field to see the unbeaten 'Cats and Imps vie for the Class AAA grid crown.

Bleacher seats have been erected in the end zone and chairs have been placed along the side lines, raising the seating capacity at the local stadium from 6,500 to 7,500.

A total of 2,812 reserved seat tickets for the game were gobbled up quickly by fans here and at Avondale. And enough adult general admission and student ducats have already been sold to guarantee a turnout of 6,000.

Despite the heavy advance sale, ticket booths at the stadium are certain to do a brisk business tonight as kickoff time nears.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats will put an 11-game victory streak on the line. They rule as Region 1-AAA and South Georgia "AAA" champs.

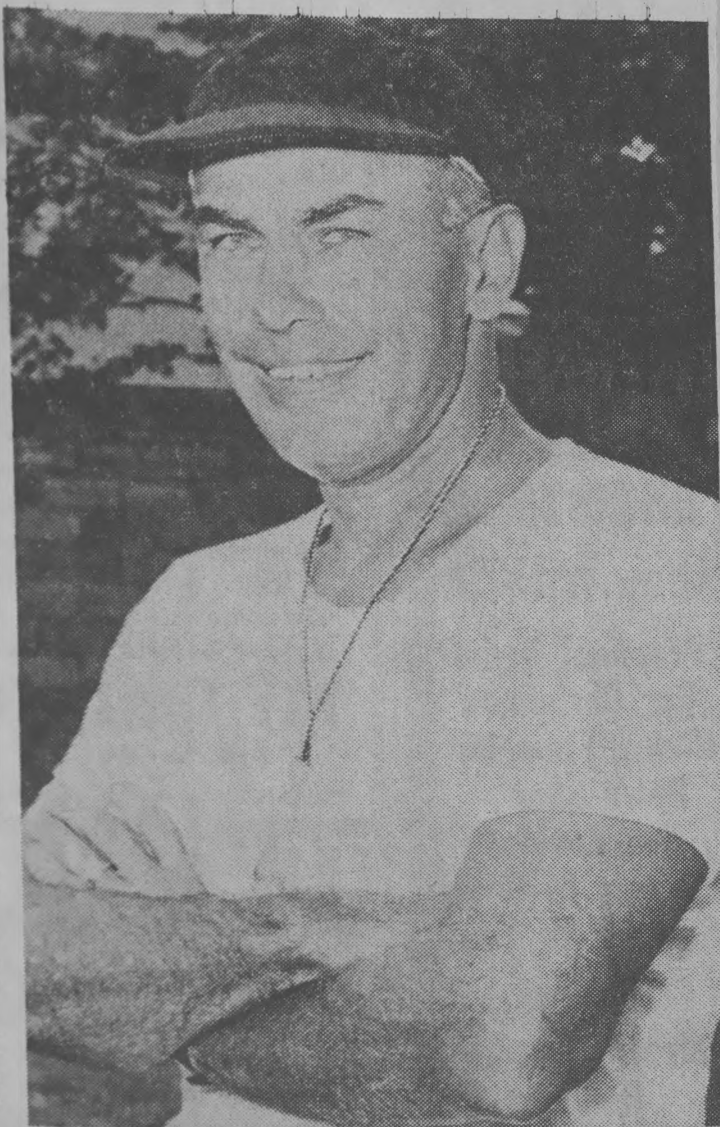
Coach Calvin Ramsey's talented Blue Devils compiled a 12-0 record as they swept to 4-AAA and North Georgia "AAA" honors.

This is the 10th time since he became the Wildcats' grid boss in 1940 that Bazemore sends his charges out in quest of a state championship. In the nine previous tries, the 'Cats were victorious on seven occasions.

However, VHS' other state titles were earned in Class B, A and AA. This is their first crack at the "AAA" crown since moving up to that classification in 1958.

The Imps are also going after "AAA" state honors for the first time. They are newcomers in the

Continued On Page 2



—Times Staff Photo

## Wildcat Coach Wright Bazemore

Looking For First State AAA Crown

SAMMY

# GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

## Raw Courage Made 1960 Wildcats 'Great Team'

Coach Wright Bazemore has turned out many great championship football teams at Valdosta High. But he will tell you quickly that none showed any more raw courage than his 1960 Wildcats.

All season long he kept evaluating his team much like this.

"This team doesn't excel at any particular phase of football," the veteran mentor would say. "But the boys sure have their share of plain old fashion guts. They simply refuse to give up even when the situation starts looking hopeless. That makes it a great team."

It is in the record books now that the Wildcats won 12 straight games to become state Class AAA champions. Along the way they also picked up the Region 1-AAA and South Georgia "AAA" crowns.

In the final three games that earned them those titles they came from the brink of defeat to win with classic finishes.

Certainly they beat Avondale's Blue Devils, 20-14, with a heart-stopping "race" to the finish line. Not to be denied, they did what had to be done when it needed to be done the most. For them, it was a typical performance.

If you want to know the names of the boys responsible for VHS becoming a state champion then get a copy of the squad roster. It was a "team effort" all the way. Even the reserves who saw little game action did their part. You don't win championships unless every boy on the squad "pays the price."

Bazemore, of course, did a masterful coaching job. It was one of the best, if not the best, in his long and brilliant career. He carried the burden of having to make the decisions that could mean success or failure. Bazemore never faltered.

## VHS Offense At Its Best

His assistants, Bill Kittrell, J. D. Ronald, Bill Davis and Bill Bennett, certainly did their part in the masterminding department. It was a well co-ordinated coaching effort.

Now let's look at the last chapter in the Wildcats' storybook season.

It was a game in which the Wildcats put on what I thought was their best offensive show of the season. The final 60-yard drive that produced the game winning TD with only 29 seconds of playing time remaining was a thing of gridiron beauty.

I've said on several occasions that the lightweight 'Cats did not have the power to grind for a marker against a tough foe. The Wildcats proved I was dead wrong.

To use a football phrase, they "crammed the ball right down the Blue Devils' throat." They moved in short clips ranging from eight to one yard right up the middle. The linemen blocked with fury and all the backs ran with determination.

While the Imps let fly crippling thrusts against the VHS defense with air strikes, they made no headway on the ground. And when Avondale threatened to score in the final period when the count was deadlocked at 14-14, the Wildcats' Stop 'em crew refused to budge at the 14 yard line.

## Avondale Had Its Heroes

But the game was certainly not a one-sided affair. Valdosta kept the pressure on with its strong running game. The 'Cats fumbled away a pair of scoring chances, but you've got to give the Imps credit for their alertness that led to them recovering the bobbles.

Halting on the ground, Eddie Pritchett proved his greatness with a passing exhibition that will be long remembered by all who saw it. This boy is just as good as the folks up in North Georgia have been claiming.

Avondale also showed football courage. A team with less desire might have folded when VHS gained an early 14-0 lead. Instead the Imps battled back, tied the score and came oh, so close to taking the lead early in the final period.

It was in truth a championship battle. It was a hard-earned, but sweet victory for Valdosta. The loss cast a shadow of gloom over the Avondale camp. But the Blue Devil faithfuls can be proud. The Imps gave it all they had from start to finish.

What more is there that can be said. It was football at its best.



GLASSMAN

## Wildcats Nip Avondale, 20-14 For Their First Triple 'A' Crown



Valdosta's Bruce Bennett (25) Digs for Yardage  
Avondale's Mike Barron Kept A Tight Grip to Bring Him Down

### Score In Last Seconds To Break 14-14 Deadlock

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's courageous Wildcats, who have battled big odds all the way this season, kept a football date with destiny here last night as they scored with only 29 seconds of playing time remaining to defeat Avondale's Blue Devils, 20-14, and claim the state Class AAA championship.

The 'Cats saw an early 14 point lead wiped out by an Avondale aerial assault triggered by quarterback Eddie Pritchett. Twice the Wildcats appeared headed for pay-dirt, but were stopped by fumbles.

But when all the chips were piled high on the middle of the table and their gridiron fortune was at stake, the Wildcats turned up aces back-to-back. First they halted an Imps thrust with a great defensive effort at the 14. Then in a race against the clock, they unleashed a 16-play assault that covered 60 yards and was climaxed when Bruce Bennett plunged across the goal line from a scant six inches out for the winning TD. Valdosta reached the "promised land" with only 29 seconds to spare.

Cleveland Field bulged with an overflow crowd estimated at 8,500. But the redhot gridiron duel between coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and coach Calvin Ramsey's Blue Devils made everyone forget the bone chilling cold.

It was the 12th straight victory for a youthful Valdosta squad that started the season ranked with the also-rans and finished it as undisputed state Class AAA champions.

Just as they have all season, many Valdosta players combined their efforts in the triumph. Sharing the honors last night were Walter Zant, Bud Hatcher, Rick Thomas, Clyo Blanton, Billy Blocker, Burnice Hiers, Kenny Ruffer, Butch Luke, Stan Reaves, Tommy Tart, Bruce Bennett, Giles Smith, Billy Holtzclaw, Wally Colson, Gary Minchew, Bill Myddleton, Skipper Prewitte, Ray Bennett, Charlie Harris, Frank Wetherington, Billy Schroer, Allen Holt, Foy Norwood, Jerry Reaves, Bobby Grondahl and Jimmy Adams.

This is the eighth state title for VHS under Bazemore's guidance since 1940. But this one is extra special. It is the first "AAA"

Continued On Page 2

### Bazemore Given Car At Game

By TOMMY NEWSOM

"I'm the luckiest coach in the world."

Wright Bazemore, grinning from ear to ear, stood on Cleveland Field amid a crush of Wildcat fans and well-wishers Friday night and said, in essence, what he has often times said before; namely, that there is no place like Valdosta when it comes to high school football.

Bazemore, the winningest coach in Georgia high school football circles, had just been presented a sparkling 1961 stationwagon.

In his hand he clutched the AAA championship game football and in a nearby locker room his young grid warriors were shouting at the tops of their lungs as they took victory showers, washing the dirt, but not the memory of their 20-14 victory over Avondale away.

Now, the admiring fans crowded near.

"I appreciate this very much (the car). It is the nicest thing that has ever happened to me," Bazemore said.

"That's the reason I like to stay in Valdosta. The finest folks in the world, bar none, are right here. And I am the luckiest coach in the world."

"What about this team?" a reporter asked.

"I have pride in them. What else can you say about the bunch of little monkeys," Bazemore beamed. "I'm so proud of them I could bust."

Eddie Zant, president of the Valdosta Touchdown Club, presented the new car to Bazemore

Continued On Page 2



—Times Staff Photos

### Man It's Sure Cold Out There Ronny Mills Kept Warm, and Saw the Game

### Lumumba Is Under Troop Guard

LEOPOLDVILLE, the Congo (AP) — Ex-Premier Patrice Lumumba, facing trial for inciting rebellion in the army and other crimes, was moved out of Leopoldville and put under the guard of army chief Joseph Mobutu's most trusted commando troops.

Lumumba was driven to Thysville, 100 miles west of the capital, during the night under a strong escort of soldiers with heavy, jeep-mounted machine guns.

The convoy left the improvised jail at the army's Binza Camp near Leopoldville with its slippery prisoner shortly before midnight.

The trip was made less than even hours after Lumumba, who more than once has evaded arrest or escaped from the hands of political captors, arrived in the Congo capital.

He was flown here Friday after being captured at Port Francqui, a remote Kasai province. His capture interrupted a flight by car to Stanleyville where he apparently intended to make a new bid for power.

He arrived here disheveled and emaciated and was jeered by on-lookers and cuffed by Congolese soldiers.

Taken to Thysville with him were his three male traveling companions, who also were arrested at Port Francqui.

Mobutu placed his prize prisoners in the personal charge of Col.

### By SERGEANT

### Five Youths Are Cleared In Slaying of Minister

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ga.—An interview with an Army sergeant at Ft. Meade, Md., has cleared five white youths questioned in the knife slaying of an Alabama Methodist minister, police report.

Police Chief W. F. Tuggle of Muscogee County said Friday night three Georgia officers reported by telephone from Maryland that the sergeant who was not identified, and the stories told by the sergeant.

The sergeant is satisfied that the youths were not sure where the minister was slaying.

# Lowndes Girl Injured In City Traffic Mishaps

By TIMES STAFF WRITER

A 12-year-old Lowndes County girl was injured in a rash of Valdosta accidents Friday and today.

Ester Mae Jackson of Rte. 4, Valdosta, was bruised on the forehead at 7:40 p. m. Friday in a wreck at the intersection of Park Avenue and Lee Street, police reported.

A car driven by Emory Mitchell, 17, of 211 W. Branch St. ran into the side of a car driven by Fred Jackson, 49, Rte. 4, Valdosta, at the intersection, according to police.

Mitchell was charged with running a stop sign, no brakes, having wreck, according to police.

In another accident, the brakes failed on a car driven by Virginia S. Pitts, 39, N. Field Road, and hit an auto driven by Betty

C. Scruggs, 35, 104 Jacquelyn St., at the intersection of Ann Street and N. Toombs Street. The mishap occurred at 12:05 p. m. Friday, said police.

A car driven by Jimmy E. Story, 27, 614 W. Tharpe St., struck the left rear of an automobile in front of David Grocery on east U. S. 84, reported police.

The other car was driven by Randall G. Hunter, 913 E. Park Ave., said police. No charge was made. The mishap occurred at 9:30 a. m. today.

George E. Carter, 33, of 111 Pendleton Dr. was driving a car that rammied into the rear of a stopped auto in the 300 block of N. Patterson St. at 10:10 a. m. today.

Joseph H. Pierce, 51, 704 Oak St., was the driver of the other car. Carter was charged with reckless driving.

## ON ANIMALS

### Cancer Vaccine Possible Says Expert After Tests

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—A cancer specialist says vaccines already have proved up to 95 per cent ef-

fective in preventing some animal cancers.

And it is possible that vaccination will be the answer to cancer in humans Dr. John R. Heller told the Oklahoma division of the American Cancer Society Friday night.

Dr. Heller, president of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, said that eight different types of animal cancers definitely have been established as caused by viruses. On some of these, he said, cancer vaccines proved 95 per cent preventively effective.

"Our job is first to try to prevent cancer," he declared. "If we can't prevent it then we can try to cure it. If not that, we can arrest it or palliate it.

"Looking ahead, it is not improbable that a cancer—perhaps leukemia—may be found to be caused by a virus of a combination of viruses. Once a viral agent is incriminated, the immunization is possible.

"We presently know about 400

### Cohen's Trial Set On April 3

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge has set ex-mobster Mickey Cohen's trial on federal income tax evasion charges for April 3.

"A defendant is entitled to a speedy trial whether he wants it or not," federal Judge George H. Boldt of Tacoma, Wash., said Friday in refusing a defense request for postponement.

The government asks a half-million dollars in back taxes from Cohen and has filed 13 counts of tax evasion against him. The one-time West Coast gambling kingpin claims he lives on borrowed money.

### -La Offers

Continued From Page 1



—Photo by Barclay Woodward

### Burnice Hiers Cuts Down Butch Van Dyke

This Kind of Blocking Helped Produce VHS Win

# 'Dosta Clips Imps

Continued From Page 1

crown for the Wildcats since they moved up to that classification in 1958.

In their march to championship honors, the 'Cats won their last three games with miracle-like finishes. It took a bushel basket full of determination for the 'Cats to hand Avondale, the North Georgia titleholder, its first licking in 13 outings. Valdosta earned the right to go for state honors by winning the South Georgia title.

While VHS scored one of its TD's via the aerial route, the game for the most part pitted the Wildcats' hard-hitting ground assault against the Blue Devils' swift-striking passing attack.

During the early going the Wild- cats looked like they might be on their way to a rout. In the first period they covered 45 yards in 11 plays for a TD. Bennett got his one on a sweep around right

STATISTICS		Val.	Avon.
First Downs		19	6
Yards Rushing		233	6
Yards Passing		36	176
Passing		3-4	4-9
Passes Intc. by		0	0
Fumbles Lost		2	0
Punting		1-40	4-29.5
Penalties		1-5	2-10

and for the final yard. Smith boot- ed the extra point.

In the second stanza, VHS mov- ed 66 yards in 11 plays for TD number two. The Wildcats went on their own 34 to the Avon- dale 29 yard line. Then Bennett passed Smith the remaining 29 yards for a score. Smith's PAT boot is good and 'Dosta was out front 0.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### -Bazemore Going To Hospital

Continued from Page 1

minutes after the championship game was over.

The car was given on behalf of all Valdosta football fans as an appreciation token for Bazemore's work with the young team.

Checks for \$350 apiece went to assistant coaches Bill Davis, Bill Bennett, Bill Kittrell, and D. Roland.

Herchel Hamill was presented a 60 check.

With the state championship crown wrapped up, Bazemore plans now to enter the hospital here Sunday night for an operation he has been putting off all season.

Unknown to many Wildcat fans

But the Imps quickly got back in the ball game when Pritchett passed to 6-6 end Freddy Guy for a marker on a play that covered 52 yards. Pritchett added the extra point.

Early in the third period the 'Cats fumbled away a scoring chance at the Avondale 20. The Imps promptly moved 80 yards back up the field in five plays to score. Avondale started rolling with a 48-yard pass play from Pritchett to Guy. Then Pritchett tossed 27 yards to Mike Herron in the end zone. When Avondale's do-everything back Pritchett kicked the extra point the score was tied 14-14.

Valdosta, which kept its attack in high gear all the way, was on the move once again at the Avondale 29 when it lost the ball on a fumble.

Avondale had a long way to go, but came within a whisker of scoring. Pritchett tossed a short, screen pass to Tommy Carlisle. The Blue Devil fullback, with a great individual effort, went 59 yards before Valdosta's Stan Reeves hauled him down at the 17. Reeves was the last Wildcat who had a chance to stop Carlisle.

Two running tries and a pair of passing efforts failed to dent the VHS stonewall defense. Stan Reeves stopped one running try with a solo-tackle at the line of scrimmage. Tommy Tart broke up one pass and Smith leaped high to bat another out of the hands of Avondale's "mile-high" flankman Guy.

Imps had recovered the Valdosta fumble that came just before the final Cat drive.

"I think we could have scored," he said.

He said, too, that things might have been different if Carlisle, his fullback, had moved faster when he was in the open and headed for the goal on the last play in the third.

As it turned out, Stan Reeves stopped the runner.

Avondale came to town in fine fashion.

Seven buses brought the fans to the game; one group flew down from Atlanta.

At 6 p. m. the county law enforcement officers



—Times Staff Photo

### Coach Wright Bazemore Has Worried Look

Scans Bench For Player He Wants To Send In

### Eagles Have Sights On NFL Crown

By JIM KENSIL  
Associated Press Sports Writer

The last time the Philadelphia Eagles and Coach Buck Shaw were in a title game was 1949. The Eagles won and Shaw lost.

Now they'd like to win together, but first they must beat the St. Louis Cardinals Sunday to clinch the Eastern Conference crown in the National Football League. The Eagles are 5-point road favorites to score their ninth straight victory.

That would give Shaw as many victories as he totaled in the past two seasons, his first with the

### TRIMS MITCHELL

## Brooks County Keeps Hoop Record Clean

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Brooks County High's boys and girls kept their season record clean here last night as they took a double header from Mitchell County, of Camilla, the girls winning, 67-22, and the boys, 74-51.

Linda Martin and Jeanette Brantley shot 23 and 22 points, respectively, as coach George Eanes' Tigerettes won their third in as many starts. The Brooks County misses, 1959-60 state champions, had all their way as

Coach Charles Cooper's Tigers also made it three in a row as they downed the Mitchell five, 74-52.

Four of the Brooks starters hit in double figures. Forwards Ronald Lastinger and Don Furney got 16 and 14 points, respectively, with guard Albert Sykes cornering 14 and guard Wayne Cooper getting 12 points. Russell Dees got 18 points for the Mitchell County boys.

The entire Tiger squad saw ac- tion as they led 18-10, 37-21 and

Score By Quarters:

Valdosta	7	7	0	6-20
Avondale	0	7	7	0-14

SAMMY

# GLASSMAN

*Times Sports Editor*

## Coaches Don't Believe In Luck—Or Do They?

Most coaches and players will tell you they really don't believe in good luck charms. Still, there are some who contend there just might be something to the idea.

For the first game that Valdosta's Wildcats played this season, line coach Bill Kittrell wore a white, short sleeve shirt. Since it was a warm night, he was dressed accordingly.

For each game after that the mentor wore the same shirt. He snagged the collar, but his wife patched it up and the "good luck" shirt remained in "service."

When the Wildcats went against Avondale for the state tilt it was a very, very cold night. But there was Kittrell on the sideline dressed as if it were a warm summer afternoon.

"I don't guess my shirt had anything to do with us winning the championship," Kittrell said. "But then maybe it did. I just didn't want to take any chances. But you know, I was never cold. I guess I was living on excitement."

VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore believes that sound fundamentals are the key to success in football. Still, he has a special, lucky green tie he wears every time his charges play.



**GLASSMAN**



### ***Special Flower Arrangement for Coach***

Valdosta High tri-captains Burnice Hiers, Allen Holt and Ray Bennett present this "State Championship" flower arrangement to Coach Wright Bazemore. The VHS grid mentor underwent an operation on Tuesday for a kidney ailment. Bazemore's smile is proof that he is both pleased with the gift and is feeling much better these days. The 'Cats won the 1960 state Class AAA grid crown.

# FUTURE BRIGHT AT VALDOSTA

## Key Personnel to Return; Other State Kings Also Strong

By GENE ASHER

The football outlook at Valdosta is so bright that not even coach Wright Bazemore can find fault.

After his Wildcats beat Avondale, 20-14, last weekend for the State Class AAA high school football championship, Bazemore commented, "we should be a little stronger next year."

"Most of our key personnel will be back and we hope they will be bigger and better than they were this year."

Although the picture is not as rosy elsewhere, state champions Waycross (AA), Dublin (A), Washington-Wilkes (B) and Lincolnton (C) all expect continued prosperity.

Valdosta will return six starters from its title team, including quarterback Bruce Bennett, one of the top rushers in Region 1-AAA, halfback Kenny Ruffer, the brilliant punt returner, and tackles Bill Myddleton and Billy Schroer, two of the hardest chargers on the line.

Fullback Burnice Hiers, end Billy Blocker, center Allen Holt and guards Jimmy Adams and Ray Bennett will be graduated this June, but there should be adequate replacements among the 34 returnees.

BAZEMORE WILL have seven ends, nine tackles, five guards,

two centers and 11 backs next season who saw service with the 1960 champs.

Coach Earl O'Neal will be without the brilliant Jimmy Guy and Darrell Page at Waycross but in halfback Marvin Hurt, he should have the top halfback in the state. He also will have 31 others back who played with the title team.

"We won't be as big," O'Neal said, "but with luck, we could be just as successful."

At Dublin, Coach Minton Williams will have more experience next year than he did in his title winning seasons of 1960 and 1959.

**Ten seasoned players return, including all the regular guards and tackles, and the brilliant Tennyson Coleman, who gained 700 yards this season in five games.**

At Washington-Wilkes, Coach Charles Grisham will be minus tailback Charlie Greshman who scored 228 points, and powerful fullback Mack DeVaughn. But the heart of the line returns, i.e., tackle David Bentley, end Jack Thornton, and guard Chuck Vinson.

# ILL BAZEMORE STYLISH IN HOSPITAL JOURNEY

## Happy Valdosta Fans Give Car After Title Win Over Avondale

By GENE ASHER  
Atlanta Journal Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga., Dec. 3—Valdosta High Football Coach Wright Bazemore goes to the hospital Sunday but he won't mind the trip at all.

He'll ride in style, driving a brand-new 1961 Chevrolet station wagon, and hugging the state Class AAA football championship trophy.

Bazemore won the trophy Friday night at overflowing Cleveland Field when his Wildcats beat Avondale, 20-14, in the most stirring football finish in many a year. A record 9,000 fans watched. Immediately afterward, Bazemore was presented the automobile by the football fans of Valdosta.

**STRUCK WITH** a kidney attack Friday morning Bazemore got just what the doctor ordered Friday night when his team climaxed a 60-yard drive with the winning touchdown with 29 seconds left in the game. It was the eighth state title in 18 years for a Bazemore-coached Valdosta team and by far the most satisfying. The '60 Wildcats are predominately sophomores and juniors.

Valdosta won because it had more team speed, protected the flanks against Ed Pritchett's roll-outs refused to be sucked in on trap plays and controlled the ball most of the way.

The Wildcats put tremendous pressure on Pritchett, throwing him for a minus 31 yards. They limited the Blue Devils to only six yards rushing and six first downs while accumulating 19 first downs and 233 yards themselves.

But Pritchett never was stopped completely. With his mates down 14-0 early in the second quarter, he put them back into contention with a 52-yard touchdown pass to

Bennett got the first touchdown on a one-yard sneak, passed 29 yards to Giles Smith for the second score and sneaked one yard for the winning tally.

BENNETT, fighting the clock as well as an aroused band of Blue Devils, directed the payoff drive masterfully. He probed for an enemy weak spot, located it on the left side and then hammered away on seven straight quickies. He covered the last seven yards himself on keepers.

Avondale	0	7	7	0-14
Valdosta	7	7	0	6-20
Avondale Scoring: TDs—Guy (5), pass from Pritchett, run; Herron (2), pass from Pritchett). PATs—Pritchett, 2, (kick).				
Valdosta Scoring: TDs—Bennett, 2, (1, run; 1, sneak); Smith (29, pass from Bennett, and run). PATs—Smith, 2, (kicks).				

THE YARDSTICK		AVONDALE (14)	VALDOSTA (20)
6	First Downs	19	19
6	Yards Rushing	233	233
176	Yards Passing	36	36
10	Yards Penalized	5	5

Freddie Guy. He made a new ball game in the third quarter, completing a 48-yard pass to Guy and a 27-yard touchdown strike to Mike Herron, and he almost broke up the game with a screen pass to Tommy Carlisle for 60 yards. He also kicked both extra points.

Pritchett's pass to Carlisle pushed the Blue Devils to the Valdosta 17. But they made only three yards on the next four downs.

The Wildcats threatened to turn the game into a rout early. They drove 45 yards in 13 plays for a score the first time they got possession and went 66 yards in 11 plays in the second period. Bruce

## Wildcats Honored At Supper

Valdosta High's 1960 state Class AAA football champions were honored at a steak supper last night.

The annual affair was sponsored by the First National Bank, the Coca-Cola Bottling Company and Pepsi Cola Bottling Company with the assistance of Foremost Dairies and Carr Consolidated Biscuit Company.

The event was held at the First National Bank Lodge.

The Wildcats, who posted a 12-0 record during their championship sweep, were honored guests along with VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore and his assistants Bill Kittrell, Bill Bennett and Johnny Roland. Another VHS coach, Bill Davis, was unable to attend.

They received a round of congratulations, including one from Valdosta mayor Maxwell Oliver.

"You boys are great champions," the mayor said. "I speak for all the people of Valdosta when I offer my congratulations for the fine season you had."

"You not only played outstanding football, but showed the finest sportsmanship all the way. You are a credit to our city and we are proud of you."

Bazemore, speaking for all the coaches and players, expressed thanks for all that everyone has done to help the Wildcats.

"It is things like this supper that lets the boys know the people are behind them," Bazemore said. "Believe me, it helps them to play better football."

"We had a great deal of help and encouragement from many different groups and people. That's why coaching in Valdosta is such a great pleasure."

"I want to take this occasion to thank everyone for the many kind and wonderful things they have done for us."

# 'Dosta, Brooks In Title Bouts

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Basketball starts moving in on the high school sports scene this week, but two teams in the area — the Valdosta Wildcats and Brooks County Tigers — still have important football dates to keep.

With a thrilling 14 - 13 victory over LaGrange's tough Grangers last Friday, coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats nailed down the Region 1-AAA championship and finished regular season play with a perfect 10-0 record.

The 'Cats now move into the playoff for the South Georgia "AAA" championship. Their opponent will be the 2-AAA champ.

Richmond Academy of Augusta leads in 2-AAA, but must beat Aquinas this week to clinch the title. Richmond Academy is a heavy favorite.

\* \* \*

That means VHS will have an open date this Friday and play for the South Georgia crown on Friday, Nov. 25.

Brooks County is down for action this coming Friday night. Coach Walter Foys charges will meet the Ware County Gators in a playoff for the 1-A title.

Brooks, with a 7-2-1 record in all games, is the 1-A (West) titleholder. Ware finished regular season play with a 5-5 mark, but had a perfect 4-0 chart in its march to the 1-A (East) crown.

Brooks and Ware will tangle at Tifton — a neutral site.

\* \* \*

This week Valdosta will be watching and waiting for the 2-AAA folks to decide their issue.

Richmond Academy, unbeaten in nine starts this year, tops the 2-AAA standings with a 6-0 mark. Savannah and Benedictine share second place with matching 5-1 records.

If Richmond defeats Aquinas, a team with a 2-4-2 record, the Musketeers can claim regional honors and a South Georgia playoff berth.

Should Richmond become an upset victim, then it would have to meet the winner of the Savannah-Benedictine in a special playoff for 2-AAA honors.

The way things look now, Valdosta fans can start making plans for a long football trip to Augusta on Nov. 25.

\* \* \*

Under a rotation system now in force, the 2-AAA winner gets to pick the site for the South Georgia playoff this year. If the Musketeers become 2-AAA champs as expected they are al-

most certain to want to play the Wildcats in Augusta.

In the Northern sector of the state, North Fulton (10-0) will meet Southwest (9-1) for the 3-AAA crown and Avondale (10-0) faces South Cobb (8-1-1) for the 4-AAA championship in regional playoff games this week.

The survivors will tangle next week for the North Georgia championship.

The state finals, on tap three weeks from now, will match the victors from North and South Georgia.

Under the rotation system it is the South Georgia champ's year to pick the site for state title game.

# Deers Hand Kittens First Loss, 58-48

**SPECIAL TO THE TIMES**  
DOERUN — Accounting for almost half of their points on foul shots, Doerun's Deers trimmed Valdosta's Kittens, 58-48, here last night.  
The defeat tumbled Coach Bill Davis' Kittens from the ranks of the unbeaten. They had won five

in a row before bowing to Doerun. It was the tenth triumph in 13 outings for coach J. C. Fincher's Deers.  
In a boys duel between the Valdosta "B" team and the Doerun varsity, VHS notched a 51-37 triumph. It was the fourth straight

win for the 'Dosta Bees.  
Little Garland Whiddon swished the nets for 39 points to spark the Deers in the winning effort against the Kittens. She hit for 10 field goals and 19 foul shots.  
While the Valdosta girls finished with an 18-15 edge in field goals, Doerun more than off set it from the foul line. The Deers made good on 28 of 43 foul shots. The Kittens sank 12 of 21 from the free throw line.

Valdosta was charged with 28 fouls and lost four guards via the five - fouls route. Doerun was charged with 16 fouls.  
Lucille Dawson with 18 points, Shelby Blanton with 15 and Patty Nichols with 13, were scoring leaders for the Kittens

\* \* \*  
Betty Blackstock swished the nets for 17 points to help the Doerun cause.  
During the early going the game was a see-saw affair. Midway the final period the score was deadlocked at 46-46. The Deers closed with a rush to win.

In the boys game, Clio Blanton scored 12 points to lead the Valdosta B-team's attack. Jerry Grantham with 22 markers, was top scorer for Doerun.

**GIRLS**  
Valdosta ..... 10 29 41 48  
Doerun ..... 16 31 45 58

VALDOSTA (48) — Blanton 15, Nichols 13, Dawson 18, McClenny 2, Katz, Mayo, Lashley, Bazemore, Knoll, Rodgers.  
DOERUN (58) — Blackstock 17, Whiddon 39, Taylor 2, Wheeler, Cato, Hathcock, Coopman, Gay.

**BOYS**  
Doerun ..... 10 19 29 37  
VHS Bees ..... 10 24 36 51  
DOERUN (37) — Grantham 22, Hammack 9, Bell 6, Clayton, Sykes, Gillev, Caro.  
VALDOSTA "B" (51)—Blanton 12, Johnson 10, Wells 9, Reaves 6, Holloway 4, Crowe 2, Thomas 2, Norwood 2, Watson 4.

# Valdosta, Lowndes Face Region Tests

**BY SAMMY GLASSMAN**  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens, idle since Nov. 19, get back into the high school basketball swim on Friday night.

The VHS quintet will be meeting Warner Robins here that night in their first Region 1-AAA tests.

There will be plenty of other action tomorrow night with Jeff Davis (Hazelhurst) at Lowndes County, Cook County (Adel) at Hahira, Clinch County (Homer-ville) at Broxton, Berrien County (Nashville) vs Tifton at Enigma, Climax at Brooks County (Quitman), Lanier County (Lakeland) at Georgia Christian Institute (Dasher) and Ft. White, Fla., at Jasper, Fla.

They are Clio Blanton (5-10, fresh.), Foy Norwood (5-11, fresh.), Bruce Bennett (5-11, jr.), Giles Smith (5-9, soph.), Billy Schroer (6-0, soph.), Stan Reaves (5-10, soph.), and Rick Thomas (5-9, soph.).

All in this group were varsity squadmen last winter. Bennett saw enough action to be considered a regular.

\* \* \*  
However, the 'Cats are expected to open against the Demons with Tommy Johnson, Alvie Steel, Ike Harrell, Bill Wisenbaker and Leo Wells in the lineup. They saw most of the front-line action against Hahira.

Probable starters for the Kittens are Shelby Blanton, Mary Ann Mayo, Lucille Dawson, Patty Nichols, Delores Lashley and Sue Katz. All of these showed

well in the Valdosta sextet's 55-31 opening night win.

A pair of Region 1-A (East) battles are in the offing tomorrow night at the LOHI gym when Jeff Davis comes to town to meet Lowndes County.

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles have a 2-3 record. Coach Noel George's LOHI girls have a 1-4 mark. Both are 0-2 in regional play. Both halted losing skids with triumphs on Tuesday.

While the 1-A (East) title will be decided in end-of-the-year tournaments, all regular season loop matches are important. They

will decide the seeding for the tournaments.

Coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira boys and girls have matching 3-1 records. The Cook boys have 2-2 mark and the Adel sextet 3-1.

Cook's Hornets knocked Broxton County from the ranks of the unbeaten on Tuesday to boost the stock of coach Wyatt Grimes' quintet.

While the Brooks cagers tumbled, coach George Eanes' girls from Quitman return to action this weekend with a four-game victory streak intact.

# GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

## Long Grid Season Causes Problems For VHS Cagers

There is no one in town any happier than coach Bill Kittrell that Valdosta High's football Wildcats went all the way to win the state Class AAA crown.

However, in the process the 'Cats had to extend their grid season for three weeks. And this has resulted in some problems for the VHS basketball crew.

Kittrell, a line coach in football, got one group of hardwood candidates started with basketball early. Then he had another group of candidates that didn't report until the gridiron action was over.

The VHS quintet has played five games, but Kittrell is still unable to tell which is his best "combination."

"You'll get no complaint from me because some of the basketball candidates were late starting because of football," Kittrell said. "But it does leave us in this position. We've played five games, but we still aren't organized.

"I've done a lot of experimenting so far. That is I've played a lot of different boys. I've done it for two reasons.

To begin with I'm still looking for our best combination. I'm also trying to develop some 'depth.' The more boys who have had front-line experience and are ready to go, the better we will be at tournament time. That's our chief objective, to try to be ready at tournament time."

In their five early season outings, the Wildcats have won two games and lost three. They've met just one Region 1-AAA opponent, Warner Robins, and dropped a 59-49 decision to the highly regarded Demons.

The 'Cats have split a pair of games with Hahira, beaten Berrien County and lost to Lowndes County, all non-regional opponents.

Kittrell has tested quite a few of his candidates. The list includes Ike Harrell (6-1, sr.), Ray Register (5-10, sr.), John Gayle (5-11, sr.), Bill Wisenbaker (5-11, jr.), Alvie Steele (5-10, jr.), Leo Wells (5-11, jr.), Tommy Johnson (5-11, jr.), Mike Watson (5-9, jr.), Giles Smith (5-9, soph), Stan Reaves (5-10, soph), and Foy Norwood (5-11, fresh). Several others have played and they may figure in the picture later on.



GLASSMAN

### Too Early To Tell

You will note that the tallest player in the group is Harrell and he is just 6-1. You will also note there are just three seniors in the group. That means experience is lacking.

If he can shake a back injury, there will be one more candidate reporting after the Christmas holidays. He is Bruce Bennett, a 5-11 junior who saw some front-line action last winter. A back muscle that he pulled during the grid campaign has kept Bennett off the hardwood.

**It all boils down to the fact that it is still too early to tell just how the Wildcats are going to fare over the long haul. Lacking height and experience and playing in a very, very fast league they have their work cut out for them.**

But Kittrell is hoping that once the 'Cats have a chance to "organize" they will start showing the kind of improvement that pays victory dividends.

As for the Kittens, they have gotten off to a good start this year, winning their first five.

They gained a 50-48 win over Warner Robins in their only regional test so far. The girls 1-AAA title will be decided on regular season records in league competition. That means the victory over Robins was an important one.

### Kittens Off To Good Start

"We've looked good at times, but we still have a long way to go," Davis said in evaluating his team's performance so far.

Shelby Blanton (5-5, sr.), Mary Ann Mayo (5-8, sr.), Lucille Dawson (5-7, soph.), Patty Nichols (5-11, sr.), Delores Lashley (5-7, sr.) and Sue Katz (5-9, sr.) have seen the most action. Betty McClenny (5-3, fresh.), Barbara Knoll (5-6, fresh.) and Gail Bazemore (5-3, jr.) are others who have been helping the cause.

**Davis has also been doing some experimenting. He's tested Mayo and Nichols at both guard and forward. He is also hopeful that Evelyn Wilkes, a 5-8 senior, will be available for duty in the near future.**

Wilkes averaged 18 points a game last season to become the Kittens' second leading scorer. But an old knee injury has kept her out of action so far this year.

Just as in the case of the Wildcats, it is still too early to tell just how the Kittens will fare over the long haul. However, their early victories are certainly encouraging.

# Eagles Shade 'Cats; Kittens Win Fourth

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

Lowndes County's Golden Eagles and Valdosta's Kittens were the victors in a clash of VHS and LOHI basketball forces here last night.

Coach Carlton Adams' Eagles shaded coach Bill Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats, 53-49, in a spirited and exciting duel that was not settled until the final seconds of play.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens extended their unbeaten string to four games with a 56-28 triumph over coach Noel George's Lowndes sextet.

\* \* \*

It was the boys teams representing the cross-town rivals that staged the thriller. In their game the score was either tied or changed hands a total of 21 times.

The Eagles hit with a just a shade better accuracy from the free throw line and tipped the scales in their favor. Each team was charged with 13 fouls. Each made 19 field goals. But while LOHI was sinking 15 of 20 foul shots, the 'Cats hit on just 11 of 18 tries from the free throw line. That gave Lowndes its four-point edge, but the Eagles didn't settle the issue until the last minute of play.

Bobby Eason gunned in 21 points, Calvin VanVlake hit for 17 and Val Walden accounted for 11 to spark the LOHI attack. Eason was also the Eagles' leading rebounder with 12 followed by Jerry Goodson, 10, and Walden, 9. David Cowart helped the cause with some slick floor work.

\* \* \*

Bill Wisenbaker swished the nets for 14 points to set the scoring pace for the 'Cats. Alvie Steele, Ike Harrell and Ray Register, with 8 points each, were next.

Leo Wells picked off eight rebounds to lead VHS in that department. Wisenbaker got six and Harrell four.

Both the Lowndes and Valdosta quintets now have even .500 records. The Eagles are 4-4 and the Wildcats are 2-2.

In the girls game, the Kittens were ahead 17-3 at the end of the first period and went on from there to victory. The setback was the seventh in eight outings for the Lowndes girls.

Patty Nichols, who has seen most of her action at guard in the Kittens' earlier games this season, started at forward and responded with a game-leading, 24-point effort. She got plenty of scoring help from Shelby Blanton (12) and Lucille Dawson (11).

\* \* \*

Mary Ann Mayo, Barbara Knolls Sue Katz, Delores Lashley and Gail Bazemore were the guards who sparkled on defense. Mayo, an All-State guard last season, played forward in the kittens' first three games. She went back to her old position last and her fine defensive play was one reason LOHI managed just 12 points in the first half.

Scoring leader for Lowndes was Connie Copeland with nine points. Cheryl Spence was next with six.

A total of 50 players saw action in the game, with VHS using 30 and LOHI 20.

## GIRLS

Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 17 28 48 56  
Lowndes Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 12 14 28

VALDOSTA (56) — Blanton 12, McClenny 3, S. Matin 2, Dawson 11, Rodgers 2, M. Smith, Mayo, E. Hamill 2, Hand, A. Hamill, Katz, Knoll, Elliott, Lashley, Bazemore, Geer, Nichols 24, R.

Martin, Sessions, Quattlebaum, Johnson, Harris, S. Smith, Shenton, Garvin, Gleason, Roberson.

LOWNDES COUNTY (28) — Allen 4, Jones 2, Copeland 9, Porter 4, Swilly 3, Carter, Trammell, Spence 6, McLane, Starling, Duncan, Hersey, Dasher, Hare, Wisenbaker, Lanier.

## BOYS

Lowndes Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 24 33 53  
Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 10 22 35 49

LOWNDES COUNTY (53) — Eason 21, Walden 11, VanVlake 17, Goodson 2, Cowart 2, Pike.

VALDOSTA (49) — Steele 8, Watson 2, Smith 2, Johnson 5, Harrell 8, Reaves 1, Wisenbaker 14, Wells 1, Register 3.

# 'Dosta, Lowndes Tangle Tonight

## Cross-Town Rivals Meet At Valdosta High's Gym

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

A clash between cross-town rivals Valdosta and Lowndes County spotlights tonight's action on the high school basketball front.

The VHS and LOHI cagers are to meet in a twin-bill slated to begin at 7 p. m. at the Valdosta High gymnasium.

In other action tonight, Irwin County (Ocilla) will be at Cook County (Adel); Clinch County (Homerville) vs Berrien County (Nashville) at Alapaha; Thomasville at Brooks County (Quitman); Jennings, Fla., at Lanier County (Lakeland) and White Springs, Fla., at Jasper, Fla.

The Friday slate calls for Valdosta to play at Hahira; Ware County (Waycross) at Lowndes County; Cook County at Thomasville; Hoboken at Clinch County; Brooks County at Cairo and Jasper at Mayo.

Coach Bill Kittrell's VHS Wildcats will carry a 2-1 record into their game tonight against coach Carlton Adams' LOHI Golden Eagles. The Lowndes quintet has a 2-3 mark.

The Valdosta Kittens, guided by coach Bill Davis, have clicked for three straight wins during the early going. Coach Noel George's LOHI sextet has a 1-6 mark.

Valdosta and Lowndes cagers have met just one mutual foe, Hahira. The Wildcats edged the Tigers, 49-48, while the Eagles turned back the Hahira five, 51-43.

The Kittens measured the Hahira girls, 55-31, while the LOHI sextet trimmed them 48-46.

While the Eagles are below the .500 mark, they've suffered three of their losses by the slim total of just five points. Sharpshooter Bobby Eason has been the Eagles' attack leader. He's averaging better than 17 points a game. Calvin VanVlake, Val Walden, David Cowart and Jerry Goodson are other regulars.

The Wildcats' used "two-platoon" tactics in a recent win over Berrien County and may stick with the plan tonight.

Seeing action in the last outing for the 'Cats were Bill Wisenbaker, Alvie Steele, Ray Register, Leo Wells, Tommy Johnson, John Gayle, Ike Harrell, Mike Watson, Giles Smith, Stan Reaves, Phil Crowe, Foy Norwood and Rick Thomas. Wisenbaker hit for 14 points to lead the attack against the Rebels.

Probable starters for the Kittens are forwards Shelby Blanton, Mary Ann Mayo and Lucille Dawson and guards Patty Nichols, Delores Lashley and Sue Katz.

Forwards Linda Allen, Karen Jones and Connie Copeland and guards Lois Trammell, Cheryl Spence and Sue Ann McLane are probable starters for the LOHI girls.



**BOBBY EASON**  
LOHI Leader



—Times Staff Photo  
**BILL WISENBAKER**  
VHS Standout

# PLAY STARTS TONIGHT IN HAHIRA TOURNEY

HAHIRA — Half of the members of the 16-team field go on the firing line as play in the ninth annual Hahira Christmas Invitational basketball tournament begins here tonight.

The four-day event gets underway at 5:30 p. m. with Valdosta meeting Berrien County (Nashville) in a girls division contest.

The tournament will be staged at the Hahira High gymnasium.

Other first-night games are as follows:

Hahira vs Echols County (boys), 6:45 p. m.; Cook County vs Thomasville-Central (girls), 8 p. m.; Valdosta vs Brooks County (Quitman), 9:15 p. m.

The other half of the field will swing into action on Wednesday. The schedule for that night is as follows:

Coffee County vs Lowndes County (girls), 5:30 p. m.; Lowndes County vs Nichols (boys), 6:45 p. m.; Hahira vs Nichols (girls), 8 p. m.; Cook County vs Lanier

County (boys), 9:15 p. m.

Four semi-final round games are set for Thursday with the finals in both the boys and girls divisions to climax the tournament on Friday.

Coach Bill Davis' Valdosta Kittens are the defending girls champions. Boasting a 5-1 record in regular season play, they rate as strong contenders for championship honors again this year.

Cook County has another highly regarded entry in the girls division. Coach Wyatt Grimmer's sextet from Adel won seven of nine regular season games before the holiday break.

With a well balanced field, a wide open race for the boys championship is in the offing.

Coach Jack Jarrard's host Hahira Tigers are the defending champs. The Tigers have won the tournament three times and have been runners-up on three other occasions in eight tries. The Hahira quintet will begin tourney action with a 4-4 record.

Others with the kind of won-loss records that stamp them as strong contenders are Lanier County (9-1), Brooks County (7-2), Cook County (5-3) and Lowndes County (5-4).

Both the Valdosta Wildcats and Kittens face stiff opposition in the tourney games they play tonight.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats have a 2-3 record. One of their defeats came at the hands of Lowndes County, a team which in turn was defeated by Brooks County.

The Kittens beat the Berrien County girls in an earlier meeting, but by a slim 49-46 margin. The Nashville sextet has a solid 4-3 record.

Cook County's girls tamed Central 62-46, when they tangled in a regular season contest. The Hahira and Echols County boys will be meeting for the first time this season.

## 'Cats Face Tigers; Eagles Play Gators

Valdosta plays at Hahira and Lowndes County will host Ware County (Waycross) in two of a half dozen high school basketball doubleheaders on tap in the area tonight.

The slate also calls for Cook County (Adel) to play at Thomasville, Hoboken at Clinch County (Homerville), Brooks County (Quitman) at Cairo and Jasper, Fla., at Mayo, Fla.

The meetings between Valdosta and Hahira and the encounters between Lowndes and Ware will be return engagements.

In earlier meetings VHS' Wildcats edged the Hahira Tigers, 49-48. Valdosta's Kittens defeated the Hahira girls, 55-31.

Lowndes' Golden Eagles dropped a 42-40 decision to the Ware Gators at Waycross. The LOHI girls were measured by the Ware sextet, 61-51.

The Valdosta teams will be playing on the "road" for the first time this season when they make the short trip to Hahira tonight.

For coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats, the game with the Tigers

will be their final one before the Christmas holidays.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens have one more game on the pre-holiday portion of their schedule. They are to meet Doerun next Tuesday night in Doerun.

Lowndes County and Hahira will break for the holidays after tonight's action.

However, all six Valdosta, LOHI and Hahira teams will be taking part in the ninth annual Christmas Holidays Invitational tournament slated at Hahira Dec. 27-30.

The 'Cats will carry a 2-2 record into their meeting with the Tigers. The Kittens have won four straight this year.

Coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira

boys and girls have matching 3-4 records.

LOHI's Eagles have a 4-4 chart and the Lowndes girls have a 1-7 mark.

Since Ware is a Region 1 - A (East) foe, tonight's games will be important ones for the Lowndes cagers.

Regular season records against league opponents will determine how teams will be seeded for the end of the season tournaments that will decide championships in the sub-division.

# VHS, Hahira, Cook Post Tourney Wins

## Steele Accounts For 34 Points As Wildcats Top Brooks, 55-40

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

HAHIRA—Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens, the Hahira Tigers and the Cook County (Adel) sextet formed the victory corps as the four-day, ninth annual Christmas Invitational basketball tournament opened here last night.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats furnished the only surprise on opening night with a 55-40 victory over the Brooks County Tigers from Quitman.

The other games followed the form chart. Coach Bill Davis' Kittens, the defending girls champions, trimmed Berrien County (Nashville), 54-36. Coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira quintet, the defending boys titleholder, beat Echols County (Statenville), 49-39. In the other girls division game, coach Wyatt Grimmer's Cook County lassies trounced Central (Thomasville), 63-48.

Four more first round games are on tap tonight. The schedule follows:

Lowndes County vs Coffee County (girls) 5:30 p. m.; Lowndes County vs Nichols (boys), 6:45 p. m.; Hahira vs Nichols (girls), 8 p. m.; Cook County vs Lanier County (boys), 9:15 p. m.

The semi-finals are on tap for Thursday with tonight's victors joining the Tuesday night winners in the rounds of four. Titles in both the boys and girls divisions will go on the line Friday night.

A standing-room-only crowd of approximately 1,000 packed the Hahira gym for last night's action. While there were no games with cliff-hanging finishes, the action was fast and interesting.

Here's the way things went in the individual games:

### WILDCATS 55, BROOKS 40

The Valdosta quintet mixed an amazing two-man scoring punch with a solid team effort on defense to knock off coach Charles Cooper's favored Tigers from Brooks County.

Alvie Steele left the cords smoking with a 34-point effort. Bill Wisenbaker hit with deadly accuracy to account for 21 points.

They were the only two Valdosta players who scored, but the way they were hitting it was enough.

Still it took more than a two-man effort for the 'Cats to triumph. Ike Harrell, Leo Wells, Foy Norwood and Stan Reaves were among those making a ma-

ior contribution to the cause.

Harrell did a big job for VHS in the "battle of the boards" while Norwood, Wells and Reaves were key men in the 'Cats pressing defense that checked the Tigers' attack in the second half.

Brooks dominated things in the first half and went out at intermission with a 23-13 lead.

But the Wildcats' stalled the Brooks offense in the third period and shifted their attack into high gear. When the final stanza got underway the 'Cats were out front, 34-33.

Valdosta continued to pour it on. The final period was less than three minutes old when the Wildcats had increased their lead to 44-33 and were well on their way to victory.

Ronald Lastinger, with 12 points, and Wayne Cooper and Howard Daughtry, with eight each, were attack leaders for the Tigers from Quitman.

### HAHIRA 49, ECHOLS 39

Hahira's Tigers closed with a rush to break up a see-saw battle and gain a 10-point victory from Echols County's Wildcats.

The Tigers took an early lead, and at one point in the second period had a nine-point bulge. But the Echols quintet from Statenville rallied and trailed by a lone point at the half.

In the third period, Hahira moved to a quick 10-point lead. But once again Echols rallied. When the final stanza started the Tigers were ahead by only five markers.

Then Hahira spurted again, and this time Echols couldn't keep pace. The Tigers went on to finish with a comfortable victory margin.

Tommy Bradgord and Elton Redding each scored 14 points to lead the Hahira attack. Offense leader for Echols County was Paul Carter with a dozen markers.

### KITTENS 54, BERRIEN 36

The Valdosta girls combined balance on both offense and defense in their triumph over Berrien County.

The Kittens took an early lead and were never headed. Berrien was unable to come any closer

to catching them than six points. Shelby Blanton with 22 points, Lucille Dawson, with 15 and Patty Nichols, with 17, did all the scoring for VHS.

The guard foursome of Mary Ann Mayo, Sue Katz, Delores Lashley and Margaret Smith did a smooth job all the way on defense.

Gloria Pounds accounted for 15 points and Jo Beth Johnson hit for 14 to spark the Berrien attack.

### COOK 63, CENTRAL 48

Betty Bennett hit for 11 field goals and 10 free throws as she led the Cook girls to victory with a 32-point performance.

She got scoring help from Judy McKinnon, 12, and Gail Powers, 14.

Guards Nancy Castleberry, Margaret Sumner, Gayle Dansby and Peggy Humble were the defensive standouts for the victors.

Central made it a ball game for two periods. At the half Cook had a slim, 26-22, lead. But the Adel girls widened the gap quickly in the third stanza coasted home from there.

Patricia Gordon, who scored 19 points, set the offensive pace for Central.

### BOYS

Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 4 13 34 55  
Brooks Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 10 23 33 40  
VALDOSTA (55) — Steele 34, Wisenbaker 21, Harrell, Johnson, Wells, Norwood, Blanton, Register, Reaves.

BROOKS COUNTY (40) — Lastinger 12, Furney 1, Cooper 8, Sykes 2, Milner 7, Jones 2, Daughtry 8, Wasden.

### BOYS

Hahira \_\_\_\_\_ 16 25 36 49  
Echols Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 9 24 31 39  
HAHIRA (49) — Sorrell 5, Oglesby 8, Bradford 14, Cain 8, Redding 14.

ECHOLS COUNTY (39) — Anderson 4, Carter 12, Swilley, Henderson 2, Daniels 11, Herring, Strickland 10.

### GIRLS

Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 19 29 41 54  
Berrien Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 9 19 26 36  
VALDOSTA (54) — Blanton 22, Dawson 15, Nichols 17, Mayo, Katz, Lashley, Smith.

BERRIEN COUNTY (36) — Carter 7, Vickers, Johnson 14, Pounds 15, L. Gaskins, Jacobs, Sanderson, Griffin.

### GIRLS

Cook Co. \_\_\_\_\_ 16 26 50 63  
Central \_\_\_\_\_ 7 22 33 48

COOK COUNTY (63) — Bennett 32, McKinnon 12, Powers 14, Tucker 2, Terry 1, P. Bennett 2, Castleberry, Sumner, Dansby, Humble, Nichols, Ray.

CENTRAL (48) — Dollar 10, Floyd 3, Gordon 19, Carroll, Cooper, Davis, Huddleston 14, Griffin, Brown 2, Graham.

# Lowndes, Lanier Win Hahira Tourney Tilts

Special to The Constitution

HAHIRA—Lowndes County and Lanier County boys and the Coffee County and Nicholls High school girls streaked to victories Wednesday night in the Hahira Christmas Basketball tournament.

Lowndes County popped Nicholls, 61-32, on 24- and 16-point games by Bobby Eason and Cal Van Flake; Lanier County outscored Cook County, 67-59, on 28- and 23-point efforts by John Bass and Bill Exum.

Mary McNeal, Marilyn Smith and Sybil Simmons scored 14, 13 and 13 points as Coffee County girls won from Lowndes County, 41-37; and Nicholls toppled Hahira, 50-47, on a 29-point night by little Connie Sullivan. Linda Stalvey and Sandra Layton scored 22 and 19 points for host Hahira.

James Davis, Jim Scruggs and Avery Sumner scored 25, 17 and 11 points for Cook County's losers.

LOWNDES COUNTY (37)—Jones 5, Allen 19, Copeland 13, Porter, Swilley, Connell, Trammell, McClain, Starling, Hersey.

COFFEE COUNTY (41)—Smith 13, McNeal 14, Cooper 1, Simmons 13, Cross, Lancaster, Johnson, Worth, Paulk.

SCORE AT HALF: Lowndes County 15, Coffee County 13.

HAHIRA (47)—L. Stalvey 22, Layton 19, Bradford 6, Coppedge, Legette, McNeese, Ciyatt, M. Stalvey.

NICHOLLS (50)—Sullivan 29, Spell 12, L. Rowell 7, Kirkland 2, Burns, J. Rowell, Gilliard, Meek.

SCORE AT HALF—Hahira 27, Nicholls 22.

BOYS

LOWNDES COUNTY (61)—Eason 24, Van Flake 16, Walden 11, Goodson 4, Newham 2, Green 2, Price 2.

NICHOLLS (32)—Morgan 16, D. Street 2, Tanner 1, W. Street 7, Carter 2, Nipper 2, Kirkland 2.

SCORE AT HALF: Lowndes County 29, Nicholls 17.

COOK COUNTY (59)—Byrd 2, Sumner 11, Scruggs 17, Davis 25, O'Quinn 4.

LANIER COUNTY (67)—Bass 27, Brantley 11, Exum 23, Hough 2, Murray 3, Smith 1, Pender 1, Shaw.

SCORE AT HALF: Lanier County 31, Cook County 27.

# Hahira, Valdosta Win

Special to The Constitution

HAHIRA—Coach Jack Jarrard's Hahira boys and Bill Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats surged into the semi-finals of the Hahira Christmas Invitational Basketball Tournament here Tuesday night.

Hahira bombed Echols County, 49-39, on twin 14-point shows by Tommy Bradford and Elton Redding, while Valdosta rallied tremendously in the second half to stun Brooks County, 55-40, on 34 and 21-point games by Alvie Steele and Bill Wisenbaker.

In girls games, Valdosta topped Berrien County, 54-36, as

Shelby Blanton scored 22 points; and Cook County rocked Central of Thomasville, 63-48, as Betty Bennett scored 32 points.

The big story was Valdosta's comeback. Kittrell's people trailed, 23-13, at the half, but went into a full-court press and rallied for 42 points the second half, 23 by Steele and 19 by Wisenbaker.

Lucille Dawson and Patty Nichols hit 15 and 17 points to finish out the Valdosta girls' scoring. Valdosta led, 29-19, at the half.

GIRLS  
VALDOSTA (54)—Blanton 22, Dawson 15, Nichols 17, Rogers, Mayo 2, Lashley, Katz.

BERRIEN COUNTY (36)—Carter 7, Vickers, Johnson 14, Pounds 15, Gaskins, Jacobs, Jones, Griffin.

SCORE AT HALF—Valdosta 29, Berrien County 19.

CENTRAL THOMASVILLE (48)—Dollar 10, Floyd 3, Gordon 19, Huddleston 14, Brown 2, Carroll, Cooper, Singletary.

COOK COUNTY (63)—Bennett 32, McKinnon 12, Powers 14, Tucker 2, Terry 1, Bennett 2, Castleberry, Sumner, Dansby, Humble.

SCORE AT HALF—Central 26, Cook County 22.

BOYS

HAHIRA (49)—Sorrell 5, Oglesby 8, Bradford 14, Cain 8, Redding 14.

ECHOLS COUNTY (39)—Anderson 4, Carter 12, Henderson 2, Daniels 11, Strickland 10, Swilley.

SCORE AT HALF—Hahira 25, Echols County 24.

VALDOSTA (55)—Wisenbaker 21, Steele 34, Johnson, Wells, Norwood, Blanton, Reeves.

BROOKS COUNTY (40)—Lastinger 12, Furney 1, Cooper 8, Sykes 2, Milner 7, Jones 2, Daughtry 8, Wasden.

SCORE AT HALF—Brooks County 23, Valdosta 13.

# VHS Cagers Sweep Tourney Honors

## Wildcats, Kittens Earn Championships At Hahira

By SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

HAHIRA — The smooth working Kittens and the tough-under-pressure Wildcats gave Valdosta a clean sweep of championship honors with final round triumphs here last night in the ninth annual Christmas Invitational basketball tournament.

It marked the first time in the history of the event that teams representing the same school have ruled as both boys and girls champions in the same year.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens gained their title with a 51-37 victory over the Cook County sextet from Adel. It was the fifth tourney crown for the VHS girls and their second in a row.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats edged Lanier County's Bulldogs, 58-56, in the tournament's top thriller to become boys champs. It was the third tourney triumph for the VHS quintet, breaking a title drought in the meet that dated back to 1953.

The Kittens left the starter's gate ranked with the favorites. They more than lived up to their reputations by beating Berrien County, 54-36, and Nicholls, 57-42, to gain the finals. Counting in the three tourney wins Davis' charges have an 8-1 record.

The Wildcats started tourney play with a so-so 2-3 record and to the surprise of many wound up with a 5-3 chart and the championship.

They knocked off favored Brooks County, 55-40, and eased by cross-town rival Lowndes County, 50-47, to get a shot at the crown.

More than 1,000 fans watched last night's action and stayed on as Hahira High principal Mills Whitelaw honored the Kittens and Wildcats with championship team trophies and individual awards of miniature gold basketballs.

Lanier County's talented center Bill Exum and Nicholls' sharpshooting forward Betty Sullivan were picked to receive awards as the tournament's "Most Valuable Players."

But the big victories and the major honors went to the two Valdosta team.

The boys game was a classic with a cliff-hanging finish. After trailing by 10 points early in the third period, the Wildcats rallied and pulled even at 49-49 midway the final stanza.

In the last four minutes and 15 seconds of the game the lead changed hands seven times. With only 50 seconds showing on the clock Lanier County had a 56-55 lead.

Valdosta's Ike Harrell hit with a set shot from the right corner with just 12 seconds to go to put the Wildcats ahead 57-56. Ray Register added point from the free throw line with only four seconds left to nudge VHS' lead up to 58-56. That's the way it ended when the Bulldogs' last shot of the game missed the mark.

The Kittens, in their duel with Cook County, had some anxious moments during the early going. They trailed 10-8 at the end of the first period but more than made up the lost ground by outscoring the Adel girls 19-10 in the second stanza. That gave Valdosta a 27-20 lead at the half. With the VHS guard corps doing a

standout defensive job while holding Cook to just 15 points in the last two periods, the Kittens sailed on to victory.

Here's the way things went in each game:

### WILDCATS 58, BULLDOGS 56

Ten players saw action for the VHS quintet and all shared in the triumph. The list includes Bill Wisenbaker, Ike Harrell, Alvie Steele, Tommy Johnson, Leo Wells, Foy Norwood, Mike Watson, Ray Register, John Gayle and Stan Reaves.

Steele, with 17 points, and Wisenbaker, with 12 were the attack leaders. Five others broke into the scoring column and it was the kind of game in which each point was important. Harrell got 6, Johnson 5, Wells 8, Register 7 and Reaves 3.

John Bass swished the nets for 27 and Bill Exum accounted for 16 to pace the Bulldogs from Lakeland. Bass popped them in from all over the court, while Exum was deadly under the boards.

The Bulldogs had a height advantage and used it to pick off most of the rebounds. But the Wildcats, with a pressing defense and some nifty ball-hawking, held their own.

Valdosta finished with a 24-17 edge in field goals, which the Bulldogs almost offset by making good on 22 of 32 fouls shots. The 'Cats hit on only 10 of 19 tries from the charity line. VHS was charged with 22 fouls and lost both Steele and Wells via the five fouls route early in the final period. Lanier County was charged with 14 fouls.

### KITTENS 51, COOK COUNTY 37

As they did in the two opening games, the Valdosta girls offered a balanced attack. Shelby Blanton and Lucille Dawson each got 17 points. Patty Nichols scored 11 points while seeing action at both forward and guard. Evelyn Wilkes got six markers during the limited time she played in the first half.

Guards Mary Ann Mayo, Sue Katz and Delores Lashley were the Kittens' kingpins on defense along with Nichols.

They were at their best in the third period when they held Cook to just six points. It was during this stanza that the Kittens boosted their lead to 14 points and made the final turn down the victory trail.

Betty Bennett gave a sparkling 22-point performance to become offense leader for Cook.

### GIRLS

Valdosta 8 27 40 51  
Cook Co. 10 20 26 37

VALDOSTA (51) — Blanton 17, Dawson 17, Nichols 11, Wilkes 6, Mayo, Katz, Lashley, McClenny, Rodgers, Knolls, Bazemore, Martin, Smith.

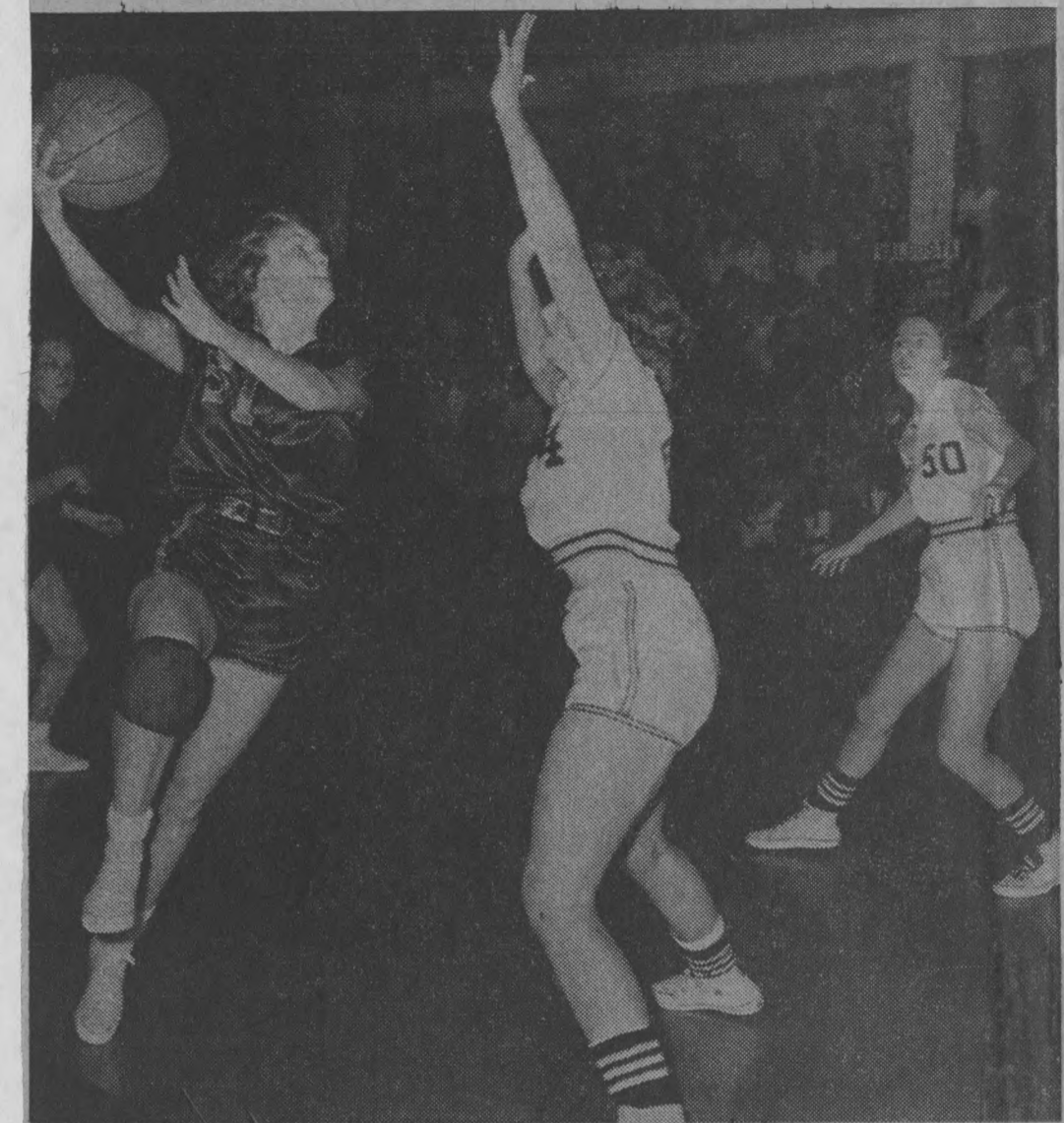
COOK COUNTY (37) — Bennett 22, McKinnon 8, Powers 7, Terry, Lovett, Martin, Castleberry, Sumner, Dansby, Ray.

### BOYS

Valdosta 12 25 42 58  
Lanier Co. 14 33 43 56

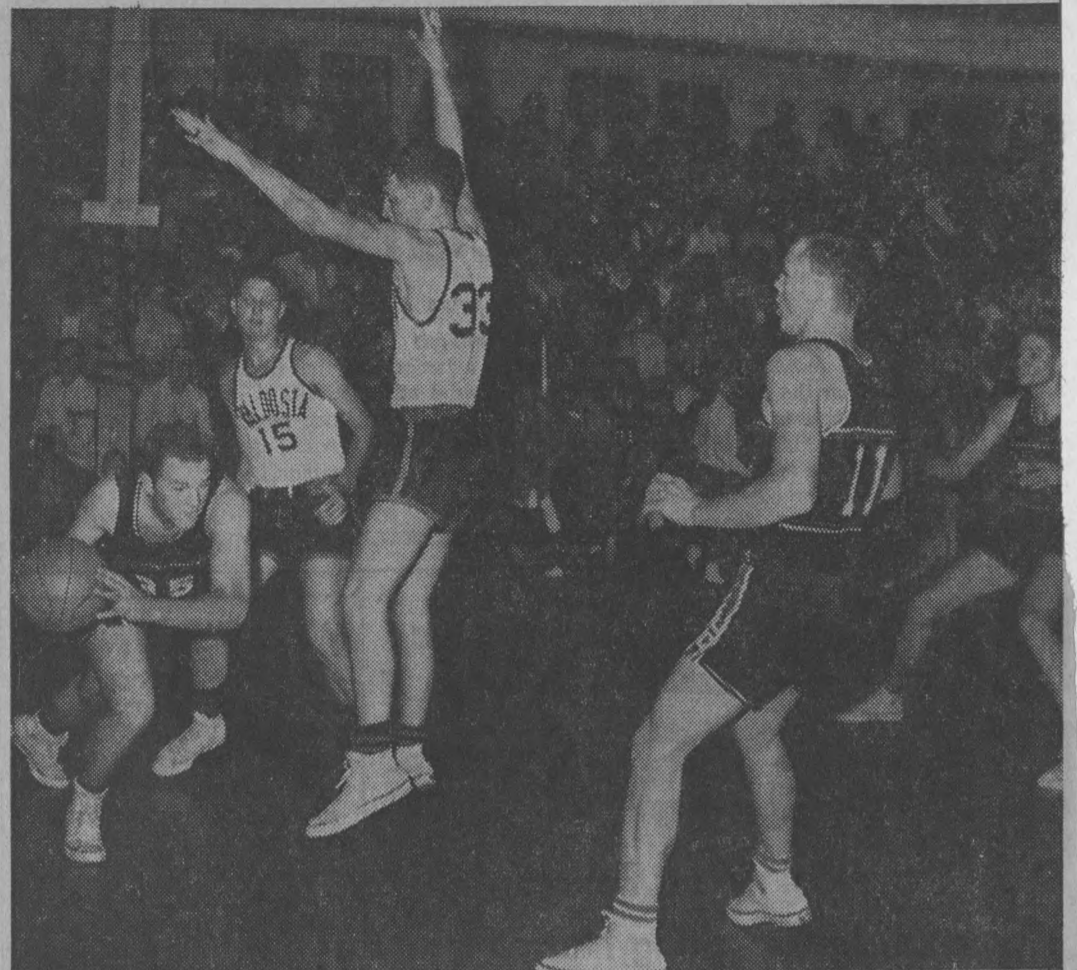
VALDOSTA (58) — Wisenbaker 12, Harrell 6, Steele 17, Johnson 5, Wells 8, Norwood, Watson, Register 7, Gayle, Reaves 3.

LANIER COUNTY (56) — Bass 27, Bentley 8, Exum 16, Hough 16, Murray, Shaw 2.



Kittens' Lucille Dawson Gets Off Hook Shot

Fires One Past Cook Guard Henrietta Rowell



Lanier's Dixie Murray (35) Comes out Fast

Slips Past 'Dosta's High Flying Leo Wells (33)



Valdosta Captains With Championship Trophies

Alvie Steele, Ike Harrell, Shelby Blanton, Delores Lashley

—Times Staff Photos

## Davis, Kittrell Happy Over Tourney Victories

Coaches Bill Kittrell and Bill Davis have very similar views regarding their teams' victories in the Hahira Christmas Invitational basketball tournament.

Davis' Valdosta Kittens picked off the girls division crown for the fifth time in nine tries and second year in a row. Kittrell's Valdosta Wildcats took the boys championship in surprising fashion.

Both VHS mentors are delighted with the championships their teams earned. However, both are expecting their charges to strive for improvement in the future.

"I'm really proud of the boys," Kittrell said. "We had an uphill battle all the way. Confidence is a big thing in basketball. Perhaps winning this tournament will help show the boys that when they scrap hard and the breaks are with them they can win."

"We were fortunate to win the three games in the tournament. All could have gone either way."

"But the boys should keep in mind that the season is just starting and the tournament we must point for is the Region 1-AAA meet at Albany. But right now I'm just enjoying those three games and that tournament championship we won."

Davis was proud of the fact that the Kittens' first defeat of the season, which came just before the tournament, spurred his charges on to even better things at Hahira.

The Kittens opened with five straight victories. Then in the last regular season affair before the Hahira meet, the VHS sextet lost a 10-point decision to Doerun.

"I just wasn't sure how the girls were going to take that licking," Davis said. "But they came back with renewed determination and that pleased me. We played much better in the tournament than we did in the six regular season games before it."

"Perhaps now we are heading in the right direction. However, we have a long way to go and a whole lot of room for more improvement."

To gain their championship the Kittens defeated Berrien County (Nashville), 54-36; Nicholls, 57-42 and Cook County, 51-37.

Forwards Shelby Blanton and Lucille Dawson were the attack leaders. Patty Nichols divided her time between forward and guard and did good jobs at both positions. Evelyn Wilkes, hampered by a knee injury, played for the first time this season. She scored 16 points while seeing limited action against Nicholls and Cook.

Guards Mary Ann Mayo, Sue Katz and Delores Lashley were the defensive standouts. They had help from Barbara Knolls and Gail Bazemore.



GLASSMAN

## Kittens Offer Balance

I would say that the Kittens' major asset is balance. Their scoring is usually evenly distributed among the forwards and all of their regulars at guard do their defensive jobs well. As I said earlier, the Kittens have gotten off to a good start this year. However, they still have plenty of tough games on their schedule.

Since Kittrell's Wildcats went into the tournament with a 2-3 record, they got little consideration in the pre-season talk about who might become the winner.

But the 'Cats offered a hint of what was to come by upsetting Brooks County, 55-40, on opening night. In one respect this was one of the most unusual games I've ever seen. Only two players did all the scoring for Valdosta. Alvie Steele hit for an amazing total of 34 points and Bill Wisenbaker accounted for 21.

**Kittrell's charges followed with a 50-47 win over Lowndes County and a 58-56 triumph over Lanier County (Lakeland). As the coach said, all three games could have gone either way.**

Besides Steele and Wisenbaker, Ike Harrell, Tommy Johnson, Leo Wells, Foy Norwood, Cloy Blanton, Mike Watson, Ray Register, John Gayle and Stan Reaves saw action in one or more of the games. All helped the cause.

Kittrell followed a policy of using a lot of different players in a move designed to develop depth in experienced performers.

"The only way a boy can gain game experience is to play," Kittrell said. "Just as it is in football, depth, can be important in basketball. Take that final game with Lanier County. We lost Steele and Wells on fouls early in the fourth period. But we were fortunate enough to have other boys who could step in and do the job. You've got to be ready for situations like that—or else."

## 'Veterans' Came Through

It took team effort all the way for the 'Cats to triumph, but I think Steele, a 5-10 junior, and Wisenbaker, a 6-0 junior, deserve some extra praise.

Beside his sensational 34-point night against Brooks, Steele got 17 important makers in the title go with Lanier County. Wisenbaker sparkled on both offense and defense in all three games. They are the only returning regulars on the team from last season and Kittrell was pleased to see his "veterans" come through in such fine fashion.

**The tournament was a smoothly run affair, but then the folks at Hahira are noted for their ability to stage a hardwood meet in big league fashion.**

Many of the games were close and hard fought, but good sportsmanship was the rule rather than the exception.

A few Valdosta fans grumbled when Nicholls forward Betty Sullivan and Lanier County center Bill Exum were picked for "Most Valuable Player" awards. Those who disagreed apparently figured some members of the championship teams should have been picked.

I had nothing to do with the MVP selections, but to be honest Sullivan and Exum would have gotten my vote had I been asked to pick. They certainly impressed me with their playing ability.

In a way it was a backhanded compliment for the Wildcats and Kittens. They took team honors while beating opposing quintets and sextets that had the services of the tournament's top individual performers. And after all, team honors are more important than individual awards.

# Valdosta Girls Trim Echols County, 67-42

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

STATENVILLE — Valdosta's Kittens took an early lead and were never headed as they posted a 67-42 victory over the Echols County girls here last night.

Echols' varsity quintet notched a 50-38 triumph over the Valdosta B-team to give the locals a split in the night's doubleheader.

For coach Bill Davis' Kittens, last night's triumph was their fourth in a row. They now have a 9-1 record for the season.

Shelby Blanton, Lucille Dawson, Betty McClenny and Evelyn Wilkes led the Kittens attack. Blanton and Dawson each scored 16 points; McClenny made 14 and Wilkes 10.

The guard foursome of Mary Ann Mayo, Delores Lashley, Sue Katz and Gail Bazemore sparkled on defense. Patty Nichols divided her time between guard and forward and turned in a sharp performance at both positions.

Barbara Carter swished the nets for 27 points to lead the Echols attack and gain individual scoring honors in the game.

In the boys game, Jerry Varndoe hit for seven points to pace the VHS Bees. Mark Holloway, with seven, and Giles Smith, with six, were next. Strickland scored 13 markers to lead the Echols quintet to its triumph.

Individual scores in the girls game follows:

Valdosta	15	39	51	67
Echols Co.	10	20	30	42

VALDOSTA (67) — Blanton 16, Dawson 16, Nichols 5, McClenny 14, Wilkes 10, Smith 2, Martin 2, Knoll 2, Mayo, Lashley, Katz, Quattlebaum, Shenton, Bazemore, Rodgers, Geer, Elliott, Hamill, Martin.

ECHOLS COUNTY (42) — Barbara Carter 27, Kinsey 7, Staton 8, Jolly, Collier, Rentz, Griffin, Herndon, Smith, Anderson.

## Cats Face Rugged Tests At Columbus

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's basketball Wildcats, who have done very well outside their league, test their talent and try their luck against a pair of Region 1-AAA toughies this weekend.

Coach Bill Kittrell's charges will carry a 5-3 record with them when they go to Columbus Friday to open a crucial two-game series.

On Friday night the 'Cats will go against Columbus High's Blue Devils. They will stay over for a Saturday night encounter with Baker's Lions.

While the VHS quintet is well above the .500 mark so far, it suffered a 10-point setback at the hands of Warner Robins in its only league outing.

Columbus, with a 4-4 record,

and Baker, with a 4-3 mark, figure to be just as tough as the Demons from Robins.

While the 'Cats are at Columbus Friday night, Coach Bill Davis' Kittens will be meeting the Echols County lassies at Statenville. The VHS B-team boys will also make the trip to Echols. The Kittens, who have an 8-1 record, will be idle on Saturday.

There will be plenty of other action in the area beside that involving the Valdosta teams.

The Friday slate also calls for Lanier County (Lakeland) to play at Hahira, Brooks County (Quitman) at Camilla, Berrien County (Nashville) at Irwin County (Ocilla), Thomasville at Cook County (Adel), Jennings, Fla., at Georgia Christian Institute (Dasher), Clinch County (Homer-

ville) at Manor and Mayo, Fla., at Jasper, Fla.

Lowndes County's Golden Eagles will resume play after the holidays when they go down across the state line for a Saturday night encounter at Madison, Fla.

The Wildcats and Kittens weren't idle during the holidays. They won titles in Hahira Christmas Invitational tournaments.

However, their championships aren't expected to impress their weekend foes. The talented Echols County sextet has a 6-1 record it can brag about. And Columbus' Blue Devils were runners-up in the tough Bi-City Invitational last week in their hometown.

Chief worry for the 'Cats when they go against Baker on Saturday will be trying to stop 1-AAA's top scorer Billy Waldrop. The Lions' star has averaged 19.71 points a game in seven outings.

When Hahira's Tigers and Lanier County's Bulldogs get together tomorrow night at Hahira, it will be a replay of the boys division semi-finals in the Christmas tourney.

Lanier County won that one, 57-46. But in an earlier regular season meeting, Hahira triumphed over Lanier County, 88-82. The Bulldogs have an 11-1 record and the Tigers have a 5-5 mark.

In their only previous meeting the Hahira girls defeated the Lanier County sextet, 64-42.

Coach Carlton Adams' LOHI Eagles, a team with a 6-5 record and a knack for being involved in close games, also stayed busy during the holidays.

Adams' Eagles and coach Noel George's LOHI sextet played in a game at Hahira last night.

# Lions Trim 'Cats With Rally, 54-53

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

COLUMBUS — Valdosta's Wildcats saw a five-point lead slip through their fingers in the final two minutes of play as they dropped a 54-53 basketball decision to Baker's Lions here Saturday night.

Baker's closing rally was climaxed when Mike Snider hit for a free throw with only 20 seconds to go. This broke a 53-53 deadlock and tipped the scales in the Lions' favor.

With the triumph, Coach Bubba

Ball's Baker quintet boosted its record to 6-3. The defeat leveled the record of Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats off at 5-5.

It was the third loss in as many outings for the 'Cats against Region 1-AAA foes.

While the game was close all the way, the 'Cats held the advantage most of the time. Valdosta had a four-point edge at the half.

Baker cut the lead to a single point at the end of the third stanza.

Valdosta moved away again and had a five-point bulge with two minutes to go. But the Lions rallied to triumph in the thriller.

Alvie Steele spearheaded the Valdosta attack with 21 points. In addition the junior guard turned in an outstanding floor game. His ball hawking was a big help to the Wildcats' cause.

Next on the VHS scoring list was Bill Wisenbaker with 12 points. He was followed by Leo Wells with 11.

The trio of Bill Waldrop, Don Long and Snider paced the Baker offense.

Waldrop scored 15 points, Long 14 and Snider 11.

Waldrop, the top scorer in 1-AAA, was held to five points in the first half but found the range for 10 markers in the last two periods.

The Lions finished with a 23-18 edge in field goals but the Wildcats almost offset it at the foul line. Valdosta made good on 15 of 24 four shots while the Lions sank only eight of 17 tries from the charity line. VHS was charged with 13 fouls and Baker with 16.

Individual scoring follows:

Valdosta ..... 8 23 53 53  
Baker ..... 9 19 37 54

VALDOSTA (53) — Steele 21, Wisenbaker 12, Wells 11, Harrell 5, Johnson 4, Reaves.

BAKER (54) — Waldrop 15, Long 14, Snider 11, Kirk 8, Motser 9, Reed, Barron.

# Poets Trim 'Cats; Kittens Top Deers

BY SAMMY GLASSMAN  
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats failed to break their Region 1-AAA "jinx", but the VHS Kittens got the "revenge" they were after in a basketball doubleheader here last night.

Lanier's Poets used a smooth-working, fast-break attack to

trim the 'Cats, 76-66. The loss left the VHS quintet with a 5-6 record in all games and an 0-4 regional chart.

The Kittens rolled past Doerun's Deers, 75-56, for their 11th triumph in 12 outings. With last night's triumph they avenged an earlier 10-point loss to Doerun. The Valdosta teams swing back

into action here tonight. Coach Bill Davis' Kittens will be meeting the Coffee County Comets from Douglas while coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats go against another 1-AAA foe, the Willingham Rams from Macon. Play is slated to begin at 7 p. m. at the VHS gym.

Last night's battle between the 'Cats and Poets was a scoring duel all the way. The Wildcats' top offensive performance of the season still wasn't quite enough to match the firepower of coach Tom Porter's Lanier quintet.

It was close for a half with the count deadlocked at 33-33 at the midway break. But with Woodrow Fincher leading the way, the Poets outscored the Wildcats 28-14 in the third stanza to take a commanding lead. 'Dosta fought back, but couldn't make up all the lost ground with a closing rally.

Fincher hit for 27 points to become attack leader for the Macon quintet. He got plenty of help from John Breedlove and Haynes Willingham, who each accounted for 15 points.

Bill Wisenbaker and Alvie Steele each rang the bell for 22 points to set the offensive pace for Valdosta.

The foursome of Shelby Blanton, Lucille Dawson, Betty McClenny and Evelyn Wilkes were attack leaders for the Kittens in their romp over the Deers. Blanton and Dawson each scored 23 points. McClenny accounted for 11 markers and Wilkes hit for 13.

Guards Mary Ann Mayo, Patty Nichols and Delores Lashley were the defensive stickouts. They were at their best in the second stanza when Doerun was limited to just 10 points.

Betty Blackstock, with 20 points, set the offensive pace for the Deers. Linda Taylor was next with 19. Garland Whiddon got 13 before being forced to the sideline in the second period with an ankle injury.

The Kittens took an early 7-2 lead in the game and were never headed. Early in the second stanza they had built up a 17-point edge and the issue was never in doubt after that.

## GIRLS

Valdosta	22	42	63	75
Doerun	15	25	36	56

VALDOSTA (75) — Blanton 23, Shenton, Elliott, Dawson 23, McClenny 11, Wilkes 13, Nichols, Quattlebaum, Mayo, Bazemore, Lashley, Knoll, Geer, Katz, E. Hamill, R. Martin, S. Martin, Gleason, Session, A. Hamill, M. Smith, S. Smith, Garvin, Johnson.

DOERUN (56) — Blackstock 20, Whiddon 13, Taylor 19, Fincher 2, Irwin, McCarty 2, Cato, Wheeler, Brown, Hatchcock.

## BOYS

Valdosta	13	33	47	66
Lanier	12	33	61	76

VALDOSTA (66) — Steele 22, Johnson 5, Harrell 6, Wisenbaker 2, Gayle, Wells 7, Smith, Reaves,

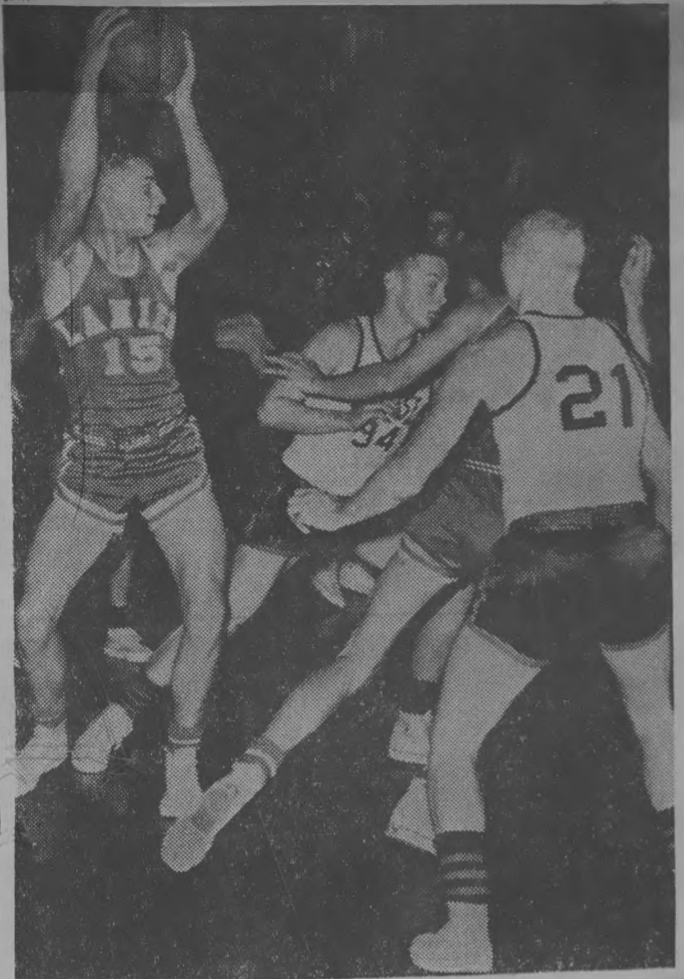
Thomas 2, Bennett, Schroer, LANIER (76) — Fincher 27, Middlebrooks 7, Johnson 6, Breedlove 15, Vickers, Nickels 6, Willingham 15, Stokes.



—Times Staff Photos

## Have Tug-of-War For Ball

Euloise Hamill, Nadine Wheeler Involved



## Poets' Breedlove Wants Help

Looks For Teammate To Take Pass

# 'Cats Whip Jordan; Kittens Rap Echols

Valdosta's Wildcats rang up their second Region 1-AAA win of the season and the VHS Kittens extended their victory streak to eight games with triumphs here on Saturday night.

Coach Bill Kittrell's 'Cats poured in 25 points during a fourth quarter uprising to knock off the Jordan Red Jackets from Columbus, 69-53.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens downed the Echols County girls from Statenville 57-36, to run their current winning string to eight games and boost their overall record to 13-1.

\* \* \*

While leveling their overall record off at 7-7 and nailing down their second league win in seven tries, the Wildcats finished in a blaze of points to humble Jordan.

For three quarters 'Dosta and Jordan battled it out on even terms. The 'Cats started the final period with a slim 44-43 edge.

But in the final eight minutes of play the VHS quintet used a smooth-working fast break attack to outscore Jordan 25-10 and win by a comfortable margin.

Alvie Steele and Leo Wells each hit for 20 points to lead the Valdosta attack. Nine, or almost half of Steele's points, came in the final stanza.

\* \* \*

Bill Wisenbaker, with 12 points; Tommy Johnson, with seven, and Ike Harrell, with six, were others who helped the VHS scoring cause.

Tony Brock, with 14 points, and Larry Culverhouse, with 11, were attack leaders for Jordan.

In the girls game, the Kittens moved off to an early lead and were never headed.

Scoring leaders for the VHS sextet were Shelby Blanton, 19; Lucille Dawson, 14; Betty McClenny, 8 and Evelyn Wilkes, 7. Defensive standouts included guards Patty Nichols, Delores

Lashley and Mary Ann Mayo. They limited Echols to just 17 points in the first half.

Nell Kinsey, with 25 markers, set the scoring pace for Echols.

\* \* \*

Individual scoring follows:

## GIRLS

Valdosta ..... 15 27 45 57  
Echols Co. .... 8 17 24 36

VALDOSTA (57) — Blanton 19, Dawson 14, McClenny 8, Wilkes 7, Smith 4, Knoll 2, Martin 2, Nichols 1, Hamill, Mayo, Bazemore, Rodgers, Katz, Lashley.

ECHOLS COUNTY (36) —

Kinsley 25, Staten 11, Carter-Griffin, Jolly, Herndon, Raulerson, Collier, Smith, Anderson, Rentz.

## BOYS

Valdosta ..... 15 31 44 69  
Jordan ..... 14 26 43 53

VALDOSTA (69) — Steele 20, Wells 20, Wisenbaker 12, Johnson 7, Harrell 6, Thomas 2, Blanton 2, Register, Reaves, Smith, Bennett, Gayle.

JORDAN (53) — Brock 14, Culverhouse 11, McKinney 10, Welch 7, Wilson 6, Henderson, Hurston, Hinton, Fullford.

# Valdosta, Lowndes Clash Here Tonight

Tonight's battle here between cross-town rivals Valdosta and Lowndes County highlights a busy week of prep basketball action in the area.

The VHS and LOHI cagers will be meeting in a twin-bill slated for 7 p. m. at the Lowndes County High gym.

In other games tonight Worth County (Sylvester) will be at Cook County (Adel), Brooks County (Quitman) at Thomasville, Georgia Christian Institute at Clinch County (Homerville), Lanier County (Lakeland) vs Berrien County (Nashville) at Alapaha and Jasper, Fla., at Ft. White, Fla.

The schedule for the remainder of the week follows:

FRIDAY — Valdosta at Albany, Lowndes County vs Berrien County at Alapaha, Atkinson County (Pearson) at Hahira, Cook County at Brooks County, Clinch County at Nicholls and Jasper at Greenville.

SATURDAY — Valdosta at Moultrie, Lowndes County at Jeff Davis (Hazlehurst), Doerun at Hahira and Omega at GCI.

When they tangle tonight, coach Bill Kittrell's VHS Wildcats and coach Carlton Adams' LOHI Eagles will be meeting for the third time this season.

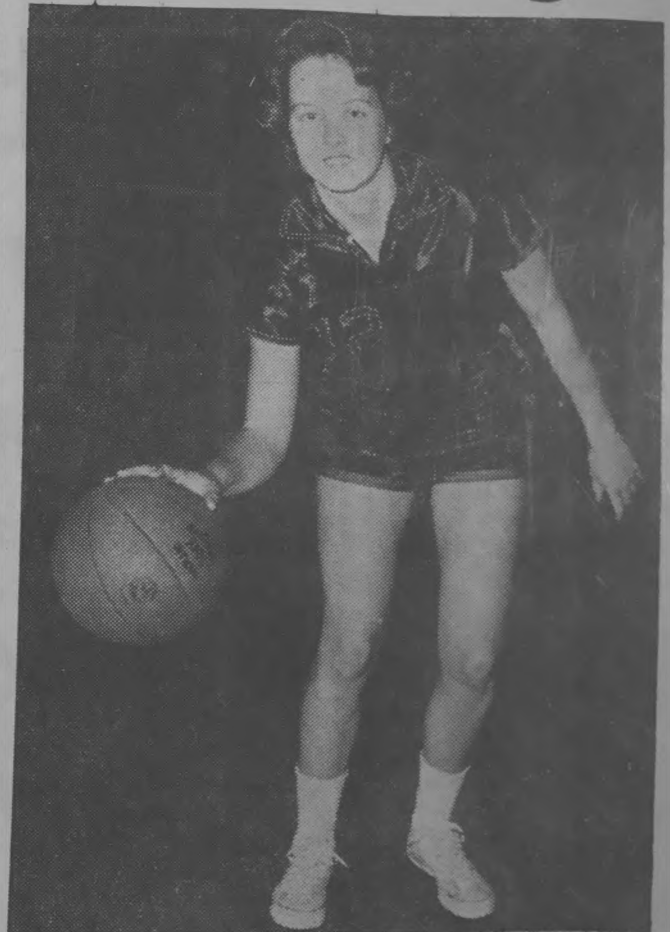
They stand 1-1 in the series, with both games thrillers that were not decided until the final seconds of play.

The Eagles won the first one, 53-49. The lead changed hands 21 times in this contest played on Valdosta's home court.

In the semi-finals of the Hahira Invitational tournament the Wildcats edged the Eagles, 50-47. The lead see-sawed back and forth a dozen times in this one.

The 'Dosta quintet will carry a 6-6 record into tonight's game after beating Jordan in its last start. The LOHI boys have a 13-5 chart. They have a seven-game victory streak going and have triumphed in 10 of their last 11 starts.

Coach Bill Davis' VHS Kittens



Valdosta's Delores Lashley

Talented Member Of Guard Corps

and coach Noel George's LOHI Saturday. The 'Cats are 2-5 in loop play while the Kittens edged Warner Robins in their only outing against a regional foe.

LOHI will be playing return games with both of its weekend opponents, Berrien County and Jeff Davis.

The Eagles have trimmed Jeff Davis, 48-47 and Berrien, 62-29. The LOHI girls lost to Berrien, 38-36, and to Jeff Davis, 42-45.

# Valdosta Splits Pair With Tribe

## Albany Trips Wildcats; Kittens Triumph, 45-34

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ALBANY — Albany's Indians and Valdosta's Kittens were the victors in a Region 1-AAA basketball doubleheader here last night.

The Indians used a fourth-period uprising to down the VHS Wildcats, 58-50.

With the help of sharp defensive work by the guard trio of Mary Ann Mayo, Delores Lashley and Sue Katz, Valdosta's Kittens trimmed the Albany lassies, 45-34.

The Valdosta cagers swing back into action tonight meeting Moultrie in Moultrie in two more league tests for them.

Last night's boys game was close for three periods. The Indians held a slim 40-39 lead at the start of the final period. But Albany finished with a rush to clinch the victory.

The Kittens took an early lead and were never headed in their outing. However, they experienced a scoring slump in the second half and went six minutes without making a point.

But with the help of the lead they built up in the first half and the sharp defensive play of the guards, the VHS girls triumphed.

Richard Howard scored 20 points as he led the Indians to the victory that leveled their overall record off at 9-9 and re-

gional chart off at 3-3. The 'Cats now have a 7-9 record in all games and a 2-6 league mark.

Alvie Steele, with 21 points, and Bill Wisenbaker, with 15, were leaders for 'Dosta.

Albany made 20 field goals and hit on 10 of 28 free throw tries. The Indians were charged with 25 fouls. Valdosta made 15 field goals, and sank 20 of 24 shots from the charity line. The 'Cats were charged with 19 fouls.

Lucille Dawson, with 17 points, and Patty Nichols, with 15, were the scoring leaders for the Kittens.

The VHS sextet now has a 15-1 record in all games and a 2-0 regional mark. Last night's triumph was the 10th in a row for the Kittens.

### GIRLS

Valdosta	11	28	38	45
Albany	7	14	22	34

VALDOSTA (45) — Blanton 8, Dawson 17, Nichols 15, McClenny 5, Mayo, Lashley, Katz.

ALBANY (34) — Meadors 21, Yielding 8, Tabb 2, Inman 1, Bickerstaff 2, Conner, Stevenson, Schatz, Johnson, Gill, Hughes.

### BOYS

Valdosta	14	27	39	50
Albany	15	30	40	58

VALDOSTA (50) — Steele 21, Wisenbaker 15, Harrell 7, Johnson 4, Wells 3.

ALBANY (58) — Howard 20, Hill 14, Bunting 8, Dubeau 8, Flannigan 6, Pennington 2.

# Kittens Down Tifton, 49-32, for 12th Win

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

TIFTON — Valdosta's Kittens pushed their victory total up to an even dozen with a 49-32 triumph over Tifton's Angels here last night.

With the win coach Bill Davis' VHS sextet boosted its overall record to 12-1 and extended its current victory streak to seven games.

The Kittens started slowly, but had a 7-6 lead at the end of the first period. They began pulling away in the second stanza and by half time had an 11-point bulge. They continued to build to their advantage in the second half.

Valdosta offered a balanced attack with Evelyn Wilkes scoring 17 points, Shelby Blanton 14, and Lucille Dawson 12. The guard trio of Mary Ann Mayo, Patty Nichols and Delores Lashley were among those showing well on defense.

Laverne McDonald hit for 16 points to lead the Tifton attack. Individual scoring follows:

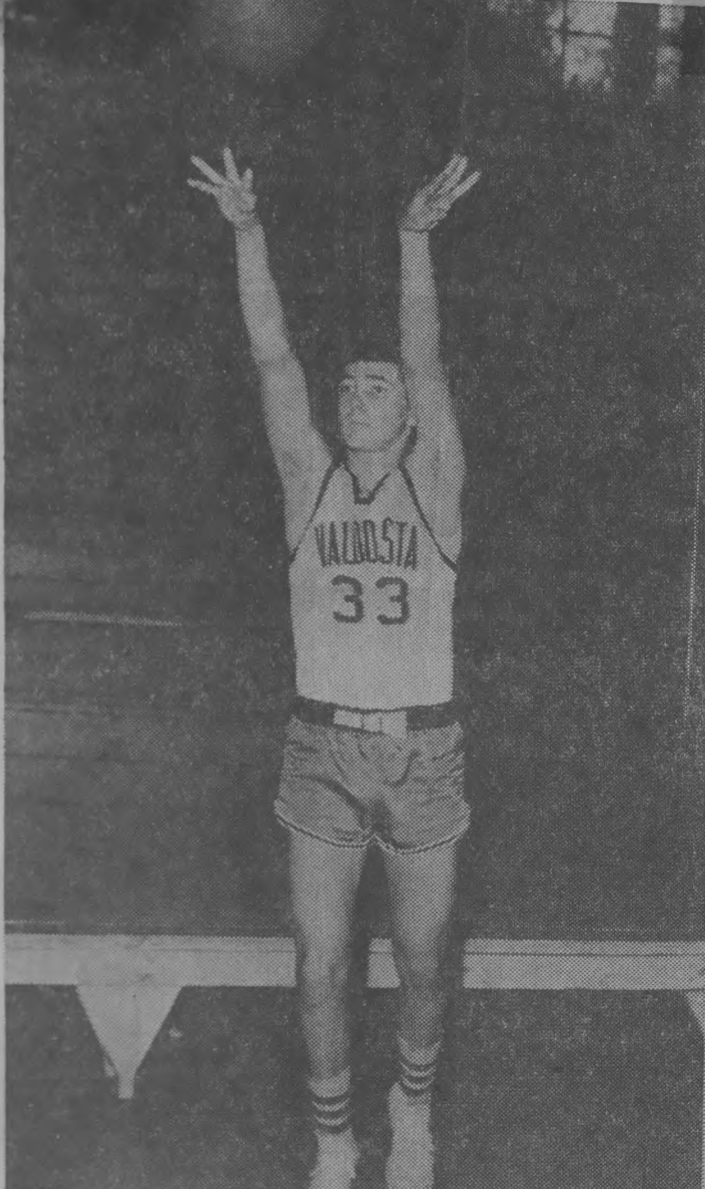
### Girls

Valdosta	7	25	39	49
Tifton	6	14	24	32

VALDOSTA (49) — Wilkes 17, Blanton 14, Dawson 12, S. Martin 3, McClenny 2, Smith 2, Hamill, Mayo, Bazemore, Rodgers, Lashley, Knoll, Geer, Katz, Nichols, R. Martin Quattlebaum.

TIFTON (32) — McDonald 16, Cottle 11, Paulk 5, Thompson, Doss, McMillian.

# Valdosta At Albany; LOHI Plays Berrien



—Times Staff Photo

**'Cats' Leo Wells Fires One**  
Drills For Game With Albany Indians

Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens will be facing Region 1-AAA test when they play at Albany tonight and at Moultrie on Saturday.

Lowndes County's cagers will also be on the "road" this weekend playing Berrien County (Nashville) at Alapaha tonight and clashing with Jeff Davis at Hazelhurst in a 1-A (East) outing on Saturday.

Coach Bill Kittrell Wildcats will be playing one of 1-AAA's most improved quintets when they tangle with coach Graham Lowe's Albany Indians tonight.

After a slow start, the Albany quintet has built its overall record to 8-9 and its league mark to 2-3.

Last Saturday the Indians beat Columbus, 66-60. Columbus, in turn, defeated the 'Cats, 51-38.

The VHS quintet has a 7-8 record in all games and a 2-5 league chart.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens, who have compiled a 14-1 record and have a nine-game victory streak going, will be making only their second start against a regional opponent.

The Valdosta lassies edged Warner Robins, 50-48, in the only game it has played which counts toward the 1-AAA girls championship.

# Valdosta, LOHI Ready To Travel

Valdosta and Lowndes County basketball fans will have to do some traveling if they want to see their favorite teams in action this weekend.

Valdosta will be playing at Albany on Friday and at Moultrie as follows:

LOHI is to meet Berrien County (Nashville) at Alapaha Friday and then is to face Jeff Davis at Hazelhurst on Saturday.

There will be plenty of other

action in the area with the schedule as follows: ? ? ? ??

\* \* \*

FRIDAY — Atkinson County (Pearson) at Hahira, Cook County (Adel) at Brooks County (Quitman), Clinch County (Homer-ville) at Nicholls, Jasper, Fla., at Greenville, Fla.

SATURDAY — Doerun at Hahira, Omega at Georgia Christian Institute.

The weekend games with Albany and Moultrie will be Region 1-AAA tests for the VHS Wildcats and Kittens.

Coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats have a 7-8 record in all games and a 2-5 regional chart. Coach Bill Davis' Kittens, riding the crest of a nine-game winning streak, have a 14-1 mark for the season. The Valdosta girls eased by Warner Robins in their only regional outing.

The Valdosta cagers will be meeting both Albany and Moultrie for the first time this season.

\* \* \*

Coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes County Golden Eagles and coach Noel George's LOHI girls will be playing return engagements with both Berrien County and Jeff Davis, a Region 1-A (East) opponent.

The Eagles trimmed Berrien, 62-29, and just shaded Jeff Davis, 48-47, in their first meetings.

Lowndes' sextet dropped a 33-36 decision to Berrien and lost by a 48-45 margin to Jeff Davis in earlier games.

Adams' Eagles have a 14-5 overall record and a 4-3 regional chart. They've won eight in a row and 11 of the last 12.

The LOHI lassies have a 3-14 mark in all games and a 1-6 league chart.

# Wildcats, Kittens Trounce Moultrie

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

MOULTRIE — Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens rolled to victory in a Saturday night Region 1-AAA basketball doubleheader with Moultrie.

With their top offensive effort of the season, coach Bill Kittrell's Wildcats trimmed Moultrie's Packers, 73-39. The triumph boosted the 'Cats' overall record to 8-9 and their loop mark to 3-6.

Coach Bill Davis' Kittens notched a 50-32 win. The VHS sextet is now 16-1 for the season, 3-0 in regional play and has an 11-game winning streak.

The Wildcats gave an indication of what was to come when they jumped off to a 20-3 lead. They went on from there to victory.

Alvie Steele scored 16 points, Leo Wells got 13 and Bill Wisenbaker accounted for 11 to set the

scoring pace for the 'Dosta quintet.

The Kittens offered a balanced attack with Patty Nichols scoring 20 points, Shelby Blanton 16 and Lucille Dawson 16 as they got off to an early lead and were never headed.

\* \* \*

Guards Sue Katz, Delores Lashley and Mary Ann Mayo played key roles in the fine defensive effort which limited the Moultrie sextet to just 32 points.

GIRLS

Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 18 34 43 50  
Moultrie \_\_\_\_\_ 10 15 23 32

VALDOSTA (50) — Nichols 20, Blanton 16, Dawson 14, McClenny, Mayo, Rodgers, Lashley, Katz, Martin.

MOULTRIE (32) — Flowers 14, Schinkel 9, Prince 5, Young 4, Gamage, Bozeman, Carlton, Walden, Norman, Croft.

BOYS

Valdosta \_\_\_\_\_ 20 42 51 73  
Moultrie \_\_\_\_\_ 8 13 23 39

VALDOSTA (73) — Steele 16, Wells 13, Wisenbaker 11, Johnson 9, Harrell 7, Register 7, Smith 6, Thomas 2, Gayle.

MOULTRIE (39) — Harvey 14, Bradberry 6, West 5, Wilder 4, Holmes 3, Tillman 2, Croft 2, Sheldon 1.

## 'Dosta Cagers Face Berrien At Alapaha

Valdosta will wind up the "home" portion of its 1960-61 slate and Lowndes County will close out its regular season during a busy round of high school basketball action in the area this week.

The VHS Wildcats and Kittens have three twin-bills on tap this week.

They are to meet Berrien County at Alapaha tonight then play Region 1-AAA foes Moultrie and

Albany here on Friday and Saturday respectively.

LOHI will meet Madison, Fla., here Saturday night in the regular season finale for coach Carlton Adams' Eagles and coach Noel George's Lowndes sextet.

\* \* \*

Other games this week follow:

Tonight — Georgia Christian Institute at Cook County (Adel), Brooks County (Quitman) at Central (Thomasville), Lanier Coun-

ty (Lakeland) at Clinch County (Homerville).

Friday — Hahira vs Berrien County at Ray City, Cook County at Central, Brooks County at Climax, Clinch County at St. George, GCI at Lanier County, Jasper, Fla., at Echols County (Statenville).

Saturday — Echols County at Hahira, GCI at Jennings, Fla., Lake City, Fla., at Jasper, Fla.

The Valdosta cagers will be playing return engagements with Berrien tonight at Alapaha.

In earlier meetings the 'Cats defeated the Rebels, 54-39, and the Kittens edged the Berrien girls, 49-46.

The VHS quintet has an 8-9 record. The Kittens have a 16-1 mark after winning 11 in a row.

After meeting regional foes Moultrie and Albany here this weekend, the Valdosta teams have a pair of "road" dates to keep next week before closing out regular season play.

Lowndes and Madison will be meeting for the second time when they get together here on Saturday night.

The Eagles turned back the Florida quintet, 48-34, and the LOHI girls triumphed, 52-21, in earlier games at Madison.

Adams' Eagles have a 16-5 record that includes a string of 10 straight wins.

LOHI will close out its regular season this week, but it won't be the last time local fans will have a chance to see them in action. Lowndes will be in the Region 1-A (East) tourney to be played at the LOHI gym Feb. 9-11.

One of the feature game in the area tonight will be between coach Billy Pafford's Lanier County Bulldogs and coach Charlie Bennett's Clinch County Panthers at Homerville.

The Bulldogs and Panthers are two of the strongest teams in the section, regardless of classification.

In an earlier meeting at Lakeland, the Bulldogs triumphed, 70-57. Clinch and Lanier have match-