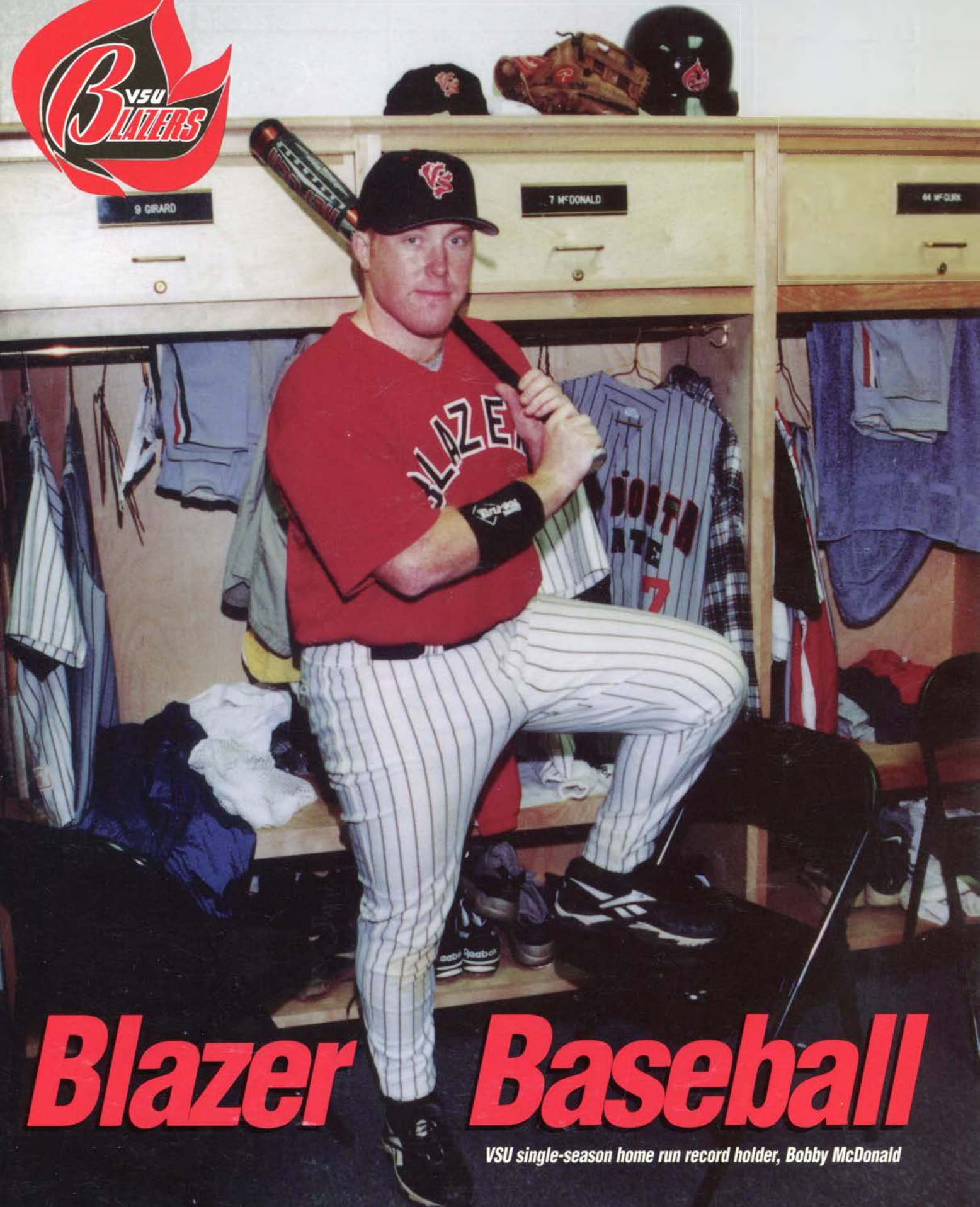
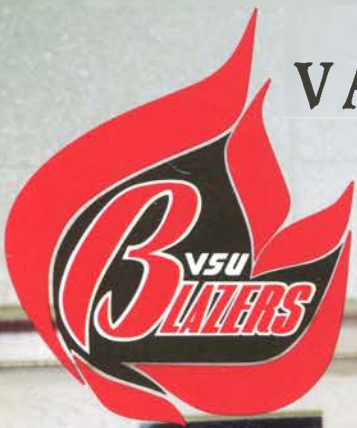


VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY



# *Blazer Baseball*

*VSU single-season home run record holder, Bobby McDonald*

# Head Coach Tommy Thomas

Entering his 31st season as the outstanding head coach of Valdosta State's Blazer baseball team, Tommy Thomas has enjoyed success gained by very few. In 30 seasons, Thomas-led teams have compiled an overall record of 1006-582, a .634 winning percentage. Last season, he became only the second NCAA Division II coach to win 1000 games, and his 1006 wins are the most among active Division II coaches.

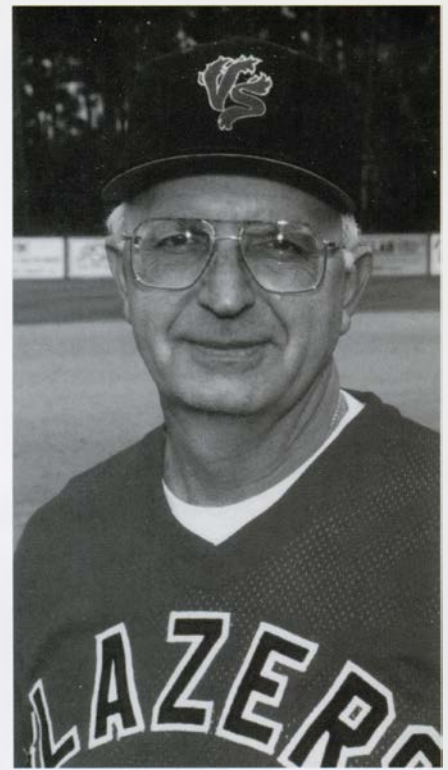
Twenty-one of his 29 teams have reached post-season play, and eight teams, including the 1995 club, have made it to the national tournament with the 1979 team winning the national championship. As a result, Thomas has been the recipient of numerous individual awards and honors. Following the national title year, he was named National Coach of the Year for NCAA Division II by the American Baseball Coaches Association. On seven occasions he has been named regional coach of the year, once in the NAIA Area V (1969) and five times in the NCAA South Atlantic region (1974, 1977, 1979, 1983

and 1985) and once in the South Central region (1995).

The 57-year-old Valdosta native received the BS degree from Valdosta State, where he was a four-year letterman in baseball from 1959-62, ending his career with a .316 batting average. Thomas, who is single, earned the MST degree from Georgia Southern in 1967.

## Division II's Winningest Coaches

	Years	Wins
1. Tommy Thomas, VSU	30	1006
2. Frank Vieira, New Haven	35	900
3. Jack Smitheran, UC Riverside	28	893
4. Gary Grob, Winona State	30	840
5. Irish O'Reilly, Lewis	19	785
6. Phil Swimley, UC Davis	32	763
7. Joe Roberts, Armstrong State	19	756
8. Bill Aker, Northern Kentucky	26	741
9. Ron Davies, Adelphi	33	721
10. Dean Bowyer, Mankato State	25	708



## General Information

Name . . . . . Valdosta State University  
 Location . . . . . Valdosta, Georgia  
 Founded . . . . . 1906  
 Enrollment . . . . . 9850  
 President . . . . . Dr. Hugh C. Bailey  
 Colors . . . . . Red and Black  
 Nickname . . . . . Blazers  
 Home Facility . . . . . Billy Grant Field (1100)  
 Conference . . . . . Gulf South  
 National Affiliation . . . . . NCAA, Division II  
 1997 Record . . . . . 33-23 overall, 14-7 in GSC East

## Athletic Staff

Athletic Director . . . . . Herb Reinhard  
 Secretary . . . . . Debbie Wisenbaker  
 Faculty Athletic Representative . . . . . Bobby Tucker  
 Sports Information Director . . . . . Steve Roberts  
 Graduate Assistant SID . . . . . Jamie Corr  
 Trainer . . . . . Russ Hoff  
 Field Maintenance . . . . . Larry Lampert

## Baseball Staff

Head Coach . . . . . Tommy Thomas  
 Assistant Coach . . . . . Pete Meyer  
 Graduate Assistant . . . . . Shannon Jernigan  
 Student Assistant . . . . . Darren Bush  
 Baseball Trainer . . . . . Lori Howard  
 Student Trainers . . . . . Joel Eubanks, Craig Johnson  
 Public Address . . . . . Greg McIlvain, Bill Postel

## Assistant Coach Pete Meyer



Pete Meyer, who was Thomas's graduate assistant for two seasons while working on his master of education degree, rejoined the Blazer baseball program in the summer of 1993 and begins his fifth season as Blazer baseball's top assistant and chief recruiter.

Meyer, a native of Greencastle, Ind., and the son of DePauw University baseball coach Ed Meyer, spent three years as head baseball coach at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. He went to Oglethorpe to help reinstate a baseball program which had been dormant for 15 years and compiled a two-year record of 39-30, including a perfect 16-0 conference record.

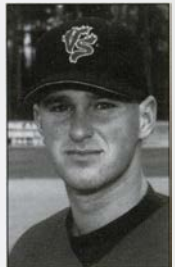
His two teams won the eastern division of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference, and he coached 10 all-conference players, three all region players, two academic all-south players and one pitcher of the year in the SCAC.

Meyer was a four-sport athlete at Greencastle High School, earning 10 varsity letters. He was an all-conference prep baseball player and continued his baseball career at College of Wooster where he was a four year letterman and three-time all-conference selection. Three of the teams (1985-87) participated in the NCAA Division III national playoffs.

Meyer is married, and he and his wife Cindy, a

certified public accountant who is the manager of accounting and budgets in VSU's Office of Business and Finance, have two children, Mitch, 7 1/2, and Megan, 6.

## Graduate Assistant Shannon Jernigan



Shannon Jernigan, a two-year starting catcher for Valdosta State's 1994 and 1995 clubs, begins his second year as a graduate assistant for the Blazer baseball program. The 23-year-old Live Oak, Fla., native worked as a student assistant last season while completing work on his undergraduate degree in health and physical education.

Jernigan earned all-conference honors his junior season, hitting .267 and helping the Blazers qualify for the conference tournament. His senior season, he commanded a solid pitching staff which turned in an excellent 3.43 ERA as the Blazers won their first Gulf South Conference championship. That team also won the South Central Regional and returned to the Division II World Series for the first time since 1985, finishing third.

This season Jernigan will work primarily with VSU pitchers and catchers and will also do some scouting. He is working toward a master of education degree in the field of health and physical education.

## On the Cover

Bobby McDonald, who put together a triple crown season in 1997 to lead Valdosta State to post-season play for the 21st time in the last 30 years, is pictured in front of his locker in the Blazers' brand new baseball fieldhouse. McDonald hit .365 with 23 home runs and 65 RBI as a sophomore last season. The 23 homers set a new VSU record.

# The Players



**Jeff Gillis**  
Pitcher / Utility  
5-11 Sophomore  
Acworth, GA

**1**



**Chad Parkerson**  
Outfield  
5-10 Junior  
Valdosta, GA

**4**



**Bobby McDonald**  
Right Field  
5-11 Junior  
Lilburn, GA

**7**



**Charan Girard**  
Shortstop  
5-11 Senior  
Palm City, FL

**9**



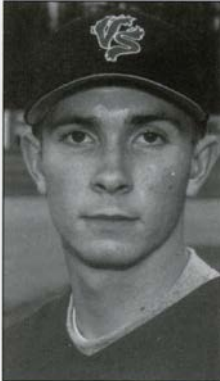
**Andy Boutwell**  
Pitcher  
6-1 Freshman  
Valdosta, GA

**12**



**Billy Bone**  
Second Base  
6-0 Senior  
Jacksonville, FL

**13**



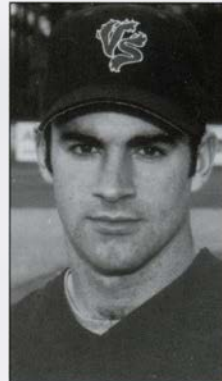
**Jason Dorminy**  
Utility  
5-10 Senior  
Leesburg, GA

**16**



**Jason Bulger**  
Third Base  
6-3 Freshman  
Snellville, GA

**17**



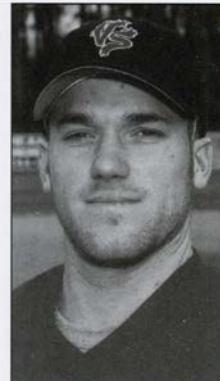
**Jim Greer**  
Left Field  
5-11 Senior  
Crownsville, MD

**19**



**Jarrett Bridges**  
First Base / DH  
6-0 Junior  
Valdosta, GA

**21**



**Aaron Voldness**  
Catcher  
5-11 Senior  
Chicago, IL

**22**



**Jamie Thomas**  
Second Base  
5-8 Freshman  
Valdosta, GA

**23**



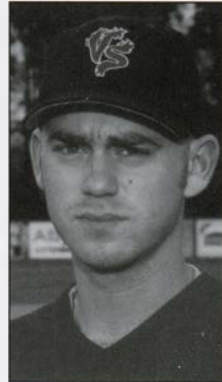
**Jermaine Jordan**  
Center Field  
5-9 Senior  
Vidalia, GA

**24**



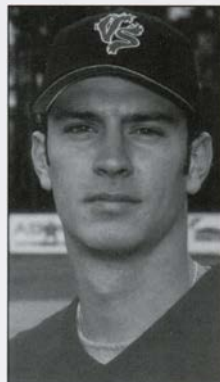
**Eric Cowart**  
Catcher  
5-11 Freshman  
Leesburg, GA

**27**



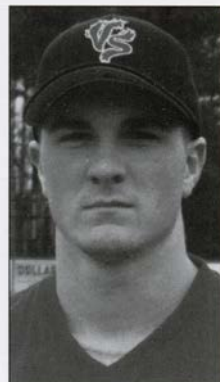
**Danny Antonelli**  
First Base / Pitcher  
6-3 Junior  
Longwood, FL

**29**



**Paul Revelia**  
Pitcher  
6-4 Junior  
Palm Harbor, FL

**30**



**Scotty Layfield**  
Pitcher / DH  
6-2 Junior  
Montezuma, GA

**33**



**Shane Hendrix**  
Third Base  
5-10 Junior  
Chipley, FL

**34**



**Israel Barnes**  
Pitcher  
6-0 Senior  
Tampa, FL

**35**



**Howie Steinberg**  
Pitcher  
5-11 Freshman  
New City, NY

**39**



**Ben Jackson**  
Pitcher  
6-1 Sophomore  
Thomasville, GA

**43**



**Mike McGurk**  
Catcher  
6-2 Senior  
Longwood, FL

**44**



**Joey Basile**  
Outfield  
6-1 Freshman  
Lantana, FL

**49**

# Scouting Report...

As Tommy Thomas looks into his crystal ball on the eve of his 31st season as the boss of Valdosta State baseball, he sees many similarities to the 1997 club which relied on quality starting pitching as the major ingredient which resulted in a 33-23 campaign and a spot in the Gulf South Conference tournament.

"Our starting pitching should again be our strong suit," Thomas, the dean of GSC coaches who begins his 31st season this spring, said. "And like last year, I'm concerned about our consistency offensively. We didn't hit the ball with authority in the fall, and I hope at least part of that was due to our strong pitching."

The national pollsters, who mainly base preseason ranking on past performance, have picked the Blazers 22nd, a ranking Thomas believes is a good starting point for this year's club. "We play four of the top six ranked teams, including No. 1 Tampa three times in the first two weeks of the season," Thomas said. "We'll find out quickly how we stack up against the elite teams of Division II."

"The poll is nice for the fans to talk about, but it is relatively unimportant especially early in the year. Obviously, we must perform on the field against a very challenging schedule. If we have some success, the poll will take care of itself."

Looking further at his own club, Thomas remains upbeat. "This makes 31 (years) for me, and I still feel enthusiastic. I really think this team is full of some fast learners. They respond well and make adjustments quickly. We're going to miss Denly (Greg, 8-0, 2.04 ERA), but I feel like we've got three or four starters who have plenty of potential. Offense is a question mark. Our pitchers had a great fall, and because they did our hitters weren't hitting the ball as well as I would've liked. Defensively we should be much improved."

Thomas knows it will take a complete package to take on the powers of the South, South Atlantic and South Central regions which dot the 1998 schedule. Valdosta State is again situated in the South Central, which houses all 15 Gulf South Conference schools. VSU and the seven other eastern division members, North Alabama, West Georgia, Lincoln Memorial, West Alabama, West Florida, Alabama-Huntsville and Montealvo, will play a three-game series in the regular season. The top three teams will advance to a six-team double elimination tournament with the three best from the west. The west winner will host the four-day tourney the weekend of April 23.

## PITCHING

Thomas is enthusiastic about his club's pitching prospects, even more so since preseason practice began and more pitching depth materialized. Denly's departure leaves a huge void, but not one that cannot be overcome, Thomas believes.

This year's ace should be senior righthander Israel Barnes (5-5, 2.38) who was untouchable in the fall. Barnes, who opponents hit only .220 against last season, has a great breaking ball (75 strikeouts in 68 innings) and can be a dominating pitcher. Behind Barnes is sophomore southpaw Ben Jackson (6-2, 2.42) who worked his way into the starting rotation last season as a redshirt freshman. At No. 3 going into the season is true freshman Andy Boutwell, a top recruit out of Valdosta High. Thomas sees the potential for Boutwell to be as good as anyone on the staff because he has more pitches. Lack of consistent control is his nemesis.

The fourth starter early will be junior Scotty Layfield (2-3, 4.94), who will concentrate on pitching duty after platooning in the infield last season. Layfield battled some nagging injuries in the preseason but was coming around and impressing the coaching staff as the starting bell approached. He is a power pitcher who struck out 32 in 27 innings last year.

Rounding out the staff will be juniors Danny Antonelli and Paul Revelia and sophomore Jeff Gillis (all righthanders) and freshman lefthander Howie Steinberg. One other pitching possibility in relief is everyday catcher Mike McGurk, who was effective in the fall although he hasn't pitched in game situations since high school. Thomas thinks all have the potential to pitch some important innings for this year's club.

## CATCHING

The two-most important catching position again will be handled by the two-man committee of seniors Mike McGurk and Aaron Voldness, both products of Lake City CC. Thomas expects both to contribute although McGurk did most of the catching last year and had a productive fall practice. Additional depth will be provided by freshman Eric Cowart, a solid high school receiver at Lee County.

## INFIELD

At first base, Thomas sees another platoon situation with junior returnee Jarrett Bridges (.299), JC transfer Danny Antonelli (.340 at Santa Fe CC) and possibly junior veteran Bobby McDonald (.365) in the mix. There's a lot of versatility here because Bridges hits and throws from the left side and Antonelli is a righthander all the way. "Antonelli will probably be the starter, but he is also in the pitching plans, so Bridges will play a lot and DH a lot. McDonald will again primarily be our rightfielder, but he is also a capable first baseman."

At second base will be JC transfer Billy Bone (.390, 42 SB, 9 HR at North Florida CC), who has one year of eligibility remaining. "Billy is a top recruit who we are counting on to be a complete player. He should make us better defensively as well as supply some pop to our offensive production."

Starting at third will be JC transfer Shane Hendrix (.330 at Enterprise CC), a switch hitter blessed with an exceptionally strong arm. "Shane will really help us defensively, and I hope his bat comes around."

Senior Charan Girard, who fought through an injury-plagued junior campaign to finish with a .333 average (second on the team), returns to shortstop where he enjoyed another solid fall. He suffered through a rash of throwing errors a year ago, but Thomas expects much improved defensive performance. "A healthy Girard will solidify our infield. He's a complete player."

The Blazers are also blessed to have a veteran utility player in senior Jason Dorminy (.230), who started at second and short much of last season. He'll also back up at third this year, and Thomas will not hesitate to get him in the lineup. "Jason is extremely valuable because he can play all three positions and play them well."

More infield depth will be provided by sophomore Jeff Gillis (.121) at short and third and freshmen Jamie Thomas (Valdosta High) at second and Jason Bulger (Brookwood High) at third. Gillis also will be used out of the bullpen. Both Thomas and Bulger show promise but obviously need some experience at the college level.

## OUTFIELD

The starting outfield returns intact with senior Jim Greer (.280) in left, senior Jermaine Jordan (.305) in center and McDonald (team leading .365) in right. Thomas would like more production from Greer and Jordan and will be thrilled if McDonald can clone his 1997 performance. Bobby Mac won the triple crown, hitting .365 with 65 RBI and a school record 23 home runs. He was named first team All-Conference and second team All-America.

The fourth outfielder is Valdosta native Chad Parkerson, a transfer from Georgia Southwestern State, who can play all the positions. "Chad is our best defensive outfielder and is definitely in the plans. He'll play a lot."

Freshman Joey Basile, who must gain collegiate experience as the year goes along, is the fifth outfield prospect.

## THE SCHEDULE

The 52-game slate, which begins with a two-game series at home against Eckerd on February 8-9, is enhanced by the eastern division conference schedule, which features two teams in the preseason Top 15. North Alabama is ranked fifth and Alabama-Huntsville is ranked 12th.

Other Top 30 clubs on the slate include No. 1 Tampa, No. 3 Florida Southern, No. 6 Georgia College & State, No. 9 North Florida, No. 18 Delta State, No. 28 St. Leo and No. 29 Columbus State.

# 1998 Blazer Baseball Roster

Number and Name	Home Address and Phone	Bats/Throws	Birthdate	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown and High School
<b>PITCHERS</b>							
35 Israel Barnes	10903 Kewanee Drive, Tampa FL 33612 (813) 985-3995	R-R	3-8-75	6 0	190	Senior	Tampa, FL (King)
12 Andy Boutwell	2815 Kirkwood Circle, Valdosta, GA 31602 (912) 245-8843	L-R	7-24-79	6 1	165	Freshman	Valdosta, GA (Valdosta)
1 Jeff Gillis	6004 Fairlong Circle, Acworth, GA 30101 (770) 499-0330	R-R	12-12-77	5 11	190	Sophomore	Acworth, GA (Harrison)
43 Ben Jackson	P.O. Box 1183, Thomasville, GA 31799 (912) 226-8384	L-L	1-12-77	6 1	185	Sophomore	T'ville, GA (Thomas Co. Central)
33 Scotty Layfield	802 Christopher Drive, Montezuma, GA 31063 (912) 472-2683	R-R	9-13-76	6 2	200	Junior	Montezuma, GA (Macon County)
7 Bobby McDonald	4642 Hancock Way, Lilburn, GA 30297 (404) 921-8908	R-L	9-23-76	5 11	200	Junior	Lilburn, GA (Parkview)
30 Paul Revelia	2948 Bridlewood Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34683 (813) 786-9202	R-R	10-25-75	6 4	200	Junior	Palm Harbor, FL (Tarpon Springs)
39 Howie Steinberg	18 Snowdrop Drive, New City, NY 10956 (914) 638-4654	R-L	8-15-78	5 11	175	Freshman	New City, NY (Clarkstown North)
<b>CATCHERS</b>							
27 Eric Cowart	562 North Hampton Road, Leesburg, GA 31763 (912) 435-9006	R-R	9-3-78	5 11	190	Freshman	Leesburg, GA (Lee County)
44 Mike McGurk	357 Wekiva Cove Road, Longwood, FL 32779 (407) 862-6289	R-R	4-25-76	6-2	210	Senior	Longwood, FL (Bishop Moore)
22 Aaron Voldness	156 Thelma Lane, Chicago Heights, IL 60411 (970) 870-9393	L-R	7-23-75	5 11	195	Senior	Chicago Heights, IL (Bloom)
<b>INFIELDERS</b>							
29 Danny Antonelli	11 Cardinal Drive, Longwood, FL 32779 (407) 333-0386	R-R	3-29-77	6-3	200	Junior	Longwood, FL (Bishop Moore)

Number and Name	Home Address and Phone	Bats/Throws	Birthdate	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown and High School
13 Billy Bone	7730 Keith Road, Jacksonville, FL 32216 (904) 731-4779	R-R	1-5-76	5 11	175	Senior	Jacksonville, FL (Sandalwood)
21 Jarrett Bridges	2904 Bud Mackey Circle, Valdosta, GA 31602 (912) 245-1115	L-L	2-16-77	6 0	175	Junior	Valdosta, GA (Valdosta)
17 Jason Bulger	1898 Harbour Oaks Drive, Snellville, GA 30078 (770) 972-4532	R-R	12-6-78	6 3	180	Freshman	Snellville, GA (Brookwood)
16 Jason Dorminy	1337 Lovers Lane Road, Leesburg, GA 31763 (912) 436-4274	R-R	11-24-75	5-10	180	Senior	Leesburg, GA (Lee County)
1 Jeff Gillis	6004 Fairlong Circle, Acworth, GA 30101 (770) 499-0330	R-R	12-12-77	5 11	190	Sophomore	Acworth, GA (Harrison)
9 Charan Girard	3861 SW Birmini Circle, Palm City, FL 34990 (407) 223-0785	L-R	4-28-75	5 11	165	Senior	Palm City, FL (Martin County)
34 Shane Hendrix	3043 Ike Hendrix Drive, Chipley, FL 32428 (904) 638-1144	B-R	3-21-77	6 0	195	Junior	Chipley, FL (Chipley)
23 Jamie Thomas	1911 Seminole Drive, Valdosta, GA 31601 (912) 242-2119	R-R	10-24-78	5 8	170	Freshman	Valdosta, GA (Valdosta)
<b>OUTFIELDERS</b>							
49 Joey Basile	5 Oakwood Court, Lantana, FL 33462 (561) 533-5199	R-R	2-14-78	6-1	210	Freshman	Lantana, FL (Cardinal Newman)
19 Jim Greer	1019 Dockser Drive, Crownsville, MD 21032 (410) 923-6743	R-R	2-28-76	5 11	190	Senior	Crownsville, MD (Old Mill)
24 Jermaine Jordan	109 West Toombs St., Vidalia, GA 30474 (912) 537-9522	R-R	8-10-76	5-9	170	Senior	Vidalia, GA (Vidalia)
7 Bobby McDonald	4642 Hancock Way, Lilburn, GA 30247 (770) 921-8908	L-R	9-23-76	5 11	200	Junior	Lilburn, GA (Parkview)
4 Chad Parkerson	2805 Berkley Drive, Valdosta, GA 31602 (912) 242-3342	R-L	12-5-76	5 9	165	Junior	Valdosta, GA (Valdosta)

# The Record Book

## Individual - Game

Most ABs	7, 14 players tied
Most Runs	5, Steve Crawford, '68 David DeMersseman, '77; June Munford, '83 Mike White, '85
Most Hits	6, Mike Jones, '85
Most 2Bs	3, Sam Bowen, '74 Seo Torres, '80; June Munford, '83; Mike Cassala, '88; Darrien Teals, '88; Tom White, '91
Most 3Bs	2, 9 players tied
Most HRs	3, Gene Felts, '72 Bobby McDonald, '97
Most HRs: Inning	2, Billy Tyler, '76 Sal Amadeo, '78
Most TBs	13, Gene Felts, '72 Bobby McDonald, '97
Most RBIs	9, Rob Busch, '85
Most SBs	6, Claude Speck, '67
Most Put Outs	20, Kevin Spooner, '85
Most Assists	10, John Gordon, '86
Most Errors	4, 5 players tied
Most IP	15, Danny Chadwick, '73
Most Ks	18, Kelly Scott, '80
Perfect Game	Leroy Purdy, '70
No Hitters	Eddie Fisher, '69 Steve Sorgious, '70; Dan Darden, '74 Wayne Cushman, '94

## Individual - Season

Best B.A.	433, Chuck Devane, '83
Best Slugging %	.839, Cecil Whitehead, '78
Most AB	271, Mike Jones, '85
Most Runs	96, Andy Anthony, '85
Most Hits	114, Mike Jones, '85
Most 2Bs	23, JoJo Blaha, '86
Most 3Bs	8, Dan Darden, '75
Most HRs	23, Bobby McDonald, '97
Most Consecutive Hits	9, Rob Bush, '85
Longest Hitting Streak	25, Rusty Brown, '90
Most Extra Base Hits	39, JoJo Blaha, '86 Kevin Spooner, '85
Most Total Bases	166, Mike Jones, '85
Most RBIs	76, JoJo Blaha, '85
Most BBs (drawn)	91, Richie Johnson, '82
Most SBs	46, Mike White, '85
Most Appearances	25, Mike Lee, '92
Most IP	127.1, Jeff Agarter, '83
Most Consecutive Shutout Innings	28.2, Jimmy Wall, '77
Most Ks	112, Bryan Shover, '93
Most Ks per 9 innings	12.7, Sam Bowen, '73
Most Wins	13, Jeff Agarter, '82
Most Decisions	17, Jeff Agarter, '82
Most Saves	8, Chuck Beale, '77
Best ERA	0.78, Mike Perry, '64
Most Shutouts	3, 9 players tied

## Individual - Career

Best B.A.	390, John Gordon, '86-87
Best Slugging %	.643, Cecil Whitehead, '76-78
Most ABs	751, Craig Viers, '75-78
Most Runs	183, Sal Amadeo, '77-79
Most Hits	248, JoJo Blaha, '84-87
Most 2Bs	52, JoJo Blaha, '84-87
Most 3Bs	18, Gene Felts, '71-74 Craig Viers, '75-78
Most HRs	43, JoJo Blaha, '84-87

Most TBs	445, JoJo Blaha, '84-87
Most RBIs	209, JoJo Blaha, '84-87
Most SBs	91, Sal Amadeo, '77-79
Most Appearances	70, Ted West, '85-88
Most IP	353, Jimmy Wall, '77-80
Most Ks	261, Bryan Shover, '92-A
Most Wins	31, Bill Petty, '74-77 Jimmy Wall, '77-80
Best Winning Percentage	.950, Kelly Scott, '79-80
Most Saves	11, Chuck Beale, '76-77
Best ERA	1.48, Eddie Fisher, '66-69
Most Shutouts	7, Bill Petty, '74-77

## Team - Game

Most Runs	26 vs. GA Southwestern, '96
Most Runs: Inning	13 vs. Jacksonville State, '79 Fort Valley State, '85
Most Hits	30 vs. Shippensburg, '85
Most RBIs	20 vs. 6 teams
Most 2Bs	8 vs. Columbus, '83 Wofford, '91; Columbus, '91
Most 3Bs	4 vs. Oglethorpe, '65 Ouachita Baptist, '70; Fort Valley State, '83
Most HRs	6 vs. Eckerd, '85
Most Runs Against	28 vs. Jacksonville State, '90
Most Runs: Both Teams	39 vs. N. Ala. (18-21), '95
Most Extra Base Hits	11 vs. Columbus, '83
Most TBs	39 vs. Fort Valley State, '83
Most Errors	9 vs. Florida Southern, '89
Most SBs	13 vs. Armstrong State, '68
Most DPs	5 vs. New Orleans, '74
Most Innings	17 vs. David Lipscomb, '68

## Team - Season

Most Games	71, 1982
Most Wins	49, 1982
Most Consecutive Wins	22, 1983
Best Winning Percentage	.804 (45-11), 1980
Most Losses	31, 1989, 1990
Best Batting Average	.343, 1985
Worst Batting Average	.216, 1957
Best Slugging Percentage	.566, 1985
Most ABs	2261, 1985
Most Runs	620, 1985
Most Runs Per Game	9.8, 1986
Most Times Shut Out	8, 1976
Fewest Runs Allowed Per Game	2.3, 1960
Most Hits	776, 1985
Most 2Bs	144, 1985
Most 3Bs	31, 1985
Most HRs	99, 1985
Most Extra Base Hits	274, 1985
Most Total Bases	1279, 1985
Most RBIs	545, 1985
Most Stolen Bases	179, 1985
Most Double Plays	67, 1985
Best Fielding Percentage	.964, 1965
Most Innings Pitched	577.1, 1982
Most Strikeouts	488, 1995
Most Walks	404, 1981
Best ERA	1.45, 1964
Worst ERA	7.36, 1990
Most Shutouts	12, 1973
Most Consecutive Shutouts	4, 1971

# 1998 Blazer Schedule

## FEBRUARY

8, Sunday	Eckerd	Valdosta	2 pm
9, Monday	Eckerd	Valdosta	3 pm
10, Tuesday	Georgia SW St	Americus	3 pm
13, Friday	Tampa	Valdosta	3 pm
14, Saturday	Tampa	Valdosta	2 pm
15, Sunday	Florida Sou.	Valdosta	2 pm
17, Tuesday	Thomas College	Valdosta	5 pm
18, Wed.	Albany State	Valdosta	3 pm
20, Friday	AL Huntsville	Montgomery	7 pm
21, Saturday	Delta State	Montgomery	4 pm
22, Sunday	Tampa	Montgomery	10 am
24, Tuesday	Florida A&M	Tallahassee	3 pm
25, Wed.	Brewton Parker	Valdosta	3 pm
27-March 1			
Fri.-Sun.	Nijem Diamonds and Gold Classic		
27, Friday	Houston Baptist	Valdosta	4:30 pm
28, Saturday	Shippensburg	Valdosta	4 pm

## MARCH

1, Sunday	St. Leo	Valdosta	2 pm
3, Tuesday	Ga Col & State	Milledgeville	5 pm
10, Tuesday	Georgia SW St	Valdosta	5 pm
12, Thursday	Columbus State	Valdosta	6 pm
14, Saturday	AL-Huntsville*(2)	Huntsville	4 pm
15, Sunday	AL-Huntsville*	Huntsville	1 pm
17, Tuesday	North Florida	Jacksonville	6 pm
21, Saturday	West Georgia*(2)	Valdosta	1 pm
22, Sunday	West Georgia*	Valdosta	1:30 pm
24, Tuesday	DePauw	Valdosta	6:30 pm
25, Wed.	DePauw	Valdosta	6:30 pm
26, Thursday	Florida A&M	Valdosta	6 pm
28, Saturday	Lincoln Mem.* (2)	Harrogate, TN	Noon
29, Sunday	Lincoln Memorial*	Harrogate, TN	1 pm
31, Tuesday	Albany State	Albany	3 pm

## APRIL

2, Thursday	Columbus State	Columbus	6 pm
4, Saturday	North AL*(2)	Valdosta	1 pm
5, Sunday	North Alabama*	Valdosta	2 pm
7, Tuesday	North Florida	Valdosta	6 pm
10, Friday	Montevallo*(2)	Montevallo, AL	3 pm
11, Saturday	Montevallo*	Montevallo, AL	1 pm
13, Monday	Brewton-Parker	Mt. Vernon	6 pm
14, Tuesday	Thomas College	Thomasville	5 pm
16, Thursday	Armstrong Atl. St.	Valdosta	5:30 pm
18, Saturday	West Florida*(2)	Valdosta	1 pm
19, Sunday	West Florida*	Valdosta	2 pm
21, Tuesday	Ga College & State	Valdosta	5 pm
23, Thursday	Armstrong Atl. St.	Savannah	3:30 pm
25, Saturday	West Alabama*(2)	Livingston	4 pm
26, Sunday	West Alabama*	Livingston	1 pm

30-May 3 Gulf South Conference Tournament  
Thu.-Sun. Site of Western Division Winner . . . TBA

\* Gulf South Conference games

ALL TIMES LOCAL

Breakdown of Games:

28 Home Games; 24 Away Games; 7 Doubleheaders

2 NCAA I, 42 NCAA II, 2 NCAA III, 6 NAIA

## Support Personnel...



**Lori Howard**  
Baseball Trainer



**Joel Eubanks**  
Student Trainer



**Darren Bush**  
Student Coach



**Bill Postel**  
PA Announcer



## 1997 Final Hitting Statistics

Name	AB	R	H	RBI	AVG	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	Slug%	OB%	SB-A
Bobby McDonald	219	44	80	65	.365	9	3	23	15	23	.749	.418	1-2
Charan Girard	111	18	37	19	.333	8	1	1	10	4	.450	.381	9-12
Jermaine Jordan	128	28	39	11	.305	7	2	1	19	35	.414	.401	14-19
Jarrett Bridges	97	12	29	15	.299	8	0	1	9	17	.412	.367	0-2
Jamie Coons	185	38	54	21	.292	7	2	3	10	28	.400	.332	12-14
David Robinson	90	25	26	15	.289	5	1	3	16	17	.467	.402	7-8
Jim Greer	164	29	46	25	.280	9	0	2	21	15	.372	.358	7-12
Mike McGurk	114	23	31	8	.272	7	0	1	13	30	.360	.349	0-0
Brian Johnson	173	31	45	38	.260	5	0	10	29	20	.462	.390	8-10
Scotty Layfield	141	26	34	20	.241	2	1	5	14	20	.376	.333	5-10
Jason Dorminy	161	29	37	19	.230	3	0	1	17	22	.267	.323	7-12
Jeremy Merritt	37	3	8	5	.216	2	1	0	3	6	.324	.268	0-0
Aaron Voldness	70	4	14	2	.200	3	0	0	2	10	.243	.222	1-2
Jeff Barnett	66	9	13	7	.197	1	0	2	5	10	.303	.250	4-6
Jeff Gillis	33	4	4	3	.121	1	1	0	4	16	.212	.216	0-1
others	1	1	0	0	.000	0	0	0	3	0	.000	.333	0-0
<b>VSU</b>	<b>1790</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>.278</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>.423</b>	<b>.355</b>	<b>75-110</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>1788</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>.238</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>.327</b>	<b>.331</b>	<b>59-94</b>

## 1997 Final Pitching Statistics

Name	G	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA	GS	CG
Greg Denly	13	8	0	0	83.2	67	35	19	30	95	2.04	12	5
Adam Kiehl	16	7	3	2	68.2	52	24	16	22	71	2.10	7	3
Israel Barnes	14	5	5	0	68	53	26	18	43	75	2.38	11	1
Ben Jackson	19	6	2	2	44.2	43	18	12	26	43	2.42	5	0
Tom Disney	11	1	5	0	50.1	46	38	27	25	24	4.83	9	0
Chris Skinner	14	2	2	0	54.2	59	32	30	34	55	4.94	7	0
Jeremy Merritt	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
Jarrett Bridges	5	0	2	0	10.1	8	5	3	3	10	2.61	1	0
Rick Hagan	24	2	1	4	32.2	31	25	14	8	39	3.86	0	0
Jeff Gillis	6	0	0	0	7.2	9	6	4	10	7	4.70	0	0
Scotty Layfield	7	2	3	0	27.1	31	24	15	9	32	4.94	4	0
Mark Middleton	5	0	0	0	6.2	7	6	4	9	5	5.40	0	0
Bobby McDonald	7	0	0	2	10.1	20	12	10	5	8	8.71	0	0
<b>VSU</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>3.32</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>13</b>

## 1997 Final Fielding Statistics

Name	C	PO	A	E	PCT	DP	PB	SBA	CSB
Chris Skinner	18	8	10	0	1.000	2	0	6	3
Jeremy Merritt	16	16	0	0	1.000	1	0	0	0
David Robinson	16	16	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	0
Rick Hagan	12	3	9	0	1.000	2	0	7	1
Mark Middleton	1	0	1	0	1.000	0	0	1	1
Aaron Voldness	186	161	22	3	.984	2	3	22	14
Mike McGurk	345	308	31	6	.983	2	12	37	15
Bobby McDonald	172	149	18	5	.971	7	0	4	2
Jarrett Bridges	206	188	11	7	.966	14	0	0	0
Jermaine Jordan	72	67	2	3	.958	0	0	0	0
Israel Barnes	22	4	17	1	.955	0	0	9	6
Jamie Coons	98	86	7	5	.949	2	0	0	0
Scotty Layfield	118	47	64	7	.941	3	0	4	2
Adam Kiehl	15	2	12	1	.933	1	0	8	2
Jim Greer	61	49	7	5	.918	1	0	0	0
Jeff Gillis	24	10	12	2	.917	2	0	2	0
Jason Dorminy	245	86	137	22	.910	21	0	0	0
Greg Denly	21	5	14	2	.905	2	0	5	5
Brian Johnson	204	120	64	20	.902	10	0	0	0
Charan Girard	148	44	85	19	.872	14	0	0	0
Ben Jackson	13	2	9	2	.846	0	0	8	7
Jeff Barnett	57	24	23	10	.825	5	0	0	0
Tom Disney	17	3	11	3	.824	0	0	7	6
<b>VSU</b>	<b>2087</b>	<b>1398</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>.941</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>2080</b>	<b>1374</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>.941</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>35</b>

## 1997 Scoring by Inning

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	XInn	Total	AvPG
Valdosta State	43	37	37	36	32	42	48	27	22	0	324	5.8
Opponents	25	14	33	30	37	22	54	16	15	5	251	4.5

# 1997 Game Summary

Record: W-33 L-23 (H: 17-13 A: 16-10) Gulf South: 14-7

Date	Opponent	Score	R	H	E	R	H	E	W	L	Pitcher	Att
2/15	Eckerd	8-7	8	14	2	7	9	3	1	0	Hagen 1-0	324
2/16	Eckerd	5-2	5	10	1	2	7	2	2	0	Denly 1-0	256
2/18	at North Florida	3-9	4	8	3	9	10	0	2	1	Skinner 0 1	150
2/19	Brewton-Parker	4-6	8	14	4	6	9	1	2	2	Layfield 0 1	206
2/20	at Florida A&M	11-7	11	16	3	7	13	1	3	2	Kiehl 1-0	70
2/22	Tampa	6-5	6	7	2	5	10	1	4	2	Hagen 2 0	429
2/22	Tampa	2-4	2	5	1	4	10	1	4	3	Barnes 0-1	429
2/23	Tampa	1-12	1	3	0	12	17	1	4	4	Skinner 0-2	301
2/25	at St. Leo	1-4	1	6	3	4	4	0	4	5	Disney 0-1	100
2/28	Wingate	3-4	3	9	5	4	6	0	4	6	Kiehl 1-1	198
3/1	Lewis	13-3	13	13	5	3	5	7	5	6	Denly 2-0	311
3/4	at Albany State	7-2	7	10	3	2	2	2	6	6	Barnes 1-1	50
3/5	at Thomas College	18-2	18	21	1	2	6	4	7	6	Jackson 1-0	50
3/8	at Lincoln Memorial*	3-4	3	4	4	6	1	7	7	7	Barnes 1-2	50
3/8	at Lincoln Memorial*	4-5	4	3	5	7	2	7	8	8	Disney 0-2	50
3/9	at Lincoln Memorial*	8-2	8	8	0	2	7	3	8	8	Skinner 1-2	50
3/11	at GA Southwestern St.	7-3	7	10	4	3	6	2	9	8	Layfield 1-1	50
3/12	Kentucky Wesleyan	10-1	10	14	2	1	2	4	10	8	Jackson 2-0	190
3/15	North Alabama*	3-6	3	6	3	6	9	2	10	9	Hagen 2-1	443
3/15	North Alabama*	2-6	2	5	2	6	7	0	10	10	Disney 0-3	443
3/16	North Alabama*	5-6	5	7	0	6	9	3	10	11	Barnes 1-3	331
3/21	at Kennesaw State	5-4	5	10	1	4	9	2	11	11	Kiehl 2-1	189
3/22	at West Georgia*	2-1	2	8	3	1	7	1	12	11	Denly 3-0	182
3/22	at West Georgia*	4-1	4	9	1	8	2	13	11	11	Barnes 2-3	182
3/23	at West Georgia*	9-11	9	13	0	11	12	4	13	12	Kiehl 2-2	167
3/25	Columbus State	1-4	1	5	4	1	12	13	13	13	Jackson 2-1	221
3/28	Alabama-Huntsville*	5-1	5	4	1	5	3	14	13	13	Denly 4-0	228
3/29	Alabama-Huntsville*	12-1	12	10	0	1	3	15	13	13	Barnes 3-3	381
3/29	Alabama-Huntsville*	3-14	3	6	2	14	18	1	15	14	Layfield 1-2	381
4/3	Florida A&M	8-4	8	11	2	4	5	16	14	14	Jackson 3-1	223
4/5	at West Florida*	1-0	1	4	1	0	2	17	14	14	Denly 5-0	105
4/5	at West Florida*	3-0	3	5	0	4	1	18	14	14	Barnes 4-3	105
4/6	at West Florida*	3-1	3	7	1	5	2	19	14	14	Kiehl 3-2	185
4/8	Thomas College	8-2	8	10	2	5	4	20	14	14	Jackson 4-1	164
4/9	Albany State	11-2	11	8	2	4	7	21	14	14	Disney 1-3	162
4/10	at Brewton-Parker	4-7	4	13	2	7	10	21	15	15	Layfield 1-3	100
4/12	Montevallo*	5-4	5	8	0	4	10	22	15	15	Jackson 5-1	355
4/12	Montevallo*	8-0	8	10	0	3	2	23	15	15	Barnes 5-3	355
4/13	Montevallo*	6-1	6	8	2	8	2	24	15	15	Kiehl 4-2	186
4/15	at Columbus State	3-4	3	10	0	4	7	24	16	16	Disney 1-4	93
4/17	at Armstrong Atl. St.	8-4	8	13	0	4	10	25	16	16	Skinner 2 2	100
4/												