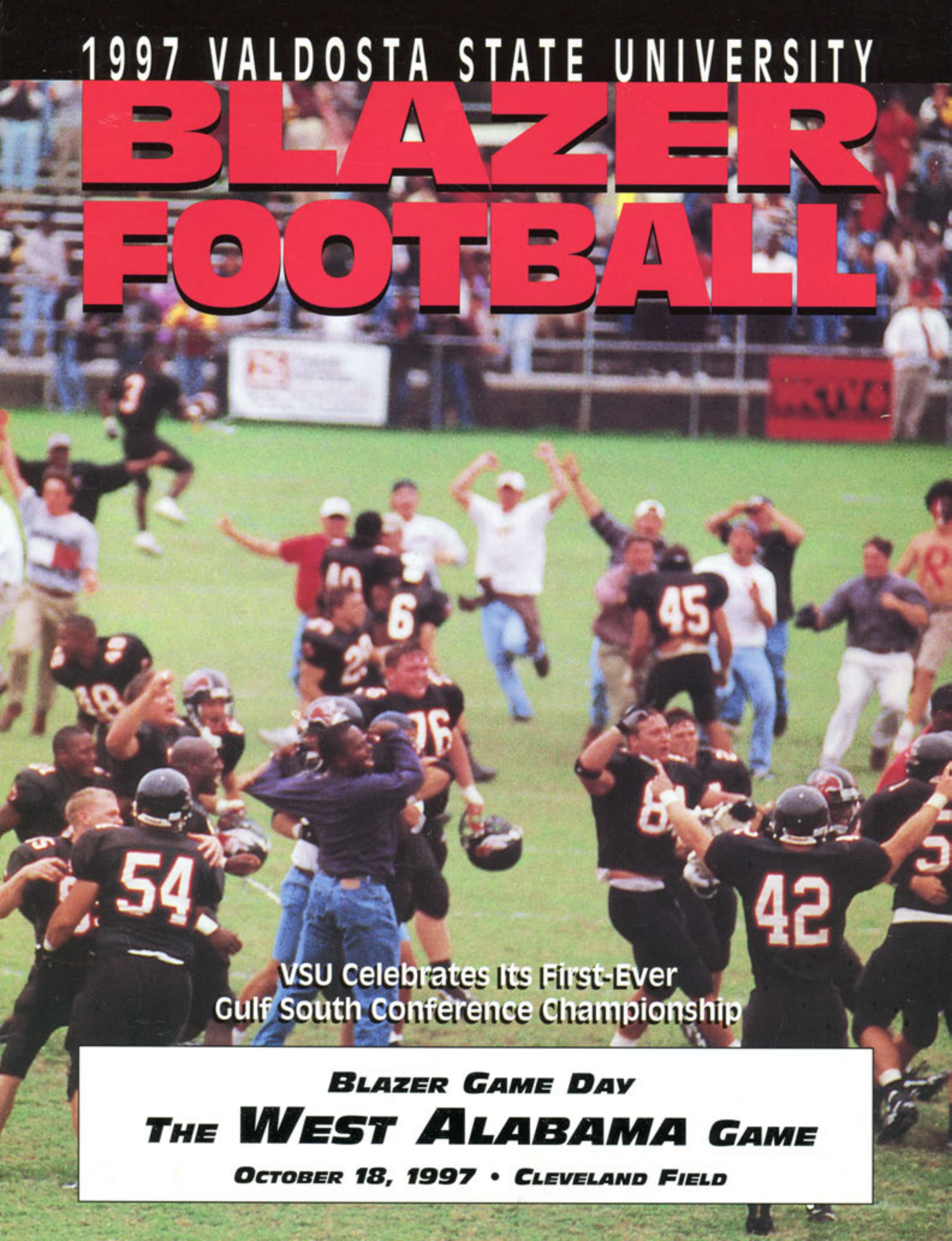


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BLAZER GAME DAY

THE WEST ALABAMA GAME

OCTOBER 18, 1997 • CLEVELAND FIELD

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BLAZER GAMEDAY

**Oct. 18, 1997
Bazemore-Hyder Stadium**

TODAY'S OPPONENT: WEST ALABAMA

WELCOME HOME! -- This is Homecoming weekend at Valdosta State, and the Department of Athletics would like to add its welcome to all former VSU students.

HOMECOMING SUCCESS -- Valdosta State has a 12-3 record in Homecoming games and has won its last six in a row.

THE LEAGUE RECORD -- Valdosta State is 36-18-1 in Gulf South Conference home games through the years. The overall league record is 66-44-3.

TIGERS ON THE WAY BACK -- West Alabama (4-2) has already posted the most wins in a season since the 1992 team finished 5-4. But the Tigers record against Valdosta State is a dismal 1-14. The only UWA victory was a 10-5 decision in 1985.

VONTRELL ON TRACK -- Vontrell Mitchell, back at full speed after recovering from a dislocated elbow which sidelined him for two games, enjoyed his best outing of the season against Arkansas-Monticello, rambling for 152 yards, his eighth career 100-plus yard rushing game.

IN OCTOBER -- Last week's win over Arkansas-Monticello improved the Blazers' October record to a solid 44-24 (.647).

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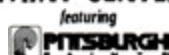


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GAME NOTES

JOHNS RETURNS -- West Alabama head coach **Bobby Johns**, in his first season as the boss at the collegiate level, was Valdosta State's offensive coordinator for the 1984 season when the Blazers finished 5-6. An all-America defensive back at Alabama in the 1960s, Johns was defensive coordinator at West Alabama last season.

BALANCED ATTACK -- The Valdosta State offense, showing steady improvement each time out, was the picture of balanced perfection last week when it amassed 529 total yards. The breakdown was 258 yards on the ground and 271 yards through the air.

DOGGETT DETERMINATION -- Sophomore flanker/punt returner **Eric Doggett** continues to be frustrated by penalties which have nullified or greatly reduced long return yardage. Last week, Doggett had a 59-yard TD return reduced to 34 yards by a holding penalty and a 43-yard return cut to no yards by a block in the back. However, he did score VSU's first points of the day on a beautifully-executed 23-yard end around.

LIGHTING UP THE RED ZONE -- Valdosta State continues to make dramatic improvement when crossing into the red zone. In its last two games, the offense is 10-10 (9 TDs and a field goal) inside the 20 and has now cashed points (15 TDs and 2 field goals) on 17 of 25 trips, a .680 percentage.

SEEING TOO MUCH YELLOW -- The only negative from the Arkansas-Monticello rout was the penalty yardage amassed by the Blazers. The 19 penalties breaks the record of 16 set against West Alabama in 1994. The 146 infraction yards ties a 1994 mark set against Knoxville.

Good Luck, Blazers!



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VALDOSTA STATE

NO.	NAME	POS	Ht.	Wt.	HOMETOWN
1	Erik Gibson	WR	6-4	190	Middleburg, FL
2	Vaughn Clark	CB	5-9	163	Valdosta, GA
3	Keith Cooksey	WR	6-2	202	Tallahassee, FL
4	Eric Doggett	WR	5-7	165	Valdosta, GA
6	Vontrell Mitchell	HB	5-10	188	Gainesville, FL
7	Mike Bowman	WR	6-2	195	Orange Spg, FL
8	Jarmal Stevens	FS	5-11	198	Savannah, GA
9	Antonio Speed	LB	6-0	236	Valdosta, GA
10	Tremaine Neal	LB	6-4	212	Baltimore, MD
11	Donnie Johnston	QB	5-11	182	Atlanta, GA
13	Wayne DeVane	P	6-0	190	Valdosta, GA
14	Patrick Prewitt	QB	6-1	188	Orlando, FL
15	Nathan Cronin	QB	5-9	165	Shawpsburg, GA
16	Jason Vaughan	QB	6-4	200	Dunwoody, GA
17	James Lightfoot	K	6-1	167	Tifton, GA
19	Jerome Mills	SS	6-1	194	Atlanta, GA
20	Kevin Sams	CB	6-1	180	Jacksonville, FL
21	Wendell Olden	HB	5-8	153	Cumming, GA
22	Alberto Nurse	LB	6-0	218	C. Christ, TX
23	Carlos Hope	WR	6-2	202	Meccleenny, FL
24	Bred Trout	SS	6-2	209	Miami, FL
25	Derek Dixon	CB	5-10	172	Columbus, GA
28	Paul McCall	K	6-0	175	Reidsville, GA
29	Austin Harmon	CB	5-11	182	Clayton, GA
32	Reggie Cockerm	CB	6-0	187	Hinesville, GA
33	Terrell Battle	SS	5-11	185	Americus, GA
34	Carlton Nelson	FB	5-10	218	Brunswick, GA
35	Jeff Glazer	SS	5-11	185	Rmond Hill, GA
37	Demeakey Williams	CB	6-1	169	Albany, GA
39	Marcus Ray	HB	6-1	204	Valdosta, GA
40	Dennis Fryzel	WR	6-0	185	Lakeland, FL
42	John Taylor	FB	6-1	226	Waycross, GA
44	Jimbo Shubert	LB	5-11	205	Waycross, GA
46	Mike Williams	LB	5-11	202	Lake City, FL
47	Jesse Sutton	LB	6-1	203	Moultrie, GA
48	J.T. Fuller	LB	5-10	202	Thomasville, GA
50	Dominic June	LB	6-3	232	Stone Mtn, GA
54	Ryan Sulkowski	OG	6-3	275	Tifton, GA
57	Chris Gaston	LB	5-9	185	Hinesville, GA
60	Hunter Taylor	LB	6-1	230	G. St. Mary, FL
61	Daniel Allen	OG	6-3	240	Newton, GA
62	Bill Epps	OT	6-4	256	Hiram, GA
63	Jay Thompson	OG	6-1	253	Eustie, FL
67	Kris Gingrow	C	6-3	235	Valdosta, GA
70	Jason Rey	C	6-2	278	Ludowici, GA
76	Brandon Jernigan	OG	6-2	275	Patterson, GA
77	Arto Vartanian	DT	6-3	291	Olney, MD
78	John Gulyas	OT	6-7	318	Cocoa, FL
81	Craig Jefferson	WR	6-1	192	Winter Park, FL
83	Richard Freeman	DE	6-3	228	Ferrndine, FL
84	Winston Williams	WR	6-3	195	Meccleenny, FL
86	Terry Turner	NG	6-1	276	Moultrie, GA
89	David Fox	DE	6-4	244	Coral Spgs, FL
91	Rory Hogan	NG	6-0	247	Lincolnton, GA
93	Josh Parker	DT	6-3	249	Savannah, GA
94	Merc Lyles	DT	6-3	225	Tempe, FL

VALDOSTA STATE BLAZERS

October 18, 1997 -- Ba

BLAZER OFFENSE

XR 7 Mike Bowman	23 Carlos Hope
LT 62 Bill Epps	61 Daniel Allen
LG 76 Brandon Jernigan	63 Jay Thompson
C 67 Kris Gingrow	70 Jason Ray
RG 54 Ryan Sulkowski	63 Jay Thompson
RT 78 John Gulyas	61 Daniel Allen
YR 40 Dennis Fryzel	3 Keith Cooksey
QB 16 Jason Vaughan	11 Donnie Johnston
FB 34 Carlton Nelson	42 John Taylor
HB 6 Vontrell Mitchell	21 Wendell Olden
ZR 84 Winston Williams	4 Eric Doggett

BLAZER DEFENSE

LE 89 David Fox	50 Dominic June
DT 77 Arto Vartanian	93 Josh Parker
NG 86 Terry Turner	91 Rory Hogan
RE 83 Richard Freeman	44 Jimbo Shubert
LB 10 Tremaine Neal	46 Mike Williams
LB 9 Antonio Speed	22 Alberto Nurse
LB 47 Jesse Sutton	48 J.T. Fuller
CB 2 Vaughn Clark	25 Derek Dixon
CB 29 Austin Harmon	20 Kevin Sams
FS 8 Jarmal Stevens	19 Jerome Mills
SS 24 Brad Trout	33 Terrell Battle

BLAZER SPECIALISTS

PK 17 James Lightfoot
KO 17 James Lightfoot
P 13 Wayne DeVane
LS 70 Jason Ray
H 11 Donnie Johnston
KR 4 Eric Doggett
PR 4 Eric Doggett

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LE 90 Stephen Miller	56 Eddie Roebuck
LT 94 Ted Owens	91 Lonnie Jenkins
RT 77 Chad Cochran	54 Marcus Hodges
RE 55 Kendrick Office	93 Steven Williams
LB 42 Mardy McDonald	29 Crendal DeRamus
LB 17 Brandon Edgar	34 Lenarick Thomas
LB 41 Billy Powell	39 Rashaun Robinson
CB 25 Jonathan Taylor	31 Clinton Washington
CB 21 Derrick Askew	43 Charley Glenn
FS 9 LaVarrett Pearson	11 Sergio Jackson
SS 24 Henry Morales	1 Vasily Graham

TIGER OFFENSE

SE 84 Josh Turrentine	5 Frederick Adams
LT 64 Derek Weaver	61 John Hess
LG 69 John Jones	60 Justin Plant
C 76 Carey Nick	50 Caleb Griffin
QB 70 Jason Flack	72 Maurice Herring
RT 71 Keaton Willis	78 Patrick Weatersby
TE 88 Brandon Essig	37 Scott Stadthagen
QB 14 Darrell Payne	10 Brad Beard
FB 44 Carey Phillips	35 Garad Harrell
TB 33 Ronnie Jackson	18 Kenny Mosley
FL 2 Steven Guilbeau	4 Michael James

TIGER SPECIALISTS

PK 6 John Sedely
KO 6 John Sedely
P 7 Craig Goodson
LS 36 Rickey Pully
H 7 Craig Goodson
KR 18 Kenny Mosley
PR 84 Josh Turrentine

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Line Judge	Keith Harmon
Field Judge	Rick Barnett
Back Judge	Larry Daniels

WEST ALABAMA

NO.	NAME	POS	Ht.	Wt.	HOMETOWN
1	Vasily Graham	SS	5-11	194	St. P'burg, FL
2	Steven Guilbeau	WR	5-10	171	Broussard, LA
3	Corey Grayson	WR	6-3	186	Tutwiler, MS
4	Michael James	WR	5-9	152	Tuecaloosa, AL
5	Frederick Adams	WR	5-8	163	Amory, MS
6	John Sedely	K	5-9	179	Largo, FL
7	Craig Goodson	P	6-2	213	St. Marks, FL
9	LaVarrett Pearson	CB	6-0	173	Oxford, AL
10	Brad Beard	QB	6-2	186	P. Grove, AL
11	Sergio Jackson	FS	5-7	146	St. P'burg, FL
12	Jay Dickson	QB	6-2	212	Sneads, FL
14	Darrell Payne	QB	5-10	196	Birmingham, AL
15	Terence Braxton	DB	5-10	186	Demopolis, AL
16	Randy Grayson	WR	6-0	169	Eagle River, AK
17	Brandon Edgar	LB	5-10	220	Pensacola, FL
20	Andro Williams	DB	5-11	184	Swt Water, AL
21	Derrick Askew	CB	5-10	180	Birmingham, AL
24	Henry Morales	FS	5-10	169	Smiths, AL
25	Jonathan Taylor	CB	5-9	175	Smiths, AL
28	Cedric Kendrick	RB	5-8	186	Alex City, AL
29	Crendal DeRamus	DB	5-11	185	Hobson, AL
30	D'Undray Peterson	FB	5-10	239	Elba, AL
31	Clinton Washington	CB	5-11	202	Birmingham, AL
32	Cameron Mitchell	RB	5-8	160	Birmingham, AL
33	Ronnie Jackson	RB	6-0	204	Pensacola, FL
34	Lenarick Thomas	LB	6-1	201	Ft. Myers, FL
35	Garad Harrell	FB	6-0	225	Crawford, FL
36	Ricky Pully	LB	5-10	226	Water Vly, MS
37	Scott Stadthagen	TE	6-1	207	Pace, FL
39	Rashaun Robinson	LB	6-0	202	Fayette, AL
41	Billy Powell	LB	6-0	195	Arcade, FL
42	Mardy McDonald	LB	6-0	211	Arab, AL
43	Charley Glenn	CB	5-8	170	Trussville, AL
44	Carey Phillips	RB	5-10	200	Carrollton, GA
45	Kevin Magourik	WR	5-5	160	Mandeville, LA
47	Ethan Thomaston	LB	5-10	183	Hueytown, AL
51	Greg Love	C	6-2	273	Birmingham, AL
54	Marcus Hodges	DT	5-11	270	Lyon, MS
55	Kendrick Office	DE	6-4	223	Butler, AL
56	Eddie Roebuck	DE	6-1	199	Pensacola, FL
59	Justin Plant	OL	6-1	237	Marlanna, FL
60	Roger Young	OL	5-11	323	Natchez, MS
61	John Ness	OL	6-4	305	Carbon Hill, AL
64	Derek Weaver	OL	6-2	265	Cottondale, AL
68	David Moody	DT	6-2	271	Crawford, FL
69	John Jones	OG	5-10	281	Shalimar, FL
70	Jason Flack	OG	6-1	265	Jacksonville, FL
71	Keaton Willis	OT	6-3	291	Crawford, FL
72	Maurice Herring	OL	6-2	266	Marlanna, FL
75	Ciff Cobb	OL	6-11	365	Montgomery
76	Carey Nick	C	6-2	262	Freeport, FL
77	Chad Cochran	DT	5-10	283	Pell City, FL
81	Dawntreal Sanders	WR	5-11	160	Demopolis, AL
83	P.J. Wright	WR	5-11	190	Trussville, AL
84	Josh Turrentine	WR	5-10	166	Falkville, AL
88	Brandon Essig	TE	6-3	220	Birmingham, AL
90	Stephen Miller	DE	6-3	233	Mobile, AL
91	Lonnie Jenkins	DE	6-1	254	Shuqualak, MS
93	Steven Williams	DE	6-0	218	Pensacola, FL
94	Ted Owens	DT	6-1	277	Jacksonville, FL
96	Matt Gurley	DE	6-2	244	Pinson, AL

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THE TIGERS ... A CLOSER LOOK

Last week, West Alabama improved to 4-2, holding off a late Mississippi College rally to post a 38-21 Homecoming win over the Choctaws. UWA rolled up 404 yards of total offense, including 216 yards rushing and four rushing touchdowns. The Tiger defense held the MC offense, which came into the game averaging 494 yards a game, to 325 yards as West Alabama won its Homecoming game for the first time in four years.

The Tigers have scored in 32 straight games since Valdosta State blanked UWA 63-0 in Livingston in 1994.

This is the first of two consecutive games against schools from the state of Georgia. West Alabama is an overall 17-29 against schools from the Peach State. After taking next week off, the Tigers travel to West Georgia November 1. West Alabama's last win against a Georgia school was a 42-36 victory over Albany State in 1992.

The Tigers boast one of the premier placekickers in the conference in senior John Sedely. The Largo, Florida native made a 22-yarder last week to become West Alabama's career leader in field goals made with 31. Sedely is now gunning for the career points kicking and the career points scored marks. Fourteen more points will break both records.

QUICK FACTS

Location: Livingston, AL
Enrollment: 2200
President: Dr. Don C. Hines
AD: Dee Outlaw
Nickname: Tigers
Affiliation: NCAA Division II
Conference: Gulf South
Colors: Red and White
Stadium: Tiger (8500)
1996 Record: 3-7 (1-6 in GSC)
Head Coach: Bobby Johns
SID: Fred Sington

1997 SCHEDULE

S 6 at Arkansas Tech L, 41-17
S 13 at Lane W, 37-14
S 20 Union W, 39-6
S 27 Ark.-Monticello W, 31-10
O 4 Henderson St. L, 24-16
O 11 Miss. College W, 38-21
O 18 at Valdosta State
N 1 at West Georgia
N 8 Delta State
N 15 at North Alabama

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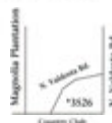
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THE NUMBERS GAME

WEST ALABAMA

<u>Rushing</u>	<u>Att</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Ronnie Jackson	107	525	4.9	4
Carey Phillips	49	222	4.5	3
Kenny Mosley	33	210	6.4	2

<u>Passing</u>	<u>A/C/I</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Darrell Payne	146/82/3	1120	8

<u>Receiving</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Josh Turrentine	24	372	15.5	4
Ronnie Jackson	12	204	17.0	1
Steve Guilbeau	10	95	9.5	0
Michael James	8	164	20.5	2
Carey Phillips	7	81	11.6	0

<u>Total Offense</u>	<u>Plays</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>Avg</u>
Darrell Payne	163	1119	186.5
Ronnie Jackson	107	525	87.5

<u>Scoring</u>	<u>TDs</u>	<u>PAT</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>Pts</u>
John Sedely	0	19	9	46
Ronnie Jackson	5	0	0	30
Josh Turrentine	4	0	0	24

VALDOSTA STATE

<u>Rushing</u>	<u>Att</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Vontrell Mitchell	62	322	5.2	3
Marcus Ray	50	242	4.8	2
Wendell Olden	35	223	6.4	1

<u>Passing</u>	<u>A/C/I</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Jason Vaughan	92/49/5	526	1
Donnie Johnston	80/44/2	510	5

<u>Receiving</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Mike Bowman	25	365	14.6	5
Dennis Fryzel	15	164	10.9	1
Winston Williams	14	175	12.5	0
Vontrell Mitchell	9	44	11.0	0
Eric Doggett	7	85	12.1	0

<u>Total Offense</u>	<u>Plays</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>Avg</u>
Donnie Johnston	103	556	92.7
Jason Vaughan	104	489	122.3

<u>Scoring</u>	<u>TDs</u>	<u>PAT</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Mike Bowman	5	0	0	30
James Lightfoot	0	18	3	27
Vontrell Mitchell	3	0	0	18

TEAM STATS

	UWA	Opp	VSU	Opp
Net Rushing/Game Yds	1144/190.7	965/160.8	885/147.5	610/101.7
Passing/Game Yds	1120/186.7	944/157.3	1153/192.2	1005/167.5
Total Offense	2264/377.3	1909/318.2	2038/339.7	1615/269.2
Points/Game Avg.	178/29.7	116/19.3	153/25.5	101/16.8



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THE GULF SOUTH TODAY

THE STANDINGS

	GSC		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
West Georgia	3	0	5	1
Valdosta State	3	0	4	2
Southern Arkansas	3	1	4	1
Henderson State	2	1	3	2
Central Arkansas	2	1	3	2
North Alabama	1	2	4	2
West Alabama	1	2	4	2
Arkansas Tech	2	3	2	5
Arkansas-Monticello	0	3	0	5
Delta State	0	4	0	5

Last Week

Valdosta State 58, Arkansas-Monticello 14
West Alabama 38, Mississippi College 21
Henderson St. 41, Delta State 20
Southern Arkansas 42, Arkansas Tech 7
North Alabama 48, S'western LA 42
West Georgia 17, Central Arkansas 13

This Week

West Alabama at VSU
North Alabama at Delta State
Ark-Monticello at Arkansas Tech
Henderson St. at Central Arkansas
N'western St. at Southern Arkansas

Next Week

VSU at Southern Arkansas
West Georgia at Delta St.
Cen. Ark. at Ark.-Mont.
Hend. St. at North Ala.
Arkansas Tech at NW LA

CONFERENCE LEADERS

<u>Rushing</u>	<u>Att</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>TDs</u>	<u>Passing</u>	<u>A/C/I</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>TDs</u>
Marvin Welch, HSU	70	490	7.0	4	Chris Freeman, UCA	143/84/2	1029	9
Tregnel Thomas, DSU	102	482	4.7	3	Darrell Payne, UWA	146/82/3	1120	8
Ronnie Jackson, UWA	107	525	4.9	4	Toby Strange, WGA	155/99/10	1172	9

<u>Receiving</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yds</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>TDs</u>	<u>Scoring</u>	<u>TDs</u>	<u>PK</u>	<u>Pts/G</u>
Mike Bowman, VSU	25	365	14.6	5	John Sedely, UWA	0	46	7.7
Bryan Fisher, ATU	34	364	10.7	1	Garron Spickard, SAU	0	34	6.8
Chad Moran, UCA	22	304	13.8	2	Jeremy Coates, WGA	0	38	6.3



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