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—Times Staff Photo

Happy Winners: Coach and Mrs. Bazemore after 1968 Championship Game

And Why Should Bettie Ever Worry?

By VIRGINIA CULPEPPER

Bettie Lou Bazemore's husband worries because his wife doesn't worry about the Wildcats, Valdosta High School's championship team.

"Why should I worry?" she asked.

Why should she, indeed? After all, her husband is Wright Bazemore, head coach of the fabled Wildcats, winner of 13 state championships.

Her son, Curt, 16, plays linebacker on the team. And, as a rabid Valdosta football fan said recently this season, "If Curt weren't the best man available for that position, you can be darn sure Wright wouldn't have him in there."

Even daughter Pam, 13, is being brought up the right way —she's a cheerleader at Valdosta Junior High School.

Speaking of Curt, Mrs. Bazemore conceded that when he scored the first touchdown of the year "it was great."

But as for worrying — "Of course I'm concerned for his safety, just as any mother of a son who plays football. But I don't really worry. I know that if he should get hurt his daddy would get to him right away, so why should I worry. I'm not a constant worrier and sometimes I think Wright worries because I'm not."

Although Mrs. Bazemore came to Valdosta to teach physical education at VHS, she had to learn football from the ground up after her marriage to the coach in 1951.

Football is probably the biggest thing in the lives of the Bazemores — for part of the year, at least — but it isn't standard dinner table conversation.

"Wright doesn't bring his work home with him," said his blonde, pretty wife. "And we don't talk it a lot at home. Probably wives of doctors or preachers hear more about their husband's work than I do at home.

"Oh, sometimes Curt will ask his dad if he thought they did well that day or something like that, and Wright will answer, 'You could have done better,' or 'pretty good,' but he doesn't pursue the subject."

A close friend of Mrs. Bazemore's said of her: "Bettie Lou gets excited at the games. But she's not really a 'Bazemore.' By that I mean she's not as competitive as Wright is — he's out to win, you know.

"I'd say Bettie Lou is a real good balance for Wright."

The coach's wife says of herself: "I'm his biggest critic. I'm a good Monday morning quarterback. And I know what other parents (of football team members) are saying

"It was a long time before we knew whether Curt really wanted to play or whether he was playing to please his dad. But when he came in one afternoon after a hard day's practice and said, 'I had such a good time today,' we knew he really wants to play."

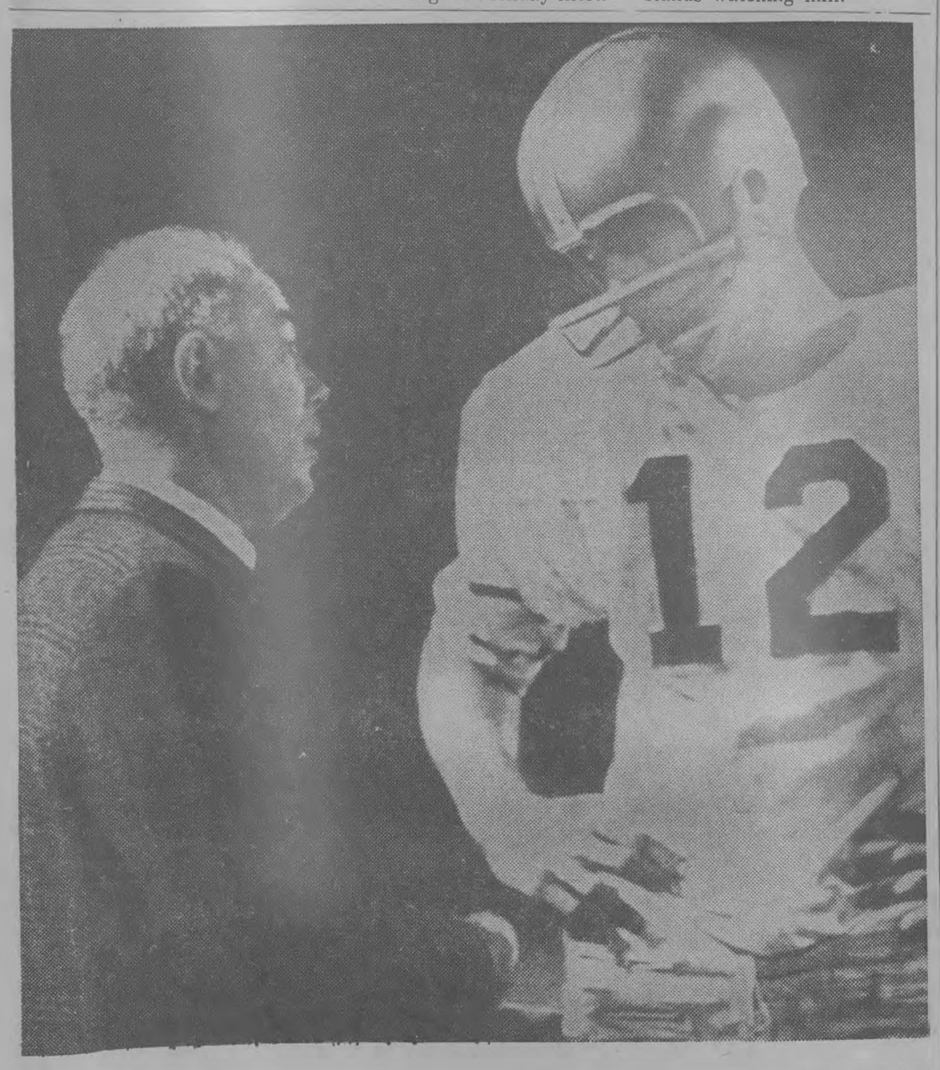
The wife of the head coach and mother of a team member has had to curtail many of her own activities, she admits, "but I know there'll come a day when I can take them up again."

Meanwhile, on Friday afternoon she has to prepare a meal of baked potato, meat, dry toast and tea to be eaten by 4:30 by father and son before the big game.

And there are the games she has to chauffeur her cheerleader daughter to in nearby towns.

"But Bettie Lou still finds time to do the unsung things for people," said her friend. "She is always doing something for somebody else, things other people don't think of doing.

"It's no wonder Wright goes out there to win. Her bright and pretty face is up in the stands watching him."



—Times Staff Photo

Sideline Strategy Meet

Bazemore gives quarterback Don Golden the word on the next play during the Valdosta-Lanier game which the Wildcats won by a 23-0 margin. Golden, 6-5 senior who weighs 195 pounds has been one of Valdosta's most potent offensive assets this season as a runner, passer, punter and field general.

Bazemore Is A Living Legend

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

A lot of phrases have been used to describe Valdosta High's super successful head football coach Wright Bazemore, but the one that seems to fit best is "Living Legend."

There's never been another prep grid boss like him in Georgia, or perhaps the whole nation, and the facts and figures are there to more than prove the point.

Now 53 years old and with 25 grid campaigns behind him, his hair is starting to thin and turn gray. But he still has the lean look of an athlete, and he's still very much the maker of champions.

Outwardly quiet and calm, within him is a competitive spirit, a demand for perfection, a capacity for hard work and a seemingly boundless knowledge of football which has carried him and his teams to the top.

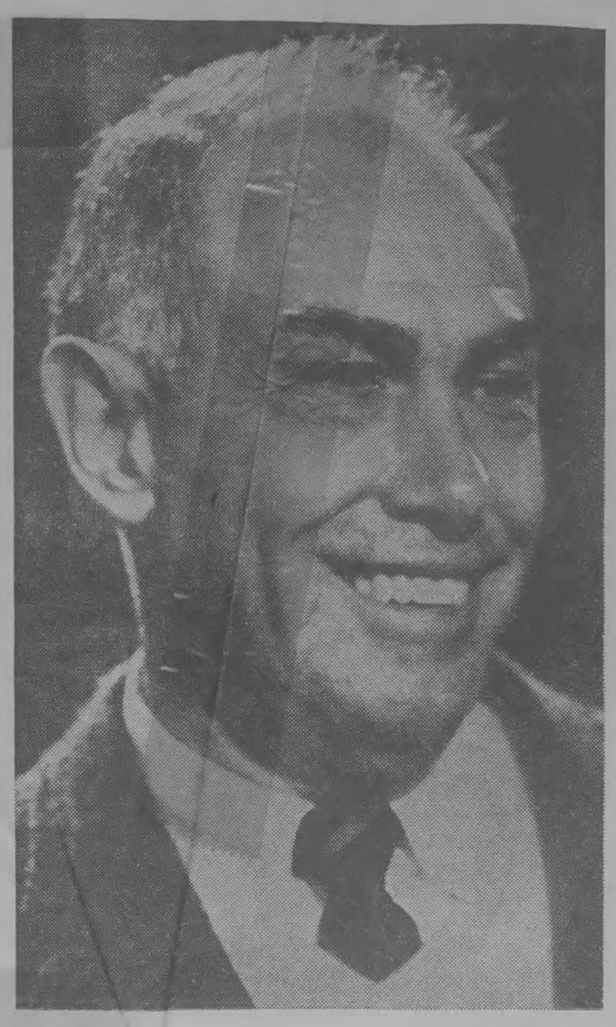
During his brilliant career he's been showered with personal honors. But he always has maintained that success on the football field "comes only with team effort."

Bazemore's "team" includes, first all of his players. Also on the roster are his assistant coaches (which he calls the best in the world), the Valdosta High students, other school officials, the cheerleaders, the VHS band, the 'Cats' many adult boosters and fans and Valdosta itself, which he calls "the best place in the world to coach football."

"It has to be a team effort," Bazemore says. "You can't get the job done any other way."

But when the evidence is examined and the Wildcats' string of success since he joined the VHS coaching staff in 1940 is studied, one fact becomes apparent. There has been a great "team effort" and it has been led in faultless fashion by Bazemore.

As for the 'Cats' record under Bazemore, it's hard to believe even though the figures are documented. The overall mark is 266-42-5. The number of state titles is 13 in classes ranging from Class B to Class AAA. Just once — only once — has a Bazemore-coached team finished below the 50% mark.



—Times Staff Photo

Baze Has Had A Dozen Such Smiles This Year

Currently the Wildcats have a 26 game victory streak going. They've had others of 40, 30 and 37 games.

Five times he's been named Georgia's High School Football Coach of the Year. In 1960 he was voted into Georgia's High School Hall of Fame, the first active coach accorded such an honor.

Countless numbers of his players have earned honors from the All-Region to the All-America levels. Many of his former players have gone on to college and professional playing stardom or even on a successful coaching career of his own. There have been so many Bazemore admits that he couldn't compile even a partial list of them.

And it wouldn't do any good to ask him which of his players or which of his teams were the best? He has a stock answer. "That would be like asking a father which of his children he loves best."

During his playing days in the 1930s in his hometown of Fitzgerald, the Bazemore legend began to form and grow. At Fitzgerald High he won 16 athletic letters, with football, basketball, track and tennis all getting his attention.

In 1934 while Fitz was rolling along unbeaten he scored 250 points, tallying 10 touchdowns in two games — against Montezuma and Waycross. That earned him a place on Robert Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" list.

While Bazemore has never denied that football is his first sports love, he has worked with tireless effort down through the years in the interest of every physical education and athletic endeavor undertaken by Valdosta High.

There was a time when he coached most of the varsity sports teams at VHS. He put in six seasons as boys basketball mentor and his teams had an overall mark of 172-22, went to five state tourneys and claimed one state crown. He coached baseball one spring, and produced a district championship team. He turned out a long, long string of championship tennis teams.

"We are, of course, proud of our football program at Valdosta High," Bazemore said. "But we're also proud of the many other fine teams we have in other sports. Our aim is to involve as many of our students as possible in our physical education and sports program."

How, everyone keeps asking, does Bazemore and his assistants continue year, after year to turn out successful football teams?

"There's no short cut to football success," Bazemore says. "You've got to pay the price."

Paying the price includes long, long hours of hard work for the VHS coaches and players. It's the learning of fundamentals, then learning them again, again and again.

It's long hours of trying to decide who should play where, what type play will go here and what defense should we use now. It's being able to bounce back when you're knocked down.

For Bazemore there are sleepless nights because he carries the final burden of responsibility for all decisions both before and during a game.

Baze's pre-game worries are literally famous. He never, never underestimates an opponent and he keeps his players in the same frame of mind.

"Do it and then brag," he declares. "Sure you've got to have confidence. But you can't ever afford to become overconfident, that's when someone comes along and nails the seat of your pants to the goalpost."

Bazemore believes that everyone has the capacity to reach down during a crucial moment and give more than they believe they are able to give. His teams over the years have proven him right.

Bazemore is a "Living Legend." [illegible] be any doubt?

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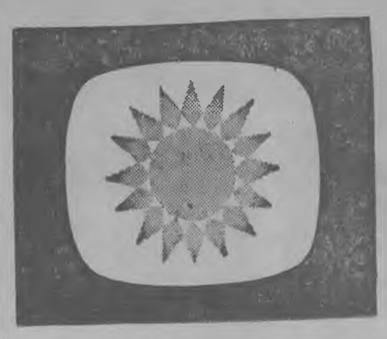

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—Times Staff Photo

Stevens, Right, Keller Get Kick Out of Win Over Glynn Academy in 1968

Wildcat Mania

Spreads To N.J.

By MARTIN MILLER

The football fever in this part of the country which some folks call "Wildcat mania" is a disease which spreads.

It has even gone as far as Plainsville, N.J., where Valdosta High has an ardent fan in Bob Stevens, an industrialist who is a former Secretary of the Army.

Although Stevens has not made it to any of the 'Cat games this season, he is a frequent visitor to the South for the explicit purpose of watching what he calls the "unbelieveable eleven" play football.

Stevens was Secretary of the Army during the Eisenhower administration in the 1950s. Now he's president of the J. P. Stevens Company of New York.

He first saw Valdosta play football in the early 1960's during a string of 37 straight victories over a three year span which wrought three state AAA championships.

Stevens was in Dublin on business for his company at the time. He read a story about the Wildcats in an Atlanta newspaper and said he had to see it to believe it.

He flew to Valdosta on a company plane to witness a 39-0 shallacking the Wildcats put on Murphy of Atlanta on a field so wet they had to sand it down like a beach.

Now he is a Wildcat backer of the first degree and has been back five times to see the team play.

Stevens is even cocky. His last trip down was for the South Georgia Championship game in which the Wildcats beat Glynn Academy, 42-0, last season at Brunswick.

Asked afterwards if he thought the Valdostans would go on to win the state championship again, he responded: "Can there be any doubt? You know we are going to win."

Stevens does not attend Valdosta games only when the Wildcats happen to be playing close to where he is on business. He makes special trips to see the games. Last year, he was in Brunswick for only four hours. He says the trips are definitely worth the effort.

Stevens generally contacts City Councilman Bill Keller when he is ready to come down and watch some VHS action. They became friends on Stevens' first trip.

The two had a problem at Brunswick last year. When Keller found out Stevens was coming, all Valdosta's reserved seat tickets had been sold. All he could obtain were two tickets on the wrong side of the field.

A lifelong football fan, Stevens pointed out, "They (the Wildcats) always have speed, blocking and their drive — it's terrific. They stick their heads in and keep going."

He called VHS coach Wright Bazemore a great credit to the game of football. "I just don't see how he does it," Stevens commented.

Stevens occasionally attends high school grid contests up north but says the caliber of game there does not compare to Valdosta style high school football.

"If they (Valdosta) ever played one of those northern teams in a bowl there would be no contest," said the industrialist.

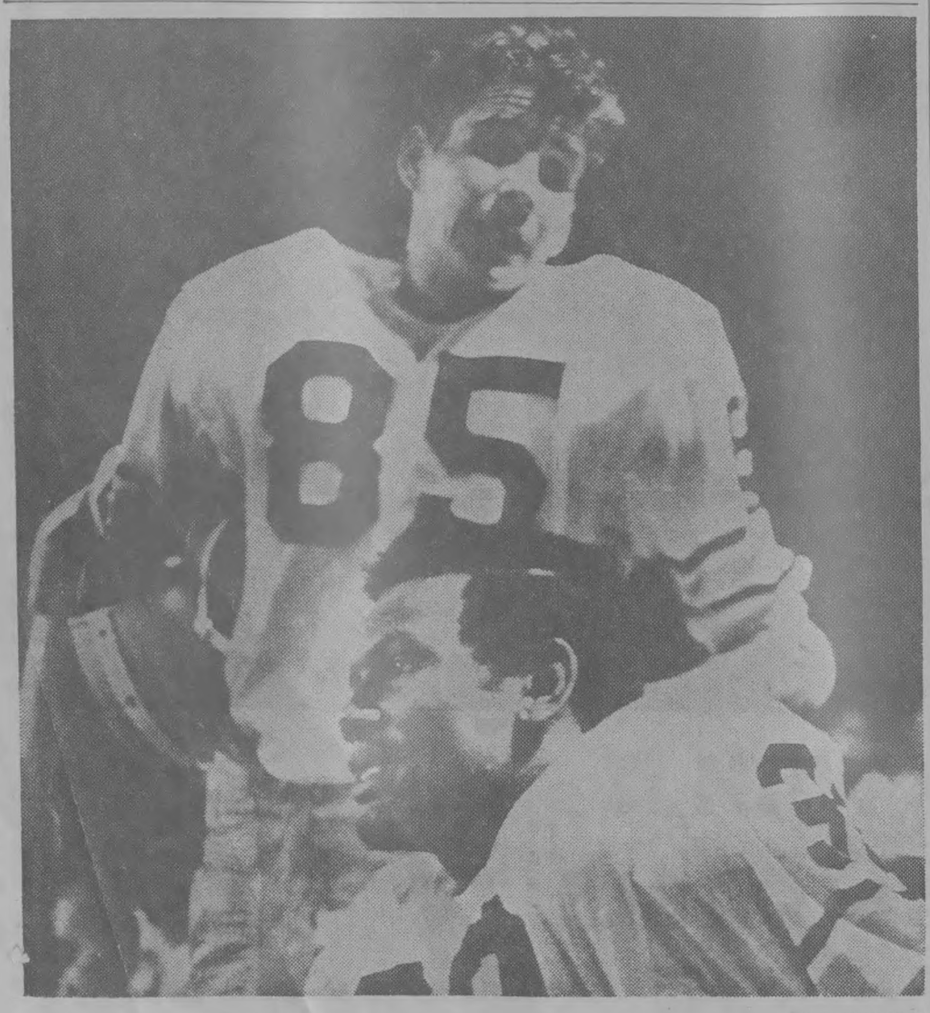
Like most VHS fans, Stevens keeps up with individual Wildcat players and how they fare in the college ranks. He recalls players of the past like Bruce Bennett, Giles Smith, Rick Thomas, Bill Myddleton, Billy Schroer and many others.

He knows where each went to college and what became of them.

"Bruce Bennett went to Florida, didn't he?" Stevens recalled. "He made All-America."

At the Glynn Academy last year Stevens spent a good portion of the game scrutinizing the program and checking the numbers on the jerseys on the field to see what kind of team Bazemore was going to have this year.

He predicted it would be another winner. But he added with a wink: "That's not too hard to figure out, is it?"



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Albany

Defensive standouts Gary Dove (85) and Aaron Holder (33) are on the sidelines while the offensive troops are scoring the points that beat Albany's Indians, 28-0. Playing against a traditional rival, the Wildcats got 18 first downs, 328 yards rushing and 36 yards passing. Albany made 13 first downs, got 148 yards rushing and hit for 101 yards via the aerial route.



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SOUTH GEORGIA AAA CHAMPIONS

No.	Name
10	Bazemore, Curt
11	Taylor, Warrick
12	Golden, Don
14	Mullis, Joe
15	Bounds, Stan
16	Jones, Willie
17	Welch, Mike
18	Johnson, Dan
20	Lawrence, Franky
21	Bell, John
22	Savage, Robert
23	Quattlebaum, Greg
24	LeFiles, Jimmy
25	Walters, Tony
26	DeLoach, Wayne
27	Lee, Curtis
28	Emanuel, Kenneth
30	Blalock, Bo
31	Meeks, Benji
32	O'Neal, Danny
33	Holder, Aaron
34	Clarkston, Jim
35	Anderson, Willie
40	Davis, Henry
41	Hampton, John
42	Branan, Darrell
43	Waller, Brant
44	Daniels, Charles
50	Stanaland, Steve
51	Godfrey, Herman
52	Christy, Jim
53	Lloyd, Greg
54	Herron, Melvin
60	Parr, Ray
61	Marshall, Kim
62	Daniels, Charles
63	Shenton, Charles
64	Strickland, Alan
65	Holt, Tom
66	Dibois, Mark
67	Strickland, Calvin
68	Crawford, Willie
70	Everson, Mike
71	Koncar, Robert
72	Simpson, Wayne
73	Jarmillo, Steve
74	Quillin, Vance
75	Hendry, Ralph
76	Sidney, Ernest
77	Akin, Ronnie
78	Dewar, Robert
80	Puckett, Ralph
81	Henderson, Barry
82	Mabry, Jashua
83	Skoropat, Alex
84	Demesserman, Paul
85	Dove, Gary
86	Baker, Jerry
87	Skoropat, Harry
88	Rome, Roger



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Like A Whirling Dervish: At Ground Level, the Marchin' Cats Getting into Formation Looks Awful Complicated but from the Stands It's 'Oh, So Simple'

—Times Staff Photo

Marchin' Cats Do The Job

By MARY CROUSE

They've already won the title, the Greatest Band in Dixie, but to the home folks the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats are number one in the nation.

People here talk about the Marchin' Cats with the same pride usually reserved for the VHS Wildcat football team. And when the band strikes up its own lively medley with the controversial tune "Dixie", the crowd whether at a pep rally, parade or football game roars its approval.

"The football team is the greatest in the country and we think our band is tops so what better combination could Valdosta come up with? When people go to a game now, they are just as interested in the band as they are in that football game," said a football buff.

But it wasn't always that way. When Frank Butenschon, the 31-year-old redhaired band director, took over the outfit in 1962 he had 62 members. All the ingredients for a successful band were there but the group had not jelled. The "VHS Fight Song" written by a former director Andy Odum in the late 1950's, was the high point of all band shows.

The students were interested in the band but not much else. Many of the members had poor grades in their academic work and there didn't seem to be that pride which is so important to a winner.

The first thing Butenschon did was give the group the name the Marchin' Cats. After that he set out to make the Marchin' Cats a household word in this area and to give the students an incentive to bring up their grades.

But the Marchin' Cats have not remained unknown to the rest of the nation. With two new additions, the colorful flag corps and honor guard, the group participated in the 1964 National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade of Princesses in Washington, D. C., and won a fourth place award for excellence.

The band performed at a formal concert at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington that same weekend and received special commendation from the Chief of Special Services.

It was during that same year that the Marchin' Cats were elected Club of the Year at Valdosta High.

The high stepping outfit was on its way.

The followineg year the band placed fourth among 20 units in the Greatest Band in Dixie competition in New Orleans. They were again named Club of the Year on campus.

With 1966-67 came the selection of Honor Band to perform at the half-time show at Auburn University's Band Day. This time the Marchin' Cats went to the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington and won the Parade of Princesses band competition in their new tailor made black, white and gold outfits.

In 1968 Troy State University in Alabama asked Butenschon's charges to put on the half-time show at its Band Day program.

The VHS band was selected as one of the top 15 high school marching bands in the Southeastern U.S. to perform at the Parade of Champions in conjunction with the First Annual Peach Bowl in Atlanta last year.

The band made the trip to New Orleans last spring and came back heralded as the Greatest Band in Dixie. They won first place in the competition. That same year the band received a special invitation to perform a show for the men of the USS Springfield.

This fall the Marchin' Cats performed a pre-game and half-time performance for the New Orleans Saints professional football team, with Astronaut Michael Collins at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

The band has been asked to participate again this year in the Parade of Champions before the Peach Bowl in Atlanta.

And Butenschon is taking his group back to New Orleans to defend their title in the Greatest Band in Dixie contest this year.

"Don't ask me why we're going back. We have nothing to gain and everything to lose. Every band that has ever won the contest is going to be back this year to try for the title again. I agree, we're crazy to go back," he said.

Butenschon is a competitor and his proud Marchin' Cats have that same competitive spirit. That's why they are winners and why they feel compelled to return to New Orleans.

"And if we got an invitation to go somewhere else, say the Rose Bowl, we'd go. However, that's an expensive trip and we couldn't finance it locally," he said.

There has been some talk among band enthusiasts here of asking Gov. Lester Maddox and the Georgia Trade and Tourist Division to finance the local band to the Rose Bowl in conjunction with the state float in the annual Parade of Roses.

"It'd be great if we could go but we haven't heard anything on it yet," said the director.

Butenschon said the Marchin' Cats would not be what they are today without the junior high school program. The junior high band is under the direction of Ed Barr and C.D. Marshall.

"They are the life line to the high school. Tommy Barr, my co-director, is my right hand. He is the greatest and the kids love him," said Butenschon.

The director said the band no longer has a corps of majorettes or drum majors. Field commanders lead the marchers and this year Benny Colson and Lucy Stewart do the honors.

Mike DeCesare is the honor guard captain, Kathy Hendrix is flag corps captain and Sherrie Snider and Marie Terry are featured twirlers.

"They are a great group of kids and I'm proud of every one of them," said Butenschon.



—Times Staff Photo

They're The Greatest: Band Director and Mrs. Butenschon after New Orleans



CHUCK NORTHCUTT
Help For The Band

Each VHS Band Booster Worth Hard Work, Money

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Band Booster's Club is to the Marchin' Cats what the Touchdown Club is to the Wildcats, and according to Club President Chuck Northcutt, each Band Booster is worth many hours hard work and approximately $275 a year.

At least, that was true last year, when the 80 band booster's raised $22,000 for the various activities of the band. This year, it may go higher.

The Band Booster's Club is the old Band Parent's Club. Northcutt said the name was changed because there were some fans of the band in the club who didn't have children in the band.

He said the club is bigger now, but that all the parents, unfortunately, are still not in the club.

"The main function of the club," he said, "is to contribute funds for the band's operation." He said the club paid for the Mardi Gras and Peach Bowl trips last year, and will finance the trip to the Blue-Gray game in Montgomery after Christmas.

The club furnishes chaperones for these trips and adds to the support of the band in matters not related to school, including uniforms and partial instrument upkeep.

Money comes from selling candy, bumper stickers, car washes, and anything else band boosters can find to make money. Northcutt said the club tries to work for all the money it needs, but added they had to resort to solicitation once when money was needed for the last Mardi Gras trip.

He said the club will print and sell football programs at the state championship game as one of its fund-raising programs.

"We're also working now to get some support from the Athletic Association from money taken in at games," he said.

When this interview was taking place, Northcutt was working along with other Band Booster's Club members at a band bazaar. Members were selling things they had made, mostly Christmas decorations, and donated to raise money for the Mardi Gras trip.

"We expect to make $400 today," he said, and added that the club hoped to make the bazaar a big annual affair.

He said to his knowledge, the "Marchin' Cats" were the only band to return to Mardi Gras two years in a row.

Northcutt credited the members of the band with a lot of the strength and dedication of the Band Boosters.

"The kids are dedicated, easy to work with the chaperone, come to rehearsals on time, and work hard," he said.

"The dedication showed through last year at Mardi Gras when they had to march 29 miles, sleep in an old Army building on air mattresses, and only take one shower in five days."

"We're going to try to stay in a motel this year," he said.

Northcutt said the club dues were $5.00 a year, and said membership was open to everyone.

Besides Northcutt, club officers include Mrs. T. E. Dumas, vice president; Mrs. Carl Meadows, treasurer; Mrs. H. J. Liles, secretary; Mrs. George Snider, ways and means chairman, and Roy Ferrell, ways and means co-chairman, and Fluker Stewart, publicity director

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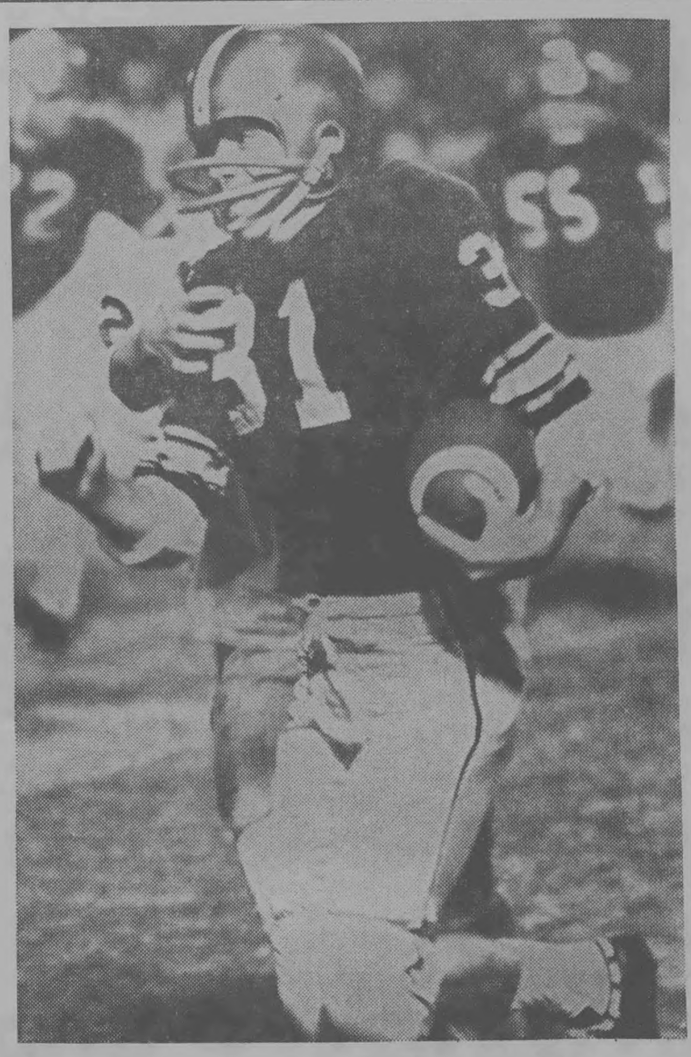

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State Champs: 1966

Whirlwind Is Calmed

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats rule as the 1966 State Class AAA high school football champions while Marietta's Blue Devils are back home with their victory string broken, their title dreams ended and their claim to be Georgia's no. 1 ranked prep eleven no longer valid.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats earned a solid 14-3 victory over coach French Johnson's Imps in their duel for the state crown.

The 'Cats used a super-tough defense to turn Marietta's vaunted whirlwind offense into something even less than a gentle breeze.

Valdosta got its winning points on a dazzling 75-yard punt return for a touchdown by halfback John Copeland in the third period and a hard - nose scoring march of 49 yards along the ground in the final stanza.

Halfback Jerry Greene led the way and quarterback John Smrcina climaxed the drive by sneaking six inches for the tally. End Rhett Dawson booted a pair of PATs.

Marietta, winner of 12 straight this year and 21 in a row over a two - season span, could manage only three points. They came on a 30-yard field goal kicked by tackle Ricky Norris on what amounted to an extra play just before the first half ended.

Before the Imps ran into the Wildcats they had been averaging 33 markers a game and none of a dozen previous foes had been able to hold them under three touchdowns. Some had called Marietta the best team ever to come out of North Georgia and they were pegged first in the state on one rating chart.

But the about 10,500 fans who saw the action on the chilled and windswept turf of Cleveland Field had to be convinced that the Wildcats were superior in all departments of play.

The victory was the 11th in a dozen starts for VHS thisl year.

Other Wildcats who had an equal share in the championship effort included Grady Blankenship, Jerry Brooks, Bill Gandy, Phillip Ashcom, Walter Jones, John Flythe, Sandy Ellison, Richard Vann, Bobby McCrary, Danny Williams, Mike Paine, Tommy Luke, Kenny Clifton, Mike DeLoach, Mike Markham, Charlie Bob Bridges, Ronny Strobo, Mike McMillan and Billy Grondahl.

Valdosta had 11 first downs, 91 yards rushing, and 141 yards passing to seven first downs, 91 yards rushing and 61 yards passing for Marietta



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Coffee

Halfback Willie Anderson churns for extra yardage with Coffee County defenders hanging on. The Wildcats found it easy going, winning the Coffee County game, 46-0. The 'Cats got 19 first downs, 317 yards rushing and 146 yards passing. Coffee got five first downs, 61 yards rushing and 40 yards passing.

Last Game Win Saved The Season

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

In 1967 the Wildcats managed to keep their record above the .500 mark with a win in the final game of the season. In all they won five, lost four and tied one.

The 'Cats defeated Waycross 9-7, Baker of Columbus 18-7, Dougherty of Albany 39-0, Jordan of Columbus 14-12 and LaGrange 20-13.

But the VHS team fell victim to Lanier of Macon 7-0, Moultrie 19-12, Tift County 13-7 and Albany 27-7.

The tie was a 7-7 standoff with Willingham of Macon.

Rebuilding Year Was A Good One

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

VHS went through a rebuilding year in 1964 while posting a respectable 7-3 season record.

Wildcat wins were over Waycross 20-7, Baker of Columbus 14-12, Dougherty of Albany 23-6, Jordan of Columbus 13-0, Lanier of Macon 14-0, Moultrie 14-0 and Northside of Warner Robins 40-13.

Losses were to Albany 21-14, Willingham of Macon 14-13 and LaGrange 13-0.

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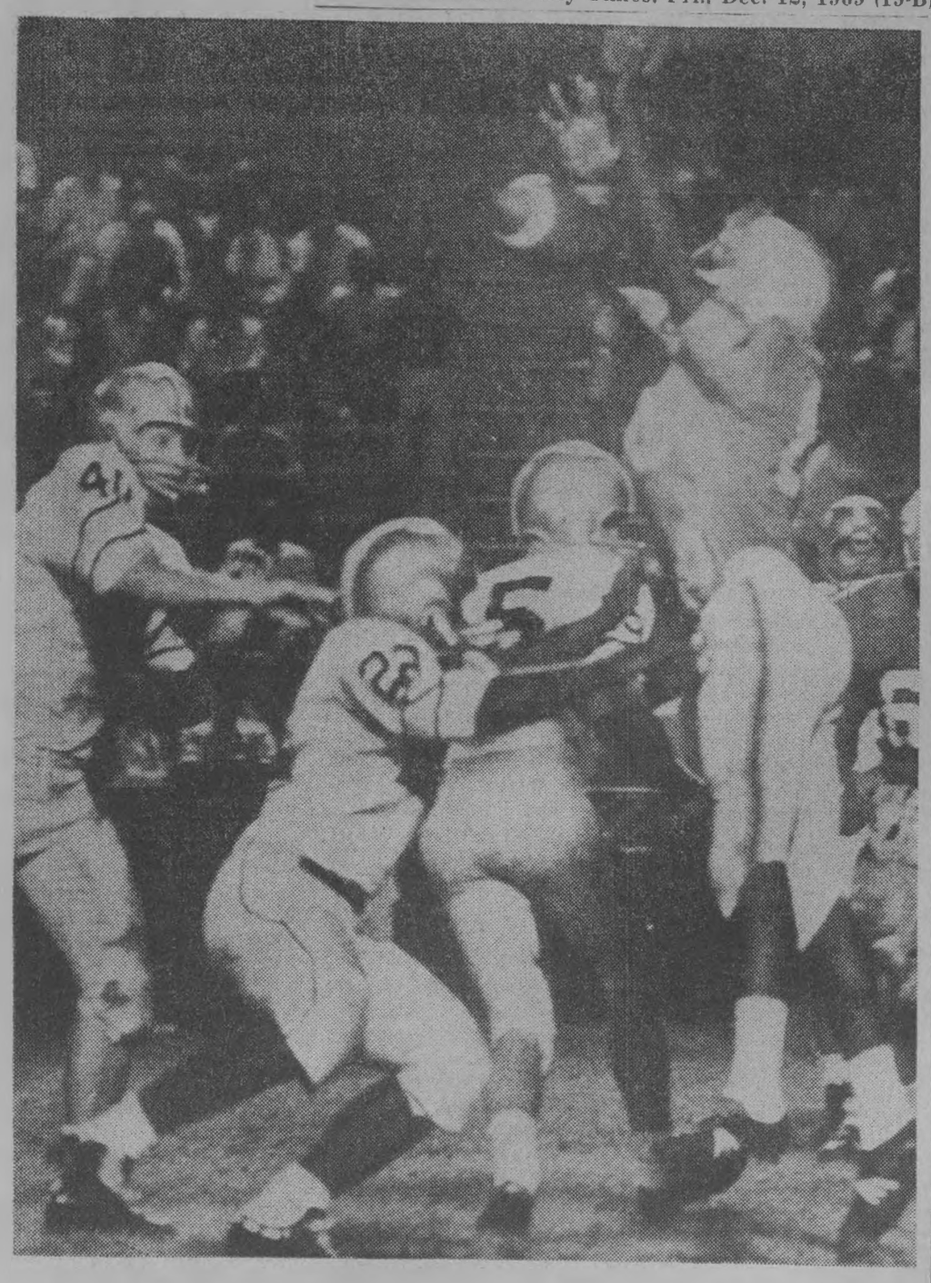

—AP Wirephoto

Steps To Title: Dougherty

The Wildcats were in command all the way as they rolled past Dougherty County's Trojans 42-0 this season. Above, 'Cats' John Hampton, Robert Savage and Stan Bounds turned to defense and were right on the mark as they cover a Dougherty pass receiver. Valdosta got 16 first downs, 261 yards rushing and 108 passing while holding the Trojans to five first downs, minus 41 yards rushing and 49 passing.

Topple Athens

'Cats Avenged A Defeat

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ATHENS — Valdosta's proud Wildcats, graduates of the South Georgia football school of hard knocks, reduced a grid myth to reality by defeating Athens' Trojans 14-13 here to capture the 1965 State Class AAA football championship.

The score was close and the game had a cliff-hanging finish, but coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats left no doubt about which team was superior and that they deserved to wear the state crown.

Coach Weyman Sellars' Trojans had been called by some Georgia's greatest prep eleven. They had swept to the Region 5-AAA and North Georgia AAA titles without a close game.

Athens had clicked off 13 straight wins this year. They had gone two seasons without losing on their home field. They were supposed to waltz past the Wildcats.

But it was Valdosta, which had staged an uphill battle to emerge as the winner in the rough and tumble duel for the 1-AAA and the South Georgia diadems to get into the state finals that made Athens dance to its football tune. The win gave VHS an 11-1 mark for the year.

With the temperature down in the 30s and the 8,000 - seat Athens High stadium packed with about 10,000 fans, Valdosta stormed to a 14 - point lead in the first half then in the last two periods withstood a rash of penalties, an injury to their offense leader quarterback Glenn Davis and a closing rush by the Trojans to win.

The 'Cats did not know they were going to own the state championship outright and not have to share it with the Trojans until Athens kicking specialist Chuck Perry, in the face of a hard Valdosta rush, missed by a wide margin on a point after kick with just seconds remaining in the contest.

It was an all VHS show in the first half. The 'Cats started marching in the first period and wheeled 81 yards in 13 plays for their initial touchdown that came after four minutes were gone in the second stanza.

Davis got the tally on a one-yard plunge after he, halfback Kenny Bounds and fullback Mike McMillan, behind the hard blocking VHS line, had spearheaded the drive. There was only one pass on the drive, a 20 - yarder to Bounds.

Larry Colson, a linebacking regular, kicked the first of two all - important extra points.

The Trojans had two more chances at the ball, once from the Valdosta 30, but were stopped and Valdosta moved 69 yards in nine plays to score with 35 seconds left in the half. A 22 - yard pass from Davis to Robert Strom, who did a nifty bit of running, scored the TD.

Athens scored midway in the third period on a 71 - yard pitchout run by speed merchant Ed Allen. With about four minutes left in the game Athens started from their 20 and moved to the Valdosta three.

Three plays got them only to the one but Gilbert finally piled over on fourth down. Perry, who had made good on 62 of 70 PATs up until then, kicked the extra point try high and to the right.

'Cats Have Friends Up In Chicago

Somebody up there likes the Valdosta High School Wildcats and is pulling for another State Championship.

And according to Ann Lasseter of 719 E. Jane St., the feeling some Midwesterners have for the local football team is more than just a passing fancy.

Mrs. Lassester said she discovered the new Wildcat followers by accident. She called Chicago information to get a phone number and got a native Georgian on the line for an operator.

Mrs. Lasseter said the operator had lived in Macon and that her mother now lives in Atlanta.

"Anyway we chatted while she was getting the number for me and she asked about the Valdosta High School Wildcats. I was floored and asked her how she knew about the Cats.

"It seems her mother sends her the paper from Atlanta every weekend and this operator keeps up with the Wildcats that way. She said everybody had gotten interested in the team and was pulling for another championship," said Mrs. Lasseter.

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LOOK AT THE CATS' RECORD

(All games won by Cats)

1968

Thomasville 19-0
Dougherty 42-0
Wayne 35-0
Ware 48-0
Albany 28-0
Moultrie 22-0
Monroe 47-6
Coffee 62-0
Tift 20-0
Lowndes 48-6
Lanier 27-7
Glynn 42-0
Forrest Park 37-12
(475-31)

1969

Thomasville 14-0
Dougherty 42-0
Wayne 24-0
Ware 63-0
Albany 28-0
Moultrie 21-0
Monroe 48-0
Coffee 46-0
Tift Co. 28-7
Lowndes 40-0
Lanier 23-0
Savannah 20-0

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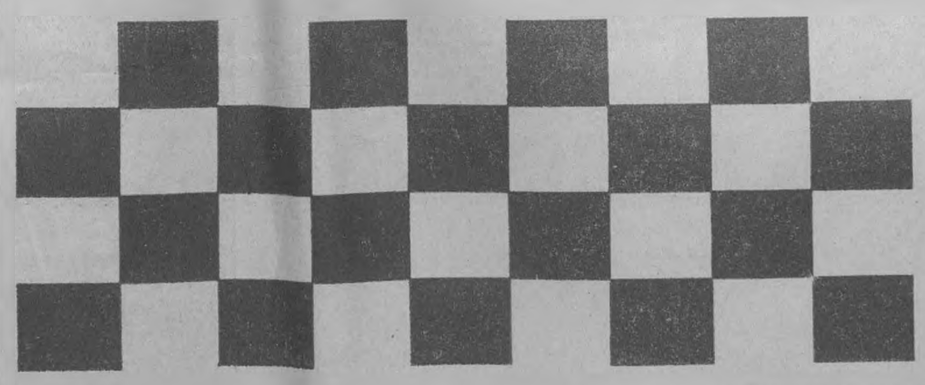



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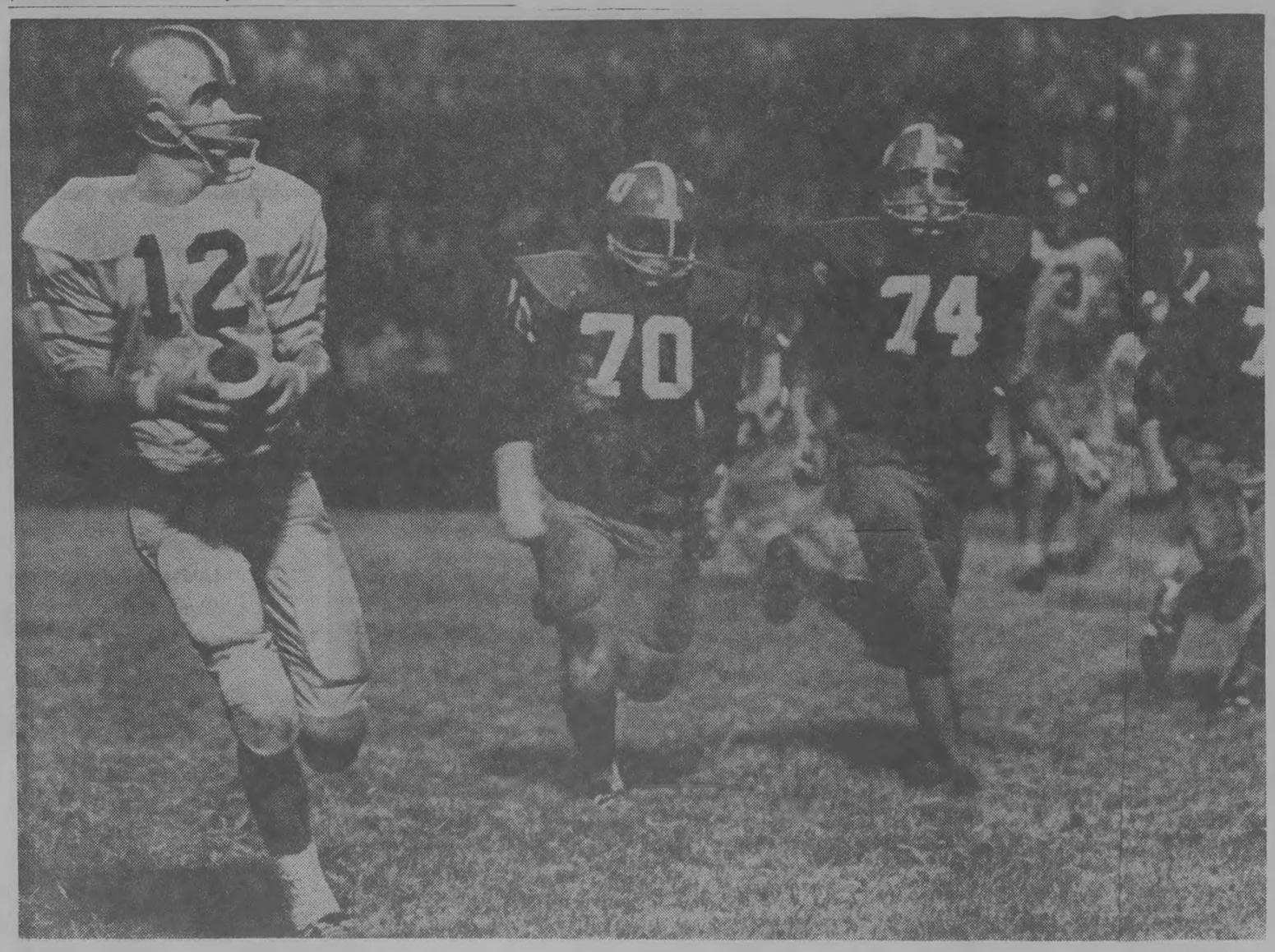

—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Thomasville

Quarterback Don Golden looks for a receiver downfield in the Thomasville game which the 'Cats took, 14-0. It was a non-region affair but got the Valdosta eleven started on an undefeated regular season. Valdosta found a tough foe in the Bulldogs who were destined to win the Region 1-AA championship this season. Valdosta had 10 first downs, 64 yards rushing and 117 yards passing. Thomasville had eight first donws, 34 yards rushing and 128 yards passing.

State Champs: 1961

Bennett, Luke Paced Show

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

THOMASTON — For one half and 18 plays R. E. Lee of Thomaston battled the Valdosta Wildcats on even terms here but then the awesome 'Cat powere was 34-13 too much for the slim Rebel squad as Valdosta captured the 1961 State Class AAA football championship.

Valdosta's defending state champions went into the contest a 20-point favorite and came out 21 ahead but only after a fired-up band of Rebels had played their hearts out.

It was a story of too much manpower against a team that came to play and demonstrated they had what it took to stick with the overpowering Wildcats for two and a half quarters.

It was also a story of too much Bruce Bennett, Valdosta's fine all-state quarterback. Bennett put on a one man show as he scored two touchdowns, passed for two others and compiled a total offense of 211 yards. He rushed for 141 yards on 24 carries and passed for 70 yards, completing four of 11.

The Wildcats blocking was sharp and crisp but hard-rocking defense proved to be the difference. Co-captain Butch Luke led the defensive show, accounting for eight tackles and picking off a R. E. Lee pass which led to the final Valdosta touchdown.

Bill Myddleton had eight tackles, Bill Schroer five, Stan Reaves five and Jerry Varnedoe four.

Valdosta scored first driving 69 yards in 10 plays with Bennett sneaking in from the one after a run of 43 yards. Lee came back in the second period as quarterback Lamar Dyche passed to Bill Thompson for a 28-yard score, but Frank Wetherington blocked the extra point.

After the half, Bennett threw to Reaves for a touchdown play of 35 yards, but on the kickoff Lee's Gaines Wilson returned it 90 yards for a score. However, it was the last one for the Rebels.

Valdosta scored again before the quarter was over as Bennett sneaked over from the one following a 60-yard drive. Two more touchdowns were added in the final frame as Reaves scored from the one complete a 14-play 45-yard drive and Bennett tossed to Colson eight yards to end a 70-yard drive. Smith kicked four PATs.

The 'Cats had 17 first downs, 285 yards rushing and 70 passing while the Rebels were held to five first downs 44 yards rushing and 72 passing.

1960 Wildcats Had Date With Destiny

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's courageous Wildcats, who have battled big odds all the way this season, kept a football date with destiny as they scored with only 29 seconds of playing time left to defeat Avondale's Blue Devils 20-14 for the 1960 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 paydirt, but were stopped by fumbles.

First they halted an Imp thrust with a great defensive effort at their own 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.

Cleveland Field bulged with an overflow crowd of about 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.

Sharing winning honors 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.

In the march to their first Class AAA championship, the 'Cats won their last three games with miracle-like finishes and handed Avondale its first licking in 13 outings.

In the first period Valdosta covered 45 yards in 13 plays with Bennett scoring from the one and Smith booting the first of two extra points. In the second period, they drove 66 yards in 11 plays with Bennett passing to Smith 29 yards for the score.

Just before halftime Pritchett passed 52 yards to Freddy Guy for the first Avondale score and then kicked the first of two extra points.

Avondale moved 80 yards in only five plays to score after recovering a Wildcat fumble early in the third period. Pritchett tossed 27 yards to Mike Herron in the end zone

The 'Cats got 19 first downs, 233 yards rushing and 34 passing to six first downs, six yards rushing and 174 passing for Avondale.

State Champs: 1962

Murphy Buried In Shower Of Mud, Touchdowns

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

High - stepping on the rain-soaked turf of Cleveland Field, Valdosta's football Wildcats buried Murphy's Eagles in a shower of mud and touchdowns to win the 1962 State AAA championship.

When the goo settled, coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats had a 39-0 victory and the honor of becoming the first team ever to rule as state AAA football champions three years in a row.

Playing what Bazemore called "our best effort of the year when you consider the weather and condition of the field," the Wildcats ran their three - year victory string to 36 games, exactly doubling the one time record of 18.

It was Valdosta's 12th consecutive triumph of the year and climaxed their third perfect season.

Coach Lawrence (Lefty) Thompson's Eagles, the North Georgia champs, were never really in the game. They failed to offer even a mild scoring threat and the 'Cat's go team ripped for more than 300 yards rushing and passing. The Eagles finished with a net of just one yard rushing and only 63 passing in the game played before 9,000 fans.

Valdosta dominated in the line on both offense and defense. Quarterback Rich Thomas, halfbacks Giles Smith and Stan Reaves and full back Walter Zant divided the scoring honors.

Thomas got TDs on runs of five and one yard. Smith tallied on a 26 - yard romp and a sizzling 75 yard punt return. Reaves got a TD on a four yard jaunt and Zant sped three yards for a tally.

Among those who deserved a place on the VHS honors list were linemen Danny Hendley, Dick Bender, Billy Holtzclaw, Wally Colson, Bill Schroer, Bill Henry, Charles Oliver, Randy Hunter, Christie Patterson, Bill Myddleton, William Hall, Bill Holt, Jack Martin, Jimmy Robinson and Foy Norwood and backs Neil Bell, Terry Godwin, Hank Lee, Wayne Pearson and Sirois Barker.

It really wasn't a night for football and Bazemore had suggested the game be postponed. But Murphey chief Thompson insisted the game go on. Sand was sprinkled on the field, but even that failed to cover all the mud puddles.

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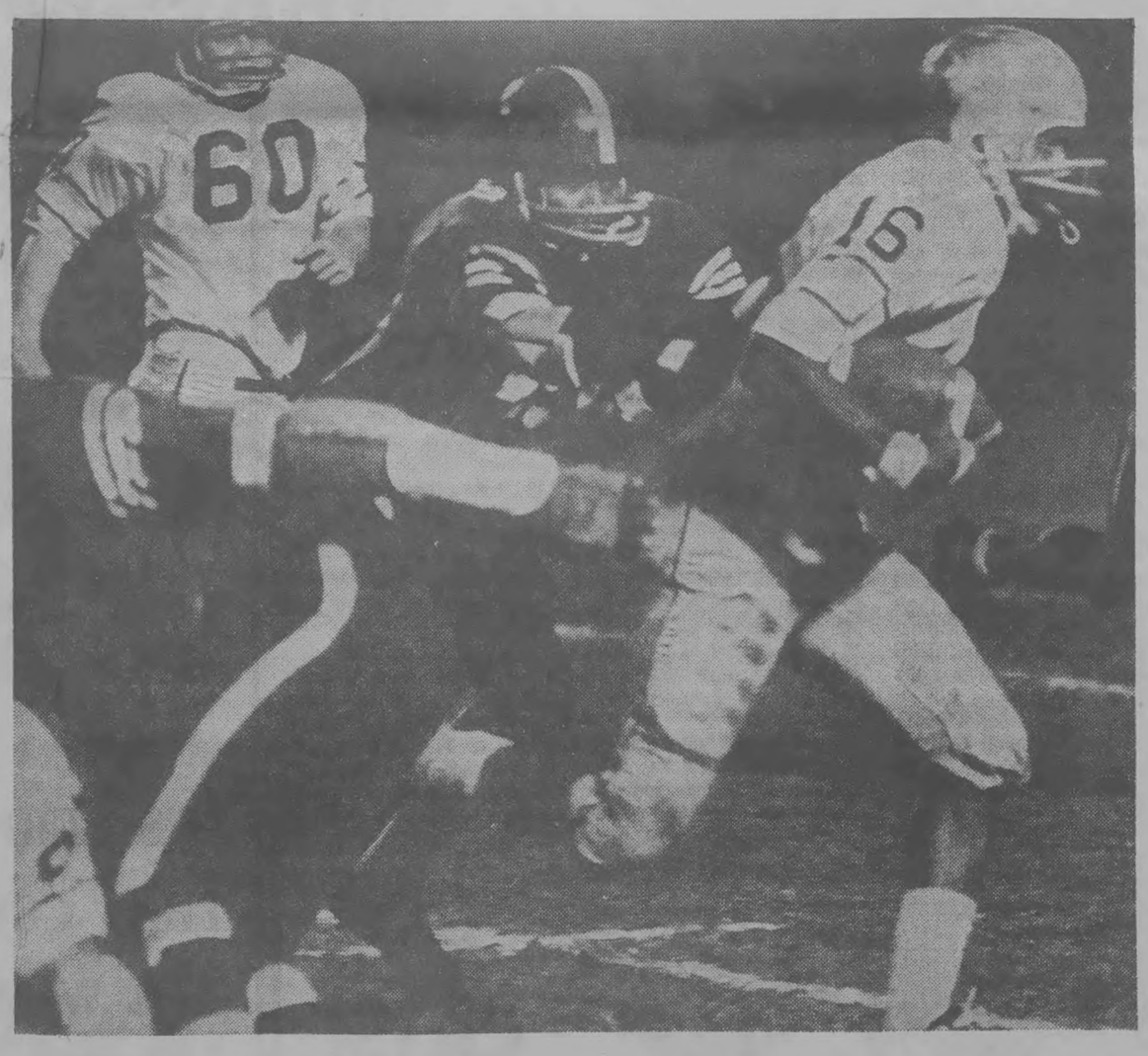

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Another winning team

Times ad wins honors in international contest

With more than 400 newspapers participating, The Valdosta Daily Times ad entry in International Newspaperboy Day Promotion Contest for 1969 was among the ten finalists from which the judges picked the plaque winners. The Times was the only Southern newspaper to make the finals.

The idea for this promotional page ad, which appeared in The Times October 11, was sparked by Kenneth Corns, circulation manager. Robert Winter III of the news staff did the photography and the page layout was done by Bill Malone of the ad staff. The page featured the Rev. Dayton W. Kannon family. The three Kannon sons are Times carriers and the entire family is involved in the newspaper delivery activity.

The Times will receive a "Certificate for Outstanding Promotion."

Judges were from national advertising agencies and the circulation manager of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. In writing of the award, Ray Kuester, executive vice-president of the Hickey-Mitchell Company, said:

"When they eliminated all except ten entries, one of the judges (who also served five years ago) said: "Any one of these entries would have been a hands-down plaque winner the last time I was judge. Today's entries are much better, and picking a plaque winner is much more difficult than before."

Kuester wrote: 'To be declared a winner in this international competition, in which more than 400 newspapers participated, is a great honor. We hope it will serve as a reminder of a job well done, and an incentive for an even better 'inspiration' in 1970."

This announcement came only a few days after the Times ad staff won the Gold Medal award for the best special edition in Georgia and Alabama.

The Valdosta Daily Times



Piling It On: Halfback Giles Smith Leaps away from a Tackler as Blockers Pile In In Typical 1962 Game Scen -Times Staff Photo

Best 'Cats Ever?

The Grid Yardstick: '62 Bunch

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

If Valdosta High School football teams want to be three feet high, they have to measure up to a giant yardstick. The 1962 bunch.

That's what long time Wildcat fans call them. "The '62 bunch." No matter what a team does, fans look back to 1962 for comparisons. No matter how fine a play develops, some fan is bound to remark. "That's good all right, but I remember in '62 when. . ."

It's a dishonest butcher who puts his thumb on the scales. And here's why VHS teams must toe the mark on a measuring tape where two feet equals 48 inches and every yard is six feet high.

Coach Wright Bazemore "warned" the Valdosta Touchdown Club before the start of the season that the 1962 team "was two touchdowns worse than the 1961 team." And while Bazemore isn't known for his unabashed optimism, it seemed logical.

Heck, the '61 team had won a second consecutive State AAA Championship and stretched the Wildcat winning streak to 24 games. And gone was All - American Quarterback Bruce Bennett. So what if Bazemore had 15 starters returning? With visions of a 5-5 won - loss record engraved in their minds, the 'Cats plunged into another season.

The first game was a catastrophe. The team went almost an entire half without scoring. There was only 15 seconds left in the half when the 'Cats put their first tally on the scoreboard.

Giles Smith passed 15 yards to quarterback Rick Thomas for six points against Baker of Columbus for the initial score of the season. But before the season was over, the names of Thomas and Smith were to become household words in Valdosta.

Before the game was over, Thomas returned the favor and passed 40 yards to Smith for another score. And to show his appreciation, Smith ran for 16 yards and a TD later.

In between, Walter Zant scored on a 20 - yard run. With Smith's four placement kicks for points after touchdowns, VHS won 28-0. The fans didn't know it, but the season was to follow the pattern of the first game.

The next game was against Waycross High School, the AA state champs in 1961. Billed as "the battle of the champions," the game was a farce. 'Cats 48, Bulldogs 13. Halfback Stan Reaves led the way returning a pass interception 40 yards for a touchdown and scoring again on an eight-yard run.

Smith scored on a 50 - yard punt return, a feat that was to become his trademark during the season. Thomas scored three times, once on a punt return of 60 yards and on a pair of eight - yard runs. Albert McLeod, a sophomore, got the other VHS tally on a 48-yard scamper.

Teddy Everett scored for Waycross on an 88-yard kickoff return. And quarterback Newton Bates passed 55 yards to Donnie Miller for the other Bulldog score.

"You know there might be something to these kids after all," said the fans.

Lanier fell 32-0 There went Jordan of Columbus 46-0. In a renewed rivalry, Albany went down 28-0. Columbus High School bit the dust 41-6.

"I thought they were supposed to be two touchdowns worse than last year," said the now - confident rooters.

Then came the Moultrie High School Packers.

Both teams were undefeated going into the contest. And the entire state knew the winner could grab all the marbles. It was a frustrating marble game for the 'Cats.

After Bill Holt recovered a Packer fumble at their 17-yard line, Thomas got the Game's first TD on a one yard plunge in the third quarter. But nobody was leaving.

Moultrie tied it up on a three - yard run by Jim Pippin a few minutes later. Smith and a third string Packer, Bob Hall, went to the sidelines for fighting after Smith was tackled returning the ensuing kickoff.

But the 'Cats were a team of destiny. Thomas circled end one play later for 74 yards and the winning touchdown. 'Cats 13, Moultrie 7.

The Cuban Missile Crisis had cropped up when the Willingham Rams of Macon fell victim to "Wildcatitis." But even the missile crisis couldn't crowd the 12-0 score off the front page.

Anti-ballistic missiles were yet to come. But the "headhunter" defense were sufficient to contain any Ram scoring threat.

When Warner Robins fell 47-7, the 'Cats donned the Region 1-AAA crown. And the 20-0 victory over LaGrange was only icing on the cake. As a matter of fact, with sleet falling in Troup County during the game, everything was "icing."

"I'm a believer," was a popular slogan in 'Cat Country.

The South Georgia championship game with Richmond Academy was played in Augusta. For two years the same two teams had played the showdown match. And each time the Musketeers had given VHS about the same as they got. Once the penetration rule was put into effect to determine the winner.

But if the '62 'Cats were two touchdowns worse than the 1961 team, the 1962 Musketeers must have been seven touchdowns worse. Final score was VHS 32, Richmond Academy 0.

Murphy was the opponent for the state championship game. Led by All - State halfback Roy Jarrett, the Atlanta team headed south to a muddy Cleveland Field. Bazemore wanted to postpone the game because of the wet field. But Murphy wanted none of that.

Sand was poured on the gridiron to sop up the puddles. and a soggy Wildcat team emerged as victors in the "sand bowl" 39-0. The sand didn't slow the 'Cats down, and neither did the Eagles.

The victory skein stood at 36 straight wins. The region, south Georgia, and state crowns rested on their heads. But the best was yet to come.

Nine members of the team received college scholarships. Smith, Thomas, Billy Schroer, Bill Myddleton and Danny Hendley signed with Georgia Tech. Reaves went to the University of Florida. Dick Bender cast his lot with Florida State University and Sirois Barker went to Tampa University.

Smith, Thomas, Schroer, Myddleton, Foy Norwood, and Wally Colson were named to the first string of the Region 1-AAA team.

The Associated Press All-State team selected Smith as its captain. Thomas, Schroer and Myddleton were first string selectees.

Schroer and Myddleton were first string picks on the All-Southern Team. And Thomas was honorable mention.

Schroer, who was named "Lineman of the Year" in Georgia for his stellar play at defensive tackle, gained All-American first team honors a few days later, Smith was honorable mention.

Thomas set a new record for total offense in the region with 1,752 yards. Smith topped the region in scoring with 116 points and led in pass receiving with 25 catches for 431 yards and four touchdowns. He also led in return yardage. Thomas was ips in passing with 67 completions in 118 attempts for 1,02 yards and a percentage of 567.

The final touch was added by a fellow in Minnesota who has the intestial fortitude to choose the best prep football eleven from te thousands of teams in the United States. He picked VHS number one.

Not bad for a team who was tabbed two touchdowns inferior to the tean preceding it. The six - foot yardstick was manufactured that year.

In 1953, 'Cats Took Third Class AA Title In A Row

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

In their most spectacular offensive show of the year, the Valdosta Wildcats scaled the heights to a third straight state Class AA championship in 1953 and a second consecutive engagement in the Peanut Bowl by steamrolling LaGrange 48-7 at Cleveland Field.

After the first half in which they watched John Robert O'Neal and Robert Hughes engage in scoring relays behind unbelievably potent blocking, Peanut Bowl representatives signed up the Wildcats during intermission.

Wright Bazemore, who has piloted the 'Cats through 31 consecutive football games without a defeat, was awarded a new automobile before 7,000 fans. Coaches Herschel Hamill, Butch Dowman, Bill Davis, Buck Thomas and Jim Clark received cash tokens.

Valdosta fans built their jubilation slowly after LaGrange jumped off to a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter after recovering a fumble on the Wildcat 31. It was the first time in two seasons the 'Cats have been behind in a football game.

They displayed their disapproval of the condition by scoring twice in the first quarter, three times in the second and once each in the third and fourth.

O'Neal scored on gallops of 86, 24 and 11 yards. Hughes broke away for touchdown runs of 54 and 75 yards. In addition, Maxwell Taylor intercepted a second quarter pass and ran 65 yards to a score on a darting run behind savage blocking and then turned in another interception run, this time for 45 yards, to set up the final score

Bobby Renfroe scored the other touchdown after Herbert Hardy intercepted a pass and ran it back to the LaGrange 16.

Other 'Cat shiners included Rabun Roberts, Ron Wetherington, Willie Webb, Billy and Fomby Hardin, Paul McNeil, Jacob Malham, Robert Taylor, Marcus Smith, Jimmy Dowling and Norman Bennett.

Valdosta had only five first downs but 365 yards in rushing —the only pass was from Wetherington to Taylor for a 16 - yard extra point — while LaGrange had 15 first downs, 105 yards rushing and 19 passing. A Mills to Dany Sherrer one - yard pass scored the LaGrange touchdown

Baze's Worst Season: 1963

The year 1963 was not the year of the Wildcat as the VHS team win two, lost seven and tied one.

Wins were over Baker of Columbus 6-0 and Warner Robins 23-0.

Losses were to Waycross 14-0, Jordan of Columbus 13-9, Albany 20-14, Columbus 52-19, Moultrie 32-0, Willingham of Macon 13-0 and LaGrange 20-0.

The tie was a 3-3 deadlock with Lanier of Macon.

Carroll Hardy of the Denver Broncos ticket office tells of the woman who called for tickets. He told her "we have good side line and good end zone tickets." The woman then asked, "Is that all?"

State Champs: 1956

Lights Went Out, But Didn't Matter

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The final three minutes and 36 seconds of the 1956 state Class AA championship game weren't played because of light failure but that didn't stop the Valdosta High Wildcats from nabbing the trophy via a 27-0 victory over Druid Hills.

Few people among the crowd of about 8,000 at Cleveland Field felt finishing the game would have been anything but torture for the visitors.

Pre - game predictions out of Atlanta said it would be Valdosta's offense versus Druid Hills defense. There was plenty of offense and defense all right, but Wright Bazemore's tremendous team had both of them.

Except for two long plays in the first quarter, Druid Hills never found anything to cheer about while the Wildcats put on a 75 - yard scoring drive in the second quarter, marched 68 yards for a TD in the third period then snapped up two quick ones in the final quarter.

Bazemore turned loose a brilliantly - balanced five-man backfield behind sensational blocking. Robert Johnson and Ben Smith were as tough as ever, but they didn't have to work as hard because of the effectiveness of Arthur Strom, Johnny Welch and the "fifth back," Mike White, who carried four important gains from the center keep.

Welch ran three yards for the first touchdown, Johnson scored the second on a 20 - yard journey, Smith made the third on a three - yard spurt and Strom completed it with a one - yard plunge.

Johnson was the leading ground gainer with 58 yards in 13 tries and completed seven of 10 passes for 104 yards.

All - State Stacy Burton led the losers in rushing with 31 yards in 10 attempts.

In all, the Wildcats had 312 yards total offense to 80 for the visitors. Druid Hills managed only four first downs and gave up 19 to the 'Cats.

Other 'Cat stars included guard Johnny Jones, tackle Gene Boone, linebackers Fred Riggs and Mike White and defensive back Strom, end Otis Fletcher, linebacker Harlmon Brooks and end Joe Tinsley, guard Jim Carroll, tackle Gene Bennett, tackle Bobby Hodge, tackle Jim Sears and halfback Dale Williams.

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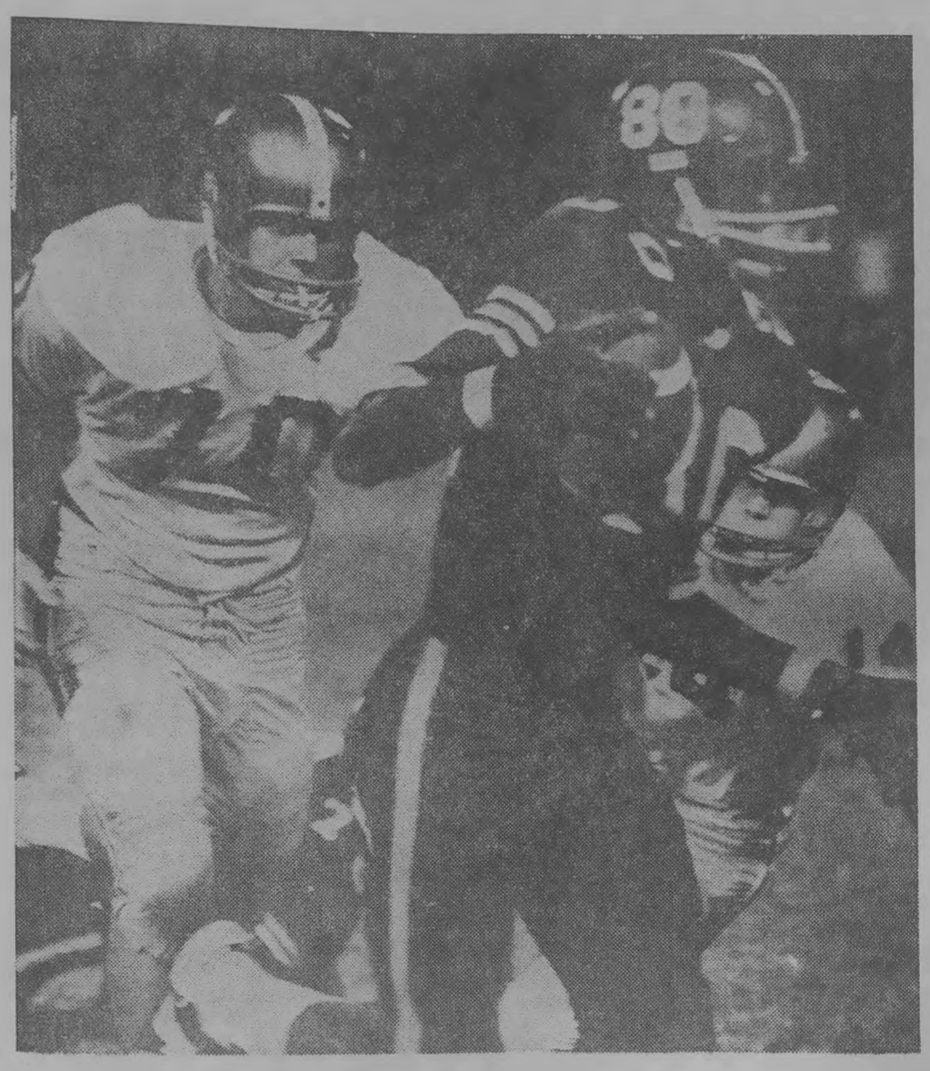


—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Monroe

Mike Everson (70) and Joe Mullis (14) put the skids on a Monroe back as they earned a 48-0 victory over the Golden Tornadoes from Albany. Valdosta picked up 24 first downs, 278 yards rushing and 127 yards passing. Monroe, a team with a reputation of being an offensive powerhouse, managed to muster only seven first downs, 86 yards rushing and 51 yards passing.

State Champs: 1952

WinOver LaGrange Was Spectacular

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdta Wildcats earned a brief st to sit back and count thei laurels after a tremendousecond - half effort that ga them a 30-0 victory over LaGrange and the 1952 Class state championship.

And briethe rest will be, for at 1 anDec. 13 Valdosta signed a ontract to play in the Columus Peanut Bowl New Year Day in a game which pulsthe best Georgia high schoolteam against an out of stte representative.

West Springfield Mass., had accepted a bid to the bowl previously.

LaGrange rolled onto Cleveland Field before 5,500 fans intent on knocking the Wildcats off the trail to their second straight state championship. Until the final two minutes of the first half they made a determined effort, but coach Wright Bazemore's men finally recovered from a case of jitters at that point and began their scoring splurge.

Red Fleming notched the first Cat touchdown from the three after a 64 - yard march in which Valdosta used 16 plays. The score at halftime stood 6-0.

The Wildcats then ran up the rest of their points on the kind of spectacular plays that Valdosta fans have come to expect. Bobby Renfroe struck with stunning swiftness in the third period as he took a pitchout, barrelled around left end, evaded tacklers, then outraced the last defender diagonally across the field to score the second touchdown in the far right corner of the end zone.

Sammy Hardin's tricky run added the third score from 27 yards out in the first play of the last period. Shortly thereafter, Hardins pass hit Walker for the fourth score. And on the next kickoff, Fomby Hardin notched the first touchdown in his Wildcat history.

John Driver took the boot on the 12 and attempted to reverse to Danny Sherer but the shift missed connections. Fomby gathered in the unattended pigskin at that point and went into the end zone unmolested.

The 'Cats point after tries were complete flops but nobody minded.

Leading the Valdosta defense which held LaGrange to only two frist downs, 50 yards rushing and 17 vards passing were James Warren, Paul McNeil, Herman Parramore, Jimmy Walker, Ray Moore, Larry Massey, Lee Greer, Earl Gober, the last two each intercepting a pair of LaGrange passes.

Also instrumental in the Wildcat attack which amassed 10 first downs, 333 vards rushing and 52 passing was halfback Noel George and end Wetherington.

State Champs: 1951

Wilson Raced Past Newnan

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Wing - footed Joe Wilson lustily led his Valdosta running mates as they punched and pushed their way to a satisfying 14-9 victory over eleven here before a thoroughly aroused crowd of 5,500 to gain the coveted 1951 state Class A football championship.

It was Wilson's deposit of his most outstanding performance, the winning touchdown and the spark of inspiration that, coupled with the magnificent defense and the stellar offensive attack, gave Valdosta the win in the most exciting contest of the season.

The gamboling left half topped off a 65 - yard drive in the initial scoring period with the touchdown that provided the tie - breaking and winning margins.

The Newnan Tigers went ahead early in the opening quarter as big Billy O'Dell, bruising fullback, capped a 56 - yard push. O'Dell converted.

Wayne Shaw, Valdosta's 135-pound dynamo, brought the match to 6-7 when he climaxed a 64 - yard advance with the Newnan kickoff. Charlie Hill made it even when he toed the conversion.

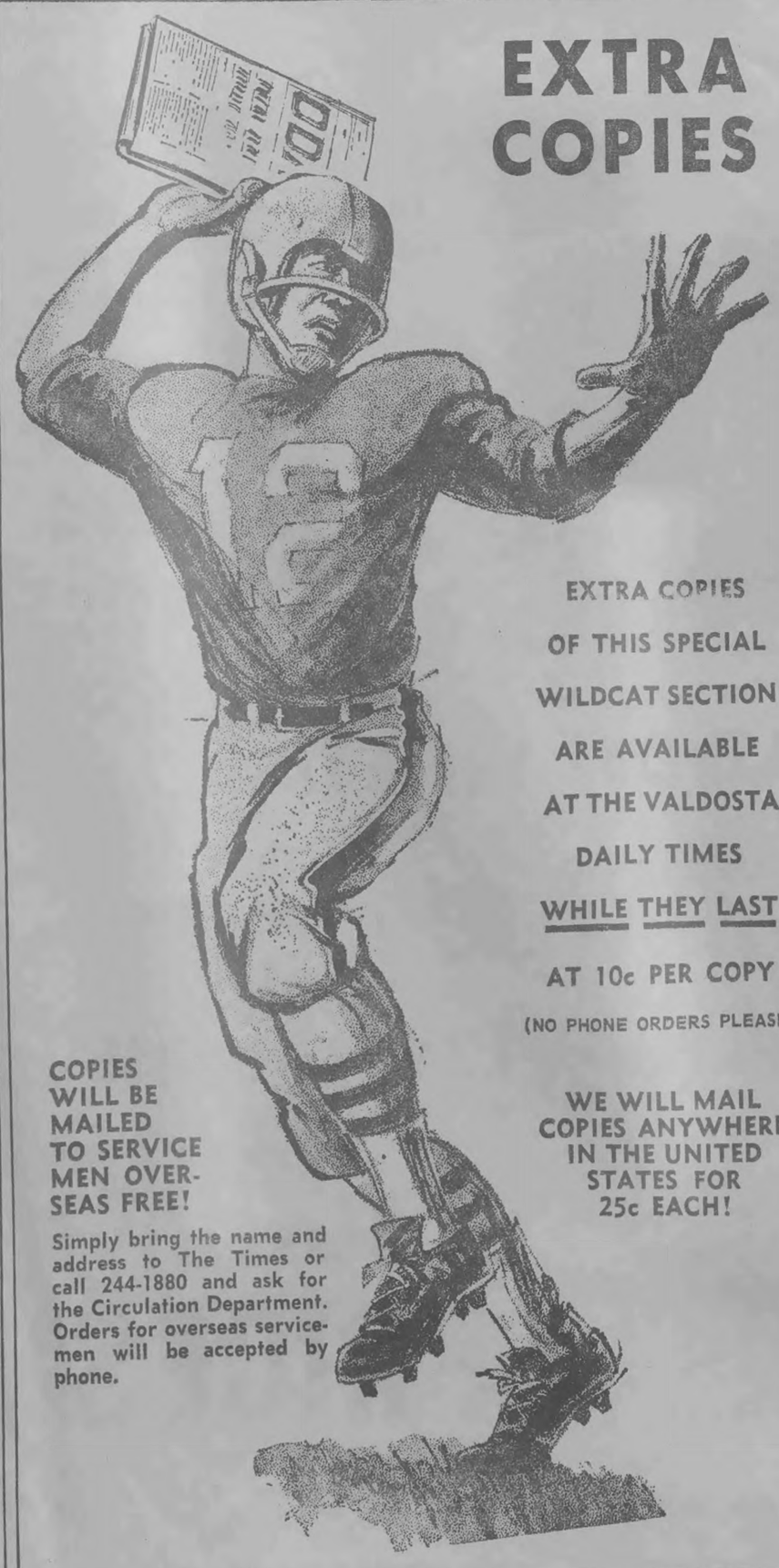
Newnan's strong defense accounted for two points in the second period when the Tigers broke through to down punting Bill Whitman in the Valdosta end zone.

But here, the Wildcat defense, after last night the best of any prep team in the state, took over and squelched any further Newnan threat. The winning touchdown came as Wilson, after runs by himself, Shaw and Bobby Renfroe, picked his way 27 yards and Hill again kicked the extra point.

Leading the defensive charge which held Newnan to seven first downs, 90 yards rushing and 73 passing were Jimmy Walker, Carl Jones, Billy Whitman, Ray Moore, Gary Phillips, Herman Parramore and James Warren.

And a fellow named Noel George saved an apparent Newnan touchdown by stopping 245-pound W A Glazier, who had blocked a punt, at the Wildcat eight only one play before time ran out.

Valdosta's offensive picked up seven first downs, 199 yards rushing and 15 passing.



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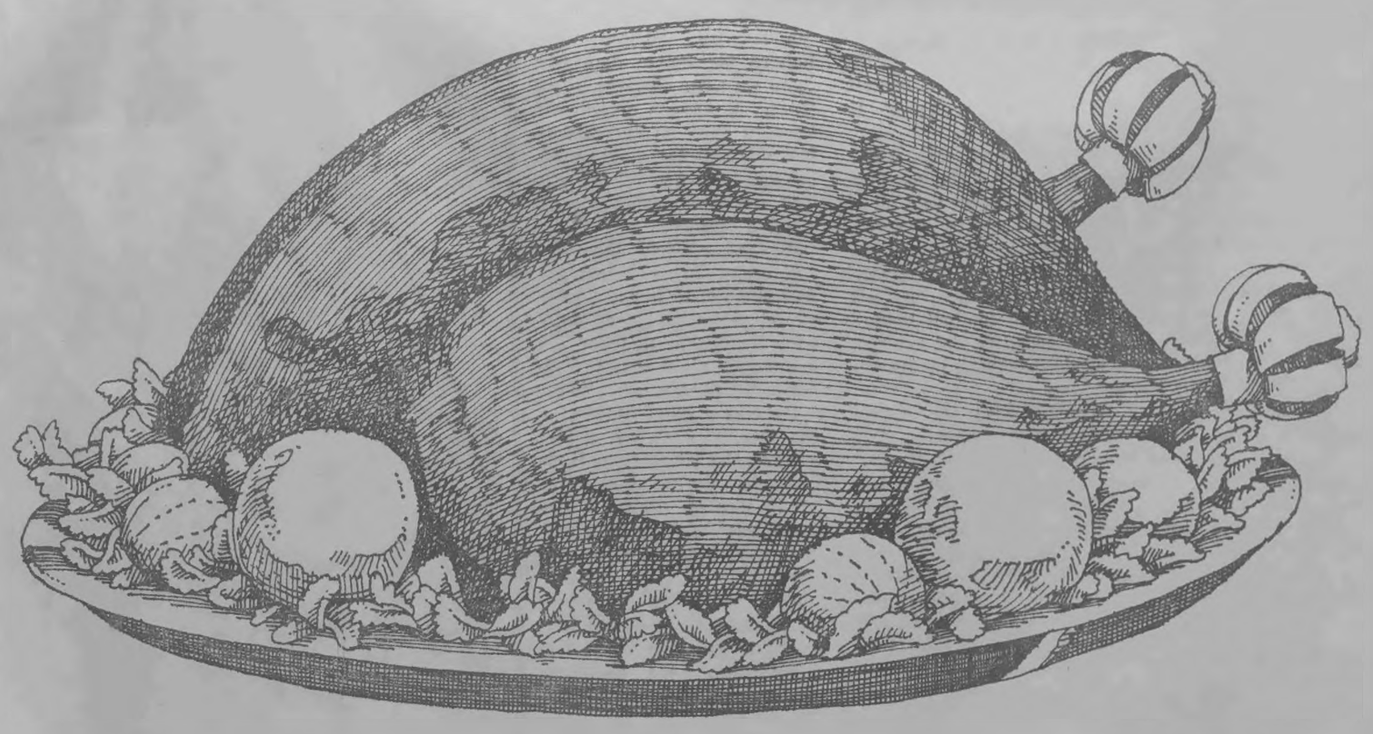

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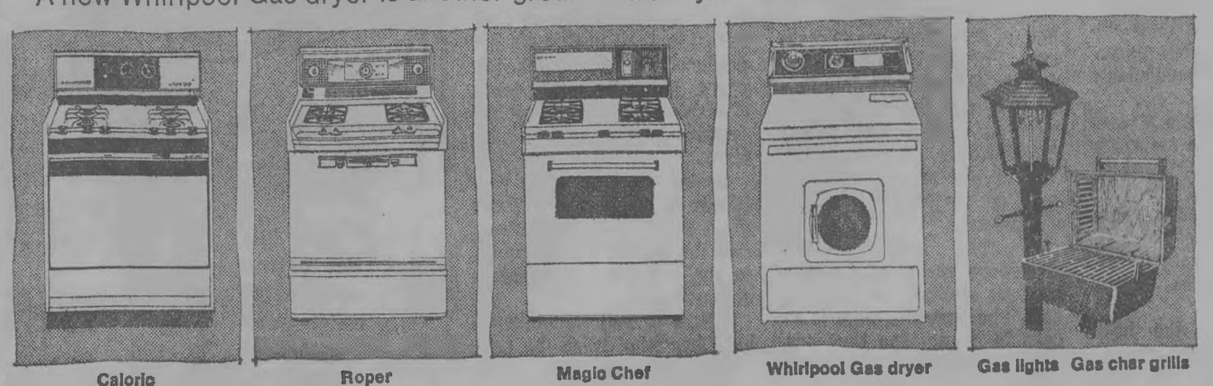

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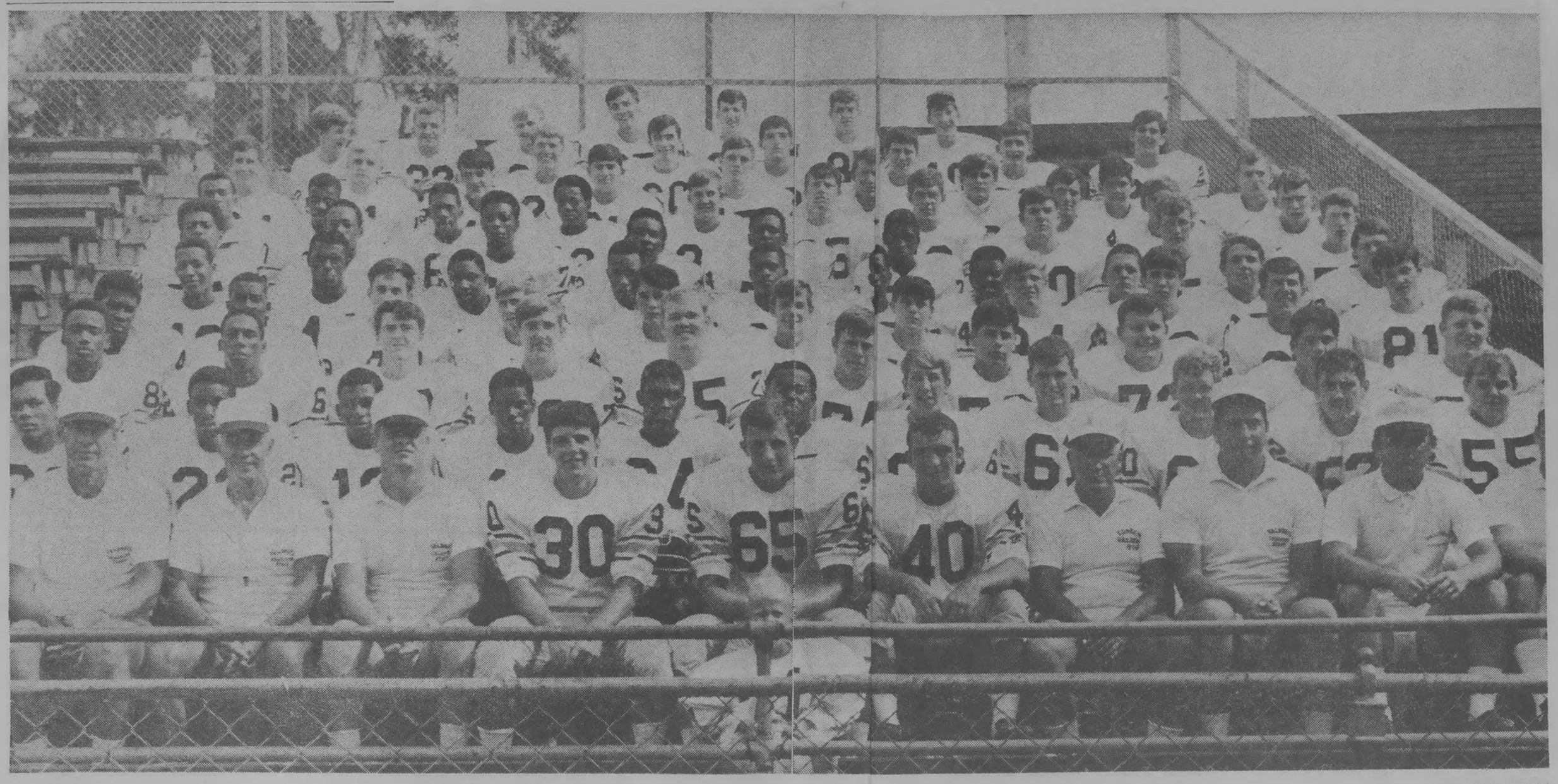

—Times Staff Photo

The 1969 Edition of the Valdosta High School Wildcats Heads into the State Championship Game Havig Won 12 Games, Scoring 407 Points and Limiting Opponents to Just Seven

They're Not Fans But Praise 'Cats

By WINK DEVANE

Perhaps they couldn't be called fans. But coaches of opposing teams this year are admirers of the Valdosta High School Wildcats.

None of the 10 regular season opponents' mentors had anything but praise for the team which blanked nine out of ten of the teams they faced, and allowed another opponent only seven points.

It could be the 'Cats were many different teams during the course of the season. Because each of the opposing coaches appeared to see the team in a different light.

Most agreed the Wildcats were deeper in talent this year than they have been in the past. Most attributed the increased depth to the merger of VHS with a previously all-Negro school, Pinevale.

"But tell me a year when they weren't deep," countered Albany High School head coach Harold Dean Cook "Coach (Wright) Bazemore has always had two or three teams he could throw at you."

Cook, whose Indians were defeated 28-0 by the 'Cats, was the only coach to express even the slightest misgivings about the team. He said they hadn't "jelled" the way past VHS teams did. They also made mistakes this year Wildcat teams generally don't make, said Cook.

"Usually Valdosta can kill you anytime they take a notion," Cook said, "but this year, they seemed to be having some troubles. This is probably due to the merger with the other school.

"Even so, they're far and away the best team in the state as far as I'm concerned."

Cook's crosstown rival. Luthor Welsh of Dougherty High School of Albany, disagreed. Welsh said the depth greatly enhanced the VHS team, both offensively and defensively.

"This is my fourth year of coaching in Georgia," Welsh said, "and this year's team is far superior to their other state championship teams. Their depth is particularly good."

Welsh's Trojans, a team with a lot of grit but not much depth, lost to the Cats 42-0.

Bud Willis, head coach of Moultrie High School's Packers, hit upon an asset the VHS team has that every other coach mentioned also. Coaching.

"I think they're the best coached team in the state," Willis said, "and their record speaks for itself. They have a tradition going for them that no other team in the state has.

"Like when they play us. It's a big game for both teams. But they've been under pressure so many times they don't choke."

Undeniably well - coached too, the Packers were blanked by Dosta 21-0.

Despite losses to VHS over the past few years, Willis said he would like to play the 'Cats twice next year, once here and once in Moultrie. With three region members moving to another region next year, 1-AAA is to have only nine teams in it. Willis said two games are possible if Bazemore is agreeable.

Even a losing coach can feel fortunate at times. Ray Dalton, head coach at Tift High School, saw his team put the only points on the board for VHS opposition this year. The seven points were scored in the third quarter of the Wildcat - Blue Devil contest in Tifton after a fumble on the VHS 10.

Though the outcome, a 28-7 victory for the 'Cats, was never in doubt, Dalton said all of Tifton was proud of the score.

He was also among the most complimentary of the opposition coaches, calling the Cats a "complete football team." Dalton added he did not spot a single weakness in the entire team.

"I only wish we played against everybody like we play against Valdosta." said Dalton, whose team lost the following week to then winless Coffee County.

John Stephens, head coach of the Coffee County Comets of Douglas, is to move his team to region 3-AAA next year. And it's doubtful he'll miss the annual contests with the Bazemore men. The loss this year was by a 46-0 margin.

Stephens said he can't see any reason why the team shouldn't go all the way to the state championship.

Two other coaches whose teams move out of the region next year had high praise for the 'Cats also. Clint Madray, Wayne County of Jesup's head coach, liked the depth and balance displayed this year by Valdosta. 'Dosta walloped Wayne 49-0.

The coach whose team received the worst licking handed out by VHS this year was one of the most complimentary. Phil Early, whose Ware County Gators were humilated 63-0, said he thought they were as good a high school football team as he's seen in four or five years. Maybe as good as the 1962 state champions.

"I don't believe Coach Bazemore really knows who his best athletes are," Early said, "because the team is so deep in talent. And they are far and away the best coached team I've seen this year."

Another contender for the title up until the last stages of the season was Monroe High School of Albany. But Winfred Benson's Golden Tornadoes left Cleveland Field shaking their heads over a 48-0 loss.

"If you're going to beat them," said Benson, "it has to be in the air. Nobody is going to run through that line."

Benson should know. His team's attack was built around Lester Sherman, who is recognized as one of the state's finest running backs. Sherman eventually ended up as the region's leading scorer, rusher, and return artist. But against the 'Cats, Sherman gained only 59 yards.

Head coach of Valdosta's crosstown rivals, Carlton Adams of the Lowndes High Vikings, said VHS does everything a football team is supposed to do. And they do it well.

"They block, tackle and pursue," said Adams, "and they're far better than any team we saw. Whoever beats them, if anyone does, will have to have an exceptional football team. One that's good, big and fast. And I'll tell you now a one man team doesn't stand a chance.

Injuries reduced the Vikings ranks during the season. And much of their hopes rested on the running of halfback Henry Otis Register. He had a good night against Valdosta, but the Vikes lost 40-0.

The closest game of the season was the first one, a 14-0 win over the Thomasville High Bulldogs. Coach Lee Forehand's charges proved the score was no fluke by going er to capture the Region 1-AA crown.

With his mind on playoff opponents coming up Forehand still took time out to pin a few roses on the only team to defeat his during the regular season.

"Just take all the adjectives that mean 'great' and you'll have my opinion of the Valdosta team," said Forehand. "It was by far the finest team we played all year, and I hope it is the finest we do play. We aren't proud of the score, but I believe that's the best we played all year.

The names of three players cropped up in almost all the coaches conversations. They were Don Golden, Tom Holt and Danny O'Neal.

Holt was praised by most as the finest linebacker high school football in Georgia has produced in the past few years. More than one coach cited him for outstanding defensive work against his team.

Golden was praised in particular by Dalton and Willis ("All he did was stand there and throw the ball 60 yards in the air for a completion against us.")

O'Neal is well remembered by Early who called the senior running back "one of the finest in the state."

Other names cropped up too. Each coach seemed to have a particular Wildcat player in mind who had an outstanding game against his team. For one it was the defensive tackles. But another would disagree. It was the pass receivers. Or the guards. The defensive ends. Or the offensive tackles.

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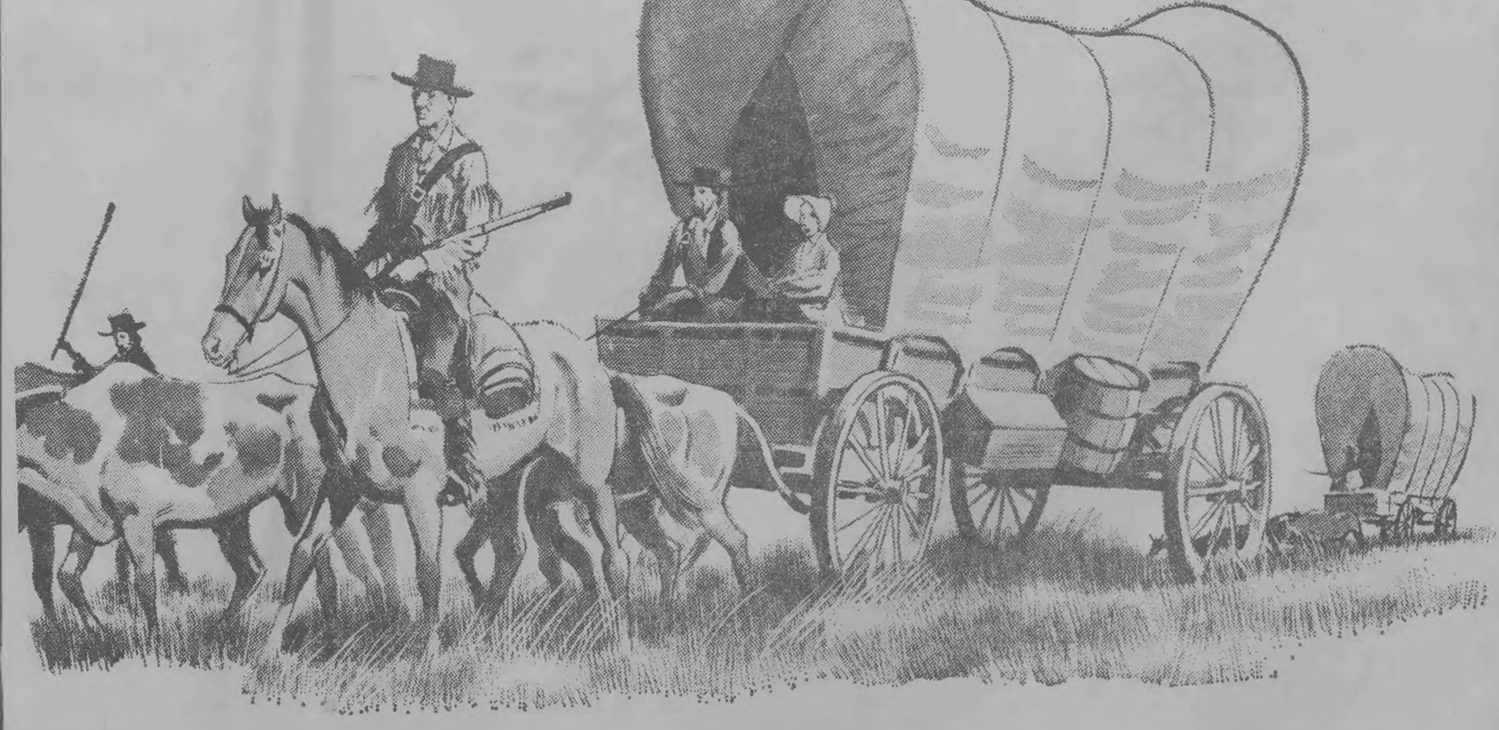

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He Never Knew He'd Back 'Cats

By JULIAN MILLER



EARL MAYO
Emergencies Too

Thirty - six years ago when Earl Mayo was in his senior year at Thomasville High school in Thomasville, the very last thing he expected to wind up as was a Wildcat fan in Valdosta, Ga., but he did.

Now Mayo is perhaps one of the biggest Wildcat fans ever. But he never gets to relax and watch the game anymore — He's too busy keeping everything in order in the Cleveland field press box.

Mayo arrives at home Wildcat football games around 6 p.m., two hours before game time. He stays constantly busy helping radio stations install equipment, passing out programs and information and making sure everyone who had a legitimate reason for being in the press box is comfortable.

"If you would have told me I would be living in Valdosta and would be a big Wildcat fan 30 years ago, I would have probably busted you in the mouth," Mayo jokes. "I can still remember coming over here all steamed up and then cringing with fear when the Wildcats came out on the field.

"Now, even though I have never had a son on the team yet, I feel like the 'Cats are my team, and I want to do everything I can for them."

The 54 - year - old Cat fan admits there is an awful lot of work to the job but persists it does not really seem like an obligation on his part. It is something he really enjoys doing. He does it for nothing too.

"I got the job about two years ago," Mayor explained, "when the board of education said 'Earl, take that press box and make a good impression on all the visitors with it.' And that's what I've tried my best to do.

"Before, the Valdosta policy was to keep everyone who didn't have a definite reason and advanced permission to be there out. This led to some hard feelings because many press and radio officials and other school scouts didn't remember to call early for permission.

"As a result, most of the chairs were left empty while people who should have been in the press box were left out in the stands.

"But I've made up my mind. As long as there is an open seat in that press box and someone with any legitimate reason for being in it, they will sit in the press box.

"I don't want anybody going home and saying anything but good about the Wildcats and Valdosta. We had over 40 people in the press box during the Lanier game and the phone calls started coming in early Saturday morning for seats for the Savannah game," he said.

"I had talked to a couple of merchants in Valdosta and to the Touchdown Club about helping support a coffee and donut stand in the press box. It worked out fine and only cost the TD club about three dollars. I believe that showed the visitors we were really nice people around here."

Mayo used a large coffee maker from his own store, United Rent-Alls, free of charge.

This job was not the first Mayo donated to the Valdosta school system. He served a six - year term on the Valdosta Board of Education in 1959-66, served as president of the VHS Athletic Association, as president of the Basketball Booster's club in 1960 and ran the public address system for eight years.

His daughter, Mary Ann Mayo, was a starting guard on the VHS Kitten squad in 1959-61.

Apparently it's not just Valdosta Mayo likes. He seems to enjoy just working with and for kids. He ran the P A. system in Thomasville for 15 years between 1935 and 1950 and was a high school football and basketball official for over 25 years.

"I just love kids," Mayo explained.

The coffee and donuts were not the only changes Mayo made in the press box. At the start of the 1969 season he contacted several banks in Valdosta with the idea of sponsoring someone to call in the scores of other games of interest around the area so Cat fans could find out what next week's competition was doing while watching the game here.

Mayo's efforts do not go unnoticed. He has a file of letters from other school officials thanking him for his help during their stay in Valdosta.

One of the rules that must be upheld during the games is that the press box telephone should not be used unless the call is official or an emergency. Since the phone is in the press box, it is up to Mayo to decide if an "emergency" is really an emergency.

He remembers one night last year when some guy came running up to the box as fast as he could yelling 'where's the phone. . .where's the phone?"

"Is it an emergency?" Mayo asked.

"I'll say it is!" the man shouted, "My wife is out in the car having a baby!"

That was emergency enough for Mayo. The man got to use the phone.

'Cats Were 11-1 But Again Were State Champions

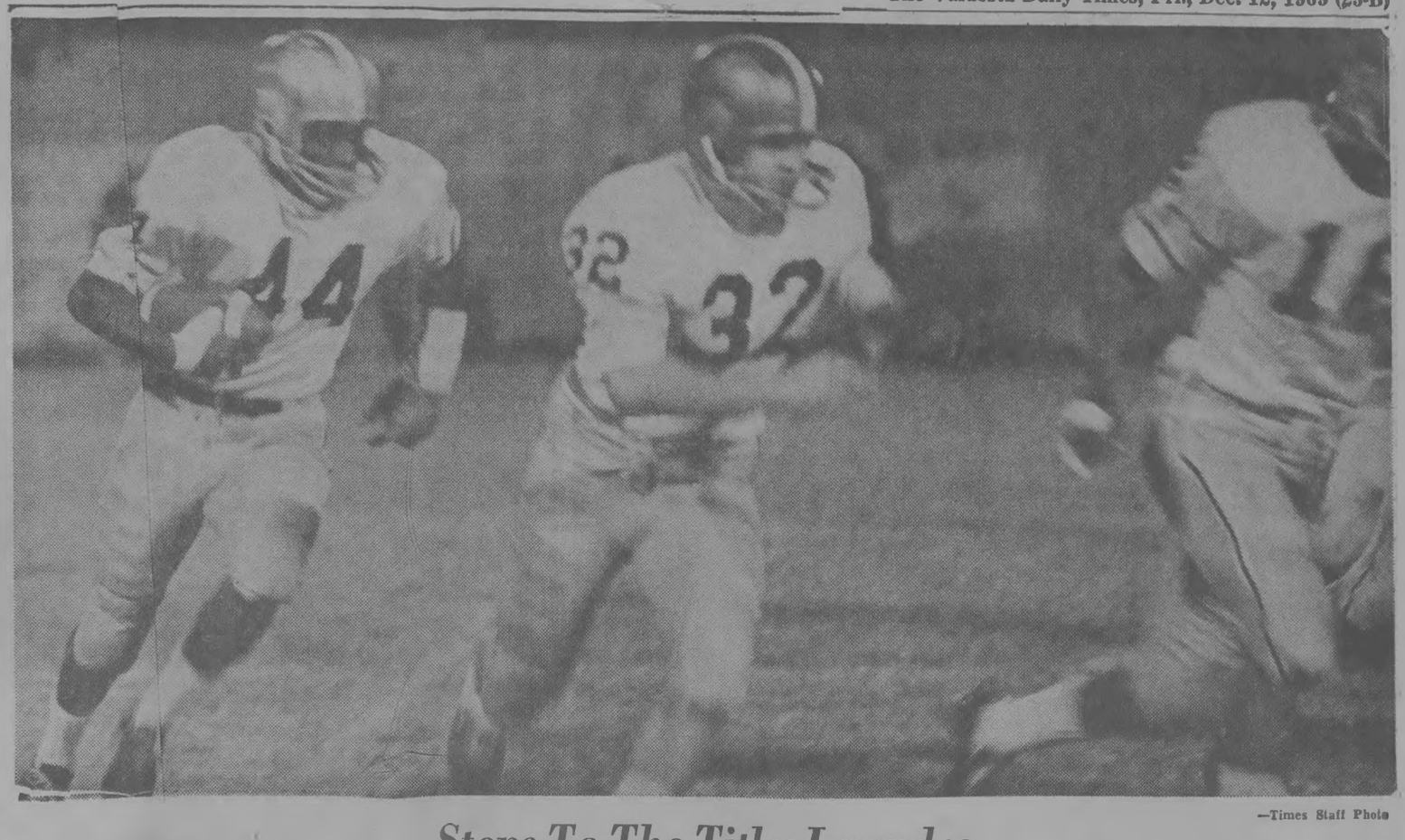
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Despite a loss midway the season, the 1966 Wildcats rallied their forces and went to capture a State Class AAA championship.

In regular season play VHS pinned defeats on Waycross 27-13, Baker of Columbus 49-6, Dougherty of Albany 19-6, Jordan of Columbus 27-7, Lanier of Macon 14-0, Moultrie 34-6, Willingham of Macon 27-7, Tift County 21-6 and LaGrange 20-0.

The lone loss was to Albany 6-0.

Playoff triumps were over Jenkins of Savannah 16-7 and Marietta 14-3.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To The Title: Lowndes

Wildcats' Willie Jones (16) and Danny O'Neal (32) lead interference as junior Charles Daniels (44), a 190-pound halfback, goes for long yardage in the Lowndes High game which Valdosta won, 40-0. Valdosta got 12 first downs, 221 yards rushing and 99 yards through the air. The outmanned Vikings had nine first downs, 68 yards rushing and 10 yards passing.

'Cats See Red, Drop Elephants For 1947 Crown

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A great Valdosta High School football team fought magnificently to turn back a strong challenge by the Gainesville High School Red Elephants 24-12 to win the 1947 state championship, the second in the school's history.

Gainesville, winners of the North Georgia Football Association, and Valdosta, which had defeated Albany for the South Georgia Football Association crown, gave some 5,000 spectators four quarters of the most thrilling high school football seen in these parts in many a year.

Valdosta scored exactly twice as many points as had been previously tallied against Gainesville this season. The Wildcats scored in every quarter, while Gainesville reached pay dirt in the second period and again in the early moments of the third quarter, the latter tally knotting the count at 12 all.

Sonny Stephenson, Pat Brooks, Charley Jordan and Billy Grant gained at will through the supposedly impenetrable Gainesville forward wall.

A drive, which started on the Valdosta 48, was climaxed by Brooks leap for the score from the one, after some nifty running by Jordan and Stephenson.

A second score came in the next period when long runs by Brooks, Stepnenson and Grant featured a sustained 81-yard drive with Stephenson plowing over from the one.

Gainesville marched to their first score after the Valdosta kickoff. Marvin Free made the points on an end run. A Jack Roberts to Jimmy Hulsey pass tied the game in the third period.

Valdosta's other two scores came on a run by Stephenson and a pass from Grant to Jimmy Metcalf.

Leading the Valdosta defense were Donald Jenkins, Sammy Register, Ralph Allen, Bubber Tillman, Louis Goodin, Pete Smith, Bryan Green, Raymond Burkett and Jack (Bunker) Hill. Other 'Cats included Tom Davis, Glenn Dowling, Bob Walker, Tommy Todd, Earl Meyer, Archie Griffin, Buford Joiner.

Valdosta had 16 first downs, 198 yards rushing and 108 yards passing to six first downs, 83 yards rushing and 83 yards passing for Gainesville.

Immediately following the triumph, which brought the grid crown back to VHS, local fans began comparing this year's champs to Bobby Hooks' state titlists in 1940. Some "experts' contend that the Hooks eleven was more "endurable," while others believe that the 1947 Bazemore coached aggregation is more spectacular.

Records show the 1947 team is by far the more powerful from an offensive standpoint, but the defense of the comparative teams are about the same.

The Valdosta line and backfield this season will outweigh the 1940 squad with the exception of one position, "Big" Lou Blanton's tackle slot. Blanton, scaling 250 pounds during his senior year, "counters" the 1947-200 pounders, Register, Green and Allen.

Michigan State averaged 70,426 fans for each of its five home football games during 1969.



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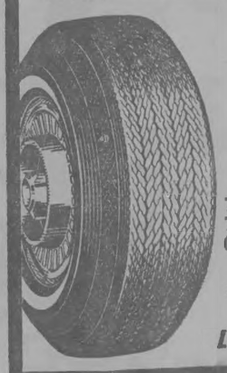

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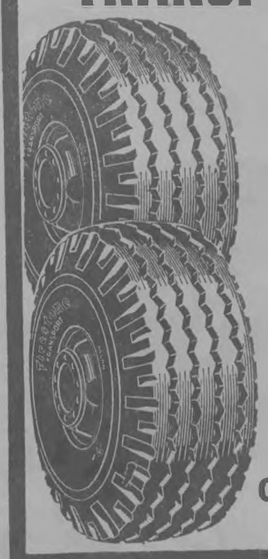

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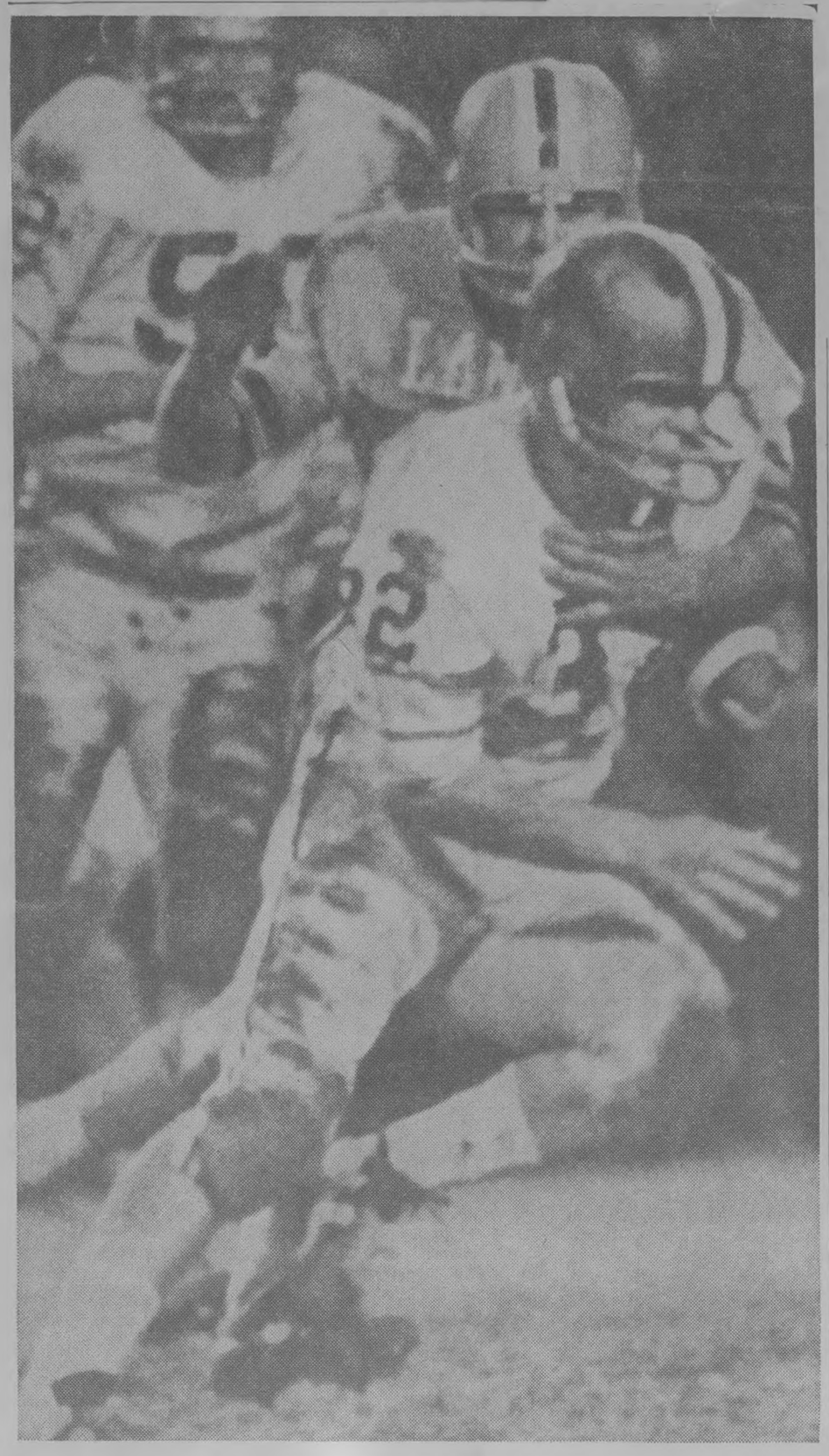

Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Lanier

Fullback Danny O'Neal, Valdosta's leading scorer, digs for extra yardage as the Wildcats walloped Lanier of Macon, 23-0. O'Neal has scored 120 points in 12 games, including 11 touchdowns. He was a mainstay in the Lanier game in which the 'Cats won the first round of the state playoffs. Valdosta had 16 first downs, 208 yards rushing and 133 yards passing. Lanier had three first downs, 53 yards rushing and 45 yards passing.

'Cats First State Title Was In 1940

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats won their first state championship under Coach Bobby Hooks in 1940, only the fourth year there was such a thing as a state championship.

It was one of those seasons the 'Cats were flying high and beating everything that came into their path by the kind of scores which have given them one of the most respected names in state prp grid circles.

The finale cam on Dec. 20 when the Wildcas played Cedartown at Albany in the state championhip game and trounced th North Georgians by a 21-0 score.

In those day there were only two state classifications with the 'Cats playing in the lower one, considered Class "B". The highe classification was composed of larger schools from Savannah, Columbus, Macon, Atlanta and Augusta.

On the way to the top that year Valdosta beat Camilla (7-0), Dixie (39-0), Nashville 62-0), Americus (32-2), Fitzgerald (25 0), Waycross (26-0), Bainbridge (7-0, Thomasville (13-0), Albany (19-6) and Moultrie (32-12).

Tifton was chosen by committee of the south Georgia Football Association to oppose the Wildcats for the South Georgia Championship, and the Valdostans beat the Blue Devils by a 13-0 count.

A week later they came through with their first state championship. It was a thing unheard of until four years earlier when the South Georgia Football Association was formed.

The first state championship team was led by quarterback Knuck McCrary, who was the head coach at Moultrie for a number of years until his death from a heart attack about four years ago.

Another on the squad was halfback Joe Davis, who was killed during World War II. His jersey has been retired.



"He's OVER for a touchdown!"

Along with the tremendous pride we have for the Valdosta High School Wildcats over the years, we want to express our whole-hearted thanks and congratulations to the Cats and their coaches in their unbelievable achievements and pledge our full support for another State AAA Championship! But win or lose, they have scored a great success for the Valdosta community.

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— Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Savannah

High stepping Wildcat Willie Jones Finds The Savannah Blue Jacket Defense a tough nut to crack as he goes through the line. The game in which the 'Cats won the South Georgia Championship this year, 20-0, was Willie's finest hour. A first stringer all season, Willie snagged six passes for a total of 174 yards and three touchdowns. The Valdostans had 13 first downs, 77 yards rushing and 209 yards passing. Savannah picked up 5 first downs, 130 yards on the ground and seven yards on passes.

Valdosta Touchdown Club Has Come Far In 24 Years

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Touchdown Club, dedicated to aiding the development of the Valdosta High School Wildcats, is now 24 years old. And it's 23 times larger then it was when it started.

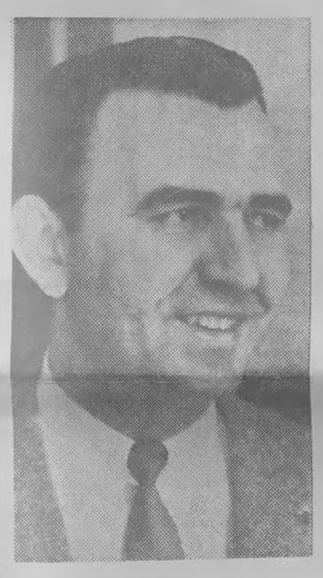
Charter member and former club president Dr. Joe B. Crane said the initial membership totalled about 40. The first big project was sponsoring a summer camp for the team. Crane said it was held at the National Guard Armory.

Current club president David Waller said things are a little different now. The club boasts a membership of more than 900. And the projects have expanded a little.

The club still sponsors a summer football camp for the team, said Waller. But now it's held at the 4-H Club Camp at Twin Lakes 10 miles south of here.

In addition to sponsoring the camp, Waller said, the TD club furnishes supplemental meals to team members during the football season. They sponsor a fish fry for the club and team during the spring of each year.

Another club activity Waller listed is the Annual Awards Banquet where outstanding team members are cited for their play. And the club sponsors the annual Has-Been Football Game at which graduating team members play against next year's team.



DAVID WALLER
President Now

Waller also said members meet each week during the season to view the films of the previous Friday night's football game. Coach Wright Bazemore is always on hand to narrate.

But the most important activity of the club isn't connected with finances, said Waller. The booster club acts as liaison between the team and the community.

If the team has a game scheduled, Waller said, the club takes it upon itself to build up community enthusiasm. The large number of banners and signs prior to playoff games this year were largely due to TD club prodding, he added.

Bumper stickers, lapel pins and pennants are also standard fare for important games, Waller said.

The vigor of the club is not determined by the kind of season the team is having. Waller pointed out. In 1963 when the 'Cats were experiencing one of the worst seasons in their history, the club was as active as in other years.

"There's one big difference in our club and similar clubs I know of," said Waller. "And that difference is that our club is dedicated to helping the team in any way we can.

"Most of the others I know of are for the benefit of the members. I believe our club is the largest single factor outside of the coaches and players in the success of football here."

The membership makes it the largest high school booster club in the state, Waller said. And he knows of only one club in Florida with a larger membership.

"Lake City has 1,000 members," said Waller, "but their dues aren't but $1 so I don't count them.

Annual dues are $10, he said. Included is the price of attending the weekly movies and attendance at the awards banquet.

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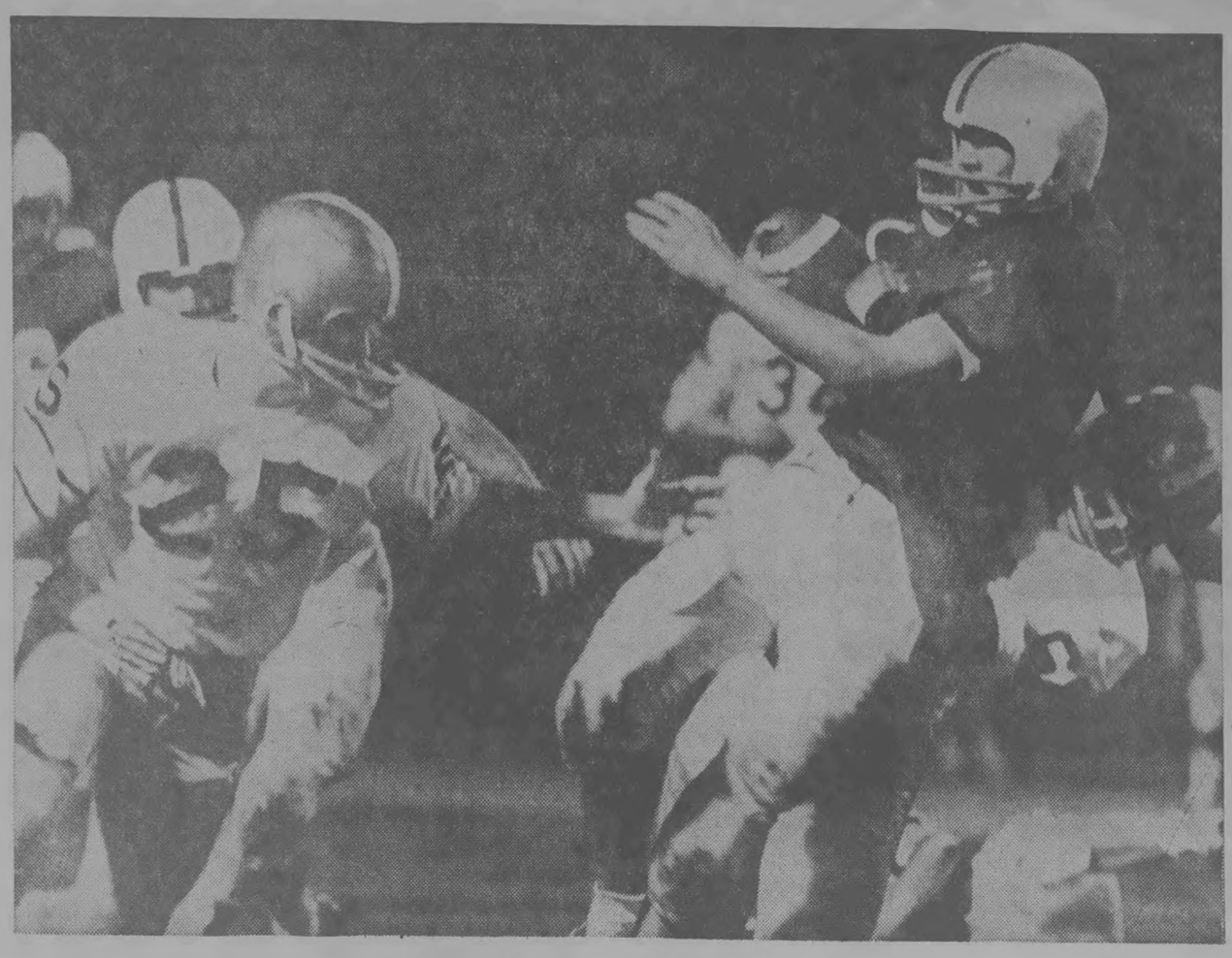
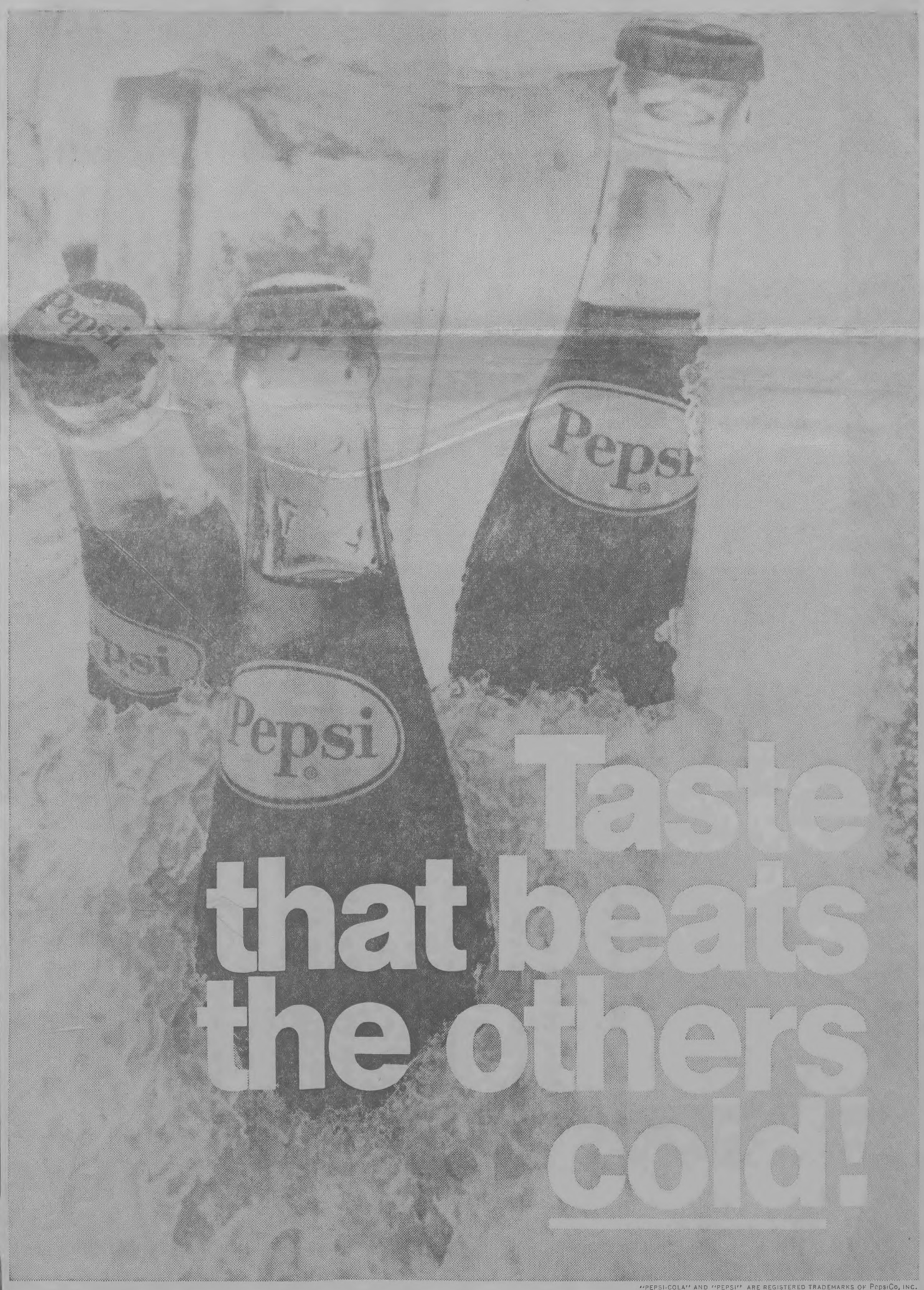


VALDOSTA WILDCATS

The Team That Beats The Others, COLD



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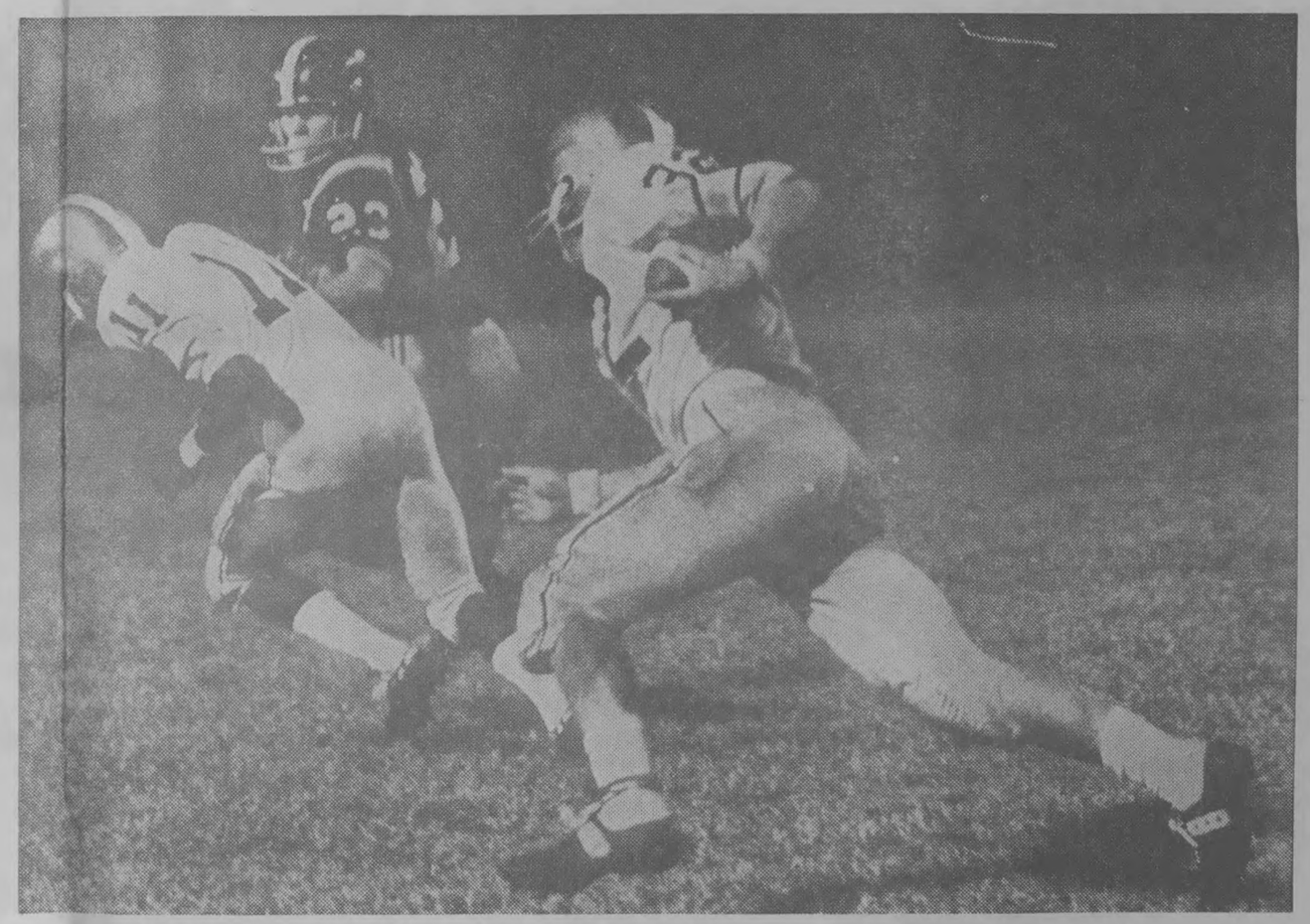

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'Cats, Jackets Tangle Tonight

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats hope to avoid an "ambush" and keep riding down a trail they've been following for quite a spell when they duel the Wayne County (Jesup) Yellow Jackets here tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats have been moving down the victory trail since they won their final game in 1967. They now have a string of 16 straight triumphs.

AREA GRID SLATE

Tonight

Wayne at Valdosta
Brooks at Turner
Irwin at Clinch
Wakulla at Madison
P.K. Yonge at Hamilton

Saturday

Berrien at Lowndes

To add the 17th link to their victory chain, the Cats must get by coach Clinch Madray's Jackets in a Region 1-AAA outing set for 8 o'clock here tonight at Cleveland Field.

In other area action slated for tonight, Brooks County (Quitman) will be at Turner County (Ashburn), Irwin County (Ocilla) at Clinch County (Homerville), Wakulla County at Madison and P. K. Yonge (Gainesville) at Hamilton County (Jasper).

On Saturday night, Lowndes' Vikings are to host the Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) Rebels in a game here at Martin Field. One area team, Cook (Adel), has an open date this week and will be idle.

In tests so far this year Valdosta has beaten non-league foe Thomasville (14-0) and has licked 1-AAA opponent Dougherty (42-0). In Wayne's only start, the Jackets bowed to Waycross, 39-6.

But Bazemore has told the 'Cats that Wayne "is much stronger than the score of its game with Waycross might seem to indicate." He's cautioned the Valdostans not to "get caught with their damper down."

Coach Buddy Ethridge's Brooks Tigers (2-0) will be going for their third straight win in their first Region 1-B battle against the Turner County Rebels at Ashburn tonight. Brooks has beaten Cook (10-8) and Thomasville Central (8-7), while Turner bowed to Worth (26-14) in its only game.

Coach John Roboins' Clinch Panthers and Irwin's Indians will put matching 2-0 records on the line when they collide at Homerville in an important Region 2-B game. Clinch has trimmed Atkinson (22-6) and Patterson (8-6) while Irwin has sailed by Bacon (29-6) and Charlton (26-0).

Coach Brooks Barber's Madison Red Devils and coach Wayne Floyd's Hamilton Rebels will be opening their 1969 campaigns at home tonight. Madison duels Wakulla County and Hamilton faces P. K. Yonge.

Other games of interest include the following:

Tonight — Albany at Monroe, Mary Pearson at Americus, Spencer at Appling, Jeff Davis at Appling County, Patterson at Atkinson, Fitzgerald at Bacon, Bainbridge at Crisp, Ballard-Hudson at Warner Robins, Wilcox at Blackshear, Westover at Cairo.

Frenandina Beach at Camden, Thomasville Central at Thomasville, LaGrange at College Park, Northside at Columbus, Perry at Dodge, Lanier at Mark Smith, Randolph at Miller, Pelham at Mitchell Tift at Moultrie and Waycross at Ware.

Saturday—Coffee at Dougherty and Hardaway at Willingham.

SAMMY Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats, Vikings Seen As Victors

Even though I showed some improvement with my football predictions last week, I'm not likely to become overconfident.

I've had a look at this week's high school and college schedules and you better believe they're top-heavy with tough-to-figure outings.



GLASSMAN

Anyway, I tried to forecast 19 prep tilts last week. I was right 15 times and wrong four times for a .789 mark. That helped my average for the season some, boosting it to 22-11—.667. That, however, still isn't anything to brag about.

Okay, let's try it again. I'll start with the high school games and get around to my college picks later.

* * * * *

VALDOSTA VS WAYNE — Valdosta's Wildcats are 2-0 and Wayne County's Yellow Jackets are 0-1. VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore has warned the 'Cats not to get caught with their damper down tonight here at Cleveland Field. I think the Wildcats will respond with a victory.

* * * * *

VHS Grid Meet Slated Friday

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A meeting of Valdosta High football candidates has been scheduled for 5:30 p.m., here Friday at the school.

The Wildcats are to begin pre-season practice on Monday when they go to the 4-H Club Camp at Twin Lakes.

"We're having the meeting Friday to make plans for going to camp on Monday," VHS assistant coach Charlie Greene said.

The Wildcats' camp, as in the past, will be sponsored by the Valdosta Touchdown Club.

The 1970 PGA championship will be played at the Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla.



JIM HUNT
Assistant Principal

VJHS Has 'Lot Going' This Year

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The seventh and eight grades are the most formative years of education and most exciting in school children, believes Jim Hunt.

Hunt, 32, is the new assistant principal at Valdosta Junior High School. He is replacing Jack Coffee, who now is assistant principal at the Valdosta High School - Pinevale Campus for ninth graders.

"I took this job because these years are so important in a child's education. There will be a lot going on at junior high school this year including a different type of curriculum and attitude," said Hunt.

The 32-year-old Moultrie native said he and principal Lloyd Mims want to raise the opinion level many people have about VJHS.

"The school isn't a place parents should be afraid to send their children. We're going to offer excellent instruction and have a good environment," said Hunt.

The assistant principal is working on his masters degree at Georgia Southern College in Statesboro. He was a teacher and coach at Hahira Junior High School in the Lowndes County system here for three years.

He and his wife have on child and are members of the Park Avenue Methodist Church. Hunt was a lieutenant in the National Guard and has worked in the [illegible] department at Tif-

Rides For School Kids

He's Remapping Bus Routes

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The city bus service here normally operates two vehicles during the school year to haul students to and from classes. But operator Clarence Price says he might have to put on another bus this fall because of the school consolidation.

Some students have been taking advantage of the bus service for several years because of the 10 cents a one way ride charge Bus fares are controlled by the city.

"We offer a special price to the school children. Some have a long ways to go to school and appreciate the ride. We appreciate the business and are glad to help out," said the bus operator.

His privately owned buses are to make two trips to the Valdosta High School - Pinevale Campus each morning. There is to also be service to Valdosta Junior High School.

"We'll pick'em up in the afternoons, too. We'll get'em to school and back," said Price.

He explained that the bus routes are now being mapped out at his headquarters in the old Zant's service station on N. Ashley St.

"Any parent or student who's interested in what streets we'll be covering and the time should call me or come on down and talk to me," he said.

"We don't stop at houses but we'll stop at corners on our route where there are children. We'll take as many as is safe aboard the bus and when that gets full, we'll make another haul," said the bus operator.

The Valdosta schools are an independent system and the State Department of Education does not provide funds for stuent transportation.

School officials here say Price's bus service could be a big boost to families this year under the consolidation plan.

All the 10th, 11th and 12th graders are to attend VHS and the ninth graders are to be housed at the VHS-Pinevale Campus this fall. The seventh and eighth graders are to be at VJHS.

"I've had quite a few people to call me about the bus service and I expect more will call before school opens. Kids have got to get to school and we want to help," said Price.

Sugar Bowl

VHS Band Shines

By MARTHA EVANS

The countdown began. Thousands of voices jointed the chant. "Ten, nine, eight. . . we have a liftoff!" the announcer roared as a fireworks rocket headed for a fireworks moon.

Astronaut Mike Collins watched from a platform in Sugar Bowl Stadium at New Orleans and the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats knelt on the sidelines as a man and U. S. flag appeared on the moon.

The colorful pyrotechnic display followed a halftime performance by the Marchin' Cats which drew cheers from the crowd and a compliment from Col. Collins.

"He said It's a great halftime or something to that effect when I shook his hand," band director Frank Butenschon said.

The band made its halfitme entrance playing a Spanish march, "Macarena."

"We wanted to hit'em with all the sound we could," Butenschon described the effect he sought from the jazz introduction which followed the march.

The guillotine, or deadman, drills of "Mardi Gras '69" drew the loudest cheers from the Sugar Bowl audience.

The drills require that bandsmen duck at just the right moment to avoid the guillotine effect of a rapidly spinning instrument.

With all heads. instruments and cap lights intact, the Marchin' Cats moved into a lights-out formation of the Apollo 11 module.

The stadium changed suddenly from an ordinary concrete shell to an awesome galaxy lit by match and cigarette stars. The Apollo 11 outline glowed on the field as the band played the "2001" theme.

"I was wondering whether or not we could get the kids' attention to play," said Butenschon. "They were standing there with their mouth open."

The band exited and the fireworks display began.

As the American flag faded from the moon and the last sparks drifted down, beer and hot dog vendors resumed their sales, and the Houston Oilers and New Orleans Saints, their battle.

The Marchin' Cats moved to their bleacher seats and Collins and his wife, Pat, left to catch a plane.

"It wasn't too long ago I spent a day at the moon and today I spent a day in New Orleans," Collins had addressed the crowd. "Believe me, there's no comparison."

The Marchin' Cats could say the same thing about a typical weekend in Valdosta and their hectic weekend in New Orleans: "Believe me, there's no comparison."

Leaving Thomasville Friday night after the Wildcat victory, the four - bus caravan reached New Orleans at sunrise. The Marchin' Cats slept while their chaperones worked in shifts to get more than 100 wrinkled gold uniforms ironed for the night's performance at the Sugar Bowl.

The afternoon rehearsal was a kaleidoscope of confusion. A small choir sat on the sidelines waiting to rehearse the National Anthem with the band. The Mam'selles, a choreography group sponsored by the Saints, gyrated and giggled in a corner.

A football player practiced place kicking at one end of the field while an unconcerned maintenance man trimmed the boxwood around the platform for the astronaut and other dignitaries. The platform was decorated with topiary trees of red. white and blue carnations.

Rehearsal time ran out and supper was served, but not eaten, in a Tulane cafeteria. Then, freshly ironed and spit-polish perfect, the Marchin' Cats entered Sugar Bowl Stadium for their pregame performance.

Col. Collins, in a gray suit and blue shirt, and his wife, wearing a red dress, circled the field in a carnation-decked convertible.

The convertible slowed in front of the band as Lucy Stewart and Benny Colson, drum majors, saluted Collins, who acknowledged the Marchin' Cats with a wave and a smile.

Back-To-School With Change

As in most everything else that is happening around us, this year is a year of great change for the public schools of this area.

The character of area schools will be changed most by the implementation of desegregation rules. The Valdosta schools, for instance, will be operating as completely desegregated units in the junior high and high school grades.

Lowndes County's schools begin a two-year program this year toward total desegregation. To implement this change, a giant building program is to begin in the county system.

In other area systems, the racial character of schools are being changed under federal rules and regulations.

Also significant, though less dramatic, is change in pupil-teacher relationships being instituted by the school systems. Great emphasis is being placed on upgrading instructional standards.

Pupils are being classified and placed on instructional levels which are dents. All along the line emphasis is being placed on upgrading the quality of education these young people receive.

In addition, it is costing more to operate the schools. Taxpayers are going to have to dig deeper to provide the additional local finances necessary for the schools' operation.

These are some of the changes that are going on in our public schools. There are others, some minor in nature, some that will surface later.

What is happening is an attempt to fill a need. It is a cooperative effort of almost all in our society toward the educational nourishment of our young people. It is a gigantic effort to equip them to move into an ever increasingly complicated society.

Much of what is happening in the public schools is outlined in a special back-to-school section of today's edition of The Valdosta Daily Times. We recommend this as good reading toward an



— Times Staff Photo

'Okay, I'm Sold': Marvin Evans Reaches for Cash to Buy Cushions from Eager Students

Cushioned Support

Boosters Help VHS Band

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Boosters of the Valdosta High School band are selling school support in the form of gold stadium cushions with a wildcat picture on the front.

Chuck Northcutt, Booster Club president, said 1,000 cushions made of a synthetic material are being sold for $2 each by band members, boosters and some Valdosta merchants.

"The cushions identify VHS as the home of AAA state champs and the Marching Cats as the Greatest Band in Dixie.

"One side is filled with ads and good wishes from Valdosta merchants. And we'll be selling them in shopping centers and in the band room as long as they last," he said.

The money from sales is to be used to finance trips for the 125 band members.

"The kids will be going to band camp Aug. 24 - 30 at Laura S. Walker State Park near Waycross," said Northcutt.

"The boosters came up with the idea to lend support to the band and Mrs. Pierce Snider Jr. has been in charge of handling the project," he said. "The community has shown great support for the Marching Cats who have been practicing at the stadium since July."

Northcutt doesn't expect sales of the cushions to be difficult. And several students voiced similar opinions.

Gwen Stickley, sophomore and 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Stickley, said "I don't think they'll be hard to sell. The people in Valdosta have so much pride in the team and band."

Freddie Norris, 17-year-old senior, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Norris, said the cushions will help especially for out-of-town games. "They will distinguish the VHS group and lend to school support," he said.

They're Trying To Help School Cross That Bridge

The setting was the room in the Fellowship Hall at First United Methodist Church where the Little Pound Sunday School Class usually meets. There's nothing particularly unusual about the room.

It is big. There's no carpet on the floor, just terrazzo. On one side there is a big, restaurant-like kitchen, but it wasn't in use.

At the far end from the entrance there is a small stage and over that hangs a picture of the Madonna and Child. That's the only hint you get that the place is in a church building.

On Monday night they had put about 150 of those hard steel folding chairs in the place and most of them were filled. Up front was a long table with microphones on it at which eight people were seated.

It could have been most any kind of church meeting, but it wasn't. At the table up front there were three black faces. In the audience there were whites.

These people had come to hear about their schools and the vast desegregation changes that would be taking place when classes begin on Sept. 2. They were there at the invitation of the Valdosta Ministerial Association, but it was an all-school show.

The eight people seated at the table up front were the panel. They were teachers,



By TENNEY GRIFFIN

principals and administrators in the city school system.

Each of the panelists made an opening statement. Then it was question and answer time.

Out of all this came two concerns and a theme.

The audience, for the most part parents of school children, was concerned over teacher quality and transportation. It got no direct answers, but there were assurances.

Supt. Foster Gollshy and Dr. Jerry Cox, the city schools' director of instruction, talked about teacher ratings and programs in the system to make good teachers better.

Upgrading the quality of instruction, this is the prime push for the city schools, said Supt. Goolsby. All the emphasis is on the classroom teacher and now she or he relates to the pupils.

Getting to and from the schools with the great shift in students poses a real problem for many parents. Car pools will be formed and some type of city bus service will help, were the answers to those questions.

But there was a flat "no" to a question on whether a late excuse would be accepted because of being held up by a train.

Doris Scott, who for years has taught commercial subjects at Pinevale High School and who this year moves to Valdosta High, injected the theme — respect.

Mrs. Scott, one of the panelists, said teachers and students must respect abilities with no concern for color. "Will a student not respect me because I am black? Will a black student not respect you because you are white?"

This feeling of respect was the overriding aspect of the 1½-hour Monday night session. There must be respect, too, for what all these people are doing in public education here with the great changes coming this year.

And if there is a problem, change is it. For the most part people don't like change. They want to plod on their same old ways. The concern most show with any type change was the concern of the ministerial association in bringing about the meeting in the Fellowship Hall, and in that lies the signifcance.

Nothing really new grew out of the session. All that was said and explained had been said and explained before. The repitition was needed, so is much more.

It was all significant in that the churches of this community, through their ministers, are demonstrating a concern for the public schools. And more than that, they are doing something about it.

Much of today's criticism about the Church is one of non-relevance. The critics say the Church does not relate to present day society; that it is years behind the times.

That may be so, but what happened in the Fellowship Hall at First Methodist Monday night demonstrates that ministers of some churches in Valdosta are trying to relate.

These men of the ministerial association did what all the other organizations in the city have failed to do. They are trying to help the city's public schools cross a great bridge.

These ministers can do more. They can take the message of the meeting — respect — to their pulpits. They can help with this job of education, conditioning people to the changes.

PE Departments Still Segregated

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The physical education departments at Valdosta High School and the VHS-Pinevale Campus are still 100 per cent segregated on the instructor level despite action taken by the city board of education two weeks ago to make the crossovers.

The PE departments are the sole areas in the city school system which have not been touchd by desegregation. The PE staff at VHS is composed of white instructors while there are only Negro PE teachers at Pinevale.

Board members voted in a called meeting Aug. 29 to desegregate the departments before school opend Spt. 2. The board later that day agreed to give the superintendent and his staff a few more days to correct the situation.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said the crossovers have not been made but will be done when he can find a way to accomplish it "without a complete upset or reorganization of both faculties."

The only way that his staff has seen so far to make the crossovers is by employing additional persons.

"The first matter is money. Any additional people we employ will be on the local payroll. First we have to come up with the money," said Goolsby.

The superintendent said the crossover situation is "upper most in our minds; we are watching for the first opportunity to do it."

The PE teachers at VHS are also athletic coaches. Two of the male instructors do go to Pinevale but only to coach the B team athletics.

Some of the school board members continue to express their concern over the lack of crossovers in the two departments. They said parents were complaining about it and that it "isn't fair for those departments to remain segregated when all others have been desegregated."

Win 'Em, One At A Time

The 1969 prep football season gets underway tomorow night and for all the fans in our town it begins a season of frenzy with dreams of another state championship.

The Wildcats of Valdosta High School, state champions in 1968, begin their quest toward another crown with their opener at Thomasville. Although the contest is between arch rivals in South Georgia football, the game doesn't count in region standings. Thomasville is in a different classification from Valdosta.

Nevertheless, the contest should be one of the tougher ones of the season for both teams. Thomasville is expected to field one of its strongest teams in years. The Wildcats are considered strong enough again to contend for the state championship.

While the fans talk of another state championship, Coach Wright Bazemore contends the 'Cats must play them one at a time. Championship honors are way down the road. You've got to win the first one, if you are going to win them all.

That's our hope for our Wildcats. Win the first one, then the second one and keep it up each Friday night.

The frenzy of another Wildcat season is upon us. It is that wonderful time of the year when almost everything else takes a back seat to high school football in our town.

Go 'Cats, go!

School Aid Cut-Off

HEW To Require More Evidence

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has revised its procedures for cutting off federal school aid, according to government sources.

The move, expected to blunt administrative assaults on segregated southern school systems, would in effect require more evidence that discrimination exists before federal aid to specific programs could be cut off, the sources said.

The department's past practice was to stop all aid if it found proof of faculty or student segregation. The contention was there could be no federally-funded program in a segregated environment.

A federal appeals court questioned the HEW approach early this month, ruling the department must demonstrate discrimination in programs, not just over-all pupil and faculty segregation.

The first indication of the department's shift came in a little-noticed brief filed by the HEW general counsel's office in a discrimination action against the Ralegh, N.C., schools.

The brief asked the hearing examiner to make his findings in light of the appeals court decision.

HEW Secretary Robert H. Finch has yet to take a public position on the court decision.

But qualified sources say Finch has made the basic decision to shift focus from system-wide segregation to program-by-program discrimination.

His liberal advisers are urging a broad definition of "program," such as elementary, adult and vocational, sources say. Conservative voices in the department advocate a narrower definition that would isolate each classroom activity.

Finch has yet to pick sides in the definition dispute, the sources say.

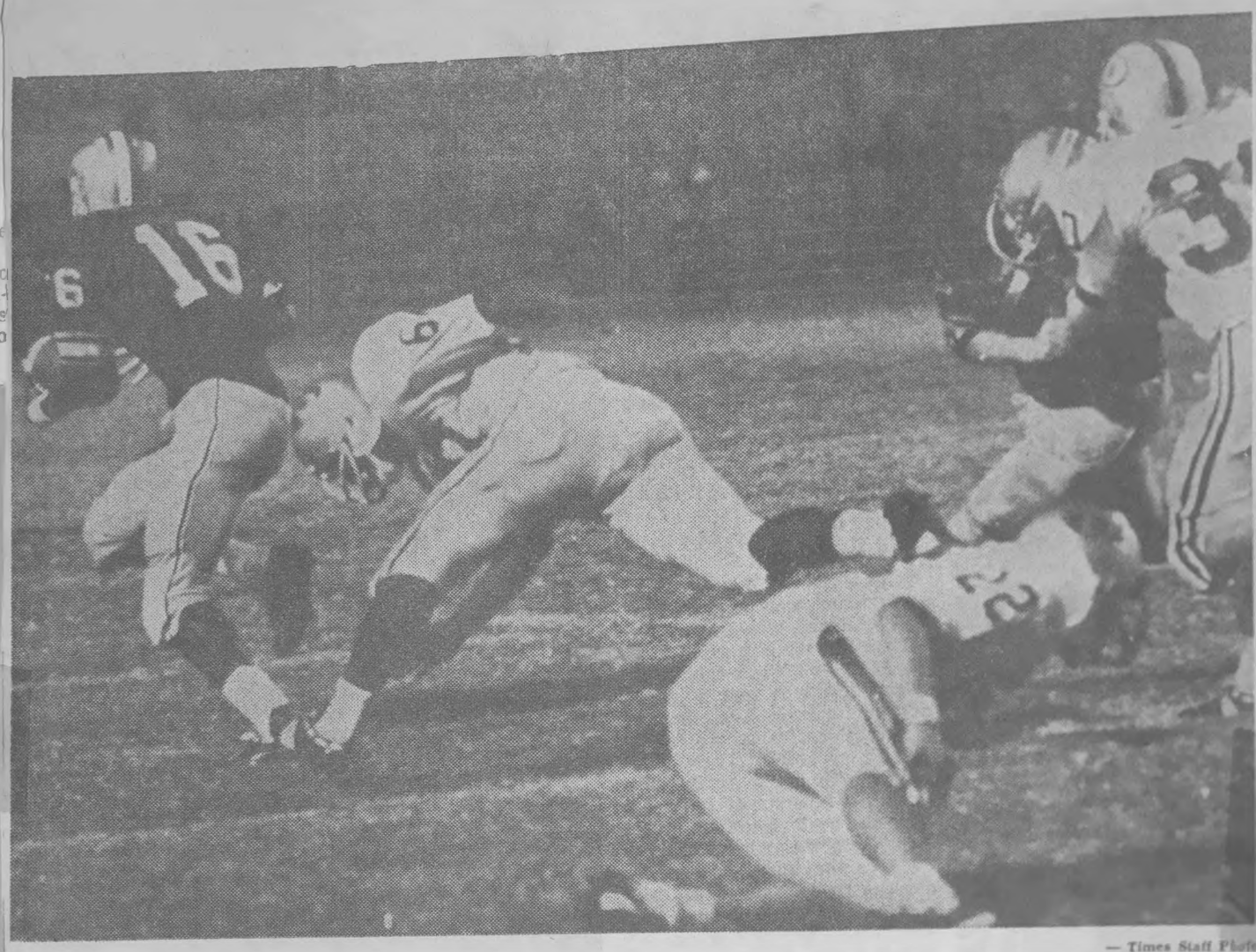
Also unsettled, they add, is whether to appeal the adverse decision to the Supreme Court.

It is understood the revised procedures will go into effect whether an appeal is made or not. They would serve as a safeguard if the high court, after months and possibly years of deliberation, rules against the government.

Finch must also decide whether the 121 fund terminations now in effect will be revised in light of the new procedures. Sources say such a review would probably result in a reste-

ration of some aid money to the affected school districts.

The department's authority to cut off funds is contained in Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act it prohibits federal aid to discriminatory activites.



— Times Staff Photo

Valdosta's Willie Jones Breaks Into The Clear At The Beginning of a 56-Yard Touchdown Run

'Cats Defeat Trojans In First Region Test

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats may have lost the handle on the pigskin a few times, but they were still in command of the game all the way as they rolled past Dougherty's Trojans from Albany, 42-0, here Friday night.

A crowd of approximately 3,000 saw coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats make their home field debut, win this second game this year, start their 1969 Region 1-AAA campaign with a triumph and stretch a winning streak that covers parts of three seasons to 16 games.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Dougherty
First Downs	16	5
Yards Rushing	261	-41
Yards Passing	108	49
Passes	7-12	4-16
Passes Intc. by	4	0
Fumbles Lost	6	1
Punting	4-39	11-32
Penalties	7-65	5-31

Things were bad enough for coach Luther Welch's Trojans as they dropped their second region game in a row. It could have been worse if the Wildcats hadn't lost the ball on fumbles six times inside Dougherty's 35 yard line.

As it was the 'Cats scored in every period, stopped the Trojans' attack cold and Valdosta gave all 63 players it had dressed out for the game a chance to play.

The VHS attack produced 16 first downs, 261 yards rushing and 108 passing, despite those half dozen bobbles.

The 'Cats' stop'em crew didn't let the Trojans inside Valdosta 45 yard line and limited Dougherty to five first downs and a net of just seven yards in total offense. The visitors picked up 49 yards through the air, but finished the night with minus 41 yards rushing. Four pass interceptions and a fumble recovery were other laurals for the 'Dosta defenders.

Bazemore's charges racked up a pair of touchdowns in the opening period. The first time they got possession of the pigskin they wheeled 61 yards in nine play. The TD came on a nine plays. The TD came on a vis. The long gainer was a 1[illegible] yard romp by Charles Danie[illegible] Danny O'Neal came on to b[illegible] the first of five straight ext[illegible] points for him Mark Dibols kicked the PAT after the 'Cats' final score.

Before the opening stanza ended Don Golden hit Warrick Taylor with a 38-yard pass that carried to the Dougherty one. Willie Jones scored from there.

In the second period Ralph Puckett recovered a Trojan fumble at the Dougherty 16 Six plays later Bo Blalock tallied on a one-yard plunge.

Midway the third period linebacker Tom Holt intercepted a pass and returned it 20 yards to the Dougherty eight. On the next play Davis scored. It was his second and Valdosta's fourth TD.

State School Changes

Georgia's Constitution Revision Commission has been asked to consider adding five more members to the State Board of Education. At the same time came a suggestion that the state school superintendent be appointed by the board.

We will have to take issue with the suggestion to add more board members. There are already ten on the board, one from each congressional district.

Ten is probably too many. To add five more would merely add to the confusion. We believe the constitution commission should probably revise the method by which board members are chosen on the basis of congressional districts.

At-large members should be considered, but not in addition to the present 10. Possibly five members could be selected on the basis of geography and five from the state at large.

As for the matter of the board's appointing the state school superintendent, we must agree, but before that change is made, changes in selection of board members must be made.

Members of the board are appointed by the governor on a staggered term basis. If the board were given the power to appoint the superintendent, it would more deeply involve the running of the state's schools with a governor's personal politics.

The ideal situation would be to elect state school board members who would be responsible to the people for general school policies. This elected board then would have the power to appoint the superintendent who would be responsible to the board for operations of the

KD Alums Set To Assist Chapter Here

When members of the Kappa Delta alumnae association meet Wednesday evening

Give me a once - a- week bath man any time as long as

It took me nearly a year to catch on. Well, that finally pestered out, and now he is back to his once - a - week bath and I am happier.

(He met her on his route.)

WOMAN: ANOTHER

about the change.

VAN BUREN

ABIGAIL

By

Area School Systems

Only One Is Segregated

By MARY CROUSE

Only one school system in this nine-county area intends to remain completely segregated this fall under pressure from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Justice Department.

The system, Echols County, has been without federal funds since 1966 but even the financial pinch incurred by the termination has not been an incentive to that board of education to comply with the federal desegregation guidelines. Supt. Jackie Carter said no students wanted to crossover.

Two other school systems in the area, also operating without federal money, will have some integration when classes begin, according to the superintesdent

Of the two, Brooks County is to have the least desegregation. Supt. J. H. Wells said less than 10 Negro students are expected in the formerly all white schools whn the term begins Aug. 29. There will not be any faculty crossovers, he said.

Brooks has been without federal aid for the past three years. Wells admits the $350,000 the system lost because of failure to desegregate hurt the schools.

"We could have expanded our program with that money. Sure anybody could with that kind of money, but our children are not suffering any. We are giving everyone a good education," said the superintendent.

He said Negro students are expected to attend Brooks County High, Brooks County primary and the Morven elementary schools.

Cook County schools lost about $50,000 in federal funds last September. Supt. Bill Hendry said the system will be without any of its special programs as a result of the HEW cutoff.

"We'll have more desegregation this year even though we are in non-compliance," said Hendry.

About 175 Negro students were expected to attend formerly all white schools there when classes open today. There are to be about 30 Negro students and one Negro teacher at Cook High.

In addition to this the formerly all black Sparks school has been consolidated with predominately white Lenox elementary. All the seventh and eighth graders are to attend Sparks this fall.

"We were crowded at Cook High until we moved three eighth graders. Now we have the ninth through 12th at Cook High and this give us adequate facilities to house our students" said Hendry.

He explained that his board at its last meeting requested him to ask representatives from Title IV of the U. S. Office of Education of HEW to make a survey of the Cook County school system. The board wants to work with the team and draw up a suitable plan for desegregation.

However, the Cook school officials do not plan to submit the plan for final HEW approval until more action is taken by the Justice Department in its suit agains the State Board of Education.

At the present time Cook, Echols, Brooks and Clinch Counties are among the more than 100 school systems in the state involved in the federal suit for discrimination.

Hendry said the Cook County board would rather have its own plan to completely eliminate a dual school system over a federal court ordered program.

Although the Justice Department and HEW have worked together on some desegregation problems, the fact that courts have now entered the Georgia scene on a state - wide basis practically liminates any jurisdiction HEW has on integration, contend some school officials.

Some superintendents are hoping federal funds will be allotted to their systems this fall now that the suit has been filed. This isn't the case. The courts must hand down a ruling and have plans worked out before any federal funds are allocated again.

But some systems that were in close contact with HEW officials before the state suit are still communicating with that branch of the federal government.

Clinch County is among these. Supt. Mary Alice Lee said she thought the state suit would slow down HEW.

"I didn't think HEW could do anything to me now but they've informed me they are coming down soon to talk to us about MORE TO COME—YA'LL another plan," said Mrs. Lee.

The superintendent said there is a lack of space to adequately desegregate completely this fall. The system did not receive any building funds from the state this year to add to Clinch's present schools or to construct a new facility.

She said about 350 Negro students will be attending predominately white schools and seven Negro teachers and three white instructions will cross color lines this fall.

Clinch receives about $100,000 in federal funds annually.

Madison County, Fla., is on the deferred status with HEW which means no new projects requiring federal financing are to be approved. The county schools receive about $248,000 annually in federal funds.

Supt. Griffin Bishop said the desegregation plan submitted to HEW was turned down last year and the system is now in the process of appealing this ruling to a hearing commission.

This fall three schools, Pinetta, Madison High and Elementary and Greenville High, will have about a 25 per cent Negro student enrollment, he said. There are to be about 25 faculty crossovers in the system.

"We wanted to achieve a unitary school system by 1970-71. There is about a 44 per cent white to 56 per cent black population in the county. Because of this ratio we felt a little more time would be needed," Bishop said.

"The people here have been extremely understanding about the law and are trying to comply with us. We are trying to meet the needs of all our youngsters in the schools and feel our plan is a good one," said Bishop.

Hamilton County, Fla., is operating on a freedom of choice plan and is working with the State Department of Education. Supt. Jim Dunaway said he has heard nothing from the Justice Department and the system receives about $250,000 annually in federal funds.

Dunaway said about 250 Negro students are to attend formerly all white schools this fall and there will be several faculty crossovers.

Lanier County, Berrien County and the Valdosta system have had desegregation plans for this fall accepted by HEW.

Lanier's Supt. Jim Threatte said all students in grades one-three will be at Lanier County Primary School, grades four-seven will be at Lanier County Elementary and grades eight-12 will be at Lanier Cocnty High School. The Lanier Elementary is a former all Negro facility. There will be full faculty integration at all schools, said the superintendent.

Lanier receives about $125,000 annually in federal funds.

Berrien High was completely desegregated last year and housed all ninth-12th graders. Berrien County Supt. Lossie L. Gaskins said this year seventh and eighth graders will attend Berrien Junior High and Nashville Elementary will have students in grades one-six.

"We have other schools which will have students in grades one - eight. We have a good consolidation program and are using a formerly all Negro school, Nashville High and Elementary, as the Berrien Junior High," said Gaskins.

He said the people have accepted the change and there has been little discussion about it.

In Valdosta the high schools are consolidated with all 10th-12th grades at Valdosta High School. The former all Negro Pinevale High is now the VHS-Pinevale Campus for ninth graders. The seventh and eighth graders are to be at Valdosta Junior High School and all elementary schools have been zoned and desegregated.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said the system receives about $1 million annually in federal funds.

The Lowndes County schools are desegregating under a federal court order. This year the Negroes in the first, second, seventh, 10th-12th grades are to attend predominately white schools.

All four of the Negro plants and the formerly all white Naylor facility are to be closed in the fall of 1970. Additions are being made at the seven schools to be kept open to house all the transfers.

Supt. A. B. (Sonny) Martin said the system receives about $350,000 annually in federal funds.

Active volcanoes steam from Colombia to Chile, and Ecuador has an avenue of some 20 live and dormant volcanoes. Some extinct cones in the Andes shelter ruins of prehistoric Indian temples.

Strike Threats

Will School Bells Ring This Fall?

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

School bells may not be ringing on time for thousands of children this fall, as teachers in several communities threaten strikes or other job action.

Much of the trouble is in the Midwest.

Chicago's 19,000 teachers vote Tuesday on whether to strike at the opening of classes Wednesday. The maintenance workers in the 600-school system already voted to walk out.

At issue is whether the city will honor pay raises promised to settle a two-day strike last May. The school board, pleading a lack of funds, adopted a supplementary budget last week providing money for half the promised increases.

The executive director of the Illinois Federation of Teachers, Oscar Weil, said Thursday as many as 15 school districts in the state could be struck when classes open next week.

He said 600 elementary school teachers in Joliet vote Sept. 2 on a contract and five Chicago suburbs are still negotiating new contracts. Almost 35,000 students would be affected in Joliet and the five suburbs.

One Illinois city already was hit by a strike. Teachers in Granite City walked out Wednesday, which was to have been opening day for 15,000 students. The dispute is over salaries.

In La Salle, Ill., the Tuesday opening of school was delayed by a strike by 80 of 110 teachers at LaSalle-Peru Town High School. Agreement was reached Wednesday and schools were to open today. At issue was the expiration date of the teachers' contract.

A union representing 100 of 200 teachers at two campuses of Waukegan Town High School rejected Thursday the board of education's latest wage offer. School is scheduled to open next Wednesday.

Indiana has two school strikes under way. Although classes don't start officially in most schools until Sept. 2, the walkout has affected preschool workshops.

In Hammond, the 4,200-member Teachers Association went on strike and set up pickets Aug. 15 in a salary dispute, delaying the opening of school football practice. Coaches were later allowed to start practice, with the understanding that they were on strike.

The 200 teachers of the Lake Central School Corp, in the Schererville-St. John area south of Gary set up picket lines Thursday because the school board refused to establish a group contract.

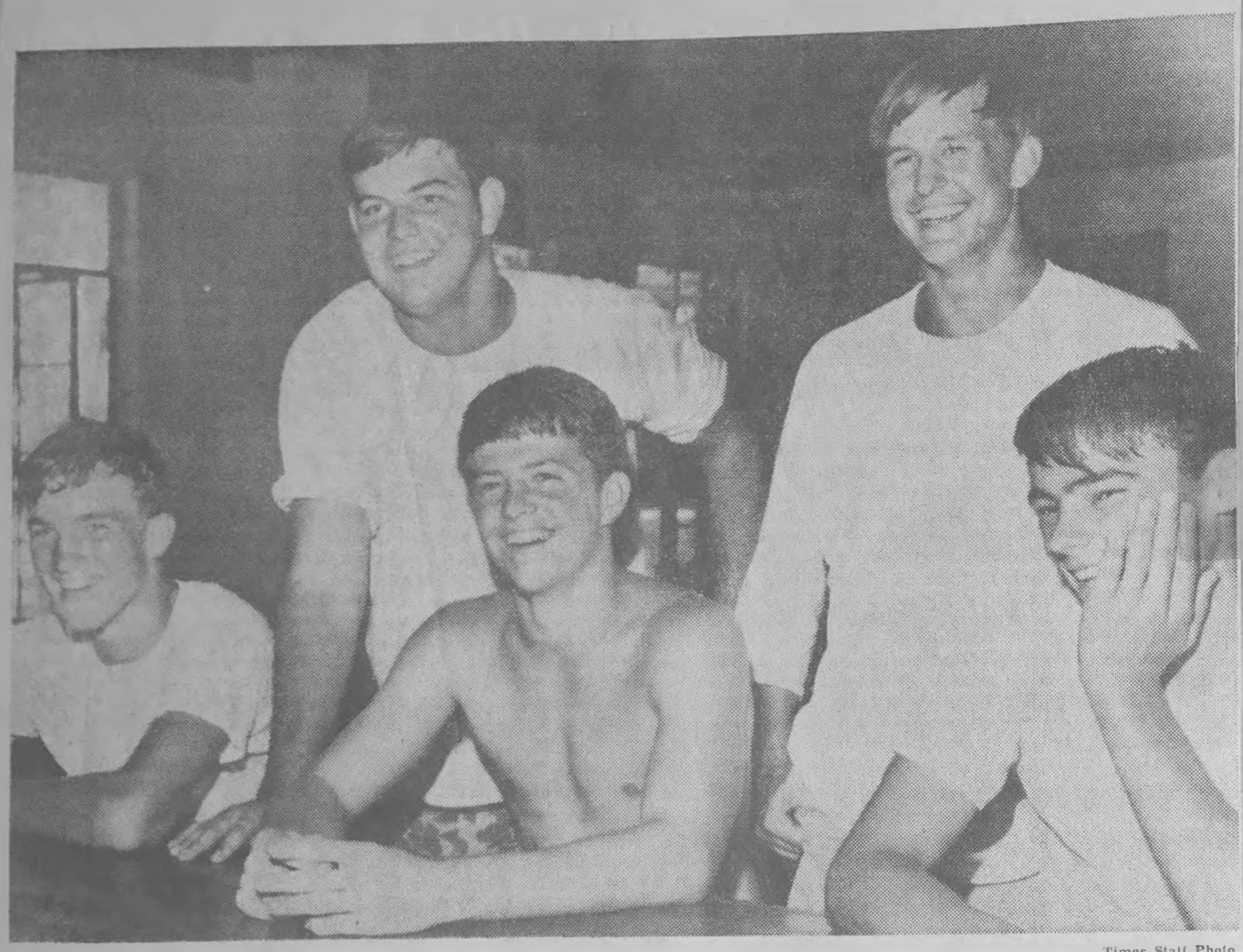
In Michigan, 171 of the state's more than 500 school districts were without contracts late Thursday. Affected are 666,000 students and .8,000 teachers. Issues in question include wages, class size, binding arbitration and an agency shop concept. Some schools are to open Tuesday, others Wednesday.

William C. Kahl, state school superintendent in Wisconsin, said four school districts were without contracts. He said school districts where classes are delayed past Sept. 19 by strikes face a loss of some state aid. School was scheduled to open this week and next in Wisconsin.

In the East, teachers in Anne Arundel County in Maryland have hinted at job action in a salary dispute. Last spring, teachers boycotted two days of classes to attend mass meetings and they warn they may do the same this fall. The teachers say funds negotiated by their representatives and the school board have been cut by the county council, constituting a breach of agreement.

In Newark, N.J., the teachers' association is seeking a pay increase which was approved by the board of education, but turned down by the board of estimate.

In Wilmington, Del. teachers will vote on a two-year contract Sept. 2, the day schools reopen. The pact, tentatively approved Thursday by union negotiators, provides for a starting salary of more than $7,000 and a duty-free 45-minute lunch period.



— Times Staff Photo

To Them It's The Best: Stanley Bounds, Steve Stanaland, Tony Walters, Jim Clarkston, Jimmy Stevenson

Piney Rooters Like Camp

By MARTHA EVANS

"It's the best team in the state," one piney rooter decided. "In the United States," he was corrected. "In the world," said a third piney rooter with finality.

And so the talk went round and round the table at Valdosta High School Coach Wright Bazemore's Rest Camp as five piney rooters (infant Wildcats) compared their first reactions to high school level football camp.

Several coaches wandered into the dining hall at the 4-H camp on Long Pond and sat down at a back table with big bowls of ice cream.

"We can drink Gatorade," one confided as he watched the coaches eat," "but we're not supposed to have carbonated drinks."

"It's a good camp . . ." the piney rooter raised his voice. "Did'ya hear that coach?" (The coach ignored him.) ". . . when you're asleep," he finished in a whisper.

The Valdosta Daily Times

'Teens

Mary Crouse, Staff Writer

The piney rooters, Stanley Bounds, 14, Tony Walters, 15, Jimmy Stevenson, 15, Jim Clarkston, 16, and Steve Stanaland, 15, are all veterans of junior high football. But they agreed unanimously the work is already hard and bound to get harder, although their workload can't match a first string player's.

"They have to work even harder to keep their positions," Bounds explained.

VHS alumni all remember the first day of school when the freshmen football players showed up grinning and bald. Those days are gone, according to the piney rooters, who may return to school with sore muscles, but with all their hair.

Even the food lines operate on an equal basis, the rookie Wildcats said, with first come, first serve, the rule. However, the piney rooters do have to give the older players rubdowns, said Stevenson.

The boys are drilling in shorts this week to get in shape. Their day begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast. The first practice is scheduled for 10 a.m. Lunch is served at 1 p. m. and after lunch comes rest time. Practice resumes at 4 p.m. and skull practice takes up the evening after supper.

It's a hectic schedule now and when school opens, there is a certain amount of studying which also has to be done.

"I'll probably have time to get it all done, but it will be hard," said Walters

"It was easy in junior high, but I don't know about high school," said Walters.

"It was easy in junior high, but I don't know about high school,' said Clarkston.

And once the games start, mothers start worrying.

"My mother, she kinda gets worried when I get hurt," Stanaland commented.

"Well, she may worry a little bit," Bonds said, "but she says it's all right."

Still the piney rooters are obviously proud to be in attendance at the camp.

"I don't think any of us would want to play on another team," said a piney rooter proudly.

Racial Trouble Small

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Problems abound in Valdosta's two newly desegrated high schools, but apparently none are based on race, according to both school officials and students of Valdosta and Lowndes High.

"Except for being more crowded, having more people, it's just like last year," said Mike McMullen, president of the Lowndes High Student Council.

Lowndes High Principal Tom Wall agreed with McMullen. "I have detected no friction," he said. "I don't foresee any racial problems or any other social problems."

McMullen said Negro students were represented in student school government which was increased this year. "I think having a voice, being represented, will provide an outlet for any grievances Negro or white students have."

Maudell Moore, a senior at Lowndes High who transferred from Westside this year, said the question of race had not come up. "The people here are swell," she said.

Wall said cooperation at Lowndes High from former Westside students was "very fine."

Valdosta Principal Charles (Chuck) Green said, "This is a school house, and there are always problems, but everything is pretty well on schedule."

"There's nothing worth reporting," he said.

Valdosta High Student Council president Angela Wetherington said the student council had encountered no problems connected with race.

She said the only difficulty encountered was the recent dispute over whether the song "Dixie" should be played at football games.

"Everybody seems to be working together," she said.

She said there were 17 Negroes listed on VHS rolls as participating in student government at their former schools, but said only about seven are active at VHS.

The principal of the Pinevale Campus of Valdosta High School, which has approximately 600 students almost evenly divided between Negro and white, had nothing but praise for his students.

"I had an attitude of cautious optimism when I started," said C. T. Dickerson, "but the few fears I had were completely unfounded. The students have adjusted very well."

"This is the best group I ever had," he said.

Principals of all three schools said they expected all sorts of the usual troubles involved in a school year, but predicted none based on race.

Junior 'Cats Play Tonight At T'ville

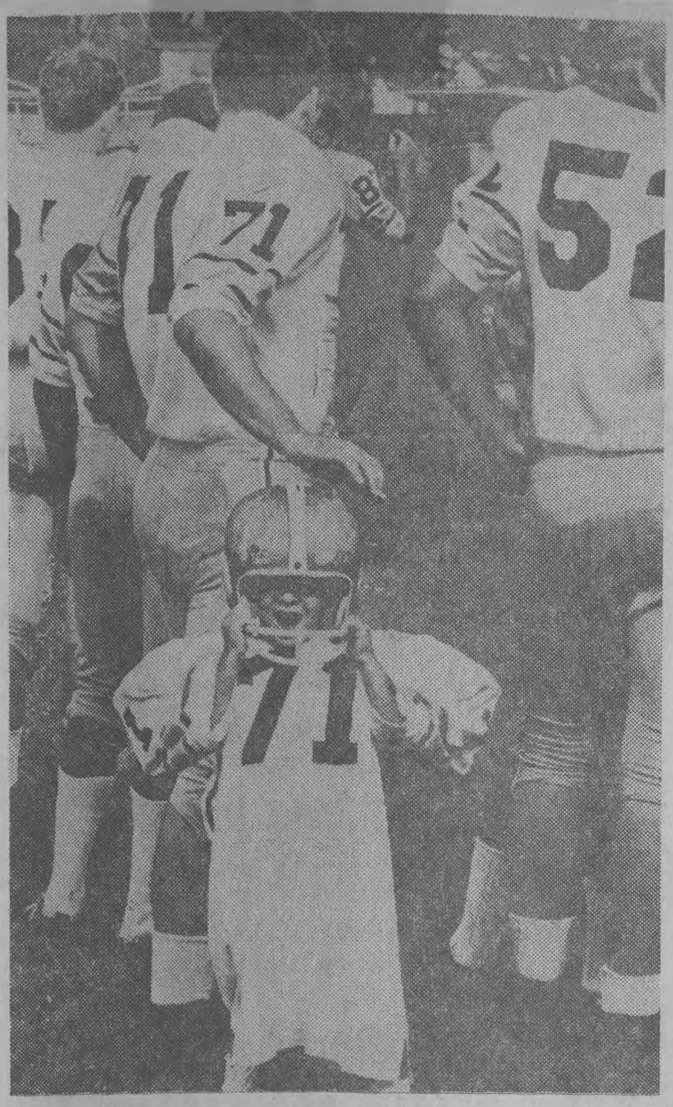
Valdosta is to face Thomasville tonight at Thomasville in a high school "B" team football game. The kickoff is slated for 7:30 p.m.

VHS' Junior Wildcats, who are coached by Joe Mercer and Bill Myddleton, played Tift County to a 0-0 tie last week. Thomasville has beaten that same Tift team, 20-0.

The Junior 'Cats probable starters follow:

Offense — ends Donnie Lee and Edward Payton, tackles Wesley Cox and Pete Alford, guards Curtis Lester and Larry Barnes, center Paul Moore, quarterback Dick Parker, halfbacks Jimmy Stevenson or Harry Hezakia and Joe Tillman or Ralph Smith and fullback Marty O'Neal.

Defense — ends Clifford Bradley and Sam Berrien, tackles Larry Lester and Calvin Speed, middle guard Bobby Joseph, linebackers, Mark Baker, Louis [illegible]



Ready to Play

VALDOSTA, Ga.—Trevor Greene, three, doesn't want anybody patronizing him even though he may not be ready to play for Valdosta yet. Greene is the son of Wildcats' assistant coach Charles Greene. He wears Robert Koncar's No. 71 at Valdosta picture day. (Associated Press Wirephoto).



Valdosta's Marchin' Cats Come Out of Woods in Full 'Voice'

VHS Placement Study Lets Students Progress Better

By MARY CROUSE

A placement program designed to offer instruction on the level each student can progress best is to begin this fall at Valdosta High School.

Principal Charles (Chuck) Green said the venture is a revamping of the traditional high school curriculum and is designed to make graduates better college material or ready for vocational training, depending on the individual's ambitions and aptitudes.

He said the present curriculum is not adequate for today's student needs and that too many students are merely attending school and not gaining what they should from the courses.

"In some instances the classes are over their heads. For others the material is a rehash of what has been said to them before," said the principal.

The placement program is not unique to educators but it is new to the Valdosta school system. Administrators have been reporting successful results with this type of arrangement for years. Only a handful of Georgia schools have attempted to meet the students' needs in this manner. Lowndes County schools here have been using a similar method for seevral years.

Green, 34, wants to make studies of each pupul until the youth graduates. This will take time and each teacher will be involved but it's all part of his placement effort.

He isn't worried about student grouping. He says students have a way of grouping themselves even if the teacher doesn't arrange it.



CHUCK GREEN

Four Levels

"They (students) know who the more intelligent members of the class are, they know who the failures are and know who are average students. In an ordinary classroom there is grouping," said Green.

He said four levels of instruction will be offered for all the basic required courses. Students will be placed in a certain level course on the basis of their aptitude scores, which would be administered at the beginning of the school year; teacher recommendations and past averages he explained.

The program is to be flexible enough to allow students to move up as they progress and back if there is a need.

"Usually the teacher recommends that a student be put back in a lower level. But I have worked with this type program before, and it has been my experience that a parent will also suggest that his child be moved if the material is a little beyond his grasp," said the principal.

The former Thomasville High School principal who is in his second year at VHS explained this type program could be implemented in a four, three or two-year high school. And although he is satisfied with the present 10-12 grades located on the main VHS campus, he says a four year school all at one site is the most satisfactory arrangement.

"We need them for four years to get them ready for whatever it is they want to do after graduation," he said.

Green is to have about 1,200 students this year and about 350 to 400 of them are to be Negro. VHS and the former Pinevale High School for Negroes have been consolidated. All 10th-12th graders are to be at VHS this fall and all the ninth graders are to attend the Pinevale campus which is now part of VHS.

The placement program is expected to help the desegregation move and not resegregate or hinder any students.

"The whole point is to allow the child to progress as he can and not try to push him too fast or even hold anyone back. Our intention is to provide the best education we can for all the students," said the principal.

'Cat' School Band Hones Its Talents

WAYCROSS, Ga.—Now you'd think a man would find peace and quiet 10 miles from town, down Georgia 177, inside a state park, among the pines and beside a beautiful lake. What I found was 121 Marchin' Cats.

Had just pulled into Laura S. Walker State Park, parked the pickup camper and was looking for Superintendent Bob McGraw when a tornado of sound swept through the place.



Bob Harrell

I grabbed a tree and looked to the northwest. Sure enough dust was swirlin' over this field. Jumped back in the truck and drove over there, thinking I might offer first aid and comfort to any folks caught up in the "storm."

It was some scene: Under this cloud of dust (and raising some more) were 121 teen-agers. They were in one long line, elbow to elbow and quick-stepping in my direction. Off to one side, this fellow with red hair sat atop a 15-foot stepladder.

I rolled down the truck window—just a crack—and asked this man standing in the shade if anybody had been hurt. That's when I met Chuck Northcutt of Valdosta. That's when Chuck introduced me to the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats. That's when the quick stepping Cats introduced themselves by raising their arms, inhaling and playing their famous "Dixie Exit." The resulting sound parted my hair on the wrong side.

Safely out of their line of march and far enough away where we could scream and be heard, Chuck told me this story: This was the annual band camp. Here's where the Cats hone to a fine edge their marching formations and their musical abilities.

About that time the man on top of the stepladder raised his arms. Silence settled on the park. Chuck, president of the Valdosta Band Booster Club, said, "That's Frank Butenschon, the band director. Best there is."

Frank lowered his arms and spoke to the Cats from on high. He began moderato, "If you all don't get this right . . ." Frank switched to allegro, ". . . I'll pull them dadgum cars back . . ." His voice went into fortissimo, ". . . and we'll stay right here . . ." And then a crescendo from the top of the ladder, ". . . and we'll work here all night!"

DATELINE
WAYCROSS
GEORGIA
By BOB HARRELL

Chuck explained, "We park our cars around the field, turn on the lights and practice at night."

School Desegregation--4

Training Set To Ease Woes

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the last in a series on high school consolidations for desegregation purposes in the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems.

By MARY CROUSE

Desegregation is the responsibility of everyone and it worries parents when one segment of a school system remains untouched by the integration movement, contended Valdosta Board of Education members Friday at a special meeting.

Criticism of the physical education departments at Valdosta High School and the VHS-Pinevale campus have plagued some of the board members for weeks because of a complete lack of racial crossovers.

The board unanimously voted to correct this situation Friday. They instructed Supt. Foster Goolsby to meet with VHS principal Charles (Chuck) Green and Pinevale principal C. D. Dickerson to reassign some of physical education instructors at both facilities.

Only Negro PE teachers had been assigned at Pinevale, which is to house all the ninth graders while VHS has only white instructors. All 10th-12th graders are to attend VHS this fall. Pinevale, a former all-Negro high school and VHS were consolidated by the board last spring as part of a desegregation plan for this September. Pinevale is now officially part of VHS.

Lowndes County's Board of Education made a similar move with its all-Negro Westside High and formerly all-white Lowndes High schools. All 10th-12th graders are to attend Lowndes High when school opens Tuesday. Eighth and ninth grade Negroes are to remain at Westside this fall but are to be reassigned next September when that school and the three other Negro buildings are closed. The county board's consolidation move is a major portion of its federal court ordered desegregation plan.

"We had a few more months than the city to work out our situation but administratively it was a tough job," said Lowndes' Supt. A B. (Sonny) Martin.

Neither of the two local system's teaching staffs were adequately trained for the total integration although both groups had been warned it would take place.

Students were also told of the change and the fact it would take their cooperation to make the transition a smooth one. Although some of the rising seniors at the two Negro schools resented the trasfer because it meant a loss of class, club, athletic, band and cheerleader positions, the students said they wanted to make the best of the consolidation.

Martin said the 15 Negro teachers on the Lowndes High faculty were important to the transition. There is also a Negro coach, co-band director and girls' physical education instructor.

At VHS there are 14 Negro teachers, a Negro assistant principal, counselor and librarian. Until Friday's board meeting the athletic department for both males and females contained no faculty crossovers.

"This bothered me. I've thought all along there should have been white PE teachers at Pinevale. I've heard a lot of comment from parents on this. They felt the same way. In her article in the Times (The Valdosta Daily Times series on desegregation) last night it was also pointed out there weren't any crossovers and I think we ought to do something about that situation at Pinevale," said Valdosta board member Joella Blackburn.

Peggy Patterson, another board member, agreed and said similar steps should also be

See Training - Page 2

– Training

Continued from Page 1

aken at VHS.

Supt. Goolsby said the matter will be handled before school opens Tuesday morning.

The board's action will probably ease a few city teachers minds about desegregation. Several of the instructors were disappointed that the PE departments had not been intergrated along with all the other segments of school life.

TAKE TWO GG ... ...

Goolsby said at the meeting he is concerned about some of his black teachers as well as his white teachers. Martin has expressed similar anxiety.

Their concern extends from classroom training to the amount of pressure that teachers can stand from parents.

"It's hard to completely desegregate in a short time and get the administrative end in order and at the same time have the teachers ready for the change. It's doubly hard when parents begin to apply pressures because a black teacher is teaching their child or there is a lack of enough textbooks the first few days of schools," said Goolsby.

Martin said the county board is doing to make up for the lack of teacher training integration here with a this fall. Both city ty educators, admini- d staffs are to parti- e session conducted rom the University

volving everyone bus drivers are nda, said Mar- e situations n during the will be dis-

ems for as the egrega- y and hovercraft at ounty

n expected already stimated Friday

Police expected more than 200,000 fans would be on the Isle of Wight by Sunday when the festival's main attraction, folk-rock singer Bob Dylan, takes the stand.

It will be the first public performance in about 12 months for the 28-year-old American singer, who is coming back after nearly three years of semi-retirement. Also expected are the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and, reportedly, Elizabeth Taylor.

his cast was drawing youths f Britain, Europe and the tates. They came to the England's southern

"anti-school-high school-contend the city and stu- them. board rned about bio- courses in raci- asses. He also rules governing and appearance. ity of other board and supermin- tration. is not a major this is not where I anticipate trouble, as long as should be left to the type of thing," said Martin.



—TIMES-UNION PHOTO BY ALLAN WALKER

This 'Cat Gained 5 — Then Ooof!

Valdosta's perennial top-ranked Wildcats opened the 1969 grid year in mid-season form at Thomasville Friday night by handing the hosts a 14-0 setback. The winner's Joe Mullis is stopped by the Bulldogs Frank Bowdry (24) on this play following a five-yard gain. Thomasville players Mark Smith (99), Joe Peeples (86), Earl Mitchell (71) and Reggie Wilkerson (80) assist on the play. Story on Page A-20.

Wildcats Select Three Captains

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Three players who figure big in the Valdosta High Wildcats' football plans for the coming season have been selected as the team's 1969 tri-captains.

They are Tom Holt, Henry Davis and Bo Blalock. All are seniors and all were regulars on VHS' unbeaten state Class AAA championship team of 1968.

Davis, who tips the scales at 180, is a halfback and is in line for duty with VHS' offensive unit this time out. Holt, who weighs 200 pounds, is an inside linebacker and is expected to be among the 'Cats' defensive standouts.

Blalock, a 190-pounder, could wind up playing at one of several spots. In the past he's seen duty at quarterback, fullback and tight end with the offensive unit and has held down an inside linebacker's spot with the stop'em crew.

The new tri-captains were elected by a vote of their teammates Thursday night as the Wildcats got ready to end their two - week football camp at the 4-H Club Camp at Twin Lakes.

Coach Wright Bazemore's charges were to return to town this afternoon and have a game-type scrimmage scheduled for 8 o'clock here tonight at Cleveland Field, their home stadium.

Valdosta (Who Else?) Again 1-AAA Favorite

Cats' Streak Is on the Line

By ELLWOOD MOYER
Constitution Sports Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Region-One, Class-AAA opens its 23rd season of play this week and six of the 10 teams in the region playing a loop schedule will see action but all eyes will be turned Valdosta way where Coach Wright Bazemore's Cats will seek another championship.

Valdosta has won the region and state class-AAA championship six times in the last nine years.

Bazemore joined the Valdosta coaching staff in 1940 and since that time the Wildcats have scored 254 wins while losing only 42 times with five tie games thrown in along the way.

Friday night the 'Cats move to Thomasville where they will seek to extend a two-year winning street to 14 games at the expense of the Bulldogs.

Last year Valdosta stopped Thomasville 19-0 at Vldosta in he season opener as only two ouchdowns were scored against he 'Cats in their 10-game regular schedule. Monroe scored in the sixth game and Lowndes got the other touchdown in the final game of the season.

In the three game play-offs, Valdosta was scored on three times but the 'Cats ran up 15 touchdowns against those three opponents — Lanier, Glynn Academy and Forest Park.

There is only one region game scheduled for play in the loop this first week and that is the Saturday night meeting between Albany and Valdosta. Other games **day night, Albany is host to R. E. Lee, and Tift County moves to Cordele to meet Crisp County.**

Westover, the newest member of the region, is not playing a region schedule again this year and the Patriots open the season on the road at Bainbridge. Westover was undefeated in 10 tover was undefeated in 10 games last year.

Last year in the season opener, Albany lost to R. E. Lee at Thomaston, 10-7, and Coffee County, loser of all 10 games last year, lost to Appling County, 7-0, at Baxley.

Tift County edged Crisp County 7-6 last year as Randy Cooper, then a sophomore, scored the touchdown and winning conversion.

Lowndes, Moultrie, Ware County and Wayne County all have open dates, this week and open their campaigns on Sept. 12th.

Last year Valdosta was 9-0 in region play and beat out Moultrie by one game by virtue of a 22-0 decision over the Packers who finished 8-1.

Tift County (6-3) finished third while Albany, Dougherty and Wayne County finished in a three-way tie for fourth with 5-4 figures.

Monroe was seventh with 4-5, Ware County eighth with 3-6, Lowndes ninth with 1-8 and Coffee County finished in the cellar with 0-9.

Valdosta lost 17 regulars off the 1968 championship team that raced for 69 touchdowns and 475 points in 13 games. But still the 'Cats rate one of the favorites in pres-eason ratings around the state.

Danny O'Neal, 180-pound fullback, paced the Wildcats in rushing last season and finished 10th in the region with a gain of 487 net yards rushing in 64 trips. O'Neal is back this season.

Also back is Bo Blalock who carried for 278 yards and quarterback Don Golden who hit 14 out of 37 passes for 239 yards.

VHS Senior Semi-Finalist In Merit Scholar Program

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A 17-year-old Valdosta High School senior, Bill Bowers, has been named a semifinalist in the 1969-70 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Bowers, the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bowers of 6,000 Oak Drive, is among 15,000 seminfinalist appointed this week. They are considered among the nation's most intellectually talented high school seniors, according to Edward C. Smith, president of the Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The semifinalists are to compete for 3,000 merit scholarships to be awarded in 1970.

Smith said semifinalists were the highest scorers in their states on a qualifying test given last February to about 750,000 students in 17,250 schools nationwide.

Bowers, a distributive education student at VHS, said he is hoping to land one of the scholarships which he would use at Georgia Tech or the University of Forida, majoring in engineering.

"I was counting on getting a scholarship of some kind." Bowers said. "This gives me a little more hope of getting one. I want to major in engineering, but I am not yet sure what field."

Semifinalists must advance to finalists standing to be considered for the scholarships to be awarded next spring. They become finalists by receiving the endorsement of their schools, substantiating their high test scores on a second examination and providing information about their achievements and interests.



BILL BOWERS
For Engineering

About 97 per cent of the semifinalists are expected to become finalists. Finalists are to be considered for one of 1,000 National Merit $1,000 scholarships which are allocated by the state.

Many of the finalists are also to be considered for the renewable four - year—merit scholarships provided by some 400 corporations, foundations, colleges, unions, trusts, professional associates and other organizations and individuals.

Winners of the four - year scholarships may receive as much as $1,500 a year towards college, depending upon their individual needs.

Bowers, who says he has about an 85-average in high school so far, was born in Tallahassee, Fla., but has lived here since he was a small child.

He has been employed as a route supervisor in the circulation department of The Valdosta Daily Times since July.

Asked if his success in the scholarship program surprized him, he said he was rather confident he would become a semifinalist.

"I was one of 25 students who took the test in our sophomore year just to gain experience," Bowers said. "I did fairly well on it, so I figured I could improve a few points and become a semifinalist the next year."

Bowers scored 146 in his sophomore year when the cut-off for semifinalists was about 150. His score was 151 this year.

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Bazemore Worries After Easy Win

Valdosta High grid boss Wright Bazemore likes to see his Wildcats win. What coach doesn't want his team to triumph.

But when the victories come too easy, then Bazemore starts having second thoughts.



GLASSMAN

Right now the 'Cats are 3-0. They had to work hard for an opening 14-0 win over Thomasville. Since then VHS has sailed past Dougherty (Albany), 42-0, and Wayne County (Jesup), 34-0.

"Certainly our victories in our last two games were important because they were against Region 1-AAA opponents," Bazemore was saying Friday night. "They were also beneficial because we got to play a lot of boys and give everyone on the squad at least a taste of competition.

"But when the victories start coming too easy, then it's difficult to try to convince our boys they can't afford to relax and start coasting. It's also difficult to keep them from becoming overconfident.

"A team that's relaxed, coasting and overconfident, well, that's one which is likely to get its ears pinned back when it least expects it.

Two Others Unbeaten

"Let me tell you, they aren't all going to be like our last two. We simply can't afford to sit back and become self satisfied. There's still no short cut to football success. We've got to keep working hard and we've got to keep improving. I'm telling our boys this. I hope they will pay attention to what I say"

Bazemore is right. The toughest part of the Wildcats' schedule is still before them.

As we noted, VHS has made it this far with an overall record of 3-0 and a regional mark of 2-0. Two other region teams are also undefeated.

Coach Bud Willis' Moultrie Packers have trimmed Lowndes and Tift County. Coach Winfred Benson's Monroe (Albany) Golden Tornadoes have licked Dougherty and Albany.

And some of those who have suffered early reversals are bound to make a lot of improvement as the campaign progresses. It happens that way every year. Indeed, the 'Cats aren't out of the woods yet.

Three-Team Race

Now let's take a quick look at some of the other regions in this neck of the woods and see if those races are following the pre-season form chart.

In 1-AA, coach Lee Forehand's Thomasville Bulldogs got the nod on the pre-season form chart. Since bowing to 'Dosta on opening night, they have racked up a pair of impressive wins.

Down at Waycross another set of Bulldogs lost on opening night, but have since rolled to two easy triumphs. Dublin is also showing it has some muscle. This could develop into an interesting three-team race.

Americus and Fitzgerald were rated the top teams in 1-A. Both now own 2-0 records and still look like the best in this league. Irwin County (Ocilla) was picked to repeat as the Region 2-B champ and right now is sailing along smoothly with a 3-0 chart.

The Region 1-B duel was pegged as a wide open race. It still looks that way, with perhaps Pelham holding a slight edge over the remainder of the field.

The season, however, is still young and surprises often come in bunches on the high school football front.

Valdosta Helps Southerners Win

By JULIAN MILLER
Times Staff Writer

MACON — The North came out ahead in the statistics but the South won the game, and six Valdosta Wildcats were in the middle of it here Friday night figuring big in the outcome.

The South had only six first downs to the North's 15 and gained only 146 yards total offense to a northern accumulation of 253. But when the dust cleared in the Georgia High Association North-South All-Star football game at Porter Stadium, it was the South on top, 9-7.

On defense, the Yankee line had to contend with Valdosta's center-guard, Jim Lloyd, along with tackle Glenn Williams and guard Walter Jones. They total 715 pounds of defense.

When opponents passed that line, Ronnie Pitcock picked up the defensive effort in which he totaled 13 tackles.

Frank Deming and Larry Howell represented Valdosta on offensive, with Deming sharing the quarterback job with Ray Guy of Thomson and Oscar Roberts of Irwin County.

Deming gained 14 yards rushing on four carries and connected on the only Southern pass completion to Lanier's James Thomas for five yards.

Howell spent his time being a rushing halfback, a passing halfback and a punt and kickoff return specialist. Howell returned the first North punt 35 yards in the first quarter, and in the second stanza moved the ball 15 yards up the field on a kickoff return.

Besides his runback efforts, Howell racked up 67 yards on 16 rushing attempts, including a 54-yard run in the final stanza.

"Howell's 54-yard run was one of the best plays," said Southern coach, Godfrey "Goot" Steiner of Lanier. "But each and every Valdosta player was a star to us as well as our other players. I don't see how we could have gotten through it without any of them."

Pitcock's 13 tackles figured big in breaking up some of the North's long range plays. In the third quarter, he broke up a long pass from Decatur's Alan Chadwick to North's Steve Smith in the end zone.

Williams and Jones accounted for five and eight tackles respectively for the South, with Lloyd adding three more from the center position. The Southern field goal in the first quarter came with South super-star Ray Guy of Thomson booting the ball 8 yards through the uprights to put the suth ahead 3-0. Pitcock held

The North returned just before the half to take the lead as Al Jenkins of Hogansville scored on a yard romp and Jim Arnett of St. Pius booted the PAT to give the North a half time lead of 7-3.

* * *

But in the final stanza, Guy intercepted a pass and returned it 32 yards to set the southern offense in motion. Warner Robbins' Charles Copeland took the handoff from Deming to score on a two yard run to cap off a 14-yard drive which covered five plays and give the South a 9-7 victory.

* * *

VMA Forum Is Unique

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The forum Monday night on integration in the city high schools is to be held under the sponsorship of the Valdosta Ministerial Asociation, which uually does not hold public meetings to carry out its involvement in community problems.

But, to help the community understand and adjust to the situations caused by school integration, especially for the high schools, the VMA voted to hold the public from 7:30-9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall.

It is especially for parents of students attending the city high schools this fall to answer any questions there might be about the integration plan for Valdosta High School and VHS - Pinevale Campus.

Though the public forum is unique, the VMA has a history of involvement in community problems, said the Rev. Douglas Reddick, pastor of Northside Baptist Church.

"A number of years ago the ministerial association involved itself in the question of illegal slot machines before the grand jury to try to rid the county of these things." said Reddick. "Ministerial association representatives have talked from time to time with such people as the mayor and chief of police and the sheriff about community problems."

Several members of the VMA also participated in a mental health workshop this year for guidelines in working with the mentally ill in the community.

Pastors here also, when classroom space was needed for elementary students, offered their churches for use, said Reddick.

The forum, he said, is just part of "the continuing interest the ministerial association has shown in community problems."

City Supt. Foster Goolsby said he has never heard of another community doing anything like the forum here. "This effort on the part of the churches in this community is designed to enhance the success of a community activity that is and must be," said Goolsby.

"Over all these years when we've been involved with school integration it has been my feeling at frequent intervals that everybody in the community felt that this was exclusively a problem for school officials," he said.

"There have been times that I felt that the churches of the community and other community institutions and organizations felt that it was a problem for school officials to handle.

"Of course, school officials within themselves are not capable of handling this or any other major educational problem without the help of all community and state institutions and organizations and government officials."



REV. WILLIAM OLIVER
Find Its Place



FOSTER GOOLSBY
Continuing Influences



REV. DOUGLAS REDDICK
There Is Precedent

more interest and more help from the community." said Goolsby. "I see continuing influences coming from the churches on this."

VHS Quarterback Tops Pass Chart

By ELLWOOD MOYER

COLUMBUS — Valdosta High quarterback Don Golden has taken over the Region 1-AAA passing lead, according to football statistics released this week.

Golden has hit on 21 of 34 tosses for 290 yards. He's also leading the league in punting with a 39.5 average after eight boots.

Moultrie's Bob Hardy has become the rushing leader with 209 yards on 40 carries.

Department leaders and figures on other Valdosta and Lowndes players are as follows:

Rushing

	Crs.	Yds.	Avg.
1. Hardy, Moultrie	40	209	5.22
2. M. Williams, Ware	40	202	5.05
3. Doyle, Albany	42	177	4.21
4. Bellamy, Lowndes	31	161	4.61
5. Beard, Moultrie	38	159	4.18
6. Jones, Valdosta	12	155	12.91
10. Daniels, Valdosta	20	104	5.20
11. Myers, Lowndes	21	97	4.61
17. Davis, Valdosta	11	62	5.63
21. Davis, Lowndes	1	51	51.00
22. Summerlin, Lowndes	10	49	4.90
23. O'Neal, Valdosta	14	48	3.42
27. Savage, Valdosta	6	35	5.83
28. Bounds, Valdosta	4	34	8.50
33. Meeks, Valdosta	11	24	2.18
37. Golden, Valdosta	12	21	1.75
45. Henderson, Lowndes	2	1	0.50

Passing

	Att.	Comp	Gain
1. Golden, Valdosta	34	21	290
2. Hardin, Albany	43	13	243
3. Davis, Monroe	18	9	162
4. Singletary, Moultrie	27	12	149
5. Henderson, Tift County	25	9	137
6. Aitkens, Wayne County	16	6	52
7. Mathis, Dougherty	7	5	46
8. Bounds, Valdosta	6	4	44
9. Mitchell, Lowndes	5	1	38
10. Morris, Lowndes	5	2	37

Pass Receiving

	Cths.	Yds.	Td's
1. Turner, Monroe	4	124	1
2. Jones, Valdosta	7	121	0
3. Taylor, Valdosta	7	103	1
4. West, Albany	2	103	2
5. Bundrick, Albany	5	100	1
11. Henderson, Lowndes	1	38	0

Passes Intercepted By

	Inte.	Ret.
1. Puckett, Valdosta	2	51
2. Brannen, Wayne County	1	20
3. Bazemore, Valdosta	1	20
4. Holt, Valdosta	1	20
5. Faircloth, Moultrie	1	17
6. Homer, Lowdnes	1	13

Punts

	Punts	Yds.	Avg
1. Golden, Valdosta	8	316	39.50
2. LeFile, Valdosta	3	117	39.00
3. Morris, Tift County	21	782	37.23
4. Jones, Wayne Co.	10	364	36.40
5. Bailey, Coffee County	9	251	35.85
9. Jones, Lowndes	8	253	31.60

Punt Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. Taylor, Valdosta	4	99
2. Jones, Valdosta	1	45
3. Anderson, Valdosta	3	41
4. Griffin, Tift County	3	33
5. West, Albany	4	31
6. Faircloth, Moultrie	3	16
7. Sherman, Monroe	1	15

Kickoff Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. West, Albany	6	171
2. Sherman, Albany	2	118
3. Aitkens, Wayne Co.	5	93
4. M. Williams, Ware Co.	2	91
5. Burroughs, Dougherty	4	91
13. Burgman, Lowndes	1	18

Scoring

	Td	PAT	Tl-
1. West, Albany	4	0	24
2. Davis, Valdosta	3	0	18
3. Jones, Valdosta	3	0	18
4. Clark, Monroe	3	0	18
5. Taylor, Valdosta	2	0	12
18. Bazemore, Valdosta	1	0	6
19. Blalock, Valdosta	1	0	6
20. Anderson, Valdosta	1	0	6
21. Daniels, Valdosta	1	0	6
22. Meeks, Valdosta	1	0	6
23. Register, Lowndes	1	0	6
24. Davis, Lowndes	1	0	6
25. Summerlin, Lowndes	1	0	6

Valdosta Schools Plan Free Lunch

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Applications for reduced or free lunches in the Valdosta schools are now available in the individual schools, according to Supt. Foster Goolsby.

The special lunchroom program which provides the noon meal free or at a reduced price is for children of low income families.

Goolsby said parents who are financially unable to pay for their children's lunches should fill out an application. The forms may be returned to the schools between 8:30 a. m.-4 p.m. today through Friday.

The superintendent said the size and implementation of the program depend upon the amount of federal and state funds the local system receives this year for the special lunch project.

"A planned and adequate food service program is essential to the child's growth and development and influences his achievement in school," said Goolsby.

The School Food Service Program in the city system serves lunches meeting a third of the daily nutritional requirements of children as established by the National School Lunch Act.

Goolsby said this type A lunch consists of two ounces of protein richh food, ¾ cup of two or more vegetables or fruits, ½ pint of milk, 1 serving of enriched whole-grain bread and a teaspoon of butter or fortified margarine.

The Valdosta schools, through a special federal and state grant of about $12,000, was able last year to feed every child in the system even if he couldn't pay the full price of the meal.

Forum On Desegregation

It Didn't Turn Out That Way

By MARY CROUSE

The forum Monday night was supposed to be on desegregation in the Valdosta Junior High schools. But it didn't quite turn out that way.

The estimated 125 persons who attended the session sponsored by the Valdosta Ministerial Association were interested in everything from lunch tickets to transportation.

The 1½-hour meeting was held in the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Parents of children who'll be attending the city schools and administrators of private schools here were present.

The forum was held to help to help the community understand what is involved in total school desegregation. A panel of teachers and administrators were to answer any questions concerning the situation in the schools this fall.

Few of the questions were on integration. The panel in brief individual talks answered what was troubling many of the parents' minds before the session was opened for questions.

And although nothing new was brought out at the forum, it gave the public another opportunity to question the adminisration and it served as a step towards bringing the churches closer to the schools.

On the panel were M. E. Nichols, federal funds coordinator for the Valdosta Board of Education; Charles (Chuck) Green, VHS principal; Lloyd Mims, VJHS principal; C. T. Dickerson, VHS - Pinevale Campus principal; Jack Coffee, Pinevale assistant principal; Dr. Jerry Cox, director of instruction; Doris Scott, commerical teacher; LaVerne Torrence, Pinevale guidance counselor and Foster Goolsby, superintendent.

Dickerson is the first Negro to be named principal at a predominatly white school. All the ninth grades are to be at Pinevale this fall.

"I've been asked how I feel about this and I say it reaffirms my faith in humanity. Any philosophy of education that doesn't take into consideration life and experience is void," said the principal.

Children need to be taught to live today and how to live with changes, said Dickerson.

"We need to help the child have an inquiring mind, a clear view, a deep understanding, to be able to separate fact from fantasy and to recognize what is relevant.

"We need to give the type of education which will show wisdom behind compassion, understanding over intolerance and expose bigotry and prejudice. This is also the responsibility of the churches," said the ad-

See It Didn't — Page 2

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Federal Role Growing

By GARVEN HUDGINS

WASHINGTON (AP) — As the U. S. education establishment grows, so do the demands for more financial help from Uncle Sam.

Almost without exception, educators have stressed that the future of American education, now at its most explosive stage in history, virtually depends on the federal government.

The prospect of ever-growing federal responsibility in the fields of elementary, secondary and higher education poses in many minds the threat of ultimate federal control.

It's an old, almost traditional bugaboo. Year after year, successive U. S. commissioners of education take pains to assure against any federal encroachment in the sacrosanct areas of curriculum, tenure and textbook selection.

The one field where the federal presence is obvious is in the field of school desegregation. Within the past three years, the government — specifically the Department of Health Education and Welfare's Department of Civil Rights — has vigorously sought to enforce those provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act pertaining to integration.

Under terms of the ESEA Act, the government has the right to withhold federal funds from school districts which do not comply with U. S. guidelines on school desegregation.

The budget sent to Congress last January by outgoing President Lyndon B. Johnson proposed an overall federal outlay of $9.8 billion — a $759 million increase over the fiscal year ending in 1969.

The figures tell the story of the enormous expansion of federal responsibility in education.

And now under consideration are a variety of proposals, including one by the prestigious Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, calling for a larger federal role in supporting students in college and universities.

Specifically, the Carnegie Commission report called for a new G. I. Bill, invoving direct financial assistance to students who could not otherwise afford to go to college.

Almost every conference of specialists in higher education includes a new suggestion for some new federal role in furthering higher education in this country.

The budget submitted last January included a proposal for an outlay of $5.03 billion for higher education alone.

This total included $1.9 billion for student support from all agencies.

The current U. S. Office of Education budget calls for $3.5 billion in new appropriations for fiscal 1970 — about the same level as last year, but with more emphasis on programs for the disadvantaged.

The budget which the outgoing Johnson Administration submitted to Congress last January reflected the growing concern inside the federal government to provide for every child, regardless of his family income, race or place of residence, an opportunity for all the education he wants and can absorb.

It also underlines the intention of the government to improve the quality of education through experimentation with new materials and new methods.

No matter what changes the Nixon Administration makes in the years to come in the budget, these goals are likely to remain paramount in the field of education.

U.S. to Take Action On Georgia Schools

ATLANTA (AP) — A five-man team of civil rights lawyers was sent to Georgia Tuesday by the Justice Department to take court action against seven school districts accused of reneging on voluntary desegregation plans.

The Justice Department did not identify the school systems to be sued. However, Robert Finch, secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, said seven systems have refused to carry out agreed-upon desegregation plans.

HEW identified the school districts as Clinch, Coffee, Dodge, Emanuel, Telfair and Wheeler counties and the City of Rome.

Finch said the districts "promised long ago to implement a desegregation plan this fall" only to renege last week on the eve of the opening of schools this fall.

At Rome, Dr. M. S. McDonald, superintendent of the city's schools, said Tuesday he believes that the Rome school board has lived up to its agreements with HEW.

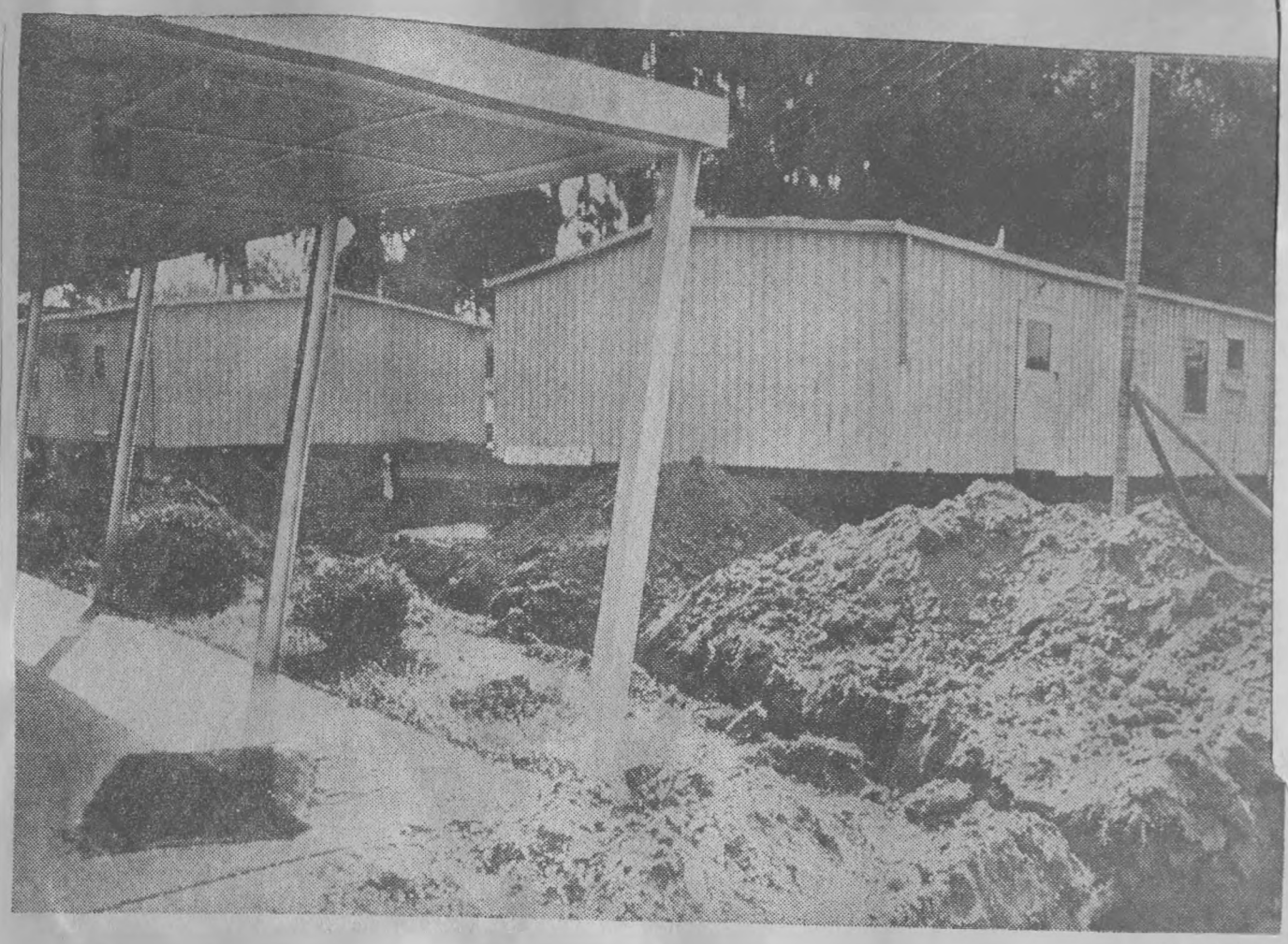
He said the school board had agreed to a future zoning plan, but the proposal was rejected by HEW because it did not include provisions for pairing of schools.

"HEW's concept of zoning and the zoning concept of the Rome Board of Education are not the same," McDonald said.

He said he believes cutoff of federal funds could come at any time and that he and his staff had planned the 1969-70 school year without federal assistance.

Elimination of government aid would reduce Rome's school budget by approximately $500,000, McDonald said. But he added that basic classroom programs could be continued indefinitely without federal assistance.

"This administration is serving notice that school districts cannot cast aside the commitments they have made to provide equal educational opportunities," Finch said. "The alternative would be to encourage a wholesale breakdown of compliance with the law and to create administ-



— Times Staff Photo

Moles at Work? No, They're Trenches for Water and Sewer Lines for Portable Classrooms

VHS Is Expanding For More Students

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High School is expanding its facilities to accommodate an expected 1,180 students this fall as a result of a desegregation and consolidation move.

The Valdosta Board of Education is making room for the 390 Negro pupils by moving five portable classrooms on the VHS campus. Three of the portable rooms are already up and the others are expected to be moved from other school sites in the next few days, said Supt. Foster Goolsby.

Relocation of the portable units was the only way in which VHS and the former all Negro Pinevale High School could be consolidated this September.

Neither school had sufficient room without the additional classrooms for the consolidation. VHS was chosen to house all the 10th, 11th and 12th graders because it is the largest of the two schools.

Pinevale is now part of the VHS campus and all ninth graders are to attend classes there this fall. The seventh and eighth graders are to go to Valdosta Junior High School.

The consolidation plan is part of the school board's desegregation plan for this fall.

Goolsby said that in addition to the portable classrooms VHS will also have a brick masonry studies building this year. Joseph Williams, who taught brick work at Pinevale, will teach the VHS classes, said the superintendent.

The roof and supports from the brick work class building at Pinevale are to be moved to VHS before school begins. Williams' class will finish bricking up the building before cold weather sets in, said Goolsby.

This is the first time brick masonry will be included in the VHS curriculum. VHS has not had an industrial arts department for several years.

Goolsby said the cost of moving and constructing the brick masonry unit is about $4,000. Relocation of the portable classrooms is expected to cost about $7,000.

The additional units are located in back of the library.

Goolsby said the board's maintenance department is now hooking up the water and sewer lines to the portable rooms.

Title Tune

Second Warwick Makes It Solo

By MARY CAMPBELL
AP Newsfeatures Writer

Dee Dee Warwick took the risky step five years ago of leaving a money - making backup group to try and become a solo singer — with another Warwick already making it solo.

Now Dee Dee, whose sister, Dionne Warwick, sang the title tune to the movie, "Alfie," has a movie title tune of her own, "Ring of Bright Water."

Dee Dee hopes that the exposure of the song, through radio play, sales and the Cinerama movie, will lead to more movie songs and some better personal appearances.

"I'm hoping the college circuit will open up. It might this year. I'm doing some universities in California — so maybe." Currently, she's doing a lot of one-nighters.

Dionne and Dee Dee childhood nickname for Delia got their start in a teen - age gospel group, the Gospel-Airs. Then they started a backup singing group for recordings. When Dionne embarked on a solo career, Dee Dee became "contractor" for the group, then called "Dee Dee's Girls."

"We used to do Dionne's records and everything that came out of Atlantic and all of Aretha's work at Columbia. We'd sing from 2 in the afternoon until 5 or 6 in the morning, going from session to session. They had me doing demo records as well, so I'd be in there at 11 in the morning. Can you imagine what that does to you?

"I think it was because I was so tired that I started blowing dates and I don't like to do that. Once I had half of the group at one place and half at another doing two different dates I had booked for the same time. It came out all right; I was with one and Sissy Houston was with the other, but I decided to give it up rather than mess it up, you know."

After Dee Dee left the group, her aunt, Sissy Houston, took it over and named it the Sweet Inspirations.

"Just starting out alone in the entertainment business is very, very hard," Dee Dee says. "I was used to spending money. I had to tighten my belt. I almost went back, but I said no, I can't go back. I'm sticking."

Dee Dee has two LPs on Mercury, "I Want To Be With You" and "Foolish Fool." She also has had singles, "which should have been hits and weren't. They were later for other people. What you need is exposure. The disc jockeys wouldn't want to do anything to hurt Dionne, so they let me just bubble under all the time. Now they're giving me the consideration of an artist.

"At first, they thought that Dionne made a hit and here comes her sister, like everybody's sister does. But I can sing. Just give me a chance. When I get on stage, people don't care whose sister I am. If I can't sing, I'll get off.

"I love Dionne but she sure has made it hard for me."

Still, Dee Dee doesn't want to change her name. "Not after five years, I'm not. It took Eva Gabor a long time to make it, but she made it."

Dee Dee recorded "Alfie" before Dionne did, when she was on a performing tour of gambling houses in northern England and Cilla Black had a hit with the song there. But it wasn't released until long after Dionne's — as a track on Dee Dee's second album. "I fell in love with the song and thought it was written just for me. Turns out it was written just for my sister."

Forget Last Week Baze Tells 'Cats

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats have been advised by their head coach Wright Baxemore to forget last week's results or they might get "surprised" Friday night.

Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Clint Madray's Wayne County (Jesup) Yellow Jackets are to clash here tomorrow night at 8 o'clock at Cleveland Field in a Region 1-AAA contest.

The 'Cats own a 2-0 record, including a 42-0 romp over loop foe Dougherty (Albany) last week. Wayne was beaten, 39-6, last Friday by Waycross in the Jackets' season opener.

"I've got to say we haven't looked very good in practice." Bazemore said. "Our boys better forget last week's results and be prepared for a tough game tomorrow night or they may be in for a surprise — an unpleasant surprise.

"Sure, we won by a big score over Dougherty. And I know Wayne lost to Waycross. But let me tell you, what happened last week doesn't guarantee us anything this week.

"Wayne has a much better team than the score of its game with Waycross might seem to indicate. Keep in mind Waycross lost in its opener two weeks ago, then bounced back to lick Wayne last Friday.

"Now that the Jackets have a game under their belts, they're going to be much better organized than they were against Waycross. And you can be sure after that licking they're going to come here fired up to the hilt.

"If Wayne catches us with our damper down, well, we're going to be in trouble."

Among the Jackets' top performers last week was quarterback Robert Atkins, a 170-pound junior who picked up 54 yards on 10 carries. The Wayne County crew is also led by the McPipkin boys, Jim and Joe, a pair of 220-pound seniors who are outstanding two - way performers.

Bazemore reports that the 'Cats, with the exception of fullback Danny O'Neal, are in good physical condition this week. O'Neal is expected to see action against Wayne, but is slowed by a hip injury he sustained in VHS's 14-0 opening game win over Thomasville two weeks ago.

The probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Koncar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christie (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Charles Daniels (190, jr.) and Willie Jones (180, sr.) and full back Henry D vis (180, sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Mike Everson (200, jr.) or Vance Quillin (205, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, Sr.), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.) and deep backs John Hampton)165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, jr).

WAYNE COUNTY

Offense — ends Ronnie Drigers (170, sr.) and Mike Bohannon (170, jr.), tackles Richard Warren (188, sr.) and Barry Collier (222, jr.), guards Truett Thompson (185, jr.) and Bobby Evans (175, sr.), center Bruce Jones (195, jr.), quarterback Robert Atkins (170, jr.), halfbacks Greg Grantham (165, sr.) and Johnny Brannen (170, sr.) of Jerry Blanton (165, jr.) and fullback Jim McPipkin (220, sr.)

Defense — ends Charles Dear (165, sr.) and Jones, tackles Joe McPinkin (220, sr.) and Collier, middle guard Evans, linebackers Robert Dear (165, jr.) Parnell Aldridge (183, jr.), Jim McPipkin and Driggers and deep backs Atkins and Brannen.

'Cats Play Wayne; Vikes Duel Rebels

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats are scheduled to host their second Region 1-AAA foe, Wayne County Friday night while Lowndes' Vikings take on their only non-region opponent of the season, Berrien, here Saturday night to lead the list of area high school football games this weekend.

In other area action Friday, Brooks County (Quitman) is at Turner County (Ashburn), Irwin County (Ocilla) at Clinch County (Homerville), Wakulla County at Madison, Fla., and P. K. Younge (Gainesville, Fla.) at Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.). Cook (Adel) has an open date and will be idle this week.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Wayne at Valdosta
Brooks at Turner
Irwin at Clinch
Wakulla at Madison
P. K. Yonge at Hamilton
Saturday
Berrien at Lowndes

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats are now 2-0 overall and 1-0 in region standings after defeating non - loop foe Thomasville, 14-0, and league opponent Dougherty, 42-0.

The defending state AAA champions are to meet coach Clint Madray's Wayne County (Jesup) Yellow Jackets, who will be trying to rebound from a 39-6 licking handed them by Region 1-AA opponent Waycross.

Coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikings opened their season this past week with a 21-0 loss to always tough Region 1-AAA opponent Moultrie. This coming Saturday night they are scheduled to host coach Fred Tucker's Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) Rebels in their first home game at Martin Field on the Lowndes High campus.

The Rebs opened their season last week and bowed to Cook's Hornets, 12-0. Berrien is a member of Region 1-AA.

Coach Buddy Ethridge's Brooks County Tigers have two come-from-behind victories under their belts and will be looking for their third win when they take on Region 1-B foe Turner County Friday.

The Tigers came from behind to defeat Cook, 10-8, in week defeated Central of Thom- Turner's only game resulted in a 2-14 loss to Worth County.

Coach John Robbins' Clinch County (Homerville) Panthers will have their hands full when they play Region 2-B defending champion Irwin County. Both teams sport 2-0 overall records. Both earlier games were 2-B affairs for Clinch, while Irwin is 1-0 in the league standings.

Florida schools open their season this weekend with coach Brooks Barber's Madison Red Devils taking on Wakulla County and coach Wayne Floyd's Hamilton County Rebels hosting P. K. Yonge of Gainesville.

Madison's Imps went 1-9 last season and hope to better their record this season.

This is Floyd's first year at Hamilton after leading P. K. Yonge to a 9-0-1 record and a season. Hamilton posted a 6-4 record in 1968.

Other games of interest around the state include:

Thursday — Baker at Jordan.

Friday — Mary Pearson at Americus, Spencer at Appling, Patterson at Atkinson, Fitzgerald at Bacon, Bainbridge at Crisp, Ballard Hudson at Warner Robins, Wilcox at Blackshear, Westover at Cairo, Fer-Central.

LaGrange at College Park, Northside at Clumbus, Perry at Dodge, Lanier at Mark Smith, Randolph at Miller, Pelham at Mitchell, Tift at Moultrie and Waycross at Ware.

Saturday — Coffee at Dougherty and Hardaway at Willingham.

School Board Orders Band To Keep Playing 'Dixie'

By MARY CROUSE

The Valdosta Board of Education has directed the Valdosta High School band to continue playing "Dixie" in spite of complaints from some Negro students that they couldn't live here if the song continued to be included in the musical programs at VHS.

The action taken at the regular board meeting Tuesday night on the controversial piece of music is the result of a statement by VHS Band Director Frank Butenschon to The Valdosta Daily Times Tuesday.

Butenschon told a reporter that unless he had some decision from the board concerning the playing or discontinuance of the song he would not plan a halftime show for the football game Friday night.

"This board has now said 'Dixie' will be played. It doesn't have to be played at all affairs but it will be played" said Board Chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr.

The motion to direct the band to continue playing the song was made by board vice chairman Gordon Southwell. The vote was 17-1. Dr. Robert Quattlebaum cast the dissenting vote and board member Dr. J. Ralph Thaxton was not present at the meeting.

Southwell said in a written statement that his motion is no effort on the part of a layman to tell a professional band master how to do his job and it should not be interpreted that Butenschon should clear any part or all of any future programs with the board.

"I move that the Valdosta Board of Education go on record as favoring that Mr. Frank Butenschon continue the VHS band program exactly as he has in past. He is to continue to play his programs, omitting no songs that he has played because of any so called pressure groups, requests or demands," said Southwell.

The motion also stated Butenschon could add any music that any group may request, if it is musically sound and in the opinion of the bandmaster, proper band music.

Quattlebaum said he objected to the motion because it seemed the board was telling Butenschon he had to play "Dixie."

The board did not discuss whether the band should continue to carry the Confederate flag, another point of contention with some Negroes and whites.

The "Dixie" controversary crept up last year and the board left the matter up to the VHS principal and band director.

It came up again last week following a band rehearsal at which Dixie was played. Some of the Negro band members expressed dissatisfaction over playing the song.

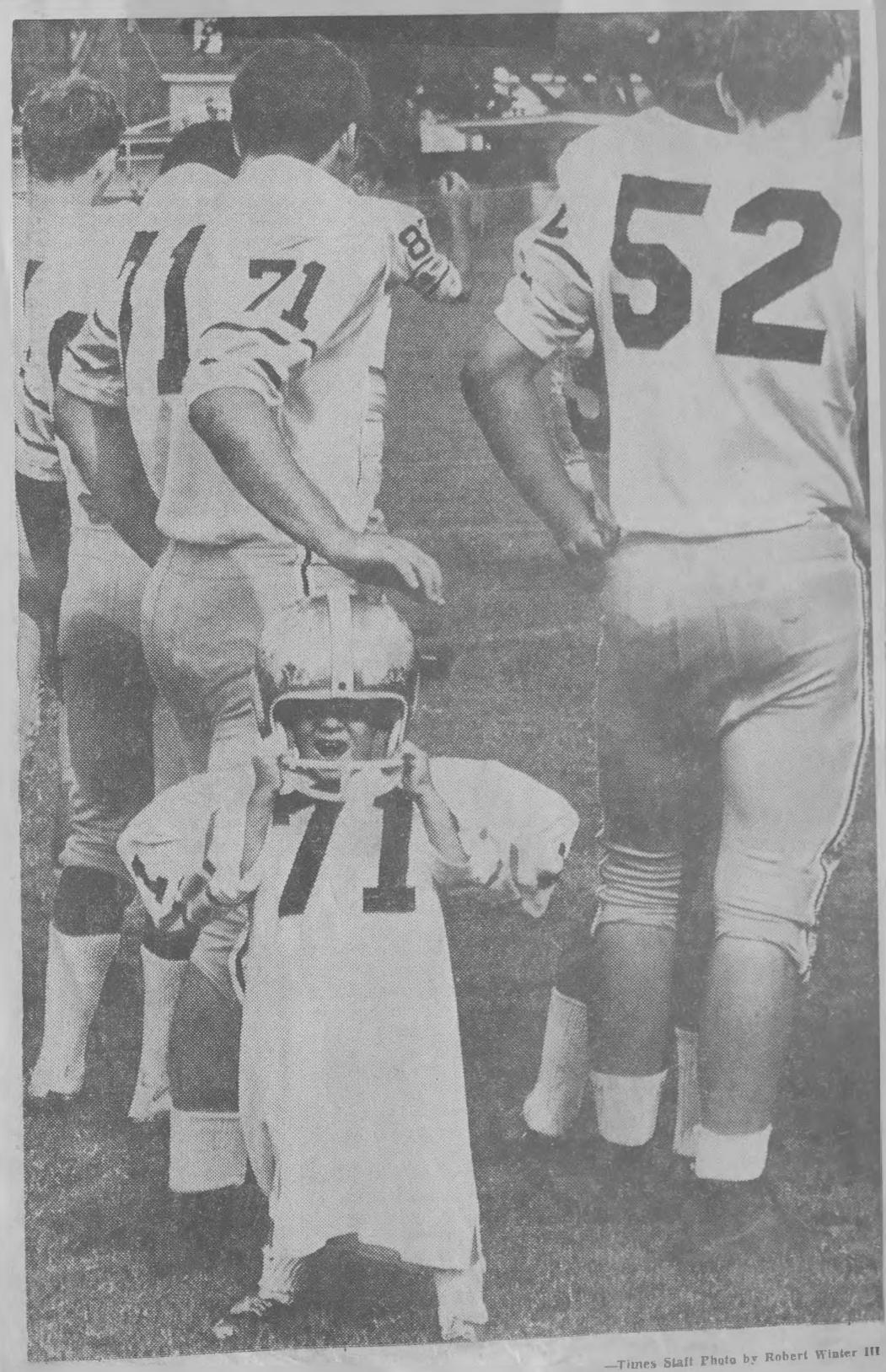
Supt. Foster Goolsby said he heard about the students' concern Friday morning and talked to Tillman about it.

Tillman said he met Goolsby in the superintendent's office along with Southwell and board treasurer and attorney Reuben Yancey.

It was then he said, that a meeting of various community leaders was called to discuss the problem of Dixie.

The two students, black, had

See School — Page 2



—Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

Don't Call Me Kid!

The jersey is a little long and the helmet's awful loose but 3-year-old Trevor Greene, son of Valdosta High School assistant coach Charles Greene, doesn't want anybody patronizing him. Not even Wildcat 71 Robert Koncar, whose second jersey the youngster is wearing. Young Trevor was on hand Friday as the Wildcats completed their football camp with a photo day at Cleveland Field.

Wildcats Blitz Region Foe Ware

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats scored on their fourth play from scrimmage and went on from there to blitz the Ware County Gators, 63-0, here Friday night.

A crowd of approximately 8,000 turned out to see coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Phil Early's Gators from Waycross meet in a Region 1-AAA game. It was never a contest.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Ware
First Downs	24	2
Yards Rushing	369	-39
Yards Passing	150	43
Passes	6-10	3-14
Passes Intc by	1	0
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punting	0-0	7-32.5
Penalties	10-70	1-15

While VHS' stop'em crew was producing its fourth straight shutout this year, the 'Dosta go troops piled up 24 first downs, 519 yards in total offense and nine touchdowns.

Ware's total was three first down, a net of four yards in offense and one mild scoring threat which carried to the Valdosta 20 late in the game.

Valdosta reserves began flowing into the tilt during the opening period. Before it was over more than 60 VHS players, all that were available for duty, saw action.

With the triumph Valdosta boosted its overall record for the season to 4-0 and upped its 1-AAA mark to 3-0. The 'Cats have now won 18 straight over a span which covers parts of three seasons. The loss was the third in as many tries for the Gators this year.

The Wildcats' first touchdown came on a 40 yard run by halfback Henry Davis. It was followed by eight more.

Willie Jones, who saw duty at both quarterback and halfback, accounted for three TDs on runs of 5 and 10 yards and on a 68 yard pass from quarterback Don Golden. In addition to throwing that TD strike, Golden scored himself on a six yard run.

Fullback Danny O'Neal reached paydirt on a three yard run, halfback Robert Savage tallied on a three y a r d romp, fullback Benji Meeks got one on a one yard plunge and halfback Charles Daniels crossed the goal line after a 42 yard gallop.

O'Neal and guard Mark Dizois divided the PAT kicking duties. O'Neal booted six extra points and Dibois kicked three.

VHS scored three other times, but the markers were nullified by penalties. Wiped off the books were punt returns of 55 and 42 yards by end Warrick Taylor. Also nullified was a one-yard scoring plunge by quarterback Stanley Bounds.

Ware's only threat, a mild one, came late in the game when Gator quarterback Gary Taylor connected with halfback McKinley Williams with passes of 39 and 10 yards that carried Ware to the Valdosta 20. When the Gators were forced to give up the football on downs four plays later they were back at the 26.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Golden 5-21, Jones 7-36, Daniels 4-62, Davis 4-63, O'Neal 9-38, Savage 3-16, Bounds 3-13, LeFiles 9-36, Bell 1-7, Blalock 1-19, Meeks 3-9, Branam 4-31, Ander 2-14. Ware — M. Williams 18 minus 21, Taylor 2 minus 11, Howard 4 minus 9, C. Crews 3-4.

Passing: Valdosta — Golden 3-7-110, Jones 2-2-20, Bounds 1-1-20; Ware — Taylor 1-8-39, Baldwin 2-6-4.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Daniels 1-10, Jones 2-94, Davis 1-16, Blalock 1-10, Rome 1-20; Ware — M. Williams 3-35.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Taylor 3-34.

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Blalock 1-25; Ware — Howard 1-9, Hand 1-4, T. Williams 3-42, D. Crews 2-14, M. Williams 1-21, Evans 1-13.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Dove 7, Everson 5, Ho H 5, Sherton 5, Quillin 4, Cranford 3, Hendry 3, Baker 3, Holder 3, Brant 2, Puckett 2, Quattlebaum 2; Ware — Thomas 7, Williams 6, M. Williams 5, Baldwin 4, Dowling 4, Howard 4, B. Dowling 4, Ganious 3, Hampton 3, Bennett 3, Middleton 3, Kelley 3.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Puckett, A. Skoropat, Demederman, Dove, Baker, H. Skoropat, Rome.

Tackles: Everson, K o n c a r, Simpson, Jarmillo, Quillin, Hendry, Sideny, Akin, Dewar, Bea, Harrison.

Guards: Parr, Marshall, Charles Daniels, Shenton, Strickland, Holt, Dibois, Strickland, Crawford.

Centers: Stanaland, Golfrey, L l o y d, Herron, Christy.

Backs: Bazemore, Taylor, Golden, Mullis, Bounds, Jones, Welch, Johnson, Lawrence, Bell, Savage, Quattlebaum, LeFiles, Walters, Deloach, Lee, E m a n u e l Blalock, Meeks, O'Neal, Holder, Clarkston, Anderson, Davis, Hampton, Branan, Waller, Jenkins, Daniels.

WARE

Ends: Hand, D. Crews, Gable, Kelly, Evans.

Tackles: Dowling, Inman, Hampt Middleton.

Guards: Herrington, Thomas, Lee, Ga-

Centers: Rowell, Strickland.

Backs: Taylor, Baldwin, M Williams, Martinson, Dowling, C. Crews T. Williams, Bennett, Guyposo, Howard, Crawford.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	14	21	21	7	—63
Ware	0	0	0	0	— 0

Scoring: TD's — Valdosta — Jones 3 (5 yd. run, 68 yd. pass, from Golden, 10 yd. run), Davis (49 yd run), O'Neal (3yl. run), Savago (3 yd run), Golden (6yd. run), Meeks (1 yd. run), Daniels (42 yd run). PAT's — Valdosta — O'Neal 6 (placements), Dibois 3 (placements.)

Grid Glimpses

Valdosta 63, Ware 0

Valdosta's Wildcats reached paydirt on their fourth play from scrimmage and went on from there to a one-sided win over Region 1-AAA foe Ware County.

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

'Dosta, Moultrie Seen As Victors

You couldn't exactly say I got off to a blazing start last week with my football predictions.

I tried to form chart the outcome of 14 high school games and the best I could do was break even with a 7-7— 500 mark. Since the expert forecasters usually average right around 800, my performance has to be rated as poor.

Ah, but it's early in the year and I haven't gotten all the kinks worked out. My defense is ahead of my offense right now and I'm still trying to eliminate the costly mistakes which helped bring about my downfall last time out.



Four prep teams in the area, Valdosta, Brooks County (Quitman), Cook (Adel) and Clinch County (Homerville), opened their seasons last week. Two more, Lowndes and Berrien (Nashville, Ga.), are to get their first tastes of 1969 grid action tonight. Next Friday another

Slate Supper

TD Club Aiming For 1,000 Mark

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Touchdown Club is aiming for 1,000 members this year and a c c o r d i n g to David Waller, the organization's president, "It's vital that we attain our goal."

"All of the money used for our club's many worthwhile projects comes from our annual membership fee of $10 per person," Waller said. "Some of our projects have been expended and the cost of everything has gone up.

"We're holding the membership fee at $10, but that means it's vital that we attain our goal of 1,000 members if we're going to be able to finance all our projects properly."

One of the club's major projects each year is the sponsorship of a two-week f o o t b a l l camp for the Valdosta H i g h Wildcats. The 1969 camp is in session right now and the 'Cats have 89 candidates at the 4-H Club Camp at Twin L a k e s. This is an increase over l a s t year. The VHS squad swelled as a result of the consolidation of Valdosta and Pinevale Highs.

Coming up next Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. will be the Touchdowners' annual "kickoff" supper at the camp. The 'C a t s will hold a game-type scrimmage at 4 o'clock that afternoon and club m e m b e r s and prospective club members can take in the scrimmage t h e n stay for the supper.

"Anyone who hasn't paid their 1969 dues or anyone who wishes to join the club may do so at our supper meeting T u e s d a y night," Johnny B. Lastinger, the TD membership chairman, said.

Right now the club has three committees, merchant, industrial and professional, calling on prospective new members.

"We've already signed up about 50 new members," Lastinger said. "That's encouraging, but we still have a long way to go to reach the 1,000 m a r k. Last year we had 649 members. If do reach 1,000 it will be an all-time high for our club."

In addition to sponsoring the camp and holding the "kickoff" supper, the Touchdowners have many other projects. They pay for the supplementing of lunchroom meals for VHS gridders during the season, hold a series of Monday night movie meetings for clubs members during the season, sponsor an annual football awards banquet, sponsor a "Has- Beens" game in the spring and have a fish fry for members in the spring.

The Touchdowners are among Valdosta's most ardent Wildcat boosters throughout t

ICE:

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$9.95 Special
$7.20 Special
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Work Should Start Now

Let's Take VHS From 1922 World Into 1970s



By TENNEY GRIFFIN

When you walk up the front steps at Valdosta High School, in an alcove off to the left is a large bronze plaque. It is positioned so that it goes mostly unnoticed. This is apparent, because the plaque is somewhat corroded and neglected.

It says that the VHS building was constructed in 1922 when the late C.L. Smith was the school board chairman and the late A.G. Cleveland was the superintendnet.

Through the front door directly forward is a wall covered by trophy cases. This is the home of the mighty Wildcats and it takes a lot of trophy room to display their hardware from the wars on the gridiron and elsewhere.

But before you get to the trophy cases is Mr. Green's office. He is the VHS principal and too much of the time the receptionist. Chuck Green's office is the first you come to on entering the building. He keeps the shade over the door window half drawn, so visitors are always stooping to see if anyone is there.

Principal Green doesn't stay in the office much. He's too busy all over the building trying to make sure the high school is running smoothly.

This is no small problem because at VHS this year are 1,335 students. That's 500 more than were enrolled last year. The place is literally breaking out with kids. The old building was full enough but when the city system implemented its desegregation plan this fall, the seams started to stretch.

But the old building doesn' look so bad. In fact, inside there is a fresh coat of paint and all the holes in the walls have been patched. It looks a heck of a lot better than it did more than 20 years ago when I was a student there.

Yet, the building that houses the mighty Wildcats is totally inadequate. It has been inadequate for years.

As a house does no make a home, neither does a school building make a school. Chuck Green believes, however, old Valdosta High in a new setting would be a much better Valdosta High.

This town needs a new high school building. It needs it in the worst sort of way. "If any town needs a new high school, this one does," is the way Principal Green puts it.

There's so much wrong. It is that way because Principal Green and his staff are trying to meet 1970 needs in a 1920 structure. There have been additions over the years, but there haven't been enough.

The lunchroom, for instance, was designed to feed about 325 students. They are feeding 1,300. There are 43 classrooms, yet there are 58 teachers on the staff. (The teachers have to change rooms as well as the students.)

The list of what's wrong could go on and on. But mainly the present VHS facilities do not provide what is necessary for a comprehensive high school program. VHS is an academic high school. It is a good place for students who will be going on to college. It offers very little for those who won't.

When Principal Green talks about a new high school, he talks about a comprehensive high school. This is one that will offer a strong academic program as well as the necessary industrial arts program.

The Valdosta Board of Education has been toying with the problem. There was $100,000 earmarked for purchasing a high school site from a recent bond issue. A committee was appointed to seek out the site.

But the money is gone. It went into new classrooms elsewhere. Construction costs always run more than people anticipate. The committee has not chosen a site.

So what about a new high school building? Principal Green sees it as a building designed for the comprehensive program.

It would contain 60 or more classrooms. But these rooms would be designed to handle the varying course offerings. Part of the problem at the old building is that some rooms just aren't large enough.

The site will have to be about 50 acres and 10 years after the new building is built, they will wish they had bought 100 acres. It should be in a central location. But there are[illegible] less[illegible] ce[illegible] to[illegible] s[illegible] b[illegible] g[illegible] li[illegible]

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Sept. 11, 1969 (17)

'Cats Get Ready For Home Opener

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats are to get their first taste of Region 1-AAA competition and make their 1969 home field debut when they meet the Dougherty Trojans from Albany here Friday night.

The duel between coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and and coach Luther Welch's Trojans is slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

In their season opener last week at Thomasville the 'Cats notched a 14-0 victory over the Bulldogs, a set of non-region opponents.

Dougherty also got its new season started last week, and dropped a 26-0 decision to the Monroe Golden Tornadoes in a region test at Albany.

Last season the Wildcats rolled to a 40-0 triump over Dougherty.

Tomorrow night's duel with the Trojans will mark the start of a three-game home stand for Valdosta. The 'Cats will also play Wayne County (Jesup) and Ware County (Waycross) here before they hit the road again on Oct. 3 to face Albany at Albany.

For now, however, the 'Cats are focusing their attention on Dougherty.

"Dougherty is a region opponent, the first of nine straight we'll be meeting," Bazemore said. "Every region game is vital, and this one is no exception.

"Our performance against Thomasville indicates we still have a whole lot of room for improvement. I'd like to feel we've made some progress in practice this week. We'll find out for sure Friday night."

Those two TDs the 'Cats scored against the Bulldogs came on a pass interception by linebacker Curt Bazemore and a punt return, by end Warrick Taylor. Valdosta gained just 64 yards along the ground, but did better through the air as quarterback Don Golden hit on 10 of 14 tosses for 117 yards.

The 'Cats' defenders stopped the Bulldogs at close range four times, once in the first half and three times after intermission.

"We've got to get our attack moving more consistently," Bazemore said. "On defense we've got to iron out the kind of mistakes we made against Thomasville — the kind which got us into trouble and forced us to have to make stands close to the goal line."

The probable starters, as announced by the two team's coaches, are as follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Knocar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (201, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christie (200, sr.) or Steve Stanaland (190, soph.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Willie Jones (170, sr.) and Henry Davis (180, sr.) or Charles Daniels (190, jr.), fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.).

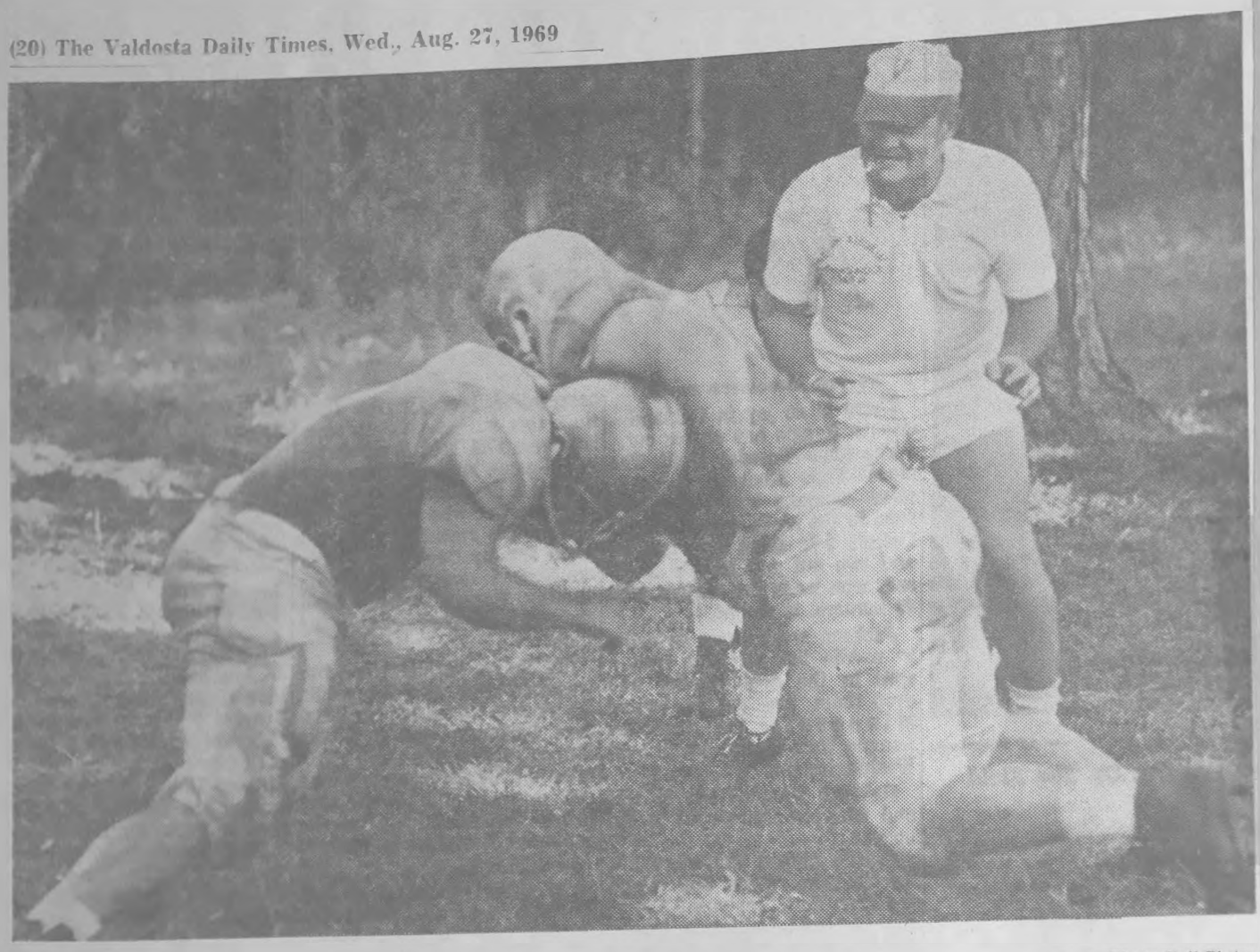
Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Vance Quillin (205, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, sr.), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr). deep backs John Hampton (165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, jr.).

DOUGHERTY

Offense — ends Willie Griffin (160, jr.) and Paul Mock (165, sr.), tackles John Everette (180, sr.) and Tony Houston (180 sr.), guards Danny McLeod (175, jr.) and George Williams (185, sr.), center David McKie (175, jr.), quarterback Skipper Mathis (165, jr.), halfbacks Ken Spooner (138, jr.) and Jerry Cory (160, sr.), fullback Bill Wilson (180, jr.).

Defense — ends Jim Briggs (159, sr.) and Griffin, tackles Everette and Houston, middle guard Mike Rankin (175, jr.), linebackers Wilson, Williams and McKie, deep backs Johnny Cooper (155, soph.), Cory and Spooner.





— Times Staff Photo

VHS Line Coach Charlie Greene Looks On As Charles Shenton (L) and Mark DiBois Go Through Drill

Young, Old Going After Golf Crown

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The contrast is startling. First, you have Bruce Fleisher, 20, and as many years of amateur golf ahead of him as he chooses. Then, there is Billy Hyndman, still shooting for his golf moon at 53.

Both started around Oakmont Country Club's 6,892-yard course today in the 69th annual U.S. Amateur Golf Championship. Fleisher is the defending champion. He won it in his first try. Hyndman was making his 17th bid since his first in 1949.

These young and old were part of a field of 150 seeking the title in the four-day, 72-hole tournament. The top 60 scorers and ties will qualify for the final 36 holes. Uncle Sam's victorious Walker Cup team was here in body, along with its victim of last week, the Walker Cup team of Great Britain.

Fleisher expressed confidence in his ability to do something

Baze Says 'Cats Need More Time

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats need time, something they don't have much of, to reach their full potential.

That's what the 'Cats' head coach Wright Bazemore told approximately 300 members of the Valdosta Touchdown Club at a supper meeting Tuesday night.

The meeting was held at the 4-H Club Camp at Twin Lakes where the 'Cats are going through pre-season drill paces. The camp is sponsored by the Touchdowners and the meeting marked the start of the club's 1969 "season."

"We have some 90 boys in camp and I've got to say that I feel we have a group which has potentials," Bazemore said. "But we lost 17 starters off our 1968 state (Class AAA) state championship team and we lack experience.

"In time I feel we could knit into a pretty good football team. But time is something we don't have much of. It means we're going to have to work extra hard to try to be ready for our opening game and then after that we'll have to continue working hard."

The 'Cats are to launch their 1969 campaign on Friday, Sept. 5 against Thomasville's strong and experienced Bulldogs at Thomasville. That's just 10 days from now, and in that span VHS will have just six days of "contact" work to get ready.

Bazemore and his aides put the Wildcats through a game type scrimmage Tuesday and said "that in some ways he was disappointed."

"I was disappointed because, I guess, the scrimmages shows what a long, long way we have to go," Baaemore said. "It also indicated that we're going to have to make some changes."

The Wildcats' camp is to end at noon Friday, they are to come back to town that afternoon and then hold a game-type scrimmage under the lights at Cleveland Field at 8 o'clock that night. The 'Cats are also slated to practice at night on Monday, which is Labor Day. School is to open Tuesday and after that they will drill in the afternoon on their home field.

Marching Cats To Play For Saints

By MARTHA EVANS

The Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats don't claim to be saints, but that's not going to stop them from performing for some — the New Orleans Saints at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans on Sept. 6.

The night game between the Saints and the Houston Oilers is expected to draw 85,000 people, one of them astronaut Mike Collins who is to be featured with the Marchin' Cats in half-time festivities, band director Frank Butenschon said he was told.

"Do you realize that is 170,000 eyeballs?" Butenschon grinned.

Thoughts of those 170,000 eyeballs are not amusing to a majority of the bandsmen.

"For nearly half of our students this will be their second performance, the first being the Thomasville game the night before. It's quite a way to break them in," Butenschon said.

"Naturally we know they'll be scared, but if we put them in the proper frame of mind, they'll do the job they're capable of doing," he said.

"We will do the performance we won with in New Orleans last year (Greatest Band in Dixie marching contest). We'll introduce Mike Collins by playing the "2001" theme and form an outline of the Apollo 11 module," Butenschon described the halftime festivities which are to be televised in South Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

"Collins will come on the field and make a short speech and then there will be an aerial fireworks display showing the moon and the American flag," he said.

"Collins wil come on the field

To get to New Orleans in ti to practice at the stadium, the Marchin' Cats must leave Thomasville immediately after the Wildcat football game and travel all night, returning to Valdosta on Sunday.

The trip is a long, hard one and the band, now at camp near Waycross, has only two weeks to get ready for the televised performance, but it is an opportunity. Butnschon said, that makes the inevitable tiredness and money-raising efforts worthwhile.

"I feel like the three astronauts have placed themseves in history by their trip to the moon," Butenschon said. "The opportunity to be on a program with and see one of the astronauts personally is an experience the kids will remember for a long time. I'm happy we can give them this poortunity."

The Marchin' Cats, about 118 of them in all, may have to make a big detour to reach their accommodations at Ft. Smith in New Orleans.

"We understand (U. S. Highway 90 is out but if we have to, we can go down through Mississippi," the band director explained.

ASC Schedules James Brown

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Soul singer James Brown is to present a concert at Albany State College Sept. 22 at Mills Memorial Stadiom, according to an announcement.

Brown and other entertainers are to be presented in a concert sponsored by the college's athletic association. Show time is 8 p. m. and tickets are to go on sale Sept. 1.

There are aboot 10,000 tickets for sale for the show. Proceeds are to be used for the athletic scholarship fund at the college.



MRS. SIRMANS
Busy With Visits

Mrs. Sirmans Named To Job

Lowndes County Commissioners have hired a 24-year-old native of Coffee County as Extension Assistant Home Economist.

Sandra Sirmans, wife of William B. Sirmans, is to replace Jerry Powers on Oct. 1. Mrs. Powers resigned last month.

Mrs. Sirmans received a B. S. degree from the Womans College at Milledgeville and a master's degree in home economics education from the University of Georgia.

A native of Ambrose in Coffee County, she was graduated from Coffee County High School at Douglas.

She expects to be working mainly with 4-H Clubs in the county. "I'm going to be busy with visits to the clubs for awhile and lining up projects for the year. I was a member of 4-H for about five years when I was growing up."

Mrs. Sirmans taught home economics at Valdosta High School last year. She decided to make the change, she said, "because I want to get varied experiences in this line of work. I'm looking forward to it."

She comes to the extension office from a farm background. Her husband is with the transportation division at Moody Air Force Base.

Miss Ted Phelps is Lowndes County Extension Home Eco-

SAINTS vs. OILERS

Valdosta's Marching Cats Invited to Play at Game

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — When Valdosta High School's football Wildcats take the field Friday night at Thomasville to begin defense of their latest state title the faithful Marching Cats will be there to support the gridders as usual.

But when the Marching Cats leave the field Friday night they won't board buses to return home as usual. Instead, the VHS band will board buses to begin an all-night ride that will take them in the opposite direction from Valdosta. They will go to New Orleans where they are to play in pre-game and half-time shows at the Saints and Houston Oilers exhibition football game.

The professional game will begin at 9 p.m. EDT, said C. M. Northcutt, president of the Band Boosters Club which is footing the bill for the trip.

Participating in the half-time show with the band will be astronaut Michael Collins of the moon-trip team.

Northcutt notes that the association with Collins will be a thrill of a life-time for the band members who are paying $10 each on their bus fare to help supplement boosters club finances.

"There will be a video tape pickup of the game but as of yet we haven't been able to get a sponsor or to get an area station (Valdosta area) to carry it," Northcutt added.

Lloyd Gaubert, chairman of the Greatest Band in Dixie Contest which the Valdosta band won during this year's Mardi Gras activities, was instrumental in getting the Marching Cats the invitation to the pro game, Northcutt added.

VHS Turns Sights On Ware's Gators

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats are slated to go against the Ware County Gators here Friday night and VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore doesn't want the Cats thinking about any games beyond that one.

The duel between the Wildcats and coach Phil Early s Gators from Waycross is set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field. It will be a Region 1-AAA affair.

Valdosta will go into the tilt with a 3-0 record after licking Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0) and Wayne County (34-0). Ware is 0-2 after bowing to Tift County (13 - 0) and Waycross (39-12).

After meeting Ware, the 'Cats have three toughies in a row against Albany, Moultrie and Monroe (Albany). Albany is a traditional rival and the 'Cats will be on the road for that contest. Moultrie and Monroe, like Valdosta, are unbeaten.

"Ware is the team we play this week and that's the only game our boys need to be thinking about right now," Bazemore said. It's a region game and that means victory for us is a must."

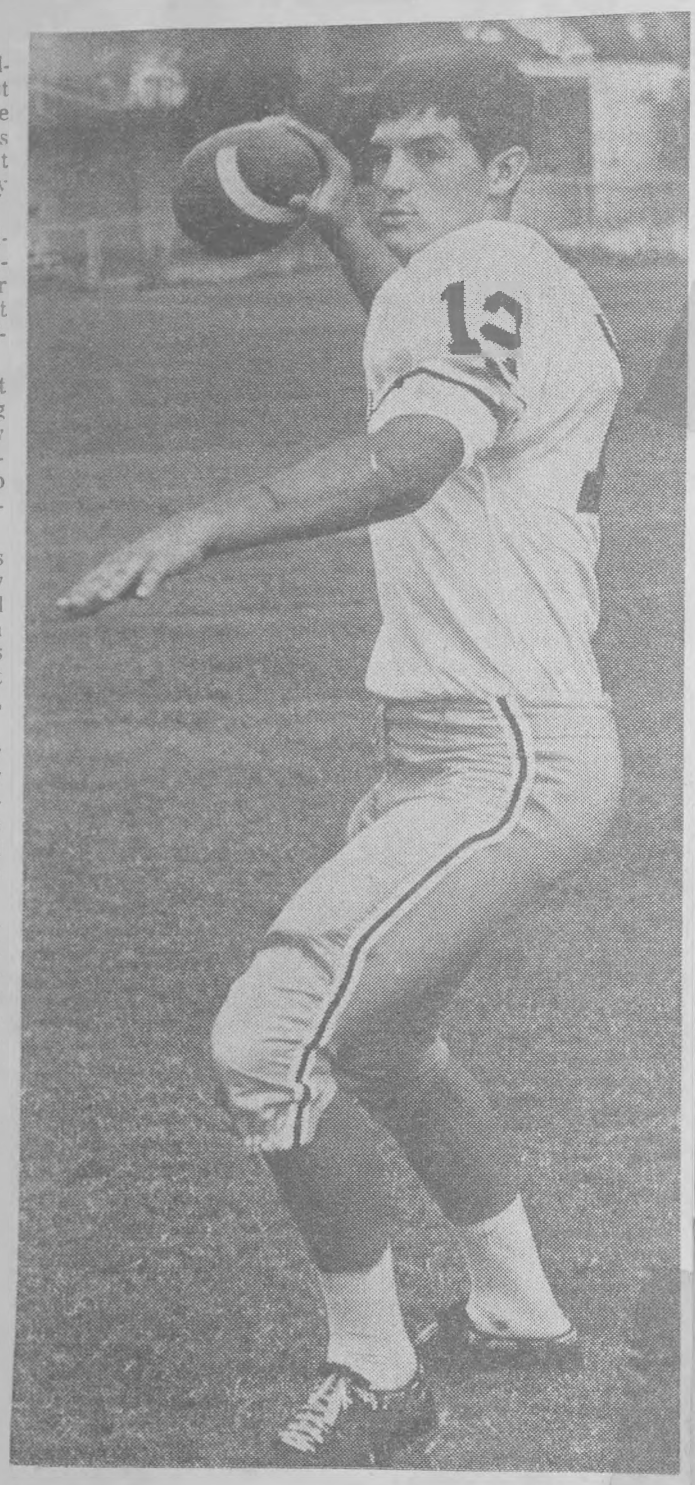
Valdosta's hard-hitting defensive troops, who have produced three shutouts in a row, definitely have something to think about in connection with the Gators. It's how to stop Ware's swift running back McKinley Williams.

Williams is a 175-pound senior who in just two games has rambled for 202 yards on 40 carries. He's also returned a pair of kicks for 91 yards and has two touchdowns to his credit. The Gator halfback is the second leading rusher in 1-AAA.

While Williams and his teammates are testing VHS' stop'em crew, the 'Cats also have to think about ways to keep their own attack going. So far they have been able to come up with the right answers.

Quarterback Don Golden is 1-AAA's leading passer with 21 completion in 34 tries for 290 yards. His average of 39.50 yards per boot on eight kicks has also put him out front in the region's punting derby.

'Dosta's ground attack leaders have been halfbacks Willie Jones (12-155), Charles Daniels (20-104) and Henry Davis (11-62). Jones has also caught seven passes for 121 yards. End Warrick Taylor has seven pass receptions to his credit for 103 yards.



— Times Staff Photo

'Cats' Don Golden Leads 1-AAA Passing Race

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follow:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Knocar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Willie Jones (170, sr.) and Charles Daniels (190, jr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.) or Benji Meeks (150, sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Mike Everson (200, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, sr.), linebackers Curt Baxemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.), deep baeps John Hampton (165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, Jr.).

WARE

Offense — ends David Crews (180, sr.) and Steve Hand (165, soph.), tackles Bud Dowling (180, sr.) and Jack Middleton (205, sr.), guards James Herrington (155, fresh.) and Bruce Thames (140, jr.), center Gill Rowell (145, jr.), quarterback Gary Taylor (160, sr.), halfbacks McKinley Williams (175, sr.) and Joseph Howard (135, sr.), fullback Coy Crews (140, soph.).

Defense — ends D. Crews and Dowling, tackles Danny Hampton (180, jr.) and Middleton, middle guard Thames, linebackers Don Baldwin (150, sr.), Billy Mortenson (135, sr.), Harry Inman (205, jr.) and Middleton and deep backs Williams and Howard.

City, County School Doors Open Tuesday

By MARY CROUSE

Students here are savoring the last moments of summer vacation before they begin their new school year Tuesday.

The school doors open Tuesday for the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems, the Valdosta Christian Private School, Valwood (private) School and Georgia Christian School.

Students in Brooks County returned to school Friday and Echols County youth have been attending classes since Aug. 25. Both systems closed for Labor Day today and classes are to resume Tuesday.

Desegregation, transportation and new teachers are among the changes students in the city and county public schools can look for.

There has also been a time change in the end of the school day for first and second graders. The youngsters in these two grades are to be dismissed from the city public schools at 2:30 p. m. daily.

Area systems such as Berrien, Clinch, Lanier, Hamilton and Midison counties are to open also Tuesday.

None of the principals are expecting 100 per cent attendance the first day although they'd like to see every child present.

"It's impossible to get an accurate count of how many to expect in the system the first day because of delayed vacations and illness and such. But we need to get everyone in as quickly as possible," said Valdosta Supt. Foster Goolsby.

Lowndes County Supt. A. B. (Sonny) Martin agreed and said attendance is the only means by which school administrators can solve crowded conditions which may exist at some facilities.

"The children have to be in their seats for us to see just what we have to deal with," said Martin.

And while the county board

See City — Page 2

Gavels & Gals

'ADA' Could Be Project For Club

EDITOR'S NOTE: Club columnist Jean Holland is on vacation. I. H. (Bubber) Tillman is this week's guest columnist. An insurance executive, Mr. Tillman is also chairman of the city's board of education.

By I. H. TILLMAN JR.

School attendance is much like the weather: everyone talks about it, but not much is done about it.

With a new school year starting Tuesday, the most needed project for civic clubs, ladies' groups, churches, PTA's and individuals is a year-round school attendance program — the best made plans are wasted if the student is not in the classroom.

The problem of absent students has two basic effects on our school system, the first of which is that the basic reason for having a public school system is to provide the best possible education for all the students.

The buildings are built and furnished, the teachers are trained and hired, so that each child can be taught to the best of his or her ability. But the finest teacher in the world can't teach an absent student.

There are only 180 days of school so it is not hard to understand that the student who misses only a few days will quickly fall behind and by doing so will cause the classroom teacher to have to repeat work. This is not fair to the other class members.



MR. TILLMAN
Two Effects

The second big problem caused by absenteeism is in the area of money. You often see the words "Average Daily Attendance" or "ADA" which are so important because state teacher allotments are made according to the number of students attending school rather than the number enrolled.

The school board must hire teachers on the basis of enrollment, so when the average daily attendance is low, some teachers will have to be paid 100 per cent by local funds which will average about $8,000 each.

We know that the above problems exist, so we now need to move forward and strive to take steps to see that the students attend school daily.

There are many things that different groups and individuals can do in promoting school attendance. The school board, school administrators and classroom teachers will welcome help and, as always, want the community to be interested and involved in the schools.

We would welcome any and all groups who would take this problem as a challenge and promote school attendance. A community - wide school attendance movement for the next month would do more to insure quality education in Valdosta than anything else.

In the light of all the changes brought about by having our school system in compliance with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the possibility of a large number of absentees could do more harm than anything else.

We have just approved a budget for next year in the amount of $4,317,175.42, which makes our school system one of the largest businesses in town. Our product consists of the most important young men and young women in the world, so let us see that our efforts are not wasted and that every student attends school daily.



BOARD LEAVES SELECTIONS DISCRETIONARY

Valdosta Band Can Continue to Play Dixie

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — The Valdosta High School band can continue to play "Dixie" or any other music that it would normally plan to play but it should add any "musically sound" and "proper band music" that any group may request.

That is what a somewhat ambiguous motion passed by a 6-1 vote of the city school board boils down to. In some ways the motion puts the monkey back on band director Frank Butenschon who had said he was concerned with music and not emotions and would not discontinue playing Dixie on his own accord.

THE ACTION does let Butenschon know that the school board will not complain if he plays Dixie.

It also, in a sort of a vague way, hints that he should consider playing songs that are favorites of the anti-Dixie people. One such song might be "Battle Hymn of the Republic," considered by some as the Yankee counterpart to Dixie.

However, Dr. Robert Tuattlebaum, who cast the lone vote against Vice Chairman Gordon Southwell's motion Tuesday night, inquired if this meant the band should play "We Shall Overcome."

Tuattlebaum's comment came up for informal discussion at a meeting of the band boosters club board which convened at a restaurant after hearing the school board decision.

THE BOOSTERS, who raise money for band travel and other items, went on record as "endorsing Butenschon in whatever he does." The boosters board, which is all white although the organization has support from Negro band parents, left no doubt that it is happy about the school board decision to leave band programs up to the director.

Southwell moved that the board go on record as favoring that Butenschon continue the band program "exactly as he has in the past. He is to continue to plan his programs, omitting no songs that he has played because of any so-called pressure groups requests or demands.

"However, it is the desire of this board that Butenschon add any music that any group may request, if it is musically sound and, in the opinion of the bandmaster, proper band music.

"THIS MOTION is in no way intended to dictate to Butenschon and merely places the burden of decision in the matter of the playing of Dixie upon the board of education."

It was noted among the band boosters that whether or not "We Shall Overcome" is considered musically sound and proper band music is for the interpretation of Butenschon.

The question of playing Dixie came up when school Supt. Foster Goolsby heard reports that some Negro band members had said they would not play in the band if Dixie was played.

DIXIE HAS been played often by the Marching Cats over the years, usually as the last number before closing the band program, but it was neither scheduled nor played at the band's only high school game appearance of the year last Friday night. It was planned for a professional game in New Orleans last Saturday night but was not played because time ran out.

There is some feeling that the anti-Dixie movement originated outside the student body.

Southwell, prior to making his motion, noted that the school system "has gone through changes in the first six days of this school year that no person would have throught possible just a few years ago (complete integration was obtained)."

HE NOTED that the Valdosta change has been smoother than many. "Sure, we have had problems but they have been small but — any one of them could have reached major proportions unless proper and prompt action was taken.

"These problems will continue to arise and either the school administrators, school teachers or the school board will continue to have to take action — action that I hope will be prompt and proper and fair to all students — black and white," Southwell said.

Former Chairman Lamar Newbern Jr. seconded the Southwell motion. Dr. J. Ralph Thaxton was absent and Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. did not vote.

Both Southwell's statements and the motion were immediately available in typed form, indicating that it had been prepared in advance of the meeting, possibly in consideration with other board members and school officials.

'Cats Stay Home Vikes Hit Road

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta makes its home field debut and Lowndes gets its campaign started with a road game in the feature attractions on the area's high school football slate tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats are to duel coach Luther Welch's Dougherty (Albany) Trojans in a game slated for 8 p.m here tonight at Cleveland Field.

Meanwhile, coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikings are to travel to Moultrie to tackle coach Bud Willis' highly regarded Packers. That one's also set to begin at 8 p.m.

AREA GRID SLATE
Tonight
Dougherty at Valdosta
Lowndes at Moultrie
Berrien at Cook
Brooks at Central
Patterson at Clinch

In other games tonight involving area teams, Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) will be at Cook (Adel), Brooks County (Quitman) at Central (Thomasville) and Patterson at Clinch County (Homerville).

Two area delegates in Florida, Madison and Hamilton County (Jasper), won't open their new seasons until next week

Getting back to Bazemore's 'Cats, they scored a 14-0 victory over non-region foe Thomasville last Friday at Thomasville. Dougherty opened against Monroe, one of its cross-town rivals in Albany, and the Trojans suffered a 26-0 licking.

In addition to playing at home for the first time, when 'Dosta meets Dougherty the 'Cats will launch a string of nine straight Region - AAA games. Bazemore's charges will put a 15-game victory streak on the line tonight. The string now covers parts of three seasons.

Last year Lowndes posted a 2-8 record in their first campaign in 1-AAA. Their goal this time is improvement, but they will be the underdogs against Moultrie tonight. The Packers, after going 8-2 in 1968, rank high again.

Among Moultrie's returning veterans is halfback Bob Hardy, a 173-pound senior. Last fall was 1-AAA's third leading rusher, with 679 yards on 123 carries, and the loop's second leading scorer with 66 points to his credit.

Hardy had a big hand in Moultrie's 32-0 win over Lowndes in their 1968 meeting.

Coach Bobby Phillips' Cook Hornets dropped a 10-8 decision to Brooks in their lidlifter last week. The Adel team will be trying to rebound tonight against coach Fred Tucker's Berrien Rebels. The Rebs from Nashville will be opening their '69 season.

Coach Buddy Ethridge's Brooks Tigers, after that narrow win over Cook, will be tackling the Thomasville Central Yellow Jackets tonight, a team that nipped Mitchell County, 8-7, last Friday.

Clinch's Panthers, who are coached by John Robbins, will be going for their second win against Patterson. The Homerville eleven trimmed Atkinson County, 22-6, in their lidlifter. Clinch and Patterson both campaign in Region 2-B.

Other games of interest around the state include:

TONIGHT — Coffee at Albany, Americus at Crisp, Appling at Lanier, Atkinson at Wilcox, Bacon at Blackshear, Thomasville at Cairo, Camden at Screven, Charlton at Irwin, Fitzgerald at Dodge, Dublin at Perry, Early at Miller.

Wheeler at Jeff Davis, Mark Smith at Jordan, Lanett, Ala., at LaGrange, Northside at Warner Robins, Pelham at Worth, Vienna at Randolph, Seminole at Terrell, Ware at Tift and Wayne at Waycross.

SATURDAY — Carver at Ballard-Hudson and Willingham at Spencer.

DE Students Help With Parking Lot

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

For two weeks 65 Distributive Education students at Valdosta High School have been painting signs and measuring distances so 70 faculty members can have assigned parking.

And they don't want football fans Friday night to tear up the VHS library on the corner of Ann and Williams Streets.

Norman Greene, in charge of the DE Department, said the lot may be completed by Friday. "But whether it is or isn't we want football fans to be careful when they park there Friday night.

"The DE Club students have spent a lot of time and effort on this club project. And one person could tear down two weeks' work," he said.

When completed and open next week, the lot will hold 70 cars so every faculty member and employe of VHS can have an individual parking place. There is an additional lot behind the school.

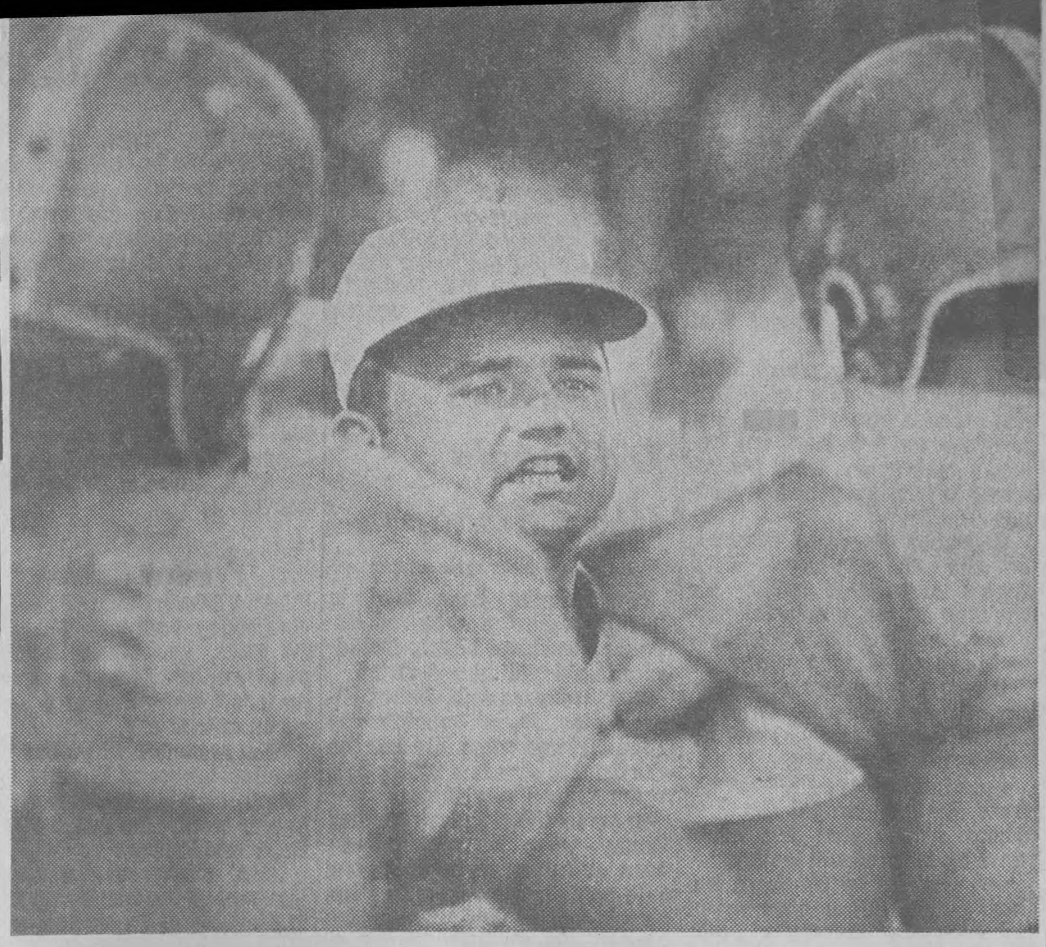
The students have cut out and painted posts, plaques with numbers and will put them together with chains to form the reserved parking," he said.

"We were made aware of the parking problem and suggested the club handle it as a service project," said Greene.

"It's taken a lot of planning and work, especially mental work. "The students started work around Sept. 4 to measure for cars, decide what teachers could be better located in the new lot and similar tasks."

Green said the reaction to the new lot has been quite favorable. "Everybody's pretty glad to get an individual parking place," he said.

Student Council members will be directing traffic in the lot Friday for the game. "We'd like for people to be very careful and go out of the lot the same way they come in," he said.



— Times Staff Photo

VHS Assistant Coach Joe Mercer Has Instructions For Two Linemen

Baze Says 'Cats Had 'Good' Camp

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Now that Valdosta High's Wildcats have ended their two-week football camp coach Wright Bazemore says there are a few rays of sunshine, but still lots of worries.

"In some respects our camp was a good one," Bazemore said. "All of the boys, and I mean all of them, came with the idea they wanted to work.

"But we've found we have weaknesses at some positions, the kind we may or may not be able to shore up, especially in time for our opening game."

Between now and that opener Bazemore mentioned the 'Cats have just four more days of practice. They are to launch their 1969 campaign against Thomasville's tough Bulldogs at Thomasville next Friday night.

Among Bazemore's chief worries, he says, are filling the defensive tackle and stop'em unit safety spots. The chief handicap is a lack of experienc at these positions, plus a lack of speed along the interior part of the defensive line.

On the plus side, he says indication are that the 'Cats have what he describes as "some potentiai" among the offensive backs.

In that group he listed quarterbacks Don Golden (190, sr.), Stanley Bounds (155, soph.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), halfbacks Henry Davis (180, sr.), Charles Daniels (190, jr.), Jimmy LeFiles (165 jr.), Willie Jones (170 sr.) and Robert Savage (180, soph.) and fullbacks Danny O'Neal (180, sr.), Benji Meeks (180, sr.) and Willie Anderson (170, jr.).

"Some of our offensive backs are newcomers to the squad from Pinevale High, some are being tried at positions which are new to them and most of them saw relatively little or no front line duty last season," Bazemore said. "All of them still have plenty of room for improvement.

"If we had some time, well, we'd be better prepared, but time is something we have very little of. We've got to make full use of the time we have left."

Bazemore hasn't ruled out the possibility in moving more of the VHS candidates to new position between now and the lid-lifter. For instance, Blalock is listed as a quarterback, but could wind up as a tight end, a fullback or as a linebacker on defense.

"Bo's going to be playing somewhere, but we've got to decide just where," the coach said.

Bazemore says the Wildcats' progress has been "fairly good," but that "every position on the team is still wide open. We're looking for the boys who really want to play."

Salaries, Bills

Valdosta School Board Borrowing

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Board of Education doesn't have any money and it needs to pay salaries and past due bills. But it'll be another month or two before any state or federal funds start coming into the superintendent's office.

And it'll be January before revenue from city taxes begins to come in.

To take care of what Supt. Fostser Goolsby and several other board members term an "urgent" situation, the board at a special meeting Friday authorized the administrator to borrow up to $200,000 immediately to cover the most pressing needs.

Board chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman said as much as $400,000 could be required before the first of the year to "get by on" until city taxes come in.

He said he had discussed borrowing up to $500,000, should it be necessary, with two banks here.

"The C&S said they could lend us up to that at 6 per cent interest. That's a good interest rate for us," said Tillman.

The majority of the board did not want to borrow any more than necessary to cover immediate needs until the next regular meeting which is in September.

"I'd like to see what our projected needs will be and have a chance to talk about them," said board member Dr. Robert Quattlebaum.

Board member J. L. Newbern Jr. agreed and said he felt "everyone would be more comfortable with it to borrow that which is only essential to cover our overdraft and such and act on the other amount at the next meeting."

Tillman said any borrowed money will be paid back when the school system's portion of city taxes are turned over to the superintendent's office.

"But we have to have something to operate on until then," he said.

The board asked for $927,500 in city support for the 1969-70 school fiscal year which began July 1. This is an increase of about $258,000 over last year's request but the board said it was ordered by the State Department of Education to erase its $143,000 deficit this year.

"And we are also committed to the taxpayers to do this," said board member Gordon Southwell.

Supt. Goolsby explained that this is year of standing still and paying off deficits for the city school system.

"We are laying the groundwork for what will be possible next year and the year after that," he said.

Grid Fever Hits Georgia

Temperatures are up for September.

Football fever is rising in South Georgia.

Valdosta, king of the Peach State preps, leads more than 200 teams in the opening of the 1969 Georgia High School football year.

COACH WRIGHT Bazemore's Wildcats, who have won the AAA championship six times in the last nine years, journey southward Friday for an annual opening game date with the Thomasville Bulldogs.

The Bulldogs know the Wildcats are on the road clawing for another perfect season, but there's not a canine in Thomasville backing down.

THOMASVILLE Coach Lee Forehand explains that Valdosta beat his team 19-0 last year, but it was the only game the Bulldogs lost. Forehand credits the winning season to opening against the legendary powerhouse.

"When you start against Valdosta, the rest of the season has got to be easy," Forehand said.

FOREHAND will have veteran Dallas Norman, a 170-pound senior, at the Bulldogs' throttle. And the slippery signal caller will be calling on Frank Davis and Frank Bowdry for running power.

Valdosta lost 17 regulars from the 1968 squad but nobody seems to believe it'll hurt

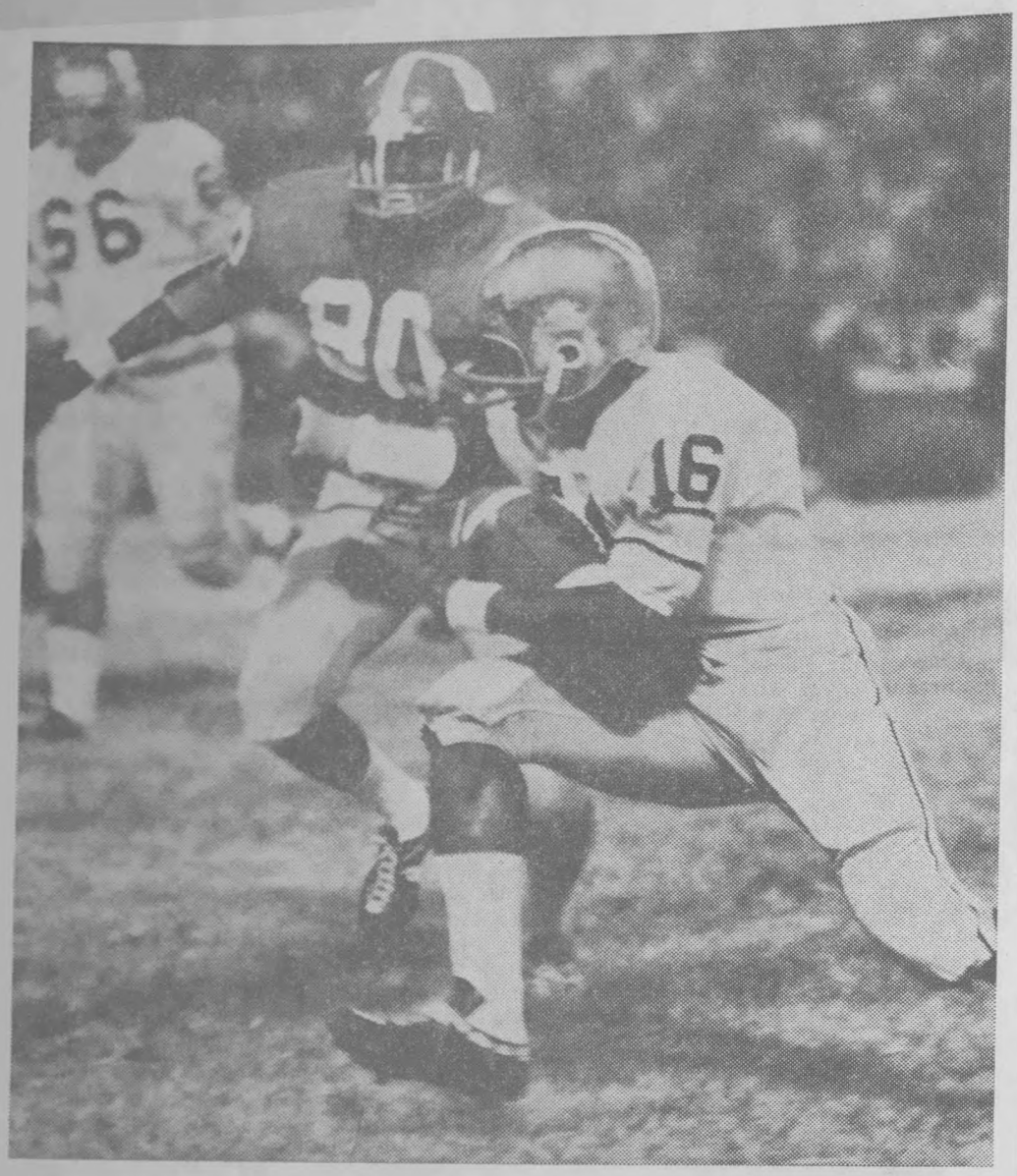
will unveil its new mentor — Lamar Wynn — in a road affair with Savannah Groves.

Friday's schedule with predicted winners in capital letters:

R. E. Lee at ALBANY
APPLING COUNTY at Coffee County
Clinch County at ATKINSON COUNTY
Irwin County at BACON COUNTY
Westover at BAINBRIDGE
Blackshear at PELHAM
WAYCROSS at Bradwell Institute
COOK COUNTY at Brooks County
Central Thomasville at MITCHELL COUNTY
Patterson at CHARLTON COUNTY
DODGE COUNTY at Cochran
TIFT COUNTY at Crisp County
GLYNN ACADEMY at Groves
JEFF DAVIS at Vidalia
VALDOSTA at Thomasville



DON GOLDEN
Valdosta QB



Valdosta Halfback Willie Jones (16) Flies By Thomasville Bulldog Defensive End Reginald Wilkerson (80) After Taking a Pass From Quarterback Don Golden. The Play Covered 39 Yards.



— Times Staff Photo

Top Wildcat Boosters

These 10 girls are the biggest Valdosta High School football fans. They're the Wildcat cheerleaders for this grid season. The girls from left to right on the front row are Beth Howell, Nita Brantley, Pat Jeffery, Kathy Veach, Kathryn Smotherman; back row, Joy Johnson, Martha Alice Giddens, Lette Robinson, Beverly Newlin and Julie Scott. Miss Scott is captain of the group.

'Cats Slated To Meet Ware

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football wildcats will be going for their 18th straight win in a span that covers parts of three seasons when they meet the Ware County Gators here tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Phil Early's Gators are set to duel at 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field in a Region 1-AAA contest.

VHS won its final game in 1967, click off 13 straight wins in 1968 and has won three in a row so far this year. The Gators are winless after two starts this season.

AREA GRID SLATE
Tonight
Ware at Valdosta
Cook at Bacon
Irwin at Berrien
Waycross "B" at Clinch
Hamilton at Madison
Saturday
Albany at Lowndes

In other area games tonight, Cook (Adel) is at Bacon County (Alma), Irwin County (Ocilla) at Berrien (Nashville, Ga.), cross "B" at Clinch County (Homerville) and Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) at Hamilton, Fla.

On Saturday night Lowndes, an area delegate, is to host Albany. Another area team, Brooks County (Quitman), has an open date and will be idle this weekend.

Valdosta has built its 3-0 chart this year with victories over Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0) and Wayne County (34-0). Ware's losses have been to Tift County (13-0) and Waycross (39-12).

Cook's Hornets will carry a 1-1 record into their duel with Bacon's Red Raiders. While both belong to Region 1-A, Bacon doesn't play a league schedule so this one won't count in the loop standing.

Berrien's Rebs are 0-2 and they will be playing a band of Irwin County Indians who have clicked off three straight victories. This will be a non-region contest.

There won't be any league honors at stake when Clinch's Panthers host the Waycross Bees. But Clinch has a 2-1 record and would like to improve on it by licking the Baby Bulldogs.

Hamilton and Madison have matching 0-1 records and the Rebels from Jasper and the home-standing Red Devils are traditional rivals.

Other games of interest around the state include the following:

Tonight — Crisp at Appling, Atkinson at Blackshear, Bainbridge at Cairo, Dublin at Baldwin, Ballard-Hudson at Willingham, Charlton at Wilxo, Wayne Coffee, Moultrie at Dougherty, Jeff Davis at Fitzgerald, Warner Robins at Jordan.

Miller at Pelham Mitchell at Seminole, Monroe at Tift, Spencer at Northside, Patterson at Reidsville, Westover at Perry, Randolph at Turner, Telfair at Dodge, Thomasville at Waycross and Unidilla at Worth.

Saturday — Lanier at Baker and Columbus at Mark Smith.

Wildcats Open Season Friday At Thomasville

by SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

With head coach Wright Bazemore in a hopeful, but uncertain mood, Valdosta High's football Wildcats are to open their 1969 season Friday night at Thomasville.

"I'm hoping for the best, but I'm really not sure how we'll do," Bazemore said with the 'Cats' opening duel with coach Lee Forehand's veteran Bulldogs now just around the corner.

The game is slated for 8 o'clock at tomorrow night at Thomasville's Veterans Memorial Stadium. Since VHS belongs to Region 1-AAA and T'ville campaigns in 1-AA, no league honors will be at stake. However, they are traditional rivals and a close, hard - fought game is expected.

In their 1968 meeting here, VHS had to work hard for a 19-0 win and the 'Cats went on from there to post a 13-0 record and claim the state "AAA" crown. After losing to the 'Cats the Bulldogs rebounded, posted a 10-2 mark and reached the state "AA" semi - finals.

This time Valdosta must get along without the services of 17 of their 1968 regulars. It means a lot of familiar names will be missing for the lineup.

Bazemore listed VHS' probable starters for the Friday duel as follows:

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Koncar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190 sr.), halfbacks Charles Daniels (190, jr.) and Henry Davis (180, sr.) or Willie Jones (170, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (175, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) Vance Quillin (205, jr.) or Mike Everson (200, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, sr.), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.) or Joe Mullis (160, jr.), deep backs John Himpton (165, jr.) and Kenneth Emanuel (175, sr.) of Curtis Lee (160, jr.).

Many in the group will be drawing starting assignments for tne first time and others will be getting their first taste of action with the Wildcats after playing at Pinevale High in '68. VHS and Pinevale have now been consolidated.

"We haven't had much time (three weeks) to try to get ready for our opener," Bazemore said. "I feel that we have some potential, but we still have a long, long way to go.

"Add in the fact that Thomasville has a veteran team and will have the home field advantage and well, we've certainly got our work cut out for us."

The most experienced performers in the 'Cats' offensive backfield are O'Neal, at fullback, and Golden, at quarterback. In 10 regular season games last year O'Neal picked 487 yards on 64 carries.

Golden was a two - way regular last fall. On offense, he hit on 14 of 37 passes for 239 yards during the regular season He also averaged 38.61 yards on 21 punts.

On the defensive unit the trio of Skoropat at end, Holt at linebacker and Shenton at middle guard saw the most front line action lost season.

"Ready or not, we've got to play Friday night," Bazemore said. "I know our boys will give it all they've got."



— Times Staff Photo

'Cats' Danny O'Neal Is Veteran Fullback

★

City-Wide Pep Rally Slated For Wildcats

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A city-wide pep rally is slated tonight in Brookwood Plaza Shopping Center for the Valdosta High School Wildcats football team, according to Touchdown Club president David Waller.

Waller said the rally, sponsored by the TD Club, is to start at 8 p. m.

All Wildcat fans are invited, Waller said. And in addition to the VHS cheerleaders, the VHS Marchin' Cats are to be on hand. Those in attendance are to hear talks by the VHS team tri-captains Henry Davis, Bo Blalock and Tom Holt and head coach Wright Bazemore also, said Waller.

"We're trying to get fan enthusiasm built up for the season opener Friday against Thomasville," said Waller, "and judging from what we've heard about the Bulldogs, we're going to need it.

"It sure would be a big boost to the team if we had a large turnout at the first rally of the year."

Open House Set At Two Schools

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It isn't often schools get new outfits from top to bottom for the new year but when they do administrators can't wait to show them off to the public.

That's the case with Valdosta High School and the VHS-Pinevale Campus. The city school board and Supt. Foster Goolsby are so proud of the facilities' new looks they are having open house this week.

Classes officially begin Tuesday in the city schools by Goolsby and his staff do not want to wait that long for parents and students t get acquainted with the campuses.

Open house and student orientation is being held at VHS from 9 a. m.-4 p. m. Thursday and at Pinevale from 9 a. m.-4 p. m. Friday. The Student Council will serve as official guides for the pupils and parents, said Principal Charles (Chuck) Green.

"They'll show the students and other visitors where to find homerooms and all parts of the building and try to answer any questions concerning extra curricular activities or studies," said the principal.

Teachers are to also be at VHS and Pinevale to discuss the curriculum and new study program to be implemented this year.

Pinevale Principal C. D. Dickerson said home room information will be posted outside his office Thursday and Friday. He had originally planned to announce the home room assignments at assembly Tuesday.

"But we'll still have assembly and want all students to report to the gymnasium when they come to school Tuesday," said Dickerson.

He said he wants all parents to attend the open house at Pinevale and to see the school and meet the teachers.

"I think it will be meaningful," said Dickerson.

Both schools have been completely painted inside and repairs have been extensive. The restrooms have been renovated.

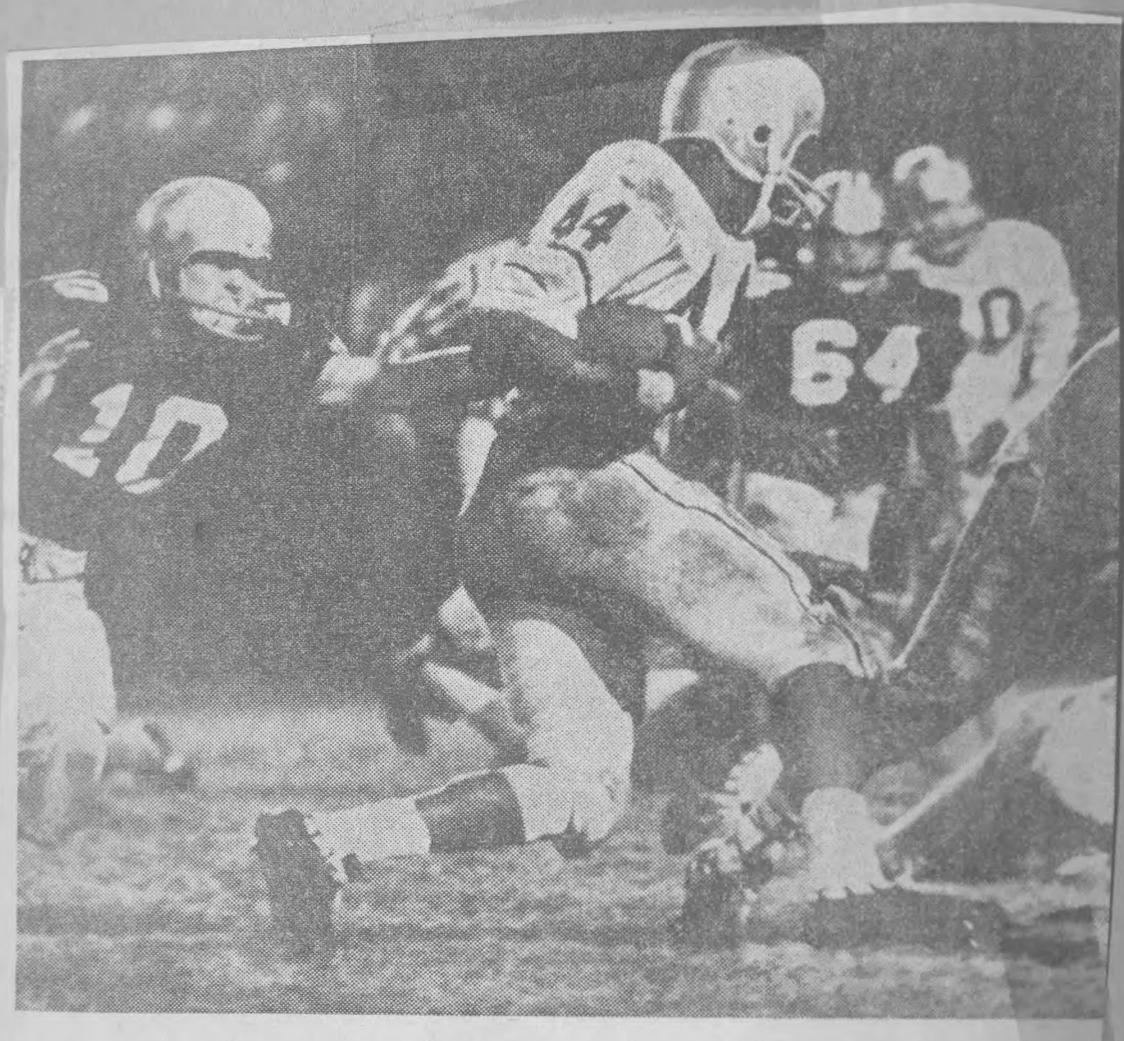
"We've done things at both schools that should have been done a long time ago but the board lacked the money to do it. The state (Department of Education) gave us some money for maintenance and operation and we used this for our cleaning up and repair work," said Supt. Goolsby.

The state grant was about $50,000.

The superintendent said he didn't know the schools could look as good as they do now. The halls fairly gleam with new paint and there are no chunks od broken plaster glaring from the walls.

"I'm proud of their looks," said Goolsby.

The 10th-12th graders are to attend VHS and the ninth graders are to be at Pinevale. Pinevale is a former all - Negro high school which the board voted this spring to consolidate with VHS.



VHS Guard Mark Dibois (66) Gets Ready To Throw A Block And Held Clear The W

Wildcats Thump W

To Extend Win Str

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats scored the first two times they got possession of the pigskin and went from there to a 34-0 victory over the Wayne County Yellow Jackets here Friday night.

	Valdosta	Wayne
First Downs	16	6
Yards Rusing	216	-18
Yards Passing	109	43
Passes	8-15	3-8
Passses Intc. by	0	1
Fumbles Lost	0	3
Punting	1-35	4-407
Penalties	9-80	2-27

A crowd of approximately 7,500 fans turned out to see coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Clint Madray's Jackets from Jesup tangle in a Region 1-AAA contest.

While no rain fell during the game, the field had been soaked by a downpour about two hours before kickoff. Even the somewhat slow underfooting and at times slick football didn't seem to bother any of the Wildcats. A total of 60 VHS players saw action in the tilt.

Valdosta dominated on both defense and offense as Bazemore's charges won their third game in a row this year, boosted their region mark to 2-0 and extended a victory streak that covers parts of three seasons to 17 games.

The loss was the second in as many outings for Wayne and left the Jackets with an 0-1 regional chart.

Statistics pretty well tell the story. Valdosta accounted for 16 first downs and a total of 325 yards in total offense. Wayne got just six first downs (two on penalties), made only 43 yards through the air and finished with a net of minus 18 yards rushing.

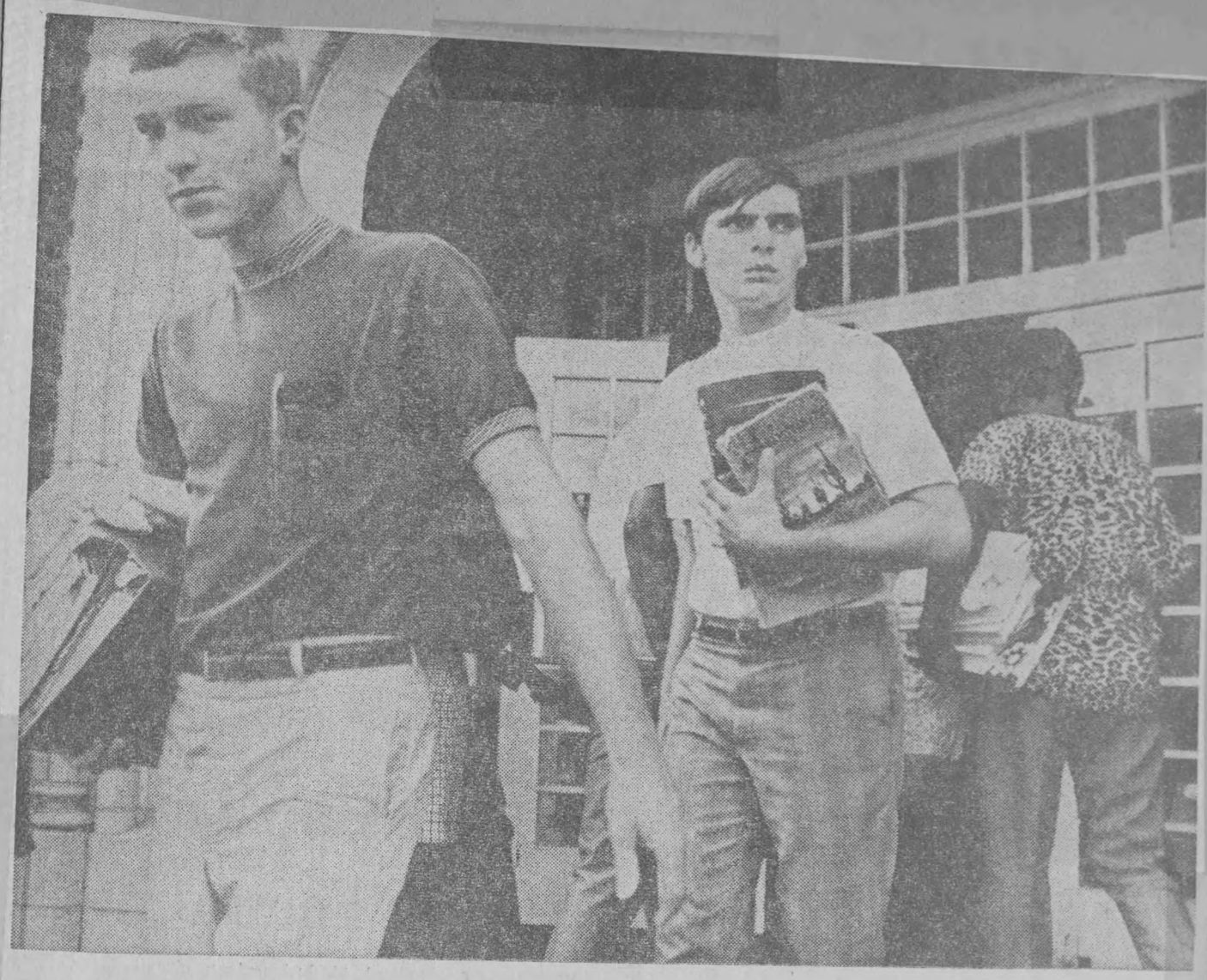
While 'Dostas' defenders chalked up their third "shutout" in a row, they allowed Wayne to cross the mid-field stripe just one time and then only to Valdosta's 38.

An alert defensive play by linebacker Tom Holt and a quick strike by the offense got the 'Cats their first touchdown.

After Wayne's first series of play the Jackets wanted to punt. There was a fumble and Holt pounced on it at the Jesup team's 12. VHS quarterback Don Golden promptly reeled off an 11-yard gain to the one and halfback Charles Daniels scored from there.

The next time VHS got its hands on the football the 'Cats moved 60 yards in seven plays to score again. Even being penalized three times didn't stop this Valdosta march. The payoff was a two-yard sprint by halfback Henry Davis. Big gainers in the march were a 28-yard run by Golden and a 25-yard pass from the quarterback to halfback Willie Jones.

In the third period Valdosta had another drive going, but the clock stopped it at the Wayne 28. The second half opened with the 'Cats taking the kickoff and moving 80 yards in 13 plays to tally their third TD.



— Times Staff Photo

Valdosta High Students Aren't Especially Observing Dress Regulations But Look Like Students Anyway

At Schools

Rules Are Lax On Dress

The Valdosta Daily Times

'Teens

By MIKE HILL

Mary Crouse, Staff Writer

By MIKE HILL

Lowndes High has no hard and fast rules. Valdosta High has several, but so far no one is paying attention to them. The Pinevale Campus of VHS, however, doesn't have them.

And so far the students aren't interested in the matter, because they haven't been told what to do either way.

The subject is what constitutes school dress — and more important, what doesn't.

At the present time, according to Tom Wall, principal at LHS, the school board is leaving the matter up to the discretion of the principals of the individual schools probably because it isn't a big enough ssue compared to the major school shakeups recently.

Wall said problems with dress at LHS were being dealt with on an individual basis. C. T. Dickerson,. principal of Pinevale, said he too had no set rules.

Charles (Chuck) Green, principal of Valdosta High School, had several, however. Culottes, medallions are frowned on, high school students are to be clean-shaven, he said.

"Students wear school clothes, not play clothes," he said, in ruling out the culottes. He said persons persisting in wearing large medallions outside shirts would be "spoken to."

He did soften his stand by saying he was not making a big deal of personal appearance, unless it interfered with scholastics. "We're here to educate the students," he said.

Several students who were at VHS last year said the rules are the same this year as last year. They were unfmiliar, however, with any rules beyond those restricting culottes and wearing shirttails out.

"They're beards, goatees, sideburns, and mustaches all over the school," said one of the VHS group. "Many of them came from Pinevale this year," she said. "There was no rule against them there."

Rosco Haynes, a student at Pinevale last year VHS this year, was asked if he knew Green had said high school students should be clean shaven. He has a mustache.

"I didn't know, man," he said. "I've had this thing since I was 13." It wasn't an obtrusive growth and he spoke fondly of it.

Wall admitted dress at LHS would be stabilized some at a later date and said "School Standards Council," composed entirely of students would be making recommendations to the student council.

"The students are to outline guidelines suitable for both students and the faculty," he said.

Mike McMullen, student council president at LHS, said the standards council was one of three new student government bodies this year.

"We have a School Program Council, with one representative from each homeroom, to advise and confer with the administration concerning the curriculum, teaching methods, school organization, and related things. We have a Guidance Council, also with one representative from each homeroom, to assist with the guidance counselor in developing and promoting the guidance and testing program," he said.

"I feel like it's working out better this way," said McMullen. The administration is more lenient and gives more freedom to the students, who in turn respect both the freedom and the faculty involved.

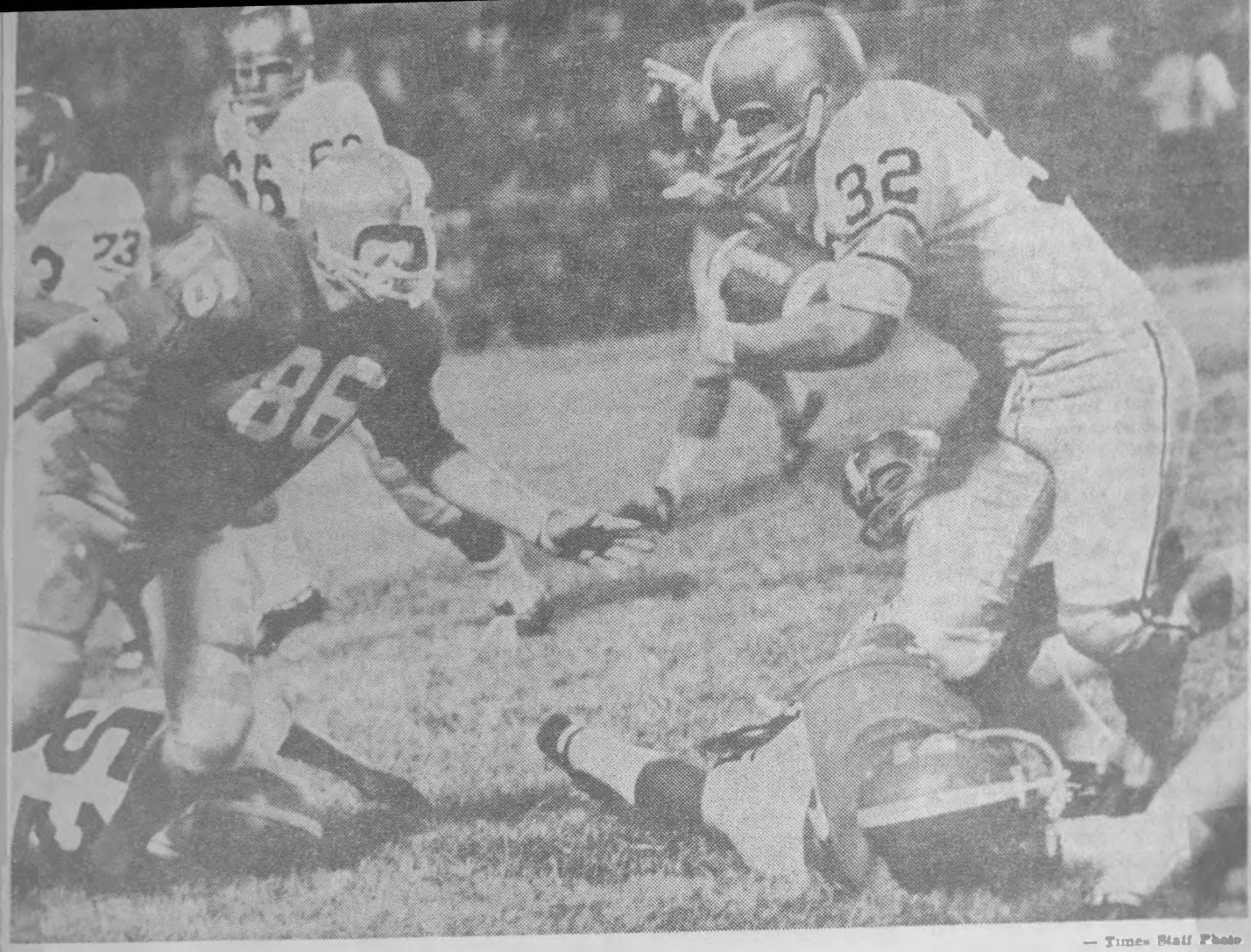
We don't have students rebelling for the sake of rebelling because they have no access to the proper channels," he said. "The students will have a voice in the manner of dress policy."

"The student council has not been drawn into it here, nor has it asked to be," said Angela Wetherington student council president. She also said she felt the clothing situation at VHS had temporarily "loosened" since last year.

"I just don't think Mr. Green has gotten around to it," she said.

Dickerson said a student council was just forming at Pinevale, but said he anticipated no list of dress regulations to go into effect there. "Everythings smooth now," he said. "If we make rules, we'll have students breaking them just to break them."

Despite varying regulations at the different schools, however, persons attending them all look pretty much like students.



— Times Staff Photo

Valdosta's Danny O'Neal (32) Trips Over Bulldogs' Earl Mitchell (71) As Joe Peeples (86) Comes Up Fast

'Cats Trim Bulldogs In Season Lidlifter

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

THOMASVILLE — A pair of rapid-fire touchdowns in the second period, scored on a pass interception and a punt return, plus a lot of clutch defensive plays gave. Valdosta's football Wildcats a hard-earned 14-0 victory over the Thomasville Bulldogs here Friday night.

A standing-room-only crowd of approximately 8,000 turned out on a very hot and very humid night to see coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Lee Forehand's Bulldogs, a

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	T'ville
First Downs	10	8
Yards Rushing	64	34
Yards Passing	117	128
Passes	10-14	12-20
Passes Intc. by	2	1
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punting	6-40	6-41
Penalties	9-82	3-45

pair of non-league, but traditional rivals, open their 1969 campaigns.

What the fans saw was a hard-nosed duel with the emphasis on defense. When it was over the Wildcats had opened their new season with a win and had extended a victory streak that now covers parts of three campaigns to 15 games.

Valdosta put its 14 points on the scoreboard during a span that covered less than two minutes of playing time early in the second stanza.

The first TD came on a 20-yard romp by linebacker Curt Bazemore after he had intercepted a Thomasville pass. After the tally and the kickoff the Bulldogs ran three plays and punted. Valdosta's Warrick Taylor promptly ran the kick back 69 yards for 'Dosta's second tally. Danny O'Neal booted both extra points.

On Thomasville's first punt of the game Taylor went 75 yards to paydirt, but a clipping penalty against the 'Cats nullified that scoring jaunt. VHS drew a total of nine penalties in the game for 82 yards and those, plus Thomasville's rugged defense, stalled the 'Cats' attack.

Valdosta's defense, which bent some but refused to break, was also the rugged variety. The 'Cats' stop'em crew halted a T'ville threat at the 24 in the second period and then nipped off Bulldog thrusts at the 11, eight and 14 in the second half.

Neither team had much success along the ground, with VHS picking up just 64 yards with its rushing attack and Thomasville accounting for 34. Both did better along the air lanes. VHS quarterback Don Golden hit 10 of 14 passes for 117 yards. Thomasville's signal-caller Dallas Norman connected on 12 of 20 tosses for 128 yards.

The game also featured a kicking duel between Golden and Thomasville's Joe Peeples. Golden averaged 40 1 yards on six boots. Peeples also kicked a half dozen times and his average was an even 41 yards.

"It was very hot out there, not the kind of night that made it easy for either team," Bazemore said after the contest. "We expected a tough game and we certainly had one. We did some things right, especially on defense, and we did some things wrong. We still have a long, long way to go."

Here's the way things went by quarters:

FIRST — After Thomasville's initial series of plays the Bulldogs punted and VHS' Taylor sailed 75 yards for a touchdown, only to see it nullified by a clipping penalty. The'Cats got one modest drive going, but it ended at the T'ville 38.

SECOND — The Bulldogs were backed up to their own 20 and tried a pass. The ball was tipped by the 'Cats' Aaron Holder and then caught by Curt Bazemore, who galloped 20 yards for Valdosta's first touchdown that was allowed to stand. O'Neal booted the PAT.

Less than two minutes of playing time later the Bulldogs punted and Taylor, with the help of some crisp blocking, sailed 69 yards to score. After VHS had drawn a five yard penalty, O'Neal made good on his second PAT boot.

Just before the half Thomasville's Nicky Kavouklis intercepted a pass and returned it 49 yards to the Valdosta 39. A 15-yard penalty against the 'Cats put the Bulldogs at the 24. VHS' defenders stopped them right there.

THIRD — After the kickoff Thomasville wheeled from its own 40 to the VHS 11, mainly on passes of 4, 11 and 4 yards and a 22-yard scamper by Frank Davis. Again the 'Dosta defenders dug in and halted this threat.

A 30-yard air strike from Golden to Willie Jones carried the 'Cats to the Bulldogs' 27, but it was Thomasville's turn to flip off a scoring threat.

FOURTH — The 'Cats got their offense moving and went from the Bulldogs' 43 to 16, thanks mainly to a 15-yard pass from Golden to Taylor and an 11-yard air strike from Golden to Jimmy LeFiles. This thrust ended when 'Dosta lost the ball on a fumble.

With Norman hitting passes of 10, 18, 25 and 11 yards, the Bulldogs went from their own 16 to the Valdosta 19. When the 'Cats' John Hampton recovered a Bulldog fumble at the eight, this threat was over.

A 30-yard pitch from Norman to Roscoe Bush again put Thomasville within TD range at the Valdosta 14. This time the 'Cats' Jones intercepted a pass at the 10 to end Thomasville's final bid for a score.

INDIVIDUAT STATISTICS

Rusing: Valdosta — Daniels 9-26, O'Neal 8-18, Golden 4-3, Sarta 2-7, Savage 1-5, Meeks 3-4,LeFiles 1-4, Blalock 1-2, Davis 1-0; Thomasville — Davis 11-39, Lamb 7-26, Meeks 1-2, Norman 7 minus 21, Bush 1 Minus 2.

Passing Valdosta — Golden 10-14-117; Thomasville — —Norman 12-20-128.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — LeFiles 1-11, Daniels 2-12, Rome 1-15, Johnson 1-7, Taylor 3-34, Jones 2-38; Thomasville — Lamb 5-13, Peeples 2-12, Smith 3-28, Chambers 1-10, Bush 1-30.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Taylor 3-84; Thomasville — Bush 1-8

Kickoff Returns: Thomasville —Peeples 1-14, Bush 2-39.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Baker 5, Skoropat 4, Holt 4, Blalock 3, Holda 3, Hampton 3, Sherton 3, Everson 3, Quillin 3, Bazemore 3, Golden 2, Jones 2, Hendry 2, Puckett 2, Dove 2; Thomasville — Wilkerson 6, Smith 7, Ponder 5, Kavovlelis 3, Bowdry 3, Mitchell 3, Chambers 3, Peeples 3.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Dove, Baker, H. Skoveat, Rome, Puckett, Waller, Tayolr.

Tackle: Everson, Koncar, Jamillo, Quillin, Hendry.

Guards: Parr, Marshall, Daniels, Shenton, Holt, Dibois.

Centers: Christie.

Backs: Bazemore, Golden, Kollis Jones, Johnson, Savage, Quattlebaum, LeFiles, Lee, Emanuel, Blalock, O'Neal, Holder, Davis, Hampton, Branam, Daniels, Bounds, Meeks.

THOMASVILLE

More Suits Filed On Tax Values
... see page 12

Vol. 64 — No. 302

'Cats Play Here

By MARTIN MILLER

The Valdosta High School football game, originally scheduled at Albany tonight, has been moved here in the wake of student unrest which has led to closing of Albany High School until Monday.

VHS Principal Charles Green said the game, to be played on Cleveland Field at 8 p. m. is still considered Albany's home game and Albany is to get the proceeds from it.

The Albany Board of Education decided to move the game in a special meeting Thursday night at which it agreed to keep the school closed until Monday. School officials closed the facility when more than 150 pupils walked out of a conference with school administrators.

For three days the students had boycotted classes and demonstrated at the school in protest of what white students called preferential treatment of black pupils.

Both Valdosta schools will be playing schools closed by racially inspired student unrest here tonight. The Lowndes High Vikings have an 8 p. m. game with Coffee County, where school officials voted Wednesday to suspend classes indefinitely.

Although the Coffee County sheriff's department reported it had received no reports of violence stemming from the school situation, classes were suspended "for the protection of life and property."

Advance tickets purchased for the VHS-Albany game both here and in Albany are still good tonight. No reserved seats have been sold for the game and everything is to be general admission, said Green.

"Folks who have season reserved seat tickets for our home games and want the seats they normally sit in will have to come early and get them," the principal said. "They bought reserved tickets for other home games. They did not buy them for this game."

Green said the VHS student and band sections would be maintained in their usual places since it is a simple matter and would create no confusion.

"It is real fine that Albany elected to come here," Green said. "It is a credit to the Valdosta people to know folks feel they can come here and be treated right, and I feel Valdosta people will treat them right."

Albany Football Coach Harold Dean Cook said movement of the game has upset many

See Cats — Page 2

Valdosta, Albany In 'Must' Contest

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

One of Georgia's ancient high school football rivalries is to be renewed Friday night when Valdosta's Wildcats meet Albany's Indians at Albany and both teams regard it as a "must" game.

The duel between coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Harold Dean Cook's Indians is slated for 8 p.m. at Albany's Mills Memorial Stadium. The series between the two spans something like 40 years.

The 'Cats will carry a perfect 4-0 overall record into the game. They have a 3-0 Region 1-AAA mark and share first place in the league standings with Moultrie and Monroe (Albany). Valdosta must win to retain a share of the lead.

Albany is 2-2 in all games and has a 2-1 mark. The tribe is still in title contention, but must beat 'Dosta to stay within striking distance of the league's front runners.

"Albany's always given us trouble, they have a big strong team this year and they have the home field advantage" Bazemore said. "Add it all up and it means we've got to be ready, and I mean really, ready, for a tough game."

Tough games with Albany have been the rule rather than the exeption for the 'Cats in recent years. The Indians have clipped Valdosta four times in the last six tries and there isn't anyone else around who can make that kind of boast.

Valdosta won last year by a 2-0 count and also triumphed in 1965 by a 33-2 margin. But Albany was the victor in 1963 (20-4), 1964 (21-14), 1966 (6-0) and 1967 (27-7).

The four wins VHS has racked up this year have been over Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0), Wayne County (34-0) and Ware County (63-0). Albany has beaten Coffee County (42-0) and Lowndes (20-8),while bowing to R. E. Lee (28-6) and Monroe (12-9).

Valdosta's defensive troops, which have produced four straight shutouts, will be tested by the likes of Albany's Thomas Doyal, Larry West and Steve Hardin.

Doyal, a 170-pound senior fullback, is Region 1-AAA's second leading rusher with 258 yards on 60 carries. West, a swift 170-pound junior halfback, has picked up 82 yards rushing on 32 carries and has returned a total of 13 punts and kickoffs back 235 yards. Hardin, a fast improving 160-pound sophomre quarterback, has hit on 16 of 55 passes for 271 yards.

The Tribes' top pass receiver is end Billy Bundrick with 10 catches for 120 yards. West has made just two catches but they were for 103 yards and a pair of TDs.

Balance on both offense and defense has brought the 1969 'Cats this far without a loss and they're hoping that combination will clock again tomorrow night.

The Cats have a set of team statistics that are impressive. They've run up 153 points to none for the oppositon. They're averaging 224 yards per game along the ground and 134 per tilt through the air.

VHS has held four foes to a combined net of minus 49 yards rushing. They've been allowing an average of just 63.7 yards on passes.

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor and Bo Blalock, tackles Robert Koncar and Steve Jarmillo, guards Ray Parr and Mark Dibois, center Jim Christy, quarterback Don Golden, halfbacks Willie Jones and Charles Daniels and fullback Danny O'Neal.

Defense — ends Jerry Baker and Harry Skoropat, tackles Ralph Hendry and Mike Everson, middle guard Charles Shenton, linebackers Curt Bazemore, Aaron Holder, Tom Holt and Greg Quattlebaum and deep backs John Hampton and Curtis Lee.

ALBANY

Offense — ends Billy Bundrick (178, sr.) and Elton Hill (160, jr.), tackles Kenny Ford (218, jr.) and Jimmy Snell (205, sr.) guards Johnny Fordham (165, sr.) and Benny Dykes (175, jr.), center Mike Lucas (190, sr.), quarterback Steve Hardin (160, soph.), halfbacks Larry West (165, jr.) and Mike Haggerty (155, jr.) and fullback Thomas Doyal (170, sr.).

Defense — ends Hal Gurr (188, sr.) and Don Chapman (165, jr.), tackles Steve Lawhorne (203, sr.) and David Dean (210, sr.), guards John Murphy (190, sr.) and Cass Miller (183, sr.), linebackers Don Mansfield (175, sr.) and David Hill (193, sr.), cornerbacks Bill Cox (175, sr.) and Haggerty and safety Paul Duffey (160, jr.).

VHS Picks Queen For Homecoming

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Students at Valdosta High School are to vote on the 1969 homecoming queen Thursday, according to Student Council President Angelia Wetherington.

Nominations for homecoming queen were taken Monday and the top three contenders were announced Tuesday. They are Gloria Holloway, Cissy Williams and Emily Schroer. Miss Holloway is the first Negro to become a homecoming finalist at VHS.

Miss Wetherington said students voted on the three girls Tuesday but a mix-up in balloting caused the Student Council to reschedule the election for Thursday.

"A couple of people said that some students voted more than once and we didn't want an election with any sort of question about it so we decided to vote again and have printed ballots for tomorrow.

"This way we'll know that each student could only vote once. There will be a ballot for each student, we'll have an exact number so there wont be any question and everything will be perfectly legal," said Miss Wetherington.

The homecoming queen is to be announced Friday and the nominations for homecoming attendants are to be taken that morning. Students are to vote on attendants Monday.

The queen and her court are to reign over homecomig festivitities Oct. 30-Nov. 1. VHS is to host Coffee County Oct. 31 at a football game and the homecoming dance is Nov. 1 at Mathis city auditorium.

HOMECOMING QUEEN DISPUTE

300 Suspended At Valdosta School

VALDOSTA, Ga. (AP)—About 300 black students were suspended Friday at predominantly white Valdosta High School after they staged a mass walkout protesting the handling of the homecoming queen's election—won by a white girl.

The walkout came as pupils at the large school lined up for a weekly assembly. The protestors were suspended immediately by the principal for failing to attend assembly.

Police Chief Wilbur Perkerson and another officer went to the campus and persuaded the boycotting pupils to leave after their leader urged them to stage a sit-down.

The black pupils complained that the homecoming queen balloting was "just another way of harassing" black pupils at the school which has about 500 black and 800 white pupils. The school was merged with an all-black school as part of an integration plan this fall.

Two ballots were taken in the homecoming election and this was the crux of the protest. Two white girls and a Negro girl were contestants for the 1969 title.

School officials declared the first vote illegal Tuesday because they said some pupils voted more than once. After the second vote, Emily Schroer was announced the winner. In keeping with policy, the vote totals were not announced.

Negro pupils taking part in the walkout contended that the real winner was a black senior, Gloria Holloway. They also complained of other incidents, including long-standing grievances about the band's playing "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag in its color guard.

* * *

Last Walkout, Suspension Was in 1945

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — The last student walkout and mass suspension at Valdosta High School was in 1945 and it was over a major league ballgame.

The three students considered leaders of that walkout are all community leaders today, a school board member said.

Board Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. recalled that a number of students wanted to see a major league baseball exhibition game which was being played in town and former Principal Howard Bridges refused to let them go.

A large number of students begin walking toward the street and Bridges warned them that anyone stepping over the curb would be suspended.

Only about 40 stepped over the curb and they were suspended for two weeks.

Tillman said that Valdosta newspaper publisher Tenney Griffin was the leader and his lieutenants were Tillman's brother-in-law, Dr. A. M. Culbreth of Valdosta, and Barry Phillips, now an Atlanta attorney.

"The two weeks suspension was probably the reason we haven't had a walkout since then," commented Tillman.

* * *

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Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Bazemore Smiles, And Has Warning

Valdosta High's head football coach Wright Bazemore was pleased enough Friday night to flash a warm victory smile after his Wildcats had beaten traditional rival Albany 28-0.

At the same time he figures the way things went in the two middle quarters of the game it should "help bring our boys back down to earth."



GLASSMAN

Valdosta got two touchdowns in the first period and tacked on two more in the final stanza. The VHS defenders, well, they produced their fifth straight shutout, which is definitely par for the course.

The 'Cats mixed their ground and air game well and moved the football consistently despite some costly penalties and some fumbles. Balance was there and it was a solid team win for VHS, its fifth in a row this year and 19th straight win over a span which covers parts of three seasons.

But Valdosta was blanked in the two middle periods and Albany got a scoring opportunity with a fumble recovery at the 'Cats' 11. The VHS stop'em crew made sure the Tribe didn't cash in on their only TD chance of the game.

"Albany has a big strong team," Bazemore said. "We didn't expect them to be a pushover — and they weren't.

"What happened to us in the two middle quarters is what I've been trying to warn our boys about. Our offense got bogged down for various reasons. Albany wasn't moving the ball, but recovered that fumble close and had an opportunity.

"That's the way football can go. There are games when it can go like that all the way. You can never, never afford to relax, even for a minute. I was glad to see our boys come back strong and get those two touchdowns in the final period. But sometimes when you get it turned off, it's very tough to get it turned back on. We've got to keep it turned on."

Vikes Sparkled

Now let's turn our attention to some comments by Times staffer Julian Miller on the Lowndes-Coffee County game:

The Vikings put on what has to be their best offensive show in the history of Lowndes High when they romped past the Coffee County Comets, 40-16, here Friday night.

Lowndes' offense came alive to roll up 328 yards rushing and 36 yards passing. Henry Otis Register and Earl Davis led the rushing charts, with Register gaining 112 yards on nine carries. Davis racked-up 99 yards on seven tries.

But early in the second stanza tackle Johnny Corbett, a 205-pound senior, was taken to Pineview General Hospital with a broken leg, which will put him on the sideline for the remainder of the season.

"We are really going to miss Johnny," Lowndes coach Carlton Adams said. "That could go without saying. A player like Johnny is hard to find. Last week he made 17 individual tackles and nailed a boy in the Albany end zone for a safety which also set us up for a touchdown. This week he made a tackle and recovered a fumble on the same play to set up another TD.

Corbett To Be Missed

"I believe our boys really missed him too, even though we were pretty well ahead when he was injured. He kind of gives moral backing just being there. We just hope we can all bounce back and try to take his place."

It's going to be hard for the Vikings to fill the gap, but they are going to have to do it. So far, the Vikings defense has been about the toughest ever and Corbett was one of the main reasons.

In an earlier interview Adams said, "I believe any high school team in the state would quickly find a spot on the team for Corbett if they had the chance."

That's saying a lot, but I agree with him all the way.

Corbett, however, wasn't the only star in the Viking line-up against Coffee. For the first time, the Viking offense was able to generate enough action to keep them out of a punting situation except for one time.

Another star shined on the Coffee side in quarterback Jackie Bailey. The 170-pound senior completed eight passes out of 16 attempts for 94 yards and scrambled around enough to pick up 92 yards rushing on 16 carries.

300 Are Suspended Following Walkout at Valdosta High School

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — About 300 Negro students, or some 60 percent of the Negro members of the student body at Valdosta High School, left classes and an assembly program Friday in a protest over the outcome of a homecoming queen contest and were promptly suspended under a standing school rule against unauthorized walkouts from classes. It was the first major racial incident at the school.

Included among the suspended students were the Negro co-president of the student council, Greg Homer, a few football players and some band members.

THE BALLPLAYERS, including two first team members, were barred from Valdosta's Friday night football game, crucial contest with equally undefeated Moultrie, under a school rule which has been applied before in individual cases.

Homer led a peaceful sit-down strike on the campus outside the school cafeteria following the walkout. School board chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. said the students stayed on the campus about an hour from the time they left classes until Valdosta Police Chief Wilbur Perkerson and Assistant Chief A. L. Arnold got them to leave without incident.

Arnold said some of the boycotters marched down to the Pinevale campus, which only houses ninth grade students, but were barred from the campus by school officials without police help.

Tillman, who said he told the students the school would not be run by mob rule, even peaceful mobs, said the suspension by high school Principal Charles Green has the backing of the board. "Mr. Green handled the situation extremely well and was correct in his decisions. He has 100 percent backing of the school board and I hope of all the community," Tillman commented.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN said he did not know details on the disputed queen election but that what he had heard unofficially was similar to other reports.

According to reports, Negro and white homeroom representatives Monday picked up slips of paper from students containing their votes and turned them in at a central location. When the votes were counted, a Negro girl, Gloria Holloway, reportedly had won but there was evidence some students voted more than once.

A second ballot was taken Thursday with exactly the same number of ballots passed out as there were students in each room. A white co-ed, Emily Schroer, was declared winner but the Negro students said Miss Holloway was the real winner and the change was a way of harassing Negro students at the school, which is completely integrated this year for the first time. There are about 500 Negroes among the student body.

SOME STUDENTS left a line filing into the auditorium for an assembly program while others left classes.

After Green announced that names would be taken of the remaining Negro students and the others suspended, about 100 of those who had walked out tried to rush back in to the building. Green and other school officials turned them away and ordered them outside.

Once outside, Green stood on a chair and told the suspended students, "Something has happened that we wish had not. I'm extremely disappointed for this reason. If you have had a gripe you haven't been to my office to see me about it."

There was some heckling from the students and Green told them he would get police if that's what it took to get them off the campus. Before officers arrived Arnold told the Negro students to stay and to sit on their books but Arnold said police had no trouble in getting them to leave.

Wants More On Wildcats

Sir:

Our high school football season is a nostalgic time of life for everyone. The Times could make it a memorable one.

Two-thirds of the Valdosta area are connected in some way with our teams and all of them subscribe to the Times. They would appreciate some recognition in pictures of the teams, captains, band and leaders. The finest in Georgia.

You would be repaid with gratitude and double sales.

Valdostan

PE Teacher Integration Still Sought

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta school officials are still working to get Negro instructors in the physical education department at Valdosta High School, the sole area in the school system not touched by desegregation.

Foster Goolsby, school superintendent, said since the beginning of the school year there has been a white coach at VHS-Pinevale Campus.

The PE staff at VHS is composed of white instructors while there are only Negro PE teachers at Pinevale.

"We have vacancies in math, industrial arts and in the library at VHS," said Goolsby. "As with the PE instructors, the positions can't be filled until qualified people are found."

C. T. Dickerson, Pinevale campus principal, said there is a full-time white coach at the school, Michael Terry. "He teaches math and coaches the football team," he said, "and has been on our faculty since the first of the year.

He said in addition there are three Negro coaches and two white coaches from VHS who coach the Pinevale B team athletics.

Board members voted in a called meeting Aug. 29 to desegregate the departments before school opened Sept. 2. The boards later that day agreed to give the superintendent and his staff a few more days to correct the situation.

There are on earth about 23,000 known species of fish.

High-Scoring Monroe Out to Nail Wildcats

By BOB PRICE
Sports Writer

The No. 1 scorer of 1-AAA and the region's No. 2 offensive team will be in Valdosta Friday night with the intention of derailing the Wildcat Express.

Albany Monroe owns the No. 2 scoring average in 1-AAA, having posted 110 points in five games for a 22.00 average.

The lad responsible for about half of those points is Lester Sherman, who has scored eight touchdowns and two 2-point conversions for a region leading total of 52 points.

Valdosta is still leading in scoring and defense, having piled up 202 points while whitewashing six opponents, five in Region 1-AAA.

Danny O'Neal, a running, kicking expert, is the region's No. 2 scorer with 50 Valdosta points. Danny has notched five touchdowns and kicked 20 extra points.

★ ★ ★

SEASON RECORDS

	W	L	T	Pt.	OP.
Valdosta	6	0	0	202	0
Moultrie	5	1	0	109	43
Monroe	4	1	0	110	48
Wayne Co	4	2	0	116	94
Albany	3	4	0	117	96
Tift Co	3	4	0	66	82
Lowndes	2	3	1	96	102
Dougherty	2	4	1	50	132
Ware Co	0	6	0	30	201
Coffee Co	0	7	0	52	232
Totals	29	32	2	948	1030

REGION RECORDS

	W	L	T	Pt	OP
Valdosta	5	0	0	188	0
Moultrie	5	1	0	109	43
Monroe	4	1	0	110	48
Wayne Co	4	1	0	110	55
Albany	3	3	0	111	68
Tift Co	3	3	0	66	75
Dougherty	2	4	1	50	132
Lowndes	1	3	1	78	102
Ware Co	0	5	0	18	162
Coffee Co	0	6	0	52	207
Totals	27	27	2	892	892

TEAM SCORING

	TDs	2-Pts	1 Pt	T
Valdosta	29	0	28	202
Monroe	17	3	2	110
Wayne Co	18	0	6	116
Moultrie	16	0	11	109
Albany	17	1	11	117
Lowndes	15	2	0	96
Tift Co	10	0	6	66
Coffee Co	7	4	2	52
Dougherty	8	1	0	50
Ware Co	5	0	0	30

OPPONENTS SCORING

	TDs	2-Pts	1-Pt	T
Valdosta	0	0	0	0
Moultrie	6	2	3	43
Monroe	7	1	2	48
Tift Co	13	0	4	82
Albany	14	0	10	96
Wayne Co	14	1	8	94
Lowndes	15	3	6	102
Dougherty	21	1	10	132
Coffee Co	35	3	12	232
Ware Co	30	0	21	201

Individual Scoring

Player, Team	TDs	2-Pts	1-Pt	Totals
Sherman, Monroe	8	2	0	52
O'Neal, Valdosta	5	0	20	50
Register,Lowndes	7	0	0	42
Jones, Valdosta	7	0	0	42
West, Albany	6	1	0	38
Doyle, Albany	6	0	0	36
Beard, Moultrie	5	0	0	30
Hardy, Moultrie	4	0	2	26
Davis, Valdosta	4	0	0	24
Jim McPpikin, Jesup	3	2	0	20
Burrows, Dougherty	3	0	0	18
Faircloth, Moultrie	3	0	0	18
Rankin,Tift County	3	0	0	18
Taylor, Valdosta	3	0	0	18
Summerlin,Lowndes	2	1	0	14
Bundrick, Albany	2	0	0	12
Sims,Coffee County	2	0	0	12
Spooner, Dougherty	2	0	0	12
Clark, Monroe	2	0	0	12
Jones,Monroe	2	0	0	12
Turner, Monroe	2	0	0	12
Davis, Monroe	2	0	0	12
Carmichael,Tift County	2	0	0	12
Daniels, Valdosta	2	0	0	12
Meeks, Valdosta	2	0	0	12
Golden,Valdosta	2	0	0	12
M Williams,Ware County	2	0	0	12
T.Williams, Ware County	2	0	0	12
Blanton,Jesup	2	0	0	12
Aitkens,Jesup	2	0	0	12

Wildcats Head 6 Departments

By ELLWOOD MOYER

COLUMBUS — Valdosta players head six of eight departments according to Region 1-AAA high school football statistics released this week.

Quaterback Don Golden is the leading passer (24-41-400) and punter (8-39.5). Halfback Willie Jones is the top scorer (36 points) and pass receiver (9-215). Heading the pass interception department is end Ralph Puckett (3-51) ad end Warrick Taylor leads in punt return (5-133).

The regions rushing paceseter is Monroe's Larry Sherman (31-276) and heading the kick return department is Albany's Larry West (6-171).

Leaders, plus figures on other Valdosta and Lowndes players, follow:

RUSHING

	Crs.	Net	Avg.
1. Sherman, Monroe	31	276	8.90
2. Doyle, Albany	60	268	4.47
3. Hardy, Moultrie	45	219	4.87
4. Beard, Moultrie	46	203	4.41
5. Jones, Valdosta	19	191	10.05
6. Coleman, Tift County	42	188	4.45
Register, Lowndes	37	185	5.00
M. Williams, Ware County	58	181	3.12
Daniels, Valdosta	24	166	6.92
Johnson, Monroe	17	132	7.76
Davis, Valdosta	15	125	4.83
O'Neal, Valdosta	23	84	3.65
Davis, Lowndes	8	71	8.88
Savage, Valdosta	9	51	5.67
26. Summerlin, Lowndes	16	49	4.90
Bounds, Valdosta	7	47	6.71
30. Golden, Valdosta	17	42	2.47
32. Meeks, Valdosta	12	33	2.75

PASSING

	Att.	Comp.	Gain
Golden, Valdosta	41	24	400
Hardin, Albany	55	16	271
3 Singletary, Moultrie	43	18	244
Davis, Monroe	34	13	212
5 Henderson, Tift County	29	10	144
6. Bounds, Valdosta	7	5	94
Morris, Lowndes	19	5	59
Mitchell, Lowndes	10	2	55

RECEIVING

	Cths.	Yd.	Td's
1. Jones, Valdosta	9	215	1
2. Turner, Monroe	4	124	1
3 Bundrick, Albany	10	120	1
4. West, Albany	2	103	2
5. Taylor, Valdosta	7	103	1
Rome, Valdosta	3	44	0

Interceptions

	Inter.	Ret.
1. Puckett, Valdosta	3	51
2. Brannen, Wayne County	1	20
3 Bazemore, Valdosta	1	20
4 Holt, Valdosta	1	20
5. Faircloth, Moultrie	1	17
6. Homer, Lownds	2	15

Punts

	Punts	Yds.	Avg.
1. Golden, Valdosta	8	316	39.50
2. LeFiles, Valdosta	3	117	39.00
3. Morris, Tift County	26	987	37.96
4 Henderson, Albany	17	633	37.23
5. Jones, Wayne County	10	364	36.40
6. Jones, Lowndes	16	520	32.50

Punt Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. Taylor, Valdosta	5	133
2. West, Albany	7	64
3. Henderson, Coffee County	3	48
4. Jones, Valdosta	1	45
5. Corbin, Tift County	5	42
6. Anderson, Valdosta	3	41
7. Sherman, Monroe	2	36

Kickoff Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. West, Albany	6	171
2. Sherman, Monroe	2	118
3. M. Williams, Ware County	3	112
4. Aitkens, Wayne County	5	93
5. Burrow , Dougherty	4	91
10. Burgman, Lowndes	5	56

Scoring

	Td's	PATs	T'ds
1. Jones, Valdosta	6	0	36
2. West, Albany	4	0	24
3. Davis, Valdosta	4	0	24
4. Sherman, Monroe	3	2	20
5. Clark, Monroe	3	0	18
6. Beard, Moultrie	3	0	18
7 O'Neal, Valdosta	1	10	16
8. Doyle, Albany	2	0	12
9. Spooner, Dougherty	2	0	12
10. Jones, Oonroe	2	0	12
11. Hardy, Moultrie	2	0	12
12. Faircloth, Moultrie	2	0	12
13. Taylor, Valdosta	2	0	12
14. Daniels, Valdosta	2	0	12
15. Meeks, Valdosta	2	0	12

'Cats Still Lead Six Departments

By ELLWOOD MOYER

COLUMBUS — Valdosta High players continue to lead Region 1-AAA in six of eight individual football statistical departments this week and stand one-two in pair of sections.

The Wildcats' Don Golden leads in passing (34-58 529) and punting (11-42.27 avg.) Willie Jones (11-243) and Warrick Taylor (11-165) head the pass receiving list.

Ralph Puckett (3-51) is the pass interception pacesetter. Taylor (5-133) heads the punt return department. Danny O'Neal (38) and Jones (36) stand one-two on the scoring chart.

The rushing lead belongs to Monroe's Lester Shreman (42-350) and Albany's Larry West (9-206) is the leading kickoff returner.

All the leaders, plus figures on other Valdosta and Lowndes players, follow:

RUSHING

	Crs.	Net	Avg.
1. Sherman, Monroe	42	350	8.33
2. Hardy, Moultrie	62	301	4.84
3. Beard, Moultrie	77	301	3.90
4. Register, Lowndes	46	287	6.24
5. Doyal, Albany	73	276	3.78
6. M. Williams, Ware	65	224	3.45
7. Jones, Valdosta	22	208	9.45
10. Daniels, Valdosta	28	184	6.57
11. Davis, Lowndes	15	170	11.33
12. O'Neal, Valdosta	35	164	4.69
16. Davis, Valdosta	17	129	7.59
19. Summerlin, Lowndes	24	113	4.71
20. Myers, Lowndes	27	113	419
30. Golden, Valdosta	27	69	2.56
34. Savage, Valdosta	10	50	5.00
36. Lefiles, Valdosta	12	47	3.92
39. Bounds, Valdosta	8	45	5.63
40. Branam, Valdosta	8	40	5.00
42. Blalock, Valdosta	4	35	8.75
43. Meeks, Valdosta	15	34	2.27
45. Anderson, Valdosta	4	31	7.75

PASSING

	Att	Comp.	Yds.
1. Golden, Valdosta	58	34	310
2. Davis, Monroe	43	18	310
3. Hardin, Albany	71	22	308
4. Singletary, Moultrie	48	22	279
5. Bailey, Coffee	52	20	200
6. Rice, Wayne	14	8	198
7. Henderson, Tift	40	13	177
8. Bounds, Valdosta	13	8	132
11. Morris, Lowndes	24	7	95
13. Mitchell, Lowndes	10	2	55

Pass Receiving

	Cths	Yds.	Td's
1. Jones, Valdosta	11	243	1
2. Taylor, Valdosta	11	165	2
3. Bundrick, Albany	11	129	1
4. Allen, Coffee County	9	124	2
5. Turner, Monroe	4	124	1
6. Blanton, Wayne County	5	117	2
7. West, Albany	4	114	2
8. Henderson, Lowndes	4	84	1
9. Blalock, Valdosta	6	81	0
10. Thompson, Moultire	5	79	0
11. Rankin, Tift County	5	78	1
12. Rome, Valdosta	5	72	0

Passes Intercepted By

	Inter.	Ret.
1. Puckett Valdosta	3	51
2. Dear, Wayne County	2	35
3. Thompson, Moultrie	1	24
4. Brannen, Wayne County	1	20
5. Bazemore, Valdosta	1	20
6. Holt, Valdosta	1	20

Punts

	Kicks	Avg.
1. Golden, Valdosta	11	42.27
2. Bailey, Coffee Co.	23	38.31
3. Morrisl Tift County	30	38.10
4. Jones, Wayne County	18	36.78
5. Henderson, Albany	25	36.16
6. McLeod, Moultrie	11	34.64
7. Wilson, Dougherty	21	32.62
8. Jones, Lowndes	17	32.47

Punt Returns

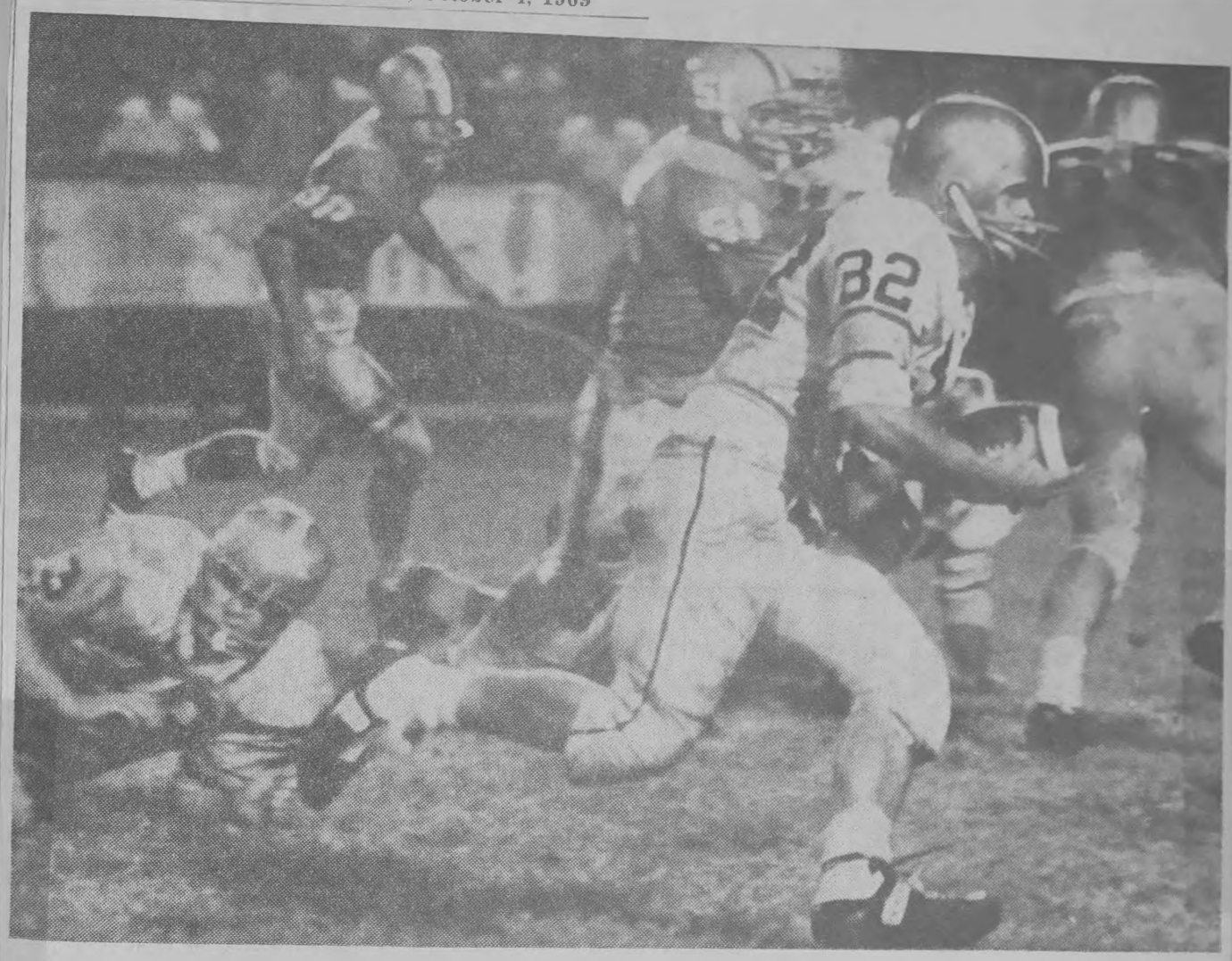
	Ret.	Yds.
1. Taylor, Valdosta	5	133
2. Faircloth, Moultrie	8	91
3. Corbin, Tift County	8	64
4. West, Albany	7	64
5. Henderson, Lowndes	2	48

Kick-Off Returns

	Ret.	Yds
1. West, Albany	9	206
2. Aitkens Wayne County	8	158
3. Lott, Coffee County	9	156
4. Sherman, Monroe	2	118
5. M. Williams, Ware Co	3	112
6. Burrow, Dougherty	6	105
7. Register, Lowndes	4	102
8. Brannen, Wayne County	5	87
9. Burgman, Lowndes	6	78

Scoring

	TDs	PATs	T'ds
1. O'Neal, Valdosta	4	14	38
2. Jones, Valdosta	6	0	36
3. West, Albany	5	2	32
4. Beard, Moultrie	5	0	30
5. Davis, Valdosta	4	0	24
6. Doyal, Albany	4	0	24
7. Sherman, Monroe	4	0	24
8. Register, Lowndes	3	0	18
9. Taylor, Valdosta	3	0	18
10. Faircloth Moultrie	3	0	18
11. Clark, Monroe	3	0	18
13. Daniels, Valdosta	2	0	12
14. Meeks, Valdosta	2	0	12



— Times Staff Photo

Wildcat's Danny O'Neal (32) Breaks Into The Clear As He Heads For Goal Line 23 Yards Away

'Dosta Shows Balance In Win Over Indians

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

With the scoring coming in the first and final periods and Valdosta High's defensive troops in control all the way, the Wildcats rolled to a 28-0 football victory over the Albany Indians here Friday night.

A crowd of approximately 8,000 turned out to see coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Harold Dean Cook's Indians meet in the transplanted Region 1-AAA contest.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Albany
First Downs	16	5
Yards Rushing	158	35
Yards Passing	174	37
Passes	13-23	6-17
Passes Intc. by	0	1
Fumbles Lost	2	2
Punting	3-49	8-33-0
Penalties	6-77	4-27 n

The game was originally scheduled to be played in Albany. When a racial controversy aroused there, Albany school officials asked for and got permission to play the contest here.

Showing fine balance, the 'Cats scored a solid win as they boosted their record this year to 5-0 and upped their region mark to 4-0. VHS has now won 19 straight over a span which covers parts of three seasons. Albany now has a 2-3 chart.

While the 'Dosta go-go unit, led by fullback Danny O'Neal and quarterback Don Golden, was racking up four TDs, 16 first downs and 332 yards in total offense, VHS' stop'em crew was producing its fifth shutout in a row.

End Harry Skoropat, who made 12 tackles, and linebacker Tom Holt, who made 10 stops, led the 'Dosta defenders as they limited Albany to just five first downs and only 35 yards rushing and 37 passing.

O'Neal scored three touchdowns, on runs of one, 14 and 23 yards, and booted four extra points. He finished the night with 74 yards on 11 carries.

Golden hit on 10 of 16 passes for 136 yards, including a 28-yard TD toss to end Warrick Taylor. The quarterback also picked up 28 yards along the ground and averaged 49 yards on three punts, including one 57-yarder.

But there were many other VHS heroes. A total of 60 'Cats saw action in the game and all shared in the triumph.

"We got a solid team effort and we needed it," Bazemore said. "Albany has a big, strong ball club. We didn't expect them to be a pushover — and they weren't."

Here's the way things went:

FIRST QUARTER — Stalled by penalities the first time they had possession of the football, the 'Cats moved 38 yards along the ground for a TD the second time they got their hands on the pigskin. The payoff was a one-yard plunge by O'Neal. The long gainer in the march was a 14-yard sprint by halfback Charles Daniels.

Shortly afterwards Albany got off a short, 15-yard punt and the 'Cats were in business at the Indians' 30. Halfback Henry Davis picked up two yards, then Golden hit Taylor with a 28-yard scoring pass in the end zone. The toss was right on target and Taylor made the catch with an Albany defender breathing right down his neck.

SECOND AND THIRD PERIODS — The two middle stanzas of the game featured some hard-nose defensive play. The 'Cats got one drive going in the third period, moving from their own 37 to the Albany 37, but lost the ball on a fumble. VHS lost another fumble at its own 11. This provided the Indians with their only scoring opportunity, but the 'Dosta defenders stopped the Tribe cold. The Indians ran four plays then had to give up the ball on dow[illegible] at back out at the 12.

FOURTH PERIOD — A[illegible] making that stand deep [illegible] own territory, Valdosta [illegible] ed a drive which cove[illegible] yards in 12 plays. The [illegible] er was a 19-yard [illegible] Golden to tight end [illegible] and the TD came [illegible] mined 14-yard [illegible]

Midwa[illegible] shook [illegible] West [illegible]

Wildcats, Vikes Have Home Tilts

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Lowndes' Vikings will both be at home this weekend and both will be going against strong Region 1-AAA opponents.

Coach Wright Bazemore's VHS 'Cats are to meet coach Winfred Benson's Monroe (Albany) Golden Tornadoes here Friday night. Coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikings are to host coach Clint Madray's Wayne County (Jesup) Yellow Jackets on Saturday night.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Monroe at Valdosta
Dublin at Berrien
Clinch at Blackshear
Miller at Brooks
Jefferson at Madison
Williston at Hamilton
Saturday
Wayne at Lowndes
Cook at Westover

In other action Friday night involving area teams, Dublin will be at Berrien (Nashville, Ga.), Clinch County (Homerville) at Blackshear, Miller County (Colquitt) at Brooks County (Quitman), Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.) at Madison and Williston, Fla., at Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.)

Another Saturday night duel calls for Cook (Adel) to meet Westover at Albany.

Valdosta's Wildcats are 6-0 for the season and own first place in Region 1-AAA with a 5-0 league chart. They are sure to face a strong challenge from Monroe's Tornadoes who are 4-1 after playing five region tilts.

Valdosta has beaten Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0), Wayne (34-0), Ware County (63-0), Albany (28-0) and Moultrie (21-0). Monroe has trimmed Dougherty (26-0), Albany (12-9), Tift County (19-6), and Coffee (39-14). The Tornadoes' lone defeat came by a 19-14 margin at the hands of Moultrie.

Lowndes' Vikings own a 2-3-1 overall record and a 1-3-1 regional chart. The Wayne team they will be meeting is 4-2 for the year and 4-1 in league play. The Jackets are riding the crest of a four - game victory streak.

The Vikes have beaten Berrien (12-0) and Coffee (40-16) and tied Dougherty (12-12). They've lost to Moultrie (21-0), Albany (20-8) and Tift (33-18). Wayne has clipped Coffee (37-0), Tift (25-0), Dougherty (13-8) and Ware (34-6). The Jackets have bowed to Waycross (39-6) and to Valdosta (34-0).

Berrien's Rebels, who have lost six in a row, will be meeting a Dubline team that has a 3-3 mark. This is a Region 1-AA affair. Clinch's Panthers (3-3-1) (3-3-1) will be going against Blackshear's Tigers (1-5) in a Region 2-B outing.

Brooks' Tigers will put a 5-1 record on the line against Miller, a Region 1-B foe. Cook's Hornets are 3-2-1 and will be meeting a Westover team that has a 4-3 chart.

Madison's Red Devils are still winless after five starts and will be the underdogs to Jefferson. Hamilton has won four in a row since a loss on opening night. The Rebs hope to keep their victory string going against Williston.

Other games of interest include the following:

Friday — Americus at Fitzgerald, Appling Co. at Thomasville, Bacon at Atkinson, Quincy, Fla., at Bainbridge, Cairo at Thomasville Central, Ware at Coffee, Waycross at Dodge, Tift at Dougherty, Early at Worth.

Irwin at Patterson, Jeff Davis at Telfair, LaGrange at Woodward, Lanier at Moultrie, Mark Smith at Willingham, Randolph at Mitchell, Perry at Northside, Pelham at Terrell, and Wilcox at Turner.

Saturday — Warner Robins at Appling and Central, Ala., at Jordan.

Grid Glimpses

(See stories on pages 8 and 9)

Valdosta 28, Albany 0

Valdosta's Wildcats did their scoring in the first and final periods and played it sharp on defense all the way as they turned back Albany, a traditional rival, in solid fashion.

Lowndes 40, Coffee 16

Lowndes' Vikings went on a scoring spree and when the dust settled they had a onesided triumph over Region 1-AAA foe Coffee County.

Brooks 13, Mitchell 12

A long drive and a key run enabled Brooks County's Tigers to squeeze past Region 1-B foe Mitchell County.

Cook 28, Perry 7

Cook spotted Perry an early touchdown, then roared back to triumph in this Region 1-A match. Cook led by Lewis Goff, who picked up 133 yards along the ground and scored four touchdowns.

Hamilton 51, Chiefland 22

Willie Hill scored four times, on runs of 39, 88 and 47 yards and a 70-yard punt return, to lead the Hamilton County Rebels past Chiefland.

Thomasville 40, Berrien 6

Thomasville's Bulldogs, the top ranked Class AA team in the state, showed plenty of football muscle as it defeated Berrien's Rebels.

Macclenny 44, Madison 0

Quarterback Boby Hart did most of the damage as Macclenny clipped Madison's young Red Devils. Hart ran for three touchdowns and passed for another.

Bacon 28, Clinch 6

Neil Boatwright and Larry Taylor each scored a pair of touchdowns as they led Bacon County's Red Raiders past Clinch County's Panthers.

Placement System Seen Key to One Valdosta Problem

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — A system of offering courses on a level with the ability of students in grades seven through 12 was inaugurated in Valdosta schools last May and this may solve problems for Negro students who feel they did not receive enough training in all-Negro schools to keep up in integrated schools.

Some NAACP leaders, who included "some grade consideration" for Negro students in a list of five demands did not know of the system and were happy when they heard about it in sessions with school board officials, including Board Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr., said Tillman.

Tillman declined to try to explain the system on the grounds it took an educator to explain it.

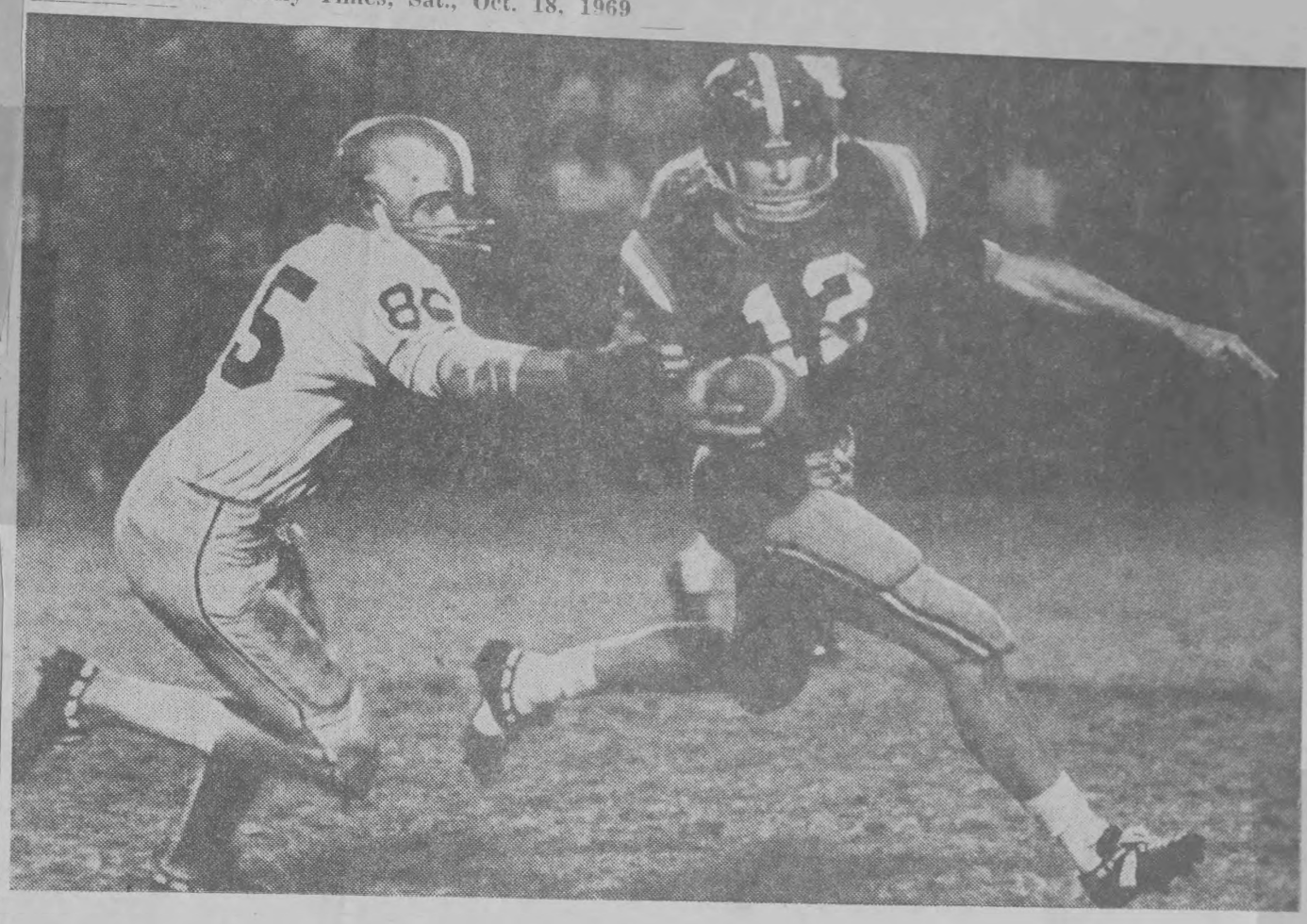
Valdosta High School Principal Charles Green gave a brief summation of the program. "It's a level program where children are placed according to their ability," he said.

The placement is recommended by teachers on the basis of such things as previous grades and IQ test scores. There are four levels of classes, remedial, basic, general and accelerated.

There's only one system of grading in the Valdosta system but each student is then offered work he is supposed to be able to do and thus should not be under a handicap, Green indicated.

For record purposes, the courses are numbered from one to four with the number of the grade in which it is offered listed along with the number denoting whether it was a remedial, basic, general or accelerated course, Green explained.

In answer to other questions, Tillman denied reports that there were school board meetings held Tuesday before a 9 a.m. press release was made by his office and again at 11 a.m. He said he did meet with several Negro leaders and that a meeting was held with some school officials and students, including the remaining Negro student council members who were out on the third day of the three-day suspension.



— Times Staff Photo

Wildcats' Gary Dove (85) Reaches Out A Hand To Snag Moultrie Quarterback Roger Singletary

Wildcats Clip Packers In Duel For First Place

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Three touchdown thrusts, which came during the middle portion of the game, and a lot of hard-nose defensive play carried Valdosta High's Wildcats to a 21-0 football victory over the Moultrie Packers here Friday night.

A standing-room-only crowd of approximately 10,000 jamed into Cleveland Field and watched as coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats triumphed over coach Bud Willis' previously unbeaten Packers in the crucial Region 1-AAA contest.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Moultrie
First Downs	14	11
Yards Rushing	196	105
Yards Passing	124	43
Passes	5-16	4-15
Passs Intc. by	1	2
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punting	2-38	6-35
Penalties	8-50	2-6

When it was over the Wildcats were all alone at the top in the league standings. This year they are now 6-0 in all game and 5-0 in region competition. And they've now won 20 in a row over a span which covers parts of three seasons.

The defeat was the first after five straight region triumphs for the Packers.

While Valdosta's defensive troops were chalking up their sixth consecutive shutout and holding the Packers to 105 yards rushing and 43 passing, about half Moultrie's previous average, the 'Cats go-troops were piling up 320 yards in total offense.

It was a solid win and all 36 VHS players who saw action drew verbal praise from Bazemore.

"We knew we'd need a good team effort to get by Moultrie," Bazemore said. "We got what we needed. Everyone did a good job, especially in the second half. This was an important game and our boys — all of them — came through in fine style. I'm proud of everyone of them."

There was a walkout by approximately 300 Negro students at Valdosta High Friday morning, but few of them were football players and only one was a regular among those who missed playing the game.

Quarterback Don Golden was called on to go both ways and responded in sparkling fashion. He helped produce VHS' first touchdown in the second period when he connected with fleet halfback Willie Jones on a 53-yard pass. Three plays later, with Golden now on defense, the 6-5, 190-pound senior intercepted a pass and went 52 yards with it to score the 'Cats' second TD.

'Dosta's third marker came in the opening minutes of the second half. After the kickoff the 'Cats wheeled 65 yards in five plays to reach paydirt a[gain]. The payoff was a 22-yard s[cor]e by fullback Dan O'Neal. O['Neal] also booted three PATs.

Leading the way on de[fense] was linebacker Tom Holt, [who] was credited with 11 indivi[dual] tackles.

Golden finished the night [with] 12 yards rushing, he hit on [8 of] 12 passes for 89 yards, m[ade] five tackles and averaged [40] yards on a pair of puns.

O'Neal was the ground-att[ack] leader with 87 yards on 12 c[ar]ries, but certainly didn't do t[he] job alone. Halfback Charle[s] Daniels racked up 60 yards on [14] carries, including a couple of [long] yard sprints that came at cr[u]cial times. Halfback Henry D[a]vis got 33 yards on eight carri[es] and hit end Bo Blalock with [a] 23-yard pass. End Roger Rom[ey] snagged three passes for 3[1] yards.

On his touchdown catch on that 53-yard air strike in the second period, Jones got behind the Moultrie safety man, took the pass in stride and really turned it on to reach paydirt.

Just a few of the defensive leaders, in addition to Holt and Golden were Jerry Baker, Mike Everson, Aaron Holder, Robert [Ja]ckson. All [the] more [than] ack[le] and [lead]e to one [the] en[d] ond [the] rth [yar]ds up [the] ds [the] st [yar]ds [the] ds [the] l[ine] [the] [ga]e [the] l



300 Are Suspended Following Walkout at Valdosta High School

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — About 300 Negro students, or some 60 percent of the Negro members of the student body at Valdosta High School, left classes and an assembly program Friday in a protest over the outcome of a homecoming queen contest and were promptly suspended under a standing school rule against unauthorized walkouts from classes. It was the first major racial incident at the school.

Included among the suspended students were the Negro co-president of the student council, Greg Homer, a few football players and some band members.

THE BALLPLAYERS, including two first team members, were barred from Valdosta's Friday night football game, crucial contest with equally undefeated Moultrie, under a school rule which has been applied before in individual cases.

Homer led a peaceful sit-down strike on the campus outside the school cafeteria following the walkout. School board chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. said the students stayed on the campus about an hour from the time they left classes until Valdosta Police Chief Wilbur Perkerson and Assistant Chief A. L. Arnold got them to leave without incident.

Arnold said some of the boycotters marched down to the Pinevale campus, which only houses ninth grade students, but were barred from the campus by school officials without police help.

Tillman, who said he told the students the school would not be run by mob rule, even peaceful mobs, said the suspension by high school Principal Charles Green has the backing of the board. "Mr. Green handled the situation extremely well and was correct in his decisions. He has 100 percent backing of the school board and I hope of all the community," Tillman commented.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN said he did not know details on the disputed queen election but that what he had heard unofficially was similar to other reports.

According to reports, Negro and white homeroom representatives Monday picked up slips of paper from students containing their votes and turned them in at a central location. When the votes were counted, a Negro girl, Gloria Holloway, reportedly had won but there was evidence some students voted more than once.

A second ballot was taken Thursday with exactly the same number of ballots passed out as there were students in each room. A white co-ed, Emily Schroer, was declared winner but the Negro students said Miss Holloway was the real winner and the change was a way of harassing Negro students at the school, which is completely integrated this year for the first time. There are about 500 Negroes among the student body.

SOME STUDENTS left a line filing into the auditorium for an assembly program while others left classes.

After Green announced that names would be taken of the remaining Negro students and the others suspended, about 100 of those who had walked out tried to rush back in to the building. Green and other school officials turned them away and ordered them outside.

Once outside, Green stood on a chair and told the suspended students, "Something has happened that we wish had not. I'm extremely disappointed for this reason. If you have had a gripe you haven't been to my office to see me about it."

There was some heckling from the students and Green told them he would get police if that's what it took to get them off the campus. Before officers arrived Arnold told the Negro students to stay and to sit on their books but Arnold said police had no trouble in getting them to leave.

MADE BY N.A.A.C.P.

Valdosta School Unit To Study Demands

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — There are four remaining demands made of the Valdosta school board in a resolution by the executive committee of the Valdosta-Lowndes chapter of the NAACP.

The board, which rejected the first of five demands on the list, has promised to consider the following:

B. The immediate employment of a Negro physical education teacher and coach for Valdosta High School.

C. At least one Negro queen for the homecoming parade and one attendant.

D. Some grade consideration for Negro students, since it seems that the school officials have indicated that Negro students have not had the benefit of a quality education.

E. That the practice of ridiculing Negro teachers by the central office staff and white school principals be discontinued.

A central office staff member told a newsman she had no idea of what was meant by demand E.

Board members have not yet commented on any of the four, but chances of demand D, which apparently would mean some sort of across-the-board grade hikes on report cards, due out Wednesday, being met seem very remote.

Demand B has been a subject of previous discussion by the school board and may eventually be met, but whether or not it will be immediately is up to the board.

Demand C involves the subject that touched off the whole issue and there has been no board comment on it.

Just Who Are They Fooling?

Sir,

We would like to know just how much more the white students at Valdosta High School have to take. Who does Chuck Green and Foster Goolsby think they are kidding when they proclaim, "Everything is going fine at Valdosta High"?

I speak for many parents of students at VHS and we know of many obscene incidents. Anyone that has to have classes with them and be with the Pinevale students all day can tell one precisely what goes on.

The black students dress as they please wearing such things as culottes and exceedingly low cut, six-inch long, tight dresses. Boys wear extremely tight pants and wild printed shirts half unbuttoned. These things have always been prohibited at VHS. Something is said one time and that's it. They say filthy things which most students would be suspended for.

Pep rallies are uncontrollable. When the cheerleaders and captains of the football team are talking, they try to see how much noise they can make. They are told to be quiet once. Then the one that demanded the order is booed.

Valdosta High has always been known for its great student body. There's no spirit what so ever this year. What is there to be happy about? The Negroes slowly ruining the school's name?

Valdostan

Side Developments Stem from Valdosta High Walkout

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Events stemming from the Friday walkout of some 400 Negro Valdosta High School students continued to occur Monday and Tuesday at a rapid-fire pace.

There were at least four major new developments in the two-day period in addition to the previously publicized public hearing held Monday morning.

One: The board of education, after an unannounced early meeting, released a statement Tuesday that it rejects an NAACP demand for immediate reinstatement of the suspended students, "per se." It said it will take four other NAACP demands under advisement.

Two: There was a mass meeting Monday night of white parents and students who organized what the leaders said was a substitute for a parent-teacher organization. Valdosta High does not have a P-TA.

Three: There was also a mass meeting of Negro citizens. Some 500 adults and students reportedly were present. The majority voted to keep students out of school until 75 percent of the NAACP demands are met.

Four: School Supt. Foster Goolsby confirmed, in answer to direct questions, that 36 white 9th grade students at the Pinevale campus were suspended when they left school without permission after some of the boycotting Negro students from Valdosta High marched to the Pinevale campus Friday.

The Pinevale suspensions were for three days, as were the high school suspensions, but they were for Monday through Wednesday while the high school suspensions began Friday and ran through Tuesday.

Goolsby said that police were called to the Pinevale campus as a precautionary measure and although officers were not needed to turn back the high school marchers, a number of Pinevale students, mostly girls, became frightened and telephoned their parents to come pick them up. Some of those left school checked out with the office but others, including some picked up by parents of friends rather than their own parents, did not check out and were subsequently suspended.

News media representatives were telephoned early Tuesday and told that a statement would be available at the insurance agency of school board Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. at 9 a.m. When they converged on his office Tillman was not there but a printed release was given them by a secretary.

In the release the board rejected demand A, calling for immediate reinstatement of the suspended students without punitive measures. The board noted that the normal suspension period for unauthorized absence from class is three days and the students suspended Friday will be "readmitted and welcomed Wed., Oct. 22. The other demands are taken under advisement."

Rev. W. H. Brown, president of the Valdosta-Lowndes chapter of the NAACP, said he discussed the punitive measures question with Tillman and the board chairman told him the usual practice was to grant zeroes in all subjects, but since it is the beginning of a new six-weeks report period there probably won't be a major effect on grades.

Brown said some 500 Negroes attended a Monday night meeting at the Adair Street Church of Christ after Negro students, including the suspended co-president of the student council, Greg Homer, called for a show of support for students and the NAACP. Of those present by a standing vote of those present by a standing vote of students voted to keep school students out of school until 75 percent of the NAACP demands are met.

"Our primary function is to back the principal and school board in providing children of Valdosta with a good education. The organization will be a substitute for a P-TA but won't do all the things that P-TA does," Northcutt said.

McGrogan was named vice chairman of the adult committee of the organization and Mrs. Barbara Gandy was chosen secretary-treasurer. Roy Fenell, Mrs. Francis Lyles and Boots Tudor are directors.

Rick Baucom was named chairman of a youth committee. Other youth board members are Pat McGrogan Jr., Ken Carter, Linda Yancey, James Johnson, Chuck Callahan, Sherry Snyder and Mike DeCesare. None are student council members, although some student council members were at the meeting.

Incident At Valdosta High

The walkout by Negro students at Valdosta High School Friday was an extremely unfortunate incident. It was most unfortunate because it happened over such a relatively unimportant matter.

The students left, and were subsequently suspended, in a disagreement over election of the school's homecoming queen.

The incident points up an apparent lack of discipline in the school and/or a complete unawareness by administrators of just what was going on in the student body.

This has been the first year of total integration for the Valdosta school system. It has been a trying time for the school board, superintendent, principals and teachers. It has also been a trying time for most students. School administrators have contended that the integration process has been going smoothly, that there have been no real disturbances in the schools.

It is apparent, however, while there have been no major disturbances, there has been at VHS an undercurrent of feeling between the Negro and white students. This feeling apparently reached a climax with the walkout Friday.

It is always too easy to play Monday morning quarterback and call the plays that should have been run. Maybe the incident was unavoidable. Maybe it was bound to happen. We, however, just can't buy that.

There has been an apparent breakdown of communications at Valdosta High. The strong undercurrent of feeling was apparent to many despite what the principal and others have been saying about things going smoothly. Did those in official capacity fail to recognize the real feelings that were running through the student body?

There is every indication there has been a breakdown of discipline. In a school, such as Valdosta High, discipline must be built on a basis of mutual respect. When it isn't, those charged with the task of running the school have failed. They have failed in providing the proper leadership. And we don t mean just those people on the schools' payroll. Developing a mutual respect is as much the responsibility of student leaders and other students as it is of those in official capacity.

Valdosta High School with its great football teams, bands and other assets, has always been the pride of our community. It will continue to be so because we feel out of the Friday incident will come a realization that things just aren't as rosy as the official statements have said. It will bring about a realization that a problem does exist and a renewed effort to put the school house in order.

A few positive actions have been taken to promote racial harmony. But the Times feels the tendency to drift with the situation and to disclaim problems, rather than facing them quickly and affirmatively, has undermined the basic concept that schools are to provide children with an education and to teach them that they must learn to live with varying opinions and prejudices.

With those aims in mind, the Times proposes:

— That the VHS student council, Which is bi-racial, and possibly student councils in other schools meet immediately and drawn up a "Code of Mutual Respect" or a "Code of Ethics" If you please to insure racial harmony and to prevent petty insults.

— That the Valdosta Board of Education draw up a resolution stating its position on racial discrimination and promising prompt action to support that position.

— That the Valdosta units of the Georgia Education Association and the Georgia Teachers and Education Association either met jointly or appoint special committees to meet immediately and present a united front to recommend answers to any teacher unrest and discipline of students.

— That Parent-Teacher Associations and like organizations give immediate attention to the problem and resolve to face these schools issues with patience, fortitude, courtesy and a sense of fair play.

— That all these groups keep in constant communication with each other and not allow jealousies or grievances to again disrupt our school system.

— That pupils resolve to treat other pupils as they themselves wish to be treated, and realize that their teachers and school administrators have devoted their lives to helping them.

— That every citizen of Valdosta devote his energies to becoming a part of the solution rather than of the problem, take his grievance calmly to the authority, realize that we are neighbors not antagonists and that it is impossible to recover the past, either for correction or salvation, but must chart a course for the future built on good will

Almost overburdening responsibilities have been placed on our school systems, by parents, by students, by the State Department of Education and by the Department of Health, Education Education and Welfare. But relief will come only from personal dedication and harmony, not from violence and impulsive reaction; not from such walkouts as we had Friday.

VALDOSTA HIGH

Walkout Story Has Variety

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — There was a student walkout at Valdosta High School more than 20 years ago over a major league baseball game, but an interested party who asked that his name not be used disagrees with school board Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr.'s account of it.

Tillman said the walkout and mass suspension was in 1945 when about 40 students left the campus illegally to attend a major league exhibition baseball game in town.

Tillman said the leaders of the walkout were Valdosta newspaper publisher Penny Griffin, Dr. A. M. Culbreth of Valdosta, and Barry Phillips, now an Altanta attorney. Culbreth is now Tillman's brother-in-law.

The interested party said Graffin was involved and suspended for 10 days but was not a leader of the walkout. He further said Culbreth was not in the walkout at all and had graduated the previous spring. He contended that it happened in the spring of 1946 rather than 1945 and that Phillips did not leave the campus in the incident.

When Tillman was told of the dispute of the story he at first stuck by his original version but he was persuaded to check with Culbreth's alleged part in it.

Culbreth said he believed he had graduated by the time this incident happened. Culbreth indicated he was not unhappy about the story, but on the other hand it would not make him unhappy if it ever was corrected.

There was an inadvertent error in a story about Friday's walkout of Negro students, the first at Valdosta High since the 1946 incident.

In a paragraph referring to Negro co-president of the student Council Greg Homer's efforts to get Negro students to stay on campus and sit on their books, somehow the word Arnold got replaced by the word Homer.

Elsewhere in the story assistant Valdosta [illegible] A. L. Arnold was quoted as saying the police had no trouble in getting the [illegible] to leave. It was not Chief [illegible] or any other Arnold who told the Negro students to stay and sit on their books. The sentence should have read that before officers arrived, Homer told the Negro students to stay and sit on their books.

Bazemore Rates Moultrie Strong

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Just about any way you look at it, and coach Wright Bazemore has tried to figure things from all angles, Valdosta High's football Wildcats have their work cut out for them here Friday night.

Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Bud Willis' Moultrie Packers are to tangle in a Region 1-AAA outing that's set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field.

Both teams will carry perfect 5-0 records into the game. At stake will be undisputed possession of first place in the 1-AAA standings.

Add in the fact that the 'Cats' and Packers are traditional rivals and it means the fans are in a high state of excitement.

Moultrie has an excellent football team — period," Bazemore said. "They have size, speed and experience. They run tough, have a dangerous passing attack and are very strong on defense against both the run and the pass.

"I've tried to figure things from all angles. I keep coming to the same conclusion. Moultrie's good, we've got to really be ready and we're going to have a very tough ball game.'

While winning five straight the 'Cats have shown fine baance on both offense and defense. They've tallied 181 points and haven't been scored on.

Figures on the Packers are almost as impressive. They have have allowed just 22.

As a team the 'Cats have been averaging 208.4 yards rushing and 132 yards per tilt passing. The VHS defenders have held five foes to a total of minus 16 yards rushing and have allowed an average of just 58 yards per contest passing.

Moultrie's ground troops have averaged 196.8 per game and tie Packers have been averaging 75.2 yards through the air. On defense they've given up an average of just 96 yards rushing and 46.2 passing.

But comparing such figures might or might not given an indication of how things will go tomorrow night. They've met just one mutual foe. Both scored onesided triumphs against Dougherty's Trojans. VHS beat Dougherty, 42-0, and the Packers sailed past the team from Albany, 26-0.

In VHS' last strart against the Albany Indians two weeks ago it was end Harry Skoropat and linebacker Tom Holt who led the way on defense. They, and all of their stop'em crew teammates, can expect to be "tsted" by the Packers.

In fullback Jim Beard (195, sr.) and halfback Bob Hardy (175, sr.) Moultrie has a pair of very talented running backs. Hardy has picked up 406 yards on 66 carries and has scored 25 points. Beard has gained 319 points to his credit.

While primarily a running team, Moultrie can and does pass. Quarterback Roger Singletary has hit on 25 of 52 tosses for 320 yards, with end Larry Thompson, who has made eight catches for 99 yards, and his favorite receiver. They have an excellent punter in Edward McLeod, who's averaging 38.59 yards per boot.

Quarterback Don Golden is leading the 'Cats and the region in passing with a 34-58-529 chart, and he's also the loop's top punter with a 42.27 average. 'Dostas' top receivers are halfback Willie Jones (11-243) and ends Warrick Taylor (11-165) and Bo Blalock (5-81).

Jones (22-208), halfback Charles Daniels (28-184), fullback Danny O'Neal (35-164) and halfback Henry Davis (17-129) are the ground attack leaders. O'Neal, with 38 points, and Jones, with 36 points, are the scoring leaders.

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follow:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Taylor and Blalock tackles Robert Koncar and Steve Jarmillo, guards Ray Parr and Mark Dibois, center Jim Christy, quarterback Golden, halfbacks Jones and Daniels or Davis and fullback O'Neal.

Defense — ends Skoropat and Jerry Baker, tackles Ralph Hendry and Mike Everson, middle guard Charles Shenton, outside linebackers Curt Bazemore and Greg Quattlebaum, inside linbackers Holt and Aaron Holder and Robert Savage and deep backs John Hampton and Curtis Lee.

MOULTRIE

Offense — ends Thompson and Ned Morgan (167, sr.), tackles Chuck Elks (209, jr.,) and Dick Carter (211, jr.), guards Carroll Barfield (171, sr.) and Danny Kilgore (160 sr.), center Gary Saturday (192, sr.) quarterback Singletary, halfbacks Hardy and Tony Parker (160, sr.) and fullback Beard.

Defense — ends Steve Newton (160, sr.) and Dale Holloway (167, jr.), tackles Lee Hall (219, sr.) and Tommy Demott (212, sr.), middle guard Johnny Slocumb (163, sr.), linebackers Steve Bass (158, jr.) Kenny Hammock (150, jr.) and Ronnie Dorminey (172, jr.), cornerbacks Robbie Faircloth (144, jr.) and McLeod and deep back Sonny Murphy (130, sr.).



— Times Staff Photos

VHS Linebacker Tom Holt Ready For Moultrie

at farms heavy type 16, light
10.

-BofE

Continued from Page 1

ing of the song "Dixie" by the VHS band and the election of class officers as other forms of harrassment experienced by the Negroes this fall at VHS.

There are about 500 Negroes and about 800 white students at Valdosta High. VHS and the former all - black Pinevale High School consolidated this fall. All 10th-12th grade students are at VHS and all the ninth grades are at Pinevale.

The NAACP demands called for a Negro homecoming queen and at least one Negro homecoming attendant, the hiring of a Negro coach and Negro physical education instructor at VHS and some grade consideration for Negro students at the high school, they also want the school to stop playing "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag.

Besides the immediate reinstatement of the 400 suspended students, the NAACP demanded that no student be given zeroes during the suspension and that no record be made of the suspension on the students' permanent files. This entire demand has been rejected by the school board.

students at Pinevale who were

There were about 30 white suspended Monday after they left school without permission from the principal Friday. The students left the campus after some of the suspended Negroes from VHS gathered on the school grounds Friday morning.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said some of the Pinevale staff and students thought there might be trouble when the VHS group appeared there and the uneasiness triggered the leaving of the students.

"Some of the students left school without authorization and have been suspended for three days," said Goolsby.

One of the suspended students at Pinevale said Dr. Jerry Cox, director of curriculum in the city schools, gave several of the students permission to go home.

Clay Moseley said he and other students were in front of the school when Cox was asked for permission. The ninth grader rode home with one of the parents who arrived at the school to pick up her daughter who was also suspended. Cox was unavailable for comment.

And while the NAACP is backing the Negro walkout, a group of about 100 white persons have formed a committee which they contend supports the white students at VHS.

Meeting at P. E. McGrogan's house Monday night on the corner of Jerry Jones Drive and Gornto Road, the session included about 75 VHS students, several school board members and other school officials.

McGrogan said the meeting was held to discuss the problems in the school and to let the students know they had the support of the parents.

VHS Band Booster President Chuck Northcutt was elected chairman of the group. Several of the adults who attended the meeting said the group is "more of a PTA."

–300 Negro Students

students in rooms not designated for assembly attendance today left the classroom and joined the others outside.

Greg Homer, the Co-Student Council president, several members of the VHS Wildcat football team, including the two first string safeties, and some band members were among those participating in the boycott.

Less than a dozen Negro students were seen by a reporter in the assembly. White students looked around in amazement as word spread through the auditorium that Negroes had walked out.

Green, his voice steady, addressed the audience and told them the Negro students had walked out. He said those participating in the boycott are suspended. Names of all Negroes remaining in the auditorium and in the rooms were to be taken so they would not be included in the suspension. Assembly was not dismissed.

The principal then told teachers and others on his staff not to let the Negroes back in "be-

Chief of Police Wilbur Perkerson to come to the campus and talk to the youths.

But before Perkerson and Assistant Chief Loyce Arnold arrived, Homer told the Negroes to sit on their books and stay on campus.

Homer said the administration isn't concerned about how the Negroes feel because the students are in a formerly all-white school in a white community.

VHS and the former all Negro Pinevale High School consolidated this fall with all 10th-12th graders now attending VHS. Pinevale houses all the ninth graders in the city school system.

This is another bone of contention with the students. They said money was spent to remodel Pinevale only after white students were transferred there.

The students are also upset because the VHS Marching Wildcat Band still plays "Dixie" as part of its VHS medley and carries the Confederate flag.

One of the Negroes sitting on his books on the front campus

been fair to them (Negroes)"," he said.

VHS football coalh Wright Bazemore and his staff looked at the Negroes sitting on the lawn in sick disbelief.

VHS plays Moultrie here to night in a football game. Those Negroes players who took part in the walkout will not be allowed to play, according to school regulations.

"The students are to be treated as individuals. They have broken a rule and must take the consequences," said Tillman.

Police Chief Perkerson told the students to leave the campus and come back for the game tonight. He said nobody wanted any trouble and it could be avoided if the student left.

They got up to leave and Homer told them to stay out of trouble and come back to school Monday. When asked if he had consulted school officials about the students being reinstated Monday morning, he said no, but planned to talk to them.

"I don't know if we'll have another walkout Monday if we don't get back in. I haven't made up my mind," he said.

Green, shaking his head, said he never expected this but should have anticipated something would happen. He ordered classes to begin bout 10:30 a.m. after the campus was cleared of the Negroes.

Ben and Joe, a team of (recently dragged a cov bridge, built in New Hamps to its prepared place in V stock, Vt.

VHS Yearbook Pictures Set For Wednesday

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A representative of the Valdosta High School yearbook, The Sandspur, said today pictures will be made of sophomore class members Wednesday.

"We just found out today the photographer is coming Wednesday," said Jenny Price, sophomore editor for the yearbook. "And because of the walkout some of the students won't know what to wear for pictures."

"The boys should wear dark colored shirts and the girls should wear white round-collar blouses and dark cardigan sweaters," she said.



— Times Staff Photo

Now It's Gone

Valdosta High School Distributive Education Club members Tatta Bird, 17, and Beverly Newlin, 17, pose with one of two super sized balloons the club bought and painted to display at home football games. The balloons were taken down after the first game but left up after the second and have now been stolen. Club members would like to have the balloons returned but don't seriously think they will be and are considering pulling up new ones

School Desegregation—1

Transition Begins Tuesday Without Fanfare

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a four - part series on high school consolidation for desegregation purposes in the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems.

By MARY CROUSE

It was three years ago that school officials in the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems said total desegregation of the educational facilities here would be a long time coming. The people just would not accept a sudden change, they contended. There would be more trouble than ever thought possible, predicted some board of education members. Others, satisfied with the status quo, said things were just fine the way they were and wanted to ignore the whole thing.

Both boards have since found out school integration can't be ignored without some repercussions. Lowndes County tried it and ended up losing all its federal funds and a court suit. The five - man board and Supt. A. B. (Sonny) Martin are under a federal court order to completely desegregage by the fall of 1970.

The Valdosta board delayed submitting an acceptable plan for desegregation to the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare until the federal officials warned the city system's least half of the annual $1 million in federal money would be terminated.

Elimination of the dual school system is taking place in both local educational districts this year. The transition is officially to begin Tuesday when students report for the first day of school. And the change is to come without fanfare or riots, said the school administrators.

Most of the city board's desegregation is to transpire this fall while the county's court-ordered plan calls for the final steps to be made by September 1970.

That's when the Lowndes board is to close its four all-Negro schools and the former-all - white Naylor facility. The seven plants the board intends to keep open are to have additions built this year to house the student transfers.

The major changes in both systems this fall, however, are at the high school level. The county's all - Negro Westside High and formerly all - white Lowndes High schools have consolidated with all 10th-12th graders assigned to Lowndes High. Westside becomes a junior high in September.

The Valdosta board voted this spring to merge the all-Negro Pinevale High School with Valdosta High. The action was taken before the board's desegregation plan was accepted by HEW.

All 10th - 12th graders are to attend VHS while the ninth graders are to be housed at the board has also voted to make the ninth grade a part of the high school even though it is located on another campus.

There was some opposition to this move by a few parents because of transportation and the fact Pinevale was formerly an all - Negro plant. Even most of these people have now accepted the consolidation and are concentrating on car pools and curriculum.

Valdosta's Supt. Foster Goolsby said all teacher assignments have been made at the two schools. He explained that with the cooperation he has gotten from principals and faculty, the transition "should not be too difficult administratively." Lowndes County's Martin feels the same way. That board has had since February to work out its desegregation plans for

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See Transition — Page 2

The white youths on the schools' student councils plan to make the Negroes feel a part of this fall. Band directors and athletic coaches said the Negroes made tryouts for top positions this fall more competitive.

The result will be a more heavily talented student body in all respects, said VHS principal Charles (Chuck) Green.

T. H. Wall said a larger student body means a better curriculum because everything is at one school.

There are to be 15 full - time and four part - time Negro teachers at Lowndes High. In addition, a Negro coach and a Negro female physical education instructor are to be on the staff. About 400 Negro students are expected Tuesday.

Green said 14 full - time Negro teachers will be at VHS. The assistant principal, a counselor and a librarian are Negroes. About 400 Negro students are expected next week.

Tomorrow: Valdosta High Plans.

Plans Same

Better Participation DE Goal

By WINK DEVANE

There's not a great deal of difference in the plans this year, but the Distributive Education Club at Valdosta High School hopes to have many more people carrying them out, according to the new slate of DE officers.

Hank Mead, a VHS senior new slate of DE officers. who was named president, said one of his primary goals as head of the club is to get members in club projects throughout the school year.

The projects outlined by Mead for the year ahead are basically the same as last year's. For fund raising purposes the club plans to sponsor barbecue suppers prior to a VHS home football game, sell yellow mums at the homecoming game, sell calendars and sponsor the annual "King Ugly" contest at the school.

"Sell" is the name of the game in Distributive Education, according to club coordinator Norman Greene. Students attend school up until 1:30 p. m., he said, and then they're free to go to their part - time jobs. Those jobs are centered around selling.

It stands to reason, Greene said, that the club's fund raising activities center on the same theme.

Mead pointed out other VHS DECA projects besides those which raise funds have to do with selling also. For example he cited the club's work in selling annuals for the Sandspur staff at VHS. The club receives no money for their efforts there, he added.

Other "non-profit" projects Mead listed include the cleaning of trophy cases at the school, the operation of a parking lot for students across from Brookwood Plaza Shopping Center and another parking lot for teachers on the school grounds.

One weekend is set aside for cleaning the campus, Mead said, and volunteer members remove litter from the campus. Particular attention is paid to areas around trash receptacles, the club president said, because they seem to attract the major portion of litter. Most of it is the result of carelessness in placing trash in containers and emptying them.

Another undertaking is a beautification project for the school, he said. Last year the club planted two dogwood trees on the schoolgrounds. Through the care given them by the club, he added, both survived the school year.

The DE club also has a display at the South Georgia Legion Fair here, said Mead, and they change the marquee in front of the school each week. A different message is put on the signboard every Monday.

"These are basically the same things we did last year," Mead said, "but I'm hoping to get broader participation this year than we had last year. I'm afraid we had only a few members doing most of the work."

Publicity is another area where the local club has excelled. This year's reporter, senior Cissy Williams, says she's not sure of every activity planned for the coming year.

But, she continued, it's a sure bet the club will have a full round of civic club appearances and a television program. These are in addition to working closely with the school newspaper, the 'Dosta Outlook.

The school paper is to be enlarged this year, she said, and she hopes to be able to use some of the additional space for publicity for the club.

There is one new wrinkle in club publicity to begin this year, she said. The club has ordered a special film on Distributive Education which is to be available for public showing.

Other officers are David Bentley, vice - president; Bill Bowers, historian; Debbie Daniels, secretary; Kathy Malone treasurer; David Hobbs, parliamentarian; Marsha Norris, chaplain; and Johnny Johnson, sergeant-at-arms.

Mead said he believes the club has the material to win Club of the Year honors at the state convention this year. Particularly he said if participation is as broad as he hopes it will be.

But Greene warned competition among clubs in the state gets tougher every year. However, he agreed with Mead that the club has the potential to do as well as it did last year. The club was second in the state in Club of the Year competition.

"We can do it," Greene said, "but it'll take work. The competition is unbelievably tough. And at the national convention it borders on the fantastic.

"It's going to take a good effort from everybody in the club if we're to do as well this year as we did last year."

Mead, however indicated he wasn't going to be satisfied with second place if a few could carry the club to second place last year, he said, with everyone working at it, first place isn't out of reach.



— Times Staff Photo

DE President Hank Mead, Seated at Head of Table, Listens As Fellow Officers Discuss Plans

School Desegregation

Negro Seniors Not Happy About Shift

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third in a series on high school consolidation for desegregation purposes in the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems.

By MARY CROUSE

The first plan to move the 10th and 11th graders from Westside High School to Lowndes High formerly all-white Lowndes High this fall brought only high school in the county minimum of negative resistance from those students to be ferred.

But the real opposition after the Lowndes County decided

h grade Negroes move high in September to Lough Anartin and his five- (So.) board explained the mastice Department student additional Negro youths were r the Negro students appy about it when they U the eighth ninth grade Negro High is the county

The consolidation is part of the board's federal court or- dered desegregation plan. About 400 Negroes are expected at

-Negro

Continued from Page 1

side they'll gain something will go Lowndes High. everything when school opens," I think smoothly. Westside's former Two of she said. football standouts, Donald Perry and John Corbett, feel they can get alone but they will be accepted dents but they will be white stu- only in athletics. in the community. "I don't think we'll lowed, simply because we are respected office at school," said Corbett.

Earnie Mae Mitchell, co-cap- tain of the girls' basketball team at Westside, believes many Negro students should transfer. She said they would have more favors and be more likely to make the team. They presented at Westside at Lowndes easy for the white students. "It's a need that can be met by the consolidation."

The Lowndes High cheerleading squad this fall, although try- outs held last spring were open also to the Westside students. Miss Bivins said the tryouts were held daily for several days and those who missed the three sessions were ruled out of the competition.

"We couldn't get over to Lowndes High every day. We wanted to be cheerleaders and try out and have a fair chance but it doesn't seem like we were really given one.

"I've found you can't and shouldn't judge an entire race on just a few people. And we can excell in all areas if given the chance. I'm going to be the best student I can at Lowndes High this year," she said.

Emma Marie Register, a sen- ior, was a cheerleader and cap- tain of the girls' basketball team at Westside last year. She attended Hahira Junior High, a predominately white facility, before transferring back to Westside.

"Some of the students at Ha- hira were all right and wanted to be friends, but some called me names and I fell bad. I hope it won't be the same thing at Lowndes High," said the stu- dent.

Theresa Tucker, a senior, is one of three Negro majorettes chosen for the Lowndes High Marching Viking band. She is captain of the majorettes this fall and feels that even though many Negro students are giving up offices and positions at West-

See Negro — Page 2

Continued from Page 1

He said annual school social activities such as homecoming, the ring ball and held this year. dance will be after school functions will be left up to the students, he said. About 35 Negro students are trying out for the football team and about 40 Negroes are in the band.

There weren't any auditions for band positions; the band director said. "I wouldn't have it any other way. We are not color conscious and everything is worthing on beautifully. Our group sounds great," said director Billy Martin.

Samuel Berry, a Negro, is co- captain with Martin this year. Berry is to continue to work with Martin in this capacity and Martin is to also direct the Westside students in the band. Martin is to be the only Ne- gro coach to be transferred to Lowndes High. There are to be Ralph Martin, teachers on the Negro faculty.

"I believe this is all progress- ive," said Martin. "Lowndes High will have additional students, a better school. Student Coun- cil presidents at Lowndes High will make Mr. McMullen, last year's president, said it is up to the students to make the transition work out smoothly. He said he has confidence in the students in- volved.

"We've got to make this work. It's a need that can be met by the consolidation."

The white students in Lowndes High relatively par- ticipate in extracurricular ac- tivities. There are not any Negroes on the Lowndes High cheerleading squad this fall, although try- outs held last spring were open also to the Westside students. Miss Bivins said the tryouts were held daily for several days and those who missed the three sessions were ruled out of the competition.

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See Negro — Page 2

School Desegregation—2

Negro Pupils Equally Curious About Changes

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series on the high school consolidations for desegregation in the Valdosta and Lowndes County systems.

By MARY CROUSE

A couple of Negro youths observed the massive painting and repairing job at the Valdosta High School — Pinevale Campus. They remarked to VHS principal Charles (Chuck) Green that since white students would be at Pinevale this fall, the school finally got a thorough cleaning.

Unruffled by the comment, Green smiled and nodded his head. "That's right. And since all you black students will be at VHS this year we're finally getting some painting and work done at that place."

The teen - agers grinned and asked Green how things would be at VHS this fall. The Negro students are as curious about the changes in the Valdosta schools as the white pupils.

"And they should be. Total desegregation affects both races. It isn't a one sided affair and at Valdosta High we are going to make the black students feel welcome and an integral part of the school," said Green.

He is expecting about 400 Negro students at VHS when school opens Tuesday. His faculty is also to be desegregated for the first time.

As part of its desegregation plan which has been approved and students helped erase most of reluctant to leave Pinevale.

The youths had already been elected to club and class offices and cheerleaders had been chosen for this fall. In addition they were to have been seniors at a school in which they were already enrolled.

It was hard on the juniors to think they wouldn't have their coveted senior positions at Pinevale. And they weren't sure how their reception would be at VHS.

But Green, several teachers problems worrying the Negro pupils. Green talked to the Negroes at assemblies and in small groups at Pinevale. He explained what would take place at VHS and assured them they would have a chance to participate in extracurricular activities.

"This is what was bothering me. At first I said I would not take part, but I didn't understand everything. Now I do understand and will participate.

See Negro — Page 2



MISS WETHERINGTON
Co-President



GREGORY HOMER
Will Participate

—Negro Pupils Equally

Continued from Page 1

somewhere else but knows it is for the best. Homer explained that the Negro students will not attend VHS with the idea they are still Pinevale pupils because "we want to be a part of the VHS student body.

"Therefore, we are willing to meet all the responsibilities of students and go with the mind to make Valdosta High greater than it already is. I love Pinevale but I feel that both races have to make sacrifices. This is truly a turn for the best," said the student.

Classmate Willie Jones Jr., 17, said he has to play football to get a college education. He would have been tri-captain of the Pinevale Tigers this fall but is trying out for a spot on the VHS Wildcat team. He said the Pinevale players were looking forward to a great season this year and now the boys must accomplish at VHS what they had hoped to do at Pinevale.

"I want to participate in as many sports as I can. I'd like to get a scholarship so I can go to college because I can't afford to go otherwise. I'm going to work as hard if not harder for the Wildcats than I ever did for the Tigers. Maybe we'll put a little soul into the team," said Jones.

He and the other Negro athletes said they wanted to be judged on an equal basis with the white students in competition and not on the color of one's skin.

"I want to be treated as an athlete when I try out for a sport and if I don't make the team I want to know that it was because I wasn't as quick or skilled not because I'm black," said Warrick Taylor, 17-year-old senior who was a basketball captain at Pinevale.

VHS Coach Wright Bazemore and band director Frank Butenschon both contend skill, determination and talent determine whether a student makes the team or marching unit.

About 30 Negro boys showed up for football camp at the 4-H Club at Twin Lakes last week. There are about 89 students at the training campus.

Butenschon had about 30 Negro students to audition for the band. Two of the four majorettes are Negroes but there are not any Negro girls in the flag corps. The corps was selected last spring and Pinevale's band did not have a flag section.

VHS and Pinevale both elected cheerleaders last spring. Green said there will be three Negro and eight white girls on the cheering squad.

There will be eight Negroes on the Student Council and membership in the clubs will be open to all the pupils, said the principal.

The election of class and club offices will be handled during the fall as usual by popular vote, he said.

The student organizations at Pinevale have been included in the VHS handbook and will be formed after school starts, said Green.

"With more students and organizations, the school will be stronger and there will be more competition. People are working for the betterment of the school," said Angela Wetherington, Student Council co-president.

The council helped the Pinevale transfers become acquainted with the VHS campus today

Homecoming Election Fuss

300 Negro Students Suspended From VHS

Valdosta High School
1300 Williams St.
Valdosta, Ga. 31601
6-1-70



—Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

After The Boycott: VHS Principal Chuck Green Attempts to Talk with Students after Suspension Was Announced

Walkout Brings Action

By MARY CROUSE

About 300 Negro students have been suspended from Valdosta High School following a massive walkout before classes began this morning.

The planned boycott was the result of homecoming elections held at the school this week in which two white girls and a Negro girl were vying for the 1969 title.

A white student, Emily Schroer, won the crown Thursday after a second ballot. The first was declared illegal Tuesday because some students voted more than once.

The Negro students today claimed Gloria Holloway, a Negro, was the real winner and said the balloting was just another way of harrassing the Negro students at VHS.

There are about 500 Negro students enrolled at VHS and Principal Charles (Chuck) Green estimated more than 300 of them participated in the planned boycott.

The walkout took place about 8:40 a. m. before the weekly assembly in the auditorium began. Teachers and other school officials interviewed about the boycott said they had no previous hint of any sort of movement.

As students lined up to file into the auditorium, the Negroes stepped out of the line and walked outside. They gathered in front of the lunchroom and library annex. Some of the Negro

See 300 Negroes — Page 2

Valdosta School Officials Probe Walkout by Students

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — The Negro students who left Valdosta High School en masse Friday were trying to get attention focused on their complaints about conditions at the fully integrated school, Greg Homer, Negro co-president of the Student Council said Monday.

Homer was speaking to a group of about 75 school officials, Negro and white adult leaders and Negro students invited to a hearing conducted by the school board.

OTHER KEY PIECES of information revealed during the meeting were that "some 400 black students" walked out instead of the 250 to 300 previously estimated; the suspension was for three days, a standard penalty for leaving class or assembly without permission, and the homecoming queen incident, which touched off the walkout, happened somewhat different from first reports. There are 500 Negro students at the school.

Reinstatement of the Negro students without penalty was incuded in a list of demands presented school board Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. by Nathan Hadley, an NAACP representative, at the Monday meeting.

Apparently the reinstatement will be a moot point soon because high school Principal Charles Green said later that as far as he is concerned the suspension is for three days and the students may return to class Wednesday.

At least two Negro leaders and one white man appealed verbally for settling differences and getting on with education matters.

ON THE OTHER HAND, other speakers of both races seemed more concerned with the details of various problems that have arisen since all 10th, 11th and 12th grade students in the city system were put together at the crowded and outdated Valdosta High facility this September.

Homer was the first speaker in a session held to an hour and he spoke the longest of any single speaker. In summation he said the following:

Earlier this year, Homer felt that Negro students who had transferred from previously all-Negro Pinevale High were confused by the procedure used in electing class officers. Homer tried to get a new election called and the faculty would not do it.

It was his understanding that the top three girls nominated for homecoming queen would be placed on a ballot in an election last Monday but, instead, his white co-president told students to write the name of the candidate of their choice on a piece of note paper.

the three candidates was a Negro. (School officials did not comment on this except to say they had no control over the press.)

"Some sophomores didn't know this and it might have made a difference," said Homer. (Emily Schroer, a white coed, was the winner).

NEGRO STUDENTS already had other complaints including deep feelings about the high school band's display of the Confederate flag and use of the song "Dixie" which Homer said recalls to them the tales of slave days they have heard from older people.

Thus the walkout was staged because "we thought by the buildup we could get attention more than in the past," Homer said.

C. M. Northcutt, white president of the band boosters' club, took issue with Homer on the delayed election charge, pointing out that "people need to be informed about whom they vote for."

Northcutt said that in a democracy the majority rules and he expects his son to abide by the rules.

THIS BROUGHT A COMMENT from Harrison Tillman, a certified public accountant, who said, "I hadn't intended to say anything but it looks like no other white person will say it. I took offense at what Mr. Northcutt had to say. He doesn't speak for me. We've got a racial problem and we've got to put it on the table no matter how bitter a pill it is."

E. E. Townsend, a retired Lowndes County Negro educator, drew applause from both races when he stated that there is a need to go on with education rather than "question this and question that."

Contractor Jake Register, one of Valdosta's most respected Negro leaders, said he did not think a student should ever walk away from the campus because he is dissatisfied. "We can't solve it here with hands up and hot questions. The blacks and whites have got to get together to solve these problems," Register commented.

OTHER NEGRO SPEAKERS, including funeral director Ralph Harrington; a Valdosta State College sophomore, and Hadley, who presented the list of NAACP demands, took more belligerent attitudes than did Register and Townsend.

THE BALLOTS were counted because some faculty members said they had observed both white and Negro students voting more than once. (It had been reported in the confusion of Friday's events that Negro coed Glorida Holloway had won this election).

A second election called over the opposition of Homer who felt that, since his request for the new class officer election was denied, there should not be a new vote on the homecoming queen. The second time ballots were used in the election.

Homer indicated further that he felt the second election could have been held Wednesday but was deliberately delayed until Thursday so a Valdosta newspaper could point out that one of

5 More Georgians Die in Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP) — Five more Georgians have died in Vietnam, the Defense Department said Monday.

Killed in action were four soldiers, 1st Lt. Henry H. Gnann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Gnann of Stillwell; Spec. 4 Lanny M. Hamby, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Hamby of Marietta; Spec. 4 Jere R. Lowe, husband of Mrs. Barbara A. Lowe of Tallapoosa, and Pfc. Joseph Holmes, son of Mrs. Rosie M. Holmes of Atlanta.

The Pentagon said that the fifth victim, Army Sgt. Charles B. Carey, son of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Carey of Athens, died of nonhostile causes.

	N.S.	W.S.	N.T.	W.T.
Binay	452	50	8	11
Magruder	480	47	15	3
S L Mason	121	660	5	22
Sallas Strahorn	66	775	5	18
Leila Ellis	125	263	3	10
W G Dunn	15	568	4	17
Southeast	375	14	6	6
South St	420		7	7

Suspeuded Students

NAACP Demands Reinstatement

By MARY CROUSE

The executive committee here of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has demanded that the Valdosta Board of Education immediately reinstate the estimated 400 Negro students suspended from Valdosta High School Friday because of their participation in a mass walkout.

The board was presented with the demand and several others at a special session held this morning at the Lowndes County office building to determine why the walkout occurred.

The committee adopted the reinstatement and other demands at a meeting Sunday. Nathan Hadley and Ralph Harrington of the NAACP gave the list of demands to the school board chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr.

Harrington in presenting the demands to the board chairman said "We have given in and you don't know how to. We've been giving in for 200 years, now this is what we are demanding."

Besides the reinstatement, the NAACP does not want the suspended students to be given zeroes for the work missed while out of school. The group wants the playing of the song "Dixie' and display of the Confederate flag discontinued. They also want a Negro homecoming queen and at least one Negro attendant on the homecoming court.

The committee demands that a Negro coach and a Negro physical education instructor be immediately hired at VHS and that some grade consideration be given Negro students because of reference by some teachers and school officials the Negro youths are not as prepared as the white pupils.

No action was taken on the list at the meeting today but other sessions are to be held to discuss the demands and racial

See NAACP — Paeg 2

Baby 'Cats Trip Up Thomasville

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta rolled to a 32-6 victory over Thomasville in a high school "B" team football game here Saturday.

With the triumph VHS' Baby Wildcats, who are coached by Joe Mercer ond Bill Myddleton, boosted their record to 3-1-1.

After spotting the Baby Bulldogs from Thomasville an early touchdown, the Baby 'Cats poured it on.

Quarterback Dick Parker ran two yards for the first VHS touchdown, then passed for three more. The scoring aerials went to Paul DeMessermen (12 yards), Tony Walters (20 yards' and DeMessermen again in (22 yards). A 15-yard pass from Duncan Fordham to Jimmy Clarkston produced VHS' fifth touchdown.

Defensive standouts, according to the coaches, included Sidney Earnest, Rickey Bea, Mark Baker, Louis Goodin and Denny Nichols. Although he didn't figure in the scoring, Jimmy Le-Files turned in key runs on several TD marches.

-Responsibility

Continued from Page 1

dations presented by Homer.

The Negro youth asked that a Negro homecoming queen be selected in addition to Miss Schroer and that the VHS band stop playing "Dixei" and carrying the Confederate flag.

"The flag and song are offensive to us. We object to them more than we do not having a black queen. If we had to make a choice between our two recommendations, we'd ask that the flag and song be discontinued at VHS," said Homer. He did not comment on how the Negroes would react if the recommendations were not accepted.

The other council co-president Angelia Wetherington said she is glad the Negro students came to the group for action, but that the council did not make any decisions at Wednesday's meeting.

"This is a tremendous responsibility for us to undertake. It is the first time the Student Council as a whole has been called on to act in such a capacity.

"We have never had to do anything like this before. Before all this happened, the most we (Student Council) had ever done was to sponsor homecoming and the Christmas chapel. We felt like we were really something then. This year we are trying to keep a whole school together," said Miss Wtherington.

VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green said today he is glad the Negro students have returned to classes and pleased that the youth have taken their problems to the Student Council.

"This is what we wish they had done earlier. The first step is to go through the council and then we go from there," he said.

Board Chairman Tillman said he feels the board will honor any action the Student Council takes on the two matters as long as the decisions are reached without pressure.

"If their decisions are what they really want and are for the betterment of the school then whatever they decide will be acceptable to us," he explaind.

Tillman and other members of the board have met with Negro adult and student leaders constantly since Friday's planned but unannounced walkout.

Learning at VHS was almost at a standstill for four days as students and faculty members pondered the outcome of the situation.

But the attitude at VHS this morning is one of getting things settled and going back to the classroom.

"I'm ready to start studying again. I think everybody is tired of all this now and ready to get things settled and rebuild our high school into one unit for all students," said a student this morning.

Responsibility Put On Student Council

By MARY CROUSE

The Valdosta Board of Education, hopeful most of the racial problems plaguing Valdosta High School could be resolved today as the Negro school boycott ended this morning, has put much of the responsibility for insuring harmony between the races on the Student Council.

Board Chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr. said that the problems at VHS are not of an educational nature and should be handled by the Student Council.

"We (the board) have opened avenues for this approach to be taken at VHS," said Tillman.

The return today at VHS of about 400 Negroes suspended from classes Friday because of their participation in an early morning walkout is not an indication everything is settled on Negro students walked out as a means to call attention to their plight.

"We had been harrassed ever since we got to VHS and at the time we could think of no other way to bring some attention to our problems," said the VHS senior.

The homecoming queen elections were the final straws in a series of incidents in which the Negroes did not feel they were being treated fairly, explained Homer.

He cited class elections, the display of the Confederate flag and playing of "Dixie" as other forms of harrassments.

Homer and the other Negro members of the Student Council presented their grievances Wednesday for the first time before the entire Student Counctil. Homer and the Negro council members were among about 60 Negroes who went back to VHS Wednesday at the end of the three day suspension. The other Negroes continued their boycott of the school until today.

The council and its faculty advisors met in a special closed session Wednesday to discuss the grievances and recommen-

See Responsibility — Page 2

Suspended Students Return to Classes at Valdosta High School

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Things were near normal at Valdosta High School Thursday and the school board chairman believes that the school's integrated student council is the key to insuring harmony between Neegro and white students.

Some 400 Negro students left classes and assembly last Friday in a dispute over the homecoming queen. There are about 500 Negro students and 850 whites at the school.

The boycotters were immediately suspended for three days under a standing school rule. They were due back Wednesday but in the meantime NAACP leaders presented the school board a list of five demands.

Negro leaders voted Monday to send the students back to school if 75 percent of the demands were met. Then, at a meeting Tuesday night, some Negro adults persuaded the students not to go back until all demands were met. A third meeting was held Wednesday night and Negro student council members announced they would return to school Thursday.

Only about 60 Negro students, including student council members, who were to find out the status on the demands, returned Wednesday but there were only 73 total absentees from both races Thursday.

Principal Charles Green declined comment as to whether there would be any punishment for those who took the extra day.

School board chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. said the problems at the school are not of an educational nature and should be handled by the student council.

Demand one, to allow the suspended students to return to school without punitive measures, was rejected by the board and at least part of this request has become moot anyway.

Rev. W. H. Brown, president of the Lowndes-Valdosta NAACP chapter, said his organization believes a demand to hire a Negro coach and physical education teacher is being considered with the board attempting to hire one.

Some adult leaders did not know the school system had a system of four levels of teaching (but not a dual grade system) and when told this they apparently accepted it in lieu of their demand for "some grade consideration" on grounds of alleged lack of adequate previous training for Negro students.

The student council has been handed the other two demands which call for the high school band to stop playing Dixie and displaying the Confederate flag, and for having a Negro member of the homecoming court Oct. 31.

Angela Wetherington, white co-president of the student council, commented. "This is a tremendous undertaking for us. Before all this happened the most we had ever done was to sponsor homecoming at the Christmas chapel. We felt like we were really something then. This year we are trying to keep a whole school together."

Reason Must Rule At VHS

It is apparent emotion has been replaced by reason at Valdosta High School. Most of the black students who boycotted the school Wednesday were back in school today.

This is as it should be. The main thing was to get these children back in school and to put the school house back in order.

Valdosta High has been torn asunder by this racial crisis. The learning process there has almost ground to a complete halt. It is now vital that the administration, teachers and students settle back into the routine so essential for an orderly school.

With most of the black students back in school today, the teachers and students can now sit down in a calmer atmosphere and try to work out their problems. This does not mean all is rosy at Valdosta High. There remains many differences between the blacks and whites to be worked out. It is not going to be easy.

It can be easier now, however, since it is apparent emotion has given way to reason. It appears many of the differences can be worked out as long as there is a little give and take here and there. It is essential that reason rule and all sides of the issue work toward reasonable solutions.

The black students went back to Valdosta High at the urging of many adult Negroes. There are some adults in our Negro community who are pulling the other way, however.

Those who would keep the students out of school have overlooked the one essential factor in all this. These children need to be in school. They need to be getting as much from the educational process as possible, because their futures are at stake.

It is to the credit of those Negro parents who have been urging an end to this strife. They have apparently recognized that the people who are hurt the most are those students who stay out of school and miss a vital part of their education, because every day is vital.

It is up to all students at VHS, white and black, to stand up and demonstrate they can and are willing to work out their problems. It should be a challenge built out of pride for them to try and build Valdosta High into the institution it must be if it is to give the educational program so vitally needed.

Reasonable people can reason together, and that is what they must do. When students walk off a campus, reason goes out the window.

– Demands

Continued from Page 1

and advised students to return to school. They returned Thursday.

However, decisions on demands that the song and flag be discontinued and a Negro Homecoming queen be named had not been settled.

A demand that black students be reinstated immediately was denied immediately, however it is now a moot question.

Two other demands were that a Negro coach and physical education instructor be hired at VHS and that a separate grading system be instituted for Negroes.

The latter two dwindled in the controversy. NAACP president, the Rev. W. H. Brown, said it appears VHS is trying to hire Negro physicial education personnel and the school already has a naturally separate grading system for Negroes since it has a four-category system of teaching students at various educational levels.

The school's Student Council was to consider the two demands still pending. However, Green pointed out, "The requests were too burdensome for the Council to handle," and he therefore responded.

On the matter of the queen, he stated in part: "We are one school and one school has only one queen. On these grounds I say we have elected our Homecoming Queen and the request of a black Queen is unreasonable, unwarranted request, without justification, and, therefore I cannot approve the request."

The first queen election was held Oct. 14 but was declared invalid because some students voted more than once, Green said. The votes have never been counted, he said.

A second election was held Thursday with the same three girls. A white girl, Emily Schroer, was elected over another white and a Negro contestant, Gloria Holloway.

Green pointed out: "This was questioned later as evidence of stalling to give the white students time to set up a block vote. I contend it was the earliest we could get ready for the election."

Green also contends the song and flag in question are a regular part of the school's band program and racial overtones have been attached rather than being an integral part of "Dixie."

He pointed out there has been a compromise in that a VHS medley which includes "Dixie" and several other songs have replaced the entire song itself. He also pointed out the Valdosta school board voted the band should continue to play songs as directed by the band director with special reference that "Dixie' continue to be a part of the musical selections when appropriate.

"I further conclude that the issues of a black Queen, the song "Dixie" and the Confederate Flag is settled for the remainder of this school year and all students are to abide by this decision to end the issues," Green states.

He contends the issues are insoluble now and recommends that the school board select a committee next summer to settle the issue of "Dixie" and the Confederate Flag before the beginning of the school year 1970-71 when a decision can be made that is not made under pressure.

Counccil, Board Meet Together

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

White members of the Student Council at Valdosta High School are wondering if the Negro representatives have fortified their right to serve on the council because of the mass walkout of Negro students at the school Friday.

The council appealed to the Valdosta Board of Education for guidance in its dilemma at a special meeting Tuesday at VHS. The entire council met today to discuss the problem.

There were seven school board members meeting Tuesday with about 15 Student Council representatives. Board members present included I H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr., Gordon Southwell, Reuben Yancey, Mrs. Veron Blackburn, John Howell, Dr. Robert Quattlebaum and J L. Newbern Jr.

All but one of the Negro members of the Student Council participated in the protest walkout over homecoming elections at the school last week.

The about 400 Negroes who left classes were suspended for three days by VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green. The suspended students were to have returned to school today, but the majority failed to come back.

Student Council members indicated they did not want to punish the suspended students but are concerned about whether the Negroes should be allowed to serve on the council.

Another question the council is pondering is whether co-president Greg Homer who participated in the walkout should keep his office.

There were some on the council at Tuesday's meeting who felt the Negro youth should not remain a co-president.

The board cautioned the students not to act out of haste and to wait until the suspended Negroes returned to school before making a decision.

Mrs. Blackburn told the students that the Negroes need representation and that one person should not be singled out to take the blame for something in which so many had a part.

"I don't know if these students thought about grades or loss of time involved in the walkout." she explained.

John Fisher III, the only Negro Student Council member who didn't walk out, said the students left as a means to call attention to their grievances at VHS.

"I think now they should have done something else but at the time it seemed the only thing left to do," he said.

Tillman told the group that the meeting was the first time the council had asked to meet with the board.

"We need to meet together at times and this is good that we have been able to sit down and talk about these things which are happening at the school.

"What we want is to pull Valdosta High back together and we need the help of all the students," said the board chairman.

The board asked the council to talk to board attorney Reuben Yancey about the legalities and technicalities involved in eliminating some of the members before taking any action. Yancey has been given a copy of the Student Council constitution to study.

"We don't want to punish anyone. But we feel they were to represent all the students and what they did was wrong and did not represent all the students," said one student council member.

Angelia Wetherington, co-president, said the council will settle the matter after talking to the other representatives today and Yancey.

The Student Council was in charge of the homecoming elections at the school last week. Miss Wetherington said the first vote taken Tuesday was declared illegal after some students and teachers reported some students had voted more than once.

A second vote was taken Thursday and printed ballots were used. Emily Schroer won the homecoming queen title over her two competitors, Cissy Williams and Gloria Holloway, a Negro.

The Negro students, according to Fisher, were upset over the second ballot because "the delay was long enough to give a white block vote."

Fisher said it didn't matter to the Negroes who was elected but they didn't like the way the voting was held.

However, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People demanded from the school board Monday that a Negro homecoming queen and at least one Negro homecoming attendant be named.

The board has not acted on this demand.

Miss Schroer said there should be only one queen at the school.

"Not because I got it but because we do not need to have two schools within one school at VHS. There is one high school and should be one queen to represent all the students," said Miss Schroer.

Miss Holloway was not available for comment.

Homecoming is scheduled for Oct. 31 and VHS plays host to Coffee County High School at the football game. Ironically, Coffee County schools were closed earlier this year because of racial trouble.

–Negroes Apparently

Continued from Page 1

of five demands made by the NAACP in a meeting Monday. However, the board said it would study the demands.

The demands called for a Negro homecoming queen and at least one Negro homecoming attendant during upcoming Oct. 31 festivities. They also call for the hiring of a Negro coach and Negro physical education instructor at VHS and some grade consideration for Negro students.

Other demands were for complete reinstatement of the suspended students — which the board denied — and that the school stop playing the song "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag.

Brown said the executive board of the NAACP feels the school board is trying to accommodate Negroes in that it has said no punitive measures would be taken against students who walked out beyond their three-day suspensions.

He said it was further explained to NAACP members the school already has a grading system in which students work in categories of their abilities, so Negro students who are ill-prepared already have a natural separate grading system.

He said it was further agreed the student council should settle the matter of the homecoming queen and it appears the school is trying to get Negro physical education instructors.

The mass walkout Friday was touched off by homecoming elections in which two white girls and a Negro girl vyed for the 1969 title. About 400 students left the classroom as a chapel program was getting underway. They were suspended by Green for three days until today.

The walkout brought a rash of meetings in Valdosta's Negro community during which the demands were arrived at and presented to the Valdosta Board of Education.

It all started when a vote on the homecoming queen was taken last Tuesday and was declared illegal when several teachers and students reported some students voted more than once. The votes were not counted.

Printed ballots with the names of the three girls were issued Thursday and Emily Schroer, a white girl, was declared the winner. Negro students met later that afternoon and planned Friday's walkout.

Greg Homer, co-president of the Student Council, said the walkout was because of the election procedings and not because Negro candidate Gloria Holloway did not win.

Green, in his regular morning talk to VHS students over the school's public address system today, welcomed the suspended students who returned back to school.

He advised them that a walkout is never the way to handle a situation and asked them to keep a clear head in the future. He asked that all students ban together to create "one high school in which all students can receive academic instruction."

The principal told students the day should be taken up with academic instruction only and extra-curricular activities should not take up the classroom time.

VHS Medley

Few Apparently Know Compromise

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

One of the continuously mentioned bones of contention leading to the walkout of 400 Negro students at Valdosta High School is the playing of the song "Dixie" during halftime at school football games and pep rallies.

However, school officials point out "Dixie" is no longer played in its entirety. It has been replaced by a spirited medley of songs considered appropriate for a football atmosphere and including only a few bars of "Dixie". I is considered a compromise.

Other songs in the VHS Medley are "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "The Valdosta High School Fight Song," "Suwannee River" and even the song which has come to be the "fight" song of Negro people, "We Shall Overcome."

Valdosta High band director Frank Butenschon pointed out the medley always starts with a few bars of "Dixie" and then goes into three of the others. It is always played as the final selection as the VHS band goes off the football field at halftime.

"This exit has been a standard of ours." Butenschon said. "It is certainly not something we have just to aggrevate people by any means. It is a standard part of our show.'

The band director said: "after much consultation, it was decided the medley would be well worth a try in an effort to show we were trying our best to compromise the situation."

"Dixie" first started causing a stir last year when Negro students wrought a complaint to school officials about the song by the Valdosta Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Negroes asked that the song be discontinued and that the band flag corp members stop carrying the confederate flag.

White students and parents objected saying "Dixie" is not a racists song but carries with it much tradition of the South. The song, usually only as a part of a medley, and the carrying of the flag were continued.

At the start of the current school year, "Dixie" cropped up again and after several meetings and discussions the Valdosta Board of Education instructed Butenschon not to delete any songs from his routine and to make any additions that band officials thought were "musically well accepted."

Butenschon said he realizes there is much feeling on both sides about the song, and he had sincerely hoped the medley would be accepted as the compromise it was meant to be.

The band director agreed it is possible many leaders on both sides of the controversey do not realize the medley has replaced "Dixie" in an effort to avoid insult and aggravation to either of the races.

Negroes Apparently Intend To Boycott Valdosta High

By MARTIN MILLER

Only a handful of the about 400 Negro students who walked out of Valdosta High School Friday returned today, and Negroes apparently intend to boycott the school until a list of demands are met.

School principal Charles (Chuck) Green said only about 60 of the Negro students returned when the three-day suspension ended this morning. The 400 were suspended for walking out in protest of a homecoming queen election Friday morning.

Those returning included most of the Negro members of the student council who asked for a special council meeting and were granted one by Green at 9 a.m.

The Rev. W. H. Brown, president of the Valdosta chapter of the NAACP, said it was generally agreed in a meeting with four Negro Student Council members and school officials Tuesday afternoon that "reasonable consideration" had been given Negro demands. The NAACP was to try to talk the students into going back to school in a mass meeting Tuesday night, he said.

However, Brown said the idea backfired at the meeting of about 500 Negro students and adults at the St. Paul AME Church.

He said the session became "emotional" when several adults advised students not to go back until all demands were met. One speaker was the Rev. W. H. Hall, a presiding elder of the Methodist Church. Hall was an unsuccessful candiate for the city school board last year.

Brown said Student Council members left the room and returned to announce they do not want to go against the desires of their parents and therefore would not return en mass today.

They said student council members would go back, find out how many demands are to be met and then report to the Negro community at another mass meeting tonight.

Brown said several Negro students called him this morning and asked if they should return to school and he told them to go.

The Valdosta Board of Education failed to take action on four

See Negroes — Page 1

Tragedy Of Our Racial Unrest

The real tragedy of racial unrest at Valdosta High School is the fact education is taking a back seat. Although classes at the school have continued since the walkout by Negro students last week, the entire learning process has ground to an almost complete halt.

Valdosta High is in turmoil. Under these circumstances there can be no real learning. When the problem is moderated, and we sincerely believe it will be shortly, a week, maybe two, of our society's most precious ingredient — education — will be lost for all those at Valdosta High.

There were some hopes that the end to the racial unrest was in sight. This was based on the hope the suspended Negro students would return to school today — the end of their three-day suspension period. But many failed to return, and in effect, continued their walkout.

Board of education members and school officials have been working tirelessly since the blowup last Friday to moderate the situation. There have been meetings and conferences by the score between those in charge of the schools and students and parents.

The Negro members of the VHS student council returned to school this morning, not to clasess, but to discuss the situation. The dialogue continues. This is a good sign.

Board of Education Chairman I. H. Tillman Jr. has discussed at great length the problems in the schools with the NAACP leadership. There were indications out of these discussions that a sensible middle ground was being found. This blew up temporarily, however, at a meeting of Negro students and parents Tuesday night.

It was apparent in this meeting that some of the Negro adult leadership in our community wants the students to continue their walkout. This is unfortunate, because there are indications the majority of these students want to get back in school.

At Valdosta High every possible preparation is being made to take back the suspended black students with as little trouble as possible. For the most part the students want to see the turmoil ended and return to the educational process.

It is now incumbent on the white community, as well as the black, to show some responsibility in all this. It is incumbent especially on the white students at VHS to sit tight and show others the proper example of discipline and leadership.

What so few students realize is that they are robbing themselves of a chance in life. Who is homecoming queen, the right tackle on the football team or what the band plays is really secondary. Learning to prepare one's self to meet the complexities of the outside, adult world is what the education process is all about. Every day a child stays out of school, or the school is paralized with racial turmoil, is another day that student is less prepared.

Decision At Valdosta High

Valdosta High School principal Chuck Green has rejected requests of Negro students at his school to have their own homecoming queen and to discontinue playing of the song "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag.

Principal Green issued a strongly worded statement to that effect. The statement has the backing of the board of education.

In addition, the principal said those black members of the VHS Student Council who walked off the campus last week will not be allowed to continue as members of the council. Their places will be filled by other black students.

Mr. Green and the board of education have acted in a way they believe will be in the best interests of Valdosta High School and the educational processes there. The principal said the issues were discussed by the Student Council, but the council failed to resolve them, therefore the decisions were made by him and approved by the board.

Had the Student Council made any recommendations, it still would have been up to the principal to approve them. Therefore, there can be no question that Mr. Green acted within the scope of his authority. Whether a person agrees with the decision, it has been made and must be abided by.

Racial tension at VHS reached a crescendo on Oct. 17 when black students walked out of classes in protest over the handling of the homecoming queen election. The action was deplored, because the students didn't seek recourse to their grievances through any of the proper channels, said Mr. Green.

Later the students and the NAACP here issued a list of demands, including the discontinuance of "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag. To these requests, Green said: "The song 'Dixie' is a song of the South and any racial overtones have been attached to the song rather than being an integral part of the song. The Confederate flag is also an emblem of the section of the country in which we live — in which all of us live. The students of Valdosta High School have thought of the song and Flag as symbols of pride in our southland and school and not as racial symbols."

The fact there is racial trouble at Valdosta High is incongrous with the spirit of this town. We have always prided ourselves in the relationships between our whites and blacks. That spirit was shown here Friday night when all-black Monroe High School Band received a standing ovation for its fine half-time performance at the football game.

The history of our town has been that divisions between groups, whether they be along racial, political or other lines, have been worked out through understanding based on fair play and mutual respect. This must now be the attitude at VHS.

It will be up to the students at VHS to accept the decisions of Principal Green and the board and strive to put their school house back in order. Said the principal: "I implore all students and interested parties to abide by this decision and give us the climate that we need at Valdosta High School to get the job of education back in its proper perspective."

That is the important thing. It matters little in life who is homecoming queen or what songs the band plays. What's important is for VHS students to exert themselves at the business of scholarships so they will be prepared to meet the complexities of this adult world when they become adults.

The full text of Mr. Green's statement appears elsewhere in today's edition of the Times. We commend it to all for careful reading and study.

Grid Glimpses

(See stories on pages 9-10-11)

Valdosta 48, Monroe 0

A blocked punt set up a quick touchdown for Valdosta and the Wildcats went from there to victory over the Monroe Tornadoes. It was VHS' 21st straight win over a span which covers part of three seasons.

Lowndes vs Wayne

Lowndes' Vikings and the Wayne County (Jesup) Yellow Jackets are slated to clash here tonight in a Region 1-AAA contest. The game is set for 8 p.m. at Martin Field.

Clinch 19, Blackshear 14

Clinch County's Panthers built up a three-touchdown lead in the first half, then held on to trim Blackshear's Tigers in a Region 2-B contest.

Hamilton 34, Williston 0

Since bowing on open night, Hamilton County's Rebels have been going great guns. Their triumph over Williston was their fifth in a row.

Miller 19, Brooks 12

Mickey Womble passed for two touchdowns and tallied a third time on a pass interception as he led Miller County's Pilrates past Brooks County's Tigers.

Dublin 12, Berrien 0

A touchdown late in the third period and another in the finals seconds of the game carried the Dublin Irish past the Berrien Rebels in their Region 1-AA outing.

Jefferson 54, Madison 14

Madison's young Red Devils are still looking for their first win after six starts after bowling to Jefferson County .

Cook vs Westover

Cook's Hornets, who have a 3-2-1 record, are slated to go against the Westover Patriots, who own a 4-3 mark in a game slate tonight at Albany.

By VHS Principal

Demands Denied

By MARTIN MILLER

Valdosta High School Principal Charles (Chuck) Green has ordered that the 16 Negro members of the Student Council who participated in the mass Negro walkout at the school Oct. 17 be removed from the council.

Green has also rejected the two primary demands issued by the NAACP following the walkout of about 400 Negro students.

The principal outlined his position on last week's incident in a paid advertisement, sanctioned by the Valdosta Board of Education, in today's issue of The Valdosta Daily Times.

He said he cannot approve a request for a Negro Homecoming queen, calling it "unreasonable" in the light of circumstances. He said he also could not approve a request for elimination of the song "Dixie" and carrying of the Confederate Flag from the school's band program.

"Dixie' was not played at Valdosta's game with all-Negro Monroe High of Albany Friday night. However a band boosters' club member said it was because it had not been planned to play it at this particular game all year. The Confederate flag was carried.

Green also contends Negro co-president of the Student Council, Greg Homer, and other members exhibited "very poor leadership" in walking out. It brought unrest and degrading publicity upon the school, said Green.

He said the students "have on succeeding occasions displayed to the Principal and members of the Student Council an unreasonable, disrespectful attitude concerning the issues involved and, therefore, are to be removed from the Student Council."

The council includes 15 white students and 17 Negroes. However, one of the Negro members did not participate in the walkout and is not to be removed.

Green said the dismissed students are to be replaced on a vote by the black students. "Any student who was not suspended as a result of the walkout will be eligible for election to the Council, providing he meets other qualifications," said Green.

The 400 students who walked out in protest of proceedings in an election of a queen for Oct. 31 homecoming festivities were suspended for three days.

They were to have returned to school Wednesday. However, most participated in a one-day boycott pending action on five demands made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People chapter here.

The NAACP said "reasonable consideration" had been given the demands by school officials

See Demands — Page 2

closed.

-Majority

Continued from Page 1

Board of Education.

Talk of Wednesday's boycott began Tuesday afternoon and Brown said NAACP officials tried to stifle it, but without success. Several Negro adults at a mass meeting Tuesday night outtalked the moderates telling students they should not return until all demands were met.

It was decided that the Negro members of the Student Council would return Wednesday, primarily for a meeting with the council. The meeting was held at 9 a.m. Welnesday.

The NAACP Monday made five demands of Valdosta school board. A demand that all students be reinstated immediately was denied. A demand concerning election of a Negro homecoming queen an attendant and another that the school stop playing the song "Dixie" have been turned over to the Student Council.

Two other demands were that a Negro coach and physical education instructor be hired at VHS and that special grade consideration be given Negro students.

Brown said the NAACP believes the school board is attempting to hire the physical education personnel and that the school's four-category teaching system already provides separate grading systems for all students who need it.

John Morris, a Valdosta Junior High School teacher, presided over Wednesday night's Negro mass meeting. He said the purpose was for the formation of a group to advise Negro children.

He said the group did not try to make a formal decision on whether students should return to school or not, but listened to the announcements that they should and would return was

VALDOSTA HIGH

Only 60 of 400 Suspended Students Return to School

Times-Union Bureau

they have missed.

The Valdosta-Lowndes chapter of the NAACP has handed the school board five demands which include immediate reinstatement of the students without punitive measures.

The school board, after an unannounced meeting, Tuesday issued a press release saying it was rejecting this demand and considering the others. The issue of reinstatement became moot when the suspensions ran out but the question of zeroes could be considered a punitive issue.

Rev. W. H. Brown, president of the NAACP chapter, said Tuesday that things could change fast and conditions that existed Tuesday may not hold up until Wednesday. He proved to be a prophet.

A MASS MEETING of Negro adults and students Monday night resulted in a decision that the students not go back to school Wednesday unless 75 percent of the NAACP demands were met.

Brown said the Tuesday night meeting was called to try to talk the students into going back to school but backfired when several adults, including Rev. W. H. Hall, advised students not to go back until all demands were met.

Negro student council members convened outside the room and returned to say they were not going to go against the wishes of their parents by returning unless the student council members would go back to school, find out how many demands had been met and report back at a third mass meeting Wednesday night, said Brown.



With Guard Mark Dibois (66) Helping Clear The Way, Valdosta Halfback Willie Jones (16) Heads For Paydirt

Wildcats Romp Past Tornadoes

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

A blocked punt by linebacker Tom Holt in the opening moments of the game lit the fuse and Valdosta High's football Wildcats exploded for a 48-0 victory over the Monroe Golden Tornadoes here Friday night.

Coach Winfred Bensons Tornadoes from Albany ran three

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Monroe
First Downs	24	7
Yards Rushing	278	86
Yards Passing	127	51
Passes	8-18	8-14
Passes Intc. by	0	0
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Punting	0-0	7-27
Penalties	9-75	7-81

then tried to punt from their own 38.

VHS' Holt crashed through, blocked the kick and put the 'Cats at the Monroe five. Fullback Danny O'Neal scored on the next play and Valdosta was off to the race.

A standing-room-only crowd of approximately 10,000 saw coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats go on to score six more times and produce their seventh straight shutout on defense.

With the victory Valdosta boosted its overall record this year to 7-0. The 'Cats are now 6-0 in Region 1-AAA competition and top the league stadings. They've also won 21 games in a row over a span which covers parts of three seasons. The loss left the Tornadoes with a 4-2 mark after six region outings.

The statistics pretty well tell the story. VHS' offense produced 24 first downs and a total of 405 yards along the ground and through the air. The VHS defenders limited Monroe to seven first downs and 137 yards in total offense, blocked two punts, recovered a fumble and held the Tornadoes scoreless for the first time this year.

A total of 40 VHS players [illegible] action in the game and B[illegible] more had a kind word fo[illegible] of them.

"This had to be one of [illegible] better games this seas[illegible] Bazemore said "We had [illegible] team effort on both offense [illegible] defense all the way. Our [illegible] were ready and showed it [illegible] the fast start they made."

After that first quick sc[illegible] the Wildcats went on to [illegible] seven more points before [illegible] opening period end. They whe[illegible] ed 64 yards in nine plays [illegible] their second marker. The [illegible] came on a 10-yard romp [illegible] halfback Willie Jones after [illegible] set it up with a 36-yard scam[illegible] per.

VHS racked up three touch[illegible] downs in the second stanza.

The 'Cats moved 63 yards [illegible] five plays, with Jones scorin[illegible] his second TD of the night on [illegible] 15-yard sweep around left end. When end Jerry Baker recove[illegible] ed a Monroe fumble on the VH[illegible] 38, the Cats promptly drove 6[illegible] yards in five plays to tally again. The long gainer was [illegible] 38-yard pass from quarterback Don Golden to end Warrick Taylor. Golden got the marker on an 8-yard run.

Valdosta's fifth touchdown, which came just before the first half ended, was an all defensive show. Monroe was trying to punt from its own 40. VHS end Gary Dove blocked the kick and Bo Blalock, who was playing at a linebacker spot, scooped the ball up at the 20 and [illegible] in [illegible] his [illegible] an [illegible] ard [illegible] ov- [illegible] he [illegible] ing [illegible] ra- [illegible] ed [illegible] d. [illegible] at [illegible] le [illegible] g- [illegible]

CHANNEL CAT FINGERLINGS FOR SALE

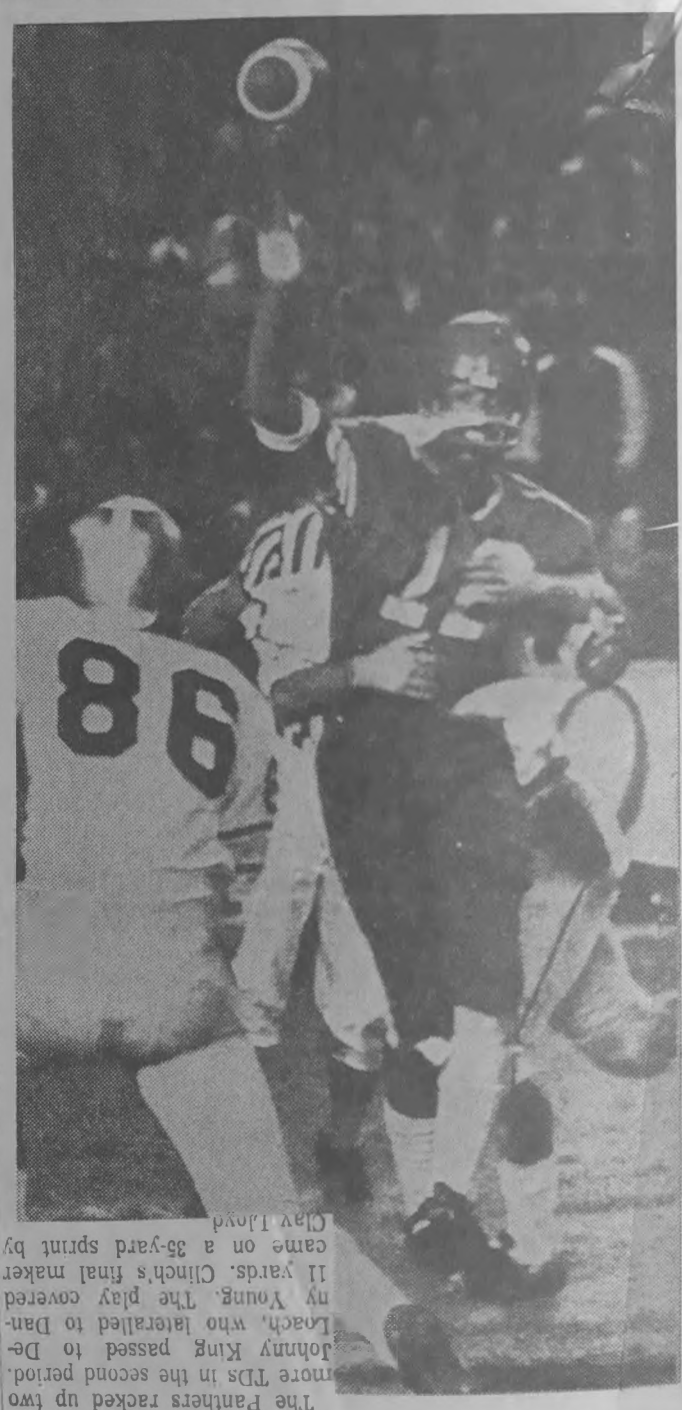
After three games this fall all eight Atlantic Coast Conference football teams had been beaten. South Carolina won its first two circuit tests but bowed to Georgia 41-16.

Clinch got its first touchdown in the opening period on a 38 yard pass from Cecil Barber to Keith DeLoach.

The Panthers racked up two more TDs in the second period. Johnny King passed to DeLoach, who laterallled to Danny Young. The play covered 11 yards. Clinch's final maker came on a 35-yard sprint by Clay Lloyd [illegible] scored their fourth consecutive victory. They held the Baby Jackets to 51 yards on the ground.

Although Clemson took a 14-0 lead in the second quarter, Tech scored with 13 seconds left in the first half and came back in the third period to lock the game with a touchdown and two-point conversion.

Eddie Seigler, Clemson's soccer kicker, broke the tie with a 37-yard field goal in the final period. Quarterback Mike Matthews scored the final Clemson tally from the three yard line.



— Times Staff Photos

[illegible]mond Davis (12) Cornered

Wildcats Worry About 'Home Run'

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Football may be the game, but Valdosta High's Wildcats will be meeting a team here Friday night that's noted for its "home run" punch.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Winfred Benson's Monroe (Albany) Golden Tornadoes are to clash in a Region 1-AAA duel slated for 8 p. m. at Cleveland Field.

The Wildcats are 6-0 for the season and top the league standings with a 5-0 mark. The Tornadoes are 4-1 after five region games and are noted for their ability to strike for touchdowns along the ground or through the air from long range. In grid slang a long TD romp or toss comes out "home run."

"Monroe has a very big line and a set of really fast backs," Bazemore said. "They're capable of scoring on any play from any place on the field. Add in the fact that they're very tough on defense, and it means we've got plenty to worry about."

Valdosta has used a lot of players, no less than 36 in any one contest, and has offered fine balance as it has moved to the top of the 1-AAA ladder.

They've tallied 202 points and haven't been scored on. They've averaged 206 yards per game rushing and 130 passing. They've allowed an average of just 14.3 rushing and 55.5 passing.

Still, Monroe is expected to pose a serious challenge, with the figures there as evidence.

The Tornadoes have scored 110 points and allowed just 48. They're averaging 181 yards rushing and 89 passing per outing. On defensive they've yielded an average of just 77.8 yards rushing the region low of 28.5 passing.

At this stage last season the Wildcats' hadn't been scored on: VHS trimmed Monroe, but the Tornadoes broke Valdosta's shutout string on a pass thrown by quarterback Richmond Davis.

Davis, a 165-pound junior, is still around and going great guns. He's hit on 21 of 58 passes for 414 yards.

Monroe's ground attack leader is swift halfback Lester Sherman (161, jr.). He's 1-AAA's leading scorer with 52 points and second leading rusher with 456 yards on 53 carries. He has also caught five passes for 106 yards and returned four kicks for 145 yards.

Valdosta will be without the services of defensive regular Curt Bazemore. The junior linebacker is sidelined because of illness and will definitely miss the contest. His spot will be taken over by Joe Mullis (155, jr.).

The probable starters, as announced by the coaches, are as follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Knocar (205, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Willie Jones (170, sr.) and Charles Daniles (190, jr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (185, sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Mike Everson (200, jr.), linebackers Joe Mullis (155, jr.) Robert Savage (175, soph.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.), deepbacks John Hampton (165, jr.) and Stanley Bounds (165, soph.).

MONROE

Offense — ends Freddie Pondr (181, jr.) and Samuel Turner (174, jr.), tackles Ronald Miller (210, sr.) and Gregory Allen (196, sr.), guards Roger Knighten (172, jr.) and Michael West (188, sr.), center Augustus Brown (173, jr.), quarterback Richmond Davis (164, jr.), halfbacks Lester Sherman (161, jr.) and Frank Johnson (173, jr.) or Sammie Clark (165, sr.) and fullback Edwin Willis (171, jr.) or Marion McKinney (175, jr.).

Defense — ends George Sherman (205, sr.) and Johnny Morgan (170, jr.), tackles Larry Brook (265, sr.) and Robert Camp (222, sr.), linebackers Danny Redding (165, jr.), Willie Gibson (220, jr.), Edward Wingfield (172, sr.) and Edwin Willis (164, jr.), corner backs Shellie Tamer (156, sr.) and John Carter (160, sr.) and safety Larry Marlin (158, sr.)

Grid Pep Rally Slated Tonight

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A city wide football pep rally is scheduled for 8 o'clock here tonight at the Brookwood Plaza Shopping Center parking lot.

The rally is being sponsored by the Valdosta Touchdown Club and is being held on the eve of the Valdosta High Wildcats' important Region 1-AAA grid duel with Monroe of Albany. Undefeated VHS tops the league standings. Once-beaten Monroe is tied for third.

Wildcat head coach Wright Bazemore, VHS tri-captains Bo Blalock, Henry Davis and Tom Holt, the Marching 'Cats band and the school's cheerleaders are to be on hand for the occasion.

Majority Of Blacks Back In VHS Classes

By MARTIN MILLER

The majority of the 400 students who were suspended at Valdosta High School for walking out Friday were back in school for the first time today and it appears racial unrest is nearing a calm.

All but 60 of the students formed a one-day boycott Wednesday, the day they were supposed to return after three-day suspensions. About 340 remained out of school the extra day.

★

However, this morning VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green reported there were only 73 absentees, which includes Negro and white students. He said this was normal.

Asked if the students who took an extra day would be punished for it, Green issued a "no comment."

The 400 Negro students walked out of VHS Friday morning in protest of proceedings in a homecoming queen election in which a white girl, Emily Schroer, was elected queen. Many later tried to return to class but were suspended by Green for the walkout.

Negro citizens held a meeting at the St. Paul AME Church Wednesday night at which it was suggested by NAACP representatives that students should return to school.

Greg Homer, Negro co-president of the VHS Student Council, reportedly announced at the meeting that students were going back.

The Rev. W. H. Brown, NAACP president here, said a number of students had been calling him for the past few days asking if they should return and he has told them to go. "Most of them seemed like they really wanted to go," Brown said.

Brown said it is the feeling of the executive committee of the NAACP that "reasonable consideration" had been given Negro demands by the Valdosta

See Majority — Page 2

Last Suspension Is Recalled

Those Students Could Have Gotten Hard Labor



By TENNEY GRIFFIN

Those kids who were suspended from Valdosta High School last week got off light. When they left classes on last Friday, they were suspended for three lays.

I remember the time when that happened once before and 10 days at hard labor was the sentence. It was back in the spring of 1946 and this group walked off the campus over a baseball game.

The New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers were to play one of those spring exhibition games at Pendleton Park. This bunch at Valdosta High School figured the schools ought to be let out early so they could attend the ball game.

The day before the game, the word was passed — it was rumor with no official status —that the schools would recess early the next day because of the baseball game. Howard Bridges, then the VHS principal, heard about the rumor and on the day of the game quickly spiked it—classes would be held as usual and school would adjourn at the regular time.

Well with this bunch of baseball fans, and I've always been a baseball fan, this didn't set too well. So this group, myself included, decided we'd just leave early, anyway.

Following the lunch break, off we went to Pendleton Park. Nothing was as important as that baseball game. There were about 25 of us dedicated fans who got to the ball game on time.

There were a bunch more who wanted to leave, but Mr. Bridges, as only Mr. Bridges could do it, stopped them. The rest of us had sneaked around him.

Once at the ballpark we discovered the game wasn't between the real Yankees and Dodgers, but between some of their "B" team players.

While watching the warm-up, three of us dedicated baseball fans had some second thoughts. Back to school we went.

We confronted (or rather they confronted us) Mr. Bridges and the superintendent, Dr. A. G. Cleveland. We said we were sorry, and they said they were sorry, too.

So the next day when school took in, Mr. Bridges and Dr. Cleveland called all the baseball fans together. They said it was a sorry display on our part, but they did appreciate the three who came back to apologized. But that really didn't matter. The sentence: 10 days suspension. For me hard labor was tacked on.

That came about when I got home. My mother was most displeased, to say the least, but she had something for me to do during my idle hours.

Out back of our house there is this big area full of pine trees. There were too many pine trees there. They needed thinning. So, you guessed it, I was chopping down pine trees for 10 days. My quota was 15 trees a day, stump and all, and all hauled off.

This was before the days of a chain saw in every garage. The task was undertaken with the tools at hand — a shovel and and an axe.

It wasn't long before I learned you had to have a pair of gloves for that kind of work. After three blisters had broken, I found a pair of gloves.

It wasn't long either, before I learned how to cut down a pine tree and stump it all at once. At first I'd cut down the tree and then tackle the stump. Those stumps were tough.

So I devised a system where I'd dig out around the base of a pine tree and cut through the tap root while the entire tree was standing. This way I got the tree, stump and all out at the same time.

They say that experience is the master teacher. Out of that 10 days at hard labor, I learned two things. First, I was detemined that I'd never skip another class; and second, that'd I've never be a pulpwood worker. It killed any desire I had to major in forestry in college.

So those kids that got only three days for walking out of classes last week got off light. They could have gotten 10 days at hard labor.

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

VHS Is Leading, But Can't Relax

Valdosta High's head football coach Wright Bazemore was pleased enough to smile after his Wildcats beat Moultrie's Packers, 21-0 here Friday night.

But what with the way the pressure is building, Baze allowed himself just a few moments to think about the triumph and went back to worrying.



GLASSMAN

With the victory the 'Cats boosted their overall record to 6-0 and upped their Region 1-AAA mark to 5-0. They now own undisputed possession of of first place in the league standings.

There won't, however, be any time for resting and relaxing this week in the Wildcat camp. Coming up next is a duel with coach Winfred Benson's Golden Tornadoes from Albany. Monroe is 4-1 after five region starts and the Tornadoes are still very much in the title scramble.

You better believe everyone comes at the Cats in an "up" attitude. Certainly, coach Bud Willis' Packers started in lively fashion.

The fact is Moultrie launched two drives of fairly long distance and had stopped the 'Cats attack until quarterback Don Golden and halfback Willie Jones combined efforts for a "home run" in the second period. Golden did the throwing and Jones the catching and running on a 53-yard pass play that produced VHS' first TD and broke a scoreless deadlock.

Valdosta went on to tally twice more and get close several times. Meanwhile, the 'Cats' defenders were doing their share to calm the Packers down. Moultrie got 105 yards rushing and 20 passing in the first half. In the last two periods the packers had a net of zero along the ground and 23 through the air. The stop'em crew produced its sixth straight shutout.

It took hard-nose football, team effort and balance for the Wildcats to get by the Packers, an outfit that was supposed to be tough and was.

"I was proud of all our boys," Bazemore said. "We got fine team effort. That's what it always takes to win a football game against a tough opponent like Moultrie."

That's when Bazemore smiled. Then someone mentioned that Monroe was next on the schedule — and that's when he went back to worring.

VHS's Green On Hot Seat

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Charles (Chuck) Green is a man on a hot seat — no question about it.

The young principal of Valdosta High has succeeded a man who was said to have kept order at the school with an iron hand. Former principal Howard Bridges did a good job of running a fine school and there is no question there but Bridges never had total integration to contend with.



ACROSS THE STATE LINES
with Carey Cameron

Green is Supt. Foster Goolsby's man. When Bridges decided to retire the same year Goolsby was promoted from assistant superintendent to replace the retiring W. G. Nunn, the school board got Green from Thomasville, the same town that Goolsby came here from.

School board chairman I. H. Tillman also likes the way the 35-year-old Green does things.

But some say there has been no discipline — or at least not enough — since the top three grades from Pinevale were sent to VHS, creating a student body of 500 Negroes and some 850 whites.

I don't have a child in school and I don't walk down the halls of VHS every day to see what goes on so I can't say what degree of discipline is practiced. I feel sure that some administrators could run a very tight ship for a while at VHS, never conferring with student leaders on policy, and meting out punishment like a dictator.

The question is how long would a person run that tight a ship before there was an explosion much worse than the walkout of some 400 Negro students Oct. 17? In this day and age I don't think it would take long to have such an explosion even if the school being run thusly was all white.

IT'S OBVIOUS Green can't personally be on the spot every time some infraction is committed. Also, any one who has ever gone to public schools knows that some teachers (the group a principle has to rely on for discipline and order) are going to be able to handle pupils better than others. In a period of transition such as VHS is in there are likely to be lot of teachers who haven't got their feet on the ground. The school board has launched an evaluation program in all schools to see what can be done to improve such teachers.

Green's prompt suspension (by invoking a standing school rule) of the students who walked out of classes and assembly does not indicate any lack of discipline on his part. The fact that he went outside and talked to the students after refusing to let some of them stampede back into classrooms before they could be counted absent does not indicate any lack of ability on his part.

I happened to have gone over to the high school to take a sports picture on Monday before the big Friday ruckus. I heard Green handle a few routine matters while I was waiting for a pair of ballplayers to get out of class. I then heard him explain to the ballplayers that whether they wanted their picture made was their choice but if they agreed we had his permission to pose some shots in the school. They agreed.

I liked the way Green handled everything I saw that day. I liked the way he explained his position on some [illegible] thrown at him in last Monday's open hearing on the pr[illegible] Friday's affair. I take note of the fact that the only [illegible] fight at the school as of this writing took place off-campus and although Green could not do anything about off-campus incidents he moved promptly to take action regarding the on-campus exchange of words which led to what he described as a pushing rather than a fight over at Brookwood Plaza.

A person's head would have to be burned in sand to not realize that all is not lovey dovey at Valdosta High. There is potential trouble there caused by the very nature of the situation and Green is going to have to work even harder than he has been working to prevent further major incidents. But I feel that he has done well considering the situation and it would be unfair for anyone to say otherwise.

I'M NOT SURE a whole series of open meetings, as the school board has indicated it may have, will serve any worthwhile purpose in race relations but as Supt. Goolsby observes, the first one (and maybe the only one) did help air out the problem.

We heard from Greg Homer, the Negro co-president of the Student Council, the side of the black students first hand. We heard the opinions of the hotter heads on both sides and it helps to know what these people are thinking. And we also learned that there are responsible men of both races who feel there is going to have to be some give and take and serious council table meetings (and not debate sessions) to work out problems.

One of these men was big Jake Register, the Negro contractor. Register doesn't get out and make speeches as often as certain other members of his race but white leaders usually feel that if any one Negro has enough of the respect of the rank and file members of his race to be considered the town's Negro leader it is probably Register. This is not to say that there aren't other good Negro leaders but Register is the one a lot of responsible whites like to see deal with an issue.

Another man who seemed to be able to cut to the core of the problem in that Monday session was Harrison Tillman, a CPA who happens to be the brother of the school board chairman. Tillman doesn't usually sound off at such gatherings but he made some good points that day.

And even those with hotter heads have the ultimate solving of the problem in mind although their approach may be different. As Harrison Tillman said it may be a bitter pill to swallow but racial problems at VHS and elsewhere in Valdosta can be solved without violence and the leadership is there to do it if the general public will just listen to the leaders.

SIDELINES — I haven't heard **Mayor James Beck** commit himself to running for a third term yet but those who organized the Dutch appreciation supper for him Tuesday night believe he will and want him to. The supper was billed as nonpolitical but to me it looks like the first significant event of the 1970 Valdosta city election year. Valdosta's election comes in February so I guess it was about time something starting developing along that line.

In some ways an attorney is like a football coach. A football coach has to use what material he has but some coaches, like **Wright Bazemore**, will get a lot more out of their material than others.

VHS Duels Coffee; Vikes Play Monroe

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats are to play at home on Friday night while Lowndes' Vikings have a road contest set for Saturday night in area high school football this coming week end.

It will be homecoming for coach Wright Bazemore's VHS 'Cats when they host coach John Stephens' Coffee County (Douglas) Comets here Friday.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Coffee at Valdosta
Atkinson at Clinch
Berrien at Bainbridge
Brooks at Randolph
Cook at Cairo
Madison at W. Nassau
Saturday
Lowndes at Monroe

Coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikings are to go against coach Winfred Benson's Monroe Golden Tornadoes at Albany on Saturday.

Both the Valdosta - Coffee and Lowndes-Monroe duels will be Region 1-AAA affairs.

In other Friday night games involving area teams, Atkinson County (Pearson) will be at Clinch County (Homerville), Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) at Bainbridge, Brooks County (Quitman) at Randolph County (Cuthbert), Cook (Adel) at Cairo and Madison, Fla., at West Nassau County.

One area team, Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.), has an open date and will be idle this week.

Valdosta will carry a perfect 7-0 record into its game with Coffee, a team which has lost eight in a row.

The 'Cats have beaten Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0), Wayne (34-0), Ware (63-0), Albany (28-0), Moultrie (21-0) and Monroe (48-0). The Comets have bowed to Appling County (25-0), Albany (42-0), Dougherty (12-7), Wayne (37-0), Lowndes (40-16), Moultrie (36-8), Monroe (39-14) and Ware (16-12).

Lowndes has an overall mark of 2-4-1 and a region chart of 1-4-1. Monroe is 4-2 after meeting six league foes.

The Vikes have beaten Berrien (12-0), Coffee (40-16) and tied Dougherty (12-12). Lowndes has bowed to Moultrie (21-0), Albany (20-8), Tift (33-18) and Wayne (7-0). Monroe has triumphed over Dougherty (26-0), Albany (12-9), Tift (19-6) and Coffee (39-14). The Tornadoes have been beaten by Moultrie (19-14) and Valdosta (48-0).

Clinch's Panthers (4-3-1) and Atkinson's Rebels (1-6) will be meeting for the second time this season when they clash at Homerville Friday night. Clinch won the first game, 22-6, at Pearson.

Berrien's Rebels and Bainbridge's Bearcats will carry identical 0-7 records into their Region 1-AA outing. Brook's Tigers will be trying to improve on an already good 5-2 record when they face Randolph's Vikings.

Cook's Hornets are 4-2-1 overall and 2-2 in Region 1-A play. The Cairo Syrupmakers they are to play are 5-2 for the year and 1-1 in the league standings. Madison's young Red Devils, winless after seven starts, face another tough assignment against West Nassau.

Other games of interest include the following:

Friday — Wayne at Albany, Dougherty at Americus, Hardaway at Appling, Appling County at Bacon, Blackshear at Irwin, Warner Robins at Carver, Perry at Thomasville Central, Crisp at Dodge and Thomasville at Dublin.

Pelham at Early, Westover at Fitzgerald, Worth at Jeff Davis, Lakeshore at LaGrange, Terrell at Miller, Moultrie at Ware, Northside at Willingham and Turner at Seminole.

Saturday — Baker at Ballard-Hudson, Lanier at Columbus and Mitchell at Kendrick.

Bazemore Pleased With 'Cats' Play

The Valdosta High Wildcats' performance against Monroe's Golden Tornadoes here this past Friday night pleased VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore and he said so.

The 'Cats clipped coach Winfred Benson's Tornadoes from Albany, 48-0.



GLASSMAN

Valdosta went out front quickly, had a 34-0 lead by the half and there was no doubt about the outcome after that.

The Wildcats' defense, well, it had some anxious moments, but came through with its seventh straight shutout. Last year it was Monroe which ended VHS' string of six games without being scored on.

It was quarterback Richmond Davis, a much better than average passer, and swift halfback Lester Sherman who threatened Valdosta's string this time, but could not snap it.

A long air strike by Davis carried the Tornadoes deep into Wildcat country in the second period, but the 'Cats stop'em crews halted Monroe at the 12.

Sherman, a runner with elusive moves, almost broke clean several times, including once when he returned a kickoff 45 yards. But in the final analysis, the 'Cats did an excellent job of containing him. He carried 18 times, but picked up only 58 yards, which is well below his average.

Now the Wildcats are 7-0 for the season and top the Region 1-AAA standings with a 6-0 mark. They've won 21 in a row over a span which covers parts of three campaigns.

"We've got this unbeaten streak and this string of scoreless games," Bazemore said. "We're leading our region and we're the top-ranked Class AAA team in the state.

'Not Over Yet'

"We'd all like to relax. I know I would. But it's not over yet. We cant' slack off now. We're too close and there's too much at stake for us to allow ourselves to get caught napping.

"But our boys did a fine job against Monroe. We got a very good team effort. Now, we've got to keep it up."

As we said, Valdosta is the leader in 1-AAA and the 'Cats are within striking distance of the region title. But Moultrie, with a 5-1 league chart, is still very much in contention and sitting around hoping the 'Cats will stump their toes.

Now, let's take a look at some of the other region races in this part of the state.

Thomasville's Bulldogs, with a 4-0 league chart, are in the driver's seat in Region 1-AA. Waycross (4-1) and Dodge County (3-1) haven't been eliminated, but it doesn't appear T'ville is going to slow down and give them a chance to catch up.

Fitz Is Rolling

In Region 1-A Fitzgerald's Purple Hurricanes are 4-0 in league play after a key, 24-8, win over previous unbeaten Americus. The Panthers are now 2-1 in loop play and Cairo has a 1-1 region chart. Fitzgerald isn't home froo, but it appears the Hurricanes are headed for the throneroom.

In Region 1-B Pelham's Hornets top the standings with a 4-1 chart. Brooks County (2-2) and Miller County (2-1-2) are still in the race, but face some big odds.

Irwin County's Indians are sailing along atop the Region 2-B standings with a perfect 5-0 record. The Tribe has been scalping everyone in sight and can wrap up this championship by beating Blackshear this week.

The way it appears now Valdosta (1-AAA). Thomasville (1-AA), Fitzgerald (1-A), Pelham (1-B) and Irwin (2-B) will be representing this section when the state playoffs begin.

Attendance Said Normal At VHS

By TIMES STAFF WRITER

Students at Valdosta High School seemed to welcome the return of learning in the classrooms today after a week of racial unrest which brought education at the campus to a standstill.

VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green said he has what "I think is termed an educational atmosphere at the school this morning." He said the attendance at VHS is normal today.

Green said the 16 Negroes removed from the Student Council because of their participation in the mass Negro walkout Oct. 17 will be replaced in a special election Thursday.

There are to be 14 Negroes elected to the Student Council which will bring the total of representatives to 30. There are 15 white members. One Negro member did not participate in the walkout.

There were 17 Negroes on the council at the beginning of the school year because the Negroes were elected last spring at Pinevale. VHS and Pinevale consolidated this fall and all 10th-12th graders are now housed at Valdosta High.

"The representation now will be equal with 15 each," said Green.

He said the nominations for homecoming attendants were held this morning and the election of the class representatives on the queen's court will be held Wednesday. Homecoming is Friday night.

It was the homecoming queen election which triggered the Negro walkout. The 400 Negroes who participated in the early morning class boycott were suspended for three days by Green and ordered to leave the campus.

The Negro youth leader, Greg Homer, who was also co-president of the Student Council, said the walkout was in protest over the way homecoming elections were held.

He said the walkout was not because Negro candidate Gloria Holloway failed to win the title.

The first vote was declared illegal by Green after several teachers and students reported that some students voted more than once. A second ballot was taken and Emily Schoroer was declared the winner.

The Negro students also protested the carrying of the Confederate flag and the playing of "Dixie" by the VHS Wildcat band.

The local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a list of demands presented to the Valdosta Board of Education included the song and flag as forms of harrassment the Negro students have received while at VHS.

They also demanded a Negro homecoming queen be named, a Negro coach and Negro physical education instructor be hired at VHS.

The NAACP also demanded the immediate reinstatement of the 400 suspended students. The board rejected the demand and said the Negro youths were welcome to return after the three day suspension was up.

All but about 60 of the suspended students boycotted the schools for an additional day and returned last Thursday.

The Negro members of the Student Council met with and asked the entire council for a Negro homecoming queen and to take "Dixie" and the flag from the school program.

The council after meeting for two days could not reach any decisions on the recommendations.

Principal Green said that in the light of circumstances he thought the request for a Negro homecoming queen "unreasonable." He also rejected the request for elmination of the song "Dixie" and carrying of Confederate flag from the band program.

Green made the announcement of his decision and position with the sanction of the Valdosta Board of Education in a paid advertisement in Saturday's issue of The Valdosta Daily Times.

"The requests were too burdensome for the council to handle, he said.

He said the issues of a black queen, the song "dixie" and the Confederate flag are settled for the remainder of the school year and all students are to abide by this decision.

Green said the issues are insoluble now and recommends that the school board select a committee this summer to settle "Dixie" and the flag before next fall.

To the Anonymous Caller

In times of local controversy, such as the racial turmoil at Valdosta High School, officials involved get a lot of harassment. Much of it is viscious, coming from the mind of a person filled with hate.

These people for the most part show a lack of their own convictions — call it intestinal fortitude — by remaining anonymous.

These kind of telephone calls have been going to our members of the board of education. This is no way helps them to cope with the delicate problems of a race controversy.

Almost all public officials are responsive to constructive criticism. People who show their hate through viscious anonymous telephone calls get no response.

One board of education member who has been getting many of these calls told us he wants to listen to constructive criticism. It is impossible for him, however, to respond to criticism, whether it is constructive or destructive, if the caller hides behind anonymity.

Persons with reasonable criticism should so inform their public officials. But these people are not going to respond to callers who don't have the fortitude to identify themselves.

Valdosta Nears Shutout Campaign

Valdosta's Wildcats are just two games away from a perfect regular season.

VHS fans are digging into record books to find when the last Georgia high school team went unscored upon in 10 regular season games.

Coach Wright Bazemore isn't particularly worried about the shutouts. He'd like for his boys to be able to do it, but winning these next two games — at Tifton Friday and at Lowndes the following week — is foremost on his mind.

While the defensive Wildcats have been blanking the opposition, the offense has amassed 296 points for a 38-point-a-game average.

When one stops to remember the Wildcats only beat Thomasville, 14-0, in the season opener that scoring clip looks even better. For AAA competition, Valdosta has averaged 40.2.

It was pretty much the same pattern last year when Valdosta beat Thomasville, 19-0, in the opener and went through seven games before giving up a score, six points to Albany Monroe.

The Wildcats' Danny O'Neal picked up 16 points Friday on two touchdowns and four extra points to run his 1-AAA leading total of 76 points.

IT LOOKS like Isaac Jackson's high school career could be over. The Macon Lanier ground gobbler who gained over 1,900 yards last year has been hampered by injuries this fall and is reportedly out for the season. It isn't known whether they're talking about the regular season, in case Lanier hits the playoffs.

WAYCROSS Bulldog followers are betting that Doyle Orange will better Jackson's rushing record in the first quarter at Dublin Friday. And they believe he'll go over the 2,000 figure before halftime.

Dublin owns a stingy line and one can bet the Irish will be zeroing on Orange all game. Stopping Orange is a must if the Bulldogs are to be harnessed.

IRWIN COUNTY kept its unbeaten string going at the 14-0 expense of Blackshear. The Indians seem to have a stiff battle with Blackshear every year.

CLINCH SCORED one double this fall. The Panthers won both games of their series with the Atkinson County Rebels. It is one of the few two-games-in-one-year series played in South Georgia. It is probably one of the bigger money making series in the Class B ranks.

Patterson and Blackshear tangle in the other two-game set. The finale of this series is due Nov. 14, which is the season end for both teams.

JOY WAS in Folkston Friday night. The mighty Indians didn't strike out. Charlton County High had defeated Camden County for the first time in 18 years.

Friday's score was 10-0. And at halftime it was 4-0 with Terry Bailey and Haywood Altman producing the points by blocking punts for safeties.

Scoring the game's lone touchdown was Billy Conner.

DALLAS NORMAN let it be known he's not worried about the weather. Norman threw the ball in a steady downpour Friday night like it was a dry pigskin. His 27-yarder to Joe Peeples provided one touchdown and then the big quarterback ran for a pair as the Bulldogs chewed up Dublin, 20-0.

VIEWING GEORGIA PREPS
By BOB PRICE



—TIMES-UNION PHOTO BY JOHN STIPE

VALDOSTA'S DANNY O'NEAL
. . . Toes Up His 76th Point

Rookie Shows Way

Rookie Lou Piniella, 26, led the Kansas City Royals with 68 runs batted in last season in the team's first year in the American League.

Honesty, Respect, Understanding

Events of the past two weeks in our town have given us all some things to think about. It has pointed up the fact that, while through the years we have prided ourselves on our good race relations, the picture is not as pretty as some would paint it.

The racial turmoil at Valdosta High School has given us an opportunity to see some of our problems as they exist and work toward their solution.

The particular grievances listed by Negro students at VHS are in themselves not particularly important. What is important are the reasons behind these grievances and basic causes that have brought on the differences between the black and white students at the school.

It was a mistake for the black students to think their cause would be helped by walking off the campus. It was especially a mistake because they did not first take their problems through the proper channels.

There's always been one thing about this town. The great majority of people want to see things done honestly and fairly. Our problems over the years have been worked out because people on all sides have been dedicated to that end. We believe that the problems at VHS will be worked out in such a manner, too. The students and teachers there want to do what is the honest and fair thing.

What has happened in our high school is behind us. It took several days for anyone to really identify the various areas of disagreement. Now, for the most part these have been identified. It is a basis on which misunderstanding can be turned into understanding.

The board of education has asked the students to share in some of the responsibility in finding areas of agreement. This is as it should be. The board, however, is not abdicating any of its responsibility. It merely wants the students, through the VHS Student Council, to help in finding the solution.

There are many particulars and details and recommendations to be considered. It is not our place to say what should and should not be done with the many details of the problem that have presented themselves.

We believe, however, that when the problems at VHS are ironed out, they will be solved on the basis of honesty, mutual respect and an understanding of the basic differences.

Band, Cheerleaders, Team Excluded

Negroes Boycott Homecoming Events

By MARY CROUSE

Negro students at Valdosta High School are boycotting all homecoming activities at the school this weekend and a white student has replaced the Negro attendant on the homecoming court.

The Negroes began their boycott of the annual festivities at the pep rally and bonfire held on the VHS campus. There were about a dozen Negro students who attended the rally. There are about 500 Negroes enrolled at VHS. The total student population there is about 1,350.

Brenda Martin, a Negro, asked to be replaced on the homecoming court, said VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green. Ann Morrow, who polled the second highest number of votes for the junior representative on the court, has been named as Miss Martin's replacement.

Green announced the change in the homecoming attendants at a chapel program this morning. Attendant elections were held this week.

Other members of the court include Emily Schroer, homecoming queen; Cissy Williams, senior; Miss Morrow, junior and Sharon Everson, sophomore.

Green said he had been notified in advance by the Negro students of their intention to boycott all homecoming activities.

"This is all extra-curricular so if that's what they want to do it is their prorogative. I'm sorry they have chosen to do this," said the principal.

The two Negro cheerleaders, two Negro majorettes and Negro musicians in the VHS band and Negro football players are expected to participate in the football game an activities tonight against Coffee County High School.

It is ironic that VHS is hosting another school which has been plagued with racial problems this fall. The Coffee County schools were closed at the beginning of the term because of its desegregation situation.

"We had wanted to have a homecoming in which everyone participated, but it doesn't look likely now," said Green.

The boycott is a protest over what the Negroes term "continued harrassment of the blacks." The racial problems at predominately white VHS erupted Oct. 17 when about 400 Negroes walked out of classes protesting homecoming queen elections held earlier that week.

The students were suspended for three days by Green and all but 60 stayed out an additionalday as a further protest.

Grievances cited by the Negroes besides the homecoming queen election were the class officers balloting, the playing of the song "Dixie" and the carrying of the Confederate flag by the VHS honor guard.

The local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People entered the scene and demanded the immediate reinstatement of the suspended students with no punitive action, the discontinuance of the song and flag, the immediate hiring of a Negro coach and Negro physical education instructor, grade consideration for Negro students and a Negro homecoming queen and Negro attendant.

The Valdosta Board of Education rejected the reinstatement demand and said it would study and consider the other demands.

The 16 Negroes on the VHS Student Council asked the council to consider the homecoming queen, song and flag as recommendations. The council was unable to reach a decision, said Green, so he turned down the requests.

The principal said these issues are settled for the rest of this school year. His action was sanctioned by the school board.

Green also removed the 16 Negro council members who participated in the walk out and called for a special election Thursday to select new Negroes to the council.

"We held the election but haven't done anything further about it," he said. He didn't say when the new members would be announced.

The removal of these council members has brought criticism from the all Negro Parent and Citizens Group.

Seven representatives of the organization met with Supt. Foster Golsby and board member John Howell for 2½ hours Wednesday to discuss the racial problems at VHS. The group said the removal of the council members was a form of punishment and the board had stated there would be no punitive action taken against the students.

Board chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr. said the board will meet with the entire group Monday to "give all the correct information about the action concerning Valdosta High School.

Local NAACP Head Resigns His Post

By TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Rev. W. H. Brown, who has headed the Valdosta chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for about two years, has resigned.

NAACP executive secretary Nathaniel Hadley today said the executive committee had requested Brown's resignation and it was tendered at a meeting Thursday.

"He no longer speaks for the executive committee nor for

Another story Page 6.

that matter for the membership," Hadley said. He said that is the reason Brown's resignation was called for.

Brown, pastor of Evergreen Christian Church, was unavailable for comment this morning.

A meeting of NAACP fficials is scheduled tonight, Hadley said at which an effort will be made to decide on a replacement. Until a successor is picked, said Hadley, first vice president Ralph Harrington, who operates a funeral home here,is to be acting president.

But, Hadley said, any official statements of the organization would come from Hadley.

Harrington and Hadley and Brown had been on opposing sides of the controversy which developed after about 400 students at Valdosta High School left classes Oct. 17. The students left, they said, in protest of how the Homecoming queen election at Valdosta High School was held, terming it the "last straw" in what they contend has been continual harrassment from white students and officials.

Brown had taken an active part, at an open NAACP meeting, in encouraging the students

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Continued from Page 1

to return to school after a three-day suspension was up. It was Hadley and Harrington who presented a list of demands to the city school board at an Oct. 20 meeting. At the meeting, Harrington said, "We have given in and you don't know how to. We've been giving in for 200 years, now this is what we are demanding."

The demands included a Negro Homecoming queen and attendant, immediate reinstatement of suspended students without punishment, discontuance of the playing of "Dixie" and display of the Confederate flag, a Negro coach and physical education instructor at VHS and that grade consideration be given Negro students.

All the demands were subsequently denied by school principal Charles (Chuck) Green and - or the school board. School officials said efforts had been continuing for some time to hire a Negro coach and that the four-level placement system automatically benefits Negro students.

The board had earlier acted on a request to halt playing 'Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag. Green said one high school should have only one Homecoming queen. A Negro Homecoming attendant was elected this week but she asked that she be replaced.



—TIMES-UNION PHOTO BY JOHN STIPE

Queen of the Game

High, hot lights of Valdosta High's football field crown hair of Emily Schroer with burnished gold as she rides to midfield for coronation as Valdosta (Ga.) High Homecoming Queen at the Wildcat-Coffee County High Comet game halftime.

VHS Council Members

Reinstatement Is Asked

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Seven members of the Parents and Citizens Group have asked the Valdosta Board of Education and school superintendent to immediately reinstate the 16 Negro Student Council members who participated in a mass walkout Oct. 17 at Valdosta High School.

The Negro group, which met today with Supt. Foster Goolsby and board of education member John Howell, said they felt the removal of these students from the council was unfair and could result in more problems at the school.

Mrs. W. L. Pompey told Goolsby that the students who are to replace the Negroes on the council would not be real representatives of those who walked out of the school.

"The other students won't accept them on the board," she said.

The 16 Negroes have been removed from the council by VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green. He made the announcement of his decision in a full page ad in Saturday's issue of The Valdosta Daily Times. Their replacements are to be elected Thursday, said the principal.

"Everything we have asked for has been turned down. But to take these students off the council can only humiliate and punish the children who stood up for their rights," said Mrs. Pompey.

About 400 Negro students walked out of VHS Oct. 17 in protest over homecoming elections held that week in which a white girl was elected and other forms of harrassment. The principal suspended them for three days but all but about 60 of the students stayed out another day.

The Negroes on the Student Council who walked out recommended to the entire council that the VHS band stop playing "Dixie" and displaying the Confederate flag. The council could not reach a decision, said Green, so he stepped in to settle the issues for this school year.

Goolsby told the parents group the issues are not closed and are still being discussed.

"The board has said it is studying the recommendations and taking them under consideration. That is their official action," said the superintendent.

The group which discussed the racial problems at VHS for 2½ hours left disappointed because Goolsby did not take any immediate action on their grievances.

"This is the only disappointment I know of that you could have, but we are not closing any doors," he said.

The New York Yankees ended their American League season with five straight victories but finished fifth in the Eastern Division with an 80-81 record. Their final home game was rained out.

Need More Definite Course Toward New VHS Building



By TENNEY GRIFFIN

Several weeks ago this space was devoted to explaining why Valdosta needs a new high school. Events at Valdosta High during the past few days point up this need even more.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, this is another appeal to the powers that be to start a more definite course toward the building of a new high school.

The racial unrest at VHS is just one factor in this need. Providing the physical facilities around which a modern, comprehensive high school can be built is another.

At Lowndes High School there has been little racial turmoil. Much has been mitigated by what the Lowndes County superintendent, Sonny Martin, calls the "fine cooperative spirit of students."

There's another factor, too. This is the fact Lowndes High isn't busting at the seams with students. Although the facilities in that fine new building are somewhat crowded this year, they in no way compare with Valdosta High. Kids aren't always running over each other in the halls at LOHI, while at VHS all class changes are mob scenes.

At VHS there are 1,355 students in a school that can adequately house about 800. If that isn't bad enough, there'll be about 1,550 at VHS next fall.

The school will graduate about 350 this spring, but about 550 ninth graders will be coming up from the Pinevale campus this fall. It is only getting worse. It won't get better. There will be more and more students each year who will have to crowd in that old building unless additional facilities are provided.

At VHS now there are 41 teaching stations, or classrooms. M. E. Nichols, the city system's federal funds coordinator, says a minimum of 19 more teaching stations are needed now. When those additional 200 pupils arrive next fall, it will run that figure to something like 29.

Our school people are well aware of the problem. A committee of the board of education is looking for a high school site and talking about getting some planning underway. So far this committee work has been slow. It needs to move faster toward that eventual groundbreaking ceremony.

If the site had already been selected and an architect appointed, it would still be 2½ to three years before any children would begin using the new building.

It is going to take a lot of money to build a new high school. VHS Principal Chuck Green estimates it will cost $4 million. Other estimates put it at $5 million.

Where is the money coming from? Some funds will be available through state and federal sources. The bulk of the money, however, will have to come from the pockets of Valdosta taxpayers.

A school building bond issue will be required and it will have to be a big one, probably as big as all the city's bonding capacity.

With the new tax digest at 40 per cent of real property values and the revaluation program, Valdosta now has a digest at slightly more than $81 million.

Seven per cent of this $81 million is the bonding capacity. The city, however, already has $2.8 million outstanding in bonds. Therefore, the present bonding capacity is about $3.5 million.

There are a lot of city needs. There are a lot of plans milling in the minds of some city fathers on how to use this additional bonding capacity.

It would behoove our board of education members to go to the Mayor - Council and discuss the need for a new high school and get that need put right at the top of all the plans on how to use any new bond money.

It is my firm belief that most Valdostans would favor a new high school and that they would be ready to so vote in any bond referendum. Other plans and considerations on how to use the additional bonding capacity have to take back seat to our need for a new high school.

Board Of Education Backs Green In Council Action

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Board of Education has notified a group of Negro parents that it backs Valdosta High School principal Charles (Chuck) Green's decision to take 16 Negro members off the Student Council because of their participation in a mass walkout at the school Oct. 17.

Board Chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr. said the board will meet with the Parents and Citizens Group Monday to give the entire membership the correct information about the action taken concerning the racial problems at VHS.

"We have notified the group that we do back the principal in his decisions," said Tillman.

A special election was held today at VHS to elect 14 Negroes on the Student Council to replace those removed by Green.

About 400 Negroes at VHS walked out of the building in a protest over homecoming elections held at the school earlier that week in which a white girl Emily Schroer, was elected homecoming queen over another white contestant and a Negro contender.

A Negro, Brenda Martin, was elected to the queen's court in attendant elections held Wednesday. Miss Martin represents the junior class. Other attendants elected include Cissy Williams, senior class, and Sharon Everson, junior class.

The students said the homecoming queen elections were the last in a series of harrassments directed at Negroes since this fall. Other incidents cited were the playing of "Dixie" by the VHS band and the display of the Confederate flag.

The 400 students were suspended for three days because of their walkout but only 60 returned to classes the day the suspension ended. The others returned the following day.

The Parents Group met with school Supt. Foster Goolsby and board member John Towell for 2½ hours Wednesday morning. The parents asked that the Negro council members be reinstated to their posts to avoid any additional trouble.

"It seems like this is a punishment to the children," said Mrs. W. L. Pompey.

Mrs. M. S. Emanuel said the board had told her that the children would have no punitive action taken against them.

"But we read in the paper (The Valdosta Daily Times) that Mr. Green had taken them off the council and this was sanctioned by the board," said Mrs. Emanuel.

The parents said a Negro homecoming queen, the song and flag are not as important to them as the reinstatement of the council members.

John Davis said the removal of these students could cause more problems at VHS and that nobody wanted any more trouble.

"We want what is fair [illegible] this is not fair," he said.



— Times Staff Photo

VHS Homecoming Queen Emily Schroer with Don Golden and Willie Jones

VHS Turns To Broadway For '69 Homecoming Theme

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It is Valdosta High School on Broadway this weekend as the alumni and students converge to celebrate homecoming festivities.

The VHS on Broadway theme was carried out Friday afternoon in a parade through downtown Valdosta. The 1969 homecoming queen, Emily Schroer and her court were featured in the march.

VHS students kicked off activities Thursday night with a bonfire and pep rally on campus. Miss Flame and Mr. and Miss Sprit were presented to the crowd.

Miss Flame, Ann Paine, was selected by the VHS Wildcats football team. Mr. and Miss Spirit, Bruce Pearlman, and Cheryl Coffin, were chosen by the cheerleaders.

The homecoming queen attendants were featured during the halftime activities at the football game Friday night. VHS was host to Coffee County High School.

Court attendants are Cissy Williams, senior; Ann Morrow, junior, and Sharon Everson, sophomore.

Angela Wetherington, Student Council president, said this year's homecoming was hoped to be the best offered in several years.

"A lot of time was spent planning homecoming and we wanted to make it fun for everybody," she said.

The Student Council sponsors homecoming annually.

The homecoming dance is tonight at Mathis city auditorium. A rock group, The Hot Water Blues, are providing the entertainment.

This year's homecoming queen is a working girl. Miss Schroer, 17, is a Distributive Education student and works parttime in a local dress shop.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schroer, the grey-eyed senior was the Valdosta representative in the state Miss 16 contest in 1968.

She plans to attend Valdosta State College next fall and wants to be a physical education major.

"I've always wanted to be a PE teacher. I like sports and have always been athletic so it just seems natural to want to teach PE," she said.



— Times Staff Photo

Pep Rally: Bruce Pearlman, Ann Paine and Cheryl Coffin Presented to Crowd



Check A Skimmer: Brown And White



Cut A Caper: White Lace, Black



— Times Staff Photos

Steal A Scene: Mostly Lavender, Pink

Valdosta's Junior Wildcats Stage Rally, Tie Waycross

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

WAYCROSS — Valdosta's Junior Wildcats came from behind with three second remaining in the game and tied Waycross' Bulldogs, 12-12 in a high school "B Team" football game here Thursday.

The tie left the Junior Wildcats of coaches Joe Mercer and Bill Myddleton with a 5-1-2 record. They are slated to go into action again Saturday when they meet Waycross again.

The Bulldogs took a quick lead in the first stanza as Dan Smith scored on a two yard run. But in the second stanza VHS tied it up as defensive tackle Willie Lester scooped up a Waycross fumble and returned it 35 yards to score.

In the third stanza the Bulldogs again went ahead as Hap Jernigan crossed the goal line on a four-yard run.

Then with three seconds remaining in the final stanza quarterback Dick Parker hit end Donnie Lee on a 60-yard touchdown pass for the 'Cats to tie the game.

The coaches commended offensive players Donnie Lee Robert McCaskell and Paul Lore and defensive players Lonnie O'Neal, Willie Lester and Dennis Nichols for a job well done.

'Cats, Vikings Hit Road Again

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Lowndes' Vikings will both be on the road tonight meeting Region 1-AAA high school football foes.

VHS' 'Cats are to face Tift County's Blue Devils at Tifton. Lowndes' Vikes are to go against Ware County's Gators at Waycross. Starting time for both games is 8 p. m.

In other action tonight involving area teams, Crisp County (Cordele) will be at Berrien (Nashville, Ga.), Brooks County (Quitman) at Pelham, Thomasville Central at Cook (Adel), Clinch County (Homerville) at Wilcox County (Rochelle), Madison, Fla., at Taylor County (Perry, Fla.) and Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) at Macclenny. Fla.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Valdosta at Tift
Lowndes at Ware
Crisp at Berrien
Brooks at Pelham
Central at Cook
Clinch at Wilcox
Madison at Taylor
Hamilton at Macclenny

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats are 8-0 this season and have licked seven region foes in the process. Over a span that covers parts of three seasons they've won 22 in a row.

Last time VHS was beaten was in the next to last game of the '67 season. It was Tift's Imps who did it, by a 13-7, margin at Tifton.

The current Blue Devils are 4-4 and are riding the crest of a three - game victory streak. With an open date last week, they've had extra time to prepare for 'Dosta.

Coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikings are 2-5-1 for the season and 1-5-1 in regional play. Ware's Gators have a 1-7 overall mark and a 1-6 league chart. This game rates as a toss-up.

Berrien's winless Rebels (0-8) will be meeting another set of Rebs from Crisp who have a 2-5-1 record. Both belong to Region 1-AA.

Brooks' Tigers (5-2-1) will be going against a Pelham team which has a 7-1-1 record and leads the Region 1-B title race.

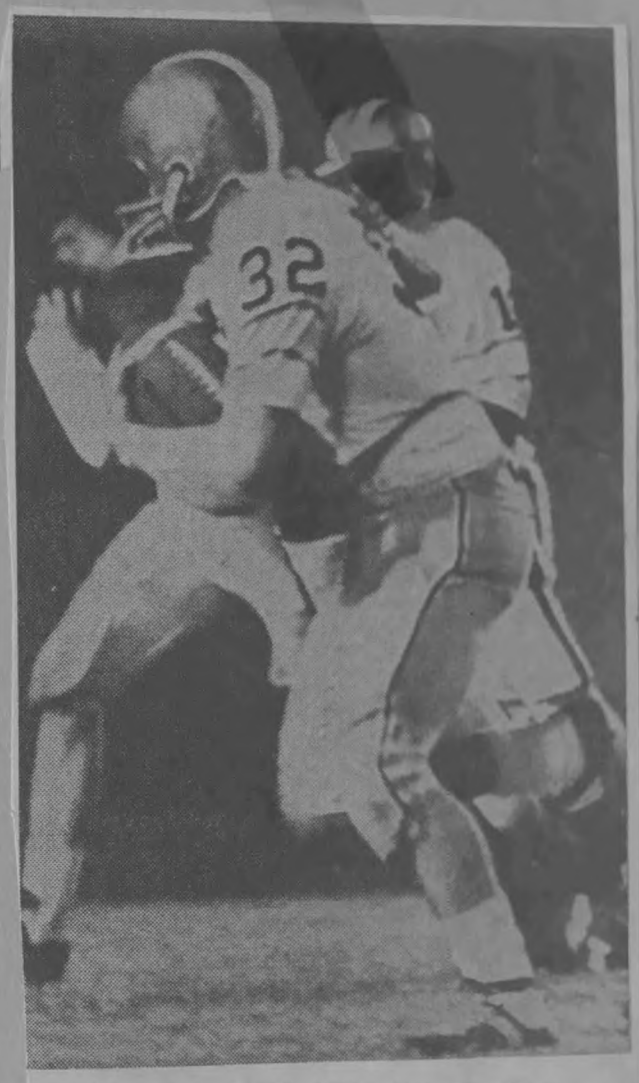
Cook's Hornets (4-3-1) are favored over 1-A Thomasville Central's Yellow Jackets, who are 2-6. Clinch's Panthers (5-3-1) will be closing out their season against the Wilcox Patroits (2-6).

Madison's Red Devils (0-7) will be the underdogs against Taylor County. Hamilton's Rebs (5-1) will be shooting for their sixth straight triumph against Macclenny.

Other games of interest follow:

Tonight — Albany at Moultrie, Americus at Cairo, Bainbridge at Appling, Charlton at Atkinson, Bacon at Patterson, Willingham at Baker, Blackshear at Jeff Davis, Dodge at Thomasville, Waycross at Dublin, Fitzgerald at Perry, LaGrange at Troup and Monroe at Wayne.

Saturday — Mark Smith at Hardaway and Jordan at Lanier.



'Cats' Danny O'Neal Has Running Room

Children's Pet Show Is Saturday

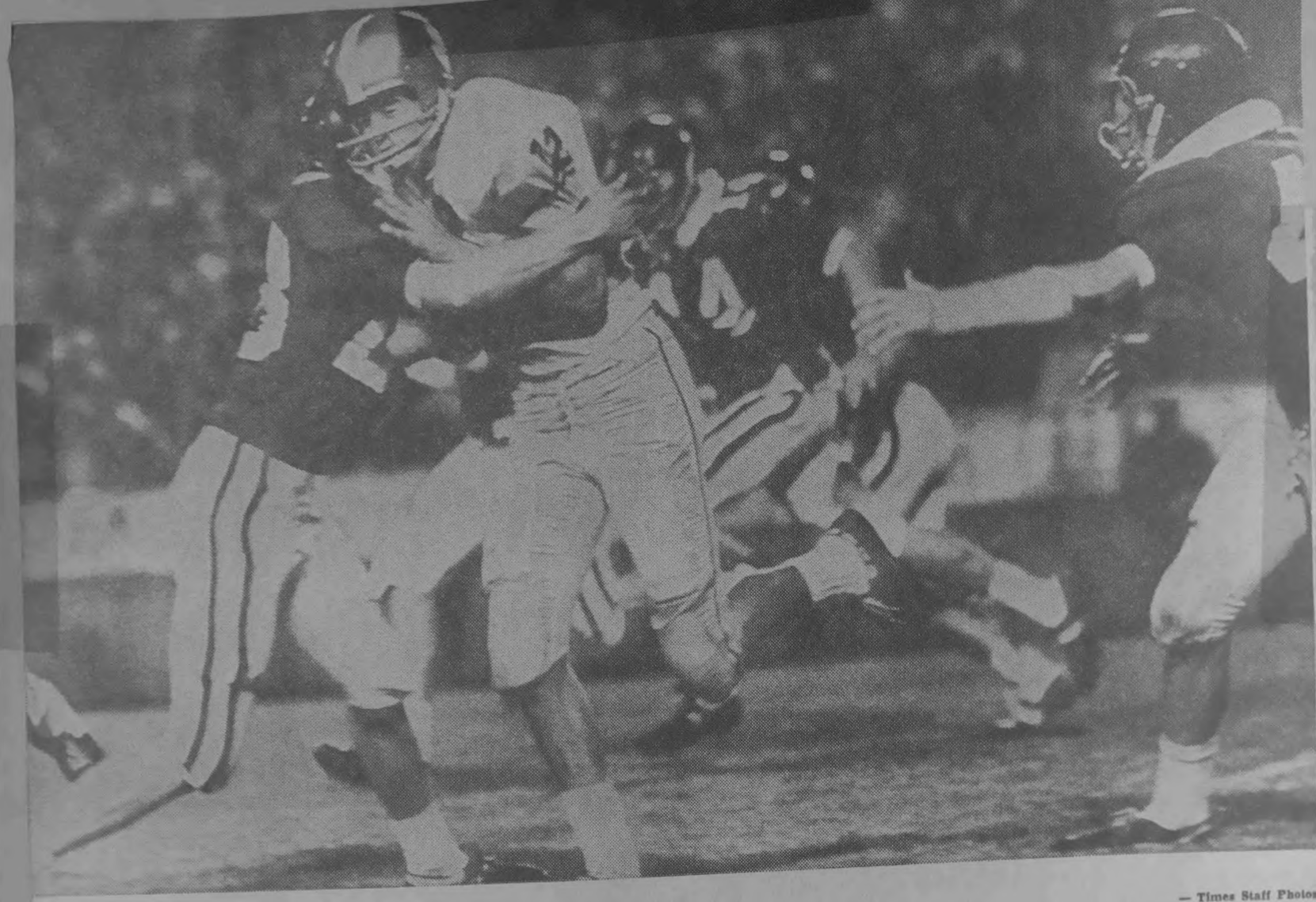
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

They're accepting turtles, hamsters, horses, dogs, cats, goats and any other sort of pet at the Children's Pet Show Saturday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at McKey Park.

Sponsored by the Valdosta High School Beta Club, the show features categories of most original, best trained, best match which is master and pet, best groomed and cutest. A grand prize is to be given for the best all-round pet.

Entry fee is $1 per pert and all entries must be made by tonight.

Ginny Bridges of 200 Wayne Ave. is in charge of entries.



— Times Staff Photos

Valdosta Quarterback Don Golden (12) Managed To Get By One Tift County Defender, But Was Stopped By Another One

VHS Class, Club Officers Selected

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The past president of the junior class has moved up a notch and now heads the senior class at Valdosta High School.

Vickie Smith was reelected head of her class during elections held this fall.

Serving with her are Marty LeFiles, vice president; Kathryne Smotherman, secretary, and Angelia Wetherington, treasurer.

Bo Woodward is the junior class president. His slate of officers are Martha Alice Giddens, vice president; Curt Bazemore, secretary, and Anita Brantley, treasurer.

The sophomores elected Stanley Bounds president of their class. Others named to positions include Donna Pitts, vice president; Jan Nutt, secretary, and Pierce Scott, treasurer.

The juniors are in charge of the annual VHS beauty contest and the junior-senior dance plans.

VHS clubs naming officers this fall include the Future Homemakers of America, the Latin Club, Key Club and Hi-Y.

Jim Copeland is president of the Hi-Y. His officers include Alan Strickland, vice president; Mike Welch, secretary, Jerry Williams, treasurer and Tim Golden, projects chairman.

Wesley Blanchard is the Key Club president. Other officers are Bill Brandon, vice president; William Mackey, secretary, Chip Bounds, treasurer, and Jim Copeland, chaplain.

The Latin Club selected Nancy Rogers to serve as president. Jane Miller is vice president, Tim Golden is secretary and Mary Alice King is treasurer.



— Times Staff Photo

VHS Class Presidents: Vickie Smith, Stanley Bounds and Bo Woodward

Baze Took Tift Tally In Stride

"How," one Tift County football fan wanted to know, "do you think Wright Bazemore will take that?"

The question was tossed out this past Friday night up at Tifton. Bazemore's Valdosta High Wildcats were leading 14-0 and there was 4:47 left to play in the third period.



GLASSMAN

First Tift County's Blue Devils recovered a fumble at the 'Cats' 11. Then Imp quarterback Stretch Morris rolled out to his right and went 11 yards for a touchdown — the first scored on VHS after eight and a half games this season.

Now, back to the original question. In light of the fact that his Wildcats had an assortment of problems, Bazemore lost their poise, their determination and won, Baze took Tift's touchdown in stride, thank you.

Despite losing the ball four times on fumbles, having three passes intercepted and Tift getting one TD, the 'Cats racked up a solid win with their 28-7 victory margin and an overwhelming statistical edge leaving no doubt about Valdosta's superiority.

"It was obvious that we made some costly mistakes," Bazemore said in a calm manner after the game. "But our players shook off everything that happened to them and kept their poise. After we were scored on our boys really fired up on both offense and defense. I'd have to say I'm proud of them — all of them."

Sure, Bazemore would have liked to have seen his Wildcats go all the way without giving up any points. But that, in reality, is a near impossible task. His '68 crew went six and a half games before it yielded its first TD. Now the '69 'Cats have outdone that by going eight and a half. It is an accomplishment they can be proud of.

There are no official records on such things, but Baze can't remember a longer scoreless streak by any of his other many outstanding teams during a span that dates back to 1940 and includes 13 state championship years.

The 'Cats are still unbeaten (nine wins in a row this year and 23 straight since 1967) and they are also just a step away from the 1969 Regional 1-AAA championship and a berth in the state playoffs. A tie or a win in their regular season finale this week against cross-town rival Lowndes will put VHS in the league throneroom.

And today at practice, I'm sure, Baze reminded the 'Cats that the pressure's still on, that the game with Lowndes is up next and that's the contest they should concentrate on.

Improvement Shows

Now for Times staffer Julian Miller's comments on the Lowndes Vikings:

Lowndes' Vikings set out to improve their record this year and they have after licking Ware County, 32-14, this past Friday night.

Last season in Lowndes' first year in region 1-AAA the Vikes went 2-8. Now they have a 3-5-1 record, which is still not above the .500 mark but gives them the best mark they've had since 1964.

That was the year they went 5-3-2 in Region 1-AA as the Lowndes County Golden Eagles. Since then they have had record of 0-9-1 in 1965, 1-8-1 in 1966 and 3-7 in 1967, all in Region 1-AA, and that 2-8 chart last time out.

"We are slowly improving," Adams says. "Those earlier seasons were in a lower classification. Now that we have gotten our program underway, I hope we can build up some experience."

Experience is something Lowndes has been lacking. Even though the seniors on this year's squad number about 15, over half of them had not played in Region 1-AAA before.

Using Youngsters

As the end of the 1969 campaign draws near, Lowndes has been using more and more of its younger players and it looks like they have been doing a pretty good job. Against Ware, Adams stuck an entire unit of younger boys in the game and they averaged 6.4 yards per carry for six plays.

"We are going to have to have some experienced players," Adams had said earlier in the season, "if we are going to be able to do anything in this region. That's been one of our main problems so far."

Another problem the Vikings had been having popped up again Friday night in the Ware game. The Vikes were penalized 105 yards.

"Those are the kinds of mistakes we have been trying to get rid of all season," Adams explained. "A team shouldn't be making those kind this late in the season. We had them down in numbers for a while, but they're back. A stronger opponent like Valdosta, our next foe, would take those mistakes and use them against us."

Adams wants the Vikes to keep striving for progress, but the improvement they have made is now reflected in their won-loss record.

Tift Always Bad News For 'Dosta

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats must go to Tifton on Friday night to meet Tift County's Blue Devils and, if you please, VHS grid boss Wright Bazemore had just as soon not be reminded about what happened to his team there two years ago.

For that matter, Bazemore will also give a shudder or two when you mention what went on when Valdosta and Tift tangled on the 'Cats' home field here last season.

"Let's just say that Tift is a traditional rival and we always have trouble, plenty of trouble whenever and where ever we meet them," Bazemore said.

Tomorrow night's Region 1-AAA duel between the 'Cats and coach Ray Dalton's Imps is set for 8 o'clock at Tift Memorial Stadium.

The last time a Valdosta football team made an appearance there was in 1967. It was the 'Cats' next to the last game of the season. Valdosta fumbled 10 times, the Blue Devils recovered seven of the bobbles, turned two of them into touchdowns and Tift came out with a 13-7 victory.

That happens to be the last time anyone beat 'Dosta. The 'Cats have won 22 in a row since then, including the eight games they've played so far this season.

Last year, in a game here, the fired up Imps held the 'Cats scoreless for a half. VHS finally got its attack untracked and went on to notch a 20-0 win.

The Tift team VHS must face tomorrow night owns a 4-4 record. But it has a reputation for defensive toughness and is currently riding the crest of a three-game victory streak. Besides that, the Imps had an open date last week, giving them some extra time to plan some surprises for Bazemore's charges.

This will be the first road trip the Wildcats have had to make since they opened their '69 campaign 10 weeks ago at Thomasville.

"Tift lost some games, most of them by close margins, early in the season," Bazemore said. "But with victories in their last three games they have a lot of momentum going. They'll also have the home field advantage and they've had an extra week to get ready for us.

"We better be ready, and I mean really ready. This is a region game. It's another must affair for us."

The 'Cats currently top the Region 1-AAA standings with a 7-0 league mark, but can't afford a slip since Moultrie's Packers are breathing right down Valdosta's neck with a 6-1 league mark.

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follows:

VALDOSTA

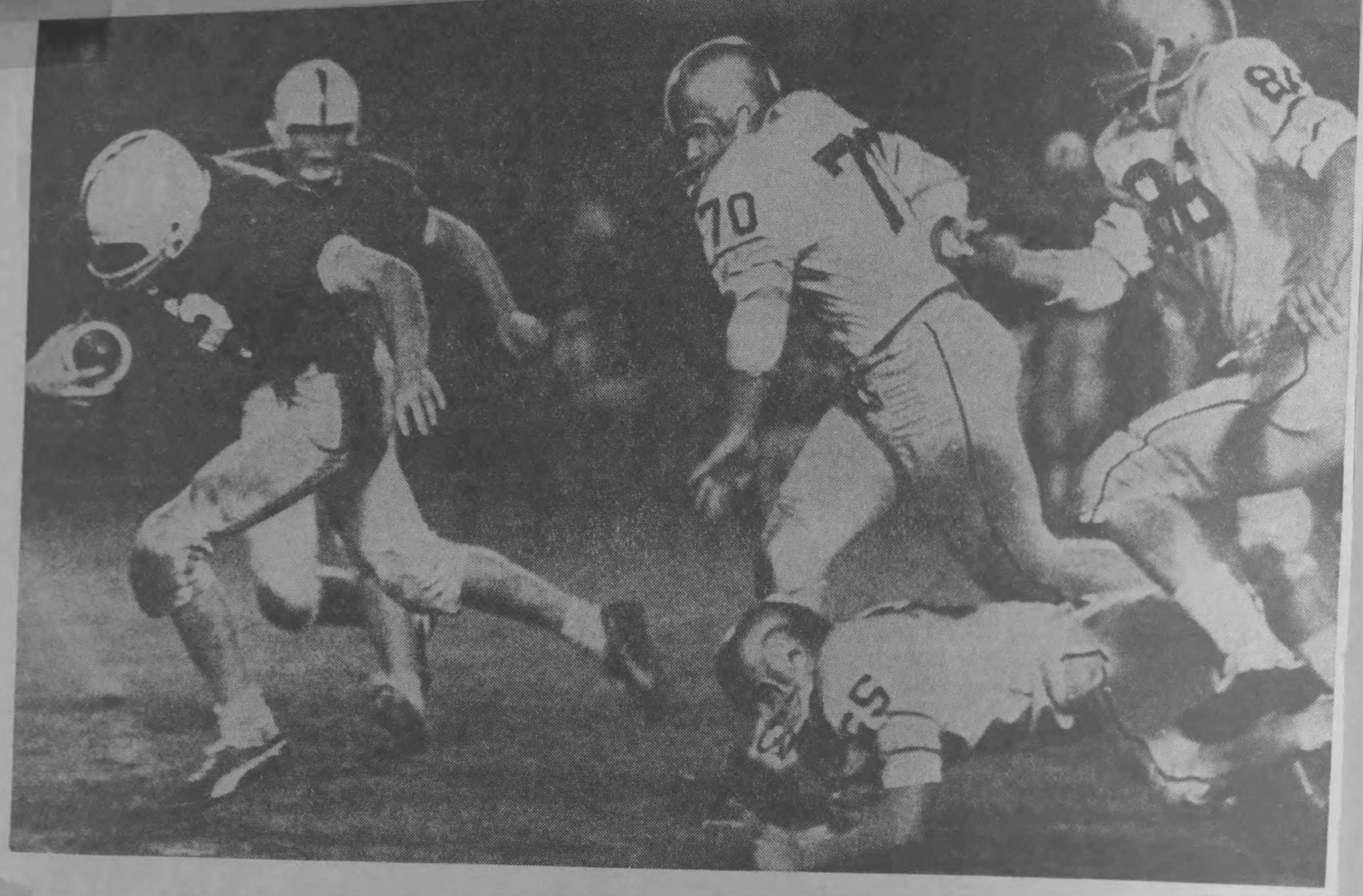
Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.) or Roger Rome (200, jr.), tackles Robert Koucar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Willie Jones (170, sr.) and Charles Daniels (190, jr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.) or Willie Anderson (175, jr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (175, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Steve Stanaland (190, soph.) and Vance Quillin (205, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, sr.), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.), and Ralph Puckett (160, jr.) and deep backs John Hampton (165, jr.) and Stanley Bounds (160, soph.).

TIFT COUNTY

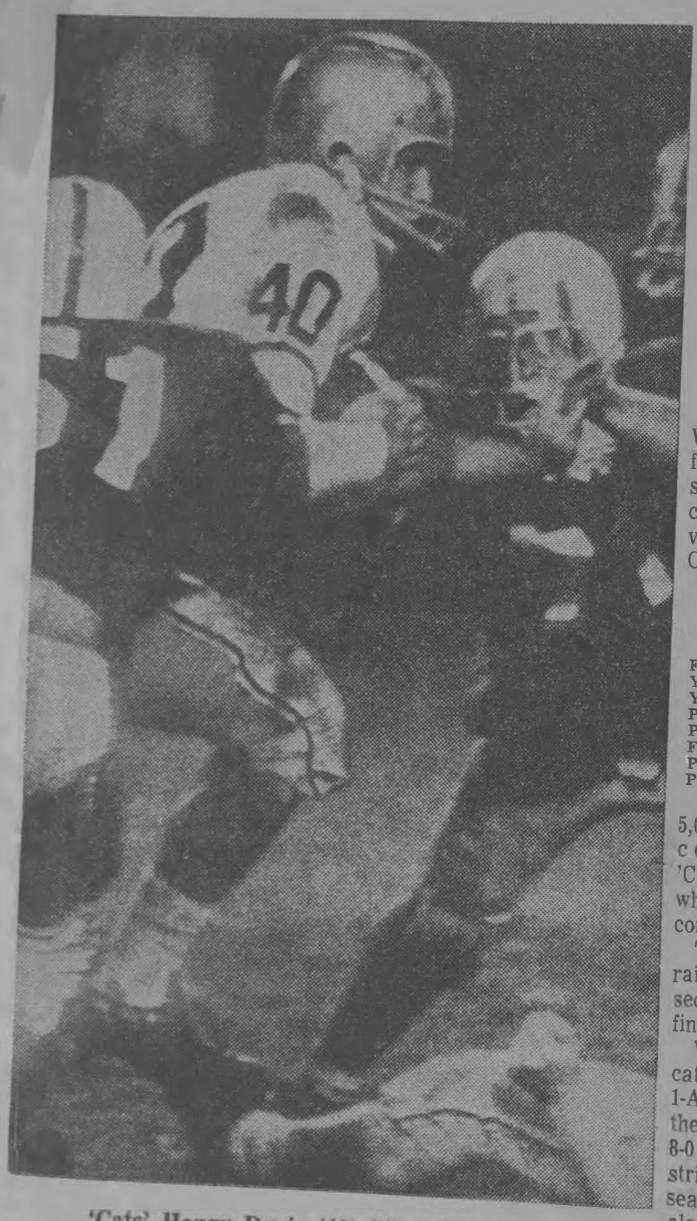
Offense — ends Terry Jones (140, sr.) and Theodore Russell (150, sr.), tackles Hal Sutton (180, soph.) and Butch Jones (205, soph.), guards Ricky Mayse (155, jr.) and Robert Waters (155, jr.), center Alex Patterson (140, soph.), quarterback Ray Henderson (160, jr.), halfbacks Mike Coleman (140, jr.) and Meade Rankin (140, jr.) and fullback Jimmy Sirmans (190, jr.).

Defense — ends Mike Cottle (155, jr.) and Randall Young (155, soph.), tackles Chip Baggett (225, soph.) and Jones, middle guard Sutton, linebackers Crisp Gabelwood (145, sr.), Kenney [illegible] (160, jr.), Robert Branch (165, jr.) and Sirmans and deep backs Gerry Aymore (160, jr.) and Gary Corbin (150, jr.).



— Times Staff Photos

Valdosta's Robert Koncar (70), Tom Holt (65) And Jerry Baker (86) Go After Comet Quarterback Jackie Bailey



'Cats' Henry Davis (40) Digs For Yardage

'Cats Rap Comets To Extend Streak

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats tallied touchdowns the first three times they got possession of the pigskin and coasted in from there for a 46-0 victory over the Coffee County Comets here Friday night.

A crowd of approximately 5,000 fans turned out to see coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats dominate all the way in what was their homecoming contest.

There were light to moderate rain showers from midway the second period until near the finish.

When it was over the Wildcats had boosted their Region 1-AAA record to 7-0, had upped their overall mark this year to 8-0 and had extended a victory string that covers parts of three seasons to 22 games. They had also produced their eighth straight shutout.

The loss was the ninth in as many starts for coach John Stephens' Comets from Douglas.

Valdosta used 58 players in the game, all that were available for duty, but the flow of substitutes didn't slow them down. VHS ran up 19 first downs, rushed for 317 yards and passed for 146. Coffee managed just five first downs, gained only 61 yards along the ground and 40 through the air.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Coffee
First Downs	19	5
Yards Rushing	317	61
Yards Passing	146	40
Passes	7-12	5-12
Passes Intc. by	2	1
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	0-0	6-29
Penalties	8-100	5-58

After Valdosta kicked off the Comets ran three plays and tried to punt. VHS end Jerry Baker blocked the boot and 'Dosta was in business on the Coffee 18. On the Wildcats' first play from scrimmage quarterback Don Golden went 18 yards to paydirt.

The second time the Bazemoremen got possession of the football they zipped 54 yards in seven plays to score again. The TD came on an 18-yard run by halfback Willie Jones.

When Valdosta got the ball for the third time, the 'Cats moved 61 yards in six plays. Fullback Danny O'Neal tallied on a two-yard run. The big gainer was a 50-yard pass from Golden to end Warrick Taylor.

In the third quarter VHS moved 37 yards in a half dozen plays to score its fourth touchdown. This one came on a five-yard run by halfback Willie Anderson.

The third period saw the 'Cats continue to wheel and deal. They covered 67 yards in seven plays and scored their fifth TD. The payoff was a 25-yard pass from Golden to end Roger Rome.

Moments later O'Neal followed a zig-zag route to score from 37 yards out.

Before the third period ended the Wildcats went 75 yards in just four plays for what turned out to be the final TD of the game. This marker came on a 21-yard sprint by Jones.

While the Comets were never able to make a real contest of it, quarterback Jackie Bailey distinguished himself.

He carried the ball 19 times and gained 51 of the 61 yards the Comets made rushing. He's also the guy who accounted for all of the Douglas team's aerial yardage, hitting five of 12 for 40 yards.

In addition Bailey went 43 yards on one punt return and led the Comets down to the Wildcats' 25 and then again down to the 25 in the second half, but he couldn't dent VHS' scorless string.

Coffee also got a dose of bad news in the form of a broke arm suffered by end Eddie Allen. He had to be taken from the field in an ambulance.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Golden 4-43, Davis 5-27, O'Neal 6-72, Jones 3-37, Daniels 4-59, Anderson 8-31, Bell 3-10, Meeks 2-36, Branam 1-7; Coffee — Bailey 19-51, Sims 7-7, Thompson 4-3.

Passing: Valdosta — Golden 6-8-141, Bounds 1-2-5, Branam 0-1-0, DeLoach 0-1-0; Coffee — Bailey 5-12-40.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Taylor 1-59, Jones 2-30, Rowe 3-61, LeFiles 1-5; Coffee — Allen 1-7, Lott 1-9, Sims 2-20, Johnson 1-4.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Jones 1-11, Taylor 1-10.

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Jones 1-26, Coffee — Bailey — 5-93, Dockery 1-11, Thompson 2-10.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Holt 7, Shenton 5, Blalock 4, Everson 4, Hendry 3, Lawrence 3, Baker 3, H. Skoropat 3, Clarkston 3, Atkins 3, Puckett 2, Bell 2, Emanuel 2; Coffee — C. Stapleton 9, Thompson 8, Nipper 8, Walker 5, McRae 4, Bailey 4, Harper 4, Sapp 4, Skook 3, Colquitt 3.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Puckett, Henderson, Mabry, A. Skoropat, Demesserman, Dove, Baker, H. Skoropat, Rome.

Tackles: Everson, Koncar, Simpson, Jarmillo, Quillin, Hendry, Akin, Dewar, Ernest.

Guards: Parr, Marshall, Charles Daniels, Shenton, Holt, Dibois, Strickland, Crawford.

Centers: Stanaland, Godfrey, Christy, Lloyd, Herron.

Backs: Taylor, Golden, Mullis, Jones, Welch, Johnson, Lawrence, Bell, Savage, LeFile, Walters, DeLaoch, Lee, Emanuel, Blalock, Meeks, O'Neal Clarkston, Anderson, Davis, Hampton, Waller, Charles Daniels

COFFEE

Ends: Allen, Huckaby, Youngblood, Jefferson, O'Steen, Lott, Harper.

Tackles: Walker, Cross, Bass.

Guards: Chaney, Charles, Stapleton, Sapp, Faulk, Lewis.

Centers: Womack, Nipper, Harper.

Backs: Bailey, McRae, Sims, Jimmy Stapleton, Colquitt, Thompson, Shook, Penn, Henderson, Ragsdale, Dockery.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	21	6	19	0	—46
Coffee	0	0	0	0	— 0

Scoring: Valdosta — Tds — Golden (17 yd. run), Jones 2(18 yds and 21 yd run), O'Neal 2 (2yd and 37yd runs), Anderson (5 yd. run), Rome (25 yd. pass from Golden); PATS — O'Neal 4 (placements).

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats' Fans Are Flying High

When last seen several thousand of Valdosta High's super enthusiastic football fans were floating up past the top of the light poles at Cleveland Field.

Meanwhile, back in a small office under the stands coach Wright Bazemore stood with both feet planted firmly on the ground saying the 'Cats better not let themselves get caught in the up draft.



GLASSMAN

You really can't blame the fans for being all pumped up. The Wildcats have won four straight games, piling up 153 points in the process to none for the opposition.

Something like last Friday night's 63-0 blitz of the Ware County (Waycross) Gators is heady stuff for the 'Cats' faithfuls, especially when it follows on the heels of a 34-0 licking of Wayne County (Jesup) and a 42-0 romp past Dougherty (Albany).

"After that out there tonight I'm not even sure I'll be able to talk to our boys on Monday," Bazemore was saying. "I know, everyone likes to make jokes about how I sing the blues and all that stuff, but I keej remembering what can happen to any team which becomes overconfident.

"I also know all the things our fans are saying and I'm sure our boys have heard them. Don't get me wrong, we've got the best fans in the world and we need them everyone on our side. But we haven't even reached mid-season yet.

Pressure Builds

"I've always believed the only time you can afford to brag is after you've accomplished something. We've won four games, but that's all so far. Believe me, we can't afford to brag even a little bit. We've still got a long way to go.

"It's happened before and it's happening again this year. When you get a victory streak going the pressure starts to to build. Everyone we play gets sky high. What does that mean? It means we can't afford a let down."

Bazemore of course, is right. Everyone shoots for the Wildcats.

Take, for instance, the Albany Indians. That's one of VHS' traditional rivals. They've been "up" high enough in recent years to lick the 'Cats four times in the last six tries.

Albany Is Next

It just so happens Valdosta's opponent this coming Friday night will be the Indians and Bazemore's charges must play them in Albany.

After that the 'Cats will meet, in order, Moultrie and Monroe (Albany). Both own perfect 3-0 records and, incidently, Moultrie's Packers haven't been scored on.

You can be sure this trio will be "sky high" when they take the field against the 'Cats and so will the other three teams VHS must play before its regular seasons comes to an end.

It's alright for the fans to go into orbit this early in the season. But if the 'Cats really want to stay on the victory trail, I'm sure they do, they better follow Bazemore's example and keep their feet planted firmly on the ground.

Del-Cook Festival

Marchin' Cats Win Honor

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The "Marchin' Cats" of Valdosta High School have been named the most outstanding band in the Del-Cook Marching Festival held in Adel Saturday.

Competing against seven high school bands, VHS was the only one receiving superior ratings in all areas. Frank Butenshon is band director.

The superior ratings were received in the overall band inspection by the band as a unit, by Lucy Stewart and Benny Colson, drum majors, by Sherrie Snider and Marie Terry, twirlers, by the Honor Guard, captained by Mike DeCesare, and by the Flag Corps captained by Kathy Hendrix.

No other participating school received an across -the - board superior rating, though the Dougherty High Marching Trojans and the Wayne County Yellow Jackets both received superior ratings for their bands as marching units.

Other participating bands in this program sponsored by Del-Cook Lumber Co. of Adel were those from Fitzgerald High School, Cook County High, Ware County High and Westover High of Albany.

Judges were Darry Pilkington, director of the Dalton High School Band; Wayne Hopper, Dalton Junior College; Norman Padgett of Bowden; Mrs. John Thompson, director of the LaGrange High School band; Bob Greenhaw of Columbus and Mrs. Linda Brannen of Statesboro.

V.H.S. MARCHING CATS COP FESTIVAL HONORS

By Staff Writer

ADEL, Ga. — The "Marching Cats" of Valdosta High School have added still more honors to their widespread recognition.

They were cited as the most outstanding band in the first annual Bel-Cook Marching Band Festival Saturday at Adel.

Seven high school bands competed and VHS band was the only one receiving "superior" ratings in all areas.

The "superior" ratings were received in overall band inspection, by the band as a unit, by drum majors Lucy Stewart and Benny Colson, twirlers Sherrie Snider and Marie Terry, the honor guard Capt. Mike DeCesare and the flag corps captained by Kathy Hendrix.

The VHS band is directed by Frank Butenschon.

No other participating school received an across the board superior rating although the Dougherty County High Marching Trojans and the Wayne County Yellow Jackets both received superior ratings as marching units.

Bel-Cook Lumber Co. sponsored the festival.

'Cats, Vikes Set For Duel

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's football Wildcats and Lowndes' Vikings, a pair of cross-town rivals, are to meet here Friday night and neither of the head coaches involved is in a bragging mood.

The 'Dosta-Lowndes duel, which is a Region 1-AAA affair, is slated for 8 o'clock tomorrow night at aMrtin Field, the Vikes' home stadium which is located on the Lowndes High campus.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats are 9-0 for the season and top the 1-AAA standings with an 8-0 mark. They need a win or a tie to clinch the region crown and earn a berth in the state Class AAA playoffs.

Coach Carlton Adams' Vikes are 3-5-1 for the season and out of contention in the region title race with a 2-5-1 record. But in this game, only the second football meeting between the two schools, Lowndes will have the home field advantage.

In their first grid meeting ever in 1968 Valdosta posted a 48-6 win on its home field at Cleveland Field.

"There's not much that I could say about the Valdosta team which hasn't already been said," Adams allowed. "We are honored to have the reigning state (Class AAA) champions playing on our field. I know that our boys will give it all they've got."

"This is a must game for us," Bazemore said, "This is a greatly improved Lowndes team in comparison to the one we faced last year and we've got to meet them this time on their home field. We've got to be ready for an all out effort."

One sidelight of the game is the fact that Region 1-AAA's top passer and leading rusher will be on opposite sides tomorrow night.

Valdosta quarterback Don Golden heads the 1-AAA passing department with 55 completions in 99 tries for 926 yards. Meanwhile, Lowndes halfback Henry Otis Rgister is out front in the region rushing race with 925 yards on 140 carries.

But outstanding balance on both offense and defense has brought the 'Cats this far unbeaten and that's what VHS will pin its victory hopes on again.

While the Vikes' attack is spearhead by Register, Lowndes is priming its "team effort" pump as it gets ready for the duel.

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follow:

LOWNDES

Offense — ends Calvin Orr (145, sr.) and Rick Sargent (160, sr.), tackles John Bradley (170, jr.) and Rocky Jackson (218, sr.), guards Donald Perry (155, sr.) and George Biles (170, sr.), center Bill Hare (150, jr.) or James Montgomery (160, sr.), quarterback Ben Morris (180, sr.), halfback Henry Otis Register (180, sr.) and Eald Davis (148, sr.) or Claude Fletcher (155, sr.) and fullback Ronnie Summerlin (190, sr.).

Defense — ends Sidney Zipperer (172, jr.) and Ricky Spriggs (180, jr.), tackles Jackson and William Thompson (210, soph.), middle guard Jerry Bervig (155, jr.), linebackers Joe Green (148, sr.), Gary Dampier (175, sr.), Montgomery and John Allen (165, jr.) and deep backs Sam Henderson (155, sr.) and Gary Lowery (160, jr.).

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Knocar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.)and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Charles Daniels (190, jr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and Willie Jones (170, sr.) or Benji Meeks (150, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Vance Quillin (205, jr.), middle guard Charles Stanton (190, sr.), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.) or Ralph Puckett (160, r.), and deep backs John Hampton (165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, jr.) or Stanley Bounds (165, soph.).

School Drop-Outs Are Coming Back

By MARY CROUSE

About 125 drop-outs came back to school this year and are staying there. And although nobody knows for sure what the holding power is, Valdoetz High School Principal Charles (Chuck) Green believes the four-level placement program should get most of the credit.

"Children are working on a level and at a speed in which they can best perform for the first time," said Green.

He explained the drop - out rate since the consolidation of predominately white VHS and the formerly all Negro - Pinevale High School this fall has been normal for this type of year.

"We expected many of the children who had dropped out to come here and try us out and leave because this is pattern of some drop-outs. They try the schools and new situations and then leave, said the principal.

Most of the ones who came to VHS decided to stay. There were 10 students who left in September and 14 dropped out in October. These two months are usually highest in loss of students.

Last year four left in September and eight quit school in October. There were about 850 students at VHS last year and there are about 1,350 enrolled this fall.

The consolidation of VHS and Pinevale as part of the Valdosta Board of Educations desegregation plan put all the 10th-12th graders at VHS. The ninth grades are housed at Pinevale which is now part of VHS while all seventh and eighth graders are at Valdosta Junior High School.

Green and his staff do not know where all the drop-outs came from who are now back in school. Marguerite Ford, guidance counselor, explained that the names of the majority of the students are not yet known. She said work has begun to compile data on the drop-outs.

Students drop out of school for a variety of reasons. Some leave because of emotional and physical illness. Others are dissatisfied with school and there are a few who are maternity cases. Some move out of town and others quit because of financial difficulties in the family.

But not all the students who showed up at VHS in September were allowed to stay. Some lacked enough credits to be in the 10th grade and were sent to the Pinevale Campus. There were a few students who moved here from out of town without having completed enough work for high school level. These were also sent back to ninth grade or junior high.

Green is impressed that so many elected to come to school this fall and is pleased that they are staying. He says none of the students quit this year because they were dissatisfied with the academic program or school as such.

Any student who reports to the administration or faculty that he is contemplating dropping out is counseled by Green.

"One of my best selling points is if you leave this year, even if you say you'll return next year, you won't come back to school. Too many of them don't and statistics bear me out on this. Many times they feel they are too old for the grade they would be in," said Green.

He said the placement program is helping to eliminate the discouragement which sometimes accompanied students to class.

"School has become more meanngful to all. Instead of trying to just cope with classes in which other students were leaps and bounds ahead of them, all students can learn and advance, said the principal.

He said education has never been pushed higher at VHS than it has this year. Education was not at a standstill, said Green, when the protest walkout of about 400 Negro students occurred Oct. 17.

"It was at a standstill for those who weren't there. I have never seen a group of teachers work harder than the faculty here this year," said Green.

The effort is paying off, he added. The four-level placement program is working out better than anyone anticipated and will continue to keep students in school he said.

Students are able to progress from one level of study to another during the school year. Occasionally the pupils are put in a level too advanced for them and must be moved back to a lower program of study.

"But most of the cases are advanced. Some of the students were grossly misplaced this year because this is the first time we've had this program. Many needed to be in higher levels and this was corrected after the first six weeks," he said.

Cheerleaders Named At VHS

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Eight girls have been elected to the basketball cheerleader squad at Valdosta High School for the 1969-70 season.

The new cheerleaders selected by a student body vote last week are Ann Paine, Peggy Myddleton, Teresa Griffis, Kathy Hendrix, Joy Paine, Judi Bernard, DeeDee Durden and Janice Wilson.

TO THE PEOPLE OF VALDOSTA

Over 400 students at Valdosta High School walked out on their school on Friday, October 17, 1969 for the purpose of calling attention to requests that had not been presented officially to the Principal, Student Council, Board of Education, or any other persons or groups officially connected with the School System. For their unacceptable method of arriving at a decision, and for this flagrant act of disrespect for order at school, they were suspended for a period of three days. Most of these same students boycotted their school on the fourth day and sent a representative group to submit their requests for the fifteen white and one black student who did not walk out to consider. The requests were too burdensome for the Council to handle, therefore, as Principal of Valdosta High School, I respond with the following:

An election held on Tuesday, October 14, for the purpose of selecting a Homecoming Queen was invalid because some students voted more than once in the election. On the same afternoon I announced to the student body that I had frozen the uncounted votes until I could investigate the report of a stuffed ballot box and whether or not the vote was valid. The votes were sealed and put in the vault. They have never been counted. After questioning some homeroom representatives and the faculty, I made my decision to declare the vote invalid. The next morning, Wednesday, I declared the election invalid and announced that the students would vote again after the ballot could be prepared and distributed at homeroom the next day (Thursday). This was questioned later as evidence of stalling to give the white students time to set up a block vote. I contend it was the earliest we could get ready for the election. On Thursday the vote was taken with the same three girls on the ballot and Emily Schroer, a white student, won the election, defeating another white student, and a black student. The Student Council had set up the proceedings for the election and the black students and white students on the Council wanted three to be on the ballot and one elected to serve as Queen. We are one school and one school has only one Queen. On these grounds I say we have elected our Homecoming Queen and the request for a black Queen is an unreasonable, unwarranted request, without justification, and, therefore, I cannot approve the request.

The song "Dixie" has been a regular part of our band program at Valdosta High School and coupled with the Confederate Flag, the two are symbols of the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats' victory in the "Greatest Band in Dixie" contest in New Orleans last February. The song "Dixie" is a song of the South and any racial overtones have been attached to the song rather than being an integral part of the song. The Confederate Flag is also an emblem of the section of the Country in which we live — in which **all** of us live. The students at Valdosta High School have thought of the song and flag as symbols of pride in our Southland and School and not as racial symbols. Now that Valdosta High School is heavily integrated, it goes without saying that the students who are new to Valdosta High School should have a voice in such things, but a negative approach was taken when the students refused to take part in Pep Rallies and the question arose as to whether or not the song and flag represented a degrading of the black students. In an attempt to gain spirit and unity at the Pep Rallies, the integrated Student Council approved a song which combined "Dixie" with "We Shall Overcome" and the school "Fight Song." The white students endorsed this song, but the black students have never accepted it. The issue became critical and the Board of Education voted that the band should continue to play the songs as directed by the Band Director with special reference to the playing of "Dixie" that it continue to be a part of the musical selections when it seemed appropriate to be played. This was not accepted by the black students as evidenced by the continued lack of participation in Pep Rallies. As Principal it is my obligation to carry out the wishes of the Board of Education and based on the preceding statements, I cannot approve a request for eliminating "Dixie" and the Confederate Flag from the band program.

I contend that the members of the Student Council who walked out on their school exhibited very poor leadership, that brought unrest and degrading publicity upon Valdosta High School and that these same students, led by the Co-President of the Student Council have on succeeding occasions displayed to the Principal and members of the Student Council an unreasonable, disrespectful attitude concerning the issues involved and, therefore, are to be removed from the Student Council and replaced by a vote of black students. Any black student who was not suspended as a result of the walkout will be eligible for election to the Council, providing he meets other qualifications.

I further conclude that the issues of a black Queen, the song "Dixie" and the Confederate Flag is settled for the remainder of this school year and all students are to abide by this decision to end the issues. These issues are issues that are insoluble at this point, in my estimation. Therefore, I conclude with the recommendation that the Valdosta City Board of Education select a representative committee this coming summer to settle the issue of "Dixie" and the Confederate Flag before the beginning of the school year 1970-71 when a decision can be made that is not made under pressure.

I implore all students and interested parties to abide by this decision to give us the climate that we need at Valdosta High School to get the job of education back in its proper perspective. Your support of the request will be evidenced with your presence at school on Monday, ready to get this job accomplished.

Charles H. Green

Adopted and approved by the Valdosta Board of Education

'Dosta Now Must Do Some Waiting

You know coach Wright Bazemore's rule about not bragging on his Valdosta High Wildcats until after they've finished playing.

Well, the 'Cats trimmed Lowndes' Vikings, 40-0, this past Friday night. With the triumph they closed regular season play with a 10-0 overall record and a 9-0 Region 1-AAA chart.



GLASSMAN

The victory gave the 'Cats the 1-AAA crown for the second year in a row and the seventh time since 1960. But Baze, well, he's not about to start bragging now.

As most of you already know, the 'Cats certainly aren't finished yet.

As 1-AAA champs they move into the state Class AAA playoffs and the survivor of this eight-team duel will claim the state championship.

The other six times VHS got into the "AAA" playoffs it went on to capture the state diadem. But as Bazemore says, "Every year is a new deal and what you've done in the past doesn't count the next time out."

But we can and should pause right now and offer the Wildcats congratulations for the region crown they have claimed. And we could and should say, the 'Cats can expect nothing but trouble from here on.

One thing the 'Cats will have to do is some waiting. As 1-AAA victors they are to meet the Region 2-AAA champs in the first round of the playoffs. That league is sub-divided with Lanier's Poets (10-0) and Columbus' Blue Devils (8-2) to decide the 2-AAA issue in a game slated for this coming Friday night at Columbus.

Poets Favored

In a regular season game which didn't count in the standings, Lanier nipped Columbus, 16-14. Most felt that coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Poets weren't at their best that night and that they will lick coach Alvin (Pig) Davis' Imps by a comfortable margin this time.

Under a rotation system established by the Georgia High School Association Valdosta will be the host team for that first playoff game with the 2-AAA delegates. In fact, Valdosta will be the host for all the playoff games it participates in. Of course, a team must keep winning to continue in the playoffs.

Anyway, either Lanier or Columbus (and it will probably be Lanier) will be coming here next week. It's probable that the game will be played on Friday, Nov. 28, but that hasn't been definitely established. The GHSA regulations say only that the game must be played "Thanksgiving weekend." But Friday does seem to be the most likely selection.

Fans Must Also Wait

The GHSA also has regulations concerning the allocation of reserved seat tickets to visiting teams.

Valdosta High officials have offered the Wildcat fans the assurance that all who bought regular season reserved seat tickets this year will be given an opportunity to purchase a similar number of reserve seat tickets for all playoff games in which the 'Cats participate.

However, those who have had reserved seats on the north side of Cleveland Field will likely end up in other locations on the south side. The section on the south side reserv- for Valdosta High students during the regular season will continue to be reserved for them during the playoffs.

That's the way things stand. The 'Cats playoff foe, the exact date of the game, the price of tickets and the plan for selling tickets will all be announced just as soon as the 2-AAA title issue is settled and VHS officials can confer with representatives of the school that will send its team here next week.

Where To House Pupils Is Worry

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

More than 2,000 students are expected in grades 9-12 next fall and Valdosta school officials are in a quandary about where to house them.

The present Valdosta High School and VHS-Pinevale campuses can not take care of the anticipated increased enrollment. The two plants are overcrowded now and administrators say the worst is yet to coue.

There are 200 more ninth graders than graduating seniors who'll be at the VHS campus next fall. VHS has 1,350 students now in grades 10-12 and there are 640 ninth graders at Pinevale this year.

"We've got to make plans now to house all these students. If not, we've either got to have people shrinkers or room stretchers," said Valdosta Board of Education Chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr.

The board, at its regular meeting Tuesday night at the VHS library, discussed various methods of handling the increased student load for the 1970-71 school year.

One way was suggested by a team of State Department of Education officials which surveyed the city school system last week. The group recommended increasing the length of the school day at VHS for greater utilization of classrooms.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said this could be done with additional class periods with school beginning about 7:15 a. m. and terminating about 4 or 5 p. m.

"This means some students would be coming to school earlier and leaving earlier while others come later and leave later. This could help the situation," said Goolsby.

Another way is to utilize some of the classrooms at Lomax Elementary School when those students are transferred to a new elementary plant now under construction on West Gordon Street next fall.

"There is a thought of budgeting some sort of bus for a shuttle route between the VHS and Pinevale campuses. Maybe we could put the vocational department and some other courses on the Pinevale campus and in any additional classrooms adjacent to that campus," said Tillman.

The superintendent urged the board not to lose any time making plans and to anticipate more students than are currently enrolled.

We planned for about 1,200 at VHS this year and 1,350 showed up. The 125 to 150 extra students were dropouts who decided to come back because of the unique situation at VHS. Most are staying in better than we had anticipated and only 17 dropped out in October," said Goolsby.

VHS and the former all Negro Pinevale High School consolidated this fall as part of the board's desegregation plan. Pinevale houses all ninth graders this year and Valdosta Junior High School has all the seventh and eighth graders.

Tillman said that as soon as a decision is made on the housing situation for the upper four grades for next year the cafeteria at Pinevale will have to be enlarged.

The chairman said there is a possibility that some space could be utilized in the administration building for classrooms. unnounced price on the old federal facilities and the board has been offered space in the building for offices.

"I told Mayor Beck we (board) would be in a position of renting space. We need the room if for nothing else than administrative office and such," said Tillman.

He explained that 15 people and Goolsby's staff plus the materials center need to be in the old federal building.

Tillman named VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green, Goolsby, Board members Gordon Southwell and Mrs. Christie Patterson, Pinevale Principal C. T. Dickerson and federal funds coordinator M. E. Nichols to coordinate the housing problems of the upper four grades.

Grid Glimpses

Valdosta 40, Lowndes 0

Valdosta's Wildcats scored on their second play from scrimmage and went from there to a victory over the Lowndes Vikings. With the triumph the 'Cats clinched the Region 1-AAA crown and earned a berth in the state Class AAA playoffs.

Toward A New High School

Last week a group from the Division of School Plant Services of the State Department of Education visited Valdosta. They were here to look over the facilities of the city school system.

What did they find out? All the details are to be given in a report to Supt. Foster Goolsby, expected in about three weeks.

J. H. Cammon, head of the school plant services, however, did make a few preliminary comments. They boiled down to something most of us already know — the physical facilities at Valdosta High School are completely inadequate.

Old VHS, built back in 1922 and added on to several times since, just doesn't afford the proper atmosphere for learning. The facilities are about adequate for a student body of 800 or 900. The problem is there are 1,330 pupils there.

"The facilities at Valdosta High are poor and the children of Valdosta are the ones suffering. The high school has been patched and patched and patched and now the patches are wearing out," said Mr. Cammon.

He also said of VHS: "It is impossible to carry on a comprehensive program boys and girls must have to sufficiently compete against students from other high schools. It is not fair to the teachers to try and carry on a program or to the students. If the people here aren't willing to correct this, then the children coming up will be lacking in the future."

It takes more than just facilities to make a school, but the facilities are a vital part in forming a program of quality education. "The environment— where a teacher and student work — plays an important part in teaching and learning," is the way Mr. Cammon put it.

He said people must reject the thinking that "what was good enough for me is good enough for my children," because it isn't true. "But they don't know about the others who drop out and who don't do well. The school with a good building and good program has holding power on students."

The Valdosta Board of Education is in the process of doing some planning for a new high school. Mr. Cammon and the others from the State Department of Education have given us another argument why we must proceed with the planning and construction of a new city high school.

It appears to us that Mr. Cammon pretty well summed it all up when he said, "the facilities at Valdosta High are poor and the children of Valdosta are the ones suffering." What better reason do we need to get on with the job of building a new high school?

SCORED ON AT LAST

Valdosta Defense Just Ain't What It Used to Be

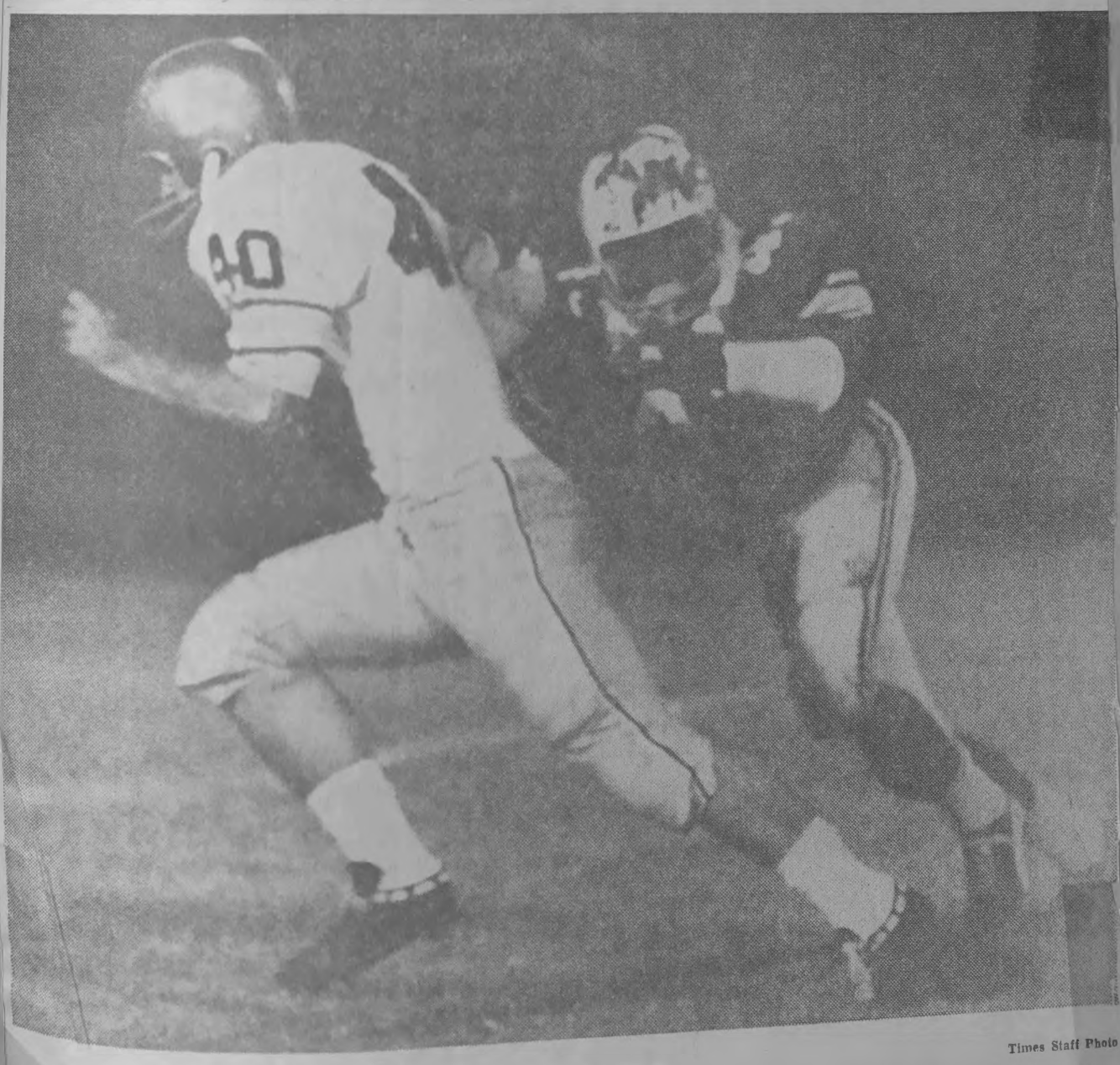
By JOE LITSCH
Atlanta Journal Prep Editor

Mills Cottle and Stretch Morris may never get another word of football praise, but then, they don't have to. They've already earned their place among Tifton's elite citizenry.

With names like those, you figure they just gotta do some things out of the ordinary. And, they did. They, together, broke the unscored-on-streak of Valdosta, after seven weeks.

Cottle recovered a fumble at the Valdosta 11, and Morris took it in on the first play. And everything in the stadium that wasn't bolted down went up in the air.

Tift County didn't win; they didn't expect to even score, so they were content to see Valdosta leave with a 28-7 win, No. 25 straight.



Times Staff Photo

Valdosta's Henry Davis (40) Takes Long Strides As He Breaks Into The Clear During A TD Run Of 13 Yards

Wildcats Clip Vikes, Clinch Region Crown

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats kept the heat on all the way with both their offense and defense on a very cold night as they defeated the Lowndes Vikings, 40-0, here Friday.

With the triump coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats closed out regular season play with a 10-0 record in all games and a 9-0 mark in Region 1-AAA competition.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Lowndes
First Downs	12	9
Yards Rushing	221	68
Yards Passing	99	10
Passes	4-15	1-10
Passes Intc. by	0	1
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	1-38	8-27.7
Penalties	11-75	4-25

The victory also put Valdosta in the 1-AAA throneroom for the second year in a row and the seventh time since 1960. It also earned them a berth in the state Class AAA playoffs. 'Dosta has now won 24 games in a ta has now won 24 games in a row over a span that covers parts of three seasons.

In the first round of the playoffs VHS is to host the Region 2-AAA champion week after next. Lanier's Poets from Macon and Columbus' Blue Devils are to meet next Friday at Columbus to decide the 2-AAA title issue.

For coach Carlton Adams' Lowndes Vikes, last night's game brought their '69 season to a close. The finished with a 3-6-1 mark for the year and a 2-6-1 region chart.

A crowd of approximately 5,000 was on hand for the start of the duel between the cross-town rivals. But with the temperature down in the 30s and an icy wind slicing through the stands at Martin Field on the Lowndes High campus, only a few hundred fans stuck it out to finish.

The Wildcats scored on their second offensive play from scrimmage and countinued to add to their total with one or more touchdowns in every quarter. VHS' hard-hitting defense produced its ninth shutout of the campaign.

"We've gotten past one important hurdle (the 1-AAA championship), but our toughest assignment (the state playoffs) are still before us," Bazemore said after the game.

While the Vikes fell behind early and couldn't catch up, they never quit trying. One of their strongest drives came in the final minutes of the game when Lowndes drove from its own 17 to the VHS 35.

VHS quarterback Don Golden threw for a pair of TDs, one of 30 yards to halfback Willie Jones and another of 26 yards to halfback Benjie Meeks. The 'Cats scored four times along the ground with Jones (nine yards), fullback Danny O'Neal (26 yards), end Bo Blalock (30 yards) and halfback Henry Davis (13 yards) doing the honors.

Linebacker Tom Holt, with 12 tackles, led 'Dosta's defensive effort with Vance Quillin, nine; Aaron Holder, eight, and Curt Bazemore, seven, not far behind.

Lowndes halfback Henry Otis Register had an outstanding night, gaining 97 yards on 25 carries. Included with one 33-yard sprint. But some of the other Viking backs lost enough yardage to bring Lowndes final net total to just 68 yards rushing.

Scoring and threats went this way:

FIRST QUARTER — A short Lowndes punt that covered only nine yards put the 'Cats at the Vikings' 34 early in the game. On VHS' second play from scrimmage Golden connected with Jones on a TD pass that covered 30 yards. On Lowndes' next try the Vikes moved to the VHS 45, but stalled and were then pushed back by penalities and the 'Dosta defense. There was another nine-yard punt and the 'Cats had the ball at the Vikes' 32. Three plays later O'Neal galloped 23 yards for Valdosta's second touchdown.

SECOND QUARTER — Again the 'Cats got possession at close range, the Lowndes 33. Three plays later Golden tossed one to Meeks. This TD strike through the air covered 26 yards. The Vikes got a drive going. When Register broke lose for 33 yards, Lowndes was VHS' 25. But the 'Cats defense pushed the Vikings back out to 33 and forced them to punt. Time was running out in the game, but the 'Cats covered 80 yards in three plays to score for the fourth time. Davis started things with a 47-yard romp. Blalock got the TD on a 30-yard spring.

THIRD QUARTER — As the second half opened 'Dosta's Jones returned the kickoff 37 yards to the Lowndes 12. Two plays later Jones scored from nine yards out.

FOURTH QUARTER — VHS unleashed another of those three-play scoring threats. This one covered 51 yards. Davis got the marker on a 13 yard run. The big gainers were a 19-yard sprint by Meeks and a 22-yard pass from Golden to Blalock. Later VHS had another drive that the Vikes stopped at the 17. Lowndes also got a march going, but lost the ball on downs at the Valdosta 35.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Davis 3-22, O'Neal 3-31, Jones 3-14, Blalock 1-30, Meeks 1-19, Golden 1 minus 9, Branam 2-6, Anderson 1-7, LeFiles 1-1; Lowndes — Morris 7 minus 11, Register 15-97, Summerlin 10-19, Davis 2 minus 16, Mitchell 2 minus 8.

Passing: Valdosta — Golden 4-12-99, Branam 0-1-0, Bazemore 0-1-0; Lowndes — Morris — 0-7-0, Mitchell 1-4-10.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Jones 2-42, Meeks 1-26, Blalock 1-30; Lowndes — Register 1-10.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Daniels 1-2

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Jones 1-37; Lowndes —Register 2-37, Lowery 2-21, Henderson 2-15, Spriggs 1-10.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Holt 12, Quillin 9, Hooten 6, Haymore 7, H. Sacropat 5, Savage 4, Daniels 4, Baker 4, Hampton 3, Crawford 3, Lowndes — Dampier 4, Greene 3, Lowery 3, Montgomery 3, Thompson 3, Henderson 3, Spriggs 2.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Haymore, H. Sacropat, Baker, Daniels, Puckett, Blalock, Alan Sacropat, Henderson, Taylor.

Tackles: Hendry, Quillin, Jaramillo, Koncar, Dessler, Akin, Swenson, Eberwein.

Guards: Crawford, Dibble, Hall, Shannon, Daniels, Marshall, Parr, A. Strickland, Godfrey, C. Strickland.

Centers: Christy, Strickland, Lloyd.

Backs: Golden, Daniels, Branam, Hampton, Davis, Anderson, Christian, Holder, O'Neal, Meeks, Lee, Goodenbaum, Savage, Jones, Mullis, Collins, Bazemore, Welch, Bounds, Bell, LeFiles, Emanuel, Lawrence, Walters, Johnson.

LOWNDES

Ends: Zipperer, Orr, Spriggs, Sargent, Brevigo, Daniels, Henderson.

Tackles: Jackson, Thompson, Jones, Bradley, Brewer.

Guards: Greene, Henry, Perry, Dampier, Bites, Yarbrough.

Centers: Montgomery.

Backs: Earl Davis, Montgomery, Summerlin, Allen, Stafford, Lowery, Burnam, Register, Fletcher, Morris, Mitchell, Burgman, Mandrell.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	13	14	7	6	40
Lowndes	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring: Valdosta — TDs — 3 (3 yd. run and 30 yd. pass from Golden, O'Neal (23 yd. run, Blalock (26 yd. pass from Golden), Davis (13 yd. run). PATs — O'Neal 4 (placements).

FTA Meeting Is Slated At College

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

About 600 high school students are expected at Valdosta State College Wednesday for the Eighth District Convention of the Future Teachers of America clubs.

The one day meeting is to be held at Whitehead Auditorium in the new Fine Arts Building.

All 26 counties with eight district are to be represented at the annual district meeting. Valdosta High School and Lowndes High School chapters are the host clubs for the convention.

Dr. Don Gerlock, chairman of the Education Department at VSC, is to give the welcome address at 9 a.m.

The director of recruitment and student programs for the Georgia Education Association, Lilla Carlton, is the featured speaker. Mrs. Carlton is to speak on GEA in the 70's.

The FTA members are to eat lunch in the VSC cafeterian and are to be given a planatorium demonstration.

VHS Counselors Need More Space

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The State Department of Education has recommended additional space be provided for the administrative and counseling units at Valdosta High School because of the racial problems on campus.

The team of 12 state officials, here last week to survey the Valdosta school system at the request of the city board of education, is sending a written report in about three weeks.

Some of their immediate suggestions for improving the educational facilities now were discussed at the school board meeting Tuesday night at the VHS library.

Board Chariman I.H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr. explained the team felt the additional space for administrative and counseling units are necessary to insure privacy in handling problems at the school. The state officials suggested sectioning parts of the auditorium and the teacher's lounge.

The team strongly recommended that an additional counselor be employed and that another clerical person be provided for the administrative unit if funds are available.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said there aren't any funds now fo hiring additonal personnel and that each counseling unit in every school is minimum.

"And by state standards we are supposed to have another counselor at the high school. But we were anticipating about 1,200 students and the two counselors would have been sufficient for this number. However, we have gone beyond 1,350 students at VHS now.

"This will go on our accreditation sheet but maybe we can get by from the accrediting staff with a warning this year," said the superintendent.

The team recommended the library be freed of all study hall students and that tables and chairs be provided in the auditorium for study hall purposes.

A definite in-service program designed to strengthen working relationships between students and teachers and teachers and teachers is another strong recommendation of the state officials.

This is an area in which the city board has been moving since the beginning of the school year and an area "in which we know there is a need for a lot of work," said Tillan.

The group suggests that a program of in-service education should be developed in the area of teaching media, materials and methods.

Board member Mrs. Veran Blackburn said the team did not advise the system to spend any great sums of money on VHS because it is not adequate for a comprehensive high school and good learning conditions.

"They also said we should consolidate with the county board," she said.

"I'll be interested to see if they include the consolidation in their formal written report to us." said Tillman.

The recommendation for next fall is increasing the length of the school day so that greater utilization of the current space at VHS may provide relief to extremely overcrowded conditions.

Tillman appointed board members Dr. Robert Quattlebaum, Mrs. Blackburn and Gordon Southwell to work on the additional administrative and counseling space and extra personnel at VHS by "organizing what we've got and using it."

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats Given Nod Over Vikes

After climbing for four straight weeks, my football average finally took a dip, but fortunately the decline was only a slight one.

Last week I picked the winner in 34 games and made 10 bum guesses for a .773 mark. That sliced one point off my average for the season, dropping it to 298-84—.780.



GLASSMAN

The goal of all football forecasters is an .800 average. With both the high school and college seasons about to finish, it's obvious I'm not going to make it.

Now, let's look at this week's schedule. We'll start with the prep contests and get around to the college duels later.

* * * *

VALDOSTA VS LOWNDES — Valdosta's Wildcats (9-0) and Lowndes' Vikings (3-5-1) are slated to meet here tonight at Martin Field. The 'Cats need a tie or a win to clinch the Region 1-AAA crown and gain a berth in the state Class AAA playoffs. The Vikes, a very spirited crew, are primed for an all-out effort. I'm picking Valdosta.

* * * *

YES, VALDOSTA IS 'INVINCIBLE'

Tift County Performs Miracle— They Score in Wildcat Romp

TIFTON, Ga.—While rumors that Wright Bazemore's job was in jeopardy swept through Valdosta Friday night, the cry, "Break up Tift County" echoed across this city.

Verily, it was an upset of great magnitude, the impossible has happened.

Somebody scored on Valdosta.

All of the foregoing may be overstating a point. But it was a surprise as the seemingly invincible Wildcats downed Tift, 28-7.

All good things must eventually come to an end and Valdosta had successfully protected its goalline through eight straight victories before the lowly Blue Devils boomed it across.

The jubilant Tift fans, suffering through a 4-5 season, celebrated as though they had beaten Valdosta—and it was an accomplishment of some note. Of course, it took a turnover deep in Wildcat territory to forge the miracle.

Leading 14-0 in the third quarter, Valdosta rushing leader Danny O'Neal fumbled at his own 11 and Mills Cottle recovered for the home crew. On the first play, Stretch Morris took off on a perfectly-executed triple option play and went all 11 yards behind perfect right side blocking.

But it was Tift's last hurrah. The last team to beat Valdosta (right here in 1967) did manage to intercept a Wildcat pass at the home five but they couldn't generate any more offense.

Valdosta	7	7	7	7—28
Tift Co.	0	0	7	0— 7

Valdosta scoring: Touchdowns—O'Neal 2 run, O'Neal 6 run, O'Neal 2 run, Davis 4 run; PATs—O'Neal 4.

Tift Co. scoring: Touchdown—Morris 11 run; PAT—Russell.

'Isaac Who!' Is Valdosta Game Slogan

By CAREY CAMERON
Staff Writer

VALDOSTA, Ga. — "Isaac Who!" — that was the question being asked here on signs and on banners on sides of vehicles as Valdostians flocked to a drugstore to stand in a small-town version of a world series ticket line.

Even holders of reserve seat tickets who were being offered tickets already packaged in envelopes marked with their names for the Friday night football playoff here had to wait outside Barnes Drugstore at Brookwood Plaza after tickets went on sale Tuesday afternoon.

In the meantime, the slogan "Isaac Who!" was fast becoming a household word in Valdosta.

Of course there were a few people — like a coed from Lowndes High which does not play Lanier of Macon — who really didn't know that Isaac Jackson of Lanier has been the best known back in Georgia high school football for the past two seasons.

Jackson, a junior sensation, has been injured this year as a senior and may see only limited action when his team meets Valdosta High in a first round playoff game at Cleveland Field.

Last year, Valdosta and Lanier met in a playoff and Jackson broke loose for one long run and a score that proved to be the only touchdown for the Poets as the Wildcats won easily.

To Name Council Members

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The new members to the Valdosta High School Student Council and the members of a new student group to promote racial harmony and understanding between the VHS pupils will be announced next week, said Principal Charles (Chuck) Green.

He explained the new student group selected by the faculty and administration will be composed of six white students and six Negro youths.

Green said he wanted to announce the two groups at the same time and that it will be next week before "everthing is worked out."

The 14 new members of the Student Council were chosen in a special election held Oct. 20. The elected studens are Negroes who are to replace the Negro council members removed from office by Green for their failure to function in the group.

The students removed from the council were among the 400 Negroes who participated in the Oct. 17 protest walkout at VHS. All those who left classes were suspended for three days. Only about 50 of the suspended pupils came back to school the day the suspension terminated.

The Negro council members recommended to the full council that the VHS band stop displaying the Confederate flag and playing "Dixie". They also asked for a Negro homecoming queen. A white homecoming queen had already been elected by the student body.

The full council reached an impass and could not make a decision so Green stepped in and settled the issues for the remainder of the year. His action to remove the Negro council members and to reject their recommendations was sactioned by the Valdosta Board of Education.

themselves the Parent and Citizens Group. Representatives of this organization met with Supt. Foster Goolsby and the board in an attempt to get the council members reinstate.

Board Chairman I. H.

But the removal of the Negro council members proved to be a bone of contention with a group of Negro adults who call (Bubber) Tillman Jr. told the group that the board is backing the VHS principal's decision and that the issues will be taken up again this spring for discussion.

Green said he did not go ahead and immediately announce the new members to the council because the parent group had been meeting with the board in an effort to reverse his decision.

He said he wanted to wait and see what action the school board would take before presenting the elected Negroes.

Tillman said today that he has not heard from the parent group since they met in special session with the school board earlier this month.

"We've made our position clear but we will be glad to talk with them. We do not want to close any doors," he said.

The parent group was invited to the board's regular monthly meeting Nov. 11 but none of them attended.

VHS Band Boosters Plan Gift Bazaar

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta High School Band Boosters Club is planning a Christmas bazaar Dec. 3-6 to raise funds to send the "Greatest Band in Dixie" to New Orleans to defend its title.

Mrs. Pierce Snider Jr., chairman of the club's ways and means committee, said the bazaar is to feature hundreds of gift items including hand crafts and baked goods. It's to be held in a shop on the mall at Brookwood Plaza Shopping Center.

In addition to the sales, she said, members of the community are to be asked to contribute items to be sold. These may include toys and furniture, she said.

The VHS Marchin' Cats band claimed the title of "Greatest Band in Dixie" at the Mardi Gras in New Orleans this past year. Directed by Frank Butenschon, the band has plans to return in early 1970 to defend the title, becoming the first band to do so.

It is expected about $5,000 will be needed to finance the trip due to the size of the band, the expensive transportation problem and boosters' desires to house band members in a motel.

"I think it goes without saying that the VHS band has been a great source of pleasure and pride for our whole community," said Mrs. Snider, "and therefore we are most anxious to make the bazaar a great success to show our appreciation to director Butenschon and the hard working members."

She said members of the booster club have been busy for several weeks making the items made gifts to be featured at the sale. Others have been holding workshop sessions each Tuesday night at the home of Mrs. H.J. Liles at 811 W. Cranford Ave., she said.

The workshop group, which is preparing items for sale, meets at 8 p.m.

GLASS DOOR FOOTBALL VICTIM

All Ages Infected By Wildcat Spirit

VALDOSTA, Ga. — I don't know, maybe I should send the bill to Wright Bazemore.

I came home after dark the other night from a trip to the 8th District GMA meeting at Waycross and was looking forward to a nice peaceful supper. You know, slippers and fireside evening-type stuff.

The first unusual thing I noticed was my wife down on the den floor with a roll of tar paper and a pair of scissors, apparently cutting said tar paper to a certain size.

It developed that Joel, aged four, had run across the den floor in a grand imitation of a star pro punter and proceeded to kick the glass out of the patio door with his tennis shoes.

Joel was unhurt, thankfully, but it seems there is no such thing as quick service on getting a window replaced around here — not to mention the cost.

I've always contended that the Wildcat spirit extends down to even the smallest kids in Valdosta. Why, you ought to see 14-month-old Becky fling her brother's old miniature football. But when the football spirit goes too far? — Let's see now, what's Coach Bazemore's address.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TICKETS GO ON SALE TUESDAY FOR VALDOSTA-LANIER PLAYOFF

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Tickets to the Valdosta-Lanier football playoff game go on sale at a 1 p.m. Tuesday at Barnes Brookwood Drug Store here.

Persons who held season tickets during the regular season will find their tickets ready in an envelope with their names on them. They have until 6 p.m. to exercise their option to purchase a reserve seat ticket. After that the tickets will be offered for sale to the general public.

Those with regular season seats on the south side of Cleveland Field will be given an option on the same seats but those on the north side will be offered other seats due to a Georgia High School Association regulation which requires that the visting school in a playoff be offered an entire side of the stadium.

The Friday night game between Valdosta's Region 1-AA champions and Lanier's Region 2-AA title holders probably will not attract a record crowd because nearly every playoff game held here in the years that the Wildcats were collecting 13 state titles has brought a capacity standing-room-only crowd.

But in case a few more people than usual manage to squeeze in they will be drawn by the possibility of seeing Valdosta defense, which gave up an average of .7 points per game in regular season trying to stop Lanier's Isaac Jackson, a Negro halfback who is one of the most publicized frontrunners in the history of Georgia football.

Jackson has been injured and saw only limited action in a playoff victory over Columbus last week. Valdosta has been idle a week since mowing down 10 opponents in regular season play. The Cats have their own stars including hard running Danny O'Neal and versatile quarterback-defensive back Don Golden.

The winner here faces Savannah's 3-AAA champions in a battle to see who faces one of several North Georgia contenders in the state finals.

Should Valdosta win its way to the finals, a rotation system for picking playoff sites insures that every game the Cats play will be held in Valdosta.

A Step For Valdosta High

At Valdosta High School the students are forming a special council to promote harmony between white and black students. This is a demonstration that students at VHS are concerned and want to do something for their school.

There are problems between the races at VHS. This was demonstrated most vividly by the mass walkout of Negro students last month. Now this council idea is one of reaction to prevent future problems through understanding and cooperation.

The students at VHS can take a lesson from their counterparts at Lowndes High. At that school the students are demonstrating a desire to prevent any type of major racial unrest. Lowndes High is similar in many ways to VHS. It has about the same size student body, it was totally integrated for the first time this year and the ratio of white to black students is about the same.

But at Lowndes High, with the cooperation of principal Tom Wall, a Student Coordinating Committee was formed early in the school year. It has as its purpose to motivate cooperation between students, to create a better understanding and to maintain harmonious relationships in all aspects of school life.

There have been no major racial problems at Lowndes High partly because of the school's student committee. The real reason, however, is the fact the students, both black and white, have a concern and desire to avoid major problems.

This must be the crux, too, in dealing with the problems at VHS. Formation of a student council to promote racial harmony is part of the answer. It is a step for VHS.

But it is only a step. Solutions will be found by all students fully realizing they must understand and be willing to cooperate. This has been the attitude at Lowndes High and it is the kind of attitude that must prevail at VHS.

Schools Studying Marriage Policy

By MARY CROUSE

School administrators here are taking a long look at the present policies regarding married students and pregnancies in the Valdosta and Lowndes County school system.

The high school principals and superintendents are expected to have their report ready for the December meetings of the two boards of education.

The policies are being studied as a result of this fall's high school consolidation withn both systems. Several cty board members felt the increased student load at both Valdosta High School and Lowndes High School could possibly add to the married student and pregnancy problem.

And although many educators do not feel there is a problem with the married students, some teachers and parents agree that any time a student marries while still in high school a problem is created.

Lowndes High's T. H. Wall shares this belief.

"When boys and girls get married in high school, there a too many things that get in their way and some never finish school. They have home responsibility. They live in an adult world and it is hard to live in an adult world and a student world at the same tme," said the principal.

He added the students lose the group feeling they once had with students their own age and often run into financial problems.

"You have to operate a school for young teen - age students even if married ones are allowed to come," said Wall.

VHS and Lowndes High have policies now which allow married students to continue their education. Students at Lowndes High must report their marriage to the principal and reregister at the school. They then go through an orientation period set up by the guidance department which helps them to realize and accept their added responsibilities.

Lowndes High married youth can participate in extra curricular activities but can not hold office or be contestants in school beauty contests.

Married girls who become pregnant must notify the principal once they become aware of their condition, said Wall. The girls are allowed to complete the semesters work provided they are not beyond six months pregnant at the end of the school term.

There is no official policy on the books at Lowndes High concerning unwed pregnancies. Wall said that girls in this condition are asked to withdraw when the pregnancy becomes evident.

"We don't usually know when these girls are pregnant because they don't tell us," said the principal.

He explained that unwed mothers have never been a problem at Lowndes High but that the married rate among students has increased in the past year and a half since the board ruled married students could attend classes without dropping out of school for a year.

There have been four or five girls who dropped out of VHS this fall because of pregnancies, said Frank Wilson, assistant principal.

Wilson said these girls will be allowed to return to school after their pregnancies are terminated. Pregnant students, married or not, are asked to withdraw from school when pregnancy becomes obvious, he said.

The assistant administrator explained that married students are allowed to attend classes but can not participate in ny scholastic or athletic competition under the present policy.

Wilson said he does not see anything wrong with the present regulations governing married students and pregnancies. "But some people think there is a need for looking into this and studying it further," he said.

Some of those advocating additional study on the matters believe that married students are not good influences on the rest of the student body. There is the feeling that these students make teen - age marriages seem glamorous and entice others to follow suit.

As one parent of a teen-ager explained, "The married students talk intimately about their life and I dont think this is good for the rest of the high school students to hear."

Another thought is the married students need all the help they can get and that school and, extra curricular actipities should not be denied to them.

"A high school marriage stops being so romantic when a baby comes and there are bills to pay and little money to buy new clothes or put into entertainment. I think this serves as a deterent to others rather than enticement," said another parent who asked to remain anonmous.

Valdosta School Supt. Foster Goolsby said the study will be taken up at the next regular city board meeting scheduled for Dec. 8 in the VHS library.

The county board is expected to discuss the report Dec. 2.

'Dosta, Lanier Collision Near

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta and Lanier defensive units have got to be two of the best in Georgia's prep football ranks this season, and it could be they will decide the issue when the Wildcats and Poets clash here Friday night.

That duel between coach Wright Bazemore's VHS 'Cats and coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Poets from Macon is set for 8 o'clock here tomorrow night at Cleveland Field.

The Wildcats, who are 10-0 and rule as Region 1-AAA champs, will be facing the Poets, who are 11-0 and wear the 2-AAA crown, in a first round game in the state Class AAA playoffs. The winner will advance into the South Georgia playoffs and face Savannah next week.

In 10 games VHS' hard-hitting stop'em crew allowed just seven points and limited the opposition to an average of just 79.80 yards rushing and passing per game.

Defensive figures on the Poets are also impressive. In 11 games they've given up just 59 points (5.4 average) and 90.9 yards per outing.

But the question is, which defensive unit is likely to have the most success slowing down the others potent attack? Both Valdosta and Lanier have moved in high gear along the ground and through the air this season.

The Poets have 2-AAA's leading passer in quarterback Mike Faulk, who has hit on 61 of 129 tosses for 933 yards and nine touchdowns. His favorite target is end Ralph Clark, who's made 21 catches for 544 yards.

Lanier's foot troops are led by fabled Isaac Jackson, and include Charles Haugabrooks and Andy Summers.

Although he's missed all or part of seven games this season with a foot injury, Jackson has rushed for 472 yards on 72 carries, has returned nine kicks 119 yards and has scored 46 points. He's expected to be able to go full speed tomorrow night and is capable of scoring from any spot on the field.

Haughabrooks, although just a sophomore, has ripped off 770 yards on 125 carries and has tallied 56 points. Summers, who offers speed and power, has gained 684 yards on 83 tries and is the Poets' leading scorer with 72 points.

Balance, with a lot of different players sharing the honors, has been the key to Valdosta's defensive success. And balance has also made the 'Cats' attack click.

VHS quarterback Don Golden is 1-AAA's leading passer. He's hit on 59 of 112 tosses for 1,025 yards and seven touchdowns. His favorite targets have included Willie Jones (20-400), Warrick Taylor (17-344), Roger Rome (11-179) and Bo Blalock (9-152).

Along the ground Danny O'Neal, charles Daniels, Jones and Henry Davis have led the way. O'Neal has moved for 492 yards on 80 carries and is the Wildcats' top scorer with 108 points. He's scored 12 TDs and kicked 36 PATS.

Daniels has picked up 438 yards on 55 carries, Jones has 384 yards on 44 tries and Davis has lugged the football 51 times for 367 yards. Jones tallied 84 points.

Bazemore rates Lanier as a team which is "by far stronger than anyone we've met this season. We've got to be really ready on both offense and defense. Man, have we got to be ready."

Probable starters, as announced by the coaches, follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150, sr.) or Roger Rome (180, jr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Knocar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Willie oJnes (170, sr. and Charles Daniels (190, sr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180 sr.).

Defense — ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr.) and Mike Everson (200, jr.) or Vance Quillin (205, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, sr.), inside linebackers Tom Holt (200, sr.) Aaron Holder (170, jr.), outside linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.) and deep backs John Hampton (165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, jr.).

LANIER

Offense — ends Ralph Clark (175, sr.) and Bob Giddens (185, jr), tackles Mike Simmons (215, sr.) and Dennie Robinson (185, jr.) or Howard Wilson (190, soph.), guards Charles Fussell (155, sr.) and Mike Smallwood (205, sr.), center Kenny Combs (180, jr.), quarterback Mike Faulk (170, sr.), halfbacks Isaac Jackson (170, sr.) and Charles Haughbrooks (150, soph.) and fullback Andy Summers (165, jr.).

Defense — ends Gil Schenks (185, sr.) and Darrell Laid (160, sr.), tackles George Jones (285, sr.) and Tim Hinson (190, sr.), middle guard William Harden (220, jr.), linebackers Ronnie Payton (180, jr.), Ricky Dennis (180, sr.) and Robert Rost (172, jr.), corner backs Alonza Wade (140, soph.) and Summers and deep backs Joe Willis (180, sr.) and Clark.

Only One Day For Others

School Kids Get Long Weekend

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

School children are taking a long weekend but merchants and federal officials are celebrating Thanksgiving and report they'll be open for business again Friday.

Valdosta High School's Charles (Chuck) Green said the school will be officially closed for the holidays but that his office will be open Friday because the playoff game for the State AAA football championship is here that night.

"I'll need to be at the school," said the principal.

Lowndes High School's principal T. H. Wall will also be on his campus during the holidays but will not maintain regular office hours, said a secretary.

The Valdosta and Lowndes County schools close today and are to resume classes Monday morning. The private schools, Valwood, Valdosta Christian, St. John's Catholic, and Georgia Christian at Dasher, are also giving their students a two-day holiday with classes beginning again Monday.

The Valdosta school superintendent's office will be closed Thursday but a skeleton staff will be at work Friday, said an administrative official. Lowndes County School Supt. A. B. (Sonny) Martin's offices are to be closed until Monday.

The U. S. Post Office here will box mail but there won't be any deliveries Thursday. Regular service will resume Friday.

The Lowndes County Health Department and Department of Family and Children's Services are to be closed until Monday.

The Lowndes County sheriff's department is taking Thursday off but is to open again Friday along with City Hall and the Lowndes County tag offices.

Valdosta State College students were dismissed from classes this afternoon until Monday morning.

And outdoorsmen will have to get their supply of hunting and fishing equipment today for Thanksgiving because sporting goods dealer Frank Eldridge said his facility will be closed for the day. Eldridge, owner and operator of the Sports Center, said the store will be open Friday and Saturday as usual.

Downtown and shopping center merchants and banks are also planning to take a one day holiday. Beauty shops are taking Thursday off but are staying late today to work in appointments.

Pineveiw General Hospital, the State Patrol, The Valdosta fire and police departments never close but officials are hoping for little if any activities over the holidays.

Only Seven Left In 'AAA' Battle

For those who are keeping track, there are just seven teams left in the running for Georgia's state Class AAA high school football championship.

Two more of the state's eight Class AAA region races were settled this past weekend while Savannah, getting a jump on the field, has already advanced to the semi-finals.



GLASSMAN

In the region playoffs, Lanier's Poets claimed the 2-AAA crown and extended their record to 11-0 with a 21-14 win over Columbus. The 6-AAA title went to Dykes, which is now 11-1 after it beat Washington, 33-4.

Savannah, which had nailed down the 3-AAA title, went ahead and met Butler, the 4-AAA titleholder, in a first round game of the state playoffs. Savannah won 25-0, boosted its record to 11-0 and is now assured a berth in the playoff for the South Georgia crown.

Valdosta and Lanier are to meet here this coming Friday night in a first round game of the state playoffs. The winner will host Savannah in the duel for the South Georgia "AAA" crown next week.

Up in North Georgia the region champs who are left are 5-AAA South Cobb (9-0-1), 6-AAA Dykes (10-1), 7-AAA Avondale (10-0) and 8-AAA Athens (9-1).

In the first round up that way this week South Cobb is to face Dykes while Avondale goes against Athens. The winners will clash next week for the North Georgia "AAA" title.

After South and North victors have been determined, then the state championship game will be played two weeks from now.

Four Perfect Marks

Under a rotation system established by the Georgia High School Association the South Georgia victor will be the host for the state championship game this year.

It's interesting to note that of the seven teams left in the running four are unbeaten and untied. They include the three survivors in the South, Valdosta, Lanier and Savannah, and Avondale in the north.

In the upper half of the state South Cobb has only a tie to mar an otherwise perfect record while Dykes and Athens have each suffered one defeat.

The combined record of the seven who are still going is 70-2-1. As they say, only very strong outfits ever make it this far.

With three unbeaten and untied teams down this way ready to battle it out, the South Georgia section of the race figures to be a dilly.

Balance, Control

Most of you readers are familiar with Valdosta, so I'll let you rate the Wildcats for yourself. The word on coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Lanier Poets is that they have a big, strong and well balanced football team, the kind capable of beating anyone on any given night.

Over on the east coast the folks there say coach Arvel Holmes' Savannah Blue Jackets are the strongest team to come out of that section in many, many years. The Jackets favor ball control, and have the football muscle to make it work.

From what I hear about those still in the running up North, coach Calvin Ramsey's Avondale Blue Devils are favored. Avondale is a school with a proud grid tradition and Ramsey has turned out a very long string of highly successful teams.

And that's the way it stands, with the excitement building and the number of state title hopefuls shrinking.



Times Staff Photo

Being 'Catty': VHS Soph Jan Moore Knows It's Lanier Fullback Jackson, but Wildcat Fever Is High

Sales Of Tickets Is Top Business

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Probably the best business in Valdosta Tuesday was done at the ticket sales counter of Barnes Brookwood Plaza Drug Store, and more of the same looms for today.

Tickets for the Valdosta-Lanier football game Friday went on sale at 1 p. m., and the line stretched from the rear of the store out the front door to Patterson-Griffin shoe store next door.

It stayed that long most of the afternoon, and some people spent more time wading through the line than they will spend watching the first round of the first round of the Class AAA State Championship playoffs. The game is scheduled for 8 p. m. Friday at Cleveland Field.

Ticket chairman George Hart said about 3,000 tickets had been sold by 8 30 a. m today.

They include 1,900 reserve seat tickets, 500 student tickets and about 400 adult general admission tickets. Reserve seats are being sold only to those people who had season reserve seats until 8 o'clock tonight.

If any reserve seat tickets are not picked up they are to go on sale at 8 a. m. Friday, however it is expected that at least 90 per cent of them will have been sold by then.

Hart said the ticket committee will decide Friday after a head count on the number of tickets which have been sold whether it will sell tickets at the gate.

"We will not overfill the stadium," he said. "It will seat about 10,000 people. We'll sell those and then maybe 1,000 to 2,000 tickets for standing room."

He said it is normal procedure for heavy interest games.

Charlie Barnes, operator of the drug store, said in the heat of the rush Tuesday afternoon he and some of his employes got a bit short with ticket customers and telephone inquirers, "but there was no malice intended."

"We just had so much we were trying to do in a hurry to get people through quickly as possible, we got a bit short," Barnes said. "But we certainly did not intend to offend anyone."

'Cats And Poets Offer 'Balance'

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Lanier's Poets are to meet here Friday night in a first round game of the state Class AAA high school football playoffs and both will bring a set of eye popping statistics into the duel.

Coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats are 10-0 and have won the Region 1-AAA crown. Coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Poets from Macon are 11-0 and own the 2-AAA title.

That Friday night encounter is set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field. The loser will go to the sideline and the winner will advance to the South Georgia Class "AAA" playoff against Savannah. The Blue Jackets are 11-0 after winning the 3-AAA crown and beating Butler of Augusta 35-0, last week in a first round state playoff duel.

That extra game for the Poets came because 2-AAA is sub-divided. Lanier met and defeated Columbus (21-14) in the 2-AAA playoffs last Friday.

During the regular season the Poets clicked off wins over Appling (Macon), 48-0; Mark Smith (Macon), 36-6, Baker (Columbus), 48-6; Northside (Warner Robins), 42-6; Ballard-Hudson (Macon), 34-0; Warner Robins, 21-0; Moultrie, 14-0; Columbus, 16 14; Jordan (Columbus), 47-6 and Willingham (18-7).

Valdosta's 10 wins came over Thomasville, 14-0; Dougherty (Albany), 42-0; Wayne County (Jesup), 34-0; Ware County (Waycross), 63-0; Albany, 28-0; Moultrie, 21-0; Monroe (Albany), 48-0; Coffee County (Douglas), 46-0; Tift County (Tifton), 28-7 and Lowndes, 40-0.

The lone mutual foe they met was Moultrie, which the 'Cats trimmed 21-0, and the Poets defeated, 14-0.

A comparison of team figures on the 10 regular season games each played goes like this:

VHS scored 364 points (36.4 average) and gave up just 7 (.7 average). Lanier tallied 324 points (32.4 average) and gave up just 45 (4.5 average).

On offense Valdosta averaged 241 yards per game along the ground and 127 through the air for a total offense average of 368. Lanier's rushing average was 223.1 and its passing average was 96.1 for a combined mark of 319.20.

Valdosta's talented stop'em crew, in addition to allowing just one touchdown, limited the Wildcats' foes to 33.8 yards per game rushing and 46 passing for a combined figure of 79.8.

The Poets' rugged defenders permitted just 36.2 yards rushing and 54.7 passing for a per game total of 90.9.

Boiled down it means both teams have strong running games, potent passing attacks and very tough defensive units.

"There's not the slightest doubt that Lanier has more size, speed, experience and overall talent than any team we've faced this year. We have, indeed, got our work cut out for us."

The Next Step: Beat Lanier!

Our beloved Wildcats take their 11th step toward the state football championship tonight. Meeting Lanier High School of Macon at Cleveland Field is a privilege the 'Cats won with their perfect regular season play in Region 1-AAA.

There are some of our local football experts who contend tonight's contest against Lanier is THE game. If the 'Cats can get by this big one, then they are a shoo-in for the South Georgia and state titles.

We prefer to think as does Coach Wright Bazemore. Each game is a big one and they must be played one at a time.

Lanier is a fine high school football team. The Poets come into tonight's game champions of Region 2-AAA with a record of eleven wins against no losses.

The Lanier crew in regular season scored 324 points while giving up only 45. The Wildcats in their regular 10 games scored 364 points while giving up just seven points — only one time did an opposing team cross the 'Cats goal line.

The other statistics of the two teams are similar. It all points to the fact when the Poets and the Wildcats meet tonight, two tough football teams will be facing each other.

It is not a game to be taken lightly, none of them are. The 'Cats do have the coaching, spirit and manpower to get the job done. Good luck, you Wildcats. Beat Lanier.

Parade, Pep Rally

Santa Must Share Day With 'Cats

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The old gentleman with a bright red suit and snow white beard who's been delighting children at Christmas time for decades will share the spotlight Thursday night with a Wildcat that's been responsible for football fever here for more than 25 years.

Santa Claus is to be the featured attraction of the annual Thanksgiving Day Parade through downtown Valdosta. The Wildcats, the Valdosta High School football team, are to take over at a pep rally following the big march.

The pep rally is to get football buffs warmed up for the first round game in the State AAA football championship. The match between VHS and Lanier High School of Macon is scheduled here Friday night at Valdosta High's Cleveland Field.

The rally is to be held at Brookwood Plaza after the parade terminates there. Football enthusiasts contend the Yuletide spirit will be heavily dosed with Wildcat fever this year.

Such a combination is bound to have some sort of chemical reaction. Merchants are hoping that it'll spur people to do their Christmas shopping early while VHS officials are in hopes it'll produce a standing room only crowd at the football game.

The parade, which begins at 6:30 p.m. officially ushers in the Christmas season. The Christmas lights downtown and in the shopping centers are turned on during the event.

Sponsored by the Jaycees this year's effort is to be the biggest ever. "If you stand in one spot it should take the parade about an hour and a half to go by," said Jaycees President Ray Bennett.

He said there will be 55 units, including 18 floats. Bands, dignitaries' cars, horses, the National Guard, majorettes and of course Santa.

The Lowndes High School Viking Band will lead the big parade, said Bennett, because the VHS Marching Wildcats led the march last year. The lead band position is rotated from year to year between the two high schools here. Last year VHS had the lead spot.

Ray said there will not be as many horses in this year's parade and that everyone is hoping last year's incident won't be repeated. One of the horses dropped dead in the street during last year's event.



SANTA CLAUS
Been Around

The military will be represented by a National Guard unit, an armored personnel carrier and a unit from Moody Air Force Base here, said Bennett.

A car carrying Vietnam War Veterans is also scheduled. Bennett said the Jaycees felt the veterans should be remembered during the holiday "because so many servicemen are still overseas and away from home and families."

Beauty queens will enhance the parade he added. Miss Valdosta State College, Miss Valdosta High School, Miss Lowndes High School and Miss Clyattville have been asked to ride in the parade Bennett explained.

The city and county officials are to participate along with other groups and organizations here.

During the march Jaycees will be selling Christmas gift paper for their annual shopping spree for the underprivileged. The money they raise from the street sales is to go towards providing 60 youngsters with $5 for Christmas shopping.

The parade is to start on Crane Avenue and go up Patterson Street to Brookwood Plaza, said the Jaycee president.

'Cats Wait For 2-AAA 'Results'

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

While Valdosta High's football Wildcats do some waiting, there will be a sprinkling of both grid and basketball action on the area sports scene tonight.

The 'Cats closed out regular season play last week with a 10-0 record and clinched the Region 1-AAA championship.

VHS is to face the Region 2-AAA victor in the first round of the state Class AAA playoffs here next week. However, 2-AAA is sub-divided and Lanier (10-0) and Columbus (8-2) are to settle that title issue in a game slated for tonight at Columbus.

On the area football scene, Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) is to play at Mayo tonight and Madison, Fla.. is to see action at Chipley.

Hamilton's Rebs own a 7-1 record, have a seven - game victory streak going and have already clinched the Suwannee Conference championship. They will wind up regular season play tonight. Madison's winless Red Devils will be ending their campaign at Chipley.

On the basketball front teams from six area schools are slated to take part in five doubleheaders set for night.

The list includes Clinch County (Homerville) at Nicholls, Broxton at Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.), Georgia Christian (Dasher) at Brooks County (Quitman) Echols County (Statenville) at Whigham and Cook (Adel) at Norman Park.

Area delegates Brooks and and Cook will be opening their 1969-70 hardwood campaign tonight.

Wildcats Take Shot At Grid Championship

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Wildcat fever temperatures are running well above 100 degrees and a shot at the south Georgia class AAA football championship is at stake as the Valdosta High School Wildcats entertain Lanier High's Poets of Macon here tonight.

Kickoff time for the encounter between the 1-AAA champion Wildcats and the 2-AAA champion Poets is 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field and tickets were at a premium. Long lines gathered to purchased the valued ducats here earlier this week.

The weather prediction was for cold and rainy. A intermittent drizzle began descending early this morning and the thermometer was expected to dip to 42.

The winner of tonight's contest is to play host to Savannah for the south Georgia title and a shot at the state championship.

'Cats And Poets Tangle Tonight

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Lanier's Poets, a pair of unbeaten high school football giants, risk it all here tonight.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Poets from Macon are to tangle at 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field in a first round game of the state Class AAA playoffs.

The winner will stay in contention for the state Class AAA crown, hosting Savannah next week in the South Georgia "AAA" playoffs. The loser tonight will go to the sideline.

Valdosta owns a 10-0 record and is the Region 1-AAA title holder. Lanier is 11-0 and rules the 2-AAA roost.

On the state rating chart, the Wildcats are pegged first and Lanier is listed second.

In 10 games Valdosta has scored 364 points and allowed just seven. In 11 outing Lanier has piled up 335 points and given up just 59.

An overflow crowd is expected to jam every seat and every inch of standing room at Cleveland Field tonight.

Duels between the 'Cats and Lanier are nothing new. They met on a regular basis between 1958 and 1966 when both were in the same region.

And last fall they clashed in the playoffs at Macon, with 'Dosta posting a 27-7 win.

"This Lanier team is superior to the one we met at Macon last year," Bazemore said. "And without a doubt its bigger, more experienced and more talented that anyone we've faced this season."

The two teams have met just one mutual foe this year—Moultrie. The 'Cats trimmed the Packers, 21-0, in a game here. The Poets beat Moultrie at Moultrie, 14-0.

Balance, with a lot of different players sharing the load, has brought the Wildcats this far. Bazemore is convienced his charges will have to give "an all - out team effort" to have a chance for victory tonight.

Lanier offers a rugged defense and a free - wheeling attack that can strike through the air or along the ground.

And the Poets have Isaac Jackson, a 170-pound senior, who some rate as the best running back in the state. Jackson has been troubled by a foot injury much of this season, but is expected to be able to go full speed tonight.

"Even without Jackson Lanier has a very potent attack," Bazemore said. "With him in there, will ,I hate to think about that. He's capable of scoring any time he puts his hands on the football.

"Our boys know, I'm sure, that we've got to be ready on both offense and defense tonight —really ready."

'Dosta Is Picked To Defeat Lanier

I stand a more than even chance of going from riches to rags with my football predictions.

Last week I was right 26 times and wrong four for a .867 mark. It was my best weekly average of the year and added four points to my total for the season, making it 362-99—.785.



GLASSMAN

But this week, well, hold on to your hats. On the high school level the only games to form chart are those very, very unpredictable playoff affairs.

On the collegiate slate the list is top-heavy with duels between traditional rivals. Again, picking the winner is most difficult.

But let's not hesitate too long. Here we go again, with the prep games first and the college tilts to follow:

* * * *

VALDOSTA VS LANIER — Valdosta's Wildcats are 10-0 and own the Region 1-AAA crown. Lanier's Poets are 11-0 and rule the 2-AAA roost. They are meeting here tonight in a first round game of the state Class AAA playoffs. It's a win-or-lose affair. The victor stays in the running for the state crown. The loser goes to the sideline.

The fans here and in Macon are in a high state of excitement. You can bet there will be a standing-room-only crowd at Cleveland Field. My pick is Valdosta.

* * * *

OTHER PREP GAMES AT A GLANCE — Class AAA—Avondale over Athens and South Cobb over Dykes; Class AA—Thomasville over Lakeshore and Murphy over Fulton; Class A—Toccoa over Coosa; Class B—Washington Wilkes over Duluth and Vidalia over Hawkinsville.

* * * *

Now let's see what the college slate has to offer:

GEORGIA VS GEORGIA TECH — Coach Vince Dooley's Georgia Bulldogs are 6-3-1 and are looking forward to an appearance in the Sun Bowl. Coach Bud Carson's Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets are 3-6 and have bowed in their last two starts.

Georgia is favored, but Tech has always been hard to beat on its home field in Atlanta. Besides, the Jackets have lost several close games against rugged foes this year. I figure it will be close, with Georgia the winner.

* * * *

FLORIDA VS MIAMI — Florida's Gators, who have a 7-1-1 record, and Miami's Hurricanes, who are 3-6, are another pair of cross-state rivals. Florida can look forward to a Gator Bowl date with Tennessee. Miami has nowhere to go during the holidays, but the Hurricanes sure would like to clip Florida. I'm going to pick Florida.

* * * *

FLORIDA STATE VS HOUSTON — Houston's Cougars bowed in their first two starts, but have since won seven straight and have landed a berth in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl. Florida State's Seminoles are 6-2-1. Both teams have explosive attacks. I figure there will be a lot of offensive fireworks with Houston winning.

* * * *

OTHER COLLEGE GAMES AT A GLANCE — Auburn over Alabama, Penn State over North Carolina, Tennessee over Vanderbilt, Southern Mississippi over West Texas State, Oklahoma State over Oklahoma, Army over Navy, Syracuse over Boston College, Rice over Baylor, Arizona State over Arizona and Oregon over Hawaii.



Times Staff Photo

You Don't Scare Me

Beverly Newlin, Valdosta High School senior, is not frightened a bit by the not so scary scarecrow put up in the Distributive Education Department on campus. Miss Newlin is the DE sweetheart and a VHS football cheerleader. Mr. Scarecrow is part of a marketing display put up by DE president Hank Mead and other members of the department.

Lanier Playoff Foe For 'Dosta

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With 7:03 to go in the final quarter, Lanier quarterback Mike Faulk led the Poets 88 yards to break a 14-14 tie with Columbus Friday and earned the Macon squad the Region 2-AAA championship.

The 21-14 victory gives the Poets the right to meet Region 1-AAA victor Valdosta next Friday at Valdosta in a first round game of the state Class AAA playoffs.

Still on the South Georgia grid front Savannah, the 3-AAA champ, and Butler (Augusta), the 4-AAA titleholder, are to meet in first round game of the state playoffs tonight at Savannah.

Getting back to that game at Columbus, Lanier took 18 plays and nearly eight minutes to gain the 89 yards in a drive climaxed when Andy Summers went over from the one. The play came after Blue Devil quarterback Carl Carter put on a spectacular performance to know the score, 14-14.

Lanier scored first when Faulk threw a 44-yarder to Ralph Clark. A PAT by Ricky Dennis made it 7-0.

Columbus then climaxed a 62-yard drive with Carter going over from the five. Next Alonzo Wade picked off a Carter pass at the Devil 44 and went all the way giving Lanier a 14-7 halftime advantge.

Issac Jackson, Lanier's famed All-State halfback, who has missed six of 10 Pet games because of an injury, sat out the second half.

The Red Elephants of Gainesville stampeded Baldwin to take a 34-12 decision and the Region 8-AA championship.

The first half was mostly defense with the Elephants leading by only 7-0 after the second quarter. After that Gainesville got two TDs in each of the final quarters. Ballwin got one in each of the last two periods.

Both of Baldwins scores came on passes from quarterback Baxter Whitaker.

A stubborn defense was the reason for Hawkinsvilles 19-8 trouncing of Wilkinson for the 4-B title.

Wilkinson drove deep into Red Devil country many times and were stopped at the Hawkinsville 36, 26, 9, 20, 3 and 28 before finally scoring in the final stanza.

Valdosta Romps Toward State AAA Grid Crown

By BOB PRICE
Sports Writer

VALDOSTA — The Lanier Poets of Macon wrote one verse of good defense here Friday night before 11,000 at Cleveland Field but Valdosta scribbled a 23-0 ending to the south Georgia AAA football story.

An alert, quick defense kept the defending champion Wildcat in control of the ball most of the night.

Lanier gained 65 yards from scrimmage but it took a 67-yard run by Charles Haugabrooks on the last play of the game to keep the Poets out of the minus column.

Valdosta quarterback Don Golden was the Wildcat hero until that last play. Little John Bell took over with a flourish when he tackled Haugabrooks from behind at the Valdosta 20 to preserve the Wildcat shutout. The Wildcats have had only six points scored on them this fall.

"When the best beats you, you don't have anything to cry about. We just didn't execute. We couldn't get started. Then we went to sleep and got behind by 14 points," said Lanier coach Godfrey Steiner.

"Tension had us for the first period but our kids came back strong as they have done all year. Lanier has a good ball club, but I wish Isaac Jackson had been able to play," said Valdosta's Wright Bazemore. Jackson is the Lanier halfback who gained 1,893 yards rushing in 1968 but who has been hampered by injuries this fall. He did not see action Friday night.

Golden threw for one touchdown, scored one, averaged 36 yards punting and intercepted a Lanier pass in pacing the Wildcats to their 26th straight win.

Golden's touchdown toss came 4:21 before the end of the first half when he flipped a three-yarder into the waiting hands of Warrick Taylor, who had slipped into the end zone unnoticed.

Just seven seconds before the half Golden scored from the three after setting up the TD on a 26-yard pass to Taylor.

Danny O'Neal furnished all other points, two on PAT's, three on this 23-yard field goal with 7:02 left in the third period and six on a one-yard plunge with 9:59 remaining in the contest.

The loss was the first for Lanier in 11 games and it was a near repeat of the 1968 playoff opener in which the Wildcats toppled the Poets in Macon.

Valdosta's next playoff foe will be Savannah High which defeated Augusta Butler to gain the semi-final round. The contest will be at Cleveland Field next Friday night.

STATISTICS	Lanier	Valdosta
First Downs	8	15
Rushing Yardage	65	131
Passing Yardage	57	59
Return Yardage	11	39
Passes	4-17-1	6-12-2
Punts	6-34.3	3-36
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Yards Penalized	0	30

Lanier	0	0	0	0—0
Valdosta	0	14	3	6—23

V—Taylor, 3 pass from Golden (O'Neal kick)
V—Golden 3 run (O'Neal kick)
V—O'Neal 23 field goal
V—O'Neal 1 run (Kick failed)

VHS Cagers Open Tuesday

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High's Wildcats and Kittens, ready or not, are to open 1969-70 basketball season here next Tuesday night.

In that tilt(fifer, to be played in the gym on the Valdosta Junior High campus, the opposition will be furnished by Thomasville's Bulldogs and Bulldogettes.

The goal of both VHS teams this season is to improve on their 1968-69 records. Last winter coach Joe Wildon's 'Cats had a 12-11 mark and finished fourth in the Region 1-AAA tourney. Coach Bill Davis' Kittens closed with a 15-6 record and bowed in the first round of region tourney.

Both teams have front line positions to fill. Both have some experienced performers and both have some newcomers as a result of the consolidation of VHS and Pinevale High.

The Kittens have been practicing at full strength in recent days, and so Davis has some idea of what to expect.

"We aren't going to have too much height, but we should have some quickness," Davis said. "We think our guard corps will be strong and hope to be able to score some. Really, it's too early to tell."

With many of VHS' cage candidates involved in football, Wilson is uncertain about what to expect from the hoop 'Cats right now.

"We feel that we have pretty good prospects," Wilson said. "But the boys have had almost no time to work together. We'll just have to wait and see how it goes."

Four of the 'Cats 1968-69 regulars, Frank Deming, Ronnie Pittock, Mike Williams and Timmy Brogdon, are missing this time out.

The returning regulars include Don Golden (6-4, sr.), who average 21.5 points per game last winer, and Benjie Webb (6-3 sr.), who averaged 11 markers per tilt.

Also in the fold are three players who were regulars at Pinevale, Roger Rome (6-5,jr.) Warrick Taylor (5-5, sr.) and Willie Jones (5-11, sr.). Taylor averaged better than 20 points a game for the Tigers last season.

Other candidates include Dan Johnson (5-10, soph), Gary Dove (5-10 sr.), Stanley Bounds (5-11, soph.), Jim Clarkston (6-0, soph.), Marty LeFiles (6-2, sr.) John Hampton (6-1, jr.), Jerry Baker (6-0, sr.), Jerry Williams (6-2, jr.), Joshua Mabry (6-0, jr.), John Rowe (6-6 soph.), Paul Demersseman (6-2, soph.) and William White (6-0, sr.).

Helping with the boys basketball program this year at VHS will be coaches Jack Rudolph and Joe Mercer.

The Kittens have lost three of their 1968-69 starters, forwards Dian Boris and Karen Noles and guard Sarah Stickley. Boris was the leading scorer with an average on the high side of 25 points a game.

Returning regulars include forward Ann Sutton (5-5, jr.) and guards Debbie Stephenson (5-5 sr.) and Nita Brantley (5-8 jr.) Returning regulars from Pinevale include guards Shirley Dixon (5-7, sr.) and Mattie Pearl Lumpkin (5-5, sr.) and forward Linda Lawrence (5-8, soph.).

Other candidates includes forwards Joy Johnson (5-3, jr., Marsha Stephenson (5-5, sr.), Gay Robertson (5-8, soph.), Sharon Flanders (5-3, soph.), Annette Norris (5-9, soph.) and Janie Miller (5-3, soph.) and guards Evelyn Graham (5-6, soph.), Gwen Morrison (5-5, soph.), Bonnie Carter (5-3, sr.), Janice Lashley (5-5, jr.) and Kathy Mars (5-9, soph.).

Season tickets for VHS' home basketball games are being offered this year. They are $5 fo adults and $3.75 for students. They will be on sale Tuesday night at the game.

The VHS schedule follows:

Dec. 2, Thomasville, home; Dec. 12, Ware, away; Dec. 16, Moultrie, home; Dec. 19, Lowndes, away; Dec. 20, Wayne, home; Jan. 6, Berrien, away; Jan. 9, Coffee, home; Jan. 10, Ware, home; Jan. 13, TIft, away; Jan. 16, Wayne, away; Jan. 22, Georgia Christian, home; Jan. 23, Coffee, away; Jan. 24, Monroe, away; Jan. 30, Lowndes, home; Jan. 31, Albany, away; Feb. 3, Tift, home; Feb. 6, Moultrie, home; Feb. 7, Dougherty, home; Feb. 10, Berrien, home.

VHS Council Winners Notified

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The 14 new members to the Valdosta High School Student Council have been notified of their appointment said Principal Charles (Chuck) Green.

But the names of the students elected to the positions can not be announced until they accept the posts, said the principal. So far only one student has said he will serve on the council, said Green.

The 14 Negro members are to serve with the 15 white representatives on the Student Council. The Negro members on the council earlier this year were removed by Green following their failure to function after the Oct. 17 protest walkout at VHS of about 400 Negro students.

"We have notified the black students who were elected and until I hear from them their names can not be announced. We have not announced the winners to the student body here," explained Green.

The new Negro members were selected Oct. 30 in a special vote of the about 500 Negro students at VHS.


Valdosta High School
1500 Williams St.
Valdosta, Ga. 31601
6-1-70

Stretching For Yardage: Wildcat Quarterback Don Golden Dives Over Poet Gil Schenk as Valde

'Cats Write Final Verse For Poets

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta High's football Wildcats were razor sharp on both offense and defense as they sliced down Lanier's Poets, 23-0, here Friday night in a first round game of the state Class AAA playoffs.

With the triumph coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats earned the right to meet Savannah's Blue Jackets for the South Georgia "AAA" crown. The Wildcats and Jackets are to tangle here next Friday night with the winner in that one moving into the state finals.

A standing - room - only crowd of approximately 11,000 on as 'Dosta, the Region 1-AAA titleholder, thumped coach Godfrey (Goot) Steiner's Poets from Macon, the 2-AAA victors, in convincing fashion.

It was the 11th straight win this season for VHS and the Wildcats' 25th triumph in a row in a string which dates back to 1967. The loss was the first after 11 straight victories for Lanier and knocked the Poets out of the running for the state "AAA" crown.

Valdosta used 60 players in the game, made 16 first downs and piled up 341 yards in total offense In addition to being held scorless, the Poets managed just three first downs and 98 yards in total offense.

"We had good balance and fine team effort all the way," Bazemore said. "Everyone who played for us shared in the victory. I'm very proud of all our boys."

"Valdosta played a faultless game and just plain beat the daylights out of us," Lanier's Steiner allowed.

The Wildcats' go-troops produced three touchdowns and a field goal on drives of 70, 62, 43 and 78 yards. Meanwhile, VHS' stop'em crew was fashioning its 10th shutout in 11 tries this year.

Quarterback Don Golden passed four yards to end Warrick Taylor for one touchdown and Golden got a TD himself on a three-yard run. Fullback Danny O'Neal tallied on a two-yard romp, booted a 23-yard field goal and kicked two extra points.

For the night Golden hit on nine of 12 passes for 133 yards, picked up 32 yards on 11 carries and averaged 42.5 yards per boot on three punts. O'Neal picked up 81 yards on 12 carries and caught a pair of passes for 48 yards. Taylor nabbed three passes for 48 yards. Charles Daniels (8-24) and Willie Anderson (6-32) were two other ground attack leaders.

Linebacker Tom Holt helped

See Cats — Page 10

'Cats Must Guard Against Letdown

There wasn't anything else coach Wright Bazemore could do after his Valdosta High football Wildcats trimmed Lanier's Poets, 23-0, here Friday night — he had to smile.

As most of you know a smile after a contest is Bazemore's way of expressing approval of the 'Cats' performance.



GLASSMAN

The victory came in a first round game of the state Class AAA playoffs and with the triumph VHS moved into the South Georgia playoffs. Valdosta will be meeting Savannah's Blue Jackets in that duel here this coming Friday night.

But getting back to the licking 'Dosta handed coach Godfrey (Goot) Stemer's Poets from Macon, the Lanier mentor pretty well summed it up when he said "They just beat the daylights out of us."

The Wildcats' stop 'em crew not only blanked the previously high scoring Poets, but limited them to three first downs and 98 yards in total offense. Lanier accounted for 77 of those yards and two first downs in the closing moments of the game when the issue was settled. Lanier came into the game averaging 27.4 points and 319 yards per tilt.

Mixing their ground and air attack well, the Wildcats wheeled for 16 first downs and 341 yards in total offense. They scored three touchdowns and a field goal and got them after sustained drives of 70, 62, 43 and 78 yards. This was against a Poet defense that had been giving up an average of only 5.4 points and 90.9 yards per outing.

Isaac Didn't Play

There was one disappointing note for the Lanier fans. Halfback Isaac Jackson, a much publicized runner, was kept on the sideline with a foot injury. Even with Isaac, it would have still come out the same way. The 'Cats were in command all the way.

Obviously the Wildcats were "up" for Lanier. The two teams were in the same region for many years and VHS and Lanier met in the playoffs in 1968. In other words the 'Cats were going against a traditional rival, they knew a lot about the opposition and they were ready.

However, coach Arvel Holmes' Blue Jackets are from over on the east coast of the state and I don't believe Valdosta has ever played a Savannah High team but once before.

They're For Real

But the word from over that way is that the Blue Jackets are for real, as their 11-0 record would certainly indicate. Many are saying this is the best team to come out of the 3-AAA and 4-AAA section in many campaigns.

"We've got to guard against a letdown," Bazemore says. "I know it's been a long season and we've been under heavy pressure all the way. But if we relax, even a little, we're going to be in trouble."

As they say, every team which gets this far in the playoffs is good. Consider what happened up in the North Georgia "AAA" ranks this past Friday. Athens beat Avondale, 21-10, and Dykes trimmed South Cobb, 28-6. Now get this, Avondale and South Cobb were the favorites in those two battles.

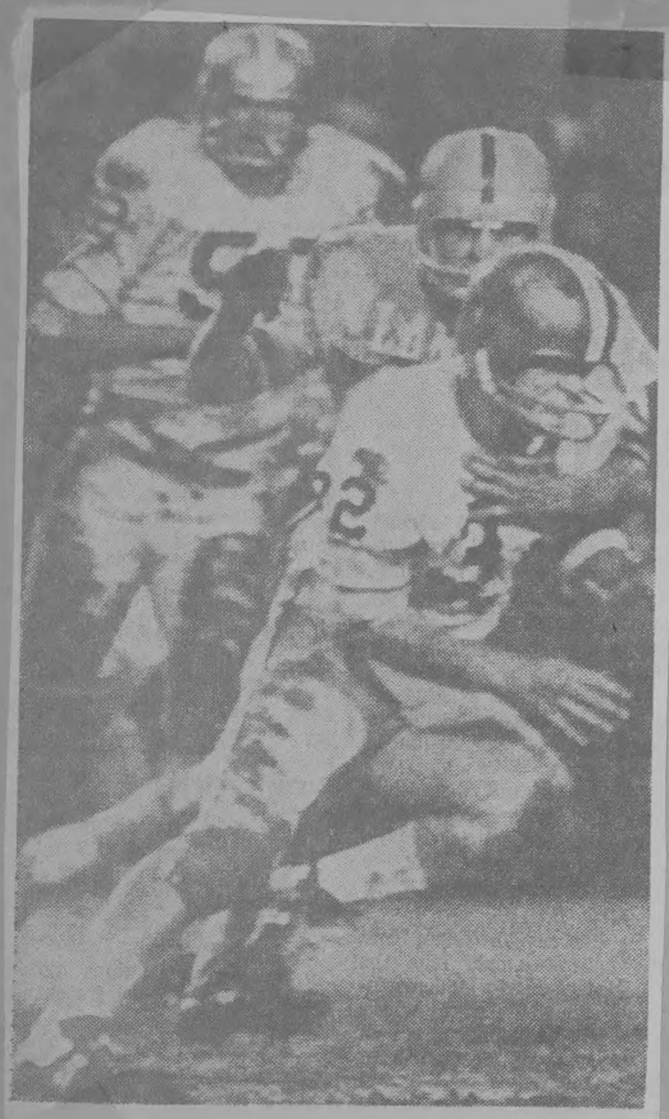
Indeed, the pressure is still on and the Wildcats can't afford to relax.



Wildcats' Charles Shepton (63) And Jerry Baker (86) Are About To Bring Down Lanier Quarterback Mike Faulk (14)

Times Staff Photo

Wildcats Sharp In Playoff Win



VHS' Danny O'Neal (32) Keeps Digging

Times Staff Photo

Continued from Page 1

spearhead the VHS defense with eight tackles, followed by Mike Everson, seven, and Harry Skoropat, Jerry Baker and Aaron Holder, who each made five stops.

Here's the way things went:

FIRST QUARTER — The opening stanza was a scoreless defensive duel with the Wildcats and Poets each chalking up a pass interception. 'Dosta's aerial theft was made by Golden.

STATISTICS

	VALDOSTA	LANIER
First Downs	16	3
Yards Rushing	208	-53
Yards Passing	133	45
Passes	9-14	6-16
Passes Intc. by	1	3
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Punting	2-42.5	8-39
Penalties	2-30	1-5

SECOND PERIOD — A fumble recovery by Lanier's Ralph Clark put the Poets at Valdosta's 36, but the VHS defense dug in and halted the Macon team at the 30.

It was from this point that Valdosta launched its first touchdown drive, a march that covered 70 yards in 14 plays. The long gainers were an eight-yard run by O'Neal, a 19-yard pass from Golden to Daniels and an 11-yard pitch from Golden to Willie Jones. The TD came on a four-yard flip from Golden to Taylor.

There was less than two minutes left to play before the half when VHS got possession of the pigskin again. The 'Cats, racing the clock, covered 62 yards in six plays to score again with only seven seconds to spare. A determined 19-yard run by O'Neal and a perfectly executed 26-yard pass from Golden to Taylor were the big gainers. Golden got the TD on a three-yard run.

THIRD PERIOD — After kicking off and forcing a punt, Valdosta got another drive started at the Poets' 48. This one carried to the Lanier five and then stalled. But O'Neal came on and, standing at the 13 booted a 23-yard field goal.

A pass interception by Lanier gave the Poets possession at Valdosta's 38. The visitors moved down to the 20, but were then pushed back to the 22 where they lost the ball on downs.

FOURTH PERIOD — Now it was VHS' turn again and the 'Cats promptly marched 78 yards in 11 plays to score again. The long gainers were runs of 18 and 11 yards by O'Neal and an 18-yard pass from Golden to Taylor. O'Neal bulled across the goal line from two yards out.

Valdosta had another drive late in the game that carried from the 'Cats' 46 to the Lanier 24, but it didn't produce any points. And it was on the final play of the contest that the Poets' most success offensive play was run. On a fake punt, Charles Hugabrooks went 66 yards before Valdosta's Curtis Lee hauled him down from behind at the VHS 20. Except for that last-second sprint, the Poets would have finished with minus rushing yardage.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Golden 11-32, Jones 4-4, O'Neal 12-81, Davis 5-10, Daniels 9-24, Meeks 2-13, Anderson 6-32, LeFiles 1-3, Branam 2-8, Bell 1-4; Lanier — Faulk 3 minus 18, Hagubbrooks 11-55, Summers 8-14, Smith 1-4, C. Jackson 2 minus 3, Gibbons 1 minus 2, Francis 1-3.

Passing: Valdosta — Golden 9-12—133, Jones 0-1-0, Bounds 0-1-0; Lanier — Faulk 6-16—45, Nixon 0-1-0.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Jones 2-12, Rome 1-1, Daniels 1-19, Taylor 3-48, O'Neal 2-48; Lanier — Summers 1-9, Wade 1-8, Hagubbrooks 1 minus 5, Smith 2-33, Willis 1-10.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Taylor 3-0; Lanier — Wade 1-3, Hagubbrook s1-17.

Kickoff Returns: Lanier — Hagubbrook 3-45, Wade 2-14.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Holt 8, Everson 7, Skoropat 5, Baker 5, Holdr 5, Hendry 4, Hampton 4, Jones 4, Shenton 4, Lee 2; Lanier — Bast 8, Clark 7, Jones 7, Harden 5, Dennis 5, Payton 5, Willis 4, Summers 4, C. Jackson 3, Laird 2.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Dove, Baker, Skoropat, Rome, Puckett, Demosserman, Henderson.

Tackles: Everson, Koncar, Simpson, Jarmillo, Quillin, Hendry, Akin, Dewar, Ernest.

Guards: Parr, Marshall, Shenton, Holt, Dibois, Crawford, Bear, Charles Daniels.

Centers: Christ, Stanaland.

Backs: Razemore, Taylor, Golden, Jones, Quattlebaum, Lee, Blalock, Meeks, O'Neal, Holder, Anderson, Davis, Hampton, Branam, Charles Daniels Savage, Bell, LeFiles, Mullis, Welch, Lawrence, Bounds, Clarkston, Deloach, Emanuel, Walters.

LANIER

Ends: Jones, Schenks, Giddens, Robinson, Clark, Wilson, Jackson.

Tackles: Hardin, Hinson, Simmers, Berryman.

Guards: Gussell, Smallwood.

Centers: Combs.

Backs: Faulk, Haugabrooks, Wade, Smith, Summers, C. Jackson, Laird, Willis, Payton, Dennis, Bost.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	0	14	3	6	—23
Lanier	0	0	0	0	— 0

Scoring: Valdosta — TDs — Taylor (4 yd. pass from Golden), Golden (3 yd. run), O'Neal (2 yd. run), field goal O'Neal (23 yds.), PATS — O'Neal 2 (placements).

Playoff Ticket Sale Scheduled

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tickets for the Valdosta-Savannah football game are to go on sale at 1 p. m. here Tuesday at Barnes Drug Store in Brookwood Plaza Shopping Center.

Valdosta's Wildcats and Savannah's Blue Jackets are to clash here Friday in a playoff for the South Georgia Class AAA high school grid crown. The winner will earn a shot at the state 'AAA' championship.

VHS is 11-0, it owns the Region 1-AAA crown and beat Lanier 24-0 this past Friday in the first round of the state playoffs. Savannah is also 11-0 after winning the 3-AAA title and licking Butler (August), 25-0, a first round game played two weeks ago.

Valdosta - Savannah game tickets to be offered at Barnes include reserved seat ($3), adult general admission ($2) and student ($1).

Local fans who had regular season reserve seats will have until 8 p. m. Wednesday to purchase a similar number of reserved seat ducats for the South Georgia title duel. Any reserved seat tickets left after that will be offered on a first-come-first serve basis at 8 a. m. Thursday.

Reserved seat tickets for the game will also go on sale Tuesday afternoon in Savannah. Should any of those be returned they will be offered for sale beginning at 5 p. m. on the night of the game (Friday) at the Williams Street ticket office here at Cleveland Field.

As in the past, VHS students will sit in the section in the South Stands which is reserved for them for all games.

Harry Goff, 'Mr. Concessions' At VHS Football Games, Dies

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Harry Goff, the man who was "Mr. Concessions" at Valdosta High School football games for years, died early Tuesday at Moody Air Force Base Hospital after being stricken with a heart attack at his home.

Goff was 58 years old and long past the Jaycee age limit of 36 but he became interested in Jaycee work through Raymond Sutton, a former Jaycee president whose wife is Goff's stepdaughter by a now deceased former wife.

A Jaycee officer recalled that Goff, who retired four years ago as an Air Force master sergeant, began working at Cleveland Field concession stands for the Jaycees some nie years ag and began "ramrodding" things in 1963. Ram rodding concessions meant spending most of the football games days at the stadium as well as handling purchasing both in preceding activities and during the season.

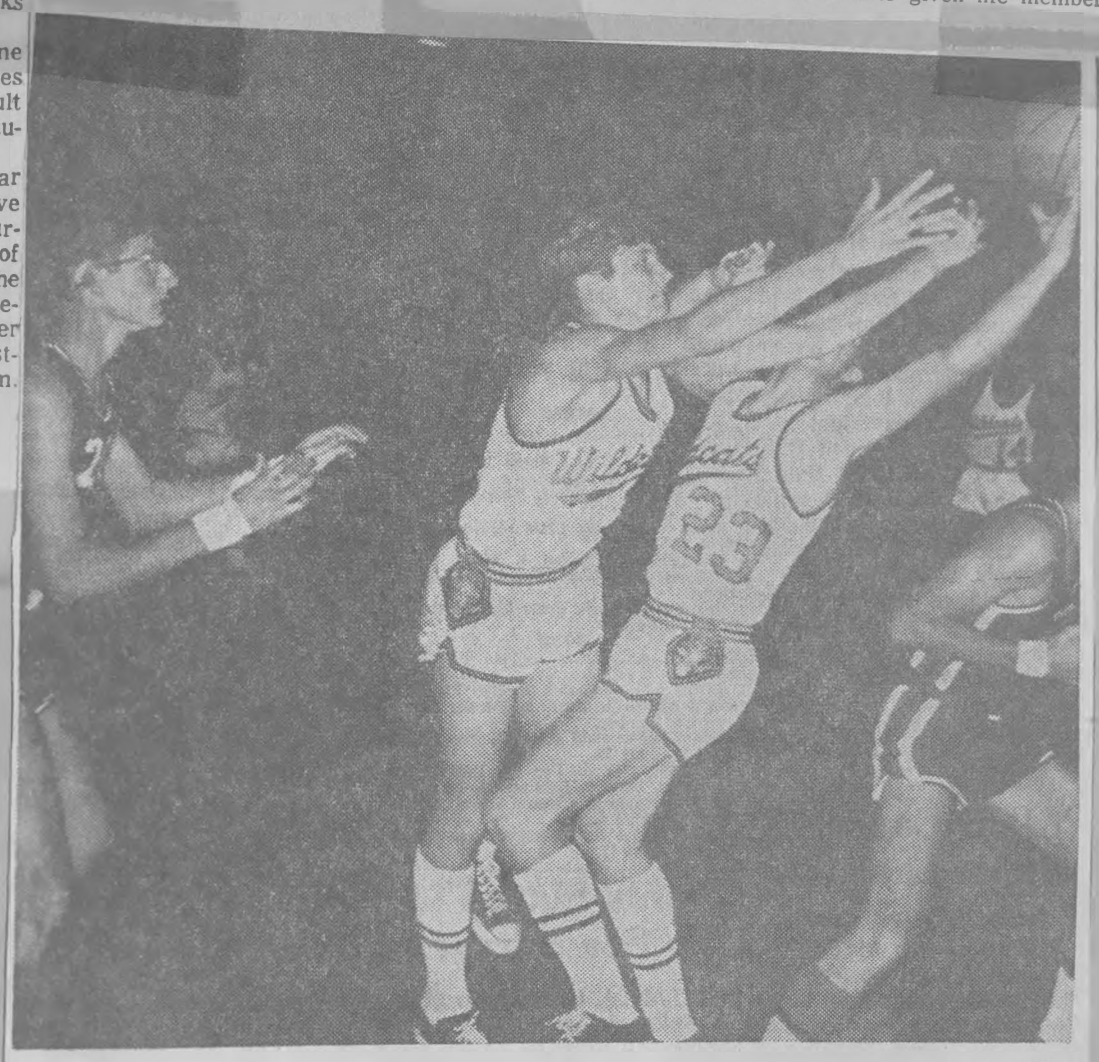
Goff had the reputation of being a work horse in civic affairs in general including the American Legion where his jobs included annually manning a ticket gate at the South Georgia Legion Fair.

He was one of only three men ever given life membership in the Valdosta Jaycees. He was also a member of West End Presbyterian Church here.

Born in Brinson, Goff spent most of his later years in Valdosta where he was stationed at Moody prior to his retirement.

Survivors include his widow; 2 daughters, Mrs. Kay Howell, Quincy, Fla., and Mrs. Sue Riechmann, Jacksonville, Fla.; and a son, Harry Jr., Oakland, Calif. Stepdaughters include Mrs. Sutton and Mrs. Betty Hall who lives in South Florida.

Funeral arrangements are to be announced by McEwan Funeral Home.



Times Staff Photo

Wildcats' Jerry Baker (23) Can't Quite Get His Hand On The Basketball

Hoop 'Cats Win Season Opener

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats and Thomasville's Bulldogettes chalked up victories in a high school basketball doubleheader here Tuesday night.

Coach Joe Wilson's 'Cats trimmed Thomasville's Bulldogs, 66-41. In the girls contest the visitors defeated coach Bill Davis' Valdosta Kittens, 51-24. The teams from both schools were opening their 1969-70 hoop campaigns.

The Wildcats jumped off to a quick four point lead and were never in any real danger of losing the advantage after that. A total of 13 VHS players saw action in the game, and nine of them shared in the scoring.

Valdosta's point leader was Roger Rome with 18 markers to his credit. He was followed by Warrick Taylor, 11; Benjie Webb, 10, and Don Golden, 8. Rome was also the 'Cats' leading rebounder with 10 to his credit.

For Thomasville, the scoring leaders were Ronnie Thornton, 15, and Angelo Mathes, 10.

In the girls game it was Thomasville which jumped off to a quick lead and then stayed out front until the finish. Leading the Bulldogettes' attack were Ann Rumble, 20, and Susan Wine, 15. Linda Lawrence, with 16 points, was top scorer for the Kittens.

GIRLS

Valdosta	7	12	17	24
Thomasville	10	25	39	51

VALDOSTA (24) — Lawrence 16, Johnson 3, M. Stephenson 5, D. Stephenson, Brantley, Dixon, Lumpkin, Robertson, Flanders.

Team totals: field goals 10, free throws 4 of 20, fouls 10.

THOMASVILLE (51) — Rumble 20, Alligood 9, Laing 2, Hall, King, Davis, Jones, Fletcher, Solliam, Posser, Wine 15, Dekle 3, Thomas, Tryan 2.

Team totals: field goals 22, free throw 7 of 12, fouls 14.

BOYS

Valdosta	16	36	49	66
Thomasville	10	16	22	41

VALDOSTA (66) — Taylor 11, Jones 4, Webb 10, Golden 8, Rome 18, Dove, Le-Files 2, Hampton, Baker 6, Williams, Mabry 2, Demersseman, White 5.

Team totals: field goals 30, free throws 6 of 17, fouls 10.

THOMASVILLE (41) — Drake 4, Keadle 8, Austin, Mathes 10, Thornton 15, Gatlin, Brinson 4, Strickland.

Team totals: field goals 18, free thrwos 5 of 16, fouls 12.

'Cats Bombs Give Jackets The Blues

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

Times Sports Editor

Playing it hard-nose on defense and taking the aerial route on offense Valdosta's Wildcats trimmed Savannah's stubborn Blue Jackets, 20-0, here Friday night to claim the South Georgia Class AAA high school football crown and earn a shot at the state title.

All three of Valdosta's touchdowns came on passes from quarterback Don Golden to halfback Willie Jones. They covered 48, 36 and 74 yards.

Meanwhile, VHS' tough and talented defensive unit, led by linebacker Tom Holt who made 11 individual tackles, blanked a Savannah team which has been averaging better than 37 points a game. It was the 11th shutout in 12 tries for the VHS stop'em crew this year.

With the triumph coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats earned the right to host the North Georgia titleholder in the state championship game next week. Dykes (Atlanta) and Athens are slated to settle the North Georgia issue in a game tonight in Atlanta.

With the temperature down in the 40s, a crowd of approximately 9,500 looked on here last night as the 'Cats won their 12th straight game this season and their 26th in a row in a string which dates back to 1967. This is VHS' seventh South Georgia "AAA" diadem since 1960.

The setback for coach Arvel Holmes' Blue Jackets came after they had triumphed 11 times in a row. The defeat knocked Savannah out of the state championship race.

While the Golden-to-Jones passing combo provided the touchdown fireworks and Holt led the way on defense, it was much more than a three-man show for the 'Cats. A total of 39 Valdosta players saw action, and all had a share in the important victory.

The Wildcats picked up 13 first downs. While they got just 77 yards rushing, their season low in that category, Golden hit on nine of 12 passes for 209 yards. Jones made a total of six catches for 181 yards.

Savannah made five first downs, rushed for 130 yards and got just seven passing. Their backfield workhorse was fullback Mike Hicks, who picked up 95 yards on 28 carries.

Valdosta defensive leaders, in addition to Holt, included Harry Skoropat and Aaron Holder, who each made six tackles; Charles Shenton, Mike Everson, John Hampton and Curtis Lee, each with five, and Curt Bazemore

(Continued on Page 10)



Valdosta High School
1300 Williams St.
Valdosta, Ga. 31601
6-1-70

—Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

High Stepping: Wildcat Willie Jones Finds Jackets' Defense Tough but He Got Six Passes for 174 Yards, Three TDs

Holmes Declares

'Cats 'Too Much'

By JULIAN MILLER

Times Staff Writer

"We had a strong defense and our boys were playing the best they could on offense too, but Valdosta's physical strength was just too much for us."

Such were the words of Savannah High Coach Arvel Holmes just after his Blue Jackets had dropped a 20-0 decision to Valdosta's Wildcats in the South Georgia Class AAA football played here Friday night.

"We did our best," Holmes continued, "but we just couldn't keep up with them. That Valdosta team is everything they say it is, there's no doubt about that."

"Our fullback Mike Hicks played a great game for us, but that Valdosta quarterback (Don Golden), was the man of the night. That boy could really stand there and deliver a pass."

Here Holmes was seconded by Valdosta head coach Wright Bazemore.

"Golden played a fine game on both offense and defense for us tonight," Bazemore said. "Willie Jones did an equally good job both ways, but if I was going to start giving credit I would have to mention the entire team because it was team effort that did it."

Golden and Jones highlighted the Wildcat offensive, as Golden connected with Jones on long passes for all three VHS touchdowns. The 190-pound quarterback totaled 209 yards by completing 9 of 12 passes. Jones caught six of them, picking up 174 yards and, of course scoring the three TDs.

"We knew Savannah was going to come here ready to play and they really came at us," Bazemore said. "It seemed like they had everything to gain and nothing to lose and they had spirit behind every play.

"Our whole defensive unit deserves praise for the job they did. I really need to mention them all. Savannah had a great club and they were hard to stop. Especially that Hicks."

Standing out on defense was linebacker Tom Holt, with 11 individual tackles and scores of assists.

"We had to earn our rushing yardage the hard way," Bazemore continued. "That's two and three yards at a time. Their defense was tough.

"Our fullback Danny O'Neal was nursing a sore shoulder during the game, so we were a little slowed. Also, I don't believe our boys or our fans were as enthused about the game as they were last week against Lanier. I hope they'll be up next week."

For Holmes, whose Blue Jackets had been carrying a perfect 11-0 record, the loss ended the season.

"We hope to be back in title contention again," Holmes said. "But we lose an awful lot of material this season and it doesn't look like it will be next year.

"I'll tell you one thing though. We sure have a fine team to represent South Georgia in the state playoffs next week. Valdosta is great."

Have Potential

Although Valdosta High is still involved in the football playoffs, coach Joe Wilson's cage 'Cats got their season underway Tuesday night with a triumph over Thomasville.

The starters were Roger Rome (6-5, jr.), Don Golden (6-4, sr.), Benjie Webb (6-3, sr.), Willie Jones (5-11, sr.) and Warrick Taylor (5-5, sr.).

Golden and Webb are returning starters from VHS' 1968-69 team while Rome, Jones and Taylor were all front line performers for Pinevale High last winter.

"I feel that we have potential," Wilson says, "but we won't know for sure about our team until the football playoffs are over and we can devote full time to basketball."

Considering all things the cage 'Cats looked good against T'ville. I'd also have to tag them as a team with potential.

I think the Lowndes Vikings and Valdosta Wildcats are going to play an exciting brand of basketball this season and so are other quintets in the area. It should be an interesting season all the way.

'Cats, Jackets Brace For Duel

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Savannah's Blue Jackets are to tangle here Friday night with the South Georgia Class AAA high school football crown up for grabs.

The duel between coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Arvel Holmes' Blue Jackets is set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field.

It's an all-or-nothing affair. The winner will earn the right to host the North Georgia winner in the state title game next week. The loser will be shuffled to the sideline.

Valdosta is 11-0 this season after copping the Region 1-AAA championship and beating Lanier, 23-0, this past Friday in the first round of the playoffs. Savannah is also 11-0 after claiming the 3-AAA title and licking Butler, 25-0, in a first round game staged two weeks ago.

This marks the seventh time since 1960 Valdosta has made it to the South Georgia playoff. The other six times the 'Cats triumphed and went on from there to become state "AAA" champions.

This is Savannah's first shot at the South Georgia championship since 1965. That time it lost to 'Dosta, 32-3.

Balance on both offense and defense, with a lot of players sharing the load, has brought the 1969 Wildcats this far. The 'Cats are hoping to make that same combination click again tomorrow night.

They will be meeting a team which has been impressive on both offense and defense all the way and is rated by many as the strongest to come out of the recent

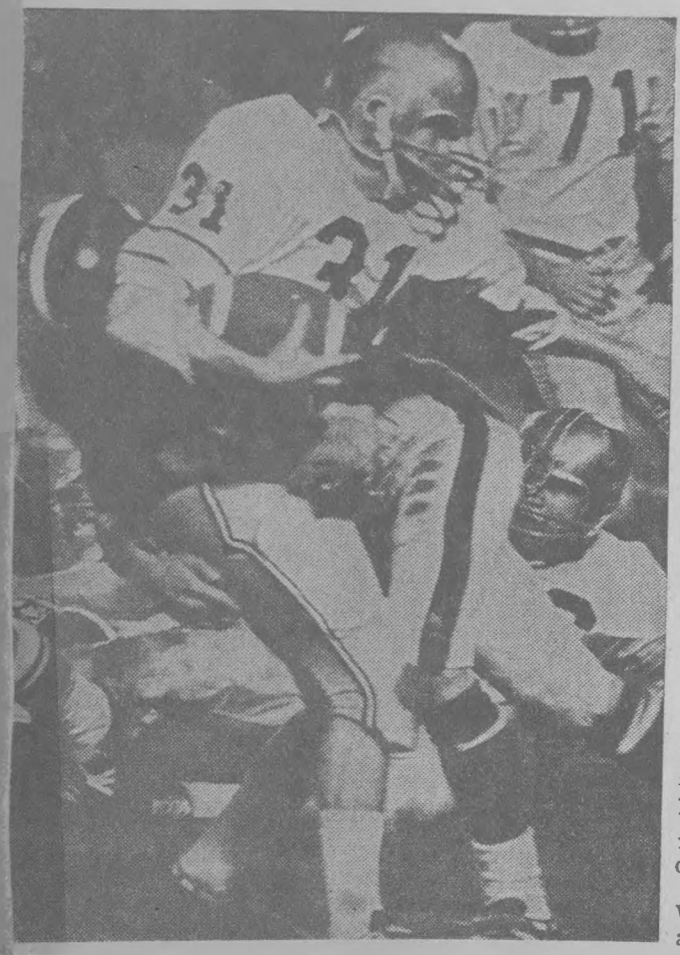
Both coach Billy Pafford's Junior Bulldogs and coach Ja[illegible] DeVaul's Bulldogettes will be [illegible] their season against Tift County Wednesday night. This will be their second game.

Other basketball action Friday will see Baker County (Newton) at Echols County (Statenville), Cook (Adel) at Thomasville, Lanier County (Lakeland) at Doerun, Turner County (Ashburn) at Brooks County (Quitman) and Clinch County (Homerville) at Wilcox Central (Rochelle). Saturday Wayne County (Jesup) will be at Lowndes and Bainbridge at Berrien.

AREA HOOP SLATE
Friday
Lowndes at Berrien
Baker at Echols
Cook at Thomasville
Lanier at Doerun
Turner at Brooks
Clinch at Wilcox
Saturday
Wayne at Lowndes
Bainbridge at Berrien



Three Savannah Defenders Have A Hand On Valdosta Halfback Henry Davis (40) And Stop Him After Two Yard Gain



— Times Staff Photos

VHS' Benji Meeks (31) Is Hit Hard

'Dosta Advances To State Finals

and Jerry Baker, with four apiece.

The 'Cats' rushing leader was halfback Charles Daniels, with 41 yards on 10 carries.

Here's the way things went:

FIRST QUARTER —Savannah's Blue Jackets showed they had come to play and that they had a rugged defense by blocking a Valdosta punt in the opening minutes of the game. That gave the Jackets possession of he pigskin at the VHS 31. Savannah moved to the 25, but was forced to give up the ball on downs at that spot.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Savannah
First Downs	13	5
Yards Rushing	77	130
Yards Passing	209	7
Passes	9-12	1-8
Passes Intc. by	0	0
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Punting	6-35.6	7-36
Penalties	3-25	3-15

SECOND PERIOD — The Wildcats got their offense going and moved 79 yards in five plays to score their first TD. Jones and Daniels alternated on four running plays at VHS moved 26 yards. Then Golden connected with Jones on a 48-yard aerial bomb for the score. Jones made the catch at the five with a Savannah defender right on top of him.

VHS got another drive going and moved from its own 44 to the Savannah 14. But the Blue Jackets defenders kept pouring through and knocking Valdosta backs down behind the line of scrimmage. When Dosta was forced to punt it had been shoved back out to the 41.

On the kick the Jackets fumbled and Daniels recovered at the Savannah seven. But again Wildcats were pushed back, this time to the 19. They tried a field goal, but it was no good. Valdosta went out at the half with a not too comfortable seven point lead.

THIRD PERIOD — It wasn't until late in this period that VHS got its second touchdown and the Valdosta fans could breathe easier
on an 86-yard
12 plays. The
yard pass fro
It was a re
and a Savar
a shot at Jo
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Eight girls have been se
ketball cheerleaders for t
season at Valdosta High Sc
are clockwise: Judy Berna
Griffis, Peggy Myddleton



Go Get 'Em 'Cats

Tonight our Wildcats meet Savannah in the second round of football playoffs leading to the state championship game. A win for the Valdosta High School team will give the 'Cats the South Georgia title and earn them a chance to defend their state title in the AAA classification next week.

Last Friday the Wildcats defeated Lanier High School of Macon in convincing fashion, 23-0, to win the first round of the playoffs. According to Coach Wright Bazemore, tonight's game is another extreme test for the Wildcats. Savannah brings a fine football team, with a perfect record, to town.

Winning is the name of the game, and that is the way the Wildcats have always played it. For this reason, we believe the Bazemoremen can do it again tonight. Go get 'em 'Cats.

'Cats, Jackets Play For Title

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Savannah's Blue Jackets, a pair of unbeaten high school football giants, are to battle it out here tonight for the South Georgia Class AAA crown and a berth in the state title game.

The duel between coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Arvel Homes' Jackets is set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field.

Tonight's victor will earn the right to host the North Georgia titleholder in the state championship game next week. Dykes (Atlanta) and Athens are to meet Saturday in Atlanta in the North Georgia playoff affair.

Both 'Dosta and Savannah have compiled 11-0 records this year. In fact, the 'Cats have won 5 in a row in a string which dates back to the 1967 season.

Valdosta rules as the Region 1-AAA champ and licked Lanier of Macon, 23-0, this past Friday in the first round of the state playoffs. Savannah first claimed the 3-AAA championship, then two weeks ago bounced Butler of Augusta, 25-0, to advance to the semi-finals.

Should tonight's game end in a tie, a statistical formula will be applied to break the deadlock. One point will be added to the score of the team which has the most first downs, the biggest yardage total on offense and makes the most penetrations inside the other's 20 yard line.

This marks the seventh time since 1960 the VHS has made it this far in the playoffs. Six times in the past they claimed the South Georgia championship and then went on to become state "AAA" champs.

This is Savannah's first shot at the South Georgia diadem since 1965. That time the Blue Jackets bowed to 'Dosta, 32-3. But this is a different year and a new deal.

Valdosta has offered fine balance this season, scoring 387 points and allowing just seven. The 'Cats are averaging 366.6 yards on offense and 81.6 on defense.

Savannah has also offered fine balance. The Jackets have scored 411 points and yielded just 77. They're averaging 355.6 yards on offense and 117.8 on defense.

The Jackets like to run from the "I" and have a big and experienced line and backfield. They're rated as the strongest team to come out of the Savannah area in many years.

Holmes' charges have also had extra time to prepare some surprises for the Wildcats since they got their first round playoff game with Butler out of the way two weeks ago.

"We haven't faced a team this season which used the 'I' as its basis offensive formation and that could give our defensive unit some trouble," Bazemore said. "We could also have problems trying to move the football because Savannah has a strong defensive unit.

"It's going to take a team effort, a really good team effort, if we expect to have a chance for success."

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

VHS Didn't Have 'Ho Hum' Contest

Valdosta High's head football coach Wright Bazemore couldn't muster a victory smile — the best he could do was exhale a sigh of relief after the Wildcats beat the stubborn Savannah Blue Jackets, 20-0. here last Friday night.

The victory which gave the 'Cats the South Georgia Class AAA title and a shot at the state championship was hard earned.



GLASSMAN

"We were most fortunate to win that one," Bazemore said. "Savannah has a good team and you better believe they came to play. We were flat.

"But we did win, despite all that happened. I've got to say I'm proud of our boys for that. Now maybe they'll listen to me. We kept trying to tell them all week that Savannah was tough. We kept trying to tell them they had better be ready. Well, they found out.

"It's been a long season for us, I know and the pressure has been on thick and heavy all the way. But, heck, you can't relax or let down even a little, especially in the playoffs. I've said that so many times I get the feeling no one's listening anymore."

Two weeks ago after the 'Cats had looked sharp in a 23-0 first round playoff win over Lanier, Baze had complimented the 'Cats for being "really ready" and he said he was pleased with the spirit and enthusiasm shown by the fans.

They Were Warned

But he kept warning during practice for the Savannah game that the 'Cats were dragging. The fans here were going around all week saying: "Ho hum, we'll take Savannah with ease."

Believe me, it was no "ho hum" affair. Among other things the Jackets blocked a punt and a point after touchdown kick, held VHS to a net of just 77 yards rushing and twice pushed the Wildcats backward after they had gotten within scoring range.

Through it all VHS' defense held firm, and the Wildcats went to the air to score three times on well-executed passes of 48, 36 and 74 yards from quarterback Don Golden to halfback Willie Jones.

The mark of a good team is the ability to take everytihng a strong opponent throws at you, keep your poise, renew your determination and still win.

Refused To Panic

That 20-0 victory margin is ample proof that the 'Cats refused to panic and did indeed respond with renewed determination which earned them a triumph.

But it was their toughest game of the season and they should have learned something from it. Each contest is a new deal. What's happened in the past means nothing when you step on the field to face your next opponent.

Now there's just one more game to go, the battle for the 1969 state Class AAA championship.

"It's all going to be riding on the line in our next game," Bazemore says. "If we don't get 'up' for that one we're really going to be in serious trouble. We better be ready — really ready."

I think everyone will pay attention to Bazemore this time.



Cut It To $25,000'

Plants System

county.

Before it goes to Atlanta, the legislation will probably be put before the public in some fashion. I hope they don't oppose it and make the sledding rough.

It must be remembered that enabling legislation is of a permissive nature only. It does not compel anybody to

Reflections

Anti-God Turns Man Into Clay

BY ERIC HOFFER

Man's ascent through the millenia must be seen as a ceaseless striving to break away from the nonhuman cosmos.

The age-long groping for freedom is an aspect of this blind striving to step outside the iron necessities which rul nature. The attempt to make human affairs as precise an predictable, as scientific, as a process in nature is an attempt at dehumanization.



ERIC HOFFER

The equation, human nature = nature, if read from left to right, gives us not only the scientific approach of Marx, Darwin, Freud and Pavlov but also the approach of ruthless soul engineers such as Lenin, Stalin, and Hitler who experimented with blood, and treated men the way the metallurgist treats minerals.

When read from right to left the equation gives us the magical approach, the belief that nature, not unlike human nature, can be influenced by words, and by other means which had proved their efficacy in the manipulation of human affairs.

Thus both the scientific and the magical approach postulate the oneness of man and nature, and both are agencies of dehumanization. The communists and the Nazis embraced both the scientific approach, of treating man as matter, and the magical approach, of trying to change reality by the power of words, by slogans and incantations.

In human affairs all genuine opposites reflect the archetypal opposites of many and nature. Life and death, city and country, civilization and barbarism, free and slave, God and the devil, and perhaps even man and woman are such genuine opposites. On the other hand, oppressors and oppressed are not true opposites since both are dehumanized.

The same is true of the natural and the mechanical: both are the opposites of that which is uniquely human. You dehumanize man as much by making him "natural," by making him one with rocks, ve turning him into a machine. Na automated machine. To build nature is to build a machine.

When you automate an indu you automate a life you primiti he makes nature pliant and o anti-God when he automates hu pliant and obedient. For God tu while the anti-God turns man i

When a society becomes deh built around it to keep the anim Albanian guide who told tourists



This Diving Tackle By Athens' Alex Allen (73) Brought Down Dykes' Robert McArthur (28)

'Cats To Battle Athens For Title

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats will be meeting Athens' Trojans here Saturday night in the battle for the 1969 Georgia State Class AAA high school football championship.

Coach Weyman Seller's Trojans nailed down the North Georgia "AAA" crown and a berth in the state title game with an impressive 28-7 victory over the Dykes Colts in a game played this past Saturday night in the rain and mud in Atlanta.

Valdosta captured the South Georgia "AAA" diadem and earned the right to host the state championship contest by beating the Savannah Blue Jackts, 20-0, last Friday.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats will carry a perfect 12-0 record into the showdown affair. They own the Region 1-AAA title and posted a 23-0 victory over Lanier in the first round of the state playoffs.

Athens went 9-1 during the regular season while it was sweeping to the 7-AAA championship. It knocked off favored Avondale, 21-10, in the first round of the playoffs two weeks ago.

According to Georgia High School Association rules the state "AAA" championship game must be played this coming Saturday, unless both teams involved agree to change it to Friday. Valdosta wanted it changed to Friday night, but Athens held out for Saturday night and that's when the game will be played.

Against Dykes Athens built up an early three touchdown lead and coasted from there to victory over the Colts.

The Trojans got a pair of TDs in the opening period, the first on a two yard run by Bennie Edumundson and the other on a dazzling 75-yard punt return by fabled quarterback Andy Johnson.

In the third period the Trojans added to their point total as Johnson hit Rusty Carter with a 15-yard touchdown pass.

Dykes' lone score in the game came just before the half on a 38-yard pass from Wayne Wilson to Hank Feldberg.

Athens came back to tally an insurance marker in the final period. The TD came on a 16-yard run by Terry Smart.

Despite a lot of rain and mud, the Trojans piled up 14 first downs, rushed for 196 yards and passed for 74. Athens' tough defense limited Dykes to six downs and just 68 yards rushing and 79 passing.

'Cats Given Nod In Playoff Duel

I was sure right with one of my football predictions last week — most of the games were indeed tough to figure.

As we've said before this is the time of the year when the high school slate offers only unpredictable playoff games and the college list includes only battles between traditional foes.



GLASSMAN

That was the situation last week as I tried to pick 20 games and was right just 14 times and wrong six times for a dismal .700 mark. That clipped five points off my average for the year, dropping it to 376-106—.780.

This week, there's more of the same. Our list includes some prep playoff duels and just one college game — which is a dilly. But here we go, with the high school selections first.

* * * *

VALDOSTA VS SAVANNAH — Valdosta's Wildcats (11-0) and Savannah's Blue Jackets (11-0) are to meet here tonight in the battle for the South Georgia Class AAA crown.

The loser will be bounced to the sideline, while the winner will earn the right to host the North Georgia winner in the state championship game next week. Dykes and Athens are to duel for the North Georgia diadem in Atlanta tomorrow night.

Those who have been following Valdosta this year know that the 'Cats have fine balance. Well, the reports coming out of Savannah indicate that the Blue Jackets also offer fine balance.

VHS head coach Wright Bazemore says Savannah is "a strong football team, much stronger than Lanier." The 'Cats trimmed Lanier, 23-0, in the first round of the playoffs last week.

There it is — I'm picking Valdosta to win.

* * * *

Valdosta High
1300 Williams
Valdosta, Ga

State Grid Title

Psychology Over, Battle Is Tonight

Valdosta, Athens Go Slightly Wild

By MARTIN MILLER and BLAKE GILES

The psychological warfare is over, and it's nitty-gritty time.

The real duel is scheduled to begin at 8 o'clock on Cleveland Field tonight, and the football spirit in both Valdosta and Athens is too dense to dent.

It's a battle for the state Class AAA high school football championship between Valdosta High's Wildcats and the North Georgia champions, the Athens High Trojans.

At stake are the 'Cats' 26-game winning streak, the Trojans' 10-game win streak and a pot of pride a mile high.

In addition to two teams with all the credentials to win, the game features two of the most acclaimed coaches in high school football, Valdosta's Wright Bazemore and Athens' Weyman Sellers.

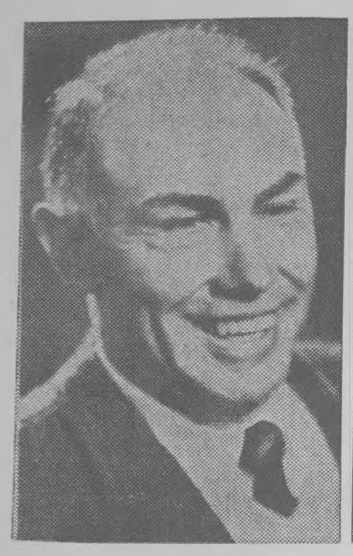
Both believe there is no substitute for victory and both have sons playing in tonight's contest. Bazemore's son Curt is a defensive linebacker and Seller's son Gray is a backup quarterback.

The Trojans couldn't come here much higher. They are to arrive via chartered airplane at 4 p.m. to play a game in predicted 30-degree weather before an expected standing-room only crowd.

The two teams and the two coaches have met each other on the playing field twice before. In 1955, the Trojans won the Class AA state title walloping the Wildcats, 41-20. In 1965, the 'Cats squeezed by the Trojans for the state Class AAA title, 14-13.

Valdosta, which has won the AAA title six times in the past 10 years and is the defending champ, is expecting a repeat of the '65 season only with a wider margin. In Athens, they say it will be like 1955.

In a pep rally Friday before about 2,000 spectators Athens even had New York Giant quarterback Francis Tarkenton



WRIGHT BAZEMORE
He's 266-42-5



WEYMAN SELLERS
And He's 127-54-8

EDITOR'S NOTE: Martin Miller is city Editor of The Valdosta Daily Times. Blake Giles is a sports writer for the Athens Banner-Herald. Another story on page 8.

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speak over a long distance public address hookup. Tarkenton, one of the National Football League's most famous signal callers, is from Athens and led the Trojans to that 1955 win over Valdosta.

Another Athenian at the pep rally was Paul Gilbert, the 1965 Athens quarterback who is now at the University of Georgia.

He told of a bet he has with Glenn Davis, the former Valdosta field general who played against Gilbert in '65 and is also at the University. Davis gave Gilbert Athens and 10 points.

But while the spirit is sky high in Athens, Valdosta High School Senior Bubber Smith says Valdosta football fanatics have Athens beat.

He ought to know. Smith and two companions, seniors James Johnson and Greg Johnston, made a trip to Athens in the still of the night Thursday.

Their mission was to erect signs all over the town that Valdosta is No. 1. A sign left in front of Athens High School for students to find Friday morning read: "The Wildcats were here."

The boys left Valdosta at 8 p.m. and returned at 5:30 a.m. Friday.

"It was a long trip," Smith said. "But it was worth it. We found out our spirit has their's beat all over the place."

Valdosta had as many people at its citywide pep rally at Brookwood Plaza Friday as Athens had Thursday.

One of the highlights was the telegrams supposedly sent to Valdosta football players by Athen fotball players. There is some suspicion the telegrams

See Psychology — Page 2



—Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

Too Dense To Dent: Valdostan Earl Knowles, Right, Sells Papers for Band

'Cats, Trojans Tangle Tonight

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Athen's Trojans, the two survivors from Georgia's 80 Class AAA high school football teams, are to clash here tonight with the 1969 state championship on the line.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Weyman Seller's Trojans are to meet at 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field. A standing-room-only crowd is expected to be on hand to see the action in this premier prep grid attraction.

The 'Cats are 12-0 this year. They went 10-0 during the regular season to win the Region 1-AAA title, then beat Lanier of Macon, 23-0, in the first round of the playoffs and trimmed Savannah, 20-0, in last week's South Georgia duel.

Valdosta has won 13 state crowns in classes ranging from "B" to "AAA" since Bazemore joined the VHS staff in 1940. That means the 'Cats are trying for state crown number 14 tonight. They also have a 26-game victory streak going which dates back to 1967.

This marks the seventh time since 1960 that 'Dosta has reached the Class AAA title round. The other six times, in 1960, 1961, 1962, 1965, 1966 and 1968, they emerged as victors.

Athens has an 11-1 record and will come into the game riding the crest of a 10-tilt victory streak.

In their second regular season game the Trojans bowed to powerful non-league foe Gainesville. But Athens went on to nail down the Region 7-AAA title, then licked Avondale, 21-10, in the first round of the playoffs and polished off Dykes of Atlanta, 28-7, to become North Georgia champs.

This will be the third occasion in modern times that Valdosta and Athens have met in a state playoff affair. Both reached the "A" finals in 1955, with the Trojans winning 41-20 that time. They battled for the "AAA" diadem in 1965 and this time 'Dosta was the victory, 14-13.

Valdosta has offered balance on both offense and defense all the way this season with no fewer than 36 players being called on for action in any single game.

The 'Cats have scored 407 points and allowed just seven. VHS' defense has produced 11 shutouts in 12 tries.

Athens has 315 points to its credit and has allowed 103. The Trojans are led by quarterback Andy Johnson, a 190-pound senior, who has been called by Sellers the best all-round football player in Athen's gridiron history.

Johnson has 2,122 yards to his credit, 1,037 rushing and 1,085 passing.

Bazemore reports that the Wildcats are in good physical condition for the game and he has been urging them all week "to be ready — really ready — to meet a very, very strong and talented Athens team."

"There's not the slightest doubt that Ahens is much, much better than anyone we've faced this season," Bazemore said. "And Andy Johnson, he's just as good as they say he is. He's capable of producing a touchdown either running or throwing any time he puts his hands on the football. And he can do it from any spot on the field."

The Trojans, with their victory hopes high, were to come winging into Valdosta in a chartered plane at 4 p.m. today. They're to fly back to Athens tonight after the game.

Sellers also reports the Trojans are in good physical condition and has proclaimed that his charges "will be ready to play, you can be sure of that."

Although Georgia High School Association rules call for a penetration system to be used to break ties in early round playoff games, should the 'Cats and Trojans deadlock tonight they will be declared co-champs.

But it's a victory that both the Wildcats and Trojans will be shooting for tonight.

VHS Housing Lack Crucial, Decision Due In January

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Housing next year's Valdosta High School students is still a major issue with the city board of education but principal Charles (Chuck) Green said a decision must be made by January.

Green told the city school board at its regular meeting Monday night that he needs to begin preparing for the 1970-71 academic year in January.

"As I foresee the situation, we cannot have 1,500 to 1,600 students on this campus next year. I need to know and must know by the first of the year what we need to be considering," he explained.

There are about 1,330 students now at VHS. Green predicts that at least 200 additional students will be in the 10th grade next year. Currently, the 10th-12th grades are housed at VHS while the ninth grade is at the VHS-Pinevale Campus.

Board Chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman said he has been led to believe by some city officials that the school board has second choice on space in the old post office and federal building and that this should help VHS somewhat.

The board plans to put the superintendent's office and his staff in the building and give the present administrative building on the high school campus to Green.

Green said the counselors' offices and two or three classrooms could be put in the building but that this still won't solve the problem unless other plans are also made.

The board is contemplating using South Street Elementary for primary grade use next fall and turning 15 classrooms in the building over to the Pinevale campus. The South Street and Pinevale campuses are adjacent to each other.

There is talk of having a 2-2 high school with two grades at VHS and two grades at Pinevale. But the board is quick to point out that any move concerning th housing of high school students will be temporary until a new facility for grades 9-12 can be built.

The board is in the midst of getting up a plan to secure an architect or architects for designing the proposed new high school.

The new facility would house 2,000 students and would have about 200,000 square feet of floor space.

The board hopes to obtain state and local funds to finance the project.

A site committee from the board is looking at several available plots of land for the proposed high school. But a new high school is at least two or three years away, say board members.

So the school officials are now trying to find available space for the high school students next year. A new elementary school will take care of the primary grades.

And space in the old federal building on Central Avenue will ease the crowded conditions in the superintendent's office. The board plans to ask the city for the entire basement part of the first floor. Administrative and secretarial offices would be located in the basement and the board's materials' center would be on the first floor.

Plans School Policy

Board Is Pondering Youth Marriages

By MARY CROUSE

School boards can not legally deny a student the right to an education just because he is married, but administrators are hesitant about adopting any policy which might give the impression they condone the young marriages.

That's the quandary the Valdosta Board of Education found itself in Monday night at its regular meeting.

Supt. Foster Goolsby submitted a proposed policy relating to student marriages. He had been asked by the board earlier this year to meet with the Lowndes County school superintendent and high school principals here to work out a suggested regulation on student marriages for both systems.

The proposal Goolsby presented to the board is the same one already in use at Lowndes High School.

The suggested policy does not exclude any married student from participating in any school activity but prohibits married students from holding office in clubs.

The proposal states a married student must report to the principal and re-register. An orientation period for the married student is to be provided by the administrative staff or faculty.

The principal will advise, or appoint an advisor for the married student, according to the suggestion. The advisor is to then help the married student understand his responsibility and duty as a married student.

The present regulations at Valdosta High School do not allow married students to participate in any campus activity and this includes band, athletics and clubs.

Board treasurer and attorney Ruben Yancey said the system can't legally deny the right to come to school to any married student.

"But I don't want this board to get in a position of seeming to favor marriage in junior high or high school," he said.

The board had asked Goolsby to work with county school officials after each system consolidated its high schools this fall as part of the desegregation plans. It was thought that with larger student bodies in two schools that a revised policy on marriages might be needed.

But Monday night the board was reluctant to accept the proposal. A group of 20 teachers and administrators in the city system present at the meeting was asked opinions on the policies.

Mrs. Harry Wolinski, English teacher at VHS, said the faculty would like something which says the instructors deplore the "hasty high school marriages." She said that if withholding club offices from the students is a deterrent from marriage in high school, she is all for it.

"Everytime we have one of these hasty marriages, we the faculty, feel we have failed these children. But you see we have two problems on this really. There are some older married students who had dropped out and who come back to finish. Then we have the young ones who stay to finish.

"When the students marry, they enter an adult world regardless of their age. And if a married student, for example, is elected president of the student council, the student body is at a disadvantage and so is the president. He has too many other responsibilities to do a good job," said Mrs. Wolinski.

Board member Dr. Robert Quattlebaum asked her about membership in the Beta Club and making the football or basketball team.

"If a student makes the grades he has earned the right to be in the Beta Club because it is an honorary organization. Let me say the Key Club is also highly selective. A boy has to be asked to join that club and it is a service group.

"I'm not a coach so I can't answer for football or basketball," the English teacher said.

Board chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr. said that he is not in favor of married students participating in athletics but that many people contend scholarships are the only means so many boys can go to college.

"There are all sorts of pressures to let the boys play," he said.

VHS Principal Charles (Chuck) Green said that in other systems around Valdosta, students are allowed to participate in all school activities.

Tillman asked if the exclusion from school activities was really a deterrent at all.

"Well, I've got a feeling that when a student gets married, he doesn't think of our board policy at all," said Yancey.

Quattlebaum said the board should go on record as opposing student marriages and that the school officials do not condone the young marriages.

The board got into another area of the student marriages when the question was brought up concerning the counseling of these young couples. How qualified are the high school guidance counselors to talk about material problems with the youth?

The superintendent said they are qualified to the degree that material problems are people problems.

"When a student comes to the counselor and actually cries and wants some help what can you do? You can't turn him away. Many times he or she wants to talk about cutting down on his work load at school because of a job, money problems or a baby is on the way. I don't see how we can ignore these students," said Green.

Yancey said the counseling should not deal with material problems but only with school related matters.

"When it leaves the school problems, we shouldn't get into it," he said.

Curriculum director Dr. Jerry Cox said counselors are not the end but are trained to channel the youth to agencies and services available to them in the community.

"They (counselors) can tell these married students where to go for the help they might need," he said.

The board was reluctant to take any action on the student marriage policy and Tillman said it will be on the agenda for the January meeting.

PROPOSED FACILITY

Valdosta to Name School Architect

Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Questionnaires sent to architects concerning the proposed new Valdosta high school are due back in Supt. Foster Goolsby's office by 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Gordon Southwell, vice chairman of the school board and chairman of a committee which is attempting to formulate a plan for obtaining an architect, said the entire board or a committee will select a designer for the school immediately.

The architect is needed before the board can go any further with its plans for the new school complex.

The architect would be asked to design a proposed 200,000-square-foot building.

School board members plan to seek aid in the planning from the school planning laboratory at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and the architect has to be obtained before the lab can begin its part, said Dr. Jerome Cox, director of instruction.

The laboratory aid in planning the new facility will cost $10,000 but the Ford Foundation will pay $4,000 of this as part of a program to help raise the level of school building construction nationwide.

Cox said the architect, or group of architects, picked to design the building should pay the remaining $6,000 because of the services the school planning laboratory will be able to render to him on specifications, products and research relevant to the project.

Cox said one local architect told him that such a split would be a legitimate expense which he would gladly pay for.

Valdosta High School is built for about 800 students but has some 1,300 students this year. The jump in students was created by carrying out a court order to integrate with Pinevale High, a former all-Negro facility.

Some 200 more students are expected to be enrolled at Valdosta High next year and the school is already using portable classrooms.

Valdosta, Athens Well Acquainted

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats and Athens Trojans, a pair of teams with impressive football credentials, are to battle it out here Saturday night for the 1969 state Class AAA grid crown.

Neither coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats or coach Weyman Sellers' Trojans are strangers to title contests or to each other. They've met twice before in modern times in state championship games.

There was 1955 when both were in Class AA. They dueled at Athens, with the Trojans winning, 41-20. They met again at the "AAA" level in 1965. This one was also played at Athens, with the Wildcats winning, 14-13.

VHS has won 13 state championship in classes ranging from "B" to "AAA" since Bazemore joined the Wildcats' coaching staff in 1940. The 'Cats have claimed the state "AAA" crown six times since 1960, including last year.

But that's the past. These are different Valdosta and Athens teams, with the '69 diadem up for grabs.

The Wildcats of 1969 are 12-0 and have already claimed the Region 1-AAA and South Georgia titles. The Trojans are 11-1 and rule as Region 7-AAA and North Georgia champs.

In regular season play VHS defeated Thomasville (14-0), Dougherty (42-0), Wayne County (34-0), Ware County (28-7), Tift County (28-7) and Lowndes (40-0). 'Dosta beat Lanier, 23-0, in the first round of the state playoffs and trimmed Savannah, 20-0, in the South Georgia duel.

Athens' lone loss came by a 20-3 margin to powerful Gainesville in the Trojans' second regular season game. Since then Sellers' charges have clicked off 10 straight triumps.

Regular season victories for Athens came against Burney-Harris (20-7), Druid Hills (30-8), Chamblee (24-6), Soquoyah (23-7), Cross Keys (48-0), Briarcliff (24-7), Tucker (17-3), Decatur (30-0) and Lakeside (41-28).

In the first round of the state playoffs, Athens knocked off highly regarded Avondale, 21-10, and last week the Trojans became North Georgia champs with a 28-7 win over Dykes of Atlanta.

Valdosta has scored 407 points (33.9 average) and given up just 7 (.58 average). The 'Cats have been averaging 359.3 yards per game in total offense, (225.5 rushing and 133.8 passing.) They've given up an average of just 84.3 yards per tilt, (41.8 ing and 42.5 passing).

Athens has scored 315 points (26.3 average) and allowed 103 (8.5 average). The Trojans total offense average is 329.2 (228.8 rushing and 90.4 passing). Their defensive average is 185.4 (94.8 rushing and 42.5 passing).

But the two teams have met a different set of opponents all the way, and besides that state championship games, by nature, are unpredictable affairs with pre-game statistics seldom giving a true indication of what might or might not happen.

Wildcats, Trojans Battle To Tie

By SAMMY GLASSMAN
Times Sports Editor

Valdosta's Wildcats and Athens' Trojans staged a furious offensive battle here Saturday night, and when the dust settled, the smoke cleared and the fans' hearts stopped pounding, they were deadlocked, 26-26, and each had a co-champion's share of the 1969 state Class AAA high school football crown.

A crowd of approximately 11,000 looked on as coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Weyman Sellers' Trojans stormed up and down the field in a game that was a super thriller all the way and Athens didn't win enough points to produce the tie until there were just 25 seconds left to play.

STATISTICS

	Valdosta	Athens
First Downs	20	13
Yards Rushing	266	206
Yards Passing	106	156
Passes	4-9	6-14
Passes Inic by	1	0
Fumbles Lost	3	1
Punting	4-42.7	5-41-4
Penalties	6-42	2-20

While this is the first time they've had to share the honor the 'Cats now have been state champs in classes ranging from "A" to "AAA" 14 times since Bazemore joined the VHS coaching staff in 1940. It is their seventh Class AAA diadem since 1960, but their first as co-champs. They are still unbeaten, but now once tied, in a string of 27 games that dates back to 1967.

The 'Cats closed out their current campaign with a 12-0-1 mark and Athens finished 11-1-1.

It all boiled down to a case of Valdosta pitting team balance against the individual brillance of Athens super star Andy Johnson and the duel finished even on the scoreboard.

While the 'Cats racked up 20 first downs and had 372 yards in total offense, 266 rushing and 106 passing, Johnson could not and would not be stopped. The Trojans made 13 first downs and had 362 yards in total offense, 206 rushing 156 passing. The individual figures on Johnson a 190 pound quarterback, were 109 yards along the ground and 156 passing. He accounted for 20 points either running or throwing.

VHS' TDs came on a 63-yard pass from Don Golden to Willie Jones, a 14 yard run by Golden and romps of one and five-yards by Danny O'Neal. O'Neal kicked two extra points.

Athens touchdowns came on a 43-yard run by Benny Edmondson, runs of 68 and 7 yards by Johnson and a 29-yard pass from Johnson to Rand Lambert. The Trojans got their two extra points on an aerial from Johnson to Gary Sellers after their final touchdown.

The 'Cats lost the ball three times on fumbles late in the game deep in Athens territory. A pair of bobbles at the one chilled scoring chances. After a 'Dosta fumble at the 25, Johnson hit with two long passes as the Trojans covered 75 to score the TD which led to the deadlock with only seconds to spare.

Johnson's 68-yard dash to paydirt actually came after time had run out in the first half. Because of a VHS penalty on the final play, the Trojans got one more chance, and Johnson cashed it in for six points.

Had the PAT boot after VHS' final touchdown been good it would have put 'Dosta out of reach. But the ball hit the goal post and bounced off target.

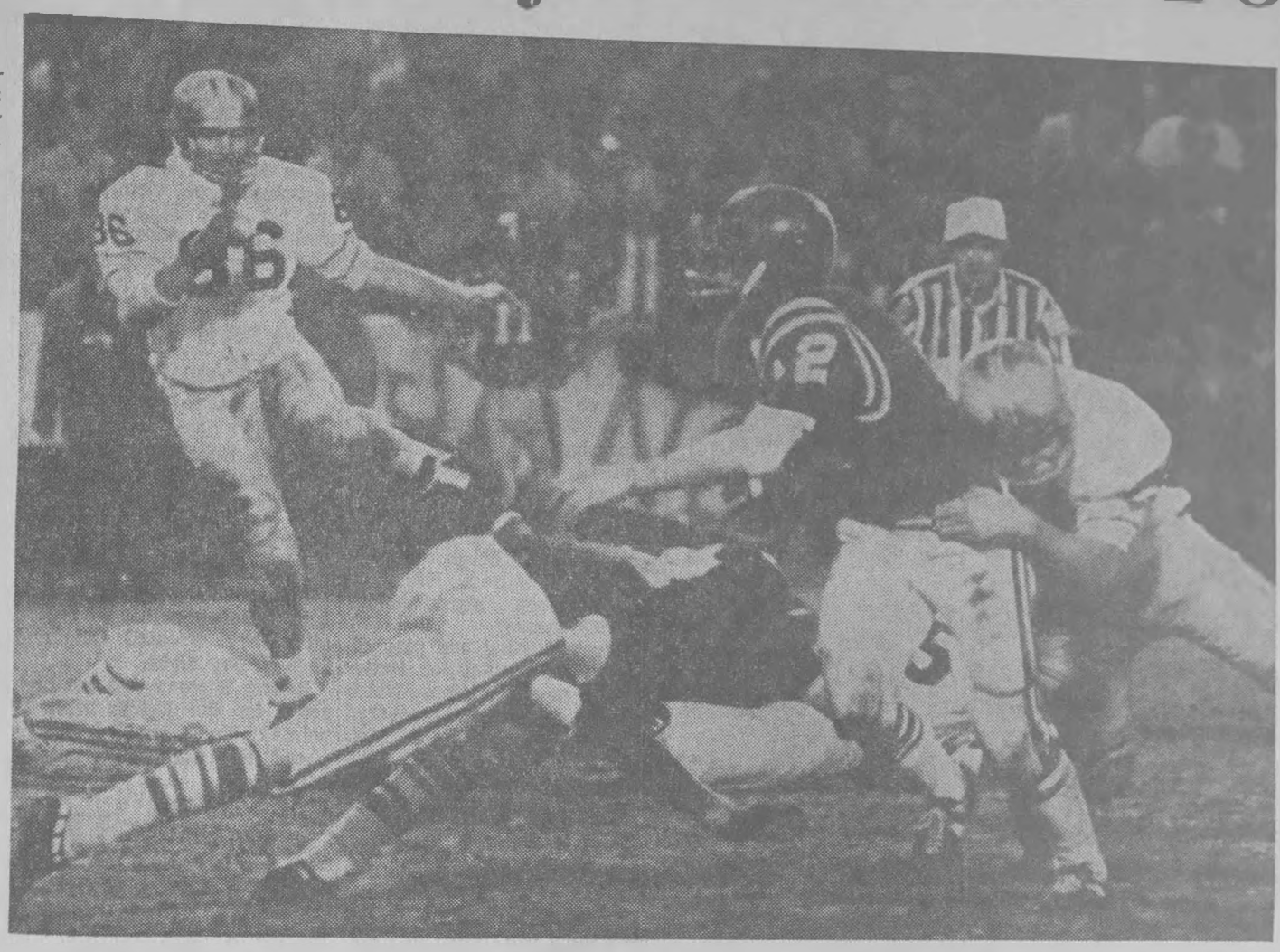
It was that kind of night for the Wildcats.

Behind sharp blocking all the way, the VHS backfield corps of Golden, Jones, O'Neal, Charles Daniels and Henry Davis moved the football with authority. Golden passed for 106 yards and O'Neal rushed for 115 to become the VHS leaders in those departments. On defense linebacker Tom Holt was credited with the most stops, 12.

Here's the way things went:

FIRST PERIOD —Valdosta kicked off and Athens struck for a quick touchdown, covering 81 yards in five plays. Johnson released a 37 yards pass to Morry Collins, then Benny Edmondson zipped 43 yards along the ground to score. Johnson tried to pass from two PATs, but the aerial missed.

Now the 'Cats had a turn and



—Times Staff Photo

Athens' Fullback Bennie Edmundson (12) Strains for Yardage With Valdosta's Vance Quillian Holding Him Back

SECOND PERIOD — Athens drove from its own 24 to the VHS 19, but was forced to give up the ball on downs at that point.

It was 'Dosta's turn again and the Wildcats wheeled 84 yards in 11 plays for their second TD. The score came on a 14-yard run by Golden. A 16-yard pass from Golden to Davis, a 10-yard run by O'Neal and a 12-yard sprint by Daniels were big gainers in this march. When O'Neal kicked the PAT Valdosta was ahead 13-6.

Athens had the ball deep in its own territory and was apparently stopped. But when VHS drew a five yard penalty on the final play of the half, Athens got one more chance. With 0:00 showing on the scoreboard clock Johnson galloped 68 yards to paydirt. Lambert missed on a PAT boot and VHS had a 13-12 lead at intermission.

THIRD PERIOD — In its first series of offensive plays in the second half VHS moved 60 yards in nine plays for its third TD. O'Neal scored from a yard out. The long gainers were runs of 9 and 12 yards by O'Neal, a 12-yard sprint by Golden and a 9-yard ramble by Davis. O'Neal booted the PAT and Valdosta led 20-12.

Athens responded by wheeling 64 yards in nine plays for its third touchdown. The big gainer was a 33-yard pass from Johnson to Rusty Carter. Johnson got the tally on a 7-yard run. Johnson again tried to pass for two PATs, but missed. VHS' lead was now 20-18.

Before this stanza ended VHS drove to the Athens one, but lost the ball there on a fumble.

FOURTH PERIOD — For VHS the final stanza began just as the third one ended. The 'Cats wheeled down to the Athens one, but lost the ball on a fumble.

But they got another chance this time when Athens fumbled at its own 11 and Holt claimed the football for Valdosta. Two plays later O'Neal scored on a five - yard run. The PAT boot was missed when it hit the goal post and bounced away. Valdosta now had a 26-18 lead.

Time was starting to become a factor and the 'Cats had the football again and were driving. They moved from their own 41 to the Athens 25. Then there was a fumble and the Trojans claimed it.

Just over a minute was left to play and Athens was 75 yards away from paydirt. Edmondson picked up four yards on a run, then Johnson uncorked a pair aerial bombs. He hit Gary Travis on a tackle eligible play with a 43-yard air strike and then tossed one 29 yards to Rand Lambert for a TD. With just 25 seconds showing on the clock Athens went for two extra points and got them on a pass from Johnson to Gary Sellers to tie the score at 26-26 and produce the co - champion situation.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Golden 11-43, Jones 8-39, O'Neal 19-115, Davis 3-11, Daniels 9-58; Athens — Johnson 21-109, Sellers 3-14, Collins 1-3, Edmondson 12-77, Smart 1-2, Russell 1-1.

Passing: Valdosta — Golden 4-7—106, Jones 0-1; Athens — Johnson 6-14—156.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Jones 3-90, Davis 1-16; Athens — Collins 1-37, Carter 3-47, Travis 1-43, Lambert 1-29.

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Jones 1-20, Daniels 1-39, Athens — Sellers 1-8, Johnson 2-18, Carter 1-10.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Holt 12, Holder 7, Skoropat 6, Baker 6, Quillin 5, Shenton 5, Hampton 5, Golden 4, Everson 4, Jones 4, Bazemore 3, Athens — Carithers 9, Carter 7, Lambert 7, Allen 5, Sellers 5, Epps 5, Collins 4, Jordan 4, Williams 4, Johnson 4, Nash 3, Johnson 3.

LINEUPS

VALDOSTA

Ends: Mabry, Dove, Baker, Skoropat, Rome.
Tackles: Everson, Koncar, Jarmillo, Quillin.
Guards: Parr, Shenton, Holt, DiBois, Crawford.
Centers: Christy.
Backs: Bazemore, Taylor, Golden, Jones, Savage, Quattlebaum, Lee, Blalock, Meeks, O'Neil, Holder, Davis, Hampton, Branan, Daniels.

ATHENS

Ends: Coile, Williams, Carter, Jordan, Branberry, Fitzgerald.
Tackles: Nash, Allen, Kitchens.
Guards: Stuchell, Travis, Lester.
Centers: Lambert.
Backs: Epps, Edmondson, Johnson, Sellers, Collins, Smart, Russell, Saunders, Carithers, Davis.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	6	7	7	6	—26
Athens	6	6	6	8	—26

Scoring: TDs — Valdosta — Jones — (63 yd. pass from Golden); O'Neal 2 (1 and 5 yd. runs) Golden (14 yd. run); Athens — Edmondson (43 yd. run), Johnson 2 (68 and 7 yd. runs) Lambert (29 yd. pass from Johnson); PATs — Valdosta — O'Neal 2 (placements), Athens — Sellers 2 (pass from Johnson).

Coaches Had Two Opinions:

By JULIAN MILLER
Times Staff Writer

If someone had told either coach Wright Bazemore's Valdosta Wildcats or coach Weyman Seller's Athens Trojans they were going to tie for the state Class AAA high school football title, they would never have believed it.

But the battle is over now, Athens came from behind to tie the 'Cats at 26-26 in the last minute of play and they are co-champs. But after the game the two coaches had mixed emotions about the whole thing.

"We looked like we had it won," Bazemore commented. "And we should have had it won. But that Athens group just kept hitting and that quarterback (Andy Johnson) gave them something to hit with.

"We just couldn't get that boy hemmed up. But it wasn't a one - man ball club by any means. They had a fine team. They were well coached, well prepared and they were ready. Everyone knows Athens had a good team.

"They scored more points on us than anyone else, but our defense was still up. They just made it look bad . . that Johnson just made it look bad," he corrected. "He just ran some tremendous plays.

"A tie is better than a loss I guess, but we should have won that game. We had it won and then we let them slip up behind us. That really hurts. We turned them loose on the last play of the half and in the last minute of the game and they scored both times.

"We had the possibility of two more touchdowns in that game and fumbled both times on the one yard line. Then we had them on their one and Johnson was so good he just opened us up and came through."

Over in the Athens dressing room, a celebration was going on.

"It was a tremendous game," Sellers was saying. "Boy I thought we could contain Valdosta's rushing better than we did. They just had a tremendous offense. I think we did a better job on offense than defense on the line.

"Sure a win would have been better for us, but half is better than nothing, much better. Some of our fans had given up on us, but they just don't know these boys like I do. They really came through for us.

"I'd be afraid to say who stoodout in the game. I believe everybody did. It was team effort both ways. But for our side it has to be Andy (Johnson). He really came through. But he's been doing that all season. Also our tackles Gary Travis and Rand Lambert and our fullback Benny Edmondson played fine games too.



—Times Staff Photo by Robert Winter III

Disappointed But Still No. 1

Valdosta High School football coach Wright Bazemore and his wife, Bettie Lou, accept a 1970 Chevelle given them by the Valdosta Touchdown Club Saturday night after Bazemore's Wildcats and Athens High School tied 26-26 in the state Class AAA football game. Bazemore, unhappy he had to settle for a tie instead of a win, also got a vote of confidence from about 35 or 40 grade school youngsters who screamed "We're Number One" as he got into the car. The Wildcats now share state championship honors with Athens. See other stories pages 10 and 11.

Valdosta High Honor Roll Announced For 2nd Session

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

One hundred forty-four students have attained honor roll listing for the second six-week term at Valdosta High School, officials announced.

Honor roll students include:

Seniors — John Anderson, Carolyn Arnold, Jenny Beck, Ann Bernard, Debbie Blanton, Chip Bounds, Scott Bretzke, Genny Bridges, Sheryl Caldwell, Billy Carmichael, Mary Ann Carmichael, Bonnie Carter, Marlene Carter, Carol Cattell, Cheryl Cauthan and Tekla Crawford.

Debbie Daniels, Vicki Dasher, Brenda Daugharty, Kenneth Emanuel, Gloria Evans, Susan Eye, Bruce Fornes, Navada Gaskins, Berrian Hamill, Lucretia Hamill, Jeanne Hansen, David Hobbs, Sherri Holman, Angela Hughes, Carolyn Jewett and Robby Johnson.

Marty LeFiles, Jenny Lloyd, William Mackey, Kathy Malone, Robin Morin, Barbara Murajda, Peggy Myddelton, Beverly Newlin, Elaine Parkerson, Bruce Pearlman, Vicki Pearlman, Ginny Price, Greg Quattlebaum and David Retterbush.

Aretha Richardson, Andy Robb, Sandra Rowe, Julie Scott, Claire Shelton, Barbara Singletary, Jeff Slocum, Marsha Smith, Kathryn Smotherman, Ginny Sorrells, Liz Sparger, Debbie Stephenson, Mike Story, Phyllis Surrency, Lynn Van Horn, Judy Welch, Angela Wetherington and Vicki Smith.

Juniors — Buck Aultman, Curt Bazemore, Chris Blane, Vallye Blanton, Nita Brantley, Steve Callahn, Bob Christian, Archie Culbreth, Bruce Daniels, Debbie Daniels, Kay Deming, Delores Edwards, Glenn Evans, Mike Fambrough, Morgan Fordham and Martha Alice Giddens.

Junior Marie Govoni, Ricky Griffis, Steve Haltiwanger, Joy Johnson, Johnny Kalil, Rayann Kelly, Gary King, David Lasster, Jimmy LeFiles, Maryliz Mayo, Carla Meadows and David Moore.

Ann Morrow, Lucy Neal, Richard Neese, Marsha Noble, Patti Parrish, Nick Quinif, Corky Rentschler, Gayle Richares, William Riggle, Rosanne Roskamp, Patricia Sales, Mary Beth Smith, Joseph Tillman, Phillip K. Webb and Bo Woodward.

Sophomores — Mary Jane Beck, Stan Bounds, Fay Brass, Susan Cattell, Paul De Mersseman, Melanie Eanes, Margaret Espinosa, Debbie Glassman, Lynn Haynes, Jack Jenkins, Patricia Jeter, Laura Jones, Mary Alice King and Becky McDonald.

Ronald Moore, Annete Norris, Janis Nutt, Wonnie Overby, Donna Pitts, Mark Retterbush, Gay Robertson, Nancy Rogers, Dianne Rowe, Pearce Scott, David Slowik, Lauren Smith, Cathy Sparkman, Gwen Stickley and Beth Sullivan.

Nicky Tampas, Sherri Teffeteller, Elaine Varn, Jenelce Washington, Ann Watson, Ann Williams, Jeanie Williams, Linda Yancey and Rosanne Zaiyko.

Student's Father Swears Warrant In VHS Incident

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The father of a white Valdosta High School student has sworn out a warrant in the office of the justice of the peace here charging another VHS student with simple battery following an incident last month during a physical education class.

In a letter to the Valdosta Board of Education, Earl Alderman said his daughter, Patti Alderman, was attacked by a 10th grade Negro student, Diane Brown, while both were in PE class at the high school.

Alderman swore out the warrant last week.

I.H. (Bubber) Tillman, chairman of the board of education, acknowledged receipt of the letter, but said the matter came under VHS administrators.

Both girls were suspended from school for two days following the incident. In the letter to the board, Alderman said he would not allow his daughter to return to VHS until there is "some semblence of protection."

He further stated that the attack was unwarranted, and that suspending both girls from school was unfair.

VHS Principal Chuck Green said he felt there was enough provocation on both sides to make the suspension of both parties involved justifiable.

He said Tuesday the Alderman girl had not yet returned to school.

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats Of 1969 Upheld Tradition

After Valdosta's Wildcats and Athens' Trojans battled to a 26-26 tie in their duel for the state Class AAA grid crown here Saturday night chants of "We're Number One" echoed from the student sections on both sides of the field.

That's the way the deadlock and the co-champion status of the 'Cats and Trojans is going to affect fans in both camps.



GLASSMAN

Since the two teams finished even on the scoreboard the big debate about which one is really the best is now in full swing and likely to go on for a long spell.

That's the nature of ties because they actually settle nothing. And after each deadlock, especially after a wide open game like VHS and AHS staged, followers of both teams can point to many instances and say if this or that hadn't happened the outcome would have been different.

Indeed, the contest between coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats and coach Weyman Sellers' Trojans could have gone either way, but it finished with the score even.

Now if you're interested in my opinion regarding which team is the best, then my vote goes to the 'Cats. And taking nothing away from the many really fine Valdosta players, the best individual performer on the field Saturday night was Athens quarterback Andy Johnson.

Had Super Night

Johnson, a 190-pound senior, has been billed "as the best all-round football player in Athens High's history." I've got to say that when you consider his natural ability, how many things he does well, his poise under pressure and his desire he's one of the best prep backs I've seen in more than 20 years of following the sports beat.

He had a super night against the 'Cats and he's most definitely responsible for the tie.

Since Valdosta had an eight point lead and then lost it in the final seconds of the game there is a tendency among some Valdosta followers to feel disappointed.

Certainly, when you're out front you don't like to have to settle for a tie. Bazemore wasn't satisfied nor were his players. He teaches them to strive for victory.

But let's keep the record straight. The 'Cats battled hard all the way against a talented opponent and they most definitely were not beaten. And here's something else. They are state champions, even though they must share the honor with the Trojans.

And don't let anything cloud the picture of the full season.

Still Unbeaten

The Wildcats of 1969 finished 12-0-1. Once tied, perhaps, but still unbeaten. And they are the only Class AAA team in the state out of a total of 80 which did not suffer a defeat this year.

And keep this in mind. VHS started the season without the services of 17 starters off the '68 title team. That left Bazemore and his aides with a major rebuilding job to do. They came through with an outstanding coaching effort.

Veterans were asked to give that something extra and inexperienced players were challenged to step into the gaps and help take up the slack. The pressure was there on opening night and it never let up until the final buzzer sounded in the last game.

The 'Cats of '69 went 12-0-1 and became state Class AAA co-champions. You better believe the Wildcats, all of them, came through in fine fashion.

Valdosta has a proud football tradition. This VHS team deserves a place among the best in the school's history. In my book they truly are champions.

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City School Desegregation

Board Clarifies Its Plan

By MARY CROUSE

The Valdosta Board of Education has clarified its desegregation plan for this fall and has assured the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare that the new Gordon Street elementary school will have a 50-50 white and black student ratio upon its completion.

The board meeting in special session Monday afternoon unanimously adopted the elaboration of its original school desegregation plan. Supt. Foster Goolsby said the clarification will be sent to HEW in the next two days.

The superintendent said the further explanations will put the city school system in compliance with HEW desegregation guidelines.

"Once we are in compliance we will not be affected by the Justice Department suit against the state board of education," he said.

Goolsby and four other members of the school board took the desegregation plan to Washington, D. C., for final approval by HEW officials July 28. HEW basically approved the plan but asked that several points be further explained before it is officially accepted.

The city board has been in non - compliance with HEW for a year and all federal funds for any new projects have been deferred. The system receives about $1 million annually in federal funds and at least half of this is in jeopardy of being terminated if the board fails to comply.

The board in its efforts to abide by the guidelines asked Title IV representatives from the U. S. Office of Education in HEW to help them draw up a suitable plan.

"We've wanted all along to obey the law and keep the federal funds which we so badly need in the system," said board chairman I. H. (Bubber) Tillman Jr.

HEW wanted specific numbers on anticipated white and black enrollment at all the elementary schools including the proposed Gordon Street facility. The officials also asked for faculty crossovers and future plans for Lomax Junior High and South Street Elementary plants.

The board Monday night agreed that South Street in September 1970 will be closed, rezoned to eliminate the racial identity of the school or have its racial identity removed by some other means.

The board stated that Lomax Junior High will be an elementary facility this fall with about 450 Negro students and about 50 white pupils. There will be 11 white teachers and eight Negro instructors, according to the plan.

In other elementary schools: Magnolia is to have about 47 white students, 400 Negro pupils, three white faculty members and 15 Negro teachers. S. L. Mason anticipates 660 white students, 121 Negroes, 22 white instructors and five Negro teachers.

Sallas - Mahone expects 775 white students, 66 Negro pupils, 18 white teachers and five Negro faculty members. Leila Ellis is to have about 263 white students, 125 Negro children, 10 white teachers and three Negro teachers. W. G. Nunn expects 568 white students, 15 Negro pupils, 17 white teachers and four Negro instructors.

Southeast anticipates about 14 white youngsters, 375 Negro children, six white faculty members and six Negro teachers. South Street is to have an all Negro enrollment of 420 with seven white teachers and seven Negro instructors.

The seventh and eighth graders are to attend Valdosta Junior High School and the ninth graders are to be housed at Valdosta High School-Pinevale Campus this fall. The 10th, 11th and 12th graders are to be at Valdosta High School in September.

Wildcat Special

The Valdosta Daily Times

Wildcat Special

VALDOSTA, GEORGIA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 12, 1969

Win, Wildcats; Tromp Athens

This Was The Year

Valdosta 14, Thomasville 0

Valdosta 42, Dougherty 0

Valdosta 34, Wayne 0

Valdosta 63, Ware 0

Valdosta 28, Albany 0

Valdosta 21, Moultrie 0

Valdosta 48, Monroe 0

Valdosta 46, Coffee 0

Valdosta 28, Tift 7

Valdosta 40, Lowndes 0

Valdosta 23, Lanier 0

Valdosta 20, Savannah 0

Valdosta ?, Athens ?



Waving 'Em On: Wild Wildcat Fans Cheer and Wave Signs and Symbols

And This Is The Issue

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

News coverage is supposed to be objective. Most of the time it is, but with a team like the Magnificent Seventy, a year like 1969 and a decade like the one ending nobody in Valdosta could be objective about the Wildcats.

Not the students, not the Times, not the parents, not Valdosta's businessmen. This special edition is to commemorate this year's team, this decade and all past Wildcats.

Inside are articles and pictures on the team, on the band and cheerleaders, coaches and managers and highlights of Wildcat seasons through the years.

It's full of things even the most ardent Wildcat fans may have forgotten. We invite you to keep it and refer to it in the future.

That's this issue. But the issue Saturday night is Athens.

It's Been Decade Of The 'Cats

By EARL BRASWELL

It's been the Decade of the 'Cats — there's no doubt about it — and it'll come to an end Saturday night. But Valdosta's Magnificent Seventy—counting players, coaches and managers—are working hard to make it a successful end.

Since 1960, the third year the Valdosta High School football team was in Class AAA, the 'Cats have gone to the state championship finals seven times. Six times they've brought back the prize. They're going for number seven against the fine Athens Trojans at 8 p.m. Saturday on Cleveland Field, the scene of more state championship high school football games than any other in the state.

This year's edition, with a do it all offense and a stop 'em all defense, has compiled 407 points against just seven for the opposition. That's a record for a Valdosta High team.

And as their head coach Wright Bazemore has constantly pointed out, one man can't do it, and that's no better illustration than in this year's team. It's a team. Only in a couple of games have there been any clean Valdosta jersies on the bench at the end of the contest.

There's depth, determination and spirit.

The first decade of Coach Bazemore's mentoring saw the 'Cats win two state titles. They won five in the 1950s. And they're after their seventh Saturday night. No other coach and no other team in Georgia has done it. They're after their 14th championship in all and second in a row.

The Athens Trojans, coached by veteran Weyman Sellers, is also coming off a fabulous year. The team, led by quarterback Andy Johnson, has won 11 games and lost one, being defeated only by Gainesville which is in the state Class AA finals.

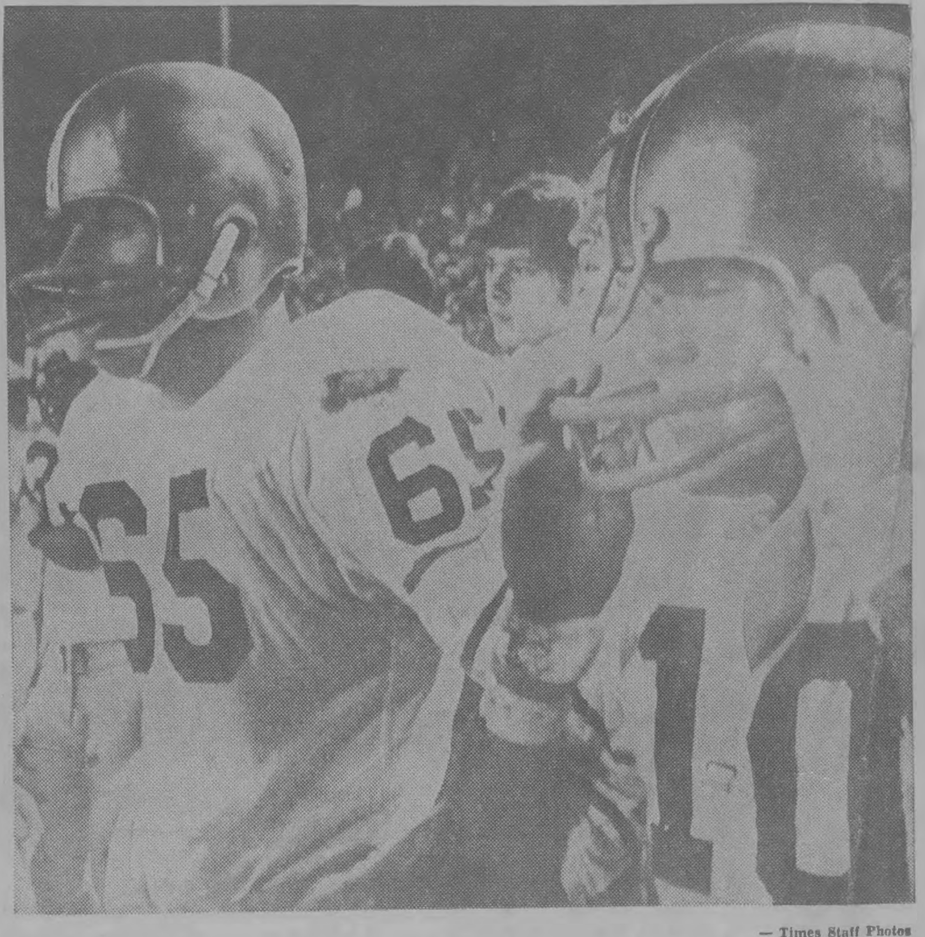
They got to the state championship by knocking off Avondale and Dykes after going undefeated in their region.

Two times previously, the two teams have met for state championships, once in Class AA. Athens took the first contest 41-20, paced by such standouts as Fran Tarkenton, George Guisler and Billy Savage. Valdosta took the last one, a spine-tingling 14-13 win at Athens.

The stage is set, the teams are ready, and there's only waiting until Saturday night. And then, what about next year?



Offense Tries Refresher: Robert Koncar, Left, Danny O'Neal Drink Up



— Times Staff Photos

Waiting To Go: Tom Holt, Left, Curt Bazemore



—Times Staff Photo

Packed, As Usual: This Was the Scene at Cleveland Field as the 'Cats Took On the Lanier Poets

Won 15 One Year

'Cats Have Played Two Bowl Games

By MIKE HILL

Among the many things Valdosta High School Football teams have won and been remembered for are two games in 1953 which made them the only school to win the now defunct Peanut Bowl twice in one year and twice in a row.

The Peanut Bowl was held in Columbus and sponsored by the Exchange Club and the Columbus Ledger - Inquirer, the times Valdosta won it.

The first game Valdosta played in the Bowl was on New Year's Day in 1953. The next season's team played there Dec. 18 of the same year.

For the first contest, Valdosta played a highly-rated Yankee team from West Springfield, Mass., after winning the Region 1-A playoff with Americus 59-7, downing College Park, 26-0, for the South Georgia Class A title, and ending up by beating LaGrange, 30-0.

West Springfield was defeated in a last minute thriller, 28-26.

The next year, Valdosta beat Americus 33-13 and College Park 27-0 and LaGrange (again) in the state finals 48-7 on the way to the Peanut Bowl.

Their opponent that year was Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville, Tenn. They did not prove as worthy an opponent as the last bowl confrontation the Cats had, and were downed 24-0.

The first year Valdosta played in the bowl, they had completely outclassed all their opponents. For the first half of this first bowl game, it appeared they might outclass West Springfield also, but in the second half, the game proved to be the toughest one of the season, with only a two-point difference in the final score.

About 800 Valdosta fans had joined the almost 9,000 who viewed the game, and at first it looked like every other ball game Valdosta played that year.

At the end of the half, the score was 21-7. The West Springfield Terriers had gained little on the ground, but scored when Terrier quarterback Les (Porky) Plumb, going both ways, intercepted a 'Cat pass and set up the first Terrier TD.

Valdosta's second score of the half came on a fluke play when Plumb was hit in the backfield in the act of passing and dropped the ball.

Valdosta's Bobby Renfroe picked up the ball and stepped easily over the goal line seven yards away.

The fluke made the winning difference in the final score, however, because the second halg was anything but a repeat of the first.

Realizing he couldn't move the ball against the rugged Valdosta line, Plumb came back the second half determined to go to the air.

He completed five of nine passes for 159 yards and three touchdowns. He had the help of three Valdosta defenders for one of the touchdowns.

He had launched a pass from his own 11-yard line to a receiver downfield. Three Wildcat defenders went for the ball, and knocked it up into the air. A Terrier receiver ended up with it and raced 74 yards for another Terrier TD.

And then one minute from the end of the ball game, Valdosta had a punt blocked on their own 46. It was recovered by a Terrier, but the next play both teams jumped offsides, which ate up enough time that the Terriers had only time for one more play.

Plumb dropped back to pass, and when he couldn't find anyone open, he set off down the sidelines.

He was dropped 11 yards later, just as the final gun of the 'Cat's first Peanut Bowl game went off.

Back of the year Noel George was credited with making the difference for the Valdosta team, and not just because he kicked the extra points.

He also gained 116 of the 'Cat's 249 yards, and was only stopped once short of the scrimmage line.

Valdosta's all-state quarterback Sammy Hardin was also praised for snappy ball handling.

The defense was led by Jimmy Walker, Larry Massey, James Warren and Ray Moore.

Valdosta had 248 yards rushing on the ground compared with 83 for the Massachusetts team, but there was only 23 yards difference in the total offense, because of 197 yards the Terriers gained on the passing of quarterback Plumb.

The Eighth Annual Peanut Bowl was held Dec. 18, that same year, and a slightly more modern version of the Wildcats was back to win it again.

It was sponsored that year by the Columbus Exchange Club for charity, and the opponent was Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville, Tenn. Attendance was cut the day of the game by freezing weather.

Either the Wildcats were better, or Montgomery Bell wasn't as good as the Yankee team had been the year before, and the Wildcats took home their 32nd straight victory, 24-0.

Valdosta, apparently hampered by the cold, scored once in each of the first two quarters, and twice in the final quarter.

Montgomery Bell supported the confidence of its fans and sportswriters with a shifty defense which held the "cat runners to small gains. But the Wildcats seemed capable of grinding out small gains all day and all up and down the field.

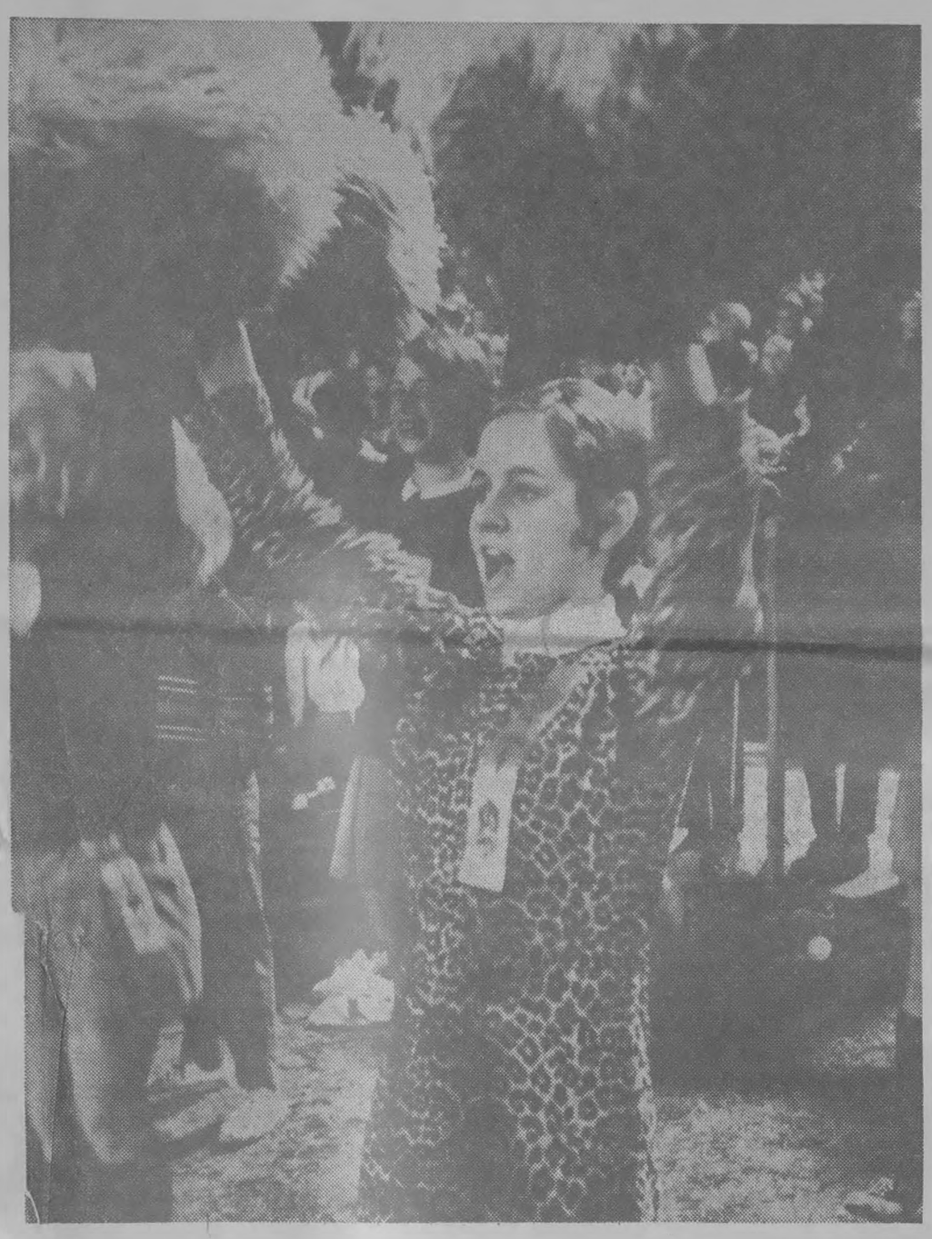
The two longest runs of the day for Valdosta were only 20 and 25 yards, but the 'Cats racked up 249 yards on the ground, to Bell's 65.

The 'Cat defense was impregnable.

The first Valdosta touchdown was set up when senior Paul McNeil recovered a Montgomery Bell fumble on the second play following the opening kickoff.

The ball had been on the enemy 43, and it took Valdosta 1 plays and three first downs to drive the ball over the goal.

The Nashville team was good, but they were no match for the Wildcats that year. The 'Cats were at the height of their glory in 1953, and people were calling the team before that, in 1952, the "greatest ever."



—Times Staff Photo

Rudolph Is Former Pro

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

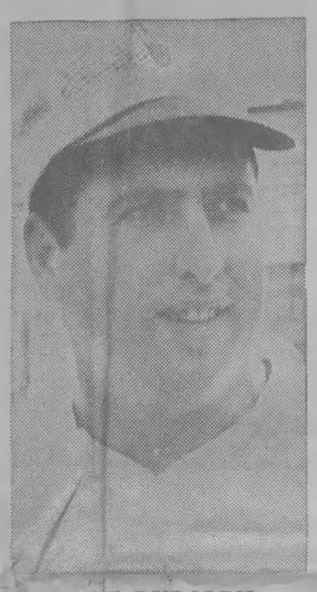
A former professional football player, Jack Rudolph, says he got into the coaching end of the game because it is something he has always wanted to do.

Rudolph, coach for the defensive backs and linebackers of the Valdosta High School Wildcat football team, played pro ball for seven years.

He is in his third year at VHS and hopes to stay in the coaching profession. Besides his coaching activities, Rudolph teaches four math classes at VHS.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., he lived in Atlanta most of his life and received a degree in Industrial Management from Georgia Tech. He was a linebacker for the Boston Patriots six years and the Miami Dolphins for one year.

The 31-year-old coach is married to the former Marsha Harris and they have a two-year-old son. Rudolph is a member of the First Methodist Church and the Elks Lodge.



JACK RUDOLPH
Defensive Back

She's Wildcat Spirit

Janet Hiers, the Wildcat mascot, does her thing with the cheerleaders during an exciting moment of a VHS game. Miss Hiers, a senior member of the cheering squad, runs up and down the sidelines sometimes growling like a 'Cat and sometimes just screaming like a regular cheerleader. But she's always working to keep the spirit up.



—Times Staff Photo

It Gets Exciting

Valdosta High students show their concern and enthusiasm during a tense second in the early moments of a game while the score is still close. The students start cheering and stamping feet with the first kickoff and don't generally stop until the outcome is certain. It's the reason Coach Wright Bazemore calls the VHS student body "the greatest in the world."



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It's A Rough Life At Football Camp

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It's a rough life at Coach Wright Bazemore's annual football camp at Twin Lakes, and some of the 14 - and 15-year olds who get their first introduction to Wildcat football there don't make it through the three weeks.

But the ones who do make it have earned the name "Wildcat," and they are full of the spirit and enthusiasm that goes along with the name.

"It's the best team in the state," one piney rooter decided during an interview at the camp last August.

"In the United States," he was corrected by another gridder to be. "In the world," said a third speaker.

During the interview five piney rooters (what they call infant Wildcats) compared their first reactions to high school level football. It was during a break in the heat of the day. The summer session is held annually at the Lowndes County 4-H Camp on Long Pond.

Several coaches wandered into the dining hall as the interview was being conducted. They sat down at a back table with big bowls of ice cream.

"We can drink Gatorade," one confided as he watched the coaches enjoy their snacks "But we are not supposed to have carbohydrate drinks." He couldn't eat ice cream either. He was in training.

"Its a good camp . . ." the piney rooter raised his voice. "Did'ya hear that, coach?" (The coach ignored him.) ". . . when you're a senior," he finished in a whisper. You could tell he really loved it.

The five piney rooters, Stanley Bounds, 14, Tony Walters, 15, Jimmy Stevenson, 15, Jim Clarkston, 16, and Steve Stanaland, 15, were all veterans of junior high school football. Now, 12 weeks later, they have been through a season of Wildcat style football.

All said the work was hard and they expected it to get harder. It did.

VHS alumni remember the first day of school when the freshmen football players showed up grinning and bald.

Those days are gone, according to the piney rooters, who returned to school this year with sore muscles but all of their hair. There was a time all new gridders got a haircut at camp. The cuts ranged from a "Mohawk" to a complete baldness.

Even the food lines operate on an equal basis now, the rookie Wildcats said, with first come, first serve, the rule. However, the piney rooters did have to give the older players rubdowns, said Stevenson.

The camp is really a serious thing, and the junior Wildcats as well as the veterans take it as just that. They practice hard, the first week in sports for conditioning, and the last two full speed in pads.

The campers day begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast. The first practice is scheduled for 10 a.m. Lunch is served at 1 p.m. and after lunch comes rest time.

Practice resumes at 4 p.m. and skull practice takes up the evening after supper.

The gridders have to look forward to more hard practice once school starts and the tired hours at night after supper when they must keep up with their studies like any other students.

But they've earned something when they go through the ordeal. They've earned the name "Wildcat." In Valdosta, Ga., that means something. It's worth it.

The piney rooters show openly they are proud to be on the team and no matter how much work there is at football camp, they are proud to do that too.

"I don't think any of us would want to play on another team," said one of the young gridders. You could tell he meant it.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Tift

Mark Dibois (66) blocks and Charles Daniels (44) goes for yardage in the Tift County game the Wildcats won, 28-7. The pesky Blue Devils managed to score the only touchdown which has been registered against the 'Cats this season after they recovered a fumble on the 11-yard line. Otherwise the game was as one-sided as most of Valdosta's others this year. The VHS eleven had 22 first downs, 357 yards rushing and 140 yards passing. Tift had five first downs, 53 yards rushing and 26 passing.



'Cats Lost Game But Not Championship

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Again in 1965 the Wildcats reigned as State Class AAA football champions while posting a record of 11-1.

Wins were over Waycross 33-0, Baker of Columbus 13-0, Dougherty of Albany 45-6, Jordan of Columbus 28-13, Lanier of Macon 21-0, Albany 33-2, Moultrie 27-19, Northside of Warner Robins 49-7 and Lagrange 47-6.

The loss came at the hands of Willingham of Macon 12-7.

In the playoffs the 'Cats rolled over Savannah 32-3 and squeezed by Athens 14-13.

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Despite Cold And Snow, 'Cats Tamed The Panthers

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ATLANTA — Valdosta's Wildcats kept their football flame burning brightly all the way in the frozen confines of Grant Field here to give Forest Park's Panthers a 37-12 roasting.

With the win, coach Wright Bazemore's finely balanced 'Cats racked up their 13th consecutive victory this year and claimed the 1968 Georgia State Class AAA grid championship.

Despite spirited opposition from coach Carl Madison's previously unbeaten Panthers and deep freeze weather conditions, the 'Cats gave a convincing demonstration of why they have been put in the top spot in every poll which has come out since the season opened back in September and are now officially entitled to the number one ranking.

The temperature was 20 degrees, an icy wind ranging between 25 and 35 miles per hour swept through Grant Field and there were flurries of snow.

The 12,476 fans who showed up were literally left numb and at the same time were treated to a true championship performance by the Wildcats.

Valdosta turned two Forest Park fumbles into a rapid-fire 14 point lead. failed to panic when the Panthers put a quick 12 points of their own on the scoreboard and went on to win with the kind of balance and team effort which has been their trademark all the way. More than 40 'Cats saw action in the game.

After the Panthers fumbled on the third play, Charles Shenton claimed it at the Forest Park 37. On Valdosta's first play from scrimmage, Larry Howell lofted a high pass into the arms of Mike Flail in the end zone. Glenn Williams kicked the first of four points after.

Again on Forest Park's third down play, quarterback Randy Kidd lost the handle trying to pass and Jerry Neal scooped it up and lugged it into the end zone from the 13.

After a 67 - yard Kidd to Denny Sullivan pass, Forest Park's Kidd scored but the extra point was no good. They later moved 55 yards helped by two Valdosta penalties to reach paydirt with Sullivan scoring from the 4.

Valdosta scored again before the half on a 16 yard pass from quarterback Frank Deming to Flail, after Ronnie Pitcock had intercepted a pass.

After the half, it was all Valdosta with the 'Cats scoring 13 points in the third quarter, on a one - yard run by Deming and a two yard run by fullback Danny O'Neal, and a fourth period 27 yard field goal by Williams.

Valdosta had 15 first downs, 178 yards rushing and 95 yards passing to 14 first downs, 123 yards rushing and 121 passing for Forest Park.



CHARLES GREENE
His Job, Moving

Line Coach Has Done It All Himself

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High School Wildcat offensive line coach Charles Greene doesn't ask anything of his players he hasn't done himself.

The 29 - year - old native Valdostan was an offensive lineman (a guard) on the 1957 VHS team which won the AA State championship. He was good enough to earn an honorable mention on the All-State team that year.

Greene is a member of the 1958 VHS graduating class and received a bachelor's degree in education from Valdosta State College here. He also holds a master's degree in education from Georgia Southern College in Statesboro.

He is married to the former Linda Doig of Valdosta and they have two sons, Trevor, 3, and Todd, 1½.

Prior to this year Greene divided his duties at the high school between teaching a course in history and his coaching chores.

This year, Greene said, he instructs a physical education class in addition to teaching 'Cats how to move opposing linemen.

Grid Win Has Mixed Reaction, Really

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High School has played more post season championship footbal games than any other Class AAA school in the state of Georgia in the past 10 years

As offensive backfield coach of the team, Joe Wilson loves it. But as the school's head boys basketball coach, Wilson said it makes life hard.

In the nine years Wilson has been coaching at VHS, the football Wildcats have gone all the way up to the state championship game seven times, including this year.

"And that makes coaching basketball at this school the hardest coaching job in the state of Georgia," Wilson said.

The problem is that the school's leading football players are generally also the leading basketball players. As long as they are playing football, that's what they are practicing — not basketball.

So every time the grid 'Cats go to the state finals Wilson starts basketball season about three week behind the competition in practice.

"Every year we don't go to State football, we win 20 basketball games," Wilson said.

Wilson's basketballers won their first game this season despite the fact four of their five starters are football players who have had very little practice on the hardwood.

They are Warwick (Tuffy) Taylor, Willie Jones, Roger Rome and Don Golden.

It causes Wilson to have mixed emotions about the Wildcats and all their football accomplishments.

"We like it when we win in football," Wilson said. "But it does make it tough in basketball."







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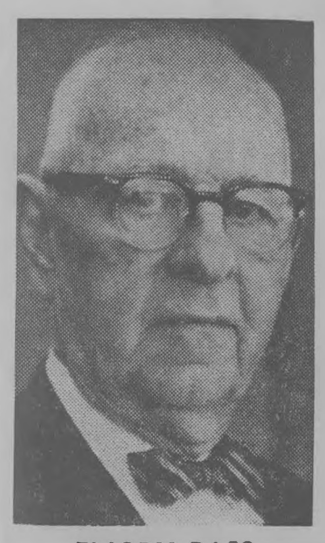

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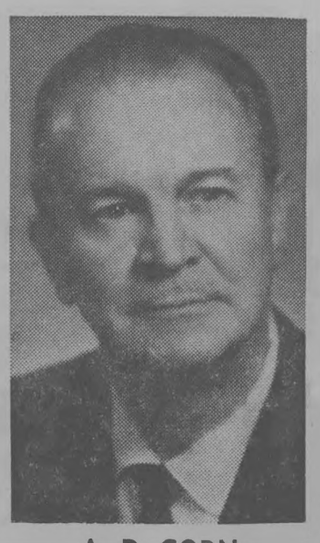

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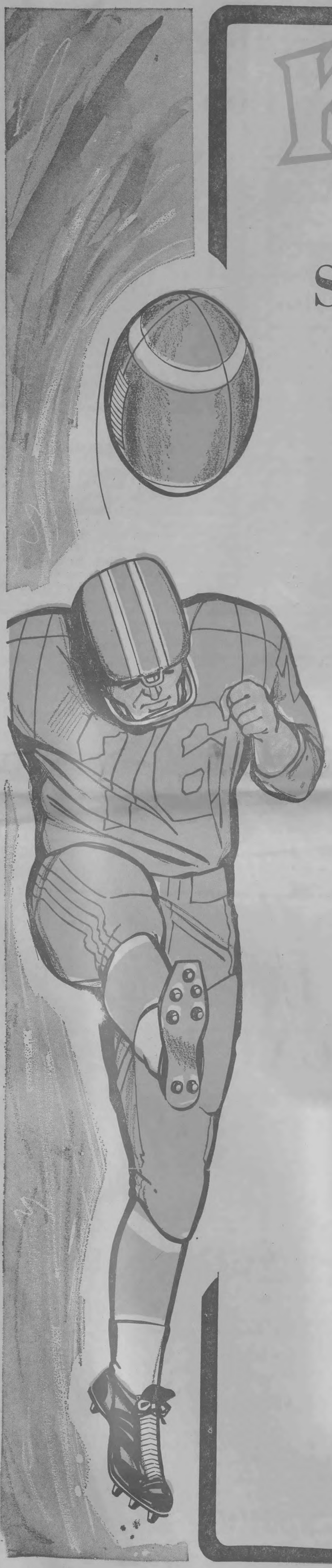

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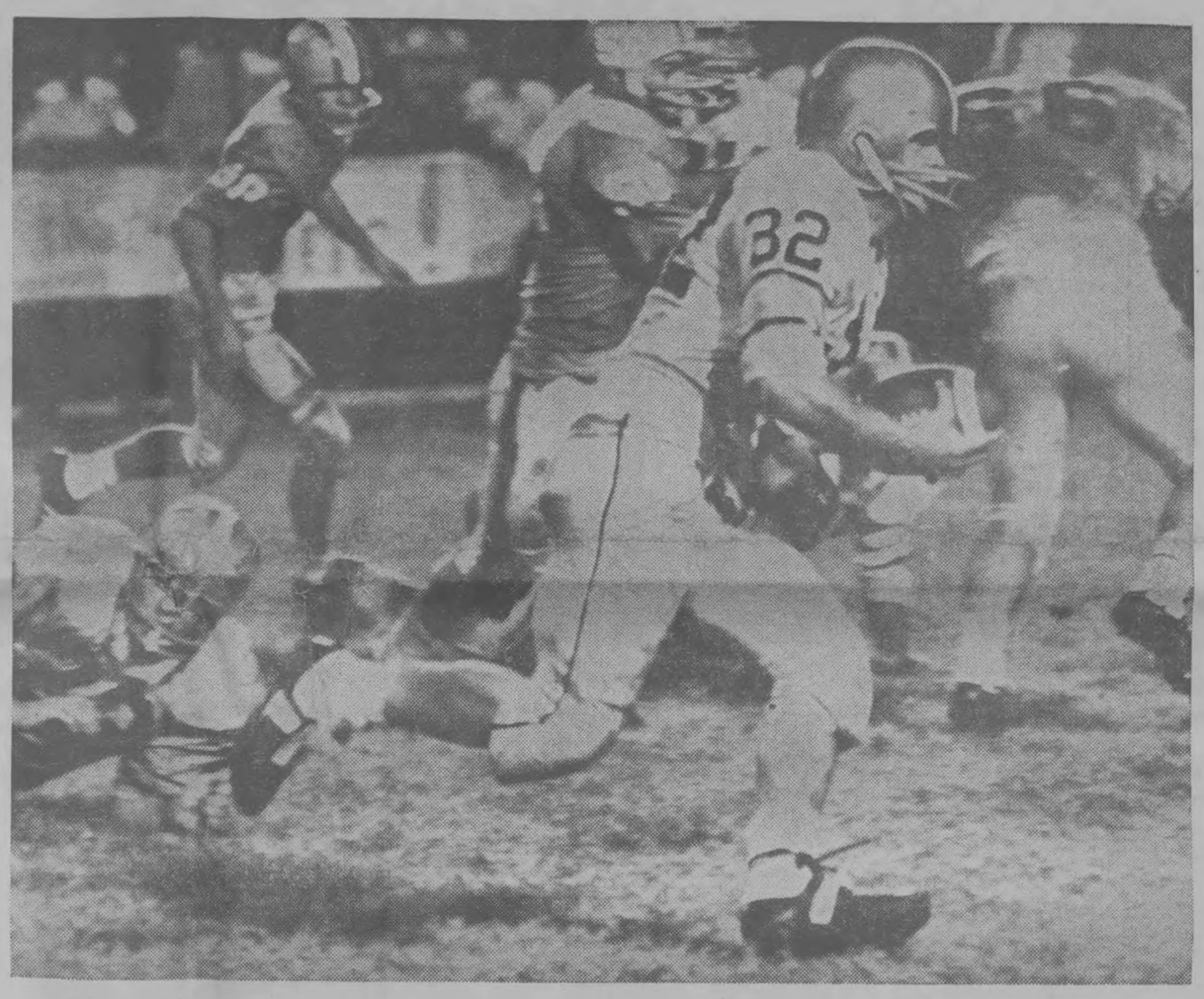

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—Times Staff Photo

Gets The Word

Senior guard Charles Daniels gets last minute instructions from assistant coach Jack Rudolph, however he also casts an eye over to a Valdosta Times photographer who caught the scene. He must have been attentive, however. He carried out his assignment like a professional on the next play.

Her Championship Coat Will Be There Saturday

EDITOR'S NOTE: Football fans, like the baseball ans, are superstitious. This is the story of one such superstition, or as they put it, "not taking any chances." It's from Doris Knight of Valdosta.

I am the owner of a 17 yeare-old great-coat that has gone down in annals of footbali history. It has "seen" the Wildcats win ten state championship titles.

It has been present at Cleveland Field more times than I can remember. To Valdosta fans it has become as familiar as Bazemore's green neck-tie.

Through soft gray mists and downpours of rain it has kept me dry. When cold winds rose to almost gale force it kept me toasty warm.

Only once did it fail me. That was on Grant Field that snowy night last December when thousands of Valdostans turned up EN MASSE in Atlanta to support their favorite high school team.

Made of heavy wool Black Watch plaid, with a gay, yellow crepe lining and layers of interlinings, THE COAT is simply styled with a small, black velvet collar and buttons and pleats in the back.

It has been shortened as many times as the seasons have passed. Miraculously, it has remained in style to become as perennial as the Wildcats pennants.

THE COAT has become an institution with my family, too. Though sometimes I try to dress more modishly, when those crucial dates in late November and early December draw near, my husband asks, "Do you still have THE COAT?"

My drycleaner, a staunch Wildcat supporter himself,has come to recognize its worth. Last year he told me, "I'll guard it with my very life . . . if anything were to happen to this coat, I don't know what would become of the 'Cats."

I'll be wearing it Saturday night.

Remembers When Ducks Had A Day

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Robert Deloach, a former manager, was at Cleveland Field Tuesday watching the football team practice and watching the work done by the managers.

Deloach had been manager for the Wildcats several years ago and even though he is now graduated, he can't forget the many afternoons he spent with the teams.

He was manager in 1962 when the football field turned into a pond after five days of hard rain.

Deloach said he and another manager, Ashley Paulk, worked an entire day with workman shoveling sand onto the field to fill up the mud holes.

Deloach said he actually saw ducks circing the field that day. He said the field must have looked like a lake to them.



— Special Photo

He's A Champ, Too

Athens High Coach Weyman Sellars is bringing his team in search of his second state title. They won in 1955, defeating Valdosta for the championship. The 'Cats returned the favor in 1965, downing the North Georgia champs. Sellars teams, in 18 years of competition have won 127, lost 54 and tied eight. They were the Region 4-A champs in 1954 with a 9-1 record; state champs in 1955, going 13-0; North Georgia champs in 1965 with a 13-1 record; Region 8-AAA champs in 1968 with a 9-2 record and are 11-1 this year.

Ken Wienbel is making his bow this season as Dartmouth's indoor track coach. He coached outdoor track and cross country in 1969.

Coach Mercer Says His Big Dream Has Come True

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

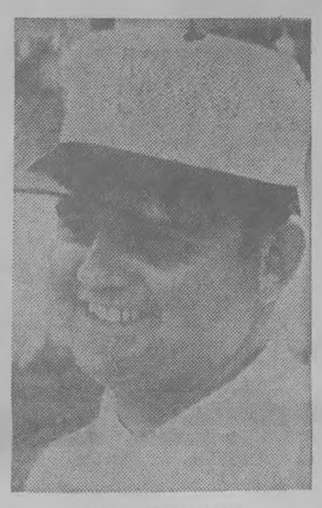
When Joe Mercer was in high school he had a dream — to someday work under Coach Wright Bazemore, athletic director at Valdosta High School.

Mercer, who grew up in Jeffersonville, realized his dream this year when he accepted a position in the athletic department at VHS.

The 24-year-old Macon native is the coach for the B team offensive backfield and is a scout for the varsity Wildcat football team.

Married to the former Mary Ellen Tucker of Tifton, the couple has a seven-week-old son. Mercer was youth director for the First Baptist Church this summer.

He was graduated from Georgia Southern College in Statesboro with a degree in physical education. He was on the coaching staff at Waycross High School for two years.



JOE MERCER

FM Broadcast Is Scheduled For The Game

The Valdosta - Athens Class AAA State Championship football game is to be broadcast over an Athens FM radio station Saturday night.

Bill Keller, manager of Clearview of Georgia, said the broadcast would reach Valdosta radios over cable only.

He said the station would go on the air with the game at 7:45 p.m. It is about point 92 on th FM dial, Keller said.



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Under Rockwell

'Cats Were Born Sand Lot Style

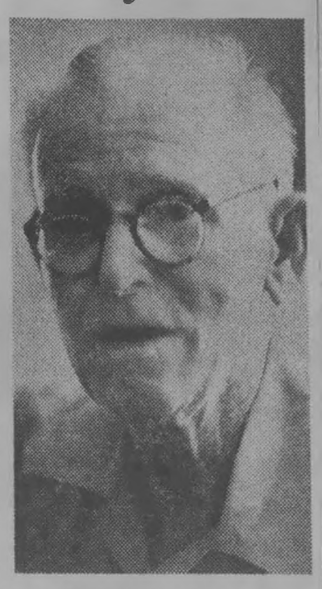
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It was in the early fall of 1913 that the Valdosta High School Wildcats were born.

Fifteen VHS students, under the guidance of Valdostan Turner Rockwell who was later to become the editor of The Valdosta Daily Times, gathered at the Old Magnolia Park and got up the team.

There was no stadium, no band, little in the way of equipment and even less money to travel on.

But even in those days there was a crazy desire to win and a stubborn belief that the 'Cats were tough. That first team proved it. Valdosta compiled a 3-1-2 record with the only loss coming at the hands of a junior college.



TURNER ROCKWELL
Knew Hard Knocks

The older boys from Sparks Junior College handed Rockwell's charges a 12-6 loss and had their hands full beating the high schoolers. Later in the season, the Wildcats avenged the loss by beating Sparks, 7-0, in a return bout.

In other games that season the VHS eleven tied Moultrie 7-7 and Brunswick 6-6. It later scored a 7-0 win over Brunswick and beat Moultrie 20-14.

The first string line on the 1913 squad was made up of ends Eric McIntyre and Frank Roberts, tackles Albert Saunders and Tom Cranford, guards Harvey Griffin and Frank Rose and center Francis Childress.

Rockwell recalled the early days of the football team were truly days of hard knocks.

"Since we only had 15 boys, the only way we could practice was to scrimmage one side of the line against the other," Rockwell remembered. "It made for a different situation at game time."

He said substitutes in those days were only to replace boys who were hurt too badly to continue playing. "And if we ever got any more than four hurt in a game, we were in trouble. We had to play with less than 11 players.

Rockwell recalls very few injuries, although players wore almost no protective equipment. "All they had was come cotton material stuffed under their clothes," he said.

Rockwell was in business with a building material firm here when he decided to take the task of coaching the Wildcats.

"I don't really know how I got involved," Rockwell said. "They just wanted somebody to do it and I took the job because I loved football."

Rockwell coached for three years. It was just an afternoon job and there was no pay involved.

"The faculty at the school wanted to get the team started, but there was no one on the faculty who could coach football," Rockwell said. "They asked me to do it and I was glad that I could help."

Rockwell recalled he had little football experience himself. He had gone to Emory University where there was no football team but had participated in some intramural football.

The backfield was composed of quarterback John Stevens, halfbacks Lewis Pindar and West Cranford and fullback James Cranford.

Substitutes that year were Will Collier, Osborne Holzendorff. Carl Blair and Jim Tom Blalock.

Rockwell, now retired, points out there were few schools in the state when the Wildcats began 56 years and even less high school football teams. Valdosta High had one of the first and there was no conference and not much organization in high school football.

"Teams just picked up games when and where they could," he recalled.

Wildcats Knew Hungary Years

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The year was 1943. For Americans, World War II was less than two years old. Allied forces that summer had concluded a successful north African campaign against the Nazis and had landed in Italy.

Also that summer a small band of ill - equipped high school boys headed for football camp at the old National Guard camp north of town on the Withlacoochee River.

Coach Wright Bazemore himself had left earlier for a tour of duty in the U. S. Nazy. L. P. (Buck) Thomas had taken over as the Wildcats' head coach.

Everything was in short supply, equipment, coaches and football talent. Buck Thomas had no staff. He had the coaching job alone.

Some of the younger boys could "come out" for fotball only if they had their own shoes. There weren't enough shoes to equip more than about 22 players.

Coach Thomas had only two veterans of the VHS football was returning. They were Glen O'Neal, a fullback, and Julian LeFiles, center and linebacker. (O'Neal is the father of the 1969 Wildcats outstanding fullback, Danny O'Neal, and LeFiles is now a coach on Bazemore's staff.)

The others that Coach Thomas took to the National Guard camp that August had gained most of their football experience on a sandlot.

They were small too. LeFiles was the largest on the souad, weighing 195. The only other prospective 'Cat to approach that size was Julian Tucker at 190.

Altheus Holliman, 125 pounds, James Oliver, 155, Mack Greer, 155, Shorty Hiers, 140, and Buck Smith, 140, were the guards.

The tackles were Tucker, 190, Barry Phillips, 165. Carol Sherwood, 165, and Richard Joseph. 170. Bill Johnson at 135 and Robert Dowling, also at 135, were the other centers.

Jack Jennings, 140, Norman Maiden, 150, and Joe Edwards, 135, were the ends. The backs were Bill Gandy, 130, Dicky Stewart, 145, Lamar Jackson, 155, James Blankenship, 135, Buddy Culbreth, 155. and John Holcombe, 150.

These, plus about a half-dozen scrubs, constituted the Valdosta Wildcats in 1943. It was a war - year football team in the middle of a rebuilding job.

Talent was there, that was to be proved in later years, but 1943 just wasn't a good year for the Wildcats.

The powers in the old South Georgia Conference then were Americus, Fitzgerald, Jesup and Albany, all which soundly thrashed the 'Cats in 1943.

The record that year was dismal, one of the worst in the 'Cats history, two wins, seven losses and one tie.

A 12-12 tie with Cairo opened the season. Then the 'Cats lost to Waycross 14-6. They were to lose again to the Bulldogs in the last game of the season, 19-0.

Third on the schedule was Americus, which produced a 26-0 victory over Valdosta. Fitzgerald whipped the 'Cats 33-0. Jesup took another win, 26-9.

Then the Wildcats went on their two - game winning streak, defeating Sylvester, 54-0, and Colquitt, 40-0.

The eighth game on the schedule was Thomasville which carved out a 20-0 victory over Valdosta. Albany was next, defeating the 'Cats 32-2, and the second losing effort against Waycross wound up the season.

Essentially the same bunch of 'Cats returned for the 1944 season under Coach Thomas, who still had no staff, only volunteer help from Herman (Pop) Johnson. The tide had turned the other way in '44, however. The 'Cats compiled a 9-1 record and a shot at the South Georgia championship, losing to Americus, which they had defeated earlier in the season, in the playoff.

That 1943 war - year team with its 2-7-1 didn't compile the worst season ever for the Wildcats. The 1963 team had the same record.

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But Not Their Job

Winning Helps A Little

By JIMMY BROOKS

Because the Wildcats are a winning football team, it doesn't make the four manager's jobs any easier

But the attitude of the players and coaches are better. And the managers admit any small mistake they might make during a game doesn't show up as bad after a win.

Steve Cunningham, 17, David Hiers, 16; Glen Holcombe, 15, and Allan Strickland, 17, are the managers for the team.



ALLEN STRICKLAND
Was A Player



STEVE CUNNINGHAM
On Job Three Years



GLEN HOLCOMBE
Minding His Tees



DAVID HIERS
Timeouts His Time

Cunningham has been a manager for three years. The other managers have only been on the job one year.

The managers say their job isn't too much different from being on the team. They do everything the players do, and go everywhere they go. During practice four times a week plus game night the managers are working.

They get all the recognition at the end of the football season just as the players do. They even receive a football jacket exactly like the players. The only difference is the lettering on the front of the jacket, "Mgr."

Each of the managers has a specific job to do. But they do any kind of work when a coach or player asks them to.

Cunningham decided to be a manager when he was a sophomore. He thought he was too small to be on the team, but later changed his mind.

"I didn't think I was big enough," said Cunningham. "I grew a lot since then. I wish I had played ball now."

Cunningham said his primary job is to shuttle footballs on and off the field. When the Wildcats have the ball he gives them their ball. When the guest team has possession of the ball, he throws that team's ball in.

He said the Wildcats play with a leather ball made by McGreger called X-7, and nicknamed the "bomb." Most opposing teams use a ball which is narrow at the ends and wide in the middle, he said.

Hiers said his job is to go on the field during timeouts and dry the players' faces.

He said the managers don't take water on the fields. The players drink, "Gatorade" on the sidelines.

Hiers also goes over the wall for the footballs after extra points attempts are made.

Hiers said he was too small to play ball and decided to be a manager when one of the coaches asked him.

Holcombe's job is to provide the extra point tee and the kickoff tee at the appropriate times.

He said he started helping the football team when he was in the seventh grade. When he started in high school he took over a manager's position.

Strickland is the newest addition to the manager group and was one time a player. Strickland played ball some last year and was injured combined with a sickness which put him on the sideline.

Being a manager gets to be a normal routine and for many who have held the job return even after they have graduated.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Ware Co.

Reserve quarterback Darrell Branan got himself a big piece of the action in the Ware County game which Valdosta won, 63-0. Valdosta reached paydirt on its fourth offensive play from scrimmage, and it was a nothing-to-it matter from then on. Stats showed Valdosta with 24 first downs, 369 yards rushing and 150 yards passing. Ware had three first downs, minus 39 yards rushing and 43 yards passing.

TAKE 'EM TO THE CLEANERS, 'CATS



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DOWNTOWN VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

Another Miracle Man

B For Band, Butenschon

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

He's called the miracle man in band circles but to the Marchin' Cats of Valdosta High School, he's Mr. B.

Mr B. is Frank Butenschon, 31-year-old director of the VHS Marchin' Cars. He took over the top position in 1962 after serving at Valdosta Junior High School a year and acting as co-director at VHS for another year.

He's called the miracle man because of the way he's whippen the band into The Greatest Band in Dixie and gained the love and respect of not only the students but the community as well.

An example of the way his students feel about Butenschon is the 6 a.m. rehearsal two years ago called by the young musicians. The half-time show practices had been going pretty bad and Butenschon was not happy with the way the program was shaping up.

"Those kids called a rehearsal on their own and got all the rough spots ironed out before I got out on the field," said Butenschon.

FRANK BUTENSCHON
'Greatest Band'

And sometimes they practiced in spite of the director, he added. One time the students held a night rehearsal for three hours without Butenschon.

"They weren't suppose to do it but again we were having trouble with a show and the kids wanted to do that something extra to fix it," said the director.

Butenschon said his life is centered around the Marchin' Cats and his wife and two sons. But even the band and his family life sometimes mesh.

Butenschon's oldest son, Skip, 9, attended band camp with the students this summer and asked to march with the VHS Honor Guard Captain. This delighted Butenschon and the entire band which adopted the youngster as a mascot years ago.

Ban members drop by the Butenschon house after school, on dates and during the weekend like it was a second home. And the director loves it.

"I guess one of the biggest thrills of this whole business is to have your former stuent go on to college, major in music and do something with it. Another one is the fact they don't forget you," he said.

"Thanksgiving night about 30 former students came by the house and talked of forming a Marchin' Cats Alumni Association. The kids love the band that much and have so many great memories," said Butenschon.

But the students and adults have just cause to think highly of the young director. He is their champion and has fought to make the band an integral part of the school curriculum.

"Band is not extracurricular as far as I'm concerned. It is important to these students who love music and they don't take it lightly," he said.

Last year Butenschon got a basic music theory course included in the curriculum. Students get a whole unit of credit for the course. He sees the need for a basic music appreciation course which would be available for all interested students.

A native of Oxford, Ala., Butenschon is a graduate of Auburn University. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia national music fraternity, the National Band Association, Georgia Music Educatiors and the National Music Educators Association. He has been listed in "Who's Who of High School and Cillege Band Directors" and the First Chair of America National Honor Yearbook for Bands.

Butenschon has been named the state winner of the National Band Association Citation of Musical Excellence award. The awards are given annually to one band director from each of the 50 states by the band association.

There's More To Coaching

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A first year Valdosta High coach just a few years away from being a player himself said football is "quite a bit different from this side of the whistle."

Coach Bill Myddleton is definitely in a position to talk about actual football playing. A member of the highly rated 1962 version of the Wildcats, he played first string football all for years of his high school career.

He was selected All State his junior and senior years, and All America his senior year.

After graduating from VHS, where he played defensive middle guard, he went to Georgia Tech in Atlanta and played defensive guard and tackle, while working on a bachelor of science in industrial management degree.

He was a member of the 1964 Tech Gator Bowl team and the 1965 Orange Bowl team.

Tech had a 7-3 season in Myddleton's junior year, and a 9-1 season his senior year.

Currently living with two sisters at 1002 West Alden Ave., the 24 year old bachelor lists hunting and fishing as his hobbies.

He is not sure now whether he will make coaching his career. He helped coach the "B" team this year to a 5-2-2 season.

"The association with the boys is great," he said, but added that he didn't know so much went into the production of a football game. "I didn't fully realize the behind the scenes work that goes on in carrying a team through a football season."

"On the field, a player can take out his emotions in the game. On the sidelines, there's not as much outlet, physically and emotionally, for your feelings.

"It's very frustrating when you explain and explain and the somebody comes up and does it wrong.

"Coaching is more fun than teaching, however," he added.



BILL MYDDLETON
Former All-America

Champs: 1957

Rockmart Rocked

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta High School Wildcats defended the Class AA state championship and chalked up the 1957 flag, downing the Rockmart Yellow Jackets in a tight defensive battle 13-6.

It was quarterbacked by Bozey Thomas, replacing tricaptain Dale Williams who was injured in the 20-0 South Georgia crown win over Thomasville, leading the Valdosta attack. Thomas was shifted from fullback to the handoff shot at the beginning of the week in the Wildcats efforts to finn in for Williams.

The short, 165, pounder scored both Valdosta touchdowns and directed the ground attack like a veteran. Williams' passing was missed and might have meant a couple of more touchdowns for Valdosta.

Neither team completed a pass and only five were attempted. The Wildcats threw three times and Rockmart two.

Rockmart scored first, getting six points on a 16-yard run by halfback Tommy Young climaxing a 71 - yard march in the second quarter.

The Wildcats came storming back after Thomas 35-yard kickoff return. He came through with an 18-yard run and halfback Johnny Welch added 16 before Thomas scored from the six. Johnny Garrett then kicked his 28th PAT of the season to gain a 7-6 lead.

In the third, period, Arthur Strom ran back a punt to the Rockmart 28. Thomas scored from the one but Garrett's PAT try was partially blocked.

Valdosta had nine first downs and 171 yards rushing to Rockmart's eight first downs and 119 yards rushing.



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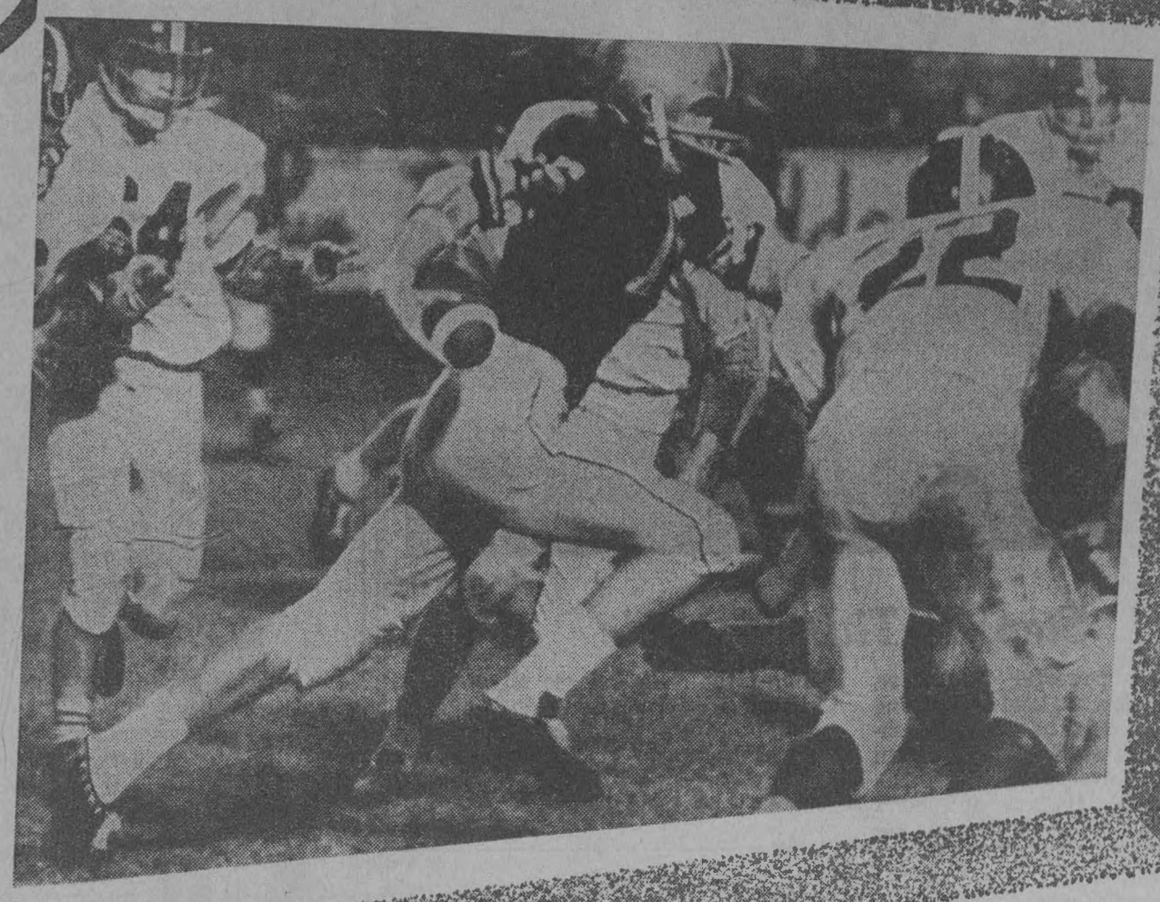

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That Gift Wildcat Is A 'Real Morale Booster'

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The wildcat in a glass case at Valdosta High School has been a "real morale booster" for the students, said Valdosta Touchdown Club president David Waller, "and its the type of project we should have more of."

Waller was talking about a 28 - pound animal, trapped last December in Monticello, Ark., and presented to the school by the Touchdown Club in memory of VHS football player Jerry Greene, who died in August of 1968.

The animal was brought to Valdosta by Greene's father-in-law, T. R. Coats; stuffed by the gridder's brother - in - law, Vernon Stephenson, and given to the club by his wife, the former Janice Coats.

The cat was presented to the school by the club in a glass case which was donated by Cotten Shenton of Valdosta Glass Co.

"It was a very worthwhile project," Waller said. "I have heard many favorable comments about it. It is just another one of the things which makes the Touchdown Club, the school and the community one big unit behind the mighty Valdosta High School Wildcats."

Greene, a VHS grid standout died at the age of 18 of Hodgkins disease. He was a mainstay on the team which won the 1966 Class AAA state championship and also played the following year when the Cats didn't make it to the state playoffs.

Waller said the cat was given to the school "because we felt the school was where it should be. Its a real nice thing and we feel it is an asset to the school's collection of trophies."

Since the cat, taxidermy work and materials were all donated, Waller said there is no way to establish the actual dollar worth of the trophy He estimated it to be worth in the neighborhood of $400.

Valdosta High Principal Charles (Chuck) Greene said the cat has been a good athletic spirit booster and has been genuinely appreciated by the students.

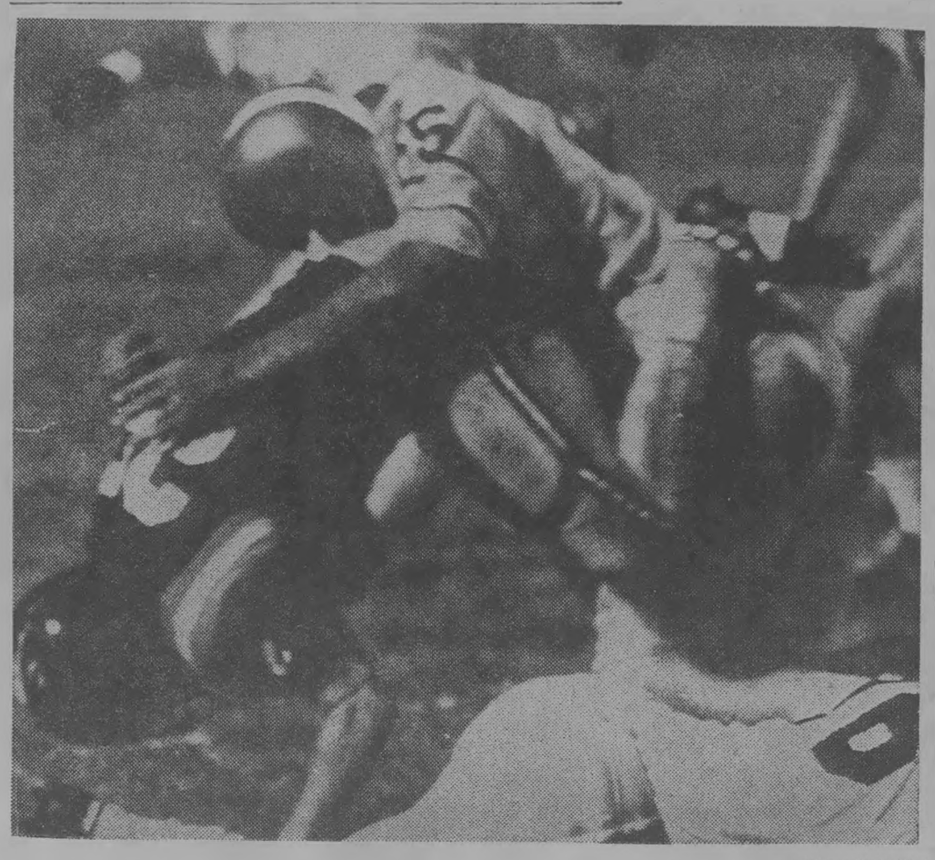
It has been set up in the schools front hall lobby near the trophy cases where it is destined to remain until a new school is built.

The principal said the cat would go along and be a focal point in a special trophy area to be set up in an athletic wing when VHS does move into a new building.

"The wildcat doesn't sound like its very big when you say 28 pounds, said Coats. "But it is one of the biggest cats I ever saw. That 28 pounds is no guess or hunters estimate. That is scale weight."

The cat was trapped by Eugene Hackney of Monticello, Ark., and given to Coats while he was on a trip during the Christmas holidays last year. The animal was shot with a pistol.

The trophy was finished and presented to the school in early October.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Moultrie

Valdosta's powerful linebacker, Tom Holt, makes the kind of crashing tackle for which he has become famous this season as the Wildcats earn a 21-0 victory over previously undefeated Moultrie. Holt, a 205-pound senior and Wildcat tri-captain, has anchored the VHS defense all season. In beating the Packers, Valdosta made 14 first downs, 196 yards rushing and 124 yards passing. Moultrie picked up 11 first downs with 105 yards rushing and 43 yards passing.

Coach Former 'Cat Captain

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

At the home of Coach Julian LeFiles, there's little talk of anything but Valdosta High School sports.

The former VHS football and basketball player and his wife, Ouida, have two sons and they're both on sports teams at the school.

The native Valdostan played football and basketball from 1940 to 1943, and three of those years he worked under Coach Wright Bazemore. He was captain of both teams his senior years.

He attended South Georgia College in Douglas, where he played football and basketball and he was graduated from Valdosta State College with a degree in education.



JULIAN LEFILES
At VHS Six Years

Formerly in the automobile parts business with his brother, LeFiles came to VHS six years ago as an assistant coach and teacher.

In addition to his main job as defense coach, he also teaches four classes of biology, 1 physical education class and coaches tennis and golf.

His oldest son, Marty, 17, is president of the senior class, sports editor of the school newspaper and on the basketball and baseball teams.

Jimmy, 15, is a junior, and a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. Both boys are honor roll students.

LeFiles, a member of the Elks Club, and his family are members of Park Ave. Methodist Church.

"Hardly an evening goes by that we're not doing something connected with VHS sports," said LeFiles. "But we all like it."



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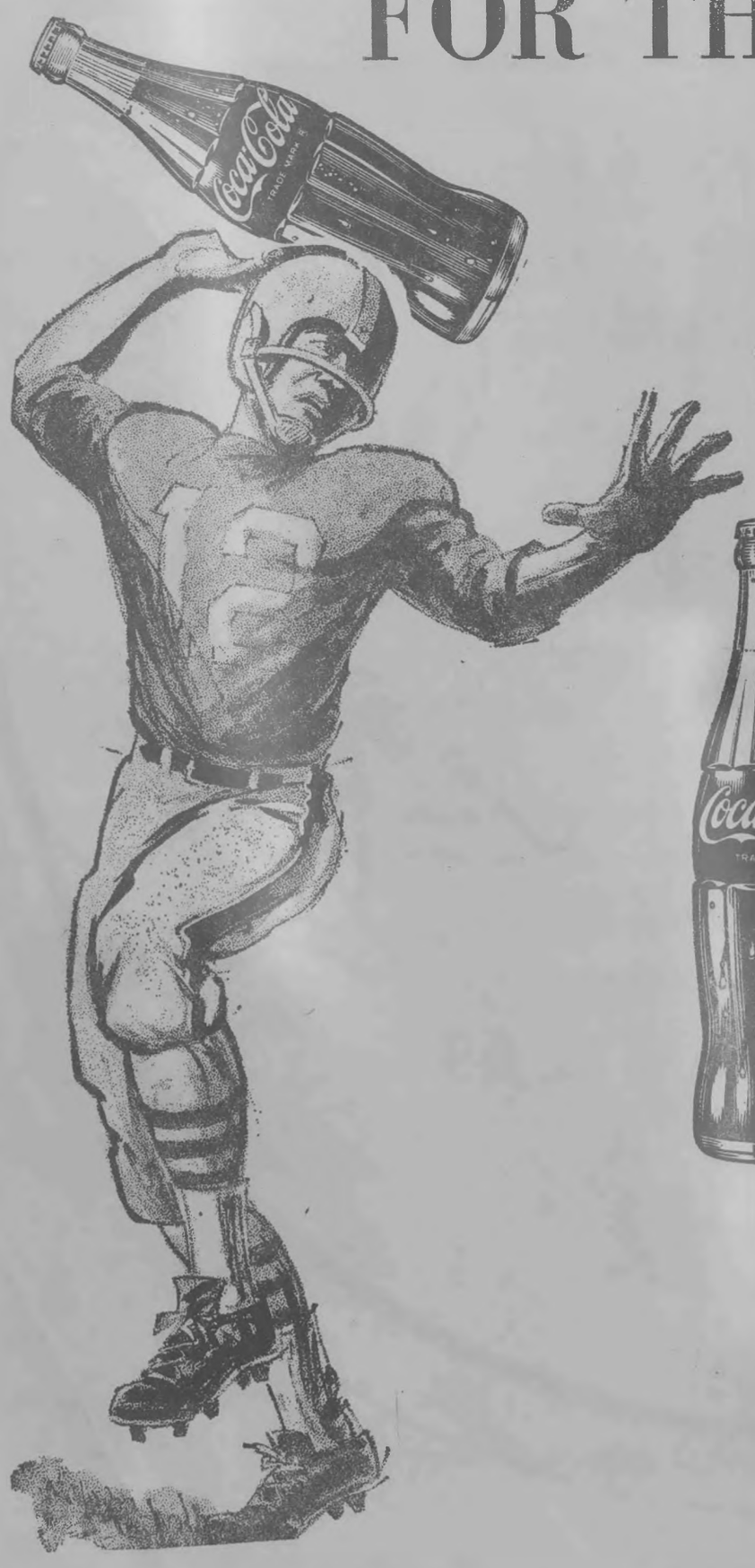

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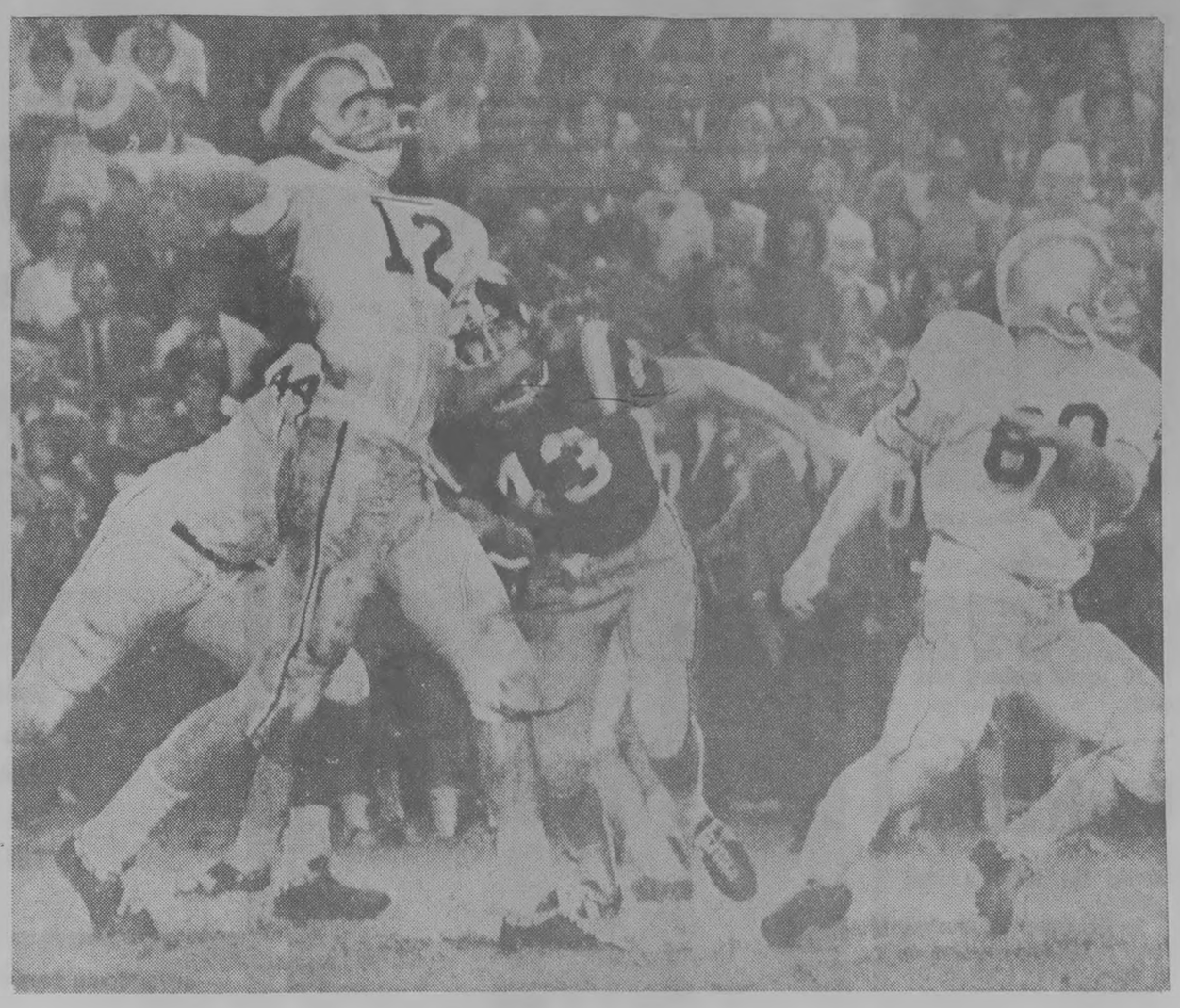

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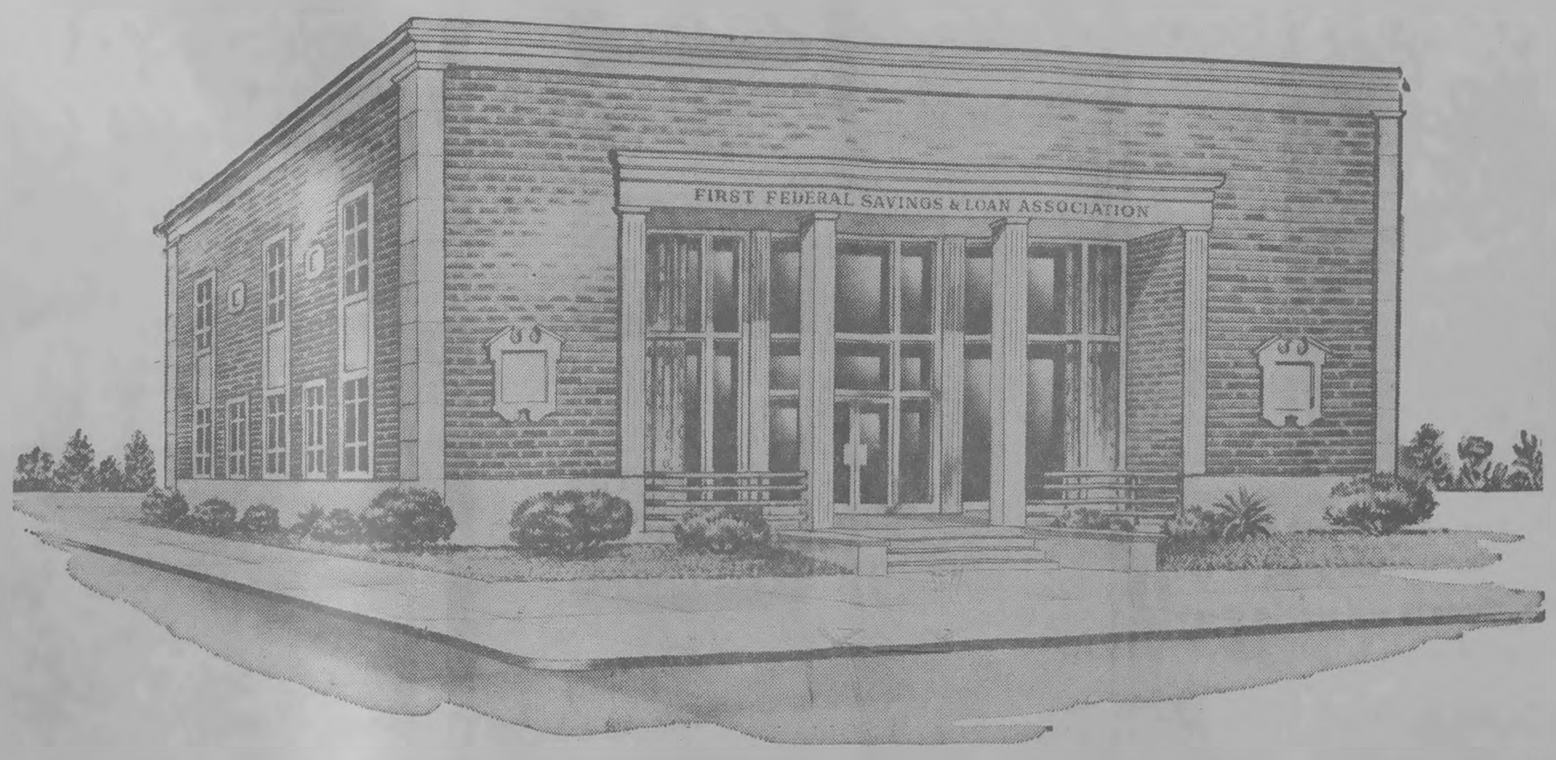

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—Times Staff Photo

Happy Winners: Coach and Mrs. Bazemore after 1968 Championship Game

And Why Should Bettie Ever Worry?

By VIRGINIA CULPEPPER

Bettie Lou Bazemore's husband worries because his wife doesn't worry about the Wildcats, Valdosta High School's championship team.

"Why should I worry?" she asked.

Why should she, indeed? After all, her husband is Wright Bazemore, head coach of the fabled Wildcats, winner of 13 state championships.

Her son, Curt, 16, plays linebacker on the team. And, as a rabid Valdosta football fan said early this season, "If Curt weren't the best man available for that position, you can be darn sure Wright wouldn't have him in there."

Even daughter Pam, 13, is being brought up the right way —she's a cheerleader at Valdosta Junior High School.

Speaking of Curt, Mrs. Bazemore conceded that when he scored the first touchdown of the year "it was great."

But as for worrying — "Of course I'm concerned for his safety, just as any mother of a son who plays football. But I don't really worry. I know that if he should get hurt his daddy would get to him right away, so why should I worry. I'm not a constant worrier and sometimes I think Wright worries because I'm not."

Although Mrs. Bazemore came to Valdosta to teach physical education at VHS, she had to learn football from the ground up after her marriage to the coach in 1951.

Football is probably the biggest thing in the lives of the Bazemores — for part of the year, at least — but it isn't standard dinner table conversation.

"Wright doesn't bring his work home with him," said his blonde, pretty wife. "And we don't talk it a lot at home. Probably wives of doctors or preachers hear more about their husband's work than I do at home.

"Oh, sometimes Curt will ask his dad if he thought they did well that day or something like that, and Wright will answer, 'You could have done better,' or 'pretty good,' but he doesn't pursue the subject."

A close friend of Mrs. Bazemore's said of her: "Bettie Lou gets excited at the games. But she's not really a 'Bazemore.' By that I mean she's not as competitive as Wright is — he's out to win, you know.

"I'd say Bettie Lou is a real good balance for Wright."

The coach's wife says of herself: "I'm his biggest critic. I'm a good Monday morning quarterback. And I know what other parents (of football team members) are saying

"It was a long time before we knew whether Curt really wanted to play or whether he was playing to please his dad. But when he came in one afternoon after a hard day's practice and said, 'I had such a good time today,' we knew he really wants to play."

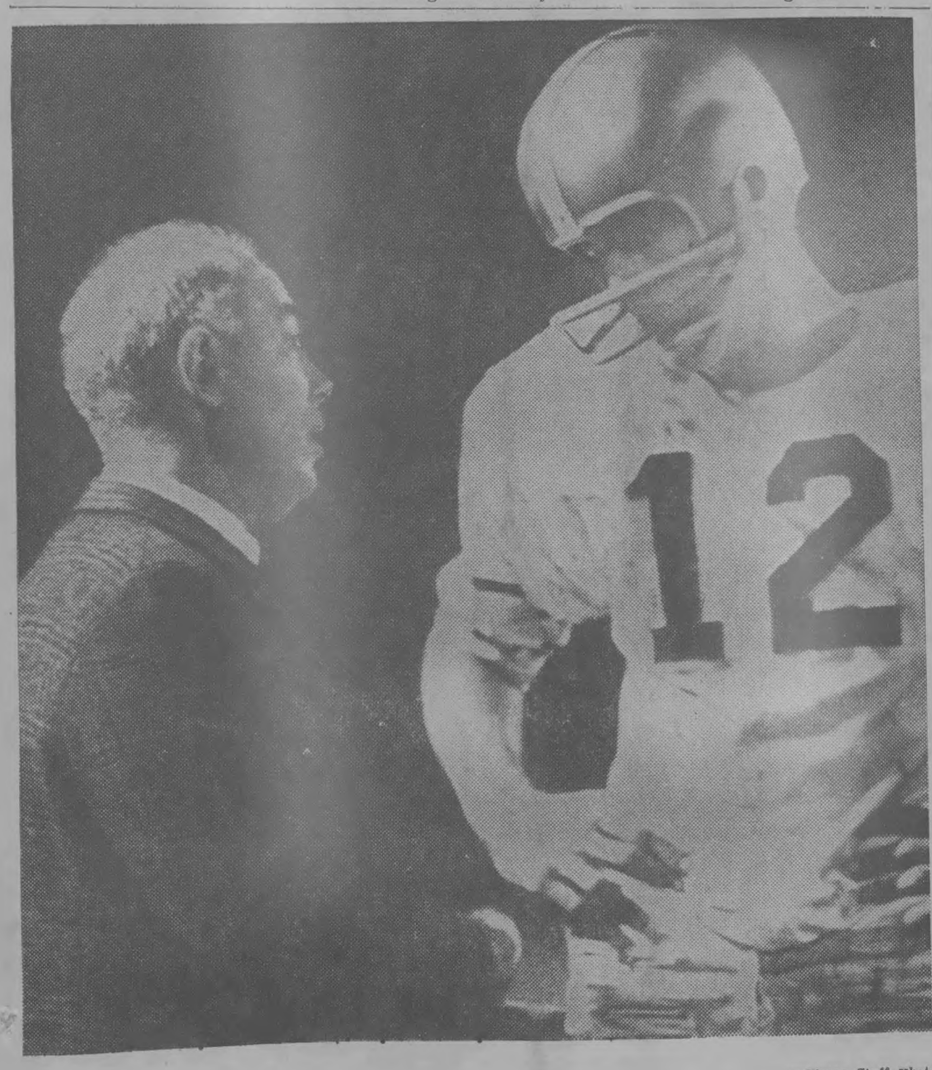
The wife of the head coach and mother of a team member has had to curtail many of her own activities, she admits, "but I know there'll come a day when I can take them up again."

Meanwhile, on Friday afternoon she has to prepare a meal of baked potato, meat, dry toast and tea to be eaten by 4:30 by father and son before the big game.

And there are the games she has to chauffeur her cheerleader daughter to in nearby towns.

"But Bettie Lou still finds time to do the unsung things for people," said her friend. "She is always doing something for somebody else, things other people don't think of doing.

"It's no wonder Wright goes out there to win. Her bright and pretty face is up in the stands watching him."



—Times Staff Photo

Sideline Strategy Meet

Bazemore gives quarterback Don Golden the word on the next play during the Valdosta-Lanier game which the Wildcats won by a 23-0 margin. Golden, 6-5 senior who weighs 195 pounds has been one of Valdosta's most potent offensive assets this season as a runner, passer, punter and field general.

Bazemore Is A Living Legend

By SAMMY GLASSMAN

A lot of phrases have been used to describe Valdosta High's super successful head football coach Wright Bazemore, but the one that seems to fit best is "Living Legend."

There's never been another prep grid boss like him in Georgia, or perhaps the whole nation, and the facts and figures are there to more than prove the point.

Now 53 years old and with 25 grid campaigns behind him, his hair is starting to thin and turn gray. But he still has the lean look of an athlete, and he's still very much the maker of champions.

Outwardly quiet and calm, within him is a competitive spirit, a demand for perfection, a capacity for hard work and a seemingly boundless knowledge of football which has carried him and his teams to the top.

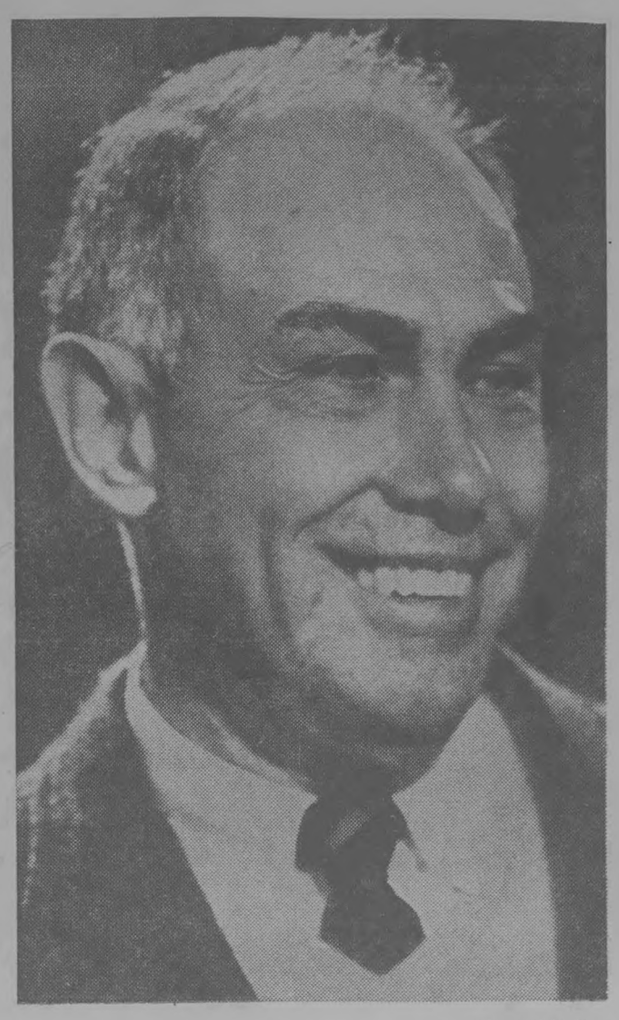
During his brilliant career he's been showered with personal honors. But he always has maintained that success on the football field "comes only with team effort."

Bazemore's "team" includes, first all of his players. Also on the roster are his assistant coaches (which he calls the best in the world), the Valdosta High students, other school officials, the cheerleaders, the VHS band, the 'Cats' many adult boosters and fans and Valdosta itself, which he calls "the best place in the world to coach football."

"It has to be a team effort," Bazemore says. "You can't get the job done any other way."

But when the evidence is examined and the Wildcats' string of success since he joined the VHS coaching staff in 1940 is studied, one fact becomes apparent. There has been a great "team effort" and it has been led in faultless fashion by Bazemore.

As for the 'Cats' record under Bazemore, it's hard to believe even though the figures are documented. The overall mark is 266-42-5. The number of state titles is 13 in classes ranging from Class B to Class AAA. Just once — only once — has a Bazemore-coached team finished below the .500 mark.



—Times Staff Photo

Baze Has Had A Dozen Such Smiles This Year

Currently the Wildcats have a 26 game victory streak going. They've had others of 40, 30 and 37 games.

Five times he's been named Georgia's High School Football Coach of the Year. In 1960 he was voted into Georgia's High School Hall of Fame, the first active coach accorded such an honor.

Countless numbers of his players have earned honors from the All-Region to the All-America levels. Many of his former players have gone on to college and professional playing stardom or even on a successful coaching career of his own. There have been so many Bazemore admits that he couldn't compile even a partial list of them.

And it wouldn't do any good to ask him which of his players or which of his teams were the best? He has a stock answer. "That would be like asking a father which of his children he loves best."

During his playing days in the 1930s in his hometown of Fitzgerald, the Bazemore legend began to form and grow. At Fitzgerald High he won 16 athletic letters, with football, basketball, track and tennis all getting his attention.

In 1934 while Fitz was rolling along unbeaten he scored 250 points, tallying 10 touchdowns in two games — against Montezuma and Waycross. That earned him a place on Robert Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" list.

While Bazemore has never denied that football is his first sports love, he has worked with tireless effort down through the years in the interest of every physical education and athletic endeavor undertaken by Valdosta High.

There was a time when he coached most of the varsity sports teams at VHS. He put in six seasons as boys basketball mentor and his teams had an overall mark of 172-22, went to five state tourneys and claimed one state crown. He coached baseball one spring, and produced a district championship team. He turned out a long, long string of championship tennis teams.

"We are, of course, proud of our football program at Valdosta High," Bazemore said. "But we're also proud of the many other fine teams we have in other sports. Our aim is to involve as many of our students as possible in our physical education and sports program."

How, everyone keeps asking, does Bazemore and his assistants continue year, after year to turn out successful football teams?

"There's no short cut to football success," Bazemore says. "You've got to pay the price."

Paying the price includes long, long hours of hard work for the VHS coaches and players. It's the learning of fundamentals, then learning them again, again and again.

It's long hours of trying to decide who should play where, what type play will go here and what defense should we use now. It's being able to bounce back when you're knocked down.

For Bazemore there are sleepless nights because he carries the final burden of responsibility for all decisions both before and during a game.

Baze's pre-game worries are literally famous. He never, never underestimates an opponent and he keeps his players in the same frame of mind.

"Do it and then brag," he declares. "Sure you've got to have confidence. But you can't ever afford to become overconfident, that's when someone comes along and nails the seat of your pants to the goalpost."

Bazemore believes that everyone has the capacity to reach down during a crucial moment and give more than they believe they are able to give. His teams over the years have proven him right.

Bazemore is a "Living Legend." Can there be any doubt?

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—Times Staff Photo

Stevens, Right, Keller Get Kick Out of Win Over Glynn Academy in 1968

Wildcat Mania

Spreads To N.J.

By MARTIN MILLER

The football fever in this part of the country which some folks call "Wildcat mania" is a disease which spreads.

It has even gone as far as Plainsville, N.J., where Valdosta High has an ardent fan in Bob Stevens, an industrialist who is a former Secretary of the Army.

Although Stevens has not made it to any of the 'Cat games this season, he is a frequent visitor to the South for the explicit purpose of watching what he calls the "unbelieveable eleven" play football.

Stevens was Secretary of the Army during the Eisenhower administration in the 1950s. Now he's president of the J. P. Stevens Company of New York.

He first saw Valdosta play football in the early 1960's during a string of 37 straight victories over a three year span which wrought three state AAA championships.

Stevens was in Dublin on business for his company at the time. He read a story about the Wildcats in an Atlanta newspaper and said he had to see it to believe it.

He flew to Valdosta on a company plane to witness a 39-0 shallacking the Wildcats put on Murphy of Atlanta on a field so wet they had to sand it down like a beach.

Now he is a Wildcat backer of the first degree and has been back five times to see the team play.

Stevens is even cocky. His last trip down was for the South Georgia Championship game in which the Wildcats beat Glynn Academy, 42-0, last season at Brunswick.

Asked afterwards if he thought the Valdostans would go on to win the state championship again, he responded: "Can there be any doubt? You know we are going to win."

Stevens does not attend Valdosta games only when the Wildcats happen to be playing close to where he is on business. He makes special trips to see the games. Last year, he was in Brunswick for only four hours. He says the trips are definitely worth the effort.

Stevens generally contacts City Councilman Bill Keller when he is ready to come down and watch some VHS action. They became friends on Stevens' first trip.

The two had a problem at Brunswick last year. When Keller found out Stevens was coming, all Valdosta's reserved seat tickets had been sold. All he could obtain were two tickets on the wrong side of the field.

A lifelong football fan, Stevens pointed out, "They (the Wildcats) always have speed, blocking and their drive — it's terrific. They stick their heads in and keep going."

He called VHS coach Wright Bazemore a great credit to the game of football. "I just don't see how he does it," Stevens commented.

Stevens occasionally attends high school grid contests up north but says the caliber of game there does not compare to Valdosta style high school football.

"If they (Valdosta) ever played one of those northern teams in a bowl there would be no contest," said the industrialist.

Like most VHS fans, Stevens keeps up with individual Wildcat players and how they fare in the college ranks. He recalls players of the past like Bruce Bennett, Giles Smith, Rick Thomas, Bill Myddleton, Billy Schroer and many others.

He knows where each went to college and what became of them.

"Bruce Bennett went to Florida, didn't he?" Stevens recalled. "He made All-America."

At the Glynn Academy last year Stevens spent a good portion of the game scrutinizing the program and checking the numbers on the jerseys on the field to see what kind of team Bazemore was going to have this year.

He predicted it would be another winner. But he added with a wink: "That's not too hard to figure out, is it?"



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Albany

Defensive standouts Gary Dove (85) and Aaron Holder (33) are on the sidelines while the offensive troops are scoring the points that beat Albany's Indians, 28-0. Playing against a traditional rival, the Wildcats got 18 first downs, 328 yards rushing and 36 yards passing. Albany made 13 first downs, got 148 yards rushing and hit for 101 yards via the aerial route.



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SOUTH GEORGIA AAA CHAMPIONS

No.	Name
10	Bazemore, Curt
11	Taylor, Warrick
12	Golden, Don
14	Mullis, Joe
15	Bounds, Stan
16	Jones, Willie
17	Welch, Mike
18	Johnson, Dan
20	Lawrence, Franky
21	Bell, John
22	Savage, Robert
23	Quattlebaum, Greg
24	LeFiles, Jimmy
25	Walters, Tony
26	DeLoach, Wayne
27	Lee, Curtis
28	Emanuel, Kenneth
30	Blalock, Bo
31	Meeks, Benji
32	O'Neal, Danny
33	Holder, Aaron
34	Clarkston, Jim
35	Anderson, Willie
40	Davis, Henry
41	Hampton, John
42	Branan, Darrell
43	Waller, Brant
44	Daniels, Charles
50	Stanaland, Steve
51	Godfrey, Herman
52	Christy, Jim
55	Lloyd, Greg
54	Herron, Melvin
60	Parr, Ray
61	Marshall, Kim
62	Daniels, Charles
63	Shenton, Charles
64	Strickland, Alan
65	Holt, Tom
66	Dibois, Mark
67	Strickland, Calvin
68	Crawford, Willie
70	Everson, Mike
71	Koncar, Robert
72	Simpson, Wayne
73	Jarmillo, Steve
74	Quillin, Vance
75	Hendry, Ralph
76	Sidney, Ernest
77	Akin, Ronnie
78	Dewar, Robert
80	Puckett, Ralph
81	Henderson, Barry
82	Mabry, Jashua
83	Skoropat, Alex
84	Demesserman, Paul
85	Dove, Gary
86	Baker, Jerry
87	Skoropat, Harry
88	Rome, Roger



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Like A Whirling Dervish: At Ground Level, the Marchin' Cats Getting into Formation Looks Awful Complicated but from the Stands It's 'Oh, So Simple'

—Times Staff Photo

Marchin' Cats Do The Job

By MARY CROUSE

They've already won the title, the Greatest Band in Dixie, but to the home folks the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats are number one in the nation.

People here talk about the Marchin' Cats with the same pride usually reserved for the VHS Wildcat football team. And when the band strikes up its own lively medley with the controversial tune "Dixie", the crowd whether at a pep rally, parade or football game roars its approval.

"The football team is the greatest in the country and we think our band is tops so what better combination could Valdosta come up with? When people go to a game now, they are just as interested in the band as they are in that football game," said a football buff.

But it wasn't always that way. When Frank Butenschon, the 31-year-old red-haired band director, took over the outfit in 1962 he had 62 members. All the ingredients for a successful band were there but the group had not jelled. The "VHS Fight Song" written by a former director Andy Odum in the late 1950's, was the high point of all band shows.

The students were interested in the band but not much else. Many of the members had poor grades in their academic work and there didn't seem to be that pride which is so important to a winner.

The first thing Butenschon did was give the group the name the Marchin' Cats. After that he set out to make the Marchin' Cats a household word in this area and to give the students an incentive to bring up their grades.

But the Marchin' Cats have not remained unknown to the rest of the nation. With two new additions, the colorful flag corps and honor guard, the group participated in the 1964 National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade of Princesses in Washington, D. C., and won a fourth place award for excellence.

The band performed at a formal concert at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington that same weekend and received special commendation from the Chief of Special Services.

It was during that same year that the Marchin' Cats were elected Club of the Year at Valdosta High.

The high stepping outfit was on its way.

The followineg year the band placed fourth among 20 units in the Greatest Band in Dixie competition in New Orleans. They were again named Club of the Year on campus.

With 1966-67 came the selection of Honor Band to perform at the half-time show at Auburn University's Band Day. This time the Marchin' Cats went to the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington and won the Parade of Princesses band competition in their new tailor made black, white and gold outfits.

In 1968 Troy State University in Alabama asked Butenschon's charges to put on the half-time show at its Band Day program.

The VHS band was selected as one of the top 15 high school marching bands in the Southeastern U.S. to perform at the Parade of Champions in conjunction with the First Annual Peach Bowl in Atlanta last year.

The band made the trip to New Orleans last spring and came back heralded as the Greatest Band in Dixie. They won first place in the competition. That same year the band received a special invitation to perform a show for the men of the USS Springfield.

This fall the Marchin' Cats performed a pre-game and half-time performance for the New Orleans Saints professional football team, with Astronaut Michael Collins at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

The band has been asked to participate again this year in the Parade of Champions before the Peach Bowl in Atlanta.

And Butenschon is taking his group back to New Orleans to defend their title in the Greatest Band in Dixie contest this year.

"Don't ask me why we're going back. We have nothing to gain and everything to lose. Every band that has ever won the contest is going to be back this year to try for the title again. I agree, we're crazy to go back," he said.

Butenschon is a competitor and his proud Marchin' Cats have that same competitive spirit. That's why they are winners and why they feel compelled to return to New Orleans.

"And if we got an invitation to go somewhere else, say the Rose Bowl, we'd go. However, that's an expensive trip and we couldn't finance it locally," he said.

There has been some talk among band enthusiasts here of asking Gov. Lester Maddox and the Georgia Trade and Tourist Division to finance the local band to the Rose Bowl in conjunction with the state float in the annual Parade of Roses.

"It'd be great if we could go but we haven't heard anything on it yet," said the director.

Butenschon said the Marchin' Cats would not be what they are today without the junior high school program. The junior high band is under the direction of Ed Barr and C.D. Marshall.

"They are the life line to the high school. Tommy Barr, my co-director, is my right hand. He is the greatest and the kids love him," said Butenschon.

The director said the band no longer has a corps of majorettes or drum majors. Field commanders lead the marchers and this year Benny Colson and Lucy Stewart do the honors.

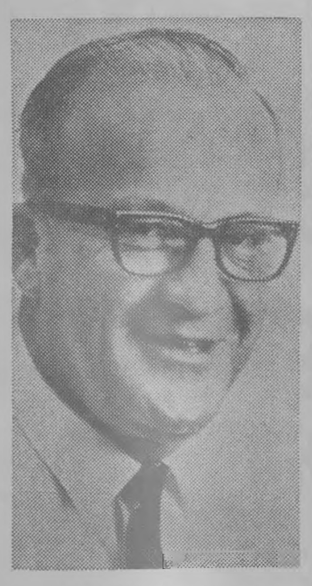
Mike DeCesare is the honor guard captain, Kathy Hendrix is flag corps captain and Sherrie Snider and Marie Terry are featured twirlers.

"They are a great group of kids and I'm proud of every one of them," said Butenschon.



—Times Staff Photo

They're The Greatest: Band Director and Mrs. Butenschon after New Orleans



CHUCK NORTHCUTT
Help For The Band

Each VHS Band Booster Worth Hard Work, Money

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Band Booster's Club is to the Marchin' Cats what the Touchdown Club is to the Wildcats, and according to Club President Chuck Northcutt, each Band Booster is worth many hours hard work and approximately $275 a year.

At least, that was true last year, when the 80 band booster's raised $22,000 for the various activities of the band. This year, it may go higher.

The Band Booster's Club is the old Band Parent's Club. Northcutt said the name was changed because there were some fans of the band in the club who didn't have children in the band.

He said the club is bigger now, but that all the parents, unfortunately, are still not in the club.

"The main function of the club," he said, "is to contribute funds for the band's operation." He said the club paid for the Mardi Gras and Peach Bowl trips last year, and will finance the trip to the Blue-Gray game in Montgomery after Christmas.

The club furnishes chaperones for these trips and adds to the support of the band in matters not related to school, including uniforms and partial instrument upkeep.

Money comes from selling candy, bumper stickers, car washes, and anything else band boosters can find to make money. Northcutt said the club tries to work for all the money it needs, but added they had to resort to solicitation once when money was needed for the last Mardi Gras trip.

He said the club will print and sell football programs at the state championship game as one of its fund-raising programs.

"We're also working now to get some support from the Athletic Association from money taken in at games," he said.

When this interview was taking place, Northcutt was working along with other Band Booster's Club members at a band bazaar. Members were selling things they had made, mostly Christmas decorations, and donated to raise money for the Mardi Gras trip.

"We expect to make $400 today," he said, and added that the club hoped to make the bazaar a big annual af fair.

He said to his knowledge, the "Marchin' Cats" were the only band to return to Mardi Gras two years in a row.

Northcutt credited the members of the band with a lot of the strength and dedication of the Band Boosters.

"The kids are dedicated, easy to work with the chaperone, come to rehearsals on time, and work hard," he said.

"The dedication showed through last year at Mardi Gras when they had to march 29 miles, sleep in an old Army building on air mattresses, and only take one shower in five days."

"We're going to try to stay in a motel this year," he said.

Northcutt said the club dues were $5.00 a year, and said membership was open to everyone.

Besides Northcutt, club officers include Mrs. T. E. Dumas, vice president; Mrs. Carl Meadows, treasurer; Mrs. H. J. Liles, secretary; Mrs. George Snider, ways and means chairman, and Roy Ferrell, ways and means co-chairman, and Fluker Stewart, publicity director

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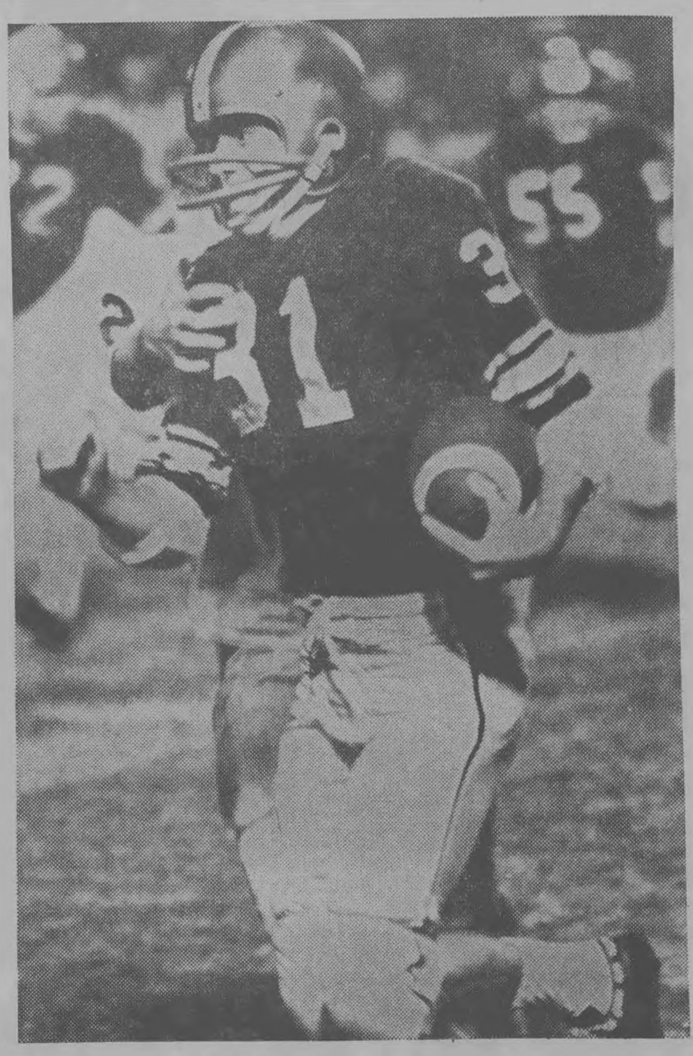

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State Champs: 1966

Whirlwind Is Calmed

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats rule as the 1966 State Class AAA high school football champions while Marietta's Blue Devils are back home with their victory string broken, their title dreams ended and their claim to be Georgia's no. 1 ranked prep eleven no longer valid.

Coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats earned a solid 14-3 victory over coach French Johnson's Imps in their duel for the state crown.

The 'Cats used a super-tough defense to turn Marietta's vaunted whirlwind offense into something even less than a gentle breeze.

Valdosta got its winning points on a dazzling 75-yard punt return for a touchdown by halfback John Copeland in the third period and a hard - nose scoring march of 49 yards along the ground in the final stanza.

Halfback Jerry Greene led the way and quarterback John Smrcina climaxed the drive by sneaking six inches for the tally. End Rhett Dawson booted a pair of PATs.

Marietta, winner of 12 straight this year and 21 in a row over a two - season span, could manage only three points. They came on a 30-yard field goal kicked by tackle Ricky Norris on what amounted to an extra play just before the first half ended.

Before the Imps ran into the Wildcats they had been averaging 33 markers a game and none of a dozen previous foes had been able to hold them under three touchdowns. Some had called Marietta the best team ever to come out of North Georgia and they were pegged first in the state on one rating chart.

But the about 10,500 fans who saw the action on the chilled and windswept turf of Cleveland Field had to be convinced that the Wildcats were superior in all departments of play.

The victory was the 11th in a dozen starts for VHS thisl year.

Other Wildcats who had an equal share in the championship effort included Grady Blankenship, Jerry Brooks, Bill Gandy, Phillip Ashcom, Walter Jones, John Flythe, Sandy Ellison, Richard Vann, Bobby McCrary, Danny Williams, Mike Paine, Tommy Luke, Kenny Clifton, Mike DeLoach, Mike Markham, Charlie Bob Bridges, Ronny Strobo, Mike McMillan and Billy Grondahl.

Valdosta had 11 first downs, 91 yards rushing, and 141 yards passing to seven first downs, 91 yards rushing and 61 yards passing for Marietta



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Coffee

Halfback Willie Anderson churns for extra yardage with Coffee County defenders hanging on. The Wildcats found it easy going, winning the Coffee County game, 46-0. The 'Cats got 19 first downs, 317 yards rushing and 146 yards passing. Coffee got five first downs, 61 yards rushing and 40 yards passing.

Last Game Win Saved The Season

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

In 1967 the Wildcats managed to keep their record above the .500 mark with a win in the final game of the season. In all they won five, lost four and tied one.

The 'Cats defeated Waycross 9-7, Baker of Columbus 18-7, Dougherty of Albany 39-0, Jordan of Columbus 14-12 and LaGrange 20-13.

But the VHS team fell victim to Lanier of Macon 7-0, Moultrie 19-12, Tift County 13-7 and Albany 27-7.

The tie was a 7-7 standoff with Willingham of Macon.

Rebuilding Year Was A Good One

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

VHS went through a rebuilding year in 1964 while posting a respectable 7-3 season record.

Wildcat wins were over Waycross 20-7, Baker of Columbus 14-12, Dougherty of Albany 23-6, Jordan of Columbus 13-0, Lanier of Macon 14-0, Moultrie 14-0 and Northside of Warner Robins 40-13.

Losses were to Albany 21-14, Willingham of Macon 14-13 and LaGrange 13-0.

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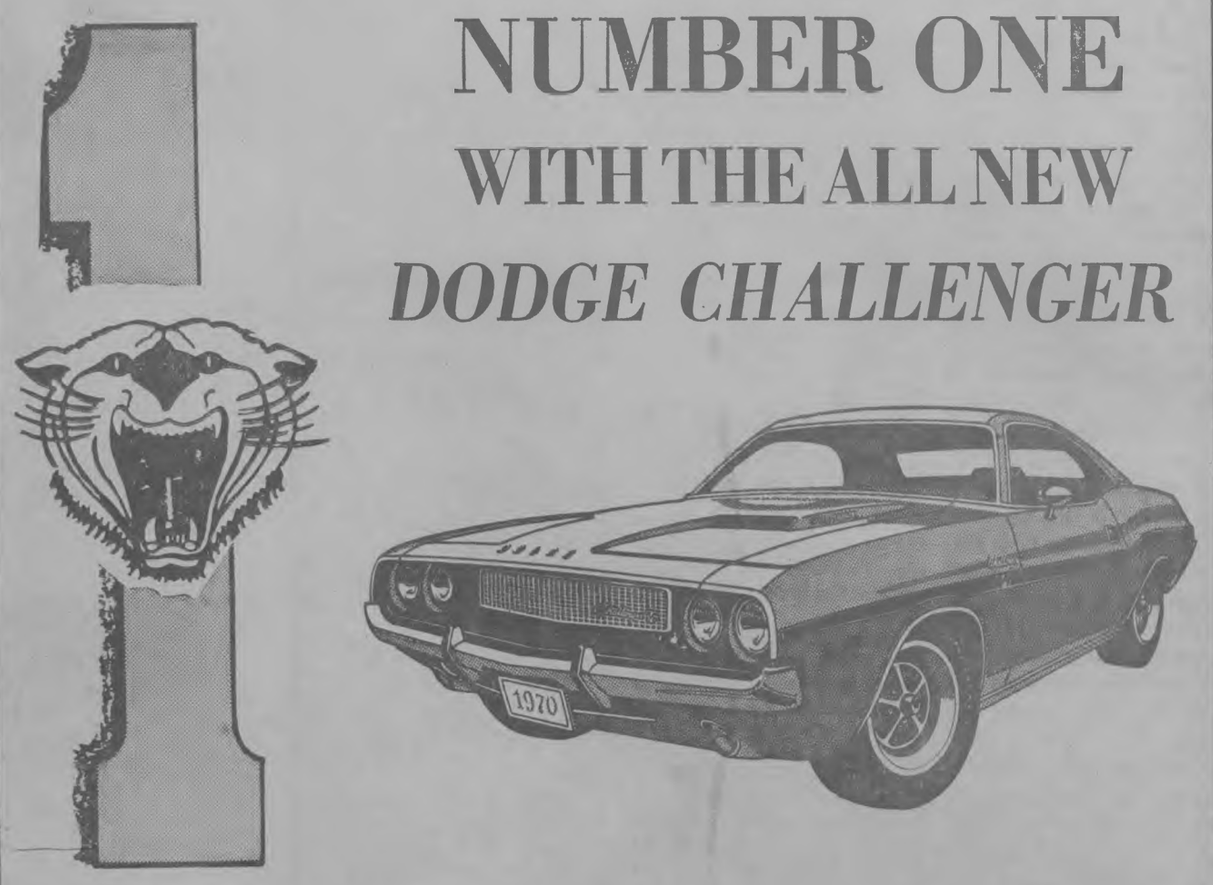

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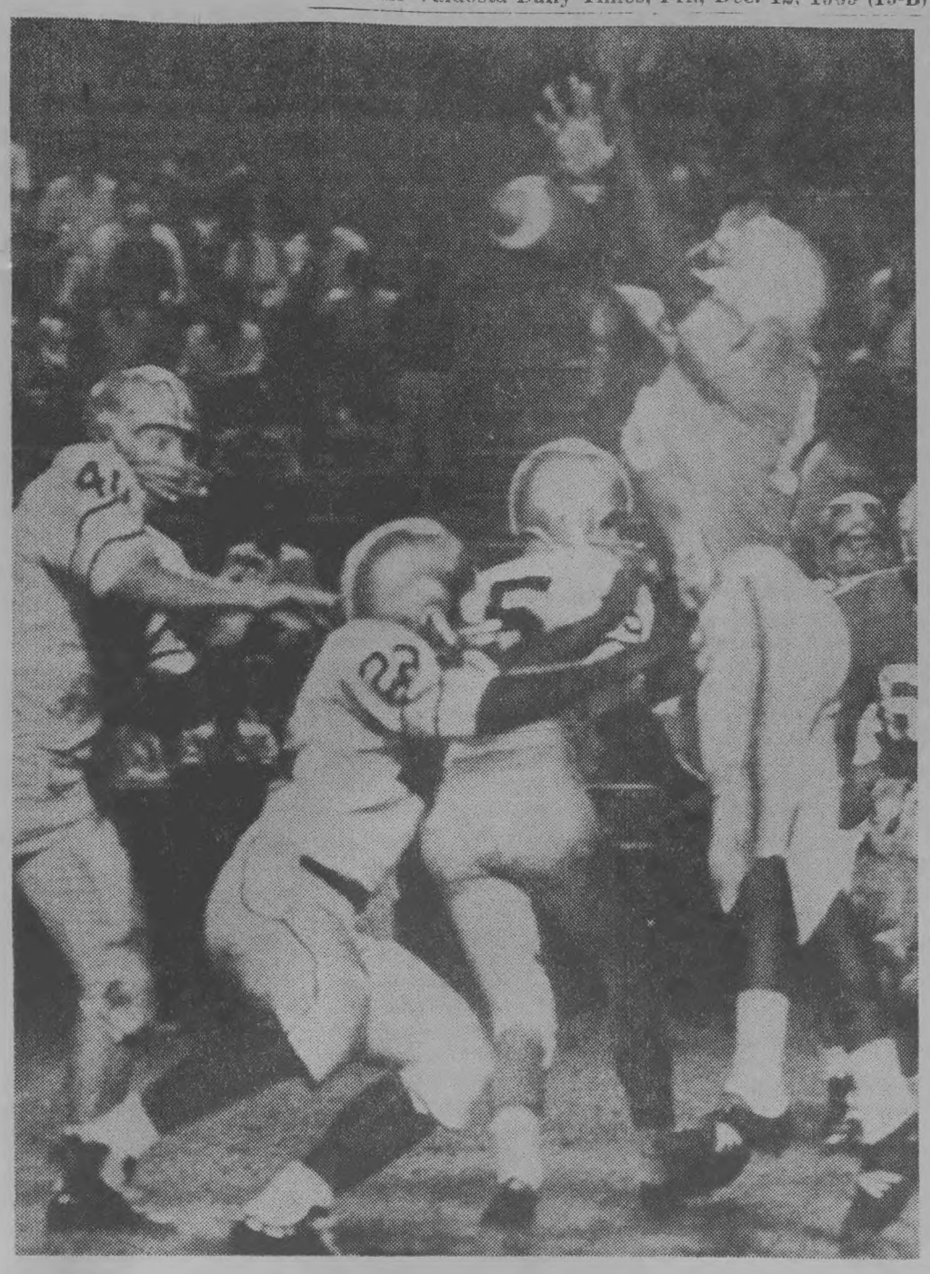

—AP Wirephoto

Steps To Title: Dougherty

The Wildcats were in command all the way as they rolled past Dougherty County's Trojans 42-0 this season. Above, 'Cats' John Hampton, Robert Savage and Stan Bounds turned to defense and were right on the mark as they cover a Dougherty pass receiver. Valdosta got 16 first downs, 261 yards rushing and 108 passing while holding the Trojans to five first downs, minus 41 yards rushing and 49 passing.

Topple Athens

'Cats Avenged A Defeat

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ATHENS — Valdosta's proud Wildcats, graduates of the South Georgia football school of hard knocks, reduced a grid myth to reality by defeating Athens' Trojans 14-13 here to capture the 1965 State Class AAA football championship.

The score was close and the game had a cliff-hanging finish, but coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats left no doubt about which team was superior and that they deserved to wear the state crown.

Coach Weyman Sellars' Trojans had been called by some Georgia's greatest prep eleven. They had swept to the Region 5-AAA and North Georgia AAA titles without a close game.

Athens had clicked off 13 straight wins this year. They had gone two seasons without losing on their home field. They were supposed to waltz past the Wildcats.

But it was Valdosta, which had staged an uphill battle to emerge as the winner in the rough and tumble duel for the 1-AAA and the South Georgia diadems to get into the state finals that made Athens dance to its football tune. The win gave VHS an 11-1 mark for the year.

With the temperature down in the 30s and the 8,000 - seat Athens High stadium packed with about 10,000 fans, Valdosta stormed to a 14 - point lead in the first half then in the last two periods withstood a rash of penalties, an injury to their offense leader quarterback Glenn Davis and a closing rush by the Trojans to win.

The 'Cats did not know they were going to own the state championship outright and not have to share it with the Trojans until Athens kicking specialist Chuck Perry, in the face of a hard Valdosta rush, missed by a wide margin on a point after kick with just seconds remaining in the contest.

It was an all VHS show in the first half. The 'Cats started marching in the first period and wheeled 81 yards in 13 plays for their initial touchdown that came after four minutes were gone in the second stanza.

Davis got the tally on a one-yard plunge after he, halfback Kenny Bounds and fullback Mike McMillan, behind the hard blocking VHS line, had spearheaded the drive. There was only one pass on the drive, a 20 - yarder to Bounds.

Larry Colson, a linebacking regular, kicked the first of two all - important extra points.

The Trojans had two more chances at the ball, once from the Valdosta 30, but were stopped and Valdosta moved 69 yards in nine plays to score with 35 seconds left in the half. A 22 - yard pass from Davis to Robert Strom, who did a nifty bit of running, scored the TD.

Athens scored midway in the third period on a 71 - yard pitchout run by speed merchant Ed Allen. With about four minutes left in the game Athens started from their 20 and moved to the Valdosta three.

Three plays got them only to the one but Gilbert finally piled over on fourth down. Perry, who had made good on 62 of 70 PATs up until then, kicked the extra point try high and to the right.

'Cats Have Friends Up In Chicago

Somebody up there likes the Valdosta High School Wildcats and is pulling for another State Championship.

And according to Ann Lasseter of 719 E. Jane St., the feeling some Midwesterners have for the local football team is more than just a passing fancy.

Mrs. Lassester said she discovered the new Wildcat followers by accident. She called Chicago information to get a phone number and got a native Georgian on the line for an operator.

Mrs. Lasseter said the operator had lived in Macon and that her mother now lives in Atlanta.

"Anyway we chatted while she was getting the number for me and she asked about the Valdosta High School Wildcats. I was floored and asked her how she knew about the Cats.

"It seems her mother sends her the paper from Atlanta every weekend and this operator keeps up with the Wildcats that way. She said everybody had gotten interested in the team and was pulling for another championship," said Mrs. Lasseter.

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LOOK AT THE CATS' RECORD

(All games won by Cats)

1968

Thomasville 19-0
Dougherty 42-0
Wayne 35-0
Ware 48-0
Albany 28-0
Moultrie 22-0
Monroe 47-6
Coffee 62-0
Tift 20-0
Lowndes 48-6
Lanier 27-7
Glynn 42-0
Forrest Park 37-12
(475-31)

1969

Thomasville 14-0
Dougherty 42-0
Wayne 24-0
Ware 63-0
Albany 28-0
Moultrie 21-0
Monroe 48-0
Coffee 46-0
Tift Co. 28-7
Lowndes 40-0
Lanier 23-0
Savannah 20-0

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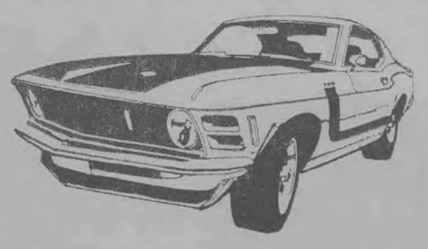

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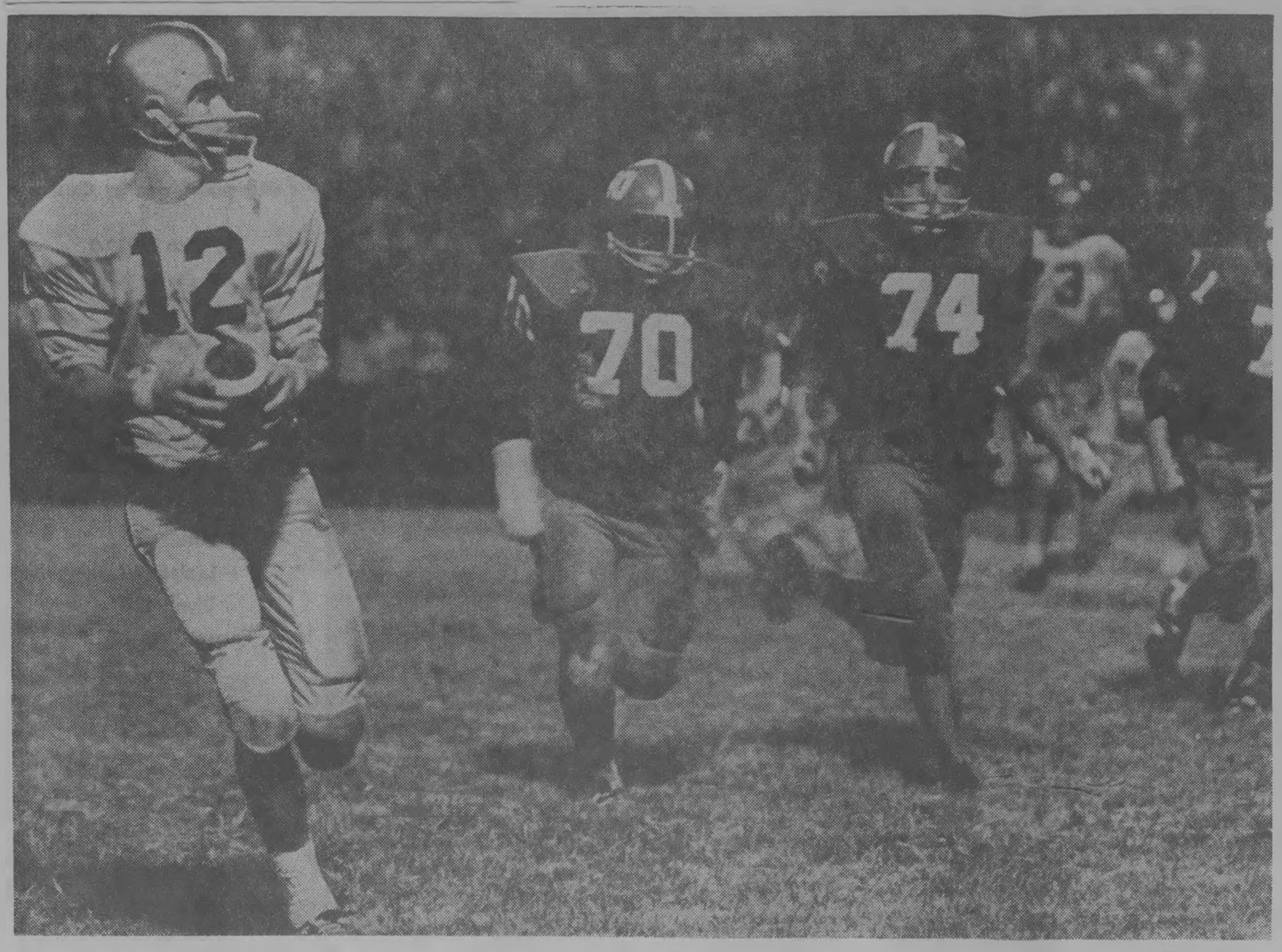

—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Thomasville

Quarterback Don Golden looks for a receiver downfield in the Thomasville game which the 'Cats took, 14-0. It was a non-region affair but got the Valdosta eleven started on an undefeated regular season. Valdosta found a tough foe in the Bulldogs who were destined to win the Region 1-AA championship this season. Valdosta had 10 first downs, 64 yards rushing and 117 yards passing. Thomasville had eight first donws, 34 yards rushing and 128 yards passing.

State Champs: 1961

Bennett, Luke Paced Show

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

THOMASTON — For one half and 18 plays R. E. Lee of Thomaston battled the Valdosta Wildcats on even terms here but then the awesome 'Cat powere was 34-13 too much for the slim Rebel squad as Valdosta captured the 1961 State Class AAA football championship.

Valdosta's defending state champions went into the contest a 20-point favorite and came out 21 ahead but only after a fired-up band of Rebels had played their hearts out.

It was a story of too much manpower against a team that came to play and demonstrated they had what it took to stick with the overpowering Wildcats for two and a half quarters.

It was also a story of too much Bruce Bennett, Valdosta's fine all-state quarterback. Bennett put on a one man show as he scored two touchdowns, passed for two others and compiled a total offense of 211 yards. He rushed for 141 yards on 24 carries and passed for 70 yards, completing four of 11.

The Wildcats blocking was sharp and crisp but hard-rocking defense proved to be the difference. Co-captain Butch Luke led the defensive show, accounting for eight tackles and picking off a R. E. Lee pass which led to the final Valdosta touchdown.

Bill Myddleton had eight tackles, Bill Schroer five, Stan Reaves five and Jerry Varnedoe four.

Valdosta scored first driving 69 yards in 10 plays with Bennett sneaking in from the one after a run of 43 yards. Lee came back in the second period as quarterback Lamar Dyche passed to Bill Thompson for a 28-yard score, but Frank Wetherington blocked the extra point.

After the half, Bennett threw to Reaves for a touchdown play of 35 yards, but on the kickoff Lee's Gaines Wilson returned it 90 yards for a score. However, it was the last one for the Rebels.

Valdosta scored again before the quarter was over as Bennett sneaked over from the one following a 60-yard drive. Two more touchdowns were added in the final frame as Reaves scored from the one complete a 14-play 45-yard drive and Bennett tossed to Colson eight yards to end a 70-yard drive. Smith kicked four PATs.

The 'Cats had 17 first downs, 285 yards rushing and 70 passing while the Rebels were held to five first downs 44 yards rushing and 72 passing.

1960 Wildcats Had Date With Destiny

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's courageous Wildcats, who have battled big odds all the way this season, kept a football date with destiny as they scored with only 29 seconds of playing time left to defeat Avondale's Blue Devils 20-14 for the 1960 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 paydirt, but were stopped by fumbles.

First they halted an Imo thrust with a great defensive effort at their own 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.

Cleveland Field bulged with an overflow crowd of about 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.

Sharing winning honors 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.

In the march to their first Class AAA championship, the 'Cats won their last three games with miracle-like finishes and handed Avondale its first licking in 13 outings.

In the first period Valdosta covered 45 yards in 13 plays with Bennett scoring from the one and Smith booting the first of two extra points. In the second period, they drove 66 yards in 11 plays with Bennett passing to Smith 29 yards for the score.

Just before halftime Pritchett passed 52 yards to Freddy Guy for the first Avondale score and then kicked the first of two extra points.

Avondale moved 80 yards in only five plays to score after recovering a Wildcat fumble early in the third period. Pritchett tossed 27 yards to Mike Herron in the end zone

The 'Cats got 19 first downs, 233 yards rushing and 34 passing to six first downs, six yards rushing and 174 passing for Avondale.

State Champs: 1962

Murphy Buried In Shower Of Mud, Touchdowns

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

High - stepping on the rain-soaked turf of Cleveland Field, Valdosta's football Wildcats buried Murphy's Eagles in a shower of mud and touchdowns to win the 1962 State AAA championship.

When the goo settled, coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats had a 39-0 victory and the honor of becoming the first team ever to rule as state AAA football champions three years in a row.

Playing what Bazemore called "our best effort of the year when you consider the weather and condition of the field," the Wildcats ran their three - year victory string to 36 games, exactly doubling the one time record of 18.

It was Valdosta's 12th consecutive triumph of the year and climaxed their third perfect season.

Coach Lawrence (Lefty) Thompson's Eagles, the North Georgia champs, were never really in the game. They failed to offer even a mild scoring threat and the 'Cat's go team ripped for more than 300 yards rushing and passing. The Eagles finished with a net of just one yard rushing and only 63 passing in the game played before 9,000 fans.

Valdosta dominated in the line on both offense and defense. Quarterback Rich Thomas, halfbacks Giles Smith and Stan Reaves and full back Walter Zant divided the scoring honors.

Thomas got TDs on runs of five and one yard. Smith tallied on a 26 - yard romp and a sizzling 75 yard punt return. Reaves got a TD on a four yard jaunt and Zant sped three yards for a tally.

Among those who deserved a place on the VHS honors list were linemen Danny Hendley, Dick Bender, Billy Holtzclaw, Wally Colson, Bill Schroer, Bill Henry, Charles Oliver, Randy Hunter, Christie Patterson, Bill Myddleton, William Hall, Bill Holt, Jack Martin, Jimmy Robinson and Foy Norwood and backs Neil Bell, Terry Godwin, Hank Lee, Wayne Pearson and Sirois Barker.

It really wasn't a night for football and Bazemore had suggested the game be postponed. But Murphey chief Thompson insisted the game go on. Sand was sprinkled on the field, but even that failed to cover all the mud puddles.



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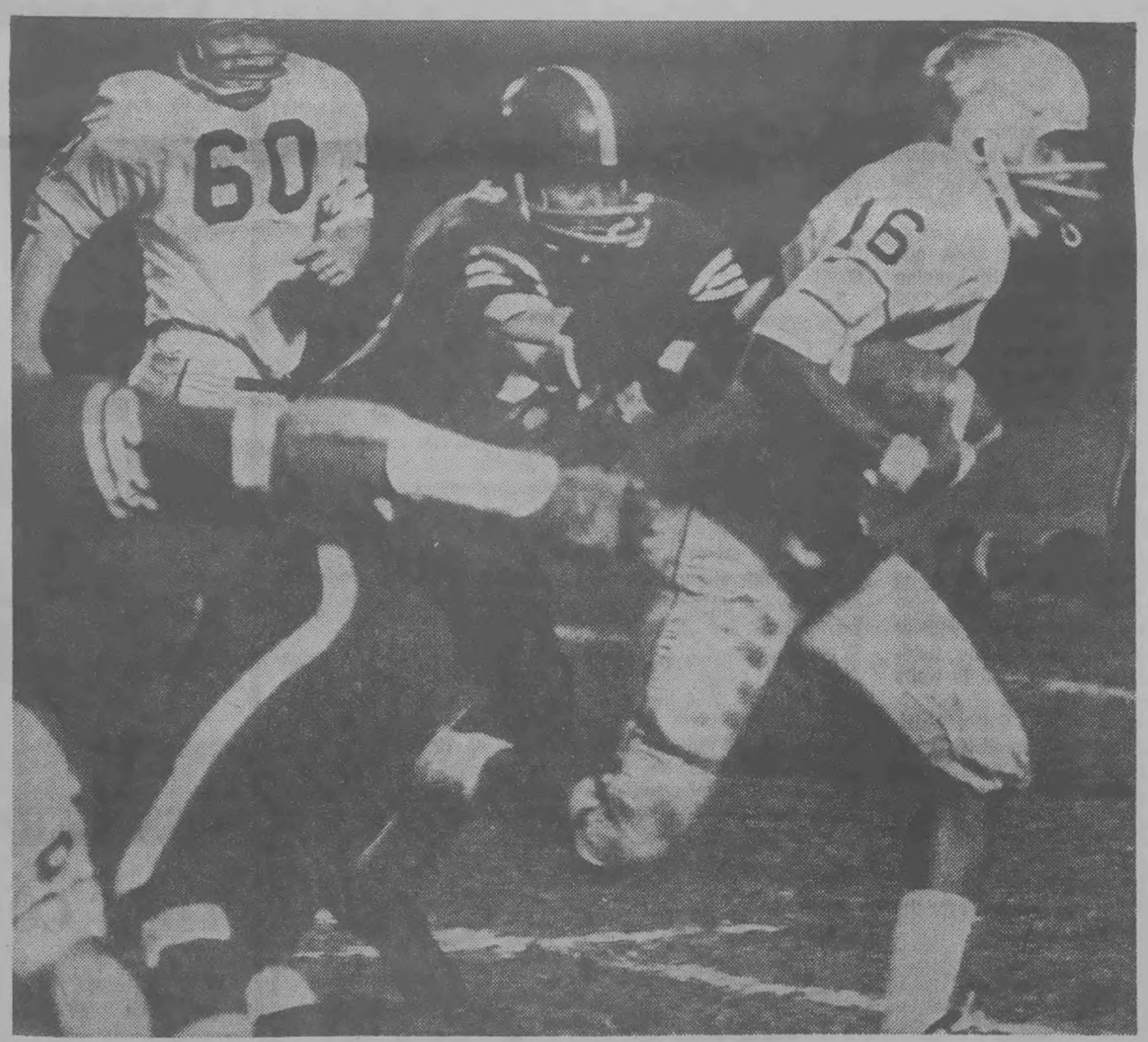

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Another winning team

Times ad wins honors in international contest

With more than 400 newspapers participating, The Valdosta Daily Times ad entry in International Newspaperboy Day Promotion Contest for 1969 was among the ten finalists from which the judges picked the plaque winners. The Times was the only Southern newspaper to make the finals.

The idea for this promotional page ad, which appeared in The Times October 11, was sparked by Kenneth Corns, circulation manager. Robert Winter III of the news staff did the photography and the page layout was done by Bill Malone of the ad staff. The page featured the Rev. Dayton W. Kannon family. The three Kannon sons are Times carriers and the entire family is involved in the newspaper delivery activity.

The Times will receive a "Certificate for Outstanding Promotion."

Judges were from national advertising agencies and the circulation manager of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. In writing of the award, Ray Kuester, executive vice-president of the Hickey-Mitchell Company, said:

"When they eliminated all except ten entries, one of the judges (who also served five years ago) said: "Any one of these entries would have been a hands-down plaque winner the last time I was judge. Today's entries are much better, and picking a plaque winner is much more difficult than before."

Kuester wrote: 'To be declared a winner in this international competition, in which more than 400 newspapers participated, is a great honor. We hope it will serve as a reminder of a job well done, and an incentive for an even better 'inspiration' in 1970."

This announcement came only a few days after the Times ad staff won the Gold Medal award for the best special edition in Georgia and Alabama.

The Valdosta Daily Times



—Times Staff Photo

Piling It On: Halfback Giles Smith Leaps away from a Tackler as Blockers Pile In In Typical 1962 Game Scene

Best 'Cats Ever?

The Grid Yardstick: '62 Bunch

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

If Valdosta High School football teams want to be three feet high, they have to measure up to a giant yardstick. The 1962 bunch.

That's what long time Wildcat fans call them. "The '62 bunch." No matter what a team does, fans look back to 1962 for comparisons. No matter how fine a play develops, some fan is bound to remark, "That's good all right, but I remember in '62 when. . ."

It's a dishonest butcher who puts his thumb on the scales. And here's why VHS teams must toe the mark on a measuring tape where two feet equals 48 inches and every yard is six feet high.

Coach Wright Bazemore "warned" the Valdosta Touchdown Club before the start of the season that the 1962 team "was two touchdowns worse than the 1961 team." And while Bazemore isn't known for his unabashed optimism, it seemed logical.

Heck, the '61 team had won a second consecutive State AAA Championship and stretched the Wildcat winning streak to 24 games. And gone was All - American Quarterback Bruce Bennett. So what if Bazemore had 15 starters returning? With visions of a 5-5 won - loss record engraved in their minds, the 'Cats plunged into another season.

The first game was a catastrophe. The team went almost an entire half without scoring. There was only 15 seconds left in the half when the 'Cats put their first tally on the scoreboard.

Giles Smith passed 15 yards to quarterback Rick Thomas for six points against Baker of Columbus for the initial score of the season. But before the season was over, the names of Thomas and Smith were to become household words in Valdosta.

Before the game was over, Thomas returned the favor and passed 40 yards to Smith for another score. And to show his appreciation, Smith ran for 16 yards and a TD later.

In between, Walter Zant scored on a 20 - yard run. With Smith's four placement kicks for points after touchdowns, VHS won 28-0. The fans didn't know it, but the season was to follow the pattern of the first game.

The next game was against Waycross High School, the AA state champs in 1961. Billed as "the battle of the champions," the game was a farce. 'Cats 48, Bulldogs 13. Halfback Stan Reaves led the way returning a pass interception 40 yards for a touchdown and scoring again on an eight-yard run.

Smith scored on a 50 - yard punt return, a feat that was to become his trademark during the season. Thomas scored three times, once on a punt return of 60 yards and on a pair of eight - yard runs. Albert McLeod, a sophomore, got the other VHS tally on a 48-yard scamper.

Teddy Everett scored for Waycross on an 88-yard kickoff return. And quarterback Newton Bates passed 55 yards to Donnie Miller for the other Bulldog score.

"You know there might be something to these kids after all," said the fans.

Lanier fell 32-0 There went Jordan of Columbus 46-0. In a renewed rivalry, Albany went down 28-0. Columbus High School bit the dust 41-6.

"I thought they were supposed to be two touchdowns worse than last year," said the now - confident rooters.

Then came the Moultrie High School Packers.

Both teams were undefeated going into the contest. And the entire state knew the winner could grab all the marbles. It was a frustrating marble game for the 'Cats.

After Bill Holt recovered a Packer fumble at their 17-yard line, Thomas got the Game's first TD on a one yard plunge in the third quarter. But nobody was leaving.

Moultrie tied it up on a three - yard run by Jim Pippin a few minutes later. Smith and a third string Packer, Bob Hall, went to the sidelines for fighting after Smith was tackled returning the ensuing kickoff.

But the 'Cats were a team of destiny. Thomas circled end one play later for 74 yards and the winning touchdown. 'Cats 13, Moultrie 7.

The Cuban Missile Crisis had cropped up when the Willingham Rams of Macon fell victim to "Wildcatitis." But even the missile crisis couldn't crowd the 12-0 score off the front page.

Anti-ballistic missiles were yet to come. But the "headhunter" defense were sufficient to contain any Ram scoring threat.

When Warner Robins fell 47-7, the 'Cats donned the Region 1-AAA crown. And the 20-0 victory over LaGrange was only icing on the cake. As a matter of fact, with sleet falling in Troup County during the game, everything was "icing."

"I'm a believer," was a popular slogan in 'Cat Country.

The South Georgia championship game with Richmond Academy was played in Augusta. For two years the same two teams had played the showdown match. And each time the Musketeers had given VHS about the same as they got. Once the penetration rule was put into effect to determine the winner.

But if the '62 'Cats were two touchdowns worse than the 1961 team, the 1962 Musketeers must have been seven touchdowns worse. Final score was VHS 32, Richmond Academy 0.

Murphy was the opponent for the state championship game. Led by All - State halfback Roy Jarrett, the Atlanta team headed south to a muddy Cleveland Field. Bazemore wanted to postpone the game because of the wet field. But Murphy wanted none of that.

Sand was poured on the gridiron to sop up the puddles, and a soggy Wildcat team emerged as victors in the "sand bowl" 39-0. The sand didn't slow the 'Cats down, and neither did the Eagles.

The victory skein stood at 26 straight wins. The region, south Georgia, and state crowns rested on their heads. But the best was yet to come.

Nine members of the team received college scholarships. Smith, Thomas, Billy Schroer, Bill Myddleton and Danny Hendley signed with Georgia Tech. Reaves went to the University of Florida. Dick Bender cast his lot with Florida State University and Sirois Barker went to Tampa University.

Smith, Thomas, Schroer, Myddleton, Foy Norwood, and Wally Colson were named to the first string of the Region 1-AAA team.

The Associated Press All-State team selected Smith as its captain. Thomas, Schroer and Myddleton were first string selectees.

Schroer and Myddleton were first string picks on the All-Southern Team. And Thomas was honorable mention.

Schroer, who was named "Lineman of the Year" in Georgia for his stellar play at defensive tackle, gained All-American first team honors a few days later, Smith was honorable mention.

Thomas set a new record for total offense in the region with 1,752 yards. Smith topped the region in scoring with 116 points and led in pass receiving with 29 catches for 431 yards and four touchdowns. He also led in return yardage. Thomas was tops in passing with 67 completions in 118 attempts for 1,062 yards and a percentage of .567.

The final touch was added by a fellow in Minnesota who has the intestinal fortitude to choose the best prep football eleven from the thousands of teams in the United States. He picked VHS number one.

Not bad for a team who was tabbed two touchdowns inferior to the team preceding it. The six - foot yardstick was manufactured that year.

In 1953, 'Cats Took Third Class AA Title In A Row

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

In their most spectacular offensive show of the year, the Valdosta Wildcats scaled the heights to a third straight state Class AA championship in 1953 and a second consecutive engagement in the Peanut Bowl by steamrolling LaGrange 48-7 at Cleveland Field.

After the first half in which they watched John Robert O'Neal and Robert Hughes engage in scoring relays behind unbelievably potent blocking, Peanut Bowl representatives signed up the Wildcats during intermission.

Wright Bazemore, who has piloted the 'Cats through 31 consecutive football games without a defeat, was awarded a new automobile before 7,000 fans. Coaches Herschel Hamill, Butch Dowman, Bill Davis, Buck Thomas and Jim Clark received cash tokens.

Valdosta fans built their jubilation slowly after LaGrange jumped off to a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter after recovering a fumble on the Wildcat 31. It was the first time in two seasons the 'Cats have been behind in a football game.

They displayed their disapproval of the condition by scoring twice in the first quarter, three times in the second and once each in the third and fourth.

O'Neal scored on gallops of 86, 24 and 11 yards. Hughes broke away for touchdown runs of 54 and 75 yards. In addition, Maxwell Taylor intercepted a second quarter pass and ran 65 yards to a score on a darting run behind savage blocking and then turned in another interception run, this time for 45 yards, to set up the final score.

Bobby Renfroe scored the other touchdown after Herbert Hardy intercepted a pass and ran it back to the LaGrange 16.

Other 'Cat shiners included Rabun Roberts, Ron Wetherington, Willie Webb. Billy and Fomby Hardin, Paul McNeil, Jacob Malham, Robert Taylor, Marcus Smith, Jimmy Dowling and Norman Bennett.

Valdosta had only five first downs but 365 yards in rushing —the only pass was from Wetherington to Taylor for a 16 - yard extra point — while LaGrange had 15 first downs, 105 yards rushing and 19 passing. A Mills to Dany Sherrer one - yard pass scored the LaGrange touchdown.

Baze's Worst Season: 1963

The year 1963 was not the year of the Wildcat as the VHS team win two, lost seven and tied one.

Wins were over Baker of Columbus 6-0 and Warner Robins 23-0.

Losses were to Waycross 14-0, Jordan of Columbus 13-9, Albany 20-14, Columbus 52-19, Moultrie 32-0, Willingham of Macon 13-0 and LaGrange 20-0.

The tie was a 3-3 deadlock with Lanier of Macon.

Carroll Hardy of the Denver Broncos ticket office tells of the woman who called for tickets. He told her "we have good side line and good end zone tickets." The woman then asked, "Is that all?"

State Champs: 1956

Lights Went Out, But Didn't Matter

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The final three minutes and 36 seconds of the 1956 state Class AA championship game weren't played because of light failure but that didn't stop the Valdosta High Wildcats from nabbing the trophy via a 27-0 victory over Druid Hills.

Few people among the crowd of about 8,000 at Cleveland Field felt finishing the game would have been anything but torture for the visitors.

Pre - game predictions out of Atlanta said it would be Valdosta's offense versus Druid Hills defense. There was plenty of offense and defense all right, but Wright Bazemore's tremendous team had both of them.

Except for two long plays in the first quarter, Druid Hills never found anything to cheer about while the Wildcats put on a 75 - yard scoring drive in the second quarter, marched 68 yards for a TD in the third period then snapped up two quick ones in the final quarter.

Bazemore turned loose a brilliantly - balanced five-man backfield behind sensational blocking. Robert Johnson and Ben Smith were as tough as ever, but they didn't have to work as hard because of the effectiveness of Arthur Strom, Johnny Welch and the "fifth back," Mike White, who carried four important gains from the center keep.

Welch ran three yards for the first touchdown, Johnson scored the second on a 20 - yard journey, Smith made the third on a three - yard spurt and Strom completed it with a one - yard plunge.

Johnson was the leading ground gainer with 58 yards in 13 tries and completed seven of 10 passes for 104 yards.

All - State Stacy Burton led the losers in rushing with 31 yards in 10 attempts.

In all, the Wildcats had 312 yards total offense to 80 for the visitors. Druid Hills managed only four first downs and gave up 19 to the 'Cats.

Other 'Cat stars included guard Johnny Jones, tackle Gene Boone, linebackers Fred Riggs and Mike White and defensive back Strom, end Otis Fletcher, linebacker Harlmon Brooks and end Joe Tinsley, guard Jim Carroll, tackle Gene Bennett, tackle Bobby Hodge, tackle Jim Sears and halfback Dale Williams.

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—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Monroe

Mike Everson (70) and Joe Mullis (14) put the skids on a Monroe back as they earned a 48-0 victory over the Golden Tornadoes from Albany. Valdosta picked up 24 first downs, 278 yards rushing and 127 yards passing. Monroe, a team with a reputation of being an offensive powerhouse, managed to muster only seven first downs, 86 yards rushing and 51 yards passing.

State Champs: 1952

Win Over LaGrange Was Spectacular

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Wildcats earned a brief rest to sit back and count their laurels after a tremendous second - half effort that gave them a 30-0 victory over LaGrange and the 1952 Class A state championship.

And brief the rest will be, for at 1 a.m. Dec. 13 Valdosta signed a contract to play in the Columbus Peanut Bowl New Years Day in a game which puts the best Georgia high school team against an out of state representative.

West Springfield Mass., had accepted a bid to the bowl previously.

LaGrange rolled onto Cleveland Field before 6,500 fans intent on knocking the Wildcats off the trail to their second straight state championship. Until the final two minutes of the first half they made a determined effort, but coach Wright Bazemore's men finally recovered from a case of jitters at that point and began their scoring splurge.

Red Fleming notched the first Cat touchdown from the three after a 64 - yard march in which Valdosta used 16 plays. The score at halftime stood 6-0.

The Wildcats then ran up the rest of their points on the kind of spectacular plays that Valdosta fans have come to expect. Bobby Renfroe struck with stunning swiftness in the third period as he took a pitchout, barrelled around left end, evaded tacklers, then outraced the last defender diagonally across the field to score the second touchdown in the far right corner of the end zone.

Sammy Hardin's tricky run added the third score from 27 yards out in the first play of the last period. Shortly thereafter, Hardins pass hit Walker for the fourth score. And on the next kickoff, Fomby Hardin notched the first touchdown in his Wildcat history.

John Driver took the boot on the 12 and attempted to reverse to Danny Sherer but the shift missed connections. Fomby gathered in the unattended pigskin at that point and went into the end zone unmolested.

The 'Cats point after tries were complete flops but nobody minded.

Leading the Valdosta defense which held LaGrange to only two frist downs, 50 yards rushing and 17 vards passing were James Warren, Paul McNeil, Herman Parramore, Jimmy Walker, Ray Moore, Larry Massey, Lee Greer, Earl Gober, the last two each intercepting a pair of LaGrange passes.

Also instrumental in the Wildcat attack which amassed 10 first downs, 333 vards rushing and 52 passing was halfback Noel George and end Wetherington.

State Champs: 1951

Wilson Raced Past Newnan

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Wing - footed Joe Wilson lustily led his Valdosta running mates as they punched and pushed their way to a satisfying 14-9 victory over Albany eleven here before a thoroughly aroused crowd of 5,500 to gain the coveted 1951 state Class A football championship.

It was Wilson's deposit of his most outstanding performance, the winning touchdown and the spark of inspiration that, coupled with the magnificent defense and the stellar offensive attack, gave Valdosta the win in the most exciting contest of the season.

The gamboling left half topped off a 65 - yard drive in the initial scoring period with the touchdown that provided the tie - breaking and winning margins.

The Newnan Tigers went ahead early in the opening quarter as big Billy O'Dell, bruising fullback, capped a 56 - yard push. O'Dell converted.

Wayne Shaw, Valdosta's 135-pound dynamo, brought the match to 6-7 when he climaxed a 64 - yard advance with the Newnan kickoff. Charlie Hill made it even when he toed the conversion.

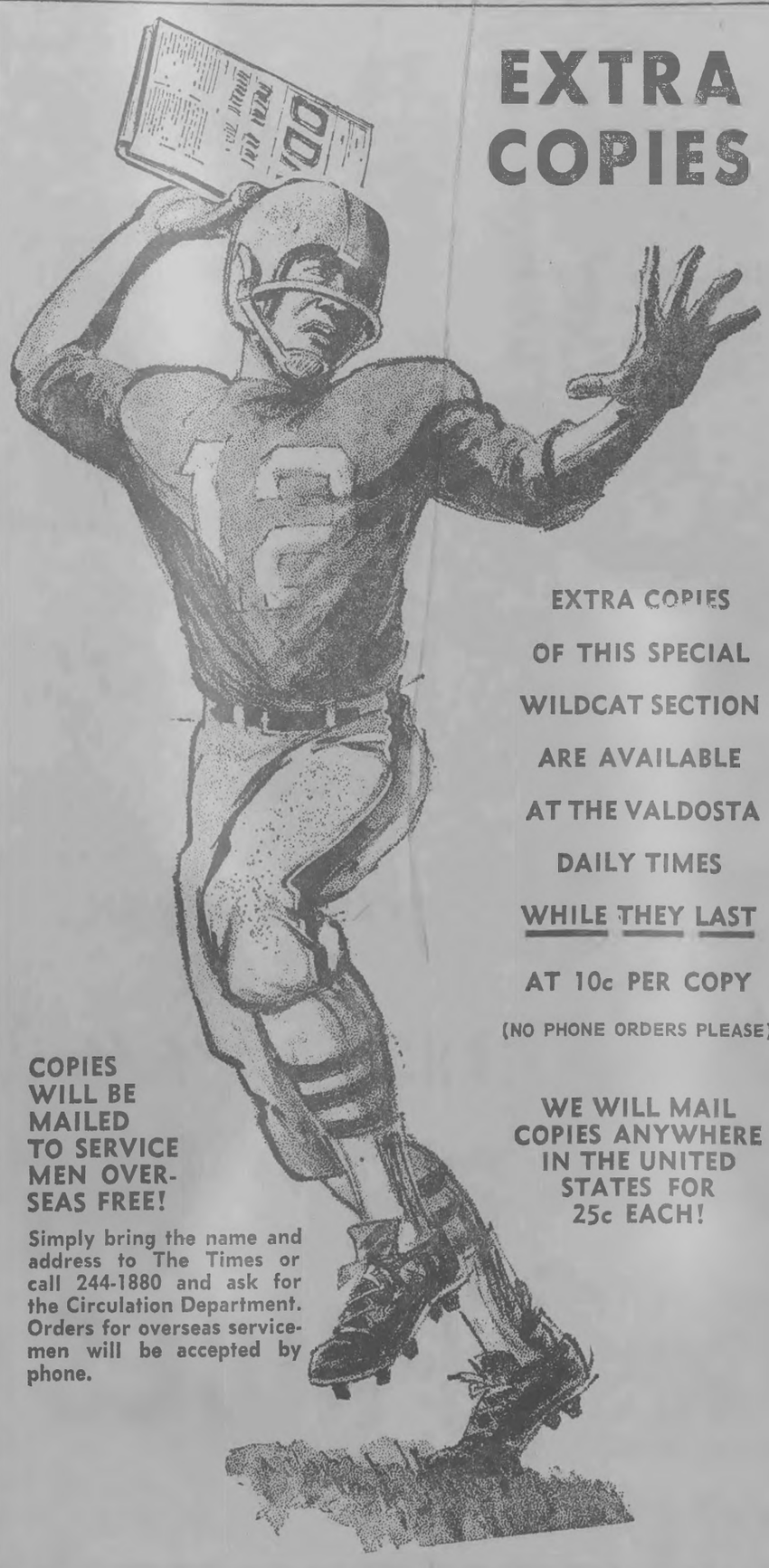
Newnan's strong defense accounted for two points in the second period when the Tigers broke through to down punting Bill Whitman in the Valdosta end zone.

But here, the Wildcat defense, after last night the best of any prep team in the state, took over and squelched any further Newnan threat. The winning touchdown came as Wilson, after runs by himself, Shaw and Bobby Renfroe, picked his way 27 yards and Hill again kicked the extra point.

Leading the defensive charge which held Newnan to seven first downs, 90 yards rushing and 73 passing were Jimmy Walker, Carl Jones, Billy Whitman, Ray Moore, Gary Phillips, Herman Parramore and James Warren.

And a fellow named Noel George saved an apparent Newnan touchdown by stopping 245-pound W A Glazier, who had blocked a punt, at the Wildcat eight only one play before time ran out.

Valdosta's offensive picked up seven first downs, 199 yards rushing and 15 passing.



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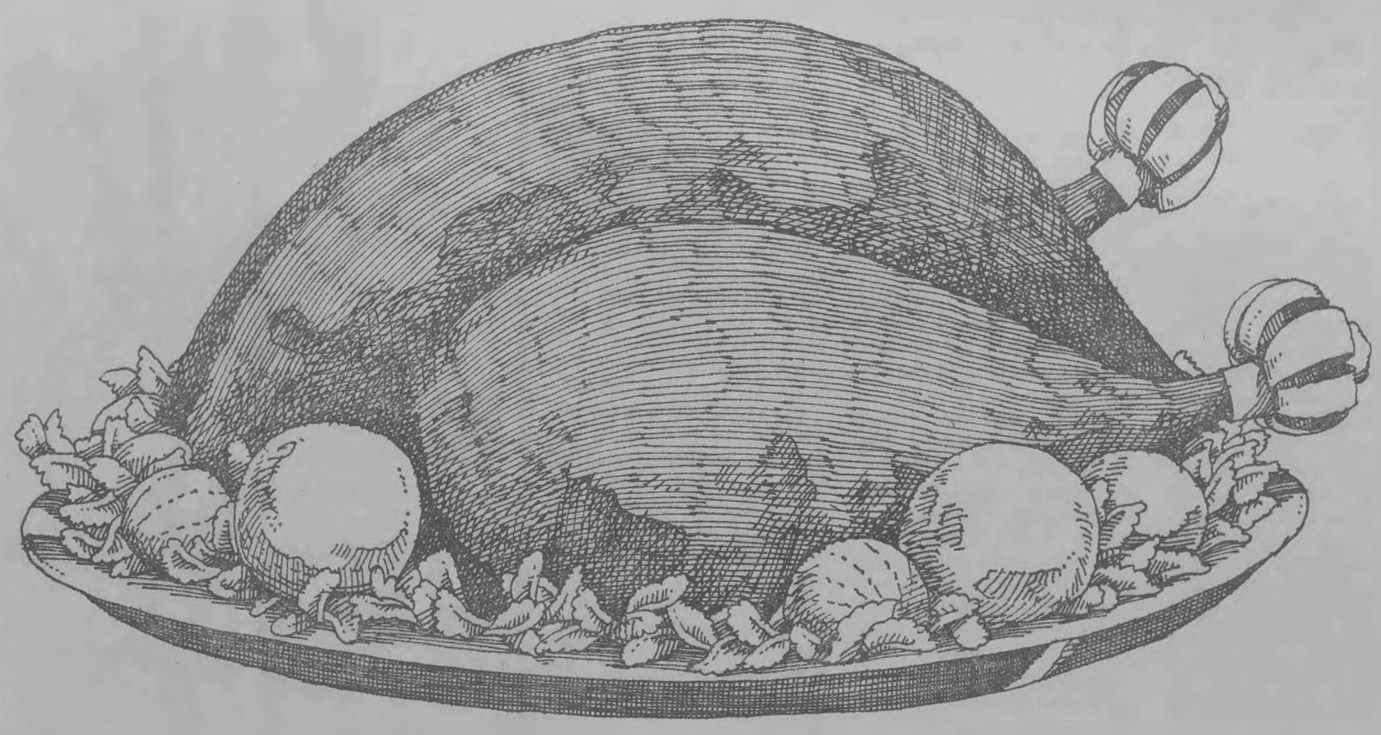

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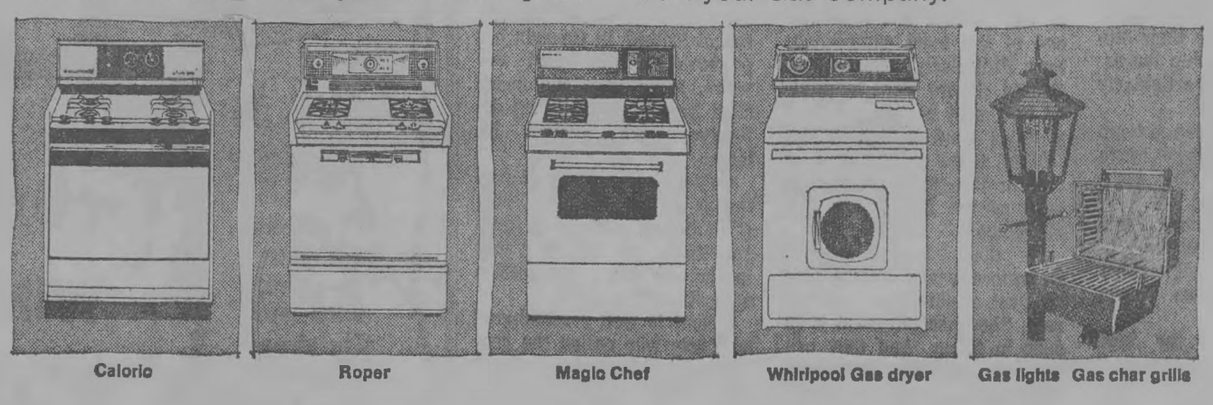

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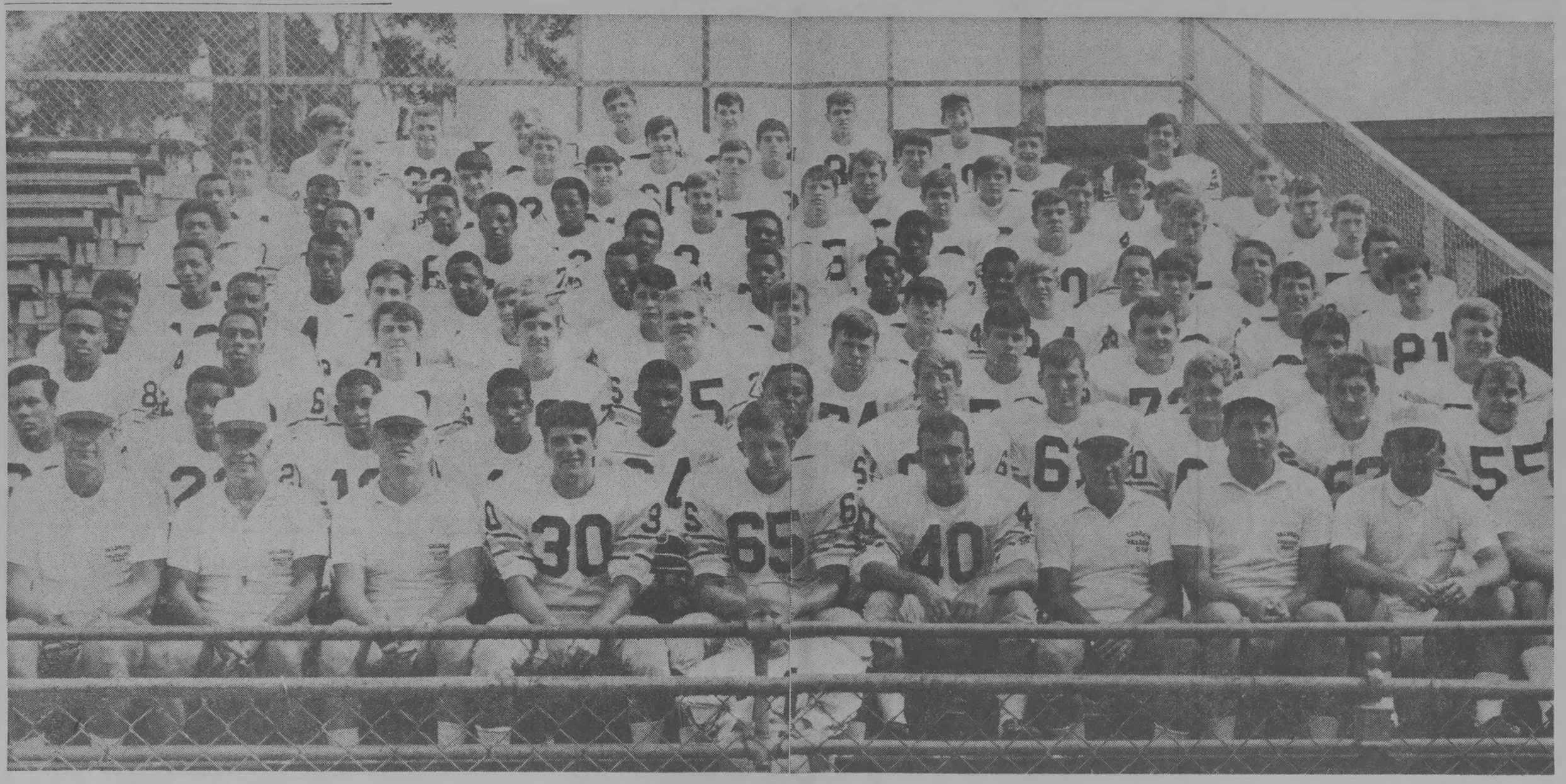

The 1969 Edition of the Valdosta High School Wildcats Heads into the State Championship Game Having Won 12 Games, Scoring 407 Points and Limiting Opponents to Just Seven —Times Staff Photo

They're Not Fans But Praise 'Cats

By WINK DEVANE

Perhaps they couldn't be called fans. But coaches of opposing teams this year are admirers of the Valdosta High School Wildcats.

None of the 10 regular season opponents' mentors had anything but praise for the team which blanked nine out of ten of the teams they faced, and allowed another opponent only seven points.

It could be the 'Cats were many different teams during the course of the season. Because each of the opposing coaches appeared to see the team in a different light.

Most agreed the Wildcats were deeper in talent this year than they have been in the past. Most attributed the increased depth to the merger of VHS with a previously all-Negro school, Pinevale.

"But tell me a year when they weren't deep," countered Albany High School head coach Harold Dean Cook "Coach (Wright) Bazemore has always had two or three teams he could throw at you."

Cook, whose Indians were defeated 28-0 by the 'Cats, was the only coach to express even the slightest misgivings about the team. He said they hadn't "jelled" the way past VHS teams did. They also made mistakes this year Wildcat teams generally don't make, said Cook.

"Usually Valdosta can kill you anytime they take a notion," Cook said, "but this year, they seemed to be having some troubles. This is probably due to the merger with the other school.

"Even so, they're far and away the best team in the state as far as I'm concerned."

Cook's crosstown rival. Luthor Welsh of Dougherty High School of Albany. disagreed. Welsh said the depth greatly enhanced the VHS team. both offensively and defensively.

"This is my fourth year of coaching in Georgia," Welsh said, "and this year's team is far superior to their other state championship teams. Their depth is particularly good."

Welsh's Trojans. a team with a lot of grit but not much depth, lost to the Cats 42-0.

Bud Willis, head coach of Moultrie High School's Packers, hit upon an asset the VHS team has that every other coach mentioned also. Coaching.

"I think they're the best coached team in the state," Willis said, "and their record speaks for itself. They have a tradition going for them that no other team in the state has.

"Like when they play us. It's a big game for both teams. But they've been under pressure so many times they don't choke."

Undeniably well - coached too, the Packers were blanked by Dosta 21-0.

Despite losses to VHS over the past few years, Willis said he would like to play the 'Cats twice next year, once here and once in Moultrie. With three region members moving to another region next year, 1-AAA is to have only nine teams in it. Willis said two games are possible if Bazemore is agreeable.

Even a losing coach can feel fortunate at times. Ray Dalton, head coach at Tift High School, saw his team put the only points on the board for VHS opposition this year. The seven points were scored in the third quarter of the Wildcat - Blue Devil contest in Tifton after a fumble on the VHS 10.

Though the outcome, a 28-7 victory for the 'Cats, was never in doubt, Dalton said all of Tifton was proud of the score.

He was also among the most complimentary of the opposition coaches, calling the Cats a "complete football team." Dalton added he did not spot a single weakness in the entire team.

"I only wish we played against everybody like we play against Valdosta." said Dalton, whose team lost the following week to then winless Coffee County.

John Stephens, head coach of the Coffee County Comets of Douglas, is to move his team to region 3-AAA next year. And it's doubtful he'll miss the annual contests with the Bazemore men. The loss this year was by a 46-0 margin.

Stephens said he can't see any reason why the team shouldn't go all the way to the state championship.

Two other coaches whose teams move out of the region next year had high praise for the 'Cats also. Clint Madray. Wayne County of Jesup's head coach, liked the depth and balance displayed this year by Valdosta. 'Dosta walloped Wayne 49-0.

The coach whose team received the worst licking handed out by VHS this year was one of the most complimentary. Phil Early, whose Ware County Gators were humilated 63-0, said he thought they were as good a high school football team as he's seen in four or five years. Maybe as good as the 1962 state champions.

"I don't believe Coach Bazemore really knows who his best athletes are," Early said, "because the team is so deep in talent. And they are far and away the best coached team I've seen this year."

Another contender for the title up until the last stages of the season was Monroe High School of Albany. But Winfred Benson's Golden Tornadoes left Cleveland Field shaking their heads over a 48-0 loss.

"If you're going to beat them," said Benson, "it has to be in the air. Nobody is going to run through that line."

Benson should know. His team's attack was built around Lester Sherman, who is recognized as one of the state's finest running backs. Sherman eventually ended up as the region's leading scorer, rusher, and return artist. But against the 'Cats, Sherman gained only 59 yards.

Head coach of Valdosta's crosstown rivals, Carlton Adams of the Lowndes High Vikings, said VHS does everything a football team is supposed to do. And they do it well.

"They block, tackle and pursue," said Adams, "and they're far better than any team we saw. Whoever beats them, if anyone does, will have to have an exceptional football team. One that's good, big and fast. And I'll tell you now a one man team doesn't stand a chance.

Injuries reduced the Vikings ranks during the season. And much of their hopes rested on the running of halfback Henry Otis Register. He had a good night against Valdosta, but the Vikes lost 40-0.

The closest game of the season was the first one, a 14-0 win over the Thomasville High Bulldogs. Coach Lee Forehand's charges proved the score was no fluke by going on to capture the Region 1-AA crown.

With his mind on playoff opponents coming up Forehand still took time out to pin a few roses on the only team to defeat his during the regular season.

"Just take all the adjectives that mean 'great' and you'll have my opinion of the Valdosta team," said Forehand. "It was by far the finest team we played all year, and I hope it is the finest we do play. We aren't proud of the score, but I believe that's the best we played all year.

The names of three players cropped up in almost all the coaches conversations. They were Don Golden, Tom Holt and Danny O'Neal.

Holt was praised by most as the finest linebacker high school football in Georgia has produced in the past few years. More than one coach cited him for outstanding defensive work against his team.

Golden was praised in particular by Dalton and Willis ("All he did was stand there and throw the ball 60 yards in the air for a completion against us.")

O'Neal is well remembered by Early who called the senior running back "one of the finest in the state."

Other names cropped up too. Each coach seemed to have a particular Wildcat player in mind who had an outstanding game against his team. For one it was the defensive tackles. But another would disagree. It was the pass receivers. Or the guards. The defensive ends. Or the offensive tackles.

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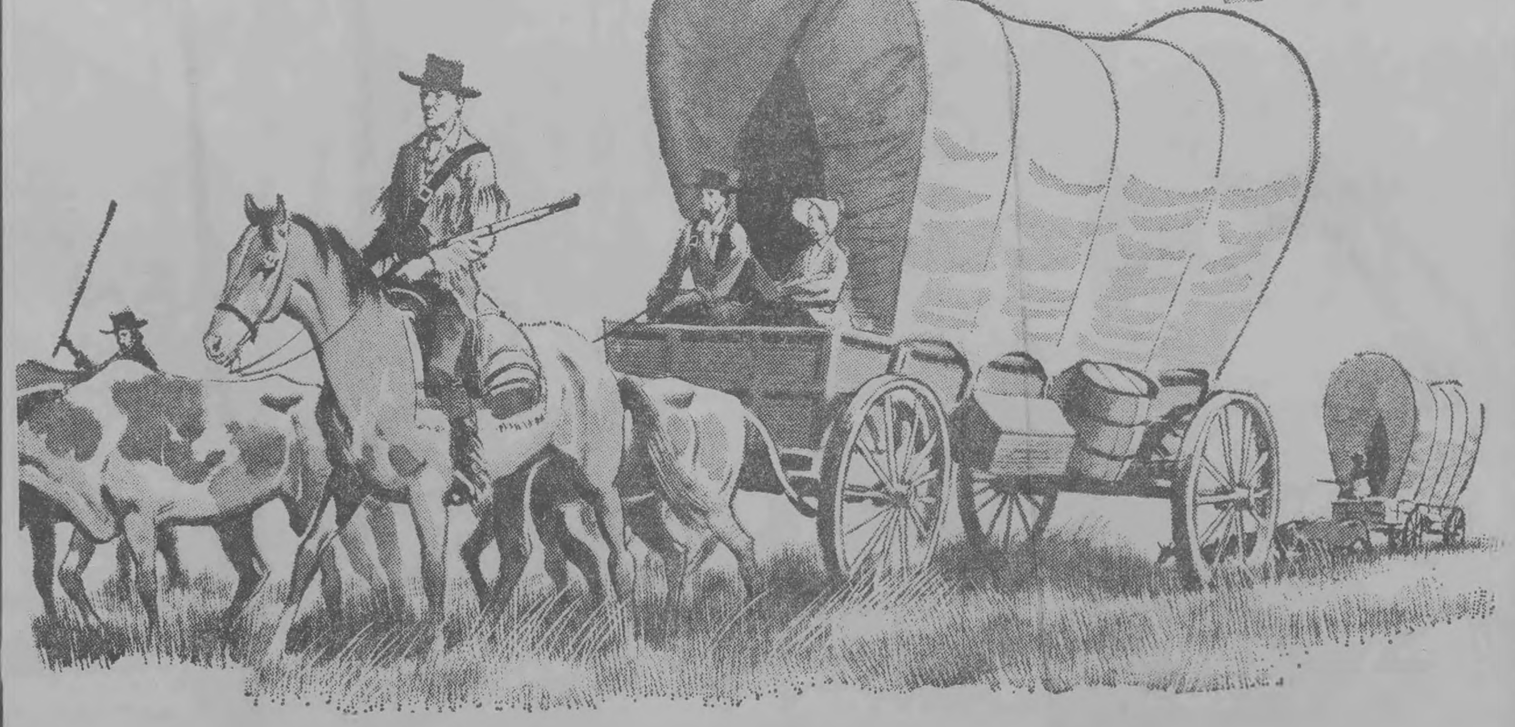

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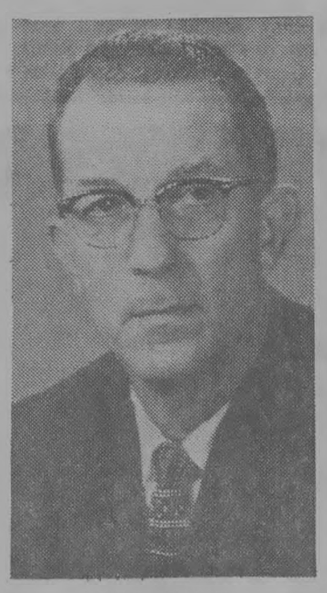
He Never Knew He'd Back 'Cats

By JULIAN MILLER



EARL MAYO
Emergencies Too

Thirty - six years ago when Earl Mayo was in his senior year at Thomasville High school in Thomasville, the very last thing he expected to wind up as was a Wildcat fan in Valdosta, Ga., but he did.

Now Mayo is perhaps one of the biggest Wildcat fans ever. But he never gets to relax and watch the game anymore — He's too busy keeping everything in order in the Cleveland field press box.

Mayo arrives at home Wildcat football games around 6 p.m., two hours before game time. He stays constantly busy helping radio stations install equipment, passing out programs and information and making sure everyone who had a legitimate reason for being in the press box is comfortable.

"If you would have told me I would be living in Valdosta and would be a big Wildcat fan 30 years ago, I would have probably busted you in the mouth," Mayo jokes. "I can still remember coming over here all steamed up and then cringing with fear when the Wildcats came out on the field.

"Now, even though I have never had a son on the team yet, I feel like the 'Cats are my team, and I want to do everything I can for them."

The 54 - year - old Cat fan admits there is an awful lot of work to the job but persists it does not really seem like an obligation on his part. It is something he really enjoys doing. He does it for nothing too.

"I got the job about two years ago," Mayor explained, "when the board of education said 'Earl, take that press box and make a good impression on all the visitors with it.' And that's what I've tried my best to do.

"Before, the Valdosta policy was to keep everyone who didn't have a definite reason and advanced permission to be there out. This led to some hard feelings because many press and radio officials and other school scouts didn't remember to call early for permission.

"As a result, most of the chairs were left empty while people who should have been in the press box were left out in the stands.

"But I've made up my mind. As long as there is an open seat in that press box and someone with any legitimate reason for being in it, they will sit in the press box.

"I don't want anybody going home and saying anything but good about the Wildcats and Valdosta. We had over 40 people in the press box during the Lanier game and the phone calls started coming in early Saturday morning for seats for the Savannah game," he said.

"I had talked to a couple of merchants in Valdosta and to the Touchdown Club about helping support a coffee and donut stand in the press box. It worked out fine and only cost the TD club about three dollars. I believe that showed the visitors we were really nice people around here."

Mayo used a large coffee maker from his own store, United Rent-Alls, free of charge.

This job was not the first Mayo donated to the Valdosta school system. He served a six - year term on the Valdosta Board of Education in 1959-66, served as president of the VHS Athletic Association, as president of the Basketball Booster's club in 1960 and ran the public address system for eight years.

His daughter, Mary Ann Mayo, was a starting guard on the VHS Kitten squad in 1959-61.

Apparently it's not just Valdosta Mayo likes. He seems to enjoy just working with and for kids. He ran the P A. system in Thomasville for 15 years between 1935 and 1950 and was a high school football and basketball official for over 25 years.

"I just love kids," Mayo explained.

The coffee and donuts were not the only changes Mayo made in the press box. At the start of the 1969 season he contacted several banks in Valdosta with the idea of sponsoring someone to call in the scores of other games of interest around the area so Cat fans could find out what next week's competition was doing while watching the game here.

Mayo's efforts do not go unnoticed. He has a file of letters from other school officials thanking him for his help during their stay in Valdosta.

One of the rules that must be upheld during the games is that the press box telephone should not be used unless the call is official or an emergency. Since the phone is in the press box, it is up to Mayo to decide if an "emergency" is really an emergency.

He remembers one night last year when some guy came running up to the box as fast as he could yelling 'where's the phone. . .where's the phone?"

"Is it an emergency?" Mayo asked.

"I'll say it is!" the man shouted, "My wife is out in the car having a baby!"

That was emergency enough for Mayo. The man got to use the phone.

'Cats Were 11-1 But Again Were State Champions

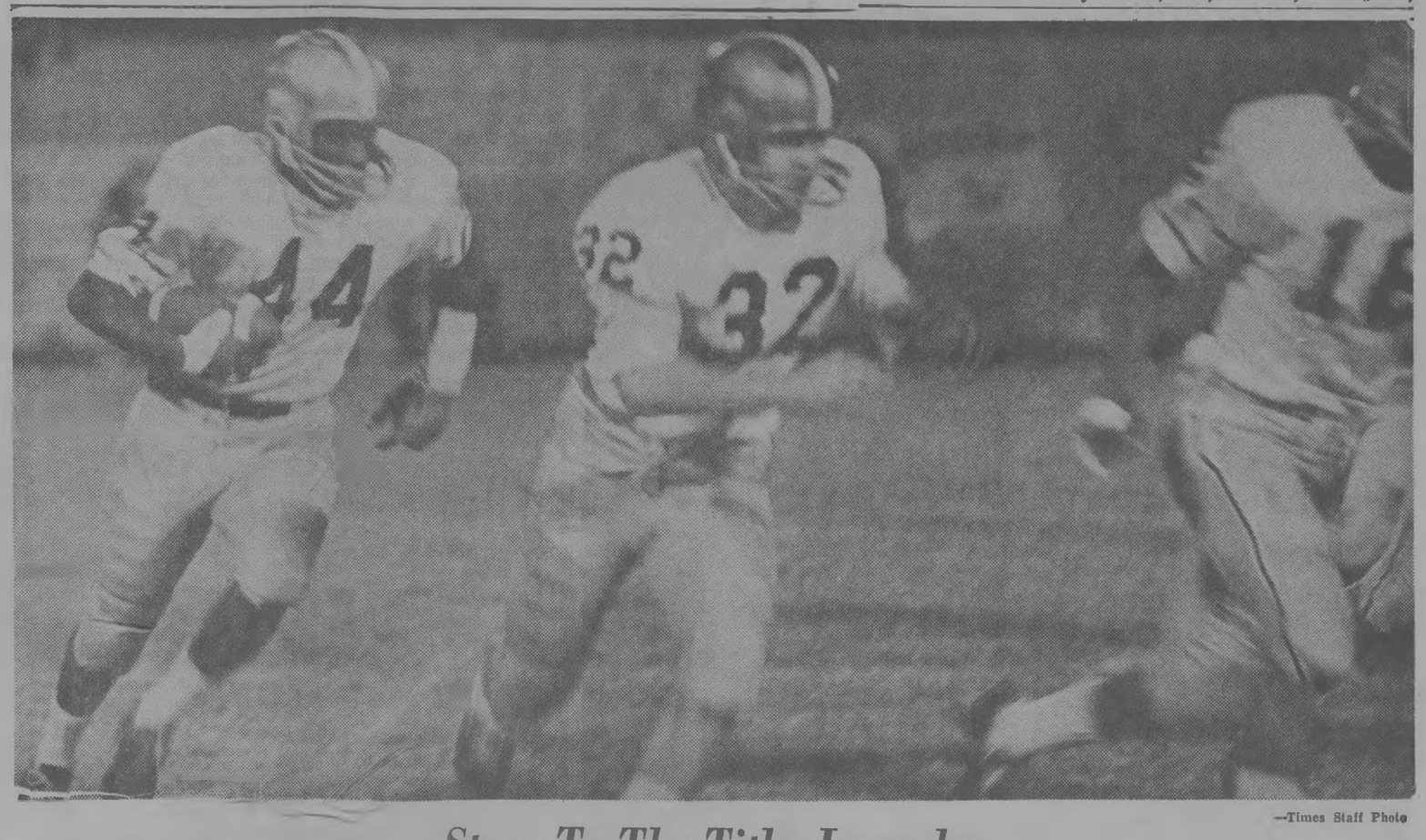
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Despite a loss midway the season, the 1966 Wildcats rallied their forces and went to capture a State Class AAA championship.

In regular season play VHS pinned defeats on Waycross 27-13, Baker of Columbus 49-6, Dougherty of Albany 19-6, Jordan of Columbus 27-7, Lanier of Macon 14-0, Moultrie 34-6, Willingham of Macon 27-7,Tift County 21-6 and LaGrange 20-0.

The lone loss was to Albany 6-0.

Playoff triumps were over Jenkins of Savannah 16-7 and Marietta 14-3.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To The Title: Lowndes

Wildcats' Willie Jones (16) and Danny O'Neal (32) lead interference as junior Charles Daniels (44), a 190-pound halfback, goes for long yardage in the Lowndes High game which Valdosta won, 40-0. Valdosta got 12 first downs, 221 yards rushing and 99 yards through the air. The outmanned Vikings had nine first downs, 68 yards rushing and 10 yards passing.

'Cats See Red, Drop Elephants For 1947 Crown

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A great Valdosta High School football team fought magnificently to turn back a strong challenge by the Gainesville High School Red Elephants 24-12 to win the 1947 state championship, the second in the school's history.

Gainesville, winners of the North Georgia Football Association, and Valdosta, which had defeated Albany for the South Georgia Football Association crown, gave some 5,000 spectators four quarters of the most thrilling high school football seen in these parts in many a year.

Valdosta scored exactly twice as many points as had been previously tallied against Gainesville this season. The Wildcats scored in every quarter, while Gainesville reached pay dirt in the second period and again in the early moments of the third quarter, the latter tally knotting the count at 12 all.

Sonny Stephenson, Pat Brooks, Charley Jordan and Billy Grant gained at will through the supposedly impenetrable Gainesville forward wall.

A drive, which started on the Valdosta 48, was climaxed by Brooks leap for the score from the one, after some nifty running by Jordan and Stephenson.

A second score came in the next period when long runs by Brooks, Stepnenson and Grant featured a sustained 81-yard drive with Stephenson plowing over from the one.

Gainesville marched to their first score after the Valdosta kickoff. Marvin Free made the points on an end run. A Jack Roberts to Jimmy Hulsey pass tied the game in the third period.

Valdosta's other two scores came on a run by Stephenson and a pass from Grant to Jimmy Metcalf.

Leading the Valdosta defense were Donald Jenkins, Sammy Register, Ralph Allen, Bubber Tillman, Louis Goodin, Pete Smith, Bryan Green, Raymond Burkett and Jack (Bunker) Hill. Other 'Cats included Tom Davis, Glenn Dowling, Bob Walker, Tommy Todd, Earl Meyer, Archie Griffin, Buford Joiner.

Valdosta had 16 first downs, 198 yards rushing and 108 yards passing to six first downs, 83 yards rushing and 83 yards passing for Gainesville.

Immediately following the triumph, which brought the grid crown back to VHS, local fans began comparing this year's champs to Bobby Hooks' state titlists in 1940. Some "experts' contend that the Hooks eleven was more "endurable," while others believe that the 1947 Bazemore coached aggregation is more spectacular.

Records show the 1947 team is by far the more powerful from an offensive standpoint, but the defense of the comparative teams are about the same.

The Valdosta line and backfield this season will outweigh the 1940 squad with the exception of one position, "Big" Lou Blanton's tackle slot. Blanton, scaling 250 pounds during his senior year, "counters" the 1947-200 pounders, Register, Green and Allen.

Michigan State averaged 70,426 fans for each of its five home football games during 1969.



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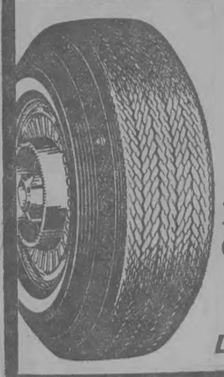

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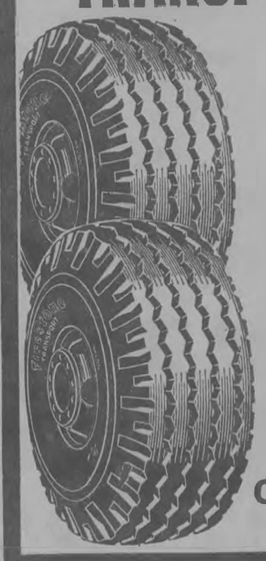

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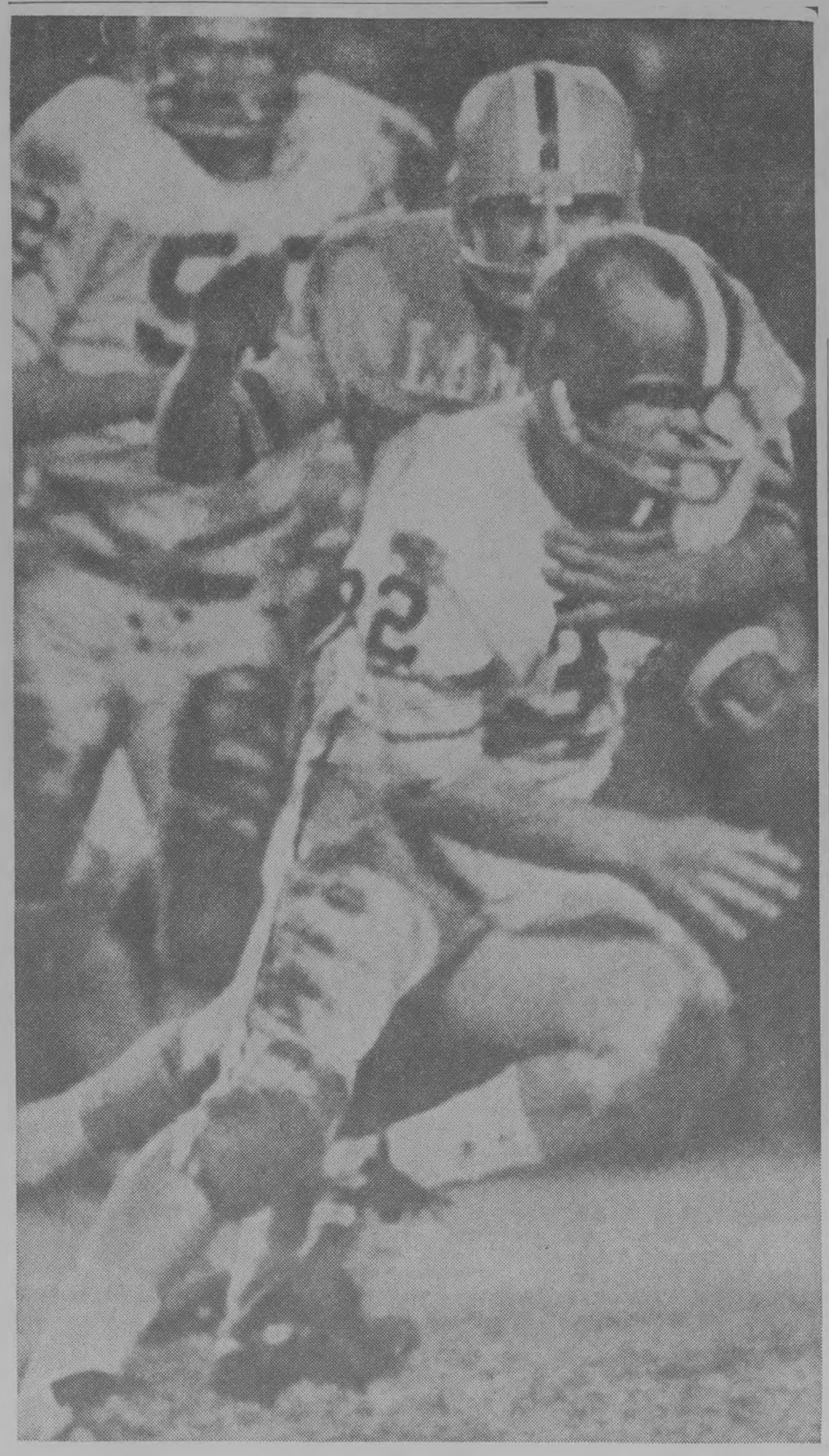

Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Lanier

Fullback Danny O'Neal, Valdosta's leading scorer, digs for extra yardage as the Wildcats walloped Lanier of Macon, 23-0. O'Neal has scored 120 points in 12 games, including 11 touchdowns. He was a mainstay in the Lanier game in which the 'Cats won the first round of the state playoffs. Valdosta had 16 first downs, 208 yards rushing and 133 yards passing. Lanier had three first downs, 53 yards rushing and 45 yards passing.

'Cats First State Title Was In 1940

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta's Wildcats won their first state championship under Coach Bobby Hooks in 1940, only the fourth year there was such a thing as a state championship.

It was one of those seasons the 'Cats were flying high and beating everything that came into their path by the kind of scores which have given them one of the most respected names in state prep grid circles.

The finale came on Dec. 20 when the Wildcats played Cedartown at Albany in the state championship game and trounced the North Georgians by a 21-0 score.

In those days there were only two state classifications with the 'Cats playing in the lower one, considered Class "B". The higher classification was composed of larger schools from Savannah, Columbus, Macon, Atlanta and Augusta.

On the way to the top that year Valdosta beat Camilla (7-0), Dixie (39-0), Nashville 62-0), Americus (32-2), Fitzgerald (25 0), Waycross (26-0), Bainbridge (7-0, Thomasville (13-0), Albany (19-6) and Moultrie (32-12).

Tifton was chosen by committee of the south Georgia Football Association to oppose the Wildcats for the South Georgia Championship, and the Valdostans beat the Blue Devils by a 13-0 count.

A week later they came through with their first state championship. It was a thing unheard of until four years earlier when the South Georgia Football Association was formed.

The first state championship team was led by quarterback Knuck McCrary, who was the head coach at Moultrie for a number of years until his death from a heart attack about four years ago.

Another on the squad was halfback Joe Davis, who was killed during World War II. His jersey has been retired.



"He's OVER for a touchdown!"

Along with the tremendous pride we have for the Valdosta High School Wildcats over the years, we want to express our whole-hearted thanks and congratulations to the Cats and their coaches in their unbelievable achievements and pledge our full support for another State AAA Championship! But win or lose, they have scored a great success for the Valdosta community.

In this same spirit, Waller Heating & Air Conditioning Co. has been winning customers over for years with a dedication to quality and service that has kept them Number One in their field. Call them today for your indoor comfort needs

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During the week after the Valdosta-Lowndes game the fans of both teams were kind (and enthusiastic) enough to vote for the player on each team who they thought was the most outstanding in the game. This was done through ballots on the back of registration cards at McDonald's. The fans chose Valdosta player Henry Davis and Lowndes player Ronnie Summerlin. As guests of McDonald's they will be flown to the Gator Bowl December 27 for an all-expense paid round trip of athletic spectator enjoyment.



Henry Davis, Wildcat halfback, will board a chartered plane bound for the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Fla. on December 27, 1969. The BIG MAC makes a great lunch.

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— Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Savannah

High stepping Wildcat Willie Jones Finds The Savannah Blue Jacket Defense a tough nut to crack as he goes through the line. The game in which the 'Cats won the South Georgia Championship this year, 20-0, was Willie's finest hour. A first stringer all season, Willie snagged six passes for a total of 174 yards and three touchdowns. The Valdostans had 13 first downs, 77 yards rushing and 209 yards passing. Savannah picked up 5 first downs, 130 yards on the ground and seven yards on passes.

Valdosta Touchdown Club Has Come Far In 24 Years

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta Touchdown Club, dedicated to aiding the development of the Valdosta High School Wildcats, is now 24 years old. And it's 23 times larger then it was when it started.



DAVID WALLER
President Now

Charter member and former club president Dr. Joe B. Crane said the initial membership totalled about 40. The first big project was sponsoring a summer camp for the team. Crane said it was held at the National Guard Armory.

Current club president David Waller said things are a little different now. The club boasts a membership of more than 900. And the projects have expanded a little.

The club still sponsors a summer football camp for the team, said Waller. But now it's held at the 4-H Club Camp at Twin Lakes 10 miles south of here.

In addition to sponsoring the camp, Waller said, the TD club furnishes supplemental meals to team members during the football season. They sponsor a fish fry for the club and team during the spring of each year.

Another club activity Waller listed is the Annual Awards Banquet where outstanding team members are cited for their play. And the club sponsors the annual Has-Been Football Game at which graduating team members play against next year's team.

Waller also said members meet each week during the season to view the films of the previous Friday night's football game. Coach Wright Bazemore is always on hand to narrate.

But the most important activity of the club isn't connected with finances, said Waller. The booster club acts as liaison between the team and the community.

If the team has a game scheduled, Waller said, the club takes it upon itself to build up community enthusiasm. The large number of banners and signs prior to playoff games this year were largely due to TD club prodding, he added.

Bumper stickers, lapel pins and pennants are also standard fare for important games, Waller said.

The vigor of the club is not determined by the kind of season the team is having. Waller pointed out. In 1963 when the 'Cats were experiencing one of the worst seasons in their history, the club was as active as in other years.

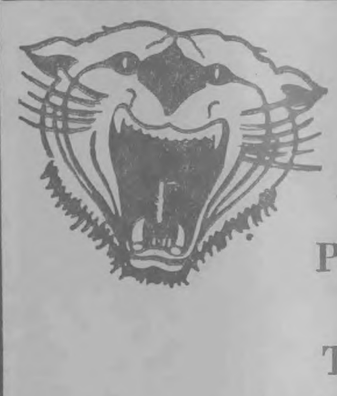
"There's one big difference in our club and similar clubs I know of," said Waller. "And that difference is that our club is dedicated to helping the team in any way we can.

"Most of the others I know of are for the benefit of the members. I believe our club is the largest single factor outside of the coaches and players in the success of football here."

The membership makes it the largest high school booster club in the state, Waller said. And he knows of only one club in Florida with a larger membership.

"Lake City has 1,000 members," said Waller, "but their dues aren't but $1 so I don't count them.

Annual dues are $10, he said. Included is the price of attending the weekly movies and attendance at the awards banquet.



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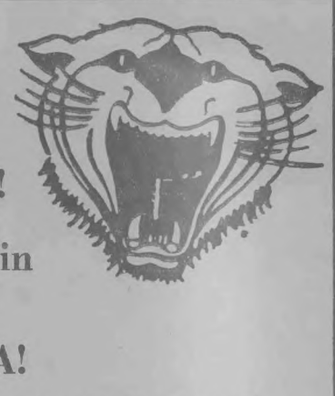
TO
STATE AAA!



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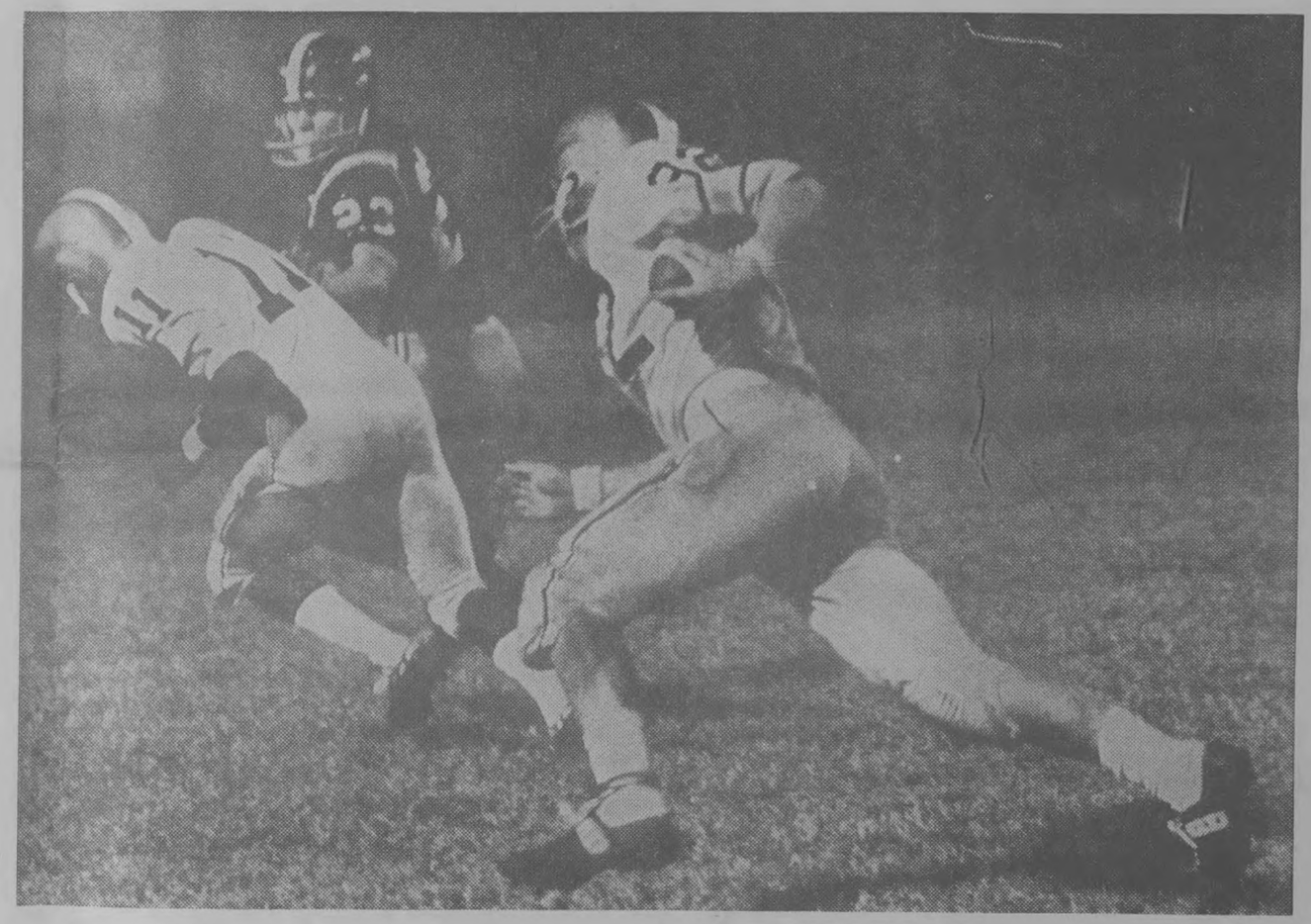

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This Was The Year

Valdosta 14, Thomasville 0

Valdosta 42, Dougherty 0

Valdosta 34, Wayne 0

Valdosta 63, Ware 0

Valdosta 28, Albany 0

Valdosta 21, Moultrie 0

Valdosta 48, Monroe 0

Valdosta 46, Coffee 0

Valdosta 28, Tift 7

Valdosta 40, Lowndes 0

Valdosta 23, Lanier 0

Valdosta 20, Savannah 0

Valdosta Athens

1 14 0 42 0 34 0 63 0 28 0 21 0 48 0 46 0 28 7 40 0 23 0 20 0 — 407 – 7



Waving 'Em On: Wild Wildcat Fans Cheer and Wave Signs and Symbols

And This Is The Issue

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

News coverage is supposed to be objective. Most of the time it is, but with a team like the Magnificent Seventy, a year like 1969 and a decade like the one ending, nobody in Valdosta could be objective about the Wildcats.

Not the students, not the Times, not the parents, not Valdosta's businessmen. This special edition is to commemorate this year's team, this decade and all past Wildcats.

Inside are articles and pictures on the team, on the band and cheerleaders, coaches and managers and highlights of Wildcat seasons through the years.

It's full of things even the most ardent Wildcat fans may have forgotten. We invite you to keep it and refer to it in the future.

That's this issue. But the issue Saturday night is Athens.

It's Been Decade Of The 'Cats

By EARL BRASWELL

It's been the Decade of the 'Cats — there's no doubt about it — and it'll come to an end Saturday night. But Valdosta's Magnificent Seventy—counting players, coaches and managers—are working hard to make it a successful end.

Since 1960, the third year the Valdosta High School football team was in Class AAA, the 'Cats have gone to the state championship finals seven times. Six times they've brought back the prize. They're going for number seven against the fine Athens Trojans at 8 p.m. Saturday on Cleveland Field, the scene of more state championship high school football games than any other in the state.

This year's edition, with a do it all offense and a stop 'em all defense, has compiled 407 points against just seven for the opposition. That's a record for a Valdosta High team.

And as their head coach Wright Bazemore has constantly pointed out, one man can't do it, and that's no better illustration than in this year's team. It's a team. Only in a couple of games have there been any clean Valdosta jersies on the bench at the end of the contest.

There's depth, determination and spirit.

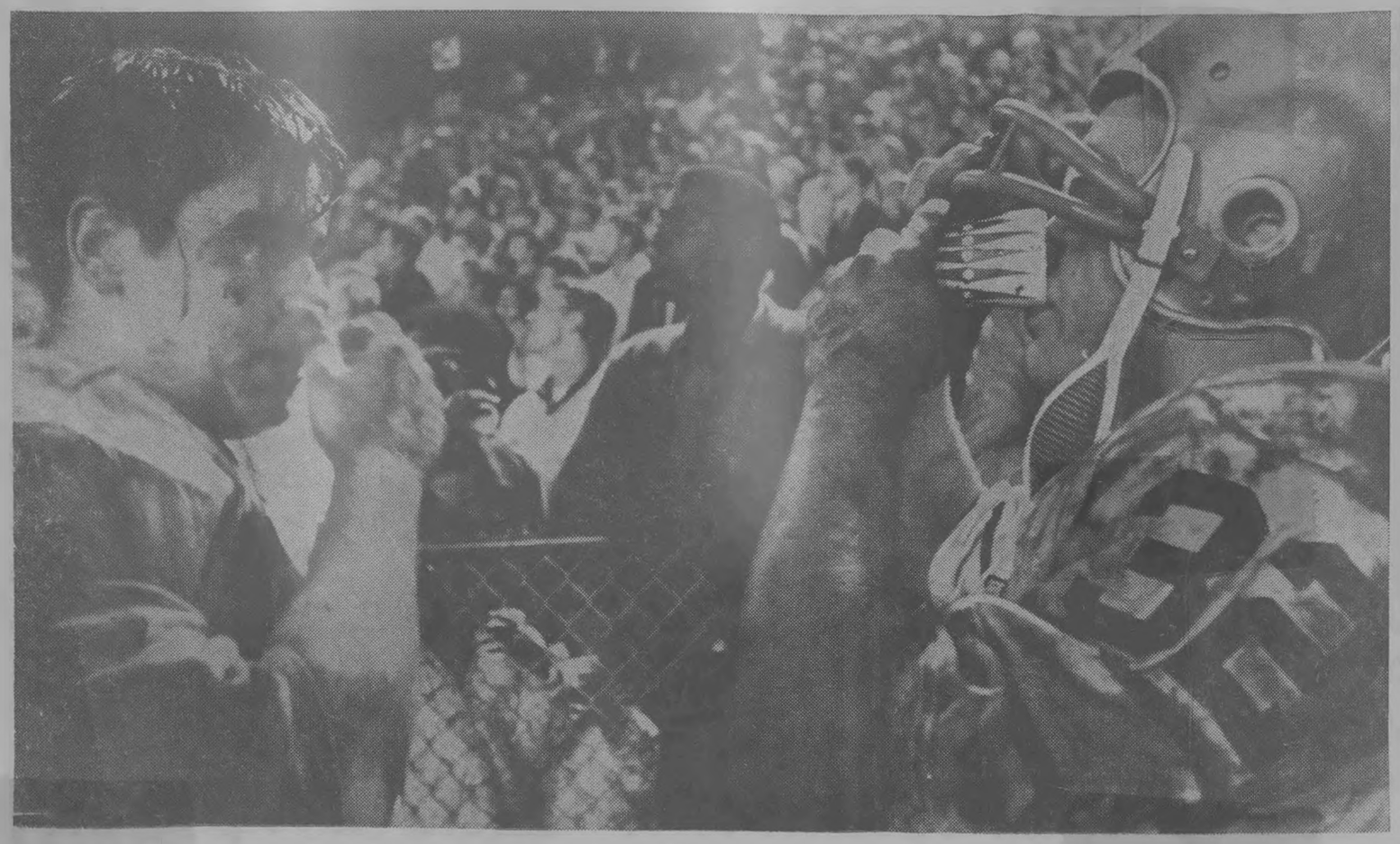
The first decade of Coach Bazemore's mentoring saw the 'Cats win two state titles. They won five in the 1950s. And they're after their seventh Saturday night. No other coach and no other team in Georgia has done it. They're after their 14th championship in all and second in a row.

The Athens Trojans, coached by veteran Weyman Sellers, is also coming off a fabulous year. The team, led by quarterback Andy Johnson, has won 11 games and lost one, being defeated only by Gainesville which is in the state Class AA finals.

They got to the state championship by knocking off Avondale and Dykes, after going undefeated in their region.

Two times previously, the two teams have met for state championships, once in Class AA. Athens took the first contest 41-20, paced by such standouts as Fran Tarkenton, George Guisler and Billy Savage. Valdosta took the last one, a spine-tingling 14-13 win at Athens.

The stage is set, the teams are ready, and there's only waiting until Saturday night. And then, what about next year?



Offense Tries Refresher: Robert Koncar, Left, Danny O'Neal Drink Up



— Times Staff Photos

Waiting To Go: Tom Holt, Left, Curt Bazemore



—Times Staff Photo

Packed, As Usual: This Was the Scene at Cleveland Field as the 'Cats Took On the Lanier Poets

Won 15 One Year

'Cats Have Played Two Bowl Games

By MIKE HILL

Among the many things Valdosta High School Football teams have won and been remembered for are two games in 1953 which made them the only school to win the now defunct Peanut Bowl twice in one year and twice in a row.

The Peanut Bowl was held in Columbus and sponsored by the Exchange Club and the Columbus Ledger - Inquirer, the times Valdosta won it.

The first game Valdosta played in the Bowl was on New Year's Day in 1953. The next season's team played there Dec. 18 of the same year.

For the first contest, Valdosta played a highly-rated Yankee team from West Springfield, Mass., after winning the Region 1-A playoff with Americus 59-7, downing College Park, 26-0, for the South Georgia Class A title, and ending up by beating LaGrange, 30-0.

West Springfield was defeated in a last minute thriller, 28-26.

The next year, Valdosta beat Americus 33-13 and College Park 27-0 and LaGrange (again) in the state finals 48-7 on the way to the Peanut Bowl.

Their opponent that year was Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville, Tenn. They did not prove as worthy an opponent as the last bowl confrontation the Cats had, and were downed 24-0.

The first year Valdosta played in the bowl, they had completely outclassed all their opponents. For the first half of this first bowl game, it appeared they might outclass West Springfield also, but in the second half, the game proved to be the toughest one of the season, with only a two-point difference in the final score.

About 800 Valdosta fans had joined the almost 9,000 who viewed the game, and at first it looked like every other ball game Valdosta played that year.

At the end of the half, the score was 21-7. The West Springfield Terriers had gained little on the ground, but scored when Terrier quarterback Les (Porky) Plumb, going both ways, intercepted a 'Cat pass and set up the first Terrier TD.

Valdosta's second score of the half came on a fluke play when Plumb was hit in the backfield in the act of passing and dropped the ball.

Valdosta's Bobby Renfroe picked up the ball and stepped easily over the goal line seven yards away.

The fluke made the winning difference in the final score, however, because the second halg was anything but a repeat of the first.

Realizing he couldn't move the ball against the rugged Valdosta line, Plumb came back the second half determined to go to the air.

He completed five of nine passes for 159 yards and three touchdowns. He had the help of three Valdosta defenders for one of the touchdowns.

He had launched a pass from his own 11-yard line to a receiver downfield. Three Wildcat defenders went for the ball, and knocked it up into the air. A Terrier receiver ended up with it and raced 74 yards for another Terrier TD.

And then one minute from the end of the ball game, Valdosta had a punt blocked on their own 46. It was recovered by a Terrier, but the next play both teams jumped offsides, which ate up enough time that the Terriers had only time for one more play.

Plumb dropped back to pass, and when he couldn't find anyone open, he set off down the sidelines.

He was dropped 11 yards later, just as the final gun of the 'Cat's first Peanut Bowl game went off.

Back of the year Noel George was credited with making the difference for the Valdosta team, and not just because he kicked the extra points.

He also gained 116 of the 'Cat's 249 yards, and was only stopped once short of the scrimmage line.

Valdosta's all-state quarterback Sammy Hardin was also praised for snappy ball handling.

The defense was led by Jimmy Walker, Larry Massey, James Warren and Ray Moore.

Valdosta had 248 yards rushing on the ground compared with 83 for the Massachusetts team, but there was only 23 yards difference in the total offense, because of 197 yards the Terriers gained on the passing of quarterback Plumb.

The Eighth Annual Peanut Bowl was held Dec. 18, that same year, and a slightly more modern version of the Wildcats was back to win it again.

It was sponsored that year by the Columbus Exchange Club for charity, and the opponent was Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville, Tenn. Attendance was cut the day of the game by freezing weather.

Either the Wildcats were better, or Montgomery Bell wasn't as good as the Yankee team had been the year before, and the Wildcats took home their 32nd straight victory, 24-0.

Valdosta, apparently hampered by the cold, scored once in each of the first two quarters, and twice in the final quarter.

Montgomery Bell supported the confidence of its fans and sportswriters with a shifty defense which held the "cat runners to small gains. But the Wildcats seemed capable of grinding out small gains all day and all up and down the field.

The two longest runs of the day for Valdosta were only 20 and 25 yards, but the 'Cats racked up 249 yards on the ground, to Bell's 65.

The 'Cat defense was impregnable.

The first Valdosta touchdown was set up when senior Paul McNeil recovered a Montgomery Bell fumble on the second play following the opening kickoff.

The ball had been on the enemy 43, and it took Valdosta 1 plays and three first downs to drive the ball over the goal.

The Nashville team was good, but they were no match for the Wildcats that year. The 'Cats were at the height of their glory in 1953, and people were calling the team before that, in 1952, the "greatest ever."

Rudolph Is Former Pro

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

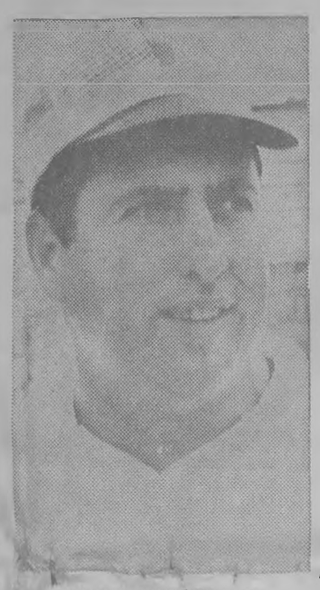
A former professional football player, Jack Rudolph, says he got into the coaching end of the game because it is something he has always wanted to do.

Rudolph, coach for the defensive backs and linebackers of the Valdosta High School Wildcat football team, played pro ball for seven years.

He is in his third year at VHS and hopes to stay in the coaching profession. Besides his coaching activities, Rudolph teaches four math classes at VHS.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., he lived in Atlanta most of his life and received a degree in Industrial Management from Georgia Tech. He was a linebacker for the Boston Patriots six years and the Miami Dolphins for one year.

The 31-year-old coach is married to the former Marsha Harris and they have a two-year-old son. Rudolph is a member of the First Methodist Church and the Elks Lodge.



JACK RUDOLPH
Defensive Back



—Times Staff Photo

She's Wildcat Spirit

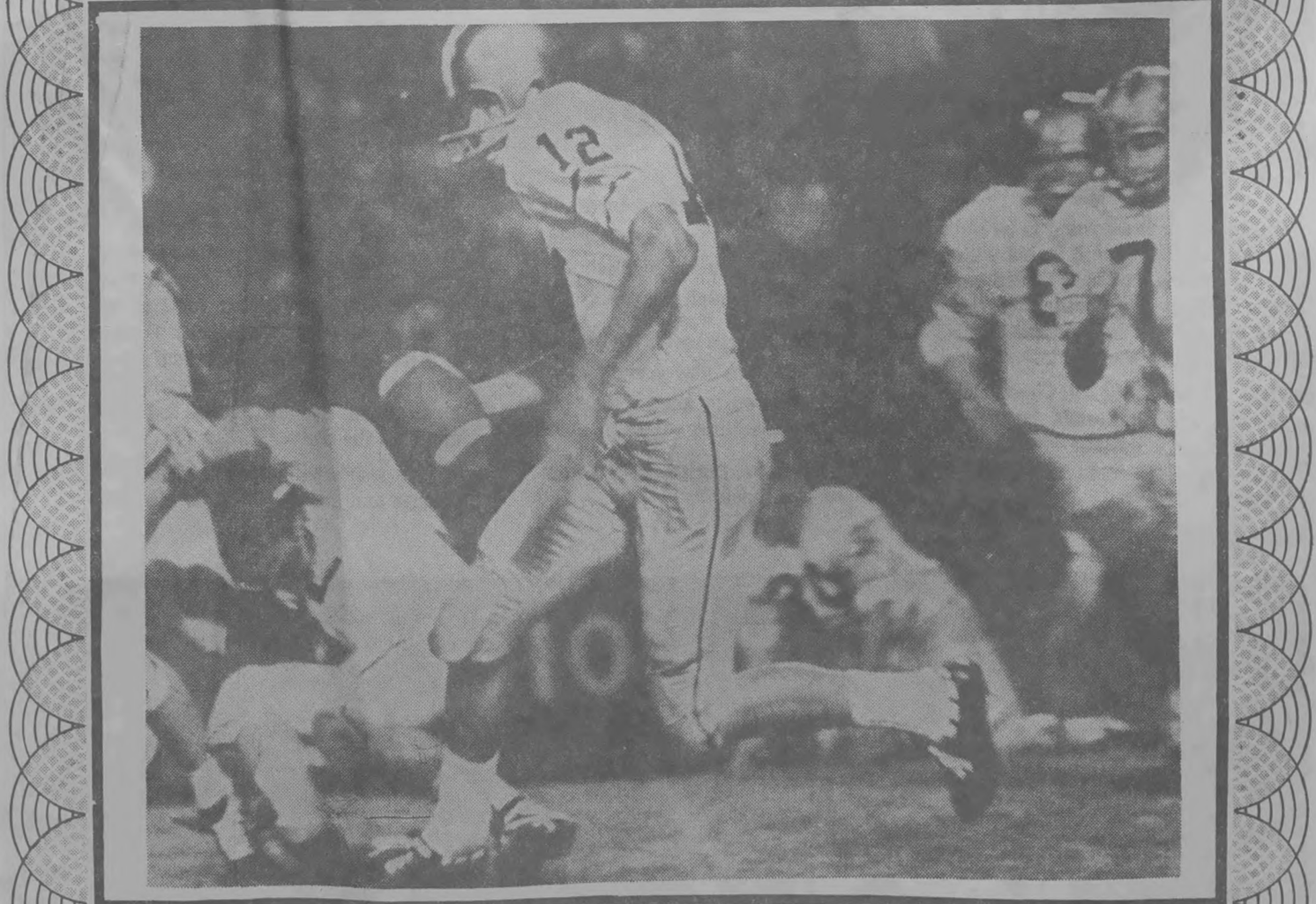
Janet Hiers, the Wildcat mascot, does her thing with the cheerleaders during an exciting moment of a VHS game. Miss Hiers, a senior member of the cheering squad, runs up and down the sidelines sometimes growling like a 'Cat and sometimes just screaming like a regular cheerleader. But she's always working to keep the spirit up.



—Times Staff Photo

It Gets Exciting

Valdosta High students show their concern and enthusiasm during a tense second in the early moments of a game while the score is still close. The students start cheering and stamping feet with the first kickoff and don't generally stop until the outcome is certain. It's the reason Coach Wright Bazemore calls the VHS student body "the greatest in the world."



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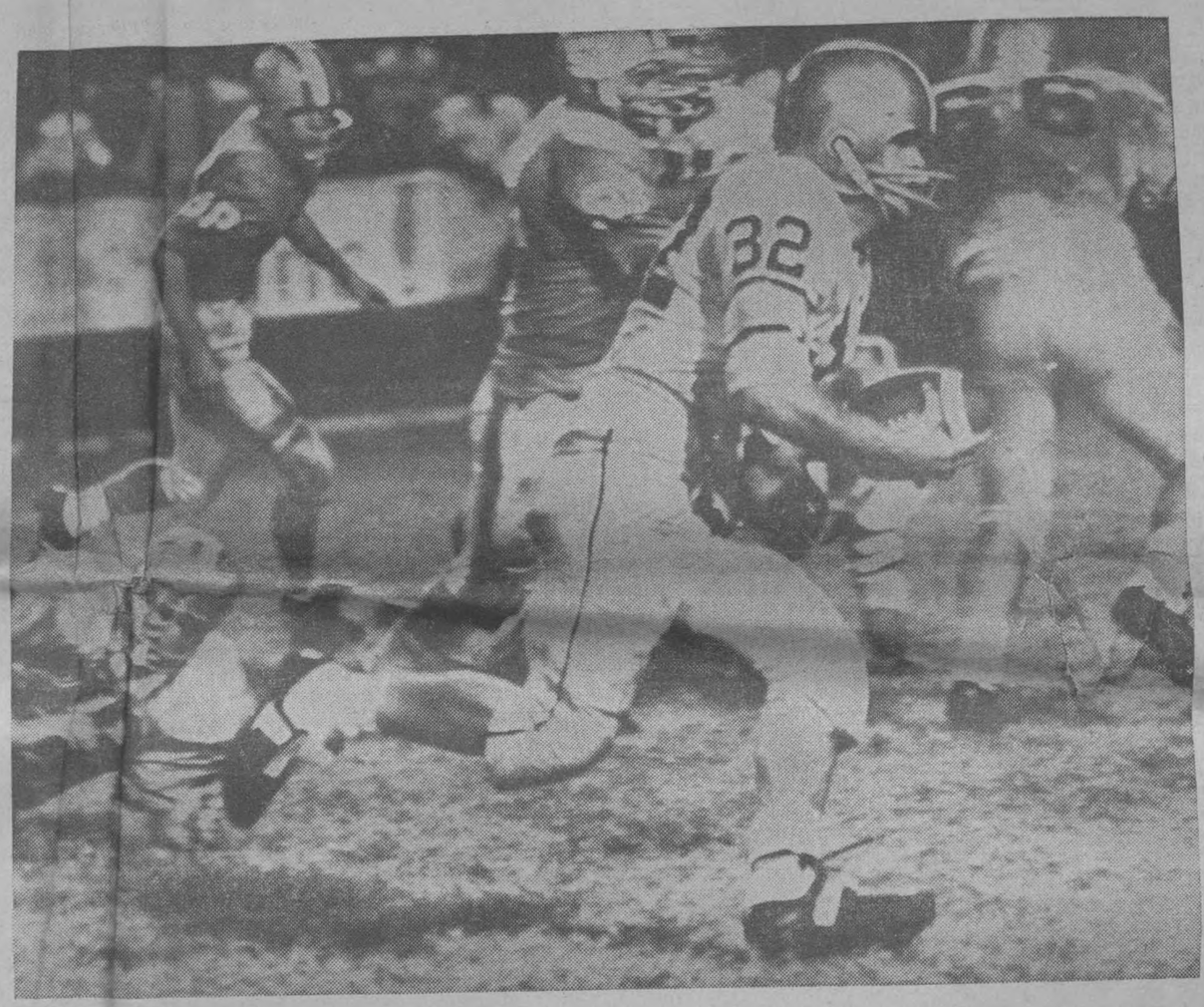

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—Times Staff Photo

Gets The Word

Senior guard Charles Daniels gets last minute instructions from assistant coach Jack Rudolph, however he also casts an eye over to a Valdosta Times photographer who caught the scene. He must have been attentive, however. He carried out his assignment like a professional on the next play.

Her Championship Coat Will Be There Saturday

EDITOR'S NOTE: Football fans, like the baseball ans, are superstitious. This is the story of one such superstition, or as they put it, "not taking any chances." It's from Doris Knight of Valdosta.

I am the owner of a 17 yeare-old great-coat that has gone down in annals of footbali history. It has "seen" the Wildcats win ten state championship titles.

It has been present at Cleveland Field more times than I can remember. To Valdosta fans it has become as familiar as Bazemore's green neck-tie.

Through soft gray mists and downpours of rain it has kept me dry. When cold winds rose to almost gale force it kept me toasty warm.

Only once did it fail me. That was on Grant Field that snowy night last December when thousands of Valdostans turned up EN MASSE in Atlanta to support their favorite high school team.

Made of heavy wool Black Watch plaid, with a gay, yellow crepe lining and layers of interlinings, THE COAT is simply styled with a small, black velvet collar and buttons and pleats in the back.

It has been shortened as many times as the seasons have passed. Miraculously, it has remained in style to become as perennial as the Wildcats pennants.

THE COAT has become an institution with my family, too. Though sometimes I try to dress more modishly, when those crucial dates in late November and early December draw near, my husband asks, "Do you still have THE COAT?"

My drycleaner, a staunch Wildcat supporter himself,has come to recognize its worth. Last year he told me, "I'll guard it with my very life . . . if anything were to happen to this coat, I don't know what would become of the 'Cats."

I'll be wearing it Saturday night.

Ken Wienbel is making his bow this season as Dartmouth's indoor track coach. He coached outdoor track and cross country in 1969.

Remembers When Ducks Had A Day

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Robert Deloach, a former manager, was at Cleveland Field Tuesday watching the football team practice and watching the work done by the managers.

Deloach had been manager for the Wildcats several years ago and even though he is now graduated, he can't forget the many afternoons he spent with the teams.

He was manager in 1962 when the football field turned into a pond after five days of hard rain.

Deloach said he and another manager, Ashley Paulk, worked an entire day with workman shoveling sand onto the field to fill up the mud holes.

Deloach said he actually saw ducks circing the field that day. He said the field must have looked like a lake to them.



— Special Photo

He's A Champ, Too

Athens High Coach Weyman Sellars is bringing his team in search of his second state title. They won in 1955, defeating Valdosta for the championship. The 'Cats returned the favor in 1965, downing the North Georgia champs. Sellars teams, in 18 years of competition have won 127, lost 54 and tied eight. They were the Region 4-A champs in 1954 with a 9-1 record; state champs in 1955, going 13-0; North Georgia champs in 1965 with a 13-1 record; Region 8-AAA champs in 1968 with a 9-2 record and are 11-1 this year.

Coach Mercer Says His Big Dream Has Come True

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

When Joe Mercer was in high school he had a dream — to someday work under Coach Wright Bazemore, athletic director at Valdosta High School.

Mercer, who grew up in Jeffersonville, realized his dream this year when he accepted a position in the athletic department at VHS.

The 24-year-old Macon native is the coach for the B team offensive backfield and is a scout for the varsity Wildcat football team.

Married to the former Mary Ellen Tucker of Tifton, the couple has a seven-week-old son. Mercer was youth director for the First Baptist Church this summer.

He was graduated from Georgia Southern College in Statesboro with a degree in physical education. He was on the coaching staff at Waycross High School for two years.



JOE MERCER

FM Broadcast Is Scheduled For The Game

The Valdosta - Athens Class AAA State Championship football game is to be broadcast over an Athens FM radio station Saturday night.

Bill Keller, manager of Clearview of Georgia, said the broadcast would reach Valdosta radios over cable only.

He said the station would go on the air with the game at 7:45 p.m. It is about point 92 on th FM dial, Keller said.



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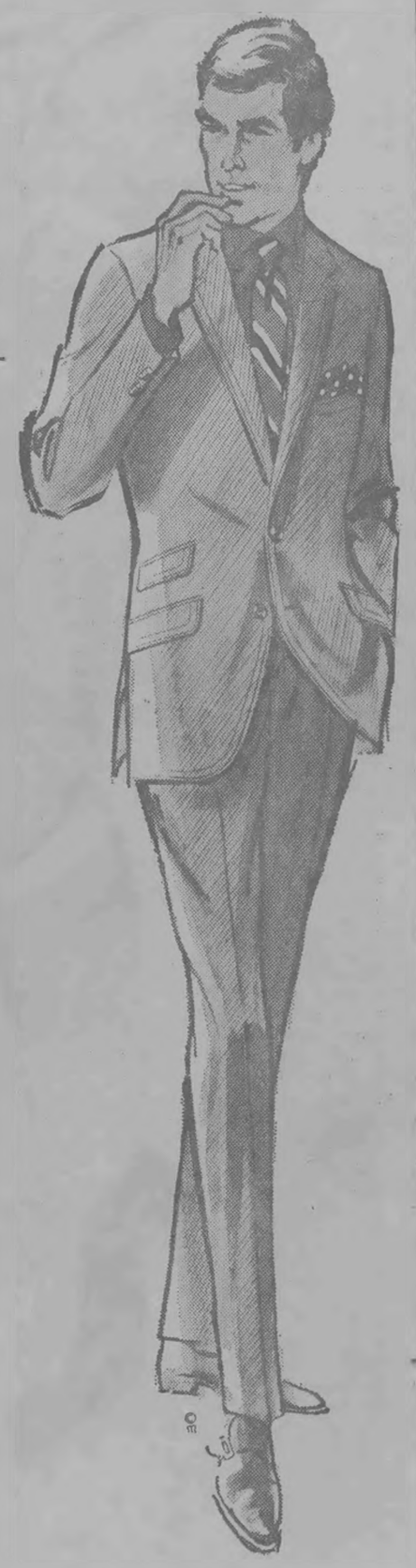


Under Rockwell

'Cats Were Born Sand Lot Style

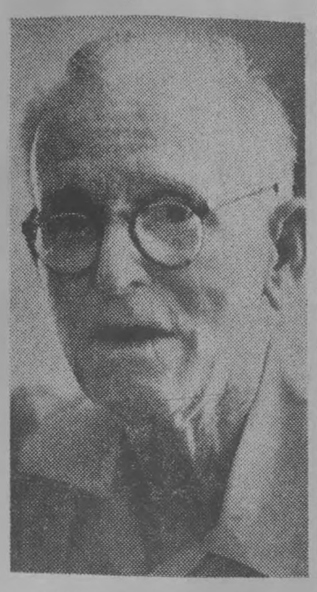
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It was in the early fall of 1913 that the Valdosta High School Wildcats were born.

Fifteen VHS students, under the guidance of Valdostan Turner Rockwell who was later to become the editor of The Valdosta Daily Times, gathered at the Old Magnolia Park and got up the team.

There was no stadium, no band, little in the way of equipment and even less money to travel on.

But even in those days there was a crazy desire to win and a stubborn belief that the 'Cats were tough. That first team proved it. Valdosta compiled a 3-1-2 record with the only loss coming at the hands of a junior college.



TURNER ROCKWELL
Knew Hard Knocks

The older boys from Sparks Junior College handed Rockwell's charges a 12-6 loss and had their hands full beating the high schoolers. Later in the season, the Wildcats avenged the loss by beating Sparks, 7-0, in a return bout.

In other games that season the VHS eleven tied Moultrie 7-7 and Brunswick 6-6. It later scored a 7-0 win over Brunswick and beat Moultrie 20-14.

The first string line on the 1913 squad was made up of ends Eric McIntyre and Frank Roberts, tackles Albert Saunders and Tom Cranford, guards Harvey Griffin and Frank Rose and center Francis Childress.

Rockwell recalled the early days of the football team were truly days of hard knocks.

"Since we only had 15 boys, the only way we could practice was to scrimmage one side of the line against the other," Rockwell remembered. "It made for a different situation at game time."

He said substitutes in those days were only to replace boys who were hurt too badly to continue playing. "And if we ever got any more than four hurt in a game, we were in trouble. We had to play with less than 11 players.

Rockwell recalls very few injuries, although players wore almost no protective equipment. "All they had was come cotton material stuffed under their clothes," he said.

Rockwell was in business with a building material firm here when he decided to take the task of coaching the Wildcats.

"I don't really know how I got involved," Rockwell said. "They just wanted somebody to do it and I took the job because I loved football."

Rockwell coached for three years. It was just an afternoon job and there was no pay involved.

"The faculty at the school wanted to get the team started, but there was no one on the faculty who could coach football," Rockwell said. "They asked me to do it and I was glad that I could help."

Rockwell recalled he had little football experience himself. He had gone to Emory University where there was no football team but had participated in some intramural football.

The backfield was composed of quarterback John Stevens, halfbacks Lewis Pindar and West Cranford and fullback James Cranford.

Substitutes that year were Will Collier, Osborne Holzendorff, Carl Blair and Jim Tom Blalock.

Rockwell, now retired, points out there were few schools in the state when the Wildcats began 56 years and even less high school football teams. Valdosta High had one of the first and there was no conference and not much organization in high school football.

"Teams just picked up games when and where they could," he recalled.

Wildcats Knew Hungary Years

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The year was 1943. For Americans, World War II was less than two years old. Allied forces that summer had concluded a successful north African campaign against the Nazis and had landed in Italy.

Also that summer a small band of ill - equipped high school boys headed for football camp at the old National Guard camp north of town on the Withlacoochee River.

Coach Wright Bazemore himself had left earlier for a tour of duty in the U. S. Nazy. L. P. (Buck) Thomas had taken over as the Wildcats' head coach.

Everything was in short supply, equipment, coaches and football talent. Buck Thomas had no staff. He had the coaching job alone.

Some of the younger boys could "come out" for fotball only if they had their own shoes. There weren't enough shoes to equip more than about 22 players.

Coach Thomas had only two veterans of the VHS football wars returning. They were Glenn O'Neal, a fullback, and Julian LeFiles, center and linebacker. (O'Neal is the father of the 1969 Wildcats outstanding fullback, Danny O'Neal, and LeFiles is now a coach on Bazemore's staff.)

The others that Coach Thomas took to the National Guard camp that August had gained most of their football experience on a sandlot.

They were small too. LeFiles was the largest on the squad, weighing 195. The only other prospective 'Cat to approach that size was Julian Tucker at 190.

Altheus Holliman, 125 pounds, James Oliver, 155, Mack Greer, 155, Shorty Hiers, 140, and Buck Smith, 140, were the guards.

The tackles were Tucker, 190, Barry Phillips, 165, Carol Sherwood, 165, and Richard Joseph, 170. Bill Johnson at 135 and Robert Dowling, also at 135, were the other centers.

Jack Jennings, 140, Norman Maiden, 150, and Joe Edwards, 135, were the ends. The backs were Bill Gandy, 130, Dicky Stewart, 145, Lamar Jackson, 155, James Blankenship, 135, Buddy Culbreth, 155, and John Holcombe, 150.

These, plus about a half-dozen scrubs, constituted the Valdosta Wildcats in 1943. It was a war - year football team in the middle of a rebuilding job.

Talent was there, that was to be proved in later years, but 1943 just wasn't a good year for the Wildcats.

The powers in the old South Georgia Conference then were Americus, Fitzgerald, Jesup and Albany, all which soundly thrashed the 'Cats in 1943.

The record that year was dismal, one of the worst in the 'Cats history, two wins, seven losses and one tie.

A 12-12 tie with Cairo opened the season. Then the 'Cats lost to Waycross 14-6. They were to lose again to the Bulldogs in the last game of the season, 19-0.

Third on the schedule was Americus, which produced a 26-0 victory over Valdosta. Fitzgerald whipped the 'Cats 33-0. Jesup took another win, 26-9.

Then the Wildcats went on their two - game winning streak, defeating Sylvester, 54-0, and Colquitt, 40-0.

The eighth game on the schedule was Thomasville which carved out a 20-0 victory over Valdosta. Albany was next, defeating the 'Cats 32-2, and the second losing effort against Waycross wound up the season.

Essentially the same bunch of 'Cats returned for the 1944 season under Coach Thomas, who still had no staff, only volunteer help from Herman (Pop) Johnson. The tide had turned the other way in '44, however. The 'Cats compiled a 9-1 record and a shot at the South Georgia championship, losing to Americus, which they had defeated earlier in the season, in the playoff.

That 1943 war - year team with its 2-7-1 didn't compile the worst season ever for the Wildcats. The 1963 team had the same record.

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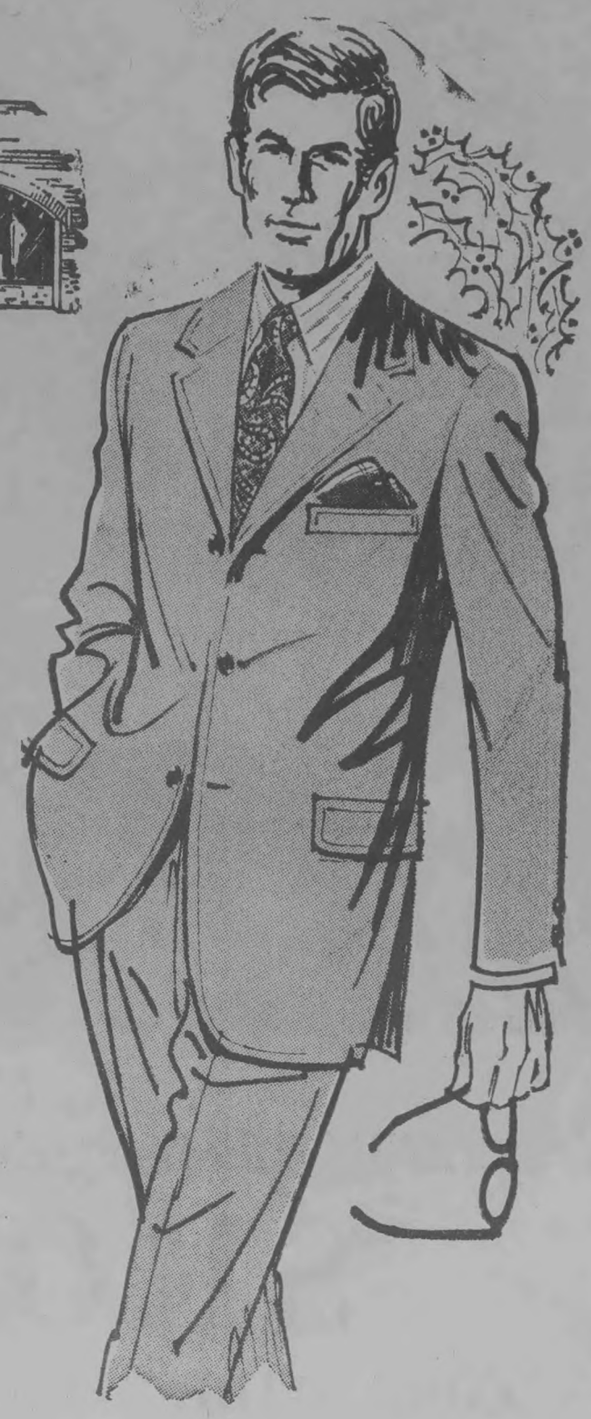

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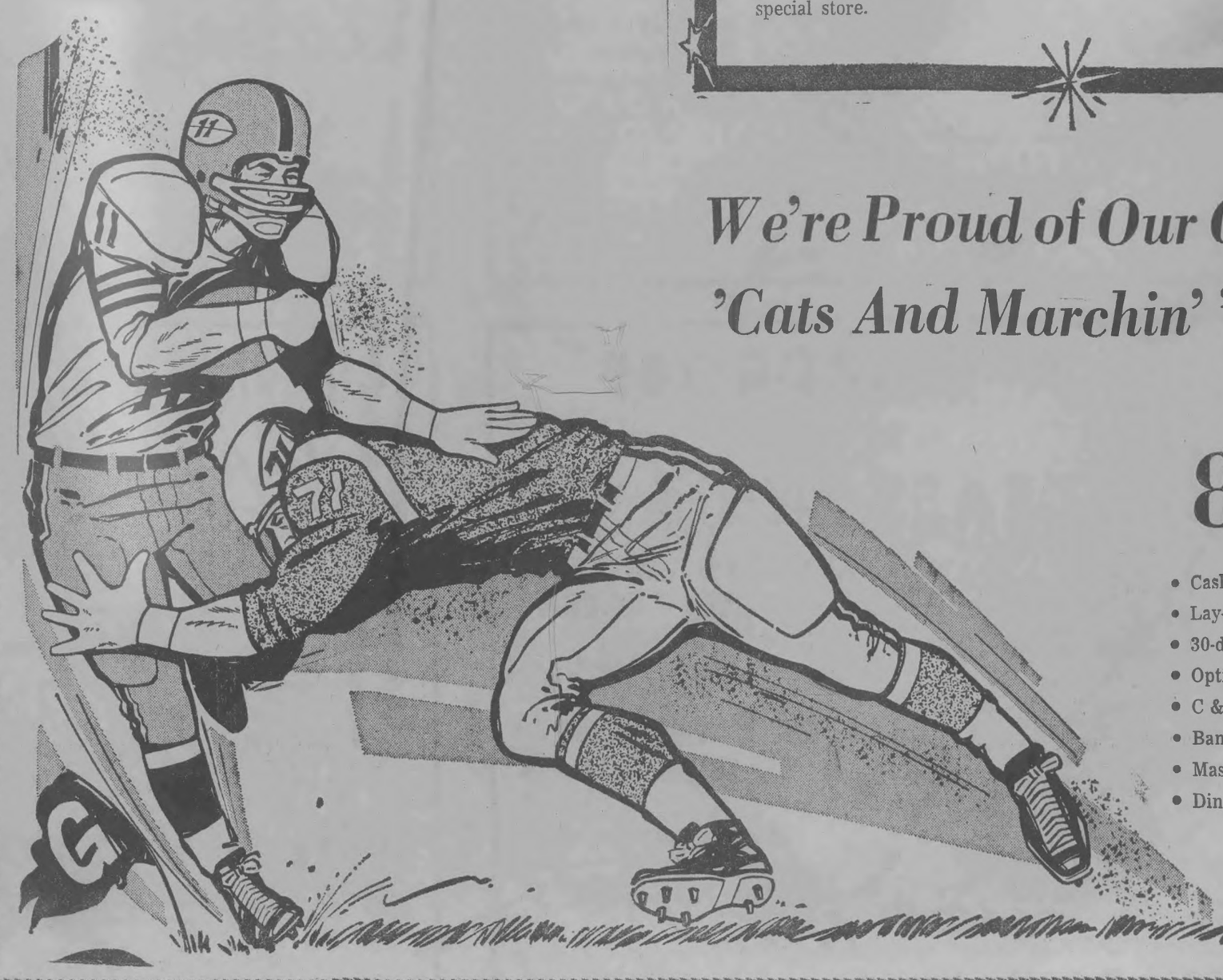

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DOWNTOWN VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

But Not Their Job

Winning Helps A Little

By JIMMY BROOKS

Because the Wildcats are a winning football team, it doesn't make the four manager's jobs any easier

But the attitude of the players and coaches are better. And the managers admit any small mistake they might make during a game doesn't show up as bad after a win.

Steve Cunningham, 17, David Hiers, 16; Glen Holcombe, 15, and Allan Strickland, 17, are the managers for the team.



ALLEN STRICKLAND
Was A Player



STEVE CUNNINGHAM
On Job Three Years



GLEN HOLCOMBE
Minding His Tees



DAVID HIERS
Timeouts His Time

Cunningham has been a manager for three years. The other managers have only been on the job one year.

The managers say their job isn't too much different from being on the team. They do everything the players do, and go everywhere they go. During practice four times a week plus game night the managers are working.

They get all the recognition at the end of the football season just as the players do. They even receive a football jacket exactly like the players. The only difference is the lettering on the front of the jacket, "Mgr."

Each of the managers has a specific job to do. But they do any kind of work when a coach or player asks them to.

Cunningham decided to be a manager when he was a sophomore. He thought he was too small to be on the team, but later changed his mind.

"I didn't think I was big enough," said Cunningham. "I grew a lot since then. I wish I had played ball now."

Cunningham said his primary job is to shuttle footballs on and off the field. When the Wildcats have the ball he gives them their ball. When the guest team has possession of the ball, he throws that team's ball in.

He said the Wildcats play with a leather ball made by McGreger called X-7, and nicknamed the "bomb." Most opposing teams use a ball which is narrow at the ends and wide in the middle, he said.

Hiers said his job is to go on the field during timeouts and dry the players' faces.

He said the managers don't take water on the fields. The players drink, "Gatorade" on the sidelines.

Hiers also goes over the wall for the footballs after extra points attempts are made.

Hiers said he was too small to play ball and decided to be a manager when one of the coaches asked him.

Holcombe's job is to provide the extra point tee and the kickoff tee at the appropriate times.

He said he started helping the football team when he was in the seventh grade. When he started in high school he took over a manager's position.

Strickland is the newest addition to the manager group and was one time a player. Strickland played ball some last year and was injured combined with a sickness which put him on the sideline.

Being a manager gets to be a normal routine and for many who have held the job return even after they have graduated.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Ware Co.

Reserve quarterk Darrell Branan got himself a big piece of the action in the are County game which Valdosta won, 63-0. Valdosta reached pa:rt on its fourth offensive play from scrimmage, and it was nothing-to-it matter from then on. Stats showed Valdosta with 24 first downs, 369 yards rushing and 150 yards passing. Ware had three first downs, minus 39 yards rushing and 43 yards passing.

TAKE 'EM TO THE CLEANERS, 'CATS



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Another Miracle Man

B For Band, Butenschon

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

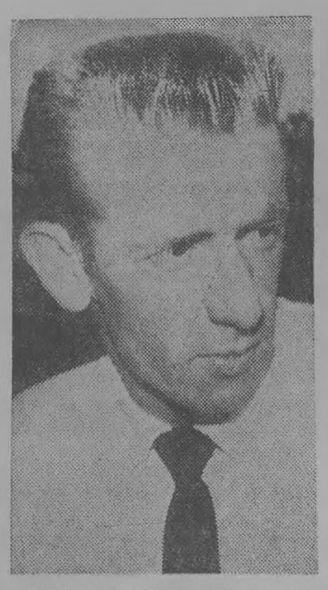
He's called the miracle man in band circles but to the Marchin' Cats of Valdosta High School, he's Mr. B.

Mr B. is Frank Butenschon, 31-year-old director of the VHS Marchin' Cats. He took over the top position in 1962 after serving at Valdosta Junior High School a year and acting as co-director at VHS for another year.

He's called the miracle man because of the way he's whippen the band into The Greatest Band in Dixie and gained the love and respect of not only the students but the community as well.

An example of the way his students feel about Butenschon is the 6 a.m. rehearsal two years ago called by the young musicians. The half-time show practices had been going pretty bad and Butenschon was not happy with the way the program was shaping up.

"Those kids called a rehearsal on their own and got all the rough spots ironed out before I got out on the field,"



FRANK BUTENSCHON
'Greatest Band'

said Butenschon.

And sometimes they practiced in spite of the director, he added. One time the students held a night rehearsal for three hours without Butenschon.

"They weren't suppose to do it but again we were having trouble with a show and the kids wanted to do that something extra to fix it," said the director.

Butenschon said his life is centered around the Marchin' Cats and his wife and two sons. But even the band and his family life sometimes mesh.

Butenschon's oldest son, Skip, 9, attended band camp with the students this summer and asked to march with the VHS Honor Guard Captain. This delighted Butenschon and the entire band which adopted the youngster as a mascot years ago.

Ban members drop by the Butenschon house after school, on dates and during the weekend like it was a second home. And the director loves it.

"I guess one of the biggest thrills of this whole business is to have your former stuent go on to college, major in music and do something with it. Another one is the fact they don't forget you," he said.

"Thanksgiving night about 30 former students came by the house and talked of forming a Marchin' Cats Alumni Association. The kids love the band that much and have so many great memories," said Butenschon.

But the students and adults have just cause to think highly of the young director. He is their champion and has fought to make the band an integral part of the school curriculum.

"Band is not extracurricular as far as I'm concerned. It is important to these students who love music and they don't take it lightly," he said.

Last year Butenschon got a basic music theory course included in the curriculum. Students get a whole unit of credit for the course. He sees the need for a basic music appreciation course which would be available for all interested students.

A native of Oxford, Ala., Butenschon is a graduate of Auburn University. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia national music fraternity, the National Band Association, Georgia Music Educatiors and the National Music Educators Association. He has been listed in "Who's Who of High School and College Band Directors" and the First Chair of America National Honor Yearbook for Bands.

Butenschon has been named the state winner of the National Band Association Citation of Musical Excellence award. The awards are given annually to one band director from each of the 50 states by the band association.

Champs: 1957

Rockmart Rocked

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Valdosta High School Wildcats defended the Class AA state championship and chalked up the 1957 flag, downing the Rockmart Yellow Jackets in a tight defensive battle 13-6.

It was quarterbacked by Bozey Thomas, replacing tricaptain Dale Williams who was injured in the 20-0 South Georgia crown win over Thomasville, leading the Valdosta attack. Thomas was shifted from fullback to the handoff shot at the beginning of the week in the Wildcats efforts to finn in for Williams,

The short, 165, pounder scored both Valdosta touchdowns and directed the ground attack like a veteran. Williams' passing was missed and might have meant a couple of more touchdowns for Valdosta.

Neither team completed a pass and only five were attempted. The Wildcats threw three times and Rockmart two.

Rockmart scored first, getting six points on a 16-yard run by halfback Tommy Young climaxing a 71 - yard march in the second quarter.

The Wildcats came storming back after Thomas 35-yard kickoff return. He came through with an 18-yard run and halfback Johnny Welch added 16 before Thomas scored from the six. Johnny Garrett then kicked his 28th PAT of the season to gain a 7-6 lead.

In the third, period, Arthur Strom ran back a punt to the Rockmart 28. Thomas scored from the one but Garrett's PAT try was partially blocked.

Valdosta had nine first downs and 171 yards rushing to Rockmart's eight first downs and 119 yards rushing.

There's More To Coaching

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A first year Valdosta High ach just a few years away m being a player himself id football is "quite a bit fferent from this side of the nistle."

Coach Bill Myddleton is deftely in a position to talk out actual football playing. member of the highly rated 2 version of the Wildcats, played first string football for years of his high school reer.

He was selected All State junior and senior years, d All America his senior ar.

After graduating from VHS, ere he played defensive ddle guard, he went to Georgia Tech in Atlanta and played defensive guard and tackle, while working on a bachelor of science in industrial management degree.

He was a member of the 1964 Tech Gator Bowl team and the 1965 Orange Bowl team.

Tech had a 7-3 season in Myddleton's junior year, and a 9-1 season his senior year.

Currently living with two sisters at 1002 West Alden Ave., the 24 year old bachelor lists hunting and fishing as his hobbies.

He is not sure now whether he will make coaching his career. He helped coach the "B" team this year to a 5-2-2 season.

"The association with the boys is great," he said, but added that he didn't know so much went into the production of a football game. "I didn't fully realize the behind the scenes work that goes on in carrying a team through a football season."

"On the field, a player can take out his emotions in the game. On the sidelines, there's not as much outlet, physically and emotionally, for your feelings.

"It's very frustrating when you explain and explain and the somebody comes up and does it wrong.

"Coaching is more fun than teaching, however," he added.



BILL MYDDLETON
Former All-America



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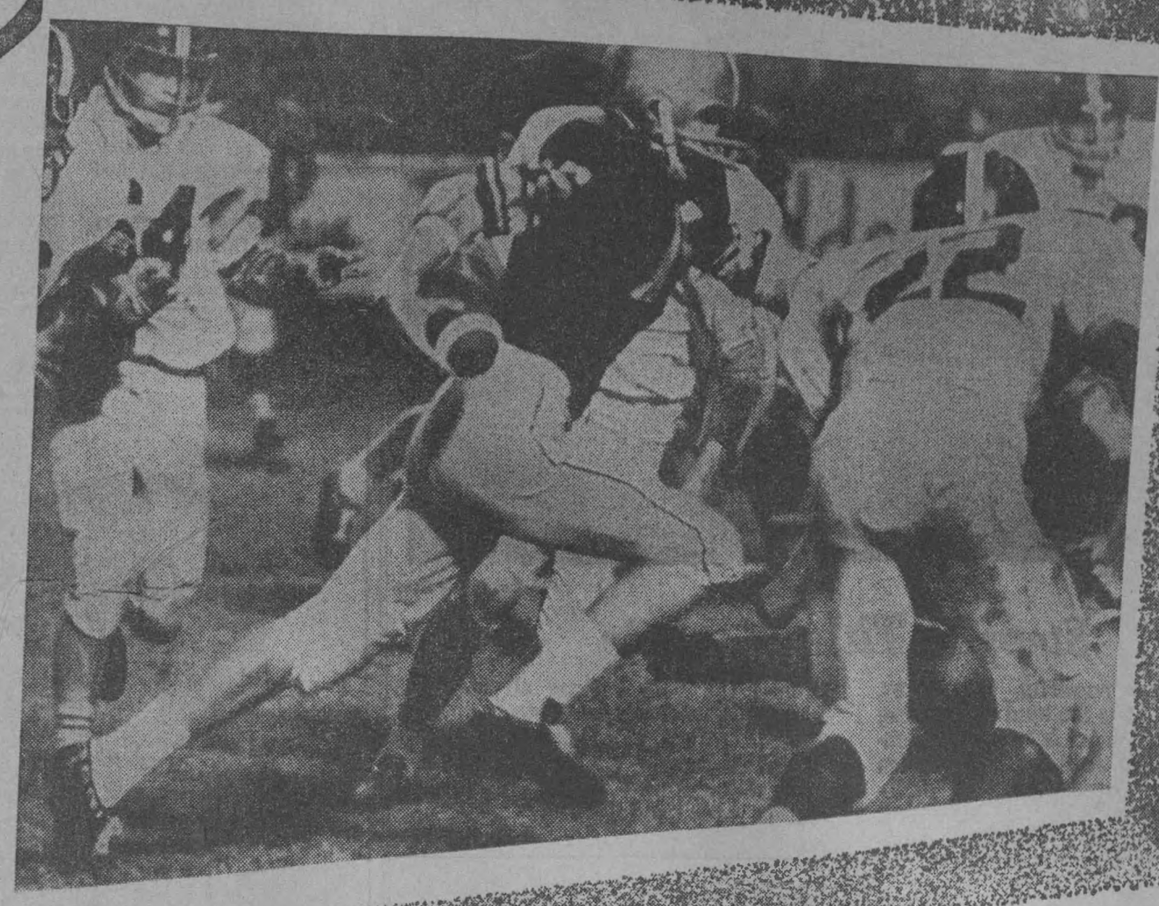

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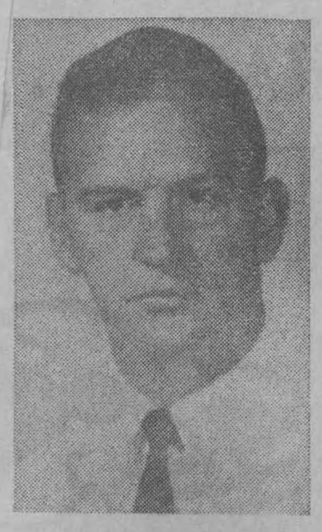

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That Gift Wdcat Is A 'Real Morale Booster'

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The wildcat in a glass case at Valdosta High School has been a "real morale booster" for the students, said Valdosta Touchdown Club president David Waller, "and its the type of project we should have more of."

Waller was talking about a 28 - pound animal, trapped last December in Monticello, Ark., and presented to the school by the Touchdown Club in memory of VHS football player Jerry Greene, who died in August of 1968.

The animal was brought to Valdosta by Greene's father-in-law, T. R. Coats; stuffed by the griddother - in - law, Vernon Sison, and given to the cl his wife, the former J.Coats.

The cas presented to the schoc the club in a glass casch was donated by Cottenton of Valdosta Glass Co.

"It wasery worthwhile project," er said. "I have heard mfavorable comments abc It is just another one ie things which makes thuchdown Club, the school the community one bnit behind the mighty Vita High School Wildcats.'

Greene, a VHS grid standout died at the age of 18 of Hodgkins disease. He was a mainstay on the team which won the 1966 Class AAA state championship and also played the following year when the Cats didn't make it to the state playoffs.

Waller said the cat was given to the school "because we felt the school was where it should be. Its a real nice thing and we feel it is an asset to the school's collection of trophies."

Since the cat, taxidermy work and materials were all donated, Waller said there is no way to establish the actual dollar worth of the trophy. He estimated it to be worth in the neighborhood of $400.

Valdosta High Principal Charles (Chuck) Greene said the cat has been a good athletic spirit booster and has been genuinely appreciated by the students.

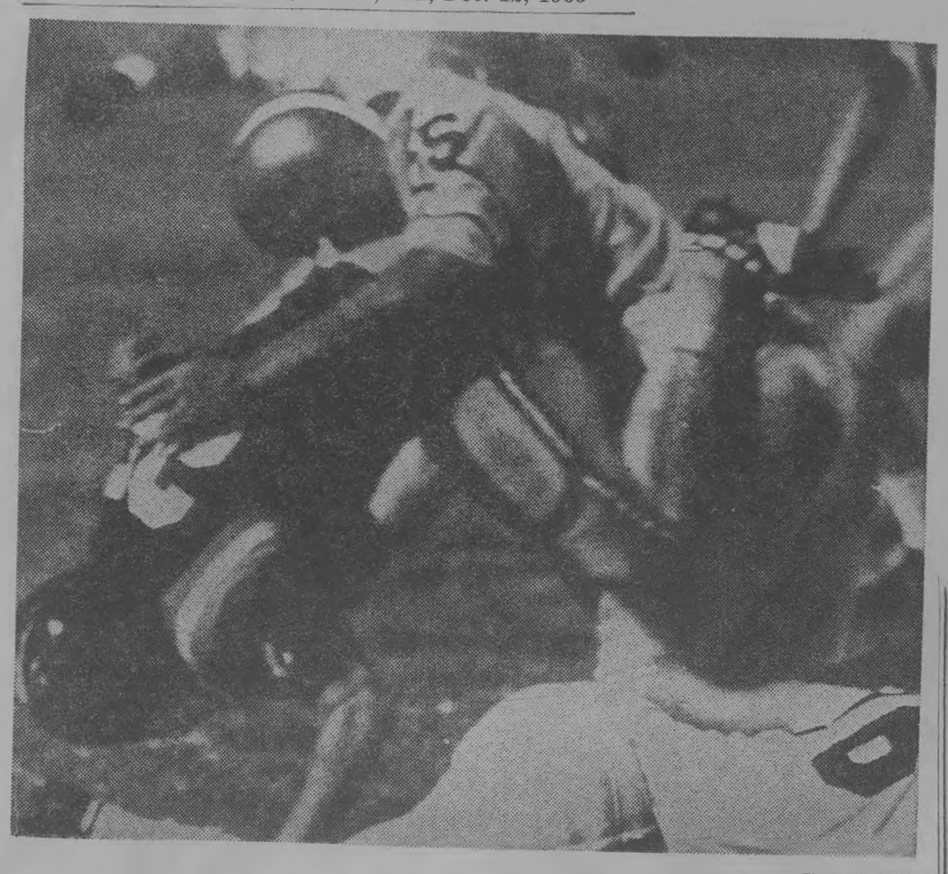
It has been set up in the schools front hall lobby near the trophy cases where it is destined to remain until a new school is built.

The principal said the cat would go along and be a focal point in a special trophy area to be set up in an athletic wing when VHS does move into a new building.

"The wildcat doesn't sound like its very big when you say 28 pounds, said Coats. "But it is one of the biggest cats I ever saw. That 28 pounds is no guess or hunters estimate. That is scale weight."

The cat was trapped by Eugene Hackney of Monticello, Ark., and given to Coats while he was on a trip during the Christmas holidays last year. The animal was shot with a pistol.

The trophy was finished and presented to the school in early October.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Moultrie

Valdosta's powerful linebacker, Tom Holt, makes the kind of crashing tackle for which he has become famous this season as the Wildcats earn a 21-0 victory over previously undefeated Moultrie. Holt, a 205-pound senior and Wildcat tri-captain, has anchored the VHS defense all season. In beating the Packers, Valdosta made 14 first downs, 196 yards rushing and 124 yards passing. Moultrie picked up 11 first downs with 105 yards rushing and 43 yards passing.

Coach Former 'Cat Captain

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

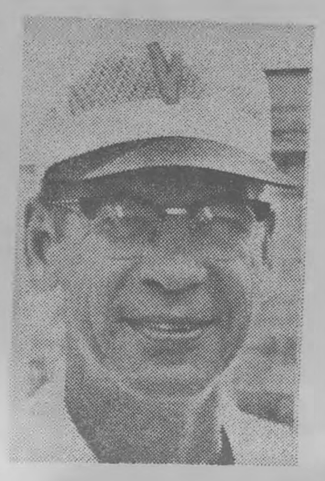
At the home of Coach Julian LeFiles, there's little talk of anything but Valdosta High School sports.

The former VHS football and basketball player and his wife, Ouida, have two sons and they're both on sports teams at the school.

The native Valdostan played football and basketball from 1940 to 1943, and three of those years he worked under Coach Wright Bazemore. He was captain of both teams his senior years.

He attended South Georgia College in Douglas, where he played football and basketball and he was graduated from Valdosta State College with a degree in education.

Formerly in the automobile parts business with his brother, LeFiles came to VHS six years ago as an assistant coach and teacher.



JULIAN LEFILES
At VHS Six Years

In addition to his main job as defense coach, he also teaches four classes of biology, 1 physical education class and coaches tennis and golf.

His oldest son, Marty, 17, is president of the senior class, sports editor of the school newspaper and on the basketball and baseball teams.

Jimmy, 15, is a junior, and a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. Both boys are honor roll students.

LeFiles, a member of the Elks Club, and his family are members of Park Ave. Methodist Church.

"Hardly an evening goes by that we're not doing something connected with VHS sports," said LeFiles. "But we all like it."



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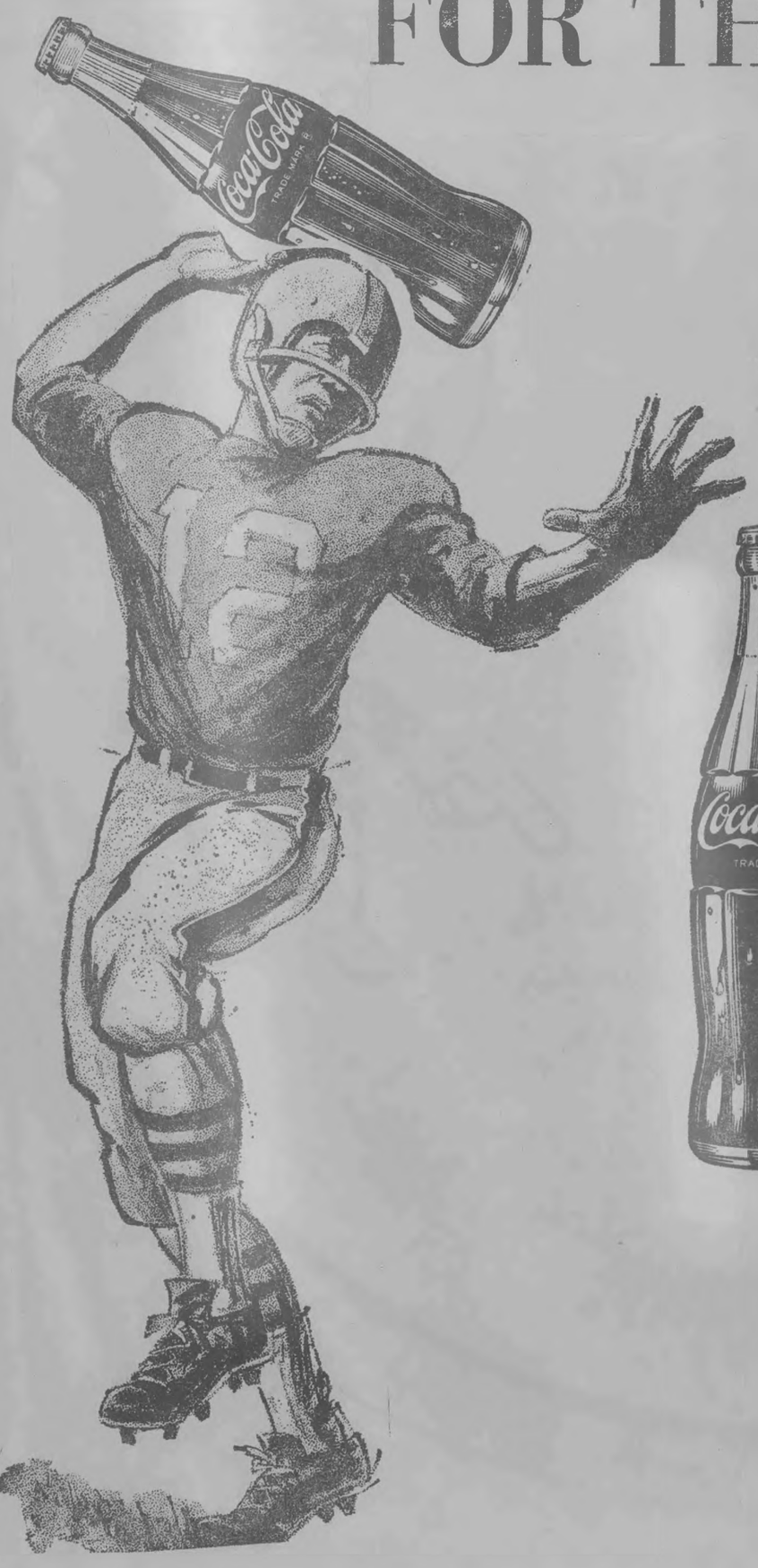



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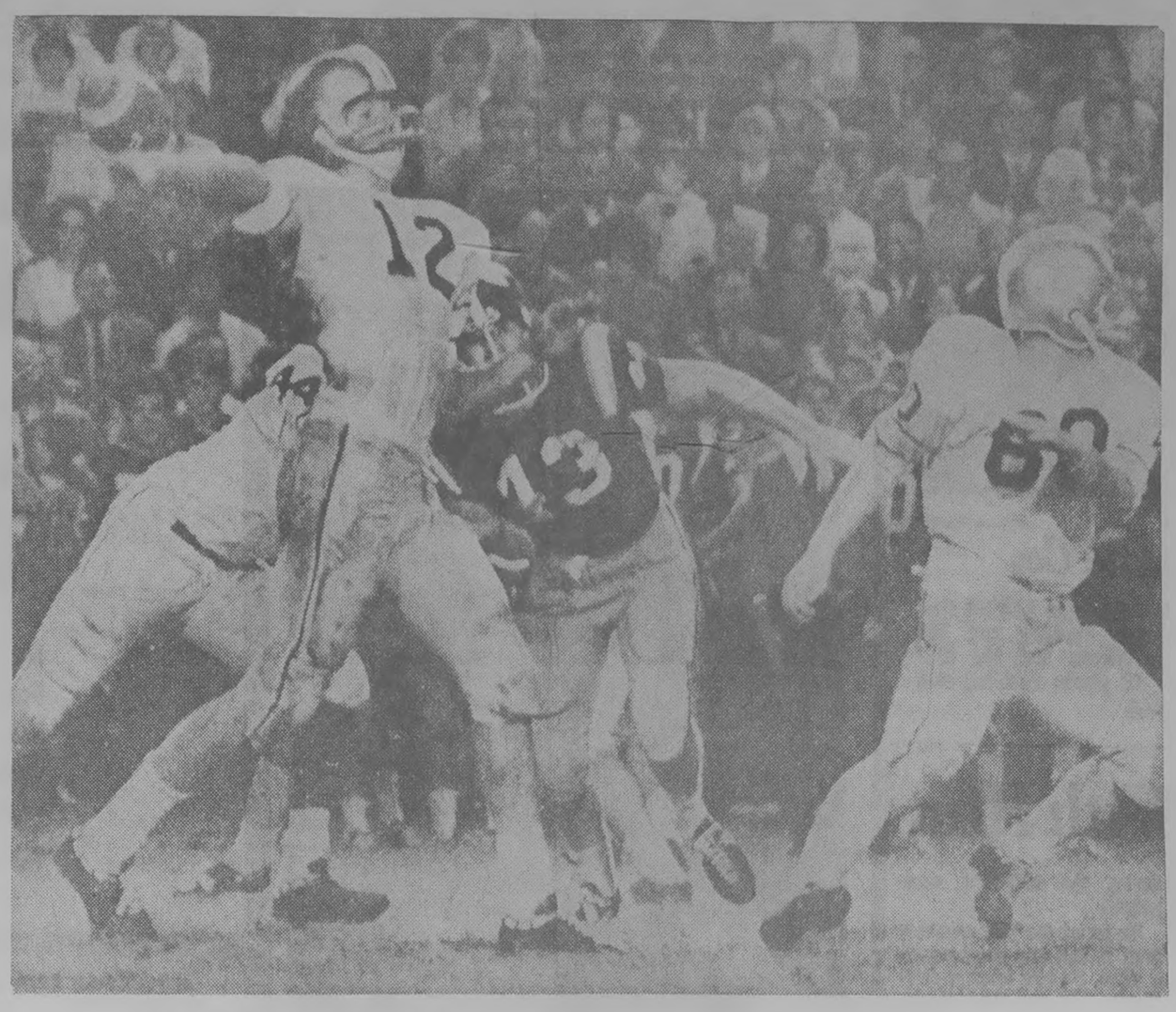

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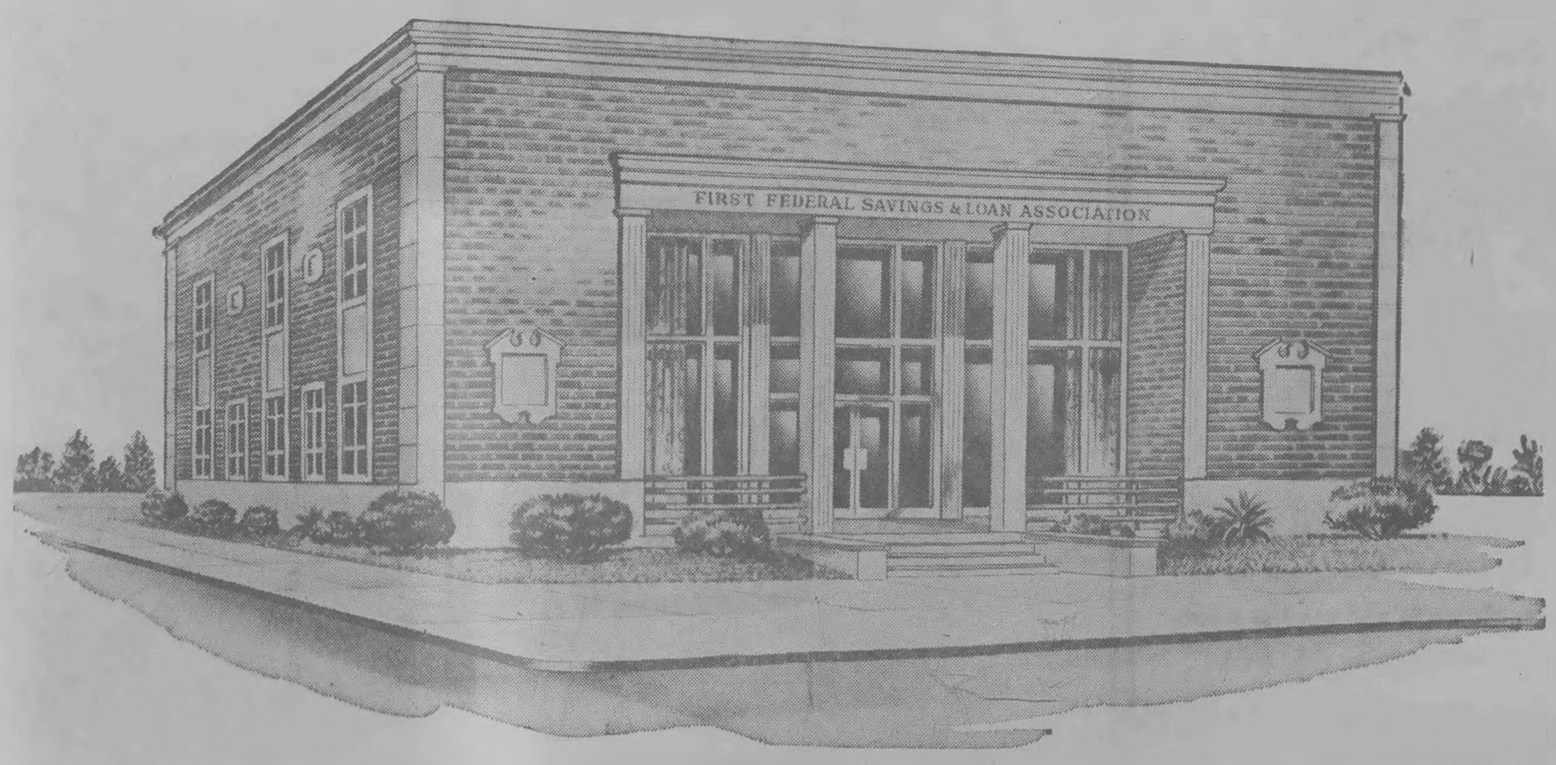

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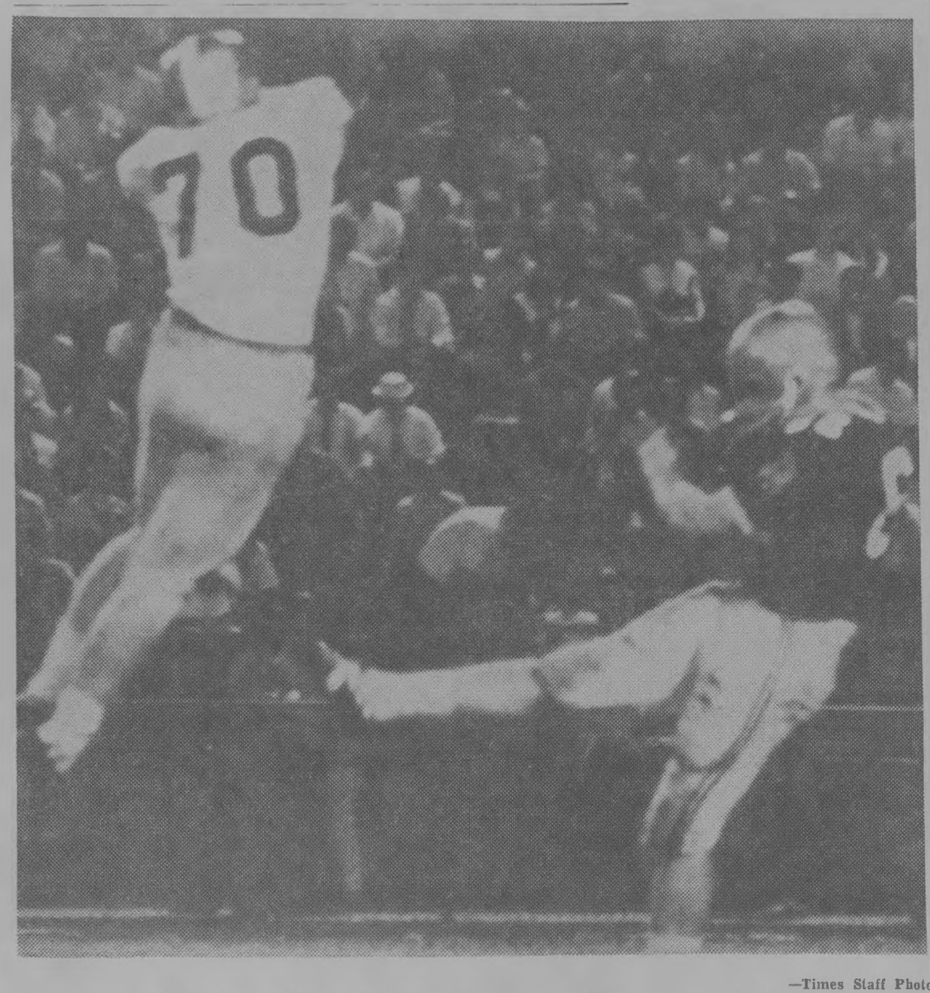


—Times Staff Photo

Steps To The Title: Wayne Co.

Tackle Mike Everson (70) goes high to block a punt during the Wayne County game which Valdosta won by a 34-0 count. The Wildcats scored the first two times they got possession of the football and went from there to an easy victory. Valdosta had 16 first downs, 216 yards rushing and 109 yards passing. Wayne had six first downs, minus 18 yards rushing and 43 yards passing.

They Help Develop That Wild Wildcat Spirit

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

The women behind the men at Valdosta High School are nine coeds who never miss a football game played by the championship - winning Wildcats team.

They are the cheerleaders who spend hours each week practicing new cheers and learning motions to lead the crowds of fans who attend the games.

This week the coeds have put in extra time on their practice sessions in preparation for the current championship games.

"The closer it's gotten to championship time, the more we've practiced," said Julie Scott, VHS senior and captain of the cheerleaders.

"About this time of the year, around the end of the season, we get more spirit. But of course we're excited the rest of the year too," she said.

Cheering for a team which has won 12 state championships including last year's AAA title isn't too difficult for the girls. "We can always depend on the crowd to go along with the cheer 'We're Number One," said Miss Scott.

The squad begins practice every summer to learn motions and words of new cheers.

"So when we actually start to practice about an hour two days a week," said Miss Scott.

Claiming former cheerleaders made up an original cheer for VHS, Miss Scott said it's particularly fun to go to out-of - town games "because nobody knows 'Rah Bicka' except us."

Squad members admitted although the goal of all cheerleaders is the same, some changes have been made in the appearance of the costumes over the years.

"Gosh, my sisters wore the longest uniforms when they were cheerleaders here," said Beth Howell, junior and co-captain of the squad. "At least the uniforms have gotten shorter."

The girls say it's easy to cheer a team like the Wildcats and they have a chant for almost every play. "At a time - out, we start a regular cheer to get the spirit going," said Miss Scott. "But the fans are always willing to chant a cheer during the entire game."

Working together with Frank Butenshon, band director, Miss Scott said they make out cheers and tell him what they'll be doing.

"We'll yell up to him for music for a particular cheer. But then we're always ready for him to play.

The other senior members of the squad are Kathryn Smotherman, Beverly Newlin, Patricia Jeffries, Charlette Robinson. Junior members are Martha Alice Giddens, Nita Brantley and Joy Johnson. Janet Hiers, senior, was selected during homecoming to wear a wildcat uniform during the games.

VHS Team Was 8-3 In 1946

Valdosta's 1946 Wildcats had an 8-3 record.

Wins were over Brunswick 12-7, Americus 33-6, Fitzgerald 26-13, Jesup 25-0, Douglass 20-0, Cordele 20-0, Albany 7-5, and Miller County, 32-0.

The 'Cats were defeated by Cairo 21-6, Thomasville 18-6 and Waycross 27-19.

Takes Work Home With Him

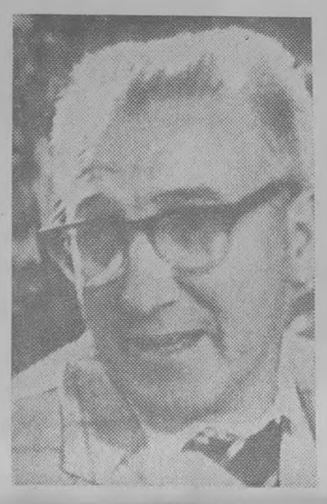
BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta offensive backfield coach Joe Wilson is one man who doesn't get to go home without taking his work with him.

Wilson is the father of two sons, Judy, 10, and Jay Bird, 8, who won't let him. They are almost as interested in the Valdosta High School Wildcats as their father.

"The boys don't miss a game," Wilson said. "They even go on the bus with the players on all road games."

And when they are not talking Wildcat football they spend their time discussing their own team with their father. The Wilson boys play for the Rams in the Boys Club Midget football league.



JOE WILSON
Talking Football

Wilson, who has lived in Valdosta most of his life, was a half back for the Wildcats during the 1949-50-51 campaigns.

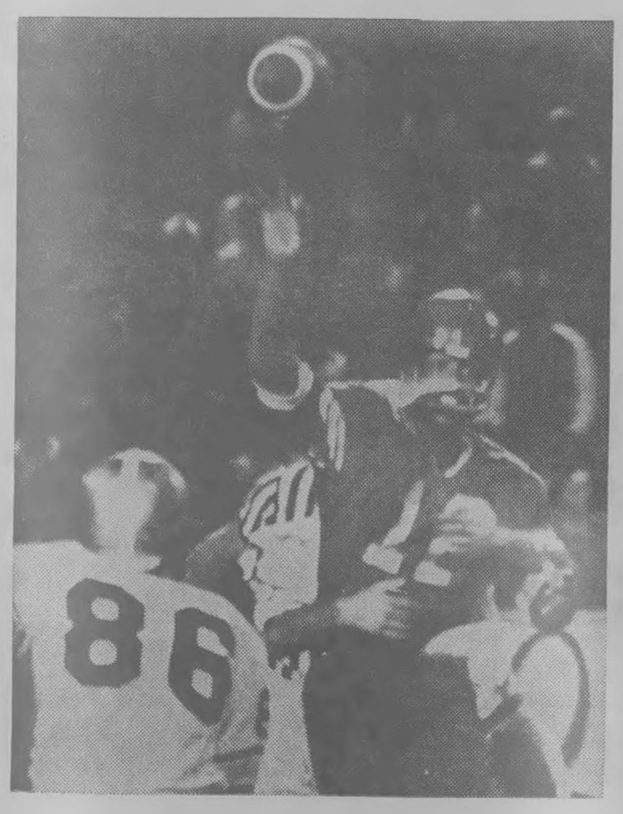
He joined the VHS coaching staff in 1960 and has been on it since. He now teaches driver education and physical education but has taught algebra, bookkeeping, government, civics and history.

Wilson attended college at South Georgia Junio[illegible] where he played football for two weeks and got hurt, ending his college grid career. He later played football in the service.

Wilson finished work for an undergradua[illegible] dosta State College and got a graduate degree at the University of Georgia.

He and his wife Jean, and two sons live at 202 Wayne Ave. They are members of the Park Avenue Methodist Church.

DO IT AGAIN, 'CATS!



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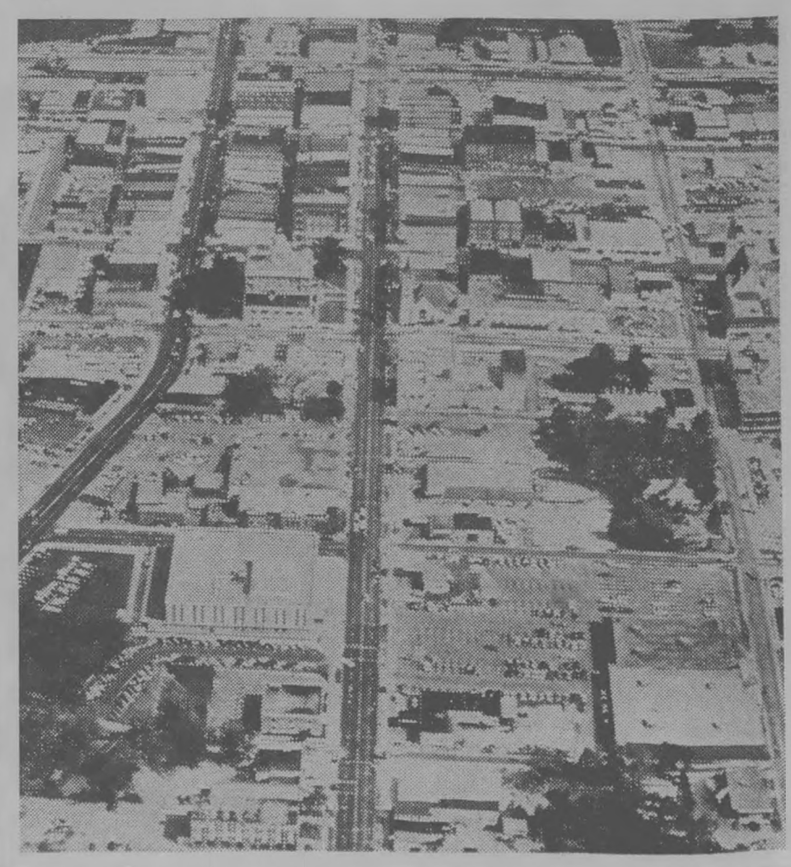

It's A Rough Life At Football Camp

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

It's a rough life at Coach Wright Bazemore's annual football camp at Twin Lakes, and some of the 14 - and 15-year olds who get their first introduction to Wildcat football there don't make it through the three weeks.

But the ones who do make it have earned the name "Wildcat," and they are full of the spirit and enthusiasm that goes along with the name.

"It's the best team in the state," one piney rooter decided during an interview at the camp last August.

"In the United States," he was corrected by another gridder to be. "In the world," said a third speaker.

During the interview five piney rooters (what they call infant Wildcats) compared their first reactions to high school level football. It was during a break in the heat of the day. The summer session is held annually at the Lowndes County 4-H Camp on Long Pond.

Several coaches wandered into the dining hall as the interview was being conducted. They sat down at a back table with big bowls of ice cream.

"We can drink Gatorade," one confided as he watched the coaches enjoy their snacks "But we are not supposed to have carbohyorate drinks." He couldn't eat ice cream either. He was in training.

"Its a good camp . . ." the piney rooter raised his voice. "Did'ya hear that coach?" (The coach ignored him) ". . . when you're asleep," he finished in a whisper. You could tell he really loved it.

The five piney rooters, Stanley Bounds, 14, Tony Walters, 15, Jimmy Stevenson, 15, Jim Clarkston, 16, and Steve Stanaland, 15, were all veterans of junior high school football. Now, 12 weeks later, they have been through a season of Wildcat style football.

All said the work was hard and they expected it to get harder. It did.

VHS alumni remember the first day of school when the freshmen football players showed up grinning and bald.

Those days are gone, according to the piney rooters, who returned to school this year with sore muscles but all of their hair. There was a time all new gridders got a haircut at camp. The cuts ranged from a "Mohawk" to a complete baldness.

Even the food lines operate on an equal basis now, the rookie Wildcats said, with first come, first serve, the rule. However, the piney rooters did have to give the older players rubdowns, said Stevenson.

The camp is really a serious thing, and the junior Wildcats as well as the veterans take it as just that. They practice hard, the first week in shorts for conditioning, and the last two full speed in pads.

The campers day begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast. The first practice is scheduled for 10 a.m. Lunch is served at 1 p.m. and after lunch comes rest time.

Practice resumes at 4 p.m. and skull practice takes up the evening after supper.

The gridders have to look forward to more hard practice once school starts and the tired hours at night after supper when they must keep up with their studies like any other students.

But they've earned something when they go through the ordeal. They've earned the name "Wildcat." In Valdosta, Ga., that means something. It's worth it.

The piney rooters show openly they are proud to be on the team and no matter how much work there is at football camp, they are proud to do that too.

"I don't think any of us would want to play on another team," said one of the young gridders. You could tell he meant it.



—Times Staff Photo

Steps To Title: Tift

Mark Dibois (66) blocks and Charles Daniels (44) goes for yardage in the Tift County game the Wildcats won, 28-7. The pesky Blue Devils managed to score the only touchdown which has been registered against the 'Cats this season after they recovered a fumble on the 11-yard line. Otherwise the game was as one-sided as most of Valdosta's others this year. The VHS eleven had 22 first downs, 357 yards rushing and 140 yards passing. Tift had five first downs, 53 yards rushing and 26 passing.



'Cats Lost Game But Not Championship

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Again in 1965 the Wildcats reigned as State Class AAA football champions while posting a record of 11-1.

Wins were over Waycross 33-0, Baker of Columbus 13-0, Dougherty of Albany 45-6, Jordan of Columbus 28-13, Lanier of Macon 21-0, Albany 33-2, Moultrie 27-19, Northside of Warner Robins 49-7 and Lagrange 47-6.

The loss came at the hands of Willingham of Macon 12-7.

In the playoffs the 'Cats rolled over Savannah 32-3 and squeezed by Athens 14-13.

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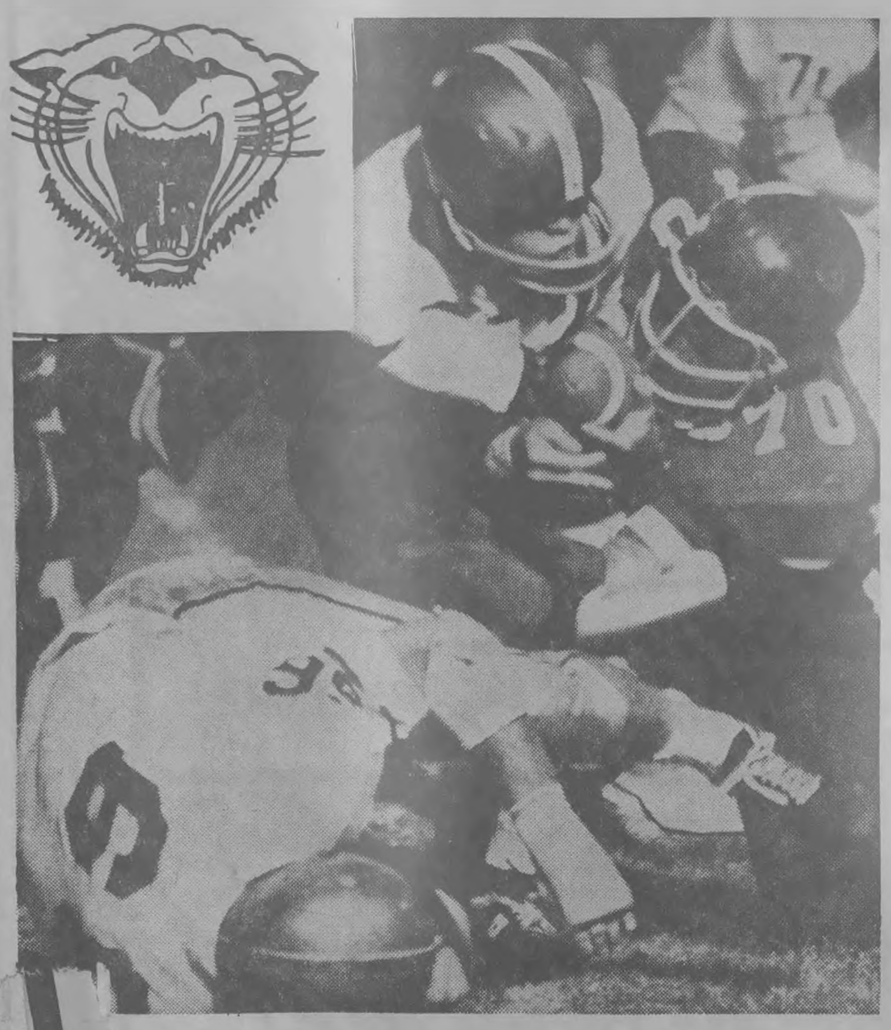

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Despite Cold And Snow, 'Cats Tamed The Panthers

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

ATLANTA — Valdosta's Wildcats kept their football flame burning brightly all the way in the frozen confines of Grant Field here to give Forest Park's Panthers a 37-12 roasting.

With the win, coach Wright Bazemore's finely balanced 'Cats racked up their 13th consecutive victory this year and claimed the 1968 Georgia State Class AAA grid championship.

Despite spirited opposition from coach Carl Madison's previously unbeaten Panthers and deep freeze weather conditions, the 'Cats gave a convincing demonstration of why they have been put in the top spot in every poll which has come out since the season opened back in September and are now officially entitled to the number one ranking.

The temperature was 20 degrees, an icy wind ranging between 25 and 35 miles per hour swept through Grant Field and there were flurries of snow.

The 12,476 fans who showed up were literally left numb and at the same time were treated to a true championship performance by the Wildcats.

Valdosta turned two Forest Park fumbles into a rapid-fire 14 point lead, failed to panic when the Panthers put a quick 12 points of their own on the scoreboard and went on to win with the kind of balance and team effort which has been their trademark all the way. More than 40 'Cats saw action in the game.

After the Panthers fumbled on the third play, Charles Shenton claimed it at the Forest Park 37. On Valdosta's first play from scrimmage, Larry Howell lofted a high pass into the arms of Mike Flail in the end zone. Glenn Williams kicked the first of four points after.

Again on Forest Park's third down play, quarterback Randy Kidd lost the handle trying to pass and Jerry Neal scooped it up and lugged it into the end zone from the 13.

After a 67 - yard Kidd to Denny Sullivan pass, Forest Park's Kidd scored but the extra point was no good. They later moved 55 yards helped by two Valdosta penalties to reach paydirt with Sullivan scoring from the 4.

Valdosta scored again before the half on a 16 yard pass from quarterback Frank Deming to Flail, after Ronnie Pitcock had intercepted a pass.

After the half, it was all Valdosta with the 'Cats scoring 13 points in the third quarter, on a one - yard run by Deming and a two yard run by fullback Danny O'Neal, and a fourth period 27 yard field goal by Williams.

Valdosta had 15 first downs, 178 yards rushing and 95 yards passing to 14 first downs, 123 yards rushing and 121 passing for Forest Park.

Grid Win Has Mixed Reaction, Really

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High School has played more post season championship footbal games than any other Class AAA school in the state of Georgia in the past 10 years

As offensive backfield coach of the team, Joe Wilson loves it. But as the school's head boys basketball coach, Wilson said it makes life hard.

In the nine years Wilson has been coaching at VHS, the football Wildcats have gone all the way up to the state championship game seven times, including this vear.

"And that makes coaching basketball at this school the hardest coaching job in the state of Georgia," Wilson said.

The problem is that the school's leading football players are generally also the leading basketball players. As long as they are playing football, that's what they are practicing — not basketball.

So every time the grid 'Cats go to the state finals Wilson starts basketball season about three week behind the competition in practice.

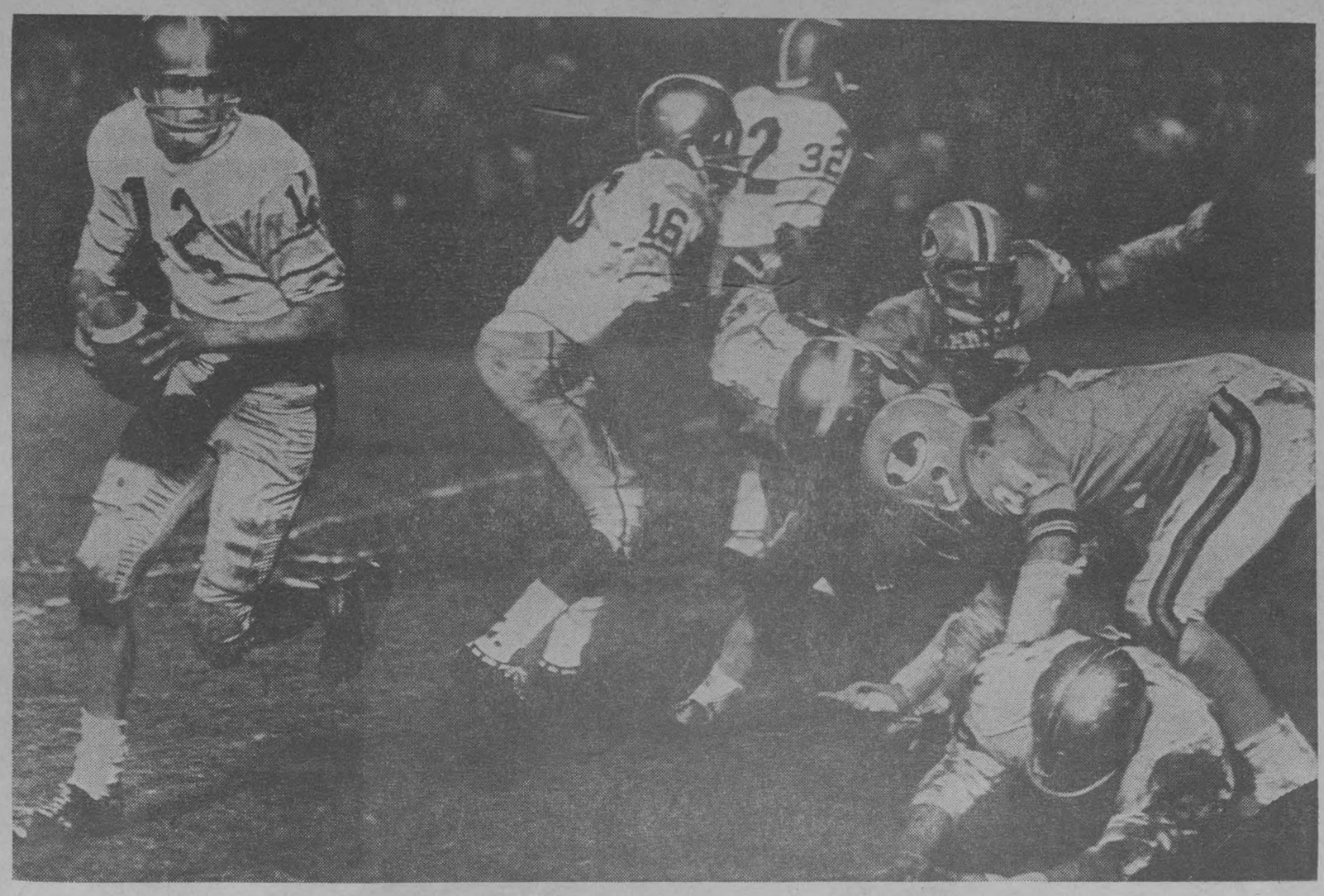
"Every year we don't go to State football, we win 20 basketball games," Wilson said.

Wilson's basketballers won their first game this season despite the fact four of their five starters are football players who have had very little practice on the hardwood.

They are Warwick (Tuffy) Taylor, Willie Jones, Roger Rome and Don Golden.

It causes Wilson to have mixed emotions about the Wildcats and all their football accomplishments.

"We like it when we win in football," Wilson said. "But it does make it tough in basketball."





CHARLES GREENE
His Job, Moving

Line Coach Has Done It All Himself

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta High School Wildcat offensive line coach Charles Greene doesn't ask anything of his players he hasn't done himself.

The 29 - year - old native Valdostan was an offensive lineman (a guard) on the 1957 VHS team which won the AA State championship. He was good enough to earn an honorable mention on the All-State team that year.

Greene is a member of the 1958 VHS graduating class and received a bachelor's degree in education from Valdosta State College here. He also holds a master's degree in education from Georgia Southern College in Statesboro.

He is married to the former Linda Doig of Valdosta and they have two sons, Trevor, 3, and Todd, 1½.

Prior to this year Greene divided his duties at the high school between teaching a course in history and his coaching chores.

This year, Greene said, he instructs a physical education class in addition to teaching 'Cats how to move opposing linemen.

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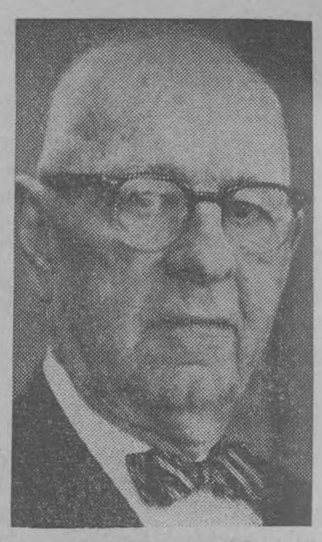
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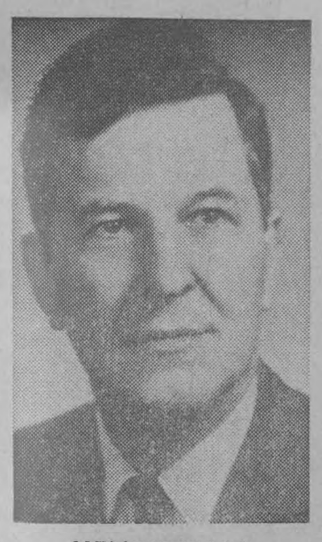
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Julia Will Miss Candles On Tree

By VIRGINIA CULPEPPER



—Times Staff Photo
Miss Brandi: 'Very Different'

What Julia Brandi will miss most about not going home to Dorthmund, Germany, aside from being with her family, is the yellow light of the candles on the Christmas tree.

"There's nothing just like it," said Miss Brandi, a student at Valdosta State College. "When the door to the living room is opened and you see the yellow light of all the candles buring on the tree, with the nice smell of the tree and of apples — how can I tell you?"

Santa Claus comes, not on the night of the 24th, but on the 5th. The children find their presents on Dec. 6, sometimes in stockings, sometimes on a plate left at the windowsill. Christmas Eve is reserved for family celebrations around the tree.

When she was growing up, Miss Brandi said the glass door to the living rom was always covered with a blanket for two weeks before Christmas. The children made little ornaments of staw, a ball or a star, or a wooden rocking horse, perhaps. These they'd hang on the door knob in hopes the Christ Child would find them and hang them on the tree.

There are six children in her family, the youngest is now 13, and they weren't allowed to peek at the Christmas tree until the door was opened about dusk on the 24th.

Wearing a short pink plaid skirt, rose colored knee socks and matching sweater, the tall pretty blonde sat in the parlor of Converse Hall talking about her Christmases in Germany. Her blue eyes sparkled as she made the scene come to life.

"It's all very different from your Christmas. We'd gather out in the hall, all the children and sometimes other family members, and sing Christmas songs and carols. My mother can really sing," here, she smiled in memory, "and we'd all join in.

"My father would be inside the room and he'd ring a bell. When he'd ring it the third time, we'd open the door and go in. All the lights would be off and there was the Christmas tree up to the ceiling with all the candles burning and full of decorations. We'd have our arms full of Christmas gifts for others in the family, sometimes we'd have the presents in a basket on our arm.

"We would be singing when we came through the door, and oh! it was wonderful. Each of us had a table with a lighted candle on it and our gifts were on the tables.

"When we were little kids we had to recite a poem in front of the Christmas tree. There was so much excitement — once one of my brothers didn't find a bicycle that was hidden behind the tree until the next day."

Miss Brandi's father, who died three years ago, was an architect, and a member and district governor of the Rotary Club. She is at VSC on a Rotary scholarship. At 23, she has already earned the equivalent to a master's degree. She's planning to teach English when she returns.

"Sometimes we have Christmas at our summer home on the North Sea. It's on an island and the weather is rough there in winter, the wind icy cold, but I love it," she continued.

"The little kids go from house to house on Jan 6 collecting the trees. They tie them to ropes and drag them to the beach and have a bonfire. When you have about 30 or 40 trees you can have quite a fire."

Christmas foods in Germany are different, too, according to Miss Brandi.

"We usually had a goose for Christmas, but not everybody does this. It depends on the family, I guess. Some have ducks, some deer and some turkey.

"On the 24th, with so much to do, we didn't want mother in the kitchen all day, so we'd have something like a cold salmon plate. On Christmas Day we'd have the warm meal.

"We have Christmas cookies —" and she dashed from the room to return moments later with a tin of hazelnut cookies. "My mother sent me these," she said as she offered the delicious, buttery cookies, "anl they're supposed to be crescent shapped but they were crumbled in shipping."

Instead of fruit cake, she exlained, they have a traditional Christmas fruit bread of stollen.

She won't be going home for Christmas but she'll be with an uncle, aunt and cousins in Massachussetts. She may get a chance to ski,something she hadn't been able to do in South Georgia.

"But I spent five weeks skiing in Austria in the spring, so I haven't missed it. Anyway, I'm too busy here to even play golf, and that's my favorite sport."

Heloise Hints

Foiled Again--With Net!



By HELOISE CRUSE

Dear Heloise:

You once told those of us who couldn't afford fancy tablecloths to buy nylon net that comes 72 inches wide and use colored sheets under it or put it directly on the table. But I've come across something new:

I tear off strips of aluminum foil and put it under my nylon net! Not only does it make a beautiful scene for company, but it protects my table from water spots in case somebody spills something.

This foil idea is also absolutely lovely when used under lace or any cutwork cloths.

Service Wife

Thanks for cluing us in, honey bun. 'Twould make a truly festive table during the holidays.

Bless you!
Heloise

Dear Heloise:

How annoying it can be when the glitter or artificial snow falls from the wreath on the door.

This can be remedied just by spraying the items with hair spray . . . imagine?

I've found it a real work saver.

Mrs. Pugliese

Dear Heloise:

Recently I was preparing a recipe that called for black walnuts. As usual I was substituting pecans. Then the light dawned. Why not add a drop or so of black walnut flavoring to the pecan nuts and mix thoroughly?

Believe it or not, Heloise, my pecans became "instant" black walnuts! The difference could not be detected even though the recipe was a cheese log completely coated in the nuts.

One word of caution: black walnut flavoring is ever so strong, so a drop or two is sufficient.

Mrs. M. D.

Dear Heloise:

I use one of the new facial cleansers that rinse off with water, and every night my hair got wet.

Now I use my plastic shower cap and have no more wet hairline.

Sami Rodriguez

Dear Heloise:

When making an apron with ball fringe on it for trim, I couldn't find buttons to match so . . .

I cut off three balls from the fringe tape and used them for buttons. They were beautiful.

These balls can be used as either "fake" buttons with a snap underneath or just make a smaller buttonhole so when it's washed, it will hold.

Mrs. F. Jeffries

LETTER OF LAUGHTER

Dear Heloise:

My husband loves to eat but would not admit he was overweight. No matter how I tried, I could not interest him in going on a diet until . . .

Our minister asked him if he would be SANTA at the church Christmas party. That did it!

Mrs. E.

Dear Heloise:

I'm sure there are a lot of us who like the filled type of cookies with a top that needs to have the edges sealed.

My husband took one of my older odd forks and, using pliers, turned the tines "in" about a quarter of an inch.

Just right for holding upright to seal a filled cookie sheet of cookies. Then turn it over and one-two-three across the top of each.

Reta

Leisurewear Has Come A Long Way

By ARLEEN ABRAHAMS
Associated Press Writer

Time was when the term "lady of leisure" had only a slightly nicer connotation than "lady of the night."

Work was the high priestess of life and the more of it, the better. Naturally, during this period there was little need for leisure-time clothes. After all, didn't the Puritans preach that "idle hands did the devil's work," and who need to get all dressed up for that?

A couple of hundred years later, leisure was no longer considered a dirty word. Now it was perfectly permissible for the lady of the house to enjoy moments, even hours, of relaxation. But, except for rare occasions, it still wasn't quite right to think of planned lounging time; that's why an old housecoat or blue jeans usually would suffice for leisure—time garb. Of course, for those special moments, there were fashionable ensembles-most of which resemblel take-offs on Salome and her Seven Veils.

Today's leisure-time clothes no longer shyly slink into the chaise in the boudoir. They make the scene at home, at the neighbors, in town, or out on the town. And there's such variety.

Sophisticated women entertain in maxi shirtdresses in quilted patchwork patterns, or step into long, abstract, zebraprint skirts teamed with satin shirts.

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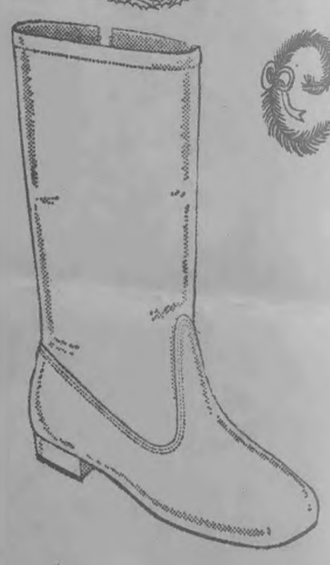

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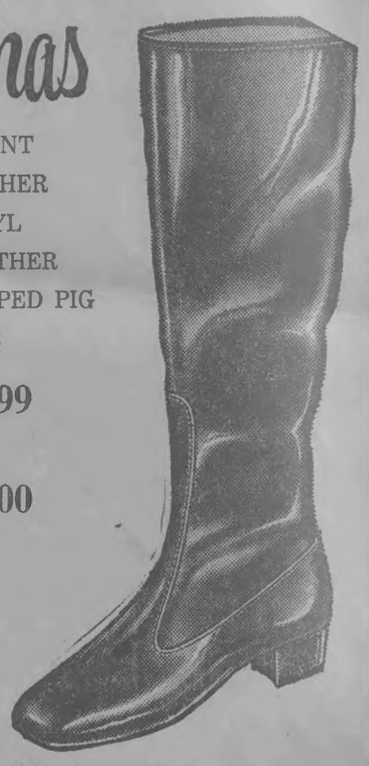

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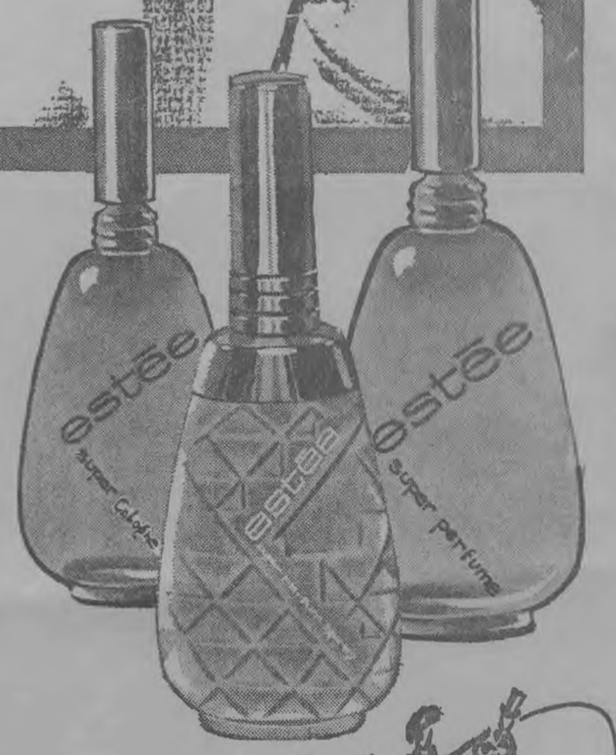

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by
Estée Lauder

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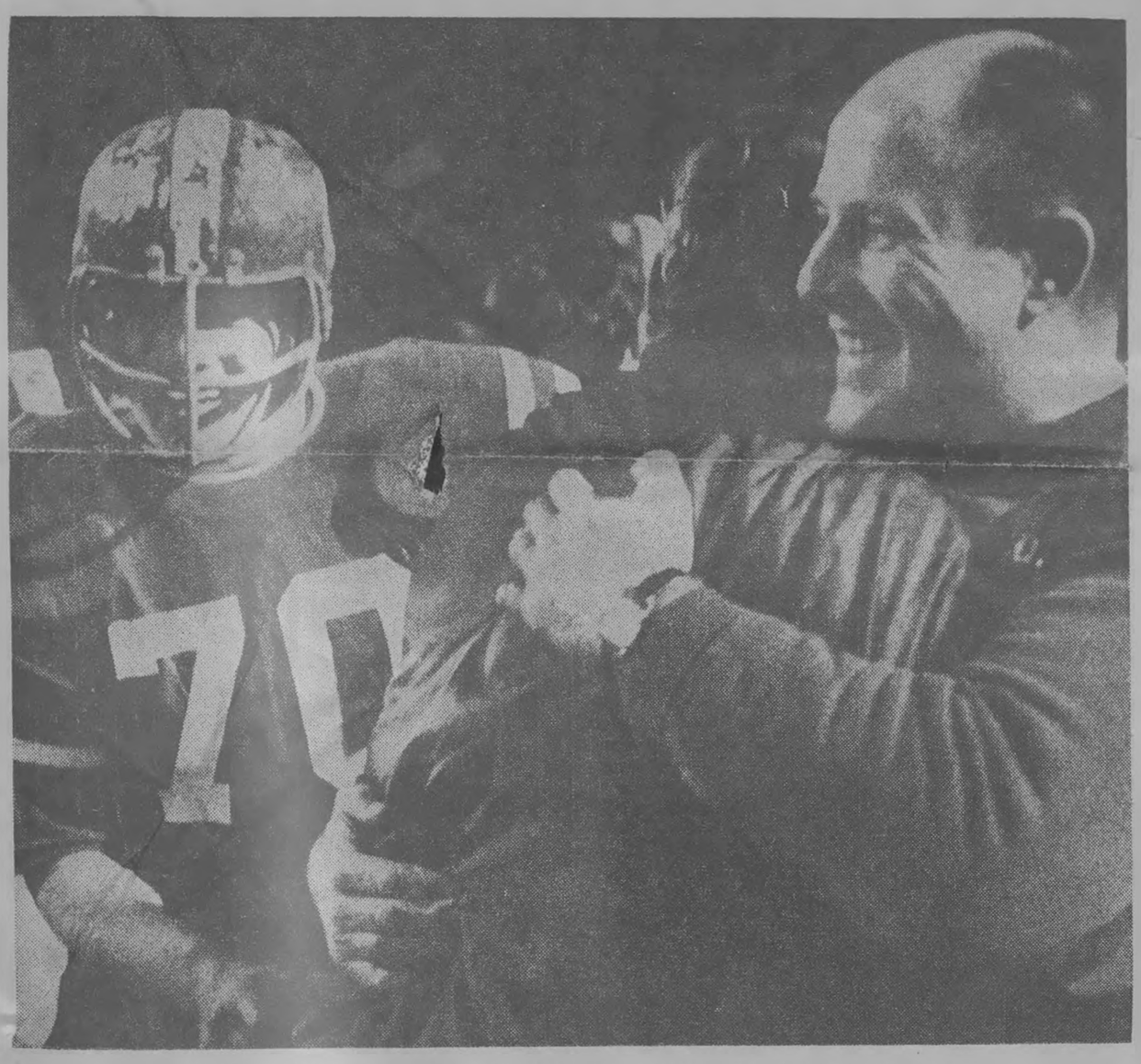
It Was A Grueling Match All the Way: Valdosta Fullback Danny O'Neal Grinds For Every Yard He Can Muster On A Drive Which Put The Wildcats In The Athens End Zone



Like They Won: Athens Head Coach Weyman Sellers (Center) Gets His Hugs

'Still No. 1'

It Was A Standoff

By MARTIN MILLER

The Magnificent Seventy met their match in Death Valley Saturday night, and the Decade of the Wildcats, as great as it has been, came to a bland tasting end.

The score was 26 to 26. The number is painfully significant because it was a 26-game winning streak, stretching over parts of three seasons, the tie burst.

"A tie's not really a tie when you are supposed to win, is it?" commented a former Valdosta High School quarterback with a hurt look on his face.

"Nope," answered his companion. "I guess it isn't."

But that was it, 26-26. The Wildcats didn't win. Their fans were sure they would because in the decade of the 'Cats they had never before played in a state championship game which they didn't win.

Head Coach Wright Bazemore, his assistants and his players were not satisfied with half a championship. They had had too many whole ones.

And while some fans were stressing, "What the hell's a matter with everybody? We didn't lose," the stage was set for sadness.

The Wildcats are state Class AAA co - champions with Athens High School. Athens seemed satisfied. They acted as if they had won. They had managed to fight the mighty 'Cats to a draw. It was a feat for them.

The visiting players lifted their unbelievable quarterback Andy Johnson on their shoulders and carried him off the field.

They had good reason to be proud. It had been Valdosta's decade of high school football. Until Saturday, the Wildcats had claimed six of nine state championships in the 10-year span of time. They wanted a seventh to end the decade in style.

During those years, Bazemore coached VHS elevens have had 97 wins, 16 losses and now three ties. They have also had what is accepted to be one national championship, 1962.

Like it has so many times before in this decade, the Valdosta Touchdown Club called a special ceremony before the 12,500 spectators at the game to give Bazemore a new car. It wasn't quite the same.

Bazemore, with his wife, Bettie Lou, cheering him on, was able to muster up a smile every now and then.

The most sincere one came when 35 or 40 grade school youngsters gathered around his new 1970 Chevelle Mallibu with their one fingers in the air hollering, "We're number one."

The assistant coaches and their wives were also able to produce a few smiles, when the Touchdown Club gave the girls 12 red roses each and the coaches envelopes containing checks.

The checks went to coaches Joe Wilson, Bill Myddleton, Joe Mercer, Jack Rudolph, Julian Lefiles and Charles Greene. One also went to VHS band director Frank Butehschon, who was honored at halftime by the National Band Directors Association of America.

The presentations were made on the field while Valdosta Mayor James Beck handled the narration from the press box.

He called Bazemore "Valdosta's number one citizen." The fans agreed.

While sports fanatics on each side could go away saying just a shift in any given play here or there could have meant victory, to the impartial observer it was a fantastic game.

One nudged a friend and said during the contest, "We just might be watching the two best quarterbacks in the state."

His friend replied: "I don't think there's any doubt we're watching the two best teams."

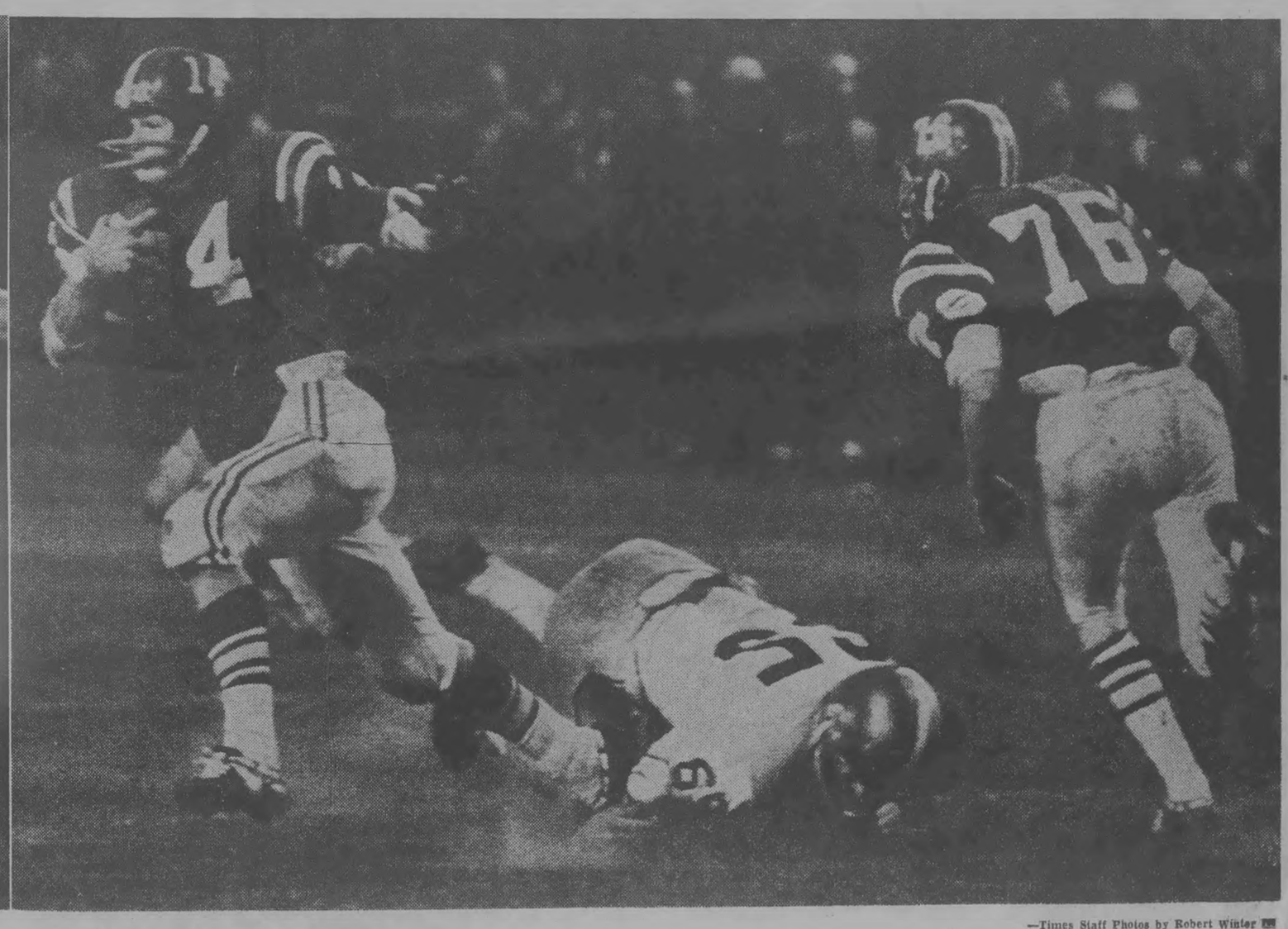
And when the contest was over they agreed: "This is the greatest high school football game I've ever seen!"

The game and the dual championship were the culmination of two fine schools and two rampaging sets of fans. Each came to Cleveland Field with a pot of pride a mile high.

Athens, now has a 11-1-1 record and a piece of the state championship. Valdosta has a 12-0-1 record and a piece of the state championship.

The decade of the 'Cats is over, and the Magnificient Seventy is ready to start a new decade in 1970. They will probably be champions again. And as far as this year is concerned, the Valdosta High School Wildcats are still the only undefeated Class AAA team in the state of Georgia.





—Times Staff Photos by Robert Winter

VHS Halfback Charles Daniels (44) Goes For Long Yardage

Getting A Toe Hold: VHS Linebacker Tom Holt Pulled Athens Quarterback Andy Johnson Down By The Toe

SAMMY

Glassman

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats Picked In Title Contest

This is my day for making football predictions and I'll warn you right now that I'm going to try to pick the winner in just one contest.

I'm sure you know that the duel I'm talking about is the one slated here Saturday night between coach Wright Bazemore's Wildcats and coach Weyman Sellers' Athens Trojans.



GLASSMAN

They will be playing for the 1969 state Class AAA high school football crown.

For those who might be interested, last week I picked eight games correctly and missed three for a .727 mark. That trimmed one point off my average for the season, making it 384-108—.779.

Now, let's get back to that duel between the 'Cats and Trojans. Fan interest is, of course, running high and a standing-room-only crowd is expected.

Another place that's sure to be jammed is the press-box at Cleveland Field. In that regard I've been asked to pass along the message to coaches and high school officials in this area who might want to see the game. They will be provided with a seat on the sideline, but there just won't be room for them in the pressbox.

Here's something the fans might like to know. They can forget about that penetration business in case of a tie. The Georgia High School Association rules say that if the two teams deadlock in a state title contest then they become co-champions.

Trojans Flying

The Trojans, well, they're literally going to come winging into Valdosta on Saturday. They will make the 250-mile trip here from Athens in a chartered plane.

They're due to arrive about 4 p.m. After the game they will eat, then fly back to Athens late Saturday night. And for a high school team, that's making a grid trip in style.

Now, let's get down to particulars about the game itself.

Valdosta has a 12-0 record after winning the Region 1-AAA crown, beating Lanier in the first round of the state playoffs and licking Savannah in the South Georgia title duel.

Athens is 11-1 after claiming the 7-AAA diadem, knocking off highly regarded Avondale in the opening round of the playoffs and bouncing Dykes of Atlanta in the North Georgia showdown.

Athens Is Good

Don't let Athens' lone defeat, which came in their second game against powerful Gainesville, give you the idea that the Trojans might have a football weakness. Right now they have a 10-game victory streak going and reports from up that way say Sellers' charges keep getting better each time they play.

And it should be noted that VHS became the state champion in both 1965 and 1966 after dropping a game during the regular season.

Speaking of the 'Cats and state championships, they certainly have a tradition in that regard. Since Bazemore joined the VHS coaching staff in 1940, 'Dosta has reached the state finals 15 times and has come out the victor on 13 occasions. Since 1960 they've claimed the "AAA" crown six times in six tries.

The Wildcats of 1969 have a championship tradition they will be trying to uphold. Make no mistake about it, Athens has a good football team. The 'Cats will be meeting a foe which is certainly much, much stronger than any they've faced this year.

As for my prediction — I'm picking Valdosta.

Irish Confident Beating Charged

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Coach Ara Parseghian treated a Notre Dame banquet audience Thursday night with the words "I have every confidence we can knockoff that No. 1 team."

Parsegian's statement brought a roar from a crowd of 1,200 attending the university's 50th annual banquet in this 100th year of college football.

That No. 1 team, of course, is Texas, No. 9 Notre Dame's Cotton Bowl opponent Jan. 1.

Parseghian, whose post season experience has been limited to various All-Star games, admits that weather, team dedication and innumerable other factors will play a heavy role in any success the Irish might enjoy in the Cotton Bowl.

Parseghian said he expected his players to remain in shape during the holiday period "because they are dedicated boys" as Notre Dame prepares for only its second bowl appearance and first since 1925 when it defeated Stanford in the Rose Bowl.

Parseghian said he has been too busy to study Texas game films and is acquainted only with the Arkansas game in which Texas came from behind to score a 15-14 victory.

"One thing I'm sure of," said Parseghian, "is that they will run at us. Funny, but everybody we've faced this season tried to throw against us. Nobody ran. I guess they figured they couldn't run and didn't try. So we really haven't been tested against a good ground attack.

Parseghian makes no attempt to hide his joy over being the underdog and playing against the No. 1 team.

"Being an underdog is a luxury which we usually don't enjoy," he said. "It's the second time in my six years at Notre Dame that we are and that game ended in a tie.

"Arkansas did a great job in defensing Texas but that's to be expected," he continued. "Any team in the top 10 has a great defense. If a team doesn't have a great defnse it can't make the top 10 and that includes Notre Dame."

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—AP Wirephoto

Bill Toomey Crosses Finish Line In 1500 Meters

Toomey Shatters Decathlon Mark

LOS ANGELES (AP) — School teacher Bill Toomey could bask in acclaim today fro mthe world, his students and — not the least — his fiance after he had finally become the world champion decathlon performer.

Toomey, who's 30 years old and a teacher of English at a two-year college, broke the world decathlon mark Thursday with 8,417 points, an amazing 98 points higher than the record of West Germany's Kurt Bendlin that had held up for two years.

The decathlon consists of 10 rugged track and field events, with the performer competing against himself to achieve points in internationally set standards and marks for each event. A decathlon performer is considered an "athlete's athlete."

Toomey had tried nine times earlier this year to break the world record. He said he had everything going for him Thursday—a good wind, pleasant temperatures in the high 60s and the encouragement of a key fan, his fiance Mary Rand of England, who's a former world record holder and Olympic gold medalist in the long jump herself.

The 6-foot-1, 195-pound athlete who teaches at Santa Barbara City College 100 miles up the coast from Los Angeles, set his world mark in the Southern Pacific AAU decathlon at UCLA.

"I knew I had the record after the pole vault," he said. "But I wasn't about to relax. There are too many young guys coming up."

"And I wanted to set the record as high as I could—beyond their reach — at least for a while." He didn't mention any names but said he thought Europeans, rather than Americans, would pose the biggest challenge to his title mark.

In Thursday's five events, Toomey ran the 110-meter high hurdles in 14.3 for 926 points, sailed the discus 152-6 for 809, pole paulted 14-0¼—his all-time best—for 876; hurled the javelin 215-8 for 830 and ran the 1500 meters in 4:39.4 for 528.

Wednesday he ran the 100 meters in 10.3 for 986, long jumped 25-5½ for 972, threw the shot put 47-2¼ — another all-time personal best — for 751; high jumped 6-4 for 796 and ran the 400 meters in 47.1 for '43.

Toomey set the U.S. record of 8.277 points nine weeks ago.

Three others also participated with Toomey at UCLA's decathlon event: John Warkentin of Fresno State (Calif.) College with 7,440 points; Barry King of England with 7,191 and George Pannel of Westmont College in Santa Barbara with 7,094.

City-Wide Pep Rally Scheduled

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

A city-wide Pep rally is scheduled tonight for the Valdosta High Wildcats who meet Athens for the State Class AAA football championship here Saturday.

Valdosta Touchdown Club president David Waller said the rally is to be held at Brookwood plaza's parking lot beginning at 8 p.m.

"The band will be there," said Waller., along with the cheerleaders, football players, coaches and, we hope, the whole town."

Olivares Ready To Defend Title

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Knockout sensation Ruben Olivares puts his world bantamweight crown on the line tonight and is a solid favorite to retain it in a 15-round fight with Alan Rudkin, the British Empire champion from Liverpool, England.

Unbeaten in 53 matches and winner of 51 of them by knockouts, the 21-year-old titleholder from Mexico City figures to be a 3-1 choice over Rudkin, 28, a veteran of 42 bouts.

The site is the Forum in suburban Inglewood in the same ring where Olivares crushed Lionel Rose of Australia in five rounds Aug. 22 to win the 118-pound division crown.

Promoter George Parnassus expects a turnout of 15,000 and gate receipts of $175,000, $75,000 of which goes to Olivares and $20,000 to the challenger.

Baze Worried About Johnson-Led Trojans

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Can Valdosta High's football Wildcats even slow down, much less stop, Andy Johnson?

That, as they say, is a good question as coach Wright Bazemore's 'Cats get ready to meet coach Weyman Sellers' Athens Trojans here Saturday night in the Class AAA championship game.

The title duel is set for 8 p.m. at Cleveland Field.

Valdosta has a 12-0 record and is the South Georgia champ. Athens is 11-1, is riding the crest of a 10-game victory streak and will come into the showdown contest as the North Georgia titleholder.

Balance on both offense and defense, with a lot of different players sharing the load, has brought VHS this far. The 'Cats have scored 407 points and allowed just seven. 'Dosta's defensive unit has shut out 11 of 12 opponents.

"We're going to have to be ready, really ready. And we must have great tea meffort," Bazemore said. "But even that might not be enough. Athens has an excellent football team, one with size, experience and speed to burn. They're well-coached, they play it hard-nose and they have Andy Johnson. He's out of this world."

Johnson is a senior who stands 6-1, tips the scales at 190 pounds, he's swamped with college scholarship offers and he's been described by his coach "as the best all-round football player we've had at Athens." That's saying a lot when you consider that just one former Athens QB is Fran Tarkenton, now a pro star.

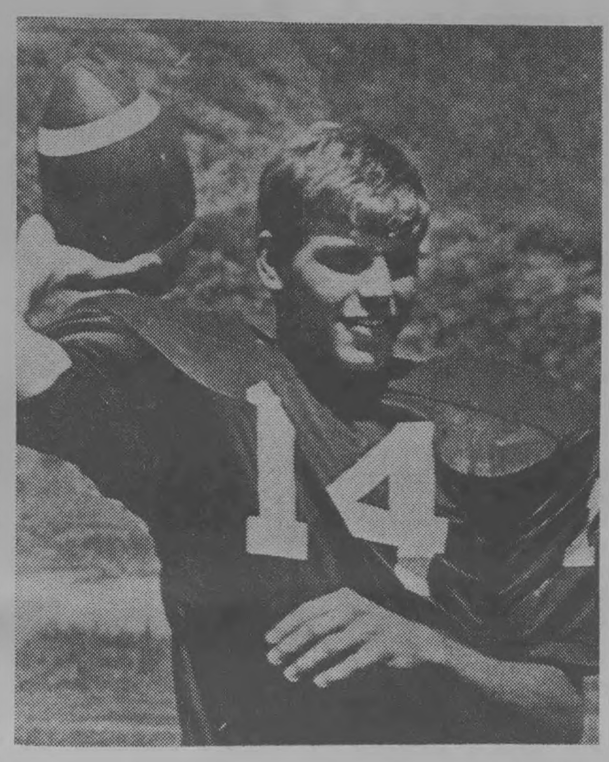
Both the facts and figures on Johnson are amazing even when you know they're real. He's carried the football 175 times for 1,037 yards and has hit on 68 of 165 passes for 1,085 more yards. As a punter he's averaged 39.3 yards on 45 boots. He also returns punts and kickoffs, and has scored four times in this fashion, including romps of 61 and 75 yards. Handy Andy is also an excellent safety man on defense.

Johnson can run the 100 in 10.1, in full football gear, and he has scored 102 points.

"We're plenty worried about Johnson, you can belive that," Bazemore said. "But he's just one of many talented football players we'll be facing."

There is, for instance, Randy Lambert, a 190-pound senior who plays both tackle and halfback on offense, backs up the line on defense and is the Trojans' place kicking specialist. He's made good on 27 of 30 PAT boots and has been on target with three of four field goal tries, including one from 31 yards out.

The Trojans are knee-deep in swift running backs, including Gary Sellers (185, jr.), Morry Collins (165, sr.), Benny Edmondson (165, sr.). Terry Smart (150, sr.) and Rusty Russell (180, jr.). Up front they have a pair of ends, Rusty Carter (190, sr.) and Bruce Williams (185, sr.), who have been standouts all the way on both offense and defense. Gary Sellers is the son of Athens' head coach.



— Special Photo

Andy Johnson Called Best In Athens' History

AHS' defense is rated excellent against both the run and the pass. 'Dosta's defenders can expect problems, and so can 'Cats' go-unit.

VHS' air game is led by quarterback Don Golden, who has hit on 77 of 136 passes for 1,367 yards. The 'Cats leading rushers are Danny O'Neal (100-588), Charles Daniels (73-503), Willie Jones (61-415) and Henry Davis (59-386. Jones (28-581) and Warrick Taylor (21-400) are the leading pass receivers. The top scorers are O'Neal with 120 points, and Jones, with 102. Golden has a 41.4 punting average.

Both Bazemore and Sellers report that their teams are in good physical condition for the game. They announced their team's probable starters as follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends Warrick Taylor (150 sr.) and Bo Blalock (190, sr.), tackles Robert Koncar (200, sr.) and Steve Jarmillo (210, sr.), guards Ray Parr (180, sr.) and Mark Dibois (210, sr.), center Jim Christy (200, sr.), quarterback Don Golden (190, sr.), halfbacks Charles Daniels (190, jr.) or Henry Davis (180, sr.) and Willie Jones (170, sr.) or Benji Meeks (150, sr.) and fullback Danny O'Neal (180, sr.).

Defense —ends Jerry Baker (170, sr.) and Harry Skoropat (170, sr.), tackles Ralph Hendry (225, jr) and Mike Everson (200, jr.), middle guard Charles Shenton (190, jr), linebackers Curt Bazemore (165, jr.), Aaron Holder (170, jr.), Tom Holt (200, sr.) and Greg Quattlebaum (165, sr.) and deep backs John Hampton (165, jr.) and Curtis Lee (160, jr.).

ATHENS

Offense — ends Rusty Clark (190, sr.) and Bruce Williams (165, sr.), tackles Gary Travis (185, jr.) and Rand Lambert (190, sr.), guards Jim Stuchell (170, sr.) and Bucky Carithers (175, sr.), center Jim Kitchens (175, sr.), quarterback Andy Johnson (190, sr.), halfbacks Gary Sellers (185, jr.) and Morry Collins (165, sr.), and fullback Benny Edmondson (165, sr.).

Defense — ends Robert Jordan (180, jr.) and Williams, tackles Alex Allen (181, sr.) and Carter, guards Mike Epps (155, sr.) and Carithers, linebackers Mike Saunders (160, sr.) and Lambert, corner backs Sellers and Collins, deep back Johnson.

Al's Great Throw Really Mistake

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Moore, a Brooklyn native who met with more success as a brewery vice president than in his 30 games a a major league outfielder, figured he had made one of his greatest throws as a member of the 1926 New York Giants.

With a runner on second base the batter singled to left field where Moore, about to live up to his throwing reputation, threw a strike to the catcher. The ball carried all the way to the Giant catcher on the fly and the runner was out by yards. Moore beamed as he trotted into the dugout where John McGraw bellowed:

"Moore, you've just joined us. Otherwise that throw would have cost you $50.

"I thought I explained that I always want throws from the outfield to take one bounce in case a cutoff is necessary. You probably think you made a fine throw. You heard the fans cheering.

"Let me tell you something, young man. If I were to announce that tomorrow there'd be a throwing exhibition by Al Moore, how many fans do you think would show up? They come here (to the Polo Grounds) to see the Giants win, not to see Al Moore, exercise his arm."

This is just one of the interesting anecdotes in "The Days of Mr. McGraw," (by Joseph Durso, Prentice-Hall, $7.95), a book that takes the reader back to 1891 when McGraw, at 18, first reported to the Baltimore Orioles as a shortstop.

Durso has performed a remarkable research job on the wild and wooly years of the Giants which covers several wars, the Roaring Twenties, prohibition and the 1929 depression.

More than a dozen Hall of Famers, including Christy Mathewson, Bill Terry, Frank Frisch, Rogers Hornsby, Mel Ott, Carl Hubbell and Waite Hoyt, played for McGraw and all get good treatment in what amounts to a history of baseball. After five straight years in the first division, the Giants began to slip in 1932 and McGraw's health slipped with them.

In June of that year he called into his office Bill Terry, the first baseman to whom he hadn't spoken in many months because Terry had held out during spring training.

" 'Sit with your back to the door,' Terry recalls as McGraw's first words. "How would you like to manage the Giants?' I'm quitting. Think it over for a few days.' "

Less than two years later McGraw died at New Rochelle, N.Y., at age 60. He had won 10 pennants and three World Series with the Giants and was called baseball's greatest figure. In 1937 a special committee nominated him for the game's Hall of Fame and he was chosen along with Tris Speaker, Cy Young and Nap Lajoie.

Karl Michael has coached Dartmouth swimming since 1939.

Indians And Twins Make Trades

MINNEAPOLIS - ST. PAUL (AP) — Centerfielder Ted Uhlaender, who was traded to Cleveland by the Minnesota Twins Thursday, said the Indians got the best of the six-player trade.

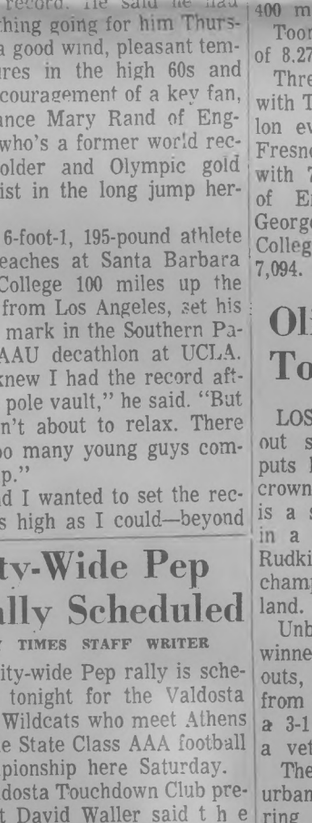
Minnesota gave up Uhlaender, pitcher Dean Chance, infielder-outfielder Graig Nettles and a player yet to be named for Cleveland pitchers Luis Tiant and Stan Williams.

"We got the best of that trade," Uhlaender said. "Tiant lost the zip off his fast ball last year and wasn't anywhere near the pitcher he was in 1968."

Uhlaender, who was involved in a contract dispute with Twins owner Calvin Griffith at the start of last season, said he had expected to be traded.

"I loved the players and the fans in Minnesota," he said, "but the front office did every thing to destroy me."

Chance, however, said he had met with Griffith two weeks ago and was surprised that he had been traded.



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Pistol Pete Now Top Attraction

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He's just a gunner, some say, but there's no denying that Pistol Pete Maravich of Louisiana State has replaced Lew Alcindor as the outstanding attraction in college basketball these days.

The senior 6-foot-5 All-American, who creates excitement whenever he steps onto the court, threw in 61 points to lead LSU over Vanderbilt Thursday night 109-86.

This is a record for the Southeastern Conference, but short of Pistol Pete's personal high of 66 which he tallied last season against Tulane.

Pete sank 26 of his 54 field goal tries and converted nine of 10 free throws. In addition to his shooting, dribbling and zip-like passes Pistol Pete demonstrated he is more than just a gunner with 10 rebounds and five assists.

The No. 1 collegiate high scorer now has scored 147 points in three games for the unbeaten Bayou Tigers and has a career total of 2.433 as he closes in on Oscar Robertson's all-time collegiate record of 2,973.

Maravich's heroics against Vanderbilt overshadowed the narrow escape from defeat of nationally third-ranked New Mexico State against Brigham Young.

The Aggies won 80-78 in overtime on two free throws by Chito Reyes with 21 seconds left. A 25-foot jumper by BYU's Steve Kelly with seven seconds on the clock had tied the regulation game at 7-7.

Duquesne, No. 7 in the Associated Press poll, wasn't so fortunate. The Dukes lost their second straight on the road as the Iowa Hawkeyes pulled away in the closing minutes for a 98-87 victory. A three-point play by John Johnson gave Iowa the lead for good 58-57 midway of the second half.

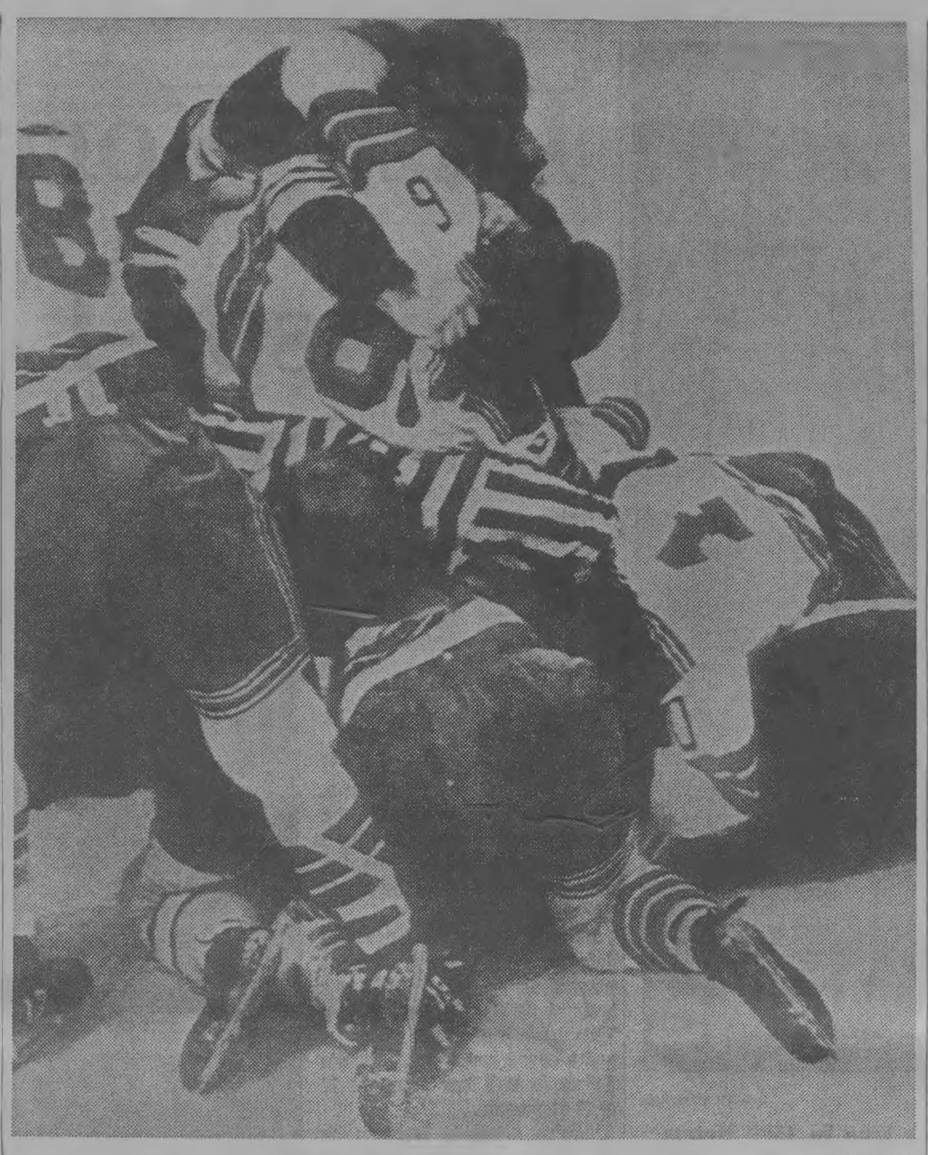
Purdue, No. 14, rolled over Idaho State 116-95 even though All-American Rick Mount sat out the game because of a bruised knee.

Colorado, No. 17 and the only other team in the AP Top Twenty to see action, downed Texas Tech 75-56.

Tulsa won the Liberty Bowl Classic tournament by beating points by soph Dana Lewis.

Jim McMillian keyed a 17-6 spurt for Columbia in the second half to lead the Lions over Holy Cross 92-68 in New York's Madison Square Garden after Jim Signorile's layup with 21 seconds to go gave NYU a 64-62 triumph over Temple.

In other games, Harvard downed Boston U. 95-71, Rhode Island routed St. Peters 122-94, Creighton beat Fullerton State 83-78, Santa Barbara tripped Texas 100-85, Marquette edged Drake 72-70, Utah State humbled West Texas 112-87 and Southern Colorado surprised Weber State 73-70.



—AP Wirephoto

Official Pile-Up

Lineman Pat Shotler was attempting to break up this fight between Boston Bruins' Bobby Orr and New York Rangers' Allen Hamilton at a National Hockey League game at Boston Gardens Thursday when he ended up on the bottom of the pile. Orr and Hamilton are shown still at it on top of the pile while other players join in.

VSC Goes Against Columbus Tonight

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Valdosta State College's basketball Rebels and another set of Rebs, these from Columbus College, are slated to meet here tonight in a return match.

The contest between coach Jim Melvin's VSC Rebels and coach Sonny Clements' CC Rebels is set for 8:15 p.m. at the Valdosta State gym.

The game was originally scheduled for Saturday night, but was moved up a day to avoid a conflict with the Valdosta-Athens state championship football game which is to be played here tomorrow night.

In an earlier meeting at Columbus, VSC posted a 98-91 win.

Valdosta State has a 2-4 record and is hoping to get back into the victory column after losses in its last two starts.

VSC will probably go with a starting lineup of 6-9 Carlos McSwain, 6-4 Marty Lehmann, 6-2 Willie Oxford, 6-1 John Trimnell and 6-1 Paul O'Brien. Likely to be called on for duty are 6-2 Roger Fleetwood, 6-2 Ashley DeLoach and 5-10 Steve Doughty.

Five in this group are averaging in double figures on offense. They are Oxford, 20.8; Lehman 18.1; Trimnell, 14.8; McSwain, 12.6 and O'Brien, 12.5.

Columbus' probable starters are 6-6 Franklin Everett, 6-4 Jimmy Wright, 6-1 Wally Walker, 6-5 Butch Tillman and 6-5 Hoke Brantley. In that first meeting with VSC, Tilliman hit for 31 points and picked off 10 rebounds.

"We certainly had our hands full the first time we played Columbus and you can be sure we're expecting another tough game tonight," Melvin said. "They're tall and they're big, and they're good.'

After tonight's game the VSC Rebs will meet Oglethorpe in Atlanta next Wednesday and then break for the Christmas Holidays.

VJHS Teams Win Over Echols Co.

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Vadosta Junior Highs Tomcats and Kittens took both ends of a basketball doubleheader with Echols County Junior High, here Thursday afternoon.

The Tomcats of coach Bobby Jones rolled to a 70-30 victory while Lindy Evans's Kittens trounced the visitors 50-25.

Stafford Rome and Robin Creasman totaled 18 and 11 points to lead the Cats to their fourth win in five starts while Patricia Hanes totaled 20 to lead the Kittens to their third win in four starts.

PGA Officials Are Re-Elected

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Incumbent officials of the Professional Golfers Association were re-elected Thursday at the PGA's annual meeting being held here.

Re-elected were Leo Frasier, Northfield, N.J., President; Warren Orlick, Orchard Lake, Mich., secretary; and R. William Clarke, Phoenix, Md., treasurer.

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McCovey Captures Slugging Honors

CINCINNATI (AP) — Willie McCovey of the San Francisco Giants and the Cincinnati Reds took slugging honors in the National League during the 1969 season.

Officials "miscellaneous records" released today showed McCovey, the league's most Valuable Player, won the individual title for the second straight year. His hits accounted for 322 total bases in 491 times at bat for a slugging average of .656. That was well ahead of Atlanta's Hank Aaron who had a .607 average on 332 total bases in 547 times at bat.

The Reds took the team slugging title with 2,379 total bases in 5,634 times at bat for a .422 average. The Pittsburgh Pirates, who nosed out the Reds for the team batting championship, were second in slugging with 2,238 total bases in 5,526 times at bat for a .398 average.

The Reds had four players among the top 15 individual sluggers and the Pirates had two.

Lee May of Cincinnati was sixth with .529; Tony Perez finished in a tie with Rusty Staub of Montreal for seventh with .526; Pete Rose was ninth with .512 and Johnny Bench was 12th with .487.

The Pirates grabbed off the fourth and fifth positions with Willie Stargell at .556 and Roberto Clemente at .544.

McCovey also entered his name into the major league record books by receiving 45 intentional walks.

Aaron's 33 total bases led the league and it was the eighth time he has done that——a major league record.

Bobby Bonds of San Francisco set a major league record of striking out 187 times.

Another player who led the league in a category which he would just as soon forget was Ron Santo of the Chicago Cubs. He grounded into 21 double plays. Lou Brock of the St. Louis Cardinals was the top man among regulars in avoiding hitting into double plays. He did it only twice.

Jim Wynn of Houston drew 148 walks and that tied a National League record set by Eddie Stanky of 1945 Brooklyn Dodgers.

Ron Hunt of San Francisco was the favorite hit-by-pitcher target. He was hit by pitches 25 times.

In all, the National League set 25 League records and 38 Major League marks. Some, of course, were merely extensions of records previously set by the same player or team.

Wayne Granger, Cincinnati relief pitcher, set one by appearing in 90 games.

The .242 batting average compiled by the New York Mets was a record low for a National League pennant winner.

Howard Honored

BOSTON (AP) — Slugging outfielder Frank Howard of the Washington Senators will be an honored guest at the Boston Baseball Writers' dinner Jan. 29. The 6-foot-7 "Gentle Giant" hit 48 home runs and drove in 111 runs last season.

Buffaloes, Tide To Match Attacks

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Colorado matches its awesome ground game, led by All-American tailback Bob Anderson, with Alabama's dangerous passing attack Saturday in the 11th annual Liberty Bowl football game.

The Buffaloes, 7-3, are one-point favorites to hand Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant his third consecutive bowl defeat. The kickoff is set of 1:20 p.m. EST before a sellout crowd of 51,00 and a nationwide television audience.

The Crimson Tide posted a 6-4 regular season record, finishing in the second division of the Southeastern Conference. It was the worst season for Alabama since 1958, Bryant's first as head coach at his alma mater.

Saturday's date marks the 23rd bowl appearance for Alabama, most of any team in the nation. The Tide has a 12-8-2 bowl record after losing 20-16 to Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl two years ago and 35-10 to Missouri in last year's Gator Bowl.

"We ordinarily think of a bowl game as a reward for a good job, but at Memphis there will be honor and pride at stake and we are going to try and do something about it," Bryant said. "These seniors are entitled to more than they got from me this year."

Anderson, a 208-pound senior, ran for 94 yards and scored 19 touchdowns for the Buffs, who handed Orange Bowl-bound Missouri its only defeat, 31-24. Colorado's losses came at the hands of Oklahoma, Nebraska and Penn State.

Alabama lost to Tennessee, Louisiana State, Auburn and Vanderbilt.

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—AP Wirephoto

Propose New Commission

Rep. Joe Battle, left, of Savannah, and Rep. Paul Nessmith of Statesboro, point to a map of coastal Georgia during a meeting in Atlanta Wednesday of the Georgia Coastal Islands Study Committee. They and Rep. Hines Brantley of Metter proposed the establishment of a new state commission to control development of the state's coastal islands and marshes.

Axing Of Uggams Show

Leslie, Others Ask 'Why?'

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — "Why me?" asked Leslie Uggams, whose variety show vanishes from CBS after next Sunday's show.

Others have asked the same question, including Whitney Young, executive director of the National Urban League, who expressed concern over "an unusually abrupt cancellation."

The axing of the Uggams show has also raised some questions in the TV trade, especially since it has been making a better showing in recent ratings.

"Why did they give us the chance and then pull the rug out from under us?" Miss Uggams remarked. 'We weren't even there long enough to prove that the show could work. After the second show, we started hearing that we might be going off the air. It began appearing in the columns and the trade papers; somebody must have been telling somebody that we were to be replaced.

"But nobody ever told me. The first thing I knew about it was when I visited my dentist's office one day. I picked up the trade papers and read 'The Leslie Uggams Show' and 'The Good Guys' had been dropped by CBS."

The trade knew that CBS was having trouble with Sunday night. A new series, "To Rome with Love," had failed to generate interest, Ed Sullivan was drawing his worst ratings in years, and "Mission: Impossible" was losing to the opposition after two successful years.

"How can they blame Ed Sullivan's trouble on our show? We follow him," argued Miss Uggams. "One week we had a higher rating than he did. And it isn't our fault that 'Mission: Impossible' isn't getting a rating; it's because Martin Landau and Barbara Bain dropped out of the series."

The singer admitted the hazard of the Sunday at 9 spot, into which she was thrust after CBS fired the Smothers Brothers.

"It's hard for a new show to catch on against shows that have become a habit," she observed. "We were fighting 'Bonanza,' which had been a fixture for years, and the ABC movies, which were blockbusters early in the season.

"It's also hard for a new show to develop its own style and format. We started late, and many of the guest stars we wanted were already signed by other variety shows. But I think we were growing, and the people who watched the show liked it.

"This was the first time that a Negro hostess had headed a variety show, and I think it was working. At least I read that there were fewer hate-letters for our show than for the others involving Negroes. We were proving that if the audience enjoyed a person, the color of the skin didn't matter."

CBS decided to cancel "The Leslie Uggams Show" after 10 shows, paying off the cast for the five others that had been contracted for. "The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour" is being moved to Sunday, and its place will be taken by "Hee Haw."

"Imagine being replaced by a hillbilly show!" Miss Uggams sighed. "That's the worst part of all."

Church Gets New Bishop

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Cuthbert Irvine Peacocke of Belfast has been elected to succeed Dr. J. Tyndall as Church of Ireland (Episcopalian) Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. The Dean, who is 66, is a son of the Rt. Rev. Joseph Peacocke, who was Bishop of Derry and Raphoe from 1916 to 1945. He is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and long served as clerical secretary of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

A Mississippi teen-ager coaxed 304 bushels of corn out of one acre of sandy loam—a world record. To get such an outstanding crop he spread 2 wagonloads of manure on his plot.

Secretary-Stenographer Issue

Census Upsets The Girls

By JOHN CUNIFF

NEW YORK (AP) — To slight a bright lady is to invite her scorn, and that is what the Census Bureau seemingly has done —not just to one but to 1.5 million of them. The girls are more than mildly upset about it.

Their disappointment is especially acute because the girls have been trying to call attention to their best qualities and felt they had been winning a long, uphill battle.

The issue revolves around this. There are secretaries and there are stenographers. The latter take dictation and type. Secretaries do all this and more; they are planners, decision makers, executive assistants.

The secretaries don't come right out and say so, but they feel they are superior to stenographers. Secretaries, they feel, are partners with the boss; stenographers are more workers who someday might aspire to be secretaries.

Miss Bertha Stronach, who is president of the National Secretaries Association, felt compelled to state her case. The significance and importance of secretaries is being recognized now more than ever before, she feels. Secretaries, she said, "have made more strides in recognition of their integral contributions as part of the management team in the 60s than in any comparable period in business history."

But the decade of the 1970s appears to be starting on the wrong foot. The 1970 Census, she states, is going to be "one of the obstacles to a full measurement of secretarial advancement."

Research by the NSA indicates, Miss Stronach states, that about 60 per cent of the 2.25 million secretaries and stenographers have advanced beyond shorthand and transcription duties to the "think" demands of secretarial work.

Why lump both together, she asks? "There is a vast difference in the responsibilities and remuneration of the two distinctly separate classifications. It is distortion to combine them in one category."

Miss Stronach, who is secretary and senior staff assistant to an executive of International Business Machines, says the Census Bureau grouping makes as much sense as combining engineers and draftsmen in one category.

"Draftsmen possess the basic technical skills of their trade," she said. "While engineers have these skills, too, they have also a higher degree of education, training and experience."

In support of her opinion, Miss Stronach refers to the definition adopted by the NSA.

It reads:

"A secretary shall be defined as an executive assistant who possesses a mastery of office skills, who demonstrates the ability to assume responsibility without direct supervision, who exercises initiative and judgment and who makes decisions within the scope of assigned authority."

If you believe Miss Stronach and the NSA, a secretary will become an even more highly professional performer in the years to come.

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—Times Staff Photo

At $40,000 Chicken Business Is No Place For Cowards. Bass Stands Beside Metal Nests

$40,000 Chicken Venture

Mammouth Henhouse Ready

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

MADISON, Fla. — Gordon Bass is building three hen houses with an investment of $40,000 in them. The chickens are to lay eggs which will eventually be hatched into biddies for broiler operations.

The hen operation is under a co-op to Gordon from Modern Foods of Madison. The company is presently building a hatching house for the eggs at Lee, Fla.

Bass said the company plans to build about 100 hen houses in the county. He said his hen houses are the first to be built. Eventually Modern Foods plans to have broiler, egg and starter houses.

Construction of the houses started about a month ago. Gordon was scheduled to have chickens in his houses this week.

Bass has been farming South of Madison most of his life. He farms 150 acres and does row crop farming. Bass said he hopes to have enough time to continue normal farming and still operate the hen business.

One of the three houses was to go in operation this week with the other two to be phased in during the next few weeks.

All the feed and water equipment is automatic. Because the hens are going to be full grown when Gordon gets them no heat is needed.

Bass said the hen operation is expected to have more labor involved because the eggs are to be hatched, and, have to be handled carefully.

"The eggs have to be gathered by hand four times a day," said Bass "They can't be rolled or handled rough. They have to be kept at 65 to 70 degrees."

The houses are to have a platform attached on a track down the center of the building. Gordon plans to place the eggs on the platform as he gathers them. The platform will move from one end of the house to the other.

Gordon said the company is to pick up the eggs every other day. The eggs are to be stored in a egg holding house which is to contain a freeezr unit.

The chickens will be sent to Bass when they are 20 weeks old. He will keep them 10 months. Bass said the company figures this is the prime laying age and that the hens will be layed - out after 10 months. He said they should be White Buff hens.

There are 800 metal nest in each of the three houses which are to house around 15,000 chickens each.

The houses measure 32x378 feet long and are completely lighted. Bass said the hens will lay during the day only. He said the lights will only burn 1½ hours in the early morning and late afternoon.

Bass is planning to close the nest at night, and the chickens are to stay on the ground. If the chickens were to lay eggs in the nest at night they would become hot on the bottom and cold on top and damage the eggs, he said.

He is expecting the chickens to lay about 10,000 eggs per day.

The houses are built from wood and have galvanized roofing. The houses are equipped with plastic shades on the sides for keeping the cold air from hitting the chickens.

Bass said he will probably make about 11 cents per dozen from the eggs. He said if a chicken lays more than 127 eggs he is to get another penny on the dozen.

Bass, who has been farming 20 years said his son is to be discharged from the service in January and is to be available to help him.

It will be about six weeks before Bass has his operation fully completed.

Bass hopes to earn about $20,000 annually from the laying operation. And that's a lot more money than he has made row cropping in the last years, he said.

The Valdosta Daily Times

Farm

JIMMY BROOKS, Staff Writer

Red Cedars Makes A 'Green' Christmas

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Growing Christmas trees commercially is in its infancy, but the newly discovered crop has a great potential for Georgia Farmers, according to J. E. Hambrick, a veteran grower here for 15 years.

"But one thing is for sure. You can't stick a tree out in the woods and then come back in a few years and expect to sell it," said Hambrick. "It takes a lot of hard work from the time it is planted."

Hambrick said the upkeep of the Christmas trees goes on year-round. The trees have to be kept weeded, sprayed and pruned. A close watch for blight and other diseases has to be kept.

He grows the Eastern Red Cedar primarily. Some other varieties grown are Arizona Cypress and he has experimented with a Virginia Pine.

Some of his trees have grown to 40 feet tall. These were some of the first he planted and are only sold for courthouse decorations, he said.

Hambrick said he favors the cedar trees because they stand up under dry weather better and last longer after they're cut.

In the last 10 years the demand for the size of Christmas trees has changed. A three or four foot high tree was best for selling 10 years ago. Now the general public wants a seven to eight foot high tree, he said.

According to Hambrick, the equipment for keeping the trees in good shape is expensive. He uses a tractor mounted sprayer and rotary mower.

Some of the cedar trees turn red when cold weather hits. For this reason Hambrick uses a paint sprayer for painting some of the trees.

Some of the trees stay green throughout the winter. But those which turn red need to be sprayed. The paint preserves the tree and doesn't harm its growth.

Hambrick said he has had trouble filling orders for trees in the last few years because he didn't have enough trees available. This year he has about 20 acres of trees and has enough for everybody, he said.

His crop supplies several stores in Adel, Valdosta and Lakeland. And some people just like to come pick the tree and cut it while it is in the field, he said.

Hambrick has an electric generator mounted on a cart which supplies current to electric clippers for trimming the trees. He said the trimming starts on a tree about two years before it is ready for selling.

It usually takes about six years to grow a crop of trees to the point they're ready for selling. But the most recent crop planted by Hambrick grew to size in only four years. Hambrick said the experience he has gained while growing trees over the years caused him to grow them faster.

He said the best spot on a farm to grow trees is on land which has grown corn the previous year. The residue of fertilizer from the corn will supply the trees, he said.

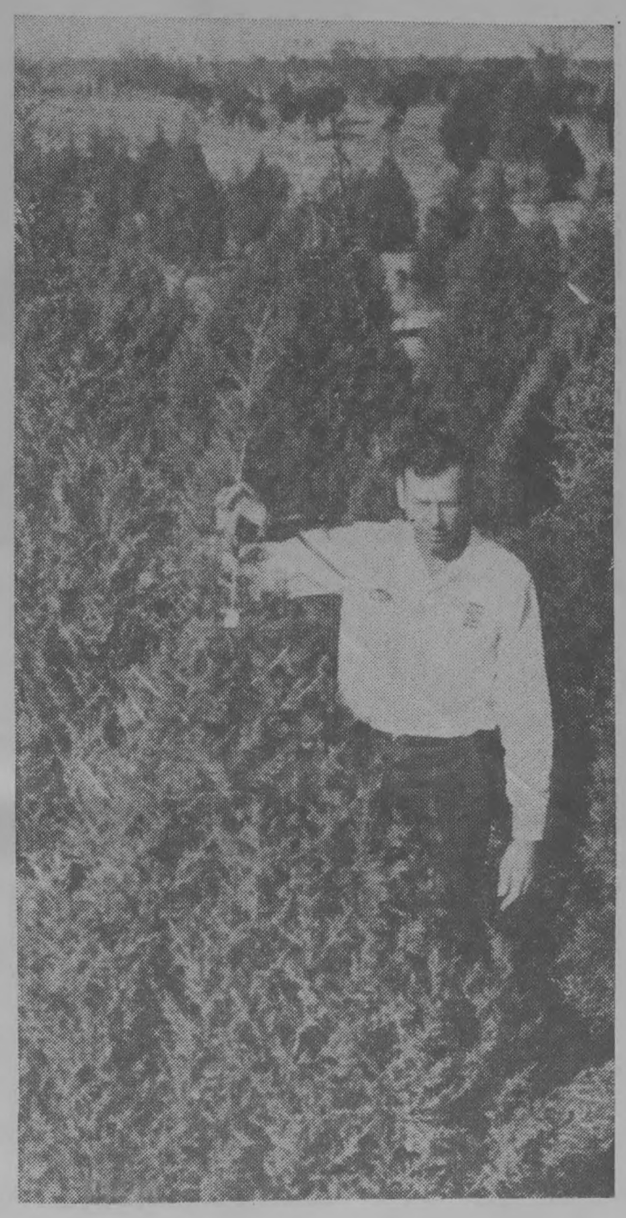
In recent years the experiment stations have done much research on growing Christmas trees.

Hambrick is on the board of directors and was at one time president of the Georgia Christmas Tree Growers Association. The members exchange views and promote the industry. The club has less than 100 members in Georgia.

Georgia only produces about 10 to 12 per cent of about a million Christmas trees which are used in the state each year.

Hambrick has Christmas trees growing on each side and in front of hos house seven miles North of Bemiss just off the Cat Creek Road.

If a person hasn't gotten the Christmas spirit yet, they can certainly get it by seeing all those Christmas trees on Hambrick's farm.



—Times Staff Photo

Christmas Crop: Hambrick and Cedars

Extension Service Eyes Higher Yield

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

More land is devoted to growing corn than any other row crop in Georgia. About one and a half million acres are grown annually in the state.

Many farmers this year are displeased with their yields and certainly they're displeased with the price.

The Cooperative Extension Service plans to help the farmer improve his yield and take the guesswork out of growing corn. They probably won't be able to do much about the price.

The highest average yield ever achieved in the state is 58 bushels per acre, in 1967. The experiment stations wants this figure to be doubled during the 70's.



By JIMMY BROOKS

They are launching a program which is to help farmers become more aware of the role each fertilizer element plays in growth of corn and also how the farmer should most efficiently apply water to his crop.

Ever wonder why irrigation manufacturers always use aluminum pipes for distribution of water, rather than a rubber or similar flexible pipe?

Actually one might believe that they use metal because of the great water pressure. That might have been true up to now.

The Godyear Tire and Rubber Co. has built a 660 foot four - inch diameter flexible hose for irrigation purposes.

The company claims the hose is still flexible under extreme water pressure.

The pipe was built to be used with a new irrigation system which is advertised as. "automated rain."

Water is sprayed from a rotating nozzle with enough force to distribute water about 350 feet in all directions. It is claimed that it can water 10 acres in 24 hours without any assistance.

The nozzle is mounted on a rubber tired cart which is pulled along an irrigation lane by the water pressure.

The system is manufactured by the Rainbow Manufacturing Co. of Fitzgerald. It is advertised as being able to irrigate a farmer's field as easily as a homeowner waters his lawn.

If they could only advertise this system to be cheaper than conventional ones, they would really have a hit. The increased cost of irrigation equipment keeps the smaller farmer out of the business.

The peanut industry got a big boost recently from the women who plan the National School Lunch Program.

The menu was chosen after children selected their favorite foods given them over a certain period.

Peanut cookies as dessert was listed as tops as chosen by the school children.

It is estimated that it will take 315,000 [illegible] butter in 1970 to fill the order for 30 million children.

Grass Grower Longs For Good Old Graze

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

STATENVILLE — This is the worst season for growing temporary pasture that Ben Daniels has seen in his life-long farming career. He had to replant 20 of the 40 acres he planted this year.

He planted 20 acres near Statenville and the rest near Howell, northwest of here. The plot at Statenville did fair, but the field at Howell had to be replanted because of dry weather and wild grass.

Daniels planted the pasture September 20 and hoped to have his 100 head of cattle grazing on it by Dec. 15.

After the pasture was about a month old he knew it wasn't going to survive.

"I didn't know exactly what to do," said Daniels. "A lot of people told me to plow it up and start over."

Daniels said he decided against plowing the field because he didn't think it was necessary. He merely fertilized and reseeded the field about Nov. 20.

The wild grass was killed by the frost and soon after replanting the crop got a small rain. The second planting looks good but the grazing time is going to be reduced.

Also the replanted pasture has cost Daniels double the the normal expense because of the extra work needed.

Daniels planted rye for the temporary pasture. The wild grass which took away the rye's moisture was described as a variety of wild clover by Daniels.

He said the Statenville crop survived better because it got a little more rain than the other one did. The first planting got less than a quarter inch of rain, he said.

"You can't even call a quarter inch of rain enough to help," said Daniels. "As soon as the wind blows the water is gone."

According to Daniels, most of the farmers he has talked with this winter have complained of dry weather hurting their pasture. He said a drought has hit the Meigs area in the last several weeks

He said irrigation of the pasture would be out of the question for him because of the expense. If a farmer had the equipment and labor available it would probably be worthwhile, Daniels said.

Daniels said if the second planting of the pasture is a failure also, he will have to feed his cattle hay.

"I always put up enough hay for the cattle," said Daniels. "And plant enough temporary pasture also. I sell the hay if the pasture does well."

Daniels has sold his hay every year. He hopes the second planting grows well and has enough rain to make a good crop. If the second planting fails he will have to rely on the hay.

The second planting looks good and Daniels is [illegible] easier. He said this is the first year he has ever had trouble growing a temporary pasture. And the first time he has ever had to replant.



—Times Staff Photo

A "Rye" Smile From Daniels

Production Up

Georgia farms are producing eight million pounds more milk than they did at this time a year ago. In November milk production totaled 95 million pounds, or an average production per cow in herd of 675 pounds.

Urban Gardeners Booklet Now Out

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ATHENS, Ga. — The first in a series of publications designed to aid the urban gardener has released last week, according to the University of Georgia Extension Service.

Entitled "Green Thumb Tips for the Urban Gardener — Muscadine Grapes," it is now available at the local county agent's office, the extension service said.

Included in the publication is information on what is needed to grow the grapes, terms a grower should know, step by step planting procedure and pruning directions.

Seven Are Elected Officers In Lowndes County 4-H Club

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Judy Hesters has been elected president of the Lowndes County 4-H Council. The council is made up of 4-H officers of all the schools in the county.

The county council makes decisions about 4-H sponsored events including banquets and club meetings.

Miss Hesters said the council members include the more outstanding 4-H'ers who participate in district achievements.

The council plans to get a Christmas tree and install it on the Lowndes County Courthouse law as its next project. The council decorates and puts lights on the tree.

Miss Hesters said the council had been providing a tree for the courthouse lawn a number of years.

Others elected were girls vice-president. Reada Moore; boys vice-president, Stan Hill; secretary - treasurer, Merita Zipperer; parlimentarian, Harvey Davis; reporter, Steven Zipperer; and recreation leader, Sandra Flint.



JUDY HESTERS
To Lead Lowndes 4-H'ers

Veteran Worker With Extension Service Retires

ATHENS, Ga. — Reese Dunson, a veteran of 25 years of work with the University of Georgia Extension Service has retired.

A native of Jackson County, Dunson attended Commerce High School and received a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia, the extension service said.

Dunson served as a 4-H leader his first 16 years with the extension service and was put in charge of extension service conservation work in 1960. He still found time to work with the 4-H Club while handling conservation chores, the extension service said.

According to the extension service, Duson also served as executive secretary of the State Soil and Water Conservation Committee.

He is married to the former Margaret Shankle of Commerce, the service said. A son, Dr. Linton R. Dunson Jr., is head of the department of government at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C.

Polled Hereford Show Coming Back To Georgia

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ATLANTA — After an absence of 25 years, the American Polled Hereford Association's national show and sale is coming back to Georgia.

The 47th annual event is to be held Dec. 11-13 at Southeastern fairgrounds here, and it is to be different from the one held on that same site in 1944.

Estimated attendance at the event next month is expected to be around 5,000. Only 400 persons attended in 1944.

There are to be more cattle on hand this year, too. In fact, 509 head are to be shown, making this the largest single-breed beef cattle show in the world. Ninety-six herds from 27 states and Canada are to be represented. They will be vying for $21,000 in premiums. Only 277 animals competed 25 years ago.

Dr. O'Dell G. Daniel, head of the animal science department, University of Georgia Extension Service, said 10 Georgia herds are to be represented. These include Colonial Hereford Farm of Augusta, Dondebomar Farms of Marietta, Green Acres Ranch of Atlanta, J. D. Hadden and Sons of Gibson, H. W. Herring Jr of Whigham, Holly Springs Farm of Covington, Crestview Herefords of Atlanta, Sam Sells and Sons of Moultrie, and Singletary Farms of Blakely.

Odell Calvin, manager of Gaechee Farms at Fairland, [illegible] Willis McKee, professor of animal science, [illegible] State University, are to judge this year's show.

Judging begins at 8 a.m. Dec. 11. with the steers and females competing first.