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Valdosta High School

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—Times Staff Photo

Beth Bartholomew : Bicentennial Look

Saturday June 7 1975

Marchin' Cats Add Fife, Drum

By Times Staff Writer

The 15-member unit comes marching across the green to the synchronized beat of three drums. The lilting melody of the fife hangs lightly in the air.

They are dressed in black knickerbockers, white kneesocks, fitted gold waistcoats, white ruffled-ascot shirts, gold-buckled shoes and a three cornered hats.

If you didn't know better, you'd think you were back in the colonies at the time of the American Revolution.

But it's really the newest offering from the Valdosta High School marching band.

The ancient fife and drum corps, which is to get its first real public exposure in the fall at football games is the first fife and drum group in the state, according to band director Frank Butenschon.

The unit was specially created for the Marchin' Cats as part of the school's bicentennial program.

The colonial flag, featuring the 13-star circle on blue, is to be flown by the unit. There are to be 12 fife players and three percussionists playing large colonial-style drums.

The fife and drum corps is to be incorporated into the halftime show, as well as march before the regular Marching band, Butenschon said.

Flute players and drummers are now being recruited for the unit from the Marchin' Cats he added.

June 18, 1975

Old VHS Tenants May Be Moving

By BECKY VAIL

The Valdosta Board of Education feels it has been holding long enough a hot potato dropped in its lap by the Lowndes County Commission.

As a result, tenants in old Valdosta High School will probably be asked to pack up and move out in coming weeks.

The board agreed over a year ago to continue paying insurance premiums on the condemned building for non-education use on the condition the commission would provide valuable in-kind services to the city school system.

But Supt. Foster Goolsby said so far the county has done nothing to fulfill its part of the agreement. The board just can't afford to pay a minimum of \$5,000 a year in

insurance on a building for which it has no use without the pledged county support, he said.

The main enterprise affected by the decision would be Arts, Inc. which occupies several rooms in the condemned school building.

Goolsby told the board Monday the city schools agreed to accept the commission offer because the county promised in-kind services such as drainage, grading, etc. at over two years worth of insurance premiums.

But the agreement as it stands now is far short of where it was supposed to be by this time, he said.

In 1973-74 the board agreed to let Arts, Inc. use the building under the conditions the corporation would pay the hefty insurance premiums on

the dilapidated structure.

Arts, Inc. was not able to meet the financial obligations. The board originally was inclined to ask them to move, said Goolsby.

But a representative of Arts, Inc. went to the commission chairman who then made the in-kind services offer to the city, he explained. "It was an offer too good to refuse," said Goolsby.

"But the commitment has not been met," he added and the board is now faced with the minimum of \$10,000 in two year's insurance premiums to pay.

Goolsby said the tenants will be allowed to continue to use old VHS until the board makes its decision on whether to vacate the premises, pay the premium or some other alternative is made available.

The insurance premium is due by July 1.

The board, in the meantime, is considering demolishing the building altogether, calling it is a financial liability. Most board members have expressed the viewpoint the structure could never be adequately renovated for school use again without an inordinate amount of expense.

July 3, 1975

Goals Surpassed

School System Attendance Is Up

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta school system is surpassing its own goals as far as school attendance is concerned.

And next year, it's going to be even better, according to Rosalind Folsom, a visiting teacher for the system.

The reason it's going to be better than ever is because, for the first time, the system will have buses to carry the children to school.

Mrs. Folsom said one of the biggest problems the system has had to contend with in the past has been transporting students to and from school.

But in spite of that difficulty, the school system

has been averaging remarkable growth in attendance, she said.

Last year, the system set a goal of 10 fewer dropouts from the high school than in the previous year. They actually had 34 fewer.

One the grade school level, over 96 per cent of the student body attended school daily, with two elementary schools—West Gordon and Southeast—having over 97 per cent of their students in daily attendance, she said.

The figures don't just happen over night with a wave of the hand. Mrs. Folsom said she's been working for the past two

years to provide the kinds of incentive to keep students in the classroom.

New programs have been devised for the student who is not motivated academically but has abilities in vocational fields.

"Students who are absent may be able to make up the work but they may not ever be able to make up the learning experience," Mrs. Folsom explained.

Students who are habitually absent are more likely to be dropouts and more likely to also be legal offenders, she said.

She said it is the responsibility of the school, the parents and the community to make sure students stay in school.

"Attendance is the responsibility of the entire community," she said.

"A positive attitude on the part of parents and the community toward the school can do more to promote good attendance than mere enforcement of the law," she added.

The schools have the right to take habitual truants to the court and force the student to remain in school until the child is of age to drop out. Last year, Mrs. Folsom said she took five students to court. The year before she took two.

But the best way to solve the problem is to strike at the root cause and find what is keeping the child away from school.

In many cases, Mrs. Folsom said family problems are usually the contributing factor to truancy—for example, too many younger brothers and sisters to be

babysat for, too many economic factors, transportation problems, money problems, etc.

She said the visiting teacher program has taken to the streets and approached the parents of those students who habitually choose not to attend school. They emphasize the importance of daily attendance for future education.

According to Mrs. Folsom, this approach, coupled with a program of reward rather than punishment begun in the elementary schools, has had remarkable results.

In grade one, students who have perfect attendance each month receive a certificate and a ribbon to show they have attended the full 20 school days that month.

Students in grades one through six receive annual certificates for perfect attendance.

Mrs. Folsom said this past year 19 per cent of the elementary school student body received these perfect attendance certificates.

The superintendent's office has just completed the annual attendance report to be submitted to the Department of Education. Figures for each school in the system are as follows:

Valdosta High School, 95 per cent; Valdosta Junior High School, 94 per cent; Lomax-Pinevale, 95 per cent; Leila Ellis, 96 per cent; S. L. Mason, 96 per cent; Sallas Mahone, 96 per cent; W. G. Nunn, 96 per cent; Southeast, 97 per cent; and West Gordon, 97 per cent.

July 20 1975

—Hyder

(Continued from Page 12A)

the same ones who are buying tickets and helping support the program. And every team needs support."

And support the team got and still does to some degree. But the Touchdown Club has been losing members in recent years, and home games no longer are played before the packed crowds of the past.

As the losses mounted last season, so did the number of empty seats. The thought of seeing their team lose was unbearable to many diehard supporters who as it turned out, must have been the fans though they were, if they couldn't back the Wildcats in good times as well as bad.

Although Hyder hopes to fill those seats again this year with a crew of seniors with some type of football experience in his ranks, he knows the full effect of his rebuilding plan won't be evident this season.

"Everybody in Valdosta needs to understand that when we set out to build a program, we had to start down

in the seventh grade," Hyder said. "We had only eight or nine seniors last year, and we should have 20-30 this year."

"But still, you don't fire a farmer when he can't produce a crop in six weeks. I know our calibre of talent remains to be seen, but this added experience can't hurt us."

Indeed it can't. Neither can the addition of veteran offensive coach Joe Wilson and defensive coach Jack Rudolph. Both were key men during Bazemore's reign, but neither was associated with the program at the high school level last season.

But even superior assistant coaches may not salvage a winning record if the talent isn't there. And without a respectable record, Hyder's job may be on the line. Nevertheless, he has no regrets about leaving a community where he coached in and enjoyed for 16 years.

"I've no second thoughts," Hyder said. "I'd come here again if it was offered to me."



—Special Photo—

Early 'Cat Pack: Rockwell, With Cap, Poses With 1914 VHS Football Team

Valdosta High Football; It All Started In 1913

By Times Staff Writer

A Valdosta High School football team with less than 11 players on the field?

It sounds ridiculous now, with all the fanfare the Wildcats have obtained on the gridiron, but there was a time when it wasn't so.

The year was 1913 and Turner Rockwell had just organized Valdosta High School's first football team. An old park on Magnolia Street was the scene of the home games, only 15 players composed the team, and the schedule consisted of any team the 'Cats could stir into a challenge.

"I really don't know how I

got involved," admitted the late Rockwell, who left the football coaching ranks to become editor of the Valdosta Daily Times. "They wanted somebody to do it and I took the job because I just loved football."

In the building materials business at the time, Rockwell spent his afternoons coaching the 'Cats without pay for three years before turning the task over to the professionals.

But by then winning had already become a tradition for the Wildcats, one they still haven't given up.

Rockwell was responding to an urgent plea by the school faculty when he accepted the job. An Emory University graduate, he had played enough intramural football on campus to learn a little of what the game was about.

As other schools were

That's when Valdosta's heated series with Moultrie began as the 'Cats tied the Packers from the nearby town 7-7 and then defeated them 20-14. Other games included a 6-6 tie and 7-0 win over Brunswick.

Team depth was a definite problem back then. With only 15 players on the team, the 'Cats were forced to practice by scrimmaging one side of the line against the other.

But scrimmagees were usually low key because of potential injuries. When four players went down, the 'Cats

soon found themselves playing against more men than they could field.

That first, first string line of 1913 was composed of ends Eric McIntyre, and Frank Roberts, tackles Albert Saunders and Tom Cranford, guards Harvey Griffin and Franke Rose and center Francis Childress.

Composing the backfield was quarterback John Stevens, halfbacks Louis Pindar and Wes Cranford, and fullback James Cranford. Also on the team were Will Collier, Osborne Holzendorff, Carl Blair and Jim Tom Blalock.

Have We Saved Old VHS? 11-1075

The Lowndes County Commission is putting up \$15,000 and more to save the old Valdosta High School building. It has agreed to lease the building from the Valdosta Board of Education in return for \$15,000 to go toward payment of a sewer treatment system at the vocational-technical school. The commission also agreed to make necessary repairs to save the structure from further deterioration. It is now up to the city board to accept the terms of the lease, and there's every indication it will.

What's happened is that old VHS has a three-year lease on life. It is up to the community to find a use for the building. The most-talked idea is to convert it into office space for government and private service agencies.

The troubling thing about all this is that so far no one entity has emerged as the sponsoring agent for this undertaking. In other words, it is a community project with no leader.

Back when the board of education was talking demolition, there emerged a groundswell of sentiment here to save the building. The talk in general went something like this: "It would be a shame to tear down a perfectly good building when it could be put to good use."

Fine! It was community sentiment and a

reading of the sentiment by the Lowndes commission that has thus far saved old VHS from the iron ball.

Mayor Gil Harbin and the Chamber of Commerce took a formal role in getting the board to reconsider its demolition decree and in getting the cooperation of the county commission. We think it is a credit to all parties, especially the county commission, that old VHS has this three-year lease on life.

Now it will be up to someone somewhere to use these three years to come up with a feasible plan for the building. That problem is that so far no one has emerged as that "someone."

What troubles us is that in three years we could once again hear the hue and cry to "save old Valdosta High." It worries us that these three years will go by with everybody waiting for somebody else to grab hold and take the lead. And that will happen unless there's a leadership grip now on the plan for use of old VHS.

Valdosta's Mayor-Council said the Lowndes County Commission should appoint a small committee, three people, to begin hammering out the details of efficient and economic use for the building. It will be too late three years from now to be thinking in these terms

Sunday July 27, 1975

26 Students Are Graduated

By DEBRA NORMAN

Students from four area high schools were graduated from their respective schools in a ceremony Wednesday night at Valdosta High School.

The 26 students included 22 from VHS, two from Lowndes High School and one each from Brooks and Lanier County high schools, according to Donald Allison, summer school principal at VHS.

He said the students attended VHS because that school had the only summer school program in the area.

The graduating seniors received diplomas from their respective schools and they wore their own schools' caps and gowns, Allison said.

The 7:30 p.m. exercises, held in the VHS Little Theatre, were attended by Richard Young, superintendent of schools in Lanier County; Randy

McLain, principal of Brooks County High School; Lloyd Mims, principal of Valdosta High School; and Allison.

Students participating in the program included Wilhelmina McHellen and Serena Porter who gave the invocation and benediction; soloist Denise Britt who sang the class song, "The Way We Were;" and pianist Vicki Ziegler, Allison said.

Of the 26 students, some were early graduates and some were making up hours they lacked, he added. One, Gina Ann Graham of 1635 E. Park Ave., was an honor graduate.

Other graduates include: Kim Delane Adams, Billie Jeanne Bird, Denise Ruth Britt, Vicki Lee Blunt, David Ray Christian Jr., David Elijah Coker, Cynthia Wancie Council, Mark Stephen Courson, Jerry L. Daniels and James Ed Dees Jr.

Samuel James Duncan, Wayne Gaskins, Ronnie Lamar Hancock, Wallace Samuel Houston, Wilhelmina Renee McHellen, David L. Parker, Serena Porter, Jodi Annette Stephenson, Carol Lynn Taylor, Michael Taylor and Robert Wayne Whitfield of Valdosta High School.

Graduates of Lowndes High were Wayne Adams and John Smith.

Barbara Jean Lester of Brooks County High School and John Studstill of Lanier County High School also were graduated.

Allison said two Brooks County girls Mary Giddens and Pauline Leverette received their diplomas earlier in the summer school session.

Vocational Education Program Is The Biggest Bargain Going

Sunday, July 27, 1975

Some students came because they needed credits for graduation. Some came because they thought it would be fun. Others came simply because they wanted knowledge.

Whatever the original reason, the 90-plus students who participated in summer school for vocational education at Valdosta High School came away with more than they originally intended.

And that is just how the faculty who presented the

five vocational courses hoped it would work out.

Jim Bridges, VHS vocational coordinator, said this year's five summer programs in drafting, graphic arts-printing, metals, cosmetology and electro-mechanics was more successful than in the past years.

Enrollment was up for the five-day-per week, six-hour-per-day courses which net students a year's credit in one of the basic vocational career

clusters offered at the school.

Many students who participated are those who simply could not fit a vocational course into their schedules during the regular year but felt the training experience would be important for their future work, Bridges said.

The vocational summer program ends Tuesday, he added.

The relaxed—but not lax—environment of summer school lends itself well to the

intensified instruction, he said.

A year's work in any of the five fields is consolidated in the four-week courses, 120 hours in length for one unit credit toward graduation.

Classes are operated similarly to the elementary school individually prescribed instruction program in that students proceed, step by step, at their own pace. The process allows each student to succeed and to experience accomplishment without competition.

An important part of the vocational program—summer and the regular school year—is the cluster approach, said Bridges.

Students start with a broad base, experiencing bits and pieces of a wide range of potential careers. As students develop specific interests, they narrow down their courses, he said.

After completion of a program, students have two options, said Bridges: further education in a vocational school or college; or entry into the job market with employer-attracting job-related skills.

Side effect of the cluster program is that students see first hand how many career fields are interrelated and the importance of wide experience in several areas.

According to the coordinator, it doesn't take long for a student in metals and the electro-mechanical field to know he'll need drafting if he's going to be able to read blueprints.

The cluster approach is designed to give the student "a real broad base and yet allow him to get some in depth training," said Bridges.

The summer goals for the vocational instruction are the same as regular fall-spring school, he added.

An attractive facet of the vocational program, is little classroom lecture and a minimum of homework. Classes feature a great deal of independent work and individualized instruction, with activity a key.

Electro-mechanical training introduces students to basic electronics, electric testing instruments, air-conditioning and refrigeration, house wiring, small appliance repair and

radio construction.

Machine shop — with lathes, milling machines, etc. — welding, and sheet metal layout and fabrication are included in the metals program.

Drafting provides students with the basics of mechanical drafting, use of instruments and basic three-view dimension. The basic training lets students gain entrance to several drafting fields, including machines, architectural illustrations or blue-print renderings, said Bridges.

The graphic arts-printing program introduces students to offset presses, layouts, type setting, darkroom techniques, stripping, making negatives and binding.

One of the most popular courses with both male and female students is the cosmetology course, said Bridges. Students learn hair cutting and shaping, shampooing, setting and coloring. Facials and manicuring are also taught and the course provides many students with background needed for the state examination for cosmetology, said Bridges.

Students who participated in the summer program were from Valdosta and Lowndes County, Brook, Cook, Lanier, Berrien and Echols counties, said Bridges. All courses were taught in the vocational section of the high school.

A Familiar Face Leads VHS Band

By BECKY VAIL

It's a very familiar face Valdostans will be seeing this fall leading the Marchin' Cats band down the football field.

With two years experience behind her leading the award-winning band, Elizabeth Cottle could be approaching her final year at the helm of the Marchin' Cats with nonchalance.

Instead, she's looking for new ways to channel her seemingly endless enthusiasm for the thrice-won job.

After teaching at band camps around the South the final six weeks of the summer, she's figuring on coming home with lots of new ideas and plans for the Valdosta High School marching band.

The 17-year-old Miss Cottle won the field commander's position for the third time in

as many tries at the end of an academic year, likely the longest time one person held the band's leader position.

Competition for field commander was judged out-of-town band experience. Auditions included a test of the horn, ability to train fellow people who have never marched before, basic drill fundamentals, ability to create a marching routine, solo performance on a musical instrument, personal interviews and the ability to relate to other people.

Working with people is the reason she decided to try out for field commander in the first place. Although she was in the flag corps in the ninth grade, Miss Cottle said she didn't get to meet enough people in the single unit.

"I love to meet lots of different kinds of people," the attractive brunette said. "One thing I've learned is that everybody isn't alike. We all learn at different speeds."

Miss Cottle plans to go into the pre-medicine program at the University of Georgia after her graduation from VHS in June with hopes of becoming a dentist.

President of the Interclub Council, vice president of the Student Council, president of the Food Nutrition Council and treasurer of the Beat Club, she carries her flare for leadership into areas other than band.

She is a member of the Diversified Cooperative Training program at VHS, which her mother, June Cottle coordinates. She also enjoys swimming and tennis in her hard-to-find leisure time.

A member of St. John Catholic Church, she is a

VHS Schedules Rally To Kick Off Season

SEP-10, 1975
By Times Staff Writer

A city wide pep rally featuring head football coach Nick Hyder and the Valdosta High School band has been scheduled here Thursday night in preparation for the Valdosta Wildcats' 1975 high school football season opener.

The 'Cats are scheduled to travel to Cordele Friday to meet the Crisp County Cougars in a Region 1-AAA showdown.

Valdosta Touchdown Club President Archie Griffin said the pep rally is to be held at 7:30 p.m. at Cleveland Field.

July 20 - 1975

Hyder's Second Year

Real Pressure On VHS Coach Comes Not From Fans But From Within

By MIKE CHASON

Nick Hyder begins his second year of rebuilding what was once one of the most prominent high school football programs in the United States in a couple of weeks when he steps onto the practice field as head coach of the Valdosta High Wildcats. It might be the longest year of his life.

After taking over the VHS football program one spring ago in the annual jamboree, the extremely likable God-fearing young man impressed even the most ardent Wright Bazemore supporters with his willingness to work and his unrelenting zeal for life.

Bazemore, the legendary super coach of the Wildcats for so many years, looked on approvingly from his athletic director's post as Hyder set about upgrading the VHS system from the seventh grade right on up. He stood ready to help when Hyder asked for his aid in last season's summer camp at Twin Lakes.

And he never said a word although it had to scorch his insides when he saw his once prestigious program reduced almost to shambles with a miserable 3-7 season. But he didn't give up on the



Nick Hyder: Pressure's On

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

The Valdosta Daily Times, Sun., July 20, 1975 - 12-A

former West Rome coach who had built up quite a reputation of his own in north Georgia.

But neither did Valdostans. Even the school board who, whether they intended to or not, put some pressure on Bazemore's successor Charlie Greene, to resign after two winning seasons, backed Hyder completely.

It seems people went out of their way to express their confidence in a man they had known only a year. They realized the problem with the youth dominated team of 1974. It turns out they weren't entirely heartless although Greene, who piled up 17 wins

against three losses in two years, might disagree.

But Hyder's first year is past. Year Two gets underway with the opening of summer camp on Aug. 18 and the season opener in Crisp County (Cordale) on Sept. 12. This season has already been billed as the year of the comeback. That is, the time when Valdosta repays all those teams in Region 1-AAA who achieved glorious satisfaction from finally whipping the mighty Cats on the football field in 1974.

A winning season is what Valdostans are looking for. Last year was tough to

accept, but with a new coach and a young team, it was not unexpected by the fans really close to the team.

But 1975 has to be different. Hyder knows it better than anyone.

"I know this is a critical year for me and for the football program here," Hyder said. "I know we've got a lot of fine young men to work with, and I just hope we're ready to play every Friday night."

"I'm aware that I still have to prove myself to Valdostans. I'm also aware I'm going to be compared with the greatest coach in the history of the game (Bazemore), but I expected that when I came here."

Hyder's right. He has already been compared with Bazemore and in terms of wins and losses, came out dead last in a two man race. In fact 10 wins this year couldn't even put him past Greene's winning percentage. But it would save his job.

"I have thought about the fact this could be my last year here," Hyder said. "But this could be true for any coach in any community. This is just the nature of coaching. A coach can't just think negative. I

was in the same situation at West Rome. Had we not had success there, there would have been changes. My failure or my success falls back on my ability."

And to the people of West Rome who watched their team advance all the way to the state class AA finals last year only to fall to Americas 6-3, Hyder's talent has been proven. He built that team, but as strong as his ties were, left it to come to Valdosta where people still aren't convinced he's a great coach or even a good one after a year no one would be proud of.

That feeling has to bring on pressure, something Hyder has faced before, but in a different sort of way. He's the type individual such that no one can put any more pressure on him than he places on himself.

"Yes, I feel some pressure to win," Hyder admitted. "But no one can push me any harder than me. If I let outside pressure bother me, I couldn't perform. Everybody wants a good football team, but the same people who are putting on the pressure to have one are

(See Hyder Page 13A)

August 2, 1975

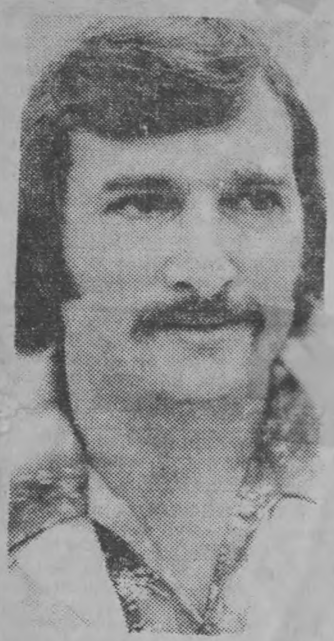
VHS Teacher Sapp Cited

By Times Staff Writer
A Valdosta High School teacher has been selected one of five finalists statewide in the Outstanding Trade and Industrial Education Teacher of the Year contest.

Wayne Sapp, VHS metals instructor is to be interviewed in Atlanta for the top award Aug. 6 during the Georgia Vocational Association conference. The award is presented to one outstanding diversified cooperative training coordinator or trade and industrial educator in Georgia.

Sapp, 28, was selected by instructors at VHS to represent the school in the competition. He currently lives in Pinetta, Fla.,

A graduate of Madison, Fla., High School, he was tool and dye foreman with Thompson Industries, Inc.



WAYNE SAPP

Offer Building

Puck

These young Valdosta Hockey League athletes apparently are having a hard time keeping their eyes



Another Stay ^{August 12, 1975}

For Old VHS

By BECKY VAIL
Old Valdosta High School has been given another stay of execution.

This time a full pardon for the previously condemned structure is a more distinct possibility than at any time in the past two months.

The Valdosta Board of Education voted 7-1 Monday night to wait an additional 30 days before effecting the demolition contract on the 53-year-old building vacated by the school board two years ago.

The vote came after assurances by County Manager Buford McRae, Mayor Gil Harbin and Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President John B. Lastering a concrete decision on leasing the building would be forthcoming from the

Lowndes County Commission.

The board has delayed implementing a demolition contract on the building twice before in hopes the city, county or a private group would come up with an eleventh hour proposal for the building.

Newest proposal is for the county to lease the building from the board, contracting to make structural improvements to bring the structure up to code standards in one year.

Planned is remodeling of the building's interior, converting classrooms into office space for government and non-profit enterprise organization.

Total project cost for the long-term improvements is expected to go over \$250,000.

Sole dissenting vote of the third delay was Board member William Eanes, who made it clear he wants more than talk up front.

"We have had commitment after commitment after commitment. If all we get is talk, we're no further ahead than we were two years ago," he said.

"You can rest assured you're not going to just get lip service from us," said Lastering.

McRae told the board he feels the county commission would have a decision on the proposal within the 30-day period.

Lastering said County Commission Chairman W. P. "Billy" Langdale Sr. and Commissioner Julian Lawson walked through the building last week and agreed the structure shouldn't come down.

According to McRae, the (See Another, page 2)

VHS Pep Rally

The City Wide pep rally for Valdosta's Wildcats is scheduled to be held tonight at 8 p.m. according to Valdosta Touchdown Club President Archie Griffin.

The rally, at Valdosta's Cleveland Field was previously reported to be scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Valdosta High: Better in '75?

September 9, 1975.

BY STAN FRANKLIN
Times-Union Sports Writer

There weren't too many good things about Valdosta High's football team last year, but the 3-7 campaign was the training ground for a few players who coaches believe can be standouts this year.

Linebacker Harold Renninger is a college prospect and sophomore quarterback Buck Belue emerged as a top performer. So did another member of Coach Nick Hyder's team — running back Alton Battles.

"ALTON is probably as good a back as I've ever coached," said Hyder. "He hasn't got great speed, but

he's quick. He runs a 4.8 40 consistently."

Battles led the Wildcats in rushing last season and last week the senior tailback was voted team captain by the players. He feels some added responsibility.

"I've got to be the one to play without making a lot of mistakes," Battle said. "I have to be a leader."

"My offensive coach is Joe Wilson," added Hyder. "He was a coach here during the Bazemore time. He says Alton could have played on any Valdosta team in the past 15 years."

"Alton is about 5-foot-9 and 185 pounds — the same as Archie Griffin. Really, we don't have anybody that can tackle him."

Wildcats, Vikings

Picked For Wins

The form chart took its victims by the scores in Georgia High School football with few upsets indeed in the outcome of the first full weekend of gridiron action.



MILLER

Wildcat win.

This week, however, Crisp is the huge underdog regardless of the warnings being issued by Valdosta's Nick Hyder. Don't count Crisp, playing with only 28 players too short...however...

Valdosta should start the season off right with a 27-6 victory in Cordele.

That wasn't the case in this column, however, where sentimental feelings replaced better judgment and yielded a few misses that could certainly have been avoided.

Last week's predictions yielded 22 right and eight wrong. Not a bad average, but one that could have been better.

Sentimentality ended last week. Now's the time to get down to brass tacks.

VALDOSTA at CRISP

A touchdown separated the winners from the losers in this game last season, and had it not been for the tradition of Valdosta, it might have gone differently than the 3-0

City School Bus Woes Easing Up

9-10-75 VDT By BECKY VAIL

Transportation snags for city school buses were fewer this morning than any day since the start of school and the start of the busing system last week.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said only two buses were late to Valdosta Junior High School Monday morning — out of 36 routes, the "best we've had so far."

It appears the remaining scheduling problems — particularly for the Wood Valley subdivision route — are not going to be solved for a few more days at least, said the superintendent.

School and transportation officials met this weekend to iron out the problems bus drivers contended with since the start of school.

Several changes were made to solve the bulk of the problems, but the Wood Valley route, especially long, still plagues officials.

"We do not see a solution to it now," said Goolsby. "But if there is a solution, that is to find a route that is the shortest and could swing over in that vicinity (Wood Valley) and relieve the other bus."

Goolsby said another problem is ineligible elementary school students riding the buses to Leila Ellis, West Gordon and S. L. Mason elementary schools.

Only children living one mile and a half or more from their neighborhood school are eligible to ride the state-supported transportation system.

However, some elementary school children have been riding the buses from bus stops which should only be picking up junior high students, said Goolsby.

"Today the principals of these three elementary schools are checking out the addresses to determine the students who are eligible to ride, said the superintendent said.

"Hopefully tomorrow this problem will be eliminated."

"We wish we were in a position to transport all the students who want to be transported," he added.

"But we are barely in a position to transport those students who are eligible."

"Today, I feel fairly comfortable that next Monday we'll be able," said Goolsby.

In spite of the problems that have beset school officials since the city system went into the bus business this year, the bulk of parents have been understanding and appreciative of the service, said the superintendent.

"The complaints have not been endless and overwhelming," he said.

"Far greater numbers of parents have been appreciative of the service that has been added."

However, a number of parents, have called the principals office complaining school buses receive priority treatment at Valdosta High school.

The third day of classes officials said no cars would leave the north parking lot until the buses were loaded and gone.

Parents were directed to pickup their children at the south campus parking lot, and enter Forrest Street, a main artery to the city, through a side street.

Traffic flow from that side street has been slow, at best complained parents.

Goolsby said school officials plan to work out a compromise solution for the high school students' parents this week said officials.

"We will find some way to make it better," said Goolsby.

For the first time bright yellow school buses traveled city streets this morning to transport Valdosta students to class.

Today marked the start of a new school year and the start of a much-needed transportation system for city students.

A few problems arose in getting the last two routes

completed on time, but school officials said the problems were not unexpected and would be corrected.

Asst. Supt. Ralph Brandon said he was pleased with the overall success of the first day of busing.

Some of the problems were attributed to general confusion of the first day of school and some to the newness of the busing

business for the city.

Smiling faces gathered at the many bus stops around the city glad to go back to classes.

Most students were enthusiastic about both the first day of classes and the opportunity to ride the brand-new buses.

About 850 students were transported to Valdosta High School, 700 to Valdosta Junior

High School and 125 to four elementary schools, said Brandon.

The biggest problem in planning was not being able to project traffic at the school opening hours, he said.

After the second run to the high school, about 7:45 a. m., the traffic really "jammed up," said the assistant superintendent.

"We were a little off in our

time schedule and also on not knowing how many students were going to ride," he added. "But overall, we were really pleased."

Four buses were five to 10 minutes late at the junior high school, said Brandon.

School staff and the bus drivers were meeting this morning to iron out scheduling changes to smooth the operation.

Staff projections for the number of students who would take advantage of the new state-supported bus transportation system was about right, he added.

"We had just about the number of students we

planned. Two or three runs were slack and a few were heavy, but it was overall, very, very good."

Students acclimated well to riding the bus and seemed to enjoy the new experience, he said.

"We haven't had adverse comments yet." The attitude was

(See School, Page 2)

School Buses Transport City Students To Classes

Tuesday Sept. 2 1975

Hyder Proud Of Progress

By Times Staff writer
Back in November, when a downhearted young coach named Nick Hyder announced he was introducing an off season conditioning program, virtually a year-round football program, for his football players, critics ran rampant around Valdosta High School.

Warnings that he would "burn out" his football players, over do it to such an extent that no one would want to play, etc., etc., etc. . . were as common place as a roach in a mountain cabin.

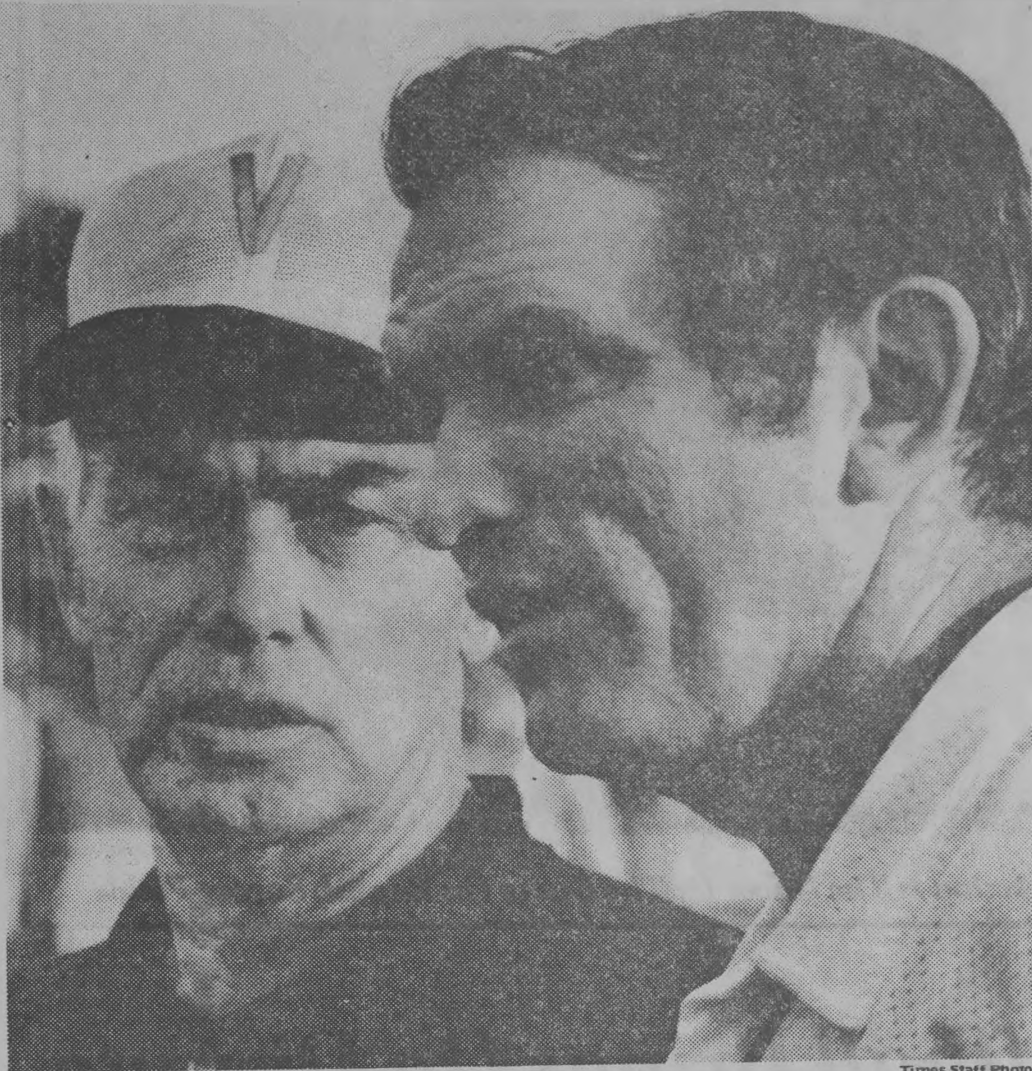
Now, nine months later, Hyder almost feels he has won a major victory. But he's not always all that happy about it.

Instead of running off football players, the off season program has almost doubled them. Instead of beating on doors asking students to play the sport to raise a team of 80 as he and his staff members had to do last season, Hyder had to whittle through 140 candidates to find the 100 he wanted to invite to the annual two-week football camp which begins Monday morning.

It's a minor victory for the Coach, who understandably felt like anything but a new-found hero after his Wildcats posted a 3-7 record last season. But he doesn't relish the idea of having to tell a boy he can't come to football camp.

"It hurts," admitted Hyder "it really hurts. It tears you up inside. It feels like a cat who's hair has been rubbed the wrong way. You really hate to do it."

"But I think most of the boys realize they didn't work as hard as some of the ones who were invited to camp and they know we just can't take everybody. We don't even have enough beds for more than 100 or so and that's about



A Word Of Advice: Wright Bazemore, Left, Confers With Hyder

as many as we can look at in two weeks."

Hyder, and his staff have been putting the 'Cats through a week of pre-camp practice every afternoon this week getting ready to don the pads Monday morning. The players he invited to camp are the ones "who showed me something," he explained.

"The rest will have to wait until they do show me something."

"No one has been cut from the football program! They are all still going to be in the program, more than likely on the B' Team. But they will be in the program. These are just the ones we want to look at closer in pads."

The hard-hitting aspect of football is the part Hyder believes in. By 9:30 a.m. Monday, the day the Georgia High School Association has ruled players may break out the pads and begin heavy scrimmaging, Hyder expects the Lowndes County 4-H Camp at Twin Lakes to be ringing with the sound of football players slamming into each other.

Hyder, at the reigns of the Wildcats for his second year, is as proud of his football staff as he is his team.

Joe Wilson, who was offensive backfield coach for the Wildcats for many years before devoting full time to just basketball in 1971, returns as offensive coordinator while Jack Rudolph, who left the coaching ranks after the 1972 season to enter private business after several years of successful defensive strategy, returns to coordinate the defense.

Butch Brooks is in charge of the offensive line while Charles Tarpley, who had worked with Hyder for 10 years, works with the ends and linebackers on defense.

Ed Jones, who was head coach at Pinevale High School before school consolidation, is in charge of the defensive interior line, while Freddie Waters takes over the B' Team with Danny Young, a newcomer, working with him.

Bill Aldridge, another veteran Valdosta coach, heads up the ninth grade team with Bob Bolton and Glen Phelps as his assistants.

Norman Sainz returns as Valdosta Junior High head coach while Mack Wilder returns as his assistant with two former VHS standouts.

Jerry Don Baker and Phillip Ashcomb working as student assistants in the program while they attend Valdosta State College.

The VHS roster, as Hyder expects it to look at football camp for the next two weeks follows:

- Ends — Stan Chapman (160, sr.), Brad Cohen (175, jr.), Curtis Williams (160, sr.), Alec Green (150, soph.), Doug Conway (170, jr.), Craig Adams (155, jr.), Jack Cain (155, jr.), Robert Baldwin (190, soph.), Rick Register (175, sr.), Shawn Steininger (150, jr.), Clark Stull (150, sr.), Bernard Robinson (165, sr.), Ken Hancock (165, sr.), Scott Griffin (185, fr.), Louis Frederico (154, jr.), Kenny Evans (159, fr.), Mike Thompson (145, soph.), Julius Wilson (160, jr.), Ron Euler (145, soph.) and Jamie Welsh (140, soph.).
- Tackles — Roy Mitchell (220, sr.), Greg West (185, sr.), Sean Harvey (185, sr.), Randy Horn (220, sr.), Dennis Harrington (190, jr.), Doug Arnold (230, soph.), Lee Harbin (190, sr.), Mike Weatherington (240, sr.), Eddie Denard (205, jr.), Gary Guthrie (220, soph.), Curtis Wright (165, soph.), Tim Roidl (185, jr.), O'Keefe Hunter (230, jr.), Greg Simmons (150, soph.), and Larry Johnson (175, soph.).
- Guards — David Catoe (190, sr.), David Sumner (190, sr.), David Cooper (190, jr.), Tom Coeland (175, jr.), Raymond Johnson (175, jr.), Bryan Johnson (170, jr.), Charlie Warren (150, jr.), Billy Dykeman (175, jr.), Randy Sharp (145, soph.), Ricky Warren (190, jr.), Bob Register (150, fr.), David Threlkeld (170, sr.), Billy Harvey (150, fr.), Donald Smith (140, soph.), Joseph Potter (150, soph.).
- Centers — Gary Mims (185, sr.), Ben Blanton (185, jr.), Cass Burch (170, fr.), Darrell Sirmans (145, soph.) and Jared Bailey (170, jr.).
- Quarterbacks — Buck Belue (175, soph.), Steve Jennings (175, jr.), Rod Gordon (155, fr.), John Lastinger (145, fr.), Steve Hall (145, soph.), and Jody Wilson (150, soph.).
- Halfbacks — Lawrence Lowe (195, jr.), Herbert Golden (160, sr.), Keith Middleton (200, jr.), Harold Renninger (220, sr.), Jerry Smith (150, sr.), Billy Berrian (175, jr.), James Bryant (145, jr.), Bobby Bryant (135, jr.), Joey Joiner (150, jr.), Doug Parker (160, sr.), Carl Demps (145, jr.), Jesse Loving (165, sr.), Ben Brinson (175, sr.), Anthony Lynch (160, sr.), Theodore Demps (150, sr.), Allen Worthy (160, soph.), James Hickey (180, soph.), Danny Rickman (145, soph.), Jimmy Hartman (155, soph.), Ray Lloyd (21, soph.), Frank Council (160, soph.), Lynn Roberts (150, fr.), Troy Thomas (160, fr.), Dan Jarmilo (120, soph.), Herbert Holmes (160, sr.), David Durham (145, soph.), William Gaskins (150, fr.), Calvin Floyd (160, jr.), Mike Cross (150, jr.), Rick Scott (160, jr.), Anthony Hart (150, jr.), Mike Skipper (155, jr.), and Wilbur Scott (155, jr.).
- Fullbacks — Alton Battles (185, sr.), Ricky Holcomb (160, soph.), Sam Bivins (160, jr.) and Mark Hodge (150, jr.).

Dress Code Still At VHS

By E. RANDALL FLOYD

Going to high school is kinda like life itself, said the man who should be an authority on the subject.

"There are rules — rules and regulations to follow at school just as there are in the rest of our society. We must obey them," said the principal of Valdosta High School, Lloyd Mims.

Mims was referring to the school's controversial dress code, viewed by some students as too establishment, and some parents and educators as too liberal.

The veteran educator said learning to live with school laws is one of the best forms of social training available to the estimated 2,200 students expected to begin classes here next week.

"People generally don't like to think about rules and regulations. But we all live around them . . . society is built around do's and don't's," he said.

Mims said some students don't like the current dress code because of certain restrictions they feel it puts on their ability to express themselves. They resent it because they mistakenly feel the code is an encroachment on their private liberties, he added.

"But we think it is fair and liberal," he countered in defense of the code. "We think the males' hair code is very liberal."

Male students in grades 9 through 12 are allowed to wear their hair in any style they choose as long as it does not exceed down the middle of a dress shirt collar.

August 31, 1975
"By some standards we consider that long hair," he said. "We think that is very liberal."

As far as females go, Mims said school policy is to "go along with all the latest styles" except low-cut blouses and mini-skirts. There are no rules regarding hair styles for girls.

Mims indicated the sooner students learn to adjust to the rules of school, the sooner they can adjust to rules imposed on them by the rest of society.

"Remember, society is built around rules and regulations," he reiterated.

Changes have been made in the school curriculum this year to allow students greater flexibility in courses, Mims pointed out. He said more emphasis is being placed on a return to the basics, however.

"We are trying to provide new courses, which are challenging to students, yet at the same time interesting and fun," he said.

"We've been working hard upgrading most things out here and getting ready for a good school year," he added.

"All indications point to a successful year."

Mims said he doesn't anticipate the subject of dress code to be a big issue with students this year. He said most of them are aware of certain rules designed for their own benefit and seldom complain.

Last year some students challenged the school's dress code on the grounds the school has no constitutional right to determine how they dress.

Some students compared VHS's dress code to Lowndes High, which currently has none.

Sept. 2 — School

excellent," he added. Brandon said that because of seniors driving to school and parents taking younger children, traffic jams were a problem.

This was particularly true on Forrest Street, which is a main artery to both the high school and the elementary schools, he said.

Students who live more than one and one-half miles from their neighborhood school are eligible for the state-supported city bus transportation.

The school board purchased nine new buses to handle the student transportation.

The buses are also to be used to transport students involved in extracurricular activities after the school day is complete.

Each morning each bus is to make two runs to the high school and two to the junior high, then repeat those routes in the afternoon.

VHS started at 8:10 a.m. and the junior high and elementary schools at 8:45 a.m. to accommodate the school bus schedules.

Some Vacation!

Hughes Real Man Behind VHS Grid Camp

By JULIAN MILLER
It's mid-August and Tommy Hughes is on vacation:

"Coach wants some ice for a hurt leg," a manager tells Hughes. As he walks off to get it a cook walks up and wants to know what to do with a new shipment coming in.

Such is the vacation of Tommy Hughes. It's not the most relaxing two weeks the Valdosta meat cutter will spend, but it will definitely be the most enjoyable.

"I love it," the rotund congenial Valdostan beams. "Take my two weeks vacation every year to be in football camp with the boys. Earned the name Chief Cook and Bottle Washer that way."

"Damn it, Tommy," Goodloe says. "I've been here a solid hour, and you ain't even offered me anything to eat."

"Well what do you want?" "Whatever you got, son. My mouth is just a waterin' for something."

Hughes arises and escorts the colorful gentleman into the camp kitchen where he begins digging through refrigerators until he finds them. A crate of grapes. Dynamic walks off happy.

Football part of the camp, but the camp itself belongs to Hughes.

"Every now and then I like to shock one of the TD Club presidents and make them think we won't get the food out on time," Hughes laughs.

"Last year Harvey's called David Waller and told him I hadn't picked up the hams at 4:30 for the supper we were supposed to have for the Touchdown Club at 7 p. m. that night. Thought David was going to go crazy."

But Hughes always manages to have the food on the table when the Wildcats get there, although school officials can't imagine how he does it, and tasty meals they are.

Baked ham, fried chicken, country fried steak, home made spaghetti or 96 pounds of roast beef. Hughes and his staff turn out menus fit for a king. Added to that are all the trimmings: Mashed potatoes, rice and gravy, cut green beans, cake, biscuits, milk and tea. This year the Touchdown Club will spend some \$7,000 for the food for the players alone.

"We never feed them sandwiches," Hughes said. "They're out here working their hearts out, and they deserve better. And, we've got them out here away from Mama, and you've got to take care of them."

A former Wildcat himself in the 1940's before a back injury ended his career early, Hughes got in with the Valdosta Touchdown Club in 1962 when Herbert "Noisy" Ross asked him to become a member of his board of directors.

"Since I'm a meat cutter, (he works for Colonial Stores here) I was asked to help with the food buying and I've been in it ever since."

In 1968, Hughes was elected president but until then and ever since he has preferred to stay in the background. When the Touchdown Club has a meal, Hughes is usually in the kitchen helping to dish out the food he has helped cook all day.

"Mind, no I don't mind. I love it. We like to put on these things and they're really nice now that we've got that new high school where we can use the kitchen and the eating areas."

Working with him are two cooks from Valdosta State College, Wallace Thompson and Frank Evans. They do the cooking, Hughes minds the store. He's the one who must keep up with finances and see each player gets enough without having leftovers.

"We do a pretty good job of that. We work it by number. Figure out how much each kid will probably eat and then make that much with just a little more. If they want more we see to it they get it."

When he's not watching the kitchen, he's watching the scrimmages or just sitting with the coaches eating a handful of grapes and talking about what else. It's obvious from the beginning to the end that he's all Wildcat at heart.

"I had a son out here four years as a manager," Hughes said, and I've got a five-year-old I hope will someday be a Wildcat. I'm like anyone else. I wish he could have played under Bazemore.

"But since he ain't, I'd be just as proud for him to play under Nick Hyder."

Bulloch said about 60 high schools throughout the state are offering outdoor education programs this year.



Others Max Laugh But Hughes, From, Takes Job Seriously — Times Staff Photo.

Georgia Notebook

Students Study Outdoor Basics

Valdosta Daily Times
Sat. Sept 27, 1975

By BECKY VAIL
Is game hunting moral? Should man, armed with weapons, pit himself against animals with only their natural defenses to protect them? Or is hunting a viable and kind animal-population management tool?

These are some of the questions asked in Valdosta High School's outdoor education course.

"The course is filled with popular issues," said instructor David Bulloch. "We talk about many controversial topics in conservation and ecology."

According to Bulloch, the course, one of the few offered throughout Georgia, is as popular with male as with female students.

VHS is in its second year offering the program to about 30 students per quarter.

It's not only wildlife management that students learn about, said Bulloch. "We study soil conservation, foresting, hunting safety as well as hunting itself, and outdoor living."

Calling the program "pretty unique," Bulloch said the outdoor education course is more a course on outdoor appreciation.

The pond in front of Valdosta High School is an important instructional tool, said Bulloch.

Students are involved in stocking the pond, maintaining fish population levels, and learning about what makes the best habitat for fish.

Bulloch said the pond provides a variety of lessons for students to learn first hand—determining size and sex of the fish, fertilization, predatory behavior, and environment modification.

The course, offered through the science department at VHS, coordinates with the State Department of Natural Resources. DNR instructs the high school outdoor education teachers, as well as provides teaching resources like films and wildlife and resource consultants, Bulloch added.

Another important segment of the course is hunting. Students become certified in hunter safety while they are enrolled in the class.

"A big part of wildlife management is hunting" said Bulloch. "Soon the state will require hunting safety certification before they will issue a hunting license."

"Our students will be that much further ahead."

Students go to the rifle range learning to fire a 22 caliber rifle and 20-gauge shotgun, plus the proper handling and care of firearms.

It's Late Start For Valdosta

By STAN FRANKLIN
Times-Union Sports Writer

Valdosta High's Wildcats will finally get a chance to play a game Friday night when they travel to Cordele to take on Crisp County High in a region I-AAA contest.

"We've been practicing for six weeks," said Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder. "We had two weeks of conditioning and we've been practicing in pads for four weeks. We need to play a game."

Crisp opened last week, losing to Albany Westover, but Hyder says he was impressed with their conditioning and the way they ran their offense.

"We're going to have to be extremely alert for this game," said the Valdosta coach. "They're a well-conditioned team and they're well-coached."

Valdosta has beaten Crisp Co. five straight times including a 3-0 victory last year.

Haraaaugh!

King Football Begins

Aug. 24 1975

Monday morning, Aug. 18, and the large patch of green grass that has gone untread upon all summer long was suddenly covered with football players.

Haraaaugh! The sound rattled off the fences as one and then another of the youngsters squared off against a teammate then plowed into him like a bull into the matador's red cape.

Once the dive was finished, the two players stood up, squared off and the collided with each other again.

To the unknowledgeable, it might look like a mass free-for-all, but to almost everyone in this area it was simply the formal announcement...football was officially underway.

Every year at mid-August, just three short weeks away from the opening night of the high school football season, the Georgia High School Association lifts its ban against high school football players donning pads and allows them to begin hitting in preparation for the upcoming season.

And area football coaches must take advantage of it. It's the official signal that football season is moving in on them. They'll only have a short time to prepare for that opening night.

If it were any other sport, all this might go unnoticed. But football is king in south Georgia. He who rules the gridiron seems to rule the world and it all begins with football camp.

Valdosta's Wildcats opened their camp Monday at the Twin Lakes 4-H Camp; a haven for football players to do what they hope to do best.

Lowndes, forced to begin their spring drills a week earlier by the opening of the school year Monday, spent a week in shorts at their camp at Habira Junior High School going through their paces before being able to don pads this past Monday to begin the hard hitting.

"This is where the boys get their taste of what Class AAA football is like," one area coach explained. "I've seen a lot of education out there. Some of them learn for the first time what it feels like to hit a freight

Story By

Julian Miller

Photos By

Ken Klanicki

It's not all rock'em, sock'em football, however. It is in football camp that other habits are learned, specifically, eating and sleeping.

"You wouldn't believe it but some of these boys didn't even know what breakfast was until we told them about it," explained Valdosta High School Coach Nick Hyder in a rare time off from putting 101 varsity candidates through their paces.

Sleeping habits for most were almost as bad as coaching staffs throughout the state tried to drum in the importance of doing both correctly to insure the best of conditioning.

It's a rugged time of the year when injuries are bound to happen but most are regarded with high esteem by the inflicted players who proudly show their bumps and bruises.

But it's just as rough on the coaches who spend the same six hours a day in the hot sun and the rest of the time stretched out on a bunk in some small cabin or dilapidated gym behind a huge fan trying to cool off. At least one didn't make it.

He was rushed by jother coaches from his field side position to a Valdosta doctor this week when the sunshine and heat mixed a little too strongly with his poor conditioning and medicine he had been taking. He returned later, a little embarrassed but otherwise unharmed.

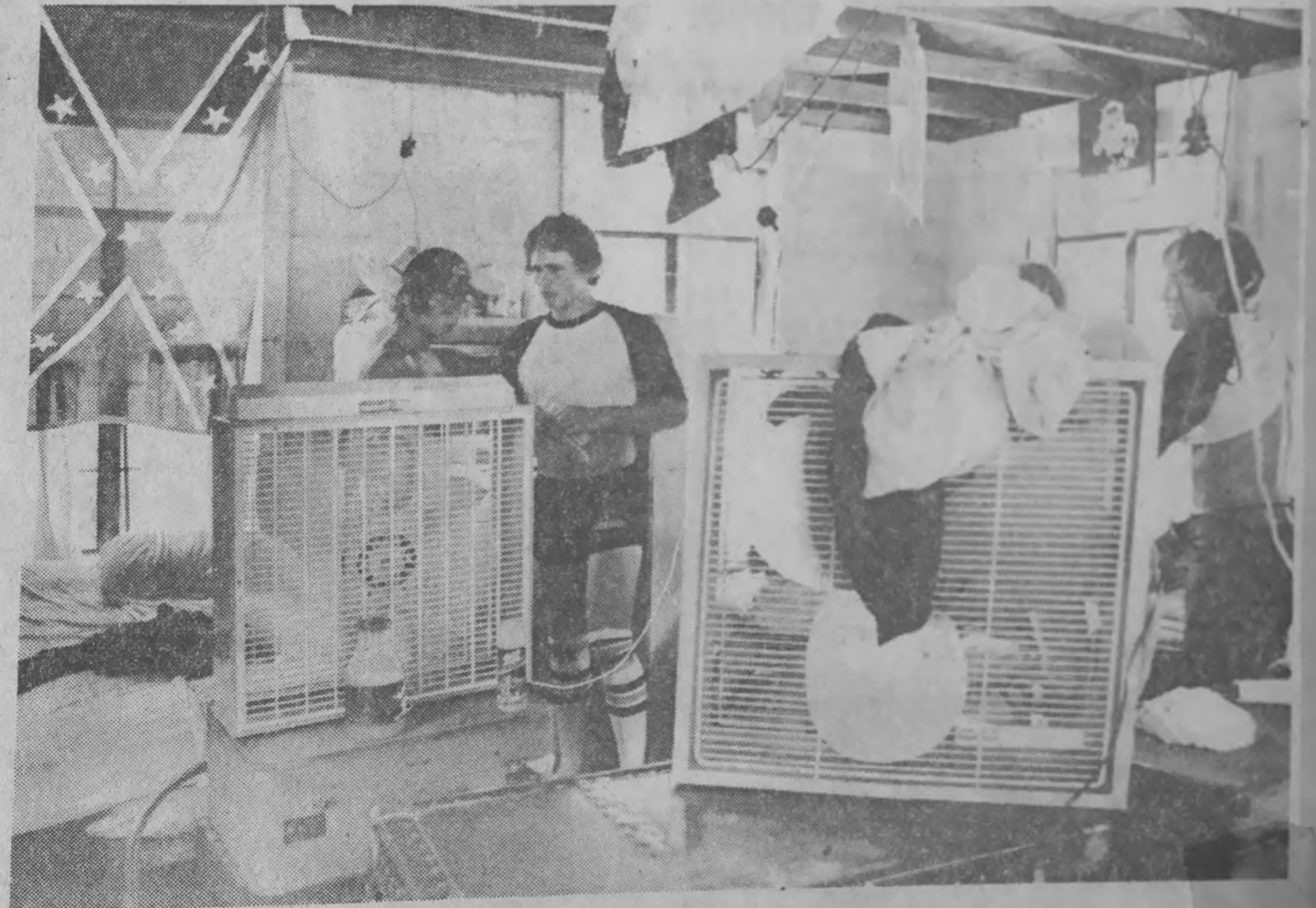
While Valdosta maintained the 4-H Camp and Lowndes' Vikings bunked up in the Habira Junior High gym, Berrien's Rebels from Nashville made their annual pilgrimage to Spence Field in Moultrie for their week of camp. Brooks County's Trojans

(See King Football, page 4B)



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Wright Bazemore Fills Rising 'Cat In On Next Play



They Call It Home: Young Wildcats Use Fans In Futile Attempt To Cool Cabins



Style perfection begins and ends with beautiful Bow Lace framed in Lycra® spandex stretch for the most comfortable fit ever! Bend, turn, soar, do your own thing... with never a care! Sky Bali's special design gives you all the support, the comfort and the confidence you need. In bandeau or longline styles. White, beige, black.

The Bandeau:
B cup 32-38, C cup 32-40, D cup 32-42,
DD cup (White, black) 32-44, DD cup
(Beige) 32-42.
B, C cup \$8.00 D, DD cup \$8.50

Aug. 24 1975

King Football

bundled up in their own gymnasium.

Cook High's Hornets in Adel, Clinch County's Panthers of Homerville, Madison, Fla.'s Cougars and Hamilton County's Trojans from Jasper, Fla., and Westbrook's Cougars from Dixie all held practice sessions at their own fields without spending the night.

If nothing else makes them smile, football players learn about good food in camps. At Valdosta, for instance, the Valdosta Touchdown Club is to raise \$7,000 to cover the costs of meals for the 10 days of camp.

A typical meal includes 150 pounds of Salisbury steak, 20 pounds of rice and gravy, two gallons of pre cooked instant potatoes, 12 gallons of cut green beans, 12 dozen

cupcakes and 20 dozen fresh biscuits with 25 gallons of tea and milk.

Other prize choices include home-made spaghetti, fried chicken, country fried steak and 96 pounds of roast beef served at the camp Wednesday night.

Lowndes' food bill is more realistic, something around \$2,000. But head coach West Thomas, although admitting his players aren't able to be as extravagant as the Wildcats with their menus, feels a great deal of it had to do with tactful purchases and low-cost menus.

"We don't live as high on the hog as Valdosta does," he said, "but we do okay at the table."

School Bus Blues

First there's the wait. Ah, there it is. All aboard. Kim Green and Connie Boyd, students at S.L. Mason Elementary School here, are learning the ins and outs of catching a school bus as the city school system began operating a bus line for the first time this year. Below, Assistant Supt. Ralph Brandon checks



off the arrival of a bus at Valdosta Junior High School. Brandon said only minor problems occurred during the line's first day of operation Tuesday. —Sequence by Ken Kianicki. Bottom Photo by Robert Winter III.

No Game For VHS Friday

Hyder Would Rather Be Playing

By Times Staff Writer

If Nick Hyder had his druthers, he'd rather be getting ready to open the 1975 high school football season Friday night.

Instead, Hyder and his Valdosta Wildcats, who have just gone through two weeks of strenuous pre-season football camp with two-a-day workouts in pads, usher in the new season by celebrating their night off.

By the luck of a draw to decide which team takes which of the 11 nights of the regular season off, the Wildcats wound up with the opening night and must wait another week before joining the action.

It has its advantages, but also its drawbacks. As far as Hyder, second year head coach of the Wildcats is concerned, the bad far outweigh the good.

"I'd rather be playing," admitted Hyder in a candid conversation. "It would be ideal now after two weeks of camp to come home and begin getting ready to play Crisp County Friday night."

"As it is, though, we've got to wait two weeks and when we play Crisp, they will have already played a game. I know there are some good points about it too, but I'd rather be playing." Hyder and the 'Cats are making the most of it,

Sunday August 31, 1975

however. This Friday night they waited until nightfall to turn on the lights at Cleveland Field and practice under game-type conditions.

Although he still maintains his team has a long way to go to improve on the 3-7 record they posted in 1974, Hyder found his moments to smile during the drill.

Taking a leadership role on the Valdosta defense has been middle linebacker Harold Renninger (220, sr.) and linebacker Keith Middleton (200, jr.) along with tackle Mike Wehnerington (240, sr.), a 1973 starter who sat out last season.

However the defense has been lagging behind the offense, which has been moving behind the antics of sophomore quarterback Buck Belue (175) with fullback Alton Battles (185, sr.) and halfback Billy Berrian (175, jr.), tackle Randy Horn (220, sr.), guard David Cooper (190, jr.) and center Gary Mims (185, sr.), leading the way.

"Our offense centers around Buck," Hyder admitted. "And it (the offense) has been rolling along very well. It shows a definite improvement, but then again we have so far to go." Hyder had to admit the coaching staff has

centered it's work on the defense which hasn't responded quite as well.

Meanwhile the Wildcat kicking game has suddenly come to life with the surprise punting of Belue and improved placement kicking of Robert Baldwin, both sophomores.

While insisting his team still has a long way to go, the conservative head coach termed his griders 100 per cent better than they were at this time last year and credited an off-season weight and conditioning program with keeping them interested and in shape.

As further evidence of it's worth, Hyder points out only a few minor injuries were sustained during the two week camp at Twin Lakes and he returned home with the same 101 candidates he took to camp.

"Judging from the way we were a year ago, at this point, I'd say we are a better football team than we were then. But I would also hasten to say most opposing coaches in this region will say the same thing about their team."

"We have a lot of boys who were young and inexperienced in 1974, but they stuck with us. That says a lot for them."

Variety Of Projects Planned

Bicentennial Alive, Well At VHS

August 31, 1975

By BECKY VAIL

The bicentennial mood, already well-established at Valdosta High School through Cracklings magazine, is projected to flourish this school year as preparations and projects for the nation's 200th birthday unfold.

Teachers from the English and history departments particularly have developed a variety of activities to get the students and the community "in the bicentennial mood," said Mrs. E.K. Wisenbaker.

"All history hasn't been written." "We can take a part in history just by preserving it. And if we don't preserve it, there won't be anybody left who will remember."

"History isn't just something far away." These thoughts flow through most of the plans for bicentennial projects at the school. In addition to Cracklings, the VHS folklore magazine, several slide shows series, cemetery studies and documentations of historical records are planned as part of Project Bicentennial Awareness.

While the projects are originating in large part from VHS, community involvement is not only accepted but necessary, said Duane Pitts of the English department.

Citizens with letters from Civil War and Revolutionary War soldiers, photographs of sites of old buildings and structures, or with recollections of early south Georgia life are urged to participate in the bicentennial programs, said Mrs. Wisenbaker.

Cracklings fall issue is to be the bicentennial issue, directed by Pitts and Emily Carey.

County maps, a study of Spanish influence here, cemetery studies, plus Lowndes County folklore are to be featured topics in the issue.

History students are to compile three slide series on architectural styles and histories of Lowndes County houses, schools and businesses for the fall, winter and spring quarters, respectively.

These series, along with slide shows on Doc Holliday and the Crescent, are to be available to community organizations as well as to interested classes at VHS.

James Taw, teacher of U.S. history, is hoping to compile a collection of previously unpublished Civil War letters from Valdosta area residents.

"I just know there have to be letters from soldiers in trunks and attics here," he said.

Included in the school's Project Bicentennial Awareness are studies of and alphabetized listings for Valdosta, Lowndes and church cemeteries.

The alphabetical listings are to be made available to the community so families can find their ancestral gravesites.

In Sunset Hill Cemetery, with 19 of 27 divisions surveyed, 2,819 graves have been noted, said Mrs. Wisenbaker.

A collection of interesting tombstones is also to be compiled. One of a man killed, also included the name of the man's murderer.

Another grave had a wooden, carved foot at the base, said Mrs. Carey.

The group is also looking for a Valdosta woman who is believed to be a member of the first girl scout troop here under Juliet Lowe, said Mrs. Carey.

Over 2,100 students have enrolled in the VHS social studies program this year, said Mrs. Wisenbaker.

She added, all teachers in the department are intending to get involved in one or more bicentennial projects to bring the "bicentennial mood" in force to VHS.

All of Valdosta at Work on a Turnabout

By TOM TUCKER
Journal Prep Editor

Coach Nick Hyder knows it won't be easy.

But mark this down — Valdosta is coming back.

For 30 years since 1940 and running through 1971, the city down Interstate-75 near the Florida-Georgia border turned out more good high-school football teams than any in the nation.

One of the main reasons was head coach Wright Bazemore. Valdosta won the state championship 15 times in 30 years under his tutelage. The Wildcats were national champions three times.

Bazemore's coaching record was 290-46-12.

In '71, after a last state championship in Class AAA, Bazemore retired from from coaching and moved up to the athletic directorship. Since then, the Valdosta program has gone one way — down.

But Hyder, a strong-looking, square-jawed, second-year coach from West Rome High, may have the Wildcats back in '75.

"When I came here the program was down and broken into pieces. There were real problems. The community was scattered. I didn't bring this program back, the folks in the community did," said Hyder recently. "They put their heads together, and we're on our way."

Valdosta may be climbing, but the top is far away.

The 'Cats are in Region 1-AAA down South, maybe the toughest in the state. The state champ for the past two years in AAA, Thomasville, is the undisputed king of 1-AAA.

Even though Hyder is optimistic, facts are facts, and Valdosta won only three games last season, its worst season in history.

Why does Hyder feel the Wildcat program has turned the corner?

"Let me tell you, last year I felt like I was out in the ocean — battered, bruised and bleeding — and I had them 'jaws' after me," answered Hyder.

"But to show you what kind of folks this community has, I got another chance. The community is totally behind Valdosta football. Why, the Touchdown Club came up with over \$8,000 for us to go to football camp at Twin Lakes."

Another reason Hyder feels Valdosta is on the way back is a direct result of the real estate and economic crunch.

Jack Rudolph, formerly of Georgia Tech, the New England (Boston) Patriots and the Miami Dolphins, had quit football coaching to go into the real estate business. Rudolph was the head defensive mind under Bazemore during the great Valdosta teams. The plight of the economy has encouraged Rudolph to get back into coaching.

So he's Hyder's defensive coach for '75. Another reason Hyder's encouraged is the total rebirth of the Valdosta football program, after he kicked six players off the squad for disciplinary reasons, last season.

"We have 350 players in our program and they are all controlled by my office," said Hyder. Over 100 players are in the junior-high program, over 60 on the 9th-grade team, over 50 players on the B team and 75 on the varsity.

"Some good kids dropped out of the program several years ago because they were having to play against the larger, older kids," continued Hyder. "The organization was falling apart. What we hope we did was to rebuild it a little, set down some new rules where a 12-year-old kid doesn't play against a 15-year-old who outweighs him by 50 pounds."

Valdosta opens Friday night at Crisp Co. and there is more than just a passing interest in the game.

Talent-wise, the Wildcats have some exciting football players. Quarterback is sophomore Buck Belue, 6-1, 180-pounds, who is only 15 years old. He is self-sure, has a strong arm and started every game as a freshman last season.

in Quitman last weekend but they may have their work cut out with always strong Camden County.

The Wildcats, a Region 1-AA foe, opened their season with a 12-6 victory over traditional power Cairo last Friday night and may offer a stark contrast for Thomason's pass-oriented Hornets.

Bobby Rich and his Brooks Trojans, meanwhile, try to get their ground game rolling against one of the toughest foes in the business, Central.

The Yellow Jackets, rated fourth in the state in Class AA by the Associated Press ride a 40-21 victory over Region 3-AAA foe Wayne County into Friday night's battle with the Class A Trojans from Quitman.

Clinch County's Panthers caught an unsuspecting Wheeler County group by surprise with a 24-14 upset and now try to make it two in a row in a trip to Blackshear.

It won't be an easy trip for coach Donald Tyson Panthers. The Blackshear Tigers haven't lost a game since 1968.

And finally Westbrook Cougars, unable to cash in on repeated chances in their opener against Westwood of Camilla last week try to atone for the loss with a victory over Tiftarea.

The 14-6 loss marked the first time Coach Charlie Jennett's Cougars have gone down in their season opener in the three year history of the school grid program.

Berrien's Rebels from Nashville, Ga., 47-6 losers to powerful Irwin County last weekend, take the weekend off to recuperate.

Valdosta play and can only speculate at how successful Hyder's off season conditioning program really was.

Lowndes head coach West Thomas and Monroe mentor Winfred Benson may feel as though they're in the same boat in their showdown Friday at Albany's Mills Memorial Stadium.

Both need a victory. The Vikings opened the season with a 28-13 loss to rugged Dougherty last week while Monroe took it on the chin, 29-0, from powerful Moultrie.

James Thomason's Cook Hornets caught Brooks County's Trojans entirely by surprise in their 26-0 victory

'Cats Travel To Crisp Co. As Area Grid Slate Fills

Tues. Sept. 9, 1975

By Times Staff Writer

Three remaining area teams join the action for the first full schedule of high school football play this weekend and the spotlight turns to Cordele.

That's where Valdosta's Wildcats open their 1975 season with a Region 1-AAA showdown with Crisp County's Cougars with the latter team looking for its first grid victory ever over the 'Cats.

AREA GRID SLATE
FRIDAY
Valdosta at Crisp
Lowndes at Monroe
Camden at Cook
Brooks at Central
Climch at Blackshear
Tiftarea at Westbrook
Hamilton at Baker
Fla. High at Madison

In other area action, Florida schools Hamilton County (Jasper) and Madison begin their season as that state's high schools join the football world.

Hamilton County's Trojans journey to MacLenny, Fla., to play Baker County while Madison hosts Florida High of Tallahassee.

Five remaining area schools resume the play they began last Friday with three of them still looking for their first win.

Lowndes' Vikings travel to Albany to meet Monroe's Tornados. Cook High's Hornets from Adel play host to Camden County's Wildcats from St. Mary's. Brooks County's Trojans travel to Thomasville to meet the mighty Central Yellow Jackets. Clinch County's Panthers from Homerville travel to Blackshear, and Westbrook's Cougars from Dixie play host to Tiftarea Academy of Chula.

If it had been up to Nick Hyder, he wouldn't have scheduled Valdosta's open date for the first game of the season. But the week off did bring some advantage for the Wildcat head coach — surprise.

Hyder was able to watch Crisp's 20-7 loss to Westover's Patriots in Albany last Saturday night and has some idea of what to expect from coach Ron Clark's Cougars in their 8 p.m. contest Friday.

Clark, meanwhile, a newcomer to the south

Belue Out Front In Passing Race

By ELLWOOD MOYER
Region 1-AAA Statistician
Valdosta's Buck Belue moved out front in the Region 1-AAA passing race this week after a superb performance against Bainbridge in which the 15-year-old sophomore hit on nine of 14 completions for 107 yards and two touchdowns through the air. Belue edged out Thomasville quarterback

Leslie Cannady who is second with 12 of 24 completions for a total of 238 yards. The two quarterbacks get a chance to meet head on tonight when the VHS Wildcats travel to Thomasville.

Westover's Wes Knight has been the rushing leader of the region for the past three weeks and held on to his lead this time despite a strong surge from Valdosta's Alton Battles who moved up to sixth place on the list with 107 yards in 18 carries as the top rusher of the week in VHS's 27-0 triumph over Bainbridge.

Another Valdostan, Billy Berrian, has pushed out front in the pass receiving department with 11 catches for 211 yards and three touchdowns.

In other key categories, Lowndes' Robert Lee Harris leads in kick off returns. Thomasville's Clifford Kerbo heads up the punt returns. Thomasville's Mike Ramey leads in interceptions and Thomasville's Alvin Keyton is the top punter.

3ep. 11, 1975

'Cats Face Crisp Cautiously

By Times Staff Writer
Ron Clark has cordially asked Valdosta's Wildcats to take it easy on his bruised and broken Cougars when they travel to Cordele to take on Crisp County in their 1975 Region 1-AAA high school football opener.

But while it's not exactly his analogy, Nick Hyder sees the request something like the Greeks asking the Trojans to take care of their horse while they retreated back to Greece.

The Trojans bit . . . and you don't hear too much from Troy these days. Hyder hopes to take a different route with his Wildcats when they

cautiously tred into Crisp County Stadium for the 8 p.m. showdown.

With only 28 players listed on his entire roster, Clark, the new head coach of the Cougars obviously has a right to bring out the crying towel. He has to compete in Region 1-AAA, possibly the most powerful in the state, against teams that will bring in more than 100 youngsters for the game.

Hyder plans to take along some 95 players, which on the boards sounds like a 95-28 advantage. Not so, says the talkative Valdosta boss who speaks from experience.

"Don't believe a word of

it," Hyder retorted after hearing the words of woe Clark spouted in a earlier interview in this paper. "The team I saw last Saturday night didn't look like a bunch of losers. And he (Clark) hasn't called me trying to cancel this game either.

"I guarantee you when his team steps out on that field Friday they're not coming out there with plans of being beaten. They're coming after a win. And they're capable of getting it."

Hyder, taking advantage of his Wildcats having the first sweek of the season off, made the trip to Albany to watch Westover's Patriots defeat

the handful of Cougars 20-7 in both teams' openers. He came back impressed with that 28.

"They're not going to let up just because they're playing Valdosta," Hyder said. "I saw a team that is alive and well and one that's going to stand in there and represent their team and home field. It ain't gonna be easy playing people like that."

It's not that Hyder doesn't know how it feels to feel weak and helpless. It's that he knows it too well. Last season, his first ever as head coach of the 'Cats, he suffered through a season that yielded only three wins

and seven losses. Coming off a season like that, the young grid boss is after anything he can get.

"I was certainly impressed with them," Hyder said of Crisp. "They are well conditioned, and they're the type of ball club that can break it open and score at any time. Those people didn't roll over and die. When Westover scored, both touchdown passes were tipped away from the receivers by Crisp County defenders but somehow landed in their hands."

"They played well enough to maybe beat Westover, and if you'll remember, Westover beat us pretty soundly last year and had a good team coming back this season."

VALDOSTA

Ends—Rick Register (175, sr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.), and Clark Stull (155, sr.) or Bernard Robinson (160, sr.), tackles Randy Horn (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.) or Okeefe Hunter (220, jr.), guards Davis Cooper (190, jr.) or Tom Copeland (175, jr.), and David Cato (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.) or Charlie Warren (155, jr.), center Gary Mims (180, sr.) or Ben Blanton (190, jr.), quarterback Buck Betje (180, soph.), halfbacks Billy Berrian (175, sr.) or Jody Wilson (150, soph.) and Jesse Loving (170, sr.) or Ben Brinson (175, sr.), and fullback Alton Battles (185, sr.) or Carl Demps (150, jr.).

Defense—ends Brad Cohen (180, jr.) or Curtis Williams (175, jr.), and Jackie Cain (170, jr.) or Alec Greene (160, soph.), tackles Eddie Denard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.) and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.), noseman David Sumner (190, sr.) or Raymond Johnson (180, jr.), linebackers Harold Renninger (210, sr.) and Keith Middleton (200, jr.), cornerbacks Anthony Lynch (165, sr.) or Troy Thomas (160, jr.) and Theodore Demps (150, sr.) or Doug Parker (160, sr.) or Lynn Roberts (155, jr.) safeties Lawrence Lowe (190, jr.) or Herbert Holmes (175, sr.) and Allen Worthy (175, soph.) or Alvin Thomas (175, soph.).

CRISP

Offense—end Mike Browning (155, jr.) and Roger Westbrook (155, jr.) tackles Bob Ward (168, soph.) and Robert Bouknight (175, soph.), guards Rob Davis (135, jr.) and Chris Braswell (165, jr.), center Oscar Stuckey (220, sr.), quarterback Jim Hughes (160, jr.), halfbacks Anthony Carter (190, sr.) and Willie Collier (160, sr.) and flanker Eddie Alexander (150, jr.).

Defense—ends Davis and Ronnie Sampson (155, sr.), tackles Dennis Jones (165, jr.) and Norman Lewis (175, soph.), noseman Carter, linebackers Willie Smith (140, jr.) and Walter McClendon (140, jr.), corners Collier and Hughes, safety Mike Riles (140, sr.) and Rufus Royal (150, jr.).

Renninger, Register, Sumner, Berrian

Battles Named Wildcat Captain

Doing it to Death

By Times Staff Writer
The player who made an example of himself to lead Valdosta's Wildcats through their spring and pre-season practice sessions has been elected by an overwhelming margin to lead them through the upcoming 1975 high school football season.

Head coach Nick Hyder announced Alton Battles has been chosen the overall team captain of the Wildcats this season with Harold Renninger and Rick Register the defensive and offense captains and David Sumner and Billy Berrian the defensive and offensive co-captains.

Battles, Valdosta's leading rusher for the 1974 season became even more of an asset and leader during the off season and won the honor by an overwhelming margin.



Battles, Renninger, Register, Sumner And Berrian

Hyder said.

The 185-pound senior is to start at fullback for the Wildcats against Crisp County Friday.

Renninger, moved to his linebacker position from fullback in the middle of the 1973 season and became a standout at that position. Hyder describes the 210-

pound senior as one of the hardest working players he's ever had and a bonafide college prospect.

Sumner, a 190-pound senior noseman, has already earned three letters for football and is working on his fourth.

Rick Register, a 175-pound senior offensive end literally

ran and lifted his way into a football player, according to Hyder.

Berrian (175, sr.) is described as one of the most talented football players on the team both offensively and defensively. He is starting for his third consecutive season also.

The Atlanta Journal, 1975

PREP POLLS

By TOM TUCKER
Journal Prep Editor

The Class AAA poll of high school football teams underwent its most drastic change since the poll began four weeks ago following an upsetting weekend.

Thomasville narrowly held on to the lead in AAA, but there was a change at every other position, two through ten.

Dunwoody's upset Saturday night of Lakeside (10-0) was the surprise of the week and earned coach Will Jackson's Wildcats No. 7 position. Lakeside dropped to ninth. Valdosta, making a return last week for the first time in exactly one year to the Top 10 poll, won easily and jumped into sixth place.

Valdosta is getting set for its big game this Friday night with No. 1 Thomasville.

Wheeler had trouble with Westminster and dropped a notch to No. 3 while Cedar Shoals, which beat NE Macon 58-0, rose to No. 2.

Gone from the poll are Dougherty, which barely won last weekend, and Laney, which was upset.

A new addition is Sprayberry. The Yellow Jackets came in 10th following a big 14-13 upset victory over highly favored, unbeaten North Cobb last weekend. Sprayberry's record is 3-1 and last week's victory proves the Sprays are for real.

Southwest DeKalb received consideration for the poll, but narrowly missed

gaining one of the slots after its fine victory over favored Avondale. SW DeKalb is 3-0.

In the other three polls, all three top teams won easily except Americus which did not play. Cartersville (Class A No. 1) beat Lumpkin Co. 48-12; and Gordon Lee (Class B No. 1) beat Georgia School for the Deaf 37-7.

Brown, which upset Smith 35-0 last weekend, and West Rome, which beat Carrollton, both made the Class AA poll. West Rome is No. 9 while Brown is 10th. Statesboro and Lakeview both lost and are gone.

The Class A poll underwent change. No. 2 team is now Southeast Bulloch, following Carrollton's surprise loss to West Rome (21-7). Carrollton fell to fourth place while Pep-

perrell moved up to third. Seminole Co. (2-1) is a newcomer to the poll.

In Class B there was no change among the top four teams, but No. 5 Hapeville was beaten by a good College Park 11.

Pacelli and Loganville both played and moved up the ladder a notch each after impressive victories.

Adairsville beat Mt. Zion 28-0 and vaulted up to post No. 7, from 10th. Union Co., which did not play, remained eighth. Savannah Country Day stayed ninth, and Crestwood, which beat Dacula 39-0, made its first appearance of the season on The Journal poll, coming in 10th place with a 2-1 record.

- CLASS AAA
 - Thomasville 3-0
 - Cedar Shoals 2-0
 - Wheeler 4-0
 - Warner Robins 3-0
 - Richmond Academy 4-0
 - Valdosta 2-0
 - Dunwoody 3-0
 - Moultrie 2-0
 - Lakeside 2-1
 - Sprayberry 3-1
- CLASS AA
 - Americus 2-0
 - Gainesville 3-0
 - Central-Thomasville 4-0
 - Lakeshore 3-0
 - Warrenton 3-0
 - Evans 4-0
 - Gordon 3-0
 - Coosa 3-0
 - West Rome 2-1
 - Brown 2-0
- CLASS A
 - Cartersville 4-0
 - SE Bulloch 3-0
 - Pepperell 2-0
 - Carrollton 2-1
 - Central-Carrollton 2-1
 - Jackson 3-0
 - Early Co. 2-0
 - Mary Persons 2-1
 - Lanier 2-1
 - Seminole Co. 2-1
- CLASS B
 - Gordon Lee 4-0
 - Union 2-0-1
 - Remen 2-1-1
 - Hopansville 3-0
 - Pacelli 3-0
 - Loganville 4-0
 - Adairsville 3-1
 - Union Co. 2-1
 - Sav. Country Day 1-1
 - Crestwood 2-1

9-25-75

Rain Can't Halt Valdosta: 'Cats Win 27-0

By JULIAN MILLER

Prescott Forsyth paced the sidelines of Cleveland Field before his Bainbridge Bearcats were to square off against Valdosta's Wildcats here Friday night and silently prayed for rain.

"That's what I'm prayin' for," the Bearcat head coach admitted, "something to slow that (Valdosta) pass attack down."

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Saturday, Sept. 20, 1975 — 6 —

YARDSTICK	
Valdosta	Bainbridge
First Downs	20
Yards Rushing	191
Yards Passing	177
Passes Completed	11-20
Passes Intercepted	1-4
Fumbles Lost	1
Penalties	3-42
	5-30.2
	7-79
	3-2

Forsyth's prayers were answered in droves as a sudden downpour 30 minutes before kickoff drenched everything in sight and delayed the start of the Region 1-AAA high school football showdown 40 minutes. But he should have been more specific about why he wanted it.

Instead of yielding to his ground oriented offense as Forsyth had planned, Valdosta's Wildcats took to the air as nothing had happened with Buck Belue and Billy Berrian sharing the spotlight and complimented it with the bruising running attack of Alton Battles to register a 27-0 victory for their second win of the young season.

Battles, a senior fullback who runs like a cement truck and then turns on the second

effort, carried 18 times for 107 yards and one touchdown while Belue completed nine of 14 attempts for 159 and carried 17 times for a net 51 and another TD while Berrian, a halfback, ran four times for 16 yards but caught seven passes for 133 yards and two TD's to swamp the Bearcats.

But while those three were showing their talents for Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats, Forsyth's Bearcats were having to go it alone without the services of Anthony Flanders, the second leading ground gainer in the region, who was suspended indefinitely last week after discipline problems.

The burden then fell on Bainbridge's other star running back, Jesse King, who carried 13 times for 100 yards before being hit for a three yard loss on his last attempt. King had broken his first play from scrimmage for 42 yards, just to show Valdosta how powerful he could have been with his runningmate around.

"I suppose things might have been a little different if

Flanders would have been here," admitted VHS boss Nick Hyder, who was obviously pleased with the win. "But remember, he does not play defense.

"You really have to admire Prescott. He had to discipline the boy, and it's tough to put your star on the bench like that."

Hyder's praise for his own went out to his offensive line, and he named them (end Rick), (Register, (tackle Randy), Horn, (guard David) Cooper, (center Gary) Mims, (guard David) Catoe, (tackle Lee) Harbin, (guard, Tom) Copeland and (Raymond) Johnson. They did a fine job," Hyder said.

"We weren't afraid of the rain, but we were of the lightning. But the people who prepared this field really did a good job. It was wet around the edges but the footing was excellent in the middle. We could never have won without it."

Bainbridge's tough defense yielded only six points in the first half, and that drive set the mood of the game... Valdosta's slow, ball control offense against King's "break it anytime" quickness.

Starting at their own 29 from the opening kickoff, the 'Cats used 11 plays to move to the Bainbridge two before Belue followed center Gary Mims across the goal line on a sneak for the tally.

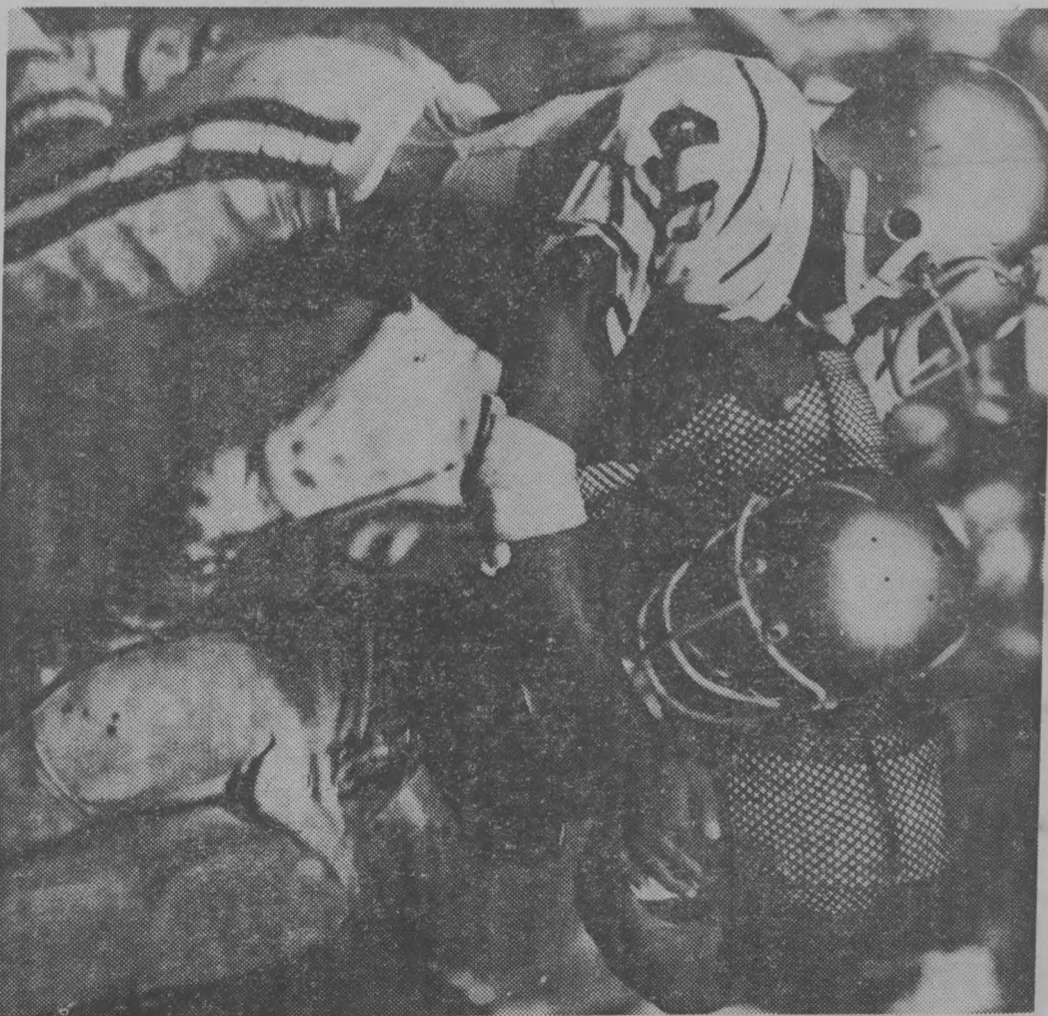
The key play on the drive came two plays earlier when Belue and Berrian proved they indeed could pass in the rain when the 15-year-old sophomore quarterback hit the speedy senior halfback with a slow pass to the left side for 26 yards to the Bainbridge 4.

But the wet football was too much for Belue to handle on the PAT kick attempt and Robert Baldwin's run fell short, leaving Valdosta with the shaky 6-0 lead they were to take to the dressing room at halftime.

If that wasn't enough to shake up Hyder, the next play was. For on his first offensive effort King broke off tackle from his own 30 and wasn't stopped until VHS safety Lawrence Lowe finally got the angle on him at the Valdosta 28, 42 yards upfield.

But that drive, Bainbridge's most serious threat of the night, died five plays later when King, who had successfully been averaging at least three yards a clip outside, tried to go inside on a fourth and one at the Valdosta 19 and found the VHS defensive line a virtual wall.

Valdosta stopped itself on its first drive of the second half when Battles fumbled at the Bainbridge 24 but from then on out it was all Wildcat.



Sudden Stop: VHS' Lynn Roberts Nails Jessie King

—Times Staff Photo

After a Bainbridge punt, the 'Cats took over again at the Bearcat 40 and in four plays, one a 14 yard pass to Berrian, VHS was on the Bainbridge six. Battles scored on a romp through the middle when he broke three tackles. Belue ran the PAT

for two points and the rout was on, 14-0.

By then the 'Cats had the confidence. Belue led the home team 48 yards on the next drive hitting Berrian with a beautiful spiral to the middle of the goal posts. The fleet halfback, who hadn't

even broken the line of scrimmage when the pass was thrown, never broke yards away in the end zone. On the ensuing kickoff, Valdosta's Jesse Loving clobbered King for an 11-yard return to knock the ball loose

and Hyder figured it was time to build his depth.

After three straight plays by the VHS younger players gained only one yard, Belue and Berrian came back on to duplicate their previous scoring play exactly from 26 yards on the fourth play of the final stanza.

Robert Baldwin finally split the uprights for his only PAT of the night and the Bearcats, down 27-0, spent the rest of the game battling the Wildcat bench.

For the second game in as many starts Hyder used more than 66 players in action.

On defense it was senior linebacker Harold Reminger who led the way for the 'Cats again, several times sacking the Bainbridge quarterback behind the lines for a loss and breaking up at least two passes. The defensive load fell on the shoulders of two-way end Bennie Anthony and bruising Ronnie Fowler at the other end. They were credited with 15 and 14 individual stops respectively.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

- Rushing: Valdosta — Battles 18-107, Belue 7-51, Berrian 4-16, C. Demps 2-6, Wilson 2-6, Loving 1-4, Brinson 1-1; Bainbridge — King 14-97, Cooper 8-23, Gannous 5-8, Williams 1-5, Griffin 3 minus 15.
 - Passing: Valdosta — Belue 9-14-159, Wilson 2-4-18, Berrian 0-2-0; Bainbridge — Gannous 1-2 minus 12, Shealy 0-1-0, Bess 0-1-0.
 - Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Berrian 7-133, Register 1-17, Still 1-10, Griffin 1-10, Robinson 1-8; Bainbridge — King 1 minus 22.
 - Punt Returns: Valdosta — T. Demps 1-17.
 - Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Berrian 1-20, Battles 1-17; Bainbridge — King 4-66.
 - Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Mitchell 6, Reminger 4, Lowe 4, Middleton 4, Cohen 4, Worthing 3, Baldwin 3; Bainbridge — Anthony 15, Province 14, Fowler 13, Freeman 10, Mullins 8, Culverson 5, Peterson 6, Cooper 7.
- SCORE BY QUARTERS
- | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|----|------|
| Valdosta | 0 | 0 | 14 | 1-27 |
| Bainbridge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0-0 |
- Valdosta — Belue two run (run failed)
 Valdosta — Battles six run (Belue run)
 Valdosta — Berrian 27 pass from Belue (kick failed)
 Valdosta — Berrian 26 pass from Belue (Baldwin kick)

September 26, 1975 What's What

It was a true case of the reputation preceding the man.

Valdosta High School football fans gathered at the Wildcat pep rally Thursday night to cheer on the team against Thomasville tonight.

Coach Nick Hyder gave his spiel.

Then former Coach Wright Bazemore stood up. He said his teams went out and won against Thomasville and so could this year's gridiron heroes.

From the front row a six-year-old girl's voice pipes up:

"And he knows what he's talking about, too."

September 26, 1975 Dosta Frosh

Bombard Tift

By Times Staff Writer Touchdowns by Robert Smith, Willie Lee Henry and Sam Fletcher powered Valdosta High School's ninth grade football team to a 21-14 victory over the Tift County Junior High ninth grade here Thursday.

Coach Bill Aldrich's Baby Wildcats ran their record to 3-1 with the victory over the Tifton 11.

Smith scored the first VHS touchdown on a 30-yard run. Henry scored on an eight-yard pass from Rodney Gordon and Fletcher tallied on a five-yard romp. Scott Hill kicked one PAT for the 'Cats while Fletcher ran another.

VHS plays host to cross town rival Lowndes Junior High Thursday at Cleveland Field at 4 p.m.

AT THOMASVILLE

Valdosta Hopes To Upset 'Dogs

By STEVE FIGUEROA
Constitution Prep Editor

In the not-too-distant past, the Valdosta-Thomasville football clash was the game that decided region 1-AAA. And, it was always Thomasville that was trying to upset Valdosta for the crown.

But, as most fans are aware, Valdosta has fallen on lean times lately and Thomasville's Bulldogs have risen not only to rule region 1-AAA but the state as well.

Coach Jim Hughes' Thomasville crew is favored to win the state crown again this season, but Valdosta just may get in the way. Thomasville hosts Valdosta this Friday night and Hughes is more than a little concerned about the Wildcats.

"I hear people say that Valdosta is going to be back next year," says Hughes. "Well, they just may be back this year. They have a fine football team, and we've got to get past them before we can worry about region or state titles."

Thomasville crushed Valdosta 40-0 in Valdosta last year, but few people expect a repeat of that rout. Indeed, the game should be very close, but the home-field advantage should give the nod to Thomasville. Both squads are unbeaten and have shown stong defenses—Thomasville has only allowed seven points in three games, while Valdosta has given up six in two outings.

Another key region contest takes place Friday at Adairsville when the No. 4 ranked Tigers host No. 7 ranked Gordon Lee in an important Class B matchup.

The winner not only will take a big step towards the region 6-B crown, but could also make a significant move in the state standings.

Gordon Lee took a 6-0 victory last season, but the guess here is that Adairsville will get some revenge this year on its home field. It won't be by much, however.

Other key games around the state this week include Marietta at North Cobb, Union County at Buford, Woodward Academy at Westminster, and Clarkston at Douglas of Atlanta.

By GREG LARSON
Times-Union Sports Writer

THOMASVILLE —Valdosta High built up a 12-3 half-time lead and hung on to upset No. 1-ranked Thomasville, 12-10, Friday night in a Region 1-AAA game.

Thomasville made it 12-10 with 8:43 left in the third period on a nine-yard touchdown run by quarterback

Leslie Cannady. A 38-yard run by Roscoe Mitchell set up the TD and Kenny Johnson kicked the extra point.

The Bulldogs had a chance to win the game with 22 seconds left but Johnson missed a 23-yard field goal. Thomasville had the ball on the Valdosta four-yard line with a second and goal situation. Leslie Cannady, a 38-yard run and no time outs left.

Valdosta, coming off a 3-7 season, is now 3-0 while Thomasville, the defending state champion, is 3-1.

THOMASVILLE, which lost three fumbles in the first

half, scored first on a 24-yard field goal by Kenny Johnson with 3:33 left in the first period.

A 14-yard pass from Leslie Cannady to Roscoe Mitchell and a 17-yard run by Mitchell set up the score.

On the second play of the second period, Valdosta quarterback Buck Belue and wide receiver Clark Stull hooked up for a 43-yard pass play to the Thomasville six-yard line. Losing a total of one yard on the next three plays, the Wildcats decided

against a field goal and Billy Berrian made a diving

catch of a Belue pass in the end zone.

It was the first time Valdosta had scored on Thomasville in three seasons.

With 4:35 left in the first half, Valdosta defensive back Theodore Demps took an errant pitchout by Cannady and raced 76 yards for the Cats' second TD. Both Valdosta conversion attempts failed.

Times-Union

B-7

SPORTS

SEPTEMBER 27, 1975

The Atlanta Journal
Sat., Sept 27, 1975

PREP FOOTBALL

Valdosta Tests No. 1

By TOM TUCKER
Journal Prep Editor

Can Thomasville retain the Class AAA No. 1 spot for the third year in a row?

Is Valdosta back again as a prep power?

Can a great defense hold an offense which has put 76 points on the scoreboard in only two games?

The answers come tonight in Veterans' Memorial Stadium where a crowd of 12,000 will cram every corner to see the state's No. 1 and No. 6 ranked teams go at it in the high school football game of the year.

It's a tale of two cities, revisited.

Take Thomasville. With coach Jim Hughes at the helm, the Bulldogs have reeled off two straight state crowns, and were selected by comparative scores by a national publication as the national championship high school football team in 1974.

Last season, the Bulldogs journeyed to Valdosta and panted the Wildcats 40-0 in a driving rainstorm.

Now, look at Valdosta. From 1940-'70 it was the premier football power in the state. Fifteen state titles, three national titles, a wealth of football talent, a football heritage as long as most colleges in the South.

But last year, under coach Nick Hyder, Valdosta began having problems. The players got lazy, there was internal unrest. The feelings showed up on the scoreboard: Valdosta won three games, the opposition seven.

Hyder kicked six players off the squad. That may have been the trick. Then, this summer at the 4-H Club camp where Valdosta teams have trained for 30 years, an observer noticed that coach Wright Bazemore, the architect

of Valdosta's dynasty, was spending more time than usual with the team.

So Valdosta promptly goes out and wins its first two games by the scores of 48-6 and 27-0. Meanwhile, Thomasville is getting off to a 3-0 start, but struggling. The Thomasville defense has not been scored on this season.

That brings us to tonight's game.

What can we expect?

We can expect Valdosta to come in throwing with a fury. Buck Belue, an almost-cocky 15-year-old quarterback will be passing and running and solid Alton Battles will be driving. Battles is the fullback. Billy Berrian is an excellent wide receiver who fits the Valdosta option offensive attack to a tee.

Thomasville counters with an experienced option quarterback, Leslie Cannady; two fine running backs T.C. Mitchell and Roscoe Mitchell; and a good receiver, Cliff Kerbo. On defense, Mike Ramey, the safety, leads a ball-hawking defensive backfield and Johnny Byrd, a linebacker, anchors a stingy line.

Is Valdosta really back as a football power?

"I don't think they were ever gone," is Hughes' answer. But that's why tonight's game takes on more emphasis than ordinary. If Valdosta is back as a power in Region 1-AAA, it could be a long season for everyone else in South Georgia.

In other big games around the state this weekend: Gordon Lee visits Adairsville, Pepperell is at Chattooga, Marist hosts Riverwood, Gordon visits North Springs and Woodward Academy takes on Westminster.

It's Just Another Game—Hughes

By JULIAN MILLER

THOMASVILLE — As football fans in Thomasville and Valdosta busily prepare for Friday night's showdown between their beloved Bulldogs and Wildcats, Thomasville head coach Jim Hughes calmly sits back and waits with the same air of assurity he has possessed all season.

As far as Hughes is concerned, Friday night's Region 1-AAA high school gridiron battle between his undefeated Bulldogs and Valdosta's unbeaten Wildcats should be another one of those great traditional matches, but in the long run, it's just another game.

And the coach of the defending State Class AAA and mythical national champions is still making the same prediction he made before the season began: When the region race is over, Thomasville will be on top.

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1975—5-B—

"I don't share all this sentiment about big games," the cold mannered Hughes proclaimed in his matter-of-fact tone. "Every time we play it's a big game . . . a region game."

"Certainly Thomasville and Valdosta have had a long rivalry and there have been some great games. . . this should be another one. But when it's all said and done, it's just a region game, just

like the one we played last week and the one we'll play next week." They all count the same.

Hughes, who in six years as head coach of the Bulldogs has racked up an impressive 48-7-3 record so far, offers no apology or explanation for his bold prediction that his Dogs will take the Region title for the third consecutive year.

"If I were head of a large corporation and I told the

stockholders we wouldn't make any profits next year, no one would invest their money, would they?"

"We feel like we'll win every time we play. I don't want any team going into a game thinking they can't win it. We feel they can win, certainly the coaches feel that way. Region 1-AAA is up for grabs and we're just one more team in the progression."

Both Hughes and Valdosta head Coach Nick Hyder have spent long hours studying each other's games in preparation for Friday's 8 p.m. confrontation in front of what officials are sure will be a packed house. And both admit they are duly impressed.

"Valdosta doesn't have any weaknesses," Hughes offered. "They run the football well, throw it well and play good defense against both the run and the

pass. And their kicking game is excellent."

What do you do against team like that?

"You just practice hard and hope to out-execute them," he answered.

To date, Valdosta has done nothing to convince the Thomasville coach they are stronger in any one facet of the game than any other. But then, he points out, they haven't had to.

"I don't think they've done it," Hughes said. "I think they could concentrate on one aspect to the exclusion of the other. If our defense stops (runningback Alton) Battles, we've got to commit so many people it will open up the pass. If we back up on them, here comes Battles and (freshman quarterback Buck) Belue."

"No, we haven't really been tested as far as the forward pass. Folks have been throwing five, six or seven times a game. We expect to see more than that this week. But yes, most of our secondary players have had experience playing there before this season and we should be pretty strong there."

Hughes contends he's generally pleased with his own team which has chalked up 26-0, 26-7 and 21-0 wins over Tift County, Albany and Westover respectively. But he's happier with his defense than offense.

"We're undefeated and we're pleased from that standpoint," he explained. "We're happy with the defense but we'd like a little more ball control from the offense."

Past Thomasville teams have stressed ball control and for the most part stuck to the ground with their assault. But those teams had star running back William Andrews who led the region in rushing for his last three years.

Andrews is gone now and the Bulldogs are feeling the pressure of replacing him.

"The absence of Andrews makes a difference," admitted Hughes. "We're not that strong on the ground, not controlling the football like we want to."

"But we've been throwing fairly well. Saturday night against Westover we completed passes when we had to. But Albany blocked a punt on us and we had to punt three times in consecutive drives against Westover. We've got adequate personnel in the kicking game but it's just a matter of executing. No one has tried to return a punt on us but again, we've got good people out

(See It's Just Page 8B)

—It's Just

(Continued From 5-B)

there." Hughes scoffs at the suggestion that he and Hyder have been holding back offensive plays to be used for the first time this weekend.

"Not a bit," he answered. "I was accused of doing that a week or so ago. But we've been playing as hard as we can play. And if you tell me 48-6 (Valdosta's score over Crisp County) is holding back

"I really expect a low scoring ball game. Beyond that I don't know. I think up to now our primary strength has been defense and certainly Valdosta is strong on defense. It'll be a low scoring game with any number of factors affecting it."



A 22-yard field goal attempt by the Thomasville Bulldogs which sailed wide and thus preserved a hard-fought 12-10 victory for the revitalized Wildcats of Valdosta, produced these contrasting moods by the opposing head coaches. Thomasville's Jim Hughes (left) drops his head in obvious dismay as the final

What A Difference A Play Makes

seconds tick away. On the other side of the field, Valdosta head coach Nick Hyder lets loose a smile as a young fan expresses her appreciation for the win. Details of game on page 6. — Times Staff Photos by Ken Klanicki.

Valdosta Daily Times
Sat, Sept 27, 1975

Valdosta 12, T'ville 10

Missed Field Goal Gives Wildcats Last Second Victory In Showdown

By JULIAN MILLER
THOMASVILLE
Thomasville's Bulldogs gambled once too often and watched Valdosta take the entire jackpot as the Wildcats savored a 12-10 victory over the previously unbeaten defending State Class AAA champions in a Region 1-AAA showdown here Friday night.

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Saturday, Sept. 27, 1975-6-

YARDSTICK		
	Valdosta	T'ville
First Downs	9	16
Yards Rushing	64	198
Yards Passing	79	77
Passes	7-13	5-10
Passes Intc. by	1	1
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Punting	5-38.8	5-38.4
Penalties	2-11	3-20

Coach Jim Hughes' Bulldogs ran the clock down to the last 22 seconds before trying to duplicate a field goal attempt they pulled off perfectly in the first quarter of the high school football showdown of two unbeaten, and then found themselves with no place to go when Lady Luck ran out on them.

It was only second down when the Bulldogs, ranked first in the state by the Associated Press, halted their smooth moving drive to give sharpshooter Kenneth Johnson one more shot at the uprights. But when the kick went wide to the right, everyone knew it was all over.

The victory, the third in as many starts for coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats, who won only that many all last season and who had a solid year to think about a 40-licking the Bulldogs gave them in Valdosta during that period, came before a standing room only crowd at Thomasville's Veterans Memorial Stadium.

But more than anything else for the seventh-ranked 'Cats, it proved to those doubters once and for all the Wildcats, who not so long ago ruled Georgia High School football, are back to be reckoned with.

"Spell that V-A-L-D-O-S-T-A," beamed head coach Nick Hyder as he hugged one and then another on his team's fans in the middle of Veterans' Field. "Naw, I don't know if the 'Cats are back, but they sure took a giant step in the right direction towards getting there."

Hughes' office, meanwhile, was more serene as the young head coach pondered the hard fought victory that was never determined until that last 22 seconds.

"The defense played well enough to win and our offense played well enough to win. But we didn't win," he stated flatly.

Ironically, the now 3-1 Bulldogs had totally dominated the 'Cats in most aspects of the game except the scoring. And there it was again the gambles of the home team that brought about the outcome.

The Bulldogs led the final stats in first downs, 16-9, yards rushing 198-64 and trailed in yards passing only 79-77.

But Thomasville had halted its first drive at the Valdosta seven for a 24-yard Johnson field goal, and then tried to play catch up football with a wide open pitchout play that ultimately resulted in their defeat when Valdosta defensive back Theodore Demps scooped up a loose lateral and raced 76 yards for what turned out to be the winning touchdown.

Fans got an indication of things to come when the 'Cats fumbled on their second play and then surprisingly held the powerful Bulldogs' on their first drive. After sophomore quarterback Buck Belue's booming 40-yard punt, however, the Bulldogs' offense went into action behind the antics of quarterback Leslie Cannady and fullback Roscoe Mitchell.

A 14-yard screen pass to Mitchell broke the Bulldog go team for the first time and then Cannady started pitching out to his flanker, usually Mitchell or tailback Horace Ivey, for huge chunks of yardage until they had worked their way down to the Valdosta seven with 3:33 left in the quarter.

It was there in a fourth and five situation that Johnson kicked his first field goal, just to the right of the middle of the uprights, but good enough for the three points.

The two teams traded punts before the 'Cats could get it rolling, and when they did, it was with the aid of a virtual unknown. Belue rolled to his right and launched a 43-yard pass to split end Clark Stull, who had only two catches to his credit so far this season and the 'Cats had a first and goal at the Thomasville eight.

Three plays managed to move it only two yards closer but instead of going for a seemingly easier field goal, Belue went for the touchdown when he launched a

desperation pass to halfback Billy Berrian. Berrian, his feet firmly planted in the end zone, fell across the goal line to catch the pass and Valdosta was on the board with a 6-3 lead.

The 'Dogs came back in force on their next drive, using the wide pitchout the 'Cats had been unable to stop on the previous scoring drive, and rambled from their own 31 to the VHS six in 10 plays.

But a muffed play sent the Bulldogs back to the 13 yard line and on second down Cannady pitched out to wingback Early Lloyd, who never quite found the handle.

The football bounced back to the 24 with most of the T'ville team still unaware of the fumble and up into the arms of Demps, who never broke stride as he followed Lawrence Lowe's interference all the way to the end zone to give the 'Cats a 12-3 lead for the half.

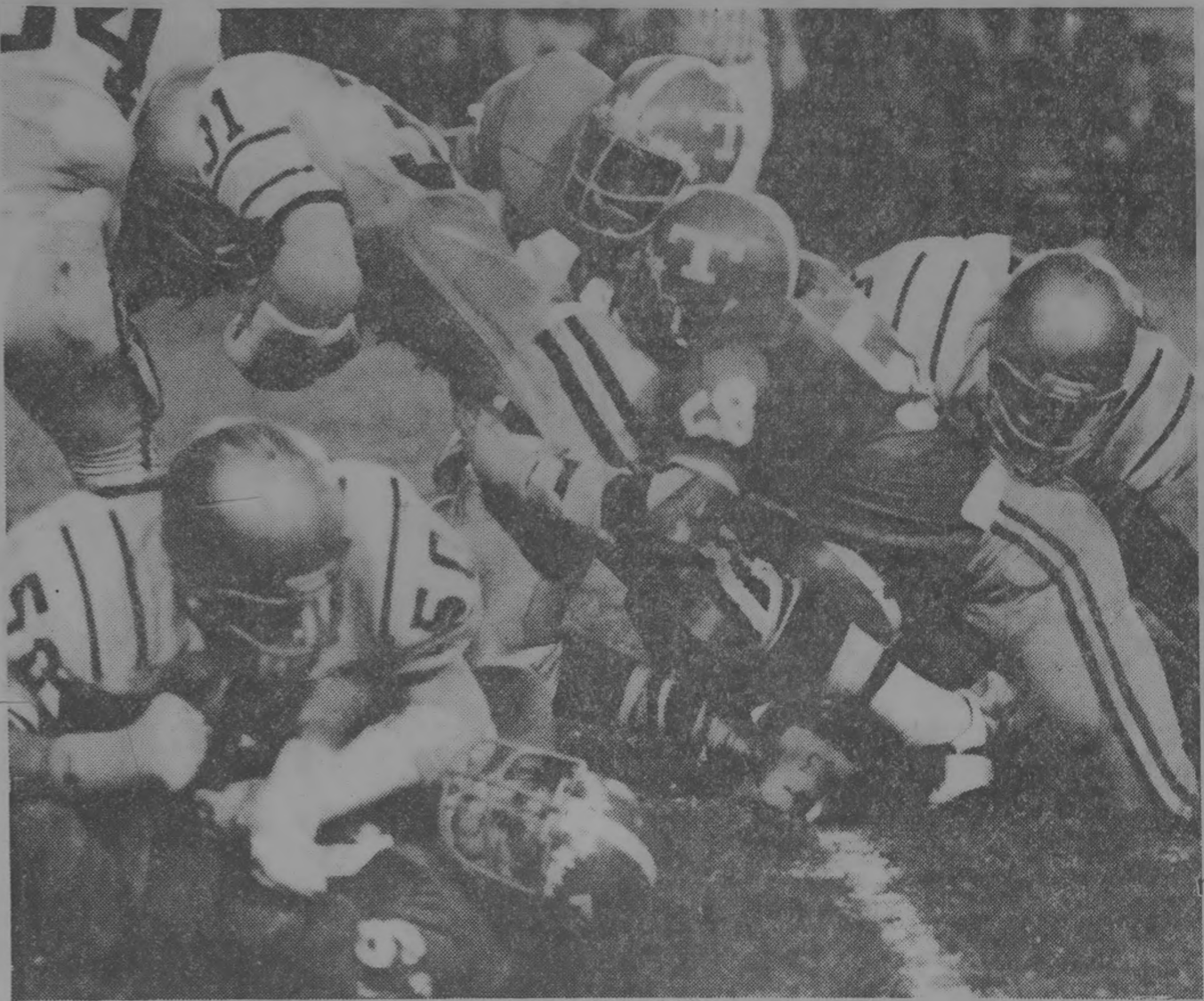
Thomasville came out after the half with a new offense to test Hyder's defense and in Hyder's own words, "it took us a touchdown to catch onto it."

Starting with Mitchell's 38-yard run from the THS 35 to Valdosta's 27, the Dogs used five more plays to move in to the VHS eight. Cannady waltzed in for the TD with 8:43 left in the quarter and Johnson split the uprights for the PAT to cut the lead to 12-10.

That brought on a series of drives for both teams, Valdosta moving down to the Thomasville 17 and 3 before being stopped on a pass interception and an overthrown touchdown pass respectively. But the 'Cats held the Bulldogs deep in their own territory until the final drive of the night.

Thomasville took possession at its own 27 with 3:42 left in the game and Cannady and Mitchell came alive. Eight plays later the Dogs had a first and goal at the VHS eight with 22 seconds left.

Mitchell rambled five yards easily to the three on the first down but then with 19 seconds remaining, Johnson was sent out to place his tee at the 13, one yard closer than



Going Nowhere: Valdosta's Alton Battles (31) Is Stopped Cold By Bulldog Line

New VHS Era Ahead?

Wildcat Upset Shifts Attention To Hyder

By MIKE CHASON
THOMASVILLE — Jim Hughes stood calmly staring into space outside his Thomasville Bulldogs' dressing room Friday night, at times casting stray glances toward the ever increasing swarm of well wishers flocking around Valdosta's Nick Hyder.

It somehow seemed ironic for Hughes, whose Bulldogs have won consecutive Class AAA high school football titles and the mythical national championship last season, to be virtually ignored while Hyder, who could come up with only a 3-7 record in his first year at Valdosta in 1974, was the center of attention.

But Friday night was Hyder's night after his Wildcats upset the Bulldogs by the narrowest of 12-10 margins and perhaps signaled the dawn of a new era of football tradition at one of the most legendary high school football factories in the nation.

But except for a missed field goal in the closing seconds, it could have been Hughes giving one of many victory speeches he has delivered over his super successful career.

Hyder realizes it only too well. "If they had made that field goal, I was thinking of where I could maybe get a job like in a hardware store or at a radio station or something," the relaxed jovial Hyder said.

"But give Thomasville credit. Their defense is terrific, and their offense came back with a different set that second half. It took us a touchdown to adjust to it. "They shut us out in the middle pretty good, but we were able to pass a little more because of it. They had (Billy) Berrian well covered, but (Clark) Stull caught a few and did a real fine job."

Hyder felt his team had the chance to put a couple more touchdowns on the scoreboard, but also pointed out that Thomasville lost its leading pass receiver, Clifford Kerbo, at halftime with a knee problem. In fact, he said Kerbo is destined to miss the remainder of the season.

Hughes was, obviously dejected after the game but took the loss in stride, acutely



Hyder Gets Info, Hughes Watches



Hyder Gets Info, Hughes Watches

aware his team played well enough to beat Valdosta but just couldn't get on the

scoreboard when it had to. "I can't really recall where we've done more offensively

and wound up on the short end of the stick," Hughes said. "We played well enough

to win offensively and defensively, but Valdosta was a well prepared football team which took advantage of its opportunities.

"We ran the football better than we have all season, but we did good to keep Valdosta out of the end zone several times."

Hughes said he had no second thoughts on his team's two field goal attempts instead of going for the touchdown. He had confidence in his kicker Kenneth Johnson, but Johnson just happened to miss the last try.

"We gave it a good effort," Hughes said, "but it just wasn't quite good enough."

As for Hyder, who as is his custom, praised his assistant coaches freely, he had only one reply to the question "are the 'Cats really back?"

"I don't know for sure if they are back or not, but they sure made a whale of a stride toward getting there tonight."

'Like Death In Family' As Bulldogs Go Down

By The Associated Press
"It's like a death in the family," said Coach Jim Hughes Friday night as Thomasville High School's top-ranked Bulldogs suffered a 12-10 region 1-AAA upset at the hands of archrival Valdosta.

"I will never be able to condition myself to live with losing," Hughes said. "Fortunately, our players will get over it a lot sooner than we will."

The Wildcats scored on a seven-yard pass from quarterback Buck Belue to Billy Berrian and a 76-yard run after a fumble recovery by Theodore Demps. The Bulldogs scoring came on a 24-yard field goal by Kenneth Johnson and a nineyard run by quarterback Leslie Cannady.

In other top AAA games Friday night, junior halfback James Brooks rushed for 235 yards and four touchdowns to lead second-ranked Warner Robins to a 49-21 victory over Baker.

Lion quarterback Tony Graziano scored from a yard out and passed to fullback Mark Thompson for Baker's scores.

Quarterback Karl Keebaugh had 80 yards in 10 carries and fullback Ed Guthrie was held to 78 yards and one touchdown as they led third-ranked Wheeler to a 27-6 region 5-AAA victory over Cherokee.

No. 1-ranked Americus of Class AA defeated Dothan, Ala., 14-8 as quarterback Machel Harris threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to Spencer Davis and Sammy Jackson covered a blocked punt in the Dothan end zone.

Second-ranked Central of Thomasville humiliated Berrien County 54-0 as halfback Terry White rolled up 164 yards in 12 carries for two touchdowns and fullback Robert Watts had 144 yards in 14 carries for three touchdowns.

Running back Gerald Harp rushed for 126 yards and two

touchdowns and Scott McKinney kicked a 40-yard field goal to lead second-ranked Lakeshore of AA, now 4-0, to a 45-0 shutout over Russell of Class A.

In major Class A games, running backs Ralph Scott, Joe Howard and Barry McNeely scored touchdowns and Gerald Lockhart kicked three extra points to lead Southeast Bulloch, which is tied for top ranking, to a 21-0 victory over Screven County of AA.

Fullback Hal Hatfield scored three touchdowns and Lloyd Taylor scored two as Cartersville, which shares top billing with Southeast Bulloch in A, massacred White County 47-7.

Warrior quarterback Harry Barton completed a 21-yard pass to Rick Highsmith and Highsmith kicked the extra point for White County's scoring.

Carrollton's Gil O'Neal scored on a 50-yard punt return and passed for 41 yards to Glen Gisham to lead the third-ranked Trojans, now 3-1, to a 37-24 victory over Haralson County in a Class A game.

Quarterback David Upton threw touchdown passes of 53 and 22 yards to Brad Limbaugh and Ricky Carter ran from four yards out for Haralson's scores.

"We finally got some offense going and were able to give the defense a rest," said Coach Luther Welsh as ninth-ranked Dougherty scored its 11th straight victory Friday night with a 13-8 decision over Westover in a region 1-AAA match.

Quarterback Jerry Aubin ran 21 yards for a touchdown and passed 35 yards to end Donald Laster to lead Dougherty in scoring, while Westover's Wes Knight ran for a three-yard touchdown and also scored a two-point conversion.

In another AAA game, fourth ranked Cedar Shoals scored touchdowns in its first two possessions and remained undefeated with a 21-0 victory over crosstown rival Clarke Central.

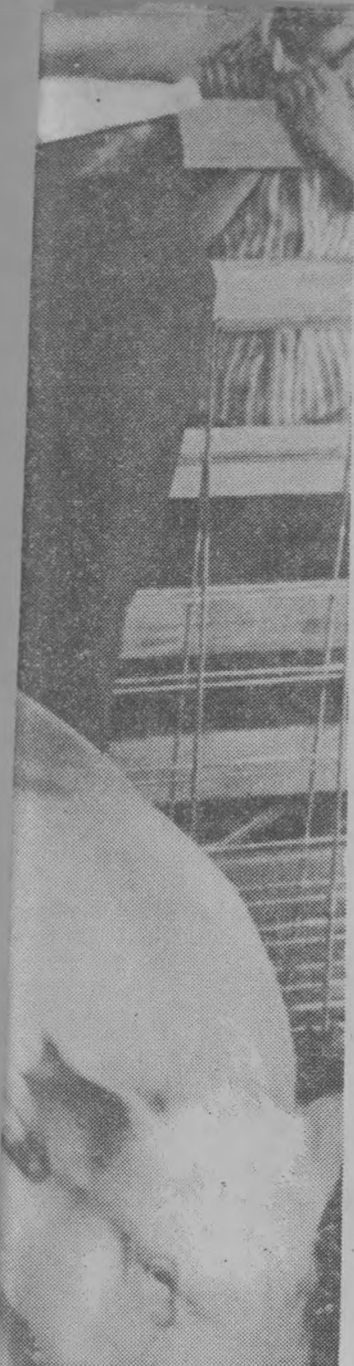
Jaguar quarterback Jeff Pyburn rushed 16 times for 78 yards and one touchdown and running back Gary Avants gained 99 yards for two touchdowns.

Prep Scoreboard

Valdosta 12 Thomasville 10
Moultrie 35 TFI Co. 0
Thomasville Central 54 Berrien — 0
Archer 6 Grady 0
Buford 0 Union Co. 0 (tie)
Briarcliff 21 Cross Keys 0
Cedar Shoals 21 Clarke Central 0
Cent. of Carrollton 27 Darlington 15
Smith 13 Carver of Atlanta 0
Chamblee 9 Henderson 0
Douglas of Atlanta 12 Clarkston 7
Griffin 14 LaGrange 0
George 30 Howard 0
Northside Atlanta 14 Harper 12
Ware Co. 35 Blackshear 0
Shamrock 7 Towson 0
Stone Mountain 10 Walker 6
Early Co. 12 Seminole Co. 0
Americus 14 Dothan, Ala. 8
Metter 12 Glynnville 6 (double OT)
Southland Aca. 12 Riverview Aca. 0
Cairo 14 Fitzgerald 7
Cartersville 47 White Co. 7
Chattanooga 16 Peppercell 14
Dougherty 13 Westover 8
Duluth 28 N. Gwinnett 0
Glimmer 22 E. Fanning 6
Evans 41 Jones 0
Jefferson 20 Oconee Co. 7
Lakeshore 45 Russell 0
Lyons 22 Reidville 11
Montgomery Co. 12 Emanuel Co. Inst. 6
Mecon Co. 15 Mt. DeSales 14
Riverwood 62 Marietta 7
Jonesboro 16 Newnan 14
N. Clayton 14 Newton Co. 6

Baldwin 7 Putnam Co. 6
Robert E. Lee 33 Forest Park 6
Ridgeview 27 Milton 14
W. Fanning 19 Murray Co. 15
Piedmont Aca. 20 Tallm. Square 12
Columbia 13 Washington 3
Turner Co. 20 Terrell Co. 0
Thomas Heyward 34 Patrick Henry, S.C. 7
Coffee 13 Cook 7
Gatwood 0 John Hancock 0 (tie)
Henricello 12 Warren 7
Applying Co. 27 Jeff Davis 24
Campbell of Smyrna 15 Peeblesbrook 6 E.
Laurins 33 Treutlen 0
Fayette Co. 23 Henry Co. 0
Groves 20 Glynn Aca. 7
Hawkinsville 14 Cochran 7
Gainesville 35 Habersham 7
Jackson 23 Manchester 0
Mary Persons 41 Lamar Co. 20
Pickens 22 E. Hall 6
Cedar Grove 40 Stockbridge 0
W. Rome 35 Cass 0
Wheeler 27 Cherokee 6
Dublin 25 Washington Co. 6
Willis 14 McEachern 12
Woodward Aca. 23 Westminster 6
Adamsville 34 Gordon Lee 15
Brown 14 E. Atlanta 10
Carrlilton 37 Haralson Co. 24
Rockmart 7 Cedar town 0
Dawson Co. 12 Decatur 9
Douglas Co. 65 S. Cobb 15 (tie)
Franklin Co. 10 Elbe 1 Co. 0
Trion 40 Ga. School for Deaf 0
Jones Co. 13 Wilkinson Co. 0

Lincoln Co. 16 McCormick, S.C. 12
Berkmar 14 R. L. Osborne 13
Campbell of Fairburn 19 Palmetto 14
Hacell 20 West Point 6
SE Bulloch 21 Screven Co. 0
Dalton 21 Lithonia 0
Ringdale 14 SE Whitfield 6
NW Whitfield 14 Lakeview 7
SW Ga. Aca. 13 Eberfield Aca. 6
Kendrick 27 Spencer 6
Central Gwinnett 51 Rabun Co. 14
Windsor-Forest 34 Arnold 0
Benedictine 12 Brunswick 0
Clim Co. 14 Brantley Co. 4
Brookstone 25 Harris Co. 19
Savannah City Day 27 Claxton 0
Douglas of Montezuma 34 Calhoun Co. 0
Pinewood Christian 18 McDonough 13
Ga. Mil. Col. 13 Unadilla 0
Richmond Aca. 29 Glenn Hills 12
Randolph Co. 20 Lee Co. 0
N. Cobb 28 Marietta 60
Hogansville 40 Pike Co. 0
Pelham 39 Patterson 14
Peach Co. 65 Thomson 14
Savannah 27 Johnson of Savannah 24
S. Gwinnett 11 Monroe Area 6
Wash-Wilkes 7 Stephens Co. 0
Dodge Co. 9 Vidalia 0
Warner Robins 49 Baker 21
Bradwell Inst. 16 Wayne Co. 8
Westside 35 Hephzibah 6
Worth Co. 10 Mitchell Co. 8
Winder-Barrow 12 N. Hall 7
Wheeler Co. 28 Wadley 0



'Woodsy' Crafts Show

Editor's Note: Of special interest to area residents are the following events which take place within a driving radius of Valdosta.

YORKVILLE — Eager beavers are going to find their way to the second annual Beaver Creek Arts, Crafts and Nature's Treasures Show set for Oct. 3-5 at Vincent Mountain six miles west of Yorkville near Rockmart.

More than 200 exhibitors are expected at the outdoor-indoor event featuring colorful "woods" lakeside exhibits.

Arrangements may be made to accommodate campers and recreation vehicles for overnight guests.

VALDOSTA — The 15th annual Antiques Show and Sale, sponsored by Valdosta Garden Center, is set for Oct. 3-5 at Mathis city auditorium. Admission costs \$1.50.

Hours are to be 11 a. m.-9 p. m. on the 3rd and 4th and noon-6 p. m. the 5th. Luncheon is to be served daily from noon-2 p. m. Cost ranges from \$1.50-2.50.

Twenty-five dealers from throughout the south are expected to show a variety of antiques, heirlooms and collectibles.

FORSYTH — Former Miss America Vonda Van Dyke is to be featured at a seminar, "Alternatives for the Contemporary Woman," Oct. 10-11 at Tift College.

A variety of fields is to be investigated during the session. Registration for the

features

PEOPLE and PLACES

by Virginia Culpepper & Marcia McRae

seminar may be made by contacting the Tift County Alumnae Office.

ATLANTA — To balance the theatre season in Atlanta, Columbia Artists and the Republic of China are to present "The Spectacular Chinese Acrobats of Taiwan."

A company of 65 artists is to perform their well-balanced program at the Civic Center Wednesday at 8 p. m. Tickets costs from \$4-7.50.

Critically acclaimed Japanese conductor Kazuyoshi Akiyama is to conduct Atlanta Symphony Orchestra during its performances Oct. 2-4. The shows are to be at 8:30 p. m. in Symphony Hall of Atlanta Memorial Arts Center, 1280 NE Peachtree St. Lynn Harrell is to be guest cellist.

On the program are Takemitsu's "Green;" Schumann's Concerto in A minor for Cello and Orchestra and Bruckner's Symphony No. 4.

"Give 'Em Hell, Harry," is to be presented at Symphony Hall on Wednesday by a touring company with Ed Nelson taking the lead role of Harry S. Truman. Nelson is

an experienced television and film actor. For further information, contact Atlanta Memorial Arts Center box office.

STATESBORO — Artists and craftsmen from throughout the south are expected to exhibit their work at the third annual Mill Creek Arts and Crafts Festival. It is to be at the historical society museum near Statesboro Oct. 3-5.

PINE MOUNTAIN — With cooler weather coming on many gardeners are turning their attentions to indoor plants. Callaway Gardens is offering a house plants workshop Oct. 11 in the Gardens Greenhouse Conservatory Complex from 10 a. m. - 3 p. m. Benjamin H. Pace is to conduct the session in which participants are to learn which plants to use in the house for foliage and bloom. Students are to be given several plants from the workshop. Fee is \$8, including all materials.

Pre-registration is required since the session is limited to 20 participants. Contact the Education Department at Callaway.

d Too

She's shown here as her red pig is being judged. The was sponsored this week by county Extension Service. — Photo.

Cents

in Sew Business magazine analyzed a ready-to-wear dress retailing for \$110. The writer estimated a home sewer could make the garment for \$21.54.

"In spite of the rising price of fabric, home sewing still saves. And aside from price considerations, the experienced seamstress can turn out garments with better fit and workmanship than factory-made clothes," said the University of Georgia specialist.

SUPERSEASON

ON WALB TV CHANNEL 10

YOU'RE GONNA LIKE IT A LOT!

8:00PM EMERGENCY!

Paramedics Gage & DeSoto find their friendship tested when they campaign against each other in a heated election!



VHS, Clinch Face Tests

By Times Staff Writer

The first weekend of the new month brings the first full slate of the high school football season for area teams with all nine of them scheduled to participate in as many games Friday.

AREA GRIDSLATE

Friday
 Lowndes at Tift
 Dougherty at Valdosta
 Westbrooke at Pineland
 Fitzgerald at Cook
 Brooks at Seminole
 Appling at Berrien
 Clinch at Charlton
 Keystone Heights at Hamilton
 Marianna at Madison

But while the other seven are playing, Valdosta's Wildcats and Clinch County's Panthers, the only two undefeated teams in the area, take the area spotlight for the weekend.

Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats, 3-0 and coming off a 12-10 upset of Thomasville's top-ranked Bulldogs, square off against another undefeated Region 1-AAA foe, Dougherty, at VHS' own Cleveland Field Friday at 8 p.m.

And Don Tyson's Panthers, 3-0-1 for their best start in many years, travel to Folkston to take on Charlton County's tough Indians (2-1-1) in their first Region 2-B battle of the season.

Other action pits Lowndes' Vikings at Tift County (Tifton), Fitzgerald at Cook (Adel), Brooks County (Quitman) at Seminole County (Donaldsonville), Appling County (Baxley) at

Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) Keystone Heights, Fla. at Hamilton (Jasper, Fla.), Marianna, Fla. at Madison, Fla. and Westbrooke (Dixie) at Pineland (Moultrie).

Dougherty's Trojans, 4-0 and coming off a 13-8 win over Westover, are considered the dark horse of the region, coming into the game with the state's longest winning streak, 11 games, including a 27-20 defeat of Thomasville in Thomasville last season.

Charlton's Indians were preseason favorites to win Region 1-B and have backed it up with a 13-6 win over Brantley and 8-8 tie with Atkinson County. Losses went to Camden County and Ware

County, both AA schools. The Panthers meanwhile, have chalked up wins over Wheeler County (24-14), Blackshear (35-6) and Brantley County (14-6) and tied tough Vienna, (12-12).

Lowndes Vikings, 1-2 of the year and looking for a win to level it off at .500, are coming off a week's vacation to take on Coach Wilbur Lofton's Blue Devils in Tifton. The Imps, however, are coming off a 35-0 loss to Moultrie and looking for their second win.

It's one of those traditional rivalries when Fitzgerald's Purple Hurricane invades Adel to meet Cook's Hornets. Cook, winless since its opening upset of Brooks County, must play with an injured quarterback, Greg Goggans.

Brooks' Trojans, meanwhile, finally winners after a 34-0 rout of Miller County, put a 1-3 mark on the line against the Seminole Indians (2-2).

Foy Norwood's Berrien Rebels face their fifth straight rugged foe but hope for their first win against Appling County's Pirates.

Hamilton's Trojans from Jasper, still winless after two starts, try it again with a team their own size, Keystone Heights, in their first district game.

Madison's winless Cougars, meanwhile, play host to Marianna in hopes of ending their losing skid.

And Coach Charlie Jennett's Westbrooke Cougars, undefeated since their opening loss to league leading Westwood, take on a revamped Pineland team in Moultrie.

NTE Tests Are Scheduled November 8 At VSC Here

Special To The Times
 Dean Bond added.

The National Teacher Examinations (NTE) are to be administered on Nov. 8 at Valdosta State College, which has been designated as a test center, according to Andrew J. Bond, dean of students at VSC.

"These examinations are offered to college seniors preparing to teach, to teachers applying for certification or licensure and to those seeking positions in school systems which encourage or require the NTE," Dean Bond said. "The designation of VSC as a test center for the NTE will give prospective teachers in this area an opportunity to compare their performance on the examinations with candidates throughout the country who take the tests."

Last year, approximately 100,000 candidates registered to take the examinations.

Designed to assess cognitive knowledge and understanding in professional education, general education and 28 subject-field specializations, the examinations are prepared and administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS) of Princeton, N.J.

The exams are limited to assessment of those aspects of teacher education that are validly and reliably measured by well constructed paper-and-pencil tests, according to Dean Bond.

Registration forms and bulletins of information describing registration procedures may be obtained from the VSC Dean of Students' Office, 9 West Hall or directly from the National Teacher Examinations, Educational Testing Service, Box 911, Princeton, N.J. 08540.

Prep Top 10

- Class AAA** (4-0)
1. Warner Robins (5-0)
 2. Wheeler (3-0)
 3. Moultrie (3-0)
 4. Valdosta (3-0)
 5. Cedar Shoals (4-0)
 6. Central Macon (3-1)
 7. Thomasville (3-1)
 8. Richmond Academy (5-0)
 9. Dunwoody (4-0)
 10. Lakeside (2-1)
- Also receiving consideration (in alphabetical order): Benedictine (4-0); Columbus (3-1); Dougherty (4-0); Groves (3-1); Jonesboro (4-0); Laney (4-1); North Clayton (4-0); Southwest DeKalb (4-0).
- Class AA** (3-0)
1. Americus (4-0)
 2. Gainesville (4-0)
 3. Central Thomasville (5-0)
 4. Lakeshore (3-1)
 5. West Rome (4-0)
 6. Gordon (4-0)
 7. Evans (5-0)
 8. West Fulton (3-0)
 9. Swainsboro (2-1)
 10. Peach County (3-0)
- Also receiving consideration (in alphabetical order): Camden County (4-0); Chattooga (3-1); Collins (4-0); Coosa (4-0); Dodge County (5-0); Franklin County (4-0); Statesboro (2-1).
- Class A** (4-0)
1. Southeast Bulloch (5-0)
 2. Cartersville (3-0)
 3. Irwin County (3-0)
 4. Bowdon (3-1)
 5. Carrollton (4-1)
 6. Commerce (4-0)
 7. Harlem (2-1)
 8. Mary Persons (3-1)
 9. Bass (3-0)
 10. Jackson (4-0)
- Also receiving consideration (in alphabetical order): Cedar Grove (4-0); Central Carrollton (3-1); Early County (3-0); Washington-Wilkes (4-0); Murray County (4-1); Pepperell (3-1).
- Class B** (3-1)
1. Duluth (3-0)
 2. Trion (3-0)
 3. Hopansville (4-0)
 4. Adairsville (4-1)
 5. Pacelli (4-0)
 6. Loganville (5-0)
 7. Pelham (3-1)
 8. Savannah City Day (3-1)
 9. Bremen (4-1)
 10. Gordon Lee (4-1)
- Also receiving consideration (in alphabetical order): Buford (2-1); Charlton County (1-2-1); Crestwood (2-2); Dade County (3-0); Union County (2-1).

HIGH SCHOOL TOP TENS

It's Like Old Times... Valdosta Stirs Ratings

By STEVE FIGUEROA
Constitution Prep Editor

Valdosta's upset of defending state champ Thomasville caused quite a stir in this week's AAA top ten, but Classes AA and A were almost unchanged.

Valdosta's 12-10 win over No. 1 ranked Thomasville earned the Wildcats the No. 4 spot on this week's poll, while pushing Thomasville down to the seventh position.

Warner Robins, thanks to four straight routs, jumped from the No. 3 spot into the top position in the AAA rankings. The Demons jumped past No. 2 Wheeler on the basis of a 49-21 win over Baker. It was the closest any team had come to Warner Robins, as the Demon offense has rolled up a total of 221 points in just four games while the defense has yielded just 33.

Moultrie moved up from fourth to third with a 35-0 win

over Tift County, setting up a real showdown with Valdosta on October 17 for the region 1-AAA lead.

Cedar Shoals moved from sixth to fifth as the Jaguars from Athens posted a 21-0 win over Clarke Central for their third straight shutout of the season.

Laney, which was beaten two weeks ago and which gave up 28 points to a weak Northeast Macon team this week, fell from the No. 10 spot to make room for Valdosta's entry.

The only change in AA or A came in the AA tenth spot, as Peach County, which has won 43-0, 63-3, and 65-14 in three weeks, edged Coosa, which has struggled to post close wins the last two weeks.

Class B saw several changes in the lower five, as Crestwood, which lost, Union County, which was tied, and Charlton County, which lost, all fell from the rankings.

Pelham, which won its fourth straight game, Savannah Country Day, which has been beaten only by Class A Southeast Bulloch, and Bremen, which was in the poll earlier in the year, moved into the rankings.

Gordon Lee, which was beaten 34-15 by No. 4 ranked Adairsville, fell from seventh to tenth this week.

Without Curry
Eagles Zoom Past VHS Fresh

By Times Staff Writer

Without the services of hard running fullback Walter Curry, Lowndes Junior High School's Golden Eagles depended on a tough defense and a quick striking offense to rack up a 14-0 win over Valdosta High's ninth grade team at Cleveland Field here Thursday.

Golden Eagle coach Lindy Evans said his offensive stalwart could be sidelined for the remainder of the season.

Quarterback Terry Cooper completed a 27 yard scoring strike to Hal Sprengle for the first Lowndes' score, and Robyn McElroy intercepted a Valdosta pass and ran it 35 yards into the end zone for the other.

Cooper passed to Chuck Jones for the two point conversion, and Lowndes had its fourth win in five tries.

The Eagles travel to Waycross Junior High Thursday.

Meet Set On Old VHS

By Times Staff Writer

Attorneys for the Valdosta Board of Education and Lowndes County Commissioners are expected to meet Friday or Monday to iron out details of a lease for old Valdosta High School.

Oris Blackburn, county attorney, said today he was to meet within the week with representatives of the school board to lay the ground rules for a three-year lease on the landmark building.

He added a tentative lease would likely be ready for the October school board meeting, though it would "not necessarily" be one approved in a prior county commission meeting.

"I plan to meet with (Supt.) Foster Goolsby, and Reuben Yancey (school board attorney) either Friday afternoon or Monday afternoon," said Blackburn. He explained details of a proposed agreement needed to be worked out before the actual lease could be drawn.

The biggest question on how far each governing body would be willing to go on the lease apparently revolves around liability.

Blackburn said the extent to which the county commission would accept liability for the presently condemned structure is more a "business" matter than a legal one.

About two weeks ago, the board of education agreed to accept the commission's proposal to save the old building.

Since then little action has been taken.

Officials indicated there was a problem of communicating who should make the first move.

Proposed by the commission is a three-year lease for the 52-year-old VHS, in exchange for a \$15,000 cash contribution and emergency repairs to the building.

Officials have proposed the building be converted into offices for government and non-profit enterprises.

PREP POLLS

Cedar Shoals Goes To Top

By TOM TUCKER
Journal Prep Editor

The North has risen again. North Georgia, that is.

Cedar Shoals, probably the finest North Georgia high school football team in the state at this time, has taken first place in The Journal's prep football rankings.

Cedar Shoals, which possesses a freewheeling, high-powered offense engineered by option quarterback Jeff Pyburn, takes the lead in the fifth week of the prep poll following Valdosta's stunning upset of No. 1 ranked Thomasville in Class AAA.

Thomasville had been atop the poll since late last season and is the two-time defending state champ in AAA, but now it appears it might have serious problems winning the Region 1-AAA.

Valdosta (3-0) shot from sixth to second and was followed by Wheeler of Marietta. Thomasville dropped to fourth. Warner-Robbins, Richmond Academy, Moultrie, Dunwoody, Lakeside and Sprayberry followed in order.

Class AA leader Americus had trouble beating a non-association team from Dothan, Ala., but held on to its No. 1 ranking as did Cartersville, which won easily in Class A.

There is a new Class B No. 1 team, Adairsville.

The Tigers beat previously No. 1 ranked Gordon Lee convincingly and grabbed the leadership position.

The two teams actually swapped places in the rankings as Gordon Lee fell to seventh this week, the same position as Adairsville in last week's poll.

The only team in Class AA to lose was No. 5 ranked Marist of Atlanta, which was upset by Riverwood 12-7 in one of the big shockers of the season. Marist fell from the poll and the new No. 10 team on the listing is Peach Co., which has an offensive attack which has rolled past 100

Prep Poll

- CLASS AAA**
1. Cedar Shoals 3-0
 2. Valdosta 3-0
 3. Wheeler 5-0
 4. Thomasville 3-1
 5. Warner-Robbins 4-0
 6. Richmond Acad. 5-0
 7. Moultrie 3-0
 8. Dunwoody 4-0
 9. Lakeside 2-1
 10. Sprayberry 3-1
- CLASS AA**
1. Americus 3-0
 2. Gainesville 4-0
 3. Central-T'ville 5-0
 4. Lakeshore 4-0
 5. Evans 5-0
 6. Gordon 4-0
 7. Coosa 4-0
 8. West Rome 3-1
 9. Brown 3-0
 10. Peach Co. 3-0
- CLASS A**
1. Cartersville 5-0
 2. SE Bulloch 4-0
 3. Carrollton 3-1
 4. Central-T'ville 3-1
 5. Riverwood 2-0-1
 6. Jackson 4-0
 7. Early Co. 3-0
 8. Mary Persons 3-1
 9. Harlem 2-1
 10. Bass 3-0
- CLASS B**
1. Adairsville 4-1
 2. Trion 3-0-1
 3. Bremen 3-1-1
 4. Jonesville 4-0
 5. Pacelli 4-0
 6. Loganville 5-0
 7. Gordon Lee 4-1
 8. Sav. Country Day 2-1
 9. Union Co. 2-1-1
 10. Pelham 4-0

points in three games.

In Class A, Pepperell (No. 3) lost to Chattooga and fell off the poll.

In the Class B poll the only newcomer was Pelham, owner of a 4-0 record. Pelham moved into the elite 10 after Crestwood, last week's 10th ranked football squad, lost to Roswell 13-7 in a tight ball game. Roswell, of course, is a higher classified team (Region 5-A) but Crestwood plays several higher classified teams this season. In Class B they are still rated as a strong football team and a threat for state honors in post-season play.

Of the 40 football teams ranked on the entire poll, only six of the ranked teams lost last weekend, proof that the cream is indeed coming to the top. Of the six teams which lost, three of them were victims of teams which were also state-ranked.

If Cedar Shoals can hold on to its No. 1 ranking in Class AAA throughout the season, it would be the first time in many years that a North Georgia team has won a title. Through the early 1970s, Valdosta was controlling the state. When they faded, Thomasville, also of South Georgia, came on.

And that's where Thomasville has been since Valdosta's fade—sitting on top of the state. But the urgency of Valdosta, and the early-season loss by the Bulldogs would seem to eliminate Thomasville from the playoffs, unless there are some other upsets in Region 1-AAA.

Right now, the most-awaited game in North Georgia is the Nov. 7 meeting of Cedar Shoals with Lakeside High in Athens. That should be a key test for the Jaguars.

By Justice Department

City Schools Under Investigation

By BECKY VAIL

Justice Department officials are coming to Valdosta to examine the city school system's progress on desegregation.

School board attorney Reuben Yancey admitted the investigation of records Wednesday is "more than routine," but said cause for the probe at this time is unknown.

Chairman Hulyn Smith believes a member of the Black Community Action Group filed a report with the federal government, following charges at a board meeting the system is indulging in "educational genocide of black teachers."

Sonny Vickers, former BCAG president and education committee chairman, denied his group filed the report against the city.

He reaffirmed the group's desire to

settle alleged unbalanced black:white teacher ratios locally without federal intervention.

"But since they're coming, we do intend to talk with them", he added.

The system reports regularly to the Justice Department under court-ordered desegregation, usually in written form.

The vis-a-vis meeting Wednesday is out of the ordinary.

"It looks like they're starting over again," said Yancey.

He added the Justice Department is, however, examining in-person some other southern and northern schools' integration records.

According to the attorney, "it is very possible" the coming unexpected investigation here is the result of BCAG demands earlier this month for more representative black:white teacher

ratios in the city schools.

Valdosta was permitted to operate under the neighborhood school concept following court battles in the early seventies — but faculties and staff were required to be integrated.

"We were asked to move some white and black teachers, which we did," he said Yancey. "We now report to the court about once every six months."

Results of an investigation by BCAG showed predominantly white faculties teach in the system which is estimated to be nearly equally divided between black and white students.

The report also claims the city has worked out equitable black:white teacher ratios in predominantly white schools, but not for those schools predominantly black.

School officials indicated the

statistics compiled by the BCAG do not correspond to those kept by the system.

Supt. Foster Goolsby earlier declined to release the system's findings until complete local investigation was made. The results would be released as a package to the BCAG and the news media, he said.

This was before the Justice Department letter was received here Friday.

"We are trying to do the right thing," Smith explained. "We've got the smoothest operating system in south Georgia."

"We're going to turn our records over to them (Justice Department officials) — then we'll just have to wait and see."

"But we're not going to roll over and play dead to the Feds," he added.

The BCAG pledged in its meeting with the school board this month to work out a local solution. Vickers said, when contacted by the Times, that

9.28.75
9.28.75 (CON'K)
—City

Hyder Not Overlooking Strength Of Dougherty

By MIKE CHASON

After scoring the upset of the still young high school football season with a 12-10 victory over defending state class AAA champion Thomasville last week, many prep gridiron observers looked ahead at the schedule and figured Moultrie's Packers to be the next true test for the surprisingly powerful Valdosta High Wildcats.

Evidently, those folks haven't asked Valdosta head coach Nick Hyder his opinion. In his judgement, when the

Dougherty Trojans make the trip to Cleveland Field here Friday night, the local fans may be in for a shock.

"Dougherty has a team that can beat Valdosta High School," Hyder emphasized. "They are really quick on defense, and they execute extremely well on offense."

"They lead the region (1-1 AAA) in offensive rushing, and they have Duane Cartwright, who's just a real tough back. They're very capable of scoring a lot of points."

"Hyder was quick to point

out the Trojans of coach Luther Welsh are the proud owners of the state's longest win streak at 11 games. Dougherty also leads the region with a perfect 4-0 record followed by the 'Cats and Moultrie, both at 3-0.

"They've got to be stopped on the ground," Hyder said. "They use two quarterback. One can throw a little better than the other, but they are both capable players."

After priming themselves for a big game such as the one in Thomasville last week, many teams may find it hard

to get up for two Friday nights in a row. On occasions, upsets have ruined a good team's record, simply because the club's mental attitude could not reach the fever pitch stage it was in for the previous week's game.

But Hyder related no problem keeping the VHS squad up mentally and it's really no small wonder.

Last year, for the first time since anyone can remember, the Wildcats became the whipping boys of Region 1-AAA. Teams were quick to jump on the bandwagon and

send Valdosta down to a football defeat, perhaps for the first time in that school's history.

But this year, things have changed or maybe as Warren G. Harding once proposed just "a return to normalcy."

The 'Cats are back in their accustomed position right at the top of the heap in the region, and the many VHS team members who suffered through last season's heartbreaking disaster won't forget the punishment they took at the hands of the other schools.

Dougherty just happened to be one of those annual rivals who had a pretty good football team in 1974 and no doubt have one again this season. Possibly it's as good or better than Valdosta's.

But if the Trojans are counting on the Wildcats suffering a letdown after an almost unbelievable win last week, Hyder feels they had better forget it.

If Hyder knows his team, that's one advantage Dougherty won't have. Game time is scheduled for 8 p.m.

Probably starting lineups for both teams follow:

Valdosta

Offense—ends—Rick Register (175, sr.) or Robert Bathin (190, soph.) and Clark Stull (155, sr.) or Bernard Robinson (160, sr.); tackles—Randy Horn (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.); guards—Dwight O'Keefe Hunter (220, jr.) or Tom Copeland (175, jr.) and David Caroe (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.); center—Gary Wines (185, sr.); halfbacks—Billy Berrian (175, sr.) and Jesse Loving (170, jr.); or Ben Anderson (175, sr.); quarterback—Alton Harrison (185, sr.); quarterbacks—Buck Belge (180, soph.), Jackie Vain (170, jr.) and Robert Baldwin (175, jr.); fullbacks—Eddie Beard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.) and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter; linebackers—Harold Reninger (220, sr.) and Keith Middleton (200, sr.);

Dougherty

Offense—ends—Donald Laster (185, jr.) and Curtis Gainer (190, jr.); tackles—Frank Hagley (210, sr.) and George Piffman (175, jr.); guards—Richard Williams (170, jr.) and Glen Zuern (180, sr.); center—Lee Davis (185, sr.); halfbacks—Duane Cartwright (185, sr.) and Jimmy Clark (155, jr.); flanker—back—Tim Carter (150, jr.); quarterback—Jerry Aubin (160, soph.); defense—ends—John Holloway (185, jr.) and Jet Joiner (170, sr.); tackles—Roy Jones (170, jr.) and Randolph Drake (170, jr.); nose guard—Tino Baretas (140, soph.); linebackers—Larry Spurling (190, soph.) and Eddie Johnson (170, jr.); cornerbacks—Frank Davis (175, sr.) and Russell Dunaway (190, jr.); safeties—Jesse Mercer (160, sr.) and Larry Young (155, sr.).

October 4, 1975 Lonely Hero

Just looking at Valdosta High School halfback Billy Berrian could give one the idea he was the only one who didn't get to play against Dougherty in the Wildcats' 32-0 victory Friday night. Not so, however,

Berrian, a starter, scored one touchdown and passed for another before taking their breather as the Wildcats picked up their fourth straight win. Full details are on page 6.—Times Staff Photo.

Brooks, Lowndes May Get Solar Institute
... see page 10

The Valdosta

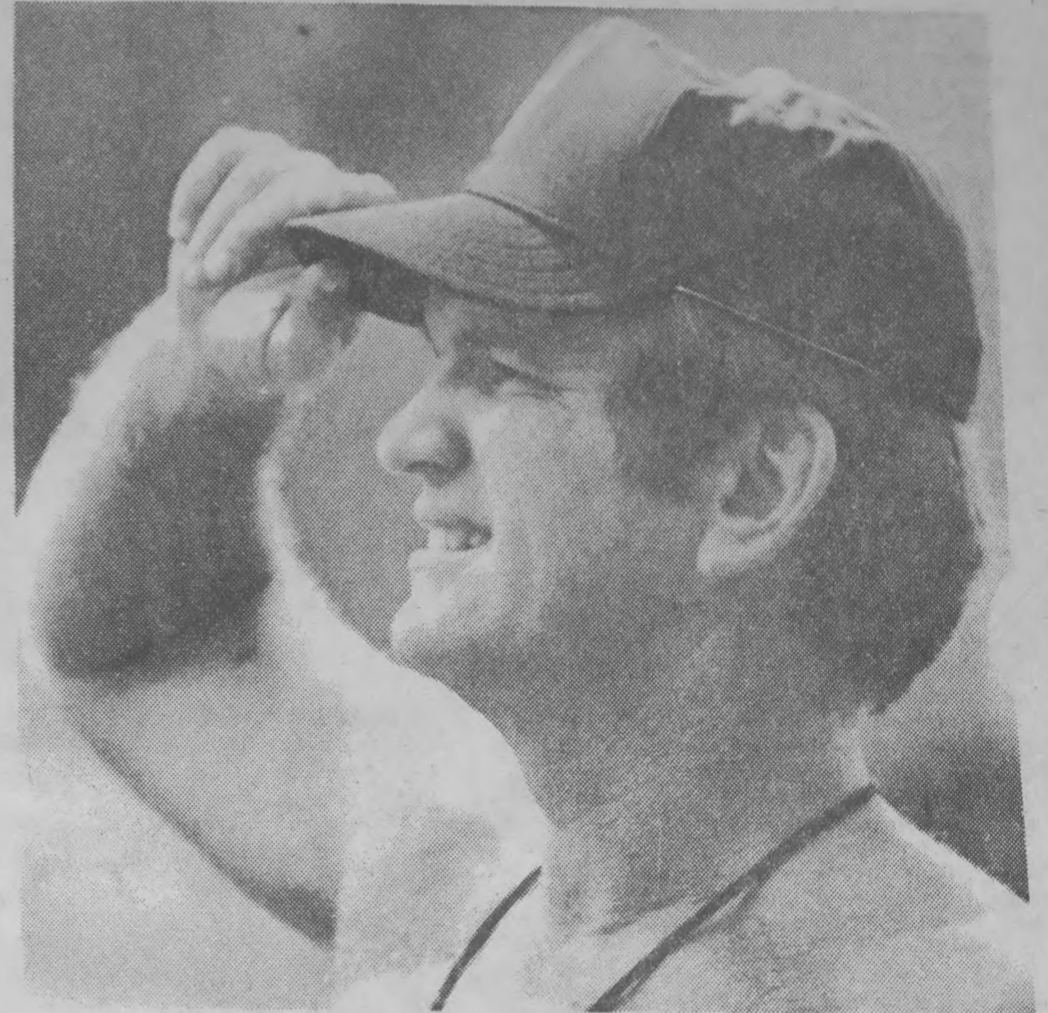
VOL. 70—NO. 322. Telephone 244-1880 9-3-75 Valdosta, Georgia, Wednesday



interceptions as... three... when they play Moultrie... Nov. 7...



This Is The Way: Lowndes Coach Noel George Issues Early Orders To Vikings



Surveying The Sights: Barechested Nick Hyder Eyes His Charges

Haraaaaugh! King Football Begins

Monday morning, Aug. 18, and the large patch of green grass that has gone untread upon all summer long was suddenly covered with football players.

Haraaaaugh!
The sound rattled off the fences as one and then another of the youngsters squared off against a teammate then plowed into him like a bull into the matador's red cape.

Once the dive was finished, the two players stood up, squared off and the collided with each other again.

To the unknowledgeable, it might look like a mass free-for-all, but to almost everyone in the area, it was the beginning of the football season. Every year at mid August, just three short weeks away from the opening night of the high school football season, the Georgia High School Association lifts its ban against high school football players donning pads and allows them to begin hitting in preparation for the upcoming season.

And area football coaches must take advantage of it. It's the official signal that football season is moving in on them. They'll only have a short time to prepare for that opening night.

If it were any other sport, all this might go unnoticed. But football is king in south Georgia. He who rules the gridiron seems to rule the world and it all begins with football camp.

Valdosta's Wildcats opened their camp Monday at the Twin Lakes 4-H Camp; a haven for football players to do what they hope to do best.

Lowndes, forced to begin their spring drills a week earlier by the opening of the school year Monday, spent a week in shorts at their camp at Hahira Junior High School going through their paces before being able to don pads this past Monday to begin the hard hitting.

"This is where the boys get their taste of what Class AAA football is like," one area coach explained. "I've seen a lot of education out there. Some of them learn for the first time what it feels like to hit a freight train."

Story By
Julian Miller
Photos By
Ken Klanicki

It's not all rock'em, sock'em football, however. It is in football camp that other things are learned, specifically eating and sleeping habits. "We tell them about it until we told them about it," explained Valdosta High School Coach Nick Hyder in a rare time off from putting 101 varsity candidates through their paces.

Sleeping habits for most were almost as bad as coaching staffs throughout the state tried to drum in the importance of doing both correctly to insure the best of conditioning.

It's a rugged time of the year when injuries are bound to happen but most are regarded with high esteem by the inflicted players who proudly show their bumps and bruises. But it's just as rough on the coaches who spend the same six hours a day in the hot sun and the rest of the time stretched out on a bunk in some small cabin or dilapidated gym behind a huge fan trying to cool off. At least one didn't make it.

He was rushed by jother coaches from his field side position to a Valdosta doctor this week when the sunshine and heat mixed a little too strongly with his poor conditioning and medicine he had been taking. He returned later, a little embarrassed but otherwise unharmed.

While Valdosta maintained the 4-H Camp and Lowndes' Vikings bunked up in the Hahira Junior High gym, Berrien's Rebels from Nashville made their annual pilgrimage to Spence Field in Moultrie for their week of camp. Brooks County's Trojans

(See King Football, page 4B)



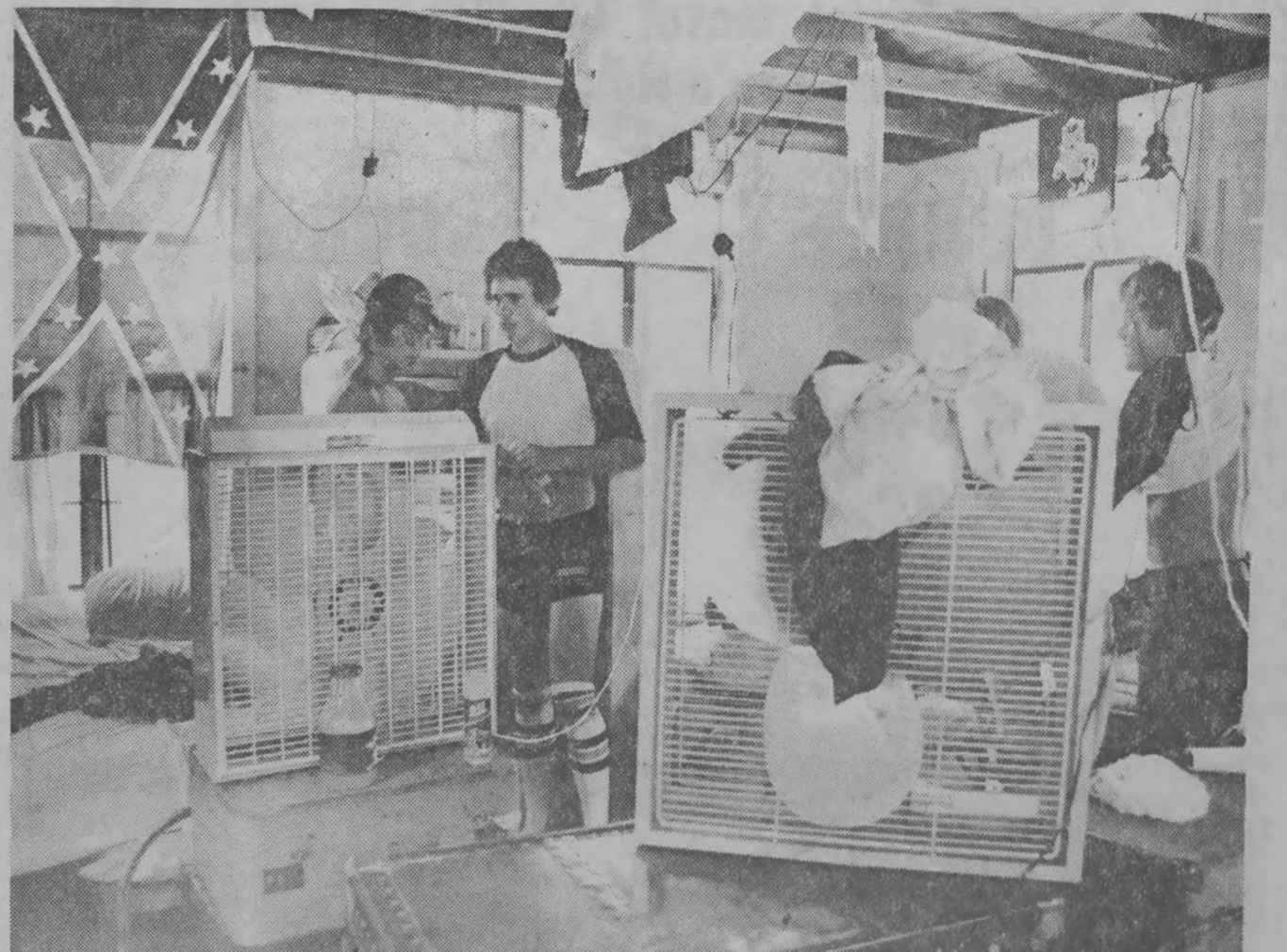
Wright Bazemore Fills Rising 'Cat In On Next Play



Wrong! LHS Boss West Thomas Corrects



Come And Get It: Valdosta Gridders File Through For First Class Groceries



They Call It Home: Young Wildcats Use Fans In Futile Attempt To Cool Cabins

Weather

Sunny and hot Wednesday with a high in the mid 90's. Fair and mild tonight with a low near 70. Details on page 2.

Price Fifteen Cents

The Valdosta Daily Times

Madison Teachers Still Bargaining ... see page 3

One Section - 12 Pages

Valdosta, Georgia, Tuesday Afternoon, September 2, 1975

Telephone 244-1880

VOL. 70 - NO. 321.

School Buses Transport City Students To Classes

By BECKY VAIL
For the first time bright yellow school buses traveled city streets this morning to transport Valdosta students to class.
Today marked the start of a new school year and the start of a much-needed transportation system for city students.
A few problems arose in getting the last two routes

business for the city.
Smiling faces gathered at the many bus stops around the city glad to go back to classes.
Most students were enthusiastic about both the first day of classes and the opportunity to ride the brand-new buses.
About 850 students were transported to Valdosta High School, 700 to Valdosta Junior

High School and 125 to four elementary schools, said Brandon.
The biggest problem in planning was not being able to project traffic at the school opening hours, he said.
After the second run to the high school, about 7:45 a. m., the traffic really "jammed up," said the assistant superintendent.
"We were a little off in our

time schedule and also on not knowing how many students were going to ride," he added. "But overall, we were really pleased."
Four buses were five to 10 minutes late at the junior high school, said Brandon.
School staff and the bus drivers were meeting this morning to iron out scheduling changes to smooth the operation.

Brandon said the schedule should be worked out by the end of the week. He asked parents and students "to bear with us."
Staff projections for the number of students who would take advantage of the new state-supported bus transportation system was about right, he added.
"We had just about the number of students we

planned. Two or three runs were slack and a few were heavy, but it was overall, very, very good."
Students acclimated well to riding the bus and seemed to enjoy the new experience, he said.
"We haven't had adverse comments yet," was the attitude (See School, Page 2)

—School 9-2-75
"excellent," he added.

Brandon said that because of seniors driving to school and parents taking younger children, traffic jams were a problem.

This was particularly true on Forrest Street, which is a main artery to both the high school and the elementary schools, he said.

Students who live more than one and one-half miles from their neighborhood school are eligible for the state-supported city bus transportation.

The school board purchased nine new buses to handle the student transportation.

The buses are also to be used to transport students involved in extracurricular activities after the school day is complete.

Each morning each bus is to make two runs to the high school and two to the junior high, then repeat those routes in the afternoon.

VHS started at 8:10 a.m. and the junior high and elementary schools at 8:45 a.m. to accommodate the school bus schedules.

Robins Leads, Valdosta Is Third

By The Associated Press
Valdosta, which startled Georgia high school football fans last weekend with a 12-10 victory over Thomasville, shook up this week's Associated Press rankings for Class AAA and pushed Warner Robins out on top.
But Classes AA and A, which suffered only a few

upsets, remained mostly the same. The AP's Advisory Board ranked Americus first in AA and Southeast Bulloch tops in A.

Valdosta's victory over Thomasville, the defending state champions, cost the Bulldogs their top ranking in AAA and sent them into a fifth place tie with the Moultrie Packers.

For their efforts, the Wildcats were voted third.

Warner Robins' Demons, who breezed past Baker of Columbus 49-21 last weekend, have held their opponents to 33 points this season while rolling up an impressive 221.

They got eight first place votes and 111 of a possible 120 ranking points for the top spot.

Americus ripped past a strong Dothan, Ala., team 14-8 to hold onto the first place ranking in AA with 99 poll points and seven first place votes.

The Panthers barely edged out Central of Thomasville, which received 97 poll points after humiliating Berrien County 54-0.

Southeast Bulloch got four first place votes and 103 points to take the No. 1 spot away from Cartersville, which had tied Southeast for top billing in a last week.

Class AAA — 1, Warner Robins 40, 2, Wheeler 50, 3, Valdosta 30, 4, Cedar Shoals 30, 5, Thomasville 31, TIE, Moultrie 30, 7, Central Macon 40, 8, Richmond Academy 50, 9, Dougherty 40, 10, Durwoody 40.
Others nominated: South DeKalb; Jonesboro; Lakeside; Benedictine; Lucy Laney; Northside Warner Robins; Savannah; Douglass, Atlanta and Northside, Atlanta.

Class AA — 1, Americus 30, 2, Central, Thomasville 50, 3, Lakeshore 40, 4, Gainesville 40, 5, Gordon 40, 6, Evans 50, 7, Peach Co. 30, 8, Coosa 40, 9, Dodge Co. 50, 10, West Rome 31.
Others nominated: Camden Co.; Brown; Marist; Woodward Academy; M. D. Collins; Fulton; Bradwell Institute; West Fulton and Archer.

Class A — 1, Southeast Bulloch 40, 2, Cartersville 50, 3, Carrollton 41, 4, Early Co. 30, 5, Irwin Co. 30, 6, Commerce 40, 7, Jackson 40, 8, Hartem 21, 9, Bass 30, 10, Central, Carrollton 31.
Others nominated: Ridgeview; North Springs; Chattoga; East, Atlanta; Mary Persons; Smith; Glenn Hills; Sylvan; Pepperell; Washington-Wilkes and Cedar Grove.

Prep Standings

REGION 1-AAA			Overall Region			
W	L	T	W	L	T	
Dougherty	4	0	0	4	0	0
Valdosta	3	0	0	3	0	0
Moultrie	3	0	0	3	0	0
Thomasville	3	1	0	3	1	0
Westover	2	2	0	2	2	0
Albany	2	2	0	2	2	0
Lowndes	1	2	0	1	2	0
Tift	1	3	0	1	3	0
Bainbridge	1	3	0	1	3	0
Crisp	0	3	0	0	3	0
Monroe	0	4	0	0	4	0

Last Week's Results		
Valdosta 12, Thomasville 10		
Moultrie 35, Tift 0		
Dougherty 13, Westover 8		
Albany 10, Monroe 9		
Bainbridge 33, Crisp 13		

This Week's Schedule		
Friday		
Dougherty at Valdosta		
Lowndes at Tift		
Monroe at Westover		
Thomasville at Crisp		

Saturday		
Moultrie at Albany		

REGION 1-AA (East)			Overall Sub-region			
W	L	T	W	L	T	
Camden	4	0	0	4	0	0
Coffee	3	0	0	3	0	0
Appling	3	1	0	3	1	0
Ware	2	1	0	2	1	0
Fitzgerald	1	3	0	1	3	0

Last Week's Results		
Camden 7, Charlton 0		
Appling 27, Jeff Davis 24		
Coffee 13, Cook 7		
Cairo 14, Fitzgerald 7		
Ware 35, Blackshear 0		

This Week's Schedule		
Friday		
Appling at Berrien		
Camden at Coffee		
Fitzgerald at Cook		

REGION 1-AA (West)			Overall Sub-region			
W	L	T	W	L	T	
Central	5	0	0	5	0	0
Worth	3	1	0	3	1	0
Cairo	2	2	0	2	2	0
Cook	1	2	1	1	2	1
Berrien	0	2	1	0	2	1

Last Week's Results		
Central 54, Berrien 0		
Coffee 13, Cook 7		
Cairo, 14, Fitzgerald 7		
Worth 10, Mitchell 8		

This Week's Schedule		
Friday		
Appling at Berrien		
Fitzgerald at Cook		
Cairo at Americus		

REGION 1-A			Overall Region			
W	L	T	W	L	T	
Early	3	0	0	3	0	0
Seminole	2	2	0	2	2	0
Turner	2	2	0	2	2	0
Mitchell	1	2	0	1	2	0
Randolph	1	2	1	1	2	1
Terrell	1	2	1	1	2	1
Brooks	1	3	0	1	3	0
Miller	0	2	0	0	2	0
Lee	0	2	1	0	2	1

Last Week's Results		
Brooks 34, Miller 0		
Early 12, Seminole 0		
Randolph 20, Lee 0		
Worth 10, Mitchell 8		
Turner 20, Terrell 0		

This Week's Schedule		
Friday		
Brooks at Seminole		
Lee at Early		
Randolph at Mitchell		
Terrell at Miller		

REGION 2-B			Overall Region			
W	L	T	W	L	T	
Clinch	3	0	1	3	0	1
Charlton	1	2	1	1	2	1
Patterson	1	2	0	1	2	0
Atkinson	0	2	1	0	2	1

Last Week's Results		
Clinch 14, Brantley 6		
Camden 7, Charlton 0		
Pelham 34, Patterson 14		

This Week's Schedule		
Friday		
Clinch at Charlton		
Atkinson at Patterson		

October 7, 1975

'Cats Rout Dougherty 32-0 To Lead 1-AAA

'Multiple' Offense Stymies Trojans

By MIKE CHASON
Valdosta showed Dougherty's Trojans just how dangerous a multiple offense can be at Cleveland Field here Friday night where over 9,000 fans watched coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats completely demolish a strong Dougherty team 32-0 in the 'Cats' most impressive performance of the 1975 football season.

YARDSTICK	
	Valdosta
First Downs	16
Yards Rushing	126
Yards Passing	61
Passes	227
Passes Int. by	20-30
Fumbles Int. by	3
Fumbles Lost	0
Punting	2-49.0
Penalties	8-80
	5-32

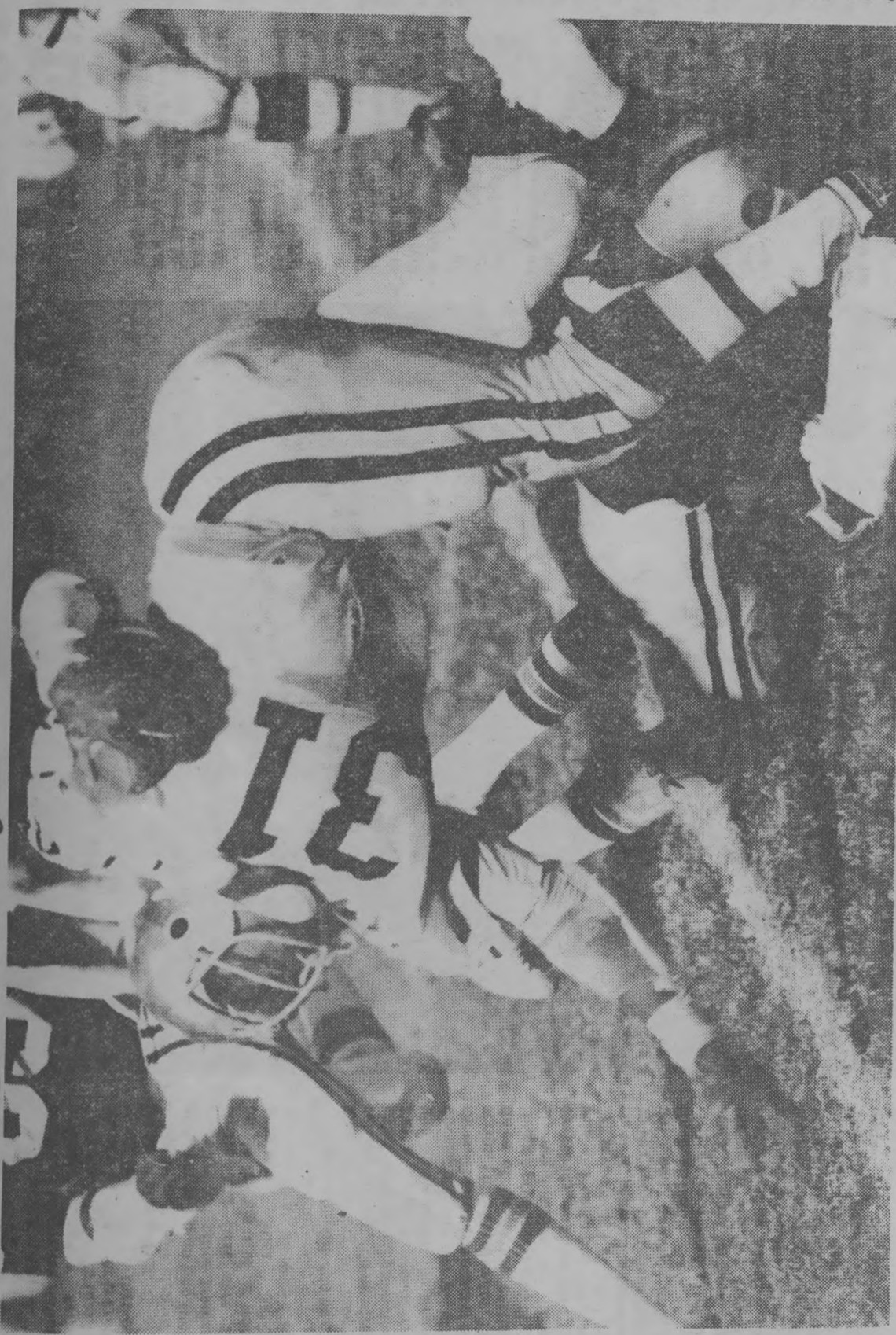
Employing every type of offensive formation from a halfback option pass to a fake punt, Valdosta took advantage of three interceptions and a pair of costly Dougherty fumbles to rout the Trojans in the Albany school's first loss in five starts.

The Wildcats, meanwhile, grabbed the Region 1-AAA lead, at least for one day anyway with an unblemished undefeated season go down the drain.

"Our kids just can't meet the challenge," an obviously disappointed DHS head coach Luther Welsh complained. "When you don't block and tackle, everything turns out the way it did tonight."

"Facts are facts. They've just got a better football team than us. I just don't know of anything we did good tonight. I've got no excuses at all."

Welsh didn't begin to go into the problems encountered by his club, but



Straining For One More: Valdosta Fullback Alton Battles (31) Tries To Keep His Balance Against Dougherty

they all started when sophomore quarterback Jerry Aubin fumbled on the second play from scrimmage of the game and Valdosta linebacker Keith Middleton pounced on the ball at the Dougherty 11 yard stripe.

Five plays later, Valdosta's sophomore quarterback sensation Buck Belue, bucked the middle of the line behind

strong blocking by his teammates and scored from one yard out.

Robert Baldwin added the extra point kick, and the 'Cats had the winning points on the board with the game only 3:05 old.

Belue, who plays a lot older than his 15 years, engineered a picture book 74 yard drive on Valdosta's next

possession, capping it off by pitching out to halfback Billy Berrian who found tight end Rick Register wide open for a pass in the end zone 11 yards away.

The key plays of the scoring effort topped perfectly by Baldwin's PAT kick, were an 18 yard rollout by Belue and a 20 yard third-down pass play from Belue to fellow

sophomore Jodie Wilson, son of the VHS offensive coordinator, came into his own as a pass receiver in the contest, hanging on to four Belue tosses for 64 yards. Berrian also had 64 yards worth of passes on seven catches.

Wildcat defensive back Anthony Lynch initiated the next Valdosta score with a

fumble recovery on the Dougherty 15 yard line. VHS fullback Alton Battles, who carried eight times for 53 yards, picked up two of those yards on the TD play with 4:47 left in the second quarter.

The Trojans' only real threat came just after halftime when they moved to the Valdosta 39. But then

Lowe, who's only a junior, stepped in and picked off the Aubin pass and returned it to the Dougherty two yard line.

Unfortunately a clipping penalty ruined the play, but still gave Valdosta possession. The 'Cats scored 10 plays and 49 yards later when Belue nipped the corner of the end zone on an eight yard scramble with 2:43 remaining in the quarter.

The Wildcats' final score was set up by Belue's fake punt which Hyder says he works on every day in practice. Back to punt the ball on fourth down, the cool headed sophomore passed 31 yards to Berrian down to the Dougherty 18 instead.

Berrian burst off tackle with just 42 seconds left in the game from eight yards out for the clincher.

For the night, Belue was 16 of 24 via the passing route for 177 yards. But he wouldn't have had a chance to do his thing so often except for a stingy 'Cat defense led by linebacker Harold Renninger who had five individual tackles.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing	Valdosta — Berrian 8-53, Belue 15-24, Loving 3-22, Berrian 5-14, Brinson 2-9, Mills 1-4, Dougherty — Carrwright 8-34, Clark 7-14, Aubin 12-15, Walden 2-0
Passing	Valdosta — Belue 16-24-177, Berrian 4-38, Wilson 2-2-12; Dougherty — Aubin 2-11-23, Walden 1-5-4
Pass Receiving	Valdosta — Berrian 7-64, Wilson 4-44, Still 3-23, Register 3-46, Loving 1-29, Trimbell 1-8, Carrwright 1 minus five
Punt Returns	Valdosta — none; Dougherty — none
Kickoff Returns	Valdosta — Berrian 1-16; Dougherty — Davis 2-29, Spurling 2-45
Defense (Number of Tackles)	Valdosta — Renninger 5, Summer 5, Bickman 2, Williams 2, Middleton 2, Conway 2, Johnson 2; Dougherty — Spurlin 9, Johnson 9, Dunaway 6, Mercer 6, Joiner 5, Davis 5, Drake 5, Jones 3

Score By Quarters

Quarter	1	2	3	4	Total
Valdosta	0	0	6	6	12
Dougherty	0	0	0	0	0

SCORING
Vald. — Belue 1 run (Baldwin kick)
Baldwin kick
Vald. — Register 8 pass from Berrian (Baldwin kick)
Vald. — Battles 2 run (kick failed)
Vald. — Belue 6 run (pass failed)
Vald. — Berrian 8 run (pass failed)

interceptions as they play Moultrie Nov. 7

Welsh Wary Of Wildcat Power

By MIKE CHASON
 ALBANY — To hear Luther Welsh tell it, his Dougherty High School football team might as well be facing Oklahoma or Ohio State when the Trojans visit Valdosta Friday night for an 8 p.m. battle with Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats.

To be sure, the Wildcats are 3-0 in Region 1-AAA this season and are coming off a 12-10 upset win over the heretofore top ranked AAA team in the state in Thomasville, but despite these glowing figures, the Cats stand only in a tie for second place in the region standings.

Only one team is keeping the VHS gridders from that top position they have held so many times in the past but have been denied for three years. That team is Dougherty.

Welsh's Trojans are 4-0 on the year after wins over Lowndes (28-13), Tift County (14-7), Albany (7-0), and Westover (13-8). Besides the Thomasville win, Valdosta bombed Crisp County (Cordele) 48-6 and Bainbridge 27-0.

"We're going down there just to give Valdosta a good scrimmage," Welsh drawled. "I just hope they don't embarrass us. We're just too young and inexperienced to stay with them. We haven't got the team we had last year."

It was last season when Dougherty finished the season with a flourish, handing Thomasville its only loss of the season along the way. The Trojans are now riding the crest of a 10-game win streak, but the way Welsh sees it, number 11 may be awhile in coming.

"We'll be trying for 11 Friday night, but the second half of our season is going to be different than the first half," Welsh moaned. "We've got some tough teams ahead of us."

"Defensively, we've been getting better, but I'd say Valdosta's still ahead of us. Offensively, we've had some problems."

Welsh is well aware the Cats have shined in both departments.

DHS scouts, usually full or

praise about Thomasville after every Bulldog victory, couldn't think of enough good things to tell Welsh about the Wildcats after the upset last week. Their report only added to the Dougherty coach's growing anxiety.

The Trojans plan on going to the air against Valdosta, utilizing the talents of sophomore quarterback Jerry Aubin who has directed

the last two Dougherty victories.

Aubin is only one of 16 underclassmen Welsh plans to release against the Wildcats Friday, but his biggest offensive workhorse so far this year has been senior halfback Duane Cartwright who almost transferred to Albany over the summer, only to find he

would be ineligible to play for the crosstown rival this season.

Cartwright, a big bruising 185 pound runningback, then switched his allegiance back to the Trojans, doing extra work to become eligible.

"We have to try to pass on them," Welsh revealed, "because we don't have good enough offensive blocking to open up holes. Their defense

did a good job on Thomasville. They are really aggressive."

Welsh hopes the Wildcats suffer a letdown after being at a super high state mentally against Thomasville. But playing on Valdosta's own Cleveland Field before a full house on a Friday night, the veteran head coach is taking nothing for granted.

School Probe

JD Sits On Findings

By Times Staff Writer
 The Justice Department is sitting on findings of the probe into Valdosta's compliance with the school desegregation court order.

"We have no conclusions at this point," a Justice Department official told the Times today.

Kaydeil Wright, the federal attorney who was here last week, is to meet with her superiors "within the month" to decide the next move, said a department spokesman.

"We call this a fact-finding trip."

"We don't consider it an investigation — that elevates it to a level it is not at this point."

"We are gathering information. That

information will be interpreted from the standpoint of the law, and how the court order conforms to the state of the law nowadays," he added.

Miss Wright and Supt. Foster Goolsby examined records and visited each school in Valdosta, looking over student assignments particularly in the elementary schools.

The court order under which the Valdosta system operates, permits the neighborhood school concept in elementary schools. Total integration is required in the single junior high and high school.

The spokesman admitted the court order would be reviewed, but would not

indicate whether neighborhood schools are acceptable now the city has state-supported transportation for all students.

The Department was also noncommittal on why the "fact-finding mission" was begun now, or whether other school systems operating under similar court orders are also being reviewed.

"Our dealings are between lawyers," said the spokesman. "We will be dealing with the school board attorney, lawyer to lawyer. That's the channel."

"Unless or until we would take some court action," findings on the city school situation "are not in the public domain."

Behind Warner Robins

Valdosta Second In Pole

By The Associated Press

Georgia's Class AAA high school football teams battled furiously in region games last weekend, and when the dust had settled only Warner Robins had held onto its position — No. 1.

There were fewer casualties in the other classifications, and The Associated Press Advisory Board's weekly poll released today ranked Americus and Southeast Bulloch tops in Classes AA and A.

Wheeler, AP's second-ranked AAA team last week, was defeated 21-15 by Rossville in a weekend game; Central of Macon, seventh last week, smashed eighth-ranked Richmond Academy 45-0 and third-ranked Valdosta shut out Dougherty 32-9. All three losers were

knocked from the standings this week.

Warner Robins, which posted a 34-17 region 2AAA victory over Jordan, received eight of 11 first place votes to be ranked No. 1 for the second straight week.

Valdosta moved up to second with six second place votes; Cedar Shoals, which rolled to an impressive 54-9 triumph over previously undefeated Berkmar, was third.

Class AAA		
1. Warner Robins	(5-0)	
2. Valdosta	(4-0)	
3. Cedar Shoals	(4-0)	
4. Central, Macon	(5-0)	
5. Thomasville	(4-1)	
6. Moultrie	(4-0)	
7. Dunwoody	(5-0)	
8. Northside	(4-0)	Warner Robins
9. Southwest	(4-0)	DeKalb
10. Jonesboro	(5-0)	Douglas
Others	(4-0)	Atlanta tie
Berkmar, Academy,		Wheeler, Savannah, Richmond, Doug.

herty, Lakeside, Tucker, Griffin and Southwest of Macon.

Class AA		
1. Americus	(4-0)	
2. Lakeshore	(5-0)	
3. Central, Thomasville	(5-0)	
4. Gainesville	(5-0)	
5. Peach Co.	(4-0)	
6. Dodge Co.	(6-0)	
7. Coosa	(4-0-1)	
8. Marist	(4-1)	
9. Gordon	(4-1)	
10. West	(4-0)	Fulton
Others		nominated: Camden Co., M. D. Collins, Brown, West Rome, Franklin Co., Fulton, Appling Co., Evans, Woodward Academy and Bradwell Institute.

Class A		
1. Southeast Bulloch	(5-0)	
2. Cartersville	(6-0)	
3. Carrollton	(5-1)	
4. Early Co.	(4-0)	
5. Irwin Co.	(5-0)	
6. Jackson	(4-0)	
7. Bass	(4-0)	
8. Hartem	(3-1)	
9. Commerce	(4-0-1)	
10. Central, Carrollton	(4-1)	
Others		nominated: Louisville, East of Atlanta, Sylvan, North Springs, Smith, Ridgeview, Glenn Hills, Central Gwinnett, Telfair Co., Riverwood, Washington, Wilkes and Mary Per-sons.

Schools Release Findings

By Times Staff Writer
 Valdosta schools' racial employment is better than the Black Community Action Group has charged.

But white employes, particularly in specialized professional areas, do outnumber black personnel.

These findings were evident in a statistical report issued without comment or elaboration by the superintendent's office Friday.

Superintendent's figures varied with those presented to the board of education in September by the BCAG.

A BCAG representative said they had faculty and staff lists from the schools three days after school began which do not correspond to the figures released Friday.

The group charged earlier the city school administration was indulging in "educational genocide" of blacks.

These figures represent cumulative yearly totals and do not show individual

(See Schools Page 2)

Schools Personnel Fluctuations

The report was prepared for school board members to show the official school records patterns of racial employment trends in the system.

Only 10 of 120 additional personnel added to the school system since 1968 have been black, the superintendent's report showed.

Three of 13 new administrative positions went to blacks over the period.

The superintendent's report also showed the Teacher ratio (for educationally disadvantaged students) is 7:27 black:white.

Special education, a relatively new program in the school system, today has 24 more white teachers and one less black than in 1970.

While black professional personnel may be fewer now than in years past or in some cases, simply not hired in corresponding ratios to the racial makeup of the student body, other blue-collar areas are more than representative.

Black food service workers and custodians outnumber white workers by far.

The superintendent's office did attach notes to the cert professional areas—spe education, Title etc.—which said educators hired under the programs had to have specific education backgrounds or be toward post-

October 8, 1975

Benson Fears 'Cats Really Are Back

By MIKE CHASON
 ALBANY — "I think the name Valdosta scares a lot of people before they even go on the field against them."
 To Valdosta High School football followers, that phrase has a familiar ring to it, but it was a sound heard none too often last year when neither the name nor the usually ferocious black and gold uniforms did anything to scare seven teams in Region 1-AAA who pinned defeats on coach Nick Hyder's green bunch of recruits.



BUCK BELUE



BILLY BERRIAN

Dangerous Pass Combination

But now with a 4-0 record and wins over two of the top ten Class AAA schools in the state, opponents have again been forced to contend with Valdosta's powerful tradition.
 Winfred Benson, whose Monroe Golden Tornadoes face Valdosta at Mills Memorial Stadium here Friday night, knows the days gone by as well as anyone.
 "I tell you the truth," the

straight talking Benson said. "I haven't seen Valdosta in a game or even on film, but my scouts tell me that they are back the way they used to be. "And if they are, I just

don't see how we're going to be able to stop them as green as we are."

Benson is faced with heavy losses via the graduation route this season and finds himself in a position where he must play mostly underclassmen including a pair of juniors and a sophomore in his offensive backfield.

Sophomore Jeff Johnson has assumed the quarterbacking duties and had his best night of the year when he hurled two touchdown passes to push the Tornadoes past revitalized intra-city rival Westover 13-8.

But that was only the first win of the season for the Monroe team in five starts. Junior fullback Ricky Blake, junior halfback Horace Willis, and senior tailback Rod Kelley up to this point have given the Tornadoes little offensive rushing support.

"Like I've told you before, we just have a real green ballclub," Benson said. "We were just able to capitalize on Westover's mistakes."

"Johnson is improving, but he's just a sophomore who

was pressed into service. He did a pretty good job against Westover."

The Monroe head coach finds a little consolation for his not too strong offense in a defense which has proven to be downright stingy until it gets too tired to play.

"My defense has been consistent all year long," Benson said. "They'll even come up and make the big play every now and then."

"But once the defense gets tired, the other team takes advantage of it. They just can't stay on the field the whole night. I just hope we can stop Valdosta from scoring early and getting ahead of us right at the start."

Although Benson admitted

his troops always play a little better at home, he also knows the Wildcats remember the licking his Tornadoes administered last season by a 34-12 ballgame. It was the first time in the history of the two school's rivalry in which Monroe has come out on top.

"I'm sure they'll be wanting to get revenge for that loss," Benson said.

His only hope is that his young offense can put together enough firepower to stick with the high scoring Wildcats who have averaged just under 30 points a game.

The 8 p.m. contest should be a matchup between the throwing arms of the sophomore Johnson and Valdosta's 15 year old answer to him, Buck Belue.

Belue is the region passing leader and also has a tendency to take off on a running effort on occasion just to keep the defense honest.

His favorite receiver so far this year has been senior halfback Billy Berrian, but as of late sophomore Jody Wilson and senior split end

VSC Women Tie For 2nd In Columbus Invitational

October 12, 1975

By Times Staff Writer
 COLUMBUS — Valdosta State College's women's volleyball team won its second match of the season here Saturday by default to gain a second place tie in the "B" division of the Columbus College Invitational Volleyball Tournament.

VSC defeated Mississippi College by default, 15-0, 15-0, Saturday when the

Milani Paces Vikings' Win

Times Staff Writer

Mississippi team had to leave the tournament early because of transportation problems. VSC had earlier lost to Jacksonville (Fla.) University, 4-15, 15-9, 15-11.

Host Columbus won the "B" division, by defeating Berry College of Rome, Ga., 15-10, 15-8 leaving VSC and JU tied for second.

Florida State defeated Alabama, 9-15, 15-6, 15-7 for the "A" division championship.

VSC takes a 2-5 record into its first home meet Wednesday at 6 p.m. against the University of Florida in the VSC gym in Valdosta.

Dance Theatre At VSC

October 12, 1975

Special To The Times
 The Carl Ratcliff Dance Theatre is to be presented in concert in Whitehead Auditorium at Valdosta State College at 8:15 p.m. Thursday. The performance is the opening event of the 1975-76 VSC Concerts and Lectures series.

"Carl Ratcliff, who had been a principal dancer in clubs, concerts, television and films, is currently head of the modern dance department of the Atlanta Ballet Company and the Atlanta School of Ballet," said Ruth Sisson, chairman of the sponsoring VSC Concerts and Lectures Committee.

"In 1969, he founded his four-member dance troupe out of the Atlanta Ballet Company because he felt the need for dance to speak in a more personal, intimate way. This is unique at a time

when mass communications put such distances between audience and performer."

The company uses movement, refined to the point of an art form, to communicate, she pointed out.

"The four dancers perform together as a unit while retaining their individuality, much as a string quartet does," she said.

Part I of the program is entitled "Explanation," Part II, "Expression."

"In the first section, the dancers demonstrate how various sources of movement are explored, showing how movement becomes dance and how dance communicates," said Miss Sisson.

"In dance, the human body is the instrument for expression. That instrument must be trained as an athlete

trains, but with all the refinements and subtleties that an art form requires."

The second section of the program goes into choreographed works.

"The craft of movement evolves into pure art, into dance theatre," she said.

Dancers in the company, besides Ratcliff, are Virginia Barnett, Teena Mohr and Donna Rizzo.

"This program, like others in the VSC Concerts and Lecture series, is open to the public," Miss Sisson said.

On Nov. 11, the Freiburg Baroque Soloists are scheduled to perform. Classical guitarist William Matthews is to present a program of guitar and lute music on Feb. 26.

All programs are scheduled for Whitehead Auditorium at 8:15 p.m.

October 14, 1975

'Cats Scratch For 28-10 Win Over Monroe

By MIKE CHASON
ALBANY — What started out as a superthriller ended as another ho-hum Valdosta High School victory at Mills Memorial Stadium here Friday night when Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats made the Monroe Golden Tornadoes their fifth consecutive Region 1-AAA football victim by a 28-10 margin.

YARDSTICK		Valdosta	Monroe
First Downs		24	12
Yards Rushing		194	70
Yards Passing		178	177
Passes		16-30	8-24
Passes Int.		2	1
Fumbles Lost		2	1
Punting		1-30	4-31
Penalties		10-107	11-125

A keyed up Monroe offense was a primary contributor to the 7-7 first quarter score, and most of the some 6,000 fans spaced sparsely throughout the huge stadium crept a bit closer to the edge of their seats, hoping to see the thrill packed football game they hadn't really thought they were in store for.

However, in the final three quarters of the marathon, penalty-plagued contest, the 'Cats rambled up and down the field almost at will, racking up 372 yards in total offense and scoring three more touchdowns.

Still, Valdosta was not as sharp as a week ago against a strong Dougherty team from Albany at VHS's Cleveland Field. However, Hyder had no qualms about the win. He'll take them all.

"What do you mean we may have been a little down tonight... a seemingly incredulous Hyder responded to a reporter's question standing just outside his team's locker room underneath the stadium complex.

"When we score 28 points, I can't say we're down. No sir. I wish I had 28 points several times last year. The 'Cats fought hard, hung tough and did a good job."

After going 3-7 his first season at the helm of the VHS program in 1974, Hyder finds it hard to believe someone could find fault in his team when it is off to such a good start.

After all, no matter how unimpressive his team may have looked, and after checking the statistics, there's no way it could have been called unimpressive Friday night, the fact is that Hyder and his team have changed from the region goal to the region hero and leader, in just one short year.

And if sophomore quarterback Buck Belue has his way about it, the 'Cats are back to stay.

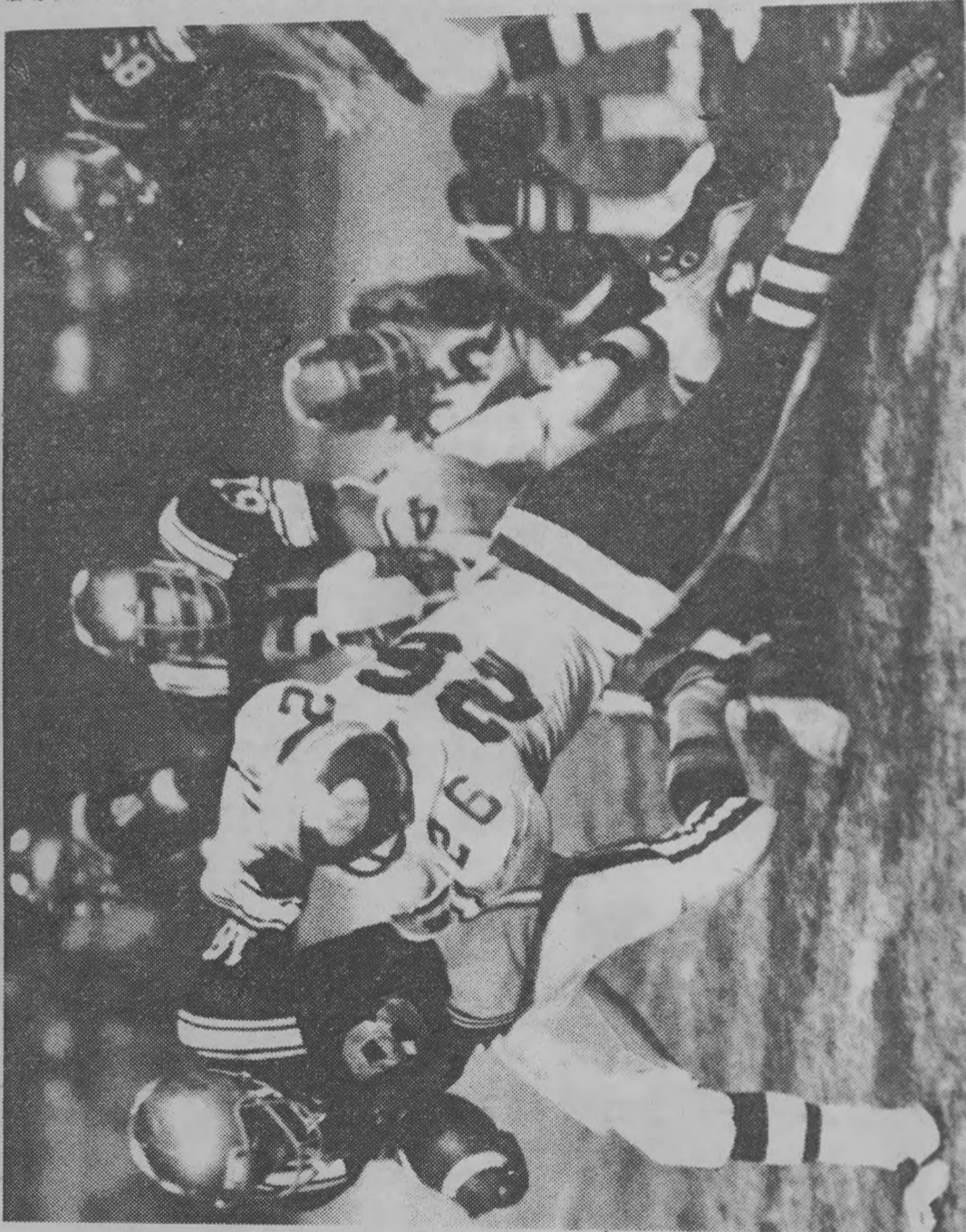
Despite having several of his early passes dropped, the 15-year-old connected on 15 of 27 tosses for the night for 164 yards through the air as well as scoring a pair of touchdowns on the ground via 47 yards in 11 carries.

Although he was probably the roman candle of the lot, he definitely wasn't all the fireworks.

Halfback Billy Berrian, running more than usual, bulled out 33 yards in 13 carries and a touchdown as well as hanging on to eight of Belue's passes for 95 yards.

But the real workhorse of the offense was fullback Alton Battles who carried a couple of Tornadoes around on his back most of the warm October night, but still totaled 88 yards in 18 trips and one touchdown.

A short Monroe punt allowed 'Dosta to reach



The Hard Way: Valdosta's Carl Demps (18) Drags Monroe's Luther Jackson Along — Times Staff Photo By Ken Klianicki

in the quarter to wipe out apparent scoring drives but it was a Tornado fumble which led to the 'Cats second touchdown with only 32 seconds remaining in the half.

Linebacker Harold Renninger, who led the VHS defense with seven tackles, recovered Kelley's fumble on the Monroe 37-yard stripe.

Five plays later, after he had found Berrian for a 25-yard passing gain, Belue rolled untouched into the end zone.

The third period held more horrors for the 'Cats when Belue had his punt blocked early in the second half. Only a come from behind tackle by Ben Brinson kept Monroe's David LaMarr from ramming the ball into the end zone.

As it was, the Tornadoes couldn't reach the promised land and had to settle for Green's 28-yard field goal.

Valdosta then turned right around to roll downfield 72 yards for Battles' three-yard scoring scamper which really cracked the game wide open with 3:10 to go in the period.

The Tornadoes of coach Winfred Benson moved the ball to the Valdosta 13 in the fourth quarter, but on fourth down, VHS defensive back Alvin Thomas ended all scoring hopes with an interception of Johnson's pass.

In a drive which ate chunks out of the clock, the Wildcats controlled the pigskin for 15 consecutive plays to set up Belue's two-yard TD run with 3:32 left to play.

Again, Monroe came back to threaten only to have sophomore safety Allen Worthy pick off a pass and race 76 yards for the

sideline and narrowly miss a touchdown when Kelley ran him down.

The play was just typical of the way the Valdosta safeties played all night. Junior Lawrence Lowe totaled six tackles, several of which came in now or never situations where a miss would have meant a touchdown.

However, Johnson did penetrate the VHS secondary on eight of 24 passes for 177 yards. Like Belue, Johnson also watched in dismay as he hit his receivers right in the hands only to have the ball dropped.

But the ball wasn't the only thing being dropped. The officials couldn't keep their flags in their pockets, handing out 107 yards in penalties to Valdosta and 125 to Monroe.

It would be quite an understatement to say they were a key part of the game.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Pushing: Valdosta — Battles 16-88, Belue 11-47, Berrian 13-33, Loving 3-16, Brinson 2-10; Monroe — Kelley 12-43, Blake 6-26, Green 1-2, Johnson 3 minus one.

Passing: Valdosta — Belue 15-27-164, Wilson 12-14; Monroe — Johnson 8-24-177.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Berrian 8-95, Stull 4-38, Wilson 1-14, Baldwin 1-14, Register 1-11, Battles 1-6; Monroe — B.J. LaMarr 3-92, Rivers 3-72, Kelley 2-14.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Demps 1-7; Monroe — None.

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Demps 2-45; Berrian 1-16; Monroe — Toombs 2-38.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Renninger 7, Hunter 3, Lowe 6, Middleton 3, Williams 2, Mitchell 2, Lynch 2; Monroe — Cooper 10, Peaks 8, Berryhill 7, Kennedy 7, Stevens 6, Toombs 5, Rigline 5, Jackson 4, D. LaMarr 4, Burns 4, Smith 4, P. Johnson 3, Albritton 3, McRoy 2, K. LaMarr 2.

Score By Quarters:

Valdosta	7	7	7	7	28
Monroe	7	0	3	0	10

Valid — Berrian one run (Baldwin kick)
 Mon — B.J. LaMarr 52 pass from Johnson (Green kick)
 Valid — Belue three run (Baldwin kick)
 Mon — Green 28 FG
 Valid — Battles three run (Baldwin kick)
 Valid — Belue 27 m (Baldwin kick)

10.14.75

'Cats, Pack Clash Friday

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta's Wildcats, standing among the elite as one of the state's unbeaten football teams after failing to break even last season, must do what no one else has been able to do so far this year to remain that way this weekend.

The 'Cats somehow have to score on Moultrie... and as experience shows, it won't be easy.

The Wildcats and Moultrie's Packers, the only two unbeaten, untied teams

left in Region 1-AAA, clash head on at Cleveland Field here Friday night to head a list of nine games involving area football teams that night.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Moultrie at Valdosta
Lowndes at Westover
Cook at Irwin
Berrien at Coffee
Citizen's at Westbrook
Brooks at Mitchell
Clinch at Atkinson
Hamilton at Interlachen
Rickards at Madison

Other action pits Lowndes at Westover in another Region 1-AAA battle. Cook

(Adel) at Irwin County (Ocilla), Citizen's Christian (Douglas) facing Westbrook's Cougars at Dixie, Brooks County (Quitman) at Mitchell County (Camilla), Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) at Coffee (Douglas), Clinch County (Homer-ville) at Atkinson County (Pearson), Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) at Interlachen, Fla., and Rickards (Tallahassee, Fla.) at Madison, Fla.

But the eyes of the state will be on Cleveland Field at 8 p.m. Friday night in the battle for the uncontested lead of one of the toughest leagues in the state.

To date, the Packers of Coach Bud Willis, always seeming to be the bridesmaid with a second place finish in the region instead of the bride, have shutout five foes, Monroe, 29-0, Lowndes, 21-0, Tift County, 35-0, Albany, 16-0, and Westover, 36-0.

Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats, who until 1971 were the terror of the state but fell all the way down to a 3-7 record last season, have defeated in order, Crisp County, 48-6, Bainbridge, 27-0, Thomasville, 12-10, and

Dougherty 32-0, before edging Monroe 28-10.

A packed house of around 12,000 is expected to be on hand for the kickoff in this, Valdosta's third battle of the unbeatens in the past four weeks. Valdosta had earlier knocked off Thomasville and Dougherty in two successive games.

The stakes won't be as high but Lowndes' Vikings and Westover's Patriots will be putting just as much stock in their clash at Albany's Mills Memorial Stadium.

Coach West Thomas' Vikings are trying to even out a 2-3 record while the Patriots will be hoping to better their 2-4 mark.

Clinch County's Panthers, 4-1-1 in their best start in quite a few years, try to make it 5-1-1 and 2-1 in Region 2-B when they take on Atkinson's Rebels in Pearson.

Cook's Hornets from Adel, fresh off a 13-7 victory over Fitzgerald and subsequent week off from their annual open date, return to action against a powerful once beaten Irwin County tribe in Ocilla.

Brooks County's Trojans, after winning their second game of the season against Lee County (Leesburg) last week, take on a more powerful Mitchell County crew from Camilla Friday on the road.

Berrien's Rebels from Nashville, still looking for their first victory of the season, try for it the hard way, against a powerful bunch of Trojans from Coffee in Douglas.

Westbrook's Cougars, undefeated since their season opening loss to Westwood, try for number five against Citizen's Christian from Douglas.

Hamilton County's Trojans, who lost their first two games then won two straight, return to action hoping to break above the .500 mark against Interlachen in a district game.

And Madison's Cougars, after breaking into the winner's column in a victory over hapless Greenville Fla., in a cross-county battle last weekend, try again against the more powerful Rickards' 11 in Madison.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Fri., Oct. 17, 1975 - 15 -

Bud Just Wants To Score More

school players are counterproductive.

offseason building program, including encouraging players to participate in other sports and a mandatory weightlifting program, with making his relatively small team — averaging 160 pounds a player — quick and strong.

6-4 in 1974 — records most coaches would envy. A victory over Valdosta, which has caused eight of Moultrie's 20 losses, could give Willis a crack at the state championship.

school football at Tift County. "There will be a time when a team might score on you, I just hope it's not more points than we'll have."

MOULTRIE, Ga. (AP)—At 6 feet 2, 190 pounds, Virgil "Bud" Willis looks like he could still don a uniform and play football if he had to. Only his greying hair gives him away.

"I put a lot of responsibility on their shoulders," he said. "After that, they realize that the more responsibility you give them, the better they will perform. Really, it's their game. It's not for a bunch of old coaches."

"We have to realize, also, that probably 60 per cent of the boys are from the country and they are involved in all types of activities on the farm," said Willis. "They pitch and bale hay and I'm not sure that's not the best thing for them. They also earn money and pay their own way."

"We've been in the same spot a lot of times, which we are thankful for," he said. "I want to keep Valdosta from scoring, but that would be as unexpected from our players as for Valdosta."

The quiet-spoken, unflappable former All-Southeastern Conference end for the University of Alabama, who has led the Packers to an 82-20-1 record, came to Moultrie in 1958.

But the 44-year-old Moultrie coach has had little reason to dress out this year. His Packers are 5-0 and haven't been scored on going into their crucial Region 1-AAA game with Valdosta tonight.

But Willis, who has been seen comforting players on the sidelines after they make errors, has managed to command a following of his own despite his penchant for staying in the background.

Willis feels rules for high school football are counterproductive.

Willis, considered the "dean" of Georgia high school football coaches since the retirement of his old friend, Valdosta's Wright Bazemore, credits an

He became head coach in the fourth game of the 1965 season when Coach Knuck McCrary had a heart attack on the sidelines and died. The last two seasons have been his worst, with the Packers going 7-3 in 1973 and

"It hasn't been one of those things we have spent a lot of time on, keeping the other team from scoring," said Willis, who played his high

VJHS JV's Thump Hahira

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta Junior High School trounced Hahira Junior School 32-16 in a "B" Team football game here Thursday. Scoring almost at will, VJHS ran up a 25-0 halftime lead before the Hahirans struck for two second half touchdowns against the reserves.

Oct. 17, 1975

November 16, 1975

MOULTRIE AT VALDOSTA

Unbeatens Clash AAA Showdown

By STEVE FIGUEROA
Constitution Prep Editor

With the last half of the season underway, the prep slate is filled with important games this week, as contending teams are starting their stretch toward Q region titles. /drives/

Region 1-AAA again provides high school followers with a crucial contest, as undefeated Valdosta hosts unscored upon Moultrie this Friday night.

The game figures to be a real thriller. Moultrie is 5-0 and ranked No. 2 in AAA, while Valdosta is 5-0 and ranked third.

A Valdosta victory would just about give the 1-AAA crown to the Wildcats, but a Moultrie win would then set up another showdown game between Moultrie and Thomasville on November 7 in Moultrie.

The guess here is that Valdosta will be the first team to score on Moultrie's stubborn de-

fense this year, but the Wildcats won't score enough to win the game. Look for Moultrie in a close one.

There's another battle of AAA unbeatens on tap down in Macon, as fourth-ranked Central Macon tangles with unranked but tough Southwest Macon. Both teams are 5-0, but the way Central smashed Richmond Academy earlier in the season seems to indicate that the Chargers are capable of repeating last year's 44-0 win over Southwest. It probably won't be Q that easy, but Central should win.

Class AA also has a clash of undefeated teams, as top-ranked Americus (5-0) travels to Eastman to battle region 3-AA foe Dodge County c (6-0).

Dodge is tough, but Americus is tougher. It might not be as bad as last year when Americus won 33-0—but, then again, it just might.

There'll be another interesting AA battle just south of Atlanta this Friday when unbeaten and fourth-ranked Lakeshore hosts always-tough Woodward Academy in College Park.

You can count on Woodward being well-coach, diciplined, and ready to play, but Lakeshore is simply too strong this year. Lakeshore will win, and it could be big.

Class A has a real good one on the slate, as No. 4 ranked Bowdon (5-1) plays host to No. 5 ranked Carrollton (6-1).

Although it's never a good bet to pick against Carrollton, the guess here is that Bowdon will win in a tremendous defensive struggle. Bowdon is coming off a fairly easy 21-0 win over Darlington, while Carrollton had to go all out to edge Jackson 7-0 and will probably be mentally down as well as physically banged up.

The Valdosta Times

CONVD ON BACK OF SHEET
ID: 15, 75
Weather

Low tonight in mid 60's.
Partly cloudy and warm
Thursday. High in upper 80's.
Details on page 2.

1975
Two Sections — 36 Pages

Price Fifteen Cents

Temper Flare Over

By JULIAN MILLER

Rumors are flying and tempers are flaring over the ticket sales to the Valdosta Wildcats-Moultrie Packers high school football game here Friday night and parties from all sides are boiling.

More than 12,000 tickets are expected to be sold for the Region 1-AAA showdown between the two unbeaten teams and all of them are expected to be sold before game time Friday, according to city school system finance director

Jack Kent, who admits to receiving an average of 50 phone calls a day from fans in search of tickets.

But the action does not end there. Football fans who waited as late as this weekend to begin purchasing tickets, the earliest any tickets other than pre-season reserve seats non-existent.

Those who waited until Monday afternoon to look into duceats to the 8 p.m. game Friday found nothing but general admission tickets left, all

behind press to place sideline predicts before Friday.

Hence come the complaints. Football fans are furious at being refused a seat to the traditional battle of the long-time rivals and charges have been flying at school officials who have some charges of their own aimed at the fans.

"That is a damn lie," rebuffed Kent for himself.

"It's legitimate too," Jackson said. "He really needs them and he's threatened to take mine if he doesn't fine them."

Fans became angry to find the reserve seats on sale less than prime advantage points but Kent readily explained the tickets went on sale three months before the season began and the public was informed they could buy all the tickets they wanted at \$15 for a five-game package.

Those who look advantage of the offer

"They, in turn, are put on the spot by some of their friends calling them at the last minute and when you can't help them it really makes you feel bad. If I had any tickets, I'd help them but I just don't have any."

Kent, however, isn't quite as downhearted because of the situation. He feels he's done all he can.

"We had it in the newspaper and on all the radio stations Friday that those tickets would go on sale Saturday," he said. "We even called Moultrie to tell them we were putting them on sale."

"But don't bet on it," Kent said. "They sold 1,000 general admission tickets in the past 24 hours. If any are left over, we'll announce it Friday morning in time to make the afternoon paper. But we will not sell any more tickets than we have seating capacity in the stadium."

To help the fans, school officials have announced the stadium will open its gates at 6 p.m. Friday to begin allowing people in for the game.

Georgia — Wildcat... Kent personally had been 'charged' with showing favoritism in selling the tickets and by at least one caller with removing a lot of prime tickets after they had gone on sale at Barnes. Kent denied the charges, as did Barnes, druggist William Jackson, who has had charge of the ticket sales.

The accusations prompted Kent to fire back at the angry fans in the same manner. "Where were all these fans last year (when Valdosta posted a lowly 3-7 record)?" Kent snapped. "These are 14, 15, 16 and 17-year-old kids out here. They need support when they lose as well as when they win."

"These tickets were on sale three months before the season ever started (as season reserve seat tickets). They could have had any seat then."

Bazemore was a little more apologetic about the whole situation.

"It makes you feel bad when someone who has done you, the team, the band or the school a favor, calls and wants help finding a ticket," Bazemore said.

"About two-thirds of the people in Valdosta have helped us before and never asked a thing in return. Then they get the pressure put on them. If I had tickets I'd be glad to help them. But we just don't have any more."

Wildcat-Packer Game Is Sellout

By JULIAN MILLER

Tonight's game was a sellout long before Cleveland Field was to open its gates for the Region 1-AAA high school football showdown between Valdosta's Wildcats and Moultrie's Packers.

Valdosta School System Finance Director Jack Kent said 10,158 tickets to the game between the two undefeated traditional rivals were sold at noon today.

That brings an even \$24,000 to the Valdosta Athletic Association, more than a third of the total \$67,250.50 the 'Cats brought in in all five home games last season. But it'll also bring on more

hard feelings as Valdosta and out-of-town football fans storm the gates when the stadium opens at 6 p.m. today and find there's no room left for them.

Following tradition of only selling as many tickets as seats available in the stadium, Valdosta refuses to sell standing room only tickets which could boost its attendance near the 12,000 mark tonight.

The 125 tickets remaining today were left over from the 400 folding chairs the school system ordered placed along the sidelines of Cleveland Field after demand for tickets became overwhelming.

Tempers flared on both sides earlier in the week when football fans who hadn't purchased season tickets stormed Barnes Drug Store here in search of prime seats

and found very few, if any, available in the lot Valdosta High had placed on the block Saturday morning.

Requests numbering around 100 per day in the office of city athletic director Wright Bazemore and 50 personally to Kent put more pressure on the school system officials.

Ever since Valdosta knocked off previously unbeaten Thomasville, then the top ranked team in the state in opinion polls, Kent and Bazemore have been besieged with phone calls about the Moultrie tickets.

Lately, irate fans had also been calling the Valdosta Daily Times charging skulduggery and complaining of ticket scalping, illegal in (See Wildcat, Page 2)

VALDOSTA HIGH BAND COMPETES IN ATLANTA

The Times-Union Bureau

VALDOSTA, Ga. — All is not gloom in Valdosta this week.

True, the Valdosta High School football team lost the year's biggest game to Moultrie by a 28-20 score Friday night.

But the Valdosta High band, the Marchin' Cats, have saved a little face for the city. Leaving here Saturday

morning, the band went to Douglasville near Atlanta to compete over the weekend in the 1975 Centennial Band Festival.

The 245-member Valdosta band was one of two among 53 to make all superior ratings in all five categories.

Drum major Elizabeth Cottle and drum major Chuck Coker made perfect scores in a competitive event for band field leaders.

Wildcat Game Here

Times Reporter if he

admitted removed a large section of tickets after they had gone on sale at Barnes Drug Store here Saturday morning. The charge came by an angry fan through a call to the Times today.

Ticket seekers have charged Kent with that and other school officials with purchasing tickets before they went on sale to the public. Kent denies them all.

Callers to the Times have complained that a student at Valdosta High School has announced he has reserve seat

tickets to the game on sale for \$5. \$2 over the original price.

That, according to state court solicitor George Tally, is a violation of state code governing the resale of tickets and is a misdemeanor.

From Moultrie, school officials complained that the Valdosta school system sent only 2,000 tickets for Packer fans to Moultrie.

Kent said "well over 1,000" reserve seat tickets, 600 student tickets and 1,000 general admission tickets went to

Moultrie and half of the sideline chair seats were to be sent to Moultrie today.

Kent admits callers have become angry with him that he would not pull tickets for them before they went on sale and that they went on sale so early.

All-in-all, the whole thing has gotten out of hand, but school officials insist they've done everything they could to satisfy the public and their consciences are completely clear.

Troubles started three weeks ago (See 1)

The Marchin' Cats Score At Festival

By Times Staff Writer

The Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats stepped and strutted this weekend to bring home all-superior ratings in five competition categories from the 1975 Centennial Band Festival in Douglasville.

Frank Batuschon said the VHS 245-member band, flag corps, color guard, drum majors and twirlers were one of two groups that topped all-superior ratings in the weekend competition.

"They put on a very good performance," said Batuschon. Cold weather and the late night exhibition made performing difficult, he added.

The Marchin' Cats were the last of 53 bands to perform in

the southeastern music festival, he said.

Drum majors Elizabeth Cottle and Chuck Coker made perfect scores in their competition event, according to Batuschon.

Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee bands competed in the annual event, he said.

The band left early Saturday morning after Friday night's Valdosta-Moultrie game, said Band Boosters President John Bellflower. It was 11:30 p.m. before the Marchin' Cats went on the field to compete.

The Band Boosters had a reception for the Marchin' Cats at the high school Sunday night when they returned with the superior ratings and trophies, he added.

"About two-thirds of the people in Valdosta have helped us before and never asked a thing in return. Then they get the pressure put on them. If I had tickets I'd be glad to help them. But we just don't have any more."

FLA TIMES UNION
Tues, Oct 21, 1975

October 20, 1975

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OCT. 16, 75 /

'Cats Face Battle On Lines

By JULIAN MILLER

With the passing of Buck Belue and running of Alton Battles and Billy Berrian on one side, and the antics of Virgil Seay, Steve Tyus and Jimmy Brinkley and a defense that hasn't given up a point on the other, Valdosta's Wildcats and Moultrie's Packers head into their Region 1-AAA showdown here Friday night.

And Valdosta Coach Nick Hyder is pinning all his hopes on his offensive line.

"That's where the challenge is," Hyder offered, while discussing the high school football game between his Wildcats with a perfect 5-0 record and Coach Virgil "Bud" Willis' Moultrie Packers, who bring the same 5-0 record and a sparkling defense that has yet to be scored upon into the fray.

"Of course that's where it always is. Some people can watch the line of scrimmage for the first five minutes and tell you who's going to win the football game.

"This is our biggest challenge so far this season and the biggest test is going to be our offensive line against that awesome defensive front of Moultrie's. The line really has its work

cut out for it tonight."

Offensive line coach Butch Brooks concurred his head coach's feelings.

"I personally feel that's the way it shapes up too," Brooks admitted. "I've been telling these youngsters they've got a challenge but they've got the pride to take it.

"There's not much glory in the offensive line... the only time they're noticed is when someone misses a block and everyone says 'Oh God... no blocking'. But that's just human nature."

Moultrie's bigger than we are and those guys have been playing together for years. But we're just going to have to get down and dig. You know, offensive line work is a mental thing. You've got to be tough mentally and I think we'll be able to move the football if we get down and play the way I know we can."

The 'Cats will be handicapped by a badly bruised shoulder on their starting sophomore quarterback Buck Belue who leads the Region in passing.

Belue, injured in the 28-10 victory over Monroe in Albany Friday night, has been practicing, but has been slowed down a little by the injury to his right shoulder.

"We took him to the doctor again today (Wednesday)," Hyder said. "We just wanted to make sure it was a bruise and nothing else. That's what it appears to be. But everything seems to be stable."

The 'Cats definitely need the 15-year-old standout to attack a Moultrie defense studded with stars.

"They've got good balance at every position, just good people," Hyder pointed out. "They're like Thomasville, everyone on the defense is good and they have some outstanding players.

Among those Hyder pointed out are linebackers Ray Rollins (6-5, 195 sr.) and Allen Sampson and safety Donald Hayes, who intercepted four passes against the 'Cats last season.

Moultrie's offense switched to the veer this season and literally shocked everyone in the pre-season jamboree.

Few people are surprised now after watching the Pack romp over five straight foes.

"Moultrie runs their veer much in the same way Dougherty ran it, but these people do much more with it," Hyder said. "Their

passing is good from sideline to sideline and as far down as they want to go."

How does Hyder plan to stop that?

"It's got more to do with the rush than the secondary," he said. "The rush is the main thing on pass defense. That puts the pressure on Valdosta's defensive line as well."

Then there's the running of flanker Virgil Seay who can break open a game, just by convincing the opposition's defense to key on him.

That leaves Tyus, Brinkley and runningback Donald Bragg wide open for quick runs. On the other hand, if a team doesn't key on Seay, the fleet-footed speedster can break it open on his own.

"He runs like he's wound up all the time," Hyder said. "That youngster can flat get out and get it on. Bragg is a tough runner and a good blocker and teams sometimes leave the door open for him chasing Seay."

Keeping all that in mind, it's no small wonder Hyder carries a worried look into

the 8 p.m. game at Valdosta's Cleveland Field.

"We're just going to line up and play our best," Hyder said. "But this game's going to depend an awful lot on who gets the breaks and what they do with them."

VALDOSTA

Offense—ends Rick Register (175, sr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Clark Stull (155, sr.) or Bernard Robinson (160, sr.); tackles Randy Horne (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter (220, jr.); guards David Cooper (190, jr.) or Tom Copeland (175, jr.) and David Catoe (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.); center Gary Mims (185, sr.); halfbacks Billy Berrian (175, sr.) or Jody Wilson (141, soph.) and Jesse Loving (170, jr.) or Ben Brinson (175, sr.); fullback Alton Battles (185, sr.); quarterback Buck Belue (180, soph.) or Steve Jennings (175, jr.).

Defense—ends Brad Cohen (180, jr.) or Robert Baldwin (170, jr.) and Jack Cain (170, jr.) or Curtis Williams (175, jr.); tackles Eddie Denard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.) and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter; linebackers Harold Renninger (220, sr.) and Keith Middleton (200, sr.); cornerbacks Anthony Lynch (165, sr.) and Theodore Demps (150, sr.) or Doug Parker (160, sr.); safeties Lawrence Lowe (190, jr.) and Allen Worthy (175, soph.) or Alvin Thomas (175, soph.).

MOULTRIE

Offense—ends Tony Webb (185, sr.) and Milton Tyus (125, jr.), tackles David Beard (190, jr.) and Ronnie French (211, sr.); guards Simpson Anthony (154, sr.) and Stacy Scott (166, sr.); center Tony Dalton (169, jr.); quarterback Jimmy Brinkley (180, sr.) or Steve Tyus (150, jr.); runningback Virgil Seay (170, sr.); fullback Donnie Braggs (160, sr.) and flanker Larry Willifred (150, soph.).

Defense—ends Kenneth Jordan (175, soph.) and James Willis (170, jr.); tackles Leroy Williams (195, sr.) and Willie Carr (180, sr.); noseman Melvin Moldon (170, sr.); linebackers Ray Rollins (175, sr.) and Allen Sampson (180, sr.); cornerbacks Keith Weeks (155, soph.) and Keith Hall (150, soph.); safeties Randy Hayes (185, sr.) and Drew Harrington (165, sr.).

OCTOBER 17, 1975
Moultrie, WHO



They Know Who...

It may have been fun and games for the band members in front of them when students at Valdosta High School turned in for a pep rally today at the school. But the VHS football players Buck Belue, Shawn Steininger and David Sumner, it was

serious business. The sign above them boldly asks, "Moultrie Who?" But it's a sure bet these three Wildcats knew very well who they were playing tonight in a battle of Region 1-AAA unbeaten. — Times Staff Photo by Ken Klainicki.

10.15.75

VSC Opens Cage Practice

make practices interesting admitted Dominey. As to his practices, which are to remain closed for the first two weeks, Dominey plans to start out explaining to his players what kind of job they have to do to uphold VSC's winning tradition.

Junior College in Tampa. Larry Brooks (6-3, jr.) from Broward Junior College in Ft. Lauderdale. Pogo Burns (6-0, jr.) from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, and Mason Barfield (6-6, jr.) a former Lowndes High standout.

season with one of the shortest teams ever at VSC. "We have 10 players and they all range between six feet and 6-foot-6." Dominey pointed out. "We don't have a lot of size but we do have a lot of quickness."

Returning to the Blazers this season from the 1974-75 team that struggled to a 15-12 record, are Mike Patrick (6-4, sr.), James Fletcher (6-0, sr.), Mike Clyde (6-5, sr.), Larry Miller (6-1, jr.), Mark Hesser (6-4, soph.) and Mark Patrick (6-6, jr.), a young brother to Mike, who sat out last season according to NCAA requirements after transferring to VSC from the University of Alabama.

Also joining the team are Jackie Manuel (6-4, jr.), a transfer student from Florida

However, Dominey may be even a little more excited about the presence of two players who may practice with the Blazers but can't play in games due to NCAA rules: Bruno Caldwell, a transfer student from the University of Florida who was second nationally in free throw shooting percentage last year, and Tony Lewis, a 6-4 sophomore transferring in from Western New Mexico.

"Those two won't be able to play but they'll certainly

"I think first and foremost we have to make the players aware of what they have to do for this particular team to win," Dominey said. "In most cases their jobs will be different than the one they held in junior college. We have to get a little cohesiveness. Without that we can't get much done."

The Blazers, because of losses of 6-10 center Chuck Waggoner, who dropped out of school because of family troubles, and Robin Holley, 6-6, who joined the Air Force after transferring to VSC from Gainesville Junior College, will be shorter than any other team they play, especially South Atlantic Conference teams.

"But there is a way to win with quickness and all we have to do is find it," Dominey said.

The Blazers are to hold daily practices from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. until their opening game against Capitol University here Dec. 1.

By Times Staff writer
With 10 eligible players and two more sitting out the season, James Dominey puts his Valdosta State College Blazers on the court for the first time today as the practice season for the 1975-76 college basketball season opens.

But the young head coach has absolutely no question about what he has to work on...backing up the theory that speed and quickness can beat size on the basketball court.

Burdened with a rather "short" recruiting season and the absence of two players who left the team before they could ever really join it, including a 6-10 center, Dominey opens the practice

School Fund Audit Is Not Accepted

OCT. 21, 1975

By Times Staff Writer
The special fund audit of Lomax-Pinevale School has not been accepted by the Valdosta Board of Education. No legal wrongdoing has been charged but financial record keeping at the school has been called "fiscally irresponsible" by Board Chairman Hulyn Smith.

All other city schools audits were accepted by the board as prepared at Monday night's monthly meeting.

Leland J. "Jack" Kent, school system finance director, said records kept for the special activities funds were inadequate or not maintained, both for cash receipts and payments.

"Various receipts appeared to be collected but not deposited timely, and several expenditures made by check did not have proper supporting documents," the audit said.

"We are not able to express an opinion that the balance sheet and related statement

of income and deficit present fairly the financial position of the Fund."

Board member Claydon Barron opposed accepting all school audits except the Lomax-Pinevale financial statement.

He cast the only dissenting vote, indicating the audit should be accepted, with the administration taking corrective action at the school to assure proper record keeping in the future.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said school system administrators had worked with the principal at Lomax-Pinevale for the past two years to "educate" him on proper fiscal responsibility.

The board has asked the principal to the next meeting to discuss the results of the audit.

Board member Lamar Newbern said the audit of the Lomax-Pinevale fund "sticks out like a sore thumb" compared with the other school financial reports.

VHS Student Council October 20, 1975

Officers of Valdosta High School Student Council have been elected for the school year and class representatives have been named.

Brenda Hornbuckle is president; Judy Eanes, vice president; Suzanne Vickers, secretary; Cheryl Gatewood, treasurer; Karen King, chaplain; Elizabeth Cottle, parliamentarian.

Representatives for the senior class are Daisy Eady, Sharon Baker and Terri George. James Bruhl is junior representative.

Sophomore representatives are Bridget Campbell, Susan McDonald, Susan Painter and Lisa Price.

Freshmen representatives are Carolyn Berrian, Bridgett Hampton, Michael Harris, Debbie Mink, Valerie Moore and Tammy Renfro.

Oct 20, 1975 Let's Decide On Old VHS

The Valdosta Board Of Education is supposed to review a lease agreement with the county on the use of old Valdosta High School tonight. Supposedly, it has been worked out between lawyers representing the two sides and in essence would put the county in sort of a landlord role.

The old school almost came to an untimely end a few months ago when the board voted to demolish it saying it was of no use to the school system and board members felt they could no longer justify maintenance and insurance costs. It got a stay of execution, however, when a group of private citizens recommended it be saved for use by non-

profit and government agencies. Since then, it has been kicked back and forth between the board and the county over this point and that point. We feel that football should now be put down and the final horn sounded.

We've had enough talk. We've had adequate time for the two parties to work out the agreement. Now the time has come for a decision — yea or nay — on what is to be done with the building. We don't think the fate of the old school should drag on like so many other issues because of dilly-dallying by our public officials.

Let's decide — one way or the other.

PACKER DEFENSE TESTS 'CAT OFFENSE

Moultrie-Valdosta

By STEVE FIGUEROA
Contribution Prep Editor

This Friday's meeting between Valdosta and Moultrie in Valdosta is just about as classic a high school matchup as you can get.

Both teams own 5-0 records and the winner will be firmly in the region 1-AAA driver's seat, the region that has produced three of the last four AAA state champs.

The game is in Valdosta, which will definitely be to the Wildcats' advantage, but Moultrie has an offsetting factor in its favor, as the Packers have yet to be scored upon this season.

The game will be the much-described meeting between the "immovable object" and the "irresistible

force." Valdosta is averaging 29.4 points per outing and leads the region in both passing and total offense.

The Wildcats, led by sophomore quarterback Buck Belue, are averaging over 150 yards per game in the air, with a completion average of over 60 per cent. Valdosta's attack also shows great balance, as the Wildcats are rushing for over 150 yards per game.

On the other hand, Moultrie is leading region 1-AAA, and probably the state as well, in both rushing and passing defense. The Packers, only team in the state in any classification that has not allowed opponents a single point, are giving up just 57 yards per game on the ground and 26 in the

Is Clash Heard Round the State

They are allowing less than 25 per cent of their opponent's passes to be completed, so Belue will be in for a real test in the air.

When the top offensive team meets the top defensive team, something has to give. It should be interesting to see who folds this Friday.

In last week's AAA showdown between Warner Robins and Northside of Warner Robins, a little bit of the pre-game buildup was spoiled when Warner Robins, then ranked No. 1 in the state, took the field before the crowd of 19,500 with four starters out because of injury, and then quickly lost two more early in the contest.

Although Warner Robins coach Bob Davis had nothing but praise for the Northside boys for "getting inspired

and playing over their heads" he also added that "there's no doubt in my mind that we would have won the football game if we had had all our starters healthy."

Warner Robins scored with just over a minute to play, and Davis admits "we thought we had it locked up."

But, Northside moved on down to the Warner Robins 39-yard line after the kickoff, and then won the game with a TD pass with just 28 seconds on the clock.

"We've had two starters out in the secondary, and it showed," sighed Davis. "We were in a prevent defense when they completed that 39-yard touchdown pass. It never should have happened."

"But, they won it, and they should win the region now," added Davis. "The game was a great one to watch, I'll tell you that. It was good for high school football. It was just a tough one to lose, though."

PREP NOTES: Marist is a heavy favorite to whip St. Pius this week, but the War Eagles will be bucking past records to do so.

In 14 previous meetings at St. Pius' Joe Bean Stadium, Marist has won only once, 14-6 in 1970, and the War Eagles were on their way to a perfect 10-0 season that year...Another favored team will be fighting the past this week, as Tucker, which has never beaten a Henderson football team in the five previous meetings between the Dekalb schools, is a heavy pick to

break through this time...Bad news for the rest of Class A, as top-ranked Cartersville will be back at full strength on offense by the time the playoffs roll around.

Willie Cox, Cartersville's speedy halfback who cracked a bone in his leg earlier in the season, is already running on the injured limb and is sure to be ready for the playoffs...Griffin's 22-7 win over previously undefeated Jonesboro this past week was more than just an impressive victory for the Bears.

It was the 20th straight win for Griffin against a region 6-AAA opponent...Hapeville's David Albright is sure to go down as that school's most productive runner.

October 18, 1975



Sign Of The Times: VHS' Anthony Lynch Chases Seay
—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III

Pack 28, 'Cats 20

Moultrie Halts 'Dosta For Undisputed Lead

By JULIAN MILLER
It was billed as a battle between Valdosta's offense and Moultrie's defense when the two Region 1-AAA teams squared off for their battle of unbeaten here Friday night.

YARDSTICK	
Valdosta	Moultrie
First Downs	17
Yards Rushing	145
Yards Passing	197
Passes	212
Passes Intc. by	17
Fumbles Lost	0
Punting	1
Penalties	4-22.5
	3-34
	4-25

But when the 11,000 fans had left and the dust had settled on Cleveland Field, it was obvious Moultrie's unheralded offense had paved the way to a 28-20 homecoming Wildcats to put the Packers all alone atop the region standings.

"We just couldn't stop them on crucial third down plays," admitted a distraught Nick Hyder, after his previously unbeaten Wildcats had shattered a previously unscored upon Moultrie's defense, but had been unable to contain the Packer's powerful offense.

"Moultrie's passing was stronger than we expected and because of it their offense seems to have been overlooked by most teams. We weren't able to play as many people as we are used to on defense, and that just wore us down."

Riding the injured passing arm of sophomore quarterback sensation Buck Belue, who ignored a badly bruised shoulder to complete

Third Downs Did It-Hyder

By MARTIN REGISTER
Moultrie's ability to convert on third downs and Valdosta's apparent inability to, brought on the outcome in the Packers' 28-20 victory over the Wildcats here Friday night...at least that's the way Valdosta coach Nick Hyder sees it.

"I think the way they converted on third downs made the difference," the coach admitted, "each battle scarred Wildcats had their own share of interceptions."

"Our offense did a good job to move against their defense," Hyder pointed out. "But they whipped us. We made some mistakes with our kicking game, mainly fielding punts. That punt fumble on our own three yard line gave up a touchdown."

"But both teams made mistakes. We had said before the game the winner would be the team that got the most breaks and did the most with them."

The Packers were stingy with their mistakes, limiting them to two fumbles in the second quarter and four penalties for 25 yards in the entire game. Meanwhile, they took full advantage of Valdosta's single bobble in the first

17 of 37 pass attempts for 212 yards, despite a host of dropped passes by his receivers, the Wildcats seemed to have little trouble scoring on the Packers.

Stopping the Moultrie offense, however, was something else entirely. Based on the running of fleet-footed speedster Virgil Seay, who broke away for 88 yards and one touchdown on 19 carries, caught two passes for 23 yards and returned a kickoff 45 yards to set up another TD, the Pack out rushed the 'Cats 197-145 to net a perfect 6-0 record.

Combined with Valdosta's 212 yards passing, the 'Cats surpassed the visitors in total offense but key mistakes, such as a punt return fumble at Valdosta's own three yard line and failure to catch four straight TD passes in succession to end the half, proved their downfall.

The 'Cats were led in battle by the rushing of fullback Alton Battles, who fought most of his way for 82 yards and a touchdown on 16 carries, caught two passes for 40 yards and returned a kickoff 19 yards.

On defense, linebackers Harold Renninger and Keith Middleton anchored the middle of the VHS defensive line but safety Lawrence ended up doing most of the tackling for the night with 19 unassisted stops by the time Seay, quarterback Jimmy Brinkley and Steve Tyus and fullback Donnie Bragg finished breaking through the VHS line.

Valdosta learned quickly why the Moultrie defense hadn't given up a single point before Friday when their first drive of the night went absolutely nowhere. But Valdosta fans were astonished at the way the Packer offense rolled to the occasion when a Buck Belue punt gave them possession on their own 49.

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Saturday Oct. 18, 1975-6-

In just eight plays Tyus was rolling goalward for the last seven yards to the Valdosta end zone. He was nailed at the goal line by the Valdosta defense but fumbled the ball through the air to split end Herbert McCory, who snagged the bobble in mid air in the end zone for the touchdown.

Defensive leader Allen Sampson, who dragged two Valdosta players down from behind on separate plays to save two VHS touchdowns, kicked his first of four perfect PATS and the Packers had a 7-0 lead.

Valdosta came to life on their next drive with an unbelievable mixture of plays to complete the distance from their own 34 to the Valdosta six in only 12 plays, most passing plays, to set up Battles' six yard touchdown run with 1:16 remaining in the first quarter.

Baldwin kicked his first of two perfect placements and the score was tied at 7-0. Valdosta's defense finally arose to the occasion on Moultrie's ensuing drive and held after six plays forcing a Moultrie punt. But the offense failed to do its share when Theodore Demps tried to field the punt at his own three and bobbled the football into the waiting arms of Moultrie's Mike Payne.

Two plays later Brinkley slanted right across the goal line from three yards out, and

found end Clark Stull on a 42 yard pass to the Moultrie 26. But that was the only receiver he was to find on the drive, watching his next four passes, all long shots, fall on deaf hands to end the half.

The 'Cats finally got their chance to tie it up on their second possession of the second half when a 34-yard long shot to Stull enabled the 'Cats to successfully drive 96 yards in eight plays. Halfback Billy Berrian accounted for the last 15 yards on the very next play an outside sweep to the left. But Baldwin's PAT kick was wide and the Pack had its lead for good, 21-20.

Moultrie added one for good measure two drives later when the Pack drove 76 yards in 14 plays with Seay breaking open in the middle for the final yard and last TD.

Trying once again to play catch up football, Belue took to the air like a cannon, but once again found nimble fingered receivers in a drive that went to the 26 before being pushed back to the 46 by a clipping charge against Berrian on a pass play that lost yardage. It was Valdosta's last desperate attempt before finally falling.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing	Valdosta—Tyus 16, 37; Moultrie—Seay 19, 88; Tyus 4, 16; Bragg 13; Battles 11; Brinkley 5, 89.
Passing	Valdosta—Belue 17, 37, 212; Moultrie—Brinkley 5, 89.
Pass Reception	Valdosta—Stull 4, 84; Berrian 5, 30; Wilson 4, 33; Battles 2, 40; Lovin 2, 14; Register 1, 11; Moultrie—Williford 1, 40; Seay 2, 23; Tyus 1, 14; McCoy 1, 14.
Punt Returns	Valdosta—T. Demps 1, 1; Moultrie—Hayes 1, 5.
Kickoff Returns	Valdosta—Berrian 3, 58; Battles 1, 19; Lovin 1, 13; Moultrie—Seay 1, 45; Bragg 3, 42.
Defense (Number of Tackles)	Valdosta—Renninger 16, Lovin 10, Demps 7, Middleton 5, Brinkley 5, Webster 5, Stull 3, Moultrie—Harmon 10, Sampson 5, Williams 8, Rollins 5, Hall 4, Carr 4, Hayes 3, Weeks 3.

Score by Quarters
Valdosta 7 7 6 0-20
Moultrie 7 14 0 7-28

Notes:
Mou—McCoy fumble recovery (Sampson kick)
Val—Battles six run (Baldwin kick)
Mou—Brinkley 11 run (Sampson kick)
Val—Belue one run (Baldwin kick)
Mou—Brinkley one run (Sampson kick)
Val—Berrian 15 run (Sampson kick)
Mou—Seay one run (Sampson kick)



—TIMES-UNION SPECIAL PHOTO

VSC Jazz Pop Singers (right) Strike Pose as Barr Conducts Jazz Ensemble

V.S.C. MUSICAL TO PLAY BACK NOSTALGIA OF 1930s

Special to The Times-Union
VALDOSTA, Ga. — The wave of nostalgia for 1930s films and music sweeping the nation's campuses has hit Valdosta State College.

When a group of VSC music majors decided to produce their own light-hearted musical variety show, they barked back to the Cole Porter era to name the extravaganza.

"You're the Top," set for 8:15 p.m. Thursday in VSC's Whitehead Auditorium, is open to the public at no admission charge. Featured

will be vocal soloists, two pianists, the 24-piece VSC Jazz Ensemble and the 14-voice VSC Jazz Pop Singers.

"WE'VE CHOSEN music all ages can enjoy," said program coordinator Leon Donahoo Jr. of Sycamore, a junior music major who conceived the idea for the show a year ago and has been recruiting classmates for it ever since.

"After the opening title number, we'll go back musically to the Roaring Twenties with a medley of songs by Gwyn Spell of the VSC

music faculty, who's known on campus for her ability to belt out songs of that era. Then we'll progress to the present with the VSC Jazz Ensemble and solo vocalists in popular rock numbers."

Mrs. Spell is director of the Jazz Pop Singers.

CONCERT PIANIST Dorothy Lewis-Griffith, who joined the VSC music faculty a year ago, is to perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." A past winner of the Geneva International Piano Competitions, she made her first solo appearance with the North Carolina Sympho-

ny at 14.

The VSC Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ed Barr, attracted an estimated 4,000 during a spring concert in Atlanta.

Vocal soloists in the show are Drake Tillery of Tampa, Alice Patten of Nashville, Ga., Greg Potter of Forest Park, Jane Clark of Thomsville, Barry Griffin of Brunswick and Donahoo. Miss Clark is also to serve as accompanist.

The program is sponsored by the VSC music department.

By BECKY VAIL
The Valdosta Board of Education has come out staunchly supporting the teachers' cost-of-living demands of the legislature — even if it means higher state taxes.

another seven and one-half per cent next year.
The board admitted their support of the teachers' pleas to restore education as the state's number one priority would probably mean higher state property or income taxes.
In spite of taxpayer recriminations, the board came out unanimously in support of the educators.
Hudson, backed by a sizable

contingency of VAE members, said this is "one of the most critical times in education."
"It can divide teachers and the administration."
"In Georgia it is almost impossible to exist — we are losing some of the finest talent that exists (because of low pay)," he said.
"We need to stay in there, scrap for it to upgrade education."

"But it is going to take dollars."
Hudson called the governor's stated intention of keeping education as the top priority and not raising taxes "mutually exclusive."
"The till is about empty. We've got to put more in to get more out. We are going to have to come to grips with the fact there is going to have to be more revenue in our state. That means higher taxes."

Hudson added the city school board has been supportive in the past. This year, in spite of inflation which has plagued the budget, teachers here are receiving a \$100 supplement.
"Even in a bad year we got an extra \$100 (locally)," he said.
"With the state, in a bad year we get nothing. And in a good year we don't get much."
Board member William B. Eanes, an

officer of the Georgia School Board Association, said the organization has also come out in favor of the teachers' higher salary demands, even if it means increased taxes.
Board member Lamar Newbern, said the board could take the easy way out, supporting the teachers, but ignoring the question of the where the revenue would come from.

HIGHER TAX NEED ACCEPTED

School Board Supports Pay Hike for Valdosta Teachers

By MIKE HILL
Times-Union Staff Writer
VALDOSTA, Ga. — Putting top priority on education and also not raising taxes is "mutually exclusive,"

says Ross Hudson, head of the Valdosta Association of Educators, and city school board members agree with him.

Hudson asked school

board members at Monday night's meeting to back up teachers in pushing the state Legislature to reinstate the teacher pay raises cut earlier this year and the local school board followed in the steps of the Georgia School Board Association. The state association has also come out in favor of higher wages for teachers even if it means increased taxes.

"In a bad year, we get nothing," said Hudson, "and in a good year, we don't get much." He said the result is that the state is losing some of the finest educational talent it has.

"WE ARE GOING to have to come to grips with the fact there is going to have to be more revenue in our state. That means higher taxes," Hudson said.

One board member said the school board could voice support of the teachers without officially recognizing the consequences, but admitted it would be taking the easy way out.

School teachers with a bachelors degree and certification currently start at a state salary of \$6,979, plus

whatever local supplement the local school system provides.

IN VALDOSTA, the local supplement for a beginning teacher is \$200 a year, plus a \$50 a year increase for the next two years. After 20 years of service, the supplement reaches \$400.

The state increases school teacher's salaries at the rate of \$174 a year for 14 years up to \$9,422 for those with bachelor's degrees.

For teachers with a master's degree, the top salary is \$10,817 after 14 years and for a teacher with a six-year educational specialist degree, the top salary is \$12,213.

After 14 years, there are no further raises.

TEACHERS DO NOT work for about two months during the summer, but usually can obtain only low-pay temporary work during that time.

Of the 409 teachers currently in the city school system, School Supt. Foster Goolsby said about 150 of them are working on graduate degrees during the summer, for which they must pay their own tuition.

10/24/75 VJHS 'B' Team Rolls

HAHIRA — The home field advantage didn't help the Hahira Junior High School "B" Team Thursday as the Valdosta Junior High School "B's" rolled to a 35-22 win.

VJHS followed the script of the two teams' first encounter as they rolled up a 28-0 halftime lead before Hahira made the game respectable with a second half comeback.

Membership In VAE October 22 Increases 1975

By Times Staff Writer
Membership in the Valdosta Association of Educators has skyrocketed this year, apparently in preparation for an expected confrontation between educators and legislators.

Jody Waples, VAE membership chairman, said 399 of a potential 404 persons joined the professional organization, breaking all previous records.

"It shows a real interest by teachers... that they want to be part of what's going on."

"They're realizing that now is the time to speak up, to really pull together as a group," said Mrs. Waples.

Increasing memberships in the Georgia Association of Educators as well as the local and national associations are widespread, she added.

VAE includes one associate member and one retired member, as well as classroom teachers and central office staff, she said.

Supports Teachers' Cost-Of-Living Demands

Doris E. Baker

out under wood

10/24/75

OCT. 21, 1975

Valdosta's Fans Change To Time

It wasn't really so long ago that this writer attended his first Valdosta High School football game. . . and came away duly impressed.



MILLER

A 12-year-old he was at the time, back in 1962 when the 'Cats were rolling over teams right and left enroute to their third straight Class AAA state championship.

But it wasn't the football game so much as the atmosphere around it that really captured the attention of the people that walked into the stadium.

The Cleveland Field stands are metal and make some more kind of noise when the fans stomped their feet on them, a noise that even the visiting team, prac-

ticing on Cleveland Field's "bald spot" had to stop and take notice. The band played continuously, and nine times out of 10, it seemed, the tune was that of the familiar "Fight Song," it played after every touchdown and any other time there was something to cheer about, a tune so catchy the visiting fans involuntarily went home singing it.

And the fans were unreal. A 10-yard gain for a first down was greeted with more clamor than a touchdown at most high school games. And after the final buzzer almost everyone there rambled out on the field to congratulate the players. . . win or lose.

It was a wholesome sight for a 12-year-old. Kinda makes you wonder what happened.

It's not the football team, for the Wildcats showed their strength same as ever going undefeated in five straight games and fighting Moultrie tooth and toenail before falling 28-20 last Friday.

That game had the air of the old Valdosta High School games before Friday night when a full scale battle went on for tickets. By kickoff time, Valdosta fans outnumbered Moultrie's 9,000 to 2,500.

You would have sworn the odds were completely reversed. Moultrie's student section made more noise than the entire south stands, where the Valdosta fans were sitting.

More Sophisticated

Valdosta fans, still considered the "best in the world" by former head coach Wright Bazemore, seem to have changed for others. They're a little more sophisticated and reserved.

The stands don't rattle any more. Instead of the fight song so often, the band seems more to be waiting for the gridiron action to get over with so they can play some more. And fans who used to swarm Cleveland Field after the action to congratulate players are now more interested in finding a good place to stand to hear what the band has to play after the game is over.

Head coach Nick Hyder stood virtually alone in the middle of the field Friday, thinking about the loss his team had just incurred while several hundred fans stood beside him, watching the band with smiles on their faces.

All They Deserved

Fans who used to pack the stadium. . . no matter who the 'Cats were playing, now wait for the big games to come along and battle for tickets, forgetting they had a chance all season long to buy preseason reserve seat tickets for less than they were willing to pay single tickets to the game last Friday.

And some school officials willingly sold their reserve seat tickets and moved their families into the press box to help them out.

And the press box, once a place reserved for working people, has become a haven for the elite, where almost each play is systematically discussed by two Valdosta fans at either ends of the large structure, who shout their praises and criticisms aloud for all to hear.

Further, radio station WVLD in Valdosta, hoping to broadcast a game report after each quarter, was limited to one person with a radio-telephone while another Valdosta station, which doesn't even broadcast at night was allowed two seats.

As for Friday night's affair, Nick Hyder, his staff and his Wildcats had worked long and hard enough to deserve a victory. But they at least don't have to worry about disappointing the fans. . . they got all they deserved.

Clash Friday Night

Valdosta, Lowndes Renew Rivalry

OCT 21, 1975

By Times Staff Writer

Call it a city-county feud, a traditional rivalry, or just call it Valdosta vs Lowndes, but Lowndes High School officials are expecting their biggest crowd ever when the two Region 1-AAA football teams get together here Friday night.

Lowndes' Athletic Director Charles Cooper said all of the 7,000 tickets are expected to be sold before game time Friday but another 500 chairs, to be placed alongside the field, are to be sold at the gates Friday.

Valdosta's Wildcats, fresh off a hard-fought 28-20 loss to Moultrie that finally settled once and for all which team has undisputed lead in the race for the region title, take on Coach West Thomas' Vikings, who have surprisingly won only two of their six ball games so far, at 8 p.m. Friday.

Anticipating a rush on tickets for the cross-city bout and answering early phone calls, Cooper said tickets for the east (visitor's) side of the stadium are on sale now at Barnes Drug Store in Brookwood Plaza.

Ducats for the west (home) side of the 7,000-seat stadium, are on sale at Lowndes High School.

"We expect most of them to be sold before the game, because we've already had a number of phone calls about them," Cooper said. "If so, we'll add another 500 chairs in the end zone to sell at the gate."

Cooper also added cars will be allowed to park behind the visitor's section instead of all on the parking lot behind the home side of the field for the first time this season, barring any last minute change.

It all sounds like a first class showdown, because it usually is.

AREAGRID SALTE
Friday
Valdosta at Lowndes
Worth at Cook
Brookwood at Westbrook
Turner at Brooks
Hamilton at Berrien
FAMU at Madison

Although the Vikings, virtual newcomers to Region 1-AAA, have never beaten the better established Wildcats now coached by Nick Hyder, the rivalry between the two schools has grown considerably.

So far this season the Vikings have defeated Monroe (Albany), 14-0, and Tift County (Tifton), 10-0 while falling in order to Dougherty, 28-13, Moultrie 21-0, Albany, 18-7, and Westover (Albany) 14-7.

The Wildcats have defeated Crisp County (Cordele), 48-6, Bainbridge, 26-0, Thomasville, 12-10, Dougherty, 32-0 and Monroe, 28-10, before losing to the Packers, 28-20 last week.

The game highlights a six-game area schedule including eight area teams.

In other action: Hamilton County's Trojans leave Jasper, Fla., for their second trip into Georgia against Berrien's Rebels in Nashville, Ga. Coach Coy

Whitener's Trojans, are 3-2 with a three-game winning streak. Foy Norwoods' Rebels are still looking for their first win.

Westbrook's Cougars from Dixie, undefeated in five straight games since their opening 14-6 loss to Westwood, hope to make Brookwood's powerful Warriors their sixth victim while sharpening up for next week's confrontation with Westwood.

Cook's Hornets, from Adel, fresh off a 28-6 loss to Irwin

County in Ocilla and 10 minute free for all with the Ocilla team and fans, return to friendlier confines of Adel to meet Worth County's Rams from Sylvester.

Brooks County's Trojans, 2-5 after a 12-6 loss to Mitchell County last week, play host to the tougher Turner County Rebels from Ashburn, hoping to better their luck.

And Madison's Cougars, riding only one win so far this season, try for two against rugged FAMU High of Tallahassee, Fla.

OCT 22 1975

Butenschons Are Praised

Sir: On Oct. 9 I read with much interest an article entitled "Little Red-Head Is Man Behind Success," which gave recognition to Frank Butenschon, director of Valdosta High School bands.

Yes, he has developed and directed many young people to become fine musicians. At his side giving continuous support and assistance has been his kind and attractive wife, Susan.

Our community is a happy and healthy Georgia city for our young students because of unselfish leadership from this outstanding couple.

A special thanks to Frank and Susan.

Nelle M. Stewart
108 W. Adair St.

OCT 22, 1975

VHS Gymnasium Floor May Be Repaired Soon

By Times Staff Writer
Controversy over the bubbling Valdosta High School Gymnasium floor may finally be coming to a close.

The Valdosta Board of Education is to discuss a compromise solution to the expensive flooring problem in a special called meeting to be held within the next two weeks.

Assistant Supt. Ralph Brandon said architect Zeb Lackey has proposed the board accept a synthetic covering for the faulty gym floor.

Apparently Middle Tennessee State University has successfully installed a similar covering over its gym floor, said Brandon.

A quarter-to half-inch thick liquid covering would be poured over the present floor after some minor repairs are made, if the board accepts the compromise proposal.

Lackey indicated in a letter to the board's attorney the

coating would wear nearly as well as a correctly installed gym floor.

This would be an alternative to a potential lawsuit to get the floor fixed.

Last fall, bubbles appeared in the floor surface and other flaws were found. An independent contractor told the board the floor was installed improperly, causing poor adhesion, and vapor pressure bubbles.

The general contractor and subcontractor have bandied about responsibility for the error. The board decided to go ahead with a lawsuit if no other acceptable recourse could be found.

According to Brandon, Lackey advised the board to accept the compromise solution, but with a performance guarantee of the synthetic material.

In addition to the gym floor, the board is to discuss the lease for old Valdosta High School and the financial audit of Lomax-Pinevale at the meeting before Nov. 5.

OCT 21

VSC Splits V-Ball Match

By Times Staff Writer
LAKE CITY, Fla. — Valdosta State College tasted victory and defeat in a round robin women's college volleyball tournament at Lake City Community College here Monday.

Dr. Nancy Scott's VSC team tumbled to the host Lake City squad 15-6, 15-7, but then rebounded for a 15-12, 13-15, 16-14 win over Jacksonville, Fla. University.

Now 5-10 on the year, VSC travels to Columbus Friday for another round robin tournament against Columbus College and Shorter.



FOSTER GOOLSBY
Achievement Programs



REUBEN YANCEY
Explains Old VHS Lease

Adopts Title IX

BoFE Bars Bias Based On Sex

By Times Staff Writer

The Valdosta Board of Education has adopted a policy of non-discrimination based on sex under Title IX of the federal civil rights and education acts.

No student or employe of the system will be excluded from participation in, or be

denied the benefits of, any educational program or activity of the city school system, the policy states.

This means no student discrimination on the basis of sex for course offerings or extracurricular activities, including competitive athletics, eligibility for financial aid, or use and comparability of facilities.

Employees are also protected from sex discrimination under the Title IX in employment criteria, recruitment, compensation, or benefits.

A grievance procedure for persons who feel they have been discriminated against is filed at the school superintendent's office.

John Field, federal funds coordinator for the city school has been named, to carry out compliance with the federal provisions.

In other activity at Monday night's meeting, the board of education:

—Committed itself to continuing a program to improve student achievement in reading at West Gordon and Lomax-Pinevale schools.

Supt. Foster Goolsby explained public schools must have these student achievement programs. The programs are required in schools where students do not score the state average on state tests or show improvement over a two-year period, he said.

The city presently has student - improvement programs at both schools.

The only area where achievement fell below the state average was in reading, added Goolsby.

—Heard a report on the status of the lease agreement between the school board and the Lowndes County Commissioners on old Valdosta High School.

Board Attorney Reuben Yancey said the terms of the lease were as the board instructed and the lease does not include any property except the main building on the landmark school campus. It does not include the gymnasium, science or library wings, superintendent's building or the football field, he said.

However, the auditorium is included in the proposed lease agreement.

—Adopted a policy on school bus transportation which sets forth student eligibility, employment, insurance regulations, etc.

A copy of the policy is on file at the superintendent's office.

Ga. Teachers Set Showdown

October 19, 1975

By ARCHIE McKAY

Georgia school teachers have set the stage for a showdown with the Georgia General Assembly in January over a pay raise they never received.

The fight has been brewing since July, when the Legislature, in special session, trimmed the state budget of some education funds, including money for raises.

Since then, suits have been filed, unions have got into the act and school teachers in general are manning the barricades.

While law suits to force the state to open the purse strings retroactively have been in the front of the educator's move, they are quietly girding their forces for a full battle.

It takes the form of a referendum which is being conducted by the Georgia Association of Educators later this month. Two questions are asked of GAE members: would they be willing to participate in a one day walkout and would they walk out longer if the General Assembly does not restore the pay raises.

The last is the kicker in the deal. Teachers are being asked to give the Legislature a deadline of Feb. 18 to restore the pay raises and add a cost of living raise to it along with funds for health programs.

What has happened is this: The teachers want to tell the Legislature they are on the spot during the next session.

The deadline proposed by the teachers, if passed, would catch the legislative thinkers in Atlanta during a hectic session.

That is exactly what the teacher group wanted and there is little doubt the referendum will get an affirmative vote by members, according to

observers.

The implied threat is open ended; it does not tell legislators what will happen after Feb. 18 if no retroactive raise is granted.

But the GAE has already started a political "awareness" campaign which some say is very mild compared to what might be in store.

Because the next logical step down the bargaining road is a strike and full political participation in the next General Election as a bloc vote.

Dr. Carl Hodges, executive secretary of the GAE, says simply the teachers are "angry." He will not predict a strike but he does not rule one out.

What of the law suits filed in federal and state court? Well, GAE officials say they have clear legal precedent but no one has mentioned stopping there.

And the mood of the leadership in (See Ga. Teachers on Page 2A)

No Changes Set Under Mix Order

By Times Staff Writer

The Valdosta Board of Education has unanimously committed itself to continuing under the current federal court order on integration.

In a no-discussion vote Monday night the board instructed the superintendent's office to inform the Justice Department the court order has been reviewed, the student assignments studied and no changes are planned.

Board member Lamar Newbern recommended the action in a motion from a prepared statement.

Supt. Foster Goolsby said the Justice Department, after visiting Valdosta schools in September, requested the city review its current the court order.

Valdosta elementary schools have operated under the neighborhood school plan since the court order was approved in the early 1970's.

What the Justice Department's request for review means is apparently uncertain. Officials here indicated it might simply be a routine matter, or it might mean the federal government could be setting the stage for new action toward integration.

An attorney from the Justice Department came to Valdosta following a presentation by the Black Community Action Group in September which pinpointed areas of potential racial discrimination in employment.

Federal officials told school administrators the Justice Department's "fact-finding mission" here was coincidental to the BCAG report.

Goolsby said that according to the attorney, no one filed a complaint against the city system.

Nostalgia Wave Has Hit VSC

Oct. 19, 1975

Special To The Times

The wave of nostalgia for 1930s films and music sweeping the nation's campuses has hit Valdosta State College. When a group of VSC music majors decided to produce their own light-hearted musical variety show, they went back to the Cole Porter era to name the extravaganza.

"You're the Top," set for 8:15 p.m. Thursday in VSC's Whitehead Auditorium, is open to the public at no admission charge. Featured will be vocal soloists, two pianists, the 24-piece VSC Jazz Ensemble and the 14-voice VSC Jazz Pop Singers.

"We've chosen music all ages can enjoy," said program coordinator Leon Donahoo Jr. of Sycamore, a junior music major who conceived the idea for the show a year ago and has been recruiting classmates for it ever since.

"After the opening, title number, we'll go back musically to the Roaring number, with a medley of songs by Gwyn Spell of the VSC music faculty, who's known on campus for her

ability to belt out songs of that era. Then we'll progress to the present with the VSC Jazz Ensemble and solo vocalists in popular rock numbers."

Mrs. Spell is director of the Jazz Pop Singers.

Concert pianist Dorothy Lewis-Griffith, who joined the VSC music faculty a year ago, is to perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." A past winner of the Geneva International Piano Competitions, she made her first solo appearance with the North Carolina Symphony at 14.

The VSC Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ed Barr, attracted an estimated 4,000 during a spring concert in Atlanta.

Vocal soloists in the show are Drake Tillery of Tampa, Fla., Alice Patten of Nashville, Ga., Greg Potter of Forest Park, Jane Clark of Thomasville, Barry Griffin of Brunswick and Donahoo. Miss Clark is also to serve as accompanist.

The program is sponsored by the VSC music department.

Noteworthy— Valdostans Pledge College Sororities

Eleven Valdostans have pledged social sororities at Valdosta State College.

Pledging Alpha Delta Pi, which was established at VSC in 1958, is Anna Beth Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Hughes.

Tapped by Alpha Xi Delta, which has had a chapter at VSC since 1958, are: Pamela Lynn Rice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ruby Rice; Tandra Faye Sanders, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Sanders; and Kim Elizabeth Schutt, daughter of Don. T. Schutt and Mrs. Kathleen Schutt.

Pledges of Kappa Delta, which was established at VSC in 1958 are: Chrystle Lee McDonald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee McDonald, and Virginia Greer Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Stewart.

Pledging Phi Mu, which has been on the VSC campus since 1965, are: Brenda McConnell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. McConnell; Angela Denise Poirier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Poirier, and Glyn M. Webb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Webb.

Tapped by Zeta Tau Alpha, which was established on the VSC campus since May, 1971, are: Lily Anne Martinez McIntyre, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Y. McIntyre, and Rebecca Anne Perkins, daughter of Mrs. Mary Anne Perkins.

VHS vs LHS/ Hyder Just Wants A Win

By JULIAN MILLER

Valdosta fans, rallying to the rivalry between the two schools, will be looking for a lopsided victory when their Wildcats go up against cross town foes Lowndes' Vikings here Friday night.

All head coach Nick Hyder wants is a victory.

"Everybody's talking about us still having a chance in the region, but that means nothing if we can't even win our own county championship. And that's what this is, the Lowndes County Championship."

Hyder sends his 'Cats into battle against West Thomas' Vikings in Lowndes' Martin Stadium at 8 p.m. Friday in a Region 1-AAA match the Vikings have never won.

That's enough incentive for the Lowndes fans but Valdosta may have even more in the form of a possible playoff berth for the region championship, should the ball bounce that way.

The Wildcats, 5-1 overall and coming off a 28-20 loss to Moultrie after defeating state champion Thomasville, 12-10, earlier this season, could conceivably end up in some sort of playoff should Moultrie lose to Thomasville when they play their regular season game Nov. 7.

But in order to remain eligible for such a playoff, the 'Cats know they will have to remain undefeated the rest of the season.

With a possible ballot by region coaches in the air should two or more teams end up in the tie, it would seem the Wildcats would also have to look impressive enough to catch the eye of the voters.

"We need to play good, solid football," said Hyder, "which we need to play anyway. But I'm certainly not saying we need to run up a score. Listen I've got enough respect for West Thomas and his team to be glad to get out of there with any kind of a win at all. One point would be enough for me."

Hyder readily admits even his spirits were down after last week's loss to Moultrie. "But when they (the Wildcats) came out for practice Monday I thought they responded real well," he added.

"That's the character we've tried to install all year. With good football from here on out, there are several possibilities still open to us, and one of which is a three-way playoff."

Hyder like Thomasville head coach Jim Hughes, said there is a possibility the region will decide to vote on two teams to play in a playoff instead of simply electing one region champion, increasing the chances of putting the Wildcats back into contention.

"But a lot of things have to happen before them, the first being, someone has to knock off Moultrie. Dougherty, Hyder pointed out, whose only loss so far has come to Valdosta, still must play both Thomasville and Moultrie.

"Anything can happen."

Hyder encouraged.

"Lowndes has a good, solid football team from many respects," Hyder continued. "They beat Monroe, who we beat 28-10, 14-0. They're capable of playing that good game on any night to beat any team and they'd like nothing better than to do it against us. The incentive is there.

"They have a well balanced passing game and I know from their track program that they've got good speed. I

have an enormous amount of respect for West Thomas and his staff. He's been around a long time. He's one of the real outstanding coaches throughout Georgia and a man of his caliber is certainly able to get his team up for a big game. And this is a big game."

Valdosta and Lowndes probable starters follow:

VALDOSTA
Offense—ends—Rick Register (175, sr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Clark Stull

(155, sr.) or Bernard Robinson (160, sr.); tackles—Randy Horne (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter (220, jr.); guards—David Cooper (190, jr.) or Tom Copeland (175, jr.) and David Catoe (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.); center—Gary Mims (185, sr.); halfbacks—Billy Berrian (175, sr.) or Jody Wilson (141, soph.) and Jesse Loving (170, jr.) or Ben Brinson (175, sr.); fullback—Alton Baffles (185, sr.); quarterback—Buck Belue (180, soph.) or Steve Jennings (175, jr.).

Defense—ends—Brad Cohen (180, jr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Jack Cain (170, jr.) or Curtis Williams (175, jr.); tackles—Eddie Denard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.) and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter; middleguard—David Sumner (192, sr.); linebackers—Harold Renninger (220, sr.) and Keith Lynch (165, sr.) and Theodore Demps (150, sr.) or Doug Parker (160, sr.); safeties—

Lawrence Lowe (190, jr.) and Allen Worthy (175, soph.) or Alvin Thomas (175, soph.).

LOWNDES
Offense—ends—David Johnson (145, jr.) and Carlton Patrick (152, sr.); tackles—Buddy Moor (209, jr.) and Charlie Banks (210, sr.); guards—Willie Gray (190, sr.) and Joseph Johnson (165, soph.); center—Byron Myers (160, sr.); quarterback—Lynn Pattillo (150, jr.); halfbacks—George Waters (176, jr.) and Robert Lee Harris (147, sr.); fullback—Bernard Shanks (180, sr.).

Defense—ends—Ricky Mashburn (195, jr.) and William Shiver (150, jr.); tackles—Buddy Moor and Charlie Banks; middle guard—Willie Gray; linebackers—Kevin Penland (162, jr.) and Ben Washington (168, soph.); cornerbacks—Reubin Howell (125, sr.) and Johnny Washington (152, soph.); safeties—Kenny Luke (158, soph.) and Rocky Carter (172, jr.).

VSC Sets Seminar To Help Women's Leadership Skills

Women's roles are rapidly changing but many are not adjusting to the changes. To assist women in developing their leadership potential, Valdosta State College is sponsoring an instructional program, "It Should Have Happened Yesterday."

According to Sara Fickertt, program coordinator, it is to be Nov. 1, at the education center from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost is \$6.50 which includes lunch and baby-sitting service if needed.

Registration deadline is Oct. 29. Contact Dr. Thomas Gandy, director of public services at VSC. Registration forms are available from him or Mrs. Fickertt. Although the seminar is intended primarily for women, men may also attend.

Ann Campbell, chancellor of education for the state of

Nebraska, is to be the keynote speaker. Also to be featured are Kay McKenzie, dean of students at Oglethorpe University, Elizabeth Jenkins and Dr. Charlotte McClure, both of Georgia State University.

"Participants, (according to a new release), are to explore the waste of women's abilities, the attitude that persists toward the place and function of women in society and the concepts of necessary role changes and ways of preparing women for decision making roles."

Among the topics to be discussed are: assertive training; communications skills; leadership skills; how to conduct a meeting; assertive women and family adjustment; time management; how to motivate others; women's

role in decision making in education, social services, political life, business and commerce.

Holiday's Name Changes

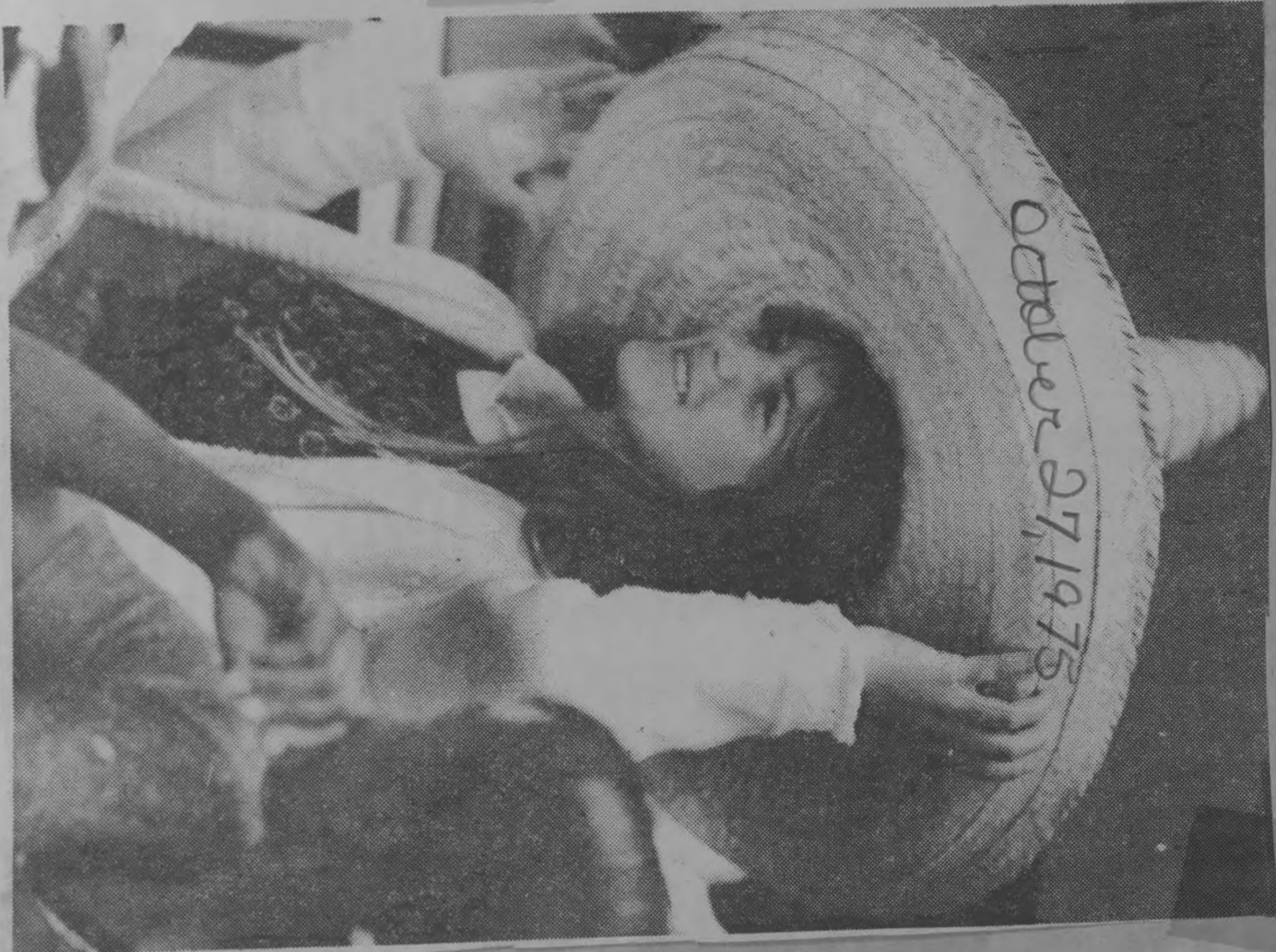
The name Halloween means the night before All Hallows or All Saints' Day, Nov. 1. But this pre-Christian festival is also known by other names.

In the British Isles, where chestnut-roasting is a Halloween custom, it's often called Nutcrack Night. In Ireland its ancient title is Oidhche Shamhna, or Death's Vigil. And on the Isle of Man, its Hogunnas. Another name for the festival is Mischief Night, because of the practical jokes played by youngsters in some parts of the world.

Hats Off To VHS

Derrith Nischke helps start pre-homcoming activities at Valdosta High School. Part of an annual tradition, she is taking part in Hat Day, as part of a Problems

In Democracy class. Activities are scheduled each day of the week for homcoming.—Times Staff Photo by Ken Klanticki.



Saturday
October 25, 1975

Cats 41, Vikings 7

Wildcats' Second Half Surge Buries Lowndes In 'Traditional' Defeat

Lowndes showed what the following Monday... that the boys could take a beating (Lowndes)

By JULIAN MILLER
Valdosta's Wildcats reacquainted themselves with tradition here Friday night. And unfortunately for Lowndes' Vikings, so did they.

The Wildcats combined the effects of an awesome offense and devastating defense to overcome an unbelievable eight turnovers and mow down their cross-town rivals 41-7 for the eighth time in their eight-year rivalry.

YARDSTICK		Valdosta		Lowndes	
First Downs	27	19	7	19	7
Yards Rushing	236	307	91	236	91
Yards Passing	16-36	4	8-28	4	8-28
Passes Int. by	4	6	0	4	6
Fumbles Lost	1-31	7-32	2	1-31	7-32
Punting	3-25	4-40	0	3-25	4-40
Penalties					

With the victory before a 6,500-strong capacity crowd at Lowndes' Martin Stadium, the Wildcats of Coach Nick Hyder maintained their three-way second place tie with Thomasville and Dougherty of Albany in the Region I-AAA standings with a 6-1 record while coach West Thomas' Vikings saw their already poor record dwindle to a 2-5 mark.

Thomas' Vikings died hard in the first half but once the Lowndes 11 had read the handwriting on the wall, only an occasional top notch play by a Viking defender broke the monotony.

Included in those were two interceptions of Valdosta passes and six recoveries of Wildcat fumbles, four of them being recovered by defensive back Jim Runkler alone.

By the time the dust had settled, Valdosta quarterback Buck Belue, a sophomore sensation in his second year starting at that position, had boosted his passing lead substantially with 14 completions out of 28 attempts for 254 yards and three touchdowns, carried nine times for 48 yards and one oore touchdown, and punted once for 31 yards.

Behind him the Wildcats amassed 543 yards in total offense, 236 on the ground and 307 through the air, while the 'Cat defense halted Lowndes' domineering offensive rush for a minus 19 yards and gave up only 91 yards through the air when they forced Viking signal caller Lynn Pattillo to take that rout.

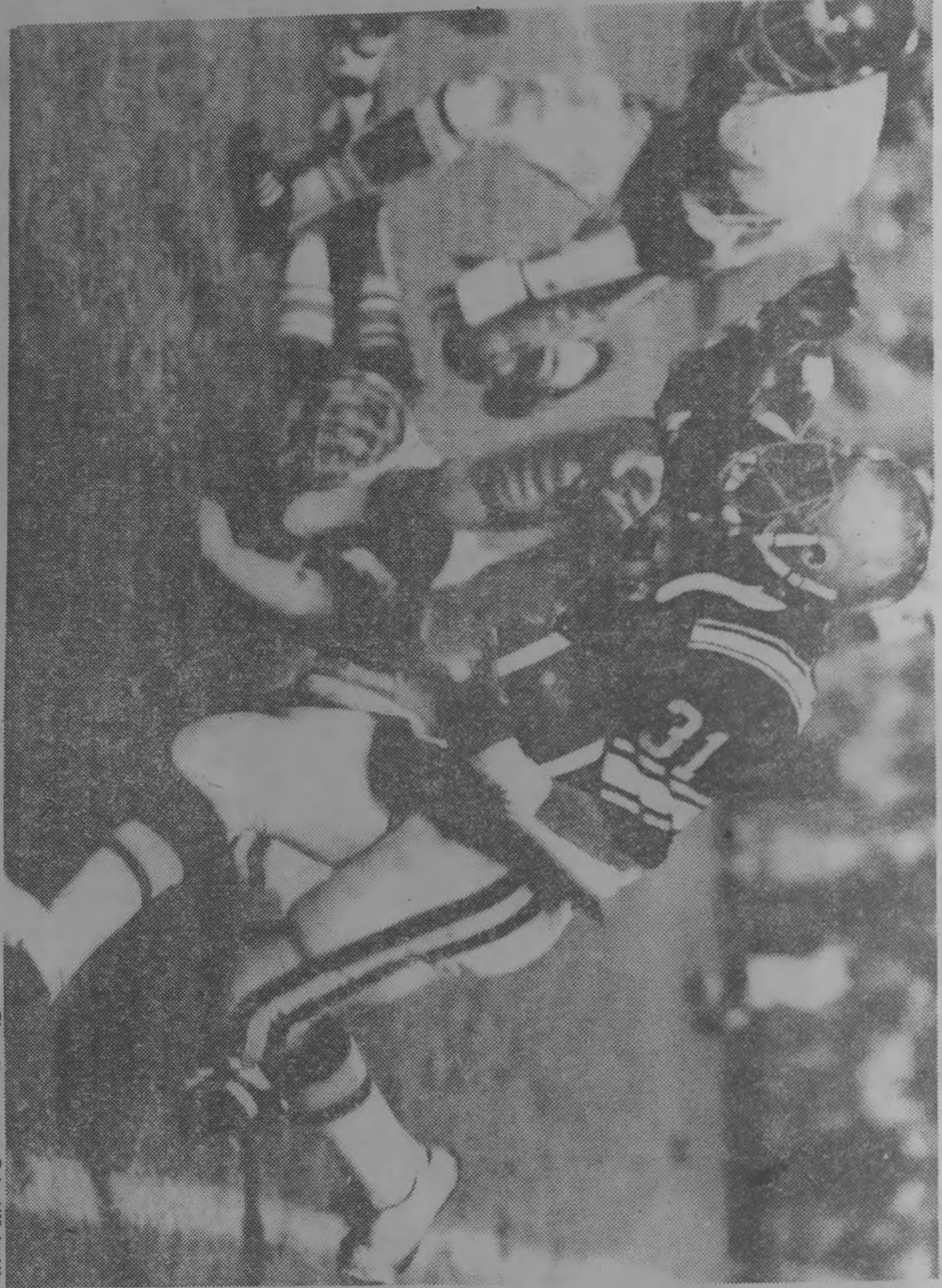
It appeared as though the Wildcats were going to have an easy time of it for the first quarter after they scored twice in their first three possessions.

But the Vikings, taking advantage of a timely break here and there, came back stronger than Valdosta expected in the second quarter before finally succumbing to the might of the cross-town rivals they've never beaten.

Valdosta wasted no time getting on the board when fullback Alton Battles slanted right for three yards just one minute and 13 seconds and three plays after the opening kickoff to cap a 48-yard drive that hinged on a 43-yard Belue pass to halfback Billy Berrian.

After stopping the Vikings at their own 35-yard line and themselves at the same spot with the first of their six fumbles, the Wildcats started their second TD march with 4:28 remaining in the quarter when a Lowndes' punt gave them possession at their own 36.

Valdosta picked up four first downs in five plays to move to the Lowndes seven and two plays later Belue followed center Garry Mims



Rambling Wildcat: Valdosta's Alton Battles Turns Corner, Heads Upfield

By Robert Winters 111

over the goal line for his TD, and Valdosta had a 13-0 lead.

That's when things got tougher. The Vikings offense showed its strength by driving from its own 19 to the VHS 47 before being forced to punt and the Lowndes' defense showed itself to be even tougher by knocking the football loose from halfback

Carl Demps two plays later. Runkler had his second recovery and the Vikings moved down to the Valdosta five before being knocked back to the six by a rejuvenated Wildcat defense.

But the Vikings were persistent. And so was Valdosta's luck for 10 plays later the Wildcats turned

over the ball again, this time Washington picked off a Belue pass that had been deflected by one of Lowndes' linemen and returned it from the mid-field stripe to the Valdosta 17.

On the next play Pattillo, who played much better than the score indicates, found halfback George Walters in

Pattillo responded with a pass: Valdosta's standout safety Lawrence Lowe responded with an interception, and Belue came out throwing.

Passes to Berrian for 15 yards and Jesse Loving for 24 and a 14-yard run by Belue himself on a fake punt covered most of the distance as the Wildcats drove the 76 yards on 11 plays. Belue finally capped it with a four-yard pass to Berrian, his favorite receiver for the night with seven passes, on a four-yard bomb for the TD. This time Battles bulled his way in for the two-point PAT and Valdosta was rolling with a 21-7 lead.

It all carried over into the third quarter when once again the Wildcats scored in the first minute and 13 seconds.

Lowndes' second pass interception on the first play of the half had given Valdosta possession on the Lowndes 40. A 22-yard run by Battles up the middle and an 18-yard pass from Belue to his close friend Jody Wilson, who caught three TD passes for the night, were all the 'Cats needed to get on the board again and Baldwin's kick made it a 28-7 margin.

It was towards the end of the quarter before the 'Cats were able to threaten again, and they gave the Vikings the shock, and relief of their lives, when end Clark Stull hauled in a Belue pass and raced 43 yards to the end zone, only to fumble the ball into the end zone and waiting arms of... you guessed it, Jim Runkler, for a touchback on the tackle.

When the Lowndes' offense proved itself too pooped to respond to the break, however, the Valdosta offense did, taking a punt on

the Lowndes 44 after pushing the Vikings back to the 15 and driving the distance in five plays with a Belue to Wilson pass covering the last 31 yards of it.

That ate up the rest of the third quarter and Hyder, still searching for a suitable backup quarterback to his sophomore sensation began experimenting in the backfield.

It did the Vikings little good however, for before the quarter was out the younger Wildcats, Wilson and Steven Jennings, had proven they could do it with Belue watching from the sidelines as well.

The final TD came on Valdosta's last possession of the night when Berrian finally connected with Wilson, son of VHS offensive co-ordinator Joe Wilson on a 54-yard pass Wilson hauled in at the 30 and carried in for the TD.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

- Rushing: Valdosta-Battles 10-55, Belue 9-40, Loving 6-43, Berrian 5-31, Berrian 3-30, C. Demps 2-11, Jennings 2-5, Baldwin 1-13.
- Lowndes - Walters 2-12, Crawford 1-11, Shanks 1-1, McLeod 1-minus 3, Ward 1-1, Shanks 1-1, Harris 9-minus 8, Pattillo 9-minus 14.
- Passing: Valdosta-Belue 14-28-234, Berrian 1-54, Wilson 2-59, Jennings 0-20; Lowndes - Patterson 2-69, McLeod 1-52; Pass: Receiving: Stull 2-40, Berrian 7-113, Wilson 4-106, Harris 3-46, Walters 1-17, Johnson 1-10, Moor 1-8, Moore 1-5.
- Pass Returns: Lowndes-Harris 2-14, Kickoff Returns: Valdosta-Stull 17, C. Demps 1-6; Lowndes-Harris 3-39, Marshall 1-49, Walters 1-16.
- Defense (Number of Tackles): Lowndes: Gray 9, Howell 6, Runkler 5, Luke 5, J. Washington 3, B. Washington 3; Valdosta: Remington 3, Lowe 3, Cain 3, Middleton 3, Johnson 3; Punter: 2, Chapman 2, Smith 2.
- Score By Quarters: 0-0, 7-0, 13-0, 41-7.
- Valdosta: 19 9 13 4-41
- Lowndes: 7 7 0 0-14
- Scoring: Val-Battles three run (Baldwin kick), Val-Belue one run (kick failed), Lowndes-Walters 17 pass from Pattillo (McLeod kick), Val-Berrian four pass from Belue (Battles run), Val-Wilson 18 pass from Belue (Baldwin kick), Val-Wilson 31 pass from Belue (pass failed), Wilson 54 pass from Berrian (Baldwin kick).

VSC music professor to plan "The Messiah"

November 23, 1975

VALDOSTA -- Lavan Robinson, choir director at Valdosta's Christ Episcopal Church, can't imagine Christmas without a community performance of Handel's "The Messiah." And the Valdosta State College music professor is going to do something about it.



Lavan Robinson

Valdosta. We have the full support of both the college and the churches for our proposed commitment."

Handel's oratorio is typical of the late Baroque period, according to Robinson.

"It's considered one of Handel's greatest, and

Christmas everywhere identify with it as a joyous expression of gratitude. As a piece of music to be performed, it is a challenge to singers, instrumentalists and the director."

Valdosta is more than equal to the task, he added.

"Since it isn't being done this year as a community venture in any of the other churches, we would like to host the event at Christ Episcopal Church on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m.," Robinson said.

"All Valdostans who enjoy singing 'The Messiah' are invited to practices beginning Sunday Oct. 19 and continuing every Sunday until Dec. 14. This is a big commitment, but the reward is far greater."

Robinson said some orchestral commitments have already been made for the performance.

"Auditions are planned for a small orchestra, which will accompany the community chorus," he said. "The date of the auditions is to be announced."

Janet Robinson, Christ Church organist and the director's wife, is to provide organ accompaniment.

Soloists will be chosen by

the director at auditions in November, he added.

"College groups and choirs of the various churches have performed the oratorio annually for a number of years here, and I regret that no plans have been announced this year for a full performance involving the townspeople," Robinson said.

"I feel it is necessary to continue this tradition in

'Cats Host Imps, Vikes Meet Crisp

By MIKE CHASON
Valdosta High welcomes Tift County's Blue Devils to a fitting Halloween Homecoming here Friday night while Lowndes' Vikings hit the road to Cordele to try to halt a two-game losing streak and salvage some respect from a heretofore miserable high school football season.

AREA GRID SLATE

Friday
Tift at Valdosta
Lowndes at Crisp
Cook at Cairo
Westbrook at Westwood
Berrien at Worth
Charlton at Clinch
Madison at Taylor
Hawthorne at Hamilton

Coach Nick Hyder's VHS Wildcats are expecting little trouble from the 1-6 Tifton squad of coach Wilbur Lofton, but strange things have been known to happen on the 31st of October, particularly when the opposition's nickname happens to be suited to the night of witchcraft and evil spells.

Valdosta has rolled to six wins on the year against one loss, a 28-20 heartbreaker at the hands of the top ranked Class AAA team in the state, Moultrie's Packers. The latest Wildcat conquest came Friday night in a convincing 41-7 triumph over Lowndes.

VHS sophomore quarterback Buck Belue re-injured his already sore shoulder in that contest, but Hyder expressed optimism the young signal caller could return to action against Tift.

Although there is no such thing as a breather when you're 2-5, Lowndes takes on a team in Cordele Friday night which has compiled a worst record than the punchless Vikes.

Coach Ron Clark's Crisp Cougars are winless in seven

starts this season including a 35-7 humiliation at the hands of Moultrie Friday. Only twice had Crisp scored over one touchdown in a game.

But Lowndes has also had its problems sticking points on the scoreboard. Coach West Thomas' club has averaged just over one touchdown a game and has been shutout on one occasion against Moultrie by a 21-0 margin.

The Vikings figure it's their turn to win in order to better last season's 2-8 mark. After Crisp, 1-5-1 Bainbridge and 6-1 Thomasville remain on Lowndes' schedule.

In other area Friday night football play, Cook (Adel) meets Region 1-AA (West) foe Cairo, Westbrook tries to bounce back from a 43-0 shutout by Brookwood of Thomasville against Westwood in Camilla, Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) travels to Worth County (Sylvester), Clinch County (Homerville) hosts Charlton County (Folkston), Madison, Fla. boards the bus to Taylor County (Perry, Fla.), and Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) welcomes Hawthorne, Fla.

Coach James Thomason's Cook club dropped a narrow 16-15 decision to Worth last week, and the Hornets hope to up their 2-4-1 season mark against the 3-4 Syrupmakers who got trounced 21-0 by undefeated Central of Thomasville Friday.

Westbrook remembers well its opening game of the season when Westwood administered a 14-6 spanking. Coach Charlie Jennett hasn't seen his Cougars lose two straight in a while, but he knows playing on the road is always difficult.

Berrien is also on the road, but so far coach Foy Norwood's Rebels have managed the same number of wins on the trail as they have at home... none. With an 0-6-1 record, the Rebs would settle for any kind of win over the 4-3 Rams.

Coach Donald Tyson's Clinch team is 5-1-1 on the year, but 2-1 in Region 2-B. That loss was by a 15-10 score to the Charlton team it faces Friday night. The folkston club is 4-2-1 overall, but undefeated in the region at 2-0-1. The victor takes a giant step toward the state playoffs.

Madison's not worried about any kind of playoffs, but just some way to better its 1-5 season record. Coach Ron Peterson hopes Taylor will be obliging.

Just across the way, Hamilton's Trojans are riding high after four consecutive wins enroute to a 4-2 record. Coach Coy Whitener and his troops have already clinched a playoff berth, but are anxious to prove their win streak is no fluke.

Coach Bobby Rich's Brooks County Trojans from Quitman are the only area team taking the weekend off.

THE GOLD LEAF

Moultrie holds lone 1-AAA lead with win over 'Cats

By Elwood Moyer
COLUMBUS, GA. -- For the first time this season, the Moultrie Packers have the Region-One, Class-AAA lead all by themselves and now only Crisp County, Bainbridge, Thomasville and Dougherty remain on the 1975 schedule.

The Packers figure to get by Crisp County (0-6) and Bainbridge (1-5) without too much trouble, but then comes Thomasville (5-1) and Dougherty (6-1) and these two machines are trouble.

The Moultrie eleven went five games without giving up a score as the Packers blanked Monroe, Lowndes, Tift County, Albany and Westover. However this past week the previously undefeated Valdosta Wildcats got three scores before dropping a 28-20 decision to Moultrie.

The big game coming up this week will be the Friday night game at Albany that finds Thomasville meeting Dougherty there.

Both of these teams have lost but once this season, and the two setbacks came on successive week-ends at the hands of the Valdosta Wildcats.

Valdosta went to Thomasville and scored a 12-10 win over the Bulldogs on Sept. 26 and the

following week at Thomasville the Bulldogs came on to win over Dougherty 32-0.

The other seven teams in the region are out of the picture for the 1975 campaign.

Albany is now in fifth place with a 4-3 record while Westover is in sixth place one-half game ahead of Lowndes.

Moultrie is at home for two of the four remaining games as the Packers host Crisp County and Thomasville then go to Bainbridge on Oct. 31 and to Dougherty on Nov. 14 to close out the season.

The Moultrie-Dougherty game could be the contest that will decide the region title the last week of play.

Valdosta, Thomasville and Moultrie all have virtually scored the same number of points in the first six games this season, as only two points separate first-place Valdosta and third-place Moultrie.

Meanwhile, the Packers top the region defensively and the Moultrie lead here is a season total of 11 points over Thomasville.

Schedule for Week Friday, Oct. 24

Thomasville at Dougherty
Valdosta vs Lowndes
Westover at Tift County
Crisp County at Moultrie
Saturday, Oct. 25
Bainbridge at Monroe

Two Schools Burglarized

By Times Staff Writer
Two elementary schools and a drug store were burglarized in the past 24-hour period, city police reported.

Principals at W. G. Nunn School and Valdosta Junior High School were inventorying today to determine what was taken in the late-night break-ins, said officers.

Also burglarized was the Prescription Shop, 310 Janet Drive, from which was taken about \$50 cash but apparently no drugs, police reported.

Officers said both schools were vandalized as the suspects ransacked desks, filing cabinets, and drawers in the principals' and kitchen managers' offices.

According to reports, burglars broke through a window on the northwest side of the VJHS building. The

door to the principal's office was also broken, said reports.

At W. G. Nunn School burglars apparently broke in through a back door, then ransacked the lunch area, secretary's office and principal's office.

Damage in the break-ins has not yet been estimated, said officers.

October 26, 1975

Educators, Court Agree

By Times Staff Writer

Educators and school administrators here are pretty solidly lining up behind the Supreme Court's decision to allow spanking in public schools — with or without parental permission.

Valdosta and Lowndes County school children's parents, however, appear divided on the High Court's ruling last week supporting corporal punishment.

Superintendents here say the question is less crucial in Georgia's schools because state law has for years

permitted corporal punishment under certain restrictive circumstances.

"The ruling by the Supreme Court simply reinforces the state law," said Lowndes Supt. A. B. "Sonny" Martin.

"Of course, we have always tried to be reasonable and give proper due process before using the paddle."

Valdosta Supt. Foster Goolsby said the city board of education's policy has been — and will continue to be — to allow corporal punishment under certain specific circumstances.

Both schools, for instance, require another teacher or school administrator to be in the room when a student receives "the paddle." And spanking is expected to be the last resort.

"In my opinion we are seeing a gradual moving away from the permissive culture which some people think has dominated us for a number of years," added Goolsby.

"My impression is the Supreme Court was simply upholding the right of the parental approach by the teacher as being in authority to act in that capacity," said Martin.

Several Valdosta and Lowndes teachers contacted by the Times were glad to see the right of students to be educated is being supported.

The student behavior process was often likened to the mathematical bell — curve: A small group of students will be constant troublemakers. Another small group will consistently set a good example. And the large majority, in the middle can be swayed by either of the other groups — depending on which is stronger.

Many educators here see the court's ruling as reinforcement of the desire to have the "good" students leading the majority, instead of the bad.

Many parents agree. "It's probably the parents of the kids who consistently misbehave who object to the discipline in the first place," one Lowndes County mother said.

"It's time my kid gets to learn instead of listening to other kids shouting," said another.

The other side, however, is reflected by the opinion: "I don't want some teacher who's had a bad day whipping on my children for no reason."

"A lot of people view paddling as frustration on the part of the one who... (See Educators, Page 2A)

Cont. October 26, 1975 — Educators

administers it," said Martin. "I don't feel that way.

"But I hope the court ruling didn't outlaw a type of punishment some children could benefit from," he added.

"It is mandatory that a child know how far he or she can go in deviating from acceptable behavior," said Goolsby.

Punishment for misconduct should be designed to correct the problem — which means understanding and coping with the individual child, said Martin.

Some children need the "permissive"

or non-physical' punishment to learn correct behavior, he said. Others need the corporal punishment, he added.

"What is dominant in my mind is the philosophy toward (halting) conduct at school which prevents teaching or learning from taking place," Goolsby added.

Martin did express one qualification, however, in his acceptance of the Supreme Court decision: on the alternatives the court offered to corporal punishment.

Extra homework or staying after school, are not particularly beneficial in most circumstances, he said.

"Giving extra homework turns kids off to their schoolwork and I don't think this is an acceptable alternative.

"And when you keep a child after school I'm not sure whether you're punishing the teacher or the student.

"Someone has to stay with the child, and a ride for the student has to be found, because you can't hold up school buses for an hour."

October 29, 1975 Turnovers, 'Cats Are Devils' Woes

By MIKE CHASON

TIFTON — Wilbur Lofton took a close look at his Tift County Blue Devils' turnover chart this week and came away with a good idea as to how his club has managed only one victory in seven Region 1-AAA high school football outings.

After all, losing the ball 39 times via the interception and fumble route has to cause problems with an offense that already has more than its share. On occasion, the turnover occurred within easy sight of the enemy goal line, causing Lofton to grow more than one gray hair.

Playing Valdosta at the Wildcats' own Cleveland Field on Halloween night may give the veteran head coach even more. But you don't have to tell him that.

"I tell you... that Valdosta is really something," Lofton said. "They have a fine football team. That (Buck) Belue is the finest quarterback prospect we've seen this year.

"They're a lot bigger than we are too. We're really rather small, and we have trouble against the bigger teams."

The Blue Devils' lone triumph this season came in a 6-0 decision over Monroe of Albany early in the year.



ALTON BATTLES Bruising Runner

Since then, the Imps have had the same scoring problems despite a hard hitting running attack led by halfback Greg Crumbley.

"Yes, he's our leading ground gainer," Lofton revealed. "He's not real big, and he's not real fast. He's just a tough kid who gives a good effort every time he plays."

The Blue Devils defense has been of quality workmanship all season with

the exception of two games against high scoring Moultrie and Thomasville. The Tifton stop 'em crew held the region's leading rusher, Wes Knight of Westover of Albany, to under 25 yards.

Against the Wildcats, Lofton knows his defense will probably get the test of the season as the VHS scoring corps has scoreboards across the region blinking consistently all season long.

Against cross county foe Lowndes last week, the Valdosta scoring machine went over 543 yards in total offense in a 41-7 devastation of the Vikings. Standing tall in the pocket, Belue accounted for 254 of those yards on 14 of 28 passes from his quarterback position.

But the 'Cats can run too as Lofton knows all only too well.

"We've been working a lot on pass defense, but you can't just concentrate on that," Lofton said. "That (Alton) Battles is one fine football player running with the ball."

"We're just going to work real hard, and try to prepare for everything. I really think we've played well enough to win these other games with the exception of those two (Moultrie and Thomasville)."

"We've been passing a good bit, but against Albany we had 327 yards rushing and still lost. We've just been so inconsistent. We could easily be 4-3 or 5-2."

Besides the obvious superiority in talent of Valdosta, Tift goes into the game without its regular starting quarterback, Jeff Carmichael.

Lofton announced Carmichael was "prettily bruised up" and would be replaced by his brother Clark Carmichael who started the season at the signal caller's slot, but "hasn't progressed" as much as the head coach would like.

Game time is set for 8 p.m. Friday.

October 30, 1975 Teachers Voting Today On Proposed Walkouts

By BECKY VAIL

Teacher voting on proposed walkouts continued today in Valdosta and Lowndes County schools.

Heads of the local educators' associations aren't making any concrete predictions on how the vote would turn out, however.

Final tallies for the Valdosta Association of Educators and the Lowndes Association of Educators is to be made on Monday, the organization presidents said.

"I haven't the slightest idea how they are voting," said David Troy, LAE president, today.

"I've been trying to take it straight down the middle."

"I, personally, wouldn't be surprised if it came pretty close for the work stoppage."

"But I think the majority would vote for the walkout."

"Work stoppage is a pretty word for strike," he added.

VAE president Ross Hudson also said he thought the vote this week would be a lot closer than if it had been taken a couple of months ago, following the special legislative session in which

cost-of-living pay raises were withdrawn.

"I've never seen the time — until now — when I could not read people at all," said Hudson.

"Two months ago it was a great deal of vigor."

"But now everybody's passed their bills twice, and with the legislature looking you straight in the eye, who can tell," he said.

Teachers are dismayed over the withdrawn seven per cent pay hike from the state budget, done in the face of a severe financial crisis at the state level.

Troy said it's not only salaries that are concerning the teachers — but also benefits and cuts in other educational programs.

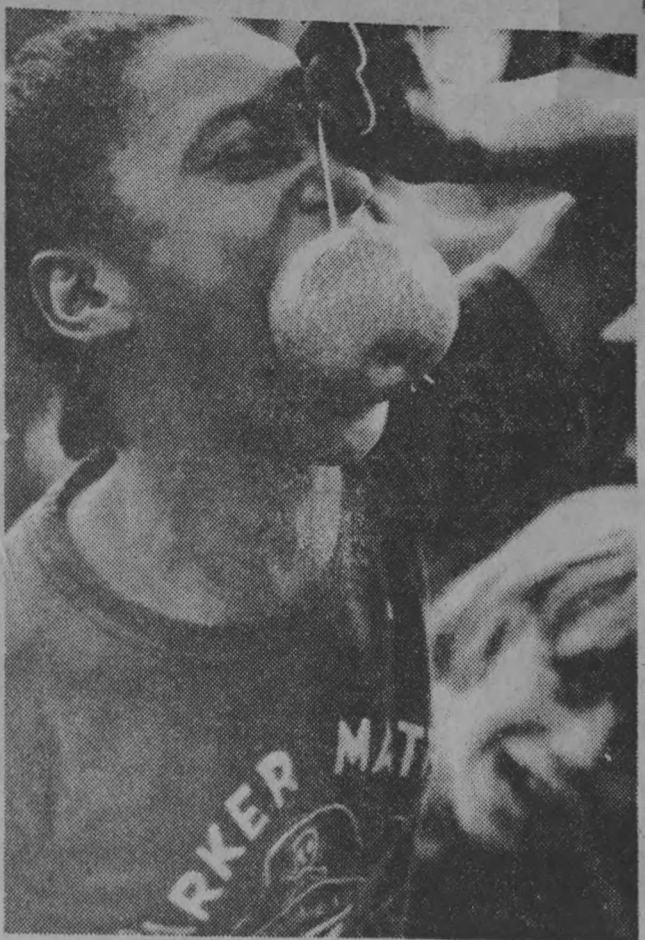
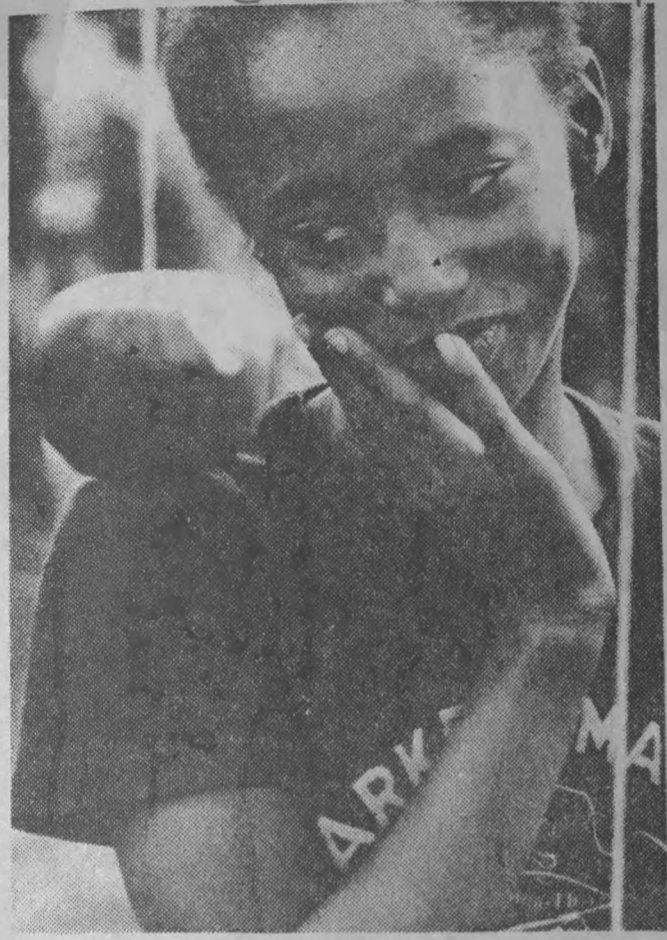
Hudson said a walkout, if approved, "won't be a wildcat type of thing."

"If there is a walkout it will be 80-90 per cent."

"We do worry about how this kind of action would affect the local community," he added. "We are educators first."

"But it does take money to put groceries on our tables too."

October 31, 1975



The End Justifies The Means

It may not have been cricket when 12-year-old Lessie Harris used a little illegal hand action to lessen the odds at the Parker Mathis Elementary School Halloween Carnival Thursday night.

But after taking a long look at the situation, the Parker Mathis student figured it was the only route to an easy apple. — Times Staff Photos by Robert Winter III.

Students Backing Teachers

By Times Staff Writer
Students appear to be lining up with their teachers over a controversial proposed walkout on salaries — even knowing it might mean a longer school year.

A poll of some Valdosta High School classes for the Times revealed 92 per cent of the students surveyed felt the legislature was wrong in taking teachers' cost-of-living raises away after the contracts were signed.

Students were less adamant about potential teacher walkouts this winter to show legislators their indignation over the rescinded pay hikes.

But they did strongly support — with over 76 per cent vote — educators' justification in walking out — particularly for a long strike.

The surveyor told students to answer the poll with the expectation that any missed days because of a walkout would have to be made up at the end of the school year or on weekends.

Even with that caution, 79 per cent of the high school students sampled said teachers should strike for as long as it takes to get the raise back. The other 21 per cent said teachers should strike only for one day.

"Right on, teachers," and "they (the legislators) were ad wrong" were comments ded to two of the onymous questionnaires.

According to a high school teacher contacted this morning concerning the student survey, the vote shows the interest the bulk of students have in quality education.

"Teachers' salaries are a good gauge of the quality of education a child is going to get," said the educator.

"If an educated man can't make an adequate living in teaching, he's going to have to abandon the field and leave our youngsters' minds to incompetent professionals," he added.

"Teaching is a luxury many of us just can't continue to afford," another educator said.



Hold That Pose

Tom Pitchford, right, industrial arts teacher at Valdosta Junior High School, isn't actually taking pictures of his students. Instead, he is demonstrating for them how to enlarge photographs. The lesson is part of a new graphics class developed this year as

part of the expanding industrial arts program at the junior high school. The students are learning about photography and photo printing in the class.—Times Staff Photo.

Gridiron Glimpse

October 31, 1975 Valdosta 37, Tift 0

Fullback Alton Battles ran wild through a Tift County Blue Devil defense which quarterback Buck Belue had already picked apart with deadly passing accuracy in the Valdosta High Wildcats' seventh victory in eight starts at Cleveland Field here Friday night.

Valdosta High Registration

Winter quarter registration for withdrawn Valdosta High School students is to be held Monday. Students should register at the office between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., said Kathryn Yale.

Five Non-Credit Courses Begin Next Week At VSC

Special To The Times
Several of the popular courses in the Valdosta State College continuing studies program are to begin new classes next week, according to Dr. Horace M. Watkins, associate director of public services at VSC.

"All of the five courses which are to begin next week have space for additional participants, and those who wish to enroll may do so by contacting VSC's Office of Public Services," Watkins advised.

BEGINS MONDAY
Karate and Self-Defense, with Steve Fiduk as instructor, is to begin from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Monday on the VSC gym stage. The course is

to cover basic karate and elementary self-defense. Fee for 10 Monday and Wednesday sessions ending Dec. 8 is \$15.

BEGIN TUESDAY
Spanish for Travelers (Level 1), with Dr and Mrs. Jose B. Fernandez as instructors, is to begin Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. in room 21 of VSC's West Hall. This introductory course begins the study of the Spanish language needed by travelers to Spain and Latin American countries, using an easy and fast audio-lingual method. Fee for 10 Tuesday and Thursday sessions ending Dec. 9 is \$25, which includes a text and the use of cassette tapes.

Kodokan Judo (for Ages 8-17), with Mrs. Sandra Layson as instructor, is to begin Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 p.m. on the VSC gym stage. The course teaches basic judo as a sport and for self-defense. Fee for 10 Tuesday and Thursday sessions ending Dec. 9 is \$15.

Woodworking, for ages 12 and up, with Thomas Pitchford as instructor, is to begin from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Industrial Arts Building, Valdosta Junior High School. The participants are to learn the use of power and hand tools and may work on a wood project of their choice. Fee for six sessions ending Dec. 9 is \$15, plus materials.

Kodokan Judo (for Ages 18-up), with Mrs. Layson as instructor, is to begin Tuesday from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on the VSC gym stage. Fee for 10 Tuesday and Thursday sessions ending Dec. 9 is \$15.

Mamie Van Doren,
Motel At Odds
... see page 8

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The Valdosta Daily Times

October 30, 1975

Two Sections—36 Pages

Price Fifteen Cents

Weather
Mostly sunny Saturday with a high in the mid 70's. Cooler tonight with a low in the mid 40's. Details on page 2.

VSC Coliseum

By Times Staff Writer
A coliseum for Valdosta State College is not going to be built this year, it is not on a priority list and the projected cost keeps growing.
If and when a coliseum is built it could be in stages because of the growing cost, most officials agree.
What started as a problem of getting a site has not become a victim of tight money in the state.
University of Georgia building funds

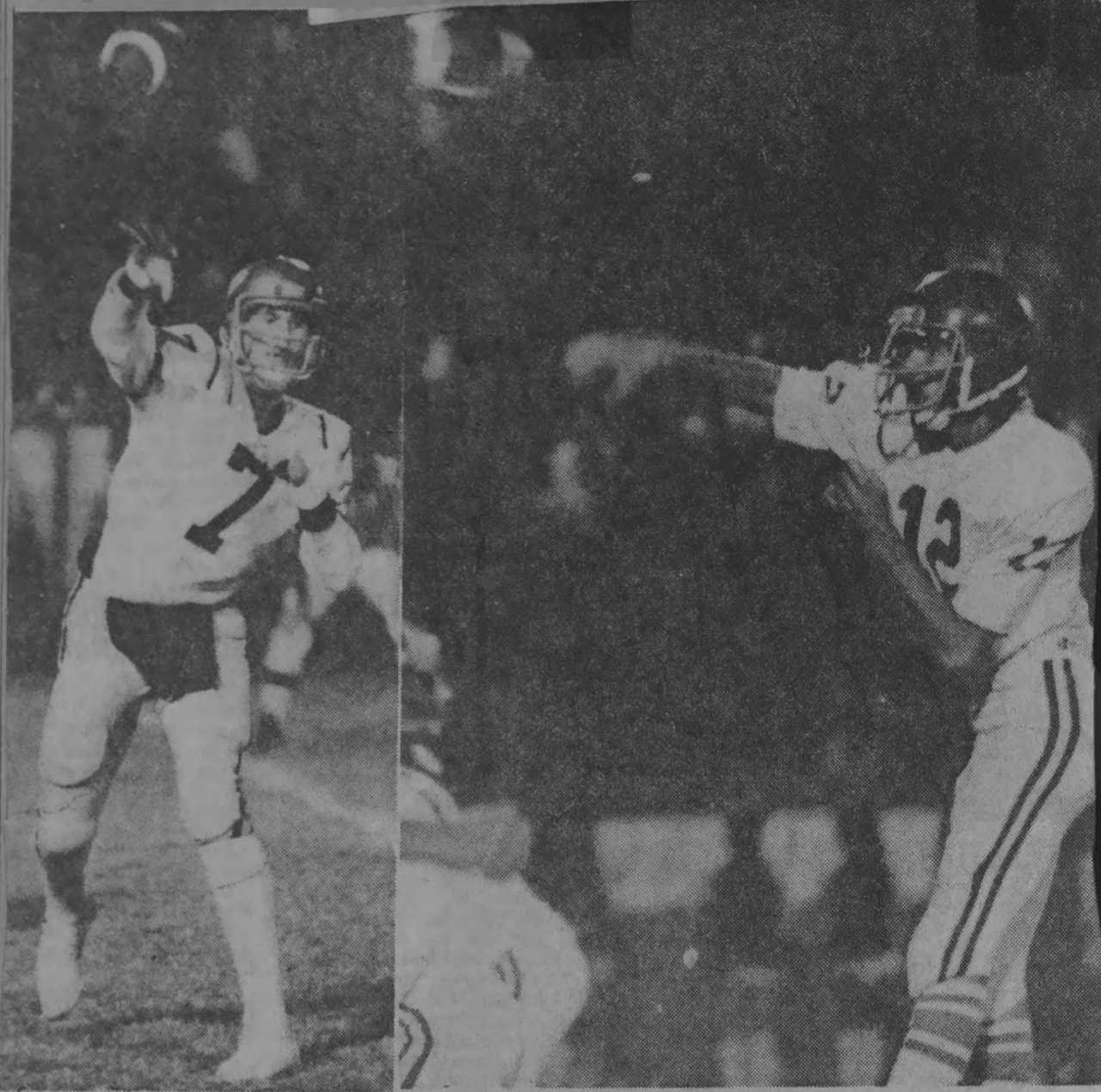
were frozen by Gov. George Busbee last year, which wiped out \$8 million, according to state officials.
Even if that money had not been frozen, it is unlikely VSC could have built the coliseum, because the construction figure is now \$5 million.
But that question is moot now because all priorities have been "washed out," according to the university system's vice chancellor for construction, Frank Dunham of

"We have no money and no immediate prospect. When we do find out when and how much we are going to get we will go back and reconsider the whole system at that time," Dunham said today.
The VSC project at one time was "high" on the priority list but that too has gone down the drain.
Dunham said for sure there would be no money during the fiscal year (July 1-

and the system is already one third over" on capital outlay spending.
VSC must share with the rest of the university system any money appropriated by the General Assembly.
But it was the General Assembly which has refused to cough up any more money and Busbee still has a freeze on any spending for capital outlay, except on a project-by-project emergency basis.

VSC Comptroller Sam Brooks said the firm site decision was made last November. It ended a period of some months of ill feeling between the school and city officials.
The college refused, because of regulations, to pay the city for some land at the Sunset Hill Cemetery in excess of appraised value.
Instead, after lengthy negotiations, the school dropped that idea and decided to place the coliseum southwest

of the Education Building on and over a portion of the parking lot.
Brooks said today the plan still calls for a building which would actually increase parking space by having a deck for parking and under-the-building parking.
But, as Brooks put it today, "it is going to take some big money for a project this size... if we have a good revenue picture we might get some more capital funds."



NOV. 1, 1975 The Buck And Lynn Show

Halloween shared the night with Football in Georgia Friday night. There were 180 games scheduled by high schools around the state. Quarterbacks Buck Belue (left) of Valdosta High School and Lynn Pattillo, Lowndes High School, show their

passing form. Valdosta defeated Tift Co. 37-0 and Lowndes defeated Crisp Co. 32-25. Details on pages 6, 7. — Times Staff Photos by Robert Winter III and Ken Klanicki.

'Cats Fan Raps Sports Column

Sir: Re: Julian Miller's sports column Oct. 21:
If there is one thing the Valdosta Wildcats don't need, it's an "amateur Howard Rossell" trying to tell the fans that because they didn't yell like they did in 1962 that they don't deserve a winner in 1975.
I'm not a band booster but Muhammad Ali's right couldn't be any more devastating than to tell several hundred people (probably parents of band members) not to smile at their children.

My wife and I were two of 8,000 who watched black skies cover "Death Valley" (Cleveland Field) that night (Valdosta vs Moultrie). We got there at 6:30 p.m. and sat in a side line chair. And we weren't the first there by any means.
I saw many of the same fans who went to Atlanta in 1969, sat in eight-degree weather through wind, rain and sleet with the Wildcats. I'm sure they, like us, were ready to head north again. All that was needed was a win over Moultrie.

But this night we saw two teams, well prepared and high spirited football teams come

on the field and play to win. No one had given up on the 'Cats and left them with 2,000 screaming Moultrie fans.
It was obviously not our night to win because we lacked one thing — the big breaks that win or lose football games went to Moultrie all night.
I can't believe Coach (Nick) Hyder or the 'Cats blame the fans, nor do the fans blame the 'Cats. That's just the way the breaks go. They knew it could have gone either way. They were out there going after one thing, the state championship.

When the 'Cats, coaches and fans will be satisfied with anything else they will no longer be considered the Valdosta Wildcats or Wildcat fans.
Suppose one out of nine would be bad apples. You think the other 8,000 don't deserve to win? You still have your 12-year-old mind. That column looked like a stunt the Atlanta papers would come up with.
For years the 8,000 or 9,000 fans, players and coaches have fought the odds against the rest of the state. Now you want to blame the fans for a loss. But you can't win it all. If we don't or can't win it all this year, we'll be back next year with the same goal in mind.

You say the fans got all they deserved. But we know when a team tries like that they deserve to win... and so did the fans.
So 8,999 fans will be back to get what they deserve and you can go get what you deserve elsewhere. And I hope we are not the only ones who responded to this slap in the face.

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Fountain and 8,999 fans.
Valdosta, Ga.

Doris E. Baker

out under wood

Hyder Expecting Sky High Devils

By Times Staff Writer
When you're at the top, someone's always out to get you. For the first time since Nick Hyder's been in Valdosta, he knows how it feels.
Last season when Hyder's Valdosta High School Wildcats took a momentary lapse from the Region 1-AAA throneroom, the other clubs got fired up to play for a different reason. Since it was obvious Valdosta was having a rare off season, everyone wanted to jump on the bandwagon and seven of them succeeded.
But that 3-7 record is past, and now Hyder admits teams

are again mentally ready to play his 6-1 club. That includes the Tift County (Tifton) squad his Wildcats face at Cleveland Field at 8 p.m. here Friday night.
"Except against Moultrie and Thomasville, Tift has been in every game it played this year," Hyder admitted. "And I know they'll be sky high for Valdosta."
"Our scouting reports tell us they have had a lot of problems holding on to the football. They are capable of throwing it well though. They had the ball inside the 10-yard line on Thomasville three times and didn't score. So they can move the ball."

Valdosta slipped by the Blue Devils 21-13 last season, but Hyder rated this year's version "a little better than last mainly because they have the same bunch of youngsters who are just a year older."
"I know (Jeff) Carmichael is a great passer," Hyder said, "and (Freddy) Ingram is an outstanding receiver. They also play good tough defense, and they've got a great linebacker in Dale Hall. He's got to be one of the best in the region."
That's saying a lot since the 'Cats are the proud possessors of two linebackers of the highest quality

anywhere in Harold Renninger and Keith Middleton.
They are the nucleus of a defense which has had only one breakdown in a 28-20 loss to Moultrie. That is, if you consider losing to the top rated Class AAA football team in the state a letdown.
Junior Lawrence Lowe had perhaps his finest game last week in a 41-7 VHS slaughter of intra-county rival Lowndes. The long armed safety snared two of Lynn Pattillo's passes, and caused the usually unshakable Viking quarterback to think twice before putting the ball in the air in his vicinity again.

Down in the trenches, middle guard David Sumner has been consistent all year, doing his job with little flair and not much notice... except by the opposition.
On the other side, the VHS offensive line has given sophomore quarterback Buck Belue almost all the time he needs to throw the ball, so throw it he has to the tune of 14 for 28 against Lowndes, despite sitting out the final quarter to help heal a slight shoulder soreness and to give junior Steve Jennings a shot at running the team.
Sophomore Jody Wilson has also been called upon to move the club on occasion

when he can take time out from his duties as a receiver. Wilson hauled in three touchdown passes against Lowndes for his most successful game of the season.
It's the running game Hyder wants, then it's fullback Alton Battles he turns to. The heavyset senior is the Buffalo Bills' Jim Braxton type of runner with no great moves, but a lot of strength and endurance.
Halfback Billy Berrian is quicker, but may be most useful at catching the ball and then dancing his way through an enemy secondary.
But all the glory may be over if Moultrie finishes the season undefeated and claims the Region crown.

Lease Is Agreed For Old VHS

By Times Staff Writer
The Lowndes County Commission has agreed to a three-year lease for old Valdosta High School for \$15,000 cash.
Commissioners today approved unanimously to lease the landmark structure for a maximum three-year period from the Valdosta Board of Education after massive community effort to save the old building from demolition.
"It's the end of the ballgame" after that three-year period, according to Commission Chairman W.P. "Billy" Langdale.
The three-year period was established to allow time for government and private enterprise organizations to arrange financing to convert old VHS into an office building.
City School Supt. Foster Goolsby said this morning the board would likely review the commission-approved lease agreement at its Nov. 17 meeting.
He said he wouldn't predict whether the board would approve the contract as

written because he has yet to see a copy of the agreement.
"I do know that the board of education members will read each line very, very carefully," the superintendent said.
Included in the proposed contract are a \$15,000 cash payment to the board for the water-sewer project at the Valdosta Area Vocational Technical School, plus a commitment to make repairs on the structure to "preserve" the building.
It also includes a clause which makes the commission as judge and jury for what repairs are necessary.
Hazard and liability insurance are to be paid by the county commission, Attorney Oris Blackburn said.
The school board in June accepted a tentative proposal to tear down old VHS. The building was vacated two years ago. Insurance lapsed on the old structure in July, said Goolsby.
Civic organizations were spurred into action following the announcement of demolition, hoping to convert

the building into offices.
If, after the next three years, the groups can't develop a plan for old VHS, "it's all over," agreed County Manager Buford McRae.

Hudson Elected Teacher Head

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta educator Ross Hudson has been elected head of the 3,500-member district teacher organization.
Classroom teachers and school administrators from the Eighth District of the Georgia Association of Educators elected Hudson district director by a 3-1 vote in Waycross Wednesday.

He is predicting stronger teacher input with the legislature this year to "regain lost ground" on pay raises and to push for new educational programs and teacher benefits.
"In tight money times like these we need to be together on how the money is going to be spent. Teachers are going to have to be more involved and it will take a grass roots type of thing."
"Education has to be the number one priority of this state—or our economic status is going to be worse and worse," he added.
As current head of the Valdosta Association of Educators, Hudson has been instrumental in getting the demands of local teachers before the board of education, legislators and the public.
Part of his district election campaign was a push for increased public awareness of educators' needs.

The other basic issue in his platform was keeping the GAE an "all-inclusive organization for classroom teachers and school administrators."
"To eliminate the labor union model of management versus labor," he explained.
Hudson is assistant principal at West Gordon Elementary School.
"I believe school administrators are also educators," he said. "If they're not, they need to get out of the field."
"And to me, to be elected by that many classroom teachers was a vote of confidence in administration," he said.
Hudson said his election



ROSS HUDSON
District Director

was part of a combined effort of Valdosta and Lowndes County teachers. The Eighth District extends from Lowndes to Brunswick and from the Florida line north to Dodge County.
Another Lowndes County educator, Sandra Dickson of Hahira Junior High School, was elected on the district level. Mrs. Dickson was chosen on the district level. Mrs. Dickson was chosen the classroom teachers' representative.
A legislative forum between area representatives and senators and the educators is planned before this year's General Assembly session — to bring discussion on an eye-to-eye level, said Hudson.
"We need to be able to talk more casually."
"The legislators don't seem to feel quite as threatened in these forums — they are able to give more direct... candid answers," he said.
"And we do need to get some kind of basic commitment from the legislators before they go to Atlanta to vote."

Probable starting lineups for both teams follow:
VALDOSTA
Offense—ends Rick Register (175, sr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Clark Shull (155, sr.), tackles Randy Horne (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter (220, jr.), guards David Cooper (190, jr.) or Tom Copeland (175, jr.) and David Catoe (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.), center Gary Mims (185, sr.), halfbacks Billy Berrian (175, sr.) and Jesse Loving (170, jr.); quarterback Buck Belue (180, soph.); fullback Alton Battles (185, sr.).
Defense—ends Brad Cohen (180, jr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Jack Cain (170, jr.), tackles Eddie Denard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.) and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.), middle guard David Sumner (192, sr.); linebackers Harold Renninger (220, sr.) and Keith Middleton (200, jr.); cornerbacks Anthony Lynch (165, sr.) and Theodore Doms (150, sr.), safeties Lawrence Lowe (190, jr.) and Allen Worthy (175, soph.).
TIFT
Offense—ends Freddy Ingram (175, jr.) and Joe Tillman (175, jr.), tackles Gary Hester (205, jr.) and Bobby Benson (205, jr.), guards Paul Tanner (180, jr.) and Dan Richardson (175, sr.), center Ike Kent (175, jr.), quarterback Clark Carmichael (165, soph.), fullback T. J. Mims (175, soph.), halfback Greg Crumbley (170, jr.); flanker C.C. Burks (165, sr.).
Defense—ends Rob Hobby (165, jr.) and Ricky Cooper (160, jr.) tackles Lucious Coney (185, sr.) and Bill Rogers (185, sr.); guards Chuck Blechington (230, sr.) and Larry Sanders (205, soph.), linebackers Dale Hall (180, sr.) and Jeff Hillyer (165, jr.), backs Sammy Dillard (160, soph.) and Nate Prillon (160, sr.), safety Stan Patrick (165, jr.).

Nov. 1, 1975

'Cats 37, Imps 0/ Battles Paces Valdosta Offense

Seventh Victory Keeps Hope Alive

By MIKE CHASON

It was Halloween, but the only thing that went bump in the night was the sliding figure of Alton Battles and a ferocious Valdosta High defense which was the determining factor in an awesome 37-0 whitewashing of Region 1-AAA rival Tift County at Cleveland Field here Friday night.

VALDOSTA		TIFT	
First Downs	27	4	4
Yards Rushing	262	11	11
Yards Passing	242	66	66
Passes Comp. by	21	7	7
Passes Int. by	2	2	2
Fumbles Lost	2	2	2
Punting	0-0	7-36.7	7-36.7
Penalties	5-45	3-45	3-45

Battles, the senior fullback who's gaining recognition as one of the top runners in the league, bounced off would-be Tifton tacklers all night long to wind up with 132 yards rushing in 17 carries to lead a wildcat offense which totaled 504 yards, marking the second week in a row Valdosta has gone over the magic 500 total.

But the 'Dosta defense was just as impressive to the some 7,000 fans who braved a chilling wind to watch the linebackers Harold Renninger and Keith Middleton and tackle Roy Mitchell pick up five tackles apiece and limit visiting coach Wilbur

Lofton's Blue Devils to just 11 yards rushing and 66 yards through the air.

"We just went out there and tried to play good defense, and that's what we did," a wide smiling VHS head coach Nick Hyder said after the game in between congratulatory remarks from well wishers. "Mitchell had us talking about him all night long. He did a great job."

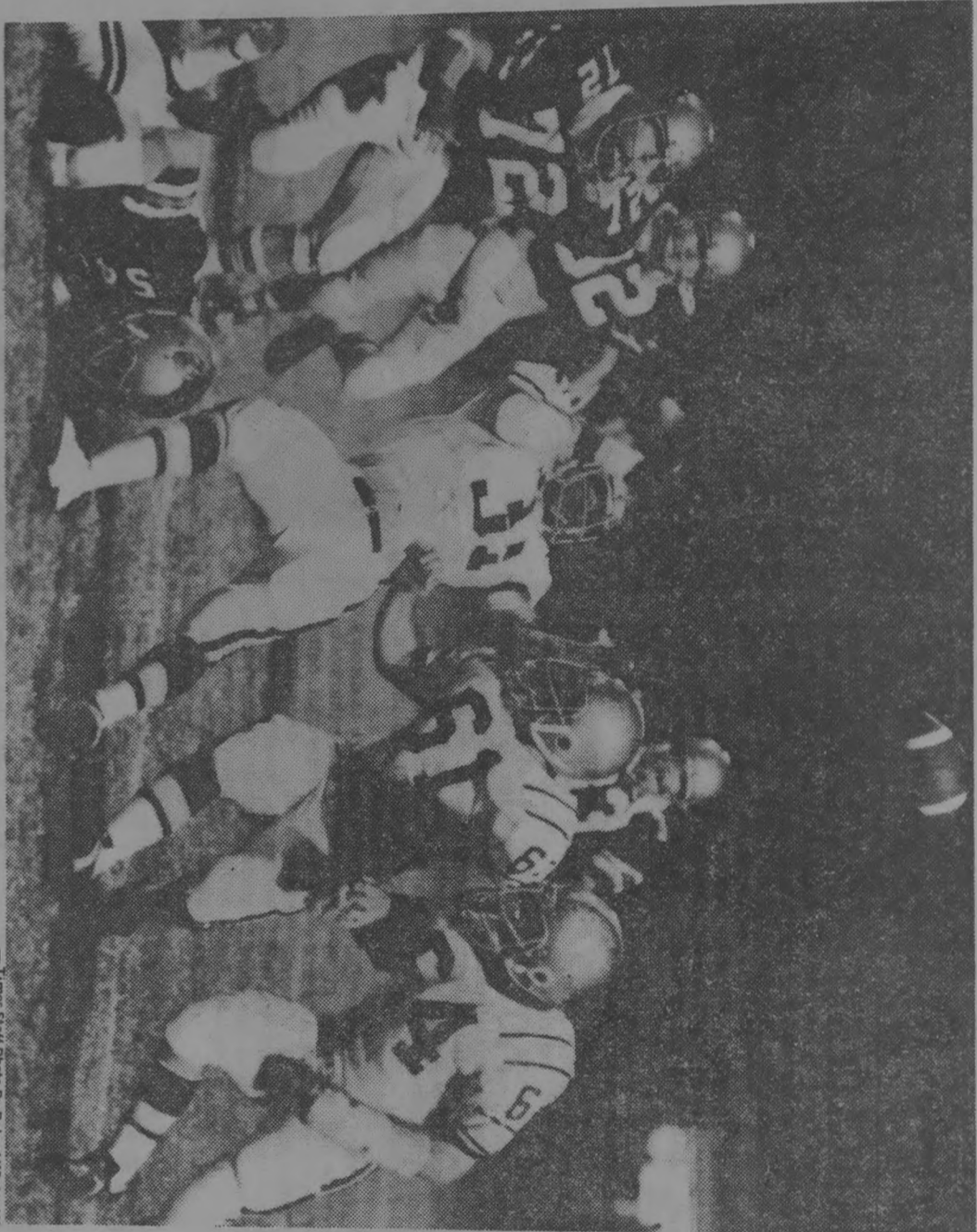
But if one had the time Hyder would have good words for all the 80 players who saw action in the game out of the 90 VHS usually dresses. The parade of substitutions in the final quarter gave Hyder time to insert more players into the game than he has all season.

Many of them came in the offensive effort where 12 different players carried the ball including some surprising antics by freshman and sophomores late in the game.

But Lofton was willing to give Battles and quarterback Buck Belue the majority of the credit.

"Battles is without a doubt the best back we've faced," Lofton reasoned. "He's got good speed, but the one thing which really impresses us about him is that he keeps moving continuously."

"Of course Belue is just one of a kind. You just can't say



Stretch: Valdosta's Alton Battles (31) Snags Pass Falling Backwards

enough about him.

"But you've got to have character to play this game, and tonight, our club didn't have it. We just didn't have the personnel to stay with

Valdosta."

His point was obvious almost from the start. Sure, Battles fumbled on Valdosta's first possession but then he came back and

broke through a beautiful hole created by center Gary Mims, guard David Catoe, and tackle Lee Harbin for a dazzling 46 yard touchdown run with 6:30 left in the first

quarter.

Robert Baldwin was then perfect on the first of five extra point kicks and Tift's long cold night had begun. The Blue Devils had a

chance to tie the score when Jeff Hyder blocked a Belue punt in the waning minutes of the quarter, and Tift set up shop six yards from paydirt.

But the 'Dosta defense didn't so much as crack as sophomore safety Allen Worley snagged a Jeff Carrichael pass in the end zone to thwart the uprising. The Blue Devils never came that close to scoring again.

Battles upped his touchdown count to two with 8:06 left in the second quarter on a 13 yard run right over the top of six Blue Devils.

The 'Cats knocked on the door twice more before interception, but didn't score again until Belue, who was 18 of 32 for 213 yards on the night, upset the Tift defense with an 11 yard tackle eligible touchdown pass to O'Keef Hunter with 6:55 to play in the third stanza.

Mitchell's fumble recovery on the TCHS 44 triggered the touchdown drive well engineered by Belue with offensive coordinator Joe Wilson doing the play calling from the sidelines.

Middleton led a gang of wildcats into the end zone to tackle Tift punter Sherman Turner for a safety late in the period, and fired up the VHS offense so much it managed another touchdown with just 15 seconds left when Belue found Clark Stull waiting patiently for the ball in the end zone on a 10 yard scoring strike.

Junior Steve Jennings had control of the Valdosta point scoring corps for the entire fourth quarter with the exception of three plays when Belue was felt needed. Jennings, who again had a

flawless night fielding punts, looked more confident than in his debut a week back, making only one mistake on a fumble with time ticking away.

His pitchout to halfback Billy Berrian keyed the final VHS TD when Berrian threw his now patented halfback option pass to Jody Wilson six yards away over the goal line with 6:53 remaining in the game.

The final stages of the contest became a comedy of errors as Jennings fumbled, Carrichael fumbled right back, and Berrian threw an interception.

But by that time most members of the Homecoming crowd had dissipated, reflecting on the 'Cats' now 7-1 record and the Blue Devils' dismal 1-7 mark.

And the band played on...

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta — Battles 17, 132; Loving 95; Belue 21; Gaskin 21; Jennings 31; Berrian 2; Johnson 15; Holcombe 15; Baldwin 13; Jaromillo 13; Belue 12; Tift — Crumley 10; Alms 7; Burkes 13; Carrichael 22; Carrichael 7 minus 14.

Passing: Valdosta — Belue 18-32-213; Berrian 2-5-24; Jennings 1-4-5; Tift — J. Carrichael 17-19-246; C. Carrichael 0-1-0.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta — Swill 5-25; Berrian 4-43; Loving 3-37; Wilson 3-5; Baldwin 1-3; Register 1-6; Tift — Harvey 4-20; Burkes 3-38; McCullough 1-5.

Punt Returns: Valdosta — Berrian 1-23; Tift — none.

Kickoff Returns: Valdosta — Berrian 1-19; Tift — Burkes 2-47; Knight 1-3.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta — Mitchell 5; Renninger 5; Middleton 5; Lowe 2; Worley 2; Williams 2; Rickman 2; Roberts 2; Tift — Cooper 10; Hilyer 9; D. Hall 8; Patrick 5; Pridgen 5; Conroy 4; Blichington 3; Rogers 3; Tiltman 3; R. Hall 2; Phillips 2; Copeland 2.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	7	7	16	7	37
Tift	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring:
Val — Battles 46 run (Baldwin kick)
Val — Belue 13 run (Baldwin kick)
Val — Hunter 11 pass from Belue (Baldwin kick)
Val — Safety (trapped by Middleton)
Val — Swill 10 pass from Belue (Baldwin kick)
Val — Wilson 6 pass from Berrian (Baldwin kick)

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VALDOSTA, HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

By JULIAN MILLER
Four years after hanging up his coaching shoes, the accolades still roll in for Valdosta School System Athletic Director August Wright Bazemore.
And the grey-haired wizard beamed with pride when it was announced Monday he is one of three coaches selected to a national football hall of fame.
But it wasn't self pride that put the cheshire cat smile on the legendary coach's face as much as it was pride in the area he feels made him what he is.
"It feels great," concurred Bazemore upon hearing the announcement he has been selected as one of the first three coaches to be inducted

into the Citizens Savings Athletic Foundation National High School Hall of Fame in Los Angeles, Calif.
"But the main honor is that the city of Valdosta and this entire area has been recognized for what it has done. I'm more proud for all you people in Valdosta than anything else. Ya'll did the work... I just got the glory."
Bazemore, who retired as head coach of Valdosta High School's Wildcats in 1971 for medical reasons and became athletic director for the entire school system, posted a 290-43-6 record in 29 years of coaching.
As a final testament to his success, his 1971 team rolled to 13 straight victories and the Georgia State Class AAA

and mythical national championships.
That left 15 state championships in his record book and literally thousands of former players scattered all over the country.
Bazemore, who has been named regional and state coach of the year so many times he can't remember, was named national coach of the year by one organization and has already been installed as one of the first coaches in the Georgia High School Football Hall of Fame.
He is also in select company of Bron Constantine "Bacey" Bacevich and Paul Leonard Briggs, all of whom are to be inducted into the Citizens Savings (formerly Helms Athletic Foundation)

Hall in Los Angeles Jan. 17, at Magic Mountain, Valencia, Calif.
Bazemore, who likes to spread the credit around, was at his best Monday when talking about the citation.
"It's really quite an honor for this entire section of Georgia," he said. "It always takes a lot on people to put a football team together like the ones we've had; coaches, people in town, the touch-down club... some people don't know how important that club is... and certainly the newspapers and band and everyone else."
Bazemore feels it was not only the records his team set during his 29 years at

Valdosta after two years as an assistant coach in Waycross, but the number of all-stars and national All-Americans who came out of his program, that prompted the honor.
In 1971, for example, his Wildcats fielded two of the top 50 players in the United States in quarterback Stanley Bounds, now playing for Mississippi, and tackle Steve Stanaland, now playing for Auburn. The team also included Stan Rome, who the following year was not only voted one of the top All-America prospects in the nation but was cited as the number one athlete in United States high schools by Parade Magazine.

From his past teams come such coaches as Charles Greene, who succeeded him at the Wildcat helm before moving on to Kansas State University and now Stephens County High School in Toccoa; Bruce Bennett of Ware County High; Dale Williams at Waycross; Danny Williams at Ware; Mar Dibois at Stephens County; Frank King, who helped build a Class A dynasty at Earle County in Blakely; Knud McCrary, the legendary coach at Moultrie; and R. Bulloch at R. E. I. (Thomaston).
I guess I could find 100 them if I sat down thought about it," Bazemore (See Bazemore, Page 2)



Bazemore is Named To Hall Of Fame

Bazemore In Hall Of Fame

suddenly realized.
As far as players themselves, even the Baze wouldn't dare speculate on the numbers he's had under him.
"After the early 1960's (1960, '61 and '62 when the 'Cats won 38 straight for three consecutive Class AAA crowns) I must have had 75 boys a season," he recalled. In the 1970's it was up into the 100's.
"Even when I first started coaching here (in 1938), I must have had 60-65 boys."
The one year that stands out in his mind however is 1946, when he returned from a three-year stint in the Navy and took 23 prospective players to camp. When he came back he had 19.
"But Mister, they were 19 football players. That old thing about 'Bear' Bryant taking his team in the middle of the desert was nothing. I expect when they came back they had been through a lot more. Their eyes were sunk

back in their heads and they would flat hit you."
The team went 9-2.
As far as his success goes, even Bazemore can't put his finger on the exact cause. He feels it comes from many things, most of which is support of the people behind the program.
Some feel it was Bazemore's dynamic yearn for winning. In six years of coaching basketball at VHS, his teams posted a 176-22 record, earning as many regional titles, three district titles, one state championship and once lost in the state finals. His three tennis teams netted a singles or doubles state championship each year for the school.
Bazemore earlier offered as probable cause his ability to see as much out of the corner of his eye as he could through the middle. It's a trait he taught himself in the Navy and enables him to watch 44 players on a practice field at one time and tell you what each of them did on any particular play.
Others feel it could have been the preseason work camps he helped inaugurate or just the cunning play calling the Baze was famous for.
The coach himself feels the most important aspect was assistant coaches and the ability to choose the right ones.
"And I've had some fiery ones, some of the best," he concurred.
But most of all it was the boys. They all came from good stock and the administration was always behind me. It just boils down to a team that won't let anyone beat them won't get beat."
Since his retirement from the coaching ranks, Bazemore likes to joke that his work load has increased geometrically. He also admits to being a mighty good Monday morning quarterback.
"Well yes... I miss it. Coaching was my life. It was hard to put it down. But since we're winning this year I've really been enjoying it. The

happiest times I've ever had were at the camp the past few years."
But even Bazemore had to admit he's overlooking the hard parts of coaching when he remembers the good days.
"There were a million of 'em. That's part of coaching. But I'm getting accustomed to the stands. I've found out like everyone else sitting there you can do an awful lot more on the field. And I can sit there and say I would have done this or would have done that, but it's a lot harder when you're down there with three or four seconds to do it."
Even with all the good times of coaching, Bazemore sees the changes that have come over the sport these days. Some are good, others bad and almost all of them put more pressure and work on the coach.
"Coaching has changed a great deal even in the last six or eight years," he said. "Coaching is a minor part of the job now. You've got to meet the mamas and pappas and talk to everyone from the PTA on down. It's getting like the pros."
"Back when I started coaching, you had 45-50 boys you took out to the field every afternoon and worked about three hours and that was all you had to do until the next afternoon. By the time I quit I had a homeroom and taught six classes before I ever got around to the football team."
The 59-year-old Bazemore, who earned a spot in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" when he twice scored 10 touchdowns in a single game while playing for Fitzgerald High School, earned a degree at Mercer University in 1938 and has since gained his A.B. and M.S. degrees at George Peabody College.
He and his wife, Betty, are to fly to California for the award ceremonies in January.

NOV 6, 1975
Valdosta 30
Albany 7
Thomasville 31
Moultrie 0

Valdosta Jars Albany, 30-7

ALBANY, Ga. — Quarterback Buck Belue passed for two touchdowns and a pair of two-point conversions as well as scoring once in leading Valdosta High's Wildcats to a 30-7 victory over the Albany Indians Friday night in Region 1-AAA football.
The eagle-eyed signal caller cracked over the middle from one yard out for his six-pointer before later tossing a screen pass to Joey Wilson on a 20-yard touch-down play.
Belue, who hit Clark Scull on both of his conversion aerials, connected with the glue-fingered Scull on a 30-yard play and the game's final TD.
Alton Battles had scored first for the now 8-1 Wildcats on a four-yard burst up the middle. Robert Baldwin's two kicks got Valdosta its other points.
Albany's score came when Bart Oats intercepted a Wildcat pass and scooted 15

yards to paydirt. John Boyette booted the PAT for the now 5-4 Indians.

Tridiron Glimpse

Thomasville 31, Moultrie 0

The Mitchell Boys, Roscoe and T.C., and quarterback Leslie Cannady provided the fireworks for the Bulldogs. And the Packers, playing without the full services of Virgil Seay, never got past the 50 as Thomasville defeated the previously unbeaten Packers to throw the Region 1-AAA race into a three-way tie with those two teams and Valdosta

Valdosta 30, Albany 7

Valdosta quarterback Buck Belue threw for two touchdowns and ran for one more to lead the Wildcats to their eighth win in nine starts. Linebackers Harold Renninger and Keith Middleton keyed the 'Dosta defense which stopped the Indians cold.

VSC Calendar Girl Contest Stars 27

Special To The Times

For the second year, Valdosta Mayor Gil Harbin has agreed to serve as master of ceremonies for Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity's Calendar Girl Contest at Valdosta State College.

When the curtain goes up in VSC's Whitehead Auditorium at 8 p. m. Tuesday, it will reveal the 1976 Calendar Girl theme is "A Salute to Our Bicentennial."

Sharing emcee duties with Harbin will be VSC College Relations Director Fluker Stewart. Valdosta accountant Jack May will serve again as the contest's official tabulator.

Entertainment is to include music by the VSC Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Ed Barr, as well as performances by the modern folk group, Creke. The Atlanta-based folk group features Kris Dahl, a junior nursing major from Atlanta.

Joseph Sheppard of Savannah, a senior history major, is serving as contest director and coordinator.

Twenty-seven co-eds are to compete for the Calendar Girl title. The winner will be Miss January in the TKE 1976 VSC Calendar, and the four runners-up will appear as Miss February, Miss March, Miss April and Miss May. The rest of the top 12 contestants are to appear in alphabetical order as the "misses" of the remaining months of the year.

Representing Kappa Delta sorority are Kim Kelly and Kim Woodson, both of Thomaston, and Mary Schiavone of Gainesville, Fla.

In the contest for Phi Mu sorority are Paula Clark of Folkston and Angela Poirier and Glyn Webb, both of Valdosta.

Entrants from Alpha Xi Delta sorority are Chris Boyette of Lakeland, Ga., Beth McClain of Tifton and Debbie Palmer of Valdosta.

Alpha Delta Pi sorority members in the contest are Kim Purser of Lake City,

Fla., Sissy Vann of Marietta and Susan Gish of Valdosta. Representing Zeta Tau Alpha sorority are Laura Jones of Nashville, Ga., Alexa McConchie of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., and SuBeth Tillman of Valdosta.

Nominated by Delta Chi fraternity are Bonnie Alexander of Doerun and Sue Link of Ocala, Fla.

Contestants sponsored by Kappa Alpha fraternity are Robyn Gentry of Hawkinsville and Kay Willis of Duluth.

Nominated by Pi Kappa Phi fraternity are Kate Crawford of Dunwoody and Julie Ussery of Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

Contestants sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity are Charlotte Grundeis of Atlanta and Luanne Montgomery of Griffin.

Sponsored by Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity are Marie Stoddard of Thomasville and Barbara Walter of Atlanta.

Representing the Baptist Student Union are Vickie Kelly of Blackshear and Patricia Knight of Bartow, Fla.

Advance tickets, at \$1, will be available in front of the VSC Cafeteria Monday and Tuesday, according to Sheppard. Admission at the door on the night of the contest will be \$1.25.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Nov. 6, 1975-11-

To Open Season

VSC Sets 'Star-Spangled' Comedy

It's hard to imagine a play with no historical theme and little message kicking off a Bicentennial theatre season. But "Star Spangled Girl," with its hilarious love triangle, is to do just that at Valdosta State College.

The Neil Simon comedy, directed by John Rudy, is to run Nov. 13-15 in Sawyer Theatre on the VSC campus. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m.

Tickets cost \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for non-VSC students. Valdosta State students, with identification cards, and patrons are admitted free.

Since this is the Bicentennial year, the college speech-drama department planning to "strengthen something Americana in our productions," said Rudy. "Star Spangled Girl" is rollicking comedy but other planned are to have more historical connections.

Bicentennial overtones. "Star Spangled Girl" is just a romp," the director said. "It's full of bubbling Neil Simon dialogue and much action. It's good farcical theatre, nothing deep or heavy but with a little message of the meaning of America."

The season's opening show is a very physical play, said Rudy, and the set has several different levels so there'll be lots of running up and down staircases, etc.

The play, said Rudy, is about two Eastern liberal young men living in San Francisco where they produce a radical newspaper. The paper, however, with no supporters is barely clinging to existence and the two have a hard time getting by. When a sweet young miss from the Deep South moves in next door with her All-American attitudes the conflicts start.

"One of the boys doesn't like her, one adores her too much and she despises them

both," said Rudy with a laugh. "But the plot boils and thickens and eventually she falls in love with the one who despises her. They adjust their views, each gives in a little and they live happily ever after."

Gloria Lee of Marietta, Terry Snead and Jay Carey, both of Valdosta, have the leads. "They've been working very hard for some weeks now and I think we're going to have a good show," said Rudy.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Sun., Nov. 2, 1975-4-A-



—Times Staff Photo.

To Woo Friends

Music Games

Speight here and his mother is a housewife and they never stop encouraging him. But their piano and the one he has to use at school aren't very good. We're looking for some way to get him good on her performances and...

The Lowndes High Marching Vikings and the U.S. Air Force Reserve Band from Robins Air Force Base... officials was the final Open House event scheduled...

November 5, 1975

'Should Have Happened' At VSC

By VIRGINIA CULPEPPER

Women want the right of choice for their life styles. That was the message emphasized at a day-long conference on women in leadership held at Valdosta State College Saturday.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Ann Campbell, commissioner of education for the State of Nebraska, said women have to take risks, make sacrifices, work harder and go the second, third and fourth miles to reach the same goals men reach with fewer efforts.

"You're faced with making some hard decisions," said Dr. Campbell, "when you are ambitious."

"There's got to be a challenge in a woman's life. It's just not enough to play bridge or golf or to listen to a book review once a week or so. Women want a personal fulfillment, often through gainful employment."

Modern gadgets, she pointed out, have contributed much to the changes in women's life styles. They have more time for things other than keeping the household in running order, either for volunteer work or gainful employment.

The seminar was appropriately entitled, "It Should Have Happened Yesterday..." The cover of the program depicted grim-faced women in clothes of the early 1900's with scrub boards, wash tubs and pans full of dishes.

It was one of four being held throughout Georgia. Others are scheduled for Berry College at Rome on Nov. 8, Middle Georgia College at Cochran on Nov. 15, and Georgia State University on Nov. 22.

Purpose of the seminar is to take a look at the waste of women's abilities, to dispel the idea that women should function only in the home, the church and in women's clubs, and to help women improve their self image as decision makers, to train women to assert themselves and to become involved in community problem solving.

"Because women face both attitudinal and situational barriers," said the speaker, "they face more challenges than men do."

"But we've also had opportunities to drop out for family rearing and we've had the opportunity to drop back in."

Dr. Campbell is one of those who dropped out to have three children, keep house for her husband, and do volunteer community work before dropping back into the job market, pursuing higher education for master's and doctoral degrees.

She spoke of the experiences a woman may have in volunteer work, in being president of a woman's club, etc., as being beneficial when it comes to decision-making.

The four characteristics of upward mobility for women in business, she said, are confidence, decision making, knowledge and charisma.

"There are lots of worlds for women to conquer," she concluded, "but it can be done."

Serving on a panel for a discussion of women executives in various fields were the following Valdostans: Foster Goolsby, superintendent of city



Photo Special To The Times

It Can Be Done: Dr. Campbell, Dr. Thomas, Dean Fickertt Talk Shop

schools; A. B. (Sonny) Martin, superintendent of county schools; Paul Sunner, owner of an employment office; Daisy Cooke, Southern Bell; Seab Miller, director of area vocational school; Inez Pendleton, Lowndes County clerk; Chester Clark, funeral director; Tom Nichols, representative of the manager's office; Carl Griffin, director of Human Resources; William Earl, Social Security administrator; Majorie White, of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Earlene Sizemore Sylvester, member of Georgia Legislature, was also on the panel.

"It was," said Dean Sa Fickertt of VSC, "a very satisfactory seminar. Although we did not get many people as we would have liked, we had a quality group."

"I think the feeling of the women who attended was that it was a very profitable day. Some of them have been asking for short workshops, especially in parliamentary procedure, as a result of the Saturday sessions."

Topics for workshops held during the morning session were: assertive training; problem solving; parliamentary procedure; time management; communications; and goal setting.

On the program were Dean Kay McKenzie of Oglethorpe University; Dr. Elizabeth Jenkins of Georgia State University; Dr. Carolyn Boswell, Clayton Junior College, Atlanta; Mrs. Letitia Royal of Warner Robins; Mrs. Phyllis Spurlock of Atlanta; Sister Leuschner, Dr. Charles

Patrick, a native of Louisville, Ky., finished strong last season and was named to the South Atlantic Conference all-tournament team. He averaged over 11 points and 8 rebounds a game.

Fletcher, who directs the Blazers' offensive attack, also averaged over 11 points per outing a year ago after transferring from Brunswick Junior College. He is a native of Brunswick.

The co-captains' major goal is to lead VSC to its first SAC championship and a bid to an NCAA post-season tournament. In order to accomplish that goal, the Blazers must dispose of league favorite Armstrong State College as well as the conference's other four clubs

West Georgia, Augusta, Columbus and Southern Tech.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Tues., Nov. 11, 1975-11-

VSC Captains Selected

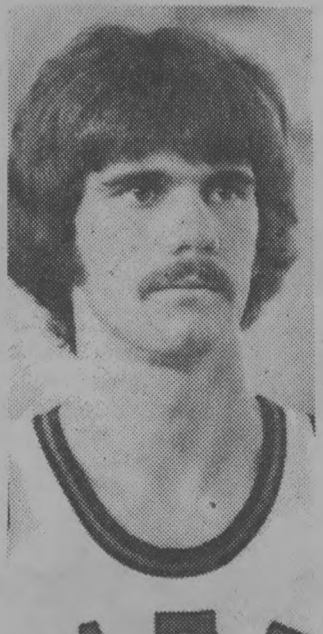
By STEVE ROBERTS

Mike Patrick, a 6-4 senior forward, and James Fletcher, a 6-0 guard, have been named co-captains of the 1976 Valdosta State College Blazers basketball squad.

Head coach James Fickertt made the announcement, at the same time adding his vote of confidence to the selections by the team.

Patrick was very pleased to be chosen. He chose Mike and James to captain this year's team, Dominey said. "Both have proved on and off the court that they deserve this honor."

Patrick said this is their last year as co-captains. They are anxious to have a good season. "We are sure they'll provide the leadership a team must have in its captains."



MIKE PATRICK Senior Forward



JAMES FLETCHER Offensive Leader

November 8, 1975

Albany Yields Eighth Win For Wildcats

Valdosta Enters Three-Way Tie

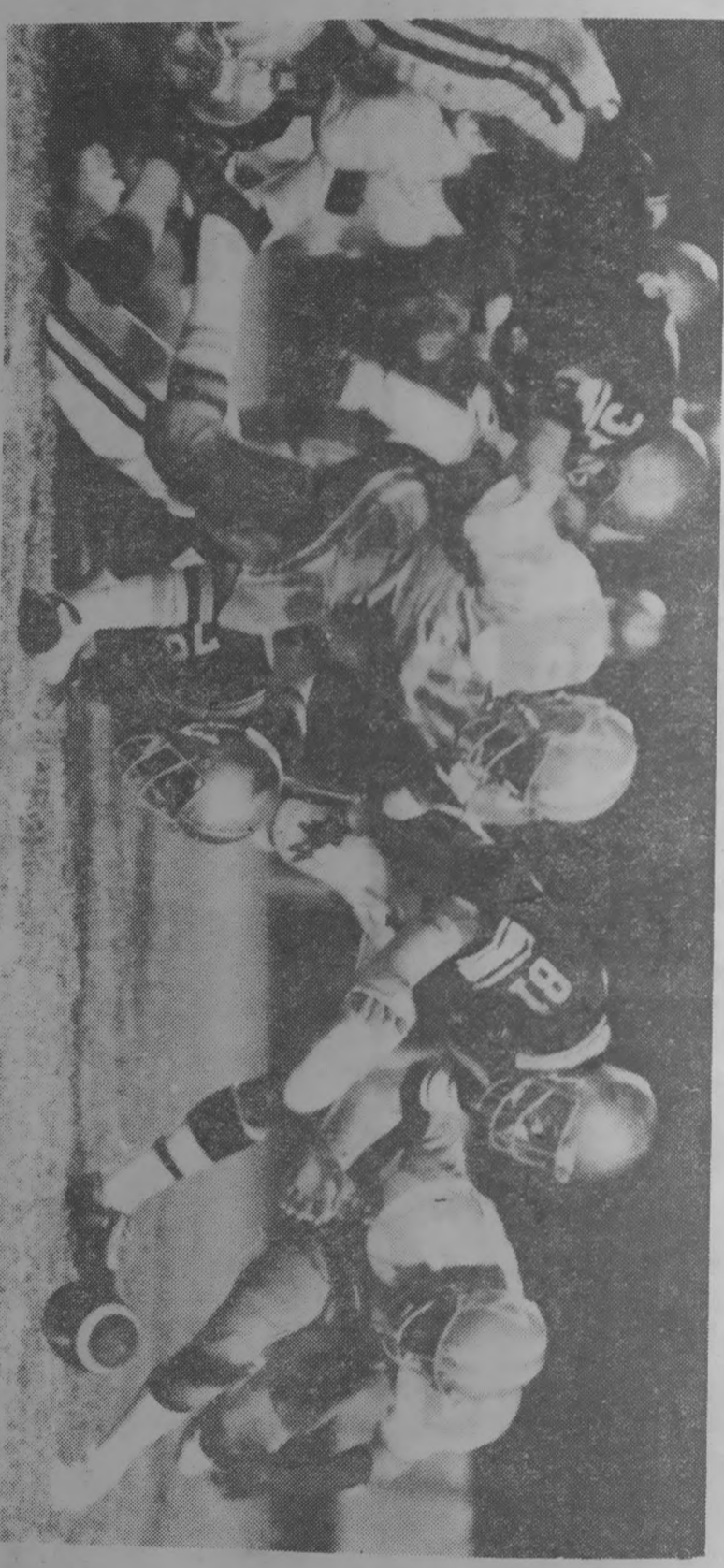
BY MIKE CHASON
 ALBANY — Valdosta's usual time bomb offense wasn't working to perfection, but Albany's wasn't working at all at Mills Memorial Stadium here Friday night when the Wildcats slammed past the Indians 30-7 and gained a share of the Region I-AAA lead.

YARDSTICK		Valdosta Albany	
First Downs	145	50	46
Yards Rushing	177	46	127
Yards Passing	9-19	6-15	3
Passes Incomplete	1	2	2
Fumbles Lost	2-46.0	7-35.0	2
Punting	8-70	7-75	2
Penalties			

"I'm anxious to play either one of them in a playoff except not on their home field. But our task now is to win next week against Westover (Albany)."

But on this muggy Friday night in November, the second year head coach of the Wildcats was content just to soak up the thrill of his club's eighth win, the first time since 1972 when he coached at West Rome that he has seen that many plusses on his side of the board.

"We didn't really blow it out tonight, but I thought we were in the ballgame all the way," Hyder said. "I guess we played just good enough to win."



The Race Is On: Valdosta (Dark) And Albany Gridders Chase Loose Football

But give them some credit. They've got a good, tough football team, one of only five teams in the region with a winning (5-4) record. I thought they had a real good pass rush particularly."

That Indian onslaught had something to do with the fact Valdosta totaled only 272 yards of offense in the game, a good night's work anytime but a far cry from the 500 mark the Cats have topped the past two weeks.

Sophomore quarterback Buck Blue, perhaps still favoring a nagging shoulder injury, passed just 16 times and hit on seven for 85 yards.

He also had three interceptions.

Fullback Alton Battles held his customary lead position in the 'Dosta rushing attack with 74 yards on seven trips, despite participating in only one play the entire second half.

"Alton sprained his ankle there on that long run (34 yards) at the start of the second half," Hyder explained. "He could have played some more, but we didn't want to aggravate it. It was really just a

precautionary thing on our part."

For the second straight game, Battles fumbled the first time he touched the pigskin, but also for the second straight game, he came back to score a touchdown later in the quarter.

This time he completed a 41 yard, seven play drive with an eight yard scamper into the end zone with absolutely no time left in the first period. Belue then surprised everyone with a stunning two point conversion pass to

Jessie Loving which set the crows of 4,500 buzzing.

With just 2:03 to go before halftime, the sophomore signal caller had the Valdosta "Fight Song" blaring again with a one yard quarterback sneak for another six pointer.

The play was only the second of a 14 yard Valdosta effort which began when linebacker Harold Renninger pounced on a Winfred Anderson fumble.

On this occasion, Doug Parker, replacing usual place kicker Robert Baldwin, who was nursing a sore leg,

—Times Staff Photo By Robert Winter III

booted the conversion try to give the Cats a 15-0 halftime edge.

Battles made his untimely exit early in the second half, forcing Belue to turn to his air corps. Sophomore teammate Jody Wilson was ready with 5:20 remaining in the third quarter, and hauled in a 15 yard scoring strike, running over two Indians to fall over the line. Parker was again perfect with the PAT.

Albany's scoring drought apparently came to an abrupt end early in the final period

when C.C. Thomas grabbed a Kip Fox pass and juggled it into the end zone. But an ineligible man downfield brought the ball back, giving VHS linebacker Keith Middleton an opportunity to pick off an interception to go along with his team leading eight tackles.

The reprieve was short lived, however, for Belue threw into the hands of Albany's Bart Oates who lumbered into the end zone from 12 yards away to set the

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

- Rushing: Valdosta—Battles 74, Belue 7-34, Berrian 4-16, Martin 2-15, C. Dennis 3-6, Loving 5 minutes; Albany—Williams 19-24, Johnson 1 minute; Hills 11 minutes.
- Passing: Valdosta—Fox 6-15-65; Berrian 2-3-42; Albany—Fox 6-15-65.
- Pass Receiving: Valdosta—Berrian 3-10-17, Hill 2-47, Wilson 3-42, Registrar 1-28; Albany—Punt Returns: Valdosta—Jennings 2-4, Kicker Returns: Valdosta—Berrian 2-50; Albany—Anderson 5-86.
- Defense (Number of Tackles): Valdosta—Middleton 8, Renninger 7, Love 6, Lynch 4, Denard 3; Albany—Milton 5, Berrian 4, Brock 5, Banks 4.
- Score by Quarters: 8 0 0 7—7 Albany
- Scoring: Val—Battles 8 Run (Loving pass from Belue); Albany—run (Parker Kick) Val—Wilson 15 pass from Belue (Parker Kick) Alb—Oates 12 interception Return (Williams Kick) Val—Stull 33 pass from Belue (Stull pass from Berrian)

Mike Chason
Times Sports Writer

Indians Couldn't Stay With 'Cats

It is improbable the outcome would have been much different, but one play really spelled the shape of things to come for Albany's Indians in their Region 1-AAA struggle with Valdosta High's Wildcats at Mills Memorial Stadium Friday night.



CHASON

The crucial play came when Albany recovered an Alton Battles' fumble on the Valdosta 37-yard line just seconds after the game was underway. The Indians advanced the pigskin to the 27-yard line where quarterback Kip Fox lofted his first pass to C.C. Thomas. The crowd held its breath as Thomas had a step on VHS safety Lawrence Lowe and appeared ready to take the ball over his shoulder for a touchdown.

But the muscular Valdosta junior had other things in mind. Just when Thomas was already thinking of how to spike the ball after he scored,

Lowe lunged, knocked the ball away, and Albany's offense had been thwarted for the first of many times.

In fact, Fox appeared wary of going to his passing game all night after this play. The Tribe's running backs picked up some yardage, but on the whole, the Wildcats' Eddie Denard, Roy Mitchell, Keith Middleton, and Harold Renninger kept the ground attack throttled. Halfback Winfred Anderson and fullback Roger Williams accounted for 94 yards between them, but sacks on Fox took away 24 of those yards.

Wilson's A Hitter

Valdosta quarterback Buck Belue also withstood a strong pass rush, but he wasn't counting on his passing for the Wildcats' eighth victory in nine games, anyway. For the night, the cool headed sophomore was 7 of 16 for 85 yards and a pair of touchdowns to Jody Wilson and Clark Stull. Three interceptions spoiled Buck's chances at putting even more points on the board.

The game really had few exciting moments from a neutral bystander's viewpoint since Valdosta was in control almost all the way after Albany found out you can't just take off for long gainers on the Wildcat defense. But there were a couple of instances where the blood did tend to flow a little faster.

One occasion was when Wilson, a 141-pound sophomore who is the son of VHS offensive coordinator Joe Wilson, hauled in the 11-yard scoring pass from Belue. Not exactly known for his ability to push people around, Wilson butted heads with a pair of Indian defenders on his way to the goal line. Needless to say, Wilson's new found strength won out.

But the Indians, maybe the same pair, got revenge in the fourth period when Billy Berrian exercised his option on the halfback pass and threw to Wilson for what looked to be a touchdown. But as Jody was falling across the end line, Carlton River snatched the ball from his grasp and ran it out to the 20-yard line.

Battles Slowed

Another item worth noting was the rough night usually sur handed Steve Jennings had fielding the ball. For two consecutive games, the junior punt returner had handled his position flawlessly. In reality, he didn't lose any punts Friday night, but he caught only one without some sort of bobble. Theodore Demy replaced Jennings late in the game and came up with a great return, but it was called back because of a clipping penalty. Maybe it was just one of those nights for Jennings.

It was also one of those games for fullback Alton Battles who looked to be on his way to a most prosperous night carrying the ball with 74 yards in only seven tries. But then after a brilliant 34-yard maneuver to open the second half, he limped off the field with an ankle injury. VHS head coach Nick Hyder felt confident the tough to-tackle senior would return for the season finale this week however.

Overall, the 'Cats didn't look fantastic in the game, but they knew they didn't have to. They played more than well enough to win, but really didn't exert themselves doing it. Perhaps they were saving their energy for Westover here Friday night and the region playoff game which is almost certain to follow next week against either Moultrie or Thomasville.

Julian Miller
Times Sports Editor

Baze's Memory Has It Different

Wright Bazemore, the crafty old "King of the 'Cats" at Valdosta High School, remembers things a little differently than former Athens head coach Weyman Sellers about Athens' arrival in Valdosta for the 1969 State Class AAA high school football championship game.



MILLER

Sellers, now coaching at Jonesboro, in an Associated Press story run in the Times Saturday, said it was the "less than hospitable" reception his Trojans received when they arrived at the Valdosta Airport that enabled him to inspire them to a 26-26 tie and a co-championship.

Bazemore, now Valdosta School System Athletic Director but then head coach of the Wildcats, who were unbeaten at the time, supposedly promised Sellers that a modern bus would meet the team at the airport.

Instead, "a beat up old shell of a bus" showed up and team members feared it would never get them to Valdosta. That, Sellers said, brought on the winning inspiration.

The story came as a shock to Bazemore and to his followers who still regard the grey haired wizard as the "King of psyche," who could use anything to fire up his boys and seldom gave the opposing team any fuel for their flames.

As Bazemore recalls it, the first time he ever talked to Sellers was after the team had arrived in Valdosta from the airport and until last Saturday he knew nothing about a bus ever meeting the team anywhere.

Athens officials may have worked something out with the Valdosta School System, the Baze acknowledged. But even so, the only bus the schools had access to there were the old green and white city buses run by an independent service station in Valdosta.

It's difficult to tell whose memory is more reliable, but the same story pointed out Sellers' most famous protege is Minnesota Viking star Fran Tarkenton, who according to Sellers piloted Athens to a 51-20 victory over Valdosta for a smaller classification state championship as a junior.

Tarkenton, in Valdosta several years ago on a business trip, told the Times he was in only two plays that night against Valdosta. "I handed off to the fullback on both of them," he recalled.

Hyder And The Stands

Speaking of football, Wildcats and psyching teams up to play in Cleveland Field, Nick Hyder has to feel like a left out man as far as his current Valdosta Wildcats are concerned.

Hyder, now head coach of the Wildcats, who take an 8-1 record into Friday night's game against Westover, has heard all his life about how the Valdosta fans can make those metal stands rattle enough to thoroughly confuse the visiting team.

But even Hyder, when asked about the fans by reporters, couldn't vouch for it. Seems he's never heard it.

"Naw, can't say as I have," Hyder admitted, "Although I've heard a lot about it."

The practice seems to have been cast aside by Valdosta fans in recent years, probably during the miserable 3-7 season the 'Cats posted last season.

Needs More Support

But Hyder figured doing three times as well in the winning department this season, as the 'Cats will have accomplished should they win Friday, would be enough to spark a little more of the foot stompin'.

If it's not, Hyder may never get a chance to hear it. The game will be the last played in Cleveland Field this season, unless some stroke of luck brings the Region 1-AAA playoff here, something few people really expect.

Should the 'Cats somehow win the region championship, all remaining playoff games are to be on the road this season.

Meanwhile, Hyder is concerned that his Wildcats, who have been practicing hard for some 14 weeks now, could be feeling some of those end-of-season blues at the wrong time. A possible playoff is still pending and it's no time for a slump now.

"We've got a little drive on to help boost some support for the Westover game," Hyder announced. "You know, hearing those stands rattle the way people tell me they can just might do the trick."

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WING DAY

November 11, 1975.

VHS, Clinch Eye Playoffs

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta's Wildcats and Clinch County's Panthers seek possible playoff berths in their final regular season games Friday night on an evening when most other schools in the area are to pack up the grid equipment until next spring.

AREA GRID SLATE
Friday
Westover at Valdosta
Lowndes at Thomasville
Brooks at Early
Central at Cook
Cairo at Berrien
Atkinson at Clinch
Hamilton at Santa Fe
Jefferson at Madison

Valdosta takes on Westover of Albany at Cleveland Field here in an important Region 1-AAA duel while Thomasville hosts Lowndes' Vikings on the Bulldogs' home field at the same 8 p.m. starting time. Both Thomasville and Valdosta maintain 8-1 region records, the identical mark recorded

by Moultrie's Packers who play Dougherty in Albany Saturday night on the final night of regular season play.

Should all three clubs record wins, the region would be knotted in the same three way tie which now exists. Some type of voting between the 11 region schools' officials would then take place to eliminate one or two of the teams involved. Should only one be voted out, the other two would be involved in a playoff Nov. 21, a week before the state playoffs begin.

Clinch County's Panthers may be involved in a playoff of their own on the same night should Coach Donald Tyson's team from Homerville knock off Region 2-B rival Atkinson County (Pearson) Friday night, and Charlton's County's Indians from Folkston should

cop a victory over Patterson. Charlton and Clinch are now tied for the region lead with identical 4-1 records.

In other football action Friday night, Brooks County (Quitman) meets Early County in Blakely, Central of Thomasville travels to Adel to meet Cook, Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) welcomes Cairo, Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) hits the road to Santa Fe County, (Alachua, Fla.), and Madison, Fla. entertains Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.)

Although West Thomas' Lowndes' club won't be going anywhere but back to Valdosta after Friday night, the Vikes could play the role of the spoiler by upending the powerful Bulldogs' on their home field.

Brooks and Cook could also provide upsets with victories over Region 1-A leader Early and region 1-AA (West) champion Central respectively.

Berrien's Rebels are anxious to extend their winning streak to two after

A sex education course at Valdosta State College has drawn some criticism from parents but school officials stand behind the value of the state-ordered course. A decision was made in late 1971 by the state university system to have the course at all units of the system, including VSC, on a required basis. However, VSC President S. Walter Martin has, on the local level, ruled that any student with objections to the course can be exempted. The course is not fully geared to sex education. For new students, it also covers drug abuse, alcoholism and other

problem areas for new students. One source of some complaint has been a textbook, which since has been replaced. The objection to the book centered on pictures of nude bodies. College officials say the new textbook contains drawings, but no pictures of this type. Martin, Dr. Ray Cleere, vice president and dean of faculties; Dr. Jay Arnold, head of the physical education and athletic department; Dr. John Letson, dean of the education school; and Andrew J. Bond, dean of students, answered some criticisms of the course Tuesday raised by a parent.

VSC Sex Education Course Draws Parental Criticism

Is the course mandatory? Yes, according to Cleere, who said a student is exempted if he so desires, and said only about six or seven had made such a request. In each case, he said, the student was exempted from the course. The course is listed in the catalog as Health 100. It is for one hour credit on Contemporary Health Education. Cleere, noting the wide range of topics in the course, said "there are a lot of things a freshman needs to come in contact with..." while in school. Arnold said the classes are taught in a scholarly manner, using clinical terminology and often answers

questions raised by students. Two students taking the course were asked by the Times to comment. "I enjoy it. It seems to me the content is relevant to situations we will come in contact with as young people," said Loreta Jackson of 2431 University Drive. Mrs. Jackson said the course is basically informative. "A lot of parents think they (professors) take a moral viewpoint but they don't; it is a fact presentation and they don't force their opinion on you." Arnold said the only class participation is through panel

The Valdosta Daily Times, Wed., Nov. 12, 1975-18-

Hyder T'ville Reclaim No. One Rank

By Times Staff Writer
The form chart tells Nick Hyder his Wildcats should have an easy time of it when Valdosta plays host to Westover's Patriots from Albany in their final regularly scheduled Region 1-AAA football game here Friday.

But the form chart, as Hyder has well learned, is a fickle friend indeed.

It told Hyder his Wildcats would fall to top ranked Thomasville, a team they defeated 12-10; that they would defeat Moultrie, a team his 'Cats lost to, 28-20, and that Moultrie, unbeaten until last week, would defeat Thomasville, which smashed the Packers 31-0.

That into a Wildcat that p Friday school p.m. that

A n sched Satur deter tie is three Thon winl 9-1 r Wh Pats rugg Bull High

By The Associated Press
Thomasville's Bulldogs, who stormed into Moultrie last Friday and upset the top-ranked Packers 31-0 are No. 1 in Class AAA in this week's Georgia Associated Press high school football poll.

The Packers fell to 10th. Cedar Shoals' Jaguars, who shared the AAA lead with the Packers last week, were upset at Athens by the Lakeside Vikings 14-10 and dropped to seventh.

Top teams in AA and A were more fortunate. American Glades High

better as the season goes along, and they've been showing more maturity and leadership.

"We feel our team has peaked right now, or they are as near peaked as they can be," said Hughes. "We would like to get an opportunity to see what our team can do as far as post-season games are concerned."

Thomasville will play Valdosta, ranked sixth this week, for the region 1AAA title unless Moultrie beats a tough Dougherty squad

1. Thomasville
2. Northside
3. Central
4. Douglas
5. Lakeside
6. Valdosta
7. Cedar Shoals
8. Wheeler
9. Warner
10. Moultrie

1. Americus
2. Central
3. Lakeside
4. Gainesville
5. West Fulton
6. Camden
7. M. D. Collins
8. Dodge Co.
9. Gordon

"But that meeting is only to prepare for this game."

-VSC Sex Education

sessions, set up by the students to discuss questions raised in class.

William Goodin, also a student, said it is "something that should be taught earlier than what it is, maybe in high school... a lot of people don't have any idea what sex is... it could be presented obscene but the way it is presented it is not."

The course was put on the schedule in 1972, according to Martin.

Letson said a survey at the school indicated the assumption that parents do an acceptable job in sex education is not true.

A number of surveys have been conducted at the school concerning student attitudes about the course.

One criticism has been the sexually mixed classes. Cleere said it "would be hard to have it" without both sexes in class.

All of the officials defended the right of the professor to choose the textbook. However, they said the book company has revised the text and eliminated the pictures, one source of criticism.

"It is a reputable book, it is not pornography," said Arnold, who noted the series of books is used in some 50 colleges and universities around the country.

Dean Bond noted the school used to fill the need for such courses by holding seminars and clinics, all of which were well attended, he said.

"There is no question about the urgency" of such a need, said Letson.

Madison Facing Zoning Squabble

By Times Staff Writer
MADISON, Fla. — City commissioners here have referred a building dispute to the zoning board. They also instructed City Attorney Edwin Browning Jr. to write the building inspector and the county to request they must first check with the inspector on zoning before building. Meanwhile, officials of John Cherry of our high school costs \$29, but students receive between five and ten hours credit, depending on the student's test score and

Representing Cherry attorney Jim Chery of Oak said his client applied and received a permit Oct. 24 from the city. Til Williamson for attorney said the west side building was 90 percent completed. However, when the permit was issued, the building had no person in charge. The residents asked the city to overrule

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Three-Way Tie?

11-13-75

1-AAA Picture Cloudy

Region 1-AAA is a three team race again and Valdosta, Thomasville and Moultrie can thank the way they've peaked at the opportune times for it all.



MILLER

Thomasville's Bulldogs, defending state Class AAA champions for the second consecutive year, threw the race into a three-way tie Friday night by defeating Moultrie 31-0 in the most lopsided loss of the three top teams this season.

And Head Coach Jim Hughes pointed out the obvious when it was all over.

"I think we peaked tonight," the happy Thomas-coach said after the victory. "And it came at just the right time."

But it wasn't only the peaking of Thomasville that brought on the down-to-the wire festivities in the region this year. It

was the peaking of all three top teams and the timing of it all. Moultrie coach Bud Willis had to figure his Packers had peaked earlier, just in time to defeat a previously unbeaten Valdosta 28-20 after the Wildcats had upset Thomasville 12-10 in Thomasville earlier.

Valdosta coach Nick Hyder had to agree with Willis, the Moultrie team his Wildcats faced two weeks ago certainly showed little similarity to the one Thomasville defeated Friday night.

And it all probably boiled down to that game in Valdosta Oct. 17 when the Packers gave their all to stop the Wildcat attack. In fact they may have given too much for when the dust had settled Willis discovered no less than five of his top players were sidelined by injuries.

The most devastating was a sprained ankle to sensational runningback Virgil Seay, who makes the Packer offense click. With his speed, other teams were forced to concentrate on the big white one on his black jersey leaving gaping holes for other Moultrie runningbacks Jimmy Brinkley, Steve Tyus and Donnie Braggs.

Without Seay, to do that little chore, the Packers soon found it was harder to hang onto the football and the Moultrie defense found itself having to work much more often and much more harder

Julian Miller Times Sports Editor

It all came to a head Friday when the Bulldogs kept the Packer offense safely behind their own 40 and the Packer defense could only hold on to Thomasville runners as they rambled down the field.

Had the Packers not peaked so early, things may have been better for the home crowd in Moultrie Friday night. But then they might have been rougher. Thomasville was definitely at its best all season and even if Seay had been around it's doubtful he would have made much difference in the final outcome.

But all that leaves a very interesting situation. All three co-leaders have one game remaining and all will be favored Friday when Thomasville hosts Lowndes, Valdosta hosts Westover and Moultrie travels to Dougherty.

Only one week remains between the last night of regular season action and the first night of the state playoffs and that's not enough time to warrant more than one playoff.

Just to further complicate the entire thing, as high school football always goes . . . anything can happen, including all three top teams losing Friday, to throw Dougherty into the group for a four-way finish.

What happens? Good question. And about the only information available is that representatives from all 10 member schools in the region will undoubtedly meet the following Monday to determine who goes to state.

Somehow a representative must be selected, even if it's by a popular vote of the member schools . . . something few people are in favor of.

In any event, the members are going to have to vote on a tie breaking system no matter what. And that in itself could be some kind of argument.

Up for discussion is a coin flip, with the odd team on the sidelines while the other two fight it out for the championship. But that decision, should a three-way finish exist, would undoubtedly draw objection by several teams who feel their chances are better in a cut and dried vote for the two teams to play in the playoffs.

A two way tie at the end of the season cuts down on the

(See 1-AAA Picture Cloudy, Page 10A)

1-AAA Picture Cloudy

(Continued from Page 9A)

possibilities but problems will still exist. The first is a site for the playoff. Hyder has already said he will offer his home field, Cleveland Field, for the site should his team earn a playoff bid. But he doubts his opponent will accept, just as he would steer away from playing them at their own home site.

Even Hyder had to stop a short second to think when someone pointed out all three teams lost in their own stadiums this season.

"You're right," he admitted. "But doggone it, I'd rather be playing at home if I could."

Hyder, however, like Hughes and Willis, has little time to stop and think about playoffs. Before the 'Cats can make it that far back there is other business at hand. Case in point . . . Westover.

Valdosta, you see, hasn't been playing as well the last few weeks even though they've annihilated some of the region's weaker sisters by handsome scores.

"Call it uninspired football," Hyder said. "We just haven't been playing with inspiration. We hope to remedy that."

How does Hyder plan to keep his team members' minds on Westover when a possible playoff with Moultrie or Thomasville looms like a giant just one week farther away?

"If we don't beat Westover we'll never see that playoff," he pointed out bluntly.

One thing possibly may stand out in Hyder's favor . . . it could also be a disadvantage. While Hughes feels his Bulldogs peaked against Moultrie, (Hyder thought they had peaked in the second half of the Valdosta game when the Bulldogs did everything but score) and Willis feels his Packers peaked against Valdosta, Hyder doesn't yet feel his 'Cats have peaked at all.

"I'd say we haven't peaked yet," Hyder said. "I think I know what Hughes is talking about. And you're right, it's about time we do peak. We're going to be changing our practice routines around a bit this week working towards that end."

The 1975 Region 1-AAA football title race seems to be a hot one all the way to the final buzzer of the final game.

T'ville Tailback Aims For 1,000

Nov. 14, 1975

By ELLWOOD MOYER
Region 1-AAA Statistician
Moultrie stopped
Thomasville's Roscoe Mitchell with only 52 yards in 13 trips, but the Region 1-AAA rushing leader is still way out in front of the pack and appears certain to crack the 1,000 yard barrier this week against Lowndes.

back in third place with 634 yards as compared to Belue's 1,424 on 109 of 200 passes. Billy Berrian of Valdosta is also untouchable in the pass receiving category with 51 catches for 594 yards.

In other departments, Mike Ramey hung onto the pass interception leadership with nine pickoffs for 119 return yards, and Thomasville teammate Perry Keyton maintained his spot atop the punters with a 40.89 average.

Two new leaders are Dougherty's Frank Davis with seven punt returns for 108 yards, and Bainbridge's Jesse King with 13 kick-off returns for 362 yards.

Region 1-AAA Title Race May Come

Nov 14, 1975

By JULIAN MILLER

MOULTRIE — The race for Region 1-AAA's high school football championship may come down to a vote here Saturday if things aren't settled tonight, and a random poll of some of the figures involved shows no one's looking forward to it.

Victories tonight for Valdosta's Wildcats, Thomasville's Bulldogs and Moultrie's Packers, all carrying 8-1 records now after each defeated one of the other teams and lost to the remaining one during the regular season would leave the region in a three way deadlock with no more games to

play. Losses for all three tonight, would make it that much worse, for then Dougherty, currently 7-2 after losing to Thomasville and Valdosta, who plays Moultrie tonight, would enter the tie to make it a four-way deadlock.

According to Georgia High School Association guidelines, the situation calls for a ballot of the representatives from the 11 member schools to determine which of the three teams is to represent the region in the state Class AAA playoffs which are to begin two weeks from tonight.

But other region officials have other

ideas and Saturday's meeting, to be held only if a three-way (or four way) tie exists, seems to be growing in importance.

GHSA executive secretary Sam Burke has ruled the region can select two teams of the three to play off but even that doesn't clarify the situation. The method of determining the two top teams and the site of the playoff remains to be decided.

Suggestions include a coin flip of the three teams, odd team out, but other coaches feel a vote for the top two teams is more in order.

However, that puts quite a bit of

pressure on other coaches in the region, who using the vote of their principals, must decide on which team they would vote for.

"I would hope," said one uninvolved coach, who asked to remain anonymous, "that whoever votes won't let their feelings get involved and would vote for the two teams they think are the best. But some people might be mad over something one of the three teams did and not vote for them just because he doesn't like that."

"That's really not fair. You're not hurting the coach then, you're hurting the kids who had nothing to do with running up a score or doing whatever it

is you dislike the team. Other feelings are involved in the coach tied to a block vote for Alb. which would be enough to decide any decision.

At least any coach has told the block vote unlikely.

In any appears a lot out meet unless takes place when Valdosta Westover's Doug. Moultrie

And upset does

Westover Eyes Roll O

By Times Staff Writer

If Westover's Patriots were playing the last place team in the region Friday night, Jerry Clark would want a victory...and his chances of getting one might be better.

But Clark's Patriots play Valdosta in the Wildcats' "Death Valley" Friday in a game that could clinch a piece of the Region 1-AAA championship for the 'Cats, and the game becomes all that much more intriguing for the Albany team.

"How it is affecting the boys?" Clark repeated. "That's a hard question. But we want to beat someone like Valdosta to prove we're a better football team than our 4-5 record shows. I feel we are anyway, and this is the way to prove it."

The Patriots march into Valdosta's Cleveland Field Friday for the final

night of Region 1-AAA regular season play while in Albany, Dougherty's Trojans are hosting Moultrie's Packers, and in Thomasville, Lowndes' Vikings are visiting Thomasville's Bulldogs.

The 'Cats, Packers and Bulldogs are currently tied for the region lead with 8-1 records apiece and a win for each would bring on a meeting Saturday at 10 a.m. in Moultrie to decide which team will either represent the region in the State Class AAA playoffs or which two teams will play off for that honor.

The vote goes to the representatives of the 11-member schools of Region 1-AAA but Westover, Lowndes and Dougherty could spoil their one great moment.

For instance, if any of the latter trio wins, the race becomes a two-way tie and the playoff is settled. Only a site must be decided upon. However, if they

all lose, a possible outcome, then Doug 2. joins the tie and deadlock.

Should two of the championship goe remaining winner of season full of talk a the drain.

Clark makes no like to be the spoils not putting any mon

"Valdosta's got a pointed out. "I'm s high as a kite. I jus good football game to need it to stay Valdosta."

Clark and his attack on the runn hard running fullb the region in rushi At quarterback i

Area Hoop Tea Initiate Action

By Times Staff Writer

North Florida Junior College's Sentinels open their 1975-76, basketball season against Lake City (Fla.) Community College in Madison, Fla. tonight to kick off a light scattering of hoop contests in the area this weekend.

In Friday night games, Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) opens its season at home against Doerun and Echols County (Statenville) hosts Whigham in its season lidlifter. Also on Friday, Georgia Christian School welcomes Tiftarea (Chula) to its home opener in Doerun.

things than his campaign of a year back. The Sentinels suffered one setback after another until their season record read 12-16, quite a turnaround from the 20 win seasons enjoyed by NFJC a few years ago.

AREA HOOP SLATE
Tonight
Lake City at NFJC
Friday
Doerun at Lanier
Whigham at Echols
Tiftarea at GCS
Saturday
NFJC at S. Ga.

Fred Screen, a 5-10 sophomore guard and Ray Boen, a 6-9 sophomore pivotman, provide the only

chore, Timber season nation a talent. The Bulldog some cluding Carter man Another Wright, Region 2 tournam LCHS Clark is it again. Echols

Gridiron Glimpse

November 15, 1975
Valdosta 34, Westover 14

Billy Berrian ran wild for the Wildcats, racking up 186 yards on the ground and scoring three touchdowns to push Coach Nick Hyder's team into a tie for the Region 1-AAA lead with Moultrie and Thomasville. A meeting in Moultrie this morning was to decide where a playoff should be held and which teams should be involved.

'Dosta, T'ville In Playoff

By Times Staff Writer

MOULTRIE—Representatives from the 11 member high schools of Region 1-AAA voted Thomasville's Bulldogs and Valdosta's Wildcats into a playoff for the Region football title here Saturday morning after the two teams ended the regular season tied with Moultrie's Packers with

identical 9-1 records.

All three teams captured victories Friday night to bring on the voting which was held at Moultrie High School here. The official count of the voting and the site of playoff scheduled for this Friday night was not released.

During the regular season, Valdosta knocked off

Thomasville 12-10 to force the defending state Class AAA champions into a pressure situation where they had to win each of their six remaining games.

Coach Jim Hughes' team did just that, and even included a decisive 31-0 whipping of previously unbeaten Moultrie in the string. They climaxed their effort with an easy 41-0 triumph over Lowndes of Valdosta Friday night.

Valdosta was rolling along unbeaten after the super effort against Thomasville until Moultrie's Packers came to town and administered a 28-20 whipping. But the Wildcats had no problems during the remainder of their schedule to earn the playoff berth.

After the win over Valdosta, Moultrie seemed to slide downhill, barely slipping by Bainbridge 17-14, then losing to Thomasville, and finally capping the season with a 17-6 win over Dougherty Friday night.

Thomasville and Valdosta officials are reportedly considering a neutral site for the playoff.

Marchin' Cats Score Big Win

By BECKY VAIL

It was a case of a little bad luck mixed in with the good this weekend for the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats Band.

They came home with all six first place trophies from competition in Largo, Fla. — the most any band has ever won.

They also came home with a slightly bruised school bus after a run-in with an armored car Saturday. No one was injured in the minor accident at the field, however.

Director Frank Butenschon

said the VHS Cats amassed 91.8 points in the Golden Invitation competition.

Next nearest scorer was the St. Petersburg, Fla., High School Band with 76.25 points, followed by Lake Brantley, Fla., High School Band with 67.4 points.

The VHS band also brought home \$1,000 cash, the Grand Champion prize money, to go into the Band Boosters' Fund, said Butenschon.

Blue ribbons were won for the Grand Champion category, plus best drum majors, best brass section,

best woodwind section, best percussion section and best flag corps.

"We are the only band to ever win all possible awards in this contest," said Butenschon.

Over 265 VHS band members performed in the competition.

The bus-armored car accident occurred in Largo as the students were heading to the competition, said Assistant Supt. Ralph Brandon.

About \$20 damage was reported to the city's school bus, but the armored car sustained "considerable damage," he said.

According to reports, the school bus driver pulled out into traffic after a person directing traffic—not a policeman—waved them on.

The armored car did not stop and plowed into the left front fender of the bus, Brandon said. No one inside the bus was injured or even severely jarred, he added.

The Marchin' Cats are preparing for the Miami Winternational Competition next weekend said Butenschon. Winner of that contest—which attracts bands from all over the Eastern Seaboard—performs the half-time show for the Miami Dolphins game, the next day, he said.

Playoff Tickets Available

By Times Staff Writer

Cleveland Field season ticket holders can pick up matching tickets to the Valdosta-Thomasville Region 1-AAA high school football playoff game at Valdosta High School Wednesday from 10:30 until 2 p.m. VHS athletic director Wright Bazemore has announced.

Valdosta Touchdown Club members who were not season ticket holders may pick up tickets to the game from 2-3 p.m. at the high school on the same day.

Student tickets to the game, numbering some 700, are to go on sale at VHS Wednesday with the Valdosta High

LHS Boosters Meet

By Times Staff Writer

The Viking Athletic Booster club is to meet for a film showing of the Lowndes-Thomasville game at the Lowndes High School library tonight at 8 p.m.

The Vikings dropped the contest by a 41-0 margin to end their 1975 season with a 4-6 record.

Marchin' Cats

The Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats are to compete in the Golden Invitational band contest Saturday in Largo, Fla.

The contest is the largest monetary band contest in the Southeast. Over \$2,000 in prize money and trophies are to be awarded.

Other high school bands to compete include: Manatee High School, Tampa Catholic High School, Lake Brantley High School and St. Petersburg High School, all from Florida.

Wildcats going
to death

November 15, 1975

'Cats 34, Pats 14

Berrian Launches Attack To Skuttle Westover And Keep Deadlock

By JULIAN MILLER

Valdosta's Wildcats abandoned their awesome passing attack for a surprising ground game that rambled to a 34-14 victory over Westover's Patriots here Friday night to end the 1975 high school football season in a three-way tie for the Region 1-AAA Championship.

YARDSTICK		
Valdosta	Westover	
First Downs	21	6
Yards Rushing	267	90
Yards Passing	27	51
Passes	34	6-14
Passes Intc. by	2	2
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punting	2-36.0	5-32.8
Penalties	3-35	4-30

And they can thank Billy Berrian for most of it. Berrian, a fleet-footed, sure-handed halfback, who here-to-fore had been better known for his pass catching ability, moved to fullback to replace the injured Alton Battles and rambled for 186 yards and three touchdowns to chalk up the victory that assured his team of the tie.

At the same time, Thomasville's Bulldogs were demoralizing Lowndes' Vikings, 41-0 in Thomasville, and Moultrie's Packers were inching by tough Dougherty, 16-7, to keep the three-way tie intact.

That left it up to a previously scheduled meeting today in Moultrie for all Region 1-AAA members as officials convened to decide which team is to represent the region in the State Class AAA playoffs to begin in two weeks, or which two of the three teams left playoff next Friday for that honor.

The meeting was to begin at 10 a.m. today in Moultrie. It wasn't the fact that Valdosta had all but abandoned its horrendous passing attack. Nor that Coach Nick Hyder's Wildcats had rolled up 287 yards on the ground against the Patriots that left the some 7,000 fans who braved freezing weather to stomp the grand stands in

Cleveland Field astonished. It was the fact that Berrian was rolling over the Patriots like water off a duck's back. Previously one of Valdosta's most rugged runners until this season, the 180-pound senior had picked up 39 yards on five carries as his previous high against Moultrie in Valdosta's 28-20 loss to the Packers five weeks ago.

Friday night he was called upon to carry 31 times and had 201 yards to his credit for the night before being dragged down for a 15 yard loss on the last play of the game when the Westover line caught him trying to pass.

By contrast, the Buck Belue passing attack which kept region teams in fear most of the season, had connected for only three of eight passes for 27 yards with two of those, a 22 and two yarder, going to Berrian after two of Belue's first three passes had been picked off by Westover's Tim Kelshaw.

But head coach Nick Hyder took little time out to moan over his team's inability to pass against the Patriots Friday night. Over a hot cup of coffee, he was still savoring his ninth win in 10 games, three times as many victories as his Wildcats had seen last season in his first year as head coach.

"Berrian played a tremendous game," Hyder offered. "Oh yes, we knew we were going to go with him that much when we saw they had backed off to defense our pass attack. You can't stop our offense like that. Berrian's got the speed and the moves to hurt you."

If Hyder had any regrets, it was that his Wildcats had carelessly been caught with their guard down on two Westover touchdown plays. Once, on the last play of the half, a Robert Baldwin end around play turned into a fumble and 52 yard run by Phil Dereso.

Later, Valdosta's number



— Times Staff Photo.

solutely nowhere nor did their next one when the two teams swapped interceptions on two consecutive plays. But on Valdosta's first drive of the second quarter, Berrian came into his own, breaking for 20 yards to set up Belue's three yard keeper for the TD and a 12-0 lead.

Valdosta's defense continued to hold its own, even though Kelshaw picked off another of Belue's first down passes in the end zone and in the waning moments of the half, the 'Cats began to make it a rout when Berrian, in a second and six situation, broke two tackles at the line of scrimmage and zig-zagged 40 yards for his first TD to give Valdosta an 18-0 lead.

Only 33 seconds remained in the half when the 'Cats got the ball again, but eagerness to impress voters in today's meeting forced the home team to go for it all. With no time remaining on the clock, Balwin tried his end around pass but fumbled through the hands of two Westover defenders before Deriso hauled in the bouncing bobble and rambled 52 yards for the score.

That rejuvenated the Patriots and it showed when they returned from intermission. With Knight leading the way on bruising runs up the middle and Kelshaw operating the offense out of the wishbone, the Patriots mounted their first drive to the Valdosta 29 before being stopped, found life in a Jessie Loving first down fumble and managed to get only six yards closer before fumbling themselves on the next play.

It was then the Wildcats mounted their most impressive drive of the night going 16 plays with Berrian going off tackle for the last two yards for the TD. Belue's PAT run became the first Valdosta was to succeed on for the night and the Wildcats had the stands singing with a 26-7 lead with

two minutes left in the third quarter.

But that's when the Patriots made their firmest stand, mainly with the aid of a 45 yard Mark Harris punt that his teammates downed on the Valdosta one. In four plays the Patriots got absolutely nowhere and the second Valdosta punt allowed them to set up shop on the Valdosta 37.

Scatback James Lane caught VHS' younger defense off guard with a 16-yard romp to the 21. Then Knight fooled the first string stop'em crew with a 21 yard run that left everyone behind him. Kelshaw booted his second of two PATs perfectly and the lead was only 26-14 with 7:52 remaining.

But if Westover had any plans of a comeback it ended with Valdosta's next drive that not only took the 'Cats 72 yards in 16 plays but ate up seven full minutes of play.

With 52 seconds remaining in the game, Berrian slanted right across the line of scrimmage, cut towards the middle and raced the entire Westover backfield to the end zone for the final tally. Berrian then hurled a perfectly thrown halfback pass to Jody Wilson for the two point PAT that iced it all.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Valdosta—Berrian 32, 186; Loving 10-59; Belue 12-46; Demps 1-1; Baldwin 1-0; Westover—Knight 14-63; Lane 6-27; Barbary 2-7; Kelshaw 1-1; Clark 1—minus 7; Jones 1-0.

Passing: Valdosta—Belue 3-8-27; Westover—Kelshaw 6-14-51.

Pass Receiving: Valdosta—Berrian 2-24; Wilson 1-3; Westover—Knight 2-14; Glover 1; Field 1-1; Westbrook 1-7; Carroll 1-3.

Player Returns: Valdosta 1-14; Kelshaw 5-128; Teemer 1-4.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Remlinger 7; Middleton 5; Thomas 3; Baldwin 2; Lowe 3; Westover—Yaniger 9; Beasley 6; Evans 6; Clark 6; Field 5; Rakei 5; Knight 3; Cooper 3; Young 3.

Score by Quarters:

Valdosta	6	12	8	9-34
Westover	0	7	0	7-14

Scoring: VAL — Belue 1 run (run failed); VAL — Belue 3 run (pass failed); VAL — Berrian 40 run (run failed); WES — Deriso 52 run, ret. (Kelshaw kick); WES — Knight 2 run (Belue run); VAL — Knight 21 run (Kelshaw kick); VAL — Berrian 10 run (Berrian pass to Wilson).

Board Eyes A Substitute Floor Surface For Gym

November 18, 1975

By BECKY VAIL

The Valdosta Board of Education, hoping to avoid a lawsuit over the defective high school gymnasium floor, is angling for a substitute surface.

Zeb Lackey, architect of

the multi-million dollar high school, told the board that if it was willing to gamble a little, the substitute proposal from the manufacturer would be "a good way to go."

Since the blisters, bubbles and loose sections of the sport-tred gym floor were discovered last fall, the board has tried to get the contractor to fix it.

A lawsuit was threatened this summer if corrective action was not taken.

Lackey, who refused to make an unqualified recommendation to the board, said there is a gamble in accepting the manufacturer's proposal to pour a new surface over the existing, defective floor.

If new blisters form in the original floor through the new one, the manufacturer would not be held responsible, said Lackey.

He added that the pro-turf surface being proposed has been used successfully in several gymnasium floors, including the one at Middle Tennessee State University.

A liquid is poured over the

existing floor, which then hardens into a tough, resilient smooth surface, he said.

Board Member Dr. Robert Quattlebaum urged Lackey to make a recommendation.

"You've got to go down the drain with us," he said.

"It's a good product," answered Lackey.

"If you're willing to gamble (on the original floor holding up) I think it's a good way out."

The board was hesitant to bring suit against the Vidalia Contractor, concerned that a judgment in his hometown might be against the board and they would be left out in the cold. Suit would have to be filed in Vidalia.

The manufacturer proposed to pour a three-sixteenths inch covering over the existing floor. This would cover the largest blister in the floor now by one-eighth inch, said Lackey.

Board Chairman Hulyn Smith asked Lackey to make a counterproposal to the manufacturer to increase the new floor depth to at least

Letters To Editor

Schooled To As

Authority, n 11-17-75

Sir: I read that Governor Busbee states that the economy of Georgia has continued to decline.

Thus, the state budget will have to be cut again. Moreover, according to Busbee, pay raises for teachers will not be recommended for 1976.

I am a concerned teacher, and I am disturbed over Busbee's negative leadership. Busbee and the state legislators must realize that education must receive first priority, or Georgia will rank last in educational opportunities for students and teachers.

Furthermore, I would like to ask a question: If Georgia's economy is in such bad shape why is Highway 41 in Cook and Lowndes counties behind resurfaced?

Highway 41 is in excellent condition and does not need resurfacing. Moreover, I wonder if other needless pork barrel projects are being done in all the counties in Georgia.

I wonder if Governor Busbee and state legislators have the answer to this question.

Roy S. Wetherington
1807 North Lee Street
Valdosta, GA 31601.

Times Sports Writer

Vikes, VHS Close On Opposite Note

West Thomas looked like a lonely man as he paced restlessly a midfield before his Lowndes High Vikings' high school football clash with the Thomasville Bulldogs Friday night. Millions of thoughts must have been running through his mind as he pulled his overcoat tighter to his body as he waited for the officials to finish their conference with Thomasville coach Jim Hughes.



CHASON

Perhaps he was thinking only of the game ahead which his team would go on to lose

41-0 or maybe, just maybe, he was thinking about the long football season which was about to come to a halt for his Vikings.

Lowndes finished its season at 5-5 in Thomas' first year at the helm three years back but

then fell to 2-8 last season. It looked like more of the same for much of 1975, but the

Vikes overcame turnover problems to score successive wins over Crisp County

(Cordele) and Bainbridge late in the season to set their final win total at four

as compared to six losses. But as Thomas admitted after the game, it should have been better.

"I feel like we should have beaten Westover and Albany," Thomas said. "If we hadn't had so many turnovers, I believe we would have. Fumbles haunted us again tonight, but they've got an awfully good football team, fumbles or no fumbles."

If Lowndes' 40 turnovers including 24 fumbles lost and 16 interceptions had been cut in half, the Vikings would have undoubtedly come up with a 6-4 or possibly 7-3 record. But the fact remains that the mistakes came . . . and came . . . and came even against Thomasville Friday night when Lowndes dropped the ball numerous times. Only three fumbles were actually lost, but along with two interceptions they spelled trouble.

But now the season is past, and the Vikings can already look to next season. In Thomas' mind, next season is already here since with a losing record, he has no time or any past laurels to rest upon.

Now, here are sports editor's Julian Miller's comments on Valdosta's 34-14 win over Westover:

Making Believers

Alton Battles could have nailed down second place in Region 1-AAA's rushing charts for the 1975 season, even with a sprained ankle, if he would have been able to play Friday night.

As it was, however, the Valdosta fullback, who runs like a cement truck, had to yield the field to halfback Billy Berrian, who made believers of them all.

All Berrian, who until this season was better known for his running ability than pass receiving, did was to rush for 186 yards (he had 201 before losing 15 on a fouled up pass attempt on the final play of the game), catch two passes for 24 yards, score three touchdowns and pass for a PAT.

More of a speedster than Battles, but not as difficult to bring down, Berrian put his shifty ways to work to cut through the Westover defense like a knife.

But while Berrian was carrying the ball 33 times, he took away Valdosta's primary offensive threat . . . the pass. Without his favorite receiver to throw to constantly, Buck Belue couldn't get his treacherous passing arm into gear.

Still No Peak?

As it turned out the Wildcats didn't need it for the Westover win. But it could have made quite a difference elsewhere. Valdosta must take on Thomasville again Friday for the Region 1-AAA championship and as to date the Wildcats still haven't "peaked" or so head coach Nick Hyder believes.

Thomasville, according to head coach Jim Hughes, peaked in a 31-0 rout of Moultrie three weeks ago. Hyder desperately hoped his team would reach that fine edge of perfection this week.

But to have played Battles could have prevented him from being at his best against Thomasville this week. The 'Cats couldn't go that route. Against T'ville, Valdosta's going to need every weapon it has.

Westover runningback Wes Knight, meanwhile, running without sufficient blocking on the part of his teammates, still managed to impress quite a few folks with his antics, even though his head coach Jerry Clark insisted he didn't run Friday as well as he could.

The same could be said about his teammate, quarterback Tim Kelshaw, who appeared more valuable as a safety in pulling down two of Belue's first three passes.

Meanwhile, Valdosta's linebacking duo, Harold Renninger and Keith Middleton, were chalking up big plays right and left.

What's left now is one more showdown with Thomasville, a team that still wants desperately to prove they've a better team than Valdosta.

Maybe the 'Cats will peak on Friday. It all remains to be seen.

Teachers Insurance

NOV. 19, 1975

Valdosta school system teachers will be able to remain on the group insurance policy until age 65, even if they retire prior to that Medicare-eligible age.

The city board of education approved Monday a policy which would keep the teacher eligible for the group protection until the federal health and life insurance taxes over.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield required official board action before they would accept those conditions.

Many teachers retire with 20 or 30 years service with the system before reaching age 65. Without the coverage approved by the board these teacher's policies might lapse until the eligibility for medicare becomes effective.

Old VHS Saved From Demolition

NOV. 18, 1975

By Times Staff Writer
Old Valdosta High School has been saved from demolition — at least for three years.

The Valdosta Board of Education approved Monday night a three-year lease of the landmark structure to the Lowndes County Commission.

The action culminated nearly six months of activity to find a solution that suited almost everyone.

Civic organizations and the Chamber of Commerce are hoping a landlord for the 52-year-old school building can be found in the next three years and the structure can be converted into offices.

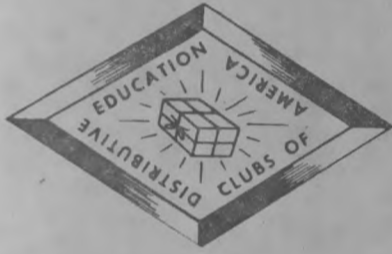
In June the board decided it could not afford to pay insurance on the building being used only by non-school organizations. A tentative contract to demolish the building was approved.

However, the Chamber Mayor Gil Harbin and several other citizens urged the board to wait until a substitute use for old VHS could be found.

The Lowndes Commissioners stepped into the breach and agreed to lease the building, make necessary repairs and pay the board \$15,000 cash to keep old VHS standing for three years.

The board, with little discussion, approved the lease 5-1. Board member Stan Bishop voted against the lease.

A SALUTE TO VHS DECA STUDENTS



This marks the twenty-eighth year of business firms cooperating in the Distributive Education Program of Valdosta High School. The backing and participation of these firms help make Dosta DECA one of the most outstanding programs in the nation. A special salute goes to the Businessmen of our community who are investing in the future of our youth by providing their businesses as laboratories in training these students for marketing Careers.

1975 - 1976

D. E. Students

THE DECA CREED

I believe in the future which I am planning for myself in the field of distribution, and in the opportunities which my vocation offers.



A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, This school is concerned with the education and training of students for productive, satisfying careers, and

WHEREAS, Distributive Education students of this school are engaged in the essential tasks of providing goods and services to the consumers of this community, and

WHEREAS, These students, members of the DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION CLUBS OF AMERICA, marketing, distribution and management,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gil Harbin, Mayor of the City Of Valdosta, hereby proclaim November 16-22, 1975, to be DECA WEEK and encourage students and faculty members to observe, this event in an appropriate manner.

Dated this 18th day of November, 1975, A.D.

GIL HARBIN
Mayor

DE Program Is Hard To Define

By NORMAN GREENE,
VHS DE COORDINATOR

Distributive Education is a program. Its purpose is to offer instruction in distribution and marketing. It is unfortunate that efforts have been made to define Distributive Education because the result is only confusion.

I suggest that Distributive Education should be an identifying term in the same sense that the Wildcats are not defined; they are accepted.

Let us look for a moment to the coverage of a Distributive Education program; from the adult, such as a waitress course offered at the technical school; a post secondary program offered to first and second year students at Abraham Baldwin College for mid-management training, and our own high school program to train youth through practical experience in the field of marketing and distribution.

From the standpoint of the teacher-coordinator, Distributive Education is a full-time job in which he is the cog-between for the school, employer, parents and community.

It is his duty to encourage and teach these young people to become enthusiastic, well-trained and responsible employees with the help of cooperating business firms acting as a laboratory for the student to train in.

The employer or supervisor serves as a lab instructor and grades the student for the job he is doing.



GREENE

DECA Grew Fast After 1974

Special To The Times

Beginning in 1947 with only 800 members in 17 charter states, the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) has grown to approximately 170,000 members from 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, according to Norman Greene.

Former Student Now Donut King

Special To The Times

Ernest Black, DE alumni of 1954 knew a good thing when he saw it.

Black began his on the job training while in DE at the Dixie Cream Donut Shop as a general clerk in 1953.

Through hard, dedicated work, he progressed to the point of being able to purchase the business within a couple of years after high school graduation.

Black, 41, agreed that the DE program at Valdosta High was a "great thing" to get students started in the working world.

Black was a member of the DE club for two years and enjoyed the many activities of the club.

Club activities give

students an opportunity to

DECA Chapter Advisor
Valdosta High School.

Although the official name of Distributive Education Clubs of America adopted at the second National Leadership Conference held in St. Louis, Missouri in 1948, Distributive Education Chapters were



Black



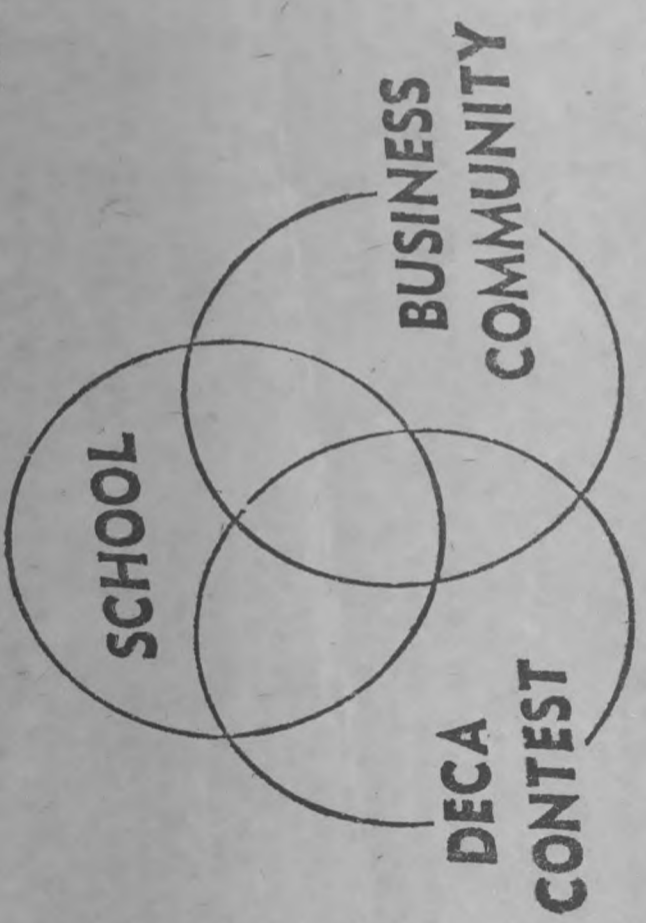
Julie Pulliam at
Sears, Roebuck & Co.



MERCHANDISING

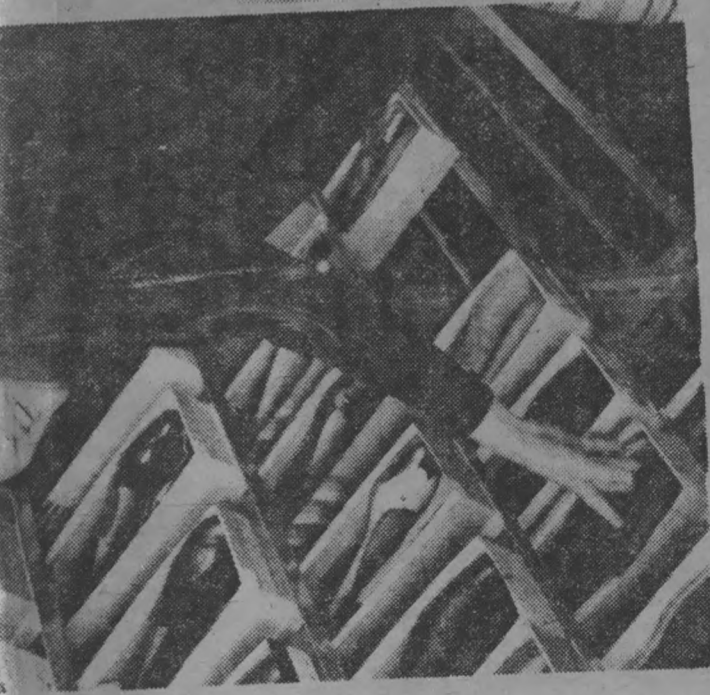


in Atlanta, Inter- speeches, and por... through participating in com...
Delegates
Campaigning, news.



TOURISM
Tom Ringos at
Home's Motor Lodge

SALES
Wanda Clayton at
The Shoe Tree



November 19, 1975

Valdosta, T'ville-- Two Teams With A Mission

By JULIAN MILLER

There will be two teams with a mission on the field Friday night when Valdosta's Wildcats and Thomasville's Bulldogs take to Veterans Memorial Stadium to settle the Region 1-AAA championship picture.

And strangely enough, it'll be the same mission—to prove they're really the best team in Region 1-AAA.

That not only should prove or disprove the theory that Valdosta's earlier 12-10 victory over the Bulldogs on the same field this season was a fluke. It'll settle once and for all which team represents the region in the state Class AAA playoffs to begin next week.

The two teams were selected from a three-team tie to play off for the honor by representatives from all 11 region schools after they finished in a deadlock with Moultrie's Packers, all with 9-1 records.

And that, according to Valdosta head coach Nick Hyder, has left a huge dark cloud over the entire affair, one the winner Friday will escape but the loser must live with.

"The winner of this game will come out ahead as far as that shadow of a doubt is concerned," Hyder pointed out. "But the loser will always have to contend with the fact they were selected over Moultrie."

That was only a fraction of the importance Hyder views in the game. Heading it all is the fact that Hyder, who suffered through a 3-7 season with the Wildcats in his first year at the helm last season, brought the 'Cats back to a 9-1 record so far this season and a trip to the state playoff could prove once and for all what bumper stickers all over town have been proclaiming since the second week of the season, "The Cats Are Back."

However, the Bulldogs of coach Jim Hughes, still have a few things to prove. The number one idea is that they're still the top team in the state for the third straight year.

The Bulldogs, defending state class AAA champions for the second year in a row, would like to tie Valdosta's record for three consecutive state titles. But even more important they'd like to prove that earlier loss should have gone the other way.

Since the Bulldogs missed a very short field goal in the last 30 seconds to drop the decision, Valdosta has lost a 28-20 decision to Moultrie, a team Thomasville annihilated, 31-0, two weeks ago.

"There were some disputes in that last game (with Thomasville)," Hyder admitted. "People said we didn't really score on Billy's (Berrian) touchdown and some people still say that last field

goal looked good. "But then we did get inside the 10 yard line twice without scoring. All this just helps build this game up to the most important game of the year for us."

Thomasville won a coin toss to earn the right to host the playoff game after officials from both schools agreed making arrangements for using a neutral site was more trouble than it's worth.

That, according to Hyder, gives the Bulldogs a touchdown advantage. "We've got to overcome that along with everything else," Hyder pointed out. "That's a psychological advantage and they already have a truly great football team to begin with."

Preying on Hyder's mind at the moment is the rash of turnovers his Wildcats have incurred through fumbles and interceptions during the

last few games. They come at a time when the Bulldogs proudly boast of almost eliminating their turnovers and possibly making a huge difference in the game.

"We have to eliminate our mistakes in key field position," Hyder warned. "Then we have to play the best defensive game we've played all year. The turnover situation belongs to the offense. The rest to the defense. If we get a good job from both areas it falls back on the kicking game. And the last time I looked Thomasville had the leading punter and kicker in the region."

Valdosta's kicking game took a turn for the better recently with the installation of backup quarterback Steve Jennings as punt returner. Jennings, who doesn't actually return that many kicks, has the uncanny ability to field punts in the middle of a crowd.

"But I took the blame for that," Hyder said. "To be honest, we hadn't practiced fielding punts inside the 20 until then. It's just one of those things." When it all boils down to it, the matchup seems to put the passing attack of Valdosta's sophomore quarterback Buck Belue against the

(See Valdosta Page 24)

T'ville Leads AP Poll Once More

By The Associated Press
Thomasville, which has piled on victory after victory since falling 12-10 to Valdosta earlier this season, was voted No. 1 again this week in Class AAA in The Associated Press Georgia high school football poll.

The Bulldogs' latest conquest was a 41-0 thumping of Lowndes Friday night to give Thomasville a 9-1 regular season record. Americus, which barely edged Peach County 7-0 in a rough Class AA battle, was voted tops in its class and Cartersville, which plays for the first time in three weeks this weekend, retained its grip on Class A.

Thomasville, which plays fifth-ranked Valdosta Friday for the region 1AAA title, received six of nine first place votes and 84 of 90 rating points in voting by the AP's board of sports writers. Northside of Warner Robins polled 81 points for second place after defeating

Central of Macon, rated third last week, 27-14. Central fell to eighth.

Class AAA

1. Thomasville (9-1) 84
2. Northside, Warner Robins (10-0) 81
3. Lakeside (9-1) 62
4. Douglas, Atlanta, (10-0) 61
5. Valdosta (9-1) 58
6. Cedar Shoals (9-1) 37
7. Warner Robins (9-1) 35
8. Central, Macon (8-1) 33
9. Moultrie (9-1) 22
10. Wheeler (9-1) 20

Others nominated: Southwest of Macon.

Class AA

1. Americus (10-0) 85
2. Lakeside (10-0) 76
3. Central of Valdosta (9-0) 74
4. Gainesville (10-0) 67
5. Central of Georgia (10-0) 54
6. Dodge Co. (9-1) 26
7. Brown (9-1) 25
8. M. D. Collins (9-1) 18
9. West Fulton (9-1) 15
10. Gordon (8-2) 15

Others nominated: Statesboro, Swainsboro, Marietta, Evans, Bradwell Institute, Jones Co., Coosa and Turner of Atlanta.

Class A

1. Cartersville (10-0) 84
2. Irwin Co. (10-0) 82
3. Early Co. (10-0) 75
4. Carrollton (9-2) 57
5. Jackson (9-1) 43
6. Mary Persons (8-2) 41
7. Glenn Hills (8-2) 38
8. Bowdon (9-2) 34
9. Southeast Bulloch (8-2) 24
10. Washington Wilkes (8-2) 21

Others: non-voted. Harlem, Ridgeview, Jefferson and East of Atlanta.

November 19, 1975

--- Valdosta, T'ville

(Continued from page 22)

rushing attack of Thomasville's Roscoe Mitchell. Both led the region in their respective divisions this season.

Leading the Thomasville attack, however, is quarterback Leslie Cannady, who not only runs well himself, but is an excellent multiple threat with pitchouts, fakes and can pass quite a bit on his own. Also in the backfield is fullback T.C. Mitchell who takes quite a bit of pressure off Roscoe.

In Valdosta's backfield are fullback Alton Battles, who was second in the region in rushing before having to sit out last week's game with Westover with a sprained ankle. He is to be back Friday.

Also in the backfield is halfback Billy Berrian, Belue's favorite pass receiver and the leading receiver in the region this season. He took Battles' place at fullback last week and picked up 186 yards.

Reserve seat tickets for the match went on sale today at



LESLIE CANNADY
Multiple Threat

the school for regular reserve seat ticket holders. Any left over by 2 p.m. today were to be put on the block for touchdown club members. If any were left after that they were to go on sale at Barnes Drug Store for the public.

Word from Thomasville has it, however, that there will be no limit on the number of general admission tickets



BUCK BELUE
Passing Leader

sold for the game. "It's definitely the biggest game so far this season," Hyder said.

Jack Nicklaus paced the 1975 PGA tour in earnings with \$298,149. Johnny Miller finished second with \$226,118.

Hughes, Hyder Appreciate Chance

Nov 20 - 1975

By JULAN MILLER
MOULTRIE - Jim Hughes is the kind of football coach who could find justification in a plague.
 "Valdosta beat us during the regular season and if we're going to be Region 1-AAA champions, perhaps it's only fitting that they are the team we have to beat to get there," Hughes said after learning his Thomasville Bulldogs and Valdosta's Wildcats had been selected to play for the region championship this Friday.
 Representatives from the 11 region members schools had gathered in the each representative approached permission, to broadcast the game live.

Moultrie High School library to vote on the two teams after they and Moultrie's Packers had finished the 10 game regular season tied for the championship.
 Each team had posted a 9-1 record with Valdosta defeating Thomasville 12-10, Moultrie defeating Valdosta 28-20 and Thomasville then upsetting Moultrie, 31-0, to set the stage for the region's first vote to break a three-way tie.
 The members had quickly voted to bypass the first of three options given them by the Georgia High School

Association, that of eliminating all three teams from the state playoffs. They had almost as quickly opted to go for the choice of selecting two of the tied teams to play off instead of the second choice, to select one team as the region champion.
 It only took a matter of minutes for Valdosta and Thomasville officials to get together to flip a coin for the site. Thomasville won, setting the showdown Friday at 8 p.m. at Thomasville Stadium.
 Moultrie head coach Bud Willis had joked with voters earlier but remained

disturbingly silent as officials announced the results of the vote, sending Thomasville and Valdosta into the playoffs.
 Members had agreed 10-1, with Monroe High's Lewis Smith the one dissenting vote, to follow a suggestion by Lowndes head coach West Thomas that the actual vote count be kept a secret to prevent hard feelings later.
 "I don't know..." Willis said later. "There were three good teams. They were just as good as we were, and we were just as good as them."
 Valdosta head coach Nick Hyder,

who saw his own West Rom voted out of a sub-region pl Rome his last season as there before moving to V season, sympathized with W But he also beamed with success of his Wildcats who back from the miserable 3-7 posted last season under his "It's a mighty good feel said. "I never thought I was but after last year I was have my doubts. After all think I would be able Valdosta and coach down he

1-AAA Backs Up Its Reputation

Newspaper reporters at the Thomasville-Valdosta Region 1-AAA high school football showdown in Thomasville Friday, took advantage of an official time out to check their stats with four minutes left in the game and got some astonishing results.



MILLER

Checking up on the three categories for which points would have been issued had the game somehow ended in a tie, they were shocked to find that after 44 minutes of play each team had one penetration past the other's 20, 11 first downs and exactly 204 yards in total offense.

That's exactly how close the game really was. Ironically, Thomasville's Bulldogs had gone ahead in offensive yardage on the play that took them to the Valdosta 10 on their first drive of the fourth quarter. A field goal, had it been true, would have tied up the

game and left the home team ahead for the time being anyway.
 But Thomasville elected to go after the first down four yards away and lost the football on downs when VHS linebacker Harold Renninger finally dragged T'ville runningback Roscoe Mitchell down inches from the first down line. That let Valdosta's 3-0 lead stand for the victory.

The entire game was as hard fought as any high school football game ever, but when it was all said and done, the true spirit of it all couldn't have been pointed out any better than the actions of Valdosta quarterback Buck Belue and Thomasville safety Mike Ramey.

Both standouts in their own positions, the two stars locked arms and walked away after the contest, almost as a tribute to the type of competition that had been shown in four games this season.

And as the Wildcats walked away, happy to have that three point margin, two teams in the region pledged their support for the state class AAA playoffs. Ironically, Thomasville, whose Bulldogs dropped two close decisions to Valdosta the other was a 12-10 regular season loss earlier this year, and Moultrie, the team that defeated Valdosta 28-20 but lost to Thomasville 31-0 three weeks ago, must stay home.

"It's a shame two teams like this have to stay here while teams that couldn't break even in this region are in the state playoffs," remarked one Thomasville official after the game.

But while veteran Region 1-AAA football watchers promise Nick Hyder he'll see no team any tougher than those two his Wildcats faced during the regular season, Hyder is looking forward to his Wildcats' confrontation with Wayne County's Yellow Jackets in Jesup next week with deaf ears.

"First of all, we didn't show any kind of devastating offense against Thomasville," Hyder pointed out. "We just played good enough to stay ahead without any margin left to spare."

"And then you never know what kind of competition you're going to find when you go outside the region. All you have to go by is what has happened in the past. But this year, that other team could have a super star or two that could turn all that around."

What does that mean? It means that Hyder and his Wildcats are taking nothing for granted when they take on the Yellow Jackets Friday night and if the Wildcats thought they had put their all into the game against Thomasville, they have to do even better against the Jackets.

This is, after all, the first round of the state playoffs and although absolutely no one really thought the Wildcats would make it this far when the 1974 season ended on a 3-7 note, no one wants to quit now.

"This was our goal since the 1974 season ended," Hyder pointed out. Every team must shoot for the whole ball of wax every year.

How did the 'Cats do it? What brought on the most remarkable turn around in recent football history?

Hyder is a good one to spread the credit around, first to the players and then to his assistant coaches. And it was the assistants, headed by offense co-ordinator Joe Wilson and defensive co-ordinator Jack Rudolph, Hyder credits with the Thomasville victory.

(Continued on Page 20-A)

Clinch, Charlton Clash For Region 2-B

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Nov. 20, 1975-20-

By MIKE CHASON
WAYCROSS - Clinch County's Panthers and Charlton County's Indians meet in the rubber game of their three game set here Friday night and the victor can escape with the Region 2-B high school football championship.
 Both the Panthers from Homerville and the Tribe from Folkston ended their regular seasons with matching 5-1 region records, forcing the playoff for the title at Memorial Stadium here, usually the home of both Ware County's Gators and Waycross' Bulldogs during the regular season.
 Coach Tony Branch's Charlton team took the region easily last season, running up an 8-2 record before dropping the first game of the state playoffs to Lincoln County (Lincoln) which went on to lose the state championship by a mere point to Trion.

Branch, in his second year as head coach, had the same aim in mind this season, but Clinch spotted that by nipping the Indians 14-7 in the two team's final regular season meeting.
 Charlton, now 7-3, won the first game 15-10, but had also tied another region foe, Atkinson County (Pearson), 8-8. But late in the season, Charlton achieved an unusual feat by knocking off Atkinson 20-7 in a rematch and then taking another 21-8 win in a tie breaker for the first game on the same night.
 "They've got a lot of offense," Branch said of his counterpart Donald Tyson's Clinch club. "That's the real problem... spreading out our defense to try to stop their running and throwing."
 "Their quarterback (Dennis Morgan) did a real good job throwing against us the first game, and then the second game he learned to throw on the

run. That's when he killed us. They've definitely got a big play offense."
 Branch also cited the fact that consecutive 15 yard penalties gave Clinch good field position to chalk up the winning TD in the second game, just as his team had attained good field position by the identical route in their initial meeting.
 Now what does Branch plan to do different?
 "Well, I'd like to think we plan to win," he laughed. I feel like we have a better football team than our record. We've gotten up for the big clubs, and haven't gotten up so well for the little ones."
 "Our kids haven't really ever had to win football games like they did after Clinch beat us. They came back and responded real well so I think they'll be ready to play Friday night."
 Tyson knows his 8-1-1 Panthers will

also be ready to play despite an assortment of viruses and colds which seem to have infected many key members of the team since the week's inception.
 "They'll be able to play, but we just haven't been able to work them too much this week," Tyson said. "Our fullback (Arthur Lacey) is still hurt, but we're planning on playing him."
 He broke his collarbone four weeks ago, but two weeks later he was playing again. It hasn't healed completely yet, but he's in there."
 Tyson expects his team to throw the ball against the huge Charlton defense which is always tough against the rush. Morgan keys the Panther passing game, but has proven he's capable of running on occasion.
 Lee and Stan Johnson have been the leading rushers on the team which has averaged a

phenomenal 37.8 pc has also been a heat "We'll just try to been doing," Tyson this far with it, an much in a week. We everybody well for "Charlton's offense much all year, but kept people from se I don't think it'll be way."
 In only his second the Panthers, "Tyson with turning around has never been in playoffs in recent h as last season. C miserable 1-9 season a change in just one feat indeed.

The Valdosta Daily Times, November 23, 1975

M... I... N... T... S... Area Roundup... T... M...

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"But Thomasville has one heck of a football team, and it's set up like they want it."

Hughes, like Hyder, admitted he had mixed feelings about the decision that put them into the playoff instead of on the sidelines. Like everyone else at the meeting, his sympathies went out to Moultrie.

"I have a lot of compassion for Moultrie," he admitted. "They had a 9-1 football team too but they're not able to participate."

If anything could drown out Willis' (Continued to Page 12A)

VHS Ticket Buyers May Be Surprised

By Times Staff Writer
Football fans expecting to stand in line all night tonight for tickets to the Valdosta-Wayne County game Friday when they're not really entitled to them are in for a rude awakening.

VHS Principal Lloyd Mims said only those season reserve seat ticket holders who want to purchase any of

the reserve seat tickets to the game when they go on the block Wednesday at 8 a.m. at the high school may purchase tickets.

Only an immediate family member may buy tickets in the reserve seat holder's name and even letters of permission won't allow anyone else to do so. Mims again pointed out there are not enough tickets to meet the demand, and they'll be sold as long as they last.

Should any football tickets be left after the band and football team members and school faculty members buy their two each and season reserve ticket holders buy as many as they hold tickets (but no more than four to any one family), tickets are to be offered to Touchdown Club members at 1 p.m. and any one else wanting tickets can purchase any remaining at 4 p.m. at Barnes Drug Store in

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Nov. 20, 1975-19-

Julian

Miller

Times Sports Editor

School Officials Attacked Again

It seems almost ironic that school system officials are the most difficult anywhere to teach anything. But it's true, and the Valdosta School System has proven it again.



MILLER

Once again school officials have bitten off more than they can chew in the disposal of tickets to the Valdosta-Thomasville high school football game to be played Friday and once again they're on the carpet about it.

Strangely enough, it's those few people that the school system insists on treating differently who are hot around the collar about being left out. And it all happened because school officials tried to do too many favors for too many people.

"Hot around the collar" is a mild term for those irate fans who took at face value an announcement that season ticket holders

to the VHS football games would be able to purchase reserve seat tickets to the Region 1-AAA playoff game.

When those same ticket holders arrived at the specified time to collect their tickets, the only thing left was a few general admission tickets that at best will get their holders into the stadium.

It all came from a communication problem. When Athletic Director Wright Bazemore called the Times office to announce the tickets would go on sale, and then took to the microphones to spread the word around via radio, he neglected to point out the school did not have enough tickets for every season ticket holder.

What Bazemore meant to say was that all season tickets, left over after football team members, band members and faculty members had purchased any they wanted at two tickets each, were to be offered to regular season ticket holders first, at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Tried Too Hard

Any left over from that were to be offered to Touchdown Club members between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. with any left over from that going on sale at Barnes at 6 p.m. on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Unfortunately, the line to buy tickets began forming at the high school doors before 6 a.m. Wednesday and the 536 reserve seat tickets left were gone before half the line ever formed.

When season ticket holders arrived at 10:30 a.m. there was nothing left and angry words flew rampant. A down trodden Lloyd Mims, principal of the high school, who had done everything he felt possible to see those who supported the program the most got first crack at the tickets, discussed the matter with the Times.

"Everyone is not going to be able to get a seat," he bluntly stated. "We did the best we can do. If we made any mistakes it was allowing those people who had friends who were out of town to pick up tickets for them."

Anger was vented toward Bazemore as well, and ironically so, for Bazemore, who became a living legend as coach of the 'Cats until 1971, is the one man who is always looking after his fans.

Never does a day go by that he doesn't compliment them in some way and any reporter asking the whys and wherefores of his great success at coaching in Valdosta soon hears the story of how the people in Valdosta support the program.

Students First

But the one weakness brought the downfall. Once more the system tried to do too many favors for too many people. Old VHS felt a sense of duty to those fans who dished out \$15 a seat for season reserve seat tickets this season.

But the view from here has it that Valdosta's responsibility ended when the school upheld its promise to have those seats ready and waiting for them at each one of the home football games.

If the playoff game had been held in Valdosta, the season ticket holders would have gotten first choice—all of them. Such was not the case.

School officials rightly looked after the students first...it is, after all, just a high school football game and was designed for the students...then the parents of those children involved.

For the want of satisfying a few faithful fans, the school has infuriated scores of others, who felt cheated out of something they feel they were entitled to. The entire matter could have been settled by throwing all the tickets on the block on a first-come, first-serve basis.

It's a problem that becomes more evident with every big road game. Good guys, gentlemen, only make it in the movies.

'Cats, Jackets On Win Streak

By Times Staff Writer
Friday night confrontation between Valdosta's Wildcat and Wayne County's Yellow Jackets pits two teams whose coaches believe they have proved as the season progressed.

Valdosta's Wildcat put their 10-1 record on line against the 7-4 Yellow Jackets, who bring six consecutive wins to the game at 8 p.m. Friday in the Jaycee Stadium.

Coach Nick Hyder's 'Cats, storming in with a 4-7 record they sin-tered the right to present Region 1-AAA Friday with a 3-0 victory over Thomasville in the region's playoff game ever.

But Coach John Donald's Yellow Jackets have been coming back ever since their fifth game of the season when the Jesup head coach viewed his troops, who had lost four of their first five games and began making changes.

Changes came in revamping of the defense that allowed so many points in Wayne's 40-21 loss to Central Thomasville, 28-21 loss to Waycross, 16-8 loss

Bradwell Institute and 20-14 loss to Brunswick.

In the first five games, the only victory was a 31-0 win over Arnold of Savannah. But it wasn't long before Donaldson and his Jackets were viewing many more victories.

With the new defense came a rejuvenated offense led by quarterback Billy Lott and the wins started forming.

In their last six games the Jackets defeated Beach of Savannah, 49-0, Glynn Academy, 35-6, Savannah High, 48-6, Johnson, 26-0,

Winsor Forrest of Savannah, 14-0, and Benedictine, 20-3, for the championship.

The change was so unexpected, few people in Jesup were prepared for the championship they won.

Georgia High School Association guidelines had already assured the Region 3-AAA victor of the home site for the first round of the playoffs, but the GHSA also insisted on an 8,000-seat stadium for the event.

Valdosta tried to take advantage of the situation by offering a cash guarantee

much larger than expected to move the site to Valdosta. And word from Jesup has it the Wayne officials were sorely tempted by the financial boost for their football program.

But a last minute decision to enlarge Jaycee Stadium here by adding 3,500 seats from Fort Stewart thwarted the plans.

Valdosta, meanwhile, rode hard work and a little admitted luck into the playoffs after defeating Thomasville 12-10 during a regular season game, only to have the

Dogs demolish Moultrie after the Packers had kicked off Valdosta 28-20.

That threw the region into a tie and brought on a playoff between the Dogs and 'Cats by way of a ballot of schools.

The meeting Friday pits two AAA teams together for the first time since 1969 when the 'Cats defeated their traditional rivals, 34-0. A

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The Valdosta Daily Times, Tues., Nov. 25, 1975-10-

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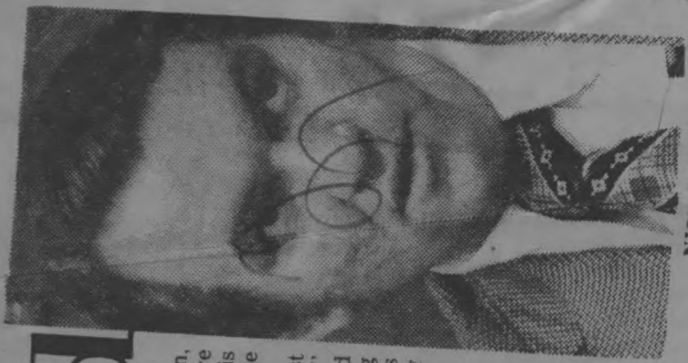
Miller

Times Sports Editor



WINN-DIXIE
SHOPPING CENTER
LAKE PARK

Wayne Co. Record



NICK HYDER
Respects Wayne

Daily Times / November 28, 1975

became an instant attraction, and linebacker and offensive guard Ashley Madrey, who is also a major college prospect.

"They're bigger than most of the teams we've played," Hyder continued. "And they've come on strong enough in their last six games to defeat everybody they played soundly."

Jesup's Jaycee Stadium on the Wayne County campus, has been enlarged from 5,500 seats to the 8,000 required for playoffs by the Georgia High School Association by the installation of some 3,500 bleacher seats borrowed from Fort Stewart. Kickoff is scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday.

are available) because they want a win on their home field."

Hyder's coaches have compared Wayne runningback Wilbur Carter to Dougherty's Mack Green, who terrorized Region 1-AAA two years ago. "They block well for him and execute real fine offensive approach to the game."

"Locke can pass it and he has two great receivers in Jerome Wilkins and Carter and college scouts who have come here are definitely high on two of their defense players."

Those players are noseman Darrell Wasden (230, sr.), who transferred to Jesup from North Carolina and

the comparisons some make of the two in Donaldson is a coach with a lot of experience on all sides at Wayne County and then went on to college ranks at Florida Georgia, where he was a field coach. He's a tough editor.

is no ordinary game. facing a tough, ionally hard-nosed They're well coached well coordinated and feel they can beat us. -turned down our (ical) offer to move this to Cleveland Field (in sta, where more seats

Without a healthy Buck Belue to run things, (the 15-year-old sophomore is still nagged with a badly bruised that has been aggravated by injuries weekly), that ability narrowed down decisively.

But football players are used to being hurt and Belue made of special stuff, should come through.

While Coach John Donaldson's Yellow Jackets, have so much on defense they've only allowed two touchdowns last six games, Hyder's defense, led by coaches Jack Charles Tarpley, and Ed Jones, had improved so much stopped the previously top ranked Thomasville Bulldogs last week.

And that Valdosta offense, piloted by Joe Wilson, Butch and Bill Aldrich, should still be able to move the football though in hostile territory.

And when it all boils down to fact, Wayne County simply had the caliber competition all season that Valdosta faced build up for this confrontation.

All that means nothing to Hyder, who counts only the way he has already won and knows anything can and usual happen in high school football.

But for the purposes of this column, it means a lot. It Valdosta, as bruised and battered as the 'Cats may seem to should come away with an easy victory tonight. Valdosta 23-

In the only other area football competition tonight, Hancock County's Trojans, a team who have never made it to the playoffs, travel to Lake Butler to meet Union County in the Class B playoffs.

Union carries the smallest team the Trojans of coach Whitener have faced. But they still seem like giants to Trojans, who make the best of what they have to outrun six foes this season.

In a case like this, everyone always pulls for the home and Hamilton is definitely the sentimental pick.

But when the cards are shown, Union County, ranked fifth in the state, just has too much firepower. It's been a long road from oblivion for the Trojans. But unless Whitener can pull off a minor miracle, it may well all end tonight.

Union County, 25-10.

Valdosta, Union Picked For Wins

Nick Hyder nervously paced the sidewalk in front of his apartment late into the night and early into this morning, ignoring the high 30-degree temperature in his shortsleeves, as he thought about tonight's confrontation between his Valdosta and Wayne County's Yellow Jackets.



MILLER

While most of in these parts most of Region his Wildcats will the State Class round playoff with 3-AAA champion colors, Hyder isn't "We're beat and hurting," he reporter, who has straggling in then.

"Somewhere in his mind was the what he had seen before when he Central of Macon Northside of Warner 21-19, in Macon round playoff. The tonight's game meets rugged Central of Macon. "But we won't even chance if we tonight," he pointed.

With only two area high school football games remaining in the weekly high school forecasting column, which finishes with an .840 average this year, finds the going a little rough during the regular season when some 25 teams were week.

Like Hyder, it's difficult to for us to choose between have played no mutual foes.

But a statement attributed to another high school coach from Region 1-AAA just might set the stage for performance.

"It's going to be hard for anyone not in Region 1-AAA to understand just how much Valdosta's offense can do with the coach was reported to have said.

Potent Offense

Without a healthy Buck Belue to run things, (the 15-year-old sophomore is still nagged with a badly bruised that has been aggravated by injuries weekly), that ability narrowed down decisively.

But football players are used to being hurt and Belue made of special stuff, should come through.

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Powerful Foes

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Union County, 25-10.

Region Stats

Belue, Mitchell Top 1,000 Mark

By ELWOOD MOYER
Region 1-AAA Statistician

Roscoe Mitchell and Buck Belue both went over the 1,000 mark in offense this season, but the two Region 1-AAA high school football leaders went in different directions to do it.

Mitchell, the hard hitting tailback for Thomasville's Bulldogs picked up 1,071 yards on 158 carries to capture the region rushing crown over Westover's Wes Knight who finished a distant second with 744 yards.

Valdosta's Alton Battles ground out 687 yards for fourth place just behind Albany's Winfred Anderson.

Belue, who led the region passing race almost from the

start of the year, completed 112 of 208 attempts for 1,451 yards through the air to gain the passing title in only his sophomore season. Monroe's Jeffrey Johnson, another sophomore, was second with 876 yards.

Billy Berrian, Belue's favorite target, hung onto 53 passes for 618 yards and four touchdowns to easily capture the pass receiving championship. B.J. Lamarr Monroe was second with 23 receptions for 393 yards.

Rushing

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
1. R. Mitchell, T'ville	158	1,071	6.78
2. Knight, Westover	169	744	4.40
3. Anderson, Albany	159	701	4.41
4. Battles, Valdosta	123	687	5.59
5. Carter, Crisp	147	674	4.59
6. King, B'bridge	135	662	4.90
7. Crumley, Tift	149	605	4.06
8. Seay, Moultrie	114	597	5.24
9. Cartwright, Dougherty	139	596	4.28
10. Flanders, B'bridge	99	571	5.77
16. Berrian, Valdosta	75	369	4.92
17. Waters, Lowndes	70	352	5.03
20. Belue, Valdosta	97	326	3.36
22. Harris, Lowndes	60	281	4.68
26. B. Shanks, Lowndes	63	243	3.86
31. Loving, Valdosta	46	225	4.89
42. Register, Lowndes	25	98	3.92
45. Marshall, Lowndes	32	82	2.56
48. Crawford, Lowndes	34	67	1.97
50. Brinson, Valdosta	10	60	6.00
51. C. Demps, Valdosta	14	60	4.29
60. Wilson, Valdosta	7	15	2.14

'Dosta Ranked At Top

By The Associated Press

Valdosta's Wildcats, vaulting from fifth place to the top spot in Class AAA high school football rankings this week, are heavily favored over Wayne County in a regional playoff Friday night.

Valdosta's 3-0 victory over Thomasville last weekend dropped Thomasville out of first place and into the fifth spot in the weekly Georgia Associated Press poll.

Northside, which did not play last weekend, remained in second place. Lakeside was forced to share third place with Douglass of Atlanta in Class AAA rankings.

Americus held its No. 1 ranking in Class AA play, after beating Dodge County 41-0, and Lakeshore, beating Marist 28-13, remained in second place.

Irwin County's 29-8 drubbing of Carrollton was good for a first-place berth, with Cartersville dropping from the top spot to fifth in Class A after losing 21-12 to Jefferson.

In the only playoff game tonight, Northside of Warner Robins, No. 2 in this week's Class AAA rankings, takes on Central of Macon in a rematch at Macon.

Passing

	Att.	Comp.	Yds.
1. Belue, Valdosta	208	112	1,451
2. Johnson, Monroe	153	50	876
3. J. Carmichael, Tift	103	42	676
4. Cannady, T'ville	75	31	632
5. Collier, Crisp	63	28	573
6. Pattiilo, Lowndes	100	40	496
7. Fox, Albany	98	41	437
8. Kishaw, Westover	105	39	399
9. Aubin, Dougherty	67	19	332
10. Brinkley, Moultrie	49	19	326
14. McLeod, Lowndes	51	15	242
16. Berrian, Valdosta	19	8	180

Pass Receiving

	No.	Yds.	Td's
1. Berrian, Valdosta	53	618	4
2. Lamarr, Monroe	23	393	0
3. Engram, Tift	19	369	0
4. Anthony, B'bridge	14	339	1
5. Stull, Valdosta	24	320	2
6. Wilson, Valdosta	20	315	5
7. Alexander, Crisp	14	284	2
8. Gainer, Dougherty	11	212	0
9. M. Tyus, Moultrie	15	209	0
10. Patrick, Lowndes	11	208	1
11. Harris, Lowndes	9	137	1
17. Register, Valdosta	9	137	1

Pass Interceptions

	Inter.	Ret.
1. Ramey, T'ville	9	119
2. Collier, Crisp	3	37
3. Worthy, Valdosta	2	77
4. Hadley, T'ville	2	70
5. Johnson, Dougherty	2	68
11. Washington, Lowndes	1	34
15. Sermons, Lowndes	1	28
16. Middleton, Valdosta	1	23
17. Lowe, Valdosta	4	25

Punts

	Yds.	Avg.	
1. Keyton, T'ville	39	1,598	40.97
2. Harris, Westover	38	1,477	38.87
3. Harper, Moultrie	31	1,152	37.16
4. Fox, Albany	6	220	36.67
5. Bart Oates, Albany	6	220	36.67
6. Belue, Valdosta	27	910	33.70

Punt Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. Davis, Dougherty	9	134
2. Seay, Moultrie	5	64
3. Collier, Crisp	2	18
4. Jones, Westover	11	64
5. Hadley, T'ville	4	58
7. Pattiilo, Lowndes	5	54
8. T. Demps, Valdosta	6	54

Kick-Off Returns

	Ret.	Yds.
1. King, Bainbridge	14	385
2. Anderson, Albany	18	372
3. Harris, Lowndes	12	325
4. Knight, Westover	10	290
5. Ivey, Thomasville	13	277
6. Berrian, Valdosta	9	184
10. Waters, Lowndes	9	184

Scoring Td's

	PAT's	Total	
1. R. Mitchell, T'ville	20	0	20
2. Belue, Valdosta	12	4	16
3. Berrian, Valdosta	12	0	12
4. Battles, Valdosta	10	0	10
5. Knight, Westover	8	0	8
6. Cannady, T'ville	7	2	9
7. Seay, Moultrie	7	0	7
8. Collier, Crisp	6	0	6
9. Flanders, B'bridge	6	0	6
10. Thomas, Albany	5	0	5
13. Wilson, Valdosta	4	0	4
22. Waters, Lowndes	0	24	24
23. Baldwin, Valdosta	0	0	0
24. Pattiilo, Lowndes	4	0	4

Class AAA

- Valdosta
- Northside of Warner Robins
- (tie) Lakeside and Douglass of Atlanta
- Thomasville
- Central of Macon
- Warner Robins
- Cedar Shoals
- Moultrie
- Wheeler

Class AA

- Americus
- Lakeshore
- Camden County
- Brown
- (tie) Gainesville and Central of Thomasville
- West Fulton
- Stephens County
- M. D. Collins of Atlanta
- Coosa

Class A

- Irwin County
- Early County
- Carrollton
- Mary Persons
- Cartersville
- Carrollton
- East Atlanta
- Pulnam County
- Jefferson
- Sylvan

'Cats Open Fast; Kittens Surprised

By JULIAN MILLER

Valdosta's Wildcats had a surprise in store for even themselves when they opened their high school basketball season here Tuesday night, but the Kittens' surprise was nowhere near the one Tift County's Angels had for them.

Coach Joe Wilson's Wildcats, expected to start slow because of a number of players still involved with the school's football program, blasted Tift County's Blue Devils 95-57 to open their 1975-76 season.

But Glenn Phelps' Kittens, expected to put their speed and quickness to work with the new five-on-five play style, fell prey to an even quicker group of Angels, 58-42, to split the high school doubleheader.

"I said we'd be playing some exciting basketball this year, but I didn't expect us to look as good as we did tonight," admitted the grey haired Wilson, who like several of his key players is still working with the Valdosta football team, still involved in the State Class AAA playoffs.

"I knew we could, and would, eventually, run with the basketball, but it started a little early."

Led by the silk-like smoothness of Greg Sampson and Bernard Robinson, who scored 20 and 18 points respectively, and the

unrelenting rebounding and sharpshooting of Lawrence Lowe, who added 19, the 'Cats wasted little time in establishing superiority over Coach John Rutland's Blue Devils.

With blinding speed on their side, the 'Cats moved out front early and sped to a 16-7 first quarter lead, boosting it to 49-22 by half-time and on to the one-sided

victory.

James Stewart and Leon Johnson, two newcomers to the VHS varsity program, added a dozen points each to the Valdosta cause. Big Jeff Sermans, a 6-9 giant, pumped in six points with Billy DeMersseman and Otis Whitfield adding four each.

Sharpshooter Freeman Davis led Rutland's Imps with 13 points, followed by Anthony Horne, with 11 and Willie Dobson and Jeff Gill who chipped in 10 apiece.

Phelps' Kittens fought the Sandra Graydon-led Angels for a quarter before finishing the first period trailing 15-13. But before halftime, Graydon established her marksmanship and it was an uphill battle for the Kittens.

Graydon finished the night with 24 points, with teammate Neta Sparks pumping in 11 more.

Yvette Council, who scored 10 points, was the only Valdosta girl in double figures.

"Terrible!" Phelps said of his Kittens' performance. "We apparently don't have what I thought we would."

The 'Cats and Kittens were scheduled to return to action here tonight, hosting Coffee's Trojans and Trojanettes from Douglas in a twin-bill beginning at 7 p.m. in the VHS gymnasium.



VHS's James Stewart Glides For Hoop

—Times Staff Photo.

Wayne Co. Coach Eyes 'Superbowl'

By JULIAN MILLER
JESUP — "It's the Super. Super. Super. Superbowl of

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Thursday, Nov. 27, 1975 - 44 -

Ashley Madrey.

"We run a multiple offense like Valdosta's," Donaldson pointed out. "We try to do whatever it takes to get the job done. Our defense has given up only two touchdowns in the last six games but we haven't played anyone the calibre of Valdosta."

Donaldson, however, declines to pick out standouts from his team, preferring to discuss team work instead.

"This team has character," he said. "It takes character to come back and they did after losing four of the first five ball games. We're like Valdosta. We earned what defeat was last year."

The Jackets went 8-2 in 1974 while the Wildcats were stumbling through a 3-7 season.

"We're not like Valdosta," he continued. "We have several people going both ways. I even had to order new cleats so we wouldn't slide off the field when Valdosta gets all that team lined up on the other side."

"But we're going to do our best Friday night and hope

sportsmanship prevails and the best team wins. We know we're the underdog and have to try harder but then I guess if we had just beaten Thomasville, we'd be the favorite too."

Probable starters for both teams follow:

VALDOSTA

Offense—ends Rick Register (175, sr.) and Clark Stull (155, sr.), tackles Randy Horne (220, sr.) and Lee Harbin (190, sr.) or O'Keefe Hunter (220, jr.), guards David Cooper (190, jr.) and David Catoe (170, sr.) or Brian Johnson (175, jr.), center Gary Mims (185, sr.), quarterback Buck Belue (190, soph.), halfbacks Billy Berrian (175, sr.) and Jess Loving (170, jr.), and fullback Alton Battles (185, sr.).

Defense—ends Brad Cohen (180, jr.) or Robert Baldwin (190, soph.) and Joe Tillman (175, jr.), tackles Eddie Denard (205, jr.) or Roy Mitchell (215, sr.), and Mike Wetherington (235, sr.), middle guard David Sumner (192, sr.), linebackers Harold Renninger (220, sr.) and Keith Middleton (200, jr.), cornerbacks Anthony Lynch (165, sr.) and Theodore Demps (150, sr.) and safeties Lawrence Lowe (190, jr.) and Allen Worthy (175, soph.).

WAYNE

Offense—ends Jim Anderson (190, sr.) and Jerome Wilkins (185, sr.), tackles Ricky Parks (215, sr.) and Dale Smith (200, jr.), guards Sonny Moody (185, sr.) and Ashley Madrey (230, sr.), center Randy Teston (190, jr.), quarterback Billy Lott (185, sr.), fullback C. J. Tillman (190, soph.), runningbacks Milton Bonham (180, sr.) and Wilbert Carter (5-10, 150, sr.), and Harold Stewart (180, sr.).

Defense—ends John Jackson (195, sr.) and Laverne Tillman (210, jr.), tackles Carl Scott (215, sr.) and Cedrick Jones (235, jr.), middle guard Darrell Wasden (230, sr.), linebackers Madrey, Jeff Lewis (175, jr.), and Dean Robinson (6-0, 185, sr.), safeties Arnos Hunter (170, sr.) and Wilkins.

GIRLS	
Valdosta	13 24 32 42
Tift	15 29 37 58
VALDOSTA (42) — Council 10, Berrian 8, O'Neal 9, R. Reid 7, Owens 2, Evans 2, Paulk, Whitehead, P. Reid, Wildes, Powell, S. Berrian, Williams.	
Team totals: field goals 20, free throws 9, fouls 12.	
TIFT (58) — Graydon 24, Sparks 11, Dixon 7, Vickers 4, Thomas 4, Smith 2, Houston 3, Woods 3.	
Team totals: field goals 24, free throws 10 of 20, fouls 12.	
BOYS	
Valdosta	16 49 73 95
Tift	7 22 43 57
VALDOSTA (95) — Sampson 20, Lowe 19, Robinson 18, Stewart 12, Johnson 12, Sermans 6, DeMersseman 4, Whitfield 4, Wilson, Thomas.	
Team totals: field goals 44, free throws 7 of 19, fouls 14.	
TIFT (57) — Davis 13, Horne 11, Dobson 10, Gill 10, Howard 7, Beckman 4, Yates 2, White, Smith, Williams, Pridgon.	
Team totals: field goals 25, free throws 7 of 19, fouls 16.	



'Dosta vs Jesup / Wayne Coach Remembers

*Friday November 28, 1975
V. Daily Times*

By JULIAN MILLER
JESUP — An ocean of water has passed under the bridge since the last time John Donaldson sent a Jesup team into battle against Valdosta's Wildcats, but as far as he's concerned the only thing changed is the date.

Valdosta takes its football extravaganza to Jesup tonight, to meet Wayne County's Yellow Jackets in the first round of the 1975 State Class AAA high school football playoffs, but as far as Donaldson is concerned it might as well be taking place in the early '50s.

"Jesup and Valdosta went at it real good 20 years ago," the veteran Wayne County coach reminisced. "But the only thing changed since then is Wright Bazemore is no longer head coach."
And Donaldson, whose Yellow Jackets won their last six games to claim the Region 3-AAA championship this year isn't really sure that's changed. "I'm not sure Bazemore still isn't coaching the team," he announced.

"Wright's back on the field, everybody knows that. It's definitely a Bazemore team."

A vivid memory of two similar nights work their way into Donaldson's memory from the 1954 season, when he was also head coach of the Jesup team, who stormed into Valdosta for a 13-0 victory to end a 44-game winning streak for Bazemore's 'Cats.

"And we did it in their own back yard too," Donaldson recalled. Then Jesup defeated the Wildcats for the region playoffs several weeks later by the exact same score, enroute to their Class A state championship.

"But I don't like to remind people about that," the congenial head coach proclaimed. Donaldson has a right to recall the years of Bazemore, the legendary Valdosta coach who led the Wildcats to a 290-43-12 won-loss record from 1940-1971 and 15 state championships. Donaldson, you see, was right there with him.

In eight years of coaching the Yellow Jackets, five in the 1950's and three in the 1970's, Donaldson's team has never failed to

win the sub-region championship. The 1975 team became the first of his recent squads to claim the region title last week when they defeated Benedictine of Savannah, 20-4.

A Jesup native who has returned home for good, he hopes, Donaldson was a star in his own right for the Jesup school in 1945, when he was named All-State and All-Southeastern halfback.

From there he went on to the University of Georgia to stand out for the Bulldogs and into the service where he was named one of the most outstanding athletes in the country.

Since then he established himself in a hot and heavy series with the Wildcats in the early 1950's before moving to the University of Florida with Coach Ray Graves and Pepper Rodgers and to the University of Georgia where he was offensive backfield coach for Vince Dooley's Southeastern Conference Championship team in 1966. In 1968, he figured he had had enough of coaching and entered the business world.

only to reconsider and rejoin the Wayne County school system in 1973.

"You're probably wondering what I'm doing back in high school coaching," Donaldson said, beating the reporter to the question. "I don't know. I'm a native of Jesup, they have some fine people here and a great community and I just felt like I wanted to come back. It's ironic that we're here doing the same thing we did 20 years ago, facing the super 'Cats.'"

Buck Thomas was coaching Valdosta while Donaldson was playing for Jesup in the 1940's. But he remembers enough about VHS from coaching against Bazemore to recognize the Base's influence.

"It's definitely a Bazemore team," he said. "You can see that all through it. A Bazemore-coached team is always hard nosed and dedicated. Anytime you beat one you've done something. I'll never forget the time we beat them in 1954."

Mike Chason Times Sports Writer

A Glance Back At Playoff Loss

Some observations from a neutral viewpoint of Wayne County's thrilling 15-14 victory over Valdosta in the first round of the state class AAA high school football playoffs in Jesup Friday night . . .



CHASON

"Well, boys, the best team certainly won didn't it," a jubilant Wayne County school official atop the highest half of the forever swaying Jaycee Field pressbox. Quite a change from his halftime tune when Valdosta led 14-0 and his only comment was a low mumble in answer to any question.

—A young Wayne county faithful carrying around a paper mache version of the Jesup school's mascot, a yellow jacket. It was very realistic and one could only imagine the numerous bites it had inflicted on the fighting band of Wildcats from Valdosta. The youngster held the creature aloft as if it were about to fly away. But just like the real Jackets, it never did.

—One of Valdosta's finest wandering around in the end zone after the game with tears in his eyes, knowing he had played just as hard as he could play but had still finished second best on this particular night. Comforting words from Valdosta fans proved to be of little assistance to this young man who'll be spending a long winter thinking about this game.

—A half dressed Wayne County player grabbing one of his school buddies with a bear hug and proclaiming "Did you ever think it would end like this?" His friend could only smile with a pained look on his face since he had no air with which to breathe out the obvious reply that no one really thought it would end this way.

Brought Back Memories

—The huge cloud of dust which enveloped the stadium as the crowd made its way toward the game seemed to grow in size as the action progressed on the field. Mixed with smoke, the cloud hung over the stadium like an evil omen, dissipating only after the many fans had drifted away . . . by then it was too late for Valdosta.

—An aging sports scribe in the press box who remembered 20 years ago when Wayne topped Valdosta in two contests during the same season. One of those snapped a 44 game Valdosta win streak he claimed proudly. It is doubtful he enjoyed those two victories any more than Wayne's Friday night triumph.

—The sight of VHS quarterback Buck Belue walking into the Wayne dressing room amid a rowdy victory celebration. The kid had a lot of guts to congratulate all the opposition in addition to following head coach John Donaldson all the way to his office to shake his hand. It was a rare moment in sports indeed.

—"Boy, that number 32 for Valdosta is something," one of the Wayne fans said in almost reverent tones, speaking of linebacker Harold Renninger who leveled Yellow Jacket halfback Wilbur Carter with one of the most incredible tackles of the season only to see Carter return to the game after a slight pause to make sure he was still alive.

—Steve Jennings returning a punt over 30 yards only to have his effort spoiled by a Valdosta clip which wiped out the entire play. He couldn't have been more disappointed, but was just as spirited as ever when the Wildcats took over on offense.

Wasdin's A Giant

—The sight of University of Georgia head coach Vince Dooley appearing in the VHS dressing room, only hours after his Bulldogs walloped Georgia Tech on national television. It seemed like another world from Atlanta to Jesup, but here was Dooley talking quietly to Valdosta's Nick Hyder.

—Hyder mentioning to Dooley that every time he appeared a one of his games that his team always lost by one point. "The same thing happened when you came to see my team play in north Georgia," Hyder remembered with a smile on his face which Dooley, a bit smugly, didn't even respond to.

—Standing beside Wayne County's mammoth tackle Darryl Wasdin who's listed at 6-2 and 215 pounds, but looking at least 7-4, 320 in his football uniform in the Yellow Jacket dressing room. At times he appeared that huge to the 'Cats too, particularly since he registered 14 unassisted tackles.

—Jesup fans patting Belue on the back and reminding him he's got two more years to achieve a state championship.

—The fact that young Buck does indeed have two more seasons to quarterback the Wildcats and welcomes back a strong supporting cast next year. He may be the one celebrating a year from now.

IS, Lowndes Tangle

Area Hoop Acton Heavy Tonight

By Times Staff Writer
Basketball teams from four high schools inside the county square off against each other here tonight to highlight a large area basketball schedule.

Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens hit the road for an extremely short ride across town to Lowndes' High School where they take on the Vikings and Vikettes in a Region 1-AAA (South) twin-bill.

And Georgia' Christian's

Lady Generals and undefeated Generals play host to Valwood's Valiant and Lady Valiants in a Southeastern Association of Independent Schools showdown in Dasher.

Other action involving area teams pits Lanier County's Bulldogs and Bullogettes from Lakeland, Ga in a Region 2-B battle in Broxton. Hamilton County's Trojans and Trojanettes from Jasper, Fla., host Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.) and

Greenville Fla. respectively in Jasper. Brooks County's

- AREA HOOP SLATE**
Prep
Tonight
Valdosta at Lowndes
Valwood at GCS
Lanier at Broxton
Jefferson at Hamilton
Boys
Greenville at Hamilton
Girls
Mitchell at Brooks
Brantley at Clinch
Echols at Atkinson
T'ville Central at Cook
Berrien at Worth
B'bridge Christian at Westbrook
Junior College
NFJC at Lake City

Trojans and Trojanettes host Mitchell County (Camilla) in a Region 1-A battle in Quitman.

Clinch County's undefeated Panthers and Pantherettes also host Brantley County (Nahunta) in Homerville. Echols County's Wildcats and Kittens of Statenville, travel to Pearson for

In junior college action, North Florida Junior College's Sentinels of Madison, Fla. travel to Lake City, Fla., to meet Lake City Community College.

Coach Joe Wilson's Valdosta Wildcats put a 3-0 record on the line while Coach Glen Phelps's 2-1 Kittens, put a two game win streak up when they travel across town tonight.

Coach Charles Cooper's Vikings are only 1-4 but come off a 56-50 loss to highly regarded Bainbridge in the same LHS gym Saturday. His Vikettes, however, defending region champions for a third consecutive year, are 4-1 and have only lost to Berrien, the team that handed them all their losses

in last year's state playoffs. The NBA agreed to today. Moses Malone, had including the draft of five NBA draft players.

Utah as a rookie last year after signing out of Peter Malone was an all-star year

Valdosta Daily Times / December 1, 1975

U. Daily Times/December 3, 1975

Woman Murdered At Apartment Her

By Times Staff Writer
Betty C. Easton, assistant principal of Valdosta Junior High School was shot to death in her Spanish Mission Apartment Tuesday night.

Held on charges of murder is her estranged husband, Willie Jerome Easton, 28, a technician at Valdosta High School, who apparently shot himself once in the head after allegedly killing his wife.

Police said the shooting followed a domestic quarrel after Easton, of 2513 Deborah Drive, visited his 35-year-old wife and newborn baby at her apartment.

Officers were at the apartment complex to investigate the suspected family quarrel when they heard two shots fired from inside Mrs. Easton's apartment, said reports.

Two women were running out of the apartment with the Easton's child, when another two shots were heard, officers said.

Mrs. Easton's sister, Sylvia Carlisle had called police when Easton first entered the apartment, said reports.

She had run out of the apartment with the couple's young child as the husband pulled a 38-caliber German-made pistol from his pocket, said reports.

Easton apparently shot his wife once in the right side of the head above the ear, then shot himself once in the top of the head.

Officers said Mrs. Easton apparently died instantly.

The man, an audio visual technician at VHS for one

year, was listed in fair condition in the surgical intensive care unit at South Georgia Medical Center this morning.

Officers said four shots were fired in all—one which killed Mrs. Easton, one which was lodged in Easton's head,

one which struck the kit ceiling, and one which wall telephone.

After the four shots, p called for Easton to come said reports.

He yelled to the office

(See Woman Page 2)



—TIMES-UNION PHOTOS BY CAREY CAMERON

Valdosta Band Boosters Turn Salesmen

Flea market connoisseurs will find everything from minibikes to antiques to clothing Saturday in the abandoned gym at the old Valdosta High School (below). Valdosta High Band Boosters stocking the area for the sale to be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. are (from left) Sam Philips, Thurman Law, Mike Marositz, Hillie Davis, and sale co-chairman Wallace Allbritton. Proceeds will go to a band trip to Miami's Winternationals Dec. 19. The winning band from that event will play at halftime for the Dec. 21 Dolphins game.



He Supports VHS Band But ...

Sir: While I too take pride in the Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats' success, I cannot agree with the Valdostan whose letter ran in the paper recently suggesting that the city or Chamber of Commerce give them money for their trips.

In better times, perhaps. But the economic situation of cities, including our own, prohibits this right now.

I'll do my part to help as much as I can. But I don't want my tax money used like that.

Valdostan Dec. 1, 1975
U.D. Times

Shooting Suspect Said Recovering

By Times Staff Writer
A 28-year-old Valdosta man, charged with murdering his wife then shooting himself once in the head, was listed in fair condition at South Georgia Medical Center today.

Willie Jerome Easton of 2513 Deborah Drive remained in the surgical intensive care

unit at the hospital this morning following the shooting death of his wife, Betty Easton, Tuesday night.

Police have charged Easton with murdering his estranged wife at her Spanish Mission apartment after a domestic quarrel.

Officers said Easton shot his wife, who was assistant

principal at Valdosta High School, once in the head, then apparently shot himself.

Easton is an audio visual technician at Valdosta High School.

Hospital officials said he was not under guard today.

'Dosta, Lowndes Tangle Tuesday

By Times Staff Writer
No matter what the occasion, when Valdosta and Lowndes tangle in a high school sports event, the emotion is sure to be at a fever pitch as the two bitter rivals go head to head on the playing field.

Tuesday night, the VHS Wildcats travel cross county to the LHS gymnasium for a AREA HOOP SLATE

- Georgia College at VSC Monday
- High School Valdosta at Lowndes Lanier at Broxton Jefferson at Hamilton Greenville at Hamilton
- Girls Mitchell at Brooks Brantley at Clinch Echols at Atkinson Valwood at GCS Tville Central at Cook Berrien at Worth Bainbridge Christian at Westbrook
- NFC at Lake City College

matchup with the Vikings in what could be a whale of a basketball game. The two girls' teams tangle in the preliminary and the action is sure to be just as heated.

But the Valdosta-Lowndes struggle is definitely not the only prep hoop outing in the area. In fact it's only one of nine court battles in this vicinity, not including one college game when North Florida Junior College (Madison) hits the road to Lake City Community College.

In high school play, Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) is at Broxton, Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.) meets Hamilton County in Jasper, Fla., the Hamilton girls host Greenville, Fla., Brooks County (Quitman) welcomes Mitchell County (Camilla),

Echols County (Statenville) is at Atkinson County (Pearson), Valwood's at Georgia Christian (Dasher), Thomasville Central's at Cook (Adel), Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) visits Worth County (Sylvester), and Westbrook (Dixie) hosts Bainbridge Christian.

In the lone game tonight, Valdosta State College's Blazers aim for their second victory of the season against Georgia College of Milledgeville at the Blazer Fieldhouse here.

Judging by season records, the Lowndes girls, who are 4-1 on the year, should slip by the 2-1 VHS females, and the 1-4 Vikings should tumble to the 3-0 Wildcats.

But in this annual rivalry which comes about twice during the hoop season when the clubs swap homecourt visits, all records mean very little. Emotion and determination have won basketball games and both have played parts when Lowndes and Valdosta got together in the past.

Coach Glen Phelps' Kittens have slipped by Coffee County (Douglas) 37-31 and Moultrie 63-49 this season while falling to Tift County (Tifton) 58-42.

The speedy Wildcats of head coach Joe Wilson blew past Tift 95-57, Coffee 74-45, and edged Moultrie 75-63 in a relatively close game.

Lowndes' Vikettes upended Tift 48-27, roared past Dougherty (Albany) 62-36, fell to Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) 52-31, slipped past Moultrie 53-47, and downed Bainbridge Saturday night 67-33.

Coach Charles Cooper's Vikes gunned down Tift 53-47 in their opener, but have since lost four straight including decisions to Dougherty 72-66, Berrien 60-48, Moultrie 60-48, and Bainbridge 56-50.

Dec. 8, 1975 U. Daily Times

VHS Dominates Region Team

V. Daily Times / December 10, 1975

By Times Staff Writer
Nick Hyder, coach of Valdosta High School's football Wildcats, and his quarterback Buck Belue, have nailed down two of the top three honors on the Region 1-AAA All-Region Team, dominated by Valdosta players, announced today.

Hyder, who turned his Wildcats' record around to a 10-2 worksheet after posting a 3-7 record in his first season last year, was named Coach of the Year for the region while Belue, who started calling signals as a freshman and this year led the team to the Region 1-AAA championship as a sophomore, was named the Offensive Player of the Year.

Thomasville defensive standout Lamb Andrews copped the other top honor, that of Defensive Player of the Year, on the team selected by sports editors of seven newspapers covering the region.

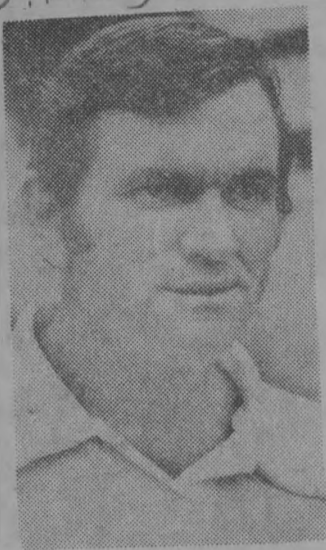
In all, Valdosta put eight players on the first All-Region team and six others on the second team.

Leading the offense was Belue, a 6-1, 180-pound sophomore, who passed for 1,451 yards and ran for 326 others while scoring a dozen touchdowns himself and two two-point after during 10 regular season games.

Other Valdosta players on the offense included runningback Alton Battles, who rushed for 687 yards and 10 touchdowns on 123 carries, center Gary Mims a 5-11, 185-pound senior, tackle Mike Wetherington (6-2, 235, sr.), and end Billy Berrian (5-11, 180, sr.), who ran for 369 yards and caught 63 passes for 618 yards and a dozen touchdowns as a halfback during the regular season.

Valdosta players on the first team defense were linebacker Harold Renninger (6-2, 220, sr.), defensive back Lawrence Lowe (6-3, 200, jr.), and middle guard David Sumner (5-11, 195, sr.).

Composing the rest of the first team offense were guards John Thomas (5-10, 210 sr.) of Thomasville and Glenn Zeurn (6-3, 200, sr.) of Dougherty, tackles Ronnie French (5-11, 211, sr.) of Moultrie, end B.J. Lamar (6-2, 186, sr.) of Monroe, runningbacks Roscoe Mitchell (5-10, 175, sr.) of Thomasville and Virgil Seay (5-9, 170, sr.) of Moultrie and place kicker Allen Sampson (6-0, 180, sr.) (See VHS Page 17)



NICK HYDER
Coach Of Year



BUCK BELUE
Offensive Star

Nick Lauds Buck And Shares COY

By Times Staff Writer
Nick Hyder, the relatively shy man that he is, cautiously evaded comments about being awarded the Region 1-AAA sports editor's Coach of the Year award this week, but when it came to his star quarterback Buck Belue, he was ready to talk.

"Buck certainly represents all the qualities any coach could want on any level," Hyder said of the 15-year-old sophomore who was named Offensive Player of the Year for his efforts in leading Valdosta's Wildcats to a 10-2 record and Region 1-AAA championship this season.

"If he has any shortcomings it's that he's too modest a youngster. He does anything we ask him to do and if we don't watch him he'll be out there playing split end or something... and he's good enough to play about any position."

Ironically, Belue got the job of leading Valdosta's Wildcats as a freshman last year when Hyder arrived at VHS from West Rome High School for spring training and found him among four candidates for the job.

"Buck got the job when the other three got hurt," Hyder recalled, not that he wouldn't have won the position anyway. "In a sense, it was a battle field promotion and that makes him a battle-scarred veteran."

Belue accumulated about all the battle scars he could handle last season when he, Hyder and the Wildcats suffered through a 3-7 record.

But they turned it all around this season, finishing the regular season in a three-way tie with Thomasville and Moultrie at 9-1 each, living through a ballot of region representatives to enter a playoff with Thomasville, defeating the Bulldogs in Thomasville for the second time this season, and finally losing to Wayne County in the first round of the state high school playoffs in Jesup.

Belue passed for 1,758 yards and ran for 354 more, scoring 12 touchdowns himself and running for two two-point PATs and punted for a 36.40 yard average.

"Belue really earned the honor," Hyder said.

As for his own honor, Hyder opted to share the glory with the members of his coaching staff as he had done all season long.

"We didn't get what we wanted from this season," he said, "but what we got was more than what we had."

"The honor is certainly appreciated but I believe it goes to the (coaching) staff. And on behalf of the staff we do appreciate it. They (coaching staff) are the key to unlock the door. It's the best sideline coaching

(See Nick Page 17)

Letters To The Editor

V. D. Times
December 9, 1975

Band Deserves Better Support

Sir: I was traveling in another state, when I got on the elevator, the porter saw my baggage I.D. had Valdosta, Ga. and he asked me did I know Wright Bazemore.

"Sure, I answered, why do you ask?" He told me that man sure knew how to coach football with all the records he holds. This made me happy and proud I was from Valdosta.

There is another thing that I am just as happy and proud of, and that is our Valdosta High School Marchin' Cats and all their honors from New Orleans, La., to Miami, FL

and Washington D.C., and all points in between. The latest being their trip to Largo, Fla. where everything was awarded them except the stadium.

The people down there may erect a monument for them. These people even took our students in their home over night and fed them. I call this real backing. The band parents, band boosters, and

merchants are really behind their band.

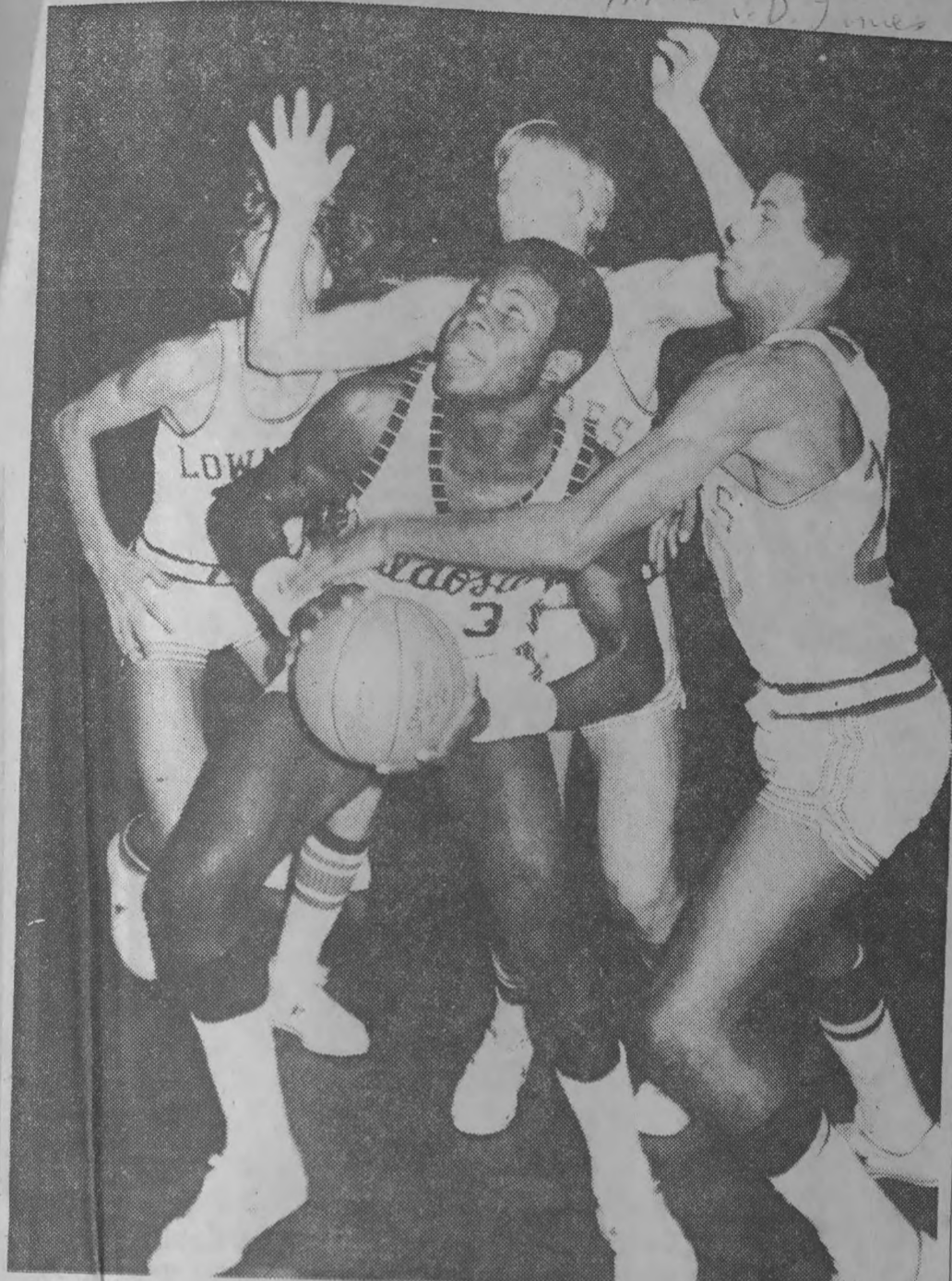
It is a shame that our band students have to get out on the streets of Valdosta and sell calendars, candles, candy, and such like to help pay their expenses plus cold cash out of theirs or parents pocket to put our city in the limelight.

I am suggesting that the merchants and the Chamber

of Commerce help use students with sizeable donations which would be a good Christmas gift. An appearance in Miami month is better than page ad in some magazine, or some advertisement to sell of Valdosta, Ga.

Sow good seed harvest will be abundant
Marchin' C

November 10, 1975 S.D. Times



Going Up: VHS' Lawrence Lowe Eyes A Bucket — Times Staff Photo By Ken Klanicki

'Cats, Vikettes Claim City Wins

By MIKE CHASON
 For three quarters Lowndes and Valdosta battled neck and neck in one of the most exciting high school basketball games of the still infant season, but in the final period, Coach Joe Wilson's deep VHS bench finally paid off in a 73-61 Wildcat victory over the cross-county rival Vikings Tuesday night.
 Glen Phelps, coach of Valdosta's Kittens, also went to his bench but didn't find enough talent to stop Charles Cooper's Lowndes Vikette squad from waltzing to a 63-26 triumph in the first half of the Region 1-AAA (South) twin-bill at the LHS gym.
 Junior pivotman Lawrence Lowe keyed the 'Cats to their fourth consecutive win of the season and second sub-region triumph with 21 points and 23 rebounds, many of which came on the offensive end when he tipped in errant Wildcat shot attempts.

But Lowndes' forward Rusty Parker almost matched Lowe point for point and rebound for rebound as he poured in 21 points and pulled down almost that many rebounds.
 "We were mighty lucky," a relieved Wilson said only moments after the almost capacity crowd of some 2,000 fans had left the Lowndes' fieldhouse.
 "We have to run with the ball to win, and we didn't really do that until the last quarter. But then, I thought we looked good at times doing it."
 One such occasion came when VHS's James Stewart, resembling a young Dean Meminger, threw a behind-the-back pass to Otis Whitfield for a left-handed layup with 5:12 remaining in the game to set the Valdosta crowd on fire and send the 'Cats to a 60-49 advantage.
 Whitfield, who swept the boards on both ends in the

second half, wound up with 15 points to finish just ahead of Bernard Robinson who pumped in 10 including a 25 footer just before the third period ended to give the 'Cats a 49-47 lead they never relinquished.
 "Our man-to-man defense that first half was atrocious," Wilson admitted. "But I tell you . . . by the middle of the season, Lowndes is going to have a good ballclub."
 Cooper, who serves double duty with the Vikings and Vikettes, would like to heed those words, but right now all he can do is look at his club's 1-5 record including five losses in a row and just wonder how much talent he really does have.
 "We played as well as we could play for three quarters," Cooper said. "We just made a lot of mistakes that last quarter, and their depth finally got to us."
 The Vikes did appear to tire (See 'Cats, Vikettes page 25)

Dec 10, 1975 — 'Cats, Vikettes

(Continued from page 23)
 a little, but it's no small wonder since Wilson had the luxury of throwing wave after wave of fresh meat at the struggling Vikings who had only seven players to see action.
 Theodore Hunter penetrated the Valdosta defense for 13 points and accounted for numerous steals. Greg Bell also hit for 12 points for the Vikings who actually held the lead for most of the second and third periods.
 But in the final quarter, Lowe and Whitfield owned the boards, and Lowndes failed to connect from outside. Valdosta's fast break started clicking to perfection, and again the 'Cats had claimed the county championship.
 But the girls' game belonged to the Vikettes all the way. In fact, Lowndes looks to be well on its way to a fourth consecutive region title with a 5-1 overall mark and perfect 3-0 sub-region slate.
 The LHS girls' lone loss came at the hands of defending state Class AA champion Berrien (Nashville, Ga.).
 For the third consecutive game, junior Faye Hart paved the way for the Vikettes with her pinpoint outside shooting which was good enough for 27 points.
 Hart has averaged 24 points a night in the Lowndes' girls' past three outings. Most of her shots against the now 2-2 Kittens came from at least 20 feet away from the hoop.
 "I think our girls are improving a lot," Cooper said.

"We're trying to run more now. We've found out we have more speed than we thought we did. The thing that really impresses me is that we're so young."
 Helen DeVane is our only senior starter, and Marcia Player and Karen Parker are only sophomores. Hart and Rosalyn Williams are both juniors, so they'll be back for one more year."
 Phelps did some experimenting with his bench against the Vikettes, employing a two platoon system which the Lowndes' girls made short work of by taking advantage of numerous turnovers.
 With 3:20 to go in the third quarter, Lowndes held a 42-15 edge, and Phelps had to feel it was time to start looking toward Bainbridge on the road Friday night.
 Rene Reid and Lisa Feix were tops for the Kittens with six points each.
 Lowndes also hits the road Friday for another sub-region game against Thomasville.

GIRLS	
Lowndes	16 30 49 63
Valdosta	7 15 19 26
LOWNDES (63) —	Hart 27, Todd 8, Williams 9, Player 8, Parker 4, Clemons 2, Roberts 4, DeVane, Blanton, Miles, Kovach, Brown, Copeland, Carter, Montgomery.
Team totals:	field goals 26, free throws 11 of 23, fouls 18.
VALDOSTA (26) —	R. Reid 6, Feix 6, Council 4, L. Berrian 4, O'Neal 2, Owens 2, Evans 2, Whitehead, Powell, Baker, S. Berrian, Mink, Carson, McElwain, P. Reid.
Team totals:	field goals 10, free throws 6 of 18, fouls 17.
BOYS	
Lowndes	13 34 47 61
Valdosta	14 33 49 73
LOWNDES (61) —	Parker 21, Hunter 13, Bell 12, Stewart 8, Bradley 5, Pattillo 2, Banks.
Team totals:	field goals 25, free throws 11 of 15, fouls 15.
VALDOSTA (73) —	Lowe 21, Robinson 10, Whitfield 15, Stewart 6, Sampson 8, Sirmans 8, Johnson 2, Wilson 2, DeMersseman 1, Worthy, Thomas, Belue.
Team totals:	field goals 31, free throws 11 of 17, fouls 12.

Teacher Of Year Is Lucy Greene

By Times Staff Writer
 A former Valdosta Teacher of the Year has been selected for the second time Teacher of the Year by the Council for Exceptional Children here.
 Lucy Greene, teacher in the educable mentally retarded program at Valdosta High School, was selected the area special education chapter's Teacher of the Year candidate for the state competition.



LUCY GREENE Second Time

The CEC chapter here consists of special education educators from the Lowndes, Cook, Berrien, Lanier and Echols county and the Valdosta city school systems.
 Mrs. Greene, the city's teacher of the year in 1974 and the CEC candidate in 1972-73, believes success of students results in success for teachers.
 "Any teaching success which I might have achieved is the result of group effort on the part of teachers in my department at VHS.
 "Any success a student achieves is the result of many educators and interested people working together . . ."
 Important elements to her in teaching exceptional children — gifted students or those with learning disabilities — must include: Sequential learning, teacher preparation, consistency, creativity, a good classroom environment, and satisfaction.
 Her monination for teacher

of the year now goes to the state CEC competition.
 Mrs. Greene is the wife of Parker Greene, a Valdosta businessman.
 She received her masters degree in education from Valdosta State College in 1972, and has been teaching exceptional children seven years.
 In addition to her activities in the field of education, she is a Sunday school teacher at First United Methodist Church.
 Other local nominees for the chapter teacher of the year were Gloria Turner of Adel, teacher in the gifted program; and Annie Baker of the Lowndes County school system, with the educable mentally retarded program.
 In other activity Monday, the CEC:

— Heard a program on student-oriented craft projects for exceptional children, presented by Edna Jones and Sissy Hill
 — Heard

'Cats Fail, Kittens Win

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE—Valdosta's Wildcats refused to take advantage of three chances to win the game with less than two minutes to play and paid for it with their first loss of the high school basketball season here Friday night when the 'Cats came out on the short end of a 59-56 score against Region 1-AAA (South) foe Bainbridge.

Coach Glen Phelps' VHS Kittens raised their season record to 3-2 in the opening half of the twin-bill with a 63-58 win over the Bainbridge girls.

The Wildcats of coach Joe Wilson trailed most of the game against the taller Bearcats, and fell behind by as much as 14 points in the third quarter.

However, behind the antics of Greg Sampson who forgot about a throat infection long enough to score 11 points and Bernard Robinson who had his finest outing of the season with 16 points and 12 rebounds, the now 4-1 'Cats scratched back and actually went ahead 56-54 with 1:28 to play.

Valdosta then missed the first of its chances to win when a one-and-one free throw attempt missed its mark, and the Bearcats knotted the score.

With 44 seconds to play, the 'Cats had another opportunity, but missed a shot, the ensuing tip-in attempt, and another one-and-one charity shot.

Unbelievably, Valdosta got the ball back on one more occasion with 10 seconds left, but missed the shot and fouled Charles Mullins of Bainbridge on the rebound.

Mullins connected on the front end of the bonus attempt, but missed the second. However big 6-7 Bearcat Benny Anthony leaped over Valdosta's Lawrence Lowe to tip in the ball and give Bainbridge the subregion triumph.

Anthony paced the home team's scoring with 25 points, although Wilson credited his

big man, Jeff Sermans, with doing what he called "a good job" against the Bainbridge ace. Gene Fountain also hit for 17 points for the Bearcats.

Lowe didn't have a particularly satisfying night offensively with 13 points to his credit, but he did pick off 24 rebounds.

"It was our inability to hit key free shots and not being able to penetrate their zone that really hurt us," Wilson figured. "But now I know we can play with them."

Lisa Feix sparked the Kittens' effort with 21 points. She got great support from Linda Berrian who totaled 16 and Rene Reid who hit for 11 points.

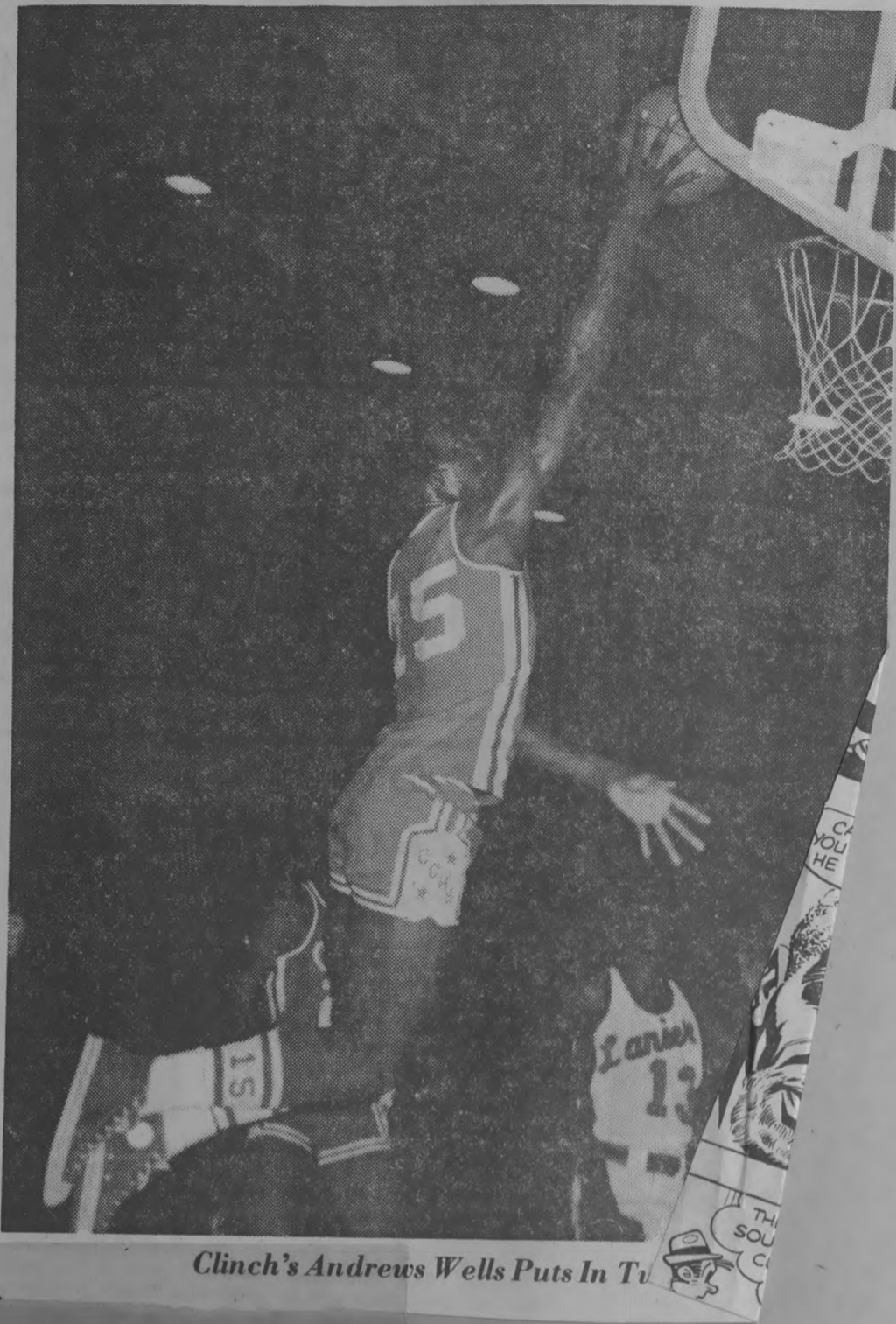
Sheila Williams led Bainbridge with 25 points, Terraly Edwards scored 11, and Leann Harrell fired in 10 more.

Valdosta fell behind by eight points at halftime, but roared back for a 47-43 third quarter edge and held on for the victory.

GIRLS	
Valdosta	21 29 47 63
Bainbridge	13 37 43 58
VALDOSTA (63) — Feix 21, Berrian 16, R. Reid 11, Owens 3, O'Neal 8, P. Reid, Paulk, Mink 2, Council.	
Team totals: field goals 28, free throws 7 of 25, fouls 26.	

BAINBRIDGE (58) — Williams 25, Harrell 10, Edwards 11, Strickland 8, Johnson 2, Duvall 2, Floyd, Coyle, Fountain.	
Team totals: field goals 22, free throws 14 of 24, fouls 23.	

BOYS	
Valdosta	12 29 41 56
Bainbridge	15 34 50 59
VALDOSTA (56) — Robinson 16, Lowe 13, Sampson 11, Johnson 6, Stewart 4, Sermans 2, Thomas 4, Whitfield, Worthy.	
Team totals: field goals 22, free throws 12 of 20, fouls 12.	
BAINBRIDGE (59) — Anthony 25, Fountain 17, Barber 6, Bess 4, Mullins 7, Gainous.	
Team totals: field goals 27, free throws 5 of 12, fouls 15.	



Clinch's Andrews Wells Puts In Ti

Letters To The Editor

Band Support Plentiful

Dec. 15, 1975
Valdosta Daily Times

Sir: I must disagree with a point made by "Marchin' Cat Booster" in his letter to the editor in the Dec. 9 edition.

I am a graduate of VHS and am extremely proud of my alma mater, its football team and its band. But I do not think that it is a shame our band students "have to get out on the streets of Valdosta" to sell items to help pay their expenses to various places for band competition nor that their parents help with these expenses.

You see, at my ripe old age of 27 I realize that it hurts no one to work for things they believe in or enjoy.

These band students have given Valdosta much to be proud of and I believe Valdosta shows them support

in many ways.

But the students also receive much in the way of experience, honors and fun from these trips and their help in earning their way does not harm them.

I do wish though that the donations "Marchin' Cat Booster" requested for the band would be given freely by all Valdostans during this Christmas season to help those within our community who are less fortunate than most of us.

"Sow good seed and your harvest will be abundant" wrote "Marchin' Cat Booster." Yes, can you imagine a more wonderful harvest than a city in which everyone was warm and full on Christmas Day?

S.C.
Valdosta

the contributions they made to early American society should not be forgotten.

Crispus Attucks, a black, is heralded as the first person to die in the long struggle with Great Britain.

The bicentennial has a great significance for us as a nation. Being our 200th birthday, it should be used to bring us closer together, not to break us farther apart.

Ralph King
Lowndes High School

Old School Rent to Pay For Sign at Successor

Dec. 18, 1975

The Times-Union Bureau
VALDOSTA, Ga. — The old Valdosta High School building rent will pay for a sign in front of the new Valdosta High School building and may pay for landscaping there, too, if school board member Mrs. Joella Blackburn has her way.

The new building has been doing without a sign and landscaping since it was built two years ago, despite requests from both students and administration for both.

But the school board said money was tight and nothing was done until Mrs. Black-

burn made a motion for \$15,000 paid the school term for rental to the cost of the old high school building to be spent on the high school.

"It's only fair," she said. "I'd much rather spend it on the new high school than let it in the general fund to watch it dribble away in little things here and there."

Her motion for the six- and landscaping was approved pending board approval of the cost of the sign but Mrs. Blackburn said she intends to bring up the landscaping issue again. fire

South Carolina Signs Renninger

By JULIAN MILLER
When Harold Renninger first went out for the football program at Valdosta High School two years ago, he had two things to learn.

The first, and foremost, was that the air is a little more humid in South Georgia than in Texas. The second was the respect the football program at VHS demands.

Gators Grab Track Star

BAKER, Fla. (AP) — Houston McTear, the 18-year-old coholder of the world record in the 100-yard dash, signed a football scholarship Saturday with the University of Florida. The agreement specifies that he will be allowed to participate in the Olympics.

Gator head Coach Doug Dickey traveled to Baker High School, about 40 miles from Pensacola, to sign the speedster whose 9.0-second performance May 9 tied Ivory Crockett's world record.

The full football grant includes the stipulation that McTear will not have to participate in spring practice, will play wide receiver to lessen chances of injury and will be able to run track.

The high school senior, who averaged 14 yards per carry as a junior, was heavily recruited by college football coaches despite his decision to sit out the 1975 season, fearful that he would sustain an injury that would end his track career.

Looking at the 6-foot-2, 220 pound all star redhead now, being courted by several major colleges for his football talent, and hearing him talk about winning, it's almost impossible to believe he was almost a quitter.

It came his first week of pre-season football camp when Renninger, just here from Texas from where he had moved with his family, drug himself off the field to throw up for the umpteenth time, during a practice session.

"It was the air here," young Renninger recalled, after signing a letter of intent to play football for the University of South Carolina with head coach Jim Carlen here Saturday afternoon.

"I wasn't used to it, and I'd get sick. Well, one day Coach (Charles) Greene came over to me and handed me another Gator aid and I started walking towards my cabin. I figured I'd had enough. I packed my bags and started walking around the lake towards our home at Grassy Pond."

Renninger thought he had had enough of football. He actually thought something was wrong with him.

But halfway home, he was stopped by Georgia State Patrol Corporal Welon W. West, now commander of the Valdosta GSP post, who happened to have a son on the team. West offered to drive the youngster home, but all the way kept talking about how great the football program was at Valdosta.

It paid off. Renninger swallowed his pride, asked to



HAROLD RENNINGER Joins Gamecocks

be driven back to camp and hit the field again, throwing up between plays on the sidelines until he finally grew accustomed to the weather.

Opposing teams have regretted that moment ever since because Renninger developed into the number one defensive player on the Valdosta team, named one of the top 25 college prospects in Georgia by the Associated Press, All-Region 1-AAA first team selection by the region sportswriters, and missed the defensive Player of the Year in Region 1-AAA by one vote in the third tie-breaker.

"I picked South Carolina because it's a great look-

place, and it seems to be my best and fastest chance to start. I really want to play football."

Carlen, head coach of the Gamecocks, flew in for the small signing ceremony at the Valdosta Municipal airport and had equal words of praise for the talented linebacker.

"We wanted Harold because we're short on linebackers now, and I think he's good enough to play next season," he said "Yes sir. I'll play a freshman."

Renninger had been contacted by a number of schools, but chose South Carolina last week. His signing in the Valdosta ceremony came only minutes after the National Collegiate Athletic Association ban on signing players was lifted Saturday.

"He's one of 18 top prospects we hope to sign

today," said the South Carolina head coach. "And because he'll graduate early this year, it means he'll be able to attend spring training with us and get the jump on most of these other kids."

Renninger, 17, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Renninger of Valdosta.

Julian December 18, 1975

Miller

Times Sports Editor

Harold's College

Chances Look Up

The youngster on the table was about 6-foot-2, weighed around 220 and had the build of Atlas, not a bit of fat on him. He had come in for a checkup his football coach wanted before allowing him to see a chiropractor to work out a soreness in his neck.

But the doctor had insisted on x-rays and after a short debate, he had consented. It wasn't long before he had decided it was a bad move.

For now the doctor had transformed into doctors, and they were all scurrying around, positioning him for more X-rays to allow a greater view of the pained area, running back to the office to study the old X-rays, and finally calling his coach to discuss the matter with him.

Doctors can be almost heartless at times. An X-ray seemed like one of them because before



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Valdosta Times Dec 20, 1975

VHS Sweeps Coffee Co.

By Times Staff Writer
DUGLAS — Valdosta's Wildcats recuperated from a slump that produced two straight losses, at least temporarily, here Friday night with an 87-58 victory over Coffee's Trojans.

And their Kitten counterparts joined in the recuperation efforts with a 41-42 victory in the girls' game to give the visitors both hands of the high school basketball twin-bill.

"If we could keep the consistency we had in this game we wouldn't have things happen to us like they did in Tifton Tuesday," said head coach Joe Wilson after his Cats rebounded from a 76-72 loss to Tift County, a team they defeated 95-57 in their season opener three weeks earlier.

"We shot free throws a little better, and we ran real well. They (Coffee) had a nice big floor, and we could run a little."

Being able to move their offense provided enough enthusiasm to put all five Valdosta starters in double figures. Otis Whitfield led the way with 16, Bernard Robinson pumped in 14, Lawrence Lowe 12, Greg Sampson 10 and Alvin Thomas 10.

George Robinson, a junior playing his first varsity game, accounted for nine points and as many rebounds in a sub.

"I guess we need a little

Valdosta	GIRLS	Valdosta	BOYS
Coffee	14	24	40
VALDOSTA (51)	4	15	28
O'Neill 15, Council 2, Reid 8, Owens 2,			
Team totals: field goals 23, free throws 5,			
fouls 10.			
CRISP (47)—Jackson 16, Williams 2,			
Moore 2, Garnison 6, Garrison 4, Dockery			
7, Cooper 5.			
Team totals: field goals 14, free throws 14,			
fouls 10.			
Valdosta		25	48
Coffee		12	28
VALDOSTA (87)		16	42
Robinson 14, Lowe 12, Sampson 10, Thomas			
10, G. Robinson 9, Stewart 6, Johnson 2,			
Sermans 2, DeKester 2, Worthy 1			
Belue 2, Wilson, Heitman, Daniels.			
Team totals: field goals 39, free throws 16,			
fouls 16.			
COFFEE (58) — Mizell 15, Coley 12,			
McMillian 8, Allen 8, Lindsey 7, Laddner,			
Parker, Jackson, D. Allen.			
Team totals: field goals 23, free throws 12,			
of 16, fouls 12.			

Julian

Miller

Times Sports Editor

It's No Easy Job Picking A Coach

So you've always thought you could come up with just the right staff to make Lowndes' Vikings a winner instead of a perennial loser on the football field, huh?



MILLER

Well now's your chance. As of last Friday when head coach West Thomas resigned, effective at the end of this school year, the Vikings have no head coach.

And until a replacement is found and all conditions are worked out, the football staff is at large too. Now's your chance to put together the perfect football staff, right?

So go ahead. There's Joe Wilson, the Valdosta High School coordinator, right? And his good friend Jack Rudolph, the man who supposedly built the defense. Sharp cookies these two, huh? Yep, they could probably

do it. But what if they can't? After all neither has been a head football coach before. Just suppose after you've won those two away from the school across the town that they don't make the "V" in Viking mean something besides Viking. After all, Valdosta is pretty fond of those two and if you get them at all, they're going to take a lot of coaxing.

Okay, how about someone like Alton Shell? Now this guy class. He's been at Americus two years and hasn't lost a game yet. In fact, 10 to 1, his Class AA champion Panthers are probably the best team in the southeast bar none. A proven success, right?

Takes Smooth Talking

Right. But so was West Thomas. He could always seem to put together at Cairo. Look at the record. He just wasn't able to get going at Lowndes. Now, is Shell really that good a coach or did he have the talent at Americus? Remember, you have the responsibility for picking the man.

And keep in mind, Shell or any other successful coach isn't coming to Lowndes just for the honor of coaching the Vikings. One you have your choice narrowed down, it's going to take some smooth talking to convince the man he's the one for the job.

That ought to give you some kind of idea what Lowndes School Supt. A.B. "Sonny" Martin and Lowndes principal Carlton Adams are going through. Not that either one of them has mentioned any of the above coaches, for no names have been spoken aloud at all. But it should allow you to understand the predicament that has arisen.

Lowndes went after the best three years ago when they went after Thomas, bypassing some coaches who are up for possible consideration now. Thomas was considered the best bet for the job. Now they're faced with another decision.

See How You Do

"We've got several prospects in mind and others have submitted applications," said Martin, of the search for a coach at the seventh largest high school in the state that has never had a winning football team.

"Really, we've told everybody to wait until after Christmas. This is too big a thing to be burdening these people with now. But we're still working on it ourselves."

Martin has to take a lot of things into consideration, the first of all being that his new coach is going to have to be someone who can make the game interesting enough to entice the better players on to the team and to make them want to play football.

He'll also have to be able to work with the kind of talent the Vikings have now. They're improving but Lowndes isn't exactly a haven for All-Americans yet. Obviously it's going to have to be someone who likes a challenge.

So Martin is going to mull over things until after Christmas, and then go after his man. And all you fans who think you can do better, do the same. When it's all said and done, you can compare the selections and see how well you made out.

Fla Times-Union Dec 18, 1975
IDEA IS TO LEARN BOTH HISTORY AND ECONOMICS PAINLESS WAY

Students Not Goofing 'Plantation Game'

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Students in Valdosta Junior High School instructor Alfred A. Hiers' social studies classes spend a lot of time playing a game. But they aren't goofing off when they play the "Plantation Game." On the contrary, they are learning both history and economics — in a relatively

By CAREY CAMERON, Times-Union Georgia News Editor
painless and probably easier way than by conventional methods. Last April area teachers attended an economic workshop at Valdosta State College's Center for Economic Education. The center and Georgia Tech's Industrial Development

Prizes for the best projects were awarded Wednesday and Hiers received a \$50 cash award for first place while James S. Tew of Valdosta High received \$25 for the second-best idea. The title of the winning idea was "Incorporating Economic Concepts into Junior High Social Studies Classrooms."

"They play what he calls the Plantation Game," Addington explained. "Hiers took the year 1775 and gave students in which to invest the money. He explained the conditions of the economy and historical factors at the time," Addington said. The students could invest

the mythical \$10,000 in such things as farming or land, or stocks or could bank part or all of the money. Hiers then, as the class year progresses, takes five-year intervals and using actual conditions at that time shows the students how well their investments have done. "This shows the uncertainty of things in terms of in-

vestments. The students are also supposed to pick up words for their vocabulary," Addington said. Dr. Albert Zlabinger, director of the Center for Economic Education, and a Georgia Tech representative, presented Hiers and Tew their prizes Wednesday afternoon.

December 30, 1975

Julian
Miller
Times Sports Editor

Loss Was Really Start For Hyder

Valdosta's bid for a return to the top of the Class AAA totem pole took an unexpected detour and came to a sudden halt Friday night in Jesup when the little known Wayne County Yellow Jackets became restless.



But the old adage going around town for the past few months "The 'Cats Are Back" can still be passed around. And to Nick Hyder, who brought the 'Cats back from oblivion, Friday loss was a beginning and not an ending.

Anyone could have had a preview of what was to happen Friday afternoon outside Hyder's apartment.

While a young tow truck to tow car in have ed the park-trying wife ading

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Hyder ran up against complaints and objection when his off season program began last season, mainly from adults who didn't understand. He hopes all that will change this season. "None of the boys complained, though," he pointed out. "They have to absorb the bullets, bayonets, bombs and sanctions of battle. They have to go through the war and it's their choice." Hyder was disappointed that his school officials had to turn over \$5,000 worth of unsold tickets to Wayne County Friday night after fighting for more seats for the Wildcat fans. But even though those same VHS officials had bent over backwards to relieve the problems of the ticket sales for the final game, some of the lack of interest can be blamed there. Another reason could be the reputation of Region 3-AAA schools who rarely show well in the playoffs. That's an aspect Hyder had been trying to play down for a solid week after realizing Valdostans were too confident. Now that it's over, however, Valdosta's seniors, who drew special praise for the job they did this season, can rest awhile on their laurels for a job well done. The coaching staff and upcoming players have to hit the blocks. "And if we improve half as much as we did this season, we'll be even more interesting to watch next year," Hyder vowed.

Wilson Accepts LHS Grid Job

Athletic Directorship Is Also Part Of Pact

By JULIAN MILLER

Joe Wilson, the man credited with turning the Valdosta High School football Wildcats' offense into the most powerful of Region 1-AAA this season, has changed forces and signed on with a cross-town neighbor.

The Times has learned Wilson, a former standout player for Valdosta in the early 1950's and a long time football and basketball coach with the Wildcats, has agreed to take over head football coaching duties at Lowndes High School, which has never had a winning football season.

With the move comes a new era in the county school system as well, for Wilson will also become the system's first countywide athletic director, according to reliable sources.

The move comes three weeks after West Thomas, head coach of the Lowndes Vikings for the last three years, resigned under pressure after failing to produce a winning record. His 1975 Vikings posted a 4-6 mark, boosting his three-year total at the school to 11-19.

Wilson, who was also head basketball coach at Valdosta as well as being offensive coordinator for the Wildcat football team this season, one in which the 'Cats posted a 10-2 record, working their way into the State Class AAA playoffs, reportedly will transfer across to the county system as soon as VHS will release him from his present contract, sources said.

Although he will not coach basketball, leaving both the boys and girls head coaching jobs for present head coach Charles Cooper, Wilson will take over the AD job presently held by Cooper. His appointment as countywide AD marks the first time the county school system has had such a position. County school superintendent A.B. "Sonny" Martin, when questioned by the Times Saturday, declined to confirm or deny reports Wilson had already signed his contract with the school system. Sources said Martin has agreed to allow Wilson time to discuss the move with his principal, Lloyd Mims, before announcing the change. Valdosta head football coach Nick Hyder, however, said he has not

ball, the grey-haired Wilson was relieved of football coaching duties in 1971 to devote full time to basketball.

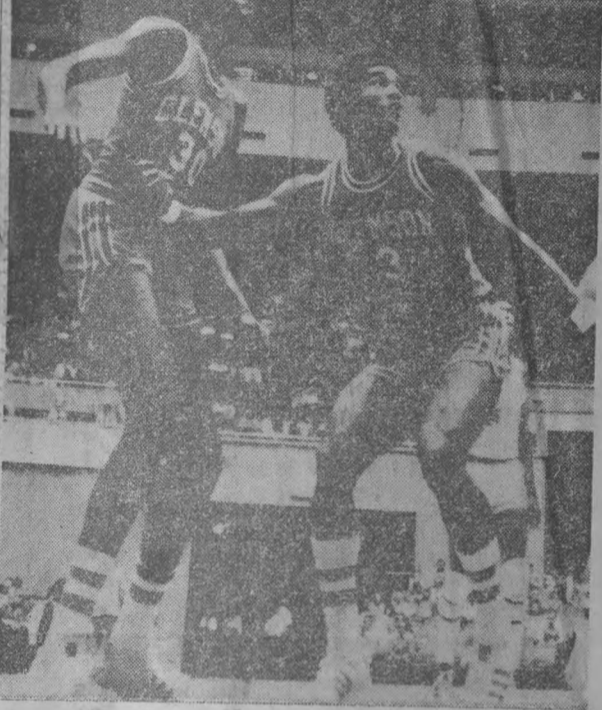
He consented to rejoin the football staff as offensive coordinator after the 1974 season, however, after the Wildcats posted a less than glamorous 3-7 record. Hyder gave Wilson direct credit for helping the 'Cats to their first Region 1-AAA championship since Bazemore stepped down to become the city school system's first citywide athletic director.

City school officials declined to announce their choice as Wilson's replacement at VHS, pending discussions with at least one coach already under consideration for the position.

Sources close to the VHS situation (See Wilson, Page 2-A)



Joe Wilson



—TIMES-UNION PHOTO BY DAN McCORMACK

Rome (R) Teams Up with Tree Rollins



Maynard Eilers
T-U Sports Writer

Rome's Hopes Weren't Built In a Day

Some athletes want to play in high school. Others want college scholarships. Still others have as their goal an all-conference selection.

Stan Rome has more lofty aspirations. "I want to be an All-American. . . in two sports," said the Clemson basketball and football standout from Valdosta.

Rome was the Tigers' starting split receiver, but he is not starting after six games with the basketball team because Coach Bill Foster says he's still not ready.

"He's only been to 14 practices, and some of our other players have been practicing for more than two months," said Foster.

ROME PLAYED LESS than half of Clemson's game with Jacksonville University Wednesday night, scoring six points and getting six rebounds. His two free throws with 19 seconds left clinched Clemson's fifth win in six outings, 59-54.

"Only three or four players have ever been All-Americans in two sports, and none of them recently," said the 6-foot-5, 200-pound sophomore. "It would mean a lot to my future.

"I really prefer basketball, but if I receive a better offer from the pros in football I wouldn't hesitate to make that a career. There's still a chance I won't play football next year, but I'll wait until after basketball season is over to make a decision."

Rome was named the nation's most versatile athlete when he was a senior at Valdosta High School, and he admits that sports come easily for him.

"I love to play baseball, and I fool around with tennis, handball and racketball. But playing two sports on the collegiate level doesn't give me much spare time. It's hard enough keeping up my grades.

"Coaches say I'm easy to teach because I do a lot of things by instinct. I'm pretty fast, so it doesn't take me a long time to learn things like new defenses in basketball."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BOBBY ALVAREZ, who was held to only four points against Clemson, says he was guarded like glue all night. "They brought men in and out all the time to guard me," said Alvarez. "When I was open, it wasn't at the right time." . . . JU's 1-3 start is its worst in seven seasons, but Kent Glover says it won't be that bad for long. "We have three more home games comin up in December, and it won't be impossible for us to be 4-3." . . . Cricket Williams, who was four of six from the field, was the only JU player to hit over 50 per cent against Clemson . . . JU is now 0-3 overall against the Atlantic Coast Conference, with losses to Clemson, Wake Forest and North Carolina State . . . Clemson Coach Foster explained JU's comeback from a 10-1 deficit thusly: Jacksonville put in Manny Suarez, and he's so physical he stretched all our jerseys from size 42 to size 48."

VHS Holds Banquet

By Times Staff Writer
University of South Carolina head baseball coach and former New York Yankee star Bobby Richardson is to be the key speaker at the Valdosta High School football banquet here tonight.

The banquet, sponsored annually by the Touchdown Club, is to begin at 7 p.m. with a meal in the school cafeteria. Richardson is to speak at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre followed by the presentation of awards.

The Wildcats finished with a 10-2 record this season, winning Region 1-AAA in a playoff with Thomasville before falling to Wayne County (Jesup) 15-14 in the first round of the state playoffs.

Jan. 15, 76

Julian

Miller

Times Sports Editor

Wilson, Cooper Both LHS ADs

There'll be two athletic directors at Lowndes High School from now on, but County School Superintendent A. B. "Sonny" Martin feels there'll be no conflict between them.



MILLER

Contrary to reports published in the Times concerning Joe Wilson's transfer Monday from Valdosta High School to Lowndes High School, Wilson will not become Athletic Director at the cross-town school, Martin explained.

Wilson, formerly an assistant football and head boys basketball coach at Valdosta, will take over as head football coach and county school system athletic director. Cooper, who is also head boys and girls basketball coach, will retain the athletic directorship at the high school itself.

Wilson's position places him in control of athletics at each and every county school, coordinating all the sports programs. That'll mean he will be in position to install his programs in junior high schools, helping to build a feeder program for the Lowndes football team.

Cooper, meanwhile, will handle the duties of athletic director at the high school, neither of the two coaches working under the other, but instead side by side under Principal Carlton Adams.

Wilson was released from his contract at Valdosta, where he was graduated in the early 1950 and has taught and coached since the early 1960's, Monday, and assumed his duties at Lowndes later that afternoon, according to Martin.

One New Coach

As far as changes go, Wilson apparently plans to start making some as soon as possible at Lowndes. At least one coach is to accompany Wilson to the new position at Lowndes, but surprisingly enough, Valdostans can rest easy. It won't be one of their own.

Martin announced Wilson has asked at least one coach be allowed on the staff at Lowndes but the coach is not presently employed in the Valdosta school system. His name has been asked withheld until final arrangements are made.

However, Wilson has also been given the right to review the present coaching staff before making any changes in the setup as it stands now.

"I don't see how any coach can be charged with running a program and not be allowed to arrange his own staff," Martin explained.

Wilson will then make his recommendations to Martin and Lowndes Principal Carlton Adams.

VHS Team Tops Ware

By Times Staff Writer
Showing what head coach Jim Landrum called "a lot of improvement," the Valdosta High School wrestling team knocked off Ware County 48-19 in a match here Thursday. "The boys have really come around," Landrum, directing VHS's first wrestling team in modern history, said. "I just hope we can continue to improve."

The Wildcats raised their record to 5-1 with the victory over the Gators from Waycross. VHS's Oliver Monroe remained unbeaten in the 145-pound class at 5-0 by pinning Bill Barnes. Bobby Johnson also ran his undefeated string to five in the 167 pound category by pinning James Bennett.

Complete results follow:

98—Ronnie Miles (W) pinned James Bruhl; 105—Danny Jaramillo (V) pinned Wayne Feucher; 112—Thomas Tatum (W) pinned David Clifton; 119—Steve Hall (V) pinned James Baldwin; 126—Woody Carter (W) decided David Henderson; 132—Buddy Hay (W) decided Russ Scruggs; 138—Doug Parker (V) pinned Freddy Carpenter; 145—Oliver Monroe (V) pinned Bill Barnes; 155—Billy Redfield (V) pinned James Bennett; 167—Bobby Johnson (V) pinned James Bennett; 185—Ricky Warren (V) pinned Blair Keadle; Unlimited—Donald Oylar (V) pinned Danny Force.

'Dosta Wins Two In Sainz's Debut

BY MIKE CHASON
Valdosta's Wildcats played the part of a runaway locomotive Tuesday night and for the first time ever, it was Norman Sainz shoveling in the coals.

Sainz, replacing longtime VHS head basketball coach Joe Wilson who announced his move across the county to Lowndes High School over the weekend, was on the bench as a head coach for the first time in a varsity capacity in his coaching career.

And either he did something right or Wilson left his club in mid-season with some powerful words of wisdom because the VHS quintet was extremely impressive in a second half surge which completely obliterated Region 1-AAA (South) foe Thomasville 84-56.

In the opening half of the prep twin-bill, coach Glenn Phelps' homestanding Kittens wiped out the Thomasville girls 57-27 behind a wicked fast break attack which completely wore down the visitors.

But it was Sainz who was under the most scrutiny from the slim crowd.

For as long as most people can remember in recent history, it was the silver-haired Wilson handling the reins of the Wildcats. Sainz has served as assistant coach, but his primary coaching position is at Valdosta Junior High School where he is head football coach.

Tuesday night he got his chance to shine.

"I thought we played pretty good," Sainz said of his now 8-3 club's performance. "We tried to go down low with it a little more, and it worked out fairly well."

"We moved (Lawrence)

Lowe to a forward and that's not his natural position. But with as much talent as he has, I believe he can play there. We need either George Robinson or (Jeff) Sermans at center."

It was Robinson who was the most surprising of the 'Cats as the 6-7 sophomore pumped in 13 points and snagged a game-high 19 rebounds. He also played tenacious defense in the middle and swatted away at least nine Bulldog shots.

Lowe was also a key in the 'Dosta charge which saw the Wildcats stretch a three-point halftime edge to a 17-point third quarter advantage. The burly junior totaled 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Otis Whitfield also muscled underneath and picked up some garbage baskets to account for 16 points.

For Thomasville, Larry Johnson connected on a barrage of long range jumpers for 20 points besides feeding his teammates for easy buckets underneath. Michael Posey also added 12 points.

The Kittens upped their season slate to 5-4 with the sub-region victory behind 22 points by Lisa Feix and 20 more by Rene Reid.

Reid was particularly devastating in the second half when the pint-sized se-

stuck in three consecutive baskets to open the third quarter and key the ensuing rout.

Sunnie O'Neal managed but three points, but played excellent defense. Linda Berrian also contributed with a ton of rebounds and eight points.

"We ran our fast break a little better tonight," Phelps said. "We still made a lot of bad passes, but I feel like we're improving."

Darlene Shannon was high for the Bulldogettes with 10 points.

Valdosta hosts Bainbridge in another sub-region doubleheader Friday.

GIRLS

Valdosta	11	27	43	57
T'ville	4	17	23	27
VALDOSTA (57) —	R. Reid 20, Feix 22, Berrian 8, Owens 3, O'Neal 3, Council 1, Paulk, P. Reid, Evans, Whitehead, Powell, Mink.			
Team totals:	field goals 24, free throws 9 of 15, fouls 10.			
THOMASVILLE (27) —	Shannon 10, Thurmon 6, Robinson 2, Davis 2, James 2, Banks 2, Kerbo 2, Sanders 1, Sharps, Guy, Williams, Hill.			
Team totals:	field goals 12, free throws 3 of 9, fouls 14.			

BOYS

Valdosta	20	34	59	84
T'ville	16	31	42	56
VALDOSTA (84) —	Lowe 20, Whitfield 16, G. Robinson 13, Sampson 8, Worthy 7, DeMorseman 4, Belue 4, Thomas 4, B. Robinson 6, Stewart 2, Wilson.			
Team totals:	field goals 39, free throws 6 of 18, fouls 15.			
THOMASVILLE (56) —	Johnson 22, Posey 12, Simon 4, Marria 2, Hunter 5, Martin 2, Washington 2, Byrd 2, Blackshear 5, Burklow.			
Team totals:	field goals 22, free throws 12 of 17, fouls 13.			

Wildcats Win First Home Wrestling Meet

By Times Staff Writer
Bobby Johnson and Oliver Monroe continued their undefeated status in individual matches with pins Wednesday to help lead Valdosta's Wildcats to a 56-14 win over Berrien's Rebels in a high school wrestling match here.

Coach Jim Landrum's Wildcats, in their first year of competition, boosted their record to 3-1 with the win in their first home match. Berrien's unlimited class leader Wayne Fogarty also remained undefeated.

Individual match results by weight classes follow:

98—James Bruhl (V) tied Donnie Watkins; 105—Danny Jaramillo (V) pinned Robert Nison; 112—David Clifton (V) pinned Donnie Brooker; 119—Steve Hall (V) won by forfeit; 126—David Henderson (V) pinned Scott Varborough; 132—Russ Scruggs (V) pinned Darrell Miles; 138—Doug Parker (V) pinned Willie George; 145—Oliver Monroe (V) pinned Gary Ward; 155—Quincy Collins (E) pinned Williams Gaskins; 167—Bobby Johnson (V) pinned Craig Gray; unlimited—Wayne

Lowndes, Valdosta Meet Sub-Region Foes Tonight

By Times Staff Writer
The vacation is over for area high school basketball teams and tonight begins a brand new year of hoop action for most schools including homecourt play for both Lowndes and Valdosta. Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens host Region 1-AAA (South) sub-region foe Thomasville in a twin-bill while Lowndes' Vikings and Vikettes welcome another sub-region member in Moultrie's Packers and Packerettes.

Coach Norman Sainz's VHS quintet is 7-3 on the season and finished second in the recent Lowndes Invitational Christmas tournament.

Waycross bumped the Wildcats 77-70 in the championship game. The Kittens of coach Glen Phelps are 4-4 with high hopes for better things to come. Phelps, in his second year at the helm of the VHS girls' program, is quietly optimistic his club can come on strong in the second half of the year.

AREA HOOP SLATE Tonight

Prep

Thomasville at Valdosta
Moultrie at Lowndes
Hamilton at Newberry
Atkinson at Clinch
Madison at Taylor
Westbrook at Westwood
Valwood at Brookwood
Berrien Boys at Fitzgerald
Worth at Cook
Lanier at Doerun
College
Roosevelt at VSC

Viking head mentor Charles Cooper is also looking for his 3-7 team to make a turnabout after a surprisingly good showing in the Christmas tourney. Lowndes stunned Tift County (Tifton) 65-59 the opening night and barely missed a tremendous upset over Waycross by a 54-52 margin in the semifinals.

Cooper, who also serves at the Lowndes' girls' basketball coach, was impressed with his club's performance and hopes the improvement is enough to redeem an earlier 60-48 Moultrie victory.

The Vikettes, now 7-3 on the year, managed a 53-47 win over the Packerettes in the two teams' first meeting.

Moultrie. The Lowndes' only losses this season have been to unbeaten (Nashville, Ga.) by 46-25 scores and one Brooks County (Quitman) a 41-38 overtime contest. In other action Hamilton County's team from Jasper, Fla. hit the road to Newberry, Fla., Monday to visit Taylor (Perry, Fla.). Clinch County (Homerville) hosts Region 1-AAA (West) foe Atkinson County (Pearson), and Lowndes County (Lakeland, Ga.) try to avenge an earlier defeat over Doerun.

Also, Westbrook (Dixie) travels to Camilla to face Westwood. Valwood invades Thomasville to battle Brookwood. Berrien's Rebels take the ride to Fitzgerald, and Cook entertains Worth County (Sylvester) in Region 1-AA (West) twin-bill in Adel.

VHS Girls Win In Overtime

Bennie, Bearcats Cut Valdosta

Jan 10, 76
V.D. Times

By JULIAN MILLER
Bennie Anthony and company breezed into town Friday night and breezed out with an 80-71 victory and all the respect Valdosta's Wildcats could muster.

"We tried everything we could do, even put all guards in there at the last and tried to take them man-for-man," said interim head coach Norman Sainz after his Wildcats' first loss since he took over their helm to Bainbridge's Bearcats. "They just shot the eyes out. I'd sure like to see their shot chart."

The result was just the opposite of the earlier girls game, which could have raised just a tad more excitement as the Bearkittens stormed back from a 12-point deficit to force the Wildkittens of Glenn Phelps into overtime before the Valdostans salvaged a 61-57 victory in the Region 1-AAA (South) affair.

Bainbridge coach Charles Bess had bad and consoling news for Sainz after the victory over the now 8-4 Wildcats.

First, the Bearcats had not shot the "above 60 per cent" Sainz estimated, (it was really 45 per cent). But then the consolation may have come in Bess' next statement.

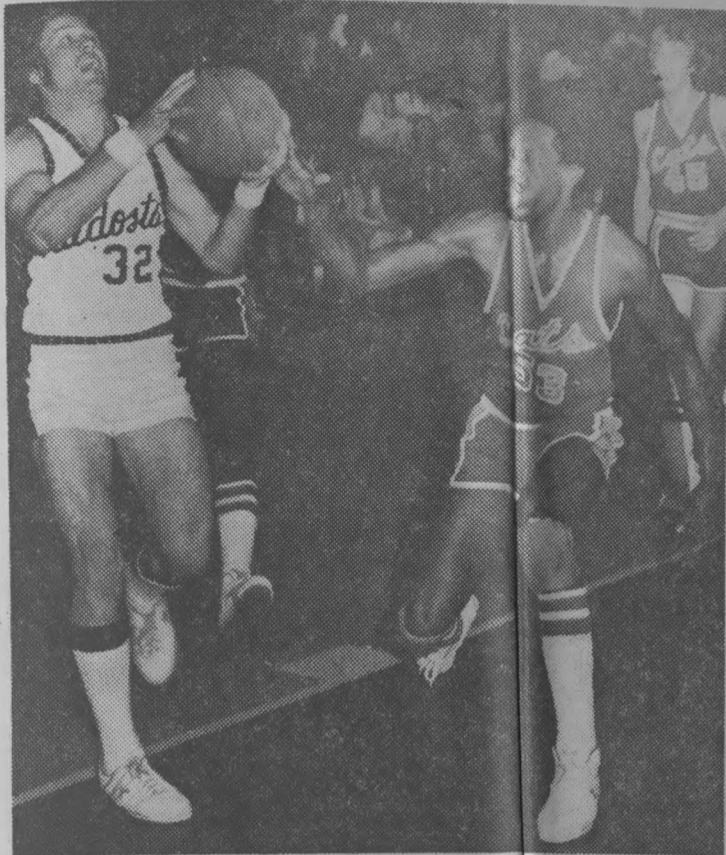
"That's the best we've played in three ball games," Bess beamed after the victory. "Yes, I think they're coming around now. Anthony is taking over under the basket and Carlton Gainous is hitting well from the wings. And Donald Barber had his best game ever for us."

Anthony accounted for 24 points himself but accounted for a lot more with his passing and intimidation of the Wildcats under the basket. Barber, who teamed up well with the big 6-7, senior, on pass plays and helped scoop up every junk shot offered, scored 22.

Valdosta team leader Lawrence Lowe, tangling with Anthony in a losing battle under the basket, yielded high scoring honors to center George Robinson with 21 but managed to score 17 points himself. Otis Whitfield was the only other Wildcat in double figures with 10.

The Wildcats had come out steaming hot and taken a 6-2 lead off the bat. But the bat went cold and the Bearcats ran hot when Anthony began ruling the roost under both baskets.

Lowe's three-point play with 6:19 remaining in the half put the Wildcats ahead for the last time at 23-22 but 10 seconds later the big Valdosta forward was charged with goal tending on a shot that put the Bearcats



Billy DeMersseman (32) Fights Anthony

ahead for good.

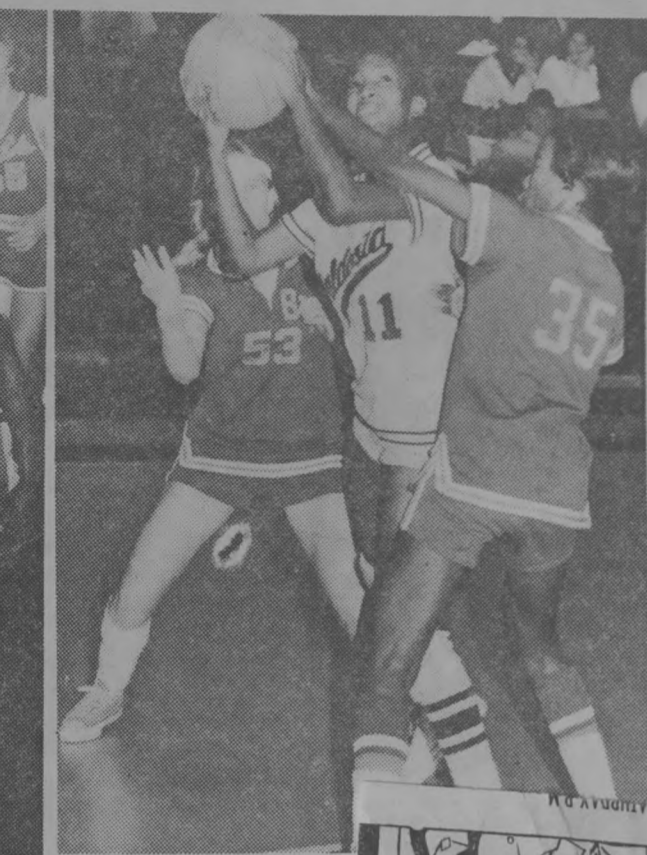
The Bearcats zoomed out to a 12-point (37-25) lead, saw it cut to nine points (40-31) by the half and then ran it all the way to a 22-point margin several times in the second half before Bess began filtering in substitutes.

"I can't remember us hitting that cold even in practice or fooling around," said Sainz, the young head coach who took over the

reins for the rest of the season after head coach Joe Wilson left to school to become head football coach at Lowndes High last week.

The victory boosted the Bearcats to a 8-3 record after a 16-pnt loss to Dougherty last week in a trip to the northern sub-region leader's den.

Valdosta fans could easily salvage some glory in the girls game, were the running gunning Kittens sur-



Yvette Council (53)

vived the loss of three starters via the five foul route to outscore the Bainbridge girls 5-1 in overtime.

The Kittens had battled back to a six point, 56-50, lead with a minute to go on Linda Berrian's basket. But the Bearkittens took it away three times to allow Terralyn Edwards, Betty Johnson and Shelia Williams to tie it up with back-to-back baskets.

Lisa Feix pumped in the winning basket with 2:06 left in overtime, just before



Valdosta Wildcats hold second place in southern division

Gold Team
January 8, 76

With the break for the Christmas holidays, Crisp County has taken over the lead in Region-One, Class AAA Northern Division play while Bainbridge has moved out front in the Southern Division.

A total of 14 region games have been played in the Northern Division and all six teams in this division have lost at least one region game.

However Crisp County has put together a 5-1 win-loss record to move out front and Dougherty is second with 3-1, followed by Westover with 4-2.

Crisp County's loss was to Dougherty by a 71-62 score but otherwise the Cordele cagers have turned back Monroe 82-61, Albany 51-43 and 68-58, Westover 52-51 and Tift County 56-42.

Dougherty lost to Westover 67-64 to open region play but then turned around and stopped Crisp County, Albany 94-79 and Monroe 91-85.

In the Southern Division, the Bainbridge cagers won over Valdosta 59-56 to take over the lead from the Wildcats. Bainbridge is now 4-0 with other region wins of 53-44 over Moultrie, 56-50 over Lowndes and 67-45 over Thomasville.

place with a 2-1 record, the Cats previously having won over Moultrie 75-63 and Lowndes 73-61.

Meanwhile Freddie Ford of Dougherty and Benny Anthony of Bainbridge continue to pace their respective divisions in scoring.

Ford had 26 points against Moultrie, 20 against Stewart and 12 against Monroe to give him a seven game total of 160 points and a 22.86 game average. His high for the season is 35 points in the Albany game.

Freeman Davis of Tift County is runner up to Ford with a nine game total of 177 points for a 19.67 point game average. His high for the season is also against Albany, 30 points.

Anthony, the 6-6, 210 pound senior at Bainbridge now has a nine game total of 214 points for a 23.78 game average which is tops in the Southern Division and the over all division as well.

The Southern Division also has two other players over the 20 point average. Thomasville's Johnson has a two game total of 41 points for a 20.50 average while Calvin Richardson of Moultrie has a six game total of 122 points for a 20.33 game average.

Free Lunch Program Amended

The free and reduced price meals-for-children program has been amended to increase the number of students eligible.

Area school systems—Valdosta city and Lowndes and Echols county schools—have approved several new state guidelines expanding the program.

The eligibility level has been increased to 195 per cent of the income poverty guidelines, to also include children whose parents are temporarily unemployed.

Families with other unusual expenses—medical costs, shelter costs, special education expenses—can also apply for the reduced price school meals.

School principals review applications, and these applications are available at the school administration office.

A four-member family with a yearly income below \$6,260 is eligible for free meals and milk; and between \$6,261 and \$9,770 annual income, the family is eligible for reduced price meals.

As family size increases, more income levels are eligible under the new criteria.

A complete copy of all rules, regulations, application and appeal processes is available at the student's school or the superintendent's office.

Women Chapter At Moody

A chapter of Federally Employed Women was recently organized at Moody Air Force Base.

The private organization was established to improve the status of women employed by the federal government.

Tentative officers for the new organization include: Mildred Spradley, president; Louise Lorenzo, first vice-president; Mary Johnson, second vice-president;

Jean Price, recording secretary; Lenora Ryder, corresponding secretary; and Mary Bruce treasurer.

More information on FEW can be obtained from Mrs. Spradley at the Base Communications Squadron.

V.D. Times Metric System Discussed Jan 23, 76

Vocational programs at the high school level are expected to be important contributors in implementing the metric system in society.

This was one of several items discussed at Thursday's in-service Trade and Industrial Educators regional meeting at Valdosta High School.

VHS vocational coordinator Jim Bridges said the T&I educators will be quite involved in the school-level transition from linear to metric measure in coming years.

VHS hosted the Central-South Georgia district meeting, arranged through the State Department of Vocational Education.

About 55 teachers from 15 regional counties participated, said Bridges.

January 4, 1976

Julian

Miller

Times Sports Editor

Can Wilson Save Viking Football?

Joe Wilson's decision Saturday to leave the ranks of Valdosta High School for the Lowndes County School System athletic directorship and to become head football coach of Lowndes High's Vikings, marks the end of a long mental struggle.



MILLER

It may also mark the end of Lowndes' role as a perennial also-ran in Georgia High School football.

That's what Lowndes officials were hoping for, at any rate, as they singled out Wilson to take over the helm of their Vikings, only days after West Thomas resigned under pressure after three unsuccessful years with the Vikings.

The selection also brings about an end to Wilson's yearning to become a head football coach stemming back at least as far as three years ago when he applied for the same position. He was turned down then for Thomas, a

former head coach at several schools in the state with an outstanding record at Cairo High School where he had built a virtual dynasty.

Wilson was not a proven head football coach then, Lowndes officials explained, defending their choice then to hire Thomas over Wilson, who at the time was serving only as head basketball coach at VHS.

"However," one official explained to the Times, "it appears now as though Joe does have the qualities needed as a head football coach. We weren't sure before."

Wilson's record, like Thomas', speaks for itself. The grey-haired master mind to Valdosta's complicated offense was calling the signals most of the time when the Wildcats stormed past every opponent to claim the State Class AAA championship and mythical national championship in 1971.

Since his release from football coaching duties in 1971, when Bazemore stepped down as head football coach to become the city school system's first citywide athletic director, Wilson's basketball Wildcats have made themselves a familiar visitor to the State Class AAA state playoffs.

Kids Like Him

Bypassing Wilson for head football coach at Valdosta in 1971, when Charlie Greene, then head line coach, was selected to succeed the legendary coach, brought on more than a few objections from VHS supporters who knew Wilson. But there were also many voices in the other camp.

As one school official put it confidentially, "Joe's not the easiest man in the world to love, you know."

Maybe not for adults, who sometimes mistook his quiet, mild-mannered shyness as self centeredness. But as far as kids go, Wilson has never had any problems.

A familiar face in youth football, basketball and baseball leagues as well as taking an active part at some time or another in every other sport offered at VHS, Wilson keeps himself surrounded by kids.

"That's all that's important to me," he told this writer in a friendly discussion while at a tournament last week. "As long as kids are having fun, that's what counts."

And that can be some insight into how Wilson plans to introduce winning to a team that has never been able to win.

"No one has ever told these kids out here they can win a football game," Wilson said in an earlier discussion. "There's no reason in the world why they can't. They just have to be convinced they can win a football game."

It's going to take a whole new attitude at Lowndes. Things are going to have to be changed. It may even have to start with new uniforms... anything to install the new image.

Makes It Enjoyable

Thomas B. Sorrells

Starters Steve Groly with 16 points, Phil Hubbard with 14, Wayman Britt with 10 and reserve guard Dave Baxter with 12 joined Green in double figures for the winners.

Auburn offset an LSU free throw advantage in the first half.

Auburn committed 12 fouls in the first half, leading to 10 of LSU's points, but the

Plainsmen did not commit another foul until 14 minutes into the second half. LSU got

only three free throw attempts from outside to help them from outside.

venue Advocate

THE WESLEYAN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

JAN. 15, 1976



"A coach belongs to the community, and the community belongs to the coach." These words illustrate the service of Wright Bazemore who talks here with Steve Parker as they leave church.

Church Played A Part In His Success

By Mary Leonard

Wright Bazemore, long-time member of Park Avenue, will leave next week for Valencia, Calif., to receive a first award given by the National Hall of Fame for High School Athletic Coaches. This national recognition and his extraordinary success with young men, Coach Bazemore attributes to Christian values exemplified on the athletic field.

These values are also a part of the quiet but positive influence of the man all of Valdosta respects. Bazemore said that a great part of his success belongs to the parents of the fine young men who came to play for him.

"We try to make every boy feel like he's an all-star. A pat on the back will make a boy do more than he ordinarily would," Bazemore said.

"Association with the coaches and with the other boys has a positive influence on every boy who participates in athletics.

"We always had an unwritten training rule that encouraged our athletes to attend church on Sunday. Some boys who had not been steady churchgoers became active in church. They went with a fellow teammate and continued because of interest or sometimes because of a fine young girl they met there," the former coach said.

Many of Bazemore's friends attest to his quiet witness through his steady and active support of the church and Sunday school. His example has led many of his assistant coaches to become a part of church life.

Bazemore has never taught a Sunday school class and said he always thought

that since he had contact with the boys during the week that they needed another influence on Sunday.

"Frequently, the boys wanted to talk football, and in Sunday School, other matters are more important," Bazemore said.

When asked about his famed ability to watch 88 players involved in four scrimmages at once, Bazemore said that one must see the whole picture and not just the ballcarrier. He apparently is able to see the whole boy as well, and that ability and sensitivity has led to outstanding success in his profession and in his life.

The admiration in the eyes of his vivacious wife, Bettie, declares this success. Bettie also is active in the work of Park Avenue. She is one of its charter members.

Mr. and Mrs. Bazemore have two children who are following the example set by their parents. Pam, Mrs. Eddy Davis, participates in the work of the church. She works as a laboratory assistant. Curt, a graduate of Georgia Tech, continues his studies at Georgia State University and plans a career of service to others through physical therapy.

Bazemore's famous statistics as head coach of the Valdosta Wildcats stand at 290-43-7 for 29 winning seasons, 15 state titles, and 4 mythical national championships.

Wright Bazemore is a legend in his own time. A biography is now being written about this man of humility and accomplishment.

Old VHS Gets Face Job

By BECKY VAIL
Old Valdosta High School is getting its first facelift in many years — courtesy of the Lowndes County Commission.

Work has started to restore — to at least livable condition — the roof, windows and portals of the landmark 52-year-old structure, after citizen-effort to keep the building standing.

Less than three years is left for the citizens or area government agencies to come up with a permanent plan for old VHS or the building is to be demolished.

County Manager Buford McRae said the temporary repairs to the building began this week, but no new tenants have been found.

Three years isn't as long as it sounds to get the plan on the road, however, some city and county officials contend. And the people who backed the plan this fall should start now to finalize restoration and development of the old high school building.

"We made the commitment to do enough repair work to

stop it from further deteriorating from wind and water. We've got a three-year period," said McRae.

"We've made some contacts already — but no one has told us they're dying to get in there."

The Valdosta Board of Education vacated the condemned 42,000 square foot high school building on Williams Street about three years ago when they moved to the multi-million structure on Forrest Street.

This summer, forced by soaring insurance rates, the board decided to demolish the building.

Citizen interest in saving the building delayed the "execution" for three years, with the county commission stepping into the breach.

McRae said the county would prefer to see the building ultimately used by a limited number of agencies which have several public functions.

He added that some organizations which currently have offices scattered throughout the

community might be the best candidates for tenancy.

The building was found by architects to be structurally sound, except for the leaking roof and windows and other minor problems, said McRae.

It has adequate space of high quality that could be developed at a third of the cost of new construction, he added.

"We're conservative enough that we hate to see public investment go down the drain."

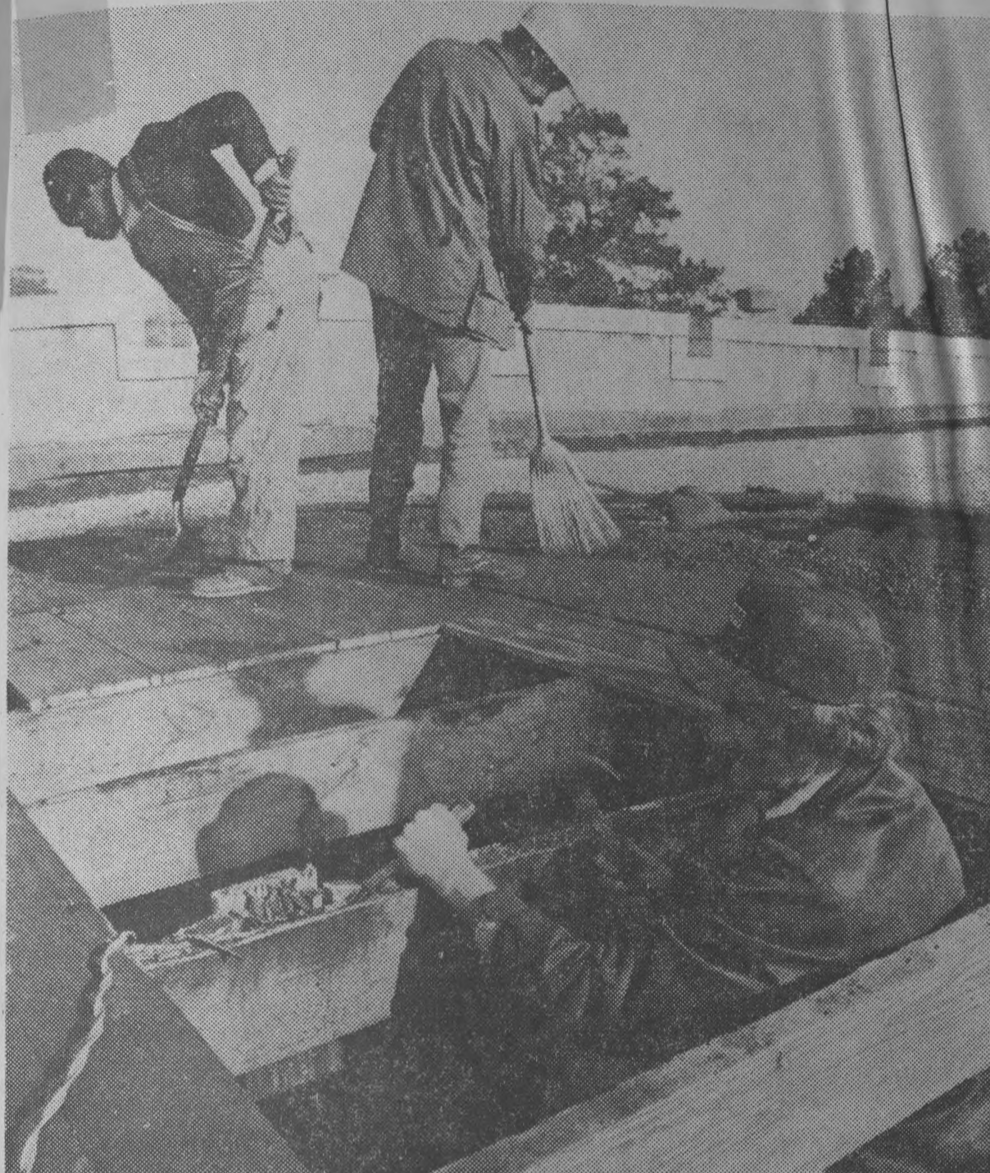
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new bui thr tify ing Val ing. Re also pay for ngting a vide a sign for the new and there," she said. Low bidder on the sign, Mrs. Blackburn said "it's constructed mostly of brick

rather spend it gh school than n the general tch it dribble e things here

Letters To The Editor Val Times Jan 28, 1976

Ill-Paid For Training

Sir: I am a Valdosta City school teacher with twelve years teaching experience. I am presently enrolled at VSC taking graduate courses. At the end of Winter Quarter I will have 356 hours of college credit. That is equivalent to approximately eight years of full-time college work—about the same amount of time spent in preparation for teaching as a doctor spends in his preparation—more than most dentists, lawyers, engineers, architects, certified public accountants, ministers, and even politicians.
Yet according to the W-2 form I just received, my gross pay in 1975 was \$10,816.36. After deductions for state and federal income

taxes, social security, teacher retirement, etc., my take-home pay was \$7736.18—\$664.68 per month or \$148.77 per week. I know of no other profession besides teaching where a person with the years of training and experience I have had gets so little remuneration. Perhaps this is because other professions can pretty well set their own salaries, and teachers have to depend on legislators who, too many times, are not informed about or have little respect for the tremendous task with which educators are entrusted.
The point, sir, is not that

the state doesn't have the revenue to grant teachers the raise given and then taken away—in addition to a cost-of-living raise for next year. The point is that teachers must have a raise in order to live and respect themselves and their profession. The money must be found in what is already there, or else new revenue must be generated—even if it means a four per cent sales tax.
I enjoy teaching. I feel that I am qualified. I know that I am dedicated. I also know that I am grossly underpaid. Something must be done now.
Valdosta Teacher

ONVILLE, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1976

TS PREDECESSOR

High to Get Sign

use the money the old building the outside ap the new build- rather spend it gh school than n the general tch it dribble e things here

and designed by students, was D.C. Cauthan Construction Co. which turned in a bid of \$2,959.
Lighting a band practice field is expected to cost about \$1,500.
In other board action, the board set Aug. 30 as the opening date for the opening date for the 1976-77 school year so that advance arrangements could be made

for band camp, football camp and other activities before competition for some of those facilities increased as other schools decided on next year's schedules.
The board also hired Foster Goolsby as city school superintendent for the coming year.
Goolsby has been with the city system for nine years.

Priorities

At VHS Wrong

Sir: The American public has been told in recent weeks that our children can not read, do simple arithmetic or use proper grammar. We have learned this school term how this deficit happened.

Are you aware Valdosta High School does not have enough textbooks in math and English classes to issue each student a copy?

Yet, all we hear is the football team and the band. These activities are this school system's priorities. The fact the students learn as much as they do is a tribute to a few very dedicated teachers.

Wanda Lotito
700 E. Park Ave.

SL 'h1' w/c

Vikings Wildcats On Road

By Times Staff Writer
Lowndes and Valdosta hit the road Tuesday when the LHS Vikings and Vikettes travel to Nassau County, Ga. to take on Berrien County's Wildcats and...

AREA HOOPS SLATE
Tonight
College
VSC Women at Ga. College Prep
McClay at Hamilton Girl
Valwood at Westbrook
Tuesday
College
West Georgia at VSC
Okaloosa-Walton at NFJ
Prep
Lowndes at Berrien
Valdosta at Thomasville
Hamilton at Jefferson
Brooks at T'ville Central
Nicholls at Clinch
Norman Park at Cook
Atkinson at Echols

make their way to Thomasville for a Regional AAA (South) high school basketball twin-bill.

Coach Charles Cooper's Lowndes' girls are 13-4 on the year but can't match Mrs. Dona Fields' Rebelettes who are unbeaten in 17 starts. The Berrien lasses have recorded a pair of wins over the Vikettes.

Cooper's Vikings have gone in the opposite direction, claiming wins only four times in 17 games. The now 13-4 Rebels of coach John Nix thumped the Vikes 60-48 early in the season.

In other prep games Tuesday night, it's Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) at Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.), Brooks County (Quitman) at Central of Thomasville, Nicholls at Clinch County (Homerville), Norman Park at Cook (Adel), and Atkinson County (Pearson) at Echols County (Statenville).

West Georgia visits Valdosta State in an important South Atlantic Conference college matchup Tuesday night as well as Okaloosa-Walton Junior College at North Florida JC in Madison, Fla.

Tonight's games feature VSC's women's team at Georgia College in Milledgeville, and McClay of Tallahassee, Fla. at Hamilton County for a girls' game only. Also tonight, Valwood and Westbrook tangle in Dixie in a game originally scheduled for Tuesday.

Valdosta and Thomasville have already met once this season on the hardwood. In that doubleheader, coach Glen Phelps' Kittens secured a 57-27 win, and coach Norman Sainz' 'Cats raced to an easy 84-56 triumph.

The now 8-5 Kittens seem to have come into their own as of late, winning four of their past five contests.

Meanwhile, the Valdosta boys have lost some close ones and presently maintain a 9-7 mark.

Nick Hyder

Is The Pressure Still On?

Jan 25, 1976 U.T.M. 25

By MIKE CHASON
Oh how times do change... Five months ago Nick Hyder was putting his Valdosta High Wildcats through the rigors of pre-season football camp with the aim of improving upon the miserable 3-7 mark the 'Cats compiled in Hyder's first season at the VHS helm.

He admitted at the time he did feel some pressure to win football games in Valdosta, but after all "wasn't that his job?"

Hyder was well aware his predecessor, Charlie Greene, had lasted only two seasons after succeeding the legendary Wright Bazemore as head coach of a Wildcat football program which Bazemore had made famous nation-wide.

Greene went 17-3 in his two years, but still felt pressure to resign his post. Here Hyder was 3-7 which to him was a million light years away from

The Valdosta Daily Times
SPORTS
Sunday, Jan. 25, 1976-14-A-

Greene's mark. The likable head coach, who spent the majority of his coaching career at West Rome in north Georgia, knew if he didn't win, 1975 might be his last in Valdosta.

Now, after the football banquet of a few weeks back, the season past is history. But oh what a season it was...

Hyder and his 'Cats shocked everyone with a 9-1 regular season record, good enough for a tie in tough Region 1-AAA with Thomasville and Moultrie. A meeting of the region coaches declared Valdosta and Thomasville to be in a playoff which the 'Cats won 3-0.

Valdosta lost to Wayne County (Jesup) 15-14 in the first round of the state playoffs, but the turnaround from 3-7 to 10-2 should be enough to satisfy anyone. Or is it?

Is Hyder still under the scrutiny of Valdosta citizens or has he passed the test of endurance?

"Just like I've said all

along, the pressure I feel is from within," Hyder said. "I want to win more than any person in Valdosta does. They couldn't put any more pressure on me than I put on myself.

"I think you're a better person if you can survive a pressure situation. Our aim is Christian character, but it's tough to teach character in a pressure situation."

Hyder was delighted to win the championship of what many call the toughest league in the state, but just as disappointed that the Wildcats didn't go further in the playoffs.

"Winning the region is just not enough," Hyder said. "It's kind of like driving a used car to the people here because they've won so many state championships. I know the other coaches in the region felt like we should have gone a little further because this region has a reputation of going all the way.

"I'm certainly not satisfied

with just winning the region. I know just how the adults in the community feel.

"But I also know that John Donaldson (Wayne County head coach) is an intelligent coach, and he's going to take every opportunity to beat you. I just hope people will believe me from now on."

Hyder predicted before the two team's matchup in late November that the Wayne club would be one of the Wildcats' toughest tests of the season despite a mediocre record which included a 1-4 start at the season's outset.

Apparently many fans disregarded Hyder's warning and didn't buy all the allotted tickets for the game after swamping VHS for tickets only a week prior for the Thomasville playoff. Most figured Valdosta would win easily and go on to meet Macon Central in the state semifinals.

It apparently just wasn't meant to be.

"Complacency will beat you in any team sport," Hyder said. "Wayne was ready to play the football game, and it showed. We took them lightly, and that showed too.

"But I came here to build a football program and that is a perpetual thing. Our record in 1974 should never have happened. We should have a team ready to play football every year. I'm not putting down that team because they worked as hard as anyone. We just didn't stress defense enough.

"I was really living in a house while I was building it in '74 because I had to learn the Valdosta offense. Offense is important, that's for sure, but your defense has got to give your offense enough chances to score."

Hyder admitted he did a few things different this past season like placing more emphasis on the defense, but he also thought the addition of a practice field at the high school was a tremendous aid to the club.

In 1974 and in all past years, the team had worked out at Cleveland Field where the games are played. It took some 30 to 45 minutes for the youngsters to reach the field from the new high school and get dressed out in 1974.

"That was a big factor which nobody really looked at," Hyder said. "A lot of the credit for that field has got to go to Huly Smith and Wright Bazemore. Instead of starting practice at 4:30, we were ending it."

Hyder and his troops have already begun a conditioning program for the '76 season one in which Hyder is to take over the responsibilities of the offensive coordinator.

Last season's coach of the offense, Joe Wilson, is now head coach at Lowndes and Hyder feels the people of Valdosta would rather have their head coach calling their offensive shots, rather than a new offensive coordinator. Wilson had been associated with the VHS point-scoring corps for some time.

Many coaches are already casting glances toward Thomasville and Dougherty as the top teams in 1976, and Hyder agrees. In his words "we'll be just struggling to stay with them."

Jail-Courthouse Eyed At Old VHS Location

By Times Staff Writer
A former Lowndes County official who is active in tax relief work proposed today a combination jail and courthouse be built at the old Valdosta High School site.

Troy Register, former county school superintendent and state representative, said it could be done for just over that amount of federal money the county already has for building a jail.

Register and others formed the Lowndes County Property Owners Inc., in recent years to fight for tax equalization and to try and find ways to have cheaper government costs.

"In investigating the courthouse to see how to cut expenses, I ran into something that is a heavy

expenditure... the transfer of prisoners from jail to court and back to jail," he said.

"That is a big expense down there and the taxpayers have to shoulder the burden," he said.

Lowndes has more than \$1 million in revenue sharing money earmarked for a new jail but the site has not been picked.

Register said the county might as well go ahead with plans for a new courthouse too.

"The courthouse was built about 70 years ago and it is inadequate... it won't serve your children... we might just as well build a new courthouse while we are at it," he said.

Others have suggested plans for the jail but no of-

ficial or citizen has publicly called for a new courthouse.

Register noted the old high school has plenty of space and is near the center of town.

"Just put the jail up on top of it and bring prisoners down the elevator to court, it wouldn't cost hardly anything," he said.

Register suggested the county take revenue sharing money, put more with it and begin the project.

Register was county school superintendent from 1933 to 1937 and was in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1950 to 1957.

"We need a new courthouse and there is just one place for it... it is just about the right size and it is near the center of town," Register said.

County officials have made extensive plans for a new jail but no site has been selected.

Register thinks a combined facility could be constructed for about \$3 1/2 million.

He said there would be plenty of parking space. "I went to the courthouse the other day and I could not get a parking place... the only extra cost would be buying the old school from the city board of education."

The county has rented portions of the old high school for a time in order to keep the building from being razed.

VHS Team Tops Madison

By Times Staff Writer
MADISON, Fla. — Bobby Johnson won by a pin and Oliver Monroe won by forfeit but both remained undefeated to lead Valdosta's Wildcats to a 32-25 victory over Madison's Cougars in a high school wrestling match here Thursday.

Coach Jim Landrum's Wildcats, in their first year of competition, ran their record to 7-1 with the win, setting the stage for their trip to St. Mary's and match with Camden County High Tuesday.

Results by pound classes follow:

- 68—Elton Smith (M) decisioned James Bruhl, 21-10.
- 107—Frankie Bryant (M) pinned Danny Jarmillo.
- 112—Startling Wilson (M) decisioned David Clifton, 15-9.
- 118—Steve Hall (V) decisioned Patrick Barfield, 10-7.
- 126—David Henderson (V) decisioned Forrest McDaniel, 22-2.
- 132—Russ Scruggs (V) decisioned Jimmy Alyan, 8-4.
- 138—Doug Parker (V) decisioned Ronnie Harris, 10-4.
- 145—Oliver Monroe (V) won by forfeit.
- 155—Jack O'Cain (V) pinned Wesley Overson.
- 167—Bobby Johnson (V) pinned Reggie Walker.
- 185—Bobby Gheat (M) pinned Ricky Warren.
- Heavyweight—Jackie Gray (M) pinned Donald Oiler.

LHS, VHS Welcome Albany Foes

By Times Staff Writer
Lowndes and Valdosta enjoy the homecourt edge tonight when two Albany high schools make the trip from the northern half of Region 1-AAA.

Lowndes' Vikings and Vikettes welcome Monroe while Valdosta's Wildcats

AREA HOOP SLATE

- Tonight
College
VSC at Columbus
Savannah St. at VSC Women
Prep
Albany at Valdosta
Monroe at Lowndes
Climch at Echols
Cairo at Cook
Central, T'ville at Berrien
Lanier at St. George
Brookwood at GCS
Taylor at Hamilton
Calhoun at Brooks
Jefferson at Madison
Valwood at Westwood
Westbrook at Citizens Christian
Saturday
College
NFJC at Gulf Coast JC
Prep
Hamilton at FAMU
Seminole at Brooks
Berrien at Jeff Davis
Climch at Brantley
Madison at Quincy Shanks

and Kittens take on Albany in another high school twin-bill.

Monroe's Golden Tornadoes are 3-13 on the season, almost identical to the 4-14 mark of coach Charles Cooper's Vikings. The Tornadoes dropped a 77-52 decision to Crisp County (Cordele) in their last outing while the Vikes fell to Berrien (Nashville, Ga.) 65-57.

Almost unbelievably, 11 of those Lowndes' losses have been by less than 12 points. The Vikings are staying close, but can't seem to acquire the power punch in the latter stages of games.

Lowndes' 13-5 Vikettes should have little problem against the 7-5 Lady Tornadoes who nipped Crisp 36-35 Tuesday night. The LHS girls have now dropped three games to undefeated Berrien and two more to once beaten Brooks County (Quitman).

In other games Friday night, it's Clinch County (Homerville) at Echols County (Statenville), Cairo at Cook (Adel), Central of Thomasville at Berrien, Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) at St. George, and Brookwood of Thomasville at Georgia Christian.

Also, Taylor County (Perry, Fla.) hosts Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.), Calhoun County (Edison) plays at Brooks, Jefferson County (Monticello, Fla.) entertains Madison, Fla., Valwood goes to Westwood of Camilla, and Westbrook

travels to Douglas to face Citizens Christian.

In college play, Valdosta State hits the road to Columbus, and the VSC women host Savannah State.

On Saturday, North Florida Junior College (Madison) journeys to Panama City, Fla. to take on Gulf Coast JC. Hamilton battles FAMU High in Tallahassee, Fla., Brooks

entertains Seminole County (Donaldsonville), Berrien is at Hazlehurst against Jeff Davis. Clinch squares up with Brantley County in Nahunta, and Madison, Fla., pays a visit to Quincy (Fla.) Shanks.

Valdosta's Kittens, riding the road of success as of late, hope to pave that road a little further tonight with a victory over the 2-12 Albany Squaws.

Coach Glen Phelps' lasses have reeled off three consecutive victories and have lost but one game, a 51-40 decision to Lowndes, since the Christmas break.

Norman Sainz, who took over the reins of the Wildcats after longtime head coach Joe Wilson became football coach at Lowndes over the Christmas holidays, hasn't

had things going his way in recent weeks.

The VHS quintet is 3-4 since Sainz took over and 10-7 overall, but the 'Cats did crack a three-game losing skein with an 83-68 triumph over Thomasville Tuesday night.

The visiting Indians are 9-9 on the year and tumbled to Westover 58-53 Tuesday.

Kittens And 'Cats Blast Thomasville

By Times Staff Writer
THOMASVILLE — Valdosta's Wildcats snapped a losing streak and the Kittens added one notch to a winning skein here Tuesday night at the expense of the

Thomasville prep hoop squads.

The now 10-7 Wildcats of head coach Norman Sainz bombed their Region 1-AAA (South) opponent 83-68, but pulled away only in the final

quarter. Coach Glen Phelps' Kittens never really pulled away, but did stay far enough ahead to clinch their ninth victory in 14 starts with a 47-43 decision over the Bulldogettes.

Bernard Robinson sparked the 'Cats' win with 26 points, 18 in the second half. His effort, along with 22 points by Lawrence Lowe, 15 by Greg Sampson, and 13 by Bernard's brother George, helped the VHS quintet crack a three-game losing skein and a streak where Valdosta had dropped four of its past five starts.

"We're still making some mistakes," Sainz said. "Our guards sometimes try to force things. We've got to learn when to draw up and when to go around a defender."

"I thought we played real good defense and ran well. Starting four juniors, I think we're getting better."

The Bulldogs were led by the flashy heroics of point guard Larry Johnson who scored 22 points. Johnson is one of the finest passers in the region as well as a quality shooter.

Mike Posey also tallied 13 points for Thomasville followed by 11 points by Ira Blackshear and 10 by Freddy McIntyre.

The Wildcats led only 54-50 at the end of the third period, but with George Robinson and Lowe hitting the boards for 11 and 10 rebounds respectively, the 'Cats spurred to the victory.

The Kittens are now riding a three-game win streak and have been on the high side of the scoreboard in five of their past six outings.

Lisa Feix pumped in 19 points and Linda Berrien sank 10 more to key the Tuesday night uprising in which the Valdosta gals led by four points at the end of every quarter.

Darlene Shannon threw in 18 for Thomasville.

Both Valdosta teams return to the hoop wars Friday in a homecourt twin-bill against Albany.

TEST SCORE

Fla Times Union
Fri. FEB 6, 1976

Juniors Beat State Mark

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Juniors in Valdosta High School beat the state average this school year on that test that causes so much joy for school systems with good grades and brings so much explaining from those whose students don't do well.

The test is the national Test of Academic Progress, given in certain grades.

Mrs. J. Wisenbaker, VHS counselor, said VHS juniors, who took the test last October made 47.2 per cent in composition, 47.6 per cent in reading and 47.6 per cent in math.

This tops state averages of 45.4, 45.8 and 45.7 respectively. It also was the best score for high school students (only juniors took it in high school) in Region 1-AAA, Mrs. Wisenbaker said.

Valdosta also was slightly higher than the national average in math on the results released Thursday.

The national math score average is 46.52 while the

national score for both of the other categories is 48.52.

This year, for the first time, the State of Georgia used Student Achievement Standard 23 to rate schools as standard or substandard.

To get a standard rating, a school must either have average scores on the test that equal or exceed the state average, or show math and reading improvement two out of the past three years, or submit a plan of action to improve student achievement.

More
Georgia
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B-2

GIRLS

Valdosta	10	22	35	47
T'ville	6	18	31	43
VALDOSTA (47) — Feix 19, Berrien 11, McIntyre 10, Burkhaw 7, O'Neal 4, Council 4, Powell 2				
THOMASVILLE (43) — Johnson 22, Blackshear 11, Nunnally 2, Lutem 10, Shannon 18				
Team totals: field goals 27, fouls 20				

Clean Sweep

Vald Times SAT JAN 31, 1976

Wildcats, Kittens Surprise Albany Cagers

By MIKE CHASON

Valdosta's Wildcats played ping-pong on the backboards and paddled down Albany's Indians 81-55 as a result in the nightcap of a Region 1-AAA high school basketball doubleheader here Friday night.

In the night's opening attraction, coach Glen Phelps' VHS Kittens staged a first half ambush for the Squaws and wound up with an astounding 78-39 triumph, marking their productive offensive total of the season.

Powerful junior forward Lawrence Lowe muscled his way through the Albany defense for 16 points for the now 11-7 Wildcats, but it was his 20-rebound performance which was most amazing.

The Indians weren't a small team by any means. At 6-4, C.C. Thomas could clear out a patch underneath as well as anyone and 6-2 forward Andrew Belk who led the Tribe in scoring with 12 points, accounted for a column-full of rebounds himself.

But the three-pronged board effort of Lowe, center George Robinson who totaled 15 rebounds and his brother, Bernard, who had a game-high 21, was just too much for the now 9-10 Albany quintet.

Offentimes, Valdosta got three shots because of the constant tipping, much of it above the rim. That kind of jumping even brought Lowe an offensive goal-tending call.

Besides his board effort, Bernard Robinson also pumped in 14 points. Flashy junior guard Leon Johnson added 10 points and played perhaps his finest game of the season according to VHS head coach Norman Sainz.

"Leon was making things happen for us tonight," Sainz said. "He got the ball out on the break and shot pretty well too. Overall, I thought we ran pretty good when we did run. We're still making some mistakes though."

"I was real proud of the positioning our big men were getting on them. That's the whole key to rebounding, and we finally did it right tonight."

The Wildcats also employed a 1-3-1 zone defense for only the second time this year in an effort to cut off the outside shooting of the Tribe. It worked almost to perfection as time and again an Indian found himself double-teamed in the supposedly weak corner of the defense.

The girls' contest was even more a rout than the Wildcat-Indian clash.

Heretofore considered the

weak sister of the Region, Valdosta has shown some spunk since the Christmas break in winning six of seven ballgames and upping its overall record to 10-5.

Starters Rene Reid and Lisa Feix had a couple of observations as to the reasons behind the sudden outburst.

"We just seemed to be playing better since Christmas," they said. "Everybody's really getting it together in practice now. We just decided we were going to work harder getting ready for the games, and it's really helped us."

With the win, the Kittens

clinched the second seed in the south sub-region tournament scheduled to be played at the Lowndes' gym Feb. 19-21. Lowndes' Vikettes are top-seeded.

"The only reason we're doing better is the girls," Phelps claimed. "Don't give any of the credit to the coach or anybody else. It's just the girls deciding they want to play."

"They may not have as much talent as some, but they've got guts. They give 110 per cent every time they go out on the floor."

The Kittens displayed a somewhat surprising running

game Friday night... surprising because they've never run with so much effectiveness before.

Feix led the onslaught with 21 points, Yvette Council hit for 14 and Reid added 11. For Albany, Mary McIneray popped in 19 points.

Phelps rested his starters early in the game, inserting the second team with 3:05 to play in the third quarter and finishing up the foul-plagued contest with reserves.

Although in the same region, Valdosta and Albany campaign in opposite sub-regions. The VHS cagers do take on a sub-region foe

Tuesday night however when Moultrie comes to town.

GIRLS	
Valdosta	21 44 62 78
Albany	6 16 22 39
VALDOSTA — (78) — Reid 11, O'Neal 4, Council 14, Feix 21, Berrian 6, S. Berrian 6, Whitfield 8, Wildes, Mink.	
Team totals: field goals 33, free throws 12 fouts 10.	
ALBANY — (39) — Law 4, McIneray 19, Morris 2, Robinson 2, Whitfield, Dent 6, Jackson, Middleton 6, Wilson 4.	
Team totals: field goals 16, free throws 7, fouts 24.	

BOYS	
Valdosta	18 36 56 81
Albany	11 21 33 55
VALDOSTA — (81) — Lowe 16, B. Robinson 14, Johnson 10, Sampson 8, Whitfield 9, G. Robinson 8, DeMerseman 6, Worthy 4, Wilson 2, Hartman, Sermans.	
Team totals: field goals 30, free throws 12 of 29, fouts 14.	
ALBANY — (55) — Belk 12, Thomas 4, Buchanan 9, Dent 4, W. Jones 7, Teemer 1, Henson 2, J. Belk 8, J. Jones 2, Sheed 4, Collins 2, Sutton.	
Team totals: field goals 23, free throws 9 of 16, fouts 16.	

Lowndes Takes On VHS Look

THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION, JACKSONVILLE, FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1976

D-5

Score Line:
358-1414

By STAN FRANKLIN
Times-Union Sports Writer

When Lowndes and Valdosta square off April 2 at their spring practice football game, it may be difficult to tell the teams apart.

At least it will be hard to tell the difference in terms of the system they use. There is considerable difference in personnel.

The reason for the similarity this year is that Joe Wilson has taken over as head coach at Lowndes. He was the offensive coach at Valdosta under Nick Hyder last season.

The task of building a winner at Lowndes isn't an easy one. The school has never had a winning season in football.

"We've taken our best players and put them on de-

fense," said Wilson. "We'll be slow developing offensively, but you can't win if you can't stop the other team from scoring."

The defensive front line looks formidable. Wilson has 6-foot-5, 225-pound Buddy Moore at one tackle with 205-pound Robert Wright at the other. A defensive end with a lot of experience is Ricky Washington, 200, while 230-pound Elijah Davis is at nose guard. Wilson says Davis, who will be a junior next year, may be the best athlete on the club.

Linebackers Ben Washington, 190, and Joe Johnson, 175, round out the defensive front.

"As big as we are on defense," said Wilson, "we're that small on offense."

The Lowndes fans will see a big change in style this time around. The days of

the two tight ends and a full-house backfield are gone, Wilson says. Hitters the wide-open attack like he has used at Valdosta High.

"Our receiving is one of our weaker points, but we'll come around," Wilson added.

An experienced quarterback will be running the

show in Lynn Pavilio, while 155-pound George Waters is a solid runner.

The other coaches in Region 1-AAA will be anxious to see just what Joe Wilson has come up with.

Registration Feb. 7

Tues. At VHS

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School is to hold spring quarter registration for previously withdrawn students Tuesday. The one-day-only registration is to be held from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to Catherine Yale at VHS.

VHS Observes FHA Week Feb. 9

The Valdosta High School Future Homemakers of America club has planned a week of activities, including an open house Thursday night, to celebrate National FHA Week, said Jackie Pierce, public relations chairman. The open house is to be held from 7:30-9 p.m. in the VHS Home Economics Department. Also included in the week-long activities are a party at a city kindergarten, a display in the school library, a club party Friday and a money-making project, said Miss Pierce.

VHS Landscaping To Be Tried Again Feb. 17

By Times Staff Writer
The Valdosta Board of Education, with one bad horticultural experience behind it, has decided to try again on landscaping the high school campus. While the board chuckled at the idea of planting water lillies on the drainage-poor campus, it was with less humor than resignation. Several plants bedded last year died soon after planting. Board Chairman Hulyn Smith, a horticulturalist in his spare time, said the shrubs were planted too deep. Supt. Foster Goolsby said another expert contends the plants drowned. The board agreed unanimously Monday to attempt a second landscaping of as much of the remaining Valdosta High School campus as appropriated funds would allow. In other action Monday night, the city school board: — Considered school principal recommendations for the 1976-77 school year.



Pats' Paul Brown (44) Passes



Valdosta's Linda Berrian Is Surrounded

—Times Staff Photos By Ken Klanicki

'Dosta Sweeps Westover

By MIKE CHASON
Westover's Patriots should be taking advantage of their nickname in this Bicentennial year, but it was Valdosta's Wildcats who had all the fireworks in the two team's high school basketball meeting here Friday night. Coach Norman Sainz' VHS quintet exploded to a 10-0 advantage in the opening period and kept the Pats from Albany at bay for the rest of the way for a relatively easy 79-58 victory in both team's final regular season game. For just over three quarters, coach Glen Phelps' Valdosta Kittens had all they could handle and more from the Lady Patriots, but then behind some key plays by

freshman Sonnie O'Neal, the VHS girls waltzed away to a 54-38 win. "This is definitely the sloppiest game we've played," Sainz complained after the game. "But when you hold a team to 58 points, you can't cry too much. "I tried to play a lot of boys tonight...trying to see who's going to be ready when tournament time comes around. Offensively, I didn't think (Lawrence) Lowe did the job he could have, but he did a good job of controlling the boards." The burly 6-4 junior grabbed a season high 30 rebounds despite sitting out at least six minutes and muscled inside for 16 points to

head the VHS scoring effort. But Lowe wasn't the only one who swept the boards. Leon Johnson pulled down 12 rebounds, Bernard Robinson had 12 more, and George Robinson accounted for another 10 as Valdosta totaled 88 team rebounds, an all-time record as far as Sainz can figure. Johnson, looking and playing more like the Golden State Warriors' Phil Smith every game, was the real catalyst in the VHS surge in the first quarter with four buckets of his total of 13 points. Bernard Robinson also scored 14 points for the now 14-7 Wildcats, and Otis

Whitfield came off the bench to add 10 more. For Westover, Archie Chatmon totaled 17 points and did most of the shooting and missing for the now 12-11 Pats, and Alexander Branch threw in 13 more. Valdosta leaped to a 12-6 edge in the girls' game only to stand by and look on in the second quarter when Westover reeled off 21 consecutive points to sneak out to a 27-22 lead at the half. In the second half, Lisa Feix with 17 points, Rene Reid with 14, and Linda Berrian with 14, opened up an offensive barrage which eventually buried the now 2-18 Westover club midway through the final quarter. Although she scored only six points, O'Neal was just as responsible for the Kittens' 12th win in 18 games with a clutch basket with 3:36 to play to put Valdosta up 40-37 and then an immediate steal and a pass to Reid for another hoop to send the VHS lasses on their way. For Westover, Connie Thompson poured in 13 points, and Patsy King managed 12. Both Valdosta teams are scheduled to participate in the Region 1-AAA (South) tournament to begin Thursday at Lowndes High School. Meanwhile, Westover is to host the northern half of the sub-region. Both the champions and runners-up from each division meet Feb. 27-28 at Valdosta for the region championship.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Jan. 8, 1976-18-

Sainz Prepares

By Times Staff Writer
Newly appointed Valdosta Wildcat head basketball coach Norman Sainz inserted a new twist into the VHS practice sessions Wednesday when he scheduled double duty for his guard corps. Not completely satisfied with the way his guards perform under full-court pressure, Sainz decided to work his backcourt overtime in hopes it will be more effective against powerful Region 1-AAA (South) foe who invades Valdosta Friday night. "As deep in guards as we are, I feel we ought to be able to break any press."

Sainz said. "We thought by giving a little practice by themselves we put some pressure on them to the ball up in addition to the practice it would do some good." Sainz' idea is not a particularly since he is a newcomer to the backcourt night against Thomasville when he brought Bernard Robinson up from a forward position to team with veteran Greg Sampson. The former assistant to longtime head coach Joe Wilson, who moved to Lowndes High School over the weekend, also employed a platoon



GIRLS	
Valdosta	12 22 34 54
Westover	6 27 33 38
VALDOSTA (54) — Reid 14, Feix 17, Berrian 14, O'Neal 6, Owens 3, Paulk, Powell, Evans.	
Team totals: field goals 24, free throws 7 of 15, fouls 17.	
WESTOVER (38) — Thompson 13, King 12, Scurry 7, Terrell 4, Frierson 2, Murdee, Harris, Hudson.	
Team totals: field goals 13, free throws 10 of 17, fouls 15.	
BOYS	
Valdosta	18 39 57 79
Westover	8 21 34 58
VALDOSTA (79) — Lowe 16, Johnson 13, B. Robinson 14, G. Robinson 4, Whitfield 10, DeMersseman 6, Sampson 5, Stewart 5, Sermans 4, Worthy 2, Wilson, Champ Daniels, Chris Daniels, Belue, Hartman.	
Team totals: field goals 34, free throws 10 of 20, fouls 9.	
WESTOVER (58) — Chatmon 17, Branch 13, Brown 9, White 4, Hubbard 5, Dixon 2, Field 2, Howard 4, Hall, Langstaff, Meir, Mathis.	
Team totals: field goals 27, free throws 4 of 7, fouls 19.	

VHS, Westover Clash Here

By Times Staff Writer
It was only a couple of weeks back that Norman Sainz was really singing the blues.

His Valdosta Wildcats had just dropped their third straight high school basketball game, and it seemed the world was coming down on his shoulders.

AREA HOOP SLATE

Tonight
Prep
Westover at Valdosta
Lowndes at Bainbridge
Clinch at Charlton
Broxton at Echols
Westwood at GCS
Westbrook at Brookwood
Bainbridge Christian at Valwood
Saturday
College
VSC at West Georgia
Pensacola at NFJC

After taking over for Joe Wilson as the VHS hoop boss at midseason, Sainz' 'Cats had managed just two wins in six games. The young head coach probably began to realize just how tough the coaching business can be.

Then, as if awakening from a coma, the Wildcats snapped

off four consecutive wins culminating with a heart-stopping 79-77 double overtime thriller over powerful Dougherty in Albany.

That game is a week old now, but Sainz can still feel the excitement. He just hopes his club has enough emotion left over to carry it past the Westover (Albany) Patriots in the two teams final regular season game here tonight.

In other area action, Lowndes hits the road to Bainbridge, Clinch County (Homerville) travels to Charlton County (Folkston), and Broxton meets Echols County in Statenville.

Also, Westwood (Camilla) takes on Georgia Christian in Dasher, Westbrook (Dixie) clashes with Brookwood in Thomasville, and Bainbridge Christian ties up with Valwood here.

In Saturday night games, Valdosta State goes for a South Atlantic Conference win in Carrollton against West Georgia, and Pensacola

junior college plays at Madison, Fla. against North Florida JC.

Valdosta is 13-7 on the season as compared to the Patriots' 12-10 mark. Westover emerged on the short end of a 68-58 score against Dougherty Tuesday night.

The Wildcats have already clinched the second seed in the Region 1-AAA (South) tournament which is set to begin Thursday at Lowndes. Bainbridge is undefeated in the sub-region and thus earns the top spot.

Prep Wrestling Catches On Here

When Valdosta High students turned out to see the school's first wrestling team in modern history last month, they expected to see guys jumping off the ring ropes, full body slams, gouging of the eyes, and all the other facets of the sport which is one of the most popular on television.



CHASON

What they didn't expect to see was one team of clean cut youngsters taking on opponents one at a time on a mat with a wide circle drawn on it in the middle of the gymnasium floor. Surprisingly, they found they liked the high school variety of grapplers just as well as the entertaining pros.

"Oh yeah, they really took it," VHS wrestling coach Jim Landrum said. "They came down expecting people to jump off the ropes and everything, but that's not what they got. They were just like our wrestlers. . . they didn't know what high school wrestling was all about."

But now, thanks to Landrum, and a nucleus of some 18 dedicated athletes, they do know the prep grappling game which has never really been a big thing in south Georgia with some isolated instances such as Fitzgerald and more recently, Tift County (Tifton).

The whole idea for a program at Valdosta was initiated last year when Tim Castro, who learned his holds overseas, asked Landrum to help him out on some moves in his spare time. The history teacher, who was a prep wrestler himself at Willingham in Macon, was more than happy to comply with Castro's wishes.

"Tim is really an exceptional athlete," Landrum said. "He ran 50 to 75 miles a week to stay in shape for wrestling, and he had a lot of natural ability. Right now, he's got a 9-5 record up at Georgia Tech. We haven't got anybody this year that can stay with him, but we do have several who have the potential to be real good."

Landrum, never a wrestling coach before, but a wrestling referee in college at Georgia Southwestern and in the Air Force, saw the potential of an outstanding program at VHS and talked his idea over with VHS principal Lloyd Mims and heat football coach Nick Hyder.

He was quick to point out how wrestling was not only a great body-builder, but could make seemingly slow football players into quicker more agile athletes. Hyder, always on the lookout for anything which might be of some aid to his program, saw some sense in Landrum's thoughts and backed his plan. It didn't take the principal long to agree that Valdosta could definitely benefit from a wrestling program.

"I think it was just a case where nobody had really pushed wrestling here," Landrum said. "Since we've opened the program, (See Prep, Page 12)

Wildcats

Feb 18, 76

(Continued From Page 14)

the season as their night off when the schedule was re-arranged several years ago. It continued until this past year when Valdosta pulled the opening night open date.

When Central of Thomasville joined the region this season, however, each school simply filled in its date with the Yellow Jackets and eliminated the first game in their schedule, all starting at the same time and running 10 straight weeks.

That was a bit much for Wilson, however, who feels it will not only help his team by giving them an open date in the middle of the season but would help spur interest in his Vikings to boot.

VHS Grapplers End Schedule

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School's first wrestling team in modern history wound up its regular season here Thursday with a 35-25 loss to Tift County.

98-John Tibbets (T) pinned James Bruhl;
105-Shelton Johnson (T) pinned Danny Jaramillo; 112-David Clifton (V) tied Gary McCallister; 119-Tedgar Osby (T) decided Steve Hall; 126-John Collier (T) decided Dave Henderson;
132-Russ Scruggs (V) tied with Oscar Davis; 138-Doug Parker (V) pinned Stanley Sparks; 145-Oliver Monroe (V) won by forfeit; 155-Tom Brown (T) decided Jack Cain; 167-Billy Berrian (V) decided Mike Kent; 185-Billy Taylor (T) pinned Ricky Ward; Unlimited Donald Oylar (V) won by forfeit.

VHS Team Ends Year

By Times Staff Writer
MACON — Experience proved the difference in the final qualifying round for the state class AAA wrestling meet here Saturday when coach Jim Landrum's Valdosta High School team missed out on a trip to Atlanta.

The VHS grapplers, only in their first year of competition, failed to qualify a single man for the state meet scheduled for this weekend in Atlanta. The top four finishers from each weight division earned berths to that meet.

"We got so close," Landrum said. "But then that experience of the other teams really came through."

Don Parker in the 138-pound division and Steve Hall in the 119-pound class were the top VHS finishers with fifth place awards.

Valdosta closed out its season with a 7-3 record.

Valdosta Clips Lowndes In 1-AAA Tennis Action

By Times Writer
Lowndes and Valdosta renewed a cross-county rivalry here Thursday, but not on the football field, basketball court, or baseball diamond.

The two schools met on the VHS tennis courts, and Valdosta ran away with a pair of victories.

The Wildcats waltzed to an 8-3 win over the Vikings while the Kittens bombed the Lowndes' girls 9-4. Both VHS teams are now 6-1.

The Vikes are now 5-2 and the Vikettes are 3-3-1.

BOYS
Singles — Matt Smith (V) beat Andy Davis 6-4, 6-2; Emory Hess (V) beat Mike

Hunnicult 7-6, 6-3; Ricky Darnell (V) beat Chris O'Neal 8-6, 6-2; Art Reddick (V) beat Ken Leggett 6-1, 6-4; Richard Clayton (V) beat Randy Acree 6-2, 6-2; Ron Childre (V) beat Butch Chapman 6-4, 6-4; Andy Perkins (L) beat Oscar Acero 8-6; Andy Perkins (L) beat Bryan Futch 8-2;
Doubles — Smith-Hess (V) beat Davis-Hunnicult 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; John Brannen-Howard Moore (V) beat O'Neal-Leggett 7-5, 4-6, 6-4; Chapman-Acree (L) beat Sandy Reddick-Marty Martin 6-3, 6-4.

GIRLS

Singles — Chindel Spriggs (L) beat Gina Clayton 8-6; Allison Reddick (V) beat Jodie George 6-1, 6-0; Lisa Felix (V) beat Lydia Moore 8-4; Keely Hobbs (L) beat Pam Holland 9-7; Maryanne Ivey (L) beat Linda Hall 12-10; Maggie Eye (V) beat Abbie Hayes 8-3; Debbie Mink (V) beat Debbie Steedley 8-3; Sandra Green (L) beat Dana Reeves 8-4; Jennifer Youles (V) beat Tina Dasher 8-5.

Doubles — Felix-Lourdes-Rodriguez (V) beat Spriggs-George 6-1, 6-4; Holland-Hall (V) beat Moore-Ivey 8-3; Eye-Mink (V) beat Hobbs-Hayes 12-10; Anita Cobb-Maggie Powell (V) beat Steedley-Green 8-1.

Feb 12



TOM RINGOS
Club President



WANDA CLAYTON
State Secretary

Top DE Students Selected At VHS

By Times Staff Writer

Two 17-year-old seniors have been named the Valdosta High School Distributive Education Students of the Year.

Wanda Clayton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.R. Bennett of 737 E. Brookwood Drive, was selected the outstanding female DE student for 1975-76.

Her male counterpart, DE male student of the year, is Tom Ringos, son of Mrs. Wendy Johnson, 914 Hendry Drive.

Both seniors are second year DE students who hold state club offices said VHS DE Coordinator Norman Greene.

Now the two proceed to the district competition where two students are selected for the statewide contest.

The local club selects the outstanding students on the basis of DE involvement, scholastic achievement and other club participation.

Miss Clayton, in addition to her duties as secretary for the state DE association, is a member of the Sandspur staff at VHS; was nominated for the Elks Leadership contest and was selected to be in the Who's Who Among American High School Students.

A member of Forrest Park Church of Christ, she is employed at the Shoe Tree as part of the DE work-study course.

Ringos is state DE vice-president and head of the local club. A member of the Beta Club and St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, he is employed at Horne's Motor Lodge.

Both students hope to go on to college, and opening their own business is being considered after they get the basic education.

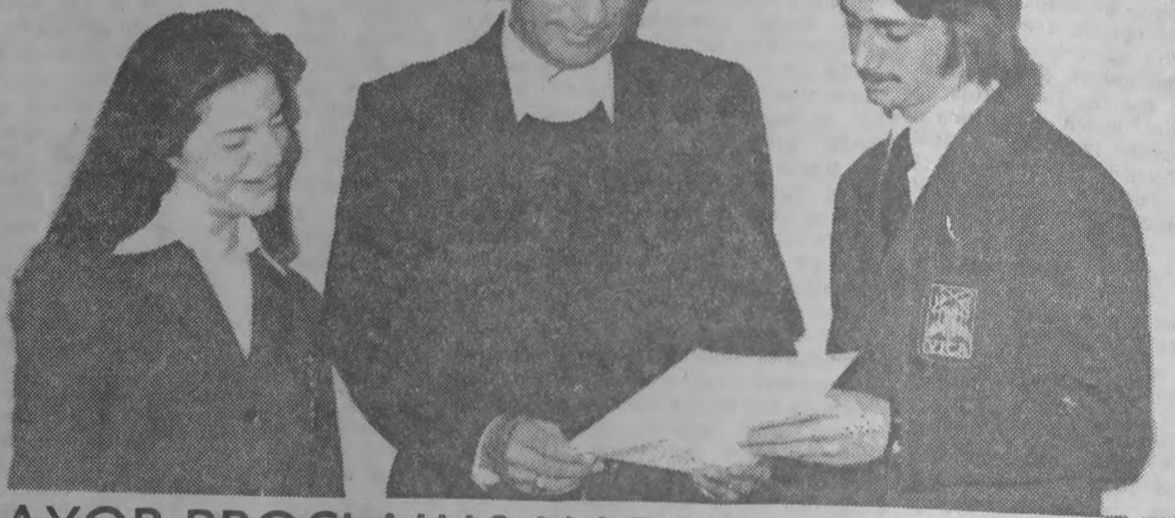
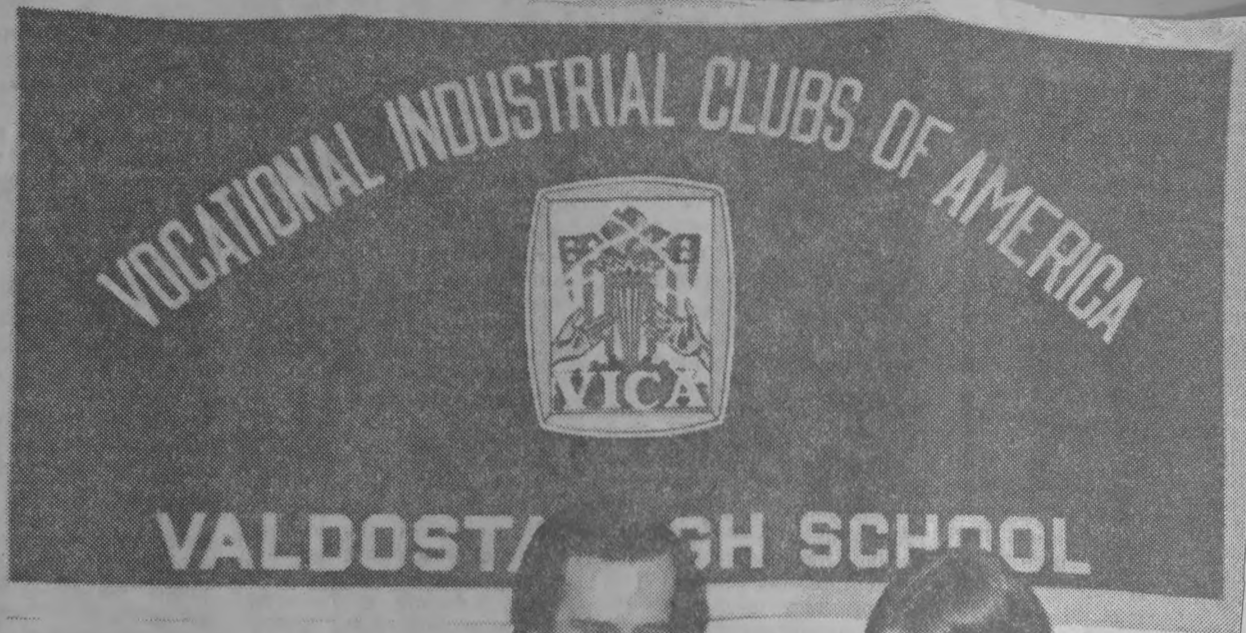
Miss Clayton said she considers her selection as student of the year the "highest honor I could get."

Meeting new people through work has meant a lot to her along with learning the buying and selling techniques of business.

Ringos also said it was a "great honor" to receive the award and he would "do everything I can to win the district and state activities."

He, too, said meeting new people has been a most satisfying part of the club.

Feb 12



MAYOR PROCLAIMS NATIONAL VICA WEEK

Mayor Gil Harbin is pictured with Vocational Industrial Clubs of America students Joy Feinberg and Bryon Strickland of Valdosta High School's VICA Club as he proclaimed February 8 through 14 National VICA Week. VICA is an organization of students enrolled in trade, skill, industrial and health occupations. It has national and local affiliations.

(This ad compliments of employers of VICA students)

- Wilson

said assistant basketball coach Norman Sainz is the probable choice to take over head coaching duties for the remainder of the season. However, Sainz, contacted late Saturday, said he had not been approached by school officials.

The VHS basketball team is currently considered one of the strongest in the southern division of Region 1-AAA with a 6-3 record.

Attempts to contact Wilson by the Times also were unsuccessful.



Glen Phelps: Kittens' Coach

VHS Girls Enter Tourney Action

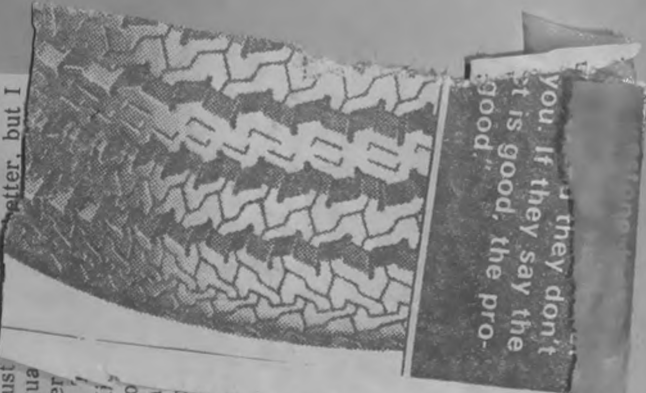
By MIKE CHASON

It was last spring when Glen Phelps decided there was no way his Valdosta Kittens were going to repeat the 10-12 record they compiled in his first season as headcoach.

"We're going to be better," he said then. "I don't know just what that means, but I guarantee it'll be better."

place seeding.

In fact, behind the scoring of Lisa Feix, the passing of Rene Reid, the defense of Sonnie O'Neal, and the fine pivot plan of Linda Berrian, the Kittens have won eight of their 10 outings since the Christmas break.



...they don't...
...it is good, the pro-
...good."

Valdosta, Brooks In State Playoffs

By Times Staff Writer

MACON — Valdosta's Wildcats and Brooks County's Trojanettes won't be playing in the same gymnasium here tonight, but they will have the same purpose in mind... victory in the state high school basketball playoffs.

Interim coach Norman Sainz' 16-9 Wildcats knock heads with the Patriots of Southwest of Macon in the Pats' facility at 7:30 p.m. while coach Jamie Felts' Trojanettes from Quitman take on Irwin County (Ocilla) at the Macon Coliseum at 7 p.m.

Valdosta earned its berth in the first round of the state class AAA playoffs by emerging as the runner-up team in Region 1-AAA behind Bainbridge. Macon Southwest bumped Macon Central for the 4-AAA title, setting up another first round game for the Big Orange in Bainbridge against the Bearcats.

The winner of the Southwest-Valdosta game earns the right to host the second-round of the tournament Tuesday. That winner advances to the semifinals a week from today at the Georgia Tech Coliseum in Atlanta.

For Sainz, the game may mean much more than just a playoff contest. He's one of the candidates for the head basketball job at the school next season and every victory can't do anything but help his chances.

VHS principal Lloyd Mims has pledged not to discuss the coaching situation until after "the last ball has been bounced. Norman's name is in the stack of applications just like all the others," Mims said.

The likable young coach was an assistant under Joe Wilson until the elder statesman of VHS basketball switched his allegiance to Lowndes during the Christmas holidays to coach that school's football team.

Since Sainz took over, the Wildcats have compiled a 9-6 record, not too impressive at first glance, but becomes more realistic when it is considered they have won seven of their past nine. Both losses were to Bainbridge.

The 25-1 Trojanettes are two games further along in the playoffs than the Wildcats. They hit the court for semifinal action tonight, hoping for a shot at the state title against either Pickens (Jasper) or Haralson County (Tallapoosa) who clash in the other semifinal.

In the opening rounds of the Class A girls' tournament earlier this week Brooks bumped Gilmer County (Ellajay) 48-40, and Lithonia, 55-37.

That one blot on Brooks' season record came at the paws of Waycross' Bulldogettes by a 45-44 margin in the Lowndes Invitational Christmas tournament. Waycross proved a worthy opponent as the 20-2 Bulldogettes play Rockdale County (Conyers) tonight in Douglas in the Class AAA semifinals.

A victory for Brooks tonight would clinch a berth in Saturday night's 7 p.m. state championship just before the state class A boys' title matchup at 8:30 p.m.

Miller

Times Sports Editor

Wildcats To Get No New Boss Yet

Rumors run rampant these days as to who the new head basketball coach will be at Valdosta High School when the season ends for interim coach Norman Sainz.



MILLER

But the one man who should really know insists no one knows yet.

VHS Principal Lloyd Mims says no decision will even be made on who the new coach to replace Joe Wilson, who resigned to accept the head football coaching position at cross town Lowndes, will be until the season is completely over.

"We're not even going to talk about it until the last game is played," Mims assured, "and then we'll survey all the possibilities."

"But we don't want to do anything to disrupt the team as long as they are playing."

Meanwhile, Wilson's football coaching position remains open as well. Head coach Nick Hyder has announced he will become his own offensive co-ordinator from now on.

The football Wildcats will reportedly conduct spring training without an extra coach in Wilson's position.

LHS To Swap Dates

For years Lowndes High's Vikings had to delay the start of their high school football season a week after other teams because of the luck of the draw. Now they may be ahead of everyone else.

New Lowndes head coach Joe Wilson has made tentative arrangements with Tift County High School to move their game up a week before all the other schools start in the region. The agreement is pending the approval of Gene Brodie, former Macon Central coach who accepted the head coaching position at Tift this week.

Because of the luck of the draw, Lowndes had the first night of

(Continued On Page 16)

NORMAN SAINZ
'Do Or Die'



By Times Staff Writer
If history does indeed repeat itself, the Region 1-AAA high school basketball playoffs to be held here Friday and Saturday nights, should be a breeze for Lowndes High's Vikings. And that, in a sense, is what has Norman Sainz worried. Sainz, interim coach of the Valdosta Wildcats, vividly remembers the 47-46 defeat his team suffered at the hands of Crisp County's Cougars on a last-second shot with one of his star players flat on his back under the Crisp County bucket during the regular season.

And with that in mind, he might be just a little worried about his Wildcats' 9 p.m. game with the Cougars in the opening round of the playoffs in the same VHS gym.

"It's another do-or-die game for us," said the young head coach whose Wildcats defeated Bainbridge for three consecutive games in the Region 1-AAA (South) tournament at cross-town Tift County's Angels to settle for the runner-up position after a 66-55 loss to Charles Cooper 1974-75 State Class A title. Lowndes Vikings runners-up and seek a consecutive title. "I should be a little easier on the Lady Tor-rugged Met 7:30 p.m. Friday night. Championship games are

scheduled at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday with all four finalists advancing to the state playoffs. "I don't mind telling you, I'm proud of our boys," Sainz said of his Wildcats, who actually outplayed a more talented Bainbridge team for three quarters in Saturday's final stanza.

"I was proud of them Saturday night. We did a great job of defending Bainbridge and led by a point (47-46) going into the fourth quarter. We had won six straight before that, and we did our best Saturday night."

Led by 6-4 junior forward Lawrence Lowe, who managed to hold Benny Lawrence's sensational state playoffs last year and

they're well coached and run a deliberate offense with the kind of people who can get the ball in the bucket. The Cats are led by Lowe, who averaged 16 points for the year and has pulled down 22 rebounds per game since the Christmas break. Junior forward Bernard Robinson, 6-3, averages around 13.5 points and his brother George Robinson, 6-6½, who was moved to a starting position after Sainz took over the helm, averages 11 points. Others in the top group include Leon Johnson, a rapidly improving 5-10 junior who averages 11 points, Greg Sampson, a 5-11 junior, and Ois Whitefield, a 6-2 senior, who average 10 points each. But Sainz relies heavily on

his bench, led by James Stewart, Billy DeMersseman, Jeff Sermons and Allen Worthy who he also believes have matured since Christmas to give the starters some much-needed relief. "We don't have any starters per-se on this team," Sainz explained. "That's the last thing I announce before the game. No one has a position sewn down on this team until the first jump. Everyone has a chance to play, and that's helped keep us together."

Wildcats, Cougar Tangle In 1-AAA Opener

"But they know what's riding on this game. If we get beat by Crisp we can't clean the uniforms while a win will send us to state. I think they know what they have to do."

Valdosta Has-Been Coach Is 'Singing The Blues'

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., Mar. 25, 1976-11-

By Times Staff Writer

Like every other football coach that ever worked the game, Bill Aldrich is a born pessimist. When it comes to talking about his chances in an upcoming football game, So you can't really blame him when he moans and groans about the aspects of facing Valdosta's Wildcats in the annual Has Been-Will Be game here Friday night.

But Aldrich went a step further when he brought out the crying towel Wednesday.

He backed up his pessimism.

"We'll be lucky to take the snap from the center," said the young Aldrich who leaves the coaching ranks at the end of this year to become assistant principal at VHS and will be coaching his last game Friday.

"Sure, we got the whole offense back from last year. But we ain't got no quarterback. Right now we're thinking about going with Theodore Demps but he's never played that position

that I know of. He played cornerback on the varsity last year."

As Has Been coach, Aldrich can make use of all graduating seniors. That includes everyone but two starters on the offensive team and even though his pessimism reigns supreme, even Aldrich has to admit the potential is there.

"Yeah, we should have a pretty good running game with Alton Battles, Billy Berrian and Bernard

Robinson in the backfield. If we can ever get a handoff, I'm not kidding. It's hard to run these plays without an experienced quarterback.

When you don't have one you're in trouble."

With Demps, who played quarterback for Aldrich in junior high, calling the signals, however, the senior offense is in much better shape than the defense which left most of its horses with the rising Wildcats.

defense," Aldrich laughed.

"We just had to put people in there. We'll have a lot of them going both ways. . . we've only got 23 players out. But a lot of them will be playing positions they've never played before."

Aldrich and his co-horts will have to do without the services of linebacker Harold Renninger, a standout last season, who has been graduated early and has already joined the football team at the University of

South Carolina.

But even with all Aldrich's complaints, Wildcat coach Nick Hyder is taking nothing for granted. He remembers too well the 20-0 defeat a similar bunch of Has Beens put on his Wildcats in his first game in Valdosta two years ago and the nightmareish 3-7 season the Wildcats posted the next season.

"Listen, this is where I was initiated into South Georgia football," Hyder said. "These seniors compose 70 per cent

of the Region 1-AAA championship team last year and they're motivated. It's their last football game and they want to remember it."

While the Wildcats have been going at spring drills for three weeks, the seniors will have had some three days of practice time by kickoff time at 8 p.m. Friday at Cleveland Field.

But Aldrich knew all that when he and his assistant coach Glen Phelps took the (See Valdosta Page 13)

Follow

Wildcats

Ends — Alvin Thomas (185, jr.), Frank Council (175, jr.) or Tad Welch (160, soph.) and Craig Adams (175, sr.), Leon Johnson (160, sr.) or Mike Cross (160, jr.) or Tackles — David Cooper (200, sr.) or Scott Griffin (195, jr.) or Gary Guthrie (225, jr.) and Buck Blanton (190, jr.) or Doug Arnold (250, jr.) or Guards — Tom Copeland (185, sr.) or Andy Chapman (175, soph.) and Brian Johnson (180, sr.) or Charlie Warren (160, sr.)

Center — Ben Blanton (200, sr.) Quarterback — Buck Beale (190, jr.) Halfbacks — Jody Williams (160, jr.), Carl Demps (165, sr.) or William Gaskins (155, soph.) and Steve Jennings (175, sr.), Troy Thomas (170, soph.), Fletcher (175, soph.), Fullbacks — Sam Fletcher (175, soph.), Bobby Johnson (185, soph.) or Ricky Holcomb (170, jr.)

Defense — Brad Cohen (180, sr.) or Jack Cain (175, sr.) and Curtis Williams (185, sr.), Alec Greene (170, jr.) or Kenny Evans (160, soph.) or Eddie Denard (210, sr.) or Tackles — Donald Oiler (200, sr.) and O'Keefe Hunter (220, sr.) or Curtis Wright (180, jr.) or Middleguard — Raymond Johnson (190, sr.) or Ricky Warren (190, sr.)

Linebackers — Robert Baldwin (190, jr.) John Brannon (180, soph.) or Shawn Steidinger (160, sr.) and Keith Middleton (210, sr.) or Danny Rickman (165, jr.) or Cornerbacks — Wibur Scott (150, sr.) Steve Kendall (160, jr.) or Bobby Bryant (135, sr.) and Lynn Roberts (160, soph.) or Carl Rowe (155, soph.) or Safety — Allen Saffelies (190) or Jimmy Hartman (175, jr.) and Lawrence Love (200, sr.) or Rodney Gordon (155, soph.)

Seniors — Offense — ends Ricky Register (180), and Clark Stull (150), tackles Randy Horn (220) and Shawn Harvey (200), guards David Catoe (180) and Lee Harbin (180), center Gary Mims (185), quarterback Theodore Demps (140), flanker Bernard Robinson (165), fullback Alton Battles (195), halfback Billy Berrian (160), Jesse Loving (160) or Ben Brinson (160) or Defensive — Herbert Golden (160) and Denise Hedges (160) or Mike Wetherington (210) or Lovin Mitchell (210), middleguard David and Roy (180), linebackers Battles (160) Sumner, cornerbacks Doug Parker (160) Berrian, cornerbacks Doug Parker (160) and Jerry Smith (150), safeties Anthony Lynch (150) and Herbert Holmes (150).

In The Spring

A New Breed Of Football

There's something new in spring games these days...a revelation if you will, that has changed the entire objective of the four weeks of hard nosed hitting high school football players go through each spring.



Julian Miller
Times Sports Editor

as to lineups and plays. But there is so much you can do with offense. The thing is to execute. That's the objective." That's also the objective of the spring training session, to the execution, which involves the fundamental stages of the game. "There's an awful lot of stuff you can do with this offense a lot of surprises can come in there. Coach Wilson has a imagination and he should be able to come up with a lot of too."

Whereas the spring jamboree was designed to test as many players in a game-type situation as possible, a new object comes into consideration with the two-team showdown . . . win. Both coaches assure they're out for a victory. But neither believes that will detract from the traditional expectations of the game either. "You can't teach the things we need to teach in football if allow them to lose," Hyder explained. "I'm talking about Christ character. Playing to lose is a violation of that objective and sure any coach feels that way. "We're going to play to win. But we'll play as many as we too. We played 64 Friday night and still won."

Friday night was Valdosta's traditional Has Been-Will game in which his rising Wildcats took on a team of graduated seniors. It once was that game that ended the spring drills but was moved to the third weekend to make room for the "jamboree."

"We learned some things we needed to work on . . . mainly timing, down and distance. The formations change with the down and distance the offense must go to get a first down or score. need to be able to choose the right formation for the right time."

As if to accent the upcoming showdown, the Wildcats defeated the seniors 13-6 Friday. Wilson's Vikings upended their seniors a week before.

There is a built in rivalry for this game and because of it we expecting a mighty good turnout," Hyder said. "And that will be both our programs."

Valdostan Pleads Guilty In Death Of His Wife

By Times Staff Writer
A Valdosta man entered a plea of guilty to voluntary manslaughter today, minutes before he was to stand trial for the killing of his wife. Willie Easton, 28, was already in court when defense lawyer Reuben Yancey came to terms with Lowndes County Superior Court district attorney Lamar Cole. Easton was charged with the Dec. 2 shooting of his estranged wife, Betty Carlisle Easton, 35, at her Spanish Mission apartment residence. Court sources said Easton would be sentenced 12 years in prison and five years probation, to begin immediately. Easton is accused of going to his wife's residence, being involved in an argument, shooting her, then turning the gun on himself. The former Valdosta High School technician remains on crutches and has been in the Lowndes County jail since the incident.

And from the looks of things, the changes are definitely for the better.

Friday night, Valdosta's Wildcats and Lowndes' Vikings end four week drill sessions by squaring off against each other in the first intra-city spring match ever and a full house is expected at Valdosta's Cleveland Field. Originally an idea to keep the finances from past jamboree games from being split three or four ways, the cross-town showdown has resulted in much, much more than that. It, in effect, is the first stage in a city championship series.

The two schools, you see, have a built in rivalry that causes the hair on the back of football players' necks to stand on end every time they hear the other discussed.

The Vikings, bless 'em, have never beaten the Wildcats on the football field. In fact, they rarely come close. But they've never had Joe Wilson calling the shots before and they've never wanted to end that VHS domination any more than now.

Valdosta, on the other hand, has always taken its football seriously. Dead seriously. And if anything could put more punch in the VHS offense it was one of those red helmets with the Viking horns on the sides in front of them.

Wilson's move from Valdosta, where he was offensive coordinator and head basketball coach, to Lowndes where he is head football coach and county-school system athletic director, has created a whole new atmosphere around the county school that has never had a winning football team.

Enthusiasm among fans and players is higher than ever before and Wilson, a born organizer, knows he needs something like a victory, or at least a super strong showing against the defending Region 1-AAA champs to make it grow higher.

That means Lowndes is staging an all-out campaign to secure football fans and they're mostly already affiliated with Valdosta. Hence, it's a battle of survival and the stakes are high.

What does that mean? It means two football teams hell bent on winning take to the field Friday night and for once in a long time the fan should benefit.

For once, a spring game will be a game instead of a dressed practice scrimmage the fans have been paying their hard earned money to see. In fact, knowing of the end-of-season showdown changed the entire complexion of spring drills.

"It really spices up spring practice...which is otherwise dull," admitted Valdosta head coach Nick Hyder, who is looking forward to Friday night's game as much as anyone. "The players are as excited as the coaches are, if not more, and it hopefully make them learn fundamentals better so we will achieve spring training objective in the long run anyway."

People had questioned if taking time off from those four weeks usually set aside for fundamentals to learn plays to use against another team would detract from the original purpose of spring drills.

Others asked if playing a regular game instead of a jamboree would eliminate the objective of using the game to see what needs to be polished up on in pre-season camp next year.

Hyder doesn't think so. "I think it will be a good football game," Hyder said. "The competition is there. It has always been there and is especially so now that coach Wilson is there."

"And the fact that he knows as much about our offense as we do makes it very, very interesting. He has a built in scouting report

April 1, 1976

Area Roundup

VHS Tops Crisp

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta posted a pair of high school tennis victories Crisp County in Region 1-AAA action here Wednesday.

The VHS boys nipped the Cougars from Cordele 4-2, and home-standing Kittens trimmed the Crisp lasses 5-2. Both Valdosta teams are now 5-1 and host intra-county Lowndes at the VHS courts here today. Individual results follow:

BOYS

— Matt Smith (V) beat Lee Harris 6-4, 6-3; Randy Forth (C) beat Emory 6, 7-5; Ricky Darnell (V) beat Mitch Mitchell 6-2, 6-2; Art Reddick (V) beat Leger 3-6, 6-4, 9-7.

— Harris-Forth (C) beat Richard Clayton-Rodney Childs 6-2, 7-5; Oscar Howard Moore (V) beat Mitchell-Leger 6-1, 6-0.

GIRLS

— Gina Clayton (V) beat Jerri Roche 6-3, 6-2; Allison Reddick (V) beat Perkle 6-2, 6-1; Dee Turton (C) beat Lisa Feix 9-7; Debbie Mink (V) beat Braswell 8-2; Maggie Eye (V) beat Lee Bradshaw 9-0.

— Roche-Perkle (C) beat Feix-Lourdes Rodriguez 7-5, 6-4; Pam Holland-Hall (V) beat Turton-Bradshaw 8-4.

C. te 2100 date only ths. ized. ing. ate

As far as standings are concerned, tonight's game will be forgotten in the fall when the regular season begins. That's when the wins and losses really count. But then again, when Lowndes and Valdosta pair up in any sport they all count.

The question in Hyder's mind has to be if his star quarterback, Buck Belue, can organize and run with an entirely new bunch. There's no doubt Belue has the ability, but can he synchronize his efforts with a corps of fresh faces? Lowndes' offense, led by the gutsy Lynn Partillo at quarterback, hasn't yet adjusted to Wilson's style. Just how far it has come will be revealed tonight.

Should Lowndes win, the county school would finally gain some measure of revenge for many long years of suffering on the gridiron and add fuel to a fire which was ignited when Joe Wilson was hired as head football coach in late December.

Wilson, a former Valdosta player who served for many years on the VHS coaching staff in several capacities including offensive coordinator of the football team and head basketball coach, had been itching for a head football job for quite awhile. Lowndes granted his wish.

Since the Vikings entered Region 1-AAA in 1967, their best record has been 5-5 in West Thomas' first year in 1973. Thomas went 2-8 and 4-6 after that and resigned to make way for Wilson who has never been a head football coach on the varsity level.

Nick Hyder, Wilson's counterpart on the Valdosta side of the field, had a long and successful career at West Rome in north Georgia before moving to Valdosta in 1974.

Vikes, 'Cats Set Gridiron Battle

April 2, 76

BY MIKE CHASON

For Valdosta, it would be a big win... for Lowndes, it would be the school's biggest win ever.

The game in question is tonight's spring football contest which features one of the hottest rivalries in south Georgia between Lowndes' Vikings and Valdosta's Wildcats.

The two clubs are scheduled to renew a long simmering rivalry at Valdosta's Cleveland Field at 8 p. m. tonight in a game which in some ways doesn't mean a thing, but in others means everything.

Should Valdosta triumph, it would be business as usual since the Wildcats have taken every football game ever played between the two schools.

Should Lowndes win, the county school would finally gain some measure of revenge for many long years of suffering on the gridiron and add fuel to a fire which was ignited when Joe Wilson was hired as head football coach in late December.

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Since the Vikings entered Region 1-AAA in 1967, their best record has been 5-5 in West Thomas' first year in 1973. Thomas went 2-8 and 4-6 after that and resigned to make way for Wilson who has never been a head football coach on the varsity level.

Nick Hyder, Wilson's counterpart on the Valdosta side of the field, had a long and successful career at West Rome in north Georgia before moving to Valdosta in 1974.

His first Wildcat team went 3-7 before he turned things around last year with a 10-2 Region championship club. But Hyder lost nine members of the starting offensive unit off that team including superior runners Billy Berrian and Alton Battles.

The question in Hyder's mind has to be if his star quarterback, Buck Belue, can organize and run with an entirely new bunch. There's no doubt Belue has the ability, but can he synchronize his efforts with a corps of fresh faces? Lowndes' offense, led by the gutsy Lynn Partillo at quarterback, hasn't yet adjusted to Wilson's style. Just how far it has come will be revealed tonight.

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April 2, 1976-14-



— Times Staff Photo.

Too Late To Tag: Carlton Gainous Slides Home Under VHS Catcher Bob White

Cats Can Bearcats, 2-1

By MIKE CHASON

Valdosta dedicated a brand new field and a brand new school baseball season with a flying start here Thursday when the Wildcats sneaked past Bainbridge 2-1.

In the past, the 'Cats played all their home games at Pendleton Park, but Thursday marked opening day ceremonies at a diamond located just behind the high school.

VHS athletic director Wright Bazemore threw out the first ball to co-captains Clark Stull and Billy DeMersseman at the field which is to be dedicated to him.

"It's not an official thing," Valdosta head baseball coach Butch Brooks explained. "But after 30 years of service to the school, we just thought

he deserved something." Bazemore was proud of the honor, but even more proud of the Region 1-AAA (South) win the Wildcats picked up.

For four innings, the fast-paced 70-minute game belonged to no one except the two pitchers.

Bainbridge's Tom Harmon had the Wildcats tamed, and Valdosta's Billy DeMersseman was having no problem sitting down the now 2-3 Bearcats.

In the fifth frame, the situation changed. DeMersseman lost a perfect game bid in the top half when he walked his first batter, but then proceeded to get out of the minor uprising without a run.

In the lower half of the frame Harmon seemed to tire just a bit, and the bottom

three men in the Wildcats' order took advantage of it.

After two outs, Stan Chapman lined a single to left for the first hit in the game. Ronnie Christy then tore off a line shot through the box which left Harmon reeling.

Chapman never slowed at second and reached third easily.

Christie then swiped second, setting the stage for Bob White's single which plated both runners.

Valdosta's hitting spree was over, but two runs were enough for DeMersseman.

Bainbridge did throw a scare into the wind-blown partisan crowd in the sixth when Carlton Gainous doubled for the first hit off DeMersseman and then scored on Ernest Riles' single.

But that was the end of the action for both teams.

DeMersseman wound up with six strikeouts and only one walk. Harmon had a pair of strikeouts and also only a lone walk.

"They had a good ballclub,

but you could tell we haven't been swinging the bat too much," Brooks said referring to the fact that several of his stalwarts left the football spring practice field just in time to make the game as did Brooks himself.

"I thought Bob White did a good job hitting the ball and behind the plate. Steve Jennings made a big catch for us in right field, and Chapman hit the ball hard."

Valdosta hosts Lanier County (Lakeland Ga.) for a 1 p.m. doubleheader here Saturday.

Wildcat Box

BHS				VHS					
	ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi	
Ganos lb	3	1	1	0	Jennings rf	3	0	0	0
Riles ss	3	0	1	1	Wilson lf	3	0	0	0
Thomas c	3	0	0	0	DeMersseman p	3	0	0	0
Cooper rf	2	0	0	0	Belue cf	3	0	0	0
Walker cf	3	0	0	0	Kalmsie 2b	1	0	0	0
Turkel 3b	3	0	0	0	Stull ss	1	0	0	0
Burch lf	3	0	0	0	Chapman lb	2	1	1	0
Harmon p	3	0	0	0	Christie 3b	2	1	1	0
Trulock 2b	2	0	0	0	White c	2	0	1	0
TOTALS	25	1	2	1	TOTALS	20	2	3	2

Valdosta High Students Win Elks Scholarships

By Times Staff Writer
Two Valdosta High School students are recipients of the District Elks Club Scholarship, officials announced today.
Laura Feix, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Feix of 2009 Hammock Drive, was winner of the girl's award.

and Chris Keener, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Keener of 1217 Hickory Drive, was the boy's scholarship choice.
The two seniors are to receive a district monetary award and are to be competing for a state award.
The scholarship is based on academics.

March 26, 1976

No Catnaps

Hyder Finds Belue A Backup In Spring Drills

By JULIAN MILLER

For two years Nick Hyder has cringed, groaned and pulled hair from his head every time he saw his star quarterback get hit on the football field.

Buck Belue, the 14-year-old freshman QB whiz who became the sophomore sensation and Region 1-AAA offensive player of the year candidate last season was the only man he had to run the Valdosta Wildcats.

Now, two years into Hyder's and Belue's careers with the Wildcats and two weeks into Valdosta's spring football training, Belue is still the number one man in the number one position.

But he has competition. And Hyder can breathe when the thud he hears comes from a collision between the quarterback and an opposing defender.

"You know I've said many times, if Buck has to come out of the game for any reason at all, even just an equipment repair, then we've just got to give up and play defense.

"He was the only quarterback we had, the only body we had to put behind the center. That's the reason he got the job so early (as a freshman). We just didn't have anyone else."

Belue handled the duties as a veteran more than a young starter in his first prep campaigns but the realization that anything can and usually does happen forced Hyder to look for possible alternates at that position when the spring drills opened. And he has found them.

He didn't have to look far to find his leading candidate for the backup position. Steve Jennings, who made a name for himself catching punts in a cloud of opposing players for the Wildcats who claimed the region championship after a three-way tie and playoff with Thomasville last year, had moved to a halfback position and can fill in next door.

"Jennings was the only other player we've had who has actually gone in and taken snaps before. He has really done a good job for us.

Also campaigning for the position are a few other candidates, Melvin Hunter (145, jr.); John Bond (165, fr.); John Lastinger (160, soph.), Troy Thomas (170, soph) and Don Martin (165, jr.).

However, the rest of the offense isn't quite as well off. Of the 11 starting members of the 1975 team, only two, Belue and tackle David Cooper are returning.

"Our offense has an awfully long way to go because of a severe lack of depth," Hyder said. "Defense is where our experience was. They're working hard but that lack of experience is hurting us bad.

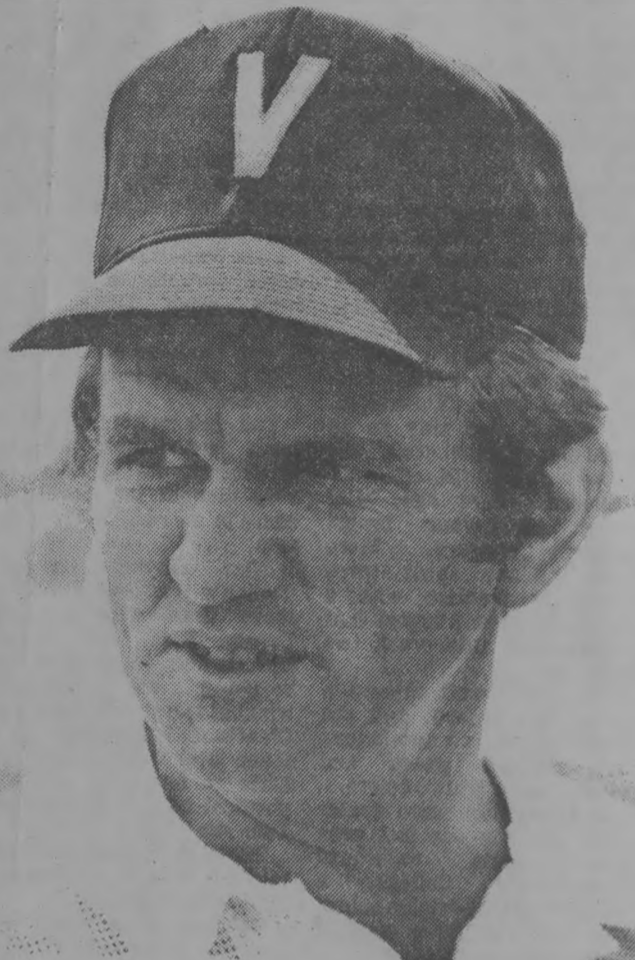
"I'm beginning to regret the fact that we didn't try to get more experience on offense last year when we had the chances."

The Wildcats started off with the usual in spring training, fundamentals — blocking and tackling. But Monday they must begin preparing for a game type situation.

That's when the Wildcats begin to prepare for the Has Beens, a group of graduating seniors in the annual Has Been-Will Be game at Cleveland Field Friday night.

Carrying the effect even further, that game is to help prepare the Wildcats for their spring game against Lowndes' Vikings to be held April 2, at Cleveland Field.

As for the rest of the backfield, positions there are even less experienced. At fullback Sam Fletcher (175, soph.), Bobby Johnson (185, soph.) and Ricky Holcombe (170, jr.) lead the charge.



—Times Staff Photo.

Nick Hyder Eyes New Recruits

At halfback, Jennings, Jody Wilson (160, jr.) and Carl Demps, (155, sr.), all returning lettermen, lead the race with Danny Jaramillo (140, jr.), William Gaskins (155, soph.) and Troy Thomas in the running.

At wide receiver, Craig Adams (175, sr.) is back for his senior year with Leon Johnson (160, sr.) coming back out for the team and Mike Cross (160, jr.) leading a group of freshmen candidates through the paces.

Safety Alvin Thomas (185, jr.) has been moved to tight end and is challenging Frank Council (175, jr.), Tag Welch (160, soph.), and Tony Hart (175, sr.) among others, for the job.

Cooper, naturally, is leading the candidates for tackle along with Gary Guthrie (225, jr.) a convert from the defense, Doug Arnold (250, jr.), Scott Griffin (195, jr.), David Reeves (175, soph.) Darryl Swindle (200, soph.) and Buck Blanton (190, jr.) in the fold.

Tom Copeland, who has made the route down the line from center to guard is the leading qualifier for that position. "He's a

185-pound senior. Others include Bryant Johnson (180, sr.), Charlie Warren (160, sr.) Andy Chapman (175, soph.) and Bubba Harden (160, soph.).

Ben Blanton is the top candidate to replace a graduating Gary Mims at center. Others include Darrell Sirmans (155, jr.), Mike Rose (160, soph.) and Mark Gish (160, soph.).

"It's been slow out there so far," Hyder reported. "The defense is way ahead of the offense and they both need a lot of work. But we have a fairly complex system and it takes quite a while to learn it.

"We're not as far back as we were when I first got here two years ago, however. At least I know everyone's names now. It's not 'Hey you,' And that's that boy's name over there' any more. We're on an acquainted basis with everyone."

If anything stands out to Hyder, it's the competitive nature he expected to find at Valdosta when he traveled here from Rome, Ga. two years ago.

"To say they're going to do good is an unknown quantity," Hyder offered. "But the type youngsters I find in Valdosta are highly competitive and high spirited and they have an attitude of mental toughness.

"They do what we ask them to do without quarreling. That makes our job a lot easier."

Helping Hyder with spring practice are assistant coaches Jack Rudolph, Butch Brooks, Ed Jones, Charles Tarpley, Jerry Don Baker, Freddie Waters, Bob Bolton, Norman Sainz, Mack Wilder, Jim Burroughs, the faculty trainer, and school system Athletic Director Wright Bazemore.

"And you can tell everyone we asked coach Bazemore to come out and help us and we're proud to have him" Hyder concluded.

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Ends—Craig Adams (175, sr.), Leon Johnson (160, sr.), Mike Cross (160, jr.), Fredrick Blair (140, soph.), Tim Dame (145, soph.), Mark Lanyert (150, soph.), Ken Bell (150, soph.), Craig Lofton (140, soph.), Alvin Thomas (185, jr.), Frank Council (175, jr.), Tag Welch (160, soph.), Tony Hart (175, sr.), Mike Sayre (160, jr.), and Mike Thompson (170, jr.).	Ends — Jackie Cain (175, sr.), Brad Cohen (180, sr.), Curtis Williams (185, sr.), Doug Conway (190, jr.), Ronald Euler (155, jr.), Alec Green (170, jr.), Jamie Welsh (160, jr.), Merlin Beaufort (130, soph.), Kenny Evans (160, soph.), Mike Parramore (155, soph.), and Don Smith (150, soph.).
Tackles — David Cooper (200, sr.), Gary Guthrie (225, jr.), Doug Arnold (250, jr.), Scott Griffin (195, jr.), Larry Johnson (185, sr.), Tim Roidel (210, sr.), Homer Hardin (210, jr.), Kenny Locker (190, soph.), David Reeves (175, soph.), Darrell Swindle (200, soph.), and Buck Blanton (190, jr.).	Tackles — Eddie Demard (210, sr.), Dennis Harrington (190, sr.), O'Keefe Hunter (220, sr.), Donald Olyer (200, sr.), Ray Lloyd (215, jr.), Craig Simmons (170, jr.), Curtis Wright (180, jr.), George Gray (150, soph.), Frank Hope (170, soph.), Danny Hunter (170, soph.), Carroll Johnson (175, soph.), and Warren Turner (190, soph.).
Guards — Tom Copeland (185, sr.), Bryan Johnson (180, sr.), Charles Warren (160, sr.), Jared Bailey (185, sr.), Billy Dykeman (165, sr.), Randy Sharpe (150, jr.), Frank Beacham (150, soph.), Wayne Fuggett (160, soph.), Bubba Hardin (160, soph.), Kevin Pittman (140, soph.), and Bob Register (155, soph.).	Middle Guards — Raymond Johnson (190, sr.), Ricky Warren (190, sr.), Clifford Johnson (160, soph.), Doug McQuig (215, soph.), Patrick Greene (180, soph.), Bruce Jenkins (130, soph.), Russ Scruggs (130, soph.).
Centers — Ben Blanton (200, sr.), Darrell Sirmans (155, jr.), Cass Burch (175, soph.), Mark Gish (160, soph.), and Mike Rose (160, soph.).	Linebackers — Keith Middleton (210, sr.), Shawn Steidinger (160, sr.), Robert Baldwin (190, jr.), James Hickey (180, jr.), Danny Rinkman (165, jr.), John Brannen (160, soph.), Tommy Clifton (180, soph.), and Marcus Campbell (150, soph.).
Quarterbacks — Buck Belue (190, jr.), John Lastinger (160, soph.), Melvin Hunter (145, jr.), John Bond (165, jr.), and Don Martin (165, jr.).	Cornerbacks — Wilbur Scott (150, sr.), Bobby Bryant (135, sr.), David Durham (160, jr.), Ricky Curtis (135, soph.), Steve Harden (125, soph.), Greg Morrison (140, soph.), Carl Roe (155, soph.), Lynn Roberts (160, soph.), Chad Wilson (140, jr.), Steve Kendall (160, jr.), Billy Harvey (150, soph.), Cliff Hunt (155, soph.), Rufus Nelson (145, soph.), Charles Williams (140, soph.), and Anthony Baker (130, jr.).
Halfbacks — Steve Jennings (175, sr.), Jody Wilson (160, jr.), Carl Demps (155, sr.), Steve Hall (145, jr.), Danny Jaramillo (140, jr.), William Gaskins (155, soph.) Troy Thomas (170, soph.), Randy Griffin (160, jr.), and Willie Henry (150, soph.).	Safeties — Lawrence Lowe (200, sr.), Mike Skipper (160, sr.), Jimmy Hartman (175, jr.), Allen Worthy (170, jr.), Rodney Gordon (155, soph.), Henry Sanders (145, jr.), Charles Scott (140, soph.), and Don Thomas (140, soph.).

April 1, 76

'Cats Must Prove Themselves Again

By MIKE CHASON

One year ago, Valdosta swept the annual Spring football jamboree at Cleveland Field and a new slogan was born...the 'Cats are back.

Now, after a Region 1-AAA championship and a loss to Wayne County (Jesup) in the first round of the state playoffs, Nick Hyder and his Valdosta Wildcats must go about proving that saying all over again.

The first step comes Friday night at 8 p.m. when the 'Cats host crosstown rival Lowndes in a spring contest which is the first of its kind in the two school's history.

Unlike in the past when winning or losing a couple of quarters in a four-team jamboree didn't mean that much to onlookers, Friday

night's clash under the Cleveland Field lights may mean a whole lot as far as morale is concerned.

Hyder knows it better than anyone.

"I know how desperately Lowndes wants to win this game, and I know how bad we want it too," Hyder said. "They have put some enthusiasm in their program by adding some new coaches who I respect a great deal.

"This won't be like the Valdosta-Lowndes' games of the past. We've got ourselves a ballgame on our hands."

Lowndes has never beaten Valdosta on the gridiron in the two schools' long rivalry, but LHS fans are optimistic this season with the hiring of a former VHS assistant Joe Wilson to head up their hopes.

Wilson directed Valdosta's

super tough offense last season, and Lowndes' followers hope he can revive a sluggish Viking offense which hasn't scored its share of points in recent years.

"I don't expect us to be in championship form," Hyder said, "but I do have a lot of hope that we'll win.

"Our style of winning is to play a lot of people. We played 64 boys in the Has-Been game last week, and I feel like that is the way to have a good football team.

"You've got to have competition for positions. Competition is the greatest coach of all. I have to hustle to keep my job, and these boys have to hustle to keep theirs."

Valdosta licked its graduating seniors 13-6 last week, almost identical to the

13-7 whipping Lowndes put on its Has-Beens two weeks ago.

Neither team looked particularly impressive in winning. Valdosta showed little signs of a running game while the Vikings displayed an inability to throw the ball.

Valdosta quarterbacks Buck Belue and Steve Jennings did have some success throwing, but it was Jennings, not Belue the Region's offensive player of the year, who accounted for the 'Cats' lone touchdown strike.

"I thought Buck did a good job," Hyder said. "I've seen him play better, but his mind's on a lot of things. He's got baseball coming up, but he realizes he's got to produce Friday night."

Jennings was the surprise of the night, making some impressive yardage on the

ground and handling the signal-caller's slot with almost equal ease.

Probable starting lineups for both teams follows:

VALDOSTA

Offense — ends — Craig Adams (180, sr.) or Leon Johnson (165, sr.) and Alvin Thomas (185, jr.) or Frank Council (180, jr.); tackles — Gary Guthrie (230, jr.) or Donald Olyer (200, sr.) and David Cooper (200, sr.) or Scott Griffin (190, soph.); guards — Bryan Johnson (180, sr.) or Charlie Warren (160, sr.) and Tom Copeland (195, sr.) or Andy Chapman (170, soph.); center — Ben Blanton (200, sr.) or Donald Sirmans (155, jr.); halfbacks — Jody Wilson (160, jr.) or Carl Demps (150, sr.) and Steve Jennings (175, sr.) or Troy Thomas (175, soph.); fullbacks — Ricky Holcombe (170, jr.) or Sam Fletcher (175, soph.) or Bobby Johnson (180, soph.); quarterback — Buck Belue (190, jr.) or John Lastinger (155, soph.).

Defense — ends — Chester Williams (190, sr.) or Alec Green (175, jr.) and Jack Cain (175, sr.) or Brad Cohen (185, sr.); tackles — O'Keefe Hunter (230, sr.) or Curtis Wright (175, jr.) and Eddie Demard (210, sr.) or Ray Lloyd (210, jr.); middle guard — Richey Warren (195, sr.) or Raymond Johnson (190, sr.); linebackers — Keith Middleton (210, sr.) or Danny Rinkman (175, jr.) and Robert Baldwin (200, jr.) or John Brannen (175, soph.); cornerbacks — Lynn Roberts (165, soph.) and Wilbur Scott

(155, sr.) or Steve Kendall (165, jr.), safeties — Lawrence Lowe (200, sr.) or Rodney Gordon (165, soph.) and Allen Worthy (170, jr.) or Jimmy Hartman (175, jr.).

LOWNDES

Offense — ends — Joe Kelly (170, jr.) and Clarence Reed (135, sr.); tackles — Joe Harris (175, jr.) and James Rogers (190, jr.); guards — Bobby Kovach (160, jr.) and Charles Burman (165, jr.); quarterback — Freddy Delk (185, sr.); fullback — James Lynn Pattillo (160, sr.); halfbacks — George Marshall (150, sr.) and Kenny Luke (165, jr.); Wafers (195, sr.) and William Shiver (175, sr.).

Defense — ends — William Shiver (175, sr.) and Mark Tennant (150, jr.); tackles — Buddy Moor (220, sr.) and Keith Hitchcock (175, soph.); middle guard — Ben Washington (195, jr.); linebackers — Ben Washington (190, jr.) and Joe Johnson (170, jr.); cornerbacks — Danny Clayton (160, sr.) and nerbacks — Danny Clayton (160, sr.); safeties — Johnny Washington (160, sr.) and Rocky Richard Landrum (160, sr.) and Rocky Carter (188, sr.).

Greene Keeps On Winning Awards

By Times Staff Writer

Lucy Greene, a Valdosta educator, has won for the third time the state special education Teacher of the Year award.

Mrs. Greene, who has copped the local special ed honor several times as well as the Valdosta City Teacher of the Year, is head of the individual advancement department for exceptional children at Valdosta High School.

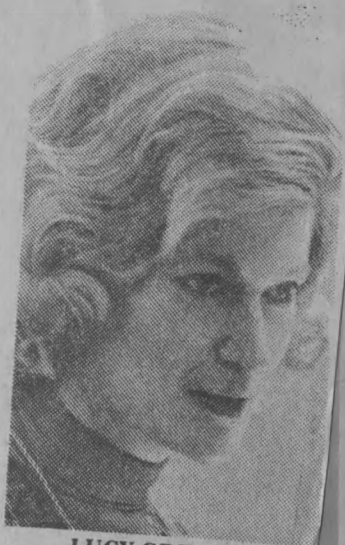
The Council for Exceptional Children announced her selection Friday.

This is the second consecutive year the statewide council has selected a Valdosta educator for the honor. Last year Debra Taylor, a special ed teacher at Sallas-Mahone Elementary School, was chosen.

The organization is comprised of over 2,000 special education teachers across the state.

The wife of a Valdosta furniture store executive, she is past president of CEC here and was corresponding secretary for the state group.

Mrs. Greene and her



LUCY GREENE
Special Education

husband, Parker, are permanent members of the Chambers of Commerce's Red Carpet Committee and are members of First United Methodist Church.

VHS' Bernard Robinson (33) Checks Calvin Richardson



—Times Staff Photo.

Benny Bewitches Vikes; 'Cats, Vikettes In Finals

By MIKE CHASON

Benny Anthony has this intimidating habit of flashing a wide grin every time he does something out of the ordinary on the basketball floor. Friday night, the 6-7 Bainbridge superstar did a lot of grinning.

Anthony's dazzling heroics sparked the top-seeded Bearcats to a 74-47 whitewashing of Lowndes' Vikings in the semifinals of the Region 1-AAA (South) high school basketball tourney, now in its third night at the Lowndes gymnasium.

Dominating right from the start, Anthony poured in 17 points in the first half, and 29 for the night before retiring to the comfort of the bench with 2:05 remaining to pop a Gatorade and watch the rest of the slaughter.

He also blocked at least seven Lowndes' shots and intimidated the Vikings enough to keep them from trying a dozen more. As for his rebound performance, if he wanted it, he got it and totaled at least 20 for the game.

In the other semifinal games, Valdosta's now 15-7 Wildcats reeled off their sixth straight victory with a hard-pressed 74-62 decision over Moultrie's Packers, and Lowndes' top-seeded Vikettes shrugged off a slow start and mangled Moultrie's Packerettes 59-39.

Tonight's 7 p.m. girls' final pits Lowndes against Thomasville followed at 8:30 p.m. when the Bearcats and Wildcats tangle. All four

teams are scheduled to advance to the Region tourney set to begin Friday at Valdosta against the finalists from the northern half of the region.

In that tournament Friday night, Westover pulled one of the major upsets of the season with a 66-65 win over powerful Dougherty (Albany) in overtime. Crisp County (Cordele) gunned down Tift County's Blue Devils from Tifton 71-53.

Monroe of Albany's Lady Tornados both bed Dougherty 80-63, and Tift's girls knocked off Westover 57-54.

Tonight's finals at the Westover gym in Albany feature Monroe and Tift in the 7 p.m. girls' game and Crisp and Westover in the 8:30 p.m. boys' championship.

Here is a capsule report of the way the action went here Friday night:

VALDOSTA 74, MOULTRIE 62
After watching Anthony and the Bearcats perform their magic, Valdosta head coach Norman Sainz was looking toward the heavens for some kind of answer as to how to stop the Bainbridge machine.

One sure way is to have his Wildcats shoot the ball with the efficiency they did against the Packers who didn't do such a bad job of putting it in the hole themselves.

Leon Johnson, who has improved at least 200 per cent since the beginning of the season, banked the ball off the glass time after time for a total of 18 points to lead the victors.

Lawrence Lowe triggered Valdosta's ever-present running game with his quick releases of rebounds as well as scoring 14 points. Bernard Robinson also wished the nets for 13, and his brother George added 10.

James Stewart and Billy DeMerseman scored but eight points apiece, but their baskets came in the second half when the 'Cats expanded a six-point halftime edge into a 10-point lead most of the rest of the way.

Warren Pullins slipped in 23 points for Coach Roy Saturday's Packers, and Virgil Seay contributed 14 more.

LOWNDES 59, MOULTRIE 39
Trailing for much of the first half and leading by only a 22-21 margin at the intermission, coach Charles Cooper's now 17-5 Vikettes appeared to be headed toward certain doom if things didn't change.

Cooper inserted mini-mite Karen Parker in the game and things immediately started to look a little brighter as the tiny sophomore triggered the LHS fast break as well as scoring eight points as Lowndes won the game.

The Packerettes violated one of the fundamental rules of basketball and gave

Marcia Player the baseline all night long. She took full advantage of it to drive to the hoop and dump in 22 points.

Faye Hart also kept the Moultrie defense honest by zeroing in on some long range set shots for 13 points.

But it was Helen DeVane who netted two free throws and then an eight-footer to put the Vikettes up to stay in the second quarter.

For Moultrie, which had its problems moving against the Vikette press, Tammy Tanner threw in 12 points and Sarah Edwards managed 10 more.

BAINBRIDGE 74, LOWNDES 47
"I've never seen him play any better," Cooper said of Anthony's dismantling of his Vikings who wound up 6-17. "They were just doing a lot of things right, and we were slow moving the ball around that zone of theirs."

The Bearcat tenacious 1-3-1 defense was perhaps even more impressive than their offense, which is keyed to Anthony but doesn't lack for quality shooters like Gene Fountain, who scored 14 points, and Carlton Gainous, who hit for 10.

Try as they might, the Vikes just couldn't penetrate the middle of the zone and when they did Anthony sent the basketball flying right back at them.

he too had to be relieved in the second by Mayne who registered the win.

Valdosta's comeback began in that second inning when Lanier pitcher Leon Carter let in two runs on a wild pickoff attempt and then another on a wild pitch.

The Wildcats climbed on Carter for three more runs in the third to take the lead. Belue's double drove in Alke Karathanasia with the go-

Seniors Jeff Stewart and Rusty Parker fittingly led the Lowndes' scoring in their final game with 14 and 12 points respectively.

"Record-wise, I'd say this is one of my most disappointing years with the boys," Cooper said. "But when you have kids that give 100 per cent every night even when they were losing, you can't feel as if they didn't learn something."

"I just hope they remember some of the things we tried to teach when they leave here."

BOYS
Valdosta
Moultrie
VALDOSTA (74) — Lowe 14, Johnson 16, Robinson 13, G. Robinson 10, Stewart 8, DeMerseman 8, Worley 2, Whitfield 1, Sappison
Team totals: field goals 32, free throws 10 of 17, fouls 12
MOULTRIE (47) — Pullins 23, Seay 14, Robinson 12, Seers 4, Lee 0, McCoy 4, Roberts
Team totals: field goals 26, free throws 9 of 7, fouls 18

GIRLS
Lowndes
Moultrie
LOWNDES (59) — Parker 22, Hart 13, Devane 8, Williams 6, Clark 5, Clemons 4, Johnson 3, field goals 20, free throws 19 of 20, fouls 12
MOULTRIE (39) — Tanner 12, Edwards 10, Daniels 8, Norman 5, Smith 4, Willis Moss
Team totals: field goals 15, free throws 9 of 15, fouls 21

BOYS
Bainbridge
Lowndes
BAINBRIDGE (74) — Anthony 29, Fountain 14, Gainous 10, Barber 6, R. Barber 2, Bess 8, Harris 2, Mullins 2, Heard, Mock
Team totals: field goals 28, free throws 18 of 26, fouls 14

Still Undefeated

'Cats Take Pair From Lanier

By Times Staff Writer

It wasn't exactly like the beach bully picking on a 90-pound weakling, but Valdosta's Wildcats did step down three notches of classification to swipe a pair of high school baseball wins from Lanier County here Saturday.

Coach Butch Brooks' 'Cats, a Region 1-AAA power, found easy pickings from the Region 2-B Bulldogs from Lakeland, Ga., with a 5-0 triumph in the first game, but had to rally for their lives in the 8-6 second game.

Valdosta is now 3-0 overall, and returns to league competition Tuesday against South sub-region foe Moultrie on the Packers' home

early in the opener, jumping on Lanier starting pitcher Ricky Dent for two runs in each of the first two frames.

Buck Belue, who was three for five on the afternoon, picked up one his three RBIs in the first inning with a single to plate John Lastinger for what turned out to be the winning run.

Then Chris Daniels scored on Ricky Rowe's sacrifice fly to give Belue all the cushion he needed on the mound.

In his five-inning stint, he limited the now 3-7 Bulldogs to four hits, struck out five, and issued no free passes via the four-ball route.

two hits in the game. Mac McQuang and Chuck Mayne relieved Belue on the mound in the final two innings as Brooks tried to save Buck's arm in his first start of the season.

In the second game, Brooks couldn't afford to save anybody.

Coach Lewis Sellers' Lanier nine blasted Jodie Wilson off the mound with five runs in the first inning, powered by a three-run homer by Wayne Sirmans.

Wilson didn't even get a batter out in the frame, giving up three hits including singles by Roosevelt Sirmans and Ricky Foster, and walked two batters.

Buck Blanton came on to put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

put his finger in the dyke, but

U-M-O-C

Sweeping Giant Leads Bainbridge Past Wildcats; Vikettes Win

By JULIAN MILLER
With the reflection of a sub-region trophy shining in their eyes, Valdosta's Wildcats managed to stay with Bainbridge's Bearcats for three quarters here Saturday night. Then someone woke up the sleeping giant.

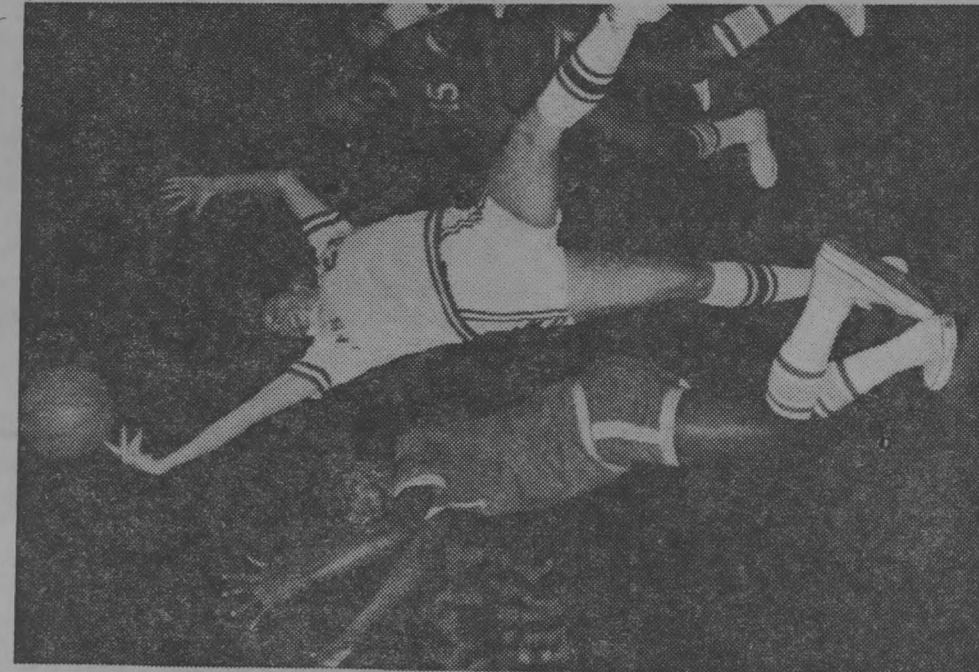
The giant was Bainbridge's Benny Anthony and the outcome was exactly what everyone expected as the Bearcats stormed back in the final stanza to give Bainbridge a 66-53 victory and the Region 1-AAA (South) championship.

The game highlighted a double title night in which Lowndes' Vikettes stumped a hard-nosed Thomasville Bulldogette team, 61-41, to earn a berth in the Region 1-AAA playoffs to be held across town at Valdosta High School next week.

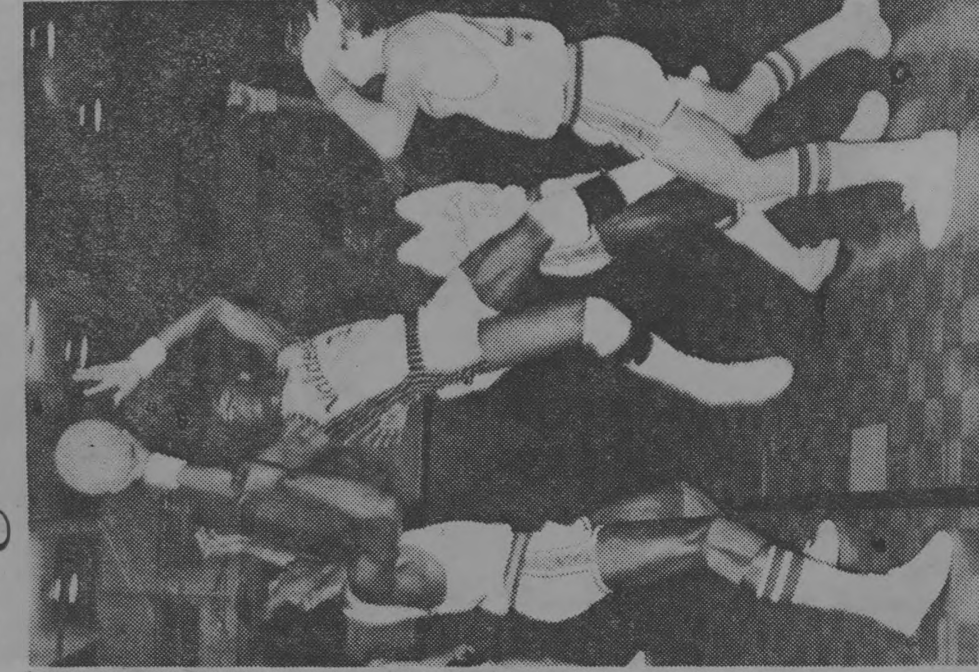
In that tournament Friday and Saturday at Valdosta, the four finalists in the South Sub-region tournament take on the winners and runners-up from the Region 1-AAA (North) meet held at the same time in Westover's gym in Albany.

In Albany Saturday, Tift County's Angels took the Region 1-AAA (North) title by defeating Monroe, 53-44, and Crisp County's Cougars from Cordele dumped host Westover, 53-46, for the boys' title.

"I've got nothing but praise for Bainbridge," said VHS interim coach Norman Sainz



—Times Staff Photo.



—Times Staff Photo.

after the Bearcats cut down his Wildcats for the third time this season. "These people got to be number one because they play like it."

"We played with them as long as we could but we just gave out in the last quarter. We kept putting in bookoos of people, trying to stay fresh as long as we could. But it caught up with us."

So did Anthony.

The 6-7 giant who had been held to only nine points in the first half and three more in the third quarter stormed out like a mad man with the start of the fourth quarter and scored a dozen points, matching his total for the other three quarters combined to lead the Bearcats to their 20th victory in 23 starts.

But it wasn't just his shooting. Anthony stole passes, blocked shots, pulled down rebounds and passed with authority for one assist after another to lead the Bainbridge comeback after a game that was tied or whose lead changed hands on 17 separate occasions in the first three quarters.

It was a slim 47-46 lead Valdosta carried into the final stanza but it didn't last long. Eleven seconds in fact, until Anthony dribbled down to the top of the key, turned, jumped high and fired over the outstretched arms of Valdosta's Lawrence Lowe to put the Bearcats ahead 48-47.

Four more unanswered

known Lawrence Lowe, Valdosta's super junior, who seemed to have the best of things going his way for the first half.

Lowe shot, rebounded, and passed to perfection in the first half to lead the Valdosta charge. But Anthony's "come alive" move in the fourth quarter all but erased the memory.

Bainbridge's Gene Fountain and Charles Harris managed to keep Anthony from stealing the entire show, almost keeping up with the big man in all departments to score 16 and 11 points respectively.

Bernard Robinson was high man for the Wildcats, now 15-8 on the year, and was the only man in double figures. Lowe and forward Otis Whitfield scored nine points each.

The girls game was Lowndes from the beginning and all the way to the end as the Vikettes aimed for their fourth consecutive Region 1-AAA championship.

"We thought this was going to be a rebuilding year," said head coach Charles Cooper. "But the girls have worked hard and did it all."

Thomasville coach Ben Stephenson would have been the first to agree with Cooper.

"They pressed everyone else all season so we thought we'd press them awhile," he said after the game. "But it didn't take them long to

break through that. We're just glad to have been here and hope we get the chance to meet them again."

Faye Hart scored from about every position imaginable to bring in 21 points for the Vikettes while forwards Helen DeVane and Carolyn Williams added 13 points apiece.

That overshadowed the 19-point effort of Darlene Shannon, who got 10 points of help from Mina Robinson in the cause, as Thomasville fell to an 11-13 record.

By the end of the first quarter the 18-5 Vikettes, who have not lost to any sub-region or region foe this season, had a 15-10 lead and the Bulldogettes were giving out of gas. Cooper and his girls spent the rest of the game methodically building the lead.

GIRLS	
Lowndes	15 31 41 61
Thomasville	10 17 30 41
LOWNDES (61) —	Hart 21, Williams 13, DeVane 13, Parker 6, Clemons 2, Todd 1.
Team totals:	field goals 20, free throws 21 of 28, fouls 15.
TVILLE (41) —	Shannon 19, Robinson 10, Hayes 8, Sanders 2, Thompson 1, Davis 1.
Team totals:	field goals 18, free throws 9 of 18, fouls 21.

BOYS	
Valdosta	17 29 47 53
Bainbridge	15 26 46 66
VALDOSTA (53) —	B. Robinson 11, Lowe 9, Whitfield 9, G. Robinson 6, Johnson 6, Stewart 4, Stewart 2, DeVeer 2.
Team totals:	field goals 25, free throws 3 of 5, fouls 11.
BAINBRIDGE (66) —	Anthony 24, Fountain 16, Gaiious 5, Harris 11, Barber 6, Bess 4.
Team totals:	field goals 27, free throws 12 of 19, fouls 56.

Double Take: Lowndes' Helen DeVane, Valdosta's Lawrence Lowe Use Same Position

where Bainbridge's suddenly potent defense had put them. Ironically, the game had

Students To Compete At VSC

By Times Staff Writer
South-central Georgia high school students are to compete in the third-level of the Bicentennial Youth Debates at Valdosta State College Feb. 28.

Students at the sectional competition have already won debates on the local and district levels, said coordinator Terry Carter, Valdosta High School.

The Bicentennial Youth Debates program is a nationwide program supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Students compete in three areas of public speaking: Lincoln-Douglas debate; persuasive speaking; and extemporaneous speaking.

One winner from the sectional contest here goes on to the regional event to be held in Atlanta April 2-4.

More information is available from Carter at VHS.

DE Competition Set This Weekend

By Times Staff Writer
Twelve Valdosta High School students are to compete in the district Distributive Education competition in Savannah this weekend.

Students representing 14 schools from Brooks County to the coast are to participate in the contest, said Norman Greene, VHS DE coordinator.

Those students attending from here, and their area of competition, include:

Wanda Clayton — girl student of the year and merchandising information manual; Tom Ringos — boy student of the year and studies in marketing; the service industry.

Debbie Morrison — business spelling; Marie Eunice — display; Debbie Bruck — business speech; Julie Pulliam — sales demonstration;

Redden Hart — business math; David Sumner — job interview; Mike Godwin — petroleum marketing; Roy Nicholson — food marketing.

Desiree Smith — area distribution manual; and Liz Grant — studies in marketing; automotive industry.

In addition, Joey Joiner is to be taking the state officers' examination, said Greene.

Noteworthy LHS, VHS Students Capture 14 Firsts

Thirty-seven local high school students participated in district competition recently capturing 14 first places, eight second places and two third places.

Students from Lowndes and Valdosta high schools attended Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) District VI Skilled Olympics. The events were held at Ben Hill-Irwin County Area Vocational-Technical School at Fitzgerald.

There were 21 skill and leadership contests in fields from diesel mechanics to extemporaneous speaking.

First place winners are to compete in State VICA Skilled Olympics in Atlanta April 9-11.

The following Lowndes High students were first place winners: Thad Heanev, diesel mechanics. Herman Rozier, radio and television and Michele Adams, dental assistant.

Valdosta High students taking first places were: Suzanne Vickers, prepared speech, Russell Smith, commercial food trades, Cathy Redkevitch, graphic communications, Bruce Smith, sheet metals, Wayne Collier, carpentry, Joey Ivansco, machine shop, Belinda Davis, medical assistant, Robert Fennell, air conditioning and refrigeration;

Also: Johnny Hyman, architectural drafting, Steve Seckinger, machine drafting; Joy Feinberg, Brad Cohen, Paul Evans, Robert Hopkins, Becky Williams, Hoyt Hurt, Natasha Mathews, opening and closing ceremonies team

I-AAA Repetition

Vikettes Meet Angels, Dosta Hosts Bainbridge In Finals Tonight

By JULIAN MILLER
History repeats itself. And so do basketball teams. But not all basketball teams all the time.

Lowndes High's Vikettes, Tift County's Angels and Bainbridge's Bearcats did indeed repeat themselves with victories in the semi-final round of the Region I-AAA high school basketball tournament here Friday night.

Valdosta's Wildcats and Crisp County's Cougars did not — fortunately for the Wildcats and quite unfortunately for the boys from Cordele.

While the above three mentioned teams went about business as usual, following the form chart to eliminate foes they had already defeated earlier in the season, Coach Norman Sainz's Wildcats and Frank Smith's Cougars were scratching to a rematch of an earlier 47-46 Crisp victory over Valdosta in the finale of the semifinals.

But much to the dismay of the taller, quicker Cougars, who never did lead in the game, this time this Wildcats came out on top in a 57-51 shootout that was every bit as thrilling as their last-second victory here a month ago.

That put the Wildcats into tonight's finals of the region tournament against the powerful, top-seeded Bainbridge Bearcats, who eliminated Westover with a 57-42 victory.

At the same time, things went on as usual for the Vikettes of coach Charles Cooper, surviving a surprising close first half to sideline Monroe's Lady Tornadoes from Albany 59-26 and gain a berth in tonight's 7 p.m. championship game against Tift County's Angels, 42-38 winners over Thomasville.

But more important, Friday's wins gave each of tonight's finalists a guaranteed berth in the state playoffs to begin next week in Douglas as either region runners-up or champions.

Here's a breakdown of the way things went in each game in the order they were

played:

GIRLS TIFT 42, THOMASVILLE 38

It was one of those nip-and-tuck ball games until with 3:51 remaining in the third quarter, Tift's Linda Dixon and Sylvia Vickers bumped in back-to-back layups to break a 27-27 tie and put the Angels ahead for good.

Dixon and Vickers scored 16 and 12 points respectively to pace the Angels, Region I-AAA (North) champions. As usual the Bulldogettes duo of Darlene Shannon and Debbie Hayes paced Thomasville, the south runners-up, with 17 and 10 points respectively.

BOYS BAINBRIDGE 57, WESTOVER 42

Class is a five-letter word. So is Benny, the first name of Bainbridge ace Benny Anthony. And Benny showed all the class the Bearcats needed in registering the victory.

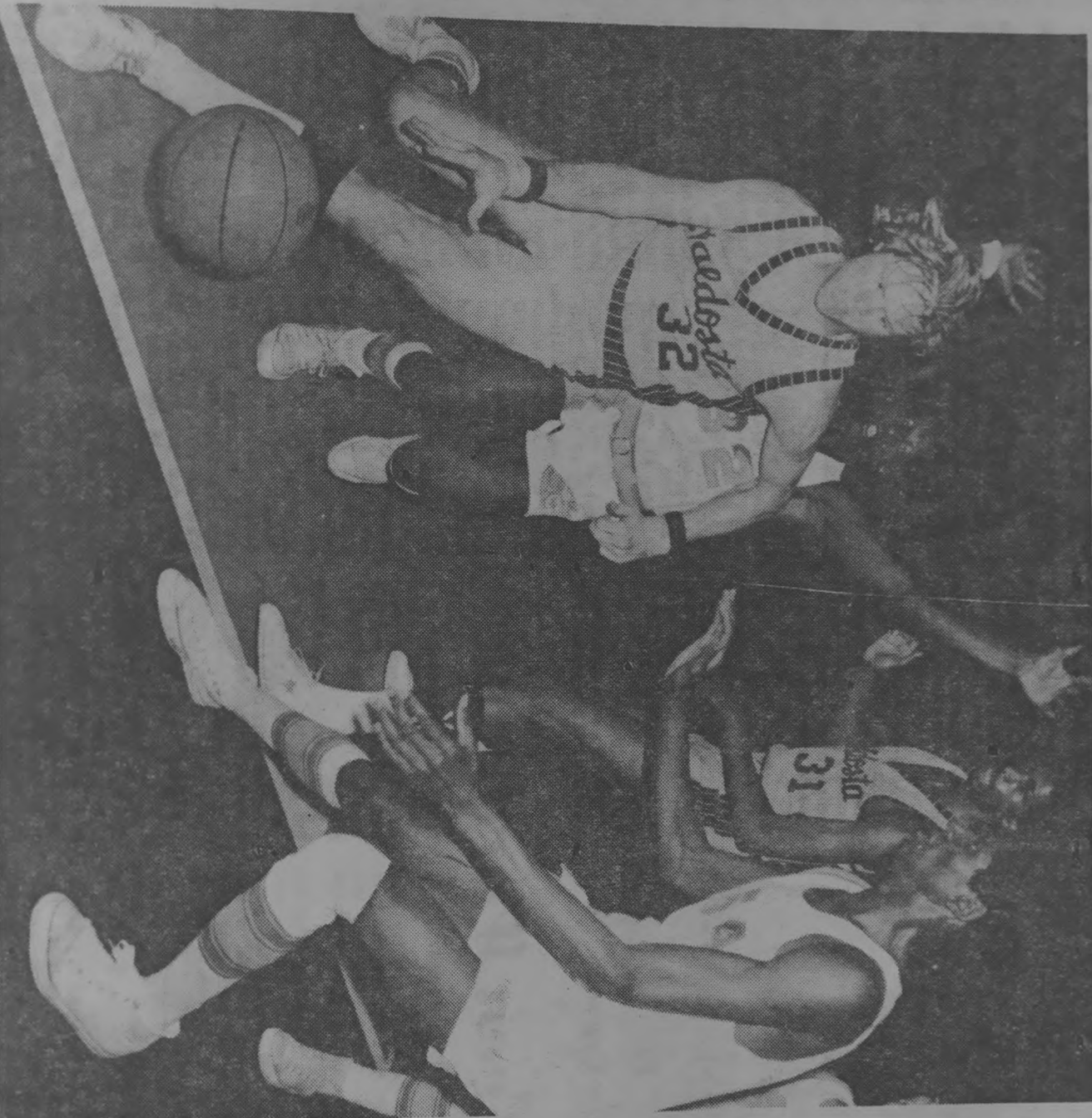
Saddled by a zone defense that left Westover's Paul Brown to take him on man-for-man, Anthony simply played it cool and concentrated on rebounds, passes and, believe it or not, ball handling, and left the scoring up to his teammates while Patriot after Patriot found themselves in foul trouble trying to keep up with him.

The Bearcats, Region I-AAA (South) champions and defending region titlholders, had the lead sewn up in the first quarter and never lost it as the 6-7 senior and junior forward Donald Barber pumped in 16 points apiece to lead the cause and Charles Harris added 10 more.

"We played a lousy game," admitted Bainbridge Coach Charles Bess after the victory which assured his team of the playoffs trip. "I don't know if it was timing—we had to take them out of school to get here this early and we played at 6 o'clock, or what. But we'd better do better tomorrow."

Archie Brown was high scorer for the Pats, who held Anthony scoreless in the second quarter, to only eight points in the first half, and two more in the third quarter.

LOWNDES 59, MONROE 26
Charles Cooper is full of old



Valdosta's Billy DeMersemann Dribbles By Crisp's Tommy Lewis

cliques like "we'll just play them one at a time and forget about past games in the tournament."

But their meanings rang out clearly when Monroe's Tornadoes, trounced 69-37 by the Vikettes just three games ago, stuck right by the Lowndes girls for most of the first half.

second half to blister the nets for all 13 of her total. Anelle Mathis was the only Tornado in double figures and scored 18 of the team's 26 points.

BOYS

DOSTA 57, CRISP 51
The crowd in VHS' almost full gymnasium never stopped screaming. First it was Valdosta who built up as much as 13 point leads over the highly favored Cougars. And then it was Crisp, who managed to whittle it down to four in the second half.

But the 'Cats would never let go and even interim coach Norman Sainz, who put them in the playoffs, can't for the life of him figure out who was the hero.

Was it Lawrence Lowe, the still improving junior who did everything a basketball player can do in the first three minutes to put his team ahead, or 6-7 George Robinson, who almost out-scored his brother Bernard and fought tooth and toenail for rebounds?

Or was it Bernard, who put on a ball handling exhibition in the final quarter to stifle the Cougars, or Leon Johnson who put on ball handling and outside shooting displays all night?

"There isn't one hero, you'd have to give it to them all," Sainz said. "Billy DeMersemann helped us in the clutch and we played a lot of other people. Don't take anything away from Crisp County. They've got a fine team."

"But our team has come a long way...much farther than most people thought we'd come."
Sparked by Lowe, who shot, rebounded, dribbled, blocked and unbelievably shots and literally fought for loose balls, the 'Cats stormed a 11-3 lead before the Cougars ever woke up.

Double teaming 6-8 Tommy Lewis and even quicker Frankie Lemmons, the 'Cats dominated the backboards the entire first half.

The Cougars came out in the second half ready to play and proved it by dominating play. But when Crisp finally whittled the lead down to five, 50-45, Lowe responded with a

three-point play with 2:55 remaining.

Crisp pressed on until the last 48 seconds when Johnson stole a pass under the Cougar bucket and raced unscathed to the VHS goal to pad the lead to 57-49 and assure Crisp of a rest on the sidelines with a 17-8 record.

Bernard Robinson scored 16 points in the battle, George Robinson 14, Lowe 13, and Johnson 12 to pace the now 16-8 'Cats. Lemmons led Crisp with 22 points and Lewis added 16.

In tonight's finals, Lowndes meets a Tift team they have beaten by a total 100 points in three earlier games this season at 7 p.m. The Wildcats square off against a Bainbridge team that has beaten them three times this season, once for the sub-region title, 59-56, 80-71 and 66-53.

"They've beaten us three times this season and it's been a ball game every time," Sainz recalled. "We hope to do a few different things tonight and hope we can change that."

GIRLS

TIFT — Dixon 15, Vickers 12, Graydon 5, Woods 4, Houston 5, Sparks, Mitchell.
Team totals: field goals 20, free throws 2 of 7, fouls 11.
THOMASVILLE (38) — Shannon 17, Hayes 10, Thurman 5, Robinson 2, Blackshear 2, Sanders 2.
Team totals: field goals 17, free throws 4 of 7, fouls 11.

BOYS

Bainbridge — 15, 29, 43, 57
Westover — 8, 16, 27, 42
Bainbridge (57) — Anthony 16, Harris 10, D. Barber 16, Fountain 8, Bess 6, Gairns 4, Mock 2, R. Barber, Hand, Mullins.
Team totals: field goals 26, free throws 5 of 10, fouls 9.
WESTOVER (42) — Chairman 15, Hubbard 8, Alexander 6, Brown 5, Dixon, White, Martin, Longstaff.
Team totals: field goals 20, free throws 2 of 3, fouls 13.

GIRLS

Lowndes — 10, 22, 45, 59
Monroe — 8, 14, 22, 26
LOWNDES (59) — Hart 20, Parker 14, DeVane 15, Williams 6, Payer 5, Clemens 1, Blanton, Todd, Kovach, Roberts, Carter, Montgomery, Brown, Copeland.
Team totals: field goals 20, free throws 7 of 17, fouls 11.
MONROE (26) — Mathis 18, Stevens 4, Easley 2, Payer 2, Green, Williams, Speyer, Brown, Holley.
Team totals: field goals 13, free throws 0 of 9, fouls 16.

BOYS

Valdosta — 15, 34, 43, 57
Crisp — 9, 20, 37, 51
VALDOSTA (57) — B. Robinson 16, G. Robinson 14, Johnson 12, Lowe 13, Stewart 6, DeMersemann 2, Whitfield, Sampson, Worley.
Team totals: field goals 24, free throws 9 of 17, fouls 17.
CRISP (51) — Lemmons 22, Lewis 16, Barnes 9, Williams 3, Daniels 3, Fawcett, Walker, Hughes.
Team totals: field goals 20, free throws 18 of 18, fouls 18.

Vikes Pull Upset, Kittens Fall Early

By MIKE CHASON

All year long Lowndes' Vikings have been hustling, never quitting and playing determined hard-nosed basketball... and still losing.

All year long Valdosta's Kittens have been hustling, never quitting and playing determined hard-nosed basketball... and winning.

Thursday night, the two high school basketball teams reversed their roles... much to the joy of Charles Cooper and to the chagrin of Glen Phelps.

Cooper's last-seeded Lowndes' Vikings demolished a Thomasville club they've lost to twice during the regular season, 83-64, for the Region 1-AAA (South) tourney's first upset and then Phelps' second-seeded Valdosta Kittens tumbled to a Thomasville team they've whipped twice already, 52-44, in another upset.

In the only other game in the tournament's opening night at Lowndes' spacious gymnasium, the Moultrie Packerettes stunned the hapless Bainbridge girls, 49-30.

In tonight's action, interim coach Norman Sainz' second-seeded Valdosta Wildcats take on Moultrie's Packers at 6 p.m. followed by Cooper's top-seeded Lowndes' Vikettes meeting Moultrie at 7:30 p.m.

In the nightcap, Cooper again takes a seat on the bench when he sends his now

6-16 Vikings against the awesome top-seeded Bainbridge Bearcats at 9 p.m.

The girls' final pitting Thomasville against the Lowndes-Moultrie winner begins at 7 p.m. Saturday night followed by the boys' title game at 8:30 p.m.

All finalists are slated to advance to the Region tourney which begins Friday at Valdosta High School against the survivors from the north portion of the region which is holding its tourney at Westover in Albany.

In that tournament Thursday night, Westover's Lady Patriots dumped Crisp County (Cordele) 44-43, Tift County (Tifton) stunned Albany 71-69 on a 35-foot jumper by Freeman Davis with three seconds left, Dougherty (Albany) bumped Albany's girls 68-48, and Westover cut down Monroe's Golden Tornadoes 57-55.

Here is a capsule report of the way the action went here Thursday night:

MOULTRIE 49, BAINBRIDGE 30

Bainbridge's Kittens, the second most powerful team in the entire region a year ago, showed why they haven't won a single sub-region game this season.

The much more physical Packerettes dominated the contest pretty much from the start, expanding a seven-point, 24-17, halftime edge into a 13-point, 38-25, third

quarter margin.

Sharon Hanks took up a lot of space on the floor and didn't leave much more in the basket filling the hoop for the victors with 19 points. Sara Edwards chipped in 13.

For the young Bainbridge girls, who lost last season's leading scorer, Carol Chason, to the Valdosta State College Lady Blazers this season, Cheryl Strickland pumped in 15 points.

LOWNDES 83, THOMASVILLE 64

"It's just like I've talked about before," Cooper beamed. "You can just forget about the regular season during the tournament. Our boys have been hustling all year and tonight it finally paid off."

It couldn't have happened at a more opportune time either as the Vikings exploded for a season high 51 points in the first half and missed by four surpassing their highest total for an entire game.

Junior Willie Bradley paved the way with 23 points but got plenty of help in Lowndes' balanced attack. Jeff Stewart followed with 18, Theodore Hunter popped in 16, and Rusty Parker added 13.

For the Bulldogs, Johnny Byrd totaled 19 points, Clifford Kerbo 12, and Larry Johnson and Ira Blackshear 10 apiece.

The Vikes were especially

impressive in their defensive tactics against the usually high-scoring Johnson who could sink but two field goals before fouling out. Kerbo and Rod Hunter also exited via the five-foul route.

THOMASVILLE 52, VALDOSTA 44

Entering the tournament as the second-seeded team, no one wanted a victory any more than Phelps and his Kittens. But sometimes hustle and desire just don't put the basketball through the cylinder.

Such was the case against the fired-up Bulldogettes.

The scrappy VHS lasses pressed the entire game, causing numerous turnovers, but just couldn't convert them into baskets at the other end.

Thomasville led almost from the start, but Valdosta did trim what was usually a 10-point advantage into three, 47-44, with 1:11 left to play on a basket by Lisa Owens. Some clutch free throws by Mina Robinson widened the gap again, however.

"I hate it for all the girls, but particularly for somebody like Rene Reid who was playing her last game as a senior," Phelps moaned. "She's just been a little ball of fire for us all year. There's just no way we can replace her."

"It just crushes me when I see the effect losing has on these girls. But we have only

one other senior besides Rene, (Yvette Council), and I'm saying right now that I believe we'll win the whole region next year. Next year will be the year of the Kitten."

Reid stuck in 10 points for the 12-7 Kittens before leaving the floor in tears in the final minutes with five fouls. Linda Berrian took team honors with 12 points.

Darlene Shannon blew past the VHS defense for easy layups and muscled underneath for several more to score 31 points for the Bulldogettes.

GIRLS	
Moultrie	12 24 38 49
Bainbridge	8 17 25 30
MOULTRIE (49) — Hanks 19, Edwards 13, Tanner 9, Smith 8, Norman 1, Moss, Thomas, Willis.	
Team totals: field goals 22, free throws 5 of 10, fouls 17.	
BAINBRIDGE (30) — Strickland 15, Harrell 5, Edwards 7, Williams 3, Floyd, Cox, Duval, Fountain, Hatcher.	
Team totals: field goals 10, free throws 10 of 21, fouls 12.	

BOYS	
Lowndes	26 51 60 83
Thomasville	12 33 51 64
LOWNDES (83) — Bradley 23, Stewart 18, Hunter 16, Parker 13, Banks 7, Bell 4, Burks 1, Greene 1, Pattillo, Jackson, Gray, Montgomery.	
Team totals: field goals 33, free throws 17 of 36, fouls 20.	
THOMASVILLE (64) — Byrd 19, Blackshear 10, Kerbo 12, Johnson 10, Posey 6, Hunter 6, McIntyre 2, Marria.	
Team totals: field goals 26, free throws 12 of 19, fouls 29.	

GIRLS	
Valdosta	8 14 24 44
Thomasville	19 25 35 52
VALDOSTA (44) — Berrian 12, Reid 10, Feix 8, Council 6, Owens 4, O'Neal 2, Powell 2, Whitehead.	
Team totals: field goals 21, free throws 2 of 5, fouls 19.	
THOMASVILLE (52) — Shannon 31, Hayes 6, Robinson 6, Davis 2, Thurman 4, Sanders, Blackshear.	
Team totals: field goals 21, free throws 10 of 21, fouls 11.	

1-AAA Play Begins Today

By Times Staff Writer

Lowndes Vikettes and Valdosta's Wildcats have been here before, but the familiar faces on their foes tonight become faded when they realize where they're playing tonight.

The site in Valdosta High School's sparkling gym but the games are part of the Region 1-AAA high school basketball playoffs and every team in tonight's opening round is in a do-or-die situation.

Coach Charles Cooper's Lowndes Vikettes, Region 1-AAA (South) champions after the tournament they hosted last week, and seeking their fourth consecutive region championship, take on Monroe's Tornadoes at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Then Coach Norman Sainz's Wildcats, sub-region runners up after 60-53 loss to powerful Bainbridge in the finals of that tournament last week, take on Crisp County's taller Cougars from Cordele at 9 p.m.

In earlier games, Tift County's Angels, North sub-region champions, meet Thomasville's Bulldogettes, South runners-up at 4:30 p.m. to start things off. Then Coach Charles Best's Bainbridge Bearcats defend their 1974-75 region championship against Westover's Patriots, North runners-up and the team that eliminated the highly favored Dougherty Trojans last weekend.

Winners from tonight's matches earn not only a berth in the finals for the region championship Saturday

night, but also a trip to the state playoffs as either the region champions or runners-up.

Losers get an early seat on the sidelines.

The finals are to get underway at 7 p.m. Saturday with the girls game and 8:30 p.m. for the boys' affair.

Cooper's Vikettes have already faced the Lady Tornadoes twice this season and walked away with a 69-37 victory. But you could never tell it by talking to the congenial Lowndes coach.

"This is the tournament now. It's a whole new

situation and we just take them one at a time," he said.

Sainz's Wildcats also faced their foes once before and he can't help but remember the outcome. A last second shot gave the Cougars a 47-46 victory in the same VHS gym.

"It's one we've got to have," the interim coach said. "If we don't win this one we know we just dry clean the uniforms."

Cooper Tabbed Coach Of Year

By JULIAN MILLER

Charles Cooper handles the announcement that he has been named Region 1-AAA girls basketball coach of the year the same way he handles every other honor he has ever won — by trying to give the credit to someone else.

"The girls did all the work and they deserve all the credit," said the veteran Lowndes High School athletic director and dual basketball coach. "And Mrs. (Jean) Griffin, my assistant coach did a great job of helping me with them."

Folks around this neck of the woods are wise to his trick by now. The Brooks County native and his Lowndes girls have now won the Region 1-AAA title for the fourth time in as many years as he has served as their mentor and the Coach of The Year honor was the second given him in two years that the sportswriters of the region have presented the award.

By the same token, region basketball fans might as well get used to hearing the name Darlene Shannon, voted

Player of the Year, for the Thomasville scoring leader who carried the Bulldogs all the way to the Region consolation game is only a sophomore with two full years to go.

The team, announced today, was selected by a committee of sportswriters covering region basketball games including Paul McCorvey of the Albany Herald, Joe Crimes of the Bainbridge Post Searchlight, Harvey Simpson of the Cordele Dispatch, Gary Johnson of the Moultrie Observer, George Lassiter of the Thomasville Times-Enterprise and Julian Miller of the Valdosta Daily Times.

Other players on the team included three from the Lowndes squad, which lost in the second night of competition in the State Class AAA tournament in Douglas, Karen Parker, Faye Hart and Marcia Player; Sylvia Vickers and Linda Dixon of Tift County (Tifton); Jerri Roche of Crisp County (Cordele); Lisa Feix of Valdosta; Sharon Hanks of

Moultrie, and Annelle Mathis of Monroe (Albany).

Cooper, who started his coaching career in the small town of Morven, has had limited success with his Lowndes boys team, but as a girls coach his record leaves very little to be desired.

Since taking over the helm of the Vikettes the Lowndes girls have posted a 89-20 record going as far as the finals of the State tournament in 1975. The 1975-76 squad posted a 21-6 record, never losing to a region team or any other team in Class AAA before the 51-38 defeat by Waycross in the quarterfinals.

"We didn't have all that much talent returning but the girls just decided they'd work for it," Cooper said. "We never did have a set leader. They all put in the same amount of work. We usually had a different leading scorer every night and because of that it helped our overall game plans."

Ironically, Parker, 5-0, and Player, 5-11, are both sophomores who played in

junior high school last season. Parker, the Lowndes playmaker and point guard, averaged seven points per game while Player averaged 12.08 but was more valuable as a rebounder. Hart, a junior, averaged 13.56 points per game but was also just as valuable on the backboards.

Shannon, a sophomore, has nailed down her second all-Region title. The Bulldogette sharpshooter and playmaker averaged 21 points per game last season and this year built her average up to 23.

A tremendous scoring threat from outside and inside she is expected to be moved to the outside next season to take over a guard position.

Vickers and Dixon were the playmaker and leading scorer respectively for the Tift County Angels, Region 1-AAA (North) Champions and 1-AAA runners-up, who lost to Macon Northeast in the first round of the state playoffs. Vickers averaged 9.17 points while Dixon fired away at a 13.48 clip.

Roche, a senior, has been

the leading scorer for the Crisp County Lady Cougars for three years. This season she averaged 18.36 points per game.

Feix, also a sophomore, was the biggest scoring threat the Valdosta Kittens had to offer as they roared to a 12-7 record in a rebuilding year. She averaged 14 points per game.

Hanks, also a veteran leader, was the top scoring threat of the Moultrie Packerettes with a 16.05 scoring average.

Mathis was the top scorer and playmaker for the Monroe Lady Tornadoes from Albany, averaging 11.89 points per game.



LISA FEIX
VHS Standout

Sainz Recommended As Basketball Coach

By MIKE CHASON

After taking over on an interim basis for half of the past season, Norman Sainz has received the recommendation of the Valdosta High School Athletic Committee as the new head boys' basketball coach for next season.

In an announcement this morning, VHS principal Lloyd Mims said Sainz had received his recommendation and lacks only the approval of the Board of Education.

In the past, the Board has followed the recommendations of the principal and the Athletic Committee almost to the letter.

"Norman did a commendable job coming in during the middle of the season like he did," Mims said. "He is certainly entitled to a year of his own."

Mims also announced Jerry Don Baker would assume the head coaching position with the VHS girls' team, succeeding Glen Phelps who served two years in that capacity.

Both coaches are also to assist in the VHS football program under the direction of head coach Nick Hyder, and teach physical education at the school.

"I'm looking forward to being at a high school in a fulltime capacity," Sainz said. "I felt like I had a chance to get the job, but I understood all along there was never any commitment by anybody."

Sainz, a Valdosta High and Valdosta State graduate, is in his fourth year at Valdosta Junior High, two of which he has served as head football coach.

He assumed the junior varsity basketball coaching spot at the high school in the 1974-75 season. He retained that post this year, but when longtime head coach Joe Wilson left the school in late December to become head football coach at crosstown rival Lowndes High, Sainz

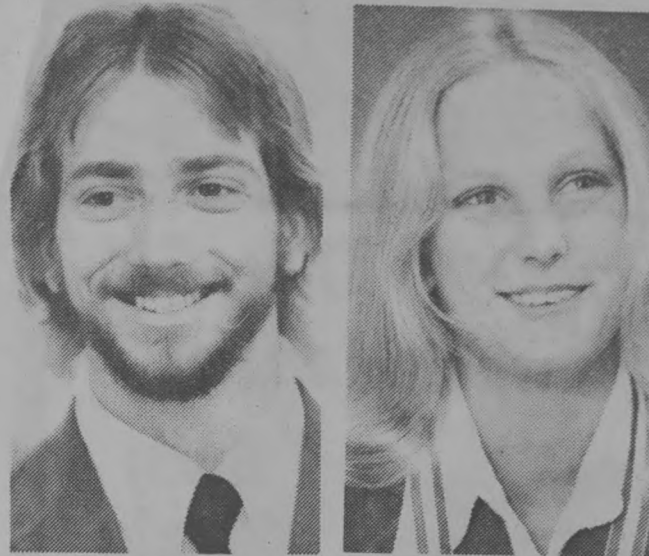
was appointed head VHS basketball coach.

The Wildcats were 7-3 when Sainz took over and wound up with a 16-10 record and were the Region 1-AAA runners up

behind Bainbridge.

In the first round of the state playoffs, VHS fell to defending state champion Southwest of Macon by a 70-56 margin on the Patriots' home floor.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Wed., April 14, 1976-6-



VICA Winners

Valdosta and Lowndes High School students came home with an armful of awards from the state Vocational Industrial Clubs of America competition last weekend. Bryan Strickland, top left, of VHS was elected state president of the occupation-training club. First place winners in state competition included Cathy Redkevitch, top right, of VHS, in graphic communications; Suzanne Vickers, bottom left, of VHS, in prepared speech; and Thad Heaney, bottom right, of LHS, in heavy duty equipment mechanics. Other VICA finalists from LHS include: Herman Rozier, Michelle Adams, Robert Linaham and Mike Lawrence; and from VHS include Johnny Hyman and Steve Seckinger. The VHS team won a silver medallion for their opening and closing ceremonies. The four students pictured are to attend the national VICA contest in Miami, Fla. in June.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Tues., Mar. 2, 1976-3-

VHS, LHS Dominate District DE Events

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta and Lowndes high schools came back with all but two of 28 finalist slots in the district Distributive Education competition in Savannah last weekend.

The two schools split up the competitions with 13 finalists each.

The results "speak well of the schools and the community," said Norman Greene, VHS DE coordinator. "It takes all of us working together."

Phil Walden, LHS DE coordinator, agreed the district competition showings of the two schools here was excellent.

"We're all smiles," he added.

Finalists — first and second

place winners — are to go on to the state competition in Atlanta April 2-4.

Finalists from Lowndes were: Roy Gaskins, public speaking; Danny Moss, merchandising; mathematics; Deborah Richardson, spelling; William Pollepp, sales demonstration.

James Tyson, display; Sabrina Coppage, job interview; Kenny Brantley, student of the year, boy; Diane Gaskins, student of the year, girl.

Kenny Brantley, area distribution manual; Diane Gaskins, service industry manual; Debbie Mueller, home furnishing manual; Sandy Ritchie, specialty store merchandising; and Ann Bartley, department

store merchandising.

Finalists from VHS include:

Wanda Clayton, student of the year, girl; Debbie Morrison, spelling; Debbie Bruck, speech; Julie Pulliam, sales demonstration;

Desiree Smith, area distribution manual; Liz Grant, studies in marketing; Tom Ringos, student of the year, boy; David Sumner, job interview;

Mike Godwin, petroleum marketing; Roy Nicholson, food marketing; Redden Hart, mathematics; Wanda Clayton, merchandising information manual; and Tom Ringos, studies in marketing.



NORMAN SAINZ He'll Be Back

Sainz Looks Forward To Another Season

By MIKE CHASON

Right now the only prediction Norman Sainz will make about next year's Valdosta High School boys' basketball team is that he'll be around to coach it.

But just that little piece of knowledge is enough to get him excited about a season still a year away.

Sainz was a relatively unknown figure in the VHS sports program until early January when he turned from a B-team basketball coach into a head coach of one of the most respected hoop powers

in Region 1-AAA.

After longtime head coach Joe Wilson suddenly announced he was leaving VHS to replace West Thomas as head coach of the Lowndes' football program just two days prior to the 1976 portion of the 'Cats' schedule, Sainz was appointed head man on an interim basis.

All of a sudden, a man who didn't play a single sport while at Valdosta High School and played only intramurals at Valdosta State College, had the controls of a 7-3 basketball team which looked

to have region title aspirations.

The 27-year-old Sainz guided Valdosta to a 16-10 overall record for the season, finished second in the region tourney behind Bainbridge and gave defending state champion Macon Southwest a scare in the first round of the state playoffs before succumbing to some excellent outside shooting, 70-56.

But Sainz still didn't know until Friday if he would be back in the hot seat next season. "I felt like I had a chance to

get the job, but I knew all along there was never any commitment by anybody to give it to me," Sainz said after learning he had indeed been recommended to the post for another year.

"Norman did a commendable job coming in during the middle of the season like he did," VHS principal Lloyd Mims said Friday. "He is certainly entitled to a year of his own."

Mims was flooded with applications for the position, reportedly from several well-known coaches at other high

schools in the area. But at least for one more year, Sainz has what he wanted.

Late in the season, Sainz admitted more than once he felt pressure to do well, hoping wins would enhance his chances of picking up the job. But for a guy who appears to take his work seriously, that kind of pressure is not surprising since it is mostly self-applied.

"I just want to do the best we can with the people we've got," Sainz said of next year's team. "I couldn't be satisfied

with losing, and I know the players we have won't be either.

"We've got some potentially good ballplayers, and some other kids are going to have to step up and fill some positions. They can be good basketball players if they work at it."

The Wildcats lose a high quality player in Bernard Robinson and three other stalwarts in Billy Demersman, James Stewart, and Otis Whitfield via the

graduation route.

However, agile middle man Lawrence Lowe is just a junior as is 6-7 George Robinson. Leon Johnson should also be a greatly improved player a year from now.

But Sainz isn't going to think about basketball for a couple of days. He can go on his frequent fishing trips, sit back, and forget about all that pressure which he is sure to feel in October when it's time to start bouncing that ball again.

Has Been-Will Be Match A Serious Time For Nick

By Times Staff Writer

When Nick Hyder first showed up at Valdosta High School and heard people talking about the annual Has Been-Will Be football game his Wildcats play each year to end their spring practice session, it sounded like fun.

More accustomed to the intra-squad games his West Rome Chieftains had played for their spring game, Hyder, who had moved south to take over the helm of the Wildcats, saw the contrast a welcomed change.

It took him exactly 48 minutes for the welcome to wear out.

"I learned to respect the people real quick like that night," Hyder recalls. "I got shutout by a team coached by a young man with almost no experience. That was my initiation to South Georgia football and I never will forget it."

It was a 20-0 defeat the graduating seniors, coached by a cocky young former VHS standout named Frank Deming, who was anxious to make one more showing before heading off into dental school, that Hyder and his Wildcats endured that night two years ago.

That's why Hyder fails to smile when someone mentions the latest version of the game to be played Friday night at Cleveland Field.

It was the season after that first game that Hyder saw what kind of insight the annual frolic can give a head coach. Memories of the shutout by their own seniors disappeared under a treacherous 3-7 season record in Hyder's first season at the helm.

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Wed., Mar. 24, 1976 - 20 -

Last year, things were different. The Rising Wildcats had a rugged time when the seniors scored early but the 27-6 victory could have been taken as an indication of the 10-2 Region 1-AAA championship season the Wildcats were to have in 1975.

"Listen, I'm not kidding when I say we're going to have our hands full Friday night," Hyder cautioned. "The team we'll be playing is actually 70 per cent of the team that won the Region 1-AAA championship last season and on offense they'll have nine of the starting players off that 1975 team."

"And they're motivated. Most of them will be playing the last football game . . . the last thing they'll remember about their high school football career. It means everything to them."

The Wildcats have been going through paces for three weeks now at the school's four week spring practice session. The game serves as a warm up to the climax of the spring session a week later when the Wildcats host Lowndes' Vikings in a two-team

jamboree also at Cleveland Field.

"We played intra-squad games at Rome and I don't think we got as much out of it," Hyder said. "It was this game two years ago that really broke me in to the way things are done here."

With only two returning starters coming back on the 1975 offense, sensational quarterback Buck Belue, now a junior, and senior guard David Cooper, Hyder is counting a lot on his defense to pull him through.

"Jack Rudolph is the defensive coordinator and he's done a fantastic job," Hyder said. "Butch Brooks is the offensive coordinator and he's done just as well. But it's mighty difficult to put together a whole new offense like this."

About 140 candidates are out for the Wildcats grid team which must be trimmed to around 95 by the beginning of pre-season football camp in the fall. But until the final cuts are made, Hyder plans on making the most of what he's got.

That means getting as many players into a game-type situation as possible. And he keeps that in mind at all times. Even naming his probable starters was a chore. Most positions are three deep with as many as four punters tabbed for duty.

"We won't really know who will actually start until Friday night," Hyder explained. "It all depends on what they do between now and then. Today (Tuesday) was one of our hardest hitting days ever, though. I guess because of the four days they had off for spring holidays. We really put it on the returning veterans today."

VHS Vs. Seniors

Has-Been Contest Set Here Tonight

By Times Staff Writer

It'll be next year's defense against last season's offense when Valdosta's Wildcats take on the graduating seniors in the annual Has Been-Will Be football games here tonight.

The 8 p.m. clash at Cleveland Field pits Coach Nick Hyder's upcoming Wildcats, who have completed three weeks of their four-week spring training session against the graduating seniors coached by Bill Aldrich.

On paper, it would seem the underclassmen, with three weeks of precision drills and a year of conditioning exercises behind them, have the edge. But Hyder has learned it doesn't always work out that way.

"I was initiated into South Georgia football in this game two years ago," said Hyder remembering a 20-0 shutout his Wildcats suffered through during his first year at their helm. The loss could have been considered a forecast of

the 3-7 season the 'Cats posted the following year.

Last year the Wildcats razed their seniors 27-6, despite an early score by the Has Beens and during the season the Wildcats went on to post a 10-2 record, winning a playoff for the Region 1-AAA title losing in the first round of the State Class AAA playoffs.

"We'll actually be playing 70 per cent of the team that won the Region 1-AAA championship tonight," Hyder explained. "We have only two players, a quarterback and a guard off that offense. They have all the rest."

The game is a mood setter for the annual spring jamboree game in which for the first time Valdosta and cross town foe Lowndes are to square off for a clash to end four weeks of drills each team in going through.

The game is to be held at 8 p.m. next Friday at Cleveland Field.

Imps Shut 'Cats Out

By Times Staff Writer

The team with the most hits doesn't necessarily win ballgames . . . just ask the Valdosta High School Wildcats.

Coach Butch Brooks' 'Cats dropped a 3-0 decision to Tift County here Thursday in a game in which VHS punched out eight hits as compared to only four for the Blue Devils from Tifton.

But there's no way to change the final score.

Now 4-1 overall, Valdosta faces its most important test of the season today when it travels across town to meet Lowndes' Vikings in a Region 1-AAA (South) matchup.

Tift also campaigns in the same region, but in the north division which it won easily a year ago.

Lowndes took the title in the south half after defeating Valdosta in a playoff. The Vikings whipped Tift and then advanced all the way to the state finals before losing to Wheeler of Marietta.

The Blue Devils made the first and last mark on the

scoreboard here Thursday, pushing across one run each in the first, third, and fourth innings.

The Wildcats had their most opportune chance for a run in the final inning, but Billy DeMersseman, sliding home in a cloud of dust, missed the plate, but not the tag.

Tift's run in the first came about when Stan Patrick singled, stole second and third, and scored on VHS third baseman Ronnie Christy's throwing error.

Patrick topped the third inning with another single, advanced to third on two wild pitches by Buck Blanton, and scored on a wild pitch by Jody Wilson who replaced Blanton for one inning.

Tift wrapped up the scoring in the fourth, when Sherman Turner drew a walk, swiped second, went to third on Mark Keith's single, and raced home on Jeff Carmichael's fielder's choice.

In contrast to Wednesday's 14-6 win over Moultrie in which the 'Cats stole 13 bases, they managed not one steal Thursday.

Meanwhile, the now 2-4 Blue Devils picked up five stolen bases including a pair by Patrick.

Valdosta got two men on several times during the game, but just couldn't advance them toward the plate. Two Tift double plays wiped out a couple of scoring opportunities.

Keith pitched the full seven innings for Tift, striking out only one batter, while walking three.

After Wilson proved unable



Cool Cats

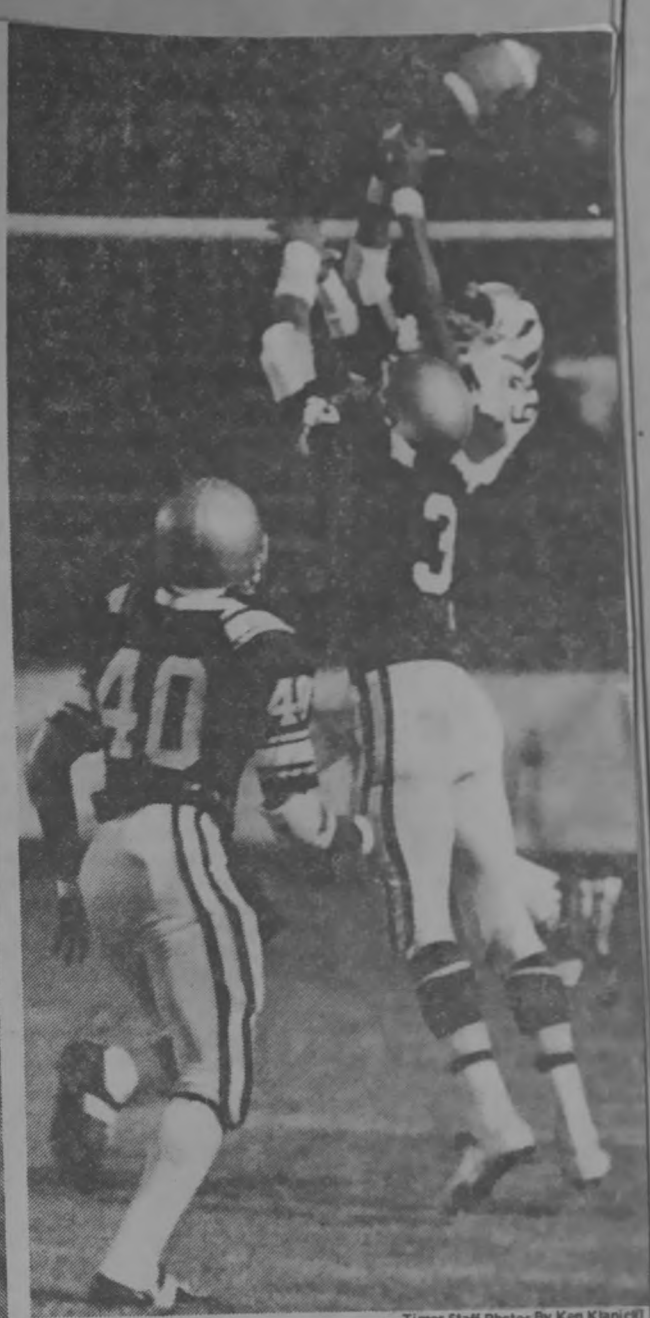
It was a motley crew of graduating seniors who took to the field at halftime during the annual Valdosta Has Been-Will Be football game Friday night. But they had all been there before. Dressed up in comical garb, the senior band members per-

formed takeoffs on numbers the VHS band has produced through the years. The fine points were lacking but the objective was there. Everyone had a good time. — Times Staff Photo by Ken Klanicki.





Down ... Not Out: Buck Belue Passes From Kneeling Position



Lawrence Lowe (3) Bumps Goal Line Pass

—Times Staff Photos By Ken Klancik

Wildcat Rally Cuts Seniors, 13-6

By JULIAN MILLER

Valdosta's Wildcats had a feeling they'd miss Billy Berrian when the triple threat halfback is graduated this June.

And Berrian made sure of it here Friday night by running roughshod over the 1976 version of the Wildcats in the annual Has Been-Will Be football game.

Stopping Berrian and 19 other graduating seniors became a full time job for the some 140 candidates for the varsity football program. But when the dust had settled the rising Wildcats had gained a 13-6 victory over their bigger brothers and obtained a little more insight into what to expect in Region 1-AAA competition next season.

YARDSTICK

	Wildcats	Seniors
First Downs	7	11
Yards Rushing	86	252
Yards Passing	110	9
Passes	8-15	4-14
Intercepted by	1	2
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Punting	4-32	3-32
Penalties	4-30	9-75

"I told you we were playing a good football team," Nick Hyder reminded after his young Wildcats, with an almost entirely new offense, had outscored the experienced senior offense with the Will Bees twice stopping senior drives inside their own five yard line.

"The Has Beens did a magnificent job. Theodore Demps, Billy Berrian and Alton Battles especially," Hyder praised. They showed a lot of character and that's what this game (football) is all about."

As for the game in particular, Hyder also feels it accomplished its objective, mainly acquainting the upcoming Wildcats with the type competition they can expect in Region 1-AAA before they take on Lowndes Vikings in the annual spring exhibition game to end

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Saturday, March 27, 1976 - 6

four weeks of spring practice both teams are currently going through.

"We wanted to play a lot of people tonight and we played 64 on the Will Be team alone," Hyder pointed out. "We found areas where we've got a lot of work to do but we have shown a lot of progress. We won this game and that win came against the team that won the region championship last season."

The seniors, who had nine of the 11 offensive starters from the 1975 team, outrushed the Wildcats 252 yards to 86 but were outpassed by rising junior sensation Buck Belue and his new backup quarterback Steve Jennings, 110-9.

If anything, the Wildcats proved they'll miss some of those seniors, such as Berrian, who ran for 141 yards and the only senior touchdown, Demps, who played quarterback for the first time since junior high days to complete four of 12 passes and rush for 57 yards, and Battles, who carried 11 times for 44 yards.

But they also showed some surprising new talent in the antics of Jennings, who became a runningback for the first time in his high school career to pick up 43 yards on six

carries, and rising sophomore Bobby Johnson who collected 22 yards on five carries.

Belue, who is starting his third year as VHS starting quarterback, completed five of 11 pass attempts for 69 yards while Jennings completed three of four for 57 and Leon Johnson, a junior who hasn't played football in recent years, hauled in four passes for 99 yards and a touchdown.

Berrian, who proved he can play defense almost as well as offense, picked off a Belue pass to set the seniors up for a drive to the Wildcat two before the rising gridders arose to the occasion. But seven plays after the seniors took over and got nowhere a Belue punt gave the Has Beens possession on their own 42 and Berrian went to work.

First the fleet-footed halfback ran up the middle for three yards. Then he rolled left on a pitch out, sagged back toward the middle and then rambled all the way to the end zone 55 yards away with a full squad of underclassmen hot on his heels, to give the Has Beens a 6-0 lead two minutes into the second quarter.

It took the upcoming Wildcats four plays to respond and they did it behind the antics of Jennings. A Jennings-to-Frank Council combination and 15 yard run by Ricky Holcomb, a junior, set the 'Cats up on the Has Been 44. Then Jennings hit Leon Johnson on a perfect pass between Berrian and linebacker Doug Parker and Johnson never stopped running until he hit paydirt to tie it up.

A perfect Robert Baldwin PAT kick broke the tie and the Wildcats had the edge for good.

It was on the first series of the second half that the underclassmen iced it. Sophomore tackle Eddie Denard recovered an Alton Battles fumble 40 yards out and the Wildcats were rolling.

Eighteen and 10 yards run by Jennings moved the ball to the Has Been seven. Sophomores Troy Thomas and Bobby Johnson ran for two and four yards respectively and then Belue sneaked over from a yard out to make 13-6 with 9:01 remaining.

The Has Beens never were able to obtain possession inside Will Be territory until the final drive when the seniors rallied to move from their own 28 to the Will Be four, mostly on the antics of Berrian, before losing possession on downs there.

For all practical purposes, that was the ball game.

Score by Quarters:

Wildcats	0	7	6	0-13
Seniors	0	6	0	0-6

Scoring:

Sen. — Berrian 35 yard run (kick failed)
Wild. — L. Johnson 44 pass from Jennings (Baldwin kick)
Wild. — Belue one yard plunge (kick failed)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Wildcats — Jennings 6-43, B. Johnson 5-22, Fletcher 2-2, Holcomb 1-15, Thomas 1-5, Belue 1-minus 1; Seniors — Demps 17-57, Battles 11-44, Berrian 15-141, Brinson 2-7, Loving 1-3.

Passing: Wildcats — Belue 5-11-59, Jennings 4-3-57; Seniors — Demps 4-12-9, Berrian 0-2-0.

Pass Receiving: Wildcats — L. Johnson 4-99, Council 1-7, Adams 1-10, Thomas 2-10; Seniors — Berrian 3-minus 4, Loving 1-9.

Punt Returns: Seniors — Demps 2-17.

Kickoff Returns: Wildcats — Jennings 1-23; Seniors — Berrian 1-27, Battles 1-11.

Defense (Number of Tackles): Wildcats — Baldwin 6, Warren 6, R. Johnson 5, Cain 5, Roberts 6, Cohen 4, Hunter 4, Middleton 4; Seniors — Sumner 10, Berrian 7, Lynch 5, Parker 4.

Madison, VHS Split

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta's Wildcats found Madison's Cougars a relatively easy prey in a high school tennis match here Monday but the Cougar Kittens were something else for the Wildcat Kittens. As a result, the Wildcats and Kittens evened their records to 7-2 each as the Valdosta boys took a 7-3 victory and the VHS girls went down 3-5.

VHS was to take on Thomasville in another dual match here this afternoon.

BOYS

Singles — Matt Smith (V) beat Mike Simer 6-3, 6-4; Art Colson (W) beat Emmett Hess 7-5, 6-3; Mike Northleit (V) beat Art Reddick 6-4, 6-1; Buck Blanton beat Mark Schmitter 6-7, 6-0, 6-1; Richard Clayton (V) beat Charles Knox 8-4; Oscar Peavy (V) beat Rodney Chittler 8-3; Aquero (V) beat William Ewardal Smith-Douglas 6-4, 7-5; A. Reddick 1-1, 6-7, 6-2; beat Northleit Schmitter; Brian Howard Moore-John Brinson (V) beat Knox Peavy 6-1, 6-1.

GIRLS

Singles — Karen Anderson (W) beat Gina Clayton 7-8, 8-6; Susie Smith (W) beat Allison Reddick 6-8, 6-3, 6-3; Bridgett Allison (W) beat Pam Holland 8-0; Susan Nordehl (W) beat Lisa Felix 10-8; Susan Hovington (W) beat Lourdez Rodriguez 8-4; Linda Hall (V) beat Rosie Knox 8-4; Doubles — Felix Rodriguez (V) beat Wenden Browning 6-0; 7-5; Holland Hall (V) beat Knox Hidy 8-4.

Belue Hurls Two-Hitter, 'Cats Edge Vikes, 2-1

By JULIAN MILLER

Elephants, Wildcats and Buck Belue never forget.

The elephants are famous for being that way but the Wildcats and Belue made it known Friday when they brought back memories of three straight losses to Lowndes' Vikings as their cross town rivals marched to the runners-up position in the State Class AAA playoffs.

Belue, a sophomore righthander, and the Wildcats, a struggling team now atop the Region 1-AAA (South) standings, finally got even.

Belue, pitching with a sore elbow from his four-inning stint on the mound against Tift County Wednesday, did it by hurling a two-hitter, with both coming in the sixth in-

ning, to hold Coach Noel George's Vikings to one run.

The Wildcats, now 5-1 overall and 3-0 in the sub-region race, chipped in two unearned runs to chalk up a 2-1 victory over the Vikings who have now lost two of their last three games and fell to 4-2 overall and 2-1 in the league.

Belue, who doubles as the quarterback for the Valdosta football team and concluded spring grid training a week earlier, was the same quiet victor on the diamond as he usually is on the gridiron. And, as usual, he gave credit to the rest of the team.

"Yeah, I got to thinking about that no hitter around the fifth and sixth innings," he admitted. "But the team played well and (catcher)

Bob White called a good game."

Wildcat head coach Butch Brooks was a little more vocal in his praise for the youngster but also spread the acclaim around.

"This is good baseball," said the stocky, ever smiling Brooks. "Belue pitched four innings Wednesday and had a little soreness in his elbow. I told him just to take his time and throw strikes. That's all he did."

With that kind of philosophy it takes some tremendous help from the outfield and both Belue and Lowndes ace Kip McLeod got it. Both the Vikings and Wildcats made circus catches in the outfield to save more runs including one unbelievable catch the Lowndes

boss couldn't get out of his mind.

"That shot their right fielder (Clark Stull) caught killed us," George said of the first inning sizzler by Lowndes' left fielder over Stull's head. But the fleet Stull, a wide receiver on the football team, put his talents to work by racing to the fence and catching the bomb football style to retire the inning.

"Those kind of plays will get one team up and another down and we were down after that. Buck did a fantastic job of pitching today. He killed us. Wouldn't let us have nothing—and then we made a few errors that sewed it up."

The Vikings were still going hitless when the Wildcats erupted in the third and

fourth innings. First White doubled, moved to third on a throwing error by Howell and scored on Steve Jennings' hard hit single in the third.

Then Lowndes shortstop Mike McKenzie made one of his very rare errors to allow Belue to reach in the fourth. An out and an error later Belue slid home for the winning run to aid his own cause in his second win as many decisions.

It was in the bottom of the sixth that the Vikings finally broke the lock on Belue's no-hitter. But the two singles they knocked out didn't help their cause at all. Instead, the only run came before both hits when McLeod, desperate to turn things around, walked, pinch runner Tom Love, stole second, advanced

to third on an error by Billy DeMersseman, the only Wildcat boot of the day, and scored on Belue's only wild pitch.

"Both teams did a good job and both pitchers did a good job," George said. "Kip pitched well but they scored on a couple of our mistakes. Sometimes you just can't do much about it."

"It was a good game...good for baseball," said Brooks, eyeing the unusually large crowd for a high school baseball game. "It was good for the teams, good for the town, good for baseball itself. I think it'll be another humdinger when we have to play them again at our place."

The Wildcats were to return to action today with a 1

p.m. match with Westover of Albany and then take on Thomasville on the road Tuesday. The Vikings were to meet Berrien Monday.

Boxscore

VHS		LHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Jmgs cf	4	0	2
Wilson lf	3	0	0
Belue p	3	0	0
Belue p	3	0	0
Krnhsa 2b	3	0	0
Stull lf	3	0	0
Chapman 1b	3	0	0
Christy 3b	3	0	0
Parker ph	3	1	1
White c	3	1	1
McLeod p	1	0	0
Love pr	0	0	0
TOTALS	27	2	5

LHS		VHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Harris rf	3	0	0
Downey 2b	3	0	0
McKenzie ss	3	0	0
Howell rf	3	0	0
Bell lf	3	0	0
Kelly 3b	3	0	0
Griffin ph	3	0	0
Landrum rf	3	0	0
McLeod p	3	1	1
Mrsch c	3	1	1
White c	3	1	1
TOTALS	21	2	0

Billy, Wildcats Edge Pats, 3-1

By Times Staff Writer
It's beginning to look like the year of the pitcher at Valdosta High School this season and senior righthander Billy DeMersseman chipped in his effort Saturday with a three-hit assault against Westover's Patriots.

DeMersseman's challenge was a successful one as the rest of the Wildcats added their two cents worth for a combined 3-1 victory over the visitors from Albany to boost their record to 6-1 in a high school baseball game here.

DeMersseman, a hard nosed slinger still wearing patches from his collision with a fence pole during a diving catch earlier this week, left 10 Westover batters swinging wildly for as many strikeouts while issuing no free walks at all for his third victory in as many decisions for coach Butch Brooks' Wildcats.

The one-man duel came on the heels of sophomore teammate Buck Belue's two-hit, 2-1 victory over Lowndes' Vikings Friday that moved the Wildcats into first place in the Region 1-AAA (South) sub-division.

Saturday's game didn't count in sub-region standings since the two teams campaigned in separate sections of 1-AAA but brought a touch of esteem for the Wildcats who noted the Patriots' 8-2 record before the clash.

It was DeMersseman himself who accounted for the winning run in the bottom of the fifth after Steve Jennings' first inning tally and before Rob White's unusual sixth inning homerun.

Jennings, the left fielder, has singled and stolen second when Belue singled in the run to break the ice in the bottom of the first. DeMersseman, leading off the fifth, doubled and advanced to third on

Belue's infield hit to set the stage for Doug Parker's sacrifice fly in the fifth.

It was in the sixth that White, a rapidly improving catcher, lined a shot to left field. The ball grazed the glove of Westover left fielder Wes Knight and plopped over for White's first home run.

Earlier in the inning, Knight had scored Westover's only run when he doubled and scored on Steve Clark's single.

The Wildcats are to return to action Tuesday when they travel to Thomasville for a match with the Thomasville Bulldogs in another sub-region meet. Thursday they host Ware County

(Waycross) in a doubleheader at Pendleton Park in Valdosta.

WHS		VHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Knight lf	3	1	0
Clark c	3	0	1
Deriso cf	3	0	0
James rf	3	0	0
L'rance 3b	3	0	0
A'son lb	3	0	0
J'son p	0	0	0
Jones p	0	0	0
McColly dh	3	0	1
T'brlin ss	1	0	0
Nichols 2b	2	0	0
TOTALS	24	1	1

VHS		WHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Jennings rf	3	1	0
Wilson lf	3	0	0
Rowe ph	3	0	0
D'rmsn p	3	1	1
Belue cf	2	0	2
Krnhsa 2b	3	0	1
Christy 3b	0	0	0
Parker dh	2	0	0
Chapman 1b	1	0	0
Powell lb	0	0	0
Stull ss	2	0	1
White c	2	1	1
TOTALS	23	3	3

WP—Nichols, Christy, Chapman.
DP—Belue (unassisted); LOB—WHS 3, VHS 8; 2B—DeMersseman; HR—White; SB—Jennings, Belue, Lawrence; S—Tomberlin, Stull; SF—Parker.
ip h r bb so
Johnson (L, 0-2) 4 5 1 4 6
Jones 2 3 2 0 2
DeMersmn (W, 3-0) 7 3 1 0 10
WP—Johnson.

Valdosta Attack Stuns Pack, 14-6

By Times Staff Writer
MOULTRIE — Valdosta's Wildcats combined just a touch of pitching with a whole lot of hitting to bang out a 14-6 Region 1-AAA (South) high school baseball win over Moultrie's Packers here Wednesday.

The game, originally set for Tuesday but delayed one day because of rain, was a marathon affair with the two teams combining for 17 hits, 10 errors, and 15 men left stranded on the bases.

VHS head coach Butch Brooks, renowned for his willingness to run, let his horses out of the starting gate against the Packers, picking up an amazing 13 stolen bases in the process.

Brooks just hopes he has the opportunity to release that speed again today in a 4:30 p.m. game with Tift County (Tifton) in Valdosta.

But he'd gladly settle for Wednesday's awesome batting attack which included three hits by Billy DeMersseman and two each by Buck Belue and Bob White.

Besides their antics at the plate, DeMersseman and Belue were called on for mound action and responded with 13 strikeouts between them.

DeMersseman started and got the win, his second of the season for the now 4-0 Wildcats. Tracy Hart took the loss for the Packers, but went down swinging with a pair of



BILLY DeMERSEMAN Leads Victory

hits to his credit. Whit Daniel's two-run homer gave Moultrie a 2-0 lead in the contest before the 'Cats had even scooped up a handful of dirt in the first inning.

But it was short-lived as Belue slapped one of his two doubles in the third frame to score David White and DeMersseman.

Valdosta surged ahead for good in the fourth when Stan Chapman and Nathan Hunt were hit by pitches, and Bob White singled to load the bases. Daniel then mishandled

Steve Jennings' liner, allowing two runs to score. White sneaked home during a Packer rundown, and Jennings tallied on DeMersseman's double for the fourth VHS run of the inning.

Although he went hitless on the afternoon, Alke Karathanasia keyed the Valdosta running game with four stolen bases.

Wildcat Box

VHS		MHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Jngs ss cf	3	2	2
Daniel ph	1	0	0
Wilson lf	4	2	1
D. Whitech	0	0	0
DMsmn p ss	5	1	3
Powell pr	0	0	0
Belue cf p	4	3	2
Krnhsa 2b	3	2	0
Bltn ph	1	0	0
Parker dh	1	1	0
Stull rf	3	0	0
Chapman 1b	3	1	2
Gordon pr	0	1	0
Christy 3b	3	2	0
Hunt ph	0	0	0
B. White c	4	2	2
TOTALS	33	14	10

MHS		VHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Harper lf	2	1	0
Wilfrd lf	4	2	3
Daniel lb	4	1	2
Hart	4	1	2
Wiggins c	3	0	0
Davis ph	1	0	0
Whiker rf	2	0	0
Tyus ph	1	0	0
Clark 2b	1	0	1
Crozier 2b	0	0	0
Beard 3b	2	0	0
Pullins ph	1	0	1
Paine cf	4	0	0
Sears ss	2	1	0
TOTALS	27	6	7

WP—Jennings 2, Karathanasia, Chapman, Christy, Daniel, Hart, Sears 3; DP—Karathanasia to Chapman, White to Chapman, Paine to Wiggins; LOB—VHS 7, MHS 8; 2B—Harper, Hart, Wilson, DeMersseman, Belue 2; HR—Daniel, Chapman; SB—Jennings 2, Karathanasia 4, Parker 3, Chapman, Gordon, Christy, White.
ip h r bb s
DeMersseman (W, 2-0) 4 2 3 5 6 1
Belue 2 2 3 2 0 5
Hart (L) 7 10 14 5
HBP—Chapman, Hunt, Parker by WP—Hart 2; PB—Wiggins.

Valdosta Sweeps Ware Co.

By JULIAN MILLER
Valdosta's Wildcats spent six innings staging a comeback and, another six proving it was no fluke to sweep both ends of a high school baseball doubleheader from Ware County's Gators here Thursday. But the 'Cats may have lost the big prize.

Behind the steady pitching of senior Billy DeMersseman and surprising one-hit performance of freshman Chuck Mayne, the Wildcats cut down the Gators 4-3 and 6-0 in the non-region battles to extend their record to 9-1 overall.

But in the course of action, number one pitcher Buck Belue, a sophomore, who was playing the role of designated hitter, was sidelined when a pitch served by Ware's Berry Tanner went wild, striking his right arm about the wrist and sending the sophomore senation to South Georgia Medical Center for X-rays.

Belue was undoubtedly expected to see action this week with the Wildcats taking on Waycross here today at 4 p.m. and Dougherty in doubleheader beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday. The severe bruise has sidelined him for an indefinite period of time.

It would have been difficult, however, to guess that the Wildcats had lost their star performer when they staged their comeback over the now 10-6 Gators.

A three-run outburst in the second inning of the first game, when DeMersseman

lost his control for a short while, threw a king-sized scare into the 'Cats, who began a methodical comeback that only ended in the bottom of the last frame.

The momentum carried over into the second game where Mayne shackled the Gators for six straight innings, as the two coaches filled their lineup with younger players, and turned the mound over to sophomore Mac McQuaig to keep his one-hit shutout intact.

Ware right fielder Jim Brogdon started things off for the Gators and Tanner kept them going as Brogdon singled and Tanner followed with a line drive homerun that hit a light post outside the park and bounced back into left field, sending VHS left fielder Doug Parker into the fence.

On the next pitch, Ware's Tommy Banks sent a zinger to left field, again sending Parker into the fence, this time registering a double as Parker rose slowly, found the baseball for the throw in and then sank back to the ground, stunned.

Two singles later catcher Jamie Rowe singled in Banks and Ware had a 3-0 lead.

The 'Cats got one back in the bottom of the frame when shortstop Clark Stull singled, took second and third on a passed ball and scored on a wild pitch.

Two runs in the sixth tied it up as Stull and DeMersseman reached on back-to-back errors with Jody Wilson

scoring Stull on his infield out and DeMersseman scoring on Steve Jennings' sacrifice.

The capper came in the bottom of the seventh when Tanner walked third baseman David White with one out, and turned the mound over to Terry Humphrey, who promptly hit Stull with a pitch and intentionally walked DeMersseman to load the bases. That's when Wilson took advantage of the situation with a hard-hit shot to center to score Ronnie Christy, running for White, and that was the ball game.

With Mayne giving up

nothing the 'Cats started early in the first frame of the second game when Johnny Lastinger reached on an error and scored on a wild pitch when the catcher lost the baseball. Chris Daniels singled, moved to second on Buck Blanton's safety and stole third to score on Mark Hodge's ground out, and VHS had a 2-0 lead.

In the fourth Mark Powell walked to score on a triple by Lastinger, who then made it 4-0 by trotting home on

Nathan Hunt's single.

Keeping the momentum, the 'Cats made it 6-0 with two more in the sixth when Barry Ganas, who had reached on an error, scored on Lastinger's ground out and a singling Rodney Gordon scored when the Ware catcher, throwing the baseball back to the pitcher, over shot his target and found centerfield instead.

Ware made its comeback try in the top of the seventh when the Gators loaded the bags with one out. But McQuaig fanned the last two batters in order to save the shutout.

Wildcat Boxes

FIRST GAME				VHS			
WCHS	abr	h	bi	WCHS	abr	h	bi
Lang, 2b	4	0	1	Jeng, cf	1	0	1
Rowe, c	3	0	2	Parker, lf	1	0	1
Gibbs, ss	3	0	0	R. Rowe, lf	3	0	0
Adrge, 3b	3	0	0	Kthnsis, 2b	4	0	0
Grne, lb	3	0	0	Blntn, ph	1	0	0
Rgby, cf	3	0	0	Chrtf, 3b	0	1	0
Brgdn, rf	3	1	2	Blue, dh	0	0	0
Tnr, p	3	1	1	Grdn, pr	0	0	0
H'phry, p	0	0	0	White, 3b	1	0	0
Banks, lf	3	1	1	Stull, ss	3	2	1
				D' Msn, p	2	1	0
				Wlson, rf	4	0	1
				Chpn, lb	3	0	1
				White, c	2	0	1

TOTALS 25 3 7 3 TOTALS 25 4 6 3

WCHS 030 000 0-3-7-4
VHS 010 002 1-4-6-3

E—J. Rowe 2, Gibbs, Aldridge, Christy 2, Stull, DP—DeMersseman to Karathanasis; LOB—WCHS, VHS; 2B—Banks; HR—Tanner; SB—Rowe, Parker, Stull, Chapman; S—Jennings 2.

	ip	h	r	bb	so
Banks	6	5	3	3	1
Humphrey	1	3	1	1	0
DeMersseman	7	7	3	2	1

HBP—Belue by Tanner, Stull by Humphrey; WP—Banks; PB—J. Rowe 3.

Second Game

WCHS	abr	h	bi	VHS	abr	h	bi
F. Lstgr, ss	2	0	1	J. Lstgr, 2b	4	2	1
Dorsett, 2b	3	0	0	Hunt, ss	3	0	2
Methis, cf-c	3	0	0	Daniels, c	4	1	4
Stalvey, rf	2	0	0	Parker, pr	0	0	0
Green, p	3	0	0	Mayne, p	1	0	0
Taylor, lb	2	0	0	Blantndh	2	0	1
Barnes, lf	3	0	0	McQuaig, p	0	0	0
Thrift, c	0	0	0	Hodgerf	3	0	1
Hamon, cf	3	0	0	C'man, lf	3	0	0
Davis, 3b	3	0	0	Powell, lb	2	1	0
				Ganas, 3b	3	1	0
				Gordon, cf	3	1	1

TOTALS 22 0 1 0 TOTALS 28 6 9 2

WCHS 000 000 0-0-1-4
VHS 200 202 x-6-9-2

E—Methis, Haman, Davis 2, Ganas, McQuaig.
LOB—WCHS 6, VHS 7; 3B—J. Lastinger; SB—Daniels 2, Blanton, Gordon; S—Hunt.

	ip	h	r	bb	so
Green (L)	6	9	6	2	8
Mayne (W, 2-0)	6	1	0	1	3
McQuaig	1	0	0	1	2

HBP—Stalvey by McQuaig; WP—Green, McQuaig.

The Valdosta Daily Times,

Thursday, June 3, 1976 - 5 -

Oregon's Crater Lake is the deepest in the United States at 1,932 feet, says National Geographic's book, "The New America's Wonders."

Times Line



Dial 242-8000

When it comes to taking advantage of opportunities, Valdosta High School officials are second to none. And the installation of a new gym floor at the school was a prime opportunity to plaster another picture of their mascot before the public. VHS art instructor Patsy Smith adds the finishing touches to the huge face in the center jump of the floor. It is to be covered with another coat of sealer to make the picture a permanent decoration.—Times Staff Photo.

Valdosta's New Wildcat



'Cats Stifle Dogs, 3-2

By Times Staff Writer
THOMASVILLE — Valdosta's Wildcats kept their Region 1-AAA (South) record unblemished here Tuesday with an extra-inning 3-2 victory over Thomasville's Bulldogs.

Now 7-1 overall and 4-0 in the league standings, the 'Cats didn't even post a run on the scoreboard until the seventh frame when they tied the stubborn Bulldogs at two-all and then won it with one more run in the eighth.

The contest featured a matchup of wits between Valdosta's Buck Belue and Thomasville's Perry Keyton on the pitching mound.

Belue, a sophomore righthander who's now 3-0, limited the Thomasville nine to only four hits and struck out six batters along the way.

Keyton had scattered only four hits until the Wildcat seventh when he gave up singles to Jody Wilson, Bob White, and Doug Parker.

Combined with a crucial error by third baseman Michael Posey, those hits were enough to tie the game.

In the eighth, Belue singled, went to second and third on an error by Keyton, playing third and giving way to Posey on the mound. Belue scored on Clark Stull's sacrifice fly.

Thomasville scored both its runs in the second inning, ironically a frame where Belue didn't give up a hit.

Mike Ramey led off with a walk, and then Willie Peoples hit one that the Wildcats haven't fielded yet.

VHS head coach Butch Brooks charged Alke

Karathanasis, Belue, and White with an error on what normally would have been a routine out.

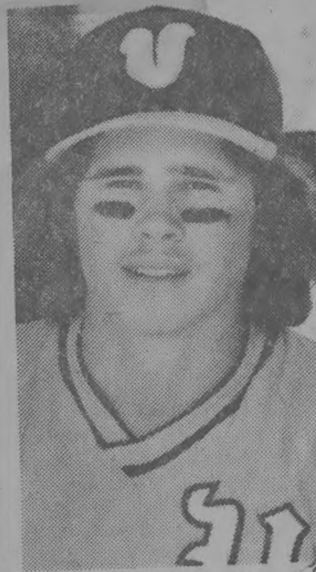
As it was, Peoples knocked in Ramey and then scored himself when the three Wildcats couldn't find the handle and then threw wild when they did scoop up the suddenly slippery baseball.

It's tough to get beat by errors, but it appeared that was to be the outcome until the VHS bats finally awoke from their slumber in the seventh.

Parker, batting in the designated hitter's role, was the only player for either team to get two hits on the day.

Valdosta is scheduled to host Ware County (Waycross) Thursday for a 4 p.m. doubleheader at Pendleton Park before taking on Waycross at its own field at 4 p.m. Friday.

The homestand continues on Saturday at 1 p.m. with another twin-bill against Dougherty's Trojans from Albany.



BUCK BELUE
His Third Win

Wildcat Box

VHS				THS					
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Jnngs cf	4	0	0	0	Ramey ss	2	1	1	0
Chpmn 1b	0	0	0	0	Peoples 2b	4	1	0	0
Parker dh	4	0	2	1	Cannady cp	4	0	1	0
DWrsn ss	4	0	1	0	Kytn p	3b-cf	4	0	0
Belue p	4	1	1	0	Springl cf-c	0	0	0	0
Krnths 2b	3	0	1	0	York dh	3	0	1	0
Stull rf	3	0	1	1	Posey 3b-p	3	0	0	0
Wilson lf	3	1	1	0	Lovjy rf	3	0	1	0
Christy 3b	2	0	0	0	Andrews lf	3	0	0	0
B. White c	4	0	1	1	Nunnly 1b	2	0	0	0
Gordon pr	0	1	0	0					

Totals 31 3 8 3 Totals 28 2 4 0

Valdosta 000 000 21-3-8-4
 Thomasville 002 000 00-2-4-4
 E — DeMersseman, Belue, Karathanasis, White, Keyton 2, Posey 2.
 DP — DeMersseman to Karathanasis to Chapman, Karathanasis to DeMersseman to Chapman; LOB — VHS 10, THS 6; 2B — York; SB — Cannady, Posey, Karathanasis; Wilson; S — Karathanasis; Nunnally; SF — Stull.

	ip	h	r	bb	so
Belue (W, 3-0)	8	4	2	3	6
Keyton (L)	7	7	3	2	4
Posey	1.3	1	0	2	0
Cannady	2.3	0	0	0	2

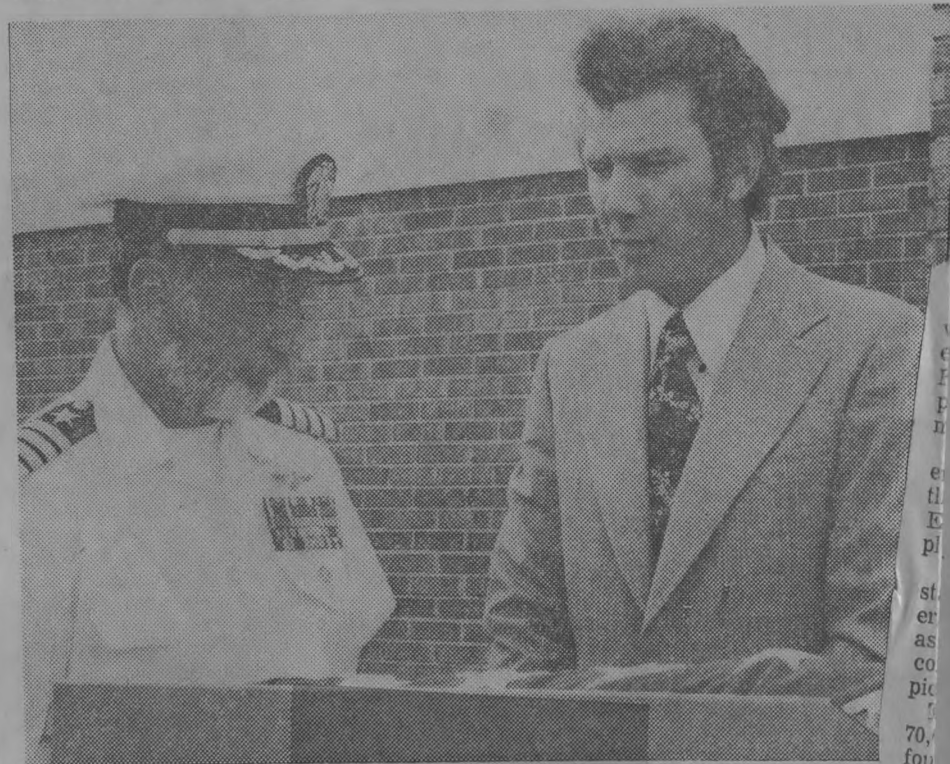


—TIMES-UNION PHOTOS BY DAVID RONNINGEN

Dedicates ROTC Building at Valdosta

U.S. Rep. Dawson Mathis dedicated a new Valdosta High School ROTC building (upper photo) Wednesday morning and presented members of the unit with a flag which has been flown over the U.S. Capitol. Navy Capt. (ret.) David Scott, commander of the ROTC unit, accepts

the flag (lower photo) from the congressman during the ceremony. The recently completed building was built for about \$55,000, including equipment. Mathis went to Quitman later to present Brooks County with a flag and a certificate designating it as a Bicentennial community.



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April, May, June.

6-4-76



Queen Of The Track

Penny Cardin beams with her crown and roses after being named Miss Thunderbowl Speedway at the stock car racing track near here Wednesday night. Miss Cardin, a Valdosta High School student, was selected

after eight weeks of voting by Thunderbowl fans at a nickel a vote. She was crowned during the track's second second annual invitational race Wednesday night. — Times Staff Photo.



Mathis, Capt. Scott Observe As Special Flag Is Raised At VHS

—Times Staff Photo.

The Valdosta Daily Times, Thurs., May 13, 1976—10—



VHS Banquet Here Tonight

By Times Staff Writer
Valdosta High School honors its basketball, track, tennis, and golf teams in an athletic banquet at the Gold Plate Restaurant at 7:30 p.m. here tonight.

VHS athletic director Wright Bazemore also is to be on hand to accept an award presented annually by the Albany Herald to the Region 1-AAA All-Sports Champion.

Wildlife Unhurt By Oil

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP)—Wildlife has not been adversely affected by the oil and gas wells in the bays and estuaries of Texas, a conference on the impact of offshore oil drilling was told Wednesday.

Robert Armstrong, commissioner of the state agency that regulates the state's 6,800 gas and oil wells, and a former state legislator who wrote much of the environmental legislation in effect in Texas, made the comments.

Armstrong cautioned officials of South Atlantic states attending the three-day conference to obtain firm geological information before issuing drilling permits. He said the stability of the earth's crust offshore determines the likelihood of oil spills.

There have been no major oil spills during exploratory drillings, according to J. Shirley of Shell Oil Co. in New Orleans.

Shirley said the only major spill in recent years came during full-fledged rather than exploratory drilling in Santa Barbara, Calif. Since then, he said, oil companies have modified procedures repeatedly in an effort to avoid spills.

Allen Pearman, author of a study on the effects of oil drilling in Florida, said that state has lost money so far on its 12 exploration wells, but he said that will change if a refinery is opened.

A dozen members of the Natural Resources Committee of the Georgia House in town for the conference toured coastal areas such as the newly renourished Three Island Beach.

Rhode Island Return Set

PROVIDENCE (AP)—Former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter will return to Rhode Island on May 25 for a day of campaigning in preparation for the state's June 1 presidential primary, an aide announced.

Russell C. Dannecker, one of the Democratic presidential candidate's state co-chairmen, said Wednesday that Carter's visit would begin at 2 p.m. and end about 7 p.m. with a cocktail party.



The Run That Wasn't: LHS' Buddy Moor Cuts Down Jody Wilson At The Plate

—Times Staff Photo By Ken Klanicki

Vikes 8, 'Cats 1 Lowndes Clinches At Least A Tie

By MIKE CHASON
Noel George summed it up better than anybody . . . "They just did what they had to do."

And that's exactly the way it was at Bazemore Field Tuesday when Lowndes' Vikings, faced with an abrupt end to their season, shocked the home-standing Valdosta Wildcats 8-1 to clinch at least a tie for the Region 1-AAA (South) baseball crown.

George's Vikes have now completed the regular season portion of their schedule with a 12-5 mark and sparkling 7-1 sub-region slate.

For them, the pressure of at least getting into a playoff is over.

But for Butch Brooks' 'Cats, the real trial is Thursday at 4 p.m. when they host Thomasville in their final regular season and sub-region matchup.

Valdosta, which slipped by the Bulldogs just 3-2 earlier in the season, must notch another win to qualify for a playoff with Lowndes . . . a loss means an end to what has been a highly successful 14-3 season so far.

If a playoff is necessary, both George and Brooks suggested Saturday as a possible date. Of course, the site and actual date wouldn't be determined until after the VHS-Thomasville game.

As was the case earlier in the season when Valdosta clipped Lowndes 2-1, errors played a crucial role in the contest.

The Wildcats committed four costly ones, allowing in five unearned runs, while the Vikings were charged with six miscues of their own, handing Valdosta its only

The Valdosta Daily Times

SPORTS

Wednesday April 28, 1976—19—

tally.
That VHS came in the opening inning on consecutive singles by Steve Jennings, who accounted for two of the 'Cats' three hits, and Jody Wilson, and a throwing error on LHS catcher Buddy Moor.
But unbelievably, that run really came too late.
Lowndes scored three times in its very first time at bat when Valdosta ace Buck Belue couldn't find the plate.
Belue, who had pinpoint control and good use of his fastball and curveball in the first game, still had enough stuff on the ball to strike out eight Vikings, but gave up seven free passes.
Now 5-1, Belue walked Kevin Downey, James Marshall, and Reubin Howell in sequence in the first inning to set up Greg Bell's two-run single which scooted just under VHS second baseman Alke Karathanasis' glove.
Howell then came home on one of three wild pitches by Belue, and Valdosta's long afternoon was underway.
Marshall further dampened the Wildcats' spirits in the second inning when he

catcher Chris Daniels who was starting only his second game as a varsity player in his sophomore season.

Regular starter Bob White has been out a week now with a bum knee. Injury-wise, Lowndes was missing a regular also. Usually superb shortstop Mike McKenzie sprained an ankle against Fitzgerald Monday. He is also wearing protective padding on his wrist, fractured several weeks ago.

"Excuses are a dime a dozen, and we've run out of dimes," Brooks admitted after the game played before one of the largest high school baseball crowds of the season.

"We played poor baseball, and they didn't. We walked a few people and made a few errors and when they got the momentum going, it was just hard to stop."

Senior righthander Billy DeMersseman (6-0) is scheduled to start against Thomasville. If a playoff is necessary, Brooks hinted he would bring Belue back against Lowndes.

LHS		VHS	
abr	h bi	abr	h bi
Harris cf	4 0 1 0	Jenigs cf	3 1 2 0
Dowry ss	3 3 0 0	Powell lb	0 0 0 0
Wishell rf	2 3 1 0	Wilson dh	3 0 1 0
Howell 2b	2 2 1 1	Downey ss	2 0 0 0
Bell lb	3 0 3 5	Belue p	3 0 0 0
Kelly 3b	3 0 0 0	Parker lf	3 0 0 0
Hagan ph	1 0 0 0	Shull rf	3 0 0 0
L'rum lf	3 0 0 0	White 3b	3 0 0 0
Moor c	3 0 0 0	Krhnas 2b	3 0 0 0
B'well ph	1 0 0 0	Daniels c	2 0 0 0
McLeod p	3 0 0 0		
TOTALS	28 8 6 6	TOTALS	25 1 3 0
Lowndes	302 220 1-8-44		
Valdosta	100 600 9-13-4		
E — Moor 2, Kelly, White 2, DeMersseman, Downey 2, McLeod, Belue; DP — Marshall to Bell to McLeod, DeMersseman to Karathanasis to Powell 2.			
LOB — LHS 6, VHS 4; SB — Downey 3, Marshall 3, Bell, Howell, Wilson, Harris, Landrum 2, DeMersseman.			
McLeod (W, 7-1) 7 3 1 0 1 7			
Belue (L, 5-1) 7 6 8 3 7 8			
BALK — Belue; WP — Belue 3.			

13

Different Ways to Help YOU

Vikes, Wildcats Tangle Once More

By MIKE CHASON

A two-day rain delay has almost guaranteed Valdosta and Lowndes will both be at full strength when they take the field Monday for their Region 1-AAA (South) high school baseball playoff game.

The game was originally scheduled for Saturday, but due to wet grounds has been postponed until Monday at 4 p.m. at Bazemore Field on the VHS campus.

Lowndes' Vikings, owners of a 12-5 overall and 7-1 subregion record, ended their regular season Tuesday with an 8-1 win over the 'Cats from Valdosta to clinch at least a tie for the sub-region title they won in an identical playoff a year ago.

Valdosta shook off that defeat to bump Thomasville 9-0 Thursday in its final regular season and sub-region contest to wind up at 15-3 and 7-1 in league play.

And now the two longtime rivals must meet again for the third time this season to see who advances to the region championship.

Coach Butch Brooks' Wildcats were probably helped most by the delay since now both Buck Belue (5-1) and Billy DeMersseman (7-0) are available for mound duty.

DeMersseman, who went the distance against Thomasville, would not have started on the hill had the game been played Saturday. But now, Brooks has entertained the thought of pitching the senior righthander.

Perhaps he's thinking of the problems Belue had against the Vikings Tuesday when he gave up six hits and walked seven batters. But he can't forget how the sophomore chunker throttled Lowndes 2-1 earlier in the season.

"We ought to be at pretty good strength," Brooks said while in a strategy session with assistant coach Charles Tarpley Saturday afternoon. "We'll definitely either go with

Belue or DeMersseman, but I don't know which one right now.

"We will have Bob White back catching for us, and that should help."

White has been bothered by a knee injury as of late and didn't play last week against Lowndes. The Vikings stole 11 bases off the Belue-Chris Daniels combination as a result.

Noel George, Lowndes' head coach, doesn't promise his team will be burning up the basepaths again, but that's really the way they've played the game all year.

"We've got to get on base to run, and sometimes that's not easy to do," George said Saturday. "We'll play the game as things happen and just see how things go.

"The rainout might help us a little because our kids have their Junior-Senior Banquet tonight, and they were probably all thinking about that anyway."

Two days rest should do nothing but help shortstop Mike McKenzie's sore ankle. McKenzie, who is also recovering from a fractured wrist, sprained the ankle Monday and didn't see action against Valdosta.

"If he can play, we're going to play him," George said. "He can handle a bat and a glove pretty good. He just makes our infield when he's in there."

George has already tabbed senior righthander Kip McLeod (7-1) to throw against the 'Cats for the third time this season. He three-hit them last time, but could they be catching on to his rhythm in a third matchup?

"I don't know . . . they know what he's got," George said. "All these boys have played with and against each other before this year. They've been playing together for a long time.

"You really never know how a pitcher's arm is going to feel anyway. I think his arm is in pretty good shape right now."



DECA's Shining Stars

Valdosta High School Distributive Education students display individual trophies awarded Thursday at the 28th Annual Employer-Employee Banquet. Left to right, winners and their awards include: Ross Thoreson, W.E. Glenn Award for most valuable DE student; Mike Godwin, Warren Horton Memorial award; Tom Ringos, boy student of the year; Wanda Clayton, girl student of the year; and Roy Nicholson, coordinator's award for the most improved student. Mildred Jackson, retired

state supervisor of the DE program, and Doug Sellars, former manager of Sears, Roebuck and Company here, received the club's two honorary life memberships. Miss Jackson, also keynote speaker at the banquet, spoke on the DE theme "Forward in the Spirit of '76." Other awards announced Thursday included Redden Hart, Rookie of the Year; and Raymond Hall, gold medal winner in the Merit Awards Program. — Times Staff Photo.

Old Reds Never Die

By The Associated Press

Darel Chaney, who wore a "Good field, no hit," tag through several seasons with the Cincinnati Reds, is making a solid case for changing that description to "Good field, occasional hit."

And he's making it at the expense of his ex-teammates. Chaney, who batted a meager .207 with the Reds before being traded to the Atlanta Braves over the winter, came back to haul his former club Wednesday, belting a two-run double in the ninth inning to give the Braves a 4-3 victory.

Chaney, who has moved in as Atlanta's regular shortstop, stepped to the plate with the bases loaded and one out, Atlanta's first of a pitch from Rawly Eastwick, the Braves' pitcher. Chaney, however, and laced it to the wall in right field for a home run. Chaney, asked to describe his feelings upon returning to the club, wanted to stand out there and clap like a fan. "I'm glad to be back," Chaney said. "I'm glad to be back." Chaney, who was traded to the Braves from Rawly Eastwick, the Braves' pitcher, however, and laced it to the wall in right field for a home run. Chaney, asked to describe his feelings upon returning to the club, wanted to stand out there and clap like a fan. "I'm glad to be back," Chaney said. "I'm glad to be back."

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games, the Chicago Cubs beat the San Francisco Giants trounced the Philadelphia Phillies shut out the New York Yankees defeated the Montreal Expos blanked the San Diego Padres 8-0 after seven innings but each team set the stage for Chaney's heroic performance with consecutive singles to Ken Healy and Earl Williams before the game.

Eastwick. "I had no fastball. I guess my arm feels weak." Chaney's grievance against the Reds, who dealt him to the Braves on Dec. 12, 1975, was that he was traded to the Braves before anybody over here," Chaney said. "I was traded to the Braves before anybody over here," Chaney said. "I was traded to the Braves before anybody over here," Chaney said.

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'Cats, Pats Begin 1-AAA Series Here

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta's Wildcats know one thing for certain about Westover of Albany when the two teams tangle in the opening game of the Region 1-AAA championship series today.

That is that they'll be facing a lefthander on the mound. Coach Tommy Stewart's Trojans, 14-5 on the year, feature a completely lefthanded pitching staff including today's scheduled starter, Phil Deriso.

The two teams, who were scheduled to play at Valdosta's Bazemore Field at 4 p.m. today, split a pair of games during the regular season with each team winning on its home field.

This is the first time Westover has been in the AAA playoffs, but the Trojans did make it to the Class AA finals just three years ago.

Valdosta tied for the south subregion title each of the past three years, but only this season were the 'Cats able to sneak out of the resulting playoff.

Valdosta trimmed Lowndes 3-2 in a thriller on Monday, scoring the winning run in an extra inning.

VHS head coach Butch Brooks said sophomore righthander Buck Belue was today's probable starter with Billy DeMersseman coming back Thursday when the two teams resume their best-of-three series in Albany at 4 p.m.

Should a third game be necessary, it would start immediately after the opening contest was completed. Westover also needed a playoff to win the league's north championship, knocking off Albany 7-1 Monday night. The Trojans and Indians ended their regular seasons with matching 7-2 league marks.

'Cats vs Vikes/It's THE Game All Over Again

By MIKE CHASON

For Butch Brooks there's never been a bigger game. For Noel George, it's just another in a long line of big games.

The game at hand is Tuesday's matchup between Brooks' Valdosta Wildcats and George's Lowndes Vikings at the VHS field at 4 p.m. At stake is the Region 1-AAA (South) title and a whole lot of pride.

The Wildcats lead the five-team sub-region with a perfect 6-0 mark just ahead of the Vikings who are 6-1 and whose only loss was a 2-1 decision to the 'Cats.

Lowndes has completed its league play and if it loses Tuesday, its season. Valdosta has another sub-region game Friday against a Thomasville club it slipped by 3-2 earlier in the year.

Should Valdosta clip Lowndes, it would win the title outright, no matter how it fares in its game against Thomasville. Should Lowndes win, the Vikes would clinch at least a tie for the flag, and maybe the whole ball of wax if Thomasville upsets Valdosta Friday.

In the two old rivals first meeting, Lowndes' Kip McLeod and Valdosta's Buck Belue were dominant from the mound. In the end, it was some crucial LHS errors which contributed greatly to the Wildcat win.

George is just hopeful those errors aren't around this time. "The game was real close, and really could have gone either way," George said. "I feel like this one will be about the same way. They've got a real good ballclub.

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

Sunday, April 24, 1976 - 12A -

going against each other and the one that gets the most breaks and the least amount of errors should win.

"We left a lot of men on base that first game. In fact, we left the bases loaded twice. I hope we can just line up our hits where we can get some runs across the plate."

Valdosta has tied for the subregion crown each of the past two seasons. Both times, it went on to lose in the ensuing playoff.

In Brooks' first year as head coach, Moultrie swiped a 2-1 decision, and then last year, Lowndes won a wild 14-11 game with a dramatic comeback in the bottom half of the final inning.

Buoyed by their win over Valdosta, the Vikings surged on to the Region crown and advanced to the state finals where they met their match in Wheeler of Marietta.

Brooks was hesitant to reveal his starting pitcher for the contest, but one has to guess it will be either Belue or Billy DeMersseman. Both are undefeated on the mound this season.

George has already named McLeod as his starter. If the game boils down to a case of relief pitchers, Valdosta has the edge. Brooks can simply insert either Belue or DeMersseman or possibly young Chuck Mayne.

Besides McLeod's outstanding 6-1 record, pitching has been a thorn in George's side. He could come in with either Joe Griffin or Richard Landrum.

At the plate, the two teams compare favorably. Defensively there is also little difference.

"We've got shortstop (Mike) McKenzie back now. He took his cast off, so we will be almost full strength."

McKenzie fractured his wrist just over a week ago and seemed to be lost for the season . . . but now he's back. His presence may inspire the Vikes if nothing else.

Brooks has much the same opinion of the game as his counterpart.

"It'll be a tough ballgame. You've got two pretty good ballclubs

'Cats Rally Past Pack To Clinch Sub-Region Tie

By JULIAN MILLER

It wasn't a long ballgame. In fact, it may have threatened the record for being the shortest. And if you missed the first inning, you missed it all, save for some nifty pitching and defensive plays.

But wins don't come any bigger for Valdosta's Wildcats who assured themselves of at least a tie for their second straight Region 1-AAA (South) playoff Friday with a 4-2 victory over Moultrie's Packers in a high school baseball game.

The win again set the stage for Tuesday's showdown with cross town rival Lowndes, the defending sub-region and region champion and state Class AAA runner-up whose

Vikings stand the only chance now of catching coach Butch Brooks' fleeting Wildcats.

That game, a rematch of a 2-1 Valdosta victory earlier this season is set for 4 p.m. at the new VHS diamond on the school's campus and the 'Cats can claim the sub-region title with a victory there.

If not, Valdosta must wait until Thursday when they host Thomasville's Bulldogs in the sub-region finale to decide whether or not they will have to play Lowndes, who defeated them 14-11 in a playoff last season once more for the title.

Until then, the 'Cats have turned their thoughts to Region 1-AAA (North) leader

Westover in a 6 p.m. game in Albany tonight.

It was over in an inning Friday as the 'Cats blooped out three singles and a fielder's choice, including a two-run shot by Clark Stull in the bottom of the first to overcome Moultrie catcher Tracy Hart's 370-foot two-run homer in the top of the inning to take a 3-2 victory.

From then on, the game belonged to Valdosta hurler David DeMersseman, who took time out to slam his own home run five feet longer than Hart's for an insurance run on his sixth win in as many decisions and Packer lefthander Whit Daniel.

Both pitchers turned in sensational performances after the heavy first innings

in the seven-frame contest that lasted only seventy minutes in a blistering sun.

DeMersseman hurled a three hitter, giving up two of those singles in the first, walked no one and struck out three. Daniel gave up three singles in the first and ended up allowing five hits, walking one and striking out two.

"Billy did a great job after he gave up that home run," a smiling but nervous Brooks said after the victory, the 14th in 15 starts for the Wildcats and sixth straight sub-region victory.

"We played good defense too but I was a little worried about our hitting. We hit the ball but always at somebody." Daniel aided his own cause

with a one-out single in the first then waited there impatiently as Hart sent a fast fall sailing 370 feet away over the right field fence to give Moultrie its short-lived 2-0 lead.

Designated hitter Andy Chapman started things off for the 'Cats in the bottom of the frame when he lined a shot to right to bring left fielder Doug Parker, who had walked and gone to second on Buck Belue's fielder's choice, home from second.

Then shortstop Clark Stull, who turned in several impressive plays at the new position, all but sewed it up with his two-run shot to extreme right to score both Belue and Chapman to put the 'Cats ahead 3-2.

The only interruption in the game after that came in the bottom of the fourth when DeMersseman charged out of his own slump at the plate with a 375-foot shot to right.

MHS		VHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Pullins rf	3 0 0	Jenks rf	3 0 1 0
Daniel p	3 1 1 2	Parker lf	1 1 0 0
Hart c	3 1 1 2	Belue cf	3 1 0 0
Clark 2b	3 0 0	Powell lb	0 0 0 0
Tyus 3b	3 0 0	C'man dh	3 1 1 1
Shard lf	2 0 0	Stull ss	3 0 1 2
Wford ph	1 0 0	D'smn p	3 1 1 1
Sears ss	2 0 0	Krtans 2b	3 0 1 0
Harper ss	0 0 0	White 3b	3 0 0 0
Payne cf	2 0 1 0	Daniels c	2 0 0 0
Wiggin lb	2 0 0		

TOTALS		TOTALS	
24	2 3 2	24	4 5 4
MHS	200 000 0-1-3-2		
VHS	300 100 4-5-0		
E -	Sears, Shepherd; LOB - MHS 1, VHS 4.		
2B -	Karathanasis, HR - Hart, Karathanasis, 3B - Chapman, Flynt, Karathanasis, 5B - Parker.		
	ip h r er bb so		
Daniel (L)	6 5 4 4 1 2		
DeVerse (W, 6.0)	7 3 2 2 0 3		
WP -	Daniel; PB - Hart.		



BILLY DEMERSSEMAN His Sixth Win

If your 't take t



Julian Miller Times Sports Editor

Wildcats Invade Columbus Sports

Buddy Sullivan set out to write a book about athletics in Columbus High Schools and ended up writing about Valdosta. Well, sort of, anyway.

Sullivan, sports editor of the LaGrange Daily News, has just published his book, "Dress Her In Orange And Blue" about the Columbus athletics and freely admits, there's quite a bit about Valdosta High School in it.

In fact, Sullivan, when writing his feature story to lead off the book, actually starts with Valdosta football, it's tradition, general excellence and it's impact on the rest of the state. "Valdosta received a staggering amount of coverage due to its tremendous domination of Georgia football over the years," Sullivan explains.

"It's a pretty extensive thing with the major focus on a span of years from 1955-68 and a special section on the 1969-75 period."

The book itself was actually to center on only Columbus schools. But that brought in Region 1-AAA and necessarily Valdosta.

"The book has a detailed account of Valdosta's contribution to 1-AAA football spaced throughout the book from 1958-73, dozens of individual game highlights, scores, statistics, player profiles, player records, school records and a profile of coach (Wright) Bazemore," Sullivan added.

Bazemore, now city school system athletic director in Valdosta, was the man at the helm of the Wildcats through their great years from 1932-1971.

The book lists all rushing and passing leaders for Valdosta from 58-68 and 1971, the year in which the 'Cats went 13-0, rolling over Avondale 62-12 for the State Class AAA crown and the mythical national championship awarded Bazemore's team in his last year as head coach.

Sullivan's book is hard bound, runs around 500 pages and sells for \$11 a copy.

Smith Nips Davis In 'Dosta Sweep

By Times Staff Writer Senior Matt Smith defeated defending Region 1-AAA champion Andy Davis, 6-4, 6-4, for the second time this season to lead Valdosta's Wildcats and Kittens to lopsided victories over cross-town rival Lowndes in a high school tennis match here Thursday.

Coach Jim Burroughs' Wildcats and John Booth's Kittens boosted their records to 14-3 overall for the season with 9-1 and 10-1 victories over coach Keith Gernold's Vikings and Vikettes.

With the victories, the Wildcats finished their regular season with a 10-3 region record, second in the league, while the Kittens won their first regular season championship with a 12-1 finish.

The 1977 Super Bowl football game is set for Jan. 9 in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

The champion Pittsburgh Steelers will face the College All-Stars July 23 at Soldier Field in Chicago.



Miss Judy Gwen Eason

Miss Eason Is Betrothed

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Turner Eason of Valdosta announce the engagement of their daughter, Judy Gwen Eason, to Vernie Joseph Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Albert Williams of Grundy, Va.

The wedding is to be May 22 at Freewill Holiness Church of Ray City.

Miss Eason was graduated from Lowndes High School and is employed at SAFT America.

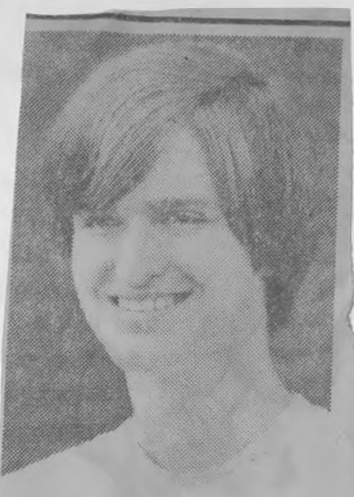
Mr. Williams was graduated from Lowndes High and Abraham Baldwin

Agricultural College. He is engaged in farming at Valdosta.

Heloise Hints Cup H

Dear "TDs": A few years ago I was a "TD" too...This is what everybody called me (for Temporarily Disabled) because I was incapacitated because of leg surgery. (But don't send me any sympathy or get-well cards - I can "dance all night" now!)

Don't Still



Appointment

Chris Keener, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Keener of 1217 Hickory Drive, has received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy. A voracious reader, the young man was nominated to the Academy by Rep. Dawson Mathis, D-Ga. Keener, a guitarist, biker and runner, completed his graduation requirements in March. He's preparing now for a June report-date to the Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

VHS Student Merit Scholar

By Times Staff Writer A Valdosta High School student has been awarded an Emory University Merit Scholarship based on high scores in the National Merit Scholarship testing program.

John David Threlkeld, son of Dr. W. A. Threlkeld of Rte. 1, is to study pre-veterinary medicine, a scholarship commission announced today.

Threlkeld is a football letterman and a member of the Beta Club. He has been awarded the University of Georgia Certificate of Merit and the Georgia Institute of Technology Distinguished Math Scholar Award.

Cats' Band Trips May Be Reduced

By Times Staff Writer The Valdosta High School band may be marching outside south Georgia less often next year.

The Valdosta Board of Education is considering limiting Marchin' Cats' out-of-town band trips to two, beginning next year.

The proposal, apparently agreed to by band boosters as well as the board's band committee, is one result of a \$3,334 transportation bill last year.

In April, band officials asked the board for a reduction in the bill for using city school buses for band trips.

The band committee is recommending several things in the wake of that request, the board set a policy maximum of two out-of-town trips per year, regardless of what transportation the 'Cats select except in board-approved special situations.

Also proposed is no mileage charge to the band for the two trips.

In addition, the bill for 1975-76 would be cut in half, if the committee report is accepted at Monday night's regular meeting.

The proposal was brought to the school board Thursday night in a public work session at the superintendent's office.

Also to be on the agenda Monday are:

Another calendar proposal for the 1976-77 school year.

Last month the board approved a calendar allowing shorter Christmas vacation, on the recommendation of Valdosta Association of Educators directors.

But the bulk of the VAE body apparently didn't like the proposal and asked the board to reconsider this month. Their proposal is two full weeks at Christmas, and one at Easter, ending school in June.

A tentative tight budget for the 1976-77 school year, with no millage increase included.

A proposal to help Sallas-Mahone School with plans to air-condition the facility.

Board Member Dr. John Ricks suggested the system agree to pay for the wiring to the school after the Parent Teacher Organization raises funds for the air-conditioning units and labor.

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'Cats Top T'ville 9-0 To Force Playoff With Lowndes

By JULIAN MILLER Billy DeMersseman provided the defense. His teammates chipped in the offense, and Valdosta's Wildcats have powered their way back into the Region 1-AAA (South) high school baseball race.

Coach Butch Brooks' Wildcats, leaders of the sub-region race until earlier this week when cross-town foe Lowndes' Vikings handed them their first defeat, roared back behind the two-hit pitching and perfect fielding of DeMersseman, to defeat Thomasville's Bulldogs 9-0 here Thursday to force a playoff.

Valdosta is now scheduled to host Lowndes Saturday at 3 p. m. at Bazemore Field on the new VHS campus for the

second consecutive sub-region title playoff between the two cross-town rivals.

"They knew what they had to do and well...they just had to do it," Brooks beamed after his Wildcats, who were supposed to be in a rebuilding season, had clinched the tie in the last sub-region game of the season to boost their record to 15-4 overall and 7-1 in league play.

"DeMersseman did a great job on the mound and defensively. Everybody did a great job defensively - it was a do-or-die situation. But I wasn't too happy with our hitting."

The Wildcats knocked out 10 singles, eight of them coming against iron-armed Perry Keyton, who was pitching with only two days

rest, and made use of four costly Thomasville errors and six free passes to collect their nine runs, only four of which were earned.

DeMersseman, undefeated in seven decisions in his senior year, gave up almost nothing short of two hits and two bases on balls, striking out three batters and turning in seven outstanding defensive plays from the mound.

The victory left coach Jack Johnson's Bulldogs with a 9-6 record for the season and a new respect for the Wildcats.

"We came over here hoping to beat Valdosta, but they just had too much for us," the likable Johnson praised after the game. "They're extremely well coached and they played a great game

today." Brooks, who passed the credit around to his assistant coach Charles Tarpley as well, met with Lowndes coach Noel George after the game to determine the site and time for the playoff.

Valdosta won the coin flip for the homesite of the playoff, a repeat of last year's game at Valdosta State College's Blazer Field in which the Vikes stormed back from an 11-2 deficit to win a 14-11 decision and went on to win the region title and advance to the finals of the state playoffs.

As far as the playoff goes, Brooks vows it'll be the same old story as in the previous two games between the cross-town foes. Mistakes will determine the winner.

"Whoever makes the fewest mistakes will win it," Brooks said of the playoff against the team his 'Cats defeated 2-1 on the road then lost to 8-1 at home. "It should be a mighty good ballgame."

"We didn't hit the ball well today. We bunted well and ran the bases a little better, but we didn't really hit it. Of course you've got to remember we had three seniors out there and before it was over we replaced one with a freshman. We weren't supposed to have anything this season."

The 'Cats looked like anything but a group of throw-togethers Thursday when left fielder Steve Jennings walked and right fielder Jody Wilson singled to lead off the inning. A double

steal sent Jennings home for what amounted to the winning run and Wilson made the circuit to double the lead on Clark Stull's hard-hit single.

Keyton knuckled down in the next three innings but finally gave way to fatigue in the fifth when the 'Cats exploded to make use of three singles, a walk, an error on Keyton and a wild pitch to score five runs with Wilson, center fielder Buck Belue, Stull, second baseman Alke Karathanasis and first baseman Mark Powell doing the scoring honors.

Keyton left the mound for third baseman Mike Posey in the sixth but the Bulldogs still couldn't get the gate locked. A single to Wilson and walk to Ricky Rowe, pinch hitting for catcher David White, put

Posey in trouble to start the frame and the two Wildcats justified his fears when Wilson scored on a T'ville error and Rowe tallied on DeMersseman's sacrifice fly to end the scoring.

An admission charge of \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students has been set for Saturday's playoff with both teams splitting the profits.

"I don't have any idea who I'm going to pitch yet," Brooks reported, then beamed as people began to snicker. The 'Cats are expected to start DeMersseman or Belue, who is 6-1 on the season and pitched both earlier games against Lowndes.

The Vikings are once again expected to go with senior Kip McLeod who carries a 7-1

chart into the game. Saturday's winner earns the right to play the Region 1-AAA (North) champion, either Westover or Albany for the region title.

THS	ab	r	h	bi	VHS	ab	r	h	bi	
Ramey, ss	3	0	0	0	Jennings, lf	3	1	0	0	
Pepls, 2b	3	0	0	0	Wilson, rf	3	2	2	0	
Canady, c	3	0	0	0	White, c	2	0	0	0	
Kym, p-3b	3	0	0	0	Rowe, ph	1	1	0	0	
LoVly, lf	1	0	0	0	Belue, cf	4	1	2	1	
Clay, ph	1	0	0	0	Stull, ss	4	1	2	1	
Posy, 3b-p	2	0	0	0	Krinas, 2b	3	1	1	2	
Hrn, ph	1	0	0	0	Lstng, ph	0	0	0	0	
York, rf	2	0	1	0	D'Warrn, p	3	0	1	1	
Sorgie, rf	1	0	0	0	Powell, 1b	3	1	1	0	
Nualy, lb	2	0	1	0	Chry, 3b	0	0	0	0	
Adms, cf	1	0	0	0	Chpn, dph	2	0	1	2	
TOTALS	23	0	2	0	TOTALS	29	8	10	7	
THS	000	0-0-24			VHS	000	0-0-24			
E-Posey, Ramey, Keyton, Nualy, Karathanasis, LOB - THS 3, VHS 8; 2B - York; SB - Loveloy, Andrews, Jennings 2; Wilson 2; Stull; 5F - DeMersseman										
					ip	r	er	bb	so	
					Keyton (L, 4-4)	6	8	7	3	4
					Posey	1	2	2	1	2
					D'Warrn (W, 7-0)	7	2	0	0	2
					WP - Keyton, Posey.					

California Firm Sued By Georgia

ATLANTA (AP) - Georgia Atty. Gen. Arthur K. Bolton has filed suit charging a franchise sales firm from Chatsworth, Calif., with violating Georgia's Fair Business Practices Act.

A temporary restraining order has been issued by Superior Court at Marietta against Automated Industries International which has an office and warehouse at Smyrna, barring the firm from doing business in Georgia.

The governor's Office of Consumer Affairs said Georgians paid \$363,400 to the firm for franchise contracts and equipment to make polylurethane and fiberglass products which the California firm was to buy back from franchise holders.

The consumer affairs office said numerous complaints were received that the company failed to deliver

now that the deteriorating, county are being hit with 1 from other county agencies who want to use it.

Since the sanitary law is only to be used

INSULTS TALK CB Radio Case Good

The Times-Union Bureau BRUNSWICK, Ga. - Local authorities said they will file a report with the Federal Communications Commission concerning a recent outburst of threats, insults and obscenities which took place on the Channel 7 of the citizens band radio.

Bill Hagler, of Brunswick, told police a young man calling himself, "Little Demon," cursed at and insulted his wife, Cindy, Monday evening over the public airways.

In the ensuing argument the "Little Demon" reported

Unbeaten In 1-AAA (South)

Wildcats Maintain Status With Victory Over Bearcats

By Times Staff Writer
BAINBRIDGE — Valdosta's Wildcats maintained their undefeated status in Region 1-AAA (South) and extended a nine-game winning streak here Tuesday with a nine-inning 3-2 win over Bainbridge's Bearcats.

The victory boosted coach Butch Brooks' Cats to 13-1 overall and a league leading 5-0 sub-region mark. The Wildcats host Moultrie Friday in their next outing.

Sophomore righthander Buck Belue turned the key to open Valdosta's way to victory here Tuesday with a four-hit pitching performance and two hits of his own at the plate.

Belue struck out seven, and walked four in his route-going stint which raised his record to 5-0 on the year.

For the second time this

season, Bainbridge's Tom Harmon took the loss for the Bearcats. Valdosta nipped him 2-1 in the Wildcats' season opener.

Belue initiated the action for VHS in the second inning when he led off with a single, swiped second and third and then scored when Bainbridge catcher Billy Mock threw wild into left field trying to snag Belue at third.

Belue's double got the ball rolling again in the fourth. He advanced to third on a fielder's choice, and crossed the plate on one of Clark Stull's two hits of the day.

The Bearcats rebounded in the sixth to tie the game when Carlton Walker singled, Carlton Gainous doubled him in, and went to third himself on the throw from the outfield.

Wildcat Box

VHS		BHS	
ab	r	h	bi
Jennings cf	4	0	3
Christy c	0	0	0
Daniels dh	4	0	1
Gordon pr	0	0	0
D'Amico ss	3	0	0
Lstinger ph	1	0	0
Belue p	3	2	2
Krithnas 2b	4	0	1
Stull lf	4	0	2
Wilson rf	3	1	0
Hunt ph	1	0	0
D. White 3b	3	0	0
Parker ph	1	0	0
C. man lb	3	0	0
Rowe ph	1	0	0

TOTALS 35 2 9 1

VHS 010 100 001-3-9-1
 BHS 000 002 000-2-4-3

E — DeMerseman, Mock, Thomas 2; DP White to Karathanasis to Chapman; DeMerseman to Karathanasis to Chapman; Kelly to Gainous; White to Chapman to Belue to Karathanasis; LOB — VHS 6, BHS 3; 2B — Gainous; 3B — Karathanasis; SB — Jennings; Belue 2; Wilson 2; S — Kelly.

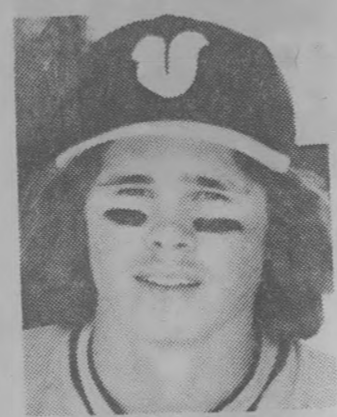
ip h r bb so
 Belue (W, 5-0) 9 4 2 4 7
 Harmon (L) 9 9 3 2 6
 WP — Harmon.

On the same play, Valdosta's Billy DeMerseman threw home trying to cut down Walker and only succeeded in hitting him in the head with the ball.

When the baseball rolled wild, Gainous sneaked home. That's the way it stood.

Jack McKeon, former manager of the Kansas City Royals, will manage Richmond, Va., in the International League this year.

Leadoff man Steve Jennings led the Valdosta hit parade with three, but was not involved in any scoring action. Ernest Riles punched out a pair of Bearcat safeties.



BUCK BELUE
 Now 4-0

By Times Staff Writer
Lowndes High School athletic boosters are to honor the Viking football team which recently completed four weeks of spring football training with a Fish Fry here Thursday night.

Head coach and county athletic director Joe Wilson said the supper meeting to kick off the booster club recruiting drive is to be held at 8 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

He said team members, boosters and prospective boosters are to attend the meal.

Bell
 McLeod (W, 5-1) 7 1 3 6 4
 HBP — Landrum by Posey; WP — Bell;
 PB — Moor, Cannady.

Second Game

LHS		THS	
ab	r	h	bi
Harris cf	4	0	1
Downey 2b	3	0	1
Howell rf	2	1	0
Kelly 3b	2	0	0
Bell lb	3	0	2
L'rum lf	3	0	1
Jordan ss	3	0	0
Moore c	2	1	0
McLeod p	2	0	0

TOTALS 24 3 6 3

LHS 000 111 0-3-6
 THS 001 000 0-1-3-0

LOB — LHS 4, THS 1; 2B — Peoples, Harris; SB — Lovejoy, Howell 2; Landrum; S — Kelly, McLeod.

ip h r bb so
 McLeod (W, 6-1) 7 3 1 0 1
 Keyton (L) 7 6 3 2 7

VHS Comeback Fatal To 'Dogs

By MIKE CHASON
 It was really only a matter of time... Inning upon inning, Valdosta got men on base and just left them stranded. It stood to reason somebody was going to knock them in after awhile.

Finally in the 11th inning after almost three hours of high school baseball, Nathan Hunt did and secured an 8-7 victory for Valdosta's Wildcats over Waycross.

VHS head coach Butch Brooks relied almost exclusively upon his junior varsity squad in the game as did the Waycross team.

"Since this is a non-region (1-AAA, South game,) we figured to play some of our younger kids," Brooks explained. "We did the same thing in the second game against Ware County (Waycross) last night (Thursday), and they did a good job."



NATHAN HUNT
 Two Doubles

and then tied the score on a daring double steal at home.

Neither team scored again until the 11th when the 'Dogs pushed across one run off Christy who relieved starter Buck Blanton on the mound in the seventh.

But David Snellgrove, pitching for Stanford who also retired in the seventh, loaded the bases in the bottom of the same frame to set the stage for Hunt's second double of the day.

Blanton was inconsistently brilliant on the mound, giving up five hits, walking six and striking out 11 batters.

Christy surrendered four hits, walked five batters, and struck out three more to pick up his first win of the season.

Wildcat Box

VHS		WY	
ab	r	h	bi
Stanford p	3	0	0
Creel 2b	3	2	1
Snerv 2b	5	1	2
Jordan c	4	0	1
Chaney lb	5	0	2
McQuig rf	6	0	0
Taylor ss	5	0	0
Smith cf	3	1	0
Carter lf	4	2	1

TOTALS 38 7 9 4

Waycross 101 200 200 01-7-9-4
 Valdosta 000 010 500 02-8-8-1

E — Creel 2, Lastinger, Stanford 2; LOB — VHS 12, VHS 17.

2B — Hunt 2, Mayne; HR — Creel; SB — Snellgrove 2, Smith, Creel 2, Stanford, Hodje, Mayne, Gordon, Lastinger, Hunt, Chaney, S, Stanford.

ip h r bb so
 Stanford (h) 6 13 6 5 8 3
 Snellgrove (h) 3 23 2 3 5 2
 Blanton 6 13 5 5 6 11
 Christy (W, 1-0) 4 23 4 2 5 3
 WP — Blanton 3, Snellgrove; PB — Jordan 4, Daniels, X—No outs when winning un scored.



Miss VHS 1976
 Miss VHS 1976, Janis Harpe, gives the photographer a big smile as she relaxes from the weekend beauty competition. Miss Harpe, a 16-year-old junior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Harpe of 7 Loganberry Circle, won the crown over 29 other competitors. Runners up, in order of place, were: Elizabeth Cottle, Brenda Hornbuckle, Gail Gregory and Stephanie Gilliland. Miss Harpe was runnerup in the Miss Patriotism pageant last summer. —Times Staff Photo.

8 Area Students Vie In VICA Skill Tests

By W. D. JOINER
 Times-Union Staff Writer

WAYCROSS, Ga. — Eight South Georgia students will compete in the Vocational-Industrial Clubs of America Skill Olympics on June 13-16 in Miami Beach.

Pam Aldridge, a Ware County High junior will compete as a dental laboratory assistant, and Jimmy Day, a Ware County High senior, will compete in sheet-metal work.

Miss Aldridge and Day were the first-place winners in the state competition in their categories and will be among 37 Georgians entered in the national competition.

IN ADDITION to the two Ware County winners, six other South Georgia students will also be in the competition for national VICA awards.

The six include Suzanne Vickers, of Valdosta High, in prepared speech; Evelyn Washington, of Worth County in Sylvester as a medical assistant; Tim Dakins of Dougherty High in Albany in automotive body repair; Greg Baldwin of Bainbridge High in radio and TV repair; Cathy Redkevitch of Valdosta High in graphic communications; and Thad Heaney of Lowndes High in Valdosta in heavy-duty equipment mechanics.

THE GEORGIA contestants will represent approximately 2,000 original entries in the 1976 state competition which was conducted during February and March by each of the 146 Georgia VICA clubs.

In April, the club winners were entered in 10 district competitions. From the district competition came 416 students who competed in the state finals in Atlanta.

DURING THE national convention the students will demonstrate the work abilities they learned in the classroom and shops prior to the selection of the national winners.

A highlight of this year's competi-

tion will be the awarding of a special Paul Revere award. The winner of the national Paul Revere award will receive a trip to Washington, D.C., courtesy of the U.S. Department of Labor, the sponsor of the award.

Drugs In School Attacked

By BECKY VAIL
 Educators are taking a hard line against drugs in school.

A statewide Georgia Association of Educators program to "stop drugs at their source" has been started. Most local teacher associations, including Lowndes County and Valdosta, are taking their own initiative in proposals.

This month the Lowndes Drug Squad has been visiting elementary and junior high schools in the county, reaching over 4,300 students, teachers and administrative officials.

It is all part of the GAE attitude to fight a growing use of drugs among school children.

A citizen-movement campaign has been urged by the GAE governing board.

Organized by the Stop at the Source committee headed in Washington, the program is to call for a massive petition campaign led by students and teachers.

Thousands of the petitions from Georgia and other states will be delivered to Washington as evidence of massive outcry against drugs.

Ken Krauttner, pro founder, said that in addition to halting the use of drugs in schools, the program would test the strength of citizens' rights to petition.

Dr. John Youman, director of Lowndes' special program, said the drug squad here has already been instrumental in educating students on the dangers of drugs.

A presentation to fifth and sixth graders this month, including a demonstration by drug dog Caesar, reached about 1,300 students, said Youmans.

About 3,000 more junior high students heard other presentations by the squad.

Valdosta Association of Educators is also developing a drug education program for city school students, said Ross Hudson, past president of the association.

The new GAE president, Lithangia Robinson, called for an intensive school-oriented drug education program in her inauguration address.

Additional information is available from local association officers.

VHS Sets DE Banquet; Merit Scholars Named

By Times Staff Writer
 The Valdosta High School Distributive Education Club is to hold its 28th Annual Employer-Employee banquet Thursday.

The event is to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Guest speaker for the dinner meeting is to be Mildred Jackson, former state DE supervisor and a past president of the national DECA board of directors.

Norman Greene, VHS DE coordinator, said the banquet is the club's way of showing appreciation to employers for working with the program during the year.

Students are also to be awarded for accomplishments in DE, he said.

By Times Staff Writer
 Five Valdosta High School students have been named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists, according to Virginia Wisenbaker, school counselor.

Those students selected for the academic excellence awards were:

Cheryl Gray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira L. Gray of 1613 Garland Place; Stuart McRae, son of Mr. and Mrs. Buford McRae of 2212 Briarcliff Drive;

George Smart, son of Mrs. Allen Smart of 2304 Oakridge Ave.; Ricky Christie, son of Dr. and Mrs. Wesley Ren Christie of 1211 Dellwood Drive; Judith Eanes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Eanes, of 55 Loganberry Circle.



Queen Of The Track

Penny Cardin beams with her crown and roses after being named Miss Thunderbowl Speedway at the stock car racing track near here Wednesday night. Miss Cardin, a Valdosta High School student, was selected

after eight weeks of voting by Thunderbowl fans at a nickel a vote. She was crowned during the track's second second annual invitational race Wednesday night. — Times Staff Photo.

Mike

Lee, 1975
Dinky Dinks

Chason

Times Sports Writer

VHS, Clinch, GCS Are Talent Laden

Most of the area high school basketball teams have put a dent in their 1975-76 seasons by now and a quick look around shows some super talent in several locations.

Starting closest to home, Valdosta's Wildcats appear much quicker than a year ago and are bolstered by a strong bench which head coach Joe Wilson has made extensive use of in the 'Cats' three victories so far.



Lawrence Lowe heads up the rebounding corps, picking off 21 against Moultrie last week. At the guard spots, Greg Sampson returns a much more confident shooter than last year when he never quite lived up to his pre-season billing. James Stewart is an exciting off the bench sparkplug.

Lowndes' Vikings don't have great speed, great shooters or great rebounders, but they do have the makings of a better than average squad if they can coordinate their efforts. Theo Hunter is a quality floor leader, and Greg Bell is not a bad shooter. Willie Bradley is a leaper, but needs to control his leaps a little better.

It's really too bad the Vikes have to compete

in Region 1-AAA (South) with the likes of Bainbridge and Valdosta. They might have a better chance elsewhere.

Over in Nashville, Ga., the Berrien Rebels of coach John Nix are the type club which makes a lot of mistakes, but is quick to redeem itself of those miscues.

Jimmy Daughtry is probably the most talented player in the area and already has college recruiters eyeing his passing wizardry and superb shooting touch. Daughtry's supporting cast should insure Berrien another winning campaign.

Panthers Are Powerful

Possibly the finest basketball team around in any category makes its home in Homerville where the Clinch County Panthers massacre every opponent that is brave enough to show up. Behind the efforts of Willie Swinson, Tony Mikell, Dennis Morgan, Andrew Wells and a corps of quality subs, this should be a banner year for the Panthers of head coach Austin DeLoach.

Clinch can play with any club around, and unless misfortune strikes or an upset occurs, the Panthers may have an easy trip to the state playoffs.

Lanier County (Lakeland, Ga.) and Echols County (Statenville) are nearby rivals of Clinch, but only the Lanier team has shown any hope of knocking off the Panthers.

Ashley DeLoach's Echols' Wildcats are short on height and talent this season, but are also low on seniors, so look out for the future. Lanier's hope rests on three returning starters and the play of young pivot man Walter Barnes.

Unless they turn things around, Brooks County (Quitman) and Cook (Adel) are both destined for mediocrity this year. Brooks' coach Billy Ellis has searched the halls of his high school for two consecutive seasons and has yet to come up with a male over 6-1.

In Adel, Paul Dyal has about the same problem. Without Judson Lavind to push around, the Hornets are getting hurt on the boards.

Generals In Command

Down below the state line, Hamilton County (Jasper, Fla.) and Madison, Fla. have opposite aims in mind this season. The Trojans from Jasper are out to reverse last year's campaign which netted only five wins, while the Madison Cougars, who almost upset the eventual state champions last year, hope for an instant replay.

Hamilton's Al Speights is a quality player, but he's going to need some help. Madison's in a tougher class, and it remains to be seen if the Cougars can compete.

Three area teams are members of the Southeastern Association of Independent Schools Region 1-A (South), but the name that comes to mind is that of the Georgia Christian Generals.

With Doug Lester doing the ballhandling, Paul Darwin doing the shooting, and Mike and Jimmy Horne taking on the rebounding chores, coach Garth Pleasant's team from Dasher reminds one of the old Donnie Wisenbaker-Tim Vick days when GCS was a Region 1-C powerhouse.

Valwood and Westbrook are both improved, but must come a long way indeed to compete with the likes of GCS or Brookwood of Thomasville.

At this infant stage of the season, it's really tough to tell who'll be in the winner's circle when it comes to handing out region trophies, but Valdosta, Clinch and GCS look awful touch in their respective divisions. Berrien and Lanier are two other clubs which are definite contenders.

Williams Makes

By The Associated Press

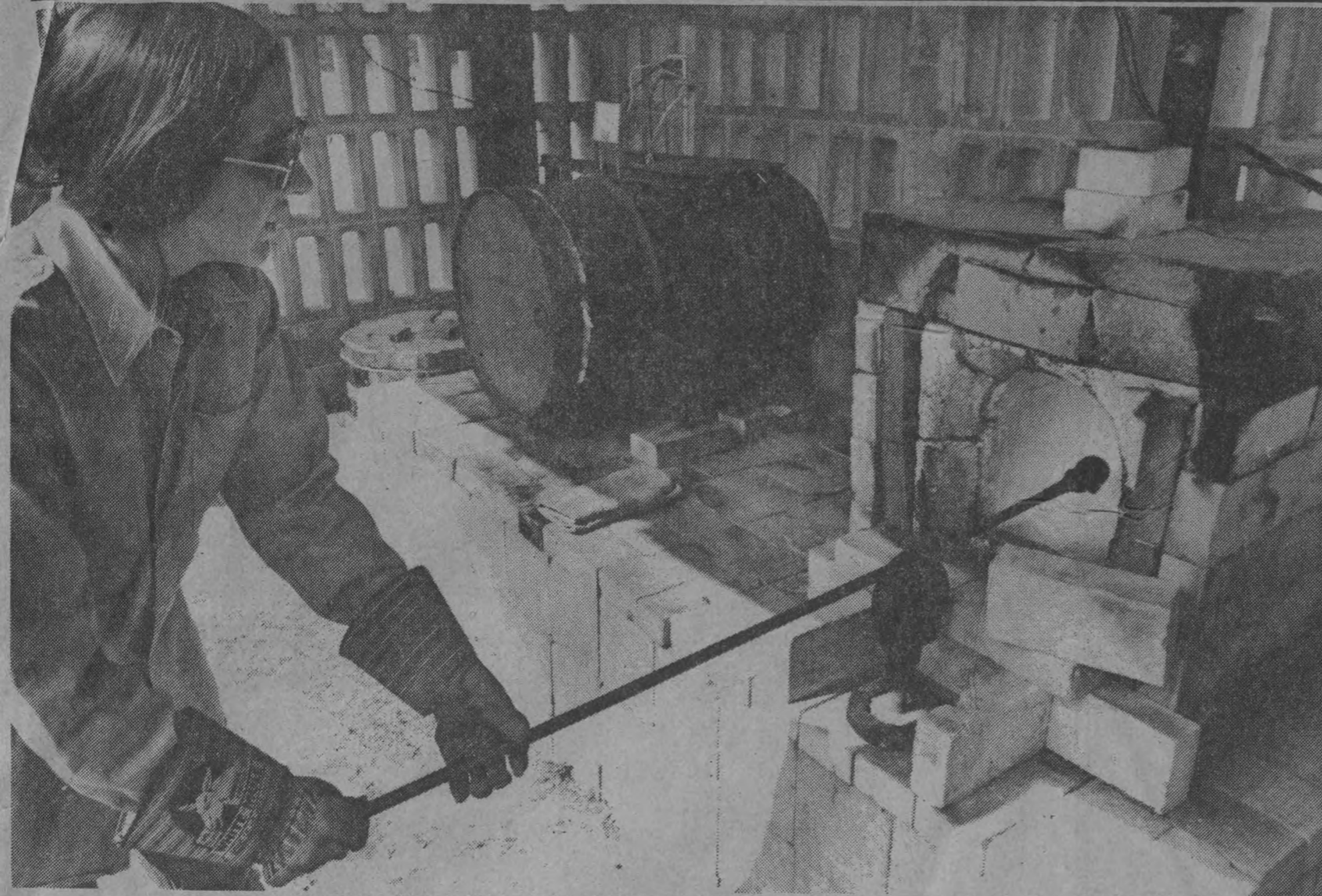
Gus Williams hasn't taken long to make his mark on pro basketball.

The slender, cat-quick rookie from Southern Cal. passed over on the first round of the National Basketball Association draft before being grabbed by Golden State on the second go-round, has given the Warriors a big boost off the bench with his speed, hustle and scoring

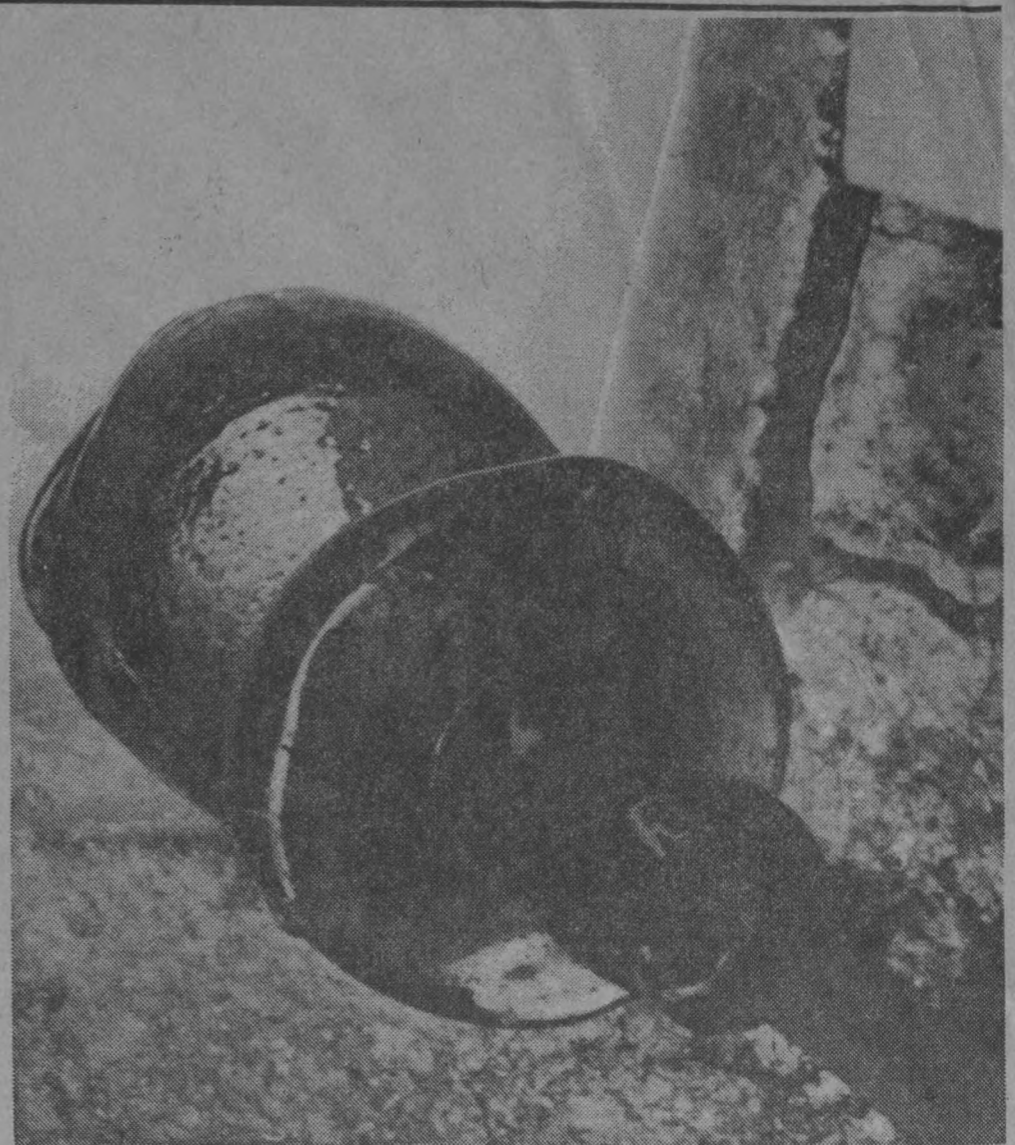
punch.

Williams came up with one of his best efforts in Sunday's nationally televised game against the Seattle SuperSonics, pouring in 27 points in the Warriors' come-from-behind 115-106 victory, their second win in less than 24 hours over the Sonics.

In NBA games Sunday night, the Phoenix Suns whipped the Chicago Bulls 114-97 and the Los Angeles



Hot Stuff: Kappy Kuntz Heats Blob Of Glass In 2,000 Degree Oven To Begin Art Work



Intense Heat Turns Hard Glass Into Workable Putty



You Huff...N' Puff And Soon That Blob Of Glass...

Glass Blowing Keeps VHS Hot

When Jerry Pilcher says things get all fired up in his glass-blowing class he really means it.

The Valdosta High School art students who take the quarter-course are enthusiastic — some so much so they stay in school to learn glass-blowing rather than drop out before graduation.

And the 2,000-degree kiln temperatures used to melt the smooth clear glass for shaping keep the class interesting, if a bit hot.

Knowing they're the only high school students in the nation learning the ancient art of glass-blowing keeps the flames of interest burning a little brighter too.

Sometimes the final product is a mug, stemware, bowl or pitcher — sometimes it's an unusual art form for decoration.

Almost all the completed work is for sale — to help the department defray the hefty cost of the program, said Pilcher, head of the VHS art department and instructor for the course.

Students are so committed to the class they're willing to stay after school to work on their projects.

The VHS course began in 1972, a surprising addition to the curriculum, even to the artist.

Pilcher said he first got interested because glass blowing is "exotic" and he thought an American artist could give him information on chemicals and heat to use in his ceramics courses.

"Seeing it done — it wasn't as out landish and exotic as we thought.

"It also wasn't as expensive . . . since we had about 90 per cent of the game won . . . with a pretty good ceramics department to start with."

Pilcher added glass blowing requires "some pretty odd looking tools."

It was the early 1970s when glass blowing

Story By

Becky Vail

Photos By

Robert Winter III

began its resurgence as an art form, he said.

After years of almost fading into obscurity, artists began looking at the heating and shaping processes as art form once again. Had it not been for some art and cultural preservation foundations, he added, glass blowing might have become a lost art.

"Glass blowing is nothing like what you see at the fair . . . the man with the propane torch," said Pilcher. "That's called 'pulling'."

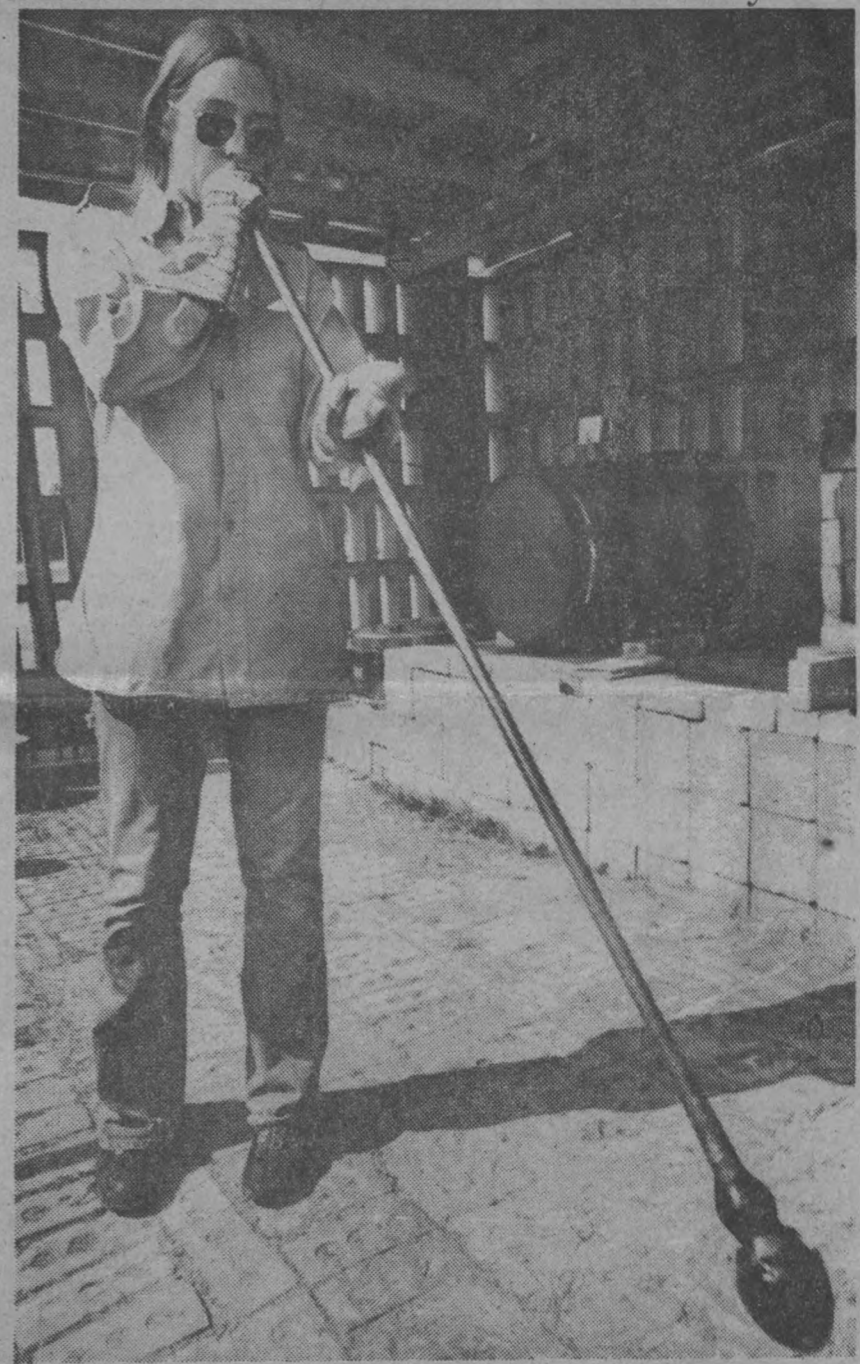
Temperatures used in the VHS glass blowing course are about twice as difficult to work with . . . and the students have to learn about the chemicals used to lower the glass' melting temperatures while increasing the shatter resistance.

"Then when we get through, it (the glass object) has to go into an annealing oven where the glass spends the night . . . with gradual cooling, allowing the crystalline structure to form . . . and keep it from shattering."

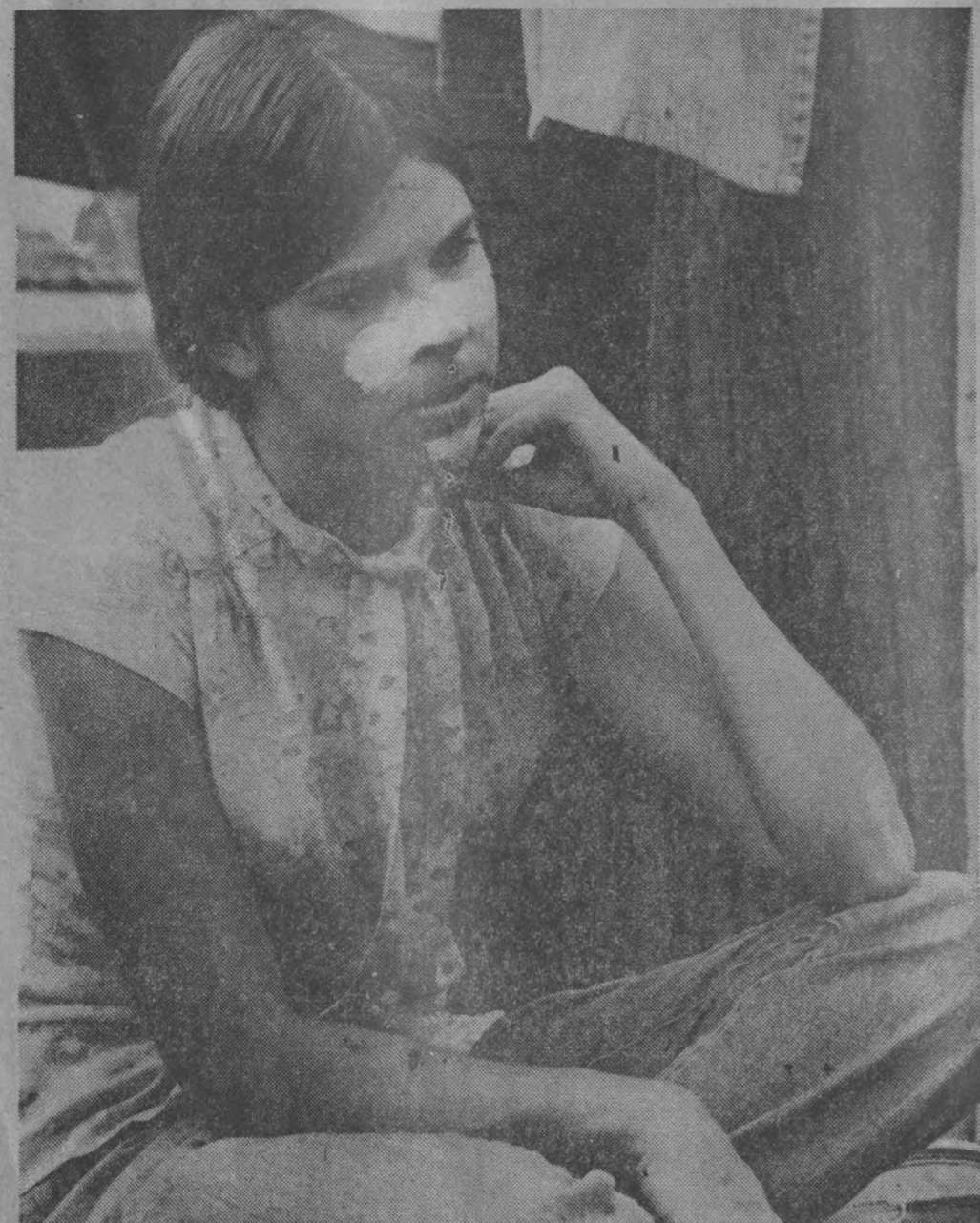
It's a costly operation, Pilcher admitted. "We try to even out the costs by selling the work the students do."

The course has other advantages. Over the last few years about 10 students stayed in school to take the course, who otherwise would have dropped out.

(See Glass, Page 4-B)



...Becomes A Hollow Container That Can Be Shaped



Protection: Student Wears Special Cream To Avoid Burn



Special Tool Shapes Bottle's Mouth



Added-On Handle Is Clipped Before Shaping

Now 12-1

May

Valdosta Bombs Trojans Twice

By Times Staff Writer

Valdosta's Wildcats raised their winning streak to eight here Saturday when they swept a high school baseball doubleheader from Dougherty's Trojans.

Now 12-1 overall, Coach Butch Brooks' Wildcats took the first game 10-6, and then emptied the bench in a 4-5 triumph in the nightcap.

Valdosta, leading Region 1-AAA (South) with a perfect 4-0 mark, returns to region play Tuesday in Bainbridge against the Bearcats.

Jerry Aubin's homer in the first inning of the opening game gave the visitors from Albany a short lived 2-0 lead.

Valdosta bounced back in the bottom half of the frame to score five runs on only two hits, one each by Buck Belue and David White.

Bobby Dillinger lofted another Trojan homer in the second frame with Jet Joiner

on base, and again the 'Cats came bounding back with four runs this time on only one safety, a single by Alke Karathanasis.

Billy DeMersseman, now 5-0 on the season, registered the hill victory, scattering six hits and striking out five batters.

Belue, now 4-0, took the mound in the second game

and one-hit the Trojans until he was lifted in the fourth in favor of Jody Wilson. Chuck Mayne finished the final stages of the long drawn out contest which featured 38 boys seeing some type of action.

Valdosta leaped out to a 3-0 advantage in the game after two innings and coasted to the

victory.

Dougherty attempted a comeback with four runs in the final two innings, but Mayne managed to stifle the rally.

DHS
VHS

221. 010. 0-6-6-4
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DHS
VHS

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