



Wildcats Top Bulldogs, 19-0

SPORTS

Thomasville Loses 'Numbers Game'

By WILLIAM O'DONNELL
Sports Writer
VALDOSTA—When Day 19, Thomasville 0, Valdosta 19.

At least that's the way it seemed here last night as Valdosta scored a record impressive victory over the Thomasville Bulldogs.

Wright Basemore's charges scored once in each of the first three quarters and then left it up to the defense to hold Thomasville in check.

And they did. The Bulldogs picked up only 18 net yards rushing during the entire game, and missed 25 yards passing, for only 41 yards total offense.

Valdosta scored the first time they took possession with a stunning display of offensive power.

Quarterback Frank Deming set up the Bulldogs' first drive on 13 after a 31-yard punt by Thomasville's Joe Gaston. A pass to Joe Bell went for 13 and a first down. Deming called five yards a keeper and then lofted a bomb to halfback Larry Howell at the nine.

The Bulldogs stopped a slant for no gain, but Deming picked up two yards with an off-tackle run, setting the stage for Valdosta's initial score.

Fullback Joe Bell sprinted seven yards around right end into paydirt. Glenn Williams, a 215 pound senior tackle, booted the extra point, making the score 7-0 with 8:40 left in the first period.

Quarterback Deming ran Valdosta's second scoring drive as well as the first, this one for 25 yards.

Henry Davis opened the way for Valdosta's second score by intercepting a Dallas Norman pass at the Bulldogs' 25. Three plays later the ball rested on the seven.

Joe Biolack did the scoring honors with an off-tackle slant, but Williams missed the extra point, leaving the score at 13-0.

The Wildcats posted their first touchdown early in the third quarter, as a Dallas defenderman batted down a lateral on Thomasville's first play.

Valdosta recovered, setting up shop on the Bulldogs' 25. Frank Deming needed only one play, a twisting keeper around end, to put Valdosta on the scoreboard for the final time.

Williams again missed the PAT, but Valdosta had the victory in hand.

Mad Deming's ends and halfbacks done a better job than the Bulldogs' ends and halfbacks. Valdosta's passing statistics would have been more impressive. The Wildcats signal-caller completed only three of 20 for 80 yards.

Possibly the turning point in the entire contest was immediately after Valdosta's initial touchdown. Dallas Norman dropped back into his own end zone and spotted Roscoe Bush behind the Wildcat safetyman. Norman lofted a bomb to Bush, but unfortunately, Bush missed the catch and an almost certain touchdown.

That scoring play would have covered 50 yards and put Thomasville back in the ball game with a 7-1 tie score, assuming that the extra point was good.

Bush wasn't alone in his misfortune, for only five plays were caught all evening, excepting four interceptions.

By HOWARD SMITH
VALDOSTA—Thomasville's Bulldogs lost a "numbers game" here Friday night, and there wasn't much anyone could do about it.

The combination of a typically warm South Georgia September night and the 51 players Valdosta coach Wright Basemore shifted on and off the field, played a decisive role in the Wildcats' 19-0 victory.

"We played a lot of boss tonight," Basemore conceded, "maybe too many; but we needed to see them under game conditions."

Thomasville, meanwhile, played 24 boys, "and we felt pretty good about using that many," commented Lee Forehand.

Thomasville tackle Sammy Wade agreed the "summer" weather had taken its toll of the Bulldogs' strength. "It was so hot out there you could hardly breathe," said Sammy, who played both ways against a constant flow of fresh opponents.

A press box observer had the right idea as he shed his light sport coat and mopped his brow with a handkerchief. "Imagine what it's like down there on that field," he said.

Those who have played for years with the Georgia High School Athletic Association to begin the season later in the fall, might have used this game as an excellent case in point.

Certainly, it appeared the Bulldogs had their back to the wall in more than one respect.

They were a Class AA school playing one of the toughest—and deepest Class AAA schools in the state, in an climate more suited to baseball.

Thomasville played a fine ball game, Basemore commented generously. "They came after us, and really hit hard."

Of course, anyone could have known what was coming. The time-temperature, clock locked two blocks from the stadium shed 40 degrees 10 minutes before kickoff.

Thomasville's defense, trapped by a seeming lack of lateral speed, nevertheless showed marked potential.

Roscoe Bush and Sammy Wade led the Bulldog defenders with nine and eight tackles respectively. Reginald Wilkerson brought down seven Wildcat runners, while Earl Mitchell and Joe Peoples made five tackles apiece. John Chambers, a junior end, turned in four individual stops, all of them made after running down a Wildcat from behind.

Thomasville never penetrated Valdosta's 30-yard line as dropped passes hampered the Bulldog attack.

Don Golden, a junior punter, booted five times for a 34-yard average, while Joe Gaston of Thomasville kicked nine times for a 34.2 average. Both Golden and Gaston had points of 48 yards.

Thomasville hosts rival Cairo next Friday, while Central University to Brooks Co. Pelham to round out the area football action.

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Valdosta Halfback Larry Howell Rounds End As Wildcat Blockers Clear The Way

6—Thomasville Times-Enterprise, Saturday, Sept. 7, 1968

Earl Rickey

Bulldogs' Problem? 'Valdosta'

VALDOSTA—Those who expected a long-faced Lee Forehand to greet post-game visitors to the Thomasville High locker room here Friday night, were pleasantly disappointed.

Not that the atmosphere in any way resembled a New Year's Eve party; no one hates to lose worse than Thomasville's head coach.

Still, it could have been worse, and he knew it, and in knowing it, could discuss the Bulldogs' 19-0 loss to Valdosta with a sobriety broken occasionally by flashes of his low key wit.

Someone asked what the Bulldogs' main problem was on offense, where they gained a total 41 yards—only 16 on the ground.

"I'd say the problem" was Valdosta," he cracked with the trace of a smile.

"I suspect the films will show 220-pound feet stepping on our 160-pound guards; there's not much you can do about that."

So often you here fans say, "It was a different game than the final score indicates."

—Scoreboard Told The Story

But the scoreboard at Cleveland Stadium pretty accurately reflected the way things had gone—not entirely to the Bulldogs' detriment.

Valdosta's 19 points for example, were considerably less than many expected, and stood as a tribute to a Thomasville defense which hung in there, despite little or no rest.

Thomasville's big, bold zero told a story too.

"We wanted to use an option play offense," Forehand explained, "because we knew our kids weren't going to move that beef in the middle of their defensive line."

"Remember, we broke it for a first down in our first series of downs and had it called back on a penalty. After that, it seemed we were always starting out on our own 10-yard line."

Lack of field position did contribute greatly to the Bulldogs' offensive problems, but credit for that goes less to the heralded Wildcat defense than a 170-pound junior named Don Golden, who has to be one of South Georgia's top prep punters.

The Valdosta halfback averaged 36 yards on five punts, including one 48-yard beauty.

"It wasn't just his distance, although there certainly wasn't anything wrong with that either," Forehand added. "But the way he hung the ball up in the air really helped their coverage."

Offensively, Thomasville's biggest problem appeared to be pass protection. Quarterback Dallas Norman was dumped behind the line of scrimmage eight times attempting to throw.

"It's just like I was saying the other day," Forehand explained, "pass blocking used to be simply a matter of picking your men and keeping him away from the quarterback."

—Thomasville 'Awe-Struck'

"Now, all these stunning defenses have come along. Tonight, every time they moved around, it changed blocking assignments, and we just messed up."

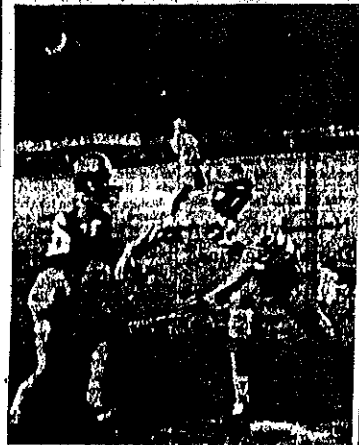
Defensively, Forehand said, he felt the Bulldogs played well. No one was interested in arguing with him.

"We just played too much defense," he cracked again. Later when someone told him Valdosta had run 60 offense plays to Thomasville's 30, he was not surprised.

Valdosta quarterback Frank Deming picked on the Bulldogs' young secondary in the early going—the Wildcats got their first TD that way—until his receivers stopped catching the ball.

"We were just a little awe-struck in the first period," Forehand said. "And it hurt us. By the time we pulled down..."

Blackshear Drops Pelham In See-Saw Game, 21-14



By ROBERT HAMRICK
T.E. Correspondent

BLACKSHEAR — AS Coach Joe Caldwell predicted, the Pelham Hornets were able to score effectively, but also were unable to hold their opponent. In a tippy-turvy game, Blackshear finally emerged the victor, 21-14.

The Hornets scored first on a sustained drive of 65 yards, but with 1:20 left in the first quarter, Blackshear's Wayne Britt broke loose for a 70 yard TD run.

Britt added a second tally for Blackshear in the second quarter. Pelham again played catch-up and Johnson added their second TD, tying the score at 14-14.

Defense was the name of the game the second half, but Blackshear finally put together a sustained drive in the third quarter giving them the winning margin, 21-14.

Pelham valiantly tried again to catch-up on football. In the fourth quarter they reached the Blackshear one foot line with a second down, but were unable to score.

Defense again took command and never relinquished its hold.

VALDOSTA TRIES HALFBACK OPTION PASS
... Bulldog Defender Is Ready, Dumpy

Football Scores

By The Associated Press
Woodward Academy 27, Newton 7.
Hudsonville 10, Mark Smith 7.
Millen 7, Madison County 0.
Hawkinsville 28, Troup 0.
Lorayne 10, Hartsfield 10.
Clarkston 10, Green K-9 0.
Towers 31, Barretts 0.
Lorayne 41, Shawcross 0.
Lorayne 30, Columbus 0.
Americus 10, Balthazards 10.
Tasas 20, Pelham 0.
H. Hartsfield 11, Stephens Co. 7.
Randolph Co. 31, Harris Co. 0.
Tasas Co. 0, Valdosta 0.
Milledgeville 10, Coffee Co. 0.
Spartan 10, Columbus 10.
Hawthorne 30, Central of Ala. 7.
Miller Co. 10, Kendrick 0.
Rufy Co. 11, Samuels Co. 7.
Dallas 10, Cherokee Co. 0.
McEachern 10, Cobb 10.
Tasas 20, Wilkes 0.
Okefenokee 20, Wilkes 0.
Glenville 10, E. G. 10.
Milledgeville 10, Lyons 0.
Tompkins 10, Jenkins 0.
Austell 10, Coffee Co. 0.
S. Laurens 10, Wheeler Co. 0.
Piedmont 10, Cherokee Co. 0.
Waynes 10, Bradford 0.
Bach 10, Wilkes 0.
Blackshear 10, Pelham 10.
Blackshear 7, Troup 0.
Montgomery Co. 10, Telfair Co. 0.
Blackshear 10, Atkinson Co. 0.
Cleveland 7, E. G. 0.
B. B. 0, B. B. 0.

Valdosta 19, Thomasville 0.
Irwin Co. 34, Bacon Co. 0.
Baldwin 10, Washington Co. 7.
Tidwell Co. 7, Clipp Co. 0.
Hawkinsville 28, Troup 0.
Harris Co. 30, Commerce 0.
Caldwell 10, Madison Co. 0.
Campbell of Fairburn 11, Austell 0.
Levell 10, Balthazards 0.
Cuthbert 30, Harris Co. 0.
Lakeshore 10, College Park 0.
Fayette 10, Decatur 0.
Austell 27, Newton Co. 0.
T. L. Cavell 10, Blackshear 0.
Waynesboro 10, Louisville 0.
West Rome 25, Westminster 27.
Waynesboro 10, Louisville 0.

Aquiline 21, Watley 0.
Jeff Davis 10, Vass 10.
Johnson Co. 31, Jenkins Co. 10.
Northridge of Warner 30, B. B. 0.
Appling of Mason 0.
Morgan Co. 27, Oconee Co. 0.
Cuthbert 10, Clav 7.
Wade Hampton 30, J. L. Mann 0.

Jefferson 10, Louisville 0.
Manchester 10, St. Joseph 0.
Armstrong 10, 1967 season.
Bullock 10, Berkeley 0.
Cuthbert 10, Clav 7.
St. Pius X 10, Sandy Springs 0.

Forest Park 10, North Clayton 0.
Hawkinsville 10, Henry County 10.

Atlanta Clinches Crown In Soccer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Atlanta Chiefs topped Washington 1-0 Friday night, clinching the Atlantic Division championship.

The victory bought them a ticket to Cleveland where they will play the Stokers Wednesday in the first of two games for the Eastern Conference title.

The team totaling the most goals in two games will win the championship of the Eastern Conference of the North American Soccer League.

The first game will be Wednesday in Cleveland, the second next Saturday night in Atlanta.

The Stokers earlier won the Lakes Division title.

That scoring play would have covered 50 yards and put Thomasville back in the ball game with a 7-1 tie score, assuming that the extra point was good.

Bush wasn't alone in his misfortune, for only five plays were caught all evening, excepting four interceptions.

THS Frosh Game

Tonight the Thomasville Freshman open their 1968 season against the Tilton Ninth Graders at Veterans Memorial Stadium. Game time is 7:30 p. m. General Admission is \$5.00.

Air Game Figures Big In Bulldog Game Plan

By ROM SPEER
Associated Press Sports Writer
STARKVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Charley Stria plans to put the ball in the air during his second season as Mississippi State football coach.

"We've even bought a pump to put some air in the ball this year," said Stria, who manages only one victory last fall when his Bulldogs relied on running attack.

Mississippi State ran the ball 400 times and passed only 142, but Stria said things will be different this year.

"We're going wide open, and we'll have our pass receivers spread all over the field," said Stria.

One of the reasons for the change is the rapid development of sophomore end Jimmy Milner, who caught 19 passes in the Bulldogs' intrasquad game for 21 yards last spring.

Tommy Pharr, the speedy halfback, also caught 19 passes in the Bulldogs' intrasquad game.

"It's throwing better, and he put on a little weight," Stria said of the 160-lb. junior who has pushed his weight to 180 pounds.

The Bulldogs' running attack should be better, too, with explosive Andy Rhoades back after sitting out the 1967 season.

Rhoades was the Southeastern conference's leading runner after Conference's leading runner after five games in the 1966 season, when he was a sophomore. But he sat out the last five games after having his spleen removed, and he missed all of last year.

"Andy seems just fine and the operation hasn't bothered him," Stria said.

"I feel a lot better about our ability to move the football this year, although we'll have to throw it because we aren't big enough to run over anybody."

TICKET SALES



HS&M charts new fashion directions: Charta Cloth Suits by Hart Schaffner & Marx

HS&M points the right fashion direction for fall and winter with Charta Cloth, a new travel-wise fabric woven exclusively for HS&M of the world's best... pure virgin wool. Fall-favored colors—Marocor Gray, Horizon Blue, Compass Bronze, Meridian Green—are newly discovered in today's "Navigator Patterns" plaids, stripes, checks and minishells. HS&M's Astre advanced styling keeps you on course in the right fashion. For example, this Astre two-button model with squared shoulders, slightly shaped waist, double-dipped lower pockets and slide vents.

Other HS&M Suits from \$105.00

Hicks