

Bulldogs dominate Yellow Jackets, 27-0



Thomasville coaches exult in celebration after blocked punt

Defense was the name of the game for Thomasville

By BLAIR DICKINSON
Times-Enterprise Sports Editor

It was the first shutout in the Central-Thomasville series since 1964, six games ago. Jessie Small and Myron Guyton, now senior All-Conference defenders at Eastern Kentucky, led a Yellow Jacket defense to a 10-0 whitewashing of the Bulldogs when Central was still Class AAAA.

Friday night some distinctive names for the Thomasville Bulldogs pushed to the forefront. Stacy Ross, Chad Brown, Alex Mash, and several others may now join Mike Jones and Mark Futch as defenders, which must be considered viable threats to future opponents.

It was Futch and noseguard Lance Palmer who led the charge which blocked a punt for Allen Williams to fall on in the end zone for the first score of the game. Mash blocked the second punt, and Brown pounced on it to make Thomasville's lead 14-0 after only 3:24 had been played in the game.

That is significant, but also notable is the fact that it was another 19 minutes and 15 seconds before the Yellow Jackets earned their initial first down. They finished with only three first downs, and totals of only 69 yards rushing and 69 yards passing.

"They just whipped us," Central Coach Charlie Greene said after the game. "What else can you say? The two blocked punts put us in a hole, and we didn't get out of it. That's just a great job by their specialty teams. And Mike (Hodges) had them ready to play. I feel like we played good defense, but we just got in a hole early and couldn't get out of it. They did an outstanding job."

On Central's third possession, Artrell Austin tried to make a pair of tackles before Jones tipped away the pass on a deep crossing pattern on 3rd- and seven to force a third punt. After the Bulldogs lost a fumble pitch, Ross made two consecutive tackles before Futch stripped the ball from a Central receiver and made the recovery himself.

The Jackets' next possession ended when Futch intercepted a pass and returned it to the 31-yard line. Thomasville then embarked upon a grueling 16-play drive for a touchdown, which included a six-yard run out of punt formation to barely make first down yardage at the Central 27. Jones subsequently scampered around left end on an option play for the touchdown from nine yards out. He later made a leaping interception at his own

By MIKE GRUMB
Times-Enterprise Sports Writer

Thomasville's Allen Williams and Chad Brown recovered two blocked punts for scores, and running backs Mike Jones and Shawn Austin chipped in with touchdown runs of nine and 36 yards, respectively, as the No. 2 ranked Class AAA Bulldogs soundly whipped the No. 9 ranked Yellow Jackets of Central 27-0.

The victory improved Thomasville's record to 5-0 while Central fell to 3-3. Neither team has played a subregion game thus far in the season.

It didn't take the Bulldogs long to send the overtime crowd of 18,000 into a frenzy at Veterans Memorial Stadium on this clear and cool October night.

With only 1:49 expired in the first quarter, a host of Thomasville defenders led by senior linebacker Mark Futch and nose guard Lance Palmer, warmed in to block the Central punt. After a mad scramble in the end zone, Bulldog sophomore defensive end Allen Williams emerged from the pile with the ball and a Thomasville touchdown.

As if one blocked punt wasn't enough, the Dogs reared that feat on the very next series. Junior defensive end Alex Mash stormed through the massive Central line to deflect the Jackets' punt, which was recovered by Brown in the end zone giving Thomasville what would be an insurmountable 14-0 lead.

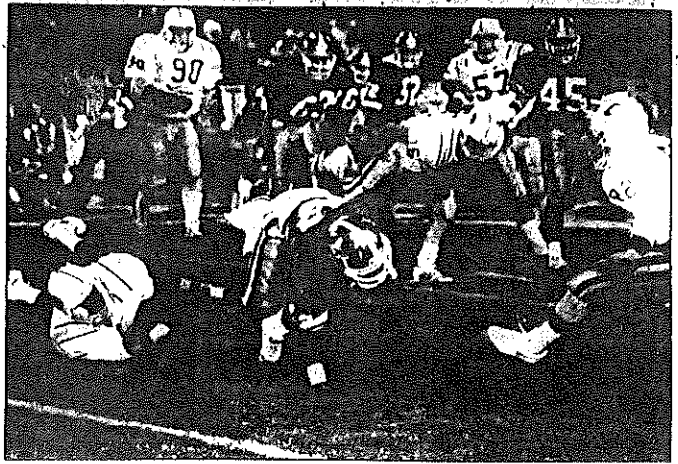
Yardslick

Central	0	0	0	0	0
Thomasville	14	7	6	0	27

SCORING PLAYS
Thomasville—Allen Williams recovered blocked punt in end zone (Mark Futch kick)
Thomasville—Chad Brown recovered blocked punt in end zone (Futch kick)
Thomasville—Mike Jones 9 run (Futch kick)
Thomasville—Shawn Austin 36 run (Futch kick)

	Con	Tom
First downs	20-43	47-213
Rushing yards	69	74
Passing yards	6	12
Passes	61-62	21-20
Punts	4-3	8-3
Fumbles lost	3-34	0-105

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS
Rushing—Central, Steve Fleming 138; Thomasville, James Williams 14-99, Charles Bostick 12-59, Shawn Austin 2-47.
Passing—Central, Steve Fleming 21-140; Thomasville, Charles Bostick 1-37.
Receiving—Central, Ken Connor 2-42, Phil Jones 1-14, Tommy Ratings 2-12; Thomasville, Mike Jones 1-24.



Charles Bostick dives for extra yardage after being tripped up by Freddie Guyton

"There is no doubt the two blocked punts set the tone of the game for us," said head coach Mike Hodges. "It was a big hit for our spirit to jump out quick. This is the kind of game that's played on emotion, and sometimes it's hard to keep the players focused, even at game time."

In a game that was billed as an offensive show, it was the Thomasville defense that came shining through. The aggressive Bulldog defense limited the Yellow Jackets to a scant 138 yards total offense, after holding Central to only 36 yards in the first half. The Jackets didn't get their initial first down of the game until the 10:39 mark of the second quarter and couldn't manage only three the entire game.

"I thought we played a great game defensively," stated Hodges. "We played with a lot of intensity. Our defensive unit did a great job of executing with calls and checks," added Hodges.

The Bulldog defense held Region 1-AAA's leading rusher Steve Fleming to just 36 yards on 13 carries, while pressuring Central quarter-

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back Brett Manning into completing only six of 14 passes for 69 yards with two interceptions.

After Futch picked off an errant Yellow Jacket pass to thwart a potential scoring threat in the second quarter, the Thomasville offense finally began to show some life. Behind the running of senior fullback James Williams, who gained 59 yards on 14 attempts, the Dogs marched 103 yards in 14 plays with Mike Jones scoring from nine yards out to stretch the lead to 21-0 at intermission. Facing second down and 35 on their own 20-yard line, senior quarterback Charles Bostick kept the drive alive

with his scrambling ability, rambling 42 yards for a Bulldog first down at the Central 38.

Early in the third quarter, Thomasville capped off the scoring going 64 yards in just four plays with Austin taking it the final 36 yards for paydirt.

"This was a good win for our program, but it had better not do what it did to us last year," said Hodges. "After last year's win, we just relaxed and didn't improve." Thomasville is on the road next Saturday night to play the Monroe Golden Tomatoes, while Central will play host to the Westover Patriots.

Garland, Syrupmakers upset Albany, 21-14

CAIRO — Scoring on a 94-yard kickoff return in the third period and a 14-yard run in the final five minutes of play, the Cairo Syrupmakers outlasted the visiting Albany Indians and came out with a 21-14 victory here Friday night.

After touring the Dougherty County Trojans 20-7 in last week's

contest, the latest victory improves the Syrupmakers' record for the season to 4-2.

Herman Garland electrified the crowd by returning the exciting kickoff to the Albany 21-yard line. Two plays later, Charlie Bowyer bulled over from the two-yard line.

Garland scored the winning touchdown with 4:44 remaining in the game on a 14-yard sprint for the deciding points.

The first half was a defensive struggle, but Kevin Williams was able to fall for 10 yards out for the first points of the game with 7:14 left in the opening period.

During the second quarter, the Syrupmakers went on a drive capped by a three-yard touchdown pass from Shawn Miller to Charlie Bowdler to even up the score.

Twice, the Syrupmakers had to come back from deficits of seven points, and Cairo's coach Ralph Jones said he was "real proud of the way his boys hung in there and didn't give up."

The Syrupmakers travel to Sylvester next Friday to face the defending Class AAA state champion Worth County team.

Albany	0	7	0	14
Cairo	7	7	7	21

SCORING PLAYS
Albany—Kevin Williams 10 run (kick good)
Cairo—Shawn Miller 9 pass to Charlie Bowdler (Patrick David kick)
Albany—Patrick Kelly 3 run (kick good)
Cairo—Charlie Bowdler 3 run (David kick)
Cairo—Herman Garland 14 run (David kick)

	Alb	Cai
First downs	12	12
Rushing yards	228	210
Passing yards	86	14
Passes	6-20	9-9
Punts	3-30	3-34
Fumbles lost	3-2	1-1
Penalties yards	3-15	6-20

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS
Rushing—Cairo, Charlie Bowdler 13-84; Herman Garland 14-82; Alfredo Addison 5-34

Knights whip Warriors, 21-6

ALBANY — The Brookwood Warriors whipped the Albany Indians 21-6 Friday night in the District 10-1A winner-take-all game.

Although Deerfield's larger size and power were a factor, the Warriors' defense was the key to their victory.

Yardslick

Warriors	21	6
Albany	0	6

SCORING PLAYS
Warriors—Warren Myers 14 run (kick good)
Warriors—Tommy Cook 20 pass from Jerry Orlan (Tom Irlan)

	War	Alb
First downs	34-45	42-230
Rushing yards	64	14
Passing yards	7-151	1-7
Passes	4-28	1-5
Fumbles lost	2-5	1-0
Penalties yards	6-50	12-130

AAA school the Warriors wanted to be able to control the ball and keep Warren Myers, the explosive Knight quarterback, off the field.

While the Brookwood defense did a good job with the exception of one long run by Myers, and were backed up to their own goal line after a punt snap was high, the offense couldn't generate much. The Warriors were limited to only 45 yards on the ground on 34 carries, leading rusher Tyler Lee was held to 51 yards on 16 tries.

Myers figured in two of Deerfield's touchdowns, running for one and his only pass completion in four attempts was good for six points.

With 4:11 remaining in the first quarter, the Deerfield coach showed guts and went for it on a fourth and one from their own 21

Myers kept on a punter's back, and the Brookwood defense momentarily relaxed. Thinking Myers was stopped for a short gain when he came out of the pile and raced 75 yards for the first points of the game.

On the following series, Brookwood was forced to punt, the snap was high, and the Knights recovered on the Warrior 10.

Tommy Cook got Brookwood on the scoring table with 26 seconds left in the eighth when he snared a 20-yard touchdown pass from Josh Green, but it was too little too late.

"I don't have any excuses, we just got whipped," Brookwood coach Ronnie Jones said.

The Warriors' record falls to 3-2, and next Friday they host the Ravenwood Red Raiders.

Pelham comeback drops Hawkinsville, 21-14

HAWKINSVILLE — The visiting Pelham Hornets capitalized on 47 and 20-yard runs in the first quarter here Friday night to go ahead of the Red Devils and take a 13-7 score into the locker room at halftime.

The Devils came back and scored midway the third quarter and held a slim 14-13 edge going into the final period, but with 1:43 left on the clock, Bernard Burroughs pushed over for the final touchdown of the night. John Mark Butler connected with Kenneth

Jones in the end zone for two, making the final score 21-14 in favor of the Hornets.

Pelham, now 2-4, travels to Montezuma next Friday night to take on the Marion County Bulldogs.

Yardslick

Pelham	13	0	0	21
Hawkinsville	0	7	7	14

SCORING PLAYS
Pelham—Reginald Alexander 47 run (kick good)
Pelham—Bernard Burroughs 20 run (kick good)
Hawkinsville—Willie Rapp 1 run (Jonathan Wright kick)
Hawkinsville—Joe Stapp 1 run (Wright kick)
Pelham—Burroughs 4 run (John Mark Butler to Kenneth Jones)

	Pel	Haw
First downs	17	10
Rushing yards	332	181
Passing yards	18	30
Passes	4-0	5-17
Punts	2-78	6-24
Fumbles lost	1-3	0-0
Penalties yards	4-40	3-15

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS
Rushing—Pelham, Reginald Alexander 47; Bernard Burroughs 17-117

FSU looks for bigger crowd with 2 p.m. kickoff

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida State will be running and passing — to tonight Saturday as the Seminoles host their first non-television afternoon game in recent memory against Georgia Southern.

The 2 p.m. EDT kickoff is part of an effort to boost attendance and media exposure for the sixth-ranked Seminoles. It will be Homecoming for Florida State, 4-1, and the first game to be live on the Seminoles and Georgia Southern, 3-1, ranked seventh by the NCAA in Division I-AA.

The Seminoles usually play at night in Donk Campbell Stadium unless television dictates otherwise. But this year, Florida State will play four of its last five home games at night.

Sammie Smith

Raymond Gross

5,000 to 3,000 below capacity during the past three years although Florida State has consistently fielded 20 to 10 teams.

Night games aren't solely to blame. Florida State's schedule

All-American defensive back Deon Sanders, who sat out last week's 48-28 victory over Tulane with a sprained knee, lends a list of four Florida State starters who are

listed as very doubtful. The others are center Michael Banks, guard Mike Morris and tailback Dexter Carter.

Noseguard Odell Huggins and

tackle Pat Tomberlin are probable while running back Victor Floyd will definitely miss his second game with a bad ankle.

Look for offensive field day in Athens

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Fifteenth-ranked Georgia and Vanderbilt, two teams with potent attacks and leaky defenses, collide Saturday in a Southeastern Conference football game that will give the SEC's No. 2 rusher, Tim Worley, his first start of the season.

Worley, who has been splitting

Tim Worley

Dwight Doolley

lined a 20-1 run against the Commodores.

Georgia's 4-1 record, 3-0 on the conference, stands 2-2 and 1-1.

Both coaches are aware of the strong offenses that will be on display.

"Offensively Vanderbilt is one of

Doolley notes that Jones operates the wide-zone offense and on the next play may drop back and run into a pro style quarterback.

"I've never seen a quarterback do both in one ball game," Doolley said.

Jones leads the SEC in total offense with 1,099 yards, 961 of it rushing on 139 carries.