

# RAMS 'READY' FOR VALDOSTA

## Badgett Gets Underdog Role, But Concedes Nothing to Wildcats

By JACK JACKSON

College Park's finest football team, 10 straight victories to its credit this season, finds itself in the most unenviable role in the state Friday night.

For, despite the fact the Rams are undefeated, they are uncomfortable underdogs as they invade Valdosta to meet Wright Baze-more's Wildcats, a team which has its eyes on the Peanut Bowl and apparently has the guns to warrant an invitation there.

Uncomfortable underdogs may be an understatement. Americus went against these same Valdostans with a 9-0-1 record a week ago and came out on the short end of a 59-7 score. Things almost as bad happened to people like Moultrie, Waycross, Thomasville and Jesup earlier in the year.

Bill Badgett, College Park coach, is fully aware of what his club is going up against. But he is not conceding a thing. "We'll be in good shape," Bill said Wednesday morning, "but I know we're to face the best team we've been against all season. I've seen them play twice and I know just how good they are."

To throw against the Wildcats, Badgett has several fine football players. Charles Brown and Charlie Hendricks at ends, for example, are both standouts, the latter as a defensive specialist. Charles Hope, Chester Jones and Emmett Allen all rate high among Class A backs

and the Rams' record of having allowed only six touchdowns in 10 games speaks for itself about defensive line play.

In Valdosta, the Rams will face a host of "All" candidates. Players like Jimmy Walker at end, tackle James Warren, guard Ray Moore, center Herman Parra-more and backs Sammy Hardin, Bobby Renfroe and Noel George sparkle on a club that may be Georgia's best.

Valdosta won the state Class A title last year and now has 15 consecutive victories to its credit. College Park and the winner of the Rockmart-LaGrange North Georgia playoff bar the path to another crown and a streak of 17. At this writing, Valdosta must be favored to reach those goals.

# VHS Cats Capture Title, Will Meet College Park Here Next Week

By VIC DUNAWAY  
Times Sports Editor

The Valdosta Wildcats opened up all stoppers on their offense at Cleveland Field last night and won the Region 1-A football championship by burying a tiny Americus team under such an avalanche of touchdowns that Lon Gammage, scouting the game for the Columbus Peanut Bowl, was prompted to remark:

"This is the best Georgia Class A team I have ever seen. The 1946 Fitzgerald team was the best

I had seen previously, but this bunch is at least three touchdowns better."

What Gammage—and something over 6,000 other fans witnessed—was a complete, 59-7 rout of Americus' first unbeaten team since 1926. The same Lon Gammage quarterbacked that eleven.

The Wildcats struck with stunning suddenness as fullback Red Fleming took a handoff, cut through left tackle, and went 28 yards to paydirt on the first Valdosta play of the game. Fleming

had pranced through an opening the size of a barn door, provided by James Warren, Ray Moore, et al.

That first play—with the tremendous Valdosta line moving the Panther forwards almost at will—immediately indicated the direction the game would take. Behind that irresistible force, Wildcat backs ground out 456 yards rushing; and behind its superb protection, Sammy Hardir hit on half his ten pass attempts for an additional 78 yards.

When it came time for Americus to try its hand at offense, the Wildcat front line turned into a waterproof, shockproof unit that held the Panther total offense to

just two yards in the first half. James Warren, husky left tackle, barreled through the line time and again to snag quarterback Stud-

held the Panther total offense to still in the middle of a play. If Valdosta will play the College Park Rams next Friday night at Cleveland Field in the first inter-region class A playoff game. Site of the contest was determined at a meeting of officials of the two schools after last night's game between Americus and Valdosta.

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the quarterback still was able to lateral to a running mate, Leo Greer. Red Fleming or Jimmy Walker were generally on hand to throw that carrier for an additional loss.

(Herman Parramore, middleman on defense, threw his weight into the Panther backfield almost as frequently as Warren.) Ray Moore backed up the line with devastating tackles.

On the attack, Noel George assumed his usual position as rush-

ing leader. The tricky left half gathered 120 yards in 11 tries, including touchdown runs of 30 and 44 yards. In the meantime, he found occasion to kick five extra points and boost his year's scoring total to an even 150.

Right behind on running were Valdosta's two fullbacks, Red Fleming and John Robert O'Neal. Fleming helped himself to 72 yards in only three cracks for the night's leading average. O'Neal romped 97 yards in five tries, most of which were supplied by the most

beautiful run of the night. Midway in the last period, O'Neal grabbed a pitchout, skirted left end, cut back to the middle, and eluded the entire Panther secondary as he flew 73 yards to Valdosta's final touchdown.

The Panthers bounced back to a somewhat better showing in the second half. Led by all-State backfield candidate Jimmy Urry, the visitors finally managed to post a net total of 42 rushing yards for the contest. Urry, however, net-

(Continued on Page 2)

# A Letter From Americus

Sports Editor  
Valdosta Times

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Americus Touchdown Club we want to congratulate Coach Wright Bazemore and his coaching staff for the wonderful team that you have there. I have followed football in this section a long time and I have never seen anything equal the team you have. They are the best in sportsmanship and play that I have seen.

Our best wishes are extended and we sincerely hope that they win the state championship.

Yours truly,  
Raymond Holt, Pres.  
Americus Touchdown Club

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(Continued on Page 2)



# George, O'Neal, Fleming Pace Terrific Ground Game

(Continued from Page 1)

ted 57 yards on his own, and saw the minus average of other teammates bring down the squad total.

Although they were on the wrong side of a 52-point gap, the Panthers—thanks again to Usry—performed one feat that no other Wildcat opponent had been able to do. In the third quarter, Usry broke loose over the right side and flashed 48 yards into the end zone ahead of less speedy Valdosta defenders. It was the first touchdown racked up against Wildcat regulars all season. Full-back Bob Wall added the point through center.

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Opening the game, George kicked to Ted Baldwin on the 24 and the Panther co-captain returned to the 39. Baldwin made one on the first try but Wall was separated from the ball on the next play and Lee Greer flopped on it at the Americus 28. Hardin immediately handed off to Fleming who wen all the way without being touched. George's kick was wide.

George kicked off again and Baldwin returned to the 32 from the 17. Baldwin pushed ahead one yard but Usry lost it back and Studstill's pass, intended for end Hardin, went incomplete. Wall booted to the Valdosta 40. George ran the next two plays, clicking off two yards on the first and 12 on the second. A Hardin pass, meant for Renfroe, was high, and when George made only two next try, he punted.

The boot went into the end zone and Americus started on the 20. Baldwin lost two and Wall retreated three. On third down Wall kicked, the ball being grounded on the Valdosta 45.

Hardin ran for eight, then hit Jimmy Walker with two straight yards and the second for 9. Renfroe streaked 15 yards up the middle for the second score. Again George's boot was wide and the count was 12-0.

Americus ended on their own 30 after the next kick and Wall had time to lose nine yards before the quarter ended. Worthy chipped in with an 11-yard loss, attempting to pass, and Wall again applied the toe, booting to his own 45.

George used his favorite off-tackle play to gallop 28 yards before being stopped on the 17. Renfroe picked up one and George made four more before Parramore pulled the center keep and disposed of the remaining 12 yards to the Cats third touchdown. This time George's kick was good.

Wall fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Lindstrom ate it up at the Panther 28. Renfroe hit the line for five, then Hardin bootlegged to the right for 18. A clipping penalty set the Cats back to the 30, but George promptly made that distance in one try and kicked the point for good measure.

The Americus attack finally came to life and the Panthers began to move after the next kickoff. From their own 34, Usry and Baldwin hit for the first Panther first down in three tries. Usry made eight more and Wall contributed four for another first down two plays later. The attack fizzled at that point as Usry made five, then saw Baldwin stopped cold and Studstill thrown back four. Studstill's fourth down pass was incomplete and the Cats took over on their own 31.

Seven plays later Valdosta had another score as Massey plunged over from the one. Fleming had eaten 38 yards of the way in one attempt and Renfroe had made a run for 18. George's kick was blocked and the score was 32-0. The half ended seconds later with Studstill having ineffective pass-

to the Americus 17 but a clipping penalty set the Cats back to the 35. O'Neal made 11 of them, and Parramore again utilized the center-keep to travel the other 24. The count swelled to 39-0 after George kicked true.

The 300-400 Americus fans got their only cheering opportunity after George's kickoff. From the Panther 36 it started helplessly enough as Wall was thrown for a five-yard loss by Greer. But them Wall romped 21 yards to the Valdosta 48 before Renfroe bumped him out of bounds. It was on the very next play that Usry shot through the right side and went all the way. Wall rushed the point that made it 39-7.

Americus then booted its only kickoff of the night and Hardin returned it from the Valdosta 7 to the 34. Renfroe and George picked up a total of four before Hardin got the first down with a 12-yard toss to Wethering. Hardin threw another, incomplete, but Renfroe made 6 to the visitors' 44. George went the rest of the way and booted the point.

Usry made 10 and a first down on the next scrimmage play, but Warren and Fleming racked successive heavy losses on Wall and Usry and Wall booted out.

From their own 38, the Cats moved to another score. A 32-yard pass play from Hardin to Walker set them up on the 30. George, O'Neal and Hardin chewed yardage to the 6 and Renfroe carried over from there. George booted the 53rd point.

The final Wildcat score came shortly afterwards as Willie Webb intercepted a Studstill aerial on his own 40. Penalties rocked the Cats back to the 27, but O'Neal took off on his 73-yarder just one play later. Webb's kick was blocked.

A Hughes interception and a Hughes fumble ended with Americus on their 28. Studstill uncorked his passing medicine and hit three in a row—Lock for 10, Harris for 10, and Baldwin for two. Greer broke up the threat by sailing in to smear Usry 15 yards back. Three more passes went for five yards on one completion and the Cats took over on the Americus 46. Robert Taylor ran for 12 yards and a first down as the game ended.

Score by quarters:

Valdosta	12	20	14	13	59
Americus	0	0	7	0	7

Statistics

Valdosta		Americus
13	First Downs	5
456	Yards Rushing	42
11	Passes Attempted	13
5	Passes Completed	7
2	Opp. Passes Int.	0
78	Yards Passing	33
2	Opp. fumb. Rec.	1
23	Punt average	37
75	Yards Penalized	0

Scoring touchdowns, Valdosta: George 2, (Parramore 2) Renfroe 2, O'Neal, Fleming, Massey.

Americus: Usry.

Points after touchdown: Valdosta—George 5 (placement) Americus—Wall (rushing).

STARTING LINEUPS

Walker	LE	Hardin
Warren	LT	McDougald
Moore	LG	Coogle
Parramore	C	Edge
Rogers	RG	D. Tye
McNeal	RT	Schmidt
Wetherington	RE	L. Tye
Hardin	QB	Studstill
George	LH	Usry
Renfroe	RH	Baldwin
Fleming	FB	Wall

## Wildcat Squad Invited to FSU Game With Tampa

The entire Valdosta High School football squad has been invited to Tallahassee next Saturday for Florida State's final game of the year against Tampa University.

S. P. Deeb, Tallahassee Touchdown Club Director and prominent businessman, extended the invitation for the local gridders to be his personal guests at the game. Deeb is an enthusiastic supporter of high school football and sends the Leon High (Tallahassee) squad to the Gator Bowl contest each year.

The footballers have several factors to consider before accepting the invitation. There will be a tough game with College Park the night before. Many squad members work on Saturday, and there are additional considerations.

The team's decision will be known by midweek.





# KICKING AROUND

— WITH —

**VIC DUNAWAY**

Sports Editor, The Times

From Albany comes what was meant to be a resounding blast at the Valdosta football team, but what is actually a pestiferous squeek. One Mr. Harley Bowers, sports editor of the Albany Herald, just can't figure out why every grid-iron follower in the state is not hailing and hurrahing the Albany Indians. And more puzzling to him is the fact that a certain portion of the fans consider the Wildcats a fine team.

In his Wednesday column, Bowers wrote the following: "Every day we hear more chaff about the Valdosta football team being the greatest ever produced in South Georgia, a super team that some folks seem to think could beat Georgia in the afternoon and Tech that night.

"... We're still wondering why he (Bazemore) didn't want to play Albany, a natural rival and one that always attracts a full house.

"Could it be that Bazemore, who we consider one of the best coaches in the state and a good friend, knew he had a good club and wanted an undefeated season, no matter what the opposition? He had his choice of Moultrie and Albany and picked the Packers."

Take 'em as they come and point out for Mr. Bowers' benefit, that Coach Bazemore by no means had his choice of Moultrie or Albany. It happens that the Wildcats and Packers have a two-year, home-and-home contract which calls for the local team to play in Moultrie this season.

Indeed, had he been presented with such a choice it is quite likely he would have taken Albany, not Moultrie, as the team he team he could most probably beat. Both outfits topped the Wildcats last campaign, but the Packers won by two touchdowns, whereas the Indians' margin was a single touchdown.

Moreover, in the ten years he has been in Valdosta, Bazemore's teams have defeated Albany eight times and lost only twice. From that record, Albany is hardly a team Bazemore would be "afraid of."

Taking the chance that it won't clog the typewriter, I will quote a bit more from the same column:

"It is our contention, and anyone who stops to think a minute will realize it to be valid, that it isn't the same playing three or four good teams during a season and five or six in the mediocre class, that it is playing a good ball club every week . . . And in Class A football, there just aren't enough good teams in Region One to make up a rugged ten-game schedule."

So what are the Wildcats supposed to do? Lead a revolt from the GHS and from their own conference? Under the Region One, eastern division setup, the Wildcats must play every other team in the same grouping in order to qualify for the championship. Neither Bazemore nor any of the Valdosta High School officials has anything to do with establishing the regional program and its consequent required schedule.

Two of the regional teams are not competing this year, so Valdosta was fortunate in being able to schedule a couple of added games on their own. They slated Tifton and Thomasville, two perennially good teams which are at their best against the Wildcats.

There is one point in which Valdosta fans, and probably the Wildcats also, are in agreement with Bowers. We would like to play better teams, and especially would we like to play the Indians.

It is apparent that Albany has a terrific squad and a game between the Indians and the Wildcats would undoubtedly be a slam-bang affair. But the contest could not have been arranged, and certainly can't be now.

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FROM THE TONE of this particular column, and others of Bowers' bleatings in the past, the reader could not help get the idea that Bazemore goes around pounding his chest and screaming that Valdosta has an unconquerable ball club.

Nothing could be farther from the truth, or more unfair to the Wildcat coach. Bazemore is among the most modest of mentors. It is true that he calls his current squad the best he has ever had, but he has never made any extravagant claims about its comparative strength against others in the state.

It is really unusual for a coach to admit he has his best team. Many mentors would consider shooting themselves before admitting the same, because there can be no comeback if the squad is defeated. As a rule, a coach will "play down" his team. Then if it wins he can lift his head proudly, and if it loses he can say, "well, that's what I said all along."

Oct. 10.



# 2000 Valdostans Expected To See Game In Waycross

The Valdosta Wildcats have ceased sharpening their claws and will run through mild exercises this afternoon in rounding out preparations to meet arch-enemy Waycross tomorrow night.

What should be the biggest crowd of the season will view the battle for the Region 1-A (East) championship. An estimated 2000 spectators will make the trip from Valdosta.

Jon Hall, Jaycee president and the man who handles ticket sales for out-of-town games, reports that 604 reserved seat tickets were snapped up by Valdostans in three days. Some 800 general admission tickets were rapidly secured from Waycross and are now on sale at Halls Children Shop. Temporary bleachers are being constructed to seat the expected overflow.

There is not much doubt that Coach Gus Cate, who already has led the Bulldogs to their best season in several campaigns, is pointing heavily towards the Cats. Rumors keep drifting from Okefenokeeland that Cate has long been brewing a cauldron of football magic for use solely against the Wildcats.

\* \* \*

To administer any special potions, Waycross can call upon a fine set of running halfbacks in Jimmy McLelland and Billy Ray Darden. McLelland, the Bulldogs' chief hope for all-state recognition, combines adequate speed with ramming power and deceptive shiftiness. He has been the chief cog in a Waycross attack that has stuck strickly to the ground all season. The Bulldogs have taken to the air infrequently—and ineffectively.

McLelland and Darden like to strike from the quick-opening plays of the straight T. Both are capable of finding the hole quickly, and are doubly dangerous after they find themselves in the secondary.

But as good as those two fellows might be, it is hard for Valdostans to see them being good enough to outshine the Wildcats' balanced backfield of Sammy Hardin, Noel George, Bobby Renfroe, and Red Fleming or John Robert O'Neal. It's a good bet that George and Renfroe can match any performance of McLelland and Darden. The Cat backfield can also add the speed of Hardin and O'Neal, the sharp passing of Hardin, and the impeccable kicking of George.

\* \* \*

If Coach Cate has any trickery up his sleeve he will definitely be forced to make use of it. Nobody, not even moisture-eyed Wright Bazemore of the Wildcats, can honestly picture any Bulldog backs making great yardage on straight plays into the Valdosta line. If Waycross blockers suc-

ceed in pausing (Herman Barra-

more, James Warren, Paul MeNeal or Jimmy Walker long enough to admit the ball carrier, said runner will, in all likelihood, run smack into Ray Moore, Lee Greer or Larry Massey, Valdosta's uncanny linebackers.

\* \* \*

There is no doubt that Coach Cate has built a formidable gridiron machine to represent Waycross in this traditional battle. Waycross is, in addition, smarting from a lopsided string of losses in the series, latest of which was a 14-6 setback at the hands of Bazemore's state champion club last year.

One thing is certain. Barring a tie, one of the two fine football teams will end up with a blot on an otherwise perfect record.



# West Springfield Favored In New Year's Day Contest

By VIC DUNAWAY  
Times Sports Editor

Two unbeaten, untied teams—the Valdosta Wildcats from Georgia and the West Springfield Terriers from Massachusetts—run together in the Peanut Bowl game at Columbus tomorrow afternoon, and Wright Bazemore's Cats find themselves in the unfamiliar, but comfortable, position of underdogs. Game time is 2:30 p.m.

Notwithstanding 13 straight victories in 1952, plus 508 points scored, plus only 31 points given up, Valdosta is rated two touch-down poorer than its northern foe.

In an effort to cross the odds-makers Bazemore will field a team that includes all-Southern and Back-of-the-Year Noel George; all-state selectees James Warren, Herman Parramore, Sammy Hardin and Jimmy Walker and additional all-region choices Paul McNeil, Floyd Rogers and Bobby Renfroe.

Valdosta will go with Jimmy Walker at left end. The Terriers left flankman is Ken Matoon. Walker sticks to his post on offense and defense and is of equal value in both. Especially effective, defensively, against T - type offenses, Walker should be ready to go despite an ankle injury suffered in practice last week.

Matoon is described as the Terriers' most versatile player, performing at offensive and defensive end and filling in as substitute quarterback if needed.

At left tackle Valdosta will go with hefty James Warren, who Bazemore describes as the best lineman he has ever coached. Warren, too, is a full time player, excelling at blocking and tackling. West Springfield's left tackle, Lowell Harlow, is a 200-pounder who plays both ways and plays them well.

Ray Moore will do double duty

for the Cats as offensive guard and defensive middle linebacker. His opposing left guard is Terrier co-captain Art Pernice, named to the All - Western Massachusetts squad.

(Wildcat co-leader Herman Parramore will be at center opposite Al Laboranti. Parramore plays in the middle of the line on defense, while Laboranti switches to linebacker. Both are all-around performers.)

A pair of players in the 160-pound class will be at right guard Valdosta's 165-pound Floyd Rogers and the Terriers' 160-pound Ken Kendig. Principal effectiveness of both is on offense.

Valdosta's heaviest lineman, Paul McNeil, lines up at right tackle, while 186 - pound Harry Schweizer fills that post for the Yankees. McNeil, an all-region selection as a junior, works both ways. Schweizer has been called the best defensive lineman in Massachusetts.

Right end duties for Valdosta will be split between Ron Wetherington on offense and Red Fleming on defense. Six-foot-two Newt Blanchard is West Springfield's choice for the post.

Probably the biggest individual battle will take place between two highly-touted quarterbacks—Sammy Hardin of the Wildcats and Les Plumb of the Northerners. Plumb is called the Terriers' most valuable player and there is little doubt

that Hardin assumes the same position for the Cats. Both field generals are unerring signal callers and both join the offense on running and passing.

Noel George, a run-punt-kick-threat and hard-driving Bobby Renfroe will match talents against Terrier halfbacks Ernie LaBranche and Al Klein. Klein, at 210, is West Springfield's heaviest player.

George Rolandini carts 195 pounds into the fullback post for the Massachusetts men, but his running efforts should be matched by 175-pound Red Fleming who is probably the most underrated ballplayer on the Wildcat squad.

In addition to the top 11, Valdosta has three defensive stars who will be as vital cogs as any of the others. The three are hard-hitting linebackers Lee Greer and hitting linebackers Lee Greer and Earl Gober.

## The lineups:

### VALDOSTA

NAME	Wt.	Pos.
Jimmy Walker	155	LE
James Warren	215	LT
Ray Moore	180	LG
(Herman Parramore)	175	C
Floyd Rogers	165	RG
Paul McNeil	220	RT
Ron Wetherington	175	RE
Sammy Hardin	175	QB
Noel George	170	LH
Bobby Renfroe	170	RH
Red Fleming	175	FB

### WEST SPRINGFIELD

NAME	Wt.	Pos.
Ken Matoon	175	LE
Lowell Harlow	200	LT
Art Pernice	170	LG
Al Laboranti	182	C
Ken Kindig	160	RG
Harry Schweizer	186	RT
Newton Blanchard	185	RE
Les Plumb	165	QB
Ernie LaBranche	158	LH
Al Klein	210	RH
George Rolandini	195	FB



# Columbus Lays Plans For Biggest Peanut Bowl

Special to The Atlanta Journal  
COLUMBUS, Ga., Dec. 30—Peanut Bowl officials report that everything is in readiness for the biggest and best Peanut Bowl game and celebration yet to be held in Columbus on New Year's Day.

The seventh annual Peanut Bowl game, which will pit West Springfield, Mass., High against Valdosta, Ga., High, gets underway in Columbus' Memorial Stadium at 2:30 p. m. on New Year's Day.

Just before the game, at 12:30 p. m., one of the largest parades ever to be staged in Columbus will start moving down Broadway. Peanut Bowl officials report that there will be more than 20 floats and nine bands in this parade.

The afternoon of Dec. 31 the Peanut Bowl queen will be selected at

Columbus' Teen Tavern. She will reign over the Peanut Bowl ball to be held in the Ralston Hotel on New Year's Eve.

*Atlanta Journal  
Dec. 31.*



# Noel George Sparks Ground Attack That Gains 304 Yds.

BY VIC DUNAWAY

Times Sports Editor

WAYCROSS—Some 7000 spectators—near 2000 from Valdosta—watched in amazement here last night as Coach Wright Bazemore's Valdosta Wildcats methodically tore apart a highly respected, and previously unbeaten Waycross team, 33-0.

The win for the Wildcats climaxed an all-triumphant season and landed the championship of Region 1-A (East). The regionwide crown will be decided next week when the Cats take on Americus.

In winning their 10th and last game of the regular season, and their 14th successive victory over a two-year span, the Wildcats displayed their ground attack at near full potential. Led by driving left halfback Noel George the Cats ate up 304 yards rushing. George personally accounted for 142 of them, including touch-down runs of 28, 26 and 14 yards.

As usual, the Wildcat line was something more than sensational. Jimmy McLelland, Waycross fine running halfback, got off jaunts of 31 and 30 yards against

cross punted back.

For the first time in the contest, the Cat ground attack failed to move and George booted. Waycross took over on their 30 and immediately racked up five yards on their shift. That was the last time it worked. On second down, McLelland set sail over his own right tackle and shot 31 yards to Valdosta's 34 before Sammy Hardin, last defender between him and the goal, laid him low. A bad pass from center in the single wing, however, lost the home club 16 yards back to the midfield stripe and broke up any scoring threat that might have been brewing.

## Statistics

Valdosta		Waycross
11	First Downs	3
304	Yard Rushing	77
7	Passes Attempter	5
1	Passes Completed	0
1	Passes Intercepted	2
36	Yards Passing	0
2	Oppon. Fumbles Rec.	1
27	Average Punt yardage	31
30	Penalties	15

the Valdosta defenders but, even so, the deepest penetration managed by the Bulldogs was to the Valdosta 34 early in the second half.

The hometowners gathered themselves ten yards on two off-side penalties against the Cats, brought about by use of the "Notre Dame shift." Lining up under center, quarterback Bates would shift into the single wing. This movement drew in the Wildcat line twice, but neither time were the Bulldogs able to turn the yardage into a first down.

All told, Waycross made three first downs, and all three were personally turned in by McLelland on single tries. McLelland got off the prettiest play of the game when he quick-kicked from his own 16 to the Valdosta 21 — a tremendous 63-yard boot.

But the dazzle of that kick was somewhat diminished later when another of his quick boots traveled only nine yards to the Waycross 14 and set up the last Wildcat touchdown.

(Herman Parramore) and line-backer Larry Massey probably were slight standouts in a defensive unit that was outstanding throughout. Massey roamed far and wide to rack up Bulldog ball carriers and was the most frequent individual tackler. Parra-

Bates was unsuccessful on one throw, then Renfro intercepted another heave on the Cat 26 and took off all the way to the enemy 30. A clipping penalty rocked Valdosta back to their 49, but it mattered little. George, Fleming and Hardin took turns at the line and cracked out a pair of first downs to the 28. From that point, George went over the left side and scored with ease. Again his kick was wide.

McLelland got off his beautiful 61-yard quick kick shortly after the next kickoff and following a 12-yard loss by Darden. The boot sailed to the Valdosta 21. George rolled 26 yards on one try, but the half ended at that point with the Wildcats leading, 19-0.

McLelland clipped off a 21-yard return of George's kick to open the second half. Two plays later he ate up another 30-yard chunk of ground, which carried to the Valdosta 44. But on successive plays, Greer and Renfro broke through to snare Darden and McLelland, and the Bulldogs punted again.

A ten-yard romp by Fleming netted a first down on the first play, but the attack stalled and George punted back. The home club failed to move and returned the punt three plays later. Valdosta started on the Waycross 48 and proceeded to go the rest of the way.

A 15-yard unnecessary roughness penalty helped the cause, and Bobby Renfro added his part with a brilliant 16-yard jaunt down the middle of the field and through the entire Bulldog defense. George proceeded to tote it the remaining 14 yards, then



themselves ten yards on two off-side penalties against the Cats, brought about by use of the "Notre Dame shift." Lining up under center, quarterback Bates would shift into the single wing. This movement drew in the Wildcat line twice, but neither time were the Bulldogs able to turn the yardage into a first down.

All told, Waycross made three first downs, and all three were personally turned in by McLelland on single tries. McLelland got off the prettiest play of the game when he quick-kicked from his own 16 to the Valdosta 21 — a tremendous 63-yard boot.

But the dazzle of that kick was somewhat diminished later when another of his quick boots traveled only nine yards to the Waycross 14 and set up the last Wildcat touchdown.

(Herman Parramore) and line-backer Larry Massey probably were slight standouts in a defensive unit that was outstanding throughout. Massey roamed far and wide to rack up Bulldog ball carriers and was the most frequent individual tackler. Parramore ripped through the center of the line continually and assisted in several neat losses.

James Warren, tackle, and Ray Moore, guard and linebacker, were rugged on defense, and both paved the way for several of George's long gains, offensively. Paul McNeil and Floyd Rogers, counterparts of Warren and Moore on the right side, also proved adept at moving aside defenders. End Jimmy Walker, besides a fine defensive performance, was on the receiving end of the only completed pass of the ball game.

Although he called one of his best games, quarterback Sammy Hardin failed to complete a pass in six tries. The usually accurate Hardin, finally pitched out to Noel George, who heaved the pigskin some 36 yards into Walker's arms, for the lone completion.

George kicked off to open the game and McLelland, taking it on the eight, returned to his own 23. McLelland then made two, Darden six, and Bates one, but they were about two feet away from a first down and McLelland punted to the Wildcat 40.

George returned to the 47, and Valdosta ran five plays—four of them official—to the first score. George started with 11 yards and a first. (Parramore, on the center keep, got off a fine 25-yard run, but it was called back and the Cats penalized five yards for backfield in motion. Fleming and George hit for seven, then Parramore kept again and went all the way from 41 yards out, bulling over the last two defenders around the five. George converted and it was 7-0 after four minutes.

Waycross started from their 28 after the next kickoff. Three plays later they were at the 32 and McLelland punted again. Beginning from the Valdosta 37, the Wildcats pushed across a touchdown eight plays, and two first downs later. Hardin clicked off nine of the yards, and George rolled 16 for the second first down, then went 26 yards after breaking over left tackle, for the six-pointer. His kick was wide.

As the first quarter ended, the Bulldogs had again failed to make a first down after taking George's third kickoff. The Cats took over after a punt, but on the first play, Hardin heaved an aerial and Murphy intercepted for the Bulldogs on their own 10, carting it back to the 34. Even a five-yard offside penalty failed to help get a first down, however, and Way-

the next kickoff and following a 12-yard loss by Darden. The boot sailed to the Valdosta 21. George rolled 26 yards on one try but the half ended at that point with the Wildcats leading, 19-0.

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A 15-yard unnecessary roughness penalty helped the cause, and Bobby Renfroe added his part with a brilliant 16-yard jaunt down the middle of the field and through the entire Bulldog defense. George proceeded to tote it the remaining 14 yards, then added the point to run the score to 26-0.

George kicked off and the teams exchanged punts. As the final period started, Waycross was set to take off from their 23. McLelland notched a 14-yard run and his third personal first down, but was forced to kick three plays later. Valdosta moved from their own 33 all the way to the Bulldog 15, only to lose out on a fumble that Strickland hopped on for Waycross at his own 8.

Most impressive stretch in the drive, was George's 36-yard pass to Walker after taking a pitch-out from Hardin. It was on the following play that the fumble occurred.

As it turned out, the drive was not futile after all. McLelland was thrown back dangerously close to the goal on the first play, then pulled another quick kick. This time he got off a boot that was as bad as the first was good. It traveled only to the 14—nine yards. Sammy Hardin provided that distance in three quarterback sneaks of five, six, and three yards. George converted and it was 33-0.

Lindstorm then kicked off for the Wildcats, but Waycross fared no better against the reserves than they had against the regulars. Robert Taylor swamped Bates for a 15-yard loss, and three other plays managed only eight. The Cats gained possession on the enemy 21.

John Robert O'Neal pushed to the 15, but Willie Webb's pass was intercepted on the one-foot line by Herring. McLelland made eight as the game ended.

Valdosta	13	6	7	7
Waycross	0	0	0	0

#### Starting Lineups

Walker	LE	Smith
Warren	LT	McQuaig, J.
Moore	LG	Davis
Parramore	C	Murphy
Rogers	RG	McQuaig
McNeal	RT	Carswell
Wetherington	RE	Pope
Hardin	QB	Bates
George	LH	McLelland
Renfroe	RH	Darden
Fleming	FB	Brice



# GEORGE DOES IT: VALDOSTA WINS

Fullback Tallies 21 Points;  
Wildcats Smash Waycross, 33-0

By EDDIE BARKER

Journal Staff Writer

WAYCROSS, Ga., Nov. 22—They let George do it here Friday night.

And this George with Noel for a first name chilled 8,000 cheerers quicker than the 40-degree weather as he humiliated Waycross, 33-0, and served Valdosta a well-done section of Region 1-A.

The fleet fullback with quick dashes of 28, 26 and 14 yards that made the forty mile per hour wind that swept over the concrete stadium seem an ally, scored 21 of Valdosta's 33 points. George scored three touchdowns and three

THE YARDSTICK		WAYCROSS
VALDOSTA	First Downs	3
11	Net Rushing	77
304	Net Passing	0
36	Penalties	15
30		

extra points. He shined brighter than the fireworks at halftime and brought tribute from the men whose heart had stopped every time the 170 pounder started running.

"That boy George," said Waycross Coach Vassa Cate, "is a great runner. He was just too much for us and had too much ball club in front of him." Wright Bazemore, taking the Valdosta victory calmly, refused to be stampeded even though George gained 150 yards in 16 attempts. "George played a fine game," he said, "But I don't rate this his best game. Nor do I rate it Valdosta's best team effort." But the man who has won four championships in eight years had trouble remembering a better game, for here is what he saw:

Valdosta kicked to Waycross and the Bulldogs punted after being

unable to negotiate first down distance. That gave Valdosta the ball on the 47 and a shot at the goal which they had to cross twice to count. (The payoff came when Herman Parramore, the center, hotfooted it 41 yards on a centerkeep play bowling over two tacklers en route.) George kicked the first of three extra points, just warming up for things to come.

Valdosta's next touchdown drive started on their own 37. It was Red Flemming, Sammy Hardin and Bobby Renfro with George adding 16 to the 26. He broke off tackle then cut left and high balled it home making it 13-0 and still time left in the first quarter.

Waycross braced for 10 minutes then George galloped again, this time from the 26, where he wedged through tacklers before breaking goal line clear.

Half-time intermission offered fireworks but Valdosta folks wanted more from George. They soon got it. After three series of downs with Valdosta showing respect for Jim McClelland's foot that had bounced a 63-yard quick kick, the Wildcats took a boot on their own 34. A four-yard gain by Fleming and a 16-yard Renfro dash put George in business again. This time he exploded 14 yards, kicked the point and looked at the board that said 26-0. Hardin sneaked over for the last Valdosta marker.

Coaches both had line standouts. Cate thought Lonnie Pope and James McQuaig played well until McQuaig was excused for temper. Wildcats' Ray Moore, guard; James Warren, tackle, and Parramore, center, were Bazemore's picks for Valdosta.

McClelland, a determined runner in the face of adverse conditions, gained 90 yards although Waycross ended the night with only 77 net yards rushing. His mates lost ground to fierce forwards of Valdosta that also rushed passers until not one Waycross aerial found a receiver.

Hardin, Valdosta pitcher, had the same luck with a 0-7 average. The Wildcats completed one pass good for 31 yards but they had to let George do that, too.

Score by quarters:  
Valdosta ..... 13 6 7 7—33  
Waycross ..... 0 0 0 0—0  
Scoring TDs: Valdosta—(Parramore), George 3, Hardin. Points After TDs: Valdosta—George 3.



# Maddox, George

## Lineman, Back

### For TD Club

Two Class A standouts who may well meet each other in the state championship game three weeks hence will be honored as Georgia's prep stars of the week at Monday's meeting of the Touchdown Club of Atlanta.

Chosen as Lineman of the Week this week was Sid Maddox, La-Grange end, while (Noel George, Valdosta fullback, came away as Back of the Week.)

Maddox was the big man as the Grangers won the 4-A championship by a 19-0 score over Morgan County. He stood out on both offense and defense and caught five passes for 64 yards. Too, he caught a 23-yard pass for the first La-Grange touchdown and intercepted a Sonny Baldwin aerial to set up his club's second.

(George's show in a 33-0 Wildcat triumph over Waycross included three touchdowns and an equal number of extra points. His scoring runs were on yardages of 28, 26 and 14. He has been a standout for the unbeaten 'Cats the season long.)



# Valdosta Host To 1-A Playoff Friday Night

Special to Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
TIFTON, Ga., Nov. 22—(Valdosta and Americus will play off for the championship of Region 1-A at Valdosta's Cleveland Field Friday night, 8 o'clock.)

Officials from both schools decided on the site and date at a meeting in Tifton Saturday.

Valdosta officials said additional seats would be added, affording a capacity of 6,500.

Both teams are unbeaten, though Americus was tied 20-20 in an opener by Thomasville. Winner of the game will play College Park, the 2-A champion, on or before Dec. 5. (Valdosta won the eastern half of the region with a 33-0 trouncing of previously undefeated Waycross Friday night.)

Americus captured the western half championship as Cairo beat Thomasville Friday, knocking the latter out of a chance to tie Americus in the division.



# BOWL GROUP TO WATCH TILT HERE FRIDAY NITE

COLUMBUS, Ga. (AP)—Peanut Bowl officials plan to watch two Georgia high school football games Friday in an effort to find an opponent for West Springfield, Mass., for the Jan. 1 contest.

One delegation will be in Decatur to see the game between Rossville and Decatur which will

decide the Region-4 Class-AA champion. Another group will go to Valdosta for the Valdosta-Americus scrap. The winner of that game will wear the Region-1 Class-A crown.

Richmond Academy of Augusta and the Albany Indians are two other teams being considered by Peanut Bowl officials. Albany and

Richmond, 1951 state Class-AA champion, will play at Albany December 5 in the South Georgia Class-AA playoffs.

The Peanut Bowl game is sponsored by the Exchange Club. This season's contest, to be played at Memorial Stadium here, will be the seventh in the series.

# School Officials Announce Revised Ticket, Seat Plan

The Americus Panthers, wearing the crown of Region 1-A's western division, will throw one of the most explosive backfields in class A circles against the Valdosta Wildcats in Cleveland Field this Friday evening.

Set to start at 8 p.m., the contest will be for the championship of Region 1-A. Americus took its division with a record of nine wins and one tie. Valdosta topped the East with a perfect 10-0 slate.

In fleet Jimmy Usry and powerful Bob Wall, the Panthers have a genuine inside-outside threat to equal any in the state. Usry is adept at long spectacular runs, on kickoff and punt returns as well as from scrimmage. Wall, a bruising 185-pounder, is just as effective in chewing up his yardage in short chunks. No slouch either, is co-captain and right half Ted Baldwin. It was Baldwin's 90-yard kickoff return that netted one of the touchdowns in Americus' tie with Thomasville early in the season.

On the regular season, the Panthers notched victories over Cochran, Cordele (twice), Bainbridge, Colquitt, Cairo, Fitzgerald, Tifton and Adel. Their closest squeek, besides Thomasville, was a 7-6 triumph over the powerful Cairo Syrupmakers.

\* \* \*

It was announced last night that reserved seat tickets for the game will go on sale, probably Tuesday, at Hall's Children shop. School officials hope to have at least 1000 of the indi-

vidually numbered seats between the 35 yard lines on the home side. They will sell for \$2.00 each.

General admission to the game will be \$1.50. The same price will be charged Americus fans, who will be provided a reserved section (but not reserved seats) on the visitors' side of the field. Americus has requested 1000 tickets.

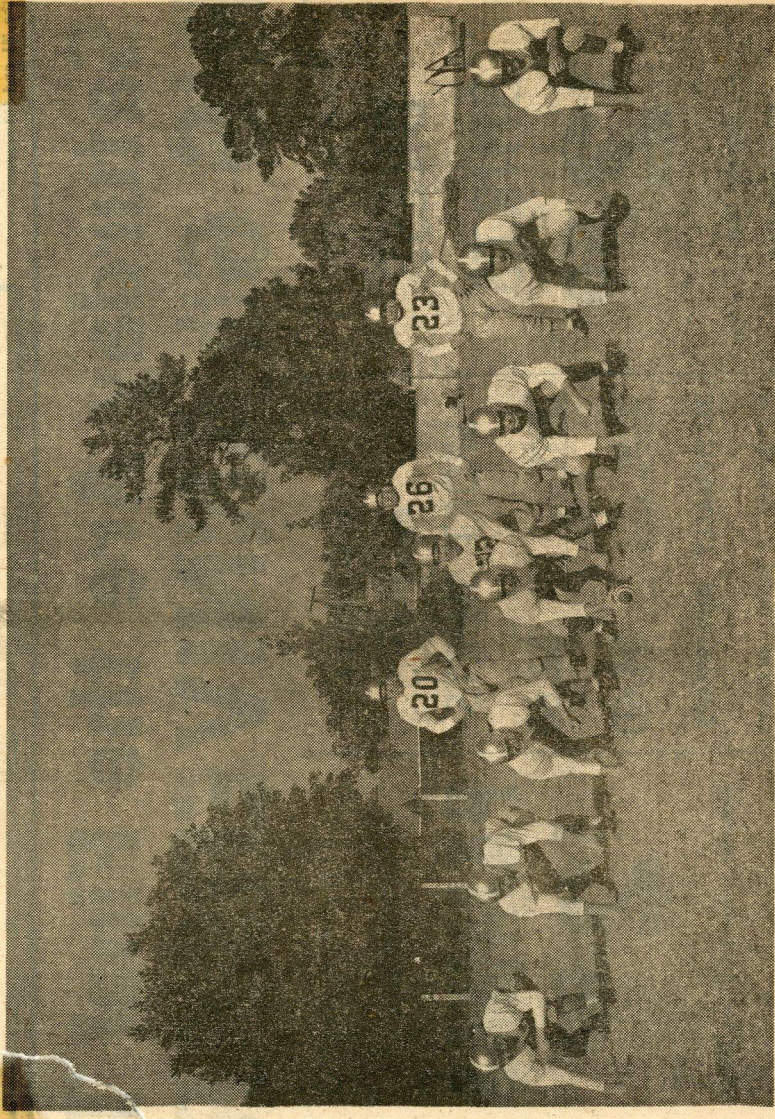
Students, from grammar school to Valdosta State and Emory Junior colleges, will be admitted for the usual student price of 50 cents. However students must purchase their tickets some time this week at the high school, since they will not be sold at the gate.

\* \* \*

In countering Americus' highly-touted running attack, Wildcat coach Wright Bazemore will again bank heavily on his own big backfield four, headed by the relentless ball carrying of Noel George, and supported more than adequately by the running of Bobby Renfro, Red Flemming, Sammy Hardin and John Robert O'Neal. Hardin, on defense, has made at least three tackles which have prevented Valdosta's record of never having given up a score against the first-line defenders. Hardin was forced to stop Waycross' Jimmy McLelland twice last Friday night, and will likely be put on the same spot against Usry this Friday.

Agile and lighting fast, Usry can well turn it into a foot race between himself and Hardin if he ever squeezes into the secondary.





**DEFENDING STATE CHAMPIONS**—This is the lineup the College Park Rams will face across the line of scrimmage Friday night as the Valdosta Wildcats begin defense of their Class A football championship. The forward wall has paved the way for the backfield to score more than 400 points. Left to right: Ronald Wetherington, end, Paul McNeil, tackle, Floyd Rogers, guard, Herman Parramore (co-captain), center, Ray Moore, guard, James Warren, tackle, Jimmy Walker, end. Backfield: Sammy Hardin (co-captain), quarterback, Bobby Renfro, right half, Red Fleming, fullback, Noel George, left half.

*Photo By Bookman*



# Locals Looking For Third Consecutive Region Crown

BY VIC DUNAWAY

The Valdosta Wildcats, champions of the eastern division, Region I-A, bump against the undefeated Americus Panthers at Cleveland Field tomorrow night in quest of Valdosta's third consecutive region championship. The game will start at 8 p.m.

Fourth undefeated team to face the Wildcats this year, the Panthers will be seeking the victory combination that has eluded the last 14 Valdosta foes. Other previously unbeaten teams to face the power of the Cats this year

Noel George, leading scorer and ground-gainer of the Valdosta Wildcats, is reported to be suffering no ill effects from an automobile accident in which he and his father, Joseph George, were involved Monday night.

The accident occurred near Oglethorpe when their automobile, just over the crest of a small hill, smashed into a ditch after Mr. George swerved suddenly to avoid two mules on the highway.

The car is reported to have turned over three times and to have been wrecked beyond repair, yet both occupants were uninjured except for minor bruises.

George and his father were returning from Atlanta, where the Valdosta star had been honored as "Back - of - the Week" by the Atlanta Touch down Club.

have been Thomasville, Moultrie, and Waycross.

Offense has been the keynote in Americus games to date. The Panthers have racked up 343 points in ten games—pretty close to the Valdosta total of 393. Most of that point total was pushed across on the ground by such ball-carriers as fullback Bob Wall, who averaged 10.4 yards per try; halfback Jimmy Usry with an 8.6 yard average; and halfback Ted Baldwin who has averaged an even 8.0 yards.

Despite a fine offensive record,

guard, aply named Gerald Speck, will not start because of an injury. Previously he has performed in every game.

And while Americus fans may well point with pride to their big three of Wall, Usry, and Baldwin, Valdosta supporters have a solid comeback in Sammy Hardin, Noel George, Bobby Renfro, Red Flemming, and John Robert O'Neal.

George does everything with a football except swallow it, but is especially effective at running and kicking. The liquid-smooth Hardin directs the attack wonderfully and passes well. Renfro, Fleming and O'Neal just carry the ball—but they know how to do that.

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As part of the extra festivities the Americus band will perform with the Valdosta music-makers in the parade tomorrow afternoon at 4:30. The two outfits will go into mass formation for the playing of the Star Spangled Banner immediately prior to the game. After the contest, Valdosta bandmen will take home an Americus counterpart as dinner guest.

# Americus Team Is Primed For Upset Over Valdosta

By DICK GRUENWALD

Sports Editor,

Americus Times-Recorder

AMERICUS — The Americus Panthers will leave Americus by chartered bus 2 p. m. Friday bound and determined to upset the favored Valdosta Wildcats in the Region I-A championship.

By all but one comparative score the Wildcats have shown a far superior team. In Valdosta's third game they beat Fitzgerald 39-6 then Americus came back, several weeks later with a 49-0 win. However the other two games are just the reverse. Americus was tied by Thomasville to open the season 20-20 then the Wildcats beat the Bulldogs 34-7. The Panthers took

Tifton 25-7 and Valdosta slaughtered the same team 50-6. So you see the Panthers have their work carved out for them.

The Panthers should be able to start the game in relatively good condition with only one player out, Gerald Speck, diminutive 120-pound guard who has played most every minute on defense, broke his leg last week against Cordele. Still slowed down with injuries are Jimmy Usry, speedy 155 pound halfback who has 105 points, Franklin Hardin, right end, Leon Tye, left end. These boys should be all right by game time, however.

The Panthers this year won nine and tied one. Their victories were: Cochran 32-0, Bainbridge 34-0, Cordele 47-0, Colquitt 41-0, Cairo 7-6, Fitzgerald 49-0, Adel 40-0 Cordele 47-12. Their tie was at the hands of Thomasville.

Starting lineup for the 25 member team will be: Right end Leon Tye, 165; right tackle Jimmy Schmidt 180; right guard Doug Tye 155; center John Edge 150; left guard Eugene Coogle 150; left tackle McDougald 145; left end Hardin 150; quarterback Studstill 130; right half back Baldwin 150; left half back Usry 155; fullback Wall 180.

Nov. 27.



# Peanut Bowl Scouts See Valdosta Romp

Wildcats Rip Americus, 59-7;  
George Runs Point Total to 150

By DUDLEY MARTIN

VALDOSTA, Ga., Nov. 29—Lon Gammage and his Peanut Bowl committeemen, who came here to scout Valdosta High for a possible berth in the post-season classic, got an eyeful.

So did Americus, which bowed to the awesome display of power generated by Wright Bazemore's Wildcats, 59-7. The victory gave Valdosta its fourth consecutive Region 1-A championship and put the Wildcats in the state playoffs against College Park next Friday.

Displaying a fearsome offense and a rock-walled defense, the Wildcats scored almost at will against an Americus team, which had gone through regular season with only one tie and no losses—the first unbeaten eleven in the school's history since the 1926 squad, which incidently was quarterbacked by the Peanut Bowl's Gammage.

Only consolation the Panthers could gain from the game came in the third quarter when speedster Jnmmy Usry went off tackle for 48 yards and a touchdown, the first time that any team has scored on the Wildcats first string defense this year.

Valdosta's show of power prompted one press box wit to term them the third best team in the

YARDSTICK	
VALDOSTA (59)	AMERICUS (7)
13 First Downs	5
456 Yards Rushing	42
78 Yards Passing	33
78 Penalties	0

state—politely ranking Tech and Georgia ahead of them.

The Wildcats scored on their first play from scrimmage after Americus had taken the opening kickoff and gone nowhere. On third down, Ted Baldwin fumbled and Lee Greer pounced on it at the Panthers 28. Fullback Red Flemming went all the way off tackle on the first play and the Wildcats were off to the races.

By the quarter's end it was 12-0 as Bobby tallied from 15 yards out to climax a 57-yard march.

(At halftime it was 32-0 as Herman Parramore scored from the 12 on the center keep play, halfback Noel George went off tackle 30 yards and Larry Massey plunged over from the one.

(Parramore center-kept again early in the third period for 26 yards) and another and George on his favorite off-tackle play went 44 yards for another to make it 46-7 at the three-quarters mark, after Usry had done his trick.

In the fourth period, Renfroe went six yards for one TD and second-string fullback John Robert O'Neal outran the entire Americus team for 73 yards and the evening's final tally.

The Valdosta attack was ably dictated by ball-handling wizard Sammy Hardin.

George's two touchdowns and five extra points brought his point output for the year to 150 points.

Usry and fullback Bob Wall were the bright lights in the Americus offense, which could gain only 42 ground yards against the stout Wildcat defense. Stand-outs in the Valdosta line were tackle James Warren, linebacker Lee Greer, center Parramore and linebacker Ray Moore.

Score by quarters:  
Valdosta ..... 12 20 14 13—59  
Americus ..... 0 0 7 0—7  
Scoring Touchdowns: Valdosta—George 2, Parramore 2, Renfroe 2, Flemming, Massey, O'Neal. Extra Points—George 5 (placements).

Scoring Touchdown: Americus—Usry. Extra Points—Wall (run).

# Visitors Are Undeclared; Ticket Plans Announced

By VIC DUNAWAY

Coach Wright Bazemore and his Valdosta Wildcats today turned away from talk of "Peanut Bowl" and "best team in the state" and "mightiest class A team ever." The Region 1-A champions are directing their efforts towards what might turn out to be the stumbling block of the whole deal—the undefeated Rams of Region 2-A College Park.

The Rams move into Cleveland Field Friday night to do battle for the chance to meet the Rockmart-LaGrange winner in state class A finals.

College Park won 10 straight games in the regular season—if not with the ease of the Wildcats, at least without undue difficulty. And it is a good bet that local grandstand experts, who have heretofore successfully spotted the Wildcats 25-30 points will be less liberal this week.

For the first time this year, Bazemore's battalion will be meeting a team on which there is no basis for pre-game comparisons. College Park played a complete mid - state schedule and none of Valdosta's victims have played them, nor even played a team that's played a team that's played them. Even the weak crutch of comparative scores is not available. Its possible that the Wildcats will maul the Rams as they have all other opposition. But it's not likely.

It is significant to note that Ram coach R. W. Badgett viewed the Americus game last week with a great deal of outward calm. Later, as school officials were conferring on the site of the Wildcat-Ram contest, Badgett stated:

"You may beat us, but I'll guarantee it won't be by any such score as you beat Americus. We

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**Tickets for the College Park-Valdosta game Friday night are now being printed and will go on sale until Wednesday 9 a. m.**

**Reserved seat tickets will be sold at Hall's Children Shop. See complete details in this story.**

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*Dec 1.*