

Packers clip Bulldogs, 15-14

By MIKE GRUBB
Times-Enterprise Sports Editor

MOULTREE — At long last Jim Hughes' Colquitt County Packers have gotten the monkey off their back. Since 1972, the Packers have been witness against the Thomasville Bulldogs. However, thanks to four Bulldog turnovers, the Packers were able to squeak out a hard-fought 15-14 triumph at Mack Tharpe Stadium Friday night and snap the long dry spell.

"It's been a long time since a Moultrie-Colquitt County team has beaten Thomasville. Of course it was sweet," stated Colquitt Coun-

ty's Jim Hughes. "This is the first time that we've been able to beat a Mike Hodges-George Bobo coached team. With this being the opener and the circumstances surrounding it makes this one sweet."

The loss also spoiled the head coaching debut of Thomasville's George Bobo. The contest was thought by many to be a defensive battle and that's exactly the way it turned out after a few early offensive fireworks. The hard-charging Bulldog defense limited the Black and gold clad Colquitt County offense to just 162 yards — 102 passing and 60 rushing. The Pack-

ers were playing the contest without their two top running backs Nathan Williams and Eric Hawkins, who were suspended earlier in the day for disciplinary reasons.

The Colquitt County defense was equally as tough, limiting Thomasville's normally "high octane wishbone attack to just 150 yards — 72 passing and 78 rushing.

Colquitt County drew first blood. After receiving the opening kickoff, Packer quarterback Parks Hughes hit wide receiver Chris McCranie cutting through the Bulldog secondary with a perfect strike that went for a 60-yard touchdown on just the third play of the game. The Packers had taken an early 6-0 lead. However, Thomasville gained a measure of reprieve by blocking the ensuing extra point.

Thomasville's Lelrone Hadley gave the Bulldogs excellent field position with their first offensive possession of the 1990 season. The speedy sophomore gathered in the Colquitt County kickoff at the Thomasville eight and rambled all the way down the right sideline to give the Bulldogs the ball on the Packer 31.

Faced with fourth down and eight at the Colquitt County 29, Bobo and his staff decided to gamble and go for it. It was a move that paid immediate dividends as Curry burst through the left side for 13 yards and a **THIS** first down. Four plays later, Allen Williams capped off the drive with a three-yard burst to knot the game at 6-6. The game would remain that way as **THIS** PAT sailed wide of its mark.

After stopping the Packer offense on their next possession, the Bulldog defense once again came up with a big play. This time Artrel Austin, Morris Carter and Adolphus Thomas stormed in to block a Colquitt County punt, giving the Bulldogs the ball at the Packer 20 with 4:55 left in the first period. Four plays later, quarterback Eric Simon found Curry for a three-yard touchdown pass to put **THIS** up 12-6. Curry then found wideout John Perkins for a two-point conversion to give the Bulldogs a 14-6 lead.

It appeared Lacy Luck was on the side of the Bulldogs as Morris Carter intercepted a Colquitt County pass on the Packers' next possession, and returned it to the Colquitt County 34. A 15-yard personal foul penalty on the Packers

put the Bulldogs in business at the Colquitt County 19. After a Bulldog penalty, Thomasville quarterback Mike Bobo hit wide receiver Daniel Jordan for a 15-yard gain down to the Packer 9. Facing second and goal from the Colquitt County six and ready to put some distance between themselves and the Packers, disaster struck as the Bulldogs coughed up the first of what would be two costly fumbles.

After an exchange of punts, Colquitt finally got going with 6:04 left in the half. The Packers drove 67 yards in eight plays with Omar Reed capping off the drive with a one-yard run with just 1:56 left before intermission. The key plays of the drive were a personal foul and pass interference on the **THIS** defense. Colquitt County's attempt for two points failed as Reed was stopped short of the goal line.

The second half, both defenses took over. Thomasville limited the Packers to a scant 20 yards over the final 24 minutes, while Colquitt County stymied **THIS** offense with just 61 yards. Once again a **THIS** fumble proved to be the undoing as Colquitt County's Anthony Bailey pounced on a Bulldog fumble at the Thomasville nine with 6:24 left in the third period. The Packers finally had to settle for a 22-yard Hughes field goal, and that would prove to be the winning margin as the Packers led 15-14.

Thomasville made one last ditch attempt with 4:19 left in the game and to timeouts, the Bulldogs took over on their own 20, needing at



THIS Richard Ramsey (54) recovers a Packer fumble

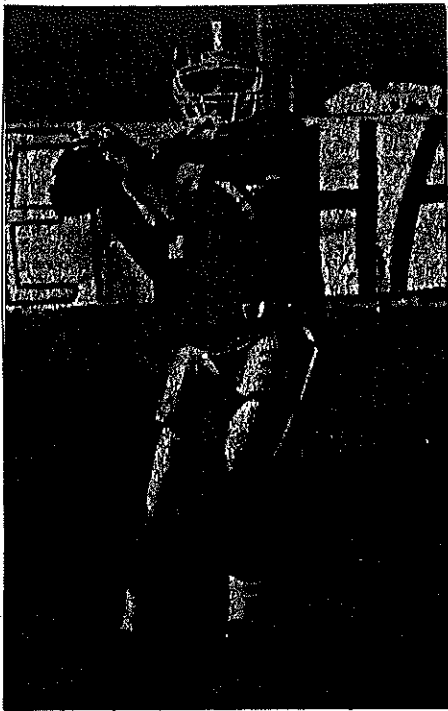
least a field goal to win. Hitting the right arm of Bobo, who completed five of 8 passes on the drive, Thomasville advanced down the field to the Colquitt County 26. Unfortunately, it was not to be as Colquitt County's All State defensive back Anthony Bridges stepped in front of a Bulldog pass to snuff out Thomasville's final threat.

"We just made too many mistakes both physically and mentally," said a disappointed Bobo. "I just isn't being able to take advantage and capitalize when we had scoring opportunities. I'm dis-

appointed that we didn't win. I thought that if we could execute on offense we would win. Offensively, we didn't execute."

"I'm pleased with a lot of folks," added Hughes, a former Thomasville head coach. "In the game tonight we had so many opportunities to lose it. I'm pleased with the way we grew up tonight during the course of the game. Thomasville has a good team. I look for good things from them."

After an open date next Friday, Thomasville will host arch rival Thomas County Central Sept. 14 at Veterans Memorial Stadium.



Staff Photo — Greg Bryant

Colquitt County quarterback Parks Hughes threw for 102 yards



Staff Photo — Greg Bryant

Bulldogs' Allen Williams (C) plunges in from three yards out

Yardstick

Thomasville	14	0	0	0-14
Colquitt	15	6	3	0-15

SCORING PLAYS
Colquitt—Chris McCranie 60 pass from Parks Hughes (kick blocked)
Thomasville—Allen Williams 3 run (kick blocked)
Thomasville—Morris Carter 3 pass from Eric Simon (John Perkins pass from Curry)
Colquitt—Omar Reed 1 run (run failed)
Colquitt—Hughes 22 FG

	Tot	Col
First downs	8	4
Rushes-yards	31-78	25-60
Passing yards	72	102
Passes	9-26	7-16
Punts	4-28	5-23
Fumbles-lost	6-2	1-1
Penalties-yards	8-76	5-48

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS
Rushing—Tyron, Allen Williams 14-44, Morris Carter 8-12, Brian Bates 5-11, Eric Simon 2-4, Terry Francisco 2-7, Colquitt, Omar Reed 4-15, Lacy Luck 2-12, Jimmy Hays 6-72, Reggie Scott 6-10, Parks Hughes 4-4, Sharon Roberts 1-3.
Passing—Tyron, Simon 1-5-12, Bobo 6-15-49, Colquitt, Hughes 7-16-102.
Receiving—Tyron, Curry 4-28, Wilson 3-22, Jordan 2-18, Colquitt, McCarley 1-6, Roberts 2-4, Middaheke 1-3.
Punting—Tyron 4-28, Simon 5-23.

Bearcats befuddle Jackets, 34-16

By RANDY YOUNG
Times-Enterprise Sports Writer

BAINBRIDGE — The first-ever game for the Thomas County Central Yellow Jackets will be remembered as a sharp lesson in having respect for your elders, as the senior-led Bainbridge Bearcats knocked out the upstart Jackets 34-16 at Centennial Field Friday night.

Inconsistency was the story of the game for the young Thomas County squad. TCC laid the ball on the ground a total of six times during the contest, losing three of the miscues. The Jacket offensive unit outperformed, only gathering up 170 total yards for the night.

That's not to say the Jackets didn't make a fight of the game early on. After trading fumbles with Bainbridge, Central mounted a 12-play drive that featured the tough running of Yellow Jacket tailback Tony Sapp, who ran up 29 yards on the series. The key play in the drive was a third-and-five strike from quarterback John Hicks to a streaking Tarius Horne for 18 yards. The drive culminated in a 35-yard field goal by TCC placekicker Kevin James to put the Jackets up 3-0.

The TCC defensive unit played the Bearcats tough and nail early, holding the Bainbridge team scoreless until midway through the second quarter.

The Jackets forced the 'Cats into a punting situation at that point that would prove disastrous for TCC. On fourth-and-16, Bainbridge punter/quarterback Brian Powell boomed a long punt that was bobbled by Central and pounced on by the Bearcats at the TCC 31-yard line. On the very next play, Powell hit an open Stanley Flanders in the corner of the end zone for a touchdown. The PAT was true and Bainbridge took the lead for good at 7-3.



Staff Photo — Greg Bryant

later, fullback Vidal Lively pounced over from six yards out for a touchdown. The PAT put Bainbridge ahead 14-3 going into the half.

The Thomas County unit began the second half as if they would make a run at the home-standing Bearcats. After the kickoff to begin the half, TCC linebacker Tyrone Samuels snagged a Powell pass at the Bainbridge 29 and carried the ball to paydirt for the first Jacket touchdown of the year. Kevin James' PAT cut the 'Cat lead to a slim 14-10.

With the TCC sidelines chanting loudly with the switch in momentum, the two squads traded punts twice. On the Jackets' second punt of the exchange, the snap was misplayed and an incomplete pass led to Bainbridge taking the half at the TCC 26. Thanks to yet another stand by the Central defense, Bainbridge had to settle for a 36-yard field goal from talented kicker Stephen McRae to extend the lead to 17-10 Bearcats.

After a Thomas County Central punt on the next series, Bain-

bridge struck hard. Taking full advantage of the Jackets' aggressive defensive pursuit, a beautifully run reverse to Flanders resulted in a 55-yard touchdown run for the 'Cats. The ensuing PAT pushed the score to 24-10.

The rollercoaster for TCC kept rolling after the Jackets' next series. Again, after a punt, Bainbridge appeared as if they would be content to run the ball and preserve their two-touchdown lead. Four straight running plays put the 'Cats squarely on the TCC 48 when Powell hit Flanders, yet again, this time for a 42-yard strike to put Bainbridge ahead at 31-10.

The 'Cats kept pouring it on, as on their next possession they mounted a seven-play drive that was capped by McRae's 23-yard field goal to make it 34-10 Bainbridge.

Thomas County's Yellow Jackets didn't quit, as they mounted a 55-yard scoring drive to end the contest that was highlighted by a 30-yard pass from wide receiver Tyrone Jones to Samuels off of a punt fake all the way to the Bainbridge 11. Three plays later, it was fullback Donald McNeil bulging over from two yards out for a touchdown. The two-point conversion failed, and the game ended at its 34-16 total.

TCC head coach Charlie Greene felt the overall youth of his squad resulted in too many mis-

takes that did the Jackets in.

"We had good enthusiasm like we wanted, but just made too many youthful mistakes," Greene commented after the game. "The defense played a heck of a game, but we were too inconsistent overall."

The Thomas County squad will have next week off to regroup before facing arch-rival Thomasville '90 Sept. 15.

Yardstick

TCCS	3	0	7	6-16
Bridge	0	14	10	3-14

SCORING PLAYS
TCCS—Kevin James 35 FG
Bridges—Stanley Flanders 31 pass from Brian Powell (kick blocked)
Bridges—Vidal Lively 5 yard run (McRae kick)
TCCS—Tyrone Samuels 28 yard run (return) (Greene kick)
Bridges—McRae 36 yard FG
Bridges—Flanders 55 yard run (McRae kick)
Bridges—Flanders 42 yard pass from Powell (McRae kick)
Bridges—McRae 23 yard FG
TCCS—Donald McNeil 2 yard run (Smith pass failed)

	TCCS	Bridge
First downs	10	7
Rushes-yards	43-80	35-183
Passing yards	91	123
Passes	4-17	8-24
Punts	7-26	4-11
Fumbles-lost	5-2	2-1
Penalties-yards	4-20	4-20

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS
Rushing—TCCS, Owen 8-22, Sapp 10-52, McNeil 5-15, Lawrence 1-6, Sapp 1-6, Hicks 5-9, Smith 4-12, Bainbridge, Oles 2-24, Lively 15-72, Jackson 3-18, Smith 7-32, Flanders 1-55, Powell 2-11.
Passing—TCCS, Hicks 2-10-43, Smith 1-0-18, Jones 1-1-30, Bainbridge, Powell 8-22, Smith 6-10.
Receiving—TCCS, Homs 2-43, Hamilton 1-18, Samuels 1-30, Bainbridge, Flanders 6-72, Oles 1-4.



John Hicks, Tori Sapp, Tyrone Jones, Tyrone Samuels

Valiants whip Warriors

From Staff Reports

VALDOSTA — After slaking Brookwood to an early 13-0 lead, Joe Wilson's Valwood Valiants stormed back to defeat the visiting Warriors 24-13 at Goddard Field Friday night in GISA opening night action. The loss spoiled the Brookwood coaching debut of new head coach Jim Seidule.

Two plays after Valwood had an apparent touchdown called back, the Brookwood Warriors went to work on offense. Halfback Jesse Lee, who had 102 yards rushing on the night, ripped through the Valwood defense for an 83-yard touchdown run. On the ensuing kickoff, Valwood gave Brookwood yet another scoring opportunity by coughing up the football on their own 17. One play later, quarterback Chris Prince hit halfback Gator Hossy with a 17-yard touchdown pass. After Alex Insley added the PAT, Brookwood had an early 13-0 cushion.

However, from that point on, it was all Valwood, as the Valiants tallied 24 unanswered points. Valwood quarterback Chris LaMontagne hit split end, Jeff Hasluis with a 22-yard scoring strike to cut Brookwood's lead to 13-7. Valwood cut into the lead even more as its defense tackled Jesse Lee in the end zone for a safety.

Trailing 13-0 with just 36 seconds left in the opening half, Hasluis hauled in a Brookwood punt and went 71 yards for a touchdown to give Valwood a lead it



Staff Photo — Greg Bryant

down with just six minutes left in the game. However, Hasluis came out of nowhere to tackle Hossy at the four. The Valwood defense stiffened and kept Brookwood out on four straight downs. On the very next play, Dude Thomas broke free for a 52-yard touchdown run to ice the game for the home-standing Valiants.

After an opening date next week, Brookwood returns home to host Westbrook at Warrior Stadium Sept. 14.

Yardstick

Brookwood	13	0	0	0-13
Valwood	0	17	0	7-24

SCORING PLAYS
Brookwood—Jesse Lee 83 run (kick blocked)
Brookwood—Gator Hossy 17 pass from Chris Prince (kick blocked)
Valwood—Jeff Hasluis 22 pass from Chris LaMontagne (LaMontagne kick)
Valwood—Stanley, tackle Jesse Lee in end zone
Valwood—Stanley 71 yard return (Hasluis pass from Dude Thomas)
Valwood—Thomas 52 run (LaMontagne kick)

	Bro	Val
First downs	8	11
Rushes-yards	20-148	33-198
Passing yards	50	52
Passes	3-8	1-11
Punts	5-31	3-28
Fumbles-lost	3-1	4-1
Penalties-yards	5-42	8-68

Cairo burns Berrien, 35-7

From Staff Reports
NASHVILLE — Cairo's Raymond Taylor set the tone for this gridiron clash by returning the opening kickoff 60 yards as Ralph Jones' Stryumknars cruised to a 35-7 win against Class AA's Berrien Rehab Friday night.



and led all carriers with 10 rushes for 103 yards.

After an open date next Friday, the Stryumknars return home to entertain the Albany Indians Sept. 14 in the Stryup Bowl.

Yardstick