

McElroy Punt Return Saves Viking Victory

By MIKE CHASON
On a night when two of the most potent offenses in Region I-AAAA performed like Alka-Seltzer without its fizz, Robin McElroy was the man of the hour.

Displaying moves John Travolta would envy and a

The Valdosta Daily Times SPORTS

| Viking Doughtery | |
|--------------------|-------|
| First Downs | 10 |
| Yards Gained | 307 |
| Passing Yards | 113 |
| Rushing Yards | 194 |
| Interceptions | 1 |
| Penalties | 17 |
| Time of Possession | 27:20 |

which sprung the fleet-footed senior for the touchdown.
"We can't explain it," McElroy said in trying to describe the delicious feeling which undoubtedly must have been his when he saw the six go up in lights. "I know we really needed it."

That was an understatement indeed. Lowndes had only one scoring threat, an 18-play, 72-yard drive on its first possession of the second half. That masterfully-designed march bogged down when the Vikings had first-and-goal at the 10-yard line.

McElroy gained one yard on a running play, and then Wilson led to the air. LHS quarterback Chuck DeVane had two incompletions before finally striking oil on a fourth down fake punt. He hit tight end Chuck Jones in the end zone.

However, that play was called back because of a motion penalty, and Lowndes had to settle for a 20-yard field goal try by Jeff Stokes.

The junior placekicker snubbed the ball, and the Vikings were still without any points.
"We had it set up down there," Wilson said. "We just didn't have quite the

We're just not hard-nosed enough.

The Trojans from Albany are now 3-2 on the season. "We're just not a non-subregion bow, Doughtery is still 2-0 in the north subregion while Lowndes is 2-0 in the south subregion.

"We're going to work dadgum hard at it (getting better)," Welsh said. "We haven't given up at all."

Norman gave Doughtery two excellent chances to score but neither panned out.

James returned the second half kickoff 63 yards to the LHS 28-yard line. Lowndes' Adam Reese and Derrick Mitchell saved the touchdown.

The Viking defense, led by seven individual tackles of Reese, held at that point. Ronnie Adkins, Keith Hitchcock and Bill Schreffler added four tackles each.

Two seasons might have been Doughtery linebacker Freddie Blackmon, who had 13 individual tackles, or Doughtery defensive end, David Holloway, who had 10.

Doughtery's offense was also having problems with the Lowndes' defense, which has now recorded shutouts in all four Viking wins. The only LHS defeat was an 18-7 decision to still unbeaten Tift County (Tifton).

"They played well defensively," Welsh said. "But I thought we did too. We had opportunities to score but we didn't."

"We're just not a good football team. If we were, we would have won the game.



Robin McElroy Looks For Wall With Reese (3) And Bill Schreffler (6) Paving Way

again or fourth down with its own 27-yard line when corner-back, Dennis McDonald made a key stop on Bobby Rush.

McDonald almost put James out of the game earlier when he stuck the short but lightning-quick runner on a kickoff return.

"Pound for pound, Dennis McDonald is as hard as anybody," LHS defensive coordinator Brad Almon said.

Doughtery had only five King TDs. LHS defensive first downs in the quick, 100-minute game, which wasn't bolstered by rain after the first quarter.

which held Doughtery scoreless for his first time in recent history, but he's still not entirely pleased with the Viking offense.

"We haven't played offensively up to our capabilities," Wilson said. "We've had to move too

Some of that shuffling came about this week when veteran offensive tackle Leslie Bunie fractured his leg. Halfbacks Eric Thomas and Cedric Jones have missed the last two games because of injuries. Both were dressed out Friday night however.

"It was a good football game," Wilson said. "It's a shame the crowd didn't come out and support them. They played their little hearts out."

The Doughtery coach listened patiently and with a thin smile of gratitude at an obviously avid football fan who praised him and his team after the game.

When the man left, Welsh turned to a reporter and said, "That sounds good, but it don't give us any more points."

He was right. It didn't.

Rising in one great mass, the hometown fans had shrieks of joy welling in their throats before Steve Davis ever threw the final block.



John Laytiner Throtes, Rob Register (64) Watches The Result

In 49-0 Rout Valdosta Blasts Colquitt

By MIKE HAGOOD
MOULTRIE—The Valdosta Wildcats said a prayer before their eighth school football game with the Colquitt County Packers. As turned out, the Packers did not have a prayer.

The Cats used all phases of their offensive attack to rout their opponents 49-0. The final score was 49-0.

| Valdosta vs Colquitt | |
|----------------------|-------|
| First Downs | 20 |
| Yards Gained | 350 |
| Passing Yards | 117 |
| Rushing Yards | 233 |
| Interceptions | 1 |
| Penalties | 7 |
| Time of Possession | 40:15 |

second week in a row. Last week Valdosta beat Albany by the same score.

Dosta quarterback John Laytiner scored two touchdowns said, "Coach Butch Brooks (VHS offensive coordinator) said we're ready to play, so that kind of fired us up for the game."

A crowd of 1,500 for the contest at Moultrie's Mack Thorpe Stadium discovered just how devastating the state's number one-ranked team can be.

Valdosta scored on its second possession of the game to open the offensive onslaught. The Cats drove 51 yards in six plays with Irvin Roy carrying the ball in for the 14-yard line for the score.

The weak punt by Colquitt after being stopped deep in its own territory set up Valdosta's second score. Lastinger carried the ball twice on the two-play drive, scoring from the 25-yard line for his first score with 22 seconds left in the first quarter.

On their next possession, the Cats scored again on a 50-yard drive. Ernest King ran nine yards for the touchdown.

Lastinger's passes of eight yards to Willie Hankins and 25 yards to Roy set up the King TD.

On each of Valdosta's next two possessions, it drove for touchdowns. The extra point by Dale Parker made the score 27-0 and the tide was in doubt about the final outcome.

Valdosta's final possession before the half. Lastinger scored on a 3-yard run with 44 seconds left. Two 22-yard passes to John Bond and Time Dame were the big

plays in the nine play, two minute drive.

Valdosta's first team play took a bizarre twist in the second half. VHS Coach Nick Hyder was particularly hurt by the game, limiting Tyrone Sands to 19 yards in 14 carries.

The now 14 Packers only effective offensive weapon proved to be long passes from quarterback Greg Robinson to split end Jamie Wishaw. The passing duo accounted

for all of Colquitt's 112 yards passing.

The Cats talked early in the third quarter as the combination of Bond to Dame accounted for a 48-yard touchdown pass on the second play of the drive.

The Cats final drive spanned the end of the third quarter and the first of the fourth quarter.

William Gaskin's determined run from the 3-yard line capped a 58-yard drive. Passes of 12 and 14 yards from Bond to Hankins and a 14-yard run by Bond highlighted the six-play drive.

Prep Football Roundup

Waycross quarterback Barry Taylor threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to athletic trainer Charles Junior with only 44 seconds remaining to hand the Bulldogs a 19-13 high school football win over Ware County Friday.

The Ware County Gators, ranked No. 4 in AAA, fought Waycross, ranked No. 1, to a standstill until late in the fourth quarter. Then the Bulldogs rallied to mount two drives which finally yielded them a winning TD.

In other games Friday, Southwest DeKalb pulled away from the Bulldogs, 35-0. Valdosta slaughtered

Colquitt County 49-0. Albemarle beat Walker 38-6. Benedictine edged Statesboro 21-19. Bleckley County downed Johnson County 27-20. Clarke Central defeated Johnson-Gainesville 28-14, and Cedartown whipped West Rome 14-7.

It was a hecuba ball game as the Bulldogs and Waycross Coach Dale Williams.

He was right, even when the Bulldogs started. Waycross's first touchdown, in the first quarter, was immediately answered by a Ware County

touchdown in the next series of downs. Then in the fourth quarter, Bulldog quarterback Robbie Sowell fought his way 12 yards up the middle for another touchdown.

But Ware came back again, drove 28 yards in five plays with Timmy McCarry threading his way over 13 yards to retire the game.

In the waning minutes of the game, Waycross mounted a drive that carried 75 yards to the 50-yard line where they fumbled to Ware. Ware's touchdown play later a Ware player intercepted a Ware pass on 13-12 and returned it to the 17 to set up the winning

| Waycross vs Ware | |
|--------------------|-------|
| First Downs | 14 |
| Yards Gained | 131 |
| Passing Yards | 117 |
| Rushing Yards | 14 |
| Interceptions | 1 |
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Situation The Same In AL East

By The Associated Press
The days are dwindling down to a precious few for the Boston Red Sox.

"There's only one thing we can do," says Boston Manager Don Zimmer. "We just have to go out and win the next two days and hope that Cleveland can take at least one game from New York."

The Red Sox have their backs to the proverbial wall—in this case, the "Green Monster" at Fenway Park—and must connect, this weekend against the Toronto Blue Jays to keep their hopes alive in the American League East race.

The Red Sox stayed on the heels of the pace-setting Yankees with an 11-0 victory over the Blue Jays Friday night. That kept Boston a game behind the Yankees, who defeated the Cleveland Indians 5-3.

"Our guys knew what they had to do and they went out and did it," Zimmer said

after the Red Sox blasted Toronto for their sixth straight victory, and 10th in their last 12 starts.

Elsewhere in the American League, the Kansas City Royals blanked the Minnesota Twins 4-0; the Detroit Tigers edged the Baltimore Orioles 3-2; the Milwaukee Brewers turned back the Oakland A's 3-1; the Chicago White Sox outscored the California Angels 8-4; and the Texas Rangers walloped the Seattle Mariners 11-4.

Jim Rice became the American League's first slugger to reach 400 total bases in a season, since Joe DiMaggio in 1937 and relief specialist Bob Stanley allowed just two hits in seven innings in an unusual start for Boston.

Fred Lynn drove in five runs with a triple and two singles and Dutch Hobson had two doubles, a single and two RBIs for the Red Sox.

"You've got to give those guys over that credit," they

Toronto Manager Roy Halladay, speaking of the Red Sox. "They're playing real aggressive ball but then so are the Yankees."

Yankees, 3-1

Thurman Munson, Reggie Jackson and Lou Piniella delivered consecutive runs, scoring singles in the eighth inning to rally New York past Cleveland, 3-1.

The Indians had broken a scoreless tie in the top of the inning, nicking Jim Beattie for the game's first run on a two-out RBI single by Rick Manning.

Beattie allowed four hits in the eight innings he worked, and then turned just over to relief ace Rich Gossage, who earned his 26th save of the season.

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That's how they've been playing."

Royals, 4-0

Dennis Leonard pitched five innings of two-hit ball for his 21st victory as Kansas City beat Minnesota. The Royals will receive a West American League West title already tucked away.

Willie Wilson singled and stole second to ignite a three-run first inning, giving the Royals all the runs they needed.

Tigers, 3-2

Jim Slaton won his 17th game with the help of John Hillier, who saved as Detroit beat Baltimore.

Baltimore's Rich Dauer led a major league record for consecutive errorless games by second basemen when he handled his 418th game without an error in

Ken Hubbs of the Chicago Cubs set the mark in 1963. Boston's Bobby Doerr set the AL mark of 414 for Boston in 1966, while Davey Johnson set the fifth inning. It was also Dauer's 86th straight errorless game at second base.

Brewers, 3-1

Bill Traber buried a five-hitter to set the mark in 1963. Boston's Bobby Doerr set the AL mark of 414 for Boston in 1966, while Davey Johnson set the fifth inning. It was also Dauer's 86th straight errorless game at second base.

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White Sox, 9-6

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