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1973 YEARBOOK
VALLEY EDITION

CAPITAL COMPLETE VALLEY COVERAGE

- 23 LEAGUES
- 150 SCHOOLS
- 600 PLAYERS
- TOP 20 VALLEY SCHOOLS
- 1973 ALL VALLEY TEAM
- VALLEY'S BEST 60 PLAYERS

FEATURES

- **VIC HENDERSON**
THE BEST IS YET TO COME
- **THE AUTUMN HEROES**
A COMPELLING VIEW OF THE
PARTICIPANTS OF THE GRIDIRON
- **GRID GRABS**
SHORTS ON PAST HAPPENINGS
IN FOOTBALL WORLD

- **COMMENTS**
- **FORECASTS**
- **RANKINGS**

VIC HENDERSON
BELLA VISTA





**HALFBACK STEVE WRIGHT OF JESUIT PICKS UP 15 YARDS AGAINST CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
IN THE HOLY BOWL.**

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THE AUTUMN HEROES

A COMPELLING VIEW OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE GRIDIRON

By BOB ROCK

Football is a Spartan game. It requires dedication, discipline and sacrifice. Football is a contact sport, a game designed not only to always learn but also to exploit and defeat the weak. Only the strong with courage and perseverance can continually endure the competitive atmosphere of the sport and pay the high price of victory. For that is what the game is all about—to win.

Football has developed far beyond the ideas and imaginations of those who first originated the game. Complicated strategy, specialization, new positions, an entirely new language and advanced training have further developed the sport. For the coaching staff, football has become a year round job, a never ending cycle of study, preparation, scouting, evaluation and more study.

Many man-hours of planning have gone into the teams. Long sessions in the dark rooms viewing and grading films; the compilation and revising of play books full of squares and circles—the diagrams that are the drawings of a team's movements. Then the concentration is moved to the outdoors, to the field of practice, where each individual unit of the team is polished and perfected under the critical eyes of experienced coaches. Preparation of the body and the mind becomes a monotonous routine of running through a play, and then running it again and again until the repetition of learning becomes a subconscious pattern within the player and an instinctive part of his movement on the playing field.

To play football successfully, a person must dedicate himself to hard work. More than muscle is necessary. Attitude, emotion, intelligence and psychology are also required. The aptitude to learn, to meet the requirements imposed by constant changes in the game is a basic requisite of any player. The game does bring out the best in the person who plays it—the player who is willing to pay the price of success.

All the players must approach the sport with great respect. It is a rugged, deliberate sport that beckons them in a variety of ways and they respond to

it with individual mood. All must be serious about the game. Their jobs require the highest application of concentration, motions and energy that can't be wasted to achieve results. Besides trying to outsmart the opposition, a team must be able to out-hit them, out-block them, out-tackle them, out-run them, out-pass them and out-condition them.

If it were easy to be a winner, everybody would be one. There is a lot of work and a lot of sacrifice involved in order to be one. It takes many things to be a winner. Among them is that a school must have a solid team which must be free of serious injuries, and the team must have some of that position called luck.

Luck can play a major factor in the success of a team. But luck can't be relied on. So coaches prepare their teams to take advantage of those forces that can't be controlled. In football, it has long been an adage that a victorious team makes its own luck. It is simply taking advantage of an opponent's weaknesses.

Team weaknesses are found in the inexperienced players as well as in the veterans who make just that one mistake. The signs are always there to the scrutinizing coaching staff: an end who can't catch to the outside; a back who can't find daylight on inside tackle situations; a defensive tackle who can easily be trap-blocked; a guard who can't pull and block downfield; an offensive tackle who is weak on pass protection blocking; a quarterback who is inclined to lose his poise under continued pressure; a defensive back given to mental errors; a center who can't adjust to constant pounding. All are definite clues that help one team prepare for the defeat of another.

The winner finds these defects and concentrates its attack relentlessly at them, forcing them to weaken and to eventually break. Sometimes the weakness becomes a mortal wound and a team finally falls apart. Other times the weakness holds and hardens under the duress of constant pounding. The stress and strains upon the individual parts of a football team is the real game. Seeking out, finding the pro-

verbial weak link in the opponent is a full time study for a coaching staff. To prevent it from happening to their own team is another tough job all in itself.

The winning team usually has the players who go out there with the idea that they want to win just a little more. They are willing to hurt just a little more for it.

Football is entirely an American game. The physical and mental science of it is awesome and complicated, making it a sport for only a few who can match the strict requirements it demands. But those few go all out in the traditional American spirit of fighting for victory.

There is a definite pride in playing football. It seeps down out of history, carried by the names of the colorful players who illuminated the past years of the sport. This heritage is understood by the youth of today.

As participants on the gridiron, they are members of a unique fraternity of athletes. They play a form of war fought among groups who do a just battle without weapons. It is an intense game that demands complete devotion from those who play it, but rewards them well for their dedication.

Compensations come in many forms. At an age when youth is relatively unsettled and seeking understanding and recognition for their deeds, the prep football player is being well rewarded in achievement and recognition. The game also affords to many the precious college scholarship which has helped tremendously to pave the way for a brighter future.

Friday night in an Autumn coolness provided by a quiet wind. Leaves are rustling down deserted streets of the town. The field is all lit up like a magical beacon, beckoning to the sports fans. Sound of voices joining other excited voices pierce the stillness of the night. The aroma of fresh coffee and steaming hot dogs fill the air.

It is one hour to kick-off time. In the locker room it is a period for waiting. Whispered dialogue by groups of players finishing to get taped and dressed as they prepare for battle.

Coaches are wandering about, talking to players, gesturing, moving to the blackboard to draw one more diagram that could perhaps be the crucial play that could spell the difference between victory and defeat. Tension builds to the slow motion tick of the clock as each player harbors his own personal thought.

There is no way to take this night for granted as the stomach knows too well. This is what it is all about: the long hours of preparation, practice and conditioning. It is never easy, this hour of waiting for the words "let's go get them."

The complex problems of daily living are completely forgotten. Now, there is but one idea. The call to battle on a green field is heard again.

There is never an easy contest. The faces of the coaches tell you that. This night, with the other thousands in the stadium, they have come to watch their team play.

Their exhaustive week is accomplished: the movies, preparations, studies and plannings are all behind them now. Tonight the game belongs to their players—their proud team. For the next two hours they are calm, they are excited, they shout, they plead and they worry. All of them have played the game and you can almost see them wanting to do instead of tell. They recall their days of glory.

As sideline critics they look for things that all fans should learn to look for. Elementary knowledge becomes crucial information on any given night. They watch and learn everything possible about their opponents. They observe with keen eyes of experience, always asking questions to themselves—hoping to find an immediate solution to the problems at hand.

For the dedicated coaches, the involvement is total. This is a night of success or a night of sheer disappointment. It is a hectic and emotional job that is also very rewarding. Everyone of them will tell you the same thing. The worst place to watch a football game is from in front of the bench.

One of the primary rules of football is team discipline. The single objective of a team far overrules the single intention of individual purpose. The offenses are built around a sequence of ten players creating the opportunity for the eleventh man to advance the ball.

The snap of the ball sets it all in motion and the explosive action is accompanied by distinct noises created by crashing bodies encased in pads and helmets, shouts and grunts of voices, the thunder of running feet. It is the sound of battle and the players are drawn to it.

The heavy linemen fighting their primitive, ferocious battles; the fleet ends running crisp patterns through the secondary, attempting to elude the quick defensive backs; the powerful runners slashing through the matted tangle of the line, knees high, heads up with hard eyes seeking avenues through a forest of determined foes; the linebackers moving with agility and strength for the crushing tackle; the quarterback dancing around, gliding back to hand-off to a runner or turning to throw a long graceful pass to a speeding target down the field.

Few moments in sports have the meaningful anticipation that precedes each play, following a chant of signals. The promise of excitement fills the crowded stands to feed the hunger of the demanding fans.

There is no easy way to play football. The game is designed to provide a series of demanding tests for a player's courage, dedication and skill. On the field there is no place to hide or rest, no way to avoid the battle. Play after play it comes to the competitors with a swift and sudden awareness.

There is a deep respect among the players for each other's ability. It is a respect proven in the heat of competition.

The players take great pride in their toughness. They enjoy their game and the ferocious man-to-man combat it provides. Theirs is a game of yards, won or lost in intense moments of split second action that creates many moods and many emotions. It challenges the players to face the truths of pain, reverses and possible defeat. And better, it provides the opportunity to excel and find success and pride in victory.

The athletes are always looking forward, never looking back. They accept victories or defeats with calm appraisal. Each new game is a brand new challenge rich with new opportunities. This is their night, a time for achievement, purpose and glory.

Two things are perhaps more important than any other in football. They are pride and desire. The complete player has them both. Those who don't—despite courage, talent and skill—fall short of the level of greatness that marks an outstanding competitor.

Every season the great players make the great plays. It is their art. It is born out of pride of accomplishment and desire to excel.

These are the autumn heroes who play the colorful and rugged game in a colorful and rugged season.

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— DON REGUERA —

VIC HENDERSON

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

by DON WRIGHT

Few assignments in sports are more cruel for an athlete than playing in the shadow of a brother who was a star. Even worse, is to be compared to two of them. However, the pressure has no way been a detriment to the confident Vic Henderson who is ready to explode whenever he leaves the bench.

Both of his brothers, Alan who played fullback-linebacker and Stan who was a guard-linebacker, were three-year starters for Folsom, and starred for the undefeated '62 Folsom team which ranked as one of the state's best that year. The two former Golden Empire All-Leaguers, who also excelled in wrestling, went on to play for Oklahoma. They are cheering for their "baby" brother to surpass everything they ever accomplished.

"A lot of pride and the desire to be better spurs me on," confides Vic, in an article of faith.

Barring some kind of Bella Vista disaster, such as a snow storm blowing away the goal line, Henderson should come through as predicted. The Broncos' "steak and potato man" is highly regarded by the competition, both in and out of the Capital Valley Conference, who knows too well of his accomplishments.

A third-year starter on the varsity, the powerful 6-0, 200-pound fullback amazed the experts as a sophomore with his strength and ability. The bruising runner has always loved to run up the middle more than around the ends.

His statistics would bend the back of a strong horse. Henderson was the second leading rusher in Sacramento County last season, averaging almost 5 yards a carry, as he packed the ball 270 times for 1,280 yards and 11 touchdowns in 10 games. His two-year career marks are 1,900 yards and 24 touchdowns.

"Statistics speak for themselves," says Coach Don Driscoll, "but I think the biggest thing Vic brings to our team is his tremendous attitude and leadership. I believe his greatest quality is that of complete and total dedication to any activity he is engaged in, whether it be athletics, the classroom or the choral group he sings with. As long as I have known him, he has never given less than his best, but this seems to be traditional of his family. Vic's biggest drawback is that he blames himself anytime we



Fullback Vic Henderson (30) Powers His Way Through The Opposition In A Capital Valley Conference Game.

do not win. He hates to lose more than anyone I have ever coached before."

The tough competitor does have a strong family tradition. Besides, his two brothers being heavily involved in athletics, their father was a boxing heavyweight champion while serving in the Navy. Ironically, both Alan and Stan are now Captains in the Air Force as fighter pilots. Vic also has his sight set to possibly enter the Air Force in the future.

Although he hasn't yet decided where to play his college football, the

Air Force Academy would seem like a good bet, under the circumstances.

However, other things are more pressing at the moment. Priorities like tearing through opposing lines and leading Bella Vista to a possible conference championship.

Living up to the reputation as the best running back in the school's history is a task in itself. However, a rival coach better described his potential when he exclaimed: "Henderson is like a man playing among boys."

Indeed, the best is yet to come.



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NEWSERVICE  10
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VALLEY RANKINGS

TOP TEN

TOP 20 TEAMS

FIRST TEN

1. Mira Loma
2. Cordova
3. Oakdale
4. Enterprise
5. Modesto
6. Sacramento
7. Christian Brothers
8. Bella Vista
9. Corning
10. Anderson

SECOND TEN

11. Norte Del Rio
12. Washington
13. Ponderosa
14. Edison
15. Downey
16. Turlock
17. Pleasant Valley
18. Vacaville
19. Paradise
20. Mount Shasta

MIRA LOMA

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Sacramento
Nickname — Matadors
Colors — Scarlet & Blue
Enrollment — 1,800
League — Capital Valley
Principal — Targe Lindsay
Director — Don Brown
Coach — Don Brown
1972 Record — 12-0-0

CORDOVA

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Rancho Cordova
Nickname — Lancers
Colors — Red, Black, White
Enrollment — 2,100
League — Delta
Principal — Harold Mathews
Director — Guy Anderson
Coach — Dewey Guerra
1972 Record — 9-1-0

OAKDALE

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Oakdale
Nickname — Mustangs
Colors — Scarlet & Gold
Enrollment — 1,300
League — Valley Oak
Principal — Robert Scherer
Director — Jack Walker
Coach — Dale Clipper
1972 Record — 8-2-0

ENTERPRISE

Section — Northern
Location — Redding
Nickname — Hornets
Colors — Black & Gold
Enrollment — 1,500
League — Northern Athletic
Principal — Scotty Hepburn
Director — Joe Manatowa
Coach — Joe Manatowa
1972 Record — 9-2-0

MODESTO

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Modesto
Nickname — Panthers
Colors — Red & Black
Enrollment — 2,100
League — Central California
Principal — Eugene Mould
Director — David Laude
Coach — Don Adams
1972 Record — 8-1-1

SACRAMENTO

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Sacramento
Nickname — Dragons
Colors — Purple & White
Enrollment — 1,700
League — Metropolitan
Principal — Adolphus McGee
Director — James Flynn
Coach — Dave Hotell
1972 Record — 9-2-0

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Sacramento
Nickname — Falcons
Colors — Red & Blue
Enrollment — 700
League — Metropolitan
Principal — Martin Fallin
Director — Dick Sperbeck
Coach — Dick Sperbeck
1972 Record — 6-3-0

BELLA VISTA

Section — Sac-Joaquin
Location — Fair Oaks
Nickname — Broncos
Colors — Scarlet, Black, White
Enrollment — 2,300
League — Capital Valley
Principal — George White
Director — Don Driscoll
Coach — Don Driscoll
1972 Record — 6-4-0

CORNING

Section — Northern
Location — Corning
Nickname — Cardinals
Colors — Red & White
Enrollment — 700
League — Westside
Principal — E.L. Gott
Director — Robert Tomlinson
Coach — Tag McFadden
1972 Record — 8-1-0

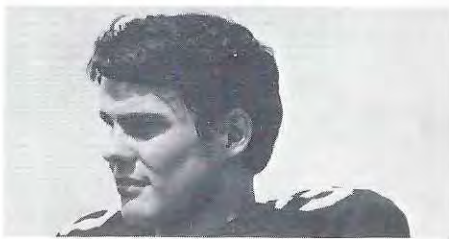
ANDERSON

Section — Northern
Location — Anderson
Nickname — Cubs
Colors — Blue & Gold
Enrollment — 1,600
League — Northern Athletic
Principal — J.D. Leitaker
Director — Bob Hadley
Coach — Bob Reid
1972 Record — 6-4-0

ALL-VALLEY

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL | LEAGUE |
|-------------|---------------|------|-----|-------------|--------------------|
| End | Chuck Laun | 6-2 | 200 | Downey | Central California |
| End | Ray Burton | 6-3 | 220 | Vacaville | Delta |
| Tackle | Gary Bethel | 6-4 | 230 | Turlock | Central California |
| Tackle | Bobby Galano | 6-3 | 240 | Edison | San Joaquin |
| Guard | Gordon King | 6-5 | 230 | Bella Vista | Capital Valley |
| Guard | John Allen | 5-10 | 205 | Mira Loma | Capital Valley |
| Center | Ron Cleland | 6-1 | 200 | Stagg | San Joaquin |
| Quarterback | Randy Self | 6-0 | 180 | Ceres | Valley Oak |
| Halfback | Rod Connors | 6-2 | 190 | Cordova | Delta |
| Halfback | Mark Riggs | 6-2 | 190 | Oakdale | Valley Oak |
| Fullback | Vic Henderson | 6-0 | 200 | Bella Vista | Capital Valley |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: VIC HENDERSON



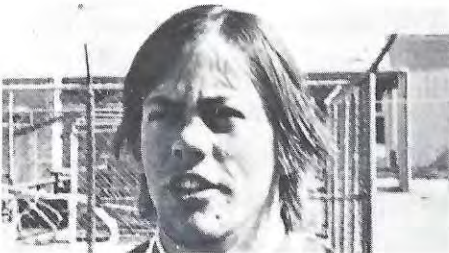
VIC HENDERSON
Bella Vista



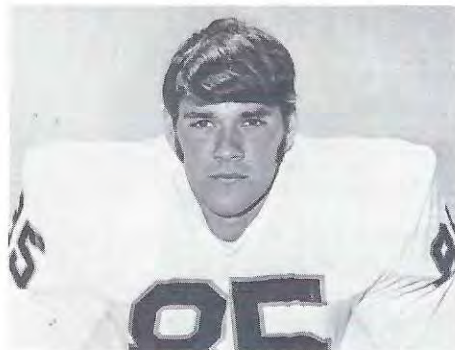
CHUCK LAUN
Downey



GORDON KING
Bella Vista



RANDY SELF
Ceres



RAY BURTON
Vacaville



JOHN ALLEN
Mira Loma



ROD CONNORS
Cordova



GARY BETHEL
Turlock



MARK RIGGS
Oakdale



RON CLELAND
Stagg



BOBBY GALANO
Edison

VALLEY'S BEST PLAYERS

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL | LEAGUE |
|-------------|-----------------|------|-----|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fullback | Vic Henderson | 6-0 | 200 | Bella Vista | Capital Valley |
| Guard | Gordon King | 6-5 | 230 | Bella Vista | Capital Valley |
| Halfback | Jeff Hansen | 6-2 | 190 | El Camino | Capital Valley |
| Guard | John Allen | 5-10 | 205 | Mira Loma | Capital Valley |
| Halfback | Clyde Fields | 5-9 | 170 | Atwater | Central California |
| End | Chuck Laun | 6-2 | 200 | Downey | Central California |
| Guard | Randy Whited | 6-2 | 215 | Downey | Central California |
| Quarterback | Arlen Peters | 6-0 | 180 | Modesto | Central California |
| Guard | Gary Bethel | 6-4 | 230 | Turlock | Central California |
| Guard | Ken Pimental | 6-3 | 210 | Turlock | Central California |
| Halfback | Rod Connors | 6-2 | 190 | Cordova | Delta |
| Tackle | Jon Lancaster | 6-1 | 235 | Fairfield | Delta |
| End | Ray Burton | 6-3 | 220 | Vacaville | Delta |
| Fullback | Dave Petree | 5-10 | 190 | Vacaville | Delta |
| Quarterback | Dave Hudgens | 6-0 | 180 | Las Plumas | Eastern |
| Fullback | Dino Visinoni | 6-1 | 200 | Paradise | Eastern |
| Tackle | Jim Stephens | 6-2 | 225 | Pleasant Valley | Eastern |
| Halfback | Curt Parks | 6-2 | 185 | McCloud | Evergreen |
| Fullback | Clint Underwood | 6-3 | 225 | Greenville | Feather River |
| Halfback | Loren Stites | 5-11 | 190 | Quincy | Feather River |
| Fullback | Rick Dickinson | 5-10 | 170 | Westwood | Feather River |
| Kicker | Mike Jahnke | 5-11 | 175 | Jesuit | Golden Empire |
| Linebacker | Dave Leatherly | 6-0 | 190 | Jesuit | Golden Empire |
| Tackle | Dave Michelmore | 6-4 | 215 | Jesuit | Golden Empire |
| Tackle | Ken Lackey | 6-3 | 235 | Ponderosa | Golden Empire |
| Halfback | Chris Gandy | 6-2 | 205 | Christian Brothers | Metropolitan |
| Tackle | John Hurtsig | 6-0 | 200 | Christian Brothers | Metropolitan |
| Tackle | Brica Ragster | 6-0 | 225 | Christian Brothers | Metropolitan |
| Quarterback | Jim Breech | 5-7 | 160 | Sacramento | Metropolitan |
| Guard | Jim Reifert | 6-1 | 190 | Anderson | Northern Athletic |
| Quarterback | Greg Bullard | 6-3 | 190 | Enterprise | Northern Athletic |
| Halfback | Glen Long | 5-11 | 195 | Shasta | Northern Athletic |
| End | Jzff McKinley | 6-3 | 195 | Williams | Northern Valley |
| Quarterback | Rod Bell | 5-10 | 165 | Grant | North Metro |
| Flanker | Steve Woodard | 6-2 | 195 | Highlands | North Metro |
| Halfback | James Owens | 6-0 | 160 | Norte Del Rio | North Metro |
| End | Steve Grossman | 6-1 | 170 | Rio Linda | North Metro |
| Tackle | Glenn Perry | 6-1 | 240 | Yuba City | North Metro |
| Linebacker | Chris Cobb | 6-0 | 200 | Wheatland | Pioneer |
| Tackle | Bobby Galano | 6-3 | 240 | Edison | San Joaquin |
| Center | Ron Cleland | 6-1 | 200 | Stagg | San Joaquin |
| Halfback | Mark Buring | 5-11 | 180 | Modoc | Shasta Cascade |
| Fullback | Bill Brown | 5-10 | 170 | Mount Shasta | Shasta Cascade |
| Tackle | Tim Plass | 6-1 | 190 | Tulelake | Shasta Cascade |
| Flanker | enhart Peat | 6-0 | 180 | Placer | Sierra Foothill |
| End | Dave Imelio | 6-2 | 190 | Central Catholic | Southern |
| Tackle | Byron Froman | 6-2 | 190 | Delta | Superior California |
| Halfback | Marvin Heinecke | 6-1 | 190 | Washington | Superior California |
| Halfback | Steve Lee | 6-0 | 180 | Washington | Superior California |
| Center | Dave Morse | 6-0 | 200 | Gustine | Trans Valley |
| Guard | Mike Dias | 6-1 | 185 | Hughson | Trans Valley |
| Quarterback | Joe Budiselich | 6-3 | 210 | Linden | Trans Valley |
| End | Brian Peets | 6-4 | 200 | Linden | Trans Valley |
| Quarterback | Randy Self | 6-0 | 180 | Ceres | Valley Oak |
| Fullback | Mark Riggs | 6-0 | 190 | Oakdale | Valley Oak |
| Quarterback | Mike Williams | 6-2 | 180 | St. Mary's | Valley Oak |
| Halfback | Steve Razo | 6-1 | 185 | Colusa | Westside |
| Halfback | Ron Craig | 5-10 | 170 | Corning | Westside |
| Guard | Pat Freehill | 6-1 | 190 | Corning | Westside |
| Fullback | Steve Brooks | 6-1 | 200 | Orland | Westside |

DELTA

TEAM RANKINGS

1. CORDOVA
2. VACAVILLE
3. WOODLAND
4. ARMIJO
5. DAVIS
6. FAIRFIELD

CORDOVA — The Lancers, first in Sacramento County in offense with an average of 345 yards per game and fourth on defense as they only allowed an average of 150 yards last autumn, have that high-scoring look and strong defense again this campaign. Coach Dewey Guerra has 7 offensive and 5 defensive starters among the 26 grid-ers back from that crack unit that led Cordova to a 9-1 mark. Included in that number are a pair of experienced halfbacks in All-Valley speedster Rod Connors (6-2, 190) and All-League candidate Kevin Guerra (5-8, 165). Quarterback Jerry Reiger (5-9, 160) will direct the lethal offense. The line boasts center George Parr (6-3, 195), ends Bob Rozier (6-3, 215) and Ron Thompson (5-11, 190) and tackle Earl Garrison (6-1, 210). The defense can count on the abilities of halfback Walt Hill (5-11, 165) in the secondary and linebacker for added muscle.

The Lancers should have another great squad with good experience, outstanding speed, fine mobility and the necessary confidence to make

them as tough to beat this time around as they have been in the past 10 years in which they produced winning teams. There's championship caliber here.

VACAVILLE — Coach Tom Zunino has his goal set on leading his Bulldogs to the league crown in this campaign. He hopes to properly blend 9 fine holdovers with a good crop of sophomores and a couple of key transfers into another winner which might better last fall's 7-2 record. Much depends on All-League fullback Dave Petree (5-10, 190) who rolled up 720 yards, averaging 4.6 yards per carry and 5 touchdowns in 155 tries when not playing cornerback on defense. Vacaville is also blessed with fine passing quarterback Paul Brick (5-10, 160) and hard running halfback Bill Zupo (5-9, 170). Fullback Greg Finley (6-1, 205) and halfback Jeff Wright (6-0, 165) come up from the jayvees for added backfield strength.

The line will be basically green but should develop into one of the best with a fine pair of receivers at both ends with versatile and powerful All-Valley Ray Burton (6-3, 220) and Ed Mann (5-11, 165). Guard Keith Heinberger (5-9, 175), tackles Dore Rowe (6-3, 215), a heralded transfer from New Jersey, and Robert Rudolph (6-2, 190), up from the jayvees, form the nucleus of an interior line that has great mobility. Last season's forward wall was instrumental in holding the

opposition to a mere 138 yard average per game, and they could be as tight this time around.

WOODLAND — It's the beginning of a new era this coming fall in the den of the Wolves who take their football seriously. New Head Coach Armar Jacques is hopeful of finding enough missing pieces to put together a winning season. There are 17 lettermen returning from a 4-5 team to help him accomplish the task.

The best of the running backs are All-League candidate fullback Steve Fuchslin (6-1, 200) and junior tailback Tom Cranston (5-10, 185). The interior line shows strength in guard Ron Eowan (5-10, 175) and tackle Tom Boone (6-2, 210). Halfback Gary Wilson (5-9, 150) heads the defensive secondary. Win or lose, Woodland has always been tough to beat — and this year will prove to be no exception.

ARMIJO — The highly-regarded Indians are still roaring over their 8-2 record of last season and Coach Bill Fuller has hopes for another celebration with 20 people back from a basketball club that just missed taking the league prize. It's difficult to place Armijo this low in the rankings, since the Indians are expected to be dangerous again — and the opponents better beware.

The offense will be keyed by flanker Lepoleon Ingram (6-3, 190) and end Isaac Williams (5-10, 170) a two-way performer. Armijo's defense is built around tackle Mark Buffington (5-10, 195) and linebacker Bill Holsapple (6-6, 205).

DAVIS — The heart of the Blue Devils' offense is gone with the graduation of their top flight passing quarterback and two excellent receivers. However, Coach Ralph Villanueva enters his second season with enough talent in the 10 performers back from a 4-5 squad for a serious attempt at a respectable showing. Davis will be young, but capable.

The offensive spotlight will fall on fullback Jim Hilliard (5-9, 180), junior quarterback Scott Hammond (6-1, 170) and halfback Steve O'Neill (6-0, 175). Junior tackle Jeff Moore (6-2, 220) heads the line.

FAIRFIELD — The Falcons have been flying low on the gridiron in recent autumns, and this does not look like the season for them to break the habit. Coach Richard Davis is hoping for an improvement in the won and lost column with the nucleus of 7 experienced personnel coming back off a 0-9 team.

The one bright spot for Fairfield is All-League tackle Jon Lancaster (6-1, 235) who possesses fine strength and good desire and the attitude to possibly be the best lineman to come out of the school.

LEAGUE'S BEST

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL |
|----------|----------------|------|-----|-----------|
| Halfback | Rod Connors | 6-2 | 190 | Cordova |
| Halfback | Kevin Guerra | 5-8 | 165 | Cordova |
| Fullback | Jim Hilliard | 5-9 | 180 | Davis |
| Tackle | Jon Lancaster | 6-1 | 235 | Fairfield |
| End | Ray Burton | 6-3 | 220 | Vacaville |
| Fullback | Dave Petree | 5-10 | 190 | Vacaville |
| Fullback | Steve Fuchslin | 6-1 | 200 | Woodland |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: ROD CONNORS



ROD CONNORS
Cordova



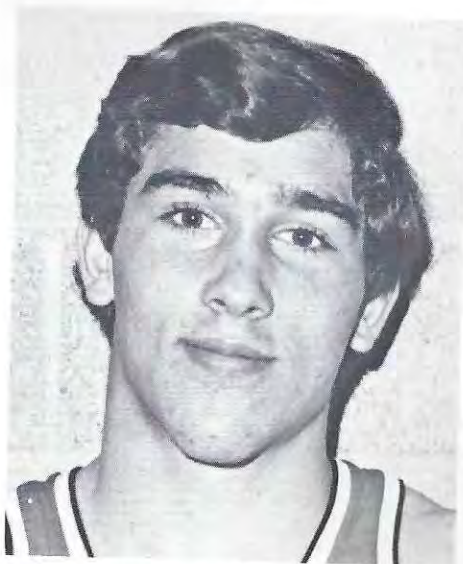
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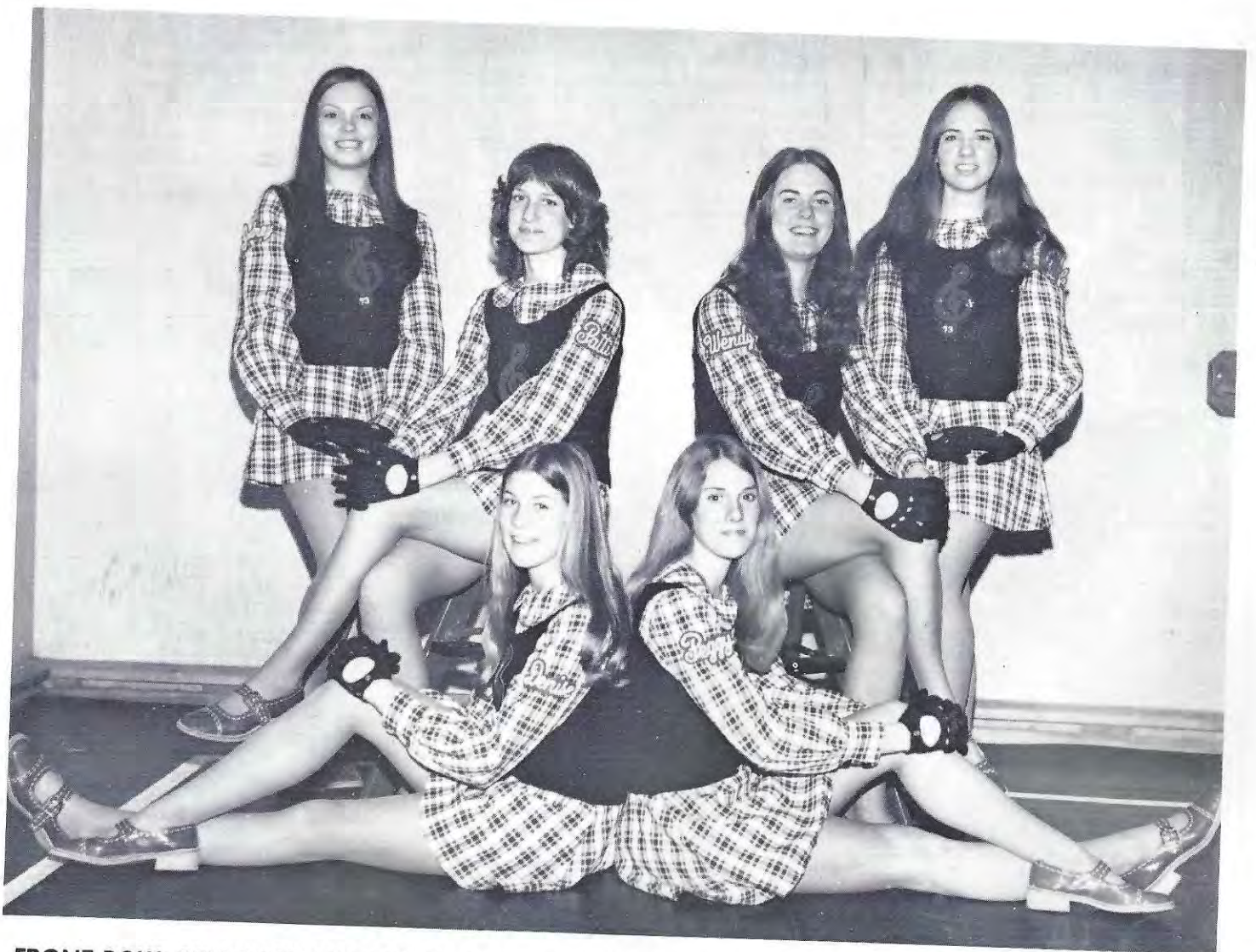
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WENDY BIDDLE, GAYLE PULLEY.

GOLDEN EMPIRE

TEAM RANKINGS

1. Ponderosa
2. Jesuit
3. Galt
4. Folsom
5. El Dorado
6. South Tahoe

PONDEROSA — The Bruins showed what they were made of last autumn when they closed out the campaign with a 7-1-1 mark and a co-championship with mostly juniors on the club. This season's Ponderosa football edition has the material to go undefeated with 26 gridders, including most starters, back to make Coach Travis Hatcher, who feels very optimistic, anxious to get the season started. With good prospects coming up from a championship sophomore squad that went undefeated, this could be the deepest, most experienced, talented and largest team the Bruins ever had. Although the offense shows great potential, the defense will be the highlight for Ponderosa because of the great talent returning that shut out three opponents and was extremely stingy on points allowed last season.

For the first time in the Bruins' football history, there is keen competition for the quarterback position. Vying for the signal-calling job is Scott Moore (6-3, 190), a returning starter who is a great ball handler, and junior Tom Tirapelle (5-11, 165), who has good speed and is an excellent passer. Fullback Nick Androlewicz (5-11, 185) and tailback Tim Petty (5-11, 195), both potential All-Leaguers, will provide a strong running game. Versatile junior halfback Jim Bacchi (6-0, 195), a starter as a sophomore last fall, will lend support to the offense, although his strong forte is on defense as either end or linebacker. Two linemen who will be tough to push around are junior guard Dave Cort (6-1, 200), who goes as a linebacker or end on defense and was voted the Most Valuable Player on the soph squad last year, and highly-touted two-way tackle Ken Lackey (6-3, 235) who is considered one of the

best interior linemen in the Valley. Linebacker Jim Hood (5-11, 180) will again be counted upon in his position.

JESUIT — Coach Bob Sevieri's initial campaign as the head grid mentor brought the Marauders a 7-2-1 record and the league's co-championship. Under his guidance, Jesuit ranked fourth in Sacramento County in total offense as they averaged 300 yards a game and eighth in defense by holding the opposition to an average of 180 yards. For Jesuit to duplicate the feat, an all-out effort will be required this time around since they have only 4 starters coming back and a 2-8 jay-vee squad coming up. Although it could be a longer season than usual, the Marauders are always tough to beat, and this fall will prove no different.

It won't be easy to replace such stellar All-Leaguers as quarterback Larry McGovern who threw for 990 yards on 66 completions, end Marty Kloser who caught 30 of those passes for 500 yards, center Tim Egan and tackle Dan Saccani. The success of this season's offense rests on halfbacks junior Carlton Adams (5-9, 170) and Steve Wright (5-11, 165), and fullback Dan Barrett (6-2, 200). The tackle spots could be the line's strong point with junior Dave Michelmore (6-4, 215), a varsity performer last year who ranks as one of the best interior linemen in the Valley and Gary

Prentice (6-3, 195), who has shown good improvement and fine potential. Linebacker Dave Leatherby (6-1, 190) is rated by some as one of the best linebackers in the Valley. Kicking specialist Mike Jahnke (5-11, 175) is definitely one of the best around with the toe.

GALT — They took the Warriors seriously last fall and Coach Erv Hatcher's team had better not be overlooked this season. Although there are only 10 returning lettermen off a 6-2-1 club, the nucleus is there for Galt to possibly duplicate last year's performance.

Hard-hitting guard and linebacker Randy Rosa will be sorely missed, but the line is reported to be real tough again with junior guard Terry Flannery (5-10, 210) and junior tackle Rory Chapman (6-0, 195) leading the way. Halfbacks Tom Costa (5-9, 160) and Paul La Vine (6-0, 180) have the potential to move the ball well. Charles Palmer (5-10, 185) returns at his blocking back and linebacker positions.

FOLSOM — The Bulldogs' football fortunes may be on the upturn this season, since they will have experience in the 22 people back off a 0-0 club. Although Sam Popovich's squad still doesn't have enough to fight for the league prize, with a little luck on its side, Folsom could end up in the

LEAGUE'S BEST

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL |
|------------|------------------|------|-----|-------------|
| Guard | Steve Lowery | 5-8 | 165 | Folsom |
| Halfback | Val Rendon | 5-8 | 165 | Folsom |
| Tackle | Rory Chapman | 6-0 | 195 | Galt |
| Guard | Terry Flannery | 5-10 | 210 | Galt |
| Linebacker | Charles Palmer | 5-10 | 185 | Galt |
| Kicker | Mike Jahnke | 6-11 | 175 | Jesuit |
| Linebacker | Dave Leatherby | 6-0 | 190 | Jesuit |
| Tackle | Dave Michelmore | 6-4 | 215 | Jesuit |
| Halfback | Steve Wright | 5-11 | 165 | Jesuit |
| Fullback | Nick Androlewicz | 5-11 | 185 | Ponderosa |
| Tackle | Ken Lackey | 6-3 | 235 | Ponderosa |
| Tailback | Tim Petty | 6-0 | 195 | Ponderosa |
| Center | Paul Frye | 6-0 | 180 | South Tahoe |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: KEN LACKEY



RORY CHAPMAN
Galt



TERRY FLANNERY
Galt



CHARLES PALMER
Galt



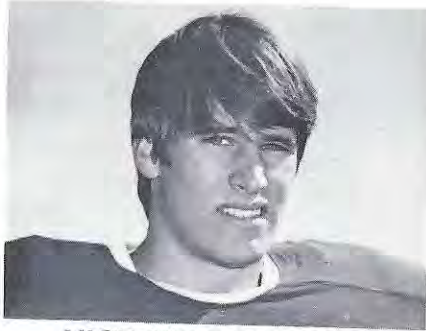
MIKE JAHNKE
Jesuit



DAVE LEATHERBY
Jesuit



DAVE MICHELMORE
Jesuit



NICK ANDROLEWICZ
Ponderosa



KEN LACKEY
Ponderosa



TIM PETTY
Ponderosa

first division. More depth, speed, and a new attitude gives the Bulldogs an optimistic feeling and brands them as the league's sleeper.

Halfback Val Renden (5-8, 165) is a 10 flat sprinter and a candidate for All-League honors. The line is to be built around guard Steve Lowery (5-8, 165), a good all-around athlete and one of the league's best, and tackle Jeff Nall (5-10, 185). The linebackers will be tough with Erwin Granados (5-9, 160) and Chuck LeDuc (5-10, 205).

EL DORADO — Heavy graduation losses have cut deeply into both the offensive and defensive platoons to make 1973 a major rebuilding chore. The Cougars will be hard pressed to even come close to last year's 5-4 mark, with only 8 performers back. Coach Ken Scanavino faces a long season.

El Dorado's hopes rest with halfback Kevin O'Meara (5-10, 175), who also plays linebacker on defense, end Rod Nerwinski (6-1, 185), center Mike Koszalka (6-2, 190) and guard John Mosbacher (5-11, 195).

SOUTH TAHOE — The Vikings have some talent plus size and it's hard to pick them this low, since they have the potential to upset and slip into the first division in a wide open race. They have been building and an overall improvement is due.

Coach Jerry Campbell looks to quarterback Ray Heinrickson to lead South Tahoe with tall end Grant

Walker as a prime receiver. The running game will rest on halfback Rick Williams and Mark Miller, a top runner from a 5-2 jayvee team. The Vikings show good strength at the tackles

with Bruce Fletcher, Rick Mapes and Kelly Muler. Junior P.J. Frye has one of the guard spots and All-League center Paul Frye is a veteran in the middle of the line.

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METROPOLITAN

TEAM RANKINGS

1. Sacramento
2. Christian Brothers
3. Burbank
4. Kennedy
5. Johnson
6. Elk Grove
7. McClatchy

SACRAMENTO — Last autumn proved fruitful for the Dragons who gathered a 9-2 overall mark and the league championship. Coach Dave Hotell has the necessary material in the 18 grid-ers back for another campaign that could be as successful since Sacramento should have good team speed, big linemen, confidence and the proper backs for a versatile offense. The Dragons averaged 247 yards per game while only allowing the competition an average of 152 yards a contest last fall. Things could even be better this season. They are always tough to beat.

Quarterback Jim Breech (5-7, 160) returns to lead the attack. Last year, the All-League signal-caller threw for 63 completions in 137 attempts for 780 yards and 14 touchdowns. He is also an excellent kicker. Breech has a nifty receiver in end Randy Temple (5-10, 160) while speedy halfback Raymond Ware furnishes the running punch. The line has good-sized people who are quick and aggressive in guard Chuck Hunt (6-0, 190) and a super pair of tackles Alva Liles (6-2, 220) and Seth Sanbronsky (6-3, 240).

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS — The Falcons have most of their starters back off a squad which went 6-3 last campaign. Coach Dick Sperbeck should find satisfaction in the available talent among the 13 skilled holdovers. Christian Brothers takes pride in its 37-9-3 record of the past five years, and the winning cycle is definitely not over.

Quarterback Jeff Tisdell (6-1, 180) who threw for 900 yards as a junior will chart the course for the Falcons. All-League returnee versatile Chris Gandy (6-2, 205) will also provide much excitement. The receivers are

first class with All-Leaguers Bob Bingham (6-1, 190) who caught 25 passes for 365 yards and Dan Farrell (6-2, 175) with 24 catches. Tight end Eason Ramson (6-2, 195) has 4.6 speed. The line is solid with a pair of tackles in John Hurtsig (6-0, 200) and All-Leaguer Brica Ragster (6-0, 230) who is one of the Valley's best, plus guard Bill Boughton (6-0, 195) who averaged 14 tackles a game from his linebacker spot in helping Christian Brothers hold the opponents to an average of 145 yards a game and a total of 11 touchdowns last year. \$i

BURBANK — The mighty Titans are deep in good backs with such players as quarterback Scott Koehler (5-9, 165), fullback Dave Congdon (5-10, 165), halfback Clarence Sylvester (5-8, 190) and speedster tailback Duran Harden (5-11, 165). With ends Tim Hart (6-1, 190) and Mike Henry (6-1, 205) plus highly regarded All-League candidate guard John Collins (6-0, 220) and sophomore center Kirt Karaczoff (6-3, 215) who has good potential and for whom we predict a great future, the line isn't going to be much of a problem either — except for the opposition.

Coach Marv Bowles has 16 returning lettermen from a 5-5 team and fine jayvees coming up. The chances are very good that Burbank will improve on last fall's record. The feared Titans are due and this could be their season to take it all.

KENNEDY — The Cougars were especially impressive on defense last season as they held the competition to an average of only 120 yards per game and only allowed 9 touchdowns all year. It helped them to come up with a 7-3 winner in Coach Larry Ghilardi's second season as their head grid mentor. Although Kennedy lost many people via the graduation route there is still a fine nucleus of 13 performers returning. However, the Cougars will have to rely heavily on a great group of sophomores coming up to fill in the gaps, in order to duplicate last autumn's performance. Kennedy will be young, small, but has the benefit of lots of speed.

Fullback Ken Lagomarsino (6-2, 195) and halfback Craig Tinson (5-11, 170) should help the running attack. The defense could well be the main forte again with All-League linebackers Mark Areson (5-10, 165) and Steve Blackburn (6-0, 180), plus guard Alfred Couch (6-0, 185) back in the fold.

JOHNSON — The loss of quarterback Ernie Cervantes who desired to concentrate on baseball will definitely hurt the Warrior's chances for a first division squad. Coach John Rogers is counting on his 15 returning players from a 6-4 team to give another good account of themselves.

The ground game should be strong with the likes of All-League candidate fullback Mike Day (6-1, 195), half-

LEAGUE'S BEST

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL |
|-------------|-----------------|------|-----|------------|
| Guard | John Collins | 6-0 | 220 | Burbank |
| Tailback | Duran Harden | 6-1 | 175 | Burbank |
| Flanker | Bob Bingham | 6-1 | 190 | Brothers |
| Halfback | Chris Gandy | 6-2 | 205 | Brothers |
| End | Dan Farrell | 6-2 | 205 | Brothers |
| Tackle | Brica Ragster | 6-0 | 230 | Brothers |
| Halfback | Jack Manuel | 5-11 | 185 | Elk Grove |
| Tackle | Pat Sovwlen | 6-2 | 250 | Elk Grove |
| Fullback | Mike Day | 6-1 | 195 | Johnson |
| Linebacker | Mark Areson | 5-10 | 165 | Kennedy |
| Linebacker | Steve Blackburn | 6-0 | 180 | Kennedy |
| Quarterback | Jim Breech | 5-7 | 160 | Sacramento |
| Tackle | Alva Liles | 6-2 | 220 | Sacramento |
| End | Randy Temple | 5-10 | 160 | Sacramento |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: JIM BREECH



JOHN COLLINS
Burbank



PAT SOVWLEN
Elk Grove



DAN FARRELL
Christian Brothers



BRICA RAGSTER
Christian Brothers



JIM BREECH
Sacramento



ALVA LILES
Sacramento



End Randy Temple (11) of Sacramento runs for a big gain against Burbank.

backs Art Ayers (5-11, 165) and junior Conrad Thomas (5-10, 165). Center Jose Rios (6-0, 175) will anchor the offensive line and end Mack Bowman (5-10, 190) is expected to be tough on defense.

ELK GROVE — The Thundering Herd will be tough and capable of giving anyone a rugged test with the 13 returnees off their 4-6 team plus a couple of good transfers. Coach Lloyd Helgeson's squad is big, talented, and could be a real sleeper.

Helping to lead Elk Grove towards the first division will be All-League halfback Jack Manuel (5-11, 185). A two-year letterman, the hard running back averaged 5.7 yards per carry and gained 725 yards in 130 carries to score 5 touchdowns last autumn. End Bill Wise (6-4, 200) has fine potential. The tackles will be strong with Dennis Nugent (6-4, 215) and All-Leaguer Pat Sowwlen (6-2, 250), a two-way starter who has excellent quickness and pursuit.

McCLATCHY — Coach Roger Swearingen will be selling a winning attitude to his 16 veterans from a 2-7 ball club, in order to improve on last season's record. Quarterback Pete Lewis (6-0, 185) hopes to keep the fire going on the field with the help of his main receiver, end Mike McAuley (6-1, 195) who goes both ways at his position. The Lions do show some strength in the interior forward wall with tackles Bob Gari (6-2, 225), junior Scott Peterson (6-0, 195) and Tom Zarick (6-0, 190).

Lack of overall experience will hamper McClatchy. However, the Lions' chances for a break-even year could rise if the players with the speed on the sophomore team come through and if there is quick development of the sophomore linemen. It's a tough task for the Lions.



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NORTH METRO

TEAM RANKINGS

1. Norte Del Rio
2. Yuba City
3. Foothill
4. Grant
5. Highlands
6. Marysville
7. Rio Linda

NORTE DEL RIO — Last autumn's co-champions came up with another strong defensive effort as they held the opposition to an average of 178 yards a game to rank seventh in that department in Sacramento County. The sad part is that the Dons have lost all their starters on both the defensive and offensive lines. Especially missed will be All-Leaguers center Bob Slobe and guard Rocky Matranga. Coach Bill Tarrow looks to his reserves and some fine jayvees to fill in the vacancies, and the real key to Norte Del Rio's success will be how quickly these linemen develop. Past history indicates the Dons to always come up with a rugged forward wall.

On the plus side, Norte Del Rio has an outstanding group of backs among the 15 gridders returning from an 8-2 club. Heading the cast is speedy halfback James Owens (6-0, 160), one of the Valley's best all-around athletes. In the last campaign, he averaged 7.5 yards per carry in 98 rushes for 800 yards and 9 touchdowns. Halfbacks Calvin Cazenave (5-11, 150) and Earl Hanible (5-6, 150) are other speedsters who will also be counted on to do much running. Quarterback Mike Davis (6-1, 160) will lead the Dons' hopes and one of his main pass targets is expected to be split end Jeff Davis (5-10, 165).

YUBA CITY — The Honkers are capable of coming through again to surprise a few, even though they only have 11 holdovers off last campaign's 9-3 squad which shared the league crown. Always tough to beat, Yuba City should once more come up with adequate replacements for such graduated stars as halfbacks Tim Addington and Henry Cornado, end Tom

Hinricks and linebacker Mike Armocido. Coach George Calkins is confident his Honkers can give the rest of the league stiff competition.

The backfield shows the offensive potential of last fall's group that averaged 248 yards a game, with such performers as quarterback Ted Karnegas (5-11, 170), fullback Jeff Klinkenbeard (6-0, 200) and halfback Dave Hanke (5-10, 175). Tackle Glenn Perry (6-1, 240), a returning starter and one of the Valley's best interior linemen, will anchor the forward wall.

FOOTHILL — The Mustangs had a 7-3 season last fall, and Coach Frank Negri is hoping for at least a duplication. A lot of juniors will be in key positions, since Foothill has only 7 seniors returning, plus the loss of 4 others through the transfer route. However, these juniors have never tasted defeat, having gone 9-0 as freshmen and 10-0 on last year's sophomore team. The talent is definitely there and the winning attitude will make them that much tougher to tame.

Junior quarterback Jerry Battenberg (6-0, 170) will attempt to lead the Mustangs to the league title. His ace receiver is expected to be junior end Steve Edwards (6-3, 175). Junior fullback Joe Panora (6-2, 190) and junior halfback Jeff Watson (5-10, 165) are slated to do the ball packing. Center Ron Hamburg (6-0, 180) should be a standout on the line.

GRANT — Coach Jim Colwell greets 14 people, 11 of whom were starters on last season's 5-4 club which also shared in the league's top prize. The Pacers also boast a good looking bunch of juniors coming up. Grant will be offensively sound due to depth,

experience, talent and lots of speed. If they want it bad enough, the Pacers could prove hard to stop, and ride a the way to the top.

Quarterback Rod Bell (5-10, 165) who is one of the Valley's best wide spearhead a versatile offense. Last year, he was one of the main reasons why Grant ranked sixth in total offense in Sacramento County as he averaged 275 yards a game. Bell completed 72 of 157 passes for 1225 yards and 8 touchdowns. The offensive punch will be aided by fullback E. Hoze (5-11, 185) who also plays linebacker on defense, and flanker Danell Augustus (6-1, 160). Helping the backs to move the ball are junior center Jay Knieriem (5-10, 195) who doubles as a guard on defense, guard Joe Tanner (5-10, 165) who goes as a linebacker on defense, and two-way tackle Paul Rodriguez (6-0, 205).

HIGHLANDS — The Scots expect an improvement over last year's 4-4 finish, and hope to surprise since they have 13 fine performers back and a couple of good transfers who should prove valuable. Coach Don Robard's squad will be bigger than last season and with the right personnel to make a passing attack go, Highland's dream could indeed come true. The Scots aren't going to be taken lightly by the opposition.

Handling the offense will be quarterback Keith Harmon (6-1, 175) who also doubles as a linebacker on defense, and his main pass target will be flanker Steve Woodard (6-2, 195) a speedster who is considered one of the Valley's best at his position. The rugged line includes guard Steve Koller (5-11, 195) and tackle Jeff Evar (6-3, 206) an out of state transfer.

LEAGUE'S BEST

| POSITION | PLAYER | HT. | WT. | SCHOOL |
|-------------|----------------|------|-----|---------------|
| Quarterback | Rod Bell | 5-10 | 165 | Grant |
| Flanker | Steve Woodard | 6-2 | 195 | Highlands |
| Halfback | James Owens | 6-0 | 160 | Norte Del Rio |
| End | Steve Grossman | 6-1 | 170 | Rio Linda |
| Tackle | Glenn Perry | 6-1 | 240 | Yuba City |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: JAMES OWENS



JAMES OWENS
Norte Del Rio



STEVE GROSSMAN
Rio Linda










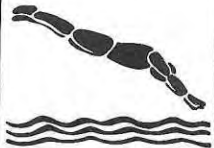
GLENN PERRY
Yuba City

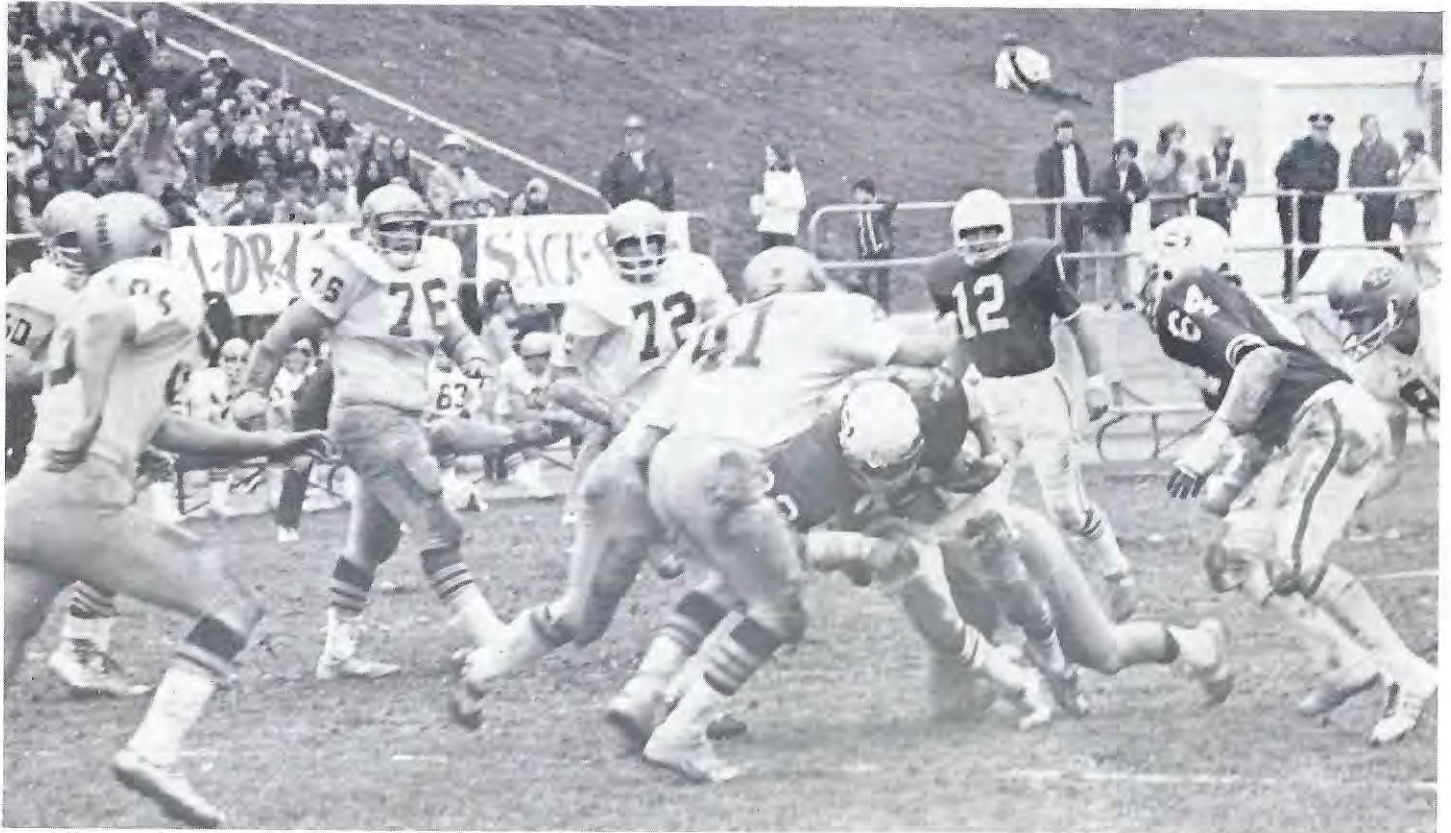
MARYSVILLE — Things could be better this time around for the frustrated Indians who suffered through a 2-8 season last autumn. They are pinning their hopes on a nucleus of 15 performers coming back for a serious try at an improvement. Marysville will be heavy on juniors, thus somewhat green in early season, but should come on by the time league play opens.

The offense will be built around fullback Chris Howard (5-10, 200) and flanker Tib Beiza (5-10, 175) while center Steve Sohnrey (6-2, 210) anchors the forward wall. Junior linebacker Randy Rasmussen (6-0, 200) should prove capable of spearheading the defense.

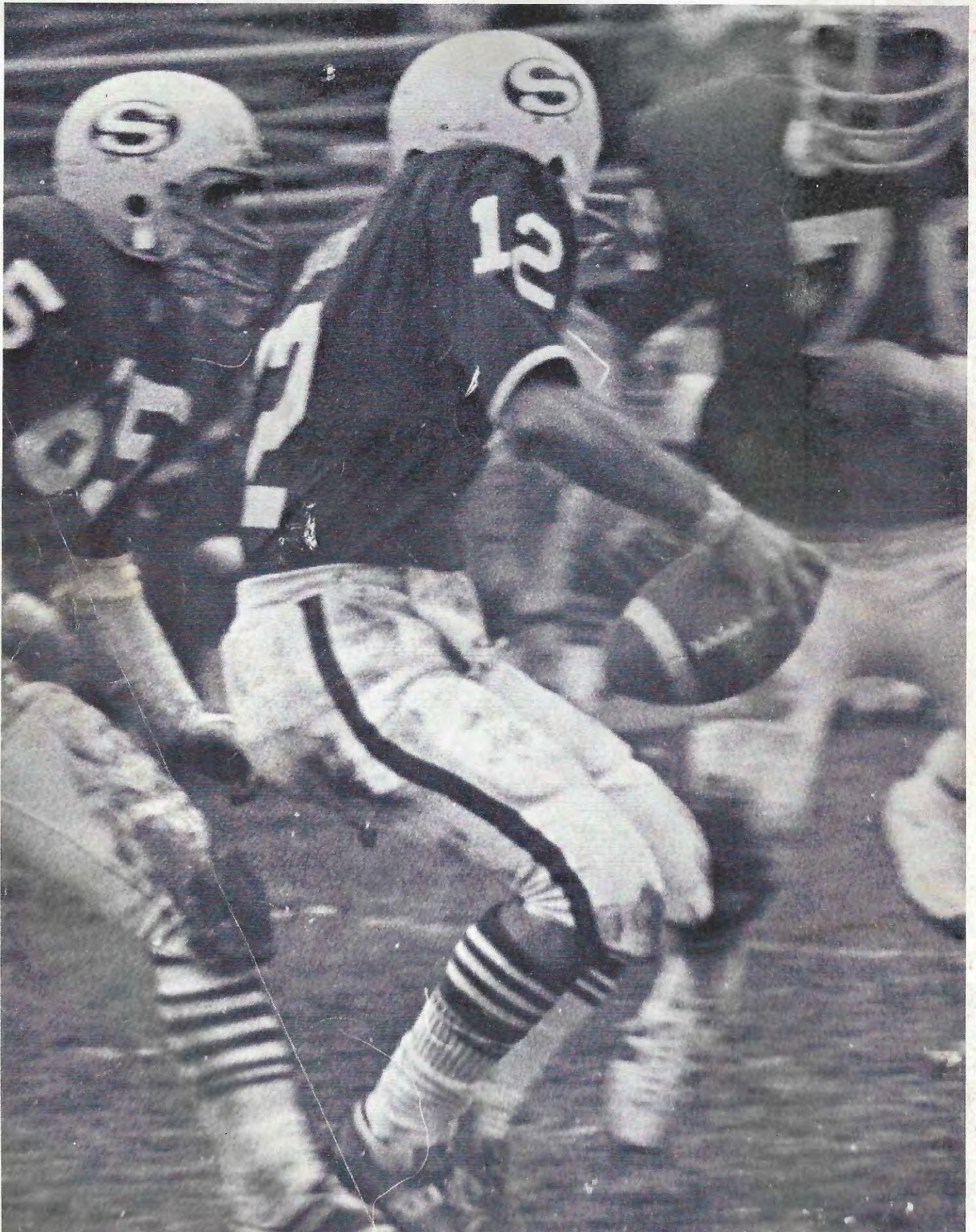
RIO LINDA — The Knights' major woes have long been depth and attitude. If they should have a better turnout and gain the incentive to win, Rio Linda could start the climb out of the cellar. Coach Noel McKee is optimistic this can be accomplished, even though he only counts 10 returnees from a 0-10 club. Needless to say, the jayvees are expected to fill many holes.

The Knights look to halfback Rich Garcia (5-10, 165) and end Steve Grossman (6-1, 170) who could be one of the better receivers around, for their offensive punch. Sophomore Joel Duncan (6-2, 220) steps into the center spot and guard Rick Brummett (5-11, 180) will be valuable in the line. Defensive end Dave Venable (6-0, 185) is highly regarded at his position.

| | | | |
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Yuba City Puts Up A Tight Defense Against Sacramento in the Capital City Championship Playoff Game



**QUARTERBACK JIM BREECH (12) OF SACRAMENTO LOOKS FOR A RECEIVER
IN A METROPOLITAN LEAGUE GAME.**