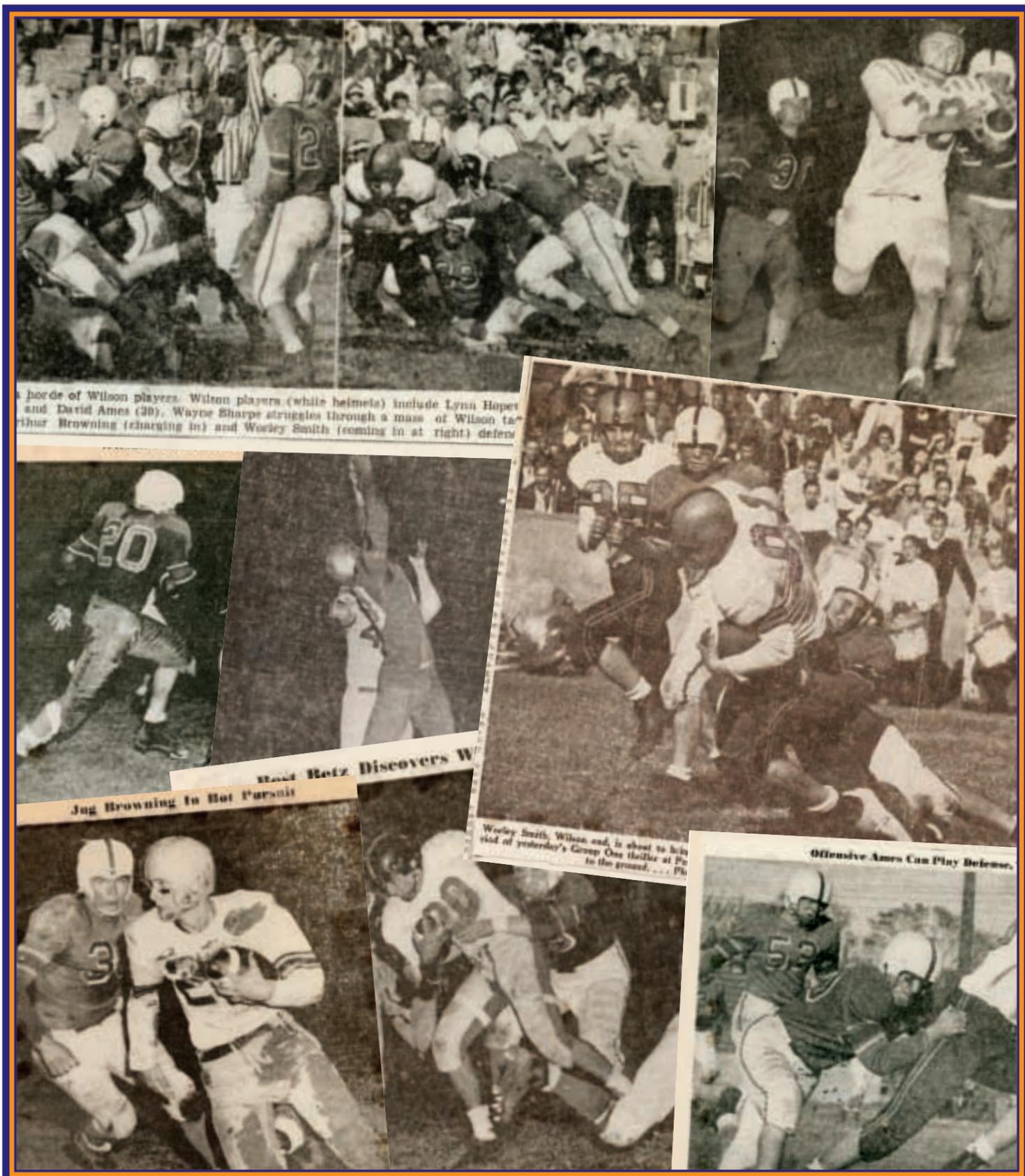


# WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

1954 Virginia Group 1 State  
Football Champions

*Sprinting past our lives as boys...*



A Scrapbook and Memoir by Lynn Hopewell, a Member of the Team  
For the Team's 50th Anniversary in 2004

**WOODROW WILSON  
HIGH SCHOOL**

1954 Virginia Group 1 State  
Football Champions

WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL 1954 VIRGINIA GROUP I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS. Copyright © 2004 by Lynn Hopewell. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information, address Lynn Hopewell, 7590 Cannoneer Court, Suite 100, Warrenton, Virginia 20186-9720; Email: [lynn@hopewell.org](mailto:lynn@hopewell.org). Web Page: [www.hopewell.org](http://www.hopewell.org)

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# In Memoriam

Jack Beale (12)  
Arthur Browning (31)  
Ernie Houghton (39)  
Carl Opauski (51)  
Carl Redden (23)  
Worley Smith (61)  
Earl Sweet (54)  
Joe White (64)



Coach Pete Sachon  
Coach Steve Chipok

# How We All Felt

## *Sprinting Past My Life as a Boy Toward the End Zone*

I have kept my father's film of that game, and have watched that 97 yard dash up the sidelines a hundred times; and will watch it a hundred times again before I die. I watch the boy I once was and marvel at his speed as I observe his progress in the grainy, surreal image of the film and run my hand through thinning hair.

I try to recapture that moment when I ran toward the end zone entering into my own territory, now pursued vainly by frantic boys in blue jerseys. The crowd took possession of me at the fifty yard line. I felt it in my legs, that dreaming hum of human voices urging me towards speed, toward the highest threshold of those ecstatic running days. I ran as a Collenton boy who had brought his town to its feet. And there's nothing happier on earth than a running boy. Nothing so innocent or untouched.

I was gifted and young, untouchable as I sprinted down the sidelines followed by a referee I left in the dust. Swift and dazzling through the light I ran, past the eyes of my screaming father who followed my progress through a glass aperture. Past my twin sister, leaping and twisting on the sidelines, cherishing the moment because she cherished me. Past my mother ... at this moment, mythic and elegiac, she was the mother of Tom Wingo and had given the world those legs and that speed as a gift. And I crossed the forty and in the next second the thirties, sprinting past my life as a boy toward the end zone.

*~Pat Conroy, The Prince of Tides*

# Dedication

~ To my mother, Charlotte Ross Mathews Hopewell (WWHS Class of 1930) who lovingly, with a mother's eye to the future, clipped and saved the newspaper articles; and to Carolyn Jean Lawrence who assembled the scrapbook with care.

~ To our coaches, the late Steve Chipok, Walter Galliford, Pete Mills and especially the late Pete Sachon. He always made me feel like I could do anything.

~ To sportswriters John Crittenden of the *Portsmouth Star*, Bill Leffler of the *Norfolk Ledger Dispatch* and the late Abe Goldblatt of the *Norfolk Virginian Pilot* — proud of a local team, who collectively probably got more ink for stories on the 1954 Wilson football team than any Tidewater high school team, before or since.

~ To my heroes, Cully Dalton, Bobby Bunting and Carter Wiggins, ends and members of Wilson's 1951 football team, for being such fine examples.

~ To Renny Underwood, who shared the beginnings of my football journey.

~ To Joyce Frances Penland, my most important fan in 1953.

~ To Mary Lou Sweat, a special fan.

~ To Jessie Mae Bumgardner, my favorite cheerleader.

~ To our quarterback, Billy Skeeter, whose passing skill made me look better than I was.

~ To David Ames who threw me my first pass reception in the Petersburg game.

~ Finally, and mostly, to my teammates who made it all possible.

# Table of Contents

Forward .....	.xii
Preface .....	.xiii
Preparation and Anticipation .....	.1
The Early Years .....	.1
The 1953 Season .....	.1
The 1954 Team .....	.2
The Season Begins .....	.5
Game 1 ~ September 17 ~ Wilson 20, Oscar Smith 0 .....	.6
Game 2 ~ September 24 ~ Wilson 12, Hopewell 6 .....	.7
Game 3 ~ October 1 ~ Wilson 21, Norview 0 .....	.9
Game 4 ~ October 8 ~ Wilson 14, Washington-Lee 0 .....	.11
Game 5 ~ October 16 ~ Wilson 13, Newport News 7 .....	.13
Game 6 ~ October 22 ~ Wilson 38, Petersburg 2 .....	.15
Game 7 ~ October 29 ~ Wilson 33, Maury 13 .....	.19
Game 8 ~ November 12 ~ Wilson 32, Granby 0 .....	.21
Game 9 ~ November 20 ~ Wilson 20, Jefferson Senior 20 .....	.23
Game 10 ~ November 25 ~ Wilson 27, Suffolk 0 .....	.27
Team Playing Yields A Championship .....	.29
The Honor Teams .....	.34
The After Years .....	.35
Reunions .....	.40
Senior Year Memories .....	.41
Acknowledgements .....	.43

# Preface

I was born and raised in Portsmouth, Virginia, grew up in the Waterview neighborhood and attended Churchland, Westhaven and John Tyler elementary schools. In 1950 I began the eighth grade at Woodrow Wilson High School and graduated in 1955. I played football and was a member of our state championship team my senior year.

Thirty-four years later, in the fall of 1989, I obtained a videotape of Wilson's 1954 football games. It was quite an experience at fifty one seeing myself on the screen thirty five years earlier when I was sixteen. I dug out my old scrapbook and reread the clippings about those glory days and then put it away.

By 2003, the scrapbook was beginning to show signs of age, and so was I. I decided that I would try to preserve these memories for my children and grandchildren before I or the newsprint fell to pieces.

This memoir was not written for the general reader, but as a personal record and story for my family. It was only late in its preparation that it was suggested a wider audience might be interested in the clippings. Therefore, I trust non-family readers will understand the emphasis on myself that naturally occurs.

Although not strictly having to do with football, I have included scrapbook items from my senior year at Wilson. I think they will be of interest to many of my classmates.

Preparing this book was a delightful trip down memory lane. I reestablished connections with many teammates and friends, some whom I had not seen since high school.

I hope my family and friends get an idea of the extraordinary excitement and sense of achievement that my teammates and I felt being members of a state championship team. I hope my teammates will, if only for a moment, recapture those precious days when we sprinted past our lives as boys toward the end zone.

*~ Lynn Hopewell (30)*

# Foreword



**WOODROW WILSON  
HIGH SCHOOL**

1954 Virginia Group 1 State  
Football Champions

*Sprinting past our lives as boys...*

## WILSON HIGH ROSTER

ENDS						
Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Yr. on Squad	No.	
Turner, Fred	5'11"	175	Sr.	1	19	
Dickson, Randolph	5'11"	165	Jr.	1	22	
*Hopewell, Lynn	5'10"	170	Sr.	2	30	
Riley, Jim	6'1"	175	Jr.	1	32	
Wyatt, Ray	5'11"	165	Sr.	1	35	
Perkins, Robert	5'10"	160	Fresh.	1	43	
*Smith, Worley (Co-Captain)	5'10"	155	Sr.	3	61	
Pond, Joe	5'11"	155	Sr.	1	65	
TACKLES						
Perry, Tom	6'0"	190	Jr.	1	37	
Jarrett, Bill	6'0"	180	Jr.	1	48	
Kenney, Jerry	5'11"	180	Jr.	1	49	
Stevens, Bill	6'0"	210	Jr.	1	53	
Sweet, Earl	5'11"	205	Soph.	1	54	
Bowles, Clarence	6'2"	210	Sr.	2	56	
*McKenney, Hunter R.	6'2"	230	Sr.	2	57	
Stevens, Bob	6'0"	205	Sr.	2	58	
West, Shelby	5'9"	200	Soph.	1	59	
*White, Joe (Co-Captain)					64	
GUARDS						
Duke, Billy	5'10"	170	Jr.	1	24	
Wright, Mike	5'10"	170	Jr.	1	25	
Bond, Billy	5'11"	175	Jr.	2	26	
Antonucci, Mike	5'10"	160	Jr.	1	33	
Carson, Ted	5'8"	145	Jr.	1	42	
*Denmark, Billy	5'9"	185	Sr.	3	44	
*Opauski, Carl	5'10"	175	Jr.	2	51	
Rawles, Meredith	5'9"	165	Sr.	1	63	
CENTERS						
*Browning, Arthur	5'11"	200	Jr.	2	31	
Pratt, Bob	6'0"	185	Sr.	1	45	
Hartung, Ted	5'11"	175	Sr.	2	46	
Elsarelli, Leon	5'10"	175	Sr.	1	60	
HALFBACKS						
Beale, Jack	5'10"	160	Jr.	1	12	
Sears, Charles	6'0"	165	Jr.	1	14	
Bond, Charles H.	5'10"	150	Soph.	1	15	
*Antonucci, Ralph	5'8"	145	Sr.	3	16	
*Ames, David	5'9"	165	Sr.	2	20	
Redden, Carl	5'8"	150	Jr.	1	23	
Silverton, Stanley	5'11"	155	Jr.	1	27	
Mathews, Paul	5'10"	150	Fresh.	1	38	
Sher, Bob	5'9"	150	Jr.	1	40	
Young, Robert	5'9"	150	Jr.	1	41	
McMurrin, Dennis	5'10"	165	Jr.	1	47	
FULLBACKS						
Williams, Jimmy	5'9"	170	Jr.	1	11	
Kenney, Tim	5'8"	155	Sr.	1	18	
Farrish, George	5'11"	160	Soph.	1	38	
Houghton, Ernie	5'11"	175	Jr.	1	39	
*Wickers, Fred	5'9"	175	Sr.	2	52	
QUARTERBACKS						
Leche, Ed	5'8"	150	Jr.	1	10	
Schramm, Ted	5'9"	150	Sr.	1	13	
Bullock, Ben	5'9"	155	Sr.	2	17	
*Skeeter, Billy	5'10"	160	Jr.	3	28	
Sykes, Waverly	5'8"	145	Jr.	1	62	

\* Denotes Lettermen

# Preparation and Anticipation

## The Early Years

When I was a kid in Portsmouth, I played pick-up football and baseball every year I could swing a bat or hold the football. Many of the Water-view neighborhood boys, including Darrell Rice, Ronnie Snowden, Buddy McNeil, Rudy Mansfield, Bob Ainsworth and Renny Underwood, played in the park at the corner of Grayson and Russell Streets. I lived at 214 Rockbridge Road, only a block away. We played until dark when I was usually called home by my father's whistle.

It was in the seventh grade in Mrs. Smiths' class at John Tyler Elementary School, that I first played on an organized team. In the spring of 1950, when I was twelve, our school baseball team played in Portsmouth's "Midget League." All our games were on the field behind Sixth Avenue Elementary School.

I made the All-City team that year as a left-fielder. I still have the newspaper clipping. It was only many years afterwards that I read the clipping and recognized another name on that honor team—David Ames. Little did we know then that four years later, we would both be on not one but, five honor teams.

There was no junior high school in 1950, so I started my eighth grade school year at Woodrow Wilson High School on High Street. I felt so grown up. We changed classes just like the upper grades, and for all practical purposes, we felt like we were in high school. Some of my teachers had also taught my mother twenty years earlier.

Wilson had won the 1947 state football championship only three years earlier. In the 1950 season, Wilson had a fine 8-2-0 record. The school was on a sports "high." Cully Dalton, Jessel Curry and Carter Wiggins, were outstanding sports figures. Jessel and Cully got jobs that summer at Camp Kentwood in New Kent County near West Point, where I had gone when I was six or seven. At their urging I went to Kentwood that summer too.

After a summer with my heroes, even though a lowly freshman, you can bet I was an early show when football practice started that August of 1951. I had decided I wanted to play "end" like Cully and Carter. My best friend, Renny Un-

derwood, and I would ride our bicycles from Water-view to Buck Childs Field, next to Portsmouth Stadium (later Frank D. Lawrence Stadium, named after my two older sons' great-grandfather.)

In the sweltering August heat we exercised and practiced. Why two freshmen thought they could play high school football is anyone's guess. I was a scrawny thirteen and Renny was fourteen. We just knew that we wanted to experience that wonderful feeling of participation and the high spirits that infused student life at Wilson.

Wilson had about 1,200 students, and was, with Cradock, and Norcom, one of three high schools in Portsmouth. Many students' parents had also gone to school there. Almost everyone went to the school's football games. It was "expected" just as much as you were expected to attend classes. Not only did students attend the games, but so did their parents. In fact, it seemed like the whole town came—the stands were usually full.

I remember the excitement as we looked at the "cut" list posted weekly in the gym before the season started. This list let you know who was dropped from the team. Tactfully, the list showed only the remaining players. I made the Junior Varsity team.

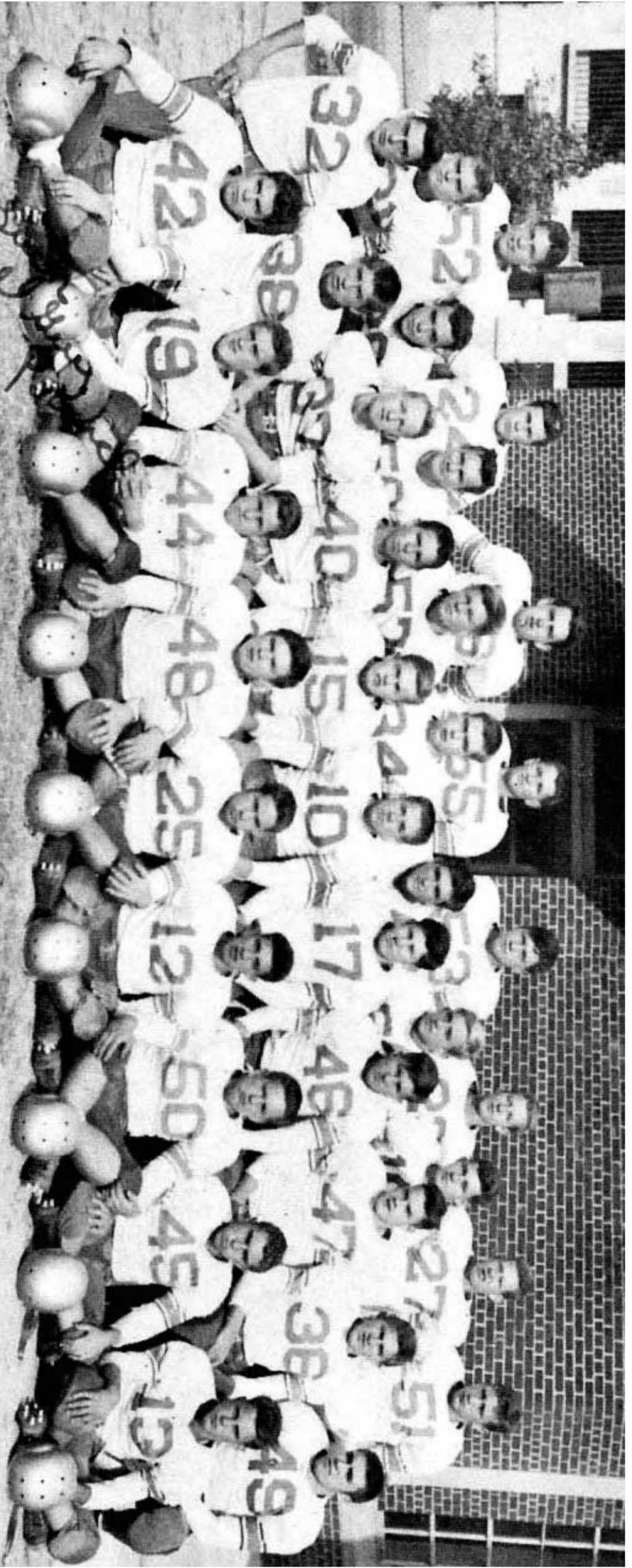
I cannot remember playing a single JV game that year, but, it didn't really matter. I was "on the football team." I went to all the practices. The JV did not "dress" for the varsity games, but we were in the stands with the crowd. I think I went to every home game for the next two years. 1951, my freshman year, was an exciting year. Wilson had another great season with a 8-1-0 record, losing only to Hopewell, 20-13, before a very large crowd of 18,000.

The next year, the 1952 season, Wilson had

### J. V. Record 1952 Season (1953 President)

Oct. 16	Wilson 7	Maury 0
Oct. 23	Wilson 19	Newport News 14
October 30	Wilson 6	Gramby 6
Nov 6	Wilson 6	So. Norfolk 18
Nov. 13	Wilson 7	Maury 12
Nov. 20	Wilson 20	Scotts Creek 7

## PREPARATION AND ANTICIPATION



### **Woodrow Wilson High School 1952 Junior Varsity Squad**

First Row: Dennis Gay, Harold Prince, Charlie Bartlett, Arthur Browning, Jimmy Seeds, Ralph Antonucci, Billy Denmark, Frank Bullock, Ted Schramm. Second Row: Earl Carter, Billy Skeeter, Lynn Hopewell, Joe Pond, Judson Moore, Danny Horne, \_\_\_\_\_ Copeland, \_\_\_\_\_ Mitchell, Billy Rakestraw, Tommy Bailey, Pete Walsh. Third Row: Billy Smith, Lonnie Branscome, Jimmy Parks, Frank Wickers, Mike Wright, Carl Opauski, Dennis McMurrain, Billy Bond. Fourth Row: Bob Pratt, Norman Meyers, Clarence Bowles, Jay Lippman, Hunter Ray McKinney, Billy Harold, \_\_\_\_\_ "Bubba" Powell. Photo: 1953 *President*.

## PREPARATION AND ANTICIPATION

a 6-3-1 record. At 14, I was still on the JV squad. From the photograph, you can see that the JV team produced many players for next year's varsity team. The JV had a 3-2-1 record.

### **The 1953 Season**

In August of 1953, for the third year, I reported for practice, now 15 years old and a rising junior. I was again, not unexpectedly, assigned to the JV team for scrimmaging. Early on we had a practice game with another school's team. I made five or six tackles in the first few dozen plays of the game, and more afterwards. In two years, the scrawny 13 year old had added pounds and height. My body had finally caught up with my ambitions.

After that game, Walter Galliford, who coached both the ends and the JV squad, came up to me, and in his well-known laconic style, said to me, "Well, Hopewell, when did you finally learn to play football?" It was the closest he ever came to giving me a direct compliment, (but he was a master of the indirect compliment.)

From then on, I scrimmaged with the varsity squad. Previously our head coach had been Woody Grey. But, we had a new coach that year, 34-year-old Pete Sachon. A week before the first game, Coach Sachon came up to me during a practice

and said, "Hopewell, I'm going to start you at defensive left end next week for the South Norfolk game." I was one thrilled fifteen year old.

I played first-string defense in every game that year. Tommy Joe Haythe played left tackle next to me. He never said two words to me during a game. We had an OK season, 6-4-0, but I learned a lot about playing football.



Lynn Hopewell, 1953 Team



# The 1954 Team

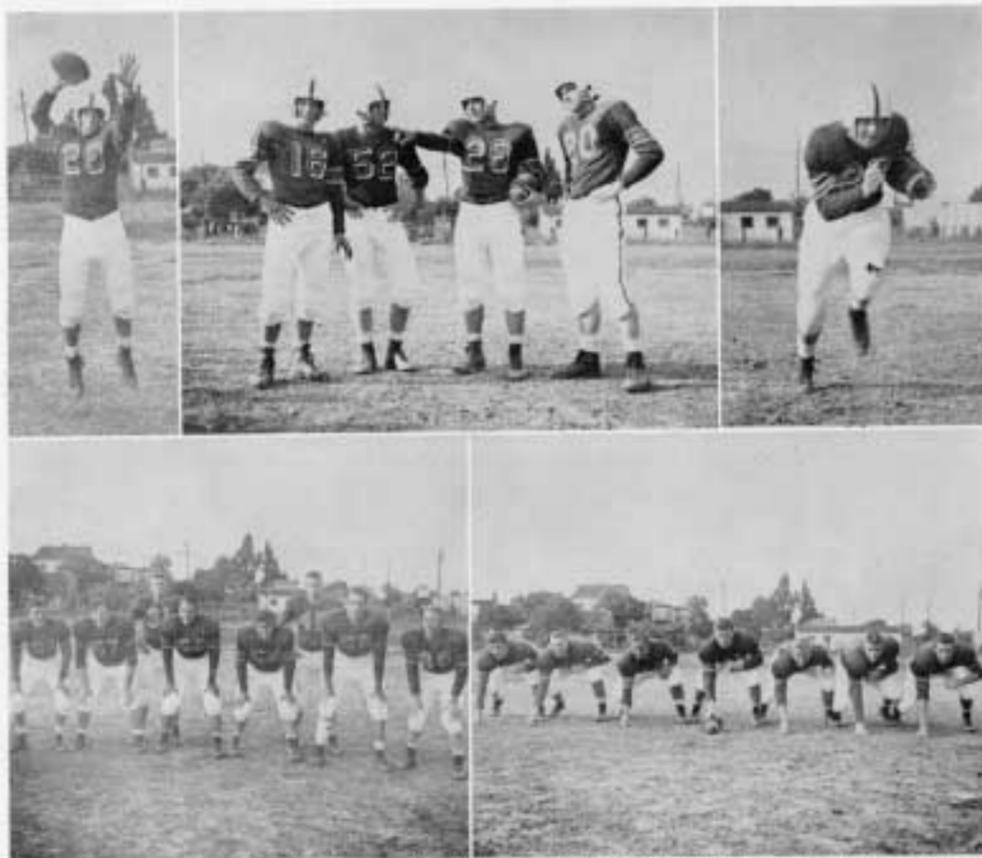
When the 1954 season started, I expected to start at defensive end again, and I did. We had only eleven lettermen returning that season. Four ends played the most. In addition to myself, Worley Smith, the only returning letterman end besides myself, played first-string right end. Fred Turner, was new to the team and started as offensive left end. Joe Pond, the fastest of us all, was not a starter, but would make his mark in the most spectacular pass play I had ever seen.

We practiced hard and had good team spirits and high morale. We looked forward to the sea-

son with great enthusiasm. But none of us suspected the extraordinary events that were to unfold.

Here is our formal team photograph. After the season, a huge copy was framed and hung in the gym. It stayed there until the school was demolished in the 1990s and was slated to be thrown away. Rescued by teammate and Portsmouth City Treasurer, Jimmy Williams, it now hangs in Roger Brown's Sports Bar and Restaurant on High Street in downtown Portsmouth.

## They Will See Plenty of Action



Top right: QUARTERBACK, Billy Skeeter; Top Center: IN THE BACKFIELD, Antonucci, Wickers, Skeeter and Ames; Top Left: HALFBACK, David Ames.  
Bottom Right: IN THE DEFENSIVE LINE, Smith, McKenney, Browning, Stevens, Sweet, Hartung, Bowles, Hopewell.  
Bottom Left: IN THE OFFENSIVE LINE, Smith, White, Denmark, Browning, Opauski, Jarrett, Turner.

### 1954 SCHEDULE

\*Sept. 17—South Norfolk, home  
Sept. 24—Hopewell, away  
Oct. 1—Norview, away  
\*Oct. 8—Arlington, home  
\*Oct. 15—Newport News, home  
Oct. 22—Petersburg, away  
\*Oct. 29—Maury, home (Homecoming)  
Nov. 5—Open date  
\*Nov. 12—Granby, home  
Nov. 19—Roanoke, away  
†Nov. 25—Suffolk, home (Thanksgiving)

\* 8:00 P.M.  
† 12:15 P.M.

### WILSON TICKET INFORMATION

*Why wait in line? Buy your tickets in advance to all Wilson home games at the following locations:*

BLACHMAN'S PHARMACY  
High and Court Streets  
CHUBBY'S  
340 Broad Street  
NAVAL PHARMACY  
601 Fourth Street  
PARK VIEW PHARMACY  
500 N. Elm Ave.  
WATERVIEW PHARMACY  
117 County Road

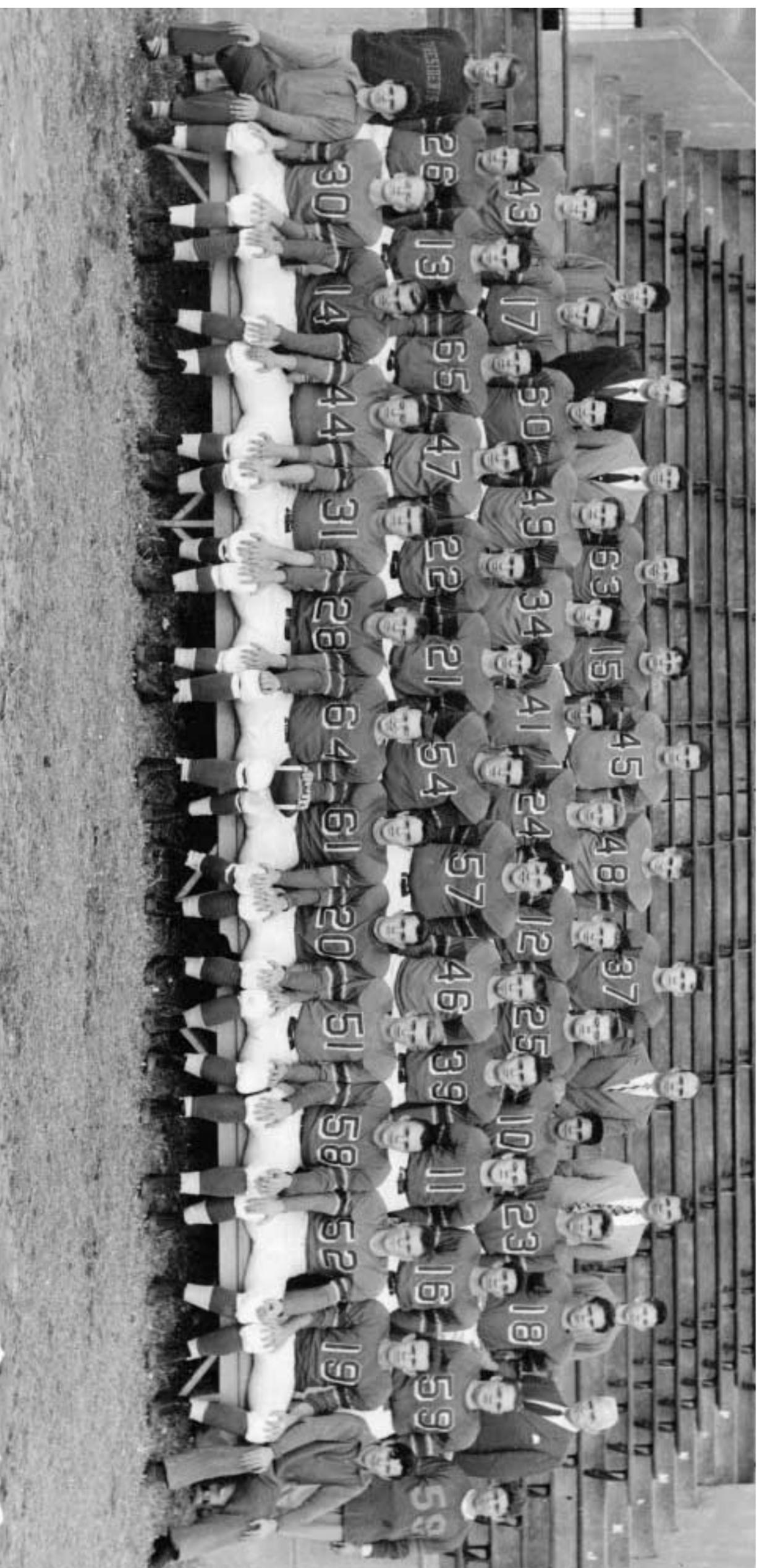
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### WILSON ROSTER

No.	Name	ENDS	Weight	Class	Year on Squad
19	Turner, Fred		175	Sr.	1
22	Dickson, Randolph		165	Jr.	1
30	*Hopewell, Lynn		170	Sr.	2
32	Riley, Jim		175	Jr.	1
35	Wyatt, Ray		165	Sr.	1
43	Perkins, Robert		160	Fresh.	1
61	*Smith, Worley (Co-Capt.)		155	Sr.	3
65	Pond, Joe		155	Sr.	1
TACKLES					
37	Perry, Tom		190	Jr.	1
48	Jarrett, Bill		180	Jr.	1
49	Kenney, Jerry		180	Jr.	1
53	Stevens, Bill		210	Jr.	1
54	Sweet, Earl		205	Soph.	1
56	Bowles, Clarence		210	Sr.	2
57	*McKenney, Hunter R.		230	Sr.	2
58	Stevens, Bob		205	Sr.	2
59	West, Shelby		200	Soph.	1
64	*White, Joe (Co-Capt.)		185	Sr.	3
GUARDS					
24	Duke, Billy		170	Jr.	1
25	Wright, Mike		170	Jr.	1
26	Bond, Billy		175	Jr.	2
33	Antonucci, Mike		160	Jr.	1
42	Carson, Ted		145	Jr.	1
44	*Denmark, Billy		185	Sr.	3
51	*Opauski, Carl		175	Jr.	2
63	Rawles, Meredith		165	Sr.	1
CENTERS					
31	*Browning, Arthur		200	Jr.	2
45	Pratt, Bob		185	Sr.	1
46	Hartung, Ted		175	Sr.	2
60	Elsarelli, Leon		175	Sr.	1
HALFBACKS					
12	Beale, Jack		160	Jr.	1
14	Scars, Charles		165	Jr.	1
15	Bond, Charles H.		150	Soph.	1
16	*Antonucci, Ralph		145	Sr.	3
20	*Ames, David		165	Sr.	2
23	Reslden, Carl		150	Jr.	1
27	Sivertson, Stanley		155	Jr.	1
38	Mathews, Paul		150	Fresh.	1
40	Sher, Bob		150	Jr.	1
41	Young, Robert		150	Jr.	1
47	McMurrin, Dennis		165	Jr.	1
FULLBACKS					
11	Williams, Jimmy		170	Jr.	1
18	Kenney, Tim		155	Sr.	1
36	Parrish, George		160	Soph.	1
39	Houghton, Ernie		175	Jr.	1
52	*Wickers, Fred		175	Sr.	2
QUARTERBACKS					
10	Leche, Ed		150	Jr.	1
13	Schramm, Ted		150	Sr.	1
17	Bullock, Ben		155	Sr.	2
28	*Skeeter, Billy		160	Jr.	3
62	Sykes, Waverly		145	Jr.	1
COACHES					
Head—Pete Sachon, Catholic U. Backfield—Pete Mills, Appalachian Line—Steve Chipok, William & Mary End and J.V.—Walter Galliford					

\*Denotes Lettermen

## THE 1954 TEAM



### Woodrow Wilson High School 1954 Group I Virginia State Champions.

First Row: Manager Neil Markert, Lynn Hopewell, Charlie Sears, Billy Denmark, Arthur Browning, Billy Skeeter, Co-captain Joe White, Co-captain Worley Smith, David Ames, Carl Opauski, Bobby Stevens, Frank Wickers, Fred Turner, Manager Bill Jump. Second Row: Manager Billy Ayers, Billy Bond, Ted Schramm, Joe Pond, Dennis McMurrin, Randolph Dixon, Collins Faison, Earl Sweet, Hunter Ray McKenny, Bootsie Hartung, Ernie Houghton, Jimmy Williams, Ralph Antonucci, Shelby West, Manager Rudd Jensen. Third Row: Robert Perkins, Frank Bullock, Leon Elsarrelli, Jerry Kenney, George Parrish, Robert Young, Billy Duke, Jack Beale, Mike Wright, Eddie Leche, Carl Redden, Tim Kenney, Principal Robert L. Sweeney. Back row: Manager Tommy Harrington, Assistant Coach Walter Galliford, Assistant Coach Pete Mills, Meredith Rawls, Charlie Bond, Bob Pratt, Bill Jarrett, Tommy Perry, Assistant Coach Steve Chipok, Head Coach Pete Sachon, Manager Charlie Ricks.

# THE 1954 TEAM



DENNIS McMURRAN, Halfback



CLARENCE BOWLES, Tackle



SHELBY WEST, Guard



BOOTSIE HARTUNG, Center



ED LECHE, Quarterback



TOM PERRY, Tackle



FRED TURNER, End



ROBERT PRATT, Center



RANDOLPH DICKSON, End



BILLY BOND, Guard

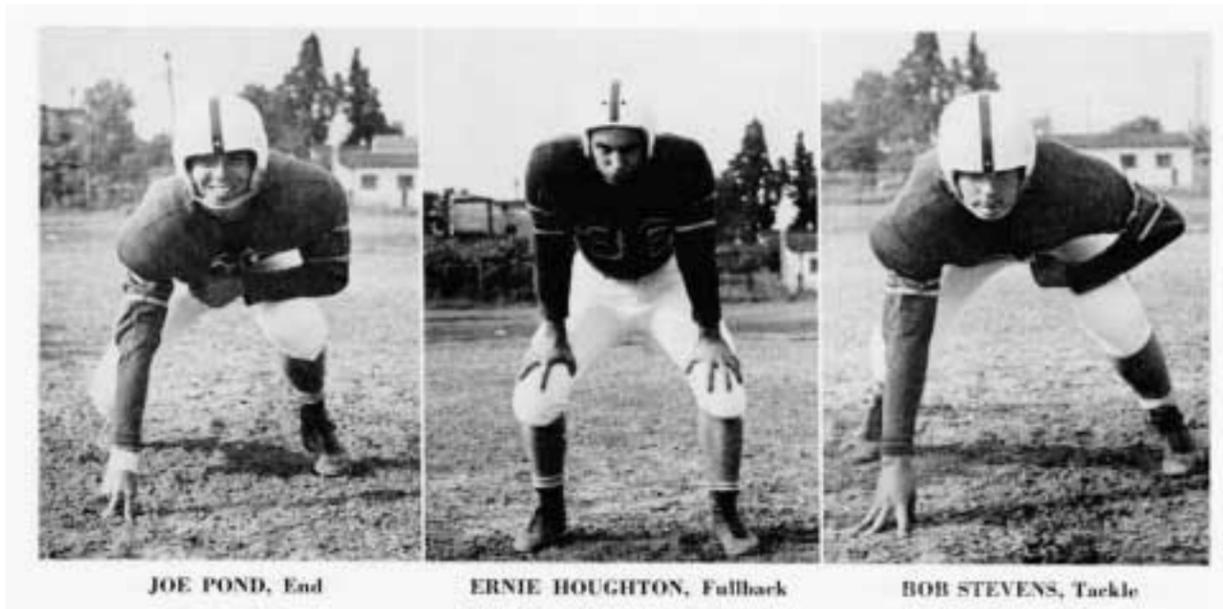


BILLY DUKE, Guard



COLLINS FAISON, End

# THE 1954 TEAM



JOE POND, End

ERNIE HOUGHTON, Fullback

BOB STEVENS, Tackle



BILL JARRETT, Tackle



Lynn Hopewell, End

# THE 1954 TEAM

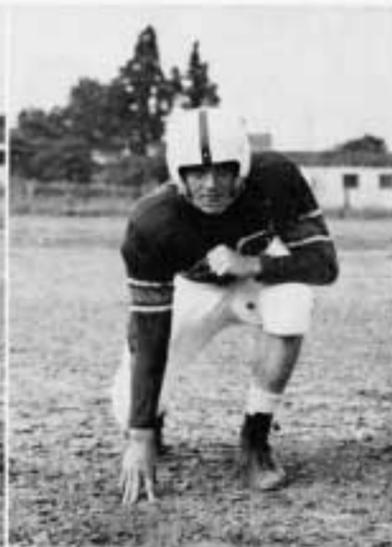
## LETTERMEN



GEORGE ANTONUCCI, Halfback



LYNN HOPEWELL, End



DAVID AMES, Halfback

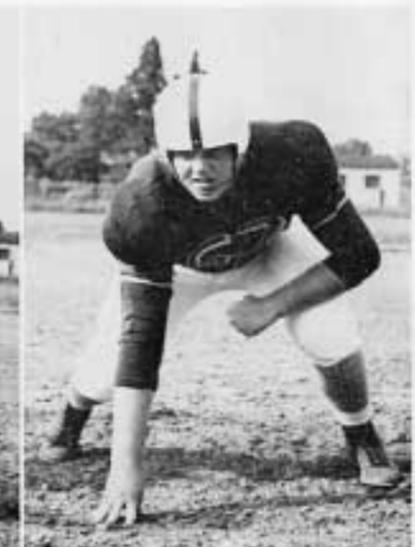
## LETTERMEN



CARL OPAUSKI, Guard



FRANK WICKERS, Fullback



HUNTER McKENNEY, Tackle

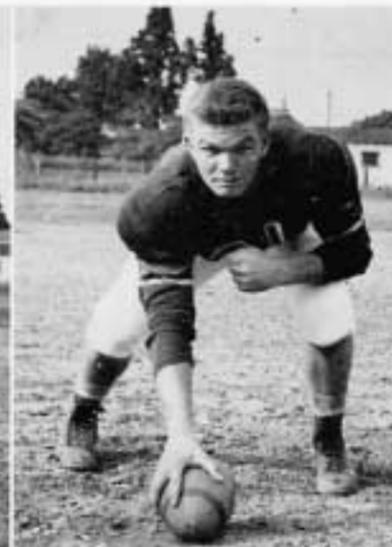
## LETTERMEN



BILLY DENMARK, Guard



BILLY SKEETER, Quarterback



ARTHUR BROWNING, Center

# THE 1954 TEAM

## LETTERMEN



WORLEY SMITH, End (Co-Captain)



JOE WHITE, Tackle (Co-Captain)

## WILSON STARTERS



CARL OPAUSKI  
Guard



FRANK WICKERS  
Fullback



HUNTER MCKENNEY  
Tackle



BILL DENMARK  
Guard



BILLY SKEETER  
Quarterback



ARTHUR BROWNING  
Center



RALPH ANTONUCCI  
Halfback

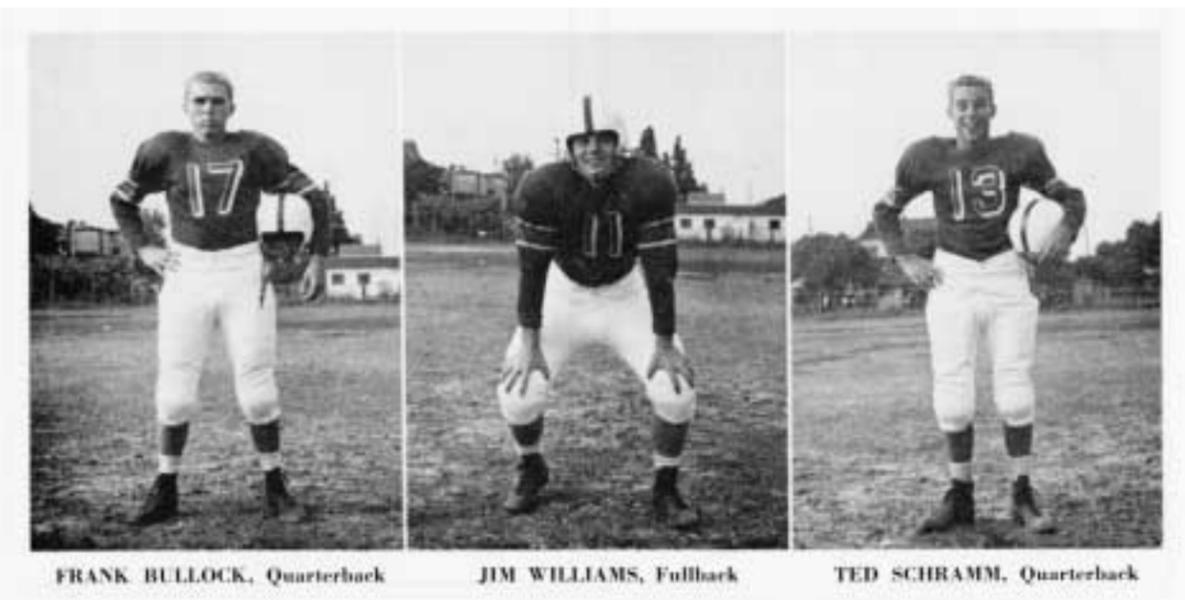
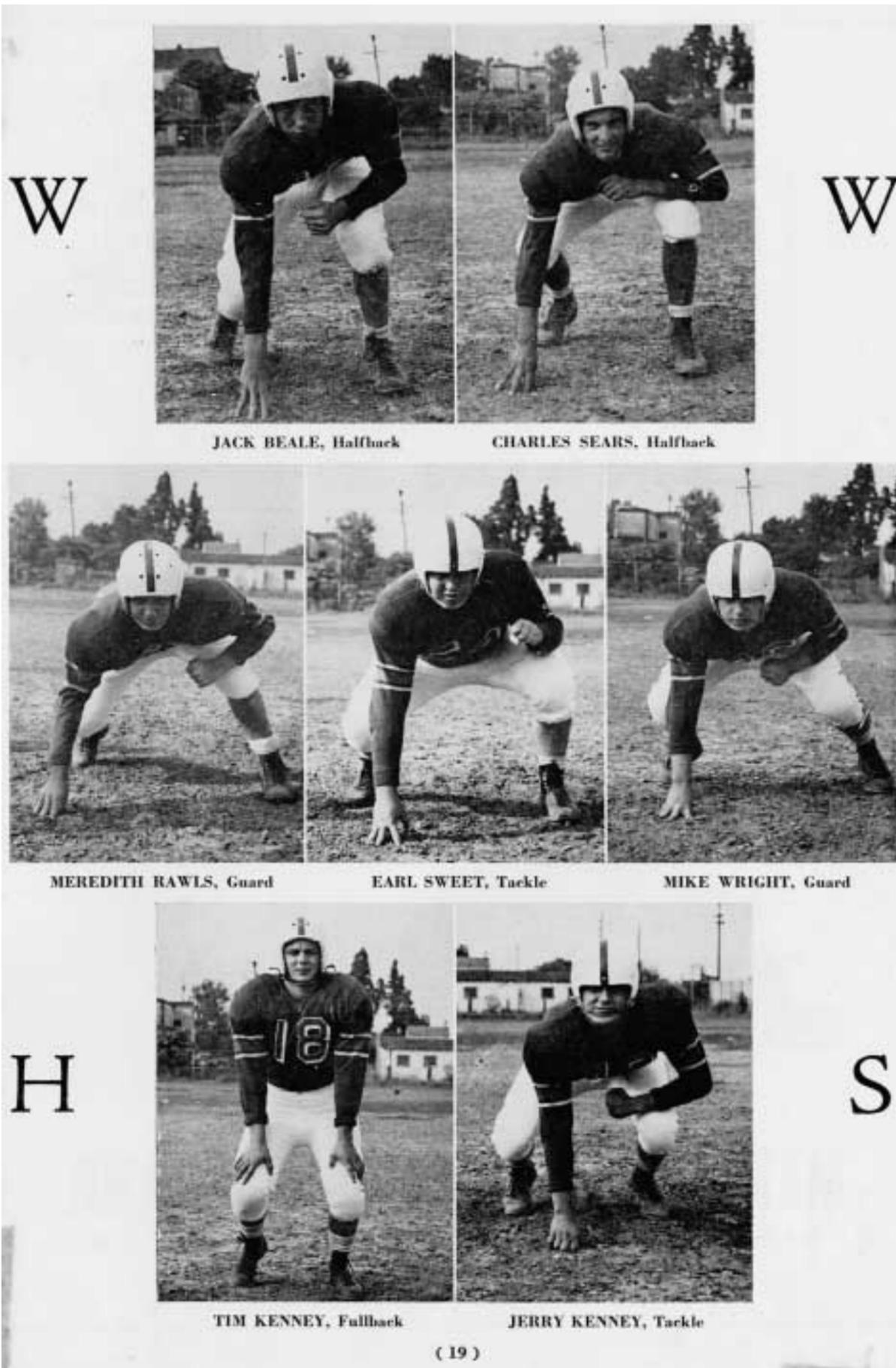


LYNN HOPEWELL  
End



DAVID AMES  
Halfback

# THE 1954 TEAM



# THE 1954 TEAM

## COACHES



Left to right: Galliford, End Coach; Mills, Backfield Coach; Sachon, Head Coach; Chipock, Line Coach.

## CO-CAPTAINS



Joe White and Worley Smith

## CHEERLEADERS 1954-1955



Front—Sappenfield, Coleman, Warren, Edwards, Turner.  
Back—Rowe, Bowden, Olson, Cross, Keel.



HARRINGTON, JENSEN, AYRES, MARKETT,  
RICKS, WOODARD.



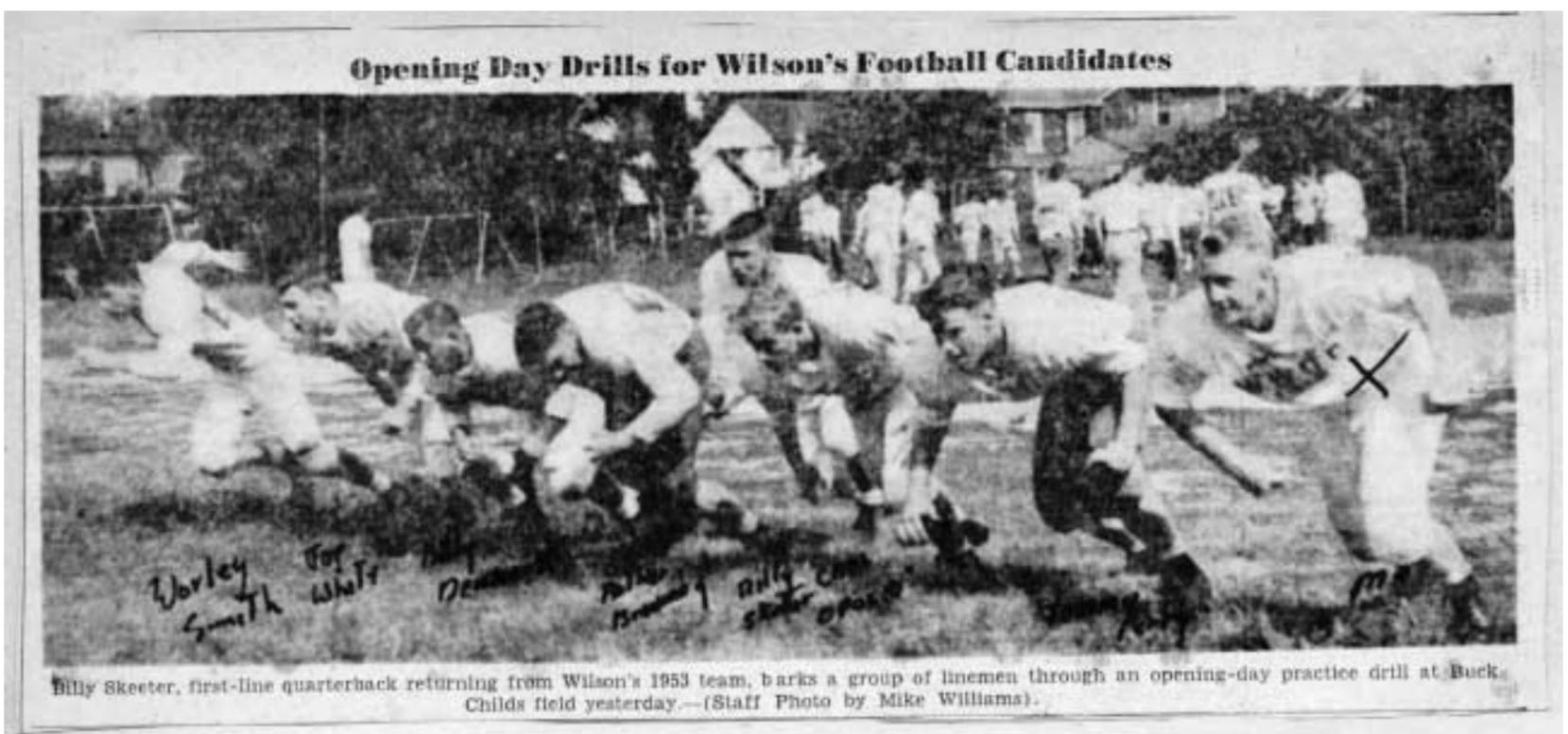
# The Season Begins

As the 1954 season approached, as usual, we started practicing in August before school opened. I got my photograph in the newspaper for the first time that year, when one day at practice, they did a “trick” photo of Coach Sachon, Worley Smith and myself. As a letterman and with a season of first-string varsity experience, I was looking forward to my final year playing football.

I followed a ritual for each home game. Fred Turner, who had a car, would pick me up at my home in Waterview and we would drive to The Circle, the family restaurant owned by my father, uncle and grandfather. (One of my first summer jobs was there as a busboy.) Fred and I would rit-

ually eat a steak dinner. Then we would proceed to the Wilson gymnasium where we dressed for the game. After putting on our uniforms, we went to Portsmouth Stadium (right behind the gym) for forty five minutes or so of warm up exercises. We would then return to the gym for last minute conferences with the coaches.

At the appointed hour we would go to the stadium and make our grand entrance. We would trot in a long line to the benches, passing through the goalposts and a gauntlet of our cheering and pom-pom waving cheerleaders. The crowd stood and applauded.



**Opening Day Drills for Wilson's Football Candidates**

Left to right: Worley Smith, Joe White, Billy Denmark, Arthur Browning, Billy Skeeter, Carl Opauski, Tommy Perry, Lynn Hopewell

# THE 1954 TEAM

## Wilson Begins Dummy Drills For Opener.

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

For three weeks Wilson has been preparing for the 1954 football season. Yesterday the Presidents began to prepare for the first game.

Pete Mills, who coaches the Wilson backfield, turned in the scouting report on South Norfolk's convincing victory against Covington, and Pete Sachon and his staff began preparations forthwith.

Wilson opens its 1954 season with South Norfolk Friday night at Portsmouth Stadium.

### Mills' Report

Mills' report on South Norfolk's Oscar Smith High:

One of the best South Norfolk teams the backfield coach has seen in five years in Tidewater. Better than last year's South Norfolk team.

Then Mills began to qualify. South Norfolk looked that good against Covington, a team which no one is accusing of having an eye on the State title. In particular, Darwin Richards, a 185-pound, 6-2 fullback looked good on spin and fake gainers, and tailback Gary Disharoon was outstanding in Oscar Smith's delayed offense.

Mills also lauded a pair of tackles, Shady Chappell and Gayle Baker.

### Backfield Session

With Mills and Sachon instructing on South Norfolk's offense, Wilson's backs went through a lengthy skull session yesterday, with particular emphasis on the parts likely to be played Friday night by Disharoon and Richards.

Oscar Smith defeated Covington, 18-0, in the season's opener for both teams Friday night at Covington. A jerky Covington offense never got past the South Norfolk 30-yard line. Richards scored a pair of touchdowns for the winners and Alan Templeton drove across for the third after a sustained drive.

Sachon and Wilson got some bad news yesterday on the injury front. Bobby Sher, a second-string halfback who was relied on to give Wilson's backfield some offensive depth, has undergone an appendectomy, which, in addition to a fractured collarbone, will probably keep him out for the entire season.

### Antonucci Ailing

Clarence Bowles, a 210-pound senior tackle, is still under medical care, and will miss the opener, if not the first three weeks of the season.

Ralph Antonucci, a 145-pound halfback who is playing on the squad for the third season, is nursing an ankle injury, and will see limited action in the season's opener. Dennis McMurrin, a 165-pound junior, is being groomed to fill in for Antonucci on offense if necessary, and will definitely get the nod on defense.

Billy Skeeters, quarterback, and David Ames, halfback, will be definite offensive starters for the Presidents, and senior Frank Wickers will probably start at full.

Sachon praised Ames for his "usual outstanding work" in Saturday's intra-squad scrimmage. Charles Sears, a 165-pound junior halfback, also evoked favorable comment from the head coach for his offensive work Saturday. Sears' blocking also came in for praise.

## Eight Wilson Starters To See Full Time Duty

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

Quantity is a fine thing, admits Pete Sachon, who has a small herd of football players in uniform at Wilson, but quality is better than any amount of numbers.

Sachon, who will watch the Presidents open at Portsmouth Stadium a week from Friday night, expects eight men to do double duty for Wilson.

With opening night more than a week off, Sachon already has a good idea of how the Presidents will line up.

### Double-Duty Backs

The backfield, with the offensive emphasis on David Ames, a 170-pound senior halfback, will do double-duty right down the line.

Ames will be at left half on offense and defense, with Dennis McMurrin, a surprise starter, likely to get the nod at right half.

Billy Skeeter, who Sachon indicates has a lot of work coming up in the next week, will play offensive quarterback and safety.

The fullback offensive position is still hazy, with Jimmy Williams rounding into shape after an early practice injury. Sachon says the starting berth is more or less a toss-up between Williams, Frank Wickers and Ernie Houghton.

In the line, almost as many double-duty men can be pointed out.

Worley Smith and Joe White, co-captains, will be full-time operatives, White at right tackle and Smith at right end.

### Turner on Offense

Lynn Hopewell will probably get the call at left defensive end, with Fred Turner taking over on offense.

Bob Stevens will play left tackle on offense and defense and Carl Opauski will be a double-duty worker at left guard.

Arthur (Jug) Browning, who has slimmed down to fighting weight at 193 pounds, will start at offensive center and right defensive linebacker.

Wickers and Houghton will probably fill the other linebacker spots.

Billy Denmark will play right guard on offense.

Bowles, counted on to furnish some of the heft in Wilson's line, will definitely miss the opening game, and may be out longer. His knee is improving much more slowly than had been expected.

### Ames Lauded

Sachon, after Ames' first test 1954, a scrimmage at Warwick week, is still raving about the back in terms of all-around ability.

Ames scored one touchdown against Warwick, and kept the team moving with short gains.

"He is one of the best backs I have ever seen," says Sachon. "I've never seen a faster, harder runner. He'll make the Portsmouth fans forget the old-timers."

### Bowles Out

"Ames will out-run 'em, and if he can't do that he'll out-dodge 'em. If he can't do either, he'll hit 'em and twist away."

"Our passing has to be improved," Sachon continued. "Skeeter has a lot of improvement to make. I hope Saturday's showing wasn't any indication of his passing ability. I'm sure it wasn't. He had an off-day."

As you probably have heard, the scrimmage at Warwick wasn't close by any means. Sachon expects two more scrimmages, both intra-squad affairs, before opening night.

The Wilson coaches got bad news yesterday, in the form of a doctor's report on big Clarence Bowles, a 220-pound tackle.

# THE 1954 TEAM

## High School Football Drills Open

### Presidents Expect 108 In Workout

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

The leasing of uniforms and listing of candidates taken care of Saturday and tomorrow, Portsmouth area football teams will begin work in earnest Tuesday when the Virginia High School League ban on pre-season practice is lifted.

Practically all the area schools were to hold their first meeting tomorrow, although Wilson got the jump by gathering at the high school yesterday to outfit the candidates, 72 of them, and ironing out the small details that go with the opening of the football season.

Wilson—With a dozen lettermen returning, Pete Sachon seems to be fixed fairly well up front, with an absence of left in the backfield the principal early weakness.

Arthur Browning, Hunter Rae McKinney and Clarence Bowls, all 200-pound-plus athletes, give the Presidents the necessary weight to hold their own up front. Co-captains Worley Smith and Joe White are also in the forward wall.

In the backfield, the Presidents have three-sport man Billy Skeeter, Ralph Antonucci, who is just recovering from a tonsil removal, Fred Wickers and Ben Bullock, all lettermen, returning from last year's team, with letters held high.

The Presidents face a formidable barrier early in the season when they play the powerful Hopewell Blue Devils in their second game of the 1954 season.

Wilson's coaching staff is virtually the same as last year's, with Pete Sachon as head coach, Pete Mills, Walt Galliford and Steve Chipok as assistants. The sole absence from last year's team — Charley McClurg, scout and line developer.

The Presidents hold another uniforming session at 10 Monday morning, and get an early start on the drill field at 8 Tuesday. Candidates are expected to total about 108 for the opening workout.

Getting the Details Out of the Way Early



Wilson's football team held its first meeting yesterday, with about 70 candidates talking football and trying on practice equipment. Here Coach Pete Sachon, second from right, checks co-captain Whorley Smith's helmet as Lynn Hopewell, left, and Ralph Antonucci look on. (Staff Photo by Mike Williams)

The Little Guy Is The Coach



Pete Sachon, center, Wilson football coach, poses with Co-Captain Worley Smith, left, and Lynn Hopewell. The ends really aren't that big, it's the camera that does it, but they're big enough. (Staff Photo by Mike Williams)

#### WOODROW WILSON HIGH "Presidents"

#### FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

*Sept. 17	South Norfolk
Sept. 24	Hopewell
Oct. 1	Norview
*Oct. 8	Washington & Lee
*Oct. 15	Newport News
Oct. 22	Petersburg
*Oct. 29	Maury
*Nov. 5	Suffolk
*Nov. 12	Granby
Nov. 19	Roanoke
*Home Games	



PORTSMOUTH COCA-COLA BOTTLING WORKS

## THE 1954 TEAM



Lynn Hopewell  
(From news photo)



# GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16

## Wilson 13, Newport News 7

Following "Hurricane Hazel," the Typhoons of Newport News blew into Portsmouth Stadium and threw a scare into Wilson's title hopes. Even though Ames was almost completely bottled up, he managed to break away for one score. With the score tied at 7-7 and only a minute and a half remaining, Skeeter through a perfect pass to Joe Pond, who made a sensational, finger-tip catch for the winning score.

Standouts in this game were Jughead Browning, who was a one-man terror on defense, and Joe Pond, who pulled the game out of the fire in the closing moments. While this was the poorest played game of the year by the Presidents, it still turned out to be another step toward the state title. *The 1955 President.*



Wilson's defensive line has given up only one score in four games. Tonight this lineup goes against Newport News. Left to right, front, Worley Smith, Shelby West, Earl Sweet, Hunter McKenney and Lynn Hopewell. At the linebacker spots, left to right, Collins Faison, Ernie Houghton and Fred Wiskers. (Staff Photo by Dick Bruckee)

### Beating THE DRUMS

By John Crittenden

#### Crystal Ball Department

THE FOOTBALL SEASON heads into the far turn this week, when all the local schools either reach or pass the halfway mark on their schedules, but that doesn't make the picking any easier. Last week's perfect calls (four-for-four, to boost our season's record to 16-2) aren't going to help us any this week. But with Wilson and Churchland rolling right along, our predicting record at least is usually half right.

**WILSON OVER NEWPORT NEWS:** Pete Sachon knows most of the material at Newport News and knows what they are capable of, and Sachon and the Presidents are pretty confident of a victory. Wilson is in better-than-usual physical shape, far above last week's critical stage. Ernie Houghton and Jug Browning will be back on defense, and that means a lot, although Wilson played its best defensive game of the season last week without them. Earl Sweet, another defensive mainstay, has recovered from a slight injury sustained in the Arlington game, and should be ready to go all the way for Wilson's once-scored-on Presidents. Jimmy Williams, who has not been at full strength for any game this season, will be ready to play tonight, although not a great deal. All in all, Wilson is in fair shape defensively. On offense, the Presidents have, as always, David Ames. Ralph Antonucci had an off-evening last Friday, but Billy Skeeter picked that night to play one of his better games. One night all four of Wilson's best backs are going to be at top speed, and the Presidents are going to murder somebody. Not tonight, though. Wilson by no more than 14 points.

### Reserves Keeping Presidents Unbeaten, Says Coach Sachon

A bench full of capable reserves is keeping the Woodrow Wilson High School football team along the unbeaten path, Coach Pete Sachon said yesterday. Gunning for their fifth straight victory Friday night at the Portsmouth Stadium against Newport News, the Presidents are currently leading the State Group One race.

"Our bench has come through in flying colors," Sachon stated. "The reserves in both the line and backfield should be credited with a big assist in our success so far."

Line Coach Steve Chipok calls Hunter McKenney, 230-pound tackle, as the biggest surprise on the team.

"Despite his size, McKenney has picked up speed this season," Chipok, a former William and Mary player remarked. "He is able to charge into the enemy backfield and tie up the passer, which has helped us considerably."

The steady improvement of Shelby West, 205-pound sophomore tackle, also drew the praise of the Wilson coach staff.

#### Opens Way For Ames

Who opens the holes for David Ames' long touchdown runs?

Mostly its Bobby Stevens, 205-pound offensive left tackle, who, although a senior, is playing his first year of football. He came out last season but broke his collar bone before the first game.

Center Arthur Browning is the key to the strong Wilson defense, which has yielded but one touchdown this season.

End Ed Turner, also playing his first year but is a senior; end Joe Pond, guards Billy Denmark and Carl Opauski, end

Collins Faison, tackle Earl Sweet, and co-capt. Joe White, 185-pound senior tackle, have figured prominently in the Presidents' bid for a State title.

Workhorses in the Wilson line are ends Lynn Hopewell and Co-capt. Worley Smith, Opauski Browning. They play on both offense and defense. Sachon rates these four as among the best linemen in the State.

White and Sweet are nursing injuries, but otherwise the Presidents are in good shape for the Newport News game.

The Typhoon, 6-2 victors over Glass of Lynchburg, last week held Maury to a scoreless tie.

Sachon scouted the game and singled out Quarterback Gene Block, 160, and Co-captain Jimmy McShane, 175, guard, as the outstanding Typhoon performers.

"Newport News is always tough for us," Sachon commented, "and we can't afford to let down against them. They're a much better team than they have shown so far."

## GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16 ~ NEWPORT NEWS



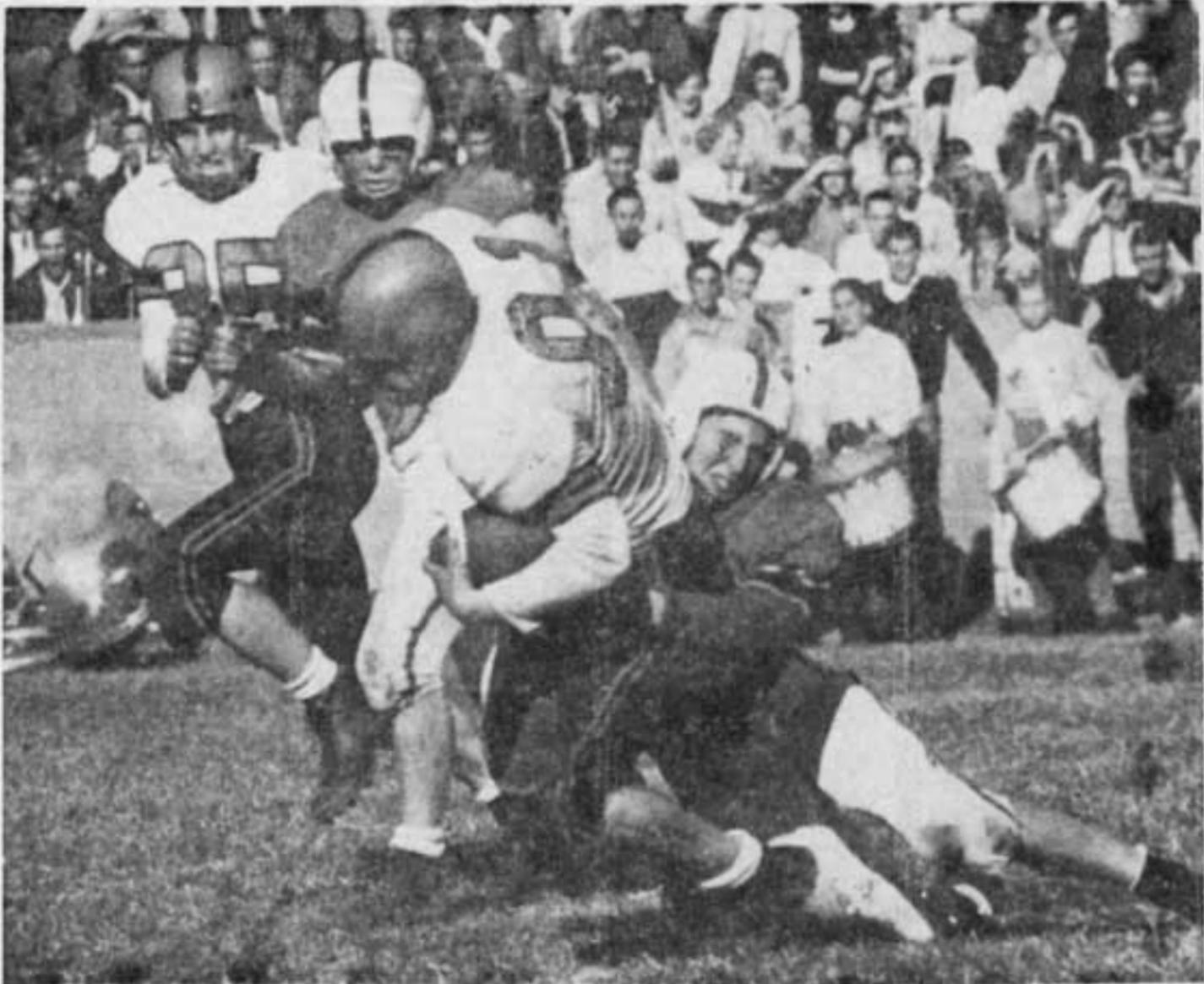
### **One Can Really Call This Defensive Line Rock-Ribbed**

Wilson's defensive line has given up only one score in four games. Tonight this lineup goes against Newport News. Left to right, front, Worley Smith, Shelby West, Earl Sweet, Hunter McKenney and Lynn Hopewell. At the linebacker spots, left to right, Collins Faison, Ernie Houghton and Fred Wiskers. (Staff Photo by Dick Bruckse)

## GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16 ~ NEWPORT NEWS

Hurricane Hazel came into town Friday so the game was postponed until Saturday afternoon, giving us our first daylight game. We put charcoal under our eyes to cut the glare. We did not play very well and made only one first down in the first three quarters. I really thought we were going to lose the game. But, then, in the last few minutes of the game, Joe Pond made the most perfect

### Wilson Finds Going Rough Against Newport News



Worley Smith, Wilson end, is about to bring down Richard Cooke, hard-running Newport News fullback, in third period of yesterday's Group One thriller at Portsmouth Stadium. . . . Cooke picked up five yards before being brought to the ground. . . . Photos by Borjes (Virginian-Pilot Staff Photographer)

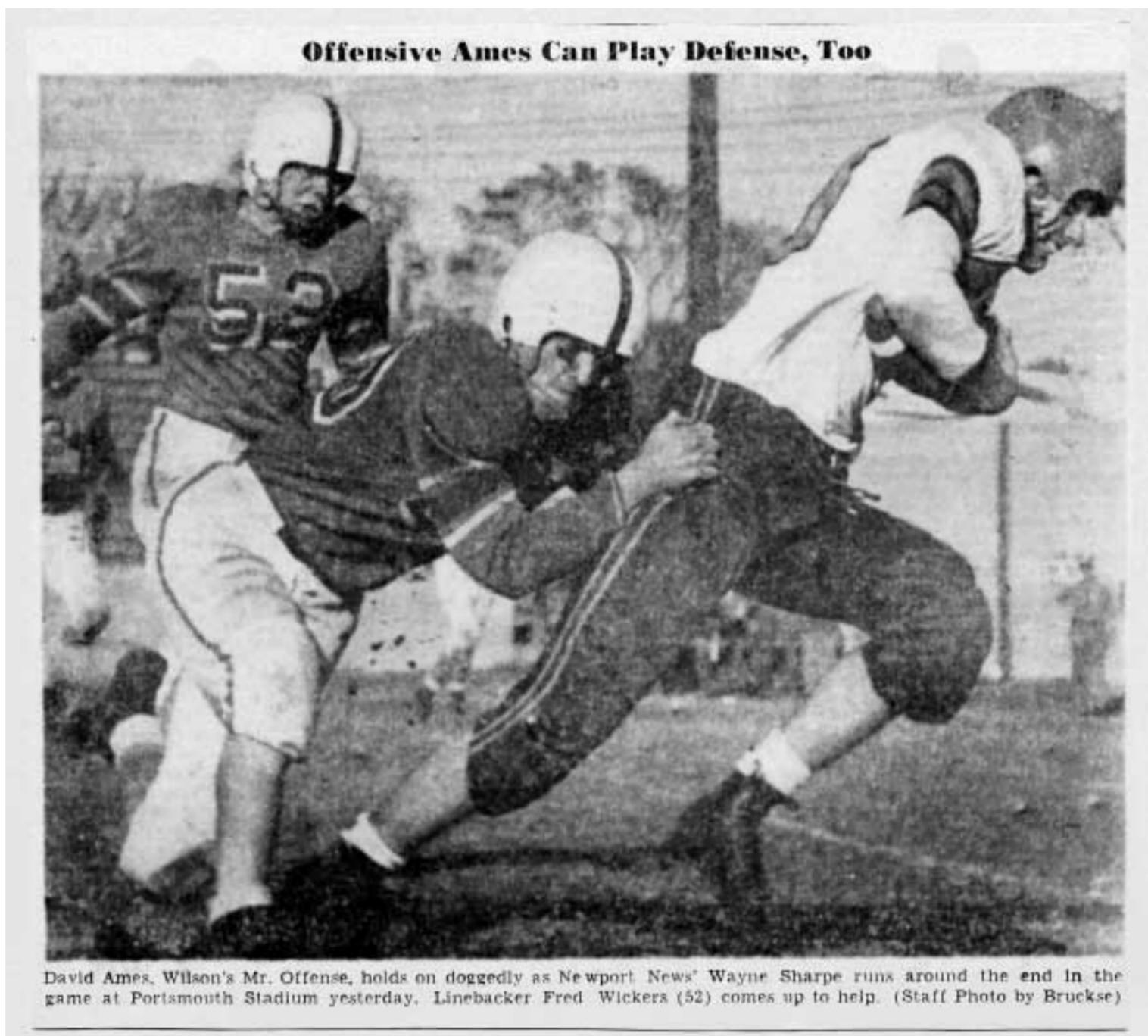
### Not Many Tackles Were This Easy in Yesterday's Rock-'em Sock-'em Game



(52), Dennis McMurrin (47) and Lynn Hopewell, at right.—(Staff Photo by Johnson)

## GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16 ~ NEWPORT NEWS

catch I have ever seen. He came from right end and was running down field as fast as he could, which was very fast. Our quarterback, Billy Skeeter threw a long, long pass. Joe, running flat out, caught it with arms out stretched, just on the tips of his fingers. He bobbed it a little then galloped away from the defenders and saved our bacon. Teammate Hunter Ray McKinney ever since has called Joe's catch "the immaculate reception."



# GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16 ~ NEWPORT NEWS

## Wilson Edges Newport News On 81-Yard Pass Play,

### *Wilson Edges Newport News, 13-7;*

Wilson's 13-7 Victory Over Newport News Was a Piled-Up Affair



At left, Newport News scored its touchdown through a hole of Wilson players. Wilson players (white helmets) include Lynn Hopewell (30), Ernie Houghton (39), Dennis M2-Murran and Worley Smith (looking into play at right) and David Ames (30). Wayne Sharpe struggles through a mass of Wilson tacklers (at right) with Fred Wickers (white helmet, behind runner), Ernie Houghton (39), Arthur Browning (charging in) and Worley Smith (coming in at right) defending. (Staff Photos by Lonnie Johnson)

	W. W.	N. N.
First downs .....	1	9
Yards rushing .....	27	44
Yards passing .....	81	99
Passes attempted ...	10	17
Passes completed ...	1	9
Punts .....	5	7
Punting average ...	44.4	36.6
Penalties .....	20	40
Fumbles lost .....	2	3

### Group I Football Standings

	Group I Games					All Games						
	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Op	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Op
Woodrow Wilson .....	4	0	0	1.000	47	8	4	0	0	1.000	47	20
Hermitage .....	3	0	0	1.000	98	29	4	0	0	1.000	104	29
John Marshall .....	3	0	0	1.000	69	12	4	0	0	1.000	75	17
Thomas Jefferson .....	3	0	0	1.000	68	21	3	0	0	1.000	68	21
Geo. Washington (Danville) .....	3	0	0	1.000	92	27	4	0	1	.500	124	39
Jefferson Senior .....	1	0	0	1.000	32	0	3	1	0	.750	72	19
x-Falls Church .....	1	0	0	1.000	4	0	1	3	0	.750	12	58
Warwick .....	2	1	0	.667	78	25	3	1	0	.750	115	25
Geo. Washington (Alexandria) .....	2	1	0	.667	51	55	3	1	0	.750	71	47
Granby .....	2	1	0	.667	44	42	2	2	0	.500	38	76
x-Washington-Lee .....	1	1	0	.500	36	31	3	2	0	.600	78	34
Honewell .....	2	0	0	.500	108	32	2	2	0	.500	108	52
Petersburg .....	2	2	0	.500	19	65	2	2	0	.500	19	45
Maury .....	1	1	1	.500	26	29	1	2	1	.375	26	28
Newport News .....	1	1	1	.500	6	35	1	2	1	.375	13	49
Hampton .....	1	1	0	.500	35	18	1	2	0	.333	40	30
South Norfolk .....	2	3	0	.400	50	94	2	3	0	.400	50	34
E. C. Glass .....	1	2	0	.333	79	37	2	3	0	.400	31	71
Lane .....	1	2	0	.333	31	38	1	3	0	.250	39	50
x-Halifax County .....	0	0	0	.000	0	0	5	0	0	1.000	125	6
Cradock .....	0	2	0	.000	20	44	2	2	0	.500	73	31
Norview .....	0	2	0	.000	4	48	2	2	0	.500	49	72
Andrew Lewis .....	0	2	0	.000	7	40	1	4	0	.200	33	37
Fairfax .....	0	3	0	.000	14	82	1	3	1	.300	50	74
Mt. Vernon .....	0	3	0	.000	12	37	0	4	0	.000	19	64
x-Covington .....	0	3	0	.000	32	38	0	4	0	.000	92	100
Highland Springs .....	0	3	0	.000	6	35	0	4	0	.000	6	113

x-Ineligible for State title due to insufficient Group I games.



LINE BULWARK—Hunter McKenney, 230-pound tackle, is a hard man to move. He was scheduled to start for Wilson this afternoon when the Presidents entertained Newport News at the Portsmouth Stadium. (Staff Photo.)

# GAME 5 ~ OCTOBER 16 ~ NEWPORT NEWS

## Skeeter Hurls To Joe Pond For Clincher

The Statistics		Wilson
11	First downs	1
44	Rushing yards	27
17	Passes attempted	10
9	Passes completed	1
101	Passing yards	81
2	Passes intercepted	1
4	Punts	4
38.3	Punting average	44.4
35	Yards lost penalties	20

By Abe Goldblatt

The Typhoon of Newport News followed Hurricane Hazel into the Pocomoath Stadium yesterday and almost wrecked Woodrow Wilson's unbeaten record, but the Presidents broke a 7-7 deadlock in the final four minutes of play on an 81-yard pass execution to grab a 13-7 victory before 3,500 screaming fans.

The payoff came when, with the ball on the Wilson 19, quarterback Billy Skeeter faded back and threw a long pass to Joe Pond. The Wilson end, outrunning the Typhoon safety man, grabbed the ball on the Newport News 45. He juggled the ball momentarily while he was running, but once the ball was tucked safely under his arms he sped across the goal line untouched.

### Fifth Straight

It was the President's fifth straight victory and kept them atop the State Group One race.

The charged-up Typhoon outplayed the Presidents practically all of the game.

The Skeeter-Pond touchdown play was the only pass the Presidents completed all day. Wilson made only one first down while the Typhoon racked up nine.

Newport News' powerful defense stopped David Ames, the Presidents' breakaway star, cold until the shifty halfback returned a punt 53 yards for a touchdown midway the third quarter to put the Presidents ahead.

Clearly outcharged and out-fought in the scoreless first half, Ames, who failed to gain a yard in nine tries in the first half, finally found his opening in the third quarter.

### Ames Goes 53 Yards

Phil Clark punted from the Newport News 20. Ames caught the ball on his 47 and juggled it momentarily. He cut to his right and behind brilliant blocking sped 53 yards to pay dirt. Charlie Sears, halfback, threw a key block to enable Ames to go all the way. Ames kicked the extra point.

But the Typhoon, playing perhaps its finest game of the season, hadn't given up yet. The Peninsula eleven stormed 61 yards for the equalizer with Gene Hedrick going over from the one on fourth down in the early minutes of the fourth quarter.

Eddie Taylor placekicked the tying point.

With four minutes remaining, Clark punted to the Wilson 39, and the Presidents drew an off-side penalty that put them back on their 19.

On first down, Skeeter passed to Pond in the most sensational play of the game to keep the Presidents along the unbeaten path.

Newport News was still threatening when the final gun sounded. Dennis Murrain intercepted a long fourth down pass from Todd on the Wilson 20 as the game ended.

Statistically, it was all Newport News. The visitors had the edge in every department but touchdowns and punting. Ames averaged 44.4 yards on four punts.

Wilson failed to offer a serious threat against the Typhoons in the first half, while Newport News staged several scoring gestures only to see fumbles spoil its opportunities.

## Desperation Pass Gains Fifth Victory

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

Wilson's undefeated Presidents, for three periods punchless in the air and even slower on the ground, pushed their winning streak to five yesterday when Billy Skeeter hit Joe Pond on an 81-yard pass play with three minutes, 35 seconds remaining for a 13-to-7 victory over Newport News.

Held to 27 yards rushing by a fast-charging Newport News line, and with only one first down to show for more than three and a half quarters of offensive action, Skeeter kept Wilson's championship hopes alive by completing his first pass of the afternoon (he had attempted 10) to reserve Pond, who slipped behind the Typhoon safety man, juggled the ball on the 40 and sped 60 yards untouched for the clincher.

David Ames, Wilson's wonder boy, was stopped completely running from scrimmage by the Typhoons, one day too late to be called Hurriganes, but scampered 53 yards behind bone-crushing blocking to give Wilson a short-lived 7-0 lead in the third quarter.

### Fourth-Down Try Short

Newport News tied the game up midway the final period, driving 61 yards for the touchdown. Quarterback Howard Todd pierced Wilson's secondary with passes to Gene Hedrick and Carl Phillips to give the Typhoon a first down on the Wilson three.

Four plays later, after a stiff, but futile, Wilson goal-line stand, Hedrick, running from quarterback, sneaked over from the one-yard line. Eddie Taylor converted to tie the score.

After a fourth-down running attempt by Ames had fallen one yard short of a first down on the Newport News 33, the Typhoon punted to the Wilson 38, but a clipping penalty set the Presidents back on their own 18.

On the next play from scrimmage, Skeeter caught Pond at the top of his stride to put Wilson ahead for good.

### One Wilson First Down

The statistics reveal to what extent Wilson's corps of pony backs were kept on their side of the line of scrimmage. Wilson gained only 27 yards running from scrimmage. Ames, who carried an 11-yard-per-try average into the game, was limited to 13 yards in nine attempts.

Wilson completed only one pass of ten, that one, of course, for 81 yards and a touchdown. Time after time, Skeeter's passes were dropped by ends and backs alike. Not all of the passes were accurate, as Skeeter succumbed to the pressure of the rushing Typhoons.

Newport News presented a reasonably successful stand, statistics-wise. The Typhoon gained only 44 yards rushing, but managed nine first downs. The visitors, who played before a disappointing crowd of less than 3,500 in Wilson's first pre-dark game of the season, went 99 yards through the air, and were threatening when Dennis McMurrain intercepted a fourth-down pass deep in Wilson territory as the game ended. Newport News hit on nine of 17 passing attempts.

Ames was the only encouraging factor among the statistics, and unusually so. Only David's punting average was acceptable, a near-college standard for the afternoon of 44.4 yards on five punts.

### McShane Heads Typhoon

In the first half, when the Presidents were shocked by Newport News' stone-wall tactics, Wilson made eight yards in 13 tries at the Typhoon forward wall. Ames was lucky to break even on nine tries, as he was trapped back of the line time and time again by the visitors, led by Tri-captain Jimmy McShane.

The third quarter was no better for the Presidents, who felt their undefeated untied mantle rapidly slipping away. The locals tried four running plays in the third period and all were thrown for losses.

But Wilson was ahead at the end of three quarters of play, by virtue of Ames' sprint down the home sideline for the first score of the game. The blocking on Ames' run was so powerful, only speed was necessary. One minute a wall of Typhoon tacklers were ahead, then all were mowed down, as easily as Hazel chopped picket fences. Charles Sears, one of Pete Sachon's first line reserves, threw one of the key blocks as Ames kept his one per game average alive. Dave also kicked the extra point.

# GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20

## Wilson 20, Jefferson Sr. 20

A constant downpour and a sea of mud failed to keep the Presidents from capturing the state title in a game with the Magicians which was postponed 24 hours because of the weather. Needing a victory or a tie to clinch the title, Wilson came from behind on a sensational 82-yard touchdown run by Ames in the fourth quarter. He also scored the first six-pointed by sweeping end early in the game. The other score resulted from a short, quick pass over center from Skeeter to Hopewell who sped unmolested for 45 yards. This play put the Presidents ahead for the first time in the game. The Magicians deserve mention for the outstanding game they turned in. The 20 points scored by them was the most any one team had gathered against the Presidents during the season. This game gave Wilson the state championship. Enough said! *The 1955 President.*

### Wilson Goes After State Title at Roanoke Tonight

### Pete Sachon, Little All-America as Player, Hopes to Hit Jackpot as Head Coach Friday

By Abe Goldblatt

Pete Sachon, a Little All-America quarterback at Catholic University in 1940, is hoping to reach his greatest heights as a head football coach Friday night at Roanoke, when his unbeaten Wilson Presidents battle Jefferson Senior.

A victory or a tie will give the Presidents undisputed claim to the State championship, and the mild-mannered Sachon said it would give him the greatest thrill of his career.

The success of the Presidents, who have won eight straight Group One games, is making Sachon's uncanny predictions come true. Before the season started, Pete said that if Wilson won over Hopewell in the second game on the schedule "we'll have a good chance of going all the way."

He also predicted that halfback David Ames would rate among the all-time Wilson backs. Ames, tied for the State Group One scoring lead, has been a dynamic figure in the Wilson attack, and was a one-man gang in the first five victories.

Sachon figured that the Presidents would improve considerably after the first five games. That's true, too. In their last three outings, the Presidents smashed Petersburg, 38-2; Maury, 35-13, and Granby, 32-0, proving they're no one-man team. Billy Skeeter has developed into a top-grade quarterback and an outstanding passer. The big Wilson line has been looking like world-beaters.

Fullback Frank Wickers and



**Coach Pete Sachon**

right halfback Charlie Sears hit their stride in the Granby rout, and took a lot of load off Ames. However, Ames was still the big gun with 115 yards rushing in the Granby game and one touchdown on a 43-yard gallop.

#### About the Roanoke Game

Pete pulls no punches about the crucial Roanoke game, either.

"Roanoke has the best offensive club on our schedule," he said. "I think we can win. Our boys want the State championship bad and

I've never seen the Wilson spirit any higher."

"Pistol Pete," as he was known when he played pro football in this area, was quite a quarterback in his day. He led Catholic U. to a 9-1 record in 1940 and played in the Sun Bowl game, which resulted in a scoreless tie with the University of Arizona.

#### Turns Pro

Selected as quarterback on the Little All-America, Pete turned pro in 1941 and paced the Norfolk Shamrocks to the championship in the old Dixie Pro League. After a hitch in the service as a Navy pilot, Sachon played with the Richmond football Rebels in the American Association in 1948 while working on his masters degree at William and Mary.

His first coaching job was assistant at Norview in 1947. In 1949, he came to Wilson and helped Woody Gray, now assistant principal, install the T-formation.

He became head coach at Newport News High School in 1950, where he says he gained valuable experience in three seasons. His best record at Newport News was 7-3 in 1951.

When Gray became assistant principal at Wilson, he induced Sachon to come over as head football coach. In two seasons, Sachon has built a team that is now a game away from the State title. His Presidents last season compiled a 6-4 record. And the future looks bright, too. The Wilson jayvees recently completed an unbeaten campaign, ready to step up to the varsity next year.

## GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR



—World-News Staff Photo

**JUST PASSIN' THE TIME**—These Portsmouth High football players catch up on their funnies as they wait for their big game in Victory Stadium tonight against Jefferson. The game, first scheduled for last night, was postponed due to rain and wet

grounds. Shown are (l. to r.) front row—Arthur Browning, Coach Pete Mills and Ralph Antonucci; back row—Worley Smith, Joe White, David Ames and Bill Skeeter.

**WILSON AT ROANOKE:** Physically and mentally, the Presidents are ready for the "big one" tonight . . . A victory or a tie against Jefferson Senior will give the high-powered Wilson eleven, unbeaten in eight consecutive Group One games this season, the State championship . . . If the Presidents can hold the peak they displayed in their last games, in which they bowled over Petersburg, Maury and Granby with considerable ease, the Magicians will become another Wilson victim . . . A good offensive team, Jefferson may not be able to hold the versatile Wilson attack . . . Defensively, the Presidents are one of the best in the State . . . The Magicians still had a chance to win the title until they ran into Maury last week and bowed, 18-13, in an upset . . . Dave Edmunds, with 60 points, is the top Roanoke threat . . . David Ames has been the Wilson sparkplug with 51 points, but lately he has been getting some good support from Billy Skeeter, Frank Wickers and Charlie Sears . . . On defense, the Presidents have yielded but 28 points this season . . . Roanoke has given up 60 . . . If the Wilson ground attack is stopped, the Presidents can turn to the accurate pitching of Skeeter, who has a pair of top notch receivers in ends Lynn Hopewell and Co-capt. Worley Smith . . . Everything, except, perhaps, the psychological disadvantage of playing on a foreign gridiron, points to a Wilson triumph . . . Wilson 20; Jefferson Senior 6.

## Jeffs Get Chance at Upset Against Favored Wilson

Jefferson High doesn't have a chance at the State Group I football championship. But the Magicians do have a lot to say about which team will wear the 1954 crown.

The Maroon and White squares off tonight at 8 in Victory Stadium against Woodrow Wilson High of Portsmouth. The game was postponed last night due to rain and wet grounds.

Portsmouth is the only undefeated and untied team in Group I circles. The Presidents need only a win or tie to wrap up the championship.

Should the Magicians pull an upset, the honors probably will go to Hermitage of Richmond which has only a tie marring its

record. George Washington of Danville also has only a tie has played one less conference game.

**HERMITAGE PLAYS** Petersburg and Danville goes against Hopewell Thanksgiving Day but both are highly favored.

Jefferson has the potential to pull an upset and if the team explodes with some of its power, the Presidents might go back to Portsmouth with shattered championship dreams.

The Jeffs have a 4-1-1 league mark and have about the same offensive record as the Wilson eleven. However, Portsmouth has much the better defensive record—limiting eight opponents to a mere 28 points.

## GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR

We took the train from Norfolk to Roanoke on a Thursday—Norfolk and Western's "Powhatan Arrow." We were one happy team. We sang, joked and generally cut up. We knew that, according to the arcane mathematics of team rankings, to win the Virginia State Group I (now AAA) championship we had only to tie Jefferson Senior. Shoot, we knew we could do that. We arrived at the Patrick Henry Hotel and ate dinner as the rain poured down and the field became a sea of mud. The game was postponed until Saturday. We had to stay over another night. That evening, the team walked to a local movie and saw *White Christmas* starring Bing Crosby.

### Important Group I Game Rescheduled After Rain

Title at Stake for Undefeated Presidents in 8 O'Clock Battle

Jefferson High's Magicians and the Presidents of Portsmouth's Woodrow Wilson High expect to find out tonight what a difference a day makes—24 little hours.

The two Virginia Group I scholastic football powerhouses are set to bang into each other at 8 o'clock tonight at Victory Stadium, having been rained out last night.

**THE STAKES** are still the same, however. Portsmouth wants a victory or a tie to assure it the state championship. Jefferson, now out of the title race, wants to knock the visitors off, proving that, if the Magicians aren't the best, at least they're better than the best.

With a fair shake from the weatherman, a good-sized crowd should be on hand. If bare facts are examined, a good crowd is needed if Jefferson is to pay its bills. Woodrow Wilson's extra day's expenses here in Roanoke were assumed by the Jefferson athletic department.

Tonight's tussle is the windup for Jefferson and the last scholastic gridiron grinder of the season for any Greater Roanoke team. Portsmouth will have one more game to go, but it's against a Group II school.

As far as this one-day postponement is concerned, it's Jefferson's hope that the layover might serve to make the invaders stale and to bring out any homesickness that exists in the hearts of the Portsmouth boys.

Outside of that, it still stacks up as Portsmouth the favorite to romp to its ninth straight triumph.

Coach Pete Sachon brings to town probably the most versatile club that Jefferson could expect to meet over its' schedule. The Presidents are heralded for an outstanding ground game, with good passing when it's needed. Their defense, which has limited opponents to less than a touchdown a game, is considered exceptional.

Jefferson, looking for its seventh victory against two losses and a tie, expects, in the words of coach Rudy Rohrdanz, to "shoot the works."

**ROHRDANZ WILL OPEN** with a lineup containing eight seniors. They include ends Jack Reynolds and Gus Carper, tackle Carol Jamison, guard Dale King, center Ken Catron, halfbacks Jim Reynolds and Dave Edmunds and fullback Don McPeak.

Edmunds and Portsmouth's Dave Ames could give the crowd an individual battle to watch. They're among the state's scoring leaders. Both are fleet-foot, and both are excellent pass receivers.



**GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR**

**Jefferson, Portsmouth Clash Tonight**

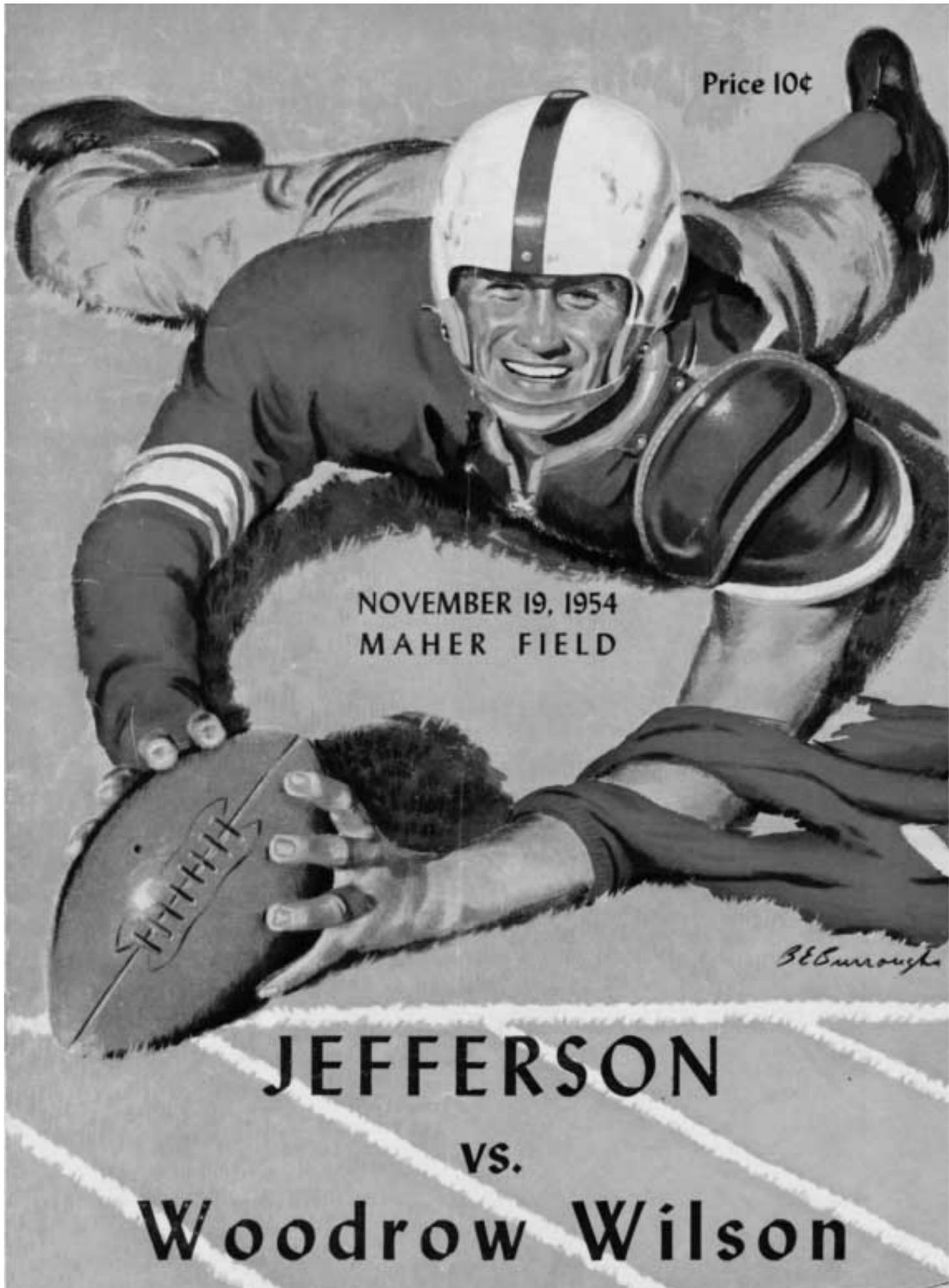
**Anxiety on the President Bench During Jefferson Senior Action**



The Wilson side of Victory Stadium was a tense place Saturday night. Here the President players and coaches reflect the game action. From left to right; Head Coach Pete Sachon, Dennis McMurrin, Ernie Houghton, Billy Skeeter, David Ames (kneeling) and Backfield Coach Pete Mills (bow tie).—Staff Photo by Mike Williams)

**GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR**

***Only Major Upset  
Will Deprive Prexies Of State Crown***



**GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR**

**Jug Browning Blocks Out a Jeff But Ames Gets Caught**



A Roanoke Tackler Catches David Ames from Behind — (Staff Photo by Williams)

**All Smiles After 32-Yard TD**



David Ames accepts congratulations after an 32-yard touchdown run Saturday night in Roanoke. — (Staff Photo by Mike Williams)

**Wet and Weary, But State Champions**



A soaked Wilson cheerleader greets Wilson's David Ames after Wilson tied Roanoke, 20-20, Saturday night. — (Staff Photo by Mike Williams)

## GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR

### Halfback Scored Twice In Wilson's Title Game; Jug Tops Behind Line

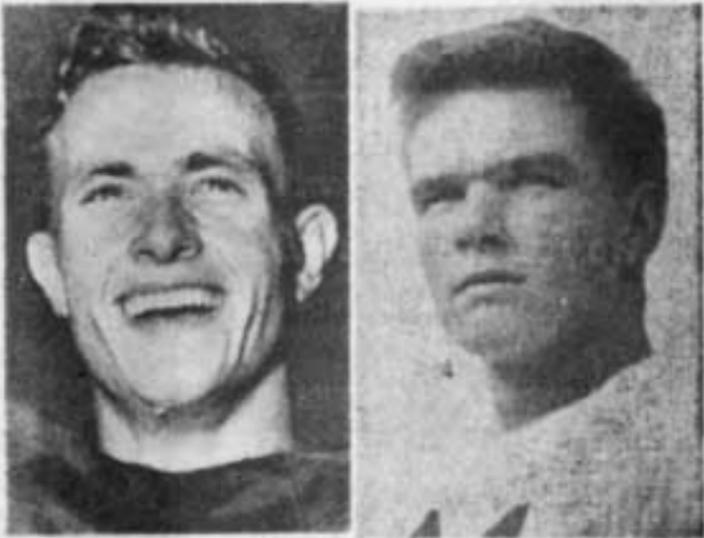
By JOHN CRITTENDEN

These names may seem somewhat familiar in the Star's players of the week selections, but David Ames and Jug Browning, for their performances in Wilson's state championship clincher, have been chosen back and lineman of the week.

For Ames, who may seem to have a corner on the star market, it is his fourth selection as back of the week.

But all the Wilson halfback, leader in the state scoring race, did Saturday night at mud-splashed Victory Stadium in Roanoke, was score two touchdowns and set up the third Wilson marker. With cutting and body faking almost impossible in the muck and mire, Ames got off 82- and 4-yard touchdown runs, and carried a kickoff back to midfield to set up the only other Wilson score. He also punted well all evening to keep the Magicians of Roanoke at a distance, and killed one Jefferson Senior touchdown with a tackle when a Jeff back was in the open.

Ames, a 165-pound senior, is playing his third season on Wilson's varsity. He is, without question, the most sought after high school back in Virginia. Saturday night scouts



Wilson's David Ames, Jug Browning

from the Virginia Big Six colleges, including VMI's head coach Frank McKenna, watched the game from the Roanoke pressbox.

The lineman of the week choice will be a major target for college scouts, too, but the bird dogs will have to wait another season. Arthur (Jug) Browning, Wilson's superb offensive center and linebacker, is only a junior at Wilson.

Roanoke's scouts, who had watched Browning work against Maury and Granby, called the 195-pounder the best high school linebacker in Virginia. He bore out the estimation by making every other Wilson tackle in the first half. By the second half the players were so mud covered, no one could tell who was making the tackles.

Browning's kickoffs, although hampered by poor footing and rain, were sufficient to put the Magicians in a hole before they even acquired the ball. Although Jug missed one of Wilson's attempts for extra point, we have yet to hear a player or coach comment on the missed point. Browning was fortunate, in the sea of mud, to make one of two extra points from placement.

Honorable Mention—backs: Jimmy Williams, Wilson,

played his best game at fullback, recovered a Roanoke fumble to set up the first Wilson touchdown.

Rabe Walton, Churchland, scored once and passed for one touchdown as Churchland ended its season unbeaten, untied and unscored upon. Playing quarterback and halfback on offense, Walton was also outstanding on defense at linebacker. The senior, playing his last game for the Trickers, also ran over for an extra point.

John Saunders, Churchland, scored four touchdowns and four extra points to set a new record for scoring in a single season. His blocking was also impressive.

Honorable Mention—Line: Lynn Hopewell, Wilson, scored touchdown for the fourth consecutive game, providing the only Wilson score via the air for the Presidents in their state title tie.

Arty Ermlich, Churchland, caught first touchdown pass in 49-0 Trucker victory. Played outstanding defensive game.

Many people had taken the train with us or had driven up from Portsmouth. Most loyally stayed over. My parents drove with my brother and sisters. The delay raised tension even more. Finally, we went to Victory Stadium.

The Magician's team was very good and the scoring jockeyed back and forth. At one point, I noticed that the defense was using a two split halfbacks in the secondary with no safety. I told Skeeter that I thought they would be open in the middle. He called for the "23 Quickie Pass." On this play, the quarterback received the hike, and immediately threw the ball to the left end who was running straight down the middle.

It worked perfectly. I thought the ball was going over my head, but I caught it, about ten yards from the line of scrimmage. I had to jump

### Presidents Get Royal Reception

By Abe Goldblatt

Wilson's fighting Presidents, their proud unbeaten record raising 30-20 tie with Jefferson Senior, returned home from the muddy Roanoke battle late yesterday afternoon as the new undisputed State high school football champions.

A wildly-cheering crowd of several hundred, including A. J. Mapp, superintendent of Portsmouth schools, met the champions as they stepped off the train at Union Station, and another throng gave the happy Presidents a rousing ovation as they arrived at the high school gym.

The Presidents overcame the worst kind of playing conditions—mud and rain—and a hopped-up Roanoke eleven to gain a tie and clinch the fourth State championship in Wilson's history. The Portsmouth school previously won the grid crown in 1926, 1927 and 1947.

Pete Sachon, developing a State championship eleven in his second season as head coach of the Presidents, was somewhat disappointed that Wilson didn't win, but was satisfied to settle for the tie under the conditions in which the game was played.

A postponement from Friday to Saturday night didn't help Wilson's cause, either, and the mud and rain wiped out all odds-favoring the Presidents.

"Under the circumstances I thought we did well," coach Sachon said. "We had to be conservative, playing it tight. Roanoke, with nothing at stake, could afford to gamble. They did. Everything Roanoke did seemed to work. Four or five times they ran on fourth down or passed with the slippery ball and it worked.

"Wilson overcame a terrific handicap to deadlock the game," he said in reviewing the battle of the mud. "But we run differently now that we're the champions. Up to this point it was a question mark."

David Ames, the Presidents' sensational halfback, was the star, living up to his advance notices even on a soggy field that made footing precarious.

Ames Praised

"Ames' performance confirmed what I've been saying all along," Sachon commented. "He's the greatest high school back I've ever seen."

The dynamic halfback, who'll play his final high school game against Suffolk Thursday at the Portsmouth Stadium, gained 133 yards, including an electrifying touchdown run of 82 yards in the third period.

Ames also tallied the first Wilson TD in the first period on a short burst.

At one stage of the third period, Jefferson led, 14-6. Then Billy Skeeter fired a quickie pass to end Lynn Hopewell on the Roanoke 30 and the Wilson end sprinted for a touchdown. Ames reeled off his 82-yard run to put Wilson ahead, 20-14, only to see the Magicians tie it up again on a long pass play from Walt Howard to David Edmunds.

Fred Turner blocked the Roanoke placement that would have won for the Magicians.

A mental lapse cost the Presidents another opportunity. After their tying touchdown, Roanoke kicked off with four minutes remaining in the game but Wilson let the ball roll and the Magicians recovered. Wilson never gained possession again, and Doug Browning intercepted a Roanoke pass deep in Wilson territory on the last play of the game.

Playing it safe in the mud and rain, the Presidents, a slick pass-

## GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR

up to catch it. I was about 35 yards from the goal and made it over with no trouble as I was going full steam when I caught the ball, and I had gotten between the defenders. This score tied the game and with the extra point, we were ahead 14-13. But, then Roanoke scored, raising their total to 20 points. Then David Ames pulled us out of the fire with an 85-yard touchdown. Arthur Browning was a key contributor who recovered a fumble and intercepted a pass during the closing minutes of the game. We wanted to win but were happy with the tie. I have often wondered what the scoring would have been like if the weather had been better.

# Hopewell, Skeeter, Ames Made Sachon's Top Team

## Wilson's State Champions Return Home



The Presidents let loose a mighty yell in celebration of their newly won State Group One football championship as they arrived yesterday afternoon at Norfolk's Union Station from Roanoke, where they clinched the title Saturday night with a 20-20 tie with Jefferson Senior. . . . Before the Roanoke battle, played in rain and mud, the Wilson eleven had won eight straight conference games. . . . They were greeted by several hundred rooters at the station. . . . Photo by Clark (Virginian-Pilot Staff Photographer)

# The Champions: Play-By-Play

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

The men who won the state championship for Wilson are a varied lot. Some can play offense and can't block a lick. Some can play defense but couldn't gain a step on offense. Some, of course, are at their best on both phases.

Man by man, the first stringers and the men who didn't quite make the starting lineup, but contributed greatly to Wilson's victories:

## ENDS

Lynn Hopewell—The biggest surprise in Wilson's lineup. Hopewell was about to lose his starting position when, during the Petersburg game, he caught two touchdown passes. As his offensive potential gained its full recognition, Hopewell improved in all phases of the game. His blockings picked up tenfold, and his defensive play sharpened. One of Wilson's near-musts for the All-Eastern District team.

Worley Smith—Wilson's co-captain combines with Hopewell to give Wilson what coach Pete Sachon believes are the best pair of ends in the Eastern District. At his best on defense, Smith is one of the spiritual sparkplugs of the team.

Joe Pond—Although limited to spot offensive appearances, Pond is Wilson's most dangerous threat on the long pass. Fast and elusive, Wilson's Dusty Rhodes pinch hit the Presidents to a victory over Newport News and scored three other touchdowns.

Fred Turner—Like all three of the other Wilson front runners at end, Turner is a senior. Unlike the other three, this is his first year out for football. Strictly an offensive player at the beginning of the season, Turner came along strong all year, and was playing good defensive ball by the Granby game.

## TACKLES

Joe White—A steady performer in the center on the Wilson offensive line, Joe, a Wilson co-captain, was no glory man, but just a capable plugger. He did his bit.

Joe Perry—This 190-pound junior will be counted on to fill a front line position next season. A capable reserve, he was called on often.

Karl Sweet—One of Wilson's three unmovable objects. Sweet used his bulk to help plug the middle of Wilson's air-tight defense. A 225-pound sophomore, he'll be among the Eastern District's best next season.

Shelby West—Another sophomore, this 200-pounder was another stopper for the Presidents in the middle. Determination is his strongest point, but he has more than a little ability to go along with it.

Hunter McKenney—Perhaps the most improved President on defense. Expected at the first of the season to be a second liner despite his weight (240), McKenney came along to become one of the most fierce Wilson tacklers. He'll be missed next season.

Bob Stevens—He and Carl Opauski opened most of the holes David Ames ran through this season. A plugger on offense, Stevens is a man who carried almost every blocking assignment through to perfection.

Clarence Bowles—This senior tackle didn't get into a single game, but to sportswriters he was among the more well known men on the squad. Bowles, a 210-pounder and perhaps the fastest

tackle on the squad, received a pre-season injury that kept him out of uniform for the entire fall. Yet, before every game, when Coach Pete Sachon was asked as to which of his players would miss the game on injuries, his first reply was always "Bowles."

## GUARDS

Carl Opauski—Pete Sachon regards this tough, fast 175-pound senior as a must for the All-Eastern District team. He turns out all his assignments so perfectly, says Line Coach Steve Chipok, that the only time one notices him is when his man isn't on the ground.

Billy Denmark—Another senior Denmark has almost the perfect build for a guard. Squat and low, he made the Wilson offensive line tough until a mid-season injury kept him at less than peak efficiency through the last half of the season.

Billy Bond—A real "mean" character in Wilson's line. Reserve Bond became Regular Bond after Denmark's injury and more than held his end up. Bond's aggressiveness won a first string position, even after Denmark returned to the squad.

## CENTERS

Arthur (Jug) Browning—A junior, Browning was called "the best college prospect on the Wilson squad" by a scout from a college which will probably take a team to the Orange Bowl this season. A capable offensive center, Browning is at his best as defensive linebacker. Kicks extra points, too.

Ted (Bootsie) Hartung—Another man who loves to hit. Strictly a defensive player, Hartung, with Browning and Ernie Houghton, give Wilson the Eastern District's finest corps of linebackers.

## QUARTERBACKS

Billy Skeeter—Without a question, the most improved man on the squad. Developed from a question mark to the best quarter-

back in the Eastern District, but not overnight. Kept plugging on his passing until he made the Presidents as much of a threat on pass offense as on rushing. He'll be back next year, and he'll be one of the best backs in the state.

Ted Schramm—As a fill-in for Skeeter, Schramm never got to see much action in the crucial minutes of Wilson's games. But he held for extra points and kept the second liners going in the Presidents' many runaways. Definitely an improved player as the season progressed.

## HALFBACKS

David Ames—A senior, 165-pounds. You know almost everything else about the state's most sought-after player.

Charles Sears—The team's best backfield blocker. Took over a first string position midway the season, and turned in good, steady work the rest of the year. His running improved steadily throughout the season.

Dennis McMurrin—The team's

Continued on Page Eighteen

biggest surprise on defense. After a non-heralded start, developed into the team's best pass defense. Specialized on interceptions. Coaches believe he may play a good deal of offense next season.

Ralph Antonucci—An early season injury kept him hampered most of the year. Played his best game at Norview.

Jack Beale—A second-liner on defense this season, with a good deal of promise. Will probably be a first string defensive man next season.

Bobby Sher—Out for the entire season with an injury. Counted on to be one of Wilson's best halfbacks next season. Fast, and only a freshman.

## FULLBACKS

Fred Wickers—Developed from an average fullback to the picture of perfection. "Had all the backs standing around watching in practice" says backfield coach Pete Mills. One of the diversionary forces that allowed Wilson easy wins over Petersburg, Maury and Granby.

Jimmy Williams—Fast, tough and only a junior. Best game in Roanoke Saturday night. A starter and a good one, for next season.

Ernie Houghton—Saw little action on offense, but one of the ablest linebackers in the state. "Second Sense" for defense near-perfect. Also played a top-flight game in the Roanoke Mud Bowl.

# GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR

## In Driving Rain

# Wilson Ties Roanoke, 20-20; Wins Group One Prep Title

By Abe Goldblatt  
Virginia-Pilot Sports Staff  
Roanoke, Nov. 20—In a driving rain, Woodrow Wilson and Jefferson Senior battled to a thrilling 20-20 stalemate on the muddy turf of Victory Stadium tonight. The tie gave the Presidents an undisputed claim to their first State championship since 1947. The unbeaten Presidents en-

tered the game with eight consecutive victories and needed a victory or a tie to gain the crown. They settled for a tie in an uphill battle that saw the Presidents take 20-14 lead in the final seconds of the third quarter on David Ames' 82 yard touchdown run. Hermitage High of Richmond,

and George Washington, of Danville, also have only a tie against their record, but the Presidents played more Group One games to claim the title. Jefferson retaliated in the early minutes of the final period and tied the score on an 82-yard pass play from Walter Howard to Dave Edmunds.

### Roanoke Holds Leads

Roanoke held a 7-6 lead at half-time and went ahead, 14-6, in the third period.

Ames went around right end from four yards out for the first Wilson touchdown in the second period.

After the Magicians, paced by Don McPeak, a sensational running fullback, scored again in the third quarter to make it 14-6, the Presidents hit back on a 38-yard touchdown pass play from quarterback Billy Skeeter to end Lynn Hopewell. That made it 14-13 in Roanoke's favor.

Before the third period ended, Ames streaked 82 yards to put the Presidents ahead for the first time, 20-14.

But the Magicians, who had lost two and tied one before tonight's game, tied it up on the Howard to Edmunds pass.

Under the poor playing conditions, both teams performed amazingly well in one of the top thrillers of the year. In coming from behind, the Presidents were brilliant and their state championship was rightfully earned after tonight's comeback performance.

The Magicians took a 7-0 lead with four minutes remaining in the opening quarter. The drive covered 60 yards. McPeak gained 11, and Jim Reynolds ran to the Wilson 22 before he was knocked out of bounds by Ames. McPeak on a pitchout rushed to the seven. Reynolds made it to the one, from where Howard went over on a sneak. Gardner kicked the extra point.

The Presidents offered a threat before the first quarter was over. From the Wilson 40, Ames gained 12. Ames, Wick-

### Ames Goes Over

Jimmy Williams set up a Wilson touchdown when he recovered a wild pitchout by Howard on the Roanoke 26 early in the second period. Wickers plunged for two and Ames picked up three. Wickers gained six for a first down on the 14. On fourth down, Ames circled his right end from four yards out to score.

Browning had two attempts at the extra point. His first try was low and he got another chance when Jefferson was off-side. His second attempt was blocked by Ken Cartan, Jefferson center.

McPeak returned the next kickoff to the Roanoke 40 and almost got away. Howard and McPeak gained 12 for a first down on the Wilson 45. The Presidents held and forced the Magicians to punt, Howard kicking in the end zone.

Williams broke loose for 35 yards to the Roanoke 35, but Wilson was penalized for clipping, moving the Presidents back to their 16.

Failing to gain, Ames punted to the Roanoke 44. McPeak ran three successive plays for a first down on the Wilson 45. Howard passed to McPeak for a first down on the Wilson 35 as the half ended with the Magicians ahead, 7-6.

Jefferson scored another touchdown after Edmunds intercepted Skeeter's pass on the Roanoke 40 and returned it to the Wilson 41. McPeak sparked the ground attack that carried the Magicians to the seven. McPeak slipped off left tackle for the final six yards and Warren Gardner converted to make it 14-6.

### Lynn Hopewell Scores

Ames returned the next kickoff from his 13 to the Wilson 45. Wickers made a first down on the Roanoke 41. The hard-driving fullback gained two more. From the Roanoke 38, Skeeter, on a delayed pass, pitched over the line to Lynn Hopewell on the 30 and the speedy end ran for the touchdown. Browning kicked the extra point, shaving the Roanoke lead to 14-13.

The revived Presidents held the Magicians on the next series, forcing Howard to punt out of bounds on the 15.

With five seconds left in the third quarter and on first down, Ames ran wide around his right end and sprinted 82 yards for a touchdown. Wickers ran over the extra point to put Wilson ahead, 20-14.

Roanoke struck back in the early minutes of the final quarter. Walter Howard passed to Dave Edmunds for a touchdown, the play covering 62 yards. On the extra point attempt, the Magicians were penalized 15 yards. Gardner missed the attempt and the score was tied at 20-20.



## Coach Had Title Hopes At Hopewell

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

Pete Sachon, who in pre-season back-room discussions had predicted Wilson would lose three football games, said today the improved playing of David Ames, Billy Skeeter and Lynn Hopewell had brought Portsmouth a State championship high school football team.

"Without question, this is the best team I ever coached," said Sachon, a veteran in the high school football business.

"I knew Ames would be a good back this season," said the pensive President coach. "But I never thought he would be as consistent as he has been. Hopewell's play at offensive end and Skeeter's quarterbacking made the difference between an average team and a State champion."

Ames carried for two touchdowns and Hopewell had scored the Victory Stadium to carry the Wilson outfit to its ninth game without a loss.

The question and answer session continued:

### Dreams at Hopewell

Question — When did you begin to realize this might be a championship season?

Answer — (Sachon) — After the Hopewell game, I began to dream. Then when we slipped by Newport News, I knew we had a chance to go all the way.

Question — What was the biggest surprise of the team?

Answer — The offensive line. At the first of the season, it was our biggest question mark. We knew we had the boys that could do the job on defense, but the offense line was another question. Bobby Stevens, Carl Opauski, who is the best guard in the Eastern district and Hopewell made the difference in the line.

## Coach Had

Continued from Page Sixteen

yesterday, "but we played our share of good football, too."

Wilson got some bad breaks Saturday night. One, a fumble on a final period kick-off, proved almost fatal. And some criticism of the officiating in the Western district was making the rounds today. On Roanoke's first touchdown, three-quarters of the Jefferson line was obviously offside, but the Magicians carried through on the play anyway, gaining to the Wilson 12, enough for a first down. But when the players on both teams and the members of the press box turned to look for a red penalty flag on the field, there was none. Roanoke went on to score.

Later in the game, one official disregarded another's indication of the placement of the ball after a running play, placing the ball a yard closer the Wilson goal, enough to give Jefferson Senior a first down.

But Roanoke put up the biggest fight Wilson has seen this season. The Magicians were the only Wilson opponent of the season able to gain up the middle consistently.

Question — Who are your best college prospects?

Answer — Besides Ames, you mean? Hopewell and Opauski. Both could play good college football. And I think Joe White and Stevens would make terrific small college football players.

Question — What about next season?

Answer — I can't make any predictions about that. We lose a lot of good boys, we'll be short at tackles and all our ends are gone. I'll let you know next August.

### Ames Hard-Pressed

Wilson's coaches were in complete agreement that the Jeffs were the best team to face the locals this season. Sachon feels that Don McPeak, Roanoke's fullback workhorse, will fight it out with Warwick's Red Irby for the State All-Group One fullback spot.

The Wilson players, as well as the coaching staff, felt they could have beaten Jefferson on a dry field. But despite the prevailing dampness, David Ames put on one of his best shows of the season for 3,000 fans and scouts from VPI, VMI and Virginia.

The Wilson halfback took a hard beating in the game which won the State title for the Presidents. On the second-half kick-off, David was helped from the field, but came back in time to score on the 82-yard scamper eight minutes later.

"We got a lot of breaks to win this championship," said Sachon.

Continued on Page Eighteen

## GAME 9 ~ NOVEMBER 20 ~ JEFFERSON SENIOR



Our train ride home was jubilant. A large crowd met us at the train station in Norfolk and at the gym back at school in Portsmouth. All, in all, it was an exhilarating experience for this sixteen-year-old and his teammates. From the 1955 *President*.



# Team Playing Yields a Championship

Playing football on a championship team was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Our team had one super-star, a remarkable athlete, David Ames. We couldn't have won without him, but as David said many times—he didn't do it alone. In fact, when you take a look at the scores and the game statistics, one thing becomes obvious—our championship was a classic example of a team effort.

David led the team (and the state) in scoring, making 117 of our 230 points. But, 12 other players contributed to the scoring. Could we have won the championship without Joe Pond who famously saved us in the Newport News game; or Arthur Browning and Frank Wickers who gave us the three extra points we needed to tie Jefferson Senior? Frank only scored one point during the season, but—what a point!

Our toughest opponents were Hopewell, Newport News and Jefferson Senior. We tied Jefferson and beat the other two by only one touchdown. In the other games we more or less swamped the opposition.

How did we do that? One reason was certainly our bulldozing offense, but looking at the game scores, another factor becomes obvious. We also had a terrific defensive team. When we went on the defensive, there were quite a few substitutions. For example, our defensive five-man line normally included ends Worley Smith, myself or Fred Turner, and three seemingly immovable objects: Earl Sweet, Shelby West and Hunter Ray McKenney. These last three did not generally play offense. I particularly remember Bootsie Hartung, a ferocious tackler, playing linebacker behind me. On many plays, I would knock the interference down, and Bootsie would nail the runner.

Our aggressive offense scored 210 points, while the stonewall defensive team held the opposition to a measly 48 points, 20 points of which were by Jefferson. For the season, we recovered 13 of their fumbles. We made 2,970 yards rushing while our defense held them to only 1,227.

I have always thought our defensive star was linebacker Arthur “Jughead” Browning (and of-

fensive center) although Ernie Houghton was sometimes called “Mr. Defense.” Jug made too many outstanding plays to count, but most notably a blocked extra point kick and a pass interception in the Jefferson game.

Our quarterback Billy Skeeter deserved more credit than he got. While he wasn't a scorer, with his steady hand on the tiller, he was the backbone of the team. (He came into his own the next season, when he won the Harry Brownley award.)

I particularly enjoyed playing next to Bobby Stevens as tackle and Carl Opauski as guard, the three of us holding down the left side of the offensive line. Bobby liked to call cross-blocking for the two of us when the defensive end and tackle were in a vulnerable position.

When we began the season, after a 6-4-0 season the year before, I don't think any of us thought of ourselves as state champions. The feeling grew slowly as we won game after game. About half way through the season, we allowed ourselves to talk about going all the way undefeated. With each game the tension and excitement grew, and so did our determination and effort. We had some close calls, but that made our wins more satisfying. We earned the championship because we had outstanding coaching, a supportive school and community and because we knew the meaning of teamwork.

As I think back over almost fifty years to those wonderful days of young glory, I am thankful to have been part of such a fantastic experience—a state championship team. For all of us, players, managers, cheerleaders and coaches, it was extraordinary experience.

Sometimes, when I occasionally watch the movies of the 1954 season, I find myself transported as if in time machine. My head fills with visions of not only the championship season, but of five wonderful years at Wilson, my friends, many of whom were my schoolmates for 12 years, and of growing up in Portsmouth. Though far away, I am, for a moment, home once again.

## TEAM PLAYING YIELDS A CHAMPIONSHIP

### Scoring by Game

	Score	TDs By Runs	TDs By Passes	Extra Points & Safety	Opponent	Score
Wilson	20	1-Ames, 1-Houghton	1-Pond	2-Browning	Oscar Smith	0
Wilson	12	1-Ames	1-Ames	0	Hopewell	6
Wilson	21	1-Ames, 1-Skeeter, 1-Antonucci	0	1-Pond, 1-Hartung (safety)	Norview	0
Wilson	14	2-Ames	0	2-Ames	Washington-Lee	0
Wilson	13	1-Ames	1-Pond	1-Ames	Newport News	7
Wilson	38	2-Ames, 1-Williams	2-Hopewell 1-Pond	2- Browning	Petersburg	2
Wilson	33	3-Ames	1-Hopewell 1-Smith	3-Browning	Maury	13
Wilson	32	1-Ames, 1-McMurrin	1-Hopewell 1-Pond 1-Bullock	2-Browning	Granby	0
Wilson	20	2-Ames	1-Hopewell	1-Browning 1-Wickers	Jefferson Senior	20
Wilson	27	4-Ames	0	3-Browning	Suffolk	0
Totals	230	23=138 pts.	12=72 pts.	18 extra points, 1 safety=20 pts.		48

### Scoring Summary by Type

Touchdowns: 35	Extra Points: 18	Safety: 1
Ames-19	Browning-13	Hartung-1
Hopewell-5	Ames-3	
Pond-4	Pond-1	
Antonucci-1	Wickers-1	
Bullock-1		
Houghton-1		
Skeeter-1		
McMurrin-1		
Smith-1		
Williams-1		

### Individual Scoring Points

Ames	117
Hopewell	30
Pond	25
Browning	13
Houghton	6
Antonucci	6
Bullock	6
McMurrin	6
Skeeter	6
Smith	6
Williams	6
Hartung	2
Wickers	1

# TEAM PLAYING YIELDS A CHAMPIONSHIP

## Season Statistics

From The 1955 *President*

	<b>Wilson</b>	<b>Opponents</b>
Yards Rushing	2,070	866
Yards Passing	897	361
Average Per Carry	5.2	2.1
Times Carried	548	581
Total Yards	2,957	1,227
Fumbles Lost	4	13
Passes Attempted	98	123
Passes Completed	32	40
Percent Completed	33%	33%



# The Honor Teams

In rapid succession, the All Portsmouth City, All Tidewater and All Eastern District honor teams were named. I was on the first squad of all three, a pretty heady experience. But, then I had a hint of something special happening in Mr. Lisle W. Padden's mechanical drawing class. I was finishing up one day in mid-December when Coach Galliford walked by. He just looked at me and shook his head. He said, "Hopewell, four years ago, I would have never believed it," and then walked away. I had no idea what he was talking about. The next day, the All-State team was announced in the papers. David Ames and I made the first team.

A few days later, on December 19, David and I were named to the All Southern team. It was my seventeenth birthday.

## Honor Teams

	<b>All City</b>	<b>All Eastern</b>	<b>All Tidewater</b>	<b>All State</b>	<b>All Southern</b>
<b>First Team</b>	Ames	Ames	Ames	Ames	Ames
	Browning		Browning		
	Hopewell	Hopewell	Hopewell	Hopewell	Hopewell
	Opauski	Opauski	Opauski		
	Skeeter		Smith		
<b>Second Team</b>	Smith	Smith		Opauski	
	White	Browning			
	Wickers				

# THE HONOR TEAMS



Bobby Davis



Jimmy Hardin



Bootsie Albertia



DeLane Simpson



Billy Skeeter



John Saunders

## All-City

### Hopewell, Davis, Hardin, Hicks, Opauski, Albertia, Browning Named To Line

Five members of Wilson's State Group One champions head the first team roster of the Star's All-City team, which boasts a backfield averaging more than seven touchdowns per game.

The running backs in the All-City backfield, Churchland's John Saunders, Wilson's David Ames and Cradock's DeLane Simpson, scored 344 points over the season, which for ten games, would be an average of more than 34 points per game for the trio.

The backfield competition was so keen that the Star sports staff selected a five-man backfield, with Wilson's Billy Skeeter and Churchland's Babe Walton rounding out the quintet.

A five-man backfield resulted as both Wilson's Skeeter and Churchland's Walton were included in the All-City first team. The two quarterbacks were key men in their respective clubs' undefeated seasons.

The Star's sports staff agreed neither of the talented operatives could be left out.

The bankers on the All-City team posed another weighty problem for the All-City selectors. Cradock's Bootsie Albertia was designated as the "heart" of the Admirals in a review with the Cradock coaching staff. Lynn Hopewell provided the summer punch Wilson needed via the air during the last half of the 1934 campaign, and the President's Worley Smith was perhaps the best and in the area on defense.

Davis, Hopewell Edge Smith, Cradock's Davis and Wilson's Hopewell lined up Smith for the position as it was felt the star was superior on offense, although a shade below Smith in defense. At tackle, Cradock non-morich pair, Jimmy Hardin and Ralph Hicks were selected. Both were major factors in Cradock's seven 1934 victories.

Wilson's Carl Opauski, perhaps the most letter-perfect lineman in the area, and Churchland's Bootsie Albertia, a ten-way man in the Truckers' undefeated, untied and untied-in season, were chosen at guard.

Arthur, Lynn Browning, Wilson's center, linebacker and punter, was without question the best center in the city.

The teams were selected from Wilson, Cradock, Churchland, Deep Creek and Great Bridge playing rosters.

The starting backfield has much on both offense and defense.

Ames, the state's top Group One scorer, with 117 points in 10 games, scored 19 touchdowns for Wilson's state champions. An average of nearly two per game.

Saunders, a summer-made 22 touchdowns in running up 135 points, the highest point total in the city. Like Ames, he was of superior quality on defense, also. Simpson, who scored 27 points over the season, was Cradock's rushing leader, and with second team selection T. O. Williams, gave the Admirals one of the best balanced running attacks in the Eastern District.

Wilson, operating both from halfback and quarterback for Charley Brown at Churchland, developed into a superb distance player as the season reached the half-way mark. He was the leading scorer in Churchland's running season, with no team coming within three touchdowns of the state's highest scoring team.

Skeeter, Saunders are Juniors. Skeeter, whose improvement was cited by Wilson coach Pete Bachon as the deciding factor in Wilson's state championship, is like Saunders, a junior. He passed for 11 touchdowns and played every minute at quarterback for the Presidents while the same was still in question.

The second team backfield rosters high scoring 184 points. Fred Pakowski from Deep Creek, Cradock's Williams, WILSON'S Frank Wickers, a quick-stopping fullback, and Cradock quarterback Pete Allen.

The second team line has Churchland standout Art Emmelh and Jimmy Jensen, Wilson's Smith and Joe White and Cradock's Don Allen and Billy Cartwright, as well as Great Bridge's Robert Bover.



Lynn Hopewell



Ralph Hicks



Carl Opauski



Arthur Browning



David Ames



Babe Walton

### All-City Lineup

	Wt.	Ht.	Class
END—Lynn Hopewell, Wilson	170	5-10	Sr.
END—Bobby Davis, Cradock	160	5	Jr.
TACKLE—Ralph Hicks, Cradock	192	5-11	Sr.
TACKLE—Jimmy Hardin, Cradock	130	5-9½	Sr.
GUARD—Carl Opauski, Wilson	175	5-10	Sr.
GUARD—Bootsie Albertia, Churchland	195	5-8	Sr.
CENTER—Arthur Browning, Wilson	205	5-11	Jr.
BACK—David Ames, Wilson	163	5-5	Sr.
BACK—Babe Walton, Churchland	162	5-10	So.
BACK—Billy Skeeter, Wilson	168	5-3	Jr.
BACK—John Saunders, Churchland	184	6	Jr.
BACK—DeLane Simpson, Cradock	172	6	Sr.

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## All-Eastern

### Ames, Hopewell, Opauski

### Named To All-Eastern District

#### Browning, Smith, DeJarnette, Hicks, Cartwright, Simpson On Second Team

By MARSHALL JOHNSON  
 RICHMOND (AP)—State champion Woodrow Wilson of Portsmouth today placed three members of its undefeated squad on the Group I All-Eastern District scholastic football squad of The Associated Press.

The All-Western District team, also announced today, contained four players each from George Washington of Danville and Jefferson Senior of Roanoke and three from Andrew Lewis of Salem.

All 22 youngsters named to the all-district teams today will be eligible for consideration for the All-Group I team to be chosen by the State's sports writers. Also eligible will be the 22 members of the All-Central and All-Northern clubs, yet to be announced.

##### Chosen by Coaches

Both teams were chosen by the votes of coaches of the teams in the respective districts.

Warwick, Newport News and Oscar Smith of South Norfolk landed two berths each on the All-Eastern club, while Norview and Mary of Norfolk placed one apiece. Blanked in the first team voting in the two districts were Cradock, Granby of Norfolk and Hampton in the East and F. C. Glass of Lynchburg, Covington and Halifax County in the West.

##### The 1934 All-Eastern District team:

Ends — Lynn Hopewell, Woodrow Wilson, and Alan Whittier, Norview.

Tackles — Nick Mihalas, Maury, and Lowell Chappell, Oscar Smith.

Guards — Jimmy McShane,

Newport News, and Carl Opauski, Woodrow Wilson.

Center — Richard Holt, Newport News.

Backs — David Ames, Woodrow Wilson; Gary Disharoon, Oscar Smith; and David (Red) Irby and Pete Smith, Warwick.

##### The 1934 All-Western District team:

Ends — Jack Reynolds, Jefferson Senior, and Glenn Farr, Andrew Lewis.

Tackles — Milan Christley, Andrew Lewis, and Bobby Stier, GW of Danville.

Guards — Carol Jamison, Jefferson Senior, and Charles Beck, GW of Danville.

Center — Ken Cateau, Jefferson Senior.

Backs — Pryor Miller and Larry Brooks, GW of Danville; Ken Norton, Andrew Lewis; and Don McPeak, Jefferson Senior.

Only two of the 22 performers were named in 1933 on either first or second teams in their respective districts. Pary and Miller both were promoted from last year's All-Western second club. There wasn't a single returnee this year from either of last year's all-district eleven.

Cradock dominated the second team All-Eastern with four berths followed by Maury and Woodrow Wilson with two each and Warwick, Granby and Hampton with one apiece.

The second team All-Western contains four players from GW of Danville, three from Jefferson Senior and two each from Covington and Glass.

##### The All-Eastern District second

team:

Ends—Wesley Smith, Woodrow Wilson, and Vaden DeJarnette, Cradock.

Tackles—Ralph Hicks, Cradock, and John Wilkins, Warwick.

Guards—Carl Baker, Maury, and Billy Cartwright, Cradock.

Center — Arthur Browning, Woodrow Wilson.

Backs—Freddie Lee, Maury; Harry Bukovich, Hampton; Tommy Betz, Granby; and DeLane Simpson, Cradock.

##### The All-Western District second team:

Ends—Van Haden, GW of Danville, and Paul Dressler, Covington.

Tackles — Ken Payne, GW of Danville, and Jim Dyer, Jefferson Senior.

Guards—Hale King, Jefferson Senior, and Wayne Wood, E. C. Glass.

Center — Ralph Mast, GW of Danville.

Backs—Dave Edmunds, Jefferson Senior; John MacLard, E. C. Glass; Dickie Stoad, Covington; Ray Beale, GW of Danville.

##### Eastern District players winning honorable mention:

Ends — Davis, Cradock; Story, Oscar Smith; Swain, Norview; Pond, Woodrow Wilson; Kraus, Newport News; Ebert, Granby; Delk and Guillot, Maury; Kliek, Warwick.

Tackles — Moats and Holder, Warwick; Friedland and Cook, Newport News; White, McKenny and Stevens, Woodrow Wilson; Baker, Oscar Smith; Hardin and McGee, Cradock; Patrick, Hampton.

Guards—Marty Granby; Wildman and Davenport, Warwick;

#### Woodrow Wilson's Ames, Opauski and Hopewell Gain First Team Berths

##### Norview's Whittier, Smith's Disharoon And Chappell Picked

Richmond, Dec. 1 (AP)—State champion Woodrow Wilson of Portsmouth today placed three members of its undefeated squad on the Group One All-Eastern District scholastic football squad of the Associated Press.

The All-Western District team, also announced today, contained four players each from George Washington of Danville and Jefferson Senior of Roanoke and three from Andrew Lewis of Salem.

All 22 of the youngsters named to the All-District teams today will be eligible for consideration for the All-Group One team to be chosen by the State's sports writers. Also eligible will be the 22 members of the All-Central and All-Northern clubs, yet to be announced.



NICK MIHALAS

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## All-Tidewater Eleven



Alan Whittier  
Norview end



Center Richard Holt (left) and guard Jimmy McShane  
Newport News



Red Irby  
Warwick back



Worley Smith  
Wilson end



Carl Opauski  
Wilson guard



Nick Mihales . . . Massey tackle



David Ames . . . Wilson back



Lowell Chappell  
Smith tackle



Tommy Betz  
Granby back



Gary Disharoon . . . Smith back



Arthur Browning . . . Wilson center



Lynn Hopewell  
Wilson end

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## 13 Voted on First Team; Tie at Two Positions

**Champion Presidents Gain Five Berths; Disharoon, Betz and Irby in Backfield; Cradock Dominates Second Team**

By Abe Goldblatt

For the first time in 22 years, the Virginian-Pilot All-Tidewater eleven is composed of 13 players. The unprecedented selection developed when the nine Eastern District Group One coaches deadlocked in their voting for an end and center position. While the balloting was unusually close at other positions, David Ames, the sensational halfback who led the Wilson Presidents to an unbeaten season and the State championship, won by a landslide. He pulled 17 out of a possible 18 points (two points counted for first place, one for second).

As a result, the dynamic touch-down hero is named captain of the 22nd annual All-Tidewater.

Next in the voting came Nick Mihalas, Maury's brilliant tackle.

### Wilson Lands Five

Wilson dominated the first team with five players. In addition to Ames, the Presidents, who won nine and tied one this season, placed ends Lynn Hopewell and Worley Smith, guard Carl Opauski, center Arthur (Jug) Browning.

Smith and Browning were involved in the deadlocks.

South Norfolk's Oscar Smith High School and Newport News placed two players each on the first team, while Maury, Granby, Warwick and Norview gained one apiece.

Cradock and Hampton failed to win a first team berth, but the Admirals put five men on the second team. Harry (Fuzzy) Bukovich, Hampton back, was a first team choice last season, but dropped to the second eleven on the 1954 selection. The Crabbers experienced their worst season under Coach Suey Eason, but Bukovich was nevertheless a bright spot.

With the eight-semester rule in effect for the first time, the 1954 All-Tidewater is the youngest since the mythical eleven was first selected in 1932. Light and shifty, it's one of the fastest.

### The Backfield

Running with Ames in the backfield are Gary Disharoon, of Oscar Smith; David Irby, of Warwick; and Tommy Betz, of Granby, all of whom finished high among the State scoring leaders.

Ames, in fact, won the State's individual scoring championship with 10 touchdowns and three extra points for a dazzling total of 117 points. The 165-pound senior, a second team choice last season, is ranked among Wilson's all-time greats, and his 10 touchdowns are more than any Wilson player has ever scored in a single season. Most of his touchdowns came on long runs.

"He is without a doubt the best high school back I've ever seen," Coach Pete Sechon commented.

Second to Ames in the State scoring race was Red Irby, 175-pound running star of Warwick's fine team. Irby, a senior, pulled up 14 touchdowns and three extra points for the surprising Farmers, who won seven, tied one and lost two.

Disharoon, a powerful tailback in Coach Dickie Harrison's single wing, scored 81 points this season for the up-and-coming Smithies, who won their last four games by impressive margins.

A junior, the 170-pound Smithie is coming back next season, and that should provide many a headache for South Norfolk's rivals.

### Betz on First Team

The fourth spot in the backfield is occupied by Tommy Betz, Granby's fleet-footed halfback, who tallied nine touchdowns for the unpredictable Granby Comets.

Irby and Betz barely edged out Warwick's Pete Smith for a first team honor. Smith, who scored 61 points, is described by Coach Milt Drewyer as "the best two-way back I've seen in high school in years, an excellent inspiration to the team."

Warwick played only three Eastern District teams and may have lost votes on account of it.

Lynn Hopewell was the only undisciplined selection at end. The senior, 175, played an important role in Wilson's championship campaign with his brilliant catches of quarterback Billy Skeeters' passes. In the rain and mud at Roanoke, he engaged a pass and outran the opposition to score

a touchdown, which enabled the Presidents to gain a 20-20 tie and claim the title.

### Whittier Ties Smith

Alan Whittier, 189-pound Norview junior, tied Worley Smith for the other end position. Whittier stood out on a Norview team which failed to win a conference game, losing eight straight.

Smith was co-captain of the Presidents and an excellent lead-

er. A senior, he weighs 165, stands 5-11.

Mihalas was an easy winner at tackle. "Greatest lineman I've ever coached," says Coach Ralph Hendrix. Mihalas, 190, played tackle on offense and backed up the line on defense, making the majority of the tackles.

Lowell Chappell, Smith High veteran, edged out Jock Wilkins, of Warwick, for the other tackle post. Chappell was a tower of strength in the South Norfolk line. A senior, he weighs 185.

### Coaches Praise McShane

Jimmy McShane, Newport News senior, led the voting at guard. Offensive and defensive guard for the Typhoon, McShane, who weighs 174 and is only 24 years old, was effective both ways.

Jack Powers and Cowboy Range, the Typhoon co-coaches, rate McShane as "the hardest charging defensive lineman Newport News has had in 10 years."

The other guard is manned by Carl Opauski of Wilson. Weighing 180, he's fast and tricky and came up with more than his share of tackles, especially in the crucial Roanoke game. He's a senior.

Holt, 195, also of Newport News, tied Wilson's Browning for the center position. Holt, a senior, proved an outstanding linebacker in every Newport News game this season.

Browning, 193, was a rugged linebacker for the Presidents, and Coach Sechon is most happy that he's only a junior.

### The second team:

Ends—Vaden Dejarnette, Cradock, and Bobby Davis, Cradock.

Tackles—Jock Wilkins, Warwick, and Ralph Hicks, Cradock.

Guards—Carl Baker, Maury, and Billy Cartwright, Cradock.

Center—Leslie Bunting, Warwick.

Backs—Freddie Lee, Maury; Pete Smith, Warwick; Delane Simpson, Cradock, and Harry Buckovich, Hampton.

Coaches voting were Pete Sechon, Wilson; Milt Drewyer, Warwick; Jack Powers and Cowboy Range, Newport News; Suey Eason, Hampton; Charlie Harrington, Warwick; Dickie Harrison, Oscar Smith; Ed Deering, Granby, and Ralph Hendrix, Maury.

Through the years, All-Tidewater graduates have made good in college football. Ace Parker, a star at Wilson High, made the first All-Tidewater team in 1932, and four years later was voted All-America at Duke.

## 1954 All-Tidewater

Pos.	Name	School	Wt.	Hgt.	Age	Class
End	Lynn Hopewell	Wilson	175	5-10	16	Senior
End	Alan Whittier	Norview	189	6-1	16	Junior
End	Worley Smith	Wilson	160	5-11	18	Senior
Tackle	Nick Mihalas	Maury	195	5-11	17	Senior
Tackle	Lowell Chappell	Smith	185	5-11	19	Senior
Guard	Jimmy McShane	N. News	178	5-10	16	Senior
Guard	Carl Opauski	Wilson	180	5-11	16	Senior
Center	Arthur Browning	Wilson	193	6-0	16	Junior
Center	Richard Holt	N. News	195	6-1	17	Senior
Back	David Ames	Wilson	165	5-10	17	Senior
Back	Gary Disharoon	Smith	170	5-10	17	Junior
Back	David Irby	Warwick	175	6-0	17	Senior
Back	Tommy Betz	Granby	165	5-10	17	Senior

## Second Team

Pos.	Name	School	Wt.	Hgt.	Age	Class
End	Vaden Dejarnette	Cradock	174	6-2	18	Senior
End	Bobby Davis	Cradock	160	6-0	18	Junior
Tackle	Jock Wilkins	Warwick	215	6-3	17	Junior
Tackle	Ralph Hicks	Cradock	192	5-11	17	Senior
Guard	Carl Baker	Maury	195	6-0	17	Senior
Guard	Billy Cartwright	Cradock	185	6-2	15	Senior
Center	Leslie Bunting	Warwick	190	6-0	17	Junior
Back	Freddie Lee	Maury	170	5-11	18	Senior
Back	Pete Smith	Warwick	155	6-0	17	Senior
Back	Delane Simpson	Cradock	172	6-0	16	Senior
Back	Harry Buckovich	Hampton	160	5-9	17	Senior

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## Honorable Mention List

**Ends**—Joe Pond (Wilson), Tommy Delk (Maury), Carl Phillips (Newport News), George Gullot (Maury), Bill Story (Smith), Bill Krause (Newport News), Robert Eckert (Granby), Jerry Klick (Warwick) and Dellan Rossman (Hampton).

**Tackles**—Harold McGee (Cradock), Gayle Baker (Smith), Hunter McKenney (Wilson), Matt Marshall (Norview), Richard Cooke (Newport News), Holden (Warwick), Joe White (Wilson), Bernard Friedland (Newport News), Russell Moats (Warwick), Bill Stevens (Wilson).

**Guards**—Don Allen (Cradock), Norman Moore (Maury), Billy Watson (Maury), Pete Mayne (Granby), Jimmy Hardin (Cradock), Gordon Perkins (Granby), Everett Edwards (Maury), Richard Krause (Newport News), Arthur Wildman (Warwick), Ronald Davenport (Warwick).

**Centers**—Seth Hodges (Maury), Ned Story (Cradock), Truman Baxter (Granby).

**Backs**—Ed Burlas (Smith), Billy Skeeter (Wilson), Leigh Forbes (Maury), Tom Crosley (Warwick), Bobby Ferguson (Hampton), Billy Cole (Warwick), Robert Trousdell (Warwick), Clyde Barnette (Norview), Howard Todd (Newport News), Gene Hedrick (Newport News), Wayne Sharpe (Newport News), Buddy Sanders (Maury), Pete Allen (Cradock), Bob Wood (Cradock), T. O. Williams (Cradock).

## Second Team Selections



Harry Buckovich Hampton—B    Pete Smith Warwick—B    Freddie Lee Maury—B    Delane Simpson Cradock—B



Jocko Wilkins Warwick—T    Ralph Hicks Cradock—T    Carl Baker Maury—G    V. DeJarnette Cradock—B



B. Cartwright Cradock—G    Bobby Davis Cradock—E

## All-Tidewater Elevens of Past Years

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1932</b></p> <p>E—Moore, Wilson<br/>E—Valentine, Maury<br/>T—Dodge, Maury<br/>T—Whitson, Maury<br/>G—Ballie, Hampton<br/>G—Marchant, Maury<br/>C—Frazier, Maury<br/>B—Hudgins, Maury<br/>B—Parker, Wilson<br/>B—Thomas, Maury<br/>B—Faller, Hampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1933</b></p> <p>E—Stewart, Maury<br/>E—Lewis, Hampton<br/>T—Egerton, Wilson<br/>T—Mabrey, Hampton<br/>G—Carter, N. News<br/>G—Bartos, Maury<br/>C—Frazier, Hampton<br/>B—Hudgins, Maury<br/>B—Haley, Wilson<br/>B—Jones, So. Norfolk<br/>B—Carroll, Maury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1934</b></p> <p>E—Bell, Maury<br/>E—DeLoach, Wilson<br/>T—Smith, Wilson<br/>T—Gray, Maury<br/>G—J. Lawson, Wilson<br/>G—C. Lawson, Wilson<br/>C—Sprangler, N. News<br/>B—Howard, Wilson<br/>B—C. Sprangler, N. N.<br/>B—Miller, Hampton<br/>B—Haine, Maury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1935</b><br/>(No Team Selected)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1936</b></p> <p>E—Sancker, Wilson<br/>E—Todd, Hampton<br/>T—McVay, Maury<br/>T—Brown, Wilson<br/>G—Shapiro, Maury<br/>C—Ruppel, Hampton<br/>C—Marden, Hampton<br/>B—Cotter, Hampton<br/>B—Heath, Wilson<br/>B—Jones, Suffolk<br/>B—Carroll, Maury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1937</b></p> <p>E—Burch, Maury<br/>E—McLeland, N. N.<br/>T—Fentress, Maury<br/>T—Warren, Wilson<br/>G—Stalaker, Wilson<br/>G—Fisher, Maury<br/>C—Wiles, Hampton<br/>B—James, Hampton<br/>B—A. Carroll, Maury<br/>B—Boone, Wilson<br/>B—Boyer, So. Norfolk</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1938</b></p> <p>E—Fitzgerald, Maury<br/>E—Kekel, N. News<br/>T—Canada, Maury<br/>T—Lawson, Wilson<br/>G—Hudgins, Maury<br/>C—Stalaker, Wilson<br/>C—Winters, Hampton<br/>B—McLeland, N. News<br/>B—Berlich, Maury<br/>B—Edwards, Hampton<br/>B—Dixon, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1939</b></p> <p>E—C. Brown, Wilson<br/>E—Bartow, Maury<br/>T—Canada, Maury<br/>T—Borral, Maury<br/>G—Marlin, Hampton<br/>G—Borison, Maury<br/>C—Dunn, Maury<br/>B—Berlich, Maury<br/>B—Ellis, Maury<br/>B—Fisher, Hampton<br/>B—Stall, Maury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1940</b></p> <p>E—Martens, Maury<br/>E—C. Brown, Wilson<br/>T—Shank, Wilson<br/>T—Holmes, N. News<br/>C—Mann, Maury<br/>C—Whitehurst, Grady<br/>C—Joyner, Wilson<br/>B—Gay, Grady<br/>B—Sagotta, Maury<br/>B—Cleary, N. News<br/>B—Berrill, Maury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1941</b></p> <p>E—Seay, Maury<br/>E—G. Lawson, Wilson<br/>T—Shank, Maury<br/>T—Cushman, Wilson<br/>G—Newitzky, Grady<br/>G—O. Whitehurst, Gran.<br/>C—Joyner, Wilson<br/>B—Gashield, So. Norfolk<br/>B—M. Whitehurst, Gran.<br/>B—Chesd, Maury<br/>B—Phillips, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1942</b></p> <p>E—Hollin, Hampton<br/>E—Adams, Grady<br/>T—Vaugh, Grady<br/>T—Harris, Hampton<br/>G—Tank, Hampton<br/>C—Boyd, Grady<br/>C—McVay, Grady<br/>B—Chesd, Maury<br/>B—Williams, N. News<br/>B—Rickett, Hampton<br/>B—Brickley, Grady</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1943</b></p> <p>E—Avery, N. News<br/>E—Austin, Cradock<br/>T—Hank, N. News<br/>T—Smithback, Wilson<br/>B—Jones, Maury<br/>G—Haltiff, Maury<br/>C—Huglin, Maury<br/>B—Lee, Newport News<br/>B—Fleming, Wilson<br/>B—Sanier, Maury<br/>B—Loser, Grady</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1944</b></p> <p>E—Ivanhoe, Grady<br/>E—Casper, N. News<br/>T—Ebers, Grady<br/>T—Gage, Hampton<br/>G—Jones, Maury<br/>G—Hickman, Grady<br/>C—Huglin, Maury<br/>B—Mason, Hampton<br/>B—Fleming, Wilson<br/>B—Sanier, Maury<br/>B—E. Harrison, Grady</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1945</b></p> <p>E—Ivanhoe, Grady<br/>E—Bosser, Hampton<br/>T—Wright, Wilson<br/>T—Ebers, Grady<br/>G—McNamara, N. N.<br/>G—E. Adams, Wilson<br/>C—Faller, Grady<br/>B—Stebbs, Grady<br/>B—Pelizz, Maury<br/>B—Gill, Grady<br/>B—Mousie, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1946</b></p> <p>E—Ivanhoe, Grady<br/>E—Tanner, Wilson<br/>T—McLeod, Grady<br/>T—Antonucci, Wilson<br/>G—Willis, Grady<br/>C—Daffer, Maury<br/>C—Faller, Grady<br/>B—Pelizz, Maury<br/>B—Gill, Grady<br/>B—Stebbs, Grady<br/>B—Doran, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1947</b></p> <p>E—Faller, Hampton<br/>E—Stokewson, N. N.<br/>T—Antonucci, Wilson<br/>T—B. Lynn, Grady<br/>G—Patt, Wilson<br/>G—Daffer, Maury<br/>C—O'Brien, Wilson<br/>B—Farris, Wilson<br/>B—Carroll, Hampton<br/>B—Doran, Wilson<br/>B—E. Harrison, Grady</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1948</b></p> <p>E—Oliver, Maury<br/>E—Carter, Grady<br/>T—McCarthy, Wilson<br/>T—Turner, Maury<br/>G—Hest, N. News<br/>C—White, Maury<br/>C—Madigan, Wilson<br/>B—Carroll, Hampton<br/>B—Beger, N. News<br/>B—Flood, Maury<br/>B—Edmonds, Hampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1949</b></p> <p>E—Stowers, Maury<br/>E—Schwartzburg, Wils.<br/>T—Casper, Hampton<br/>T—Casper, Warwick<br/>G—Conatista, Wilson<br/>G—Nowitzky, Grady<br/>C—Elliott, Hampton<br/>B—McCart, Wilson<br/>B—Beger, N. News<br/>B—Boswell, Hampton<br/>B—Grisham, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1950</b></p> <p>E—Gardner, Maury<br/>E—Knight, Hampton<br/>T—Neal, Hampton<br/>T—Mingie, Wilson<br/>G—Warren, Maury<br/>C—Maxson, Norview<br/>C—Martinez, Maury<br/>B—Stadon, Maury<br/>B—Sidwell, Wilson<br/>B—Harrison, Hampton<br/>B—Boswell, Hampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1951</b></p> <p>E—Wiggins, Wilson<br/>E—Pagan, N. News<br/>T—Frank, N. News<br/>T—Mingie, Wilson<br/>G—Boone, Hampton<br/>B—Walt, Grady<br/>C—Hendricks, Hampton<br/>B—Curry, Wilson<br/>B—Harrison, Hampton<br/>B—Sunmerlin, Maury<br/>B—Riggs, Cradock</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1952</b></p> <p>E—Payne, Maury<br/>E—Jones, Norview<br/>T—Goodwyn, Grady<br/>T—Royals, Hampton<br/>G—Bryant, So. Norfolk<br/>G—Wynn, Wilson<br/>C—Armstrong, N. N.<br/>B—Bohan, Norview<br/>B—Bohn, Hampton<br/>B—Jenkins, N. News<br/>B—Riggs, Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1953</b></p> <p>E—Payne, Maury<br/>E—Tilling, Grady<br/>T—Royals, Hampton<br/>T—Floyd, N. News<br/>C—Bryant, So. Norfolk<br/>C—Dell, Hampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1954</b></p> <p>C—Tadmon, Maury<br/>B—Leaf, Grady<br/>B—Ston, Warwick<br/>B—Bakewell, Hampton<br/>B—Wabster, Cradock</p> |
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# THE HONOR TEAMS



THE HONOR TEAMS

Ames, Hopewell

Make All-Group One

All-State Eleven

**ALL GROUP I**  
1954

EASTMAN, HERMITAGE

GOODE, JAYEM

COX, ALEXANDRIA

CALL, TEEJAY

AMES, WILSON

JONES, ALEXANDRIA

MILLNER, DANVILLE

REYNOLDS, JEFFERSON

LANSINGER, TEEJAY

HOPWELL, WILSON

MIHALAS, MAURY

## THE HONOR TEAMS

# All-Group One

### Mihalas Tackle Choice; Carl Opauski Selected As Second Team Guard

RICHMOND, Dec. 18 (AP)—The first five teams in the final season standings today placed eight men on the third annual All-Group 1 scholastic football team of the Associated Press with three of the clubs earning two berths apiece on the All-Star eleven.

Placing two men on the honor team were State Champion Woodrow Wilson of Portsmouth, fourth-place George Washington of Alexandria and fifth-place Thomas Jefferson of Richmond.

The entire 11-man squad consisted of players from teams that ranked among the state's top 10 with the Central District earning four berths to three for the Eastern District and two each for the Western and Northern.

Here is the 1954 All-Group I team:

Ends—Lynn Hopewell, Woodrow Wilson, and Jack Reynolds, Jefferson Senior of Roanoke.

Tackles—Don Goode, John Marshall of Richmond, and Nick Mihalas, Maury of Norfolk.

Guards—Frank Call, Thomas Jefferson, and Dan Jones, GW of Alexandria.

Center—John Cox, GW of Alexandria.

Backs—Frank Eastman, Hermitage of Richmond; David Ames, Woodrow Wilson; Pryor Millner, George Washington of Danville; and Tom Lansinger, Thomas Jefferson.

The All-Star backfield consists of two of the State's top runners and two of the leading passers, who also could run when they had to.

Ames, often described as a "one-man team" at Wilson, was the big reason for the Presidents' State title, scoring 117 points on 19 touchdowns and three conversions—the top Group I scoring total of 1954.

The 165-pound senior had seven touchdown runs of more than 40 yards in length—96, 83, 82, 70, 53, 48 and 43. He was a threat either on break-away offensive plays or returning punts and kickoffs. He also was a top pass receiver and a fine defensive back.

The only junior on the first team, Eastman was rated by his coach, Chester Pritz, as the State's top schoolboy passer. In leading Hermitage to second place in the Group I standings, Eastman completed nearly 60 per cent of his aerials for nearly 700 yards. He added another 300 yards running the "keep" play as a quarterback. The Hermitage ace directly accounted for 18 touchdowns—nine score himself and nine more for which he passed.

Millner, also a quarterback, accounted for 145 touchdowns—nine by rushing and six for which he passed. The GW ace, whose team was third in the State race, picked up 342 yards on 32 completions in 74 attempts. He also was a runner, picking up 340 yards on 32 completions in 74 attempts. He also was a runner, picking up 340 yards in 85 rushes.

A bruising 190-pounder, Lansinger was the man on whom Teejay called for that extra yard or two. The Jeff fullback gained nearly 400 yards and averaged about five yards per carry. He also was an accomplished defensive back, running one fumble 84 yards for a touchdown and setting up another six-pointer with a fumble recovery, and a top pass receiver.

Anchored by top pass receivers in Reynolds and Hopewell, who also were better than average on defense, the line averages 192 pounds per man and includes the only repeater from last year's 22-man All-Group I team in call, Teejay's 200-pound guard.

#### Hopewell Easy Choice

Only one other member of last year's All-Star team was back in action this season, but Jerry Lawter—a guard shifted to tackle this year at GW of Alexandria—was overshadowed even on his own team by Jones and Cox, a couple of the top linemen in the Northern district.

Hopewell, Goode and Call were overwhelming choices in the line, but there was a battle royal for the other spots in the line, picked by State sports writers from the list of All-District players who had been chosen by the State's group I coaches.

Reynolds won the second end spot only after spirited competition by Jack Gravins of Teejay and Ray Perrin of Hermitage; Mihalas was a slim pick at tackle over Bobby Sizer of GW of Danville and Dick Rinker of GW of Alexandria; Jones barely beat out Carol Jamison of Jefferson senior at guard; and Cox was pushed hard at center by Richard Holt of Newport News.

There was even more of a battle in the backfield after Ames and Lansinger with Eastman and Millner taking the last two spots over Warwick's Red Irby and Pete Smith, Jefferson senior's Don McPeak, Andrew Lewis of Salem's Kenny Morton and Hopewell's Ellsworth Shannon.

The second team has Gravins and Perrin at end, Sizer and Rinker at tackle, Jamison and Carl Opauski of Woodrow Wilson at guard, Holt at center, and Irby, Smith, Norton and McPeak in the backfield. Three of the second team are juniors—Perrin, Sizer and Norton. The rest are seniors.

### All-Group One Squads

Pos.	Player	Team	Class	Age	Ht.	Wt.
END	Lynn Hopewell	Wilson	Senior	16	5-11	175
TACKLE	Don Goode	John Marshall	Senior	18	6-1	210
GUARD	Frank Call	Thomas Jefferson	Senior	17	5-11	200
CENTER	John Cox	GW (Alexandria)	Senior	17	6-1	192
GUARD	Dan Jones	GW (Alexandria)	Senior	17	6-0	185
TACKLE	Nick Mihalas	Maury	Senior	17	6-0	195
END	Jack Reynolds	Jefferson	Senior	18	6-1	185
BACK	Frank Eastman	Hermitage		16	6-0	165
BACK	David Ames	Wilson	Senior	17	5-10	185
BACK	Pryor Millner	GW (Danville)	Senior	17	6-1	190
BACK	Tom Lansinger	T. Jefferson	Senior	17	6-0	190
<b>SECOND TEAM</b>						
END	Jack Gravins	Thomas Jefferson	Senior	17	6-0	180
TACKLE	Bobby Sizer	GW (Danville)		16	5-11	285
GUARD	Carol Jamison	Jefferson		18	5-11	215
CENTER	Richard Holt	Newport News	Senior	17	6-1	195
GUARD	Carl Opauski	Wilson	Senior	16	5-11	180
TACKLE	Dick Rinker	GW (Alexandria)	Sr.	18	6-0	195
END	Ray Perrin	Hermitage	Junior	16	6-0	165
BACK	Ken Norton	Andrew Lewis	Junior	16	6-0	165
BACK	Don McPeak	Jefferson Senior	Senior	18	5-10	185
BACK	David (Red) Irby	Warwick	Senior	17	6-0	175
BACK	Pete Smith	Warwick	Senior	17	6-0	155

#### HONORABLE MENTION

Ends—Glenn Parr, Andrew Lewis, Bob McPherson, Mt. Vernon; Joe Schaffer, Fairfax; Allen Whittier, Norview.

Tackles—Milan Christley, Andrew Lewis; Stuart Jones, Hermitage; Lowell (Shady) Chapell, Oscar Smith; Jerry Lawter, GW (Alexandria).

Guards—Tommy Giles, Hermitage; Charles Buck, GW (Danville); Jimmy McShane, Newport News; Paul Cundiff, Washington-Lee.

Centers—Ken Carton, Jefferson Senior; Fred Swearingen, Petersburg.

Backs—Ellsworth Shannon, Hopewell; Gary Disharoon, Oscar Smith; Larry Brooks, GW (Danville); Ralph Zehring, Mt. Vernon; John (Swinky) Bernhard, GW (Alexandria); John Meroney, Washington-Lee; Wayne Jennings, Lane; Art Zberdt, Washington-Lee.

#### On Second Team



CARL OPAUSKI

*Hopewell  
Runner-Up  
In Voting*

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## e For All-Group One Captain

State's Outstanding High School Player Poses With Squad



### Hopewell Runner-Up In Voting

By MARSHALL JOHNSON

RICHMOND — Even before the 1954 scholastic football season opened, Coach Pete Sachon, of Woodrow Wilson of Portsmouth, had this to say of his ace halfback, David Ames:

"He'll make the Portsmouth fans forget the old-timers."

Ames may or may not have made Portsmouth fans forget their former heroes as he led the Presidents to the State Group I championship and wound up the Group I scoring leader with 117 points, seven of his touchdowns coming on runs of longer than 40 yards.

The 165-pound Wilson senior certainly made his impression on Virginia sports writers, who today named him captain of the 1954 All-Group I team of the Associated Press.

#### All But Two Ballots

Ames was named on all but two ballots, easily outdistancing three linemen who were runners-up in the all-star voting — Lynn Hopewell, Woodrow Wilson end; Don Goode, John Marshall of Richmond tackle, and Frank Call, Thomas Jefferson of Richmond guard and only repeater from the 1953 honor team.

The 1954 All-Group I team:  
Ends — Hopewell and Jack Reynolds, Jefferson Senior of

Wilson's David Ames, named captain of the State Group One football team, looks at the Sports Club's picture of the Presidents' state championship football squad. Ames and end Lynn Hopewell were also named to the All-Southern high school team Saturday. Insert—Hopewell, a runner-up to Ames in the All-Group One balloting.—(Staff Photo, Johnson)

# THE HONOR TEAMS

## One Junior, Eastman, on First Team

By Marshall Johnson

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**Guards**—Frank Call, Thomas Jefferson, and Dan Jones, G W of Alexandria.

**Center** — John Cox, GW of Alexandria.

**Backs** — Frank Eastman, Hermitage of Richmond; David Ames, Woodrow Wilson; Pryor Milner, George Washington of Danville; and Tom Lansing, Thomas Jefferson.

The All-Star backfield consists of two of the State's top runners and two of the leading passers, who also could run when they had to.

### Ames Top Scorer

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A bruising 190-pounder, Lansing was the man on whom Teejay called for that extra yard or two. The Jeff fullback gained nearly 400 yards and averaged about five yards per carry. He also was an accomplished defensive back, running one fumble 84 yards for a touchdown and setting up another six-pointer with a fumble recovery, and a top pass receiver.

Anchored by top pass receivers in Reynolds and Hopewell, who also were better than average on defense, the line averages 182 pounds per man and includes the only repeater from last year's 22-man All Group I team in Call, Teejay's 200-pound guard.

Only one other member of last year's All-Star team was back in action this season, but Jerry Lawter—a guard shifted to tackle this year at GW of Alexandria—was overshadowed even on his own team by Jones and Cox, a couple of the top linemen in the Northern District.

### Hopewell Easy Winner

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Reynolds won the second end spot only after spirited competition by Jack Gravins of Teejay and Ray Perrin of Hermitage! Mihalas was a slim pick at tackle over Bobby Sizer of GW of Danville and Dick Rinker of GW of Alexandria; Jones Barley beat out Carol Jamison of Jefferson senior at guard; and Cox was pushed hard at center by Richard Holt of Newport News.

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## THE HONOR TEAMS

# All-Southern

## Ames, Hopewell

### Ames, Hopewell Of Wilson, on All-Southern

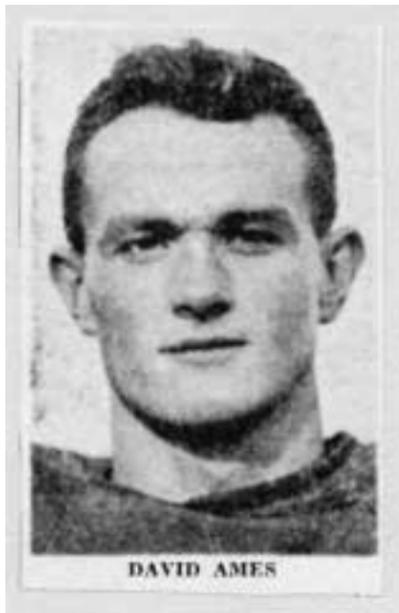
Orlando, Fla., Dec. 18 (AP)—Thirty-five backs and 25 linemen comprised the 60 players named today to positions on the 35th annual All-Southern football squad, Dixie's top interscholastic prep gridiron honor.

The 60-man All-Southern squad, plus 72 honorable mention players, were drawn from a 12-state area on the basis of five players from each state. A panel of 132 coaches and sportswriters participated in the 1954 polls, with 10 scouts assisting each state chairman in the selections.

First named players on each squad were named the state's outstanding players.

Virginia—David Ames, 165, back, Portsmouth, Woodrow Wilson; Lynn Hopewell, 175, end, Portsmouth, Woodrow Wilson; Don Goode, 210, tackle, Richmond, John Marshall; Frank Call, 200, guard, Richmond, Thomas Jefferson; Tom Lansinger, 190, back, Richmond, Thomas Jefferson.

Honorable mention: Pryor Miller, back, Danville, George Washington; Frank Eastman, back, Richmond, Hermitage; John Cox, center, Alexandria, George Washington; Dan Jones, guard, Alexandria, George Washington; Nick Mihals, tackle, Norfolk, Maury; Jack Reynolds, end, Roanoke, Jefferson senior.



DAVID AMES



Lynn Hopewell

### David Ames, Lynn Hopewell All-Southern

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 18 (AP)—Thirty-five backs and 25 linemen comprised the 60 players named today to positions on the 35th annual All-Southern football squad, Dixie's top interscholastic prep gridiron honor.

Sixty players were on the annual All-Southern football squad, plus 72 honorable mention players, were drawn from a 12-state area on the basis of five players from each state. A panel of 132 coaches and sports writers participated in the 1954 polls, with 10 scouts assisting each state chairman in the selections.

The squad was announced by Bob Howard, sports editor of the sponsoring Orlando Sentinel and general chairman of the All-Southern Selection Board.

Five schools managed to place two men each on the All-Southern team. They included Woodrow Wilson of Portsmouth, and Thomas Jefferson of Richmond.

State chairmen included Lillard M. Allor, sports writer, Richmond Times-Dispatch for Virginia. First named players on each squad were named the state's outstanding players.

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In 1954, the Woodrow Wilson Presidents braved their way through ten grueling games without losing one of them. This is the story of the players, the coaches, and many others who helped the team to achieve that victory, told through a complete collection of newspaper clippings, commentaries, game programs, and other primary sources.

This pre-publication release captures a glimpse of the complete record of the 1954 football season. The final version will contain every game, as well as pre- and post-season sections, and commentaries from players and others who witnessed that golden season. Relive it through these pages — everyone is cheering...

