

CHALK IT UP TO EXPERIENCE

quarterback and backfield defense intact

Despite the loss of 18 starters from CMA's 3-6 team of last year, hopes for the new Spartan season were high. A strong defensive line and new offense were to be the keys for varsity success. CMA opened its season against Bethune. The Wildcats scored early on a long pass and never looked back. Three Spartan starters left the game with injuries in the first quarter as Bethune won 25-0. After being blasted 50-0 by eventual upper state champion Hammond Academy, the Spartans made some changes. They switched from the "run 'n shoot" offense to the veer and started using a 4-4 defense. But the veer never got moving and Wilson Hall overpowered the young defense, 36-0.

After facing two state champion teams, Wilson Hall and Hammond, CMA met Hilton Head Prep. Strengthened by the return of several starters, the Spartans scored early in each half and held the Seahawks from scoring countless times. The final score stood CMA 12 — Hilton Head 3. Danny Hemingway excelled in this game, scoring both TD's. Ben Wright caught two long passes to set up both scores.

The Spartans next faced two North Carolina non-conference teams. Plagued by turnovers, inexperience, and bad luck, CMA fell to both Christ School 32-6 and to Asheville School 31-6. Both Danny Hemingway and Charlie Robinson excelled in these games.

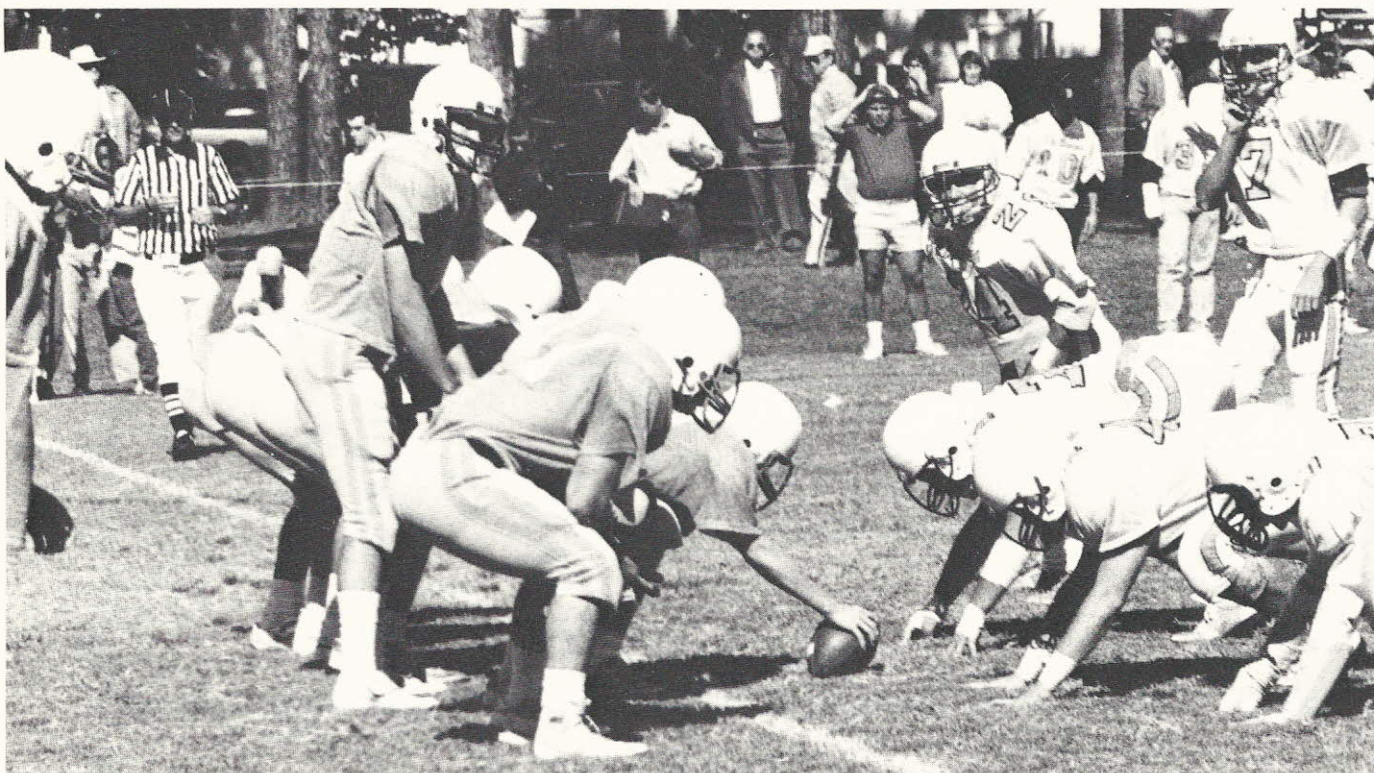
CMA faced archrival Thomas Sumter in their next game. Early in the week the varsity lost their quarterback, Hemingway, for the game. A starter at defensive end last year, Les Brown was persuaded to help CMA for one game, but nothing went the Spartan's way. Murphy's Law prevailed. On an electrifying kickoff return by Brown, the last TS man managed to knock the ball loose, setting up a Thomas Sumter TD. CMA lost 40-0.

Conference foe Heathwood Hall, deadlocked in the first quarter, exploded for 19 points in the second, to beat the Spartans 33-0. In the final game of the season, CMA faced Clio in a fight-marred contest. After scoring a touchdown late in the second quarter, Clio led 6-0 at the half. Midway through the third quarter, a Clio defensive end sacked Hemingway, causing a fumble which set up a Clio score. With Hemingway on his way to the hospital, all-purpose two-way starter Mitch Porter took over at quarterback. His first pass was good to Robinson for 60 yards. Four plays later Porter scored and the Spartans were back in the game. A kickoff return for a touchdown widened the gap, but CMA never gave up. Perry returned the last kickoff 40 yards, then seconds later ran another 30 yards on a trick play. The final score was Clio 22 — CMA 6.

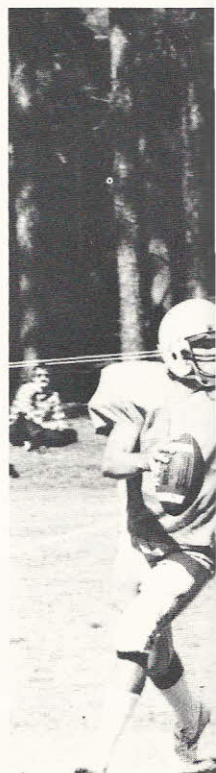
With a final record of 1-8, the Spartans can chalk this past year up to experience. Bright spots for CMA were at quarterback and defensive backfield, both of which will be intact next year. Thirteen players with starting experience return next year.

SCOREBOARD

CMA 0	Bethune	25
CMA 0	Hammond Academy	50
CMA 0	Wilson Hall	36
CMA 12	Hilton Head Prep	3
CMA 6	Christ School	32
CMA 6	Asheville School	31
CMA 0	Thomas Sumter	40
CMA 0	Heathwood Hall	33
CMA 6	Clio	22



Todd Corley prepares to snap the ball to Danny Hemingway, quarterback, during Wilson Hall contest.



Danny Hemingway running with the ball.