

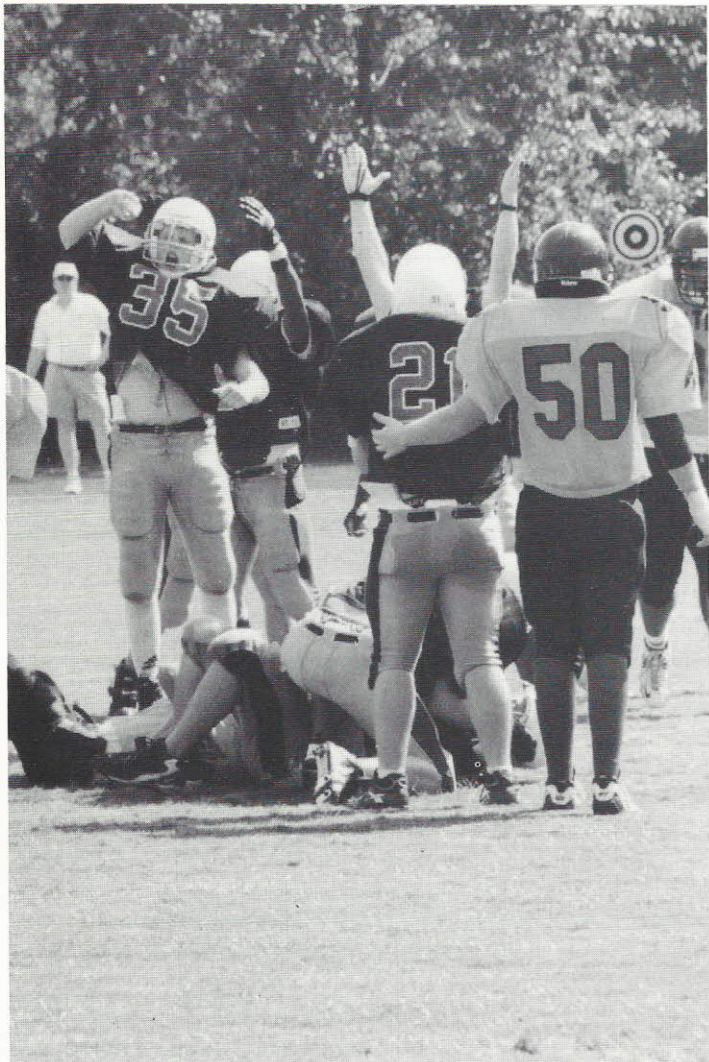
Varsity Football

Coach Eric Boland ended the 1999 season very pleased with the Spartan football team: "It's been a rewarding season, making the play-offs and finishing as conference champions. The players worked hard for those achievements and have enabled us to start the new millennium on top of the conference. This is one of the two best CMA football teams in the last ten years." Experience at most positions and overall athleticism powered the Spartans this year. An early season victory over 3-A Garrett Academy of Charleston gave the team impetus, and although the final game of the season ended in a loss, the Spartans showed their strength with senior Matt Thompson rushing for over 150 yards against perennial power Charlotte Latin in the state play-offs. Quarterback Anthony Lilla and MIP Darshan LaBorde reflect the talent of returning players who will bolster Spartan fortunes next year.

Award winners were Matt Thompson, Most Valuable Player; Jimmy Welch, Most Valuable Offensive Lineman; Jason Gethers, Most Valuable Defensive Back; John Reeves, Coach's Award; and Darshan Laborde, Most Improved Player. All-Conference players were Matt Thompson, Alonzo Bethea, Jimmy Welch, and Jason Gethers. Taking All-State honors were running back Matt Thompson (top vote getter), defensive end Alonzo Bethea, and punter Bron Rathert.



Quarterback Anthony Lilla hands off to fullback Tim Ross, a major ground gainer for the Spartans this season. Tim will be a team leader next year.



Touchdown! Foster Sessions celebrates as the referee raises his arms to indicate that the plain has been broken.



Two ends in action: Alonzo Bethea (87) and Bron Rathert (6) were strong performers for the Spartans in 1999, and both are college prospects. Alonzo was invited to the University of South Carolina for a try-out.