

A great start

Rogers leads Falcons' passing attack in convincing win over rival Caldwell

By Jordan Rodriguez
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Memo to the 5A Southern Idaho Conference: The Vallivue Falcons have a passing game.

Known lately for its physical rushing attack, Vallivue took to the air early and often Friday night in a convincing 40-13 road victory over cross-town rival Caldwell.

Senior quarterback Jamari Rogers debuted with 254 passing yards and four touchdowns — including three to senior wideout Parker Garner — as the Falcons grabbed an early lead and rolled to victory.

"I had confidence in Jamari before," said Garner, who racked up 142 receiving yards and scored on all three of his catches. "After what he did tonight, I have all the confidence in the world in him."

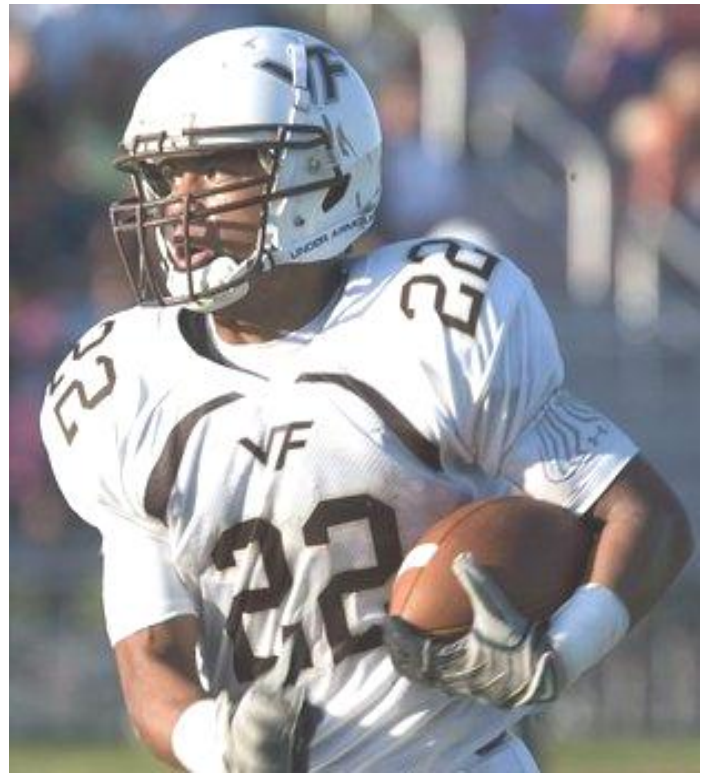
Vallivue led 5A SIC in rushing last season, but with star tailback Mike Burk sidelined, Falcons coach Layne Coffin dialed up the deep ball. Rogers hit Garner with a 30-yard strike to open the scoring and then found Taylor Pederson for a 39-yard TD, giving the Falcons a 14-0 lead they would never relinquish.

"I was happy with our passing game," Coffin said. "Caldwell played a lot of man-to-man coverage and we were able to take advantage."

Caldwell had first-and-goal at the 9 late in the first quarter, but the Vallivue defense held. The next Cougars possession resulted in a punt, which Lane Sale blocked, scooped up and returned 42 yards for a touchdown.

"That was a big play," Coffin said. "Caldwell

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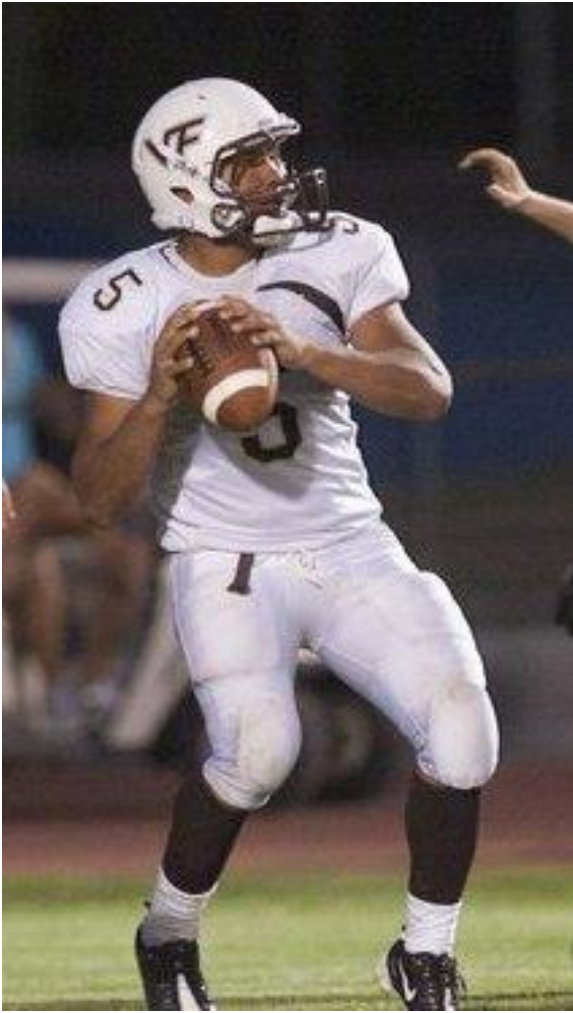
"Never stop running and never go down. That's what our coaches teach and that's what I tried to do."

- Parker Garner

TOP: Sean Davis finds running room en route to a 113-yard effort in Vallivue's opening game.

BOTTOM: Freshman QB Layne LaFollette earned playing time in the second half.

VALLIVUE FOOTBALL: Falcons 40, Caldwell 13



TOP LEFT: QB Jamari Rogers threw for 259 yards in his first start at Vallivue.



TOP RIGHT: Dallen Collins (left) and Eric Ford take down a Caldwell ball carrier.



LOWER RIGHT: Cameron Penney makes a stop.

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was gaining confidence in their scheme, but any time you block a punt, it's a big momentum shift."

A nifty 32-yard TD run by Caldwell tailback Jacob Torres cut the halftime deficit to 22-7, but the Falcons quashed any comeback hopes early in the third quarter. Garner took a short pass from Rogers 39 yards for a TD, then struck again moments later with a 75-yard, tackle-breaking romp to the end zone.

"Never stop running and never go down," Garner said. "That's what our coaches teach and that's what I tried to do."

Sean Davis added 118 rushing yards for Vallivue, including a 58-yard TD. Torres rushed for 139 yards and Laren Walker added 106 for Caldwell, which ran the ball well but completed only two passes for 25 yards.

Burk dressed but did not play. He rushed for 1,764 yards last season before injuring his knee in a playoff loss to Capital.

GAME SUMMARY

Vallivue	14	8	12	6	- 40
Caldwell	0	7	0	6	- 13

- V – Parker Garner 30 pass from Jamari Rogers (run failed)
- V – Val Pedersen 39 pass from Rogers (Sean Davis run)
- V – Lane Sale 54 blocked punt return (run failed)
- C – Jacob Torres 32 run (Torres kick)
- V – Garner 37 pass from Rogers (run failed)
- V – Garner 75 pass from Rogers (run failed)
- C – Josh Lopez 1 run (kick failed)
- V – Davis 58 run (run failed)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING – Davis 10-113, Ringo Robinson 4-59, Rogers 5-(-1), Lane LaFollette 2-16, Nik Monnier 1-2. Caldwell – Torres 17-129, Laren Walker 13-104, Casey Cluff 8-21, Shay Skogrand 4-18, Lopez 4-7, Brett Jackson 2-(-15).

PASSING: Vallivue – Rogers 6-11-0-259 yards, LaFollette 0-1-0-0 yards. Caldwell – Lopez 2-4-0-33 yards, Jackson 0-9-1-0 yards.

RECEIVING: Taylor Pedersen 3-93, Garner 2-110, Micheal Nesslage 1-56. Caldwell – Skogrand 1-26, Torres 1-7.