

## Johnson back at fullback going gets tough for 'Horse'

By GREGORY CLAY  
Sports Writer

It seems fitting that a man called "horse" would come from a country town and live on a farm. On his farm (in Buckingham, Virginia), he has ducks, chickens, pigs, but ironically no horses. Billy Johnson wears a Carolina Blue jersey with number 36, showing not his amount of horsepower but just a randomly chosen number.

"The nickname came from high school because I was so big," Johnson said. But his enormous size doesn't mean a thing

only son to play ball. "We get along fine and I like a big family," said Johnson.

Johnson chose Carolina because he fell in love with the campus. "This place wasn't so close or too far away from home. Also "this coach" wanted to talk to me and "that one" so I just signed a grant-in-aid to get them off my back."

The pre-season *Playboy* football preview picked Carolina to have a 7-4 season and to be third in the conference behind Maryland and N.C. State. "I hope we prove them wrong. Our biggest problem is the inexperience on offense. Everybody's taking their turn in making mistakes.

### 'I'd rather play football than study.'

when it comes to speed because Johnson runs a 4.7 40-yard dash, which is impressive for a man 6'1½" and 245 pounds.

Earlier in the season the "horse" was tried at tailback to fill the void of the departed Mike Voight. But the switch didn't last long because of its ineffectiveness and the rapid progression of "Famous" Amos Lawrence.

"The rest of the tailbacks are faster than me and are coming around. I can play either position, but the biggest difference is that the fullback blocks and the tailback doesn't. It doesn't matter as long as I'm helping the team out," he said.

Johnson is tentatively a physical education major and ultimately wants to be a coach one day. He is a hunter and a fisherman in his spare time which naturally fit the mold of farm life. He is just one out of nine children and was the

Some guys on the offensive line are new and are trying to get their confidence. Once they get their confidence, they are gonna be hell," he said.

To on-lookers, being a football player is a glamorous life. But the reality of the situation includes the many hours of hard and sweaty work that are required. The "Horse" explained, "We practice every single day and watch films and lift weights from 3:45 to 6:30. It's hard, so whenever I have free time, I've got to study."

So college is not all play ball and forget studying for athletes, or is it? Johnson elaborated, "I'd rather play ball, than study. My primary goals are to play ball and study. I'm an athlete-student here. I work in my classes real hard and I study enough to get my grades. I don't want to be heartbroken if I can't play pro ball. I want something to fall back on."



Billy Johnson: Still trying to win back the number one fullback job. Staff photo by James Parker.

## The leading Heisman candidates — and the winner is . . .

By ROSALYN TAYLOR  
Sports Writer

The Heisman Trophy is annually awarded to the nation's outstanding college football player.

Since 1935, no small college player has won the Heisman. In the past 42 years three regional players (from Louisiana State, Florida, and Auburn) have received the Trophy. All winners were either quarterbacks or running backs; the exceptions were three wide receivers. Never has a Black quarterback won the Heisman. Recent Black winners are:

1965 Mike Garrett	U.S.C. running back
1968 O. J. Simpson	U.S.C. running back
1972 Johnny Rogers	Nebraska wide receiver, kick returner
1974 Archie Griffin	Ohio State running back
1975 Archie Griffin	Ohio State running back
1976 Tony Dorsett	Pittsburgh running back

Today, the average Heisman winner—(1) is a member of the NCAA, (2) is from a North or Western bigtime football school, (3) is either a quarterback or running back, (4) is extremely talented and productive and (5) is a player on a winning ball club.

UNC has not produced a Heisman Trophy winner.

Today the four leading contenders for the Heisman trophy, the most prized individual trophy in college football, are Terry Miller of Oklahoma State, I.M. Hipp of Nebraska, Earl Campbell of Texas, and Doug Williams of Grambling, according to "The NFL Today." Mike Dunn of Duke and Jack Thompson of Washington State are long shots.

Senior Terry Miller, a six-foot 196 pound half-back placed fourth last year in the Heisman balloting. This year he is the nation's leading rusher. He's rushed for 100 yards in 15 straight games, and has two 200-yard efforts. Last year Miller had 173 yards and 4 touchdowns in the Tangerine Bowl. Miller's season total of 1,043 yards and career total of 4,117 yards include 23 TD's. Miller is the first runner in the Big Eight to gain 1,000 yards in two consecutive years.

Isaiah Moses Hipp, sometimes known as "Hoppity," was not recruited by any university. A few colleges did show interest until he injured his shoulder during his senior year. Hipp wrote to Nebraska and was asked to come out as a walk-on.

Today I. M. Hipp is the fifth leading rusher in the nation averaging 7.8 yards in 101 carries. For five weeks in a row, "Hoppity" Hipp has rushed for 100 yards. Against Colorado Hipp gained 171 yards in 31 carries for two touchdowns. Hipp also had two 200-plus games back to back, mostly by logging 82 and 66 yard TD runs against Kansas State. As strong as he is swift, Hipp has leg-lifted 915 pounds a Nebraska record. According to *Sports Illustrated*, "Hoppity Hipp's on a Heisman trip."

Tailback Earl Campbell is 220 pounds of speed and strength. Last year he rushed for over 1000 yards. Campbell rushed for 213 yards in 32 carries against S.M.U.

Doug Williams, quarterback for predominantly Black Grambling may be the first small-college player to receive the Heisman. At 6'4" and 214 pounds, Williams can run the 40 yard dash in 4.8 seconds. According to *Sports Illustrated* Williams has a "3 (rating) arm, a great prospect for NFL scouts." Williams leads the Tiger offense to an average of 474.1 yards per game. He threw for 1,859 yards and 21 TD's in 6 games; one-third of his TD throws are for 47 yards, or more and in 35 games Williams has 76 TD's and 7,000 yards.

Longshots Mike Dunn and Jackie Thompson are both quarterbacks. Dunn has led Duke to 1,835 yards total offense, 1,078 passing, and 757 running. Thompson's 20 TD passes set a Pac Eight record. He has 208 passes with a 58.6 percent completion average. Playing 30 of 40 quarters for Washington State, Thompson threw for 2,762 yards last year. He may be the first quarterback to pass for 8,000 yards, says *Sports Illustrated*.



Ricky Barden: Because he plays defense, Barden will never win the Heisman. Staff photo by James Parker.