



FSU Fullback James Godwin Scores in Sequence Above.

FSU'S GODWIN NEARS 1000-YARD PLATEAU

by John B. Henderson

For a fellow who just started to learn the game of football about five years ago, James Godwin could fool a lot of football fans.

The modest 6-2, 210 pound speedster from Fayetteville, North Carolina, never played the game until the eleventh grade at Cape Fear High School.

"We just started varsity football at my high school when I entered the eleventh grade. It was a brand new school and it consolidated a lot of former schools in the county," explained Godwin.

Head coach at Fayetteville State University, Ray McDougal, says that Godwin is a pro prospect and a shoo-in for All-CIAA honors.

"Godwin has power on the inside and the outside and he blocks very well for his fellow backs. I find that he is very coachable; he possesses speed (9.5 track sprinter) and is very durable with lots of stamina. He has not missed a game this year because of injuries," McDougal said. Godwin is completing his third year of football at FSU and frankly feels that he is still "learning" the game.

"I feel that last year when I gained 630 yards, I got more confidence as the season progressed. This year I've already passed that rushing mark and my goal is 100 yards or more," said the senior Business Administration major.

The 22 year-old football and track star, (lettered in both fields) is quite philosophical about his future although he is leading the

CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) conference in rushing and total points scored. He scored seven touchdowns with 826 yards and 54 points with two contests remaining.

No doubt Godwin has been the shining light in a somewhat lack-luster season

for the Broncos this year.

"I'll finish up my studies in summer school and get my degree," he said, "you know it really doesn't bother me as much as it does some people when you don't finish in four years."

"I know that I run track (relay and broad jump) in the spring and play football in the fall so I try not to take too many classes. (He was voted the best all-around athlete last year at FSU.) I try to be dedicated to my scholastic and athletic work as well. So a few of my friends might finish before I do, that doesn't matter to me just as long as I get my degree, too," he smiled. "My goal this season is to reach and surpass 1000 yards. I feel that I can do it with the offensive line that we have. They have really been great opening up those holes for me. They deserve a lot of credit for my yardage this year," Godwin said. students, and staff and faculty at Fayetteville State University.

In fact, Godwin will say "yes sir" with the most sincere expression to a twelve year old. That's the kind of gentleman he is.

He knows where he is

going and FSU is happy to have a part of his scholastic and athletic growth.

Does he want to play pro ball? "Naturally I want an opportunity to play professional football," he stated, "but remember I've got other alternatives, too. I'd like to go into some area of management or pursue a master's degree in business administration perhaps if things don't pan out."

Indeed, nowadays things are rather uncertain in big league football. But one thing for certain, there are few runners in college with the speed and ability which Godwin possesses having started "learning" the game four years ago. "I try to break tackles in the open field and quickly establish a track stride of running because this is the only way to get speed."

"Another thing that I never think about what I'm going to do exactly (performance-wise) before a game. I try to relax my mind and conserve my energy. In other words, I use a quiet style of getting psyched-up for a game. I don't like to be questioned too much before a contest. I just want to relax."

"I think it's best to show what I can do on the field instead of talking about it and wearing myself out hollering and talking before a game," he said.

Despite all of his credentials, gentleman James Godwin doesn't rub himself onto others. His manner of personality off the field is that of a gentle lamb instead of a roaring lion. He is very gracious, thoughtful, and well-liked by his teammates, fellow



FIRST FSU ALL-AMERICAN -- Fayetteville State University (N.C.) fullback James Godwin gets kissed by two lovely FSU cheerleaders as he strolled on campus recently. Godwin, an All-American in track and field and holder of several records in the broad jump and short distance sprints, is presently leading the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) conference in rushing (921 yards) and points scored (54). He is a shoo-in for All-CIAA honors for 1974 and All-America.

(FSU Photo by John Henderson)

BRONCO GRIDDERS CLOSE OUT '74 SEASON AT CHARLOTTE

The Fayetteville State University football team closed out its 1974 season at Johnson C. Smith University.

Going into the game the team had a 2-5 CIAA mark and stood 4-6 overall. This will mark the first time a Ray McDougal coached team will have fallen below .500 mark in winning percentages.

Next year the Broncos will have a good nucleus of

veterans returning and experienced first year men.

The Broncos dropped four games in a row this season starting with the loss to Winston-Salem State.

They dropped contests to Livingstone College, Elizabeth City State University (Homecoming), and Virginia Union University.

Wait til next year!!

15 BRONCO SENIOR GRIDDERS PLAYED LAST HOME GAME NOV. 2

Fifteen Fayetteville State football seniors played their last home game before a homecoming throng Saturday, November 2 against Elizabeth City State University.

Coach Ray McDougal will lose approximately seven starters from this aggregation of seniors. Leading the list of seniors playing their last home contest are two All-Conference and pro prospects. They are running back James Godwin and lineman Sylvester Ritter.

Godwin, a 9.5 sprinter, is

the team's leading individual rusher while Ritter has been an anchor and is the offensive line at guard and tackle. The pros are looking hard at Godwin who resently leads the CIAA in scoring and is second in the league in rushing with three games to go. The swift 6-2, 210 pound back is first in scoring with seven TDs and 42 points. He has amassed 686 yards and averages 98 yards a contest with a 6.1 per carry output.

The remaining seniors playing their last home game are split end, Charles Perry; defensive back, David Neely;

lineman Milton Worthington; quarterback Jerome McDowell; back Glen McKoy; linebacker Arnold Johnson; lineman Sam Bell; center Morris Godwin; back Cornelius Young; punter John Mitchell; placekicker and tightend, Johnny Highsmith; tightend James Glasson; and lineman John Young.

After homecoming with Elizabeth City, the Broncos hit the road for the final two games of the season at Virginia Union, November 9, and Johnson C. Smith University, November 16.