

— 2018 —

# Forsyth-Monroe County Sports Hall of Fame

## *Sonny Marsh*



Sonny Marsh was an outstanding runner and all-around athlete for the Mary Persons football team in the 1950s. As a Sophomore in 1953 his first two touchdowns came in MP's 18-0 win over Henry County and at the end of the 1954 season the Mary Persons Touchdown Club named Marsh as the outstanding back for the year. It was 1955 that was the culmination of the brilliance of Marsh as a football player. As Captain of the team along with Franklin Gardner, Marsh led the Bulldogs to a 9-1-0 regular season record losing only to Morgan County, and then played Carrollton for the 3-B Title in which Marsh had 180 yards of all-purpose offense but Carrollton took a 14-6 win and the title, leaving the Bulldogs with a 9-2-0 final record for the season. Marsh was named the outstanding back by the Touchdown Club at the end of the season in which he scored 14 touchdowns and was named the Middle Georgia Player of the Year, First Team Class B All-State, a GHSA 1956 North-South All-Star game participant, and Honorable Mention All-South. For his career, Marsh scored 26 touchdowns, 14 extra points, and 170 points total. During the 1955 season Marsh ran 24 times for a 160 yards in a win against Warner Robins, 110 yards in a win over Fort Valley, had a 96 yard touchdown interception in a win over Jonesboro, ran 133 yards in MP's defeat of Manchester, and had one of the greatest nights in Mary Persons history on November 4, 1955, after which game

Marsh was named the Atlanta Touchdown Club High School Back of the Week, in Mary Persons' 54-0 defeat of Hogansville in Forsyth. In that game Marsh rushed ten times for 199 yards and scored five touchdowns, two extra points, totaling 32 total points, had an interception with a 32-yard return, and had a 51-yard punting average for the game. Marsh still holds MP records for most touchdowns in a game (5 vs Hogansville on November 4, 1955) and most passes intercepted in a game (3 vs Jonesboro on September 23, 1955). Following his MP career, Sonny attended Gordon College in Barnesville where he was named to the All Junior College team, then joined the U.S. Army, and then returned to Forsyth and served several years as the Chief of Police of Forsyth. Sonny Marsh is considered one of Forsyth's greatest ever football athletes. He now lives in Carrollton, Georgia.

