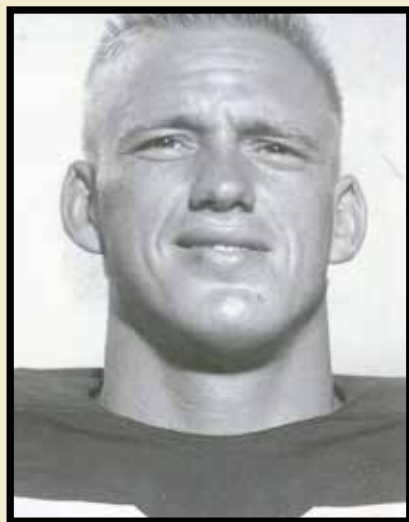


— 2017 —

Forsyth-Monroe County Sports Hall of Fame

Bobby Jackson



Robert Lanier (“Bobby”) Jackson, who wore #28 at Mary Persons High School, was deemed “a little package of dynamite ready to explode” under Coach Bill Meeks at MP at the beginning of the 1956 football season. For the ‘56 season Jackson was named as a Macon Telegraph Middle Georgia Player of the Week for his October 19 game at Mitchell Field against Troup County, won by Mary Persons 26-0, when Jackson scored on 34 yard run in the first quarter, a 4 yard run just before the half, and a 10 yard run in the third quarter and had 14 rushes for 135 yards, and intercepted a pass with a 40 yard return. Jackson led Mary Persons under Coach Harold Garrett in the 1957 season and led the team in scoring (7-2-1 record, ranked 9th in Class B). Bobby Jackson went on to play college football at South Georgia College and then to Howard College in Birmingham (now Samford University) where he was named a “Little All American”, and had one of his greatest days on November 10, 1961 against Carson-Newman, rushing for 206 yards on 14 carries (with runs of 68 and 81 yards), scored 18 points, and quick-kicked a 50 yard punt. Jackson was honored with “Bobby Jackson Day” in Forsyth in June 1962, and was the Most Valuable Player for Howard in 1960 and 1961. His coaching career began with Bobby Bowden, who had a legendary and long career at West Virginia and Florida State. Jackson coached at Florida State for Bowden and at Kansas State under Vince Gibson and Tennessee for Johnny Majors. And his long coaching career went from Florida State to Kansas State to Tennessee (where he recruited Alvin Toles of Mary Persons) and had an NFL coaching career with the Atlanta Falcons and a number of other professional and college teams.

