

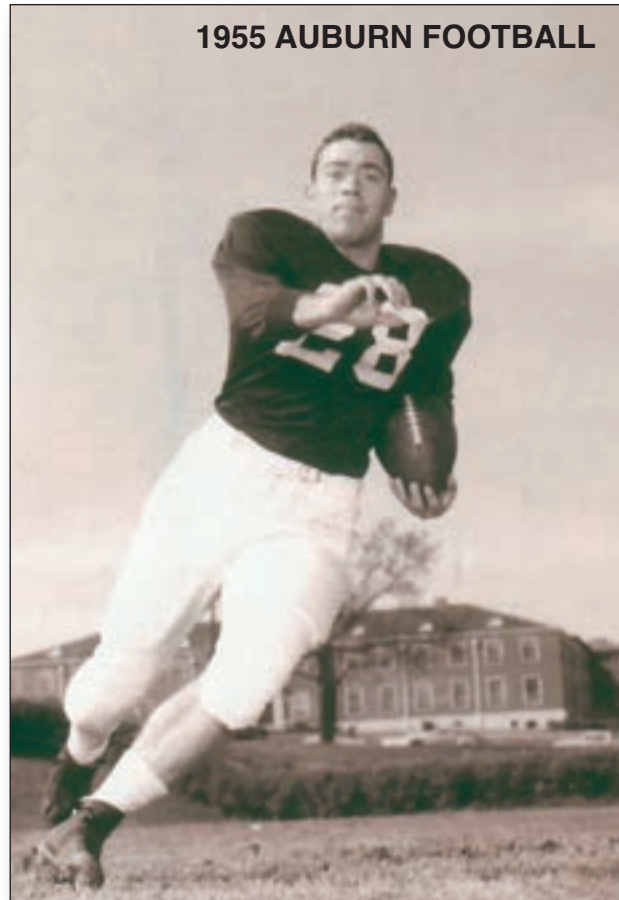
JAMES BYRD (JIMMY) POWELL

DORA NATIVE JIMMY POWELL WAS BORN AUGUST 15, 1934. He

ultimately became a multi-sports star at Dora High and Auburn University and one of Florida's most successful prep coaches.

At Dora, Powell was a two time All-County quarterback and a thrice All-County catcher. He won All-State quarterback honors his senior season and was the first Walker Countian invited to the North-South High School Football game. Twice he participated in the East-West All-Star Baseball event.

At Auburn, he converted to halfback and, ultimately, won a starting position. He caught for four varsity seasons once winning All SEC honors. His football Tigers laid the groundwork for the 1957 National Championship.



After a brief pro baseball effort, military service, and coaching stints at Oakman and Carbon Hill, he became the head football coach at Venice High School and there became a Florida coaching legend. He served as head coach for 28 years and posted a 197-94-4 record.

For almost twenty years, he spent his summers catching for local Walker County baseball teams often playing with his brother Bill. His spouse, the former Wanda Campbell, hails from Carbon Hill and the couple were blessed with two daughters Lisa and Kerri.

In 2003 Jimmy was one of five people in the inaugural class of the Venice Sports Hall of Fame.

Powell passed away March 27, 2010. Very appropriately, his memorial service was held on the Venice High School gridiron that bears his name.