

Emerson “Booz” Boozer



EMERSON BOOZER
NEW YORK JETS

Emerson “Booz” Boozer was inducted into the Hawk Hall of Fame in 1982. Emerson’s collegiate career at Maryland State College (MSC) spanned from 1962 to 1966.

Emerson Boozer was born in Augusta, Georgia on the fourth of July in 1943 and attended Laney high school. He was one of four children and felt fortunate to come from a loving home. His family raised vegetables and Emerson would walk with his father and brother to catch fish in the Savannah River. He was a sharpshooter with marbles before he became a football star.

Emerson was one of four legendary running backs who wore the fabled number 44 for the maroon and gray. Thus,

Emerson was destined to follow in the magical footsteps of Hawk running back legends Sylvester “Swifty” Polk, Johnny “Red Ball” Sample and William “Shorty” Gray.

Emerson was able to live up to those rather lofty expectations by being twice named to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) All-American team in 1964 and 1965. In addition, Emerson amassed an astounding 22 touchdowns in a four-year career and [amassed 2,537 yards on 374 carries for a remarkable 6.78 yards per carrier.]

The New York Jets on the 6th round drafted Emerson in 1965. In his third season as a pro, he played in Super Bowl III and helped the Jets beat the heavily favorite, Baltimore Colts. His best season as a professional was during the 72-73 season when he rushed for 800 yards and scored 13 touchdowns. For ten years, he had a stellar career.

As a pro he was a super back for the New York Jets for 10 years from 1966 to 1975. He was a two time Pro Bowler in 1966 and 1968. He ranked among the leagues top ten in Rushes in 1967 and 1971 in rushing yards in 1966 and 1969 and rushing touchdowns in 1966, 1967 (he led the league) 1968, 1969 and 1972. In combination of rushing and receiving touchdowns he was #1 in 1967 and 1972. He ranks 44 among the leagues all time top 50 in rushing touchdowns. Emerson was an important cog in the 1969 New York Jets championship season.

In 1966, the Pittsburgh Courier named him American Football League Rookie of the Year. Touted by his coach as a solid threat to score from anywhere, he held the record for most kickoff yards in a game until Earl Christy, a fellow Hawk, broke his record. An

intelligent and articulate athlete, Emerson worked with CBS television as an analyst for NFL games. Emerson graduated from MSC in 1966 with a degree in Industrial Arts Education.

His NFL statistics are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u># G</u>	<u>Rec.</u>	<u>Receiving</u>			<u>Att.</u>	<u>Rushing</u>		
				<u>Yards</u>	<u>Y/R</u>	<u>TD</u>		<u>Yards</u>	<u>Y/A</u>	<u>TD</u>
1966	NY Jets	14	8	133	16.63	0	97	455	4.69	5
1967	NY Jets	8	12	205	17.08	3	119	442	3.71	10
1968	NY Jets	12	12	101	8.42	0	143	441	3.08	5
1969	NY Jets	14	20	222	11.10	0	130	604	4.65	4
1970	NY Jets	10	28	258	9.21	0	139	581	4.18	5
1971	NY Jets	14	11	120	10.91	1	188	618	3.29	5
1972	NY Jets	11	11	142	12.91	3	120	549	4.58	11
1973	NY Jets	13	22	130	5.91	3	182	831	4.57	3
1974	NY Jets	13	14	161	11.50	1	153	563	3.68	4
1975	NY Jets	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>2.55</u>	<u>0</u>
	Career Totals	<u>118</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>1,488</u>	<u>10.71</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1,291</u>	<u>5,135</u>	<u>3.98</u>	<u>52</u>