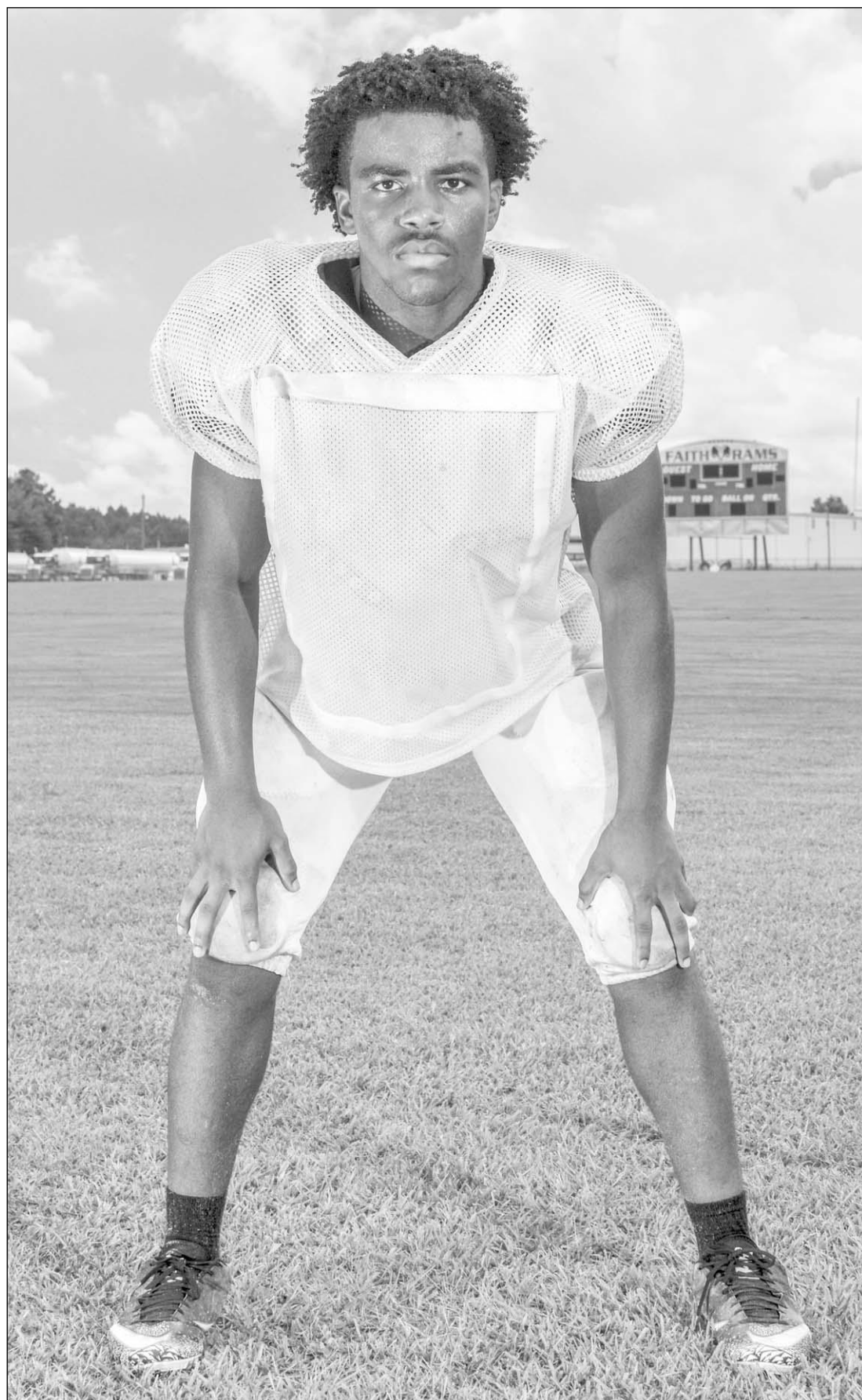


FAITH ACADEMY



Faith Academy running back Tim Cody

Rams' runner Cody looks for even better year

BY MARK R. KENT
mkent@thecallnews.com

MOBILE — Tim Cody is a running back at Faith Academy who has also put some time in as a cornerback with the defensive unit. He's coming off a good season with his numbers that he hopes will end up much better in 2018.

"Last year I had about 600 yards (rushing)," Cody said, adding that the Bayside Academy game early in the season (the Rams won that game) was his best individual game. "I had around 120 yards in that game," Cody said.

In the two years he has been in Faith's backfield, he's visited the end zone a total of nine times. Five of those touchdowns came last season, while four came the year before when he was a sophomore.

He's scored touchdowns running, pass receiving and once on special teams as well.

He said he had a touchdown on a screen play of about 50 yards in the Escambia County victory and during a loss at Citronelle last year he took a kick return to the house in the second half.

He was particularly fond of the touchdown in the Escambia County game because it was a go-ahead score, he said.

But there's one team against which Cody can't wait to show off his skills.

"Definitely Vigor," Cody said. "A year ago, against Jackson, I suffered an AC joint injury and I didn't get to run against Vigor. So they haven't seen me run — well maybe on film.

"I really want to show what I've got against Vigor especially, because they're such tough competition."

Cody, like his teammates, is sold on the team and coaching model that new head coach Jack French has brought to

Faith Academy.

"He's very encouraging and he's very determined to make Faith Academy a better program, from the lower grades to the seniors," Cody said.

To Cody, French's name was familiar even before French signed on to take over the Rams' program.

"I knew some of the Baker players when coach French coached them, so I knew about him then," Cody said.

Cody said it would be important for the team to adjust attitudes in order to discard a past in which French described the team as often "being their own worst enemy."

"I can definitely agree," Cody said. "I remember my freshman year, we were up on a team 28-0 by the half, and because of the lack of keeping pushing and driving them into the ground, we allowed that team to come back on us.

"At that moment I knew we could be a great program, but we would first have to stop hurting ourselves."

Cody said players on the team regularly like to coax athletes from the other Faith programs with bigger winning footprints to come and join them and put on the pads and a helmet.

"Like coach French said, we have baseball players who play football, and a couple basketball players who play football, really just to see if that winning mentality can improve us.

"You've got to be mentally tough inside and out to play this sport."

French said of Cody, "He's a really good running back and we're going to need him to have a good senior year for us to be successful."

**Good Luck Rams.
May you have
a successful
season.**

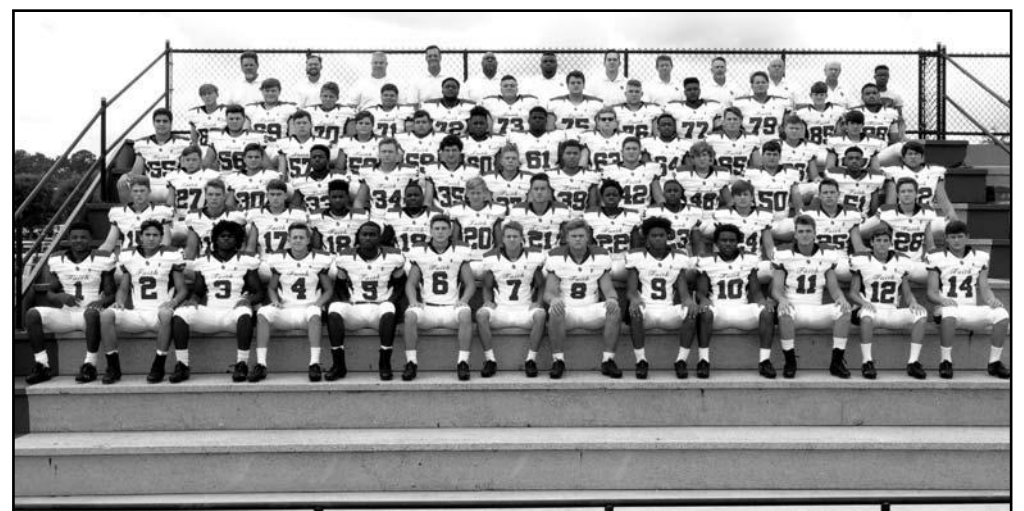
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