



Chip Smith – Liberty's First Football Star

Chip Smith, a 2010 inductee in the Liberty Athletics Hall of Fame, was Liberty's first football standout and one of Liberty's first all-around, all-star athletes. A four-year letterwinner and team captain (1973-76), Smith was the program's first scholarship student-athlete and scored the team's first touchdown against Massanutten Military on Sept. 27, 1973.

Because Liberty did not start playing a full varsity schedule until the 1976 season, several of Smith's notable performances are not officially included in Liberty's record book, as the NCAA does not recognize statistics against junior colleges, junior varsity programs, trade schools and prep school opponents.

Below is a game-by-game listing of Smith's 100-yard performances (15 in total) and adjusted career statistics, if Liberty was allowed to officially recognize all 33 games of Smith's stellar days in a Liberty uniform.

Chip Smith's Career 100-Yard Games

| Carries/Yds. | Opponent | Date |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 26/110 | Ferrum | 10/25/73 |
| 43/156 | Hampden-Sydney | 11/1/73 |
| 24/225 | Hargrave Military | 11/8/73 |
| 19/202 | Washington & Lee | 9/23/74 |
| 34/136 | U.S. Military | 9/30/74 |
| 21/208 | Sheppard | 10/5/74 |
| 37/133 | Hampden-Sydney | 10/12/74 |
| 30/197 | Newport-News | 10/19/74 |
| 19/112 | Massanutten Military | 11/2/74 |
| 13/114 | Gallaudet | 9/20/75 |
| 28/116 | Virginia Tech | 9/26/75 |
| 12/151 | Newport-News Apprentice | 10/11/75 |
| 20/102 | Bowie State | 11/1/75 |
| 30/197 | Newport-News Apprentice | 10/9/76 |
| 12/238 | Ferrum | 11/13/76 |

Adjusted Career Stats

Smith's total career statistics, including ineligible games

Career rushing yards: 3,342

Career rushing attempts: 656

Career rushing touchdowns: 33

Consecutive 100-yard games: 8

Career 100-yard games: 15

Career scoring: 208 points

| Year | Att. | Net | Avg. | TD | Avg./Game |
|----------|------|-------|------|----|-----------|
| 1973 * | 134 | 725 | 5.4 | 9 | 120.8 |
| 1974 | 216 | 1,095 | 5.1 | 9 | 121.7 |
| 1975 | 198 | 759 | 3.8 | 3 | 84.3 |
| 1976 | 108 | 763 | 7.1 | 10 | 76.3 |
| Official | 522 | 2617 | 5.0 | 24 | 93.4 |
| Adjusted | 656 | 3,342 | 5.1 | 33 | 101.3 |

* - Statistics do not count toward game/season and career records, due to NCAA statistic policies.

Last reviewed on 8/1/25