

Gaines Adams Bio

#93 Gaines Adams • DE • *Sr.

2006: Second unanimous All-American in Clemson history, joining Terry Kinard...first-team All-American by Football Writers, **Associated Press**, Football Coaches, Walter Camp Foundation, and **Sporting News**, the five major services...should be a first round draft pick in April of 2007...received his degree from Clemson in December of 2006, so he will join a small group of college football players who were first-team All-American, college graduates, and first-round draft choices in 2006-07...tied the school record for sacks in a career with 28, the same number Michael Dean Perry had between 1984-87...ACC Defensive Player-of-the-Year and second in the voting for ACC Player-of-the-Year behind Georgia Tech's Calvin Johnson...one of five finalists for the Bronko Nagurski Award, which is given to the top defensive player in college football...one of six finalists for the Ted Hendricks Award, the honor given to the top defensive end in college football...one of 12 semifinalists for the Lombardi Award...preseason candidate for the Maxwell Award and Walter Camp Player-of-the-Year Award...first-team All-American by [Rivals.com](#), **CBS Sportline**, and **Sports Illustrated**...the most decorated Clemson defensive player since Terry Kinard in 1982...ACC Defensive Player-of-the-year; he won the award by a wide margin; he had 56 first-place votes, and the second-place player had just eight...First-Team All-ACC; he was the top vote-getter among defensive players and second among all players behind Calvin Johnson of Georgia Tech, who was unanimous...provided Clemson with perhaps the most important play of the year; he had a 66-yard fumble return on a botched field-goal attempt by Wake Forest on the first play of the fourth quarter of the October 7 game; Clemson trailed 17-3 entering that play, the first snap of the fourth quarter; Adams' return for a score was named the Pontiac Game Changing Play-of-the-Week for all of college football and was one of four finalists for the play-of-the-year...had 12.5 sacks, tops in the ACC, third in the nation, and tied for second-most in a single season in Clemson history...set the Clemson record for sacks by a senior; only Keith Adams (no relation) 16 in 1999 had more...third in the ACC in tackles for loss with 17.5...had 63 tackles for the season, his career-high...had a school-record streak of eight consecutive games with at least one sack; the previous record was just five consecutive games held by Keith Adams, Leroy Hill, and Chester McGlockton...second in Clemson history among defensive linemen in pass breakups (21)...had a pass deflection that led to key fourth-quarter interception in Clemson's win over N.C. State, then had another that led to Jock McKissic's 82-yard interception return for a score against South Carolina...had a streak of eight consecutive games with at least one sack; the streak ended in the N.C. State game on November 11; that was a Clemson record by three games; ironically, he had his career high in tackles that day with 10...ACC Defensive Lineman-of-the-Week twice, including his performance at Florida State and at Wake Forest...he was a key to the win over Florida State when he had 2.5 sacks and seven tackles...had three recovered fumbles to tie for the team lead...had three tackles for loss, including two sacks, and eight tackles to go with the 66-yard fumble return at Wake Forest...had two tackles for loss and four quarterback pressures in the win over #13 Georgia Tech...finished his career with a two-sack performance against Kentucky in the Music City Bowl...started each of the last 25 games of his career...played in 48 games overall and made 26 career starts...Clemson's career leader in quarterback pressures with 68 over his career; he had 29 in 2005 and 27 as a senior....caused five fumbles over the last two seasons.

2005: Tied for fourth in the ACC in sacks (9.5)...finished the season with 56 tackles to rank sixth on the team, but first among defensive linemen...finished the season strong with 16 tackles, including eight tackles for loss and 4.5 sacks over the last three games, all Tiger wins; that includes the win over Colorado in the Champs Sports Bowl when he had seven tackles, including two sacks and a caused fumble...honorable mention All-America defensive lineman by **Pro Football Weekly**...Honorable Mention All-ACC selection...started all 12 games...his 6'5" height had a lot to do with his nine pass breakups, most on the team...first Clemson defensive lineman to lead the team in pass breakups since Mark Heniford in 1977...his nine pass deflections were the most by a Tiger defensive lineman for a single season in school history...his 9.5 sacks established a school record for a junior, breaking the record of nine set by Michael Dean Perry in 1986...tied for third in the ACC in caused fumbles (3)...his 15 tackles for loss were most on the team and sixth in the ACC...named ACC Defensive Lineman-of-the-Week for his performance against Maryland when he had eight tackles and 2.5 sacks...Clemson's defensive player-of-the-game for his performance against #16 Florida State when he had 2.5 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks to go with three quarterback pressures...went over the 100 mark in career tackles in the win over Colorado...made at least two tackles in every game and has a streak of 25-straight games with at least one tackle...had at least four tackles in each of the last nine games...had a career-high eight tackles in the win over Maryland in 60 snaps...had 2.5 sacks in the win over Temple...finished the year strong with 2.5 tackles for loss against #16 Florida State and three against #19 South Carolina, then 2.5 against Colorado...had a sack that caused a fumble in each Tiger win over a top-20 team to close the regular season.

2004: Had 35 tackles, including eight tackles for loss, five of which were sacks...tied for second on the club in sacks and tied for 10th in the ACC...a strong contributor on special teams; he had two blocked punts, one against Utah State that resulted in a Clemson touchdown and one against South Carolina...first Tiger defensive end to record two blocked punts in one season, another example of his all-around athletic abilities...had at least one tackle in every game, including a season-high six stops against Wake Forest...had two sacks to go with the blocked punt against Utah State; named Clemson's Special Teams Player-of-the-Week for that performance...11th on the team in tackles overall; he was second among non-starters...had at least one tackle for loss in seven of the 11 games...started just one game but played at least 21 snaps in every contest...won the 12th Man Award for the Clemson defense in 2004, an honor given to the top non-starter over the course of the season.

2003: Second-team defensive end who had 15 tackles in 12 games...four of his 15 tackles were behind the line of scrimmage...played 172 snaps, with 161 of them in the last eight games...played a season-high 27 plays in the Peach Bowl against #6 Tennessee and was a big reason the Volunteers scored just 14 points; had a pass breakup in that game...played at least 20 snaps in five of the last seven games after not appearing on any defensive plays in the first three games...had his best game against #3 Florida State when he had four tackles, including two for loss and a sack...had four tackles and two for loss against Duke...had 13 of his 15 tackles in the last four games...had seven quarterback pressures.

2002: Red-shirted.

Before Clemson: Had 58 tackles, 22 sacks, and two interceptions in 10 games with Fork Union Prep during the 2001 season...three-year starter at Cambridge Academy, where the team played eight-man football...had 14 sacks, leading his team to the 2000 state title...had 57 catches for 1,680 yards and 20 touchdowns in 2000...had 78 solo tackles along with five interceptions as a defensive end...had 158 career receptions for 4,394 yard and 65 touchdowns...had 341 tackles, 10 interceptions, and 33 sacks in his career...two-time all-state honoree...All-Lakelands A Player-of-the-Year as a senior...three-star prospect by [Rivals100.com](#)...coached by Steve Taneyhill (former South Carolina quarterback) in high school and prep school football by John Shuman...chose Clemson over Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia...born Jun. 8, 1983...majoring in sport management.

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G. Adams 2004 Game-By-Game Stats

Date	Opponent	Plays	Hit	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	QP
9-4	Wake Forest	29	5	1	6	1-1		
9-11	Georgia Tech	37	3	1	4	1-5	1-5	
9-18	at Texas A&M	*48	3	1	4			1
9-25	at Florida State	29	1	1	2			
10-7	at Virginia	31	2	0	2	1-2		
10-16	Utah State	30	3	0	3	2-9	2-9	
10-23	Maryland	25	2	2	4	1-1	1-1	
10-30	N.C. State	32	1	1	2			
11-6	at Miami (FL)	33	1	0	1	1-3		2
11-13	at Duke	31	1	2	3	1-5	1-5	1
11-20	South Carolina	21	0	4	4			1
Totals		346	22	13	35	8-26	5-20	5

* - start; Note: Had a blocked punt (one punt return for 14 yards) against Utah State and a blocked punt (one punt return for no yards) against South Carolina.

G. Adams 2005 Game-By-Game Stats

Date	Opponent	Plays	Hit	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	QP
9-3	Texas A&M	*48	3	0	3			2
9-10	at Maryland	*60	3	5	8	2.5-17	2.5-17	3
9-17	Miami (FL)	*63	2	0	2			
9-24	Boston College	*61	3	1	4			3
10-1	at Wake Forest	*55	3	2	5	1-6		2
10-13	at N.C. State	*49	5	1	6			3
10-22	Temple	*35	3	1	4	2.5-13	2.5-13	1
10-29	at Georgia Tech	*60	2	2	4	1-6		4
11-5	Duke	*42	1	3	4			3
11-12	Florida State	*50	3	1	4	2.5-10	1.5-7	3
11-19	at South Carolina	*56	5	0	5	3-8	1-4	3
12-27	Colorado	*48	4	3	7	2.5-23	2-23	2
Totals		627	37	19	56	15-83	9.5-64	29

* - start; Note: Had a caused fumble at Wake Forest; had a caused fumble against Florida State; had a caused fumble at South Carolina.

G. Adams 2006 Game-By-Game Stats

Date	Opponent	Plays	Hit	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	QP
9-2	Florida Atlantic	*27	2	2	4	1-3		1
9-9	at Boston College	*54	2	0	2			4
9-16	at Florida State	*46	1	6	7	2.5-6	2.5-6	2
9-23	North Carolina	*19	1	0	1	1-4	1-4	4
9-30	Louisiana Tech	*32	4	0	4	1-5	1-5	2
10-7	at Wake Forest	*51	7	1	8	3-33	2-23	
10-12	Temple	*12	1	0	1	1-13	1-13	1
10-21	Georgia Tech	*49	3	0	3	2-11	1-7	4
10-26	at Virginia Tech	*58	6	1	7	2-6	1-5	1
11-4	Maryland	*56	3	1	4	1-10	1-10	2
11-11	N.C. State	*67	5	5	10			3
11-25	South Carolina							
Totals								

* - start; Note: Had a 14-yard fumble return at Boston College; had a 66-yard fumble return for a touchdown and two caused fumbles at Wake Forest; had a five-yard fumble return at Virginia Tech.

G. Adams Career Stats

Year	GP-S	Plays	Hit	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sacks	Int	QP	PBU	CF-RF
2003	12-0	172	11	4	15	4-8	1-1	0-0	7	2	0-0
2004	11-1	346	22	13	35	8-26	5-20	0-0	5	4	0-0
2005	12-12	627	37	19	56	15-83	9.5-64	0-0	29	9	3-0
2006	11-11	471	35	16	51	14.5-91	10.5-73	0-0	24	4	2-3
Totals	46-24	1616	105	52	157	41.5-208	26-158	0-0	65	19	5-3