

Thomas Gossom, Jr.
Best Gurl CEO and Founder

Thomas (Thom) Gossom Jr. is an actor, writer, speaker, and communications consultant. He received his Bachelor of Arts in communication from Auburn University in 1975. A starting wide receiver for the Tigers from 1972-1974, Gossom was the first black athlete to graduate from the University. He is featured in the HBO special, *Breaking the Huddle*, about the integration of Southern College Football.

Gossom received his MA in Communications from the University of Montevallo.

He began his communications career at BellSouth in the office of Public Relations, before launching Best Gurl, inc. a unique multi-platform company committed to all forms of effective communication. As CEO and Founder, Gossom's years of experience as an actor, writer, and consultant lays the foundation for Best Gurl, whether assisting a client with a new strategic initiative or producing an entertainment piece.

Through 2016, Gossom served as the Chair of the Auburn University Foundation Board where he oversaw the successful Billion Dollar Campaign. As an actor, he has starred in films, including *Fight Club*, and *Jeepers Creepers 2*. On television he has been seen in *CSI*, *Containment*, and *In The Heat Of The Night* and has been a proud member of the Screen Actor's Guild since 1983.

Gossom's writing credits include his published memoir, *Walk-On: My Reluctant Journey To Integration at Auburn University*, (State Street Press, 2008) and *The Slice Of Life Collection* of short stories, (Aquarius Press 2015-2016).

An outstanding communicator, Gossom is a frequent speaker for business, universities, corporations, and civic organizations.