

CLASS OF 2025 INDUCTEES

» Clarence J. “Big Daddy” Bailey

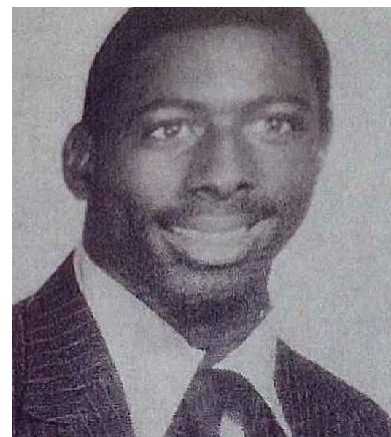
(Posthumously)

Clarence J. “Big Daddy” Bailey was a graduate of Milford High School in Milford, Delaware, where he played just one year of varsity football. At Milford, he rushed for 1,411 yards and scored 17 touchdowns, was First Team All-Conference, and played in the Blue/Gold Football Game.

He matriculated to Wesley Junior College — again setting records on the football field. There he rushed over 2,279 yards, scored 22 touchdowns, and was the Coastal Conference Player of the Year. He furthered his football accomplishments at Hampton University, where he was a kickoff and punt return specialist earning the title of Offensive Player of the Year.

After leaving Hampton, Bailey played semi-pro football with the Canadian Football League (Toronto Argonauts) and the Chesapeake Bay Neptunes. Bailey’s desire to play professional football finally came when he received a call from the Miami Dolphins. In the summer of 1987, he began training at their camp. Though he was with the Dolphins for a short time, he spit out NFL statistics as if they had happened yesterday. He continued football with the Delaware Destroyers and later became an assistant football coach at his high school alma mater.

He was honored by Milford High School’s 121h Man Gridiron Club and the Kent County Levy Court for his sportsmanship. Clarence “Big Daddy” Bailey passed away in May 2006.



» William P. “Stoney” Briggs Jr.

William P. “Stoney” Briggs Jr. was born and raised in Seaford, Delaware, and he attended Seaford High School and Delaware Technical Community College in Georgetown, Delaware.

During college at Del Tech, Stoney was drafted into Major League Baseball, where he played for numerous years in the minor leagues with the Baltimore Orioles and overseas in Korea.

After his playing days were over, Stoney coached youth football and college baseball.

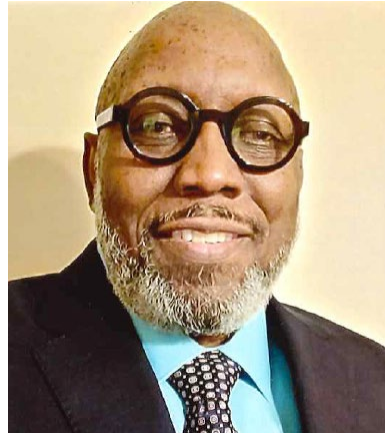


»» Robert “Bobby” Cale

Robert “Bobby” Cale’s career began at Middletown High School, where he was All-State in football, basketball, and baseball in 1974 and 1975.

Drafted out of high school to play baseball by the Baltimore Orioles, Robert chose to play football at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a four-year lettered athlete and starting cornerback.

He led the ACC in interceptions in 1976 and was a member of the “First Team Defense” in the Country in 1977 and also made 2nd Team All-ACC in 1978. He played briefly with the Seattle Seahawks in 1979 and Baltimore Colts in 1980, after which he returned to Chapel Hill to become the Assistant Defensive Coach. Bobby was also a member of the High School National Honor Society in 1975.



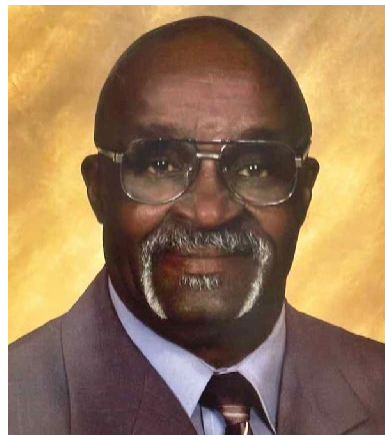
»» Linwood “Bootsie” Cannon

(Posthumously)

Linwood “Bootsie” Cannon was a veteran of the Korean War and played baseball his entire enlistment. His favorite pastime was a game of baseball, and in turn he loved the Baltimore Orioles. He played third base and short stop for the Queenstown Tigers of Maryland, the Mohawks and the Millsboro Blue Jays of Delaware.

Bootsie also played and coached summer adult softball leagues throughout Sussex County, Delaware. He often talked about playing baseball in the Oakville, Maryland, community with pride. During his 13-year coaching tenure, he won the championship with the Millsboro Cardinals of Delaware.

Although his talent as a player may have slowed him down, he then used his time to coach and mentor other young boys and girls to learn the game as the first black coach of Millsboro, Delaware, Little League. His goals as a coach were to build character, confidence and ultimately sportsmanship. He played an integral part in ensuring his players, regardless of race, were treated with dignity and fairness.



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»» Monick Foote

Monick Foote was the national High School Basketball Player of the Year while at Sanford School and became an all-conference college player who went on to play professionally.

Foote was voted first-team Delaware All-State in 1992, '93 and '94; in both '93 and '94, she was Gatorade State Player of the Year. Foote led Sanford to the state championship in 1994 when she was named the Delaware Player of the Year and the Gatorade National High School Player of the Year. She was also named a national Parade Magazine first-team All-American. Foote scored 1,609 points at Sanford, among the highest total points by a girl in Delaware history. Sanford's record over her four seasons was 77-12. As a freshman at the University of Virginia in 1995, Foote tied the NCAA Tournament record with seven 3-pointers in a second-round game vs. Florida. She was one of the Atlantic Coast Conference's top sophomores in 1996. Foote helped carry the Cavaliers to the NCAA Tournament regional finals in her first two years. Her junior year was wiped out by injury, so she red-shirted and then Foote, as team captain her senior season, rebounded to make the ACC All-Conference Third Team in 1998-99. Over her collegiate career, Foote scored 1,315 points, averaged 35.3 percent in three-point shooting, made the All-ACC Freshman Team and was named to the All-ACC Academic Team her senior season. She wore number 13 throughout her career in Charlottesville.

Foote played professionally for several years in Israel. In 2000, she was named Delaware's 1990s Player of the Decade in a poll of coaches, writers and referees. The same poll named her First-Team All-Defensive Team for the 1990s. The website Delaware Girls Basketball included Foote in its first "Great Players of the Past" in 2008.

»» John Hollis

John Hollis retired from Seaford School District after 30 years of service as a coach, teacher and counselor. He worked as a Vice President of Resource Development for Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware.

Hollis had a brief athletic career at the University of Delaware in freshman football and track and cross country. He coached (assistant) on Seaford High state championship teams in track (1977), winter track (1976) and football (1981 and 1983). He also was a former state champion in the mile run.



Hollis also served 30 years as an assistant coach and Blue Gold Football All Star Game Coach from 1979-1983. He was also head track coach of the indoor/outdoor and head swim coach. These tenures awarded him 11 conference championships and Coach of the Year nine times combined.

Beyond his athletic achievement, John is proud of his numerous awards received in the State of Delaware.

»» **Bryant “Gene” Lake**

Bryant “Gene” Lake is a native of Milford, Delaware. During his early years, he played Pop Warner Football and later was unable to continue due to weight restrictions. However, as a freshman at Cape Henlopen High, he could return to playing the sport he loved. Later, at Milford High, he played football and basketball demonstrating his skills in two sports. His football skills as a guard, tackle, and running back led to his statewide recognition as 2nd Team All-State and a player in the Blue/Gold Game.



After graduation, Gene served in the US Army for three years. Following an honorable discharge, he returned to Milford and picked up playing flag football on weekends. This caught the eyes of local college coaches which led to a full scholarship to play football at Delaware State University. During his sophomore year, he broke the school record for yards in a season (1,069). During his junior year, he set records for touchdowns in a game (6), yards in a game (336), touchdowns in a season (20), and yards in a season (1,722). Due to his age, he decided to enter the NFL draft. He was selected as a free agent to the Washington Redskins (now the Commanders). After his release, he returned to playing flag football until the age of 50.

Some of Gene’s notable recognitions are First Team Kodak All American, Sports Illustrated Athlete of the Week, First Team All MEAC in 1983 and 1984, inducted into the Delaware State University Hall of Fame in 1999, and inducted into the MEAC and Milford High School Hall of Fame in 2009.

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»» Howard M. Laws

Howard M. Laws had a remarkable athletic career at Delcastle Technical High School (DTHS) from 1981-1984, excelling as a three-sport athlete in football, basketball, and track and field. A standout distance runner and two-time track team captain, Howard transitioned to coaching just three years after graduation, joining the legendary Louis Nicoletti. Together, they led teams to a cross-country state championship in 1988 and track and field titles from 1987-1989.



Dedicated to giving back, Howard established the Howard M. Laws Delaware Summer XC Series in 1996 at Bellevue State Park, providing high school athletes a venue to hone their skills during the off-season. Over time, the series has grown to welcome runners of all ages, fostering a vibrant community. In 2010, he launched the Scrimmage for Cancer High School Cross Country Invitational, supporting the Cancer Support Community of Delaware and providing a pre-season platform for tri-state teams.

Howard's contributions extend further through his founding of District 720 in 2011, which sponsors the Shannon L. Matthew Award to honor top assistant track and field coaches in Delaware. With over 30 years of service as an assistant coach at schools like Delcastle, William Penn, DMA, and Mount Pleasant, Howard has left an enduring legacy as a mentor and ambassador for track and field and cross country.

»» Lillie Mapp

Lillie Mapp was born to Virginia M. Mapp and George E. Heath on April 20, 1953, in Exmore, Virginia. She traveled many years from Virginia to Delaware to spend summers in Bowers Beach with her aunt. In 1963, Lillie moved to Rehoboth, Delaware, and entered the fifth grade at West Rehoboth Elementary, where she attended Rehoboth schools until they consolidated in 1969 and then graduated from Cape Henlopen High School in 1971.

It was during her eighth grade year she was invited to try out for the Rehoboth High School Basketball Team, where she made and played on the Varsity Team in the eighth, ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th grades. Lillie had a stellar career making the Henlopen Conference All-Conference Team in 1968, 1969, 1970, and 1971. It was on February 27, 1971, that she reached a goal of 1,000 career points. This was during a time when there were no 3-point shots and the schedule consisted of only 10 games. Unfortunately, Title IX had not been put in place and women's sports teams had no chance to elevate to a higher selections committee such as an All-State Team.



Lillie not only excelled in Basketball but also in Softball and Field Hockey, playing for four years on the Varsity Teams in the ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th grades. In Field Hockey, she was selected to the Henlopen All-Conference Field Hockey Team in her junior and senior year. Lillie also was selected to the Henlopen All-Conference Softball Team in 1970 and 1971.

In addition to being a great athlete, Lillie was a great coach from 1985-1987 coaching Junior Varsity Girls Basketball and from 1987-1989 coaching Rehoboth Middle School Girls Basketball. She remained loyal to her beloved Cape Henlopen School District as an employee for 26 years.

Lillie had been offered \$500 to attend Roanoke College in 1971 but unfortunately with the staggering \$2,500 tuition fee it was a dream she never got to live.

»» Fredric L. Minus

Fredric Minus, a Delaware native, served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps before settling in New Jersey with his wife, Faye, to raise their daughters, Michelle and DeAnna. His interest in trapshooting began in 1965 when Faye's father, a trapshooter, introduced him to the sport. Starting with meat shoots, they soon progressed to competitive clay target shooting. Fred joined the Eastern Trap & Skeet Association, a predominantly Black organization, during a time when Black shooters were excluded from the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA). In 1966, the ATA admitted its first Black members, and Fred joined a vibrant community of Black shooters from states like Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, who gathered annually for Labor Day national shoots. Fred's ATA career took off in 1978 when he won the Open High Gun D Class at Silver Lake Gun Club in Delaware and the Dr. Whitmore Day Handicap High Gun in Pennsylvania.



From 1986 to 2006, Fred paused his trapshooting career to focus on his daughters' education. Upon his return, he earned numerous awards and championships, cementing his reputation in the sport.

Fred is also a dedicated historian. After researching his family history, he discovered two great-great-grandfathers who served in the Civil War with the 3rd Regiment United States Colored Troops. Inspired by this legacy, he founded the 6th Regiment United States Colored Troops Re-enactment group in Trenton, NJ, a 501(c)(3) organization that educates youth and the public about history through living presentations, parades, and documentaries. The group has received accolades such as the Community Development Award from the City of Trenton and has appeared in films like Making of America and Blacks in the American Revolution. Fred has also participated in significant historical events, such as serving as an honor guard for the re-interment of slaves in Manhattan and the recovery of the USCT flag by the FBI. Through trapshooting, historical education, and mentorship, Fred has left a lasting legacy in both sport and community engagement.

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» Wayne Newsome Sr.

Wayne Newsome Sr., born on May 13, 1962, in Milford, Delaware, was a three-sport athlete, but his greatest accomplishments have been in wrestling. He attended elementary, middle, and high in the Milford School District. This is where his athletic career began.

During his time in high school, Wayne became a two-time conference champion, 1980 and 1981. During his senior year, he also won the state title for his weight class.

After obtaining a wrestling scholarship from Delaware State College/University, Wayne settled into the world of college athletics. He placed second in the Delaware State Invitational, third in the Salisbury University Invitational and second in the MEAC Championships.



Wayne left the collegiate world to pursue his love of Freestyle and Greco Roman Wrestling. In 1982, he placed 1st in the AAU National Freestyle Wrestling Championship and was named an All-American. In addition to this accolade, he placed seventh in the regional olympic trials in 1984. Wayne's success continued into 1986 when he won the AAU Eastern National Wrestling Championship and the AAU Association Championship. During the years of 1987, 1989 and 1990, he placed second in the AAU National Greco Roman Wrestling Championship and was named an All-American for each year. Also in 1987, he placed second in the Association Championship and third in the Eastern Nationals. He concluded his competitive wrestling career by placing third in the AAU Freestyle National Wrestling Championship in 1990.

» Dr. Freeman L. Williams

Dr. Freeman L. Williams has left a lasting legacy on the game of basketball in the state of Delaware as a player, coach and educator. His outstanding accomplishments were: a two-time 1970-71 All-Stater who led the Christiana Vikings to the State Championship game, the 1970 Player of the Year, MVP during the Delaware vs. Philadelphia All-Star Game, coached Boys' Basketball at Middletown High School, Flight "B" Coach of the Year (1985-86), and a player at the University of Delaware (1971-1973).

His educational background is by far outstanding. While attending the University of Delaware, he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education, a Master's Degree in Curriculum Development, and a Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership. Having 40 years of educational experience, Dr. Williams, as a Superintendent, was an advocate for starting middle school basketball and other sports programs within the Christina School District, allowing student athletes to participate in all seasonal sports.

