

Bailey, Lake among Delaware Afro-American Sports Hall of Fame inductees



Former Delaware State football standout Gene Lake. DELAWARE STATE ATHLETICS PHOTO.

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DOVER — Eight Downstaters are among the 12 inductees making up the 26th class for the Delaware Afro-American Sports Hall of Fame.

The list includes a pair of former Milford High running backs in Clarence Bailey and Gene Lake.

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The inductees, in alphabetical order, are:

Clarence J. "Big Daddy" Bailey

Bailey played one season at Milford, running for 1,411 yards and 17 touchdowns while earning first-team All-Henlopen Conference honors.

At Wesley College, Bailey ran for 2,279 yards and 22 touchdowns while being named Coastal Conference Player of the Year. He finished his college career as a return specialist at Hampton.

Bailey, who passed away in 2006, played with the CFL's Toronto Argonauts and with the Miami Dolphins for three games in 1987, running for 55 yards on 10 carries.

William P. "Stoney" Briggs Jr.

A standout athlete at Seaford High, Briggs played baseball for Delaware Tech before being drafted by Toronto in the eighth round in 1991.

Briggs played in the Blue Jays, San Diego, Detroit and Baltimore minor league systems as well as playing in Korea. He was in the pros for 13 years.

In 2010, Briggs was inducted into the Eastern Shore Baseball Hall of Fame.

Robert "Bobby" Cale

A three-sport All-Stater at Middletown High in the mid-1970s, Cale was drafted by the Orioles out played football at North Carolina.

A starting cornerback for the Tar Heels, Cale led the ACC in interceptions in 1976 and made second-team All-ACC in 1978. After playing briefly for the Seahawks and Colts, Cale returned to UNC as an assistant coach.

Linwood "Bootsie" Cannon

A Korean War veteran, Cannon played baseball and then softball for a few teams in Maryland and Sussex County.

He coached the Millsboro Cardinals for 13 years as well as coaching in Millsboro Little League.

Monick Foote

A basketball standout at Sanford School, Foote was named the Gatorade National Player of the Year in 1994. She was voted the state's Player of the Decade for the 1990s.

Foote netted 1,609 points in high school and then 1,315 at the University of Virginia, helping the Cavaliers reach the NCAA regional finals in each of her first two seasons. She later played professionally in Israel.

John Hollis

A coach, teacher and counselor for 30 years in the Seaford School District, Hollis went on to work with the Delaware Boys & Girls' Club.

Hollis was a state champion runner in the mile and worked as an assistant track and football coach at Seaford High. He was also the Blue Jays' head swim coach and was named Henlopen Conference Coach of the Year nine times.

Bryant "Gene" Lake

Lake, a Milford, played football for both Cape Henlopen and Milford High. He earned second-team All-State honors.

After spending three years in the U.S. Army, Lake was discovered playing flag football and went on to star at Delaware State. He broke the school record for yards in a season (1,069), touchdowns in a game (6), yards in a game (336), touchdowns in a season (20), and yards in a season (1,722).

Lake later signed as a free agent with the Washington Redskins. He was inducted into the Delaware State Hall of Fame in 1999.

Howard M. Laws

A three-sport athlete at Delcastle High, Laws later helped coach state champion cross country and track teams for the Cougars.

Laws also worked as an assistant coach at William Penn, Delaware Military, Howard and Mount Pleasant as well as establishing community running programs.

Lillie Mapp

Mapp was an all-Henlopen Conference player and 1,000-point scorer at Rehoboth High in the late 1960s and early '70s.

She was also an all-conference player in field hockey and softball before becoming a junior high basketball coach. She worked in the Cape Henlopen School District for 26 years.

Fredric L. Minus

Minus, a Delaware native who served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, made a name for himself in trapshooting.

His 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.

Wayne Newsome Sr.

A state-champion wrestler for Milford High in 1981, Newsome competed for Delaware State and was a national champion in the AAU National Freestyle Wrestling tournament.

He went on to place second and third in the tourney several times in the 1980s before coaching the Hornets and then becoming a high school coach.

Dr. Freeman L. Williams

A basketball All-Stater and state Player of the Year at Christiana High, Williams played at the University of Delaware in 1971-73.

The head basketball coach at Middletown High in the mid-1980s, Williams later became superintendent of the Christina School District.