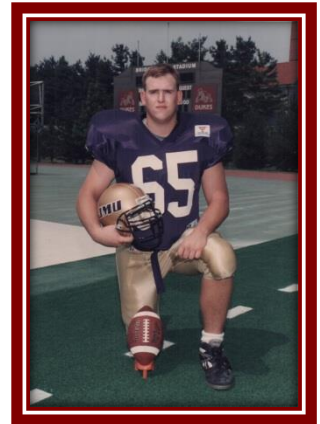




David Bailey

David started his football career at the young age of seven. His first team was the Clifford Lions under head coach Lee Terry. As a youth he continued to play every year. He played on several teams, the Longhorns, Broncos and Wolverines under coaches Jimmy Maddox, Russell Henderson, Reggie Wilkerson and Thomas Hughes. He also played baseball every summer through the end of his junior year. After the age of 13 he played in Madison Heights until 1989 when he played American Legion Baseball. His third sport was basketball. He played in the Amherst County Rec. League until Junior High. At Amherst Jr. High he played three years until the 9th grade when he decided basketball was not his passion.



Football had become his sport of choice. Even though he continued to play baseball he knew it was going to be football that would become his sport of choice and that it was. In 1985 he played at Amherst Jr. High School for Mr. Rowe. In 1986 the Jr. High did not field a team, so he traveled to ACHS and played JV for Buddy Gooden. Then in his 9th grade year he played JV for Tony Mitchell. At Amherst County High School under the guidance of head coach Jim Hedrick he was a three-year Letterman. The awards were many. 1st Team All-Seminole District, 2nd Team All-Regional, ACHS Best Offensive Lineman Award, and 1st Team All- Area News and Advance. He continued to play baseball at ACHS under Hall of Fame coaches Donny Wilkerson and Randy Thomas. He also wrestled for one year in 1990 finishing 2nd in the Seminole District and 6th in the Region

From the fields of ACHS he took his football skills to the next level playing four years at James Madison University. In 1991-92 he was named Scout Team Player of the Year. In 1993 he received the JMU Iron Man Award. In 1994 and 1995 he received the JMU Best Offensive Lineman Award and was named All Yankee Conference All-American. At JMU he was a four-year Letterman. During his four years playing, JMU made the NCAA Playoffs three of the four years.

After a very successful college career, David was drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars in 1996. In 1997 and 1998 he played for the Frankfurt Galaxy in the NFL Europe League. That year he played in the World Bowl. In 1998 he was back in the NFL playing for the Tennessee Oilers. 1998 he played in the CFL for the Hamilton Tigercats, and he finished his professional career in 1999 playing for the Florida Bobcats in the AFL

David credits his coaches in Amherst for the success he enjoyed during his college and professional career. There were many who contributed in one way or the other. A couple that stand out were Reggie Wilkerson and Thomas Hughes who taught him toughness and discipline and coach Hedrick who was the biggest influence on the finer points and technique of the game.

From the youth fields of that first game for the Clifford Lions to the NFL came a player who followed his dream and because of determination and hard work became a great football player.