

## Millikin in the Pros

Twenty-six former Millikin University players have enjoyed professional football careers in the NFL, CFL, European and Arena football leagues. Eight of them played in the Chicago Bears organization, including six on the 1920 Staley team that was the forerunner of the present Bears franchise. Enjoying the most distinguished professional careers of the former Big Blue were Pro Football Hall of Famer George Musso and Canadian Football League Hall of Famer Virgil Wagner.

Musso, a 1982 Hall of Fame inductee, played 12 seasons with the Bears (1933-44) and earned All-Pro honors at tackle and guard—the first player to be recognized at two positions. He served as Chicago's captain when the Bears were known as the "Monsters of the Midway."

Wagner, who played halfback and cornerback, was inducted into the CFL Hall of Fame in 1980 following a nine-year career (1946-54) with the Montreal Alouettes. He led the CFL in scoring his first four seasons, scored a league-record 79 career touchdowns and was a five-time all-league selection.




The most recent NFL signee is Michael Marker, a wide receiver who graduated in 2003. Marker, signed with the Green Bay Packers in December 2004. Eric Smith, a 1997 graduate and two-time CCIW selection at tight end, signed a two-year free agent contract with the San Diego Chargers in May 1998.

Recent players Chris Katzmark, Ryan Bailey, Donnell Brown, Mike Kohl and Joe Hyland are playing or have played in European leagues. Katzmark (WR, 2007 graduate) and Bailey (DL, 2008 graduate), signed contracts with Finland's Kouvola Indians in 2008. Prior to his departure overseas, Katzmark also played with the arena team Bloomington Extreme. Brown, a quarterback and 2003 graduate, has played in Germany with the Dresden Monarchs in the German Football League since 2003. Kohl and Hyland, played during the spring and summer of 1998. Kohl played quarterback for the Karlskoga Wolves in Sweden while Hyland played linebacker for Hamburg's (Germany) Blue Devils. David Peabody, a 1994 graduate, also spent one year playing in Europe with the Noris Rams of Nurnberg, Germany. Peabody helped lead his team to a playoff berth and earned first-team All-Germany honors.

The first Millikin professional was Sid Gepford, who played with the Decatur Staleys (which became the Chicago Bears in 1922) in 1919. A year later, Roy Adkins, Leo Johnson, F. "Jake" Lanum, Kile MacWherter and Randolph Young joined the Bears, while halfback George Corbett played for Chicago from 1932-38. Joe Carp played from 1926-29 and in 1933 with Frankfort, Pottsville, Boston and Philadelphia. Jim Perryman, a 1983 graduate, played with the NFL's Buffalo Bills and Indianapolis Colts, and with the USFL's Pittsburgh Maulers.

In 1989, wide receiver Jeff Query became the first Millikin player selected in the NFL draft. The Packers chose him in the fifth round. Deverick Lampley, a 1985 graduate, spent some time with the Dallas Cowboys. Aric Anderson, a 1987 graduate, played with the Green Bay Packers during the players' strike and also played in the Arena Football League and in 1988 Alphonso Lott signed with the Dallas Cowboys as a free agent.

2002 graduate and CCIW Defensive Player of the Year Michael Lindsey joined the Arena Football League's Peoria Rough Riders (formerly Peoria Pirates) in February 2005. Bob Meyer, a 2000 graduate, also played in Peoria when the team was still the Pirates. Curt Reed, a 1989 graduate, played with the Albany Firebirds of the Arena Football League.

	<b>Millikin Career Stats</b>
<p data-bbox="310 285 537 352">Kile MacWerter Class of 1917</p>  <p data-bbox="272 680 570 716">Decatur Staleys (1920)</p>	<p data-bbox="695 359 1019 394">Career stats not available</p>
<p data-bbox="334 779 509 846">Sid Gepford, Class of 1921</p>  <p data-bbox="272 1173 570 1209">Decatur Staleys (1919)</p>	<p data-bbox="695 852 1019 888">Career stats not available</p>
<p data-bbox="334 1270 509 1337">Roy Adkins Class of 1921</p>  <p data-bbox="272 1665 570 1701">Decatur Staleys (1920)</p>	<p data-bbox="695 1344 1019 1379">Career stats not available</p>

F. "Jake" Lanum  
Class Not Available



Decatur Staleys (1920)

Career stats not available

Leo Johnson  
Class of 1921



Decatur Staleys (1920)

Career stats not available

Randolph Young  
Class of 1922



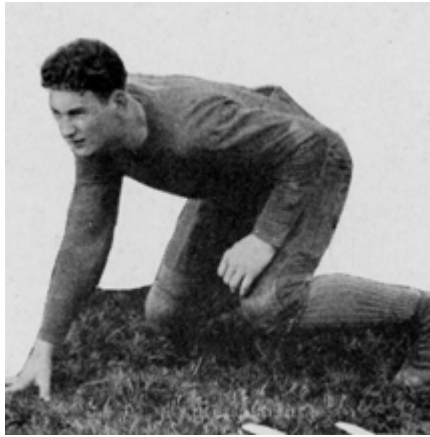
Decatur Staleys (1920)

Career stats not available

**Joe Carp**  
Class of 1927



**NFL's Chicago Bears (1926-29),  
Frankfort, Pottsville, Boston,  
Philadelphia (1933)**



Career stats not available

**George Musso**  
Class of 1933



**Chicago Bears  
(1933-44)**

**Member of the Pro Football  
Hall of Fame**



Career stats not available

George Corbett  
Class of 1934



NFL's Chicago Bears (1932-38)



Career stats not available

Virgil Wagner  
Class of 1943



CFL's Montreal Alouettes  
(1946-54)

**Member of the Canadian  
Football Hall of Fame**



Career stats not available

Jim Perryman  
Class of 1983



NFL's Buffalo Bills, NFL's  
Indianapolis Colts, USFL's  
Pitts Maulers



**Big Blue Defensive  
Back/Linebacker**

269 career tackles (117 solo)  
6 career fumble recoveries  
5 career interceptions

First-Team All-America (1982)

CCIW's Most Outstanding Defensive  
Player (1982);  
Co-Most Outstanding Defensive  
Player (1981)

First-Team All-CCIW (1982)  
All-CCIW Honorable Mention  
(1980)

**Millikin Career Stats**

Deverick Lampley  
Class of 1985



NFL's Dallas Cowboys



**Big Blue Running Back/Wide Receiver**

66 career rushing attempts  
178 career rushing yards  
29 career receptions  
404 career receiving yards  
2 career touchdown receptions

Aric Anderson  
Class of 1987



NFL's Green Bay Packers, AFL



**Big Blue Defensive End**  
50 career tackles (28 solo)  
1 career fumble recovery  
1 career interception

Alphonso Lott  
Class of 1988 \*\*



NFL's Dallas Cowboys



**Big Blue Linebacker**  
143 career tackles (75 solo)  
2 career fumble recoveries

Jeff Query  
Class of 1989



First Big Blue Player To  
Be Drafted

NFL's Green Bay Packers  
and Cincinnati Bengals



**Big Blue Wide Receiver**  
119 career receptions  
2,548 career receiving yards  
28 career touchdowns

Honorable Mention Pizza Hut NCAA  
All-America (1987)

CCIW Player of the Year (1987)

First-Team All-CCIW (1986, 1987 &  
1988)

Curt Reed  
Class of 1989



AFL's Albany Firebirds



**Big Blue Tight End/Wide Receiver**

48 career receptions

804 career receiving yards

7 career touchdowns

All-CCIW Second Team (1987 & 1988)

David Peabody  
Class of 1994



Germany's Noris Rams



**Big Blue Cornerback**

88 career tackles (59 solo)

1 career tackle for loss

2 career fumble recoveries

12 career interceptions

15 career pass deflections

First-Team All-CCIW (1993)

All-CCIW Honorable Mention (1992)

Mike Kohl  
Class of 1998



Sweden's Kalskoga  
Wolves (1998)



**Big Blue Quarterback**

647 career pass attempts  
324 career completions  
4,627 career passing yards  
26 career touchdowns (26 passing)

Second-Team All-CCIW (1996)  
All-CCIW Honorable Mention (1993,  
1994 & 1995)

Joe Hyland  
Class of 1998



Germany's Hamburg  
Blue Devils (1998)



**Big Blue Linebacker**

182 career tackles (122 solo)  
19 career tackles for loss  
13 career sacks

	<p>5 career fumble recoveries  4 career interceptions  7 career pass deflections</p> <p>All-North Region Second-Team (1997)</p> <p>First-Team All-CCIW (1997)</p>
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**Eric Smith**  
Class of 1998



Signed NFL Free Agent Contract

NFL's San Diego Chargers




**Big Blue Tight End**  
54 career receptions  
715 career receiving yards


All-CCIW Second Team (1997)

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**Bob Meyer**  
Class of 2001



AFL's Peoria Pirates



**Big Blue Linebacker**

362 career tackles (217 solo)  
37 career tackles for loss  
7 career sacks  
7 career fumble recoveries  
1 career interception  
6 career pass deflections

Hewlett Packard Second-Team All-  
America (1999)

Football Gazette Third-Team All-  
America (1999)

All-North Region First-Team (1999)  
All-North Region Second-Team (1998)

CCIW's Co-Defensive Player of the  
Year (1999)

First-Team All-CCIW (1998, 1999 & 2000)  
Second-Team All-CCIW (1997)

Michael Lindsey  
Class of 2002



AFL's Peoria Rough  
Riders



**Big Blue Defensive Lineman**

141 career tackles (106 solo)  
45 career tackles for loss  
13 career sacks  
3 career pass deflections

CCIW's Don Larsen Defensive Player  
of the Year (2001)

Aztec Bowl Selection  
(2001)

First-Team All-CCIW (2000 & 2001)  
Second-Team All-CCIW (1999)

Michael Marker  
Class of 2003



NFL's Green Bay Packers



**Big Blue Wide Receiver**  
51 career receptions  
951 career receiving yards  
11 career touchdowns

Donnell Brown  
Class of 2004



Germany's Dresden  
Monarchs (2003)



**Big Blue Quarterback**  
612 career pass attempts  
333 career completions  
4,943 career passing yards  
42 career touchdowns

Chris Katzmark  
Class of 2007



Findland's Kouvola  
Indians (2008)



**Big Blue Wide Receiver**

64 career receptions  
1061 career receiving yards  
5 career touchdowns

All-CCIW Second Team (2007)

Ryan Bailey  
Class of 2008



Finland's Kouvola  
Indians (2008)



**Big Blue Defensive Lineman**

136 career tackles (71 solo)  
28 career tackles for losses of 133 yards  
13.5 career sacks for losses of 104 yards

All-CCIW First Team (2006 & 2007)