

Maine Maritime announces hall of fame class

CASTINE — Former football standouts Peter Scontras and Claude Leclair are among five people who will be inducted into the 2016 class of Maine Maritime Academy’s William J. Mottola Athletics Hall of Fame.

COLLEGE REPORT

Scontras (Class of 1950) and Leclair (1986) will be joined by three-sport performer Stacey (Ryan) Sangillo (2002) and basketball player Corey Streams (2002).

Running back Scontras scored the first-ever touchdown on Ritchie Field on a 65-yard run. He also handled kicking duties and threw a few passes. Later in life, Scontras was ranked among the top five runners over age 65 in New England.

Leclair earned Division III All-America, All-New England and All-New England Football Conference accolades. The running back still ranks 10th in career rushing yards (2,414) and rushing touchdowns (21) at MMA and is seventh all time with 92.8 rushing yards per game and 3,237 all-purpose yards.

Sangillo is the Mariners’ No. 5 career basketball scorer with 1,108 points and averaged 12.3 points per game, which ranks sixth. In softball, she ranks second in career on-base percentage (.451), fifth with a .357 batting average, and third in both runs scored (83) and triples (6).

Millinocket native Streams is MMA’s all-time leader in field goals attempted and ranks second in assists (327) and steals (181). His 1,322 points are fourth and he is fifth in field goals made (462) and 3-pointers made (517).

The four inductees will be honored during this year’s Homecoming festivities at the William J. Mottola Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet on Friday, Sept. 23, and again at halftime of MMA’s football game against Massachusetts Institute of Technology on Sept. 24.

Duhamel joins UMF staff

FARMINGTON — Paris Duhamel has joined the University of Maine-Farmington as an assistant cross-country and track and field coach.

She spent the past two seasons in Colorado and last year was a tumbling coach at Peak Athletics, where she taught trampoline and tumbling recreation classes for all levels. She also worked in the Adams State University athletic department.

At the University of Oregon she competed on the 2013 National Collegiate Acrobatics and Tumbling Association National Championship team. Duhamel later attended Adams State on a track and field athletic scholarship, where she set personal records in the pole vault, 100-meter sprint and 400-meter race.

Duhamel is pursuing her bachelor’s degree in art and design at Adams State University.

Colby resurfaces tennis courts

WATERVILLE — Colby College is performing renovations on its 10 tennis courts.

The work, which is expected to be completed by Sept. 14, includes cleaning, crack filling, resurfacing, painting and new wind-screens.

The tennis courts project is the start of a more extensive overhaul at Colby, which plans to move competition fields as part of the construction of a new athletic complex.

Leighton named Colby coach

WATERVILLE — John Leighton, an assistant coach for the Colby College volleyball team for two seasons, returns to the program as an assistant for the 2016 season.

He previously was an assistant coach at College of Saint Rose from 2005 to July 2013.

Class D

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ation losses, MCI again is the consensus favorite to rule Class D North.

“We’ve obviously had a big turnover the last couple of years with those strong senior classes graduating,” said Bertrand, “but we’ve seen some real leadership step up with this year’s senior and junior classes.

“That was something we were wondering about, whether we were going to be able to fill that void, but they’ve answered that call and we’ve got some kids who have stepped up big, so we’re in pretty good shape.”

That leadership will come largely from captains Eli Bussell, Clark Morrison, Josh Buker and coach Bertand’s son, Adam Bertrand, along with fellow impact seniors Willie Moss and Jeffrey Boutwell.

Moss was a 1,000-yard rusher last fall and will team with Bussell and Adam Bertrand to provide a diversified ground game. Buker takes over at quarterback after starting at wide receiver a year ago, with Boutwell and Morrison likely to be his favorite targets.

Some newer faces will play prominent roles along the line of scrimmage, but the Huskies are expected to focus on what has worked for them since the growing pains of 2012.

“We’ve been pretty successful at what we do,” said coach Bertrand. “We’ve tweaked some things and I’ve always been somebody who will look at what we’ve got for a skill set and what we have for size and speed and adjust offensively, but we’re not changing up things a whole lot. We’re doing what we do and hoping to get really good at it.”

Mattanawcook looms as a primary challenger to the MCI reign, with Carter Ward a third-year starter

at quarterback armed with a talented stable of weapons led by junior halfback Matt Young and sophomore receivers Alex Brown and Cayden Spencer-Thompson — a state triple jump champion as a freshman.

“This year we’ve got a lot of hungry kids who are pretty athletic, and some who are really athletic, that we feel like we can get in space and have them be threats to the defense,” said House.

After a 2015 season where new teams emerged as forces within the league — Mount View of Thorndike, Medomak Valley of Waldoboro and Ellsworth-Summer went a combined 18-8 while Houlton earned its first playoff berth — the battle for LTC playoff berths should be fierce.

That’s particularly true after league officials whittled the playoff field from six teams to four with the drop in membership from 12 schools to 10 this year with Medomak Valley of Waldoboro shifted to Class D South and Camden Hills of Rockport dropping to subvarsity status midway through last season.

Nine teams will be eligible for those four spots, with Ellsworth-Summer completing the developmental stage of its young program before beginning its pursuit of a playoff berth in 2017.

Mount View, coming off the best season in program history after reaching the LTC semifinals last fall, again should be a contender under 2015 LTC coach of the year Haggie Pratt, while Orono features the talented leadership of seniors Jackson Coutts and Keenan Collett to fuel its bid for a return to postseason play.

Bucksport will look to bounce back from a rare sub-.500 season, while a Dexter club led by a strong senior class will seek a playoff encore after its fifth-place finish in the league last year and Stearns of Millinocket and

2016 Class D North football: 5 players to watch

BY ERNIE CLARK
BDN STAFF

Here are five players to watch in the Maine Class D North football ranks during the 2016 season that begins Friday night.

Willie Moss, running back-defensive back, Maine Central Institute: The fleet-footed senior returns as the division’s top game-breaking threat after rushing for more than 1,000 yards as a first-year, full-time starter a year ago. Moss’ big-play potential also should create opportunities for his backfield mates as the two-time defending LTC champions restock their other offensive skill positions.

Jackson Coutts, quarterback-punter, Orono: A third-year starter at quarterback for coach Bob Sinclair’s club who already is bound for a Division I college baseball career at the University of Rhode Island, Coutts boasts a strong arm and at 6-foot-3 and 230 pounds is a physical challenge for any defender against Orono’s run game. He earned All-LTC first-team honors at both quarterback and punter last fall.

Carter Ward, quarterback-defensive back, Mattanawcook Academy: Another third-year

starter at quarterback, Ward likely will receive a lot of freedom from Lynx coach Pat House to use that experience to seek out the best offensive options not only for himself, but a trio of younger skill-position players in junior Matt Young and sophomores Alex Brown and Cayden Spencer-Thompson.

Jared Fox, quarterback-cornerback, Houlton: A returning two-way starter for coach Brian Reynolds’ Shiretowners, Fox can threaten opposing defenses via both the pass and the run. As one of just five seniors on the roster, Fox will take on a greater leadership role as Houlton seeks to build on the momentum of its first post-season appearance in 2015.

Brayden Miller, quarterback-cornerback, Dexter: Miller showed considerable quarterbacking skills a year ago in helping the Tigers qualify for an LTC playoff berth and is poised for a successful senior year as part of a 12-player senior class under head coaches Brian Salisbury and Andrew Shorey. Miller will seek to provide an offensive complement to Dexter’s rushing attack with senior split end Zach White a likely favorite passing target.

Washington Academy of East Machias will work toward upward mobility and their own playoff contention.

Then there’s Houlton, which went 4-4 in just its second season of varsity competition to battle its way into the 2015 playoffs. The Shiretowners return just five seniors, but some solid experience among the returning underclassmen and the confidence gained from that postseason experience leave coach Brian Reynolds and his squad looking forward optimistically.

“I think there will be a lot more parity in the league this season but the road to the LTC championship will continue to go through Pittsfield,” Reynolds said. “There doesn’t appear to be any easy games on the schedule so we will need to embrace that grind if we want to be successful.”

Gomez to retire after 16 seasons in NHL

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Center Scott Gomez, the first Hispanic NHL player, is retiring from the sport after 16 seasons.

Gomez, 36, was part of two Stanley Cup championship teams with the New Jersey Devils. He won the Calder Memorial Trophy as the league’s top rookie in 1999-2000 and had 181 goals and 756 points in 1,079 career games.

Also known as the first Alaskan-born NHL player, Gomez’s best season was when he had 33 goals and 51 assists in 2005-06 for the Devils.

He played seven seasons with the Devils before jumping to the New York Rangers as a free agent, signing a sev-

en-year, \$51.5 million contract prior to the 2007-08 season.

He played two seasons with the Rangers before being traded to the Montreal Canadiens. Gomez also played for the San Jose Sharks, Florida Panthers, St. Louis Blues and Ottawa Senators.

Gomez is one of just 13 players from the state of Alaska to reach the NHL and he is a highly popular figure in his home state.

“You have an obligation, a responsibility to your state,” Gomez told the Alaska Dispatch News. “The goal, the day I left here, was I always wanted to make Alaska proud. That’s my state. That’s my people.”

naments. Officials from both companies said the seven-game football schedule is a continued product of their growing partnership.

“SportsNet Maine has produced top-notch broadcasts for our online audience,” said Anthony Ronzio, executive editor for the BDN. “I’m looking forward to the great job they’ll do for viewers with this upcoming slate of games.”

“SportsNet Maine is excited about the upcoming high school sports season and renewing our partnership with the Bangor Daily News and Time Warner Cable on the Game of the Week,” said SportsNet Maine’s Jim Churchill. “It’s a great team and we look forward to showcasing the student-athletes, the teams and the schools from across eastern and central Maine in the coming months.”

This winter, the BDN and SportsNet Maine also are planning to join forces to live stream a full schedule of Maine high school basketball games on bangordailynews.com.

Changes

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pared with 4,148 players from 78 schools in 2009.

Those in Maine who continue to play the nation’s most popular boys sport at the high school level — with 1,083,617 participants in 2014 — will embark on a new championship quest beginning Friday night.


Let the games begin. **Bangor Rams vs. Edward Little Red Eds, 7 p.m. Friday at Auburn:** These teams split two games a year ago. Edward Little opened the season by rallying from a 12-point fourth-quarter deficit for a 22-19 victory on a last-minute touchdown, then Bangor extracted revenge with a 54-21 win in the opening round of the Class A North playoffs. The stunning Week 1 loss a year ago was part of an 0-4 start Bangor coach Alan Mosca and his club are determined not to repeat.

Foxcroft Academy Ponies vs. Mount Desert Island Trojans, 7 p.m. Friday at Bar Harbor: Two teams that hope to challenge Winslow’s recent dominance of Class C North meet on the island, and play in the trenches will be pivotal as both teams look to make up for graduation losses along the line of scrimmage to support talented skill-position tandems.

Brunswick Dragons at Hampden Academy Broncos, 7 p.m. Friday: Fred Lower makes his head coaching debut at Hampden, but the opponent couldn’t be more challenging as Brunswick is the two-time defending Class B North champion and the preseason favorite to win the division again in 2016. This game will be streamed live on bangordailynews.com.

Belfast Lions at Winslow Black Raiders, 1 p.m. Saturday: Coach Chris Bartlett’s Belfast club begins a grueling first three weeks of its schedule — against three of the top four seeds in last year’s C North playoffs — at Poulin Field against the two-time defending state champion Black Raiders. Belfast follows this test with its home opener against MDI on Sept. 10, followed by a trip to Madison-Carrabec in Week 3.

Brewer Witches vs. Nokomis Warriors, 1 p.m.

<div>BDN Football Forecast</div> <div>Cloukey</div>									
	Rene Cloukey GUEST	Ernie Clark STAFF	Joe McLaughlin STAFF	Ryan McLaughlin STAFF	Larry Mahoney STAFF	Pete Warner STAFF	John Holyoke STAFF	The Drive SEASON GUEST	Your Picks
Bangor at Edward Little	20-16	22-19	21-24	13-21	16-14	6-13	14-21	14-14	
Belfast at Winslow	12-20	6-23	14-17	6-21	14-21	12-26	7-24	7-45	
Brewer at Nokomis	32-18	24-8	30-10	31-6	27-20	20-14	31-12	35-0	
Brunswick at Hampden Acad.	28-14	30-6	24-14	28-6	20-12	23-7	18-13	35-8	
Dirigo at Medomak Valley	10-27	16-24	21-19	7-6	8-6	8-13	21-18	17-24	
Foxcroft Acad. at Mount Desert island	24-22	27-22	13-17	13-14	16-14	14-22	21-7	35-24	
Gardiner at Messalonskee	12-20	7-18	10-17	6-14	20-21	13-22	22-21	20-24	
Heron at John Bapst	6-20	14-21	19-21	14-17	6-7	12-13	13-14	14-35	
Houlton at Dexter	24-20	22-20	20-17	14-6	20-21	14-16	12-26	8-14	
Madison/Carrabec at Oceanside	20-18	28-21	17-21	20-14	19-14	15-14	12-7	17-42	
Maine Central Inst. at Stearns/Lee Acad.	35-6	30-6	28-12	28-61	22-16	21-12	24-17	0-56	
Maranacook at Oak Hill	18-12	8-26	12-26	6-20	12-16	12-23	10-21	17-24	
Mattanawcook at Ellsworth/Summer	18-12	30-14	18-12	21-6	20-14	20-14	23-7	17-14	
Mt. Blue at Cony	24-20	27-26	21-28	14-13	14-12	15-13	16-14	17-24	
Old Town at Waterville	18-15	21-7	27-17	21-20	8-6	12-8	28-26	24-35	
Orono at Mount View	24-12	22-20	13-14	6-7	20-21	15-12	31-15	24-20	
Skowhegan at Lawrence	31-22	35-21	21-10	21-20	20-14	20-14	21-24	24-8	
Washington Acad. at Bucksport	6-24	6-20	19-20	13-21	14-21	6-21	12-20	7-42	
Husson at Alfred	17-27	21-27	24-21	20-24	24-17	21-23	28-14	42-7	
SUNY Maritime at Maine Maritime	10-7	36-20	21-8	28-14	15-14	50-49	12-20	33-14	
LAST SEASON	153-47	161-39	154-46	154-46	153-47	144-55	142-58	133-67	
PERCENTAGE	.710	.805	.770	.770	.765	.720	.710	.665	
(*combined guests)									

Last year, the Bangor Daily News celebrated the 50th year of the Football Forecast. This time around, we’ll embark on the second half-century of the popular weekly guessing game.

The Forecast gives you, our loyal readers, the chance to match wits with BDN staff members, weekly guests and a season-long guest, to see who knows more about Maine high school and college football.

Ernie Clark is the two-time defending staff champion. He secured his seventh staff crown in 2015, correctly prognosticating 161 of the 200 games over 10 weeks.

Saturday at Newport: Brewer, a Class B North finalist in 2015, plays its only day game on its schedule against a Nokomis team kicking off its second season of Class B competition. The Warriors’ challenge will be formidable, namely to contain Brewer’s strong line play while contending with a contingent of power running backs led by senior Trey Wood.

Orono Red Riots vs. Mount View Mustangs, 1 p.m. Saturday at Thorndike: These teams both

reached the LTC semifinals in 2015, but that task becomes more difficult this year as the playoff field in Class D North has been whittled from six schools to four. Mount View is coming off the best year in program history under LTC coach of the year Haggie Pratt, but the Mustangs must contain a talented Orono senior class that includes All-LTC quarterback Jackson Coutts, Keenan Collett, Josiah Grace and Matt Fowler.

Houlton Shiretowners at Dexter Tigers, 1 p.m.

week.

The first weekly guest is Rene Cloukey of Presque Isle, the sports director and assignment editor at WAGM-TV in Presque Isle.

The Ashland native has worked at the station for more than 30 years and is a five-time recipient of the Maine Sportscaster of the Year Award as presented by the National Sports Media Association. Cloukey not only covers sports on both sides of the border, he is active in Aroostook County Special Olympics, having organized Aroostook Special Olympics golf tournaments for 28 years.

Saturday: This is another important Class D North game given the reduced playoff field in the division. Dexter finished fifth and Houlton sixth in the LTC a year ago to earn the final playoff berths — berths that aren’t available under the new four-school postseason format. Dexter returns a solid senior class from last year’s postseason run, while Houlton counters with good size up front and some capable playmakers in quarterback Jared Fox and running back Austin Brown.