

Levi Jones

SC Alumni – High School, College, and Professional Athlete Inducted into SC Hall of Fame September 9, 2011

Levi Jones was born August 24, 1979, in Eloy, Arizona. He attended Santa Cruz Valley Union High School from 1993-1997. Levi participated in a number of extra curricular activities: band, National Honor Society, TAP, and baseball.

He lettered in basketball, track, and football. His senior year he achieved first and second team All Conference for football offense and defense and second team All Conference for basketball. Levi also excelled in the classroom, earning an academic scholarship to Arizona State University. He graduated with a GPA of 3.85 carrying a class load that included Physics and Calculus.

In 1997, Levi enrolled at ASU with a major in Exercise Science hoping to become a Physical Therapist. With his academic scholarship in place, he decided to walk on to the Sun Devil Football team. He started off as an undersized defensive end and ended up as a 3 year starter.

Levi was one of the top offensive linemen in the nation winning honors such as All PAC 10 and All American his junior and senior years. Levi received the Most Valuable Player Award at ASU as well as the Morris Trophy for the PAC 10's best offensive lineman.

Levi graduated from ASU with a degree in Exercise Science and a Minor in Business, Cum Laude. After ASU, he was drafted the 10th pick in the first round of the 2002 National Football League Draft by the Cincinnati Bengals. He spent 7 years with the Bengals as a left tackle.

In 2003, Levi suffered his first injury. In 2005, he gave up only 3 sacks and contributed to an offense that led the Bengals to an AFL North Championship and the Play-Offs. Levi has played in 103 NFL games and started in 97.

When injuries led to his departure from the Bengals, he moved on to the Washington Redskins for one season. Levi spends his time fathering his 2 year old daughter, Leiani Jenae, running his venture capital company, and rehabbing/training to see if his body can hold up for a few more seasons. He resides in Las Vegas and Scottsdale.

He started a scholarship at ASU for walk-on football players who excel in the classroom as well as on the football field. He also spends time mentoring younger athletes on facing adversity and succeeding in life.

Levi has not forgotten his hometown and high school alma mater, donating his time and money to many various causes. Levi donated over \$9,000.00 to the school's football program and helped support the JAG program on campus. He hosted a free football clinic for the Eloy youth where they had an opportunity to mingle with professional football players as well as area coaches.

He was also honored as the Grand Marshall for the Martin Luther King Parade. He funded the entire Eloy Dust Devils football chapter of the Cyclones tackle football league for two years to get the sport up and running. Levi donated \$18,000.00 to help with the renovations of the West Side Church of God, the church his grandfather founded and Levi attended as a toddler.

When asked about his generosity, Levi replied. " I'm not doing it to get credit; I'm doing it for the people who need it."