

Bill Payne



Bill Payne is a 1986 graduate of JHS. While at JHS, he was a four year member of the Fighting Owl football team. He was a quarterback and was named as a second team All-District defensive back for his senior year. Bill was also a 4 year member of the Owls men's track team where he was a 3 year Regional Qualifier and State Qualifier on the Owls mile relay team, as well as the 100 and 300 meter hurdles and pole vault.

After graduating from JHS, Bill attended Baylor University on a track scholarship where he was a 4 time Southwest Conference Champion in the pole vault, a 6 time NCAA Track All-American and the 1991 NCAA record holder in the pole vault at 19 feet 2 ¾ inches. Bill competed on 5 USA International Teams including the World Championships in 1995. In 2012, Bill was honored by Baylor University with their Track and Field Legends Award. Since his Baylor Bear Track and USA International Team competition days, Bill has spent the last 18 years working at FedEx and coaching kids in the pole vault from his home. Bill has coached state and national champions at every level from beginner to world class. Bill Payne is honored for his time, effort, and contributions to our past and present, and for establishing a standard of excellence for our future Owls.