

EUGENE SEALS

Eugene “Gene” Seals lettered one year in cross country and two years in track but basketball was his top sport as he was a four-year varsity basketball player for Saginaw High School. During his freshman year he averaged eight points, eight rebounds, three assists and three blocks. He elevated his game during his sophomore season when he averaged 15 points, seven rebounds, five assists and three blocks per game. One year later he averaged 17 points, 12 rebounds, six assists and four blocks.

Seals developed into one of the top players in the state his senior season (1999-2000) when he helped lead the Trojans to a 24-3 record and a state semifinals appearance. Seals averaged 19 points, 13 rebounds, seven assists and four blocks his senior year. For his efforts he was named the Saginaw Valley League MVP, made All-SVL and All-State teams, and finished runner-up to Lansing Waverly’s Marcus Taylor for the Mr. Basketball Award. In addition, he played in both the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan and the Wendy’s All-America Classic all-star games, was ranked 47th in the country, as well as being ranked 36th at the Nike All-America Camp. Seals also was an honorable mention USA Today All-American.

The 6-foot-6, 210-pound forward received a scholarship to the University of Miami (Ohio) where he played four years for the Red Hawks. In his freshman campaign he played in all but one of Miami’s 33 games and averaged six points, four rebounds, two blocks and one assist per game. He upped those marks to eight points, four rebounds, three assists and three blocks per game his sophomore season as he earned a starting role midway through the season. He was named the Red Hawks’ Defensive Player of the Year. Seals was slowed during his junior season but still averaged eight points, three rebounds, three blocks and two assists per game. Seals captured the team’s Holdie Wilson Award, which is given to the player who exemplifies team spirit. He was named co-captain in both his junior and senior year. His senior year saw him average nine points, six rebounds, four assists and three blocks per game. He is currently sixth on Miami’s all-time list for blocked shots in a career.