Delaware back picks Hokies

Ken Bailey, a first-team all-Delaware defensive back, has made an oral commitment to play football for Virginia Tech.

Bailey was a second-team all-state running back for Lake Forest High School in Felton, Del. Lake Forest coach Jim Fleming said Bailey was recruited by West Virginia and Division I-AA Delaware as a defensive back, but he said Tech may try him at running back.

SuperPrep magazine rated Bailey the No. 4 prospect in Delaware before the season, and G&W Report ranked him among the state’s top seven prospects. Both publications rated him the top running back in Delaware.

Bailey, 6 feet and 195 pounds, rushed for 1,158 yards in 11 games and scored 14 touchdowns and four two-point conversions. He had eight interceptions.

“He’s a very physical, extremely intense young man,” Fleming said. “He loves contact. He doesn’t always run to get away from you. He’s extremely explosive.”

“He’s first 10 yards are unbelievably quick for his size. . . . They’re keeping in mind he has the ability to play defense.”

Fleming said Bailey, who was recruited by Tech defensive coordinator Mike Clark, has run 40 yards in 4.5 seconds. Fleming said Bailey is a “B-plus” student who has scored better than 700 on his Scholastic Aptitude Test. He visited Tech and West Virginia and canceled a trip to Temple.

As a junior, Bailey was second-team all-state as a free safety and as a running back. He started at running back for three years and at safety for two. Bailey is the Hokies’ fifth oral commitment.

— SCOTT BLANCHARD