

William & Michael Dean Perry

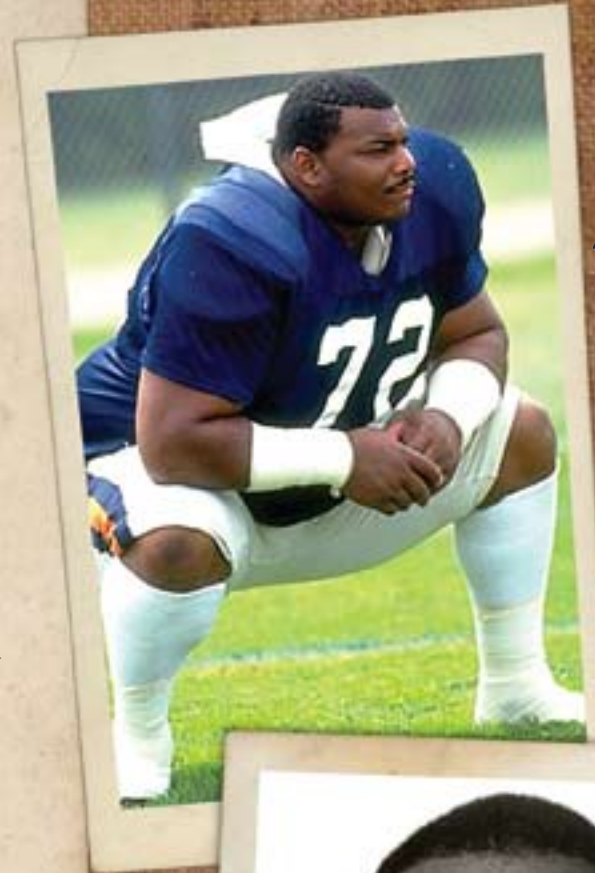
Michael Dean always looked up to his older brother William, so it was not surprising that one would follow the other on a path to success as football superstars. William “the Fridge” Perry rose to stardom as a rookie defensive lineman for the Chicago Bears during the 1985 Super Bowl. In his decade-long professional career, he played in 138 games, recorded 29.5 sacks and recovered five fumbles that he returned for 71 yards. Michael Dean, also a defensive lineman, was a gridiron star in his own right. During his 10-year career, he played for the Cleveland Browns, the Denver Broncos, and the Kansas City Chiefs, and was selected for the Pro Bowl six times.

The Perry brothers grew up in Aiken and played college football at Clemson University. They both will be remembered as much for their athleticism on the field as well as their affability off the field. Michael Dean for his telegenic qualities, after all, he appeared in several McDonald’s commercials and even had a McDonald’s sandwich named in his honor, the MDP. Dean now owns and operates a Subway sandwich store in Charlotte, N.C.

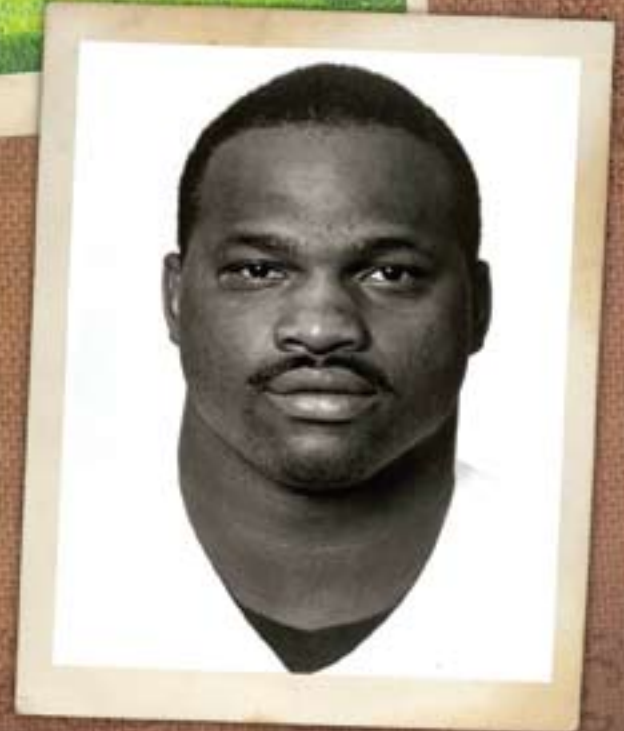
After retiring in 1994, The Fridge has been involved in a number of entertainment and sports ventures, including rap videos and PSA’s, guest appearances on television situation comedies, and has been immortalized as a G.I. Joe action figure. In each, he played on his trademark hefty frame and warm, gap-toothed smile. He also founded his own construction company in South Carolina and was named director of football operations for the Continental Indoor Football League’s Chicago Slaughter.

Today, Michael Dean plays a different role in his brother’s life. Joining his other family, friends, former coaches and fans in William’s quest to tackle a different kind of foe—Guillain-Barre syndrome.

William and Michael are the sons of Hollie Perry Sr. of Aiken and the late Mrs. Inez S. Perry.



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June

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at www.scafricanamerican.com



South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843.	2 T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928.	3 Wesley A. Brown became the first Black graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy in 1949.	4 Arna Bontemps, writer and educator, died in 1973.	5 In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded his doctorate from Boston University.
6 Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942.	7 Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks was born in 1917.	8 Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953.	9 Meta-Vaux Warick Fuller, sculptor, was born in 1877.	10 Hattie McDaniel, first Black person to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress in 'Gone With The Wind,' (1940), was born in 1898.	11 Hazel Dorothy Scott, classical pianist and singer, was born in 1920.	12 Medger Evers, civil rights activist, was assassinated in 1963.
13 Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967.	14 Flag Day Harold D. West was named president of Meharry Medical College, 1952.	15 Errol Garner, singer and musician, was born in 1923.	16 Denmark Vesey led slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1822.	17 Thomas Ezekiel Miller, congressman, was born in 1849.	18 Nannie Burroughs founded National Training School for Women, 1909.	19 Tennessee University opens as Tennessee A&T State College in 1912.
20 Father's Day Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, pioneer in food chemistry, was born in 1894.	21 First Day of Summer Arthur Ashe, tennis champion, led UCLA to NCAA tennis championship, 1965.	22 Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937.	23 Track star Wilma Rudolph was born in 1909.	24 John R. Lynch became first African American to preside over deliberations of a national political party in 1884.	25 Joe Louis defeated Primo Carnera at Yankee Stadium in 1935.	26 James Weldon Johnson died in 1938.
27 Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and novelist, was born in 1872.	28 Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964.	29 James Van Der Zee, photographer, was born in Lenox, MA in 1886.	30 Lena Horne, actress, vocalist and activist, was born in 1917.			