



## Cynthia “Dr. Woo” Bruton

**Cynthia Bruton** possessed a raw, natural talent for basketball. Playing only one year of high school basketball, Cynthia “wooded” everyone with her natural ability to perform on the hardwood. Bruton had to be asked repeatedly by the coach of Oak Ridge High School to give basketball a chance. Patricia Doane was looking for height when she approached the 5’11”, lanky teenager who stated she had no idea of how to play the game. The rest is history.

Cynthia Bruton began her college career at Talladega College, having been recruited by Tiny Laster, Women’s Basketball Coach. She was All-AAIAW her two years at Talladega. Following Coach Laster to Tuskegee, Dr. Woo only played two years at Tuskegee. The Tigerettes won two AAIAW Championships and won the first SIAC Championship for women during those two years. Dr. Woo was All- Conference for the AAIAW and was on the initial SIAC All-Conference Team.

This dynamic Tuskegee Tigergette became one of the finest offensive rebounders in the south, averaging 11.3 rebounds. Her **junior year** she had **60 steals** on the season and **51 blocked shots**. Cynthia shattered her own records the following year as she totaled **66 steals** and **61 blocked shots** in just **39** games, and **scoring a career high of 38 points in one game**. In 1979 Cynthia became the **first female pro cager in Tuskegee’s history as the sixth draft choice of the Dallas Diamonds of the Women’s Basketball League**.

Coach Laster says, “Dr. Woo is the finest offensive rebounder in the south. Her leadership ability and performances in the clutch puts her in very select company.” He further states, “Dr. Woo is one of the all time greatest players that I have ever coached.”