



CHARLES S. PERRY
Class of 1945

Golden Tiger, extra ordinary, all SIAC basketball, all American football, **Charles S. Perry** was a natural athlete. His accomplishments in the sports arena while a student at Tuskegee was second to none. He was selected Captain of both the football team (1942-44) and basketball team (1940-44). One of his most memorable moments was the distinction of serving as Captain of the 1944 basketball team - "the winninst team in the history of Golden Tiger basketball." It was with this team that he set a tournament record, amassing 32 points in the Championship game against Clark College in 1944. Mr. Perry was also named captain of the all Tourney Selection in 1944. While he excelled in basketball and football, he was also an accomplished tennis player, winning several tennis honors including winning second place in the SIAC tennis doubles in 1944.

Through the efforts of Coach Ed Adams, he played professional basketball with the Detroit Gems in 1946. He was probably among the first Tuskegee athletes to play a professional sport. After Mr. Perry's tenure in the professional arena, he returned to coaching and teaching. He taught Physical Education and coached teams from Florida to New York and back to Florida until 1969. Several players from his teams went on the play professional sports. The finale to Mr. Perry's professional career was his position in the Social Service Department with the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners. From this position he continued his association with sports, coaching the Tampa Police and Fire Department's basketball team and assisting with Tampa's Wheelchair Basketball Program. He was presented the "Extra-Mile Award" by the Hillsborough County Department of Social Services.