

Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame

Captain R.S. Darnaby

Class of 1908

CAPTAIN R. S. DARNABY, Class of 1908. In April of 1934, "Capt", as he is known to Tuskegeens, was appointed Tuskegee Institute's first Alumni Secretary.

Captain Darnaby made an enviable record among Negro and White papers all over the nation. He set the pace for Negro schools in the matter of correctly presenting the reports of their football games and other athletics contests. Sports editors throughout the nation commended his work as a sports writer.

Since the organization of the SIAC, December 30, 1913, Captain Darnaby has rendered valuable service to the body. In 1924, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer and official reporter. Later he was secretary of the Tuskegee Institute Athletic Association, secretary of Faculty Athletic Committee, and assistant secretary of Tuskegee Tennis Club.

The publicity successes at the epoch-making intersectional football games between the Tuskegee Tigers and Lincoln Lions at Philadelphia, and the Tuskegee Tigers and the Green Wave of Wilberforce have been due in no small measure to the untiring efforts of the new alumni secretary. Through months of correspondence, and hours of interviews--pleasant and unpleasant, through pages of contracts--favorable and unfavorable--

simple and complex, through the scorching days of relays under Alabama sun or the drenching floods of Chicago rain at Soldiers Field, Captain Darnaby has stuck by Coach Abbott and the teams, by the Alumni Association and by Tuskegee Institute. As a matter of fact, whenever there has been a question of seeing through any project that would bring honor or benefit to Tuskegee Institute, personal comfort or convenience has not entered into the equation as far as R. S. Darnaby was concerned.

Darnaby contacted outstanding coaches in the nation, visited them to be taken on personal tours of athletic facilities and to exchange ideas on athletics.

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A light comes into his eyes that twinkles when you talk of Tuskegee Institute athletes. Talk to him and you will relive the brilliance of the past, and the great events that took place on the field of competition. The record of athletics the "Capt" has kept through the years are invaluable for their historical nature.

It is no wonder that generation after generation of students, faculty, alumni, and peers have loved "Capt" and marvelled at his abilities and contributions to the athletic program at Tuskegee Institute.