



HERBERT C. KING

Class of 1932

*all American 1931
football Basketball
track*

Herbert C. King, Lawton, Oklahoma, lettered in football, basketball, and track at Tuskegee from 1930-1932. He received honorable mention on the Chicago Defender's All-American team in 1931 and was an All-Conference fullback in 1932.

After graduating from Tuskegee Institute he entered the sporting goods business in Tulsa, Oklahoma. His first coaching assignment was at Moton High School in Taft, Oklahoma in 1935, where basketball was the only sport. He came up with a 21-5 winner the first year. He left the teaching and coaching profession for a few years but returned permanently in 1940, when he went to Douglas High School in Lawton as coach. He spent 32 years in the Lawton School System, 26 in coaching, before his retirement.

His coaching statistics are brilliant. His Douglas High team won 157 football games, lost 85 and tied seven, claiming five state championships and two district titles. His basketball teams won 417 games, lost 209 while earning two state championships, five county trophies and 10 district titles. He was instrumental in starting baseball at the school and his teams wrote marks just as good on the diamond.

King helped organize the first black American baseball team in Oklahoma.

He retired from teaching in 1972 and became procurement clerk for the Great Plains Improvement Foundation. He donates most of his time to this organization and other community programs.

In 1972 he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for Oklahoma High School Football Coaches.

The auditorium at the Patterson Center located in Lawton, Oklahoma is named the H. C. King Hall, honoring him for his outstanding work with young people in Lawton.

He has served on the board of directors of the Red Cross, Comanche Retired Teachers Association and the Lawton YMCA. He is also a member of numerous professional and fraternal organizations including a life member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, National Coaches Association, Mistletoe Lodge No. 31 F and A M.