

Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame

James William McCarthy

TUAHOF – Class of 1975

JAMES WILLIAM McCARTHY, Class of 1933. One hundred yards in 10 seconds came easy to the sprint star of Philadelphia's South Philadelphia High School who found himself in Alabama in 1929.

McCarthy continued to burn the cinders after arriving at Tuskegee Institute, and his speed also paid off on the gridiron where he played halfback for four years (three years as a starter) with such greats as Ben Stevenson, Mule Harrison, Joseph Shanklin, Ollie Belcher and Willis Hockett.

It was a momentous occasion when Cleve L. Abbott presented McCarthy a gold ball as a member of the National Championship Team in 1930, a moment that he continues to treasure.

His unlimited abilities enabled him to run touchdowns against Knoxville, Alabama State, Wilberforce (Soldier's Field), and Bluefield.

A physical education major, McCarthy was an outstanding swimmer, and served as a swimming instructor in the aquatics program while a student.