

Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame

Lula Ballard Belcher

Class of 1936

LULA BALLARD BELCHER, Class of 1936. The Varsity Tennis and Basketball teams of Tuskegee Institute were victorious because of the dedication and vigor on the part of Lula Ballard Belcher. Although she was an outstanding Basketball player, her performance on the tennis courts was a constant threat to opponents.

Hard work paid off for Lula, and she won four National Singles Championships at the Nationals held annually at Wilberforce University. In 1936 she defeated the current champion, Ora Washington, then teamed with Ora to win team doubles championships.

After graduating from Tuskegee Institute she worked as Recreation Director at Phillis Wheatley Y.W.C.A. for four years, then formed the School Board Staff as a Physical Education Instructor.

Lula has helped to promote the Junior Tennis Program over the years to encourage youth to participate in a sport that to her is the champion of all sports.

Although retired, Lula is doing volunteer work, and still playing tennis.