

MAMIE D. BROWN-KENNEDY Class of 1954

While at Tuskegee, Mamie distinguished herself as an athlete through her performance on the basketball court and in track and field. She was the first sophomore to serve as Captain of the Women's Basketball team, a position that she held for three years. Mamie was a leading scorer in basketball and in 1954, because of her outstanding performance in several sports, she was named the Best Female Athlete.

This distinguished winner of several medals in track and field and letters in basketball and swimming continued to be a winner as she prepared to become an outstanding professional. Her academic training was extensive and continuous and ranged from credits earned at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida to her present status as candidate for the Doctorate degree in Physical Education at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.

Mamie Brown-Kennedy has been an energetic, active community servant in Physical Education as evidenced by memberships and positions of responsibility in organizations such as the American Association and the Georgia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, the Southern Association of Physical Education for College Women, and the Association of University Women. In addition to membership in these organizations, she served on numerous boards and committees, including the Board of Directors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Southwest Georgia, the Martin Luther King Celebration Committee and as a volunteer for the Special Olympics. Mamie was one of the original organizers of the Iowa Special Olympics, a pioneer for the mentally and physically handicapped.

Her efforts earned her several certificates and awards commending her for her outstanding and dedicated services to humankind. Special recognitions have been received from the Iowa State Special Olympics Committee, the students and faculty at Waycross College, the Black Action Committee of Waycross and the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. In addition to the citations and honors, she is the recipient of a Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation scholarship for graduate study. Mamie's work experience has been broad and varied, including teacher at several schools, coach, and her current position as Associate Professor of Physical Education and Academic Advisor for minority students. The love and joy she has experienced and displayed as a teacher, coach and physical education professor have permeated her life and helped her to maintain her position as Center/Forward from her days on the Basketball Court at Tuskegee Institute (1951-54) until now.

The bonds developed between teammates and friends on the playing fields and other arenas continue through out life. These memories provide strength, excitement and courage as you reflect back to beating Florida A&M, competing with notables such as Althea Gibson, and winning your first medal at an AAU Track Meet. There are also people like Coach Cleve Abbott, Theresa A. Manuel and Nell Jackson who coached, nurtured and sacrificed to get you to an Homecoming at Tuskegee. There is nothing else like it.