

Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame

Oscar Tadlock

Class of 1928

OSCAR TADLOCK, Class of 1928. "I thought that I would make a good tackle, but Coach Cleve Abbott came upon the scene, and I was moved to center." That move created a football champion. Oscar thrilled spectators as he played on four championship teams and one national championship team, winning 48 of 50 games and tying the other 2 while at Tuskegee.

His athletic prowess did not stop with football. On the track he won two first place medals in the discus throw, two first place medals in the shot-put and one third place medal in discus throwing at the Hampton Institute Relay Games.

Oscar worked at his trade as a brickmason at the Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital after graduation, then he headed to Shreveport, Louisiana, stopping in Yazoo City, Mississippi long enough to help build the Afro-Son and Daughter Hospital. He arrived in Shreveport during the Depression with a wife and a son. Our champion was not defeated; he secured a job as freight clerk and remained until his retirement in 1969.

The former football star, track star and president of the Triple Octagon Club at Tuskegee has devoted his life to community service and service to the Greater Saint Matthew A. M. E. Church. He has travelled quite a bit with religious organizations, is presently a member, steward, trustee, president of the local Laymen Organization, president of the North Louisiana Conference Lay Organization, served as secretary of the church for 25 years, and president of the Usher Board for 20 years.

Yes, it was a good "move".