



**ROSCOE "SCODIE" BYRD**  
**Class of 1936**

This (inductee-honoree) will always engender the affection of everyone who has ever met or worked with him. Although this honor is to recognize his athletic excellence, his sense of humor, pleasing personality, and show-man-ship make his athletic gain all the more excellent. In every way, Scodie is a well-rounded individual which is exemplified in his versatility as a former swimmer, track runner, and baseball player at Tuskegee Institute during the mid 30s. His background is sprinkled with experience garnished through his academic pursuits, athletic endeavors, military training, his professional occupation at Tuskegee Institute, and his extensive involvement in church activities.

During Roscoe's athletic career at Tuskegee Institute, he received a varsity letter in baseball, track, and swimming. As shortstop, he traveled with the baseball team that won several championships during his five (5) year tenure. He was Captain of the track team during his last two years in college and a member of the first track team from Tuskegee Institute to participate in the 1934 Penn Relays. He also competed in track meets at Prairie View A&M, Morehouse, Xavier, and Alabama State (name prior to June 1969). Roscoe also participated in track and swimming events for four (4) years at Tuskegee. Having trained under Coach Cleve Abbott for baseball and track, and under Coach Ross Owen for swimming, he proved to be a true baseball and track star for Tuskegee Institute.

Mr. Byrd's military experience as AAF Base Supply Officer provided skills in supervision, coordination of events, planning, directing, organization and evaluation--an eye for detail. This expertise spilled over into his later employment at Tuskegee Institute as Head Cashier. A familiar question was: "Is the Byrd in the cage?" He was capable of making the most disgruntled person smile before leaving his cage. He has always been a very helpful and giving person as evidenced in his services to the community through the church. He is a member of the St. Andrews Episcopal Church Choir, the Tuskegee Institute Club and Alumni House, the church vestry, the B.T. Washington Elks Club, and the Tuskegee Summer Baseball Team.

Above all, this inductee into the Athletic Hall of Fame is truly a die-hard Tuskegee Institute promoter and fan.