

HONORS

Nineteen inducted into SWAC Hall Of Fame



Legendary coach

It comes as no surprise to anyone that Grambling football coach Eddie Robinson was among the first group of inductees for the SWAC Hall Of Fame.

BCSR Photo

No discussion of black college sports would be complete without including the accomplishments of athletes, coaches and administrators at schools in the Southwestern Athletic Conference. And now the league has come full circle with its own Hall Of Fame, which inducted 19 members in the Hall's inaugural enshrinement ceremonies last month in New Orleans. Here's a synopsis of this year's inductees.

Charles Johnson Dunn, Alabama State

Although Dunn is remembered as Alabama State's longtime basketball coach, he should be remembered for so much more.

During his tenure, Dunn served as athletics director, dean of students, dean of the ASU junior college, dean of the senior college, principal of the laboratory school and assistant professor of social science and economics.

Although Dunn didn't apply for a coaching position at ASU, then-president H. Council Trenholm named Dunn head baseball coach in his first year as the school's chief executive officer. In '34, Dunn became the Hornets' head basketball coach.

For 29 years and 507 games, the basketball fortunes of Alabama State were in the hands of Dunn. He won two SIAC tournament titles in his first two years as the Hornets' head coach. Dunn's legacy continues in the form of C.J. Dunn Arena, the storied home court of Alabama State basketball teams for decades.

Seymour Frazier, Alabama State

Frazier was an All-SIAC halfback in the early '30s, reaping *Pittsburgh Courier* and *Chicago Defender* All-America honors in '32 and '33.

As an ASU student, Frazier won varsity letters in basketball, baseball, track and football. He may have been one of the first prep players to participate collegiately before graduation.

In '45, Frazier returned to ASU as an assistant football and

track coach. His duties also moved him to classroom where he devised the major and minor programs in the ASU physical education department.

Athletically, he also became an official and served a stint as president of the Mid-Central Alabama Officials Association with the task of supervising the training of black officials in the sports of football and basketball.

Marino Casem, Alcorn State

Casem was a force at Alcorn State for more than two decades, becoming the school's first all-time winningest football coach and a legendary figure as athletics director.

Casem's first stint at ASU was as an assistant football coach in '59. In '63, he left to become head football coach at Alabama State where he stayed until returning to Alcorn as head football coach in '64. It was a year later that he achieved dual status as head football coach and athletics director, positions he held until leaving in '86 to become the AD at Southern University.

During Casem's era as athletics director, Alcorn teams won a total of 23 regular season championships and eight tournament titles. As a head football coach, his Braves teams won seven SWAC crowns. In the process, he was named National Black College Coach Of The Year and SWAC Coach Of The Year on seven different occasions.

The Xavier University (La.) graduate's influence has transcended the boundaries of the SWAC. He's served on numerous NCAA committees which have developed the current rules which govern college athletics.

Johnny Spinks, Alcorn State

Although Jack "the Ripper" Spinks played football almost before there were rules, he was, nevertheless, an outstanding football talent for Alcorn.

Spinks was a two-way performer as a Braves back from '49 - '52. For three of those years, he was selected as a *Pittsburgh Courier* All-America, the first player to garner such honors for three consecutive seasons.

Following his unparalleled career at Alcorn, Spinks was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers in '52, becoming the first black athlete from Mississippi to be drafted by and play for an NFL team. He was also the first black to play for the Steelers. The next six years saw him play for the Chicago Cardinals, Green Bay Packers and New York Giants.

Buck Buchanan, Grambling

Buck starred for Grambling in the late '60s and was called "the finest linemen I've ever seen" by his legendary coach, Eddie Robinson.

While at Grambling, Buchanan earned All-America and All-SWAC honors. He was the first player picked in the '63 American Football League Draft when he was picked by the Kansas City Chiefs.

He went on to play 12 seasons with the Chiefs. During that span, his team upset the Minnesota Vikings 23-7 in Super Bowl IV. In addition, he played in five AFL All-Star games ('64-'69), was in the first two American Conference-National Conference Pro Bowls ('70 and '71) and was an All-AFC selection for four straight years ('66 - '69).

Buchanan has been inducted into the NFL Hall Of Fame, Alabama Hall Of Fame and the Louisiana Hall Of Fame.

Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones, Grambling

Jones defied all the odds that are attributed to the longevity of college presidents. He served 41 years as Grambling's presi-

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