

HUB DOTSON

HUB DOTSON ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE OF HIS FIRST HEAD COACHING JOB IN 1954.

Martin had opened its doors four years earlier for a community saturated with coal miners and makers of illegal alcohol. It was a school dominated by undisciplined lads.

But Coach Hub Dotson's years as a player at Cordova, a hitch in the Navy during World War II, being a 160-lb. star center at Livingston State University and then serving as assistant to Cordova's Jack Cornelius had molded his own signature of survival grit. He was a man with a purpose, and that was to turn out citizens that could be a benefit to society.

Oh, he hated losing, but he believed if you did the right things such as being dedicated to family values and team first along with working hard, wins and losses would take care of themselves. For the next 10 years, Coach Dotson not only guided Martin athletics to prominence, but was a driving influence in community change.

His first season was a 4-6 campaign against a schedule that included every county team save Walker. Dora, Carbon Hill, Parrish and Cordova recorded lopsided wins.

The next year, Dotson's Martin team knocked off Oakman, Curry, and Parrish by a combined score of 58-20 before losing to Dora, 14-6. The following week, Martin earned its first ever win over Carbon Hill, 6-0. The lopsided losses from the year before had been avenged except the coach's alma mater, Cordova, which prevailed, 34-0.

Still, Dotson's Warriors were awarded the Birmingham News 1955 3-A Championship.

It took until 1958 for Dotson's Warriors to defeat Cordova for the first time, a 27-6 win. His Martin squad went on to beat Cordova three times over the next four seasons.

The influence he had on his players to "be somebody" and the work ethic he established on the football field laid the foundation for success in life.

The community showed its appreciation for the pride and self-worth he helped instill at Martin by naming the football stadium "Dotson Field."

Coach Hub Dotson left this legacy and left the community with a type citizen that today echoes, "I'm proud to say I played for Coach Dotson and Martin High School."

