

In Arkansas Basketball Was the Sport for Females with a Little Tennis Added

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Hazel Walker, Quinnie Hamm, Joan Crawford, and Sonny McRae Houston have been inducted into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame. Hazel Walker led Tulsa Business College to two and the Flyers to three National Amateur Athletic Union Championships in basketball. During her 14 years of amateur competition she was named an All-American 10 times. She toured professionally for three years with the All-American Red Heads, before organizing her own team, the Arkansas Travelers. She has been elected to the Helms Hall of Fame.

Quinnie Hamm led her Sparkman High School team to four years of undefeated play against high school and college teams. In 1929 she scored world records of 109 points in a single game and of 1,174 points for a season. Three years she was named an All-American as she led her team to the national tournament where they lost to strong independent teams in the semi-finals the last two years.

Joan Crawford led her Van Buren High School basketball team to 86 consecutive victories in the early 1950s. First at Clarendon Junior College and then with the Nashville Business College team, she earned All-American Union Championships she led her team to 10 titles and was twice voted the most valuable player. Crawford has been inducted into the Amateur Athletic Union Hall of Fame and the Helms Hall of Fame.

Sonny McRae in the 1930s won singles and doubles in Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tri-States, Dallas, and Kentucky championships. For over 30 years she taught professionally in country clubs, for the recreation department, and privately. She promoted tennis for girls through her work with the Arkansas and national Junior Wightman Cup programs. She has been inducted into the Arkansas Tennis Hall of Fame.

Lurlyne Greer Rogers, a member of the Helms Hall of Fame, deserves selection into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame. She played in five National Amateur Athletic Union Championship teams - three with the Nashville Cooke's Goldblumes and two with the Winston-Salem Hanes Hosiery team. She was named an All-American eight consecutive years and was one year voted the Outstanding Female Amateur Athlete in the Carolinas.