

<http://www2.wagt.com/news/2009/feb/04/black-history-month-john-m-tutt-ar-682872/>



Published: February 04, 2009

[Home](#) / [news](#) / [local](#) /

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: John M. Tutt

By WAGT Staff

AUGUSTA, Ga. - Every day during Black History month, NBC Augusta 26 News is shining the spotlight on influential African Americans from the Augusta area.

Abandoned at an early age, John M. Tutt used his passion for learning to mold hundreds of successful athletes.

John McClendon Tutt was born in Augusta in 1886.

Orphaned at an early age, his education began at Haines Institute under the teachings of Lucy Craft Laney. He would go on to attend Lincoln University.

After graduation, Tutt moved back to Augusta to teach at Haines.

Although he had never played organized sports, he had an uncanny ability to execute plays on the gridiron and baseball diamond.

This led him to coach several teams at the Haines Institute and Laney High. Tutt developed such great high school teams, they often competed against colleges like South Carolina State and Paine College.

He won an amazing 400 football games, 800 on the basketball court, and 300 baseball games.

Coach John McClendon Tutt died in 1968 at the age of 82.

Tutt Middle School and the Tutt-Dupree Field house at Laney High School Stadium in Augusta are constant reminders of his legacy. In 2007, Tutt was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in Macon.

That same day, June 13, 2007, was declared "John M Tutt Day" in Augusta.

WAGT - TV © Copyright 2010 Media General Communications Holdings, LLC. A Media General company.