Donald Benjamin Corbett

Coach/Higher Education

Don Corbett, a native of Columbus, Georgia was recruited to Lincoln by Coach Dwight Reed. Corbett graduated from Lincoln in 1964 with a BS degree and in 1965, received a MA degree from the University of Illinois. Corbett served as an assistant coach at South Carolina State and Tennessee State, before returning in the fall of 1971 to his alma mater, Lincoln University. Donald Corbett in 22 seasons as basketball coach at Lincoln and North Carolina A&T University won 413 games and lost 204.

Through eight seasons (1971-1979) as Lincoln's basketball coach, Corbett's team won 159 games with just 59 defeats for a .729 winning percentage. This record establishes Corbett as having more wins than any basketball coach in Lincoln's history. Included in total is a 71-25 record in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) (.739). Both records stand as the best by any coach in the program's history. Corbett guided the Tiger to four MIAA titles and participated in the NCAA Division II tournament in five of his eight seasons, including four straight from 1975-1978. During his eight years, Lincoln won no fewer than 17 games. In both the 1971-72 and 1976-77 campaigns, Corbett coached Lincoln to 11-1 records in the MIAA.

Following his career at Lincoln, Corbett moved to coach at North Carolina A&T, where in fourteen seasons he compiled a record of 254 wins against 145 losses (.637). Corbett's team at A&T won 20 or more games six times, peaking at 26-3 in 1987-88, finished first in the regular season seven times, and five times won both the regular season and tournament titles. His teams won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) tournament seven straight years from 1982-88, an NCAA record shared only with the University of Kentucky.

Corbett received six MEAC "Coach of the Year" awards and six straight "Outstanding Tournament Coach" awards. Don Corbett was married 44 years to LU alumna, Freda Fredrick, LU '65, who died in 2009.