

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Sue Strong

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Women's Basketball in IL Oral History project

Interview # DGB-V-D-2005-008

Sue Strong, the former girls' basketball coach at Sterling High School in Sterling, Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of Ellyn Bartges' Masters Capstone project for Western Illinois University entitled *What about the character of the girls?: Girls and Women's Basketball in Illinois 1968-1977*, and donated to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 2, 2005 Location: Sterling, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Ellyn Bartges, 2005 Masters Capstone project at Western Illinois University

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

Transcription by: Nina Weldon, professional transcriber, Boston, Virginia

Edited by: Elizabeth Wells

Total Pages: 69 Total Time: 1:29 / 1.48 = 1.48 hrs.

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The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Sue Strong, *Women's Basketball in IL*, DGB-V-D-2005-008

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Sue Strong was born on December 9, 1939 in Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from Maine Township High School in Des Plaines, Illinois in 1957. During high school there were no interscholastic sports for girls so Strong participated in the Girls' Athletic Association (GAA). Following high school she earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. Strong also has a graduate degree from Northern Illinois University.

She began teaching physical education at Sterling High School in Sterling, Illinois in 1966. During this time, Strong was in charge of sports through the G.A.A. She ran the GAA until the 1973-74 school year when Sterling High School created a girls' basketball program and she became the head coach. The school was very supportive of girls' sports being added and in helping Strong with whatever she needed. In 1977, Strong led her team to the first girls' basketball state tournament where her team won the inaugural Illinois High School Association State Championship for girls' basketball.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Girls' Athletic Association (GAA); Title IX; girls' basketball; Amateur Athletics Union; coaching; Maine Township High School; Simpson College; Northern Illinois University; University of Iowa; Northeast Community H.S., Clinton, IA; Sterling High School; Co-Coach Jim McKinzie.

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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