

## Interview with Mildred Barnes

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Interview: May 19, 2011

Interviewer: Ellyn Bartges

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Bartges: All righty. It is Thursday, May 19, 2011. This is Ellyn Bartges, and we are at KVSC Radio Station in St. Cloud, Minnesota. I am a fourth-year doctoral student at the University of Illinois. Dr. Synthia Sydnor is my advisor. Today I am talking to Dr. Mildred Barnes who was very active in DGWS [Division for Girls' and Women's Sports], AAHPERD [American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance], women's basketball at a national level, and I'm sure a lot of other things because I don't know Dr. Barnes at all. We're going to find out a little bit of background information and then we're going to talk about some basketball. So thank you Dr. Barnes for joining me today. I appreciate your willingness to participate and welcome.

Barnes: I'm happy to be here.

Bartges: Where were you born?

Barnes: I was born in Albany, New York. (laughs)

Bartges: Wow, you went a long way.

Barnes: Yeah, I did.

Bartges: Do you have any siblings?

Barnes: No.

Bartges: What year did you graduate from high school?

Barnes: Forty-seven.

Bartges: And you went to college, obviously, since I'm calling you Dr. Barnes.

Barnes: Yes. Sargent College was my undergraduate. Sargent College is now part of Boston University.

Bartges: And you got a degree in?

Barnes: Physical education. It was a bachelor of science.

Bartges: Did you go to graduate school?

Barnes: Then I got both my master's and doctorate at Boston University.

Bartges: In physical education?

Barnes: Let's see—master's was physical education, doctorate was physical education, recreation, and counseling, I think it was.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: Do you remember what your dissertation title was?

Barnes: Let me just think for a second. I might even have a copy of it here.

Bartges: (laughs) I would.

Barnes: *Investigation of Relationships Between Certain Physiological Psychological Capacities and Motor Abilities of High School Girl Athletes and Non-Athletes in Selected Schools.*

Bartges: Wow.

Barnes: Wow.

Bartges: And who was your advisor?

Barnes: Oh gee, I'll have to look.

Bartges: I guess you're going to have to open it.

Barnes: (laughter) I think it was Miller, but I've got to look... Well, now I don't even see it listed. Now that's got to be—wait a minute, here we go. It's got to be signed. Yeah, it was Arthur Miller.

Bartges: Not the playwright.

Barnes: No. (laughter) No such luck there. I never would have passed.

Bartges: Did you have a particular area in physical education that was your interest? I heard psychology and counseling and motor skills?

Barnes: No, forget all those. When I first started, I taught in Westfield, Massachusetts in the public schools, in the high school. Started there and then I went to Winchester which is right outside Boston. I had done my student teaching there, and when the teacher left they asked me if I'd like the job, so I jumped at that. It's a marvelous community. At the time I was there,—just kind of a sidetrack—you probably don't remember the name Joe Bellino<sup>1</sup>. He was the Heisman Trophy winner from Navy.

Bartges: No.

Barnes: And Laurence Owen was the national figure skating champion. And while she was in school, she was on the United States World Team, and it was the team that flew to—I think it was Belgium—and the plane crashed and the whole team was killed<sup>2</sup>.

Bartges: Oh, yes. That was tragic.

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<sup>1</sup> [Joe Bellino and Laurence Owen both attended Winchester High School. Bellino, a halfback, won the Heisman trophy in 1960.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [On February 15, 1961, Sabena Flight 548, carrying all eighteen members of the U.S. World Figure Skating Team and sixteen of their friends, family, and coaches crashed in Berg-Kamphenhout, Belgium en route to the 1961 World Figure Skating Championships in Prague, Czechoslovakia. All 72 passengers on board were killed. http://www.usfsa.org/shell.asp?sid=18817](http://www.usfsa.org/shell.asp?sid=18817)

Barnes: Yes, it really was. And then the first girl that ran in the Boston Marathon was a Winchester Student, but that was after I had left there. So it was a very active, athletic community. It was wonderful. I really enjoyed it.

Bartges: It sounds like it.

Barnes: Yeah, it was a great school.

Bartges: Where did you go to high school?

Barnes: Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Bartges: So you were born in New York and then moved to Massachusetts?

Barnes: Uh-huh, um-hmm.

Bartges: Did you play sports in high school?

Barnes: They had no interscholastics at that time. As I understood it when I went to Winchester, the small schools were competing not in league competition but among neighboring communities. And so in high school we played intramurals. (laughs) In Pittsfield they had a place called The Girls Club, which was like a—it was called The Girls League, but it was a girls club. It was a facility, and we just formed a basketball team and went around and played colleges and whoever we could drum up to play, so—and that was basketball. It wasn't anything in any other sport of an interscholastic nature.

Bartges: What style of basketball did you play?

Barnes: Oh now that's interesting. When I was in high school—No, I think I've got—first started when I was at the Girls League it was six-player basketball. You ever remember hearing of that? (laughs)

Bartges: I've actually seen it.

Barnes: Uh-huh, it's a wonderful game. (laughs) You got about twenty feet to move, and then it became two-court basketball, obviously. And I believe at that time we had one dribble, so it wasn't a very fast-moving or exciting game.

Bartges: So you didn't play with a rover<sup>3</sup>?

Barnes: I did when I was playing in a Boston basketball league while I was teaching, .

Bartges: Oh, so you played rec [recreation] ball after you were out of school?

Barnes: Yeah, I did.

Bartges: Was that while you were still in high school, college, or was it after?

Barnes: No, no, no, that was when I was teaching, actually.

Bartges: Did you get any pressure not to do that from your administration?

Barnes: No except—I've got to back up and make sure I'm not getting things mixed up. When I was in college, there were no intercollegiates, but AAU [Amateur Athletic Union] was pretty prominent in basketball at that time.

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: And the AAU held Eastern—Northeastern or Eastern Championship Tournament. A bunch of us wanted to play, and so we had to check it out. Our administration let us play, but we couldn't use the name Sargent College. We called ourselves the Everett Six because that's where the college was located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. And we won the thing. We won everything—we won sportsmanship, MVP and everything. We had a great time. And as a result of that we were entitled to go to the National AAU Tournament, at which time it was held in New Mexico—can't think of the name of the town, but that's immaterial—but of course we couldn't go to that.

Bartges: What year was that?

Barnes: Jeepers. It was while I was in school so it's got to be 1949, 1950 somewhere in there.

Bartges: Were you aware—and this is me kind of wondering if you permit me the license—How aware were you of Babe Didrikson Zaharias<sup>4</sup>?

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<sup>3</sup> [In the 1950s and 1960s women's basketball was often played with two stationary guards, two stationary forwards, and two "rovers" who were allowed to run the entire court.](http://www.ncweb.com/biz/sherock/history.html)  
<http://www.ncweb.com/biz/sherock/history.html>

Barnes: Knew of her and her vast accomplishments.

Bartges: Did you know of her through the media kind of stuff?

Barnes: Yes, um-hm.

Bartges: That thought just occurred to me.

~~Barnes: I just—I turned on my computer and I see your two e-mails are here.~~

Bartges: After Winchester where did you go?

Barnes: Let's see, from Winchester I went to the University of Iowa.

Bartges: Was that to work on your doctorate?

Barnes: No, I already had it.

Bartges: Oh no, you already had that. Sorry.

Barnes: Had it at that time. That's all right. Let me see, I taught in um—I can't find my professional information. I taught in Westfield from 1951 to 1953 and then went to Winchester 1953 to 1959 and went to Iowa in 1959 to 1969, and then down to what is now University of Central Missouri from 1969 to 1991.

Bartges: So you were there a long time.

Barnes: Yeah.

Bartges: Was Christine Grant at Iowa when you were there?

Barnes: Oh yes, yes indeed, great person.

Bartges: I've interviewed Christine.

Barnes: Oh yeah?

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<sup>4</sup> [Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias was a female athlete known for her outstanding achievement in baksetball, track and field, and golf. She won numerous Olympic medals and was named "The Woman of the Half Century" by the Associated Press in 1950. http://www.biography.com/people/babe-didrikson-zaharias-9542047](http://www.biography.com/people/babe-didrikson-zaharias-9542047)

Bartges: She must have been a graduate student then.

Barnes: Maybe, I don't remember. I would guess she probably was then. I was going to ask if you knew Peggy Burke.

Bartges: I know of her. I don't know if—I haven't interviewed her.

Barnes: That's just an aside. (laughs)

Bartges: I know she's somebody that I need to interview, and I just haven't had a chance to get it done.

Barnes: She was president of AIAW [Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women].

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: And of course Chris was president when they went kaput.

Bartges: Yeah, that's—I had a very interesting interview with her.

Barnes: Yeah, I bet you did. I bet you did. Hey, I gave you some dates that were incorrect. I finally found the bio. I was at Winchester 1953 to 1961, and then Iowa 1961 to 1969, and then UCM in 1969 to 1991.

Bartges: When you went to the college ranks, were you in a tenure track line?

Barnes: Yes. I went to Iowa as an assistant professor and was promoted to professor my last year.

Bartges: And then went to Central Missouri?

Barnes: Yep.

Bartges: Were you the chair of the physical education department at Central Missouri?

Barnes: No. No. When I went there, there were two separate departments, men and women, and an older woman by the name of Jessie Jutten was the chair of the women's. And in Missouri at that time—there were no intercollegiates and we were playing—we were getting away with it by playing sports days. (laughs) You remember them?

Bartges: I don't remember them, but I've heard them described. I'm sort of— I'm a tweener.

Barnes: Uh-huh.

Bartges: I was born in 1960 so I started high school in 1974.

Barnes: Hm-hm. Well, if you know what a sports day was, it was just a team from one place playing a team from another. It was just a means of getting some intercollegiate play, though it was a very limited timeframe. You'd play maybe a twenty-minute basketball game or something.

Bartges: But you didn't just play basketball; you played other sports as well?

Barnes: Yes. When I was in the Boston area when I was in college, we had no intercollegiates, but we had a camp in New Hampshire. Our first, freshman year we had all of our outdoor sports in the fall and spring, and then we went back fall of our sophomore year. And that's where really I learned some of the sports that I wasn't familiar with like field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, and some of those sports. So while I was in college there was a Boston Field Hockey Association and there was a Boston Lacrosse Association and they—Well let me back up, those club teams, as they were called, competed against each other in a national tournament. There were teams from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, and it was pretty limited to the East Coast Area. Now that national tournament is what the one, two, and three schools play in. So I think those club teams are all but eliminated now. It's become, I think— (laughs) having moved to the Midwest, I don't get to see that anymore, but I think it's just a collegiate tournament now, or high school. I think—I know they have like under-fifteens's and under-eighteens's and that kind of thing. So those teams have been eliminated but we—And at that time they would name a U.S. field hockey team and a U.S. lacrosse team. And so my background is basically hockey, lacrosse, basketball. I played tennis. I played in the National Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament which was held at Longwood in Boston, which was at that time I think the only grass tennis courts in the country. I don't know if they still exist or not.

Bartges: Is Longwood a town or a club or a school?

Barnes: It was a club, and I think it was at Boston. I can't remember that.

Bartges: That's okay.

Barnes: (laughs)



Bartges: Where did you get your interest in sport?

Barnes: It just developed. And I don't know why because obviously at my age my mother—it was not proper for a female to participate in sports other than to ride a horse or something of that sort. So it didn't come from my parents. I just was interested. I don't know why or how.

Bartges: Did your dad ever teach you how to throw a ball or shoot a basket or anything?

Barnes: No. He really wasn't that athletic. I don't know.

Bartges: Did they support your athletic desires?

Barnes: Oh yes, they were wonderful. You know, when we were on that Girls Club team and we traveled around, they'd take us everywhere and they came to whatever games we had—certainly not intramurals but any AAU tournament or anything of that sort.

Bartges: I'm going to ask a little equipment kind of question. What kind of uniforms did you guys wear?

Barnes: (laughs) When I was in college we wore a tunic.

Bartges: (laughs)

Barnes: You certainly know what that is?

Bartges: I do.

Barnes: And—Oh I've got to go back further. At the Girls Club we wore those blue bloomers and the white shirt and the red tie. Okay, you've got the picture.

Bartges: Oh, and the red tie?

Barnes: Oh yeah. Oh yeah.

Bartges: What were they made out of? The tunic, what was the tunic made out of?

Barnes: The tunic was—it was washable. I don't know. I never kind of paid attention. It wasn't a strict cotton.

Bartges: But was it heavy or was it light?

Barnes: It wasn't real heavy.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: It wasn't real heavy. And lacrosse clubs played with a tunic also but that was a cotton tunic. And field hockey played in kilts.

Bartges: Sure. Sure. Did uniforms go from team to team to team? It didn't sound like it there.

Barnes: No, you bought your own.

Bartges: Do you still have yours?

Barnes: Nothing was paid for by anybody except yourself.

Bartges: Who officiated?

Barnes: How did we pay for that? I guess we paid dues into the club. At practices some retired person would just officiate, and we had plenty of those in the Boston area, so that wasn't a problem. And when we went to the national tournament, it was volunteer. The officiating was volunteer. At that time interestingly, you played two games a day in lacrosse and in field hockey—now I don't know if they do that anymore—and on top of that if you were an official, you also officiated the game.

Bartges: Sure.

Barnes: And mind you at that time in both sports, halves were thirty to thirty-five minutes in length, no timeouts, no substitutions. Isn't that interesting?

Bartges: But you didn't have the stamina to play full-court basketball?

Barnes: Exactly. Exactly.

Bartges: Do you know Laurie Ramsey?

Barnes: Yes, I do.

Bartges: I ask that because I know she's from Missouri.

Barnes: No, I think she's from— well, I always placed her in Illinois.

Bartges: Well, that's where her professional career was, but she was originally from Washington, Missouri.

Barnes: Oh really?

Bartges: I was just curious.

Barnes: I knew of her really through softball to begin with. She was a pitcher. Were you aware of that?

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: Okay and had you ever—no you wouldn't have seen her play. She used to pitch like a baseball pitcher—take the ball up high and with a big high leg kick and then let it go.

Bartges: Was she pretty effective?

Barnes: Yes, she was. And then I knew more of her in basketball just through what I heard of what she had done. And then she was inducted a couple of years ago into the Women's Basketball Hall Of Fame.

Bartges: How did you get into coaching?

Barnes: Well, I guess—Well, I always liked it. When I did my student teaching in college—as I said I taught in Winchester—and then Winchester had such a great athletic program, so I helped with that as well. And then when I left—when I graduated from college, I don't remember that we had any interscholastics in Westfield. But then when I went back to Winchester, I became the (*laughs*) coach in field hockey, basketball, softball. I also was responsible for the cheerleaders and we had a tumblette group that tumbled at halftime of football and basketball. I just loved it. (*laughs*)

Bartges: Did you get paid extra for those activities?

Barnes: No. No.

Bartges: Did you coach at Iowa?

Barnes: Iowa didn't have interscholastics either until maybe my last two years there, and we went to the first invitational basketball tournament. We talked the other day about where that was, which has left me now.

Bartges: West Chester.

Barnes: Yeah, West Chester. And it was interesting. You know, it wasn't as tense and as involved as it is today. And our really—our best shooter, her boyfriend didn't want her to go to this tournament so we had to go without her. *(laughs)* And at that time we didn't have any uniforms, we just wore—we all wore the same color shorts and shirts, but when we went to the national tournament we didn't have any warm-ups, and we got a hand-me-down set from the men's team. Well, you can imagine the fit on those babies.

Bartges: Yeah. The legs needed to be rolled up.

Barnes: About halfway. *(laughter)* Oh dear, that was funny.

Bartges: What took you to Central Missouri, if I may ask?

Barnes: Well, at that period in time, 1969, you know, we were in the Vietnam War. And the union was right opposite the women's physical education facility, and there was a huge parking ramp adjacent. And we used to get all the pickets and the riots and—I shouldn't say riots, that wasn't the case. But I just got tired of that. And we had had several graduate students at Iowa getting their Ph.D. from Central Missouri, and they told me what it was like down there and it was far—the president at that time was a real taskmaster, and things were far more conservative *(laughs)* and so that was my choice.

Bartges: Oh, I don't doubt that. I can't remember if I told you, my parents both are Iowa alums and I have my bachelor's degree from Iowa State. And in Ames they said every liberal in the State of Iowa lived in Johnson County.

Barnes: *(laughs)* I think that was right. I think that was right. Um, man.

Bartges: When you went to Central Missouri State did you have coaching responsibilities?

Barnes: No, they didn't have any *(laughs)* intercollegiate. They had—

Bartges: Well, but did you do sports days or—

Barnes: Yeah. No, hang on now. They were doing some sports days, and there was a gal that was doing basketball and field hockey when I went there. I presumed there was some softball but I'm not certain about that. And there was some talent in basketball as I went to watch them play, so I volunteered to do it if she didn't want to do it. Basketball was not her sport, she was a field hockey person, so she let me have it. And we began sports days and then branched out and finally got

approval to play some intercollegiate games, and from there we just went on. So it's—and at that time—let's see, the year I started coaching here was the first year Missouri had interscholastics for women, for girls.

Bartges: At the high-school level?

Barnes: At the high-school level, right.

Bartges: Were they playing six-player ball in those games?

Barnes: Yes. That's my recollection.

Bartges: When did you get involved with AAHPERD [American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance]?

Barnes: While I was in college, they strongly recommended that everybody get involved in their association, and so I became a member of the state association, and—I've got a couple of thoughts—and then as a result joined the national as well. I was lucky. I became a lifetime member back there, I think it cost me like seventy-five bucks, and you know what memberships are today.

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: And it was through the state AAHPERD organization that I became active in DGWS [Division for Girls' and Women's Sports], And then it was while I was there that the chair of the department at Wellesley—Elizabeth Beal—I don't know if you've ever heard that name.

Bartges: I have heard that name.

Barnes: Uh-huh. She recommended me to be on the Rules Committee, so that's how I got involved with rules.

Bartges: What year was that?

Barnes: Well, it had to be before I went to Iowa so—wait a minute, as we talk I might be able to find that.

Bartges: And DGWS was pretty new then, wasn't it?

Barnes: No, I don't really think it was. I think that stretches way back. It had gone through many different name changes. What am I looking for?

Bartges: The year you got involved with DGWS.

Barnes: I got it. All right keep talking, I'll keep looking here.

Bartges: Okay. When you first got on the Rules Committee for DGWS, what framed the conversation? Was it sort of a pro forma thing, Okay we need to put this rule book out, or were there conversations about changing over?

Barnes: No, I'll tell you. My memory is that before it was DGWS it was NAGWS [National Association for Girls and Women in Sports], and before it was that it was NWSA or something like that. So it had been a viable organization for some time, I think.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: Now what was your question? (laughter)

Bartges: When you got involved in the Rules Committee was—

Barnes: Oh, I got it, yeah. It was a very conservative group, and they saw no reason to make changes early on towards even the rover player game. Women at that time were not capable of running the full length of a court, despite what we have already discussed on hockey and lacrosse. (laughter) And I think some people did some studies and that route. And then there were a couple of us that were always angling towards the five-player game, but everybody was not, so we went to the roving-player game as a transition. And it was a transition from my point of view. It was the end result from the point of view of others, but at any rate, we got two people going full court.

Bartges: Who were the other people on that committee that were in favor of going to five-player?

Barnes: I can't tell you that. I don't even remember, and I don't even remember who was on the committee.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: All right now, I just came up with—I was on the Rules Committee from 1966 to 1969, and I was the rules interpreter during that three-year period as well.

Bartges: And during that time—and correct me if I have the wrong date—in 1968 the Rules Committee decided to try Experimental Rules in 1969-1970, 1970-1971, is that true?

Barnes: I'll have to say I don't know.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: Let me check one other thing. I haven't come across it. I'll find that though. Wait a minute, here we go. Oh yeah, it's probably as late as that.—I published the first women's basketball book that dealt with the five-player game, and it was published in 1972, and that publication date was after we'd gone to the five-player game, so five players had to have been approved for the 1972 season anyway.

Bartges: Right.

Barnes: I mean, I had anticipated the rules being passed and so I had written most of the book. (laugh)

Bartges: What's the title of the book?

Barnes: I suspect it's out of print now. It was called *Women's Basketball*, and it was published by Allyn & Bacon, A-L-L-Y-N, okay.

Bartges: That's a good Boston firm isn't it?

Barnes: Yep. It was originally published in 1972 and it was revised in 1980.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: So it's long gone now.

Bartges: I have the DGWS basketball guides from—

Barnes: Do you have all of them?

Bartges: I don't have all of them, but the two that I have with me right now are 1970-1971 and 1971-1972, and in 1971-1972 you write an article, "From Half Court to Full Court"—it's a three-page article, and this was sort of the culmination, from what I can tell in the rules book, that the five-player game had been adapted.

Barnes: Okay, yeah and I see—I've got that written down. It was published in 1971.

Bartges: In these guides they contain a lot of different things. For people who are not familiar with the guide, it wasn't just rules. There were articles. There's an article from Fran Koenig in here about the 30-second shot clock and the difference

between boys, girls—boys and girls rules, circuit training. There's a variety of stuff.

Barnes: Right, right. It was kind of a small teaching manual as well as providing the rules.

Bartges: Right, and it also gave information for officials.

Barnes: Uh-huh, that's right, yeah.

Bartges: And they were relatively inexpensive, I think a buck fifty.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: This was a means not only of disseminating rules, but also for DGWS and AAHPERD to raise money.

Barnes: That's correct.

Bartges: And they published these in all of the sports that they sanctioned.

Barnes: That's right, yep. That's right.

Bartges: In the back of this particular book, the 1971, there was a survey about going to the five-player game. So people who bought this book—physical educators and coaches who bought this book had the opportunity to help DGWS decide about going to five-player. Do you remember that?

Barnes: Yes. I had forgotten it, but I do remember it now that you point it out. (laughs)

Bartges: No, that's okay. I forget things all the time and when people say something that triggers my memory, then it's like, Oh yeah.

Barnes: Um-hmm, a long time ago.

Bartges: It is and it isn't. I mean, I think if you ask modern basketball players in this era right now "how long have women been playing five-player basketball?", a lot of them would say, "Well always—"

Barnes: Uh-huh, that's correct. That's right.

Bartges: —which is very far from the truth. It's not really that far back.



Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: Do you remember any of the conversations surrounding going to the five-player game? Even in the book it says there was contentious discussion, there was serious debate—they use that kind of language.

Barnes: Well, I would say those words aptly describe the discussions. There were people who were just absolutely opposed to the change, and there were others that thought, It's time. So the discussions often tended to be argumentative (laughs) and accusatory, I suppose, but in the end enough people agreed that it was time to change the rules that it happened. I think there was a little more research available on the physiological not only aspirations but limitations of the female athlete, and so I think as a result of those, it enabled us to get the rule passed.

Bartges: What—

Barnes: And when I speak of limitations I don't mean the lower level, I mean the upper level.

Bartges: Right. In the 1970-1971 book—and I picked these two books on purpose. For me as a historian this is the point of change—

Barnes: Um-hmm—

Bartges: —and in the 1970-1971 book, one of the things that—on page five for the Division for Girls and Women's Sports, the very first thing listed under the Purposes of DGWS, it says, "To promote healthful and desirable sports programs for girls and women of all ages. A sport for every girl and every girl in a sport."

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: Can you talk about that philosophy a little bit?

Barnes: Well, I believe at that time there was an effort to get girls involved in activity, and it didn't matter what activity as long as they became involved and were not sitting at home as they do now. (laughs) And the emphasis was not so much on being active in one sport as just being active in many sports. And it wasn't the attitude of athletes, it was more of an attitude of just, Let's get girls moving. And I think essentially that was the—It was more sport than it was athletics.

Bartges: Yes. And were you a prescriber to that philosophy or did you believe more in athletics?

Barnes: Well, I still believe that—I had a dental appointment this morning and the hygienist was talking about her boy who is nine years old. And they now have year-round football programs—tackle—for these nine-year-olds.

Bartges: Wow.

Barnes: You know, I just can't understand that. I can't believe any medical doctor would approve of that. But anyway, so I have never been in favor of specialization by kids, you know, up until maybe sometime in high school I suppose. But that doesn't seem to be the prevailing attitude of—well obviously coaches and obviously a lot of parents because kids are beginning to specialize at a much younger age. I think sometimes kids get burned out when they are pressured to play just golf or swim or whatever it may be. After they've had experience in a variety of sports, then they have some means to decide what one they like best (laughs) and then let them specialize in that if they want. But I have no opposition to kids playing three, four, or five sports a year, you know, whatever's in season.

Bartges: Yeah, that's rarer now. When I was playing, I played four sports, but now you just see kids playing one sport, maybe two—

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: —a fall and a spring or summer sport.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: Which I'm more of a competitive person. I was lucky enough to come up when we had exposure and opportunities for those things. I think part of the serious discussions that you talk about in the Rules Committee pertain to what the purpose of sport or athletics was. Am I wrong?

Barnes: No, I don't think so.

Bartges: Were the people who were proponents of a more athletic model, did they tend to be the younger group of people?

Barnes: Seemed to me we were roughly the same age. I don't know, there may have been a five- or ten-year difference, but not a great deal.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: So I don't really know that that's the case. There just weren't many models for athletics for girls at that time. Now I'll tell you, early on, before all the states began acquiring athletics programs for women, Iowa and Oklahoma were the only two that had state-wide—Texas may have been, but other than those three there weren't any other states that had interscholastic programs of a highly competitive nature, that's what I'm saying. Just as an aside, when I went to Iowa, the Iowa girls program was so well developed it was playing six-player, divided court, and they had a lot of these very—well you know Iowa. So they have a lot of these very small schools, and that's really all they could do. They didn't have six kids that could run up and down the court, and they maintained that six-player game for quite some time, even well after the five-player game was introduced.

Bartges: Into the 1990s.

Barnes: Uh-huh. And then they had both the six- and the five- didn't they?

Bartges: Yes, for a period of time, about five years I think.

Barnes: Uh-huh, and now it's all five isn't it?

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: Yeah, and—well you know the name E. Wayne Cooley?

Bartges: Oh yeah.

Barnes: He invited me to serve on that Board of Governors I think they called that, or Board of Directors, whatever the heck it was. But I was the only female among all these guys, and it was just fun to see a little different picture.

Bartges: I bet.

Barnes: But anyway, that's well away from the—we were talking about rules.

Bartges: (laughs) That's all right. You're the first person I met that knew E. Wayne Cooley.

Barnes: Really?

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: He really had a great program. His program was better than the boys.

Bartges: Oh yeah.

Barnes: By far. I remember—well that's what I started to tell you. I couldn't believe it when I went to that first state tournament. My gosh that arena—what was it, the auditorium?

Bartges: Veterans Auditorium.

Barnes: Yeah. I mean, that thing was packed every night. There wasn't a seat to be had. And the kids—schools were yelling back and forth, you know, saying, "Hi Vidalia, how are you?", these little chants and then they'd answer. It was really neat. But the uniforms, I remember one team had on not bikini-level but two-piece suit, and I thought, My gosh, if you go up and do a hook shot what happens to the top? But I mean I had my eyes open. And when we won the Northeast AAU Tournament we got a trophy that was probably eight inches high, and those things were—even way back then they were three-feet high, and they were huge.

Bartges: It was a big deal.

Barnes: Yeah it was. Anyway—

Bartges: I understand. When I was a senior in high school, so 1978—1977-1978 our coach took us over there because he went to Coe College.

Barnes: Uh-huh.

Bartges: I think in Pella, is that where Coe is?

Barnes: I think that's where it is, I'm not certain about that.

Bartges: And so he took us over to Vet's [Veterans Auditorium] to watch it—

Barnes: Uh-huh.

Bartges: —because we had played in the First State Tournament for Girls in girls' basketball in Illinois in 1977, and so he was trying to motivate us to see a different picture. You walk into Veterans Auditorium—it was like the Olympics.

Barnes: It was. It was. And all the flowers. Did they still do flowers when you were there?

Bartges: Yeah, flowers and—

Barnes: Oh my gosh.

Bartges: —letter jackets and medals and—

Barnes: Oh yes, oh yes.

Bartges: All the extrinsic motivation you could desire. (laughs)

Barnes: Absolutely. Absolutely. Amazing.

Bartges: It was amazing. And that—like you said, it was very eye opening. It's like, Wow this is how the other part lives.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: Because Illinois was so behind. I notice in the rules book—I'm going to go back to this.

Barnes: Okay.

Bartges: You're listed as the DGWS representative to United States Basketball Federation. What did that mean then?

Barnes: There was a period in time when the AAU was the—what was that term—was the organization that fed teams into the Olympic Committee.

Bartges: So they were an NGB, a national governing body.

Barnes: Right, that's the term I want, thank you. And AAU was governing many sports, many—track and field, basketball, and I can't tell you it all. And the Olympic Committee decided that you could only be the governing body for one sport, so the Basketball Federation was formed, and I believe Bill Wall was the first president of that. So I served on that I think—I'm not sure whether I was the only woman originally, but others were appointed in subsequent years.

Bartges: How did you end up on it?

Barnes: I don't know. Let me just look for a second here.

Bartges: Sure.

Barnes: The NC—No, no. I was going to say—The NCAA appointed me to the Olympic Women's Basketball Committee.

Bartges: What year was that?

Barnes: I'll have to find that here.

Bartges: Must have been 1974, 1973—

Barnes: I'd say maybe 1975, 1974-1975. Wait a minute, here we go. Yep. All right, I was on that Basketball Federation from 1974 to 1981 and then the Olympic Committee 1976 to 1980. Let me see—

Bartges: You must have been on that federation committee a little before that because—

Barnes: Here we go, federation—Let's see, I was on that 1974 to 1981. American Basketball Association. And here's the Olympic Committee. I was on the Olympic Committee 1965 to 1976.

Bartges: Oh.

Barnes: I was chair 1974 to 1976, and we had the trials and team preparation here at Central Missouri.

Bartges: That's what I heard. Is that how you got on there?

Barnes: Oh that's where Charlotte Lewis—Yeah, that's how I knew of Charlotte.

Bartges: Charlotte Lewis and Gail Marquis.

Barnes: Yeah.

Bartges: They both talked about going to Warrensburg and how there was nothing there. (laughter)

Barnes: No, there wasn't.

Bartges: Well, Billie Moore said that too. She said that there was a very low—these are my words, but a low factor for trouble because there was nothing there.

Barnes: That's right. That's right—one street with some bars, that was about it.

Bartges: What was your role in that Olympic experience?

Barnes: Let's see, I became— I became chair of the basketball—Olympic Basketball Committee. Let me give you the dates on that.

Bartges: Yep, because I am a historian.

Barnes: Okay, I was chair 1974 to 1976.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: And so we picked the players for the Pan Am Games in 1975 and the Olympic Games in 1976.

Bartges: The team that played in the Pan Am Games in 1975, did that stay intact for the Olympic team or were new members added?

Barnes: New members were added. And as a matter of fact in 1975, we also went to the World Championship which was in Columbia, South America. Pan Am Games were in Mexico, and the Olympics were in Canada, Montreal I think.

Bartges: Yes, they were.

Barnes: Uh-huh.

Bartges: How many—this is a question that I have asked several people—On that 1975 Pan Am team, how many African American players were there?

Barnes: Hmm. Look up here. Okay, I'm looking at the 1976 U.S. team to the Olympics.

Bartges: There's four African Americans there.

Barnes: One, two, three, four.

Bartges: And I know Gail Marquis was not on that 1975 team.

Barnes: Um, I don't think I have that info anymore. Let me just—

Bartges: That's okay.

Barnes: As we're talking I'll just look here.

Bartges: My hope is maybe to interview you about the Olympic experience if we can talk another time. Today I want to talk a little bit about the 1972 AIAW [Association

for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women]/DGWS Women's Basketball Tournament that was hosted by Illinois State University.

Barnes: Okay.

Bartges: Did you go to that tournament?

Barnes: I assume I did but I don't know. We played at Illinois State several times, so I've been there and that's why it's unclear to me whether I was at that. I didn't have a team playing there.

Bartges: Okay. That's what I wondered, if you had a team. I have the—

Barnes: I don't think so.

Bartges: —the program. During this period of time, how would you characterize the style of play at the collegiate level? And we're talking 1972.

Barnes: Do you happen to remember what year basketball started being televised?

Bartges: The championships?

Barnes: Or games?

Bartges: The first game was between Immaculata and Lucille Kyvallos' team.

Barnes: Okay, um, I know her. I know that team—Queens.

Bartges: Queens College, yes, I'm sorry.

Barnes: Uh-huh.

Bartges: And that was in 1974, I think.

Barnes: Well, I'll tell you, when I saw that first game on television, I was kind of embarrassed about the level of play. It seemed poor to me. Now, it was very good (laughs) from a coach's point of view when you got to that level, but from the point of view of having seen men play—and I was a rabid Celtic fan and so I'd been to a lot of Boston Celtic games. And obviously you don't expect kids to play that well (laughs), but it just seemed like we didn't dribble very well, we didn't shoot very well, we didn't block out very well. I mean that was my original opinion, and obviously it's so much better now.



Bartges: So you still follow the game?

Barnes: Oh yeah. Yeah. I watch on TV and—The Basketball Hall of Fame has a Hall of Fame Game. I think it's one of the first of the season. And when it's in—I'm in Florida at that time, and when it's in the area, I go. They had one a couple years ago in Baton Rouge and LSU hosted that thing, so I went to see that. And when I was still in Warrensburg during the season I used to go to all of the games, but I now go to Florida in the winter.

Bartges: Sure. Are you a member of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame?

Barnes: Yes.

Bartges: What year were you inducted?

Barnes: Two thousand.

Bartges: Who else was in your class if you can remember?

Barnes: As a matter of fact, I think Wayne Cooley was.

Bartges: (laughs)

Barnes: I think he was. I don't think I have a—

Bartges: That's okay, I can look it up.

Barnes: They list it under the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Bartges: How did you feel about that?

Barnes: I was elated. (laughs) By that time I had been out of basketball really and had lost most of my connections, so it was not one of the things I thought was ever going to happen, so it was—it was a significant time and one for which I was very grateful.

Bartges: Do you know who nominated you?

Barnes: Never found out.

Bartges: I was just curious.

Barnes: Never learned that, um-hmm, I don't know.

Bartges: When you think back to the change from six-player ball to five-player ball, how do you think that's impacted not just basketball but women's sports?

Barnes: Well, I think it gave some freedom. I think it said to everybody, We are not these wussy little girls anymore, that physiological and psychologically we were capable of running a full court. It was evident in other sports like hockey and lacrosse, but they weren't as well known. And you know, I think Billie Jean King helped a great deal with formation of the Professional Tennis Association—not Association but whatever that professional tennis playing group is called. I think it revitalized sport for girls primarily because it's a game where you can practice on your own and then a coach can combine the skills of everybody and field a team. It enabled kids to play.

Bartges: Do you think that there was—I don't know if I want to say bias, but a preference among women physical educators for individual sports over team sports?

Barnes: Oh yeah, no question in my mind. But interestingly on the East Coast field, hockey and lacrosse were always well recognized, and when I was in school, college level, I played hockey and lacrosse. Lacrosse was always, the tournament was in May and hockey was I think Thanksgiving time, but regardless you lost some school time, and the administration allowed us to do that. One reason was one of our instructors had been a hockey and lacrosse player, so that may have helped. But the point I'm trying to make is another gal in my class was an Olympic-level track star. She was a sprinter, maybe two hundred [meter], I don't really remember now. But anyway, she made the Olympic team, but they wouldn't allow her time off to go to training, and so she missed out on that particular Olympics. After she graduated she qualified again, and she did win a medal. But track and field was not well thought of back in those days, and particularly weight events. I can remember seeing—in the paper you'd get a nice write-up about some girl had done so well in some sprint and then you'd see a picture of a shot put or discus thrower or something and she was a great big muscle Russian girl, and it just—the image was not very good.

Bartges: Was this the mentality—and I'm going to use a term here that I've read in literature—that sports sort of encouraged mannish behaviors?

Barnes: I don't think I ever heard that, but I guess that was maybe the perception.

Bartges: Was there any element of homophobia involved in this?

Barnes: I never heard of any at that time. I never heard of that.

Bartges: I have a question for you, a technical question. In reading this 1971-1972 rules book you—the article you wrote was "From Half Court to Full Court", and you referred to an organization called—it's an acronym you use. Of course now I can't find it. It was all over.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: Looking right at it, GNBC—adopted modifications of the GNBC code. This has to do with—

Barnes: Got me.

Bartges: (laughs)

Barnes: Doesn't mean a thing.

Bartges: Not a thing, huh?

Barnes: Um-um. GN so BC would be basketball committee, I assume.

Bartges: I wonder if that's a region, GN.

Barnes: I don't remember that at all. What does it say about that?

Bartges: Oh here it is. Girls National Basketball Rules Committee. I missed that, I'm sorry.

Barnes: Well, I—Well, that had to be the DGWS Basketball Rules Committee I would guess.

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: Because the rules that were written at that time for all sports were the ones that were used in the high schools as well as colleges, and it wasn't until NCAA garnered administrative responsibilities for the intercollegiate sports that that DGWS Rules Committee just went down the tube.

Bartges: That was a very diplomatic way of saying that.

Barnes: (laughs).

Bartges: When did you get out of—

Barnes: You know, those rules produced like three hundred thousand dollars worth of monetary enhancement for AAHPERD.

Bartges: Oh.

Barnes: I mean, that was a terrible drop in finances for them.

Bartges: Do you think that's affected the organization?

Barnes: May have.

Bartges: It's a big organization.

Barnes: May have. I haven't kept up very well with AAHPERD. At one time they were talking about disbanding DGWS, and I'm not so sure if they haven't, but I don't know.

Bartges: Yeah, I don't know for sure.

Barnes: I still get the journal, but I don't read it real carefully.

Bartges: You talk in your article here about the shock of the proposal.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: Describe that.

Barnes: (laughs) You know, people just didn't believe that females could exert themselves to that extent. And you know, there was—they used to—they did some comparison of the sharp pivoting required, running in one direction and then going in the opposite direction when the ball changed hands, and saying that that was a much more sharp turn of direction than there might be in hockey and lacrosse since hockey at that time had very specific rules on obstruction. You had to do those circular (laughs) defensive moves when going to the left. But in lacrosse you kind of made those same kind of pivot moves. Anyway, they thought there was a difference between the sports. And I think most people weren't familiar—if you weren't from the East Coast, you didn't know anything about hockey and lacrosse.

Bartges: Yeah, I never—we played it in PE when I was in high school but that was my first exposure to it.

Barnes: Uh-huh. Uh-huh. Well, now I've just seen that a couple of schools—well, a couple of private schools in Kansas City started girls' lacrosse. Some boys' teams—there had been maybe two or four teams for boys in the area, again private schools, but even now generally speaking you don't see lacrosse anywhere in this area.

Bartges: Yeah. It's actually an emerging sport in Minnesota at the high-school level.

Barnes: That's good. Make you run the full field.

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: And lacrosse is a far prettier sport. Now they did play field hockey in the St. Louis area back when—and I think there's still some of that, particularly in private schools. I don't know how much exists in the public schools.

Bartges: Yeah, I don't either—

Barnes: —private and parochial.

Bartges: I didn't really see lacrosse until I went to Penn State for graduate school, and they had a very good women's lacrosse team.

Barnes: Uh-huh, yeah.

Bartges: It was a very intriguing game to me.

Barnes: Um-hmm, um-hmm.

Bartges: You talk about—I'm sorry.

Barnes: No, I was going to say, it's more liberal now than it was back when I was playing. You had to always have two hands on the stick, and you can play with just one now. So your extension is far greater with just the one. And the sticks are different. Sticks are way different now than what I used. But I interrupted you.

Bartges: No that's fine. I know when I interviewed Christine, she was upset because Duke was—Duke women were up in Iowa City to play the Hawkeye women in lacrosse, and it happened to be when we had set the time for my interview.

Barnes: Oh gee. (laughter)

Bartges: Both teams were ranked; they might have been one and two, so she's like, Oh dear.

Barnes: Oh gosh.

Bartges: But you talk about—

Barnes: Now let me interrupt you for a second. Does Chris still live in Iowa City?

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: Uh-huh, probably out on the lake where she had a place.

Bartges: You know, she's in a newer house.

Barnes: Oh, is she?

Bartges: It's closer. It's not very far off the interstate, on the north side of the interstate.

Barnes: Oh okay.

Bartges: I would say it's probably a Coralville address but it's not—I don't know when the last time you were in Iowa City—it's not as far out as the mall.

Barnes: Okay. I know Coralville area so—

Bartges: That town has changed dramatically.

Barnes: Oh yeah, I went back a few years ago. They honored that women's team that went to that first invitational basketball tournament, and so I was back then. It had changed then; I know it's changed even more since.

Bartges: It's amazing.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: You talk in your article—I'm going to go back to this for a second—that the reasons people oppose, and this goes back to the shock question—oppose the change to the five-player rule were primarily on cultural bias. Was the cultural—

Barnes: Isn't that interesting?

Bartges: —cultural bias towards physical activity or cultural bias towards team sports, or what kind of cultural biases?

Barnes: I don't know. (laughs) I don't remember.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: I can't answer that.

Bartges: Do you think—and this is going to ask you to speculate—if—

Barnes: You know what, let me go back to that. I wouldn't be surprised, but what it was, the fact that there's so much—well there certainly is now—physical contact in basketball that doesn't appear in some of the other sports, so it might have referred to that.

Bartges: Okay.

Barnes: But that's just—I'm just hypothesizing. I don't know that for certain.

Bartges: Do you think the game for women in basketball could have evolved to the point it is now if the rules had not been changed?

Barnes: No, no way.

Bartges: Why not?

Barnes: First of all, it wouldn't have been as interesting to play or to observe. There's no way, other than Iowa and Oklahoma, that you'd get the attendance—or the media assistance. It's so much—you could do so much more with it with more than one or two dribbles, so that the body movement can be much prettier. There's so many limitations with one or two dribbles. And essentially in Iowa, without the roving player they had one star; the other two people just set up plays to free the star to score. I can remember when one of those gals averaged like fifty-six points a game, you know, everybody else had three or four. So it wasn't as an appealing game without the full court. And there's so much more strategy that you can use in a full-court game as opposed to three players.

Bartges: Do you think the thirty second shot clock has been good for the women's game?

Barnes: (laughs) I think so. I think so.

Bartges: You didn't totally sell me on that. (laughs)

Barnes: I know. I had mixed feelings about that when we put it in. It was an international rule, so we had to learn how to play it in world tournaments, so that made sense to me. I had some objection to the fact that a team was ahead by three or four points through the whole game, and then the other team had the opportunity to jump ahead because you had to shoot the ball; you couldn't use your ball-handling skills to protect it. Dean Smith had that marvelous four-corner thing that he used. So it limited that aspect of the game, of good ball-handling skills down to the wire. On the other hand, it makes it far more interesting. That's a bore when you watch people just pass it around, a bore to some people. (laughs) So I think the use of the clock provided more excitement at the end.

Bartges: Sure. I'm going to ask you—well I'm going to ask you one more time since we've had a chance to talk a little bit—you're not sure whether you attended the first Women's National Championship hosted at Illinois State? Is that true?

Barnes: I'd say that's true. I would have been in Missouri at that time. I don't know if I did or not so—

Bartges: Okay. Did you ever see Immaculata<sup>5</sup> play in person?

Barnes: Yeah, Immaculata played in that first invitational, didn't they? Yeah, I think they—no, West Chester won that.

Bartges: Yeah, I don't know whether—

Barnes: I think West Chester beat Immaculata in the final.

Bartges: That was in—

Barnes: I think.

Bartges: Oh no. See, I don't think Immaculata played in that invitational. I don't think they were invited to it. That's why the national tournament based on regional competitions was such a big deal to them.

Barnes: Oh. Well, I know I can dig up something on that, but that would take me a little time.

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<sup>5</sup> [Immaculata University is a private university located in Imaculata, Pennsylvania. The Immaculata Mighty Macs won three consecutive AIAW basketball tournaments from 1972-1974. In 1975 they beat Maryland in the first nationally televised women's basketball game.](#)



Bartges: Okay. I asked you when we talked on the phone if you knew Charlotte West.

Barnes: And you know, I really know more of her than know her. (laughs)

Bartges: Did your team ever play against Southern Illinois when she was coaching?

Barnes: Yeah, I didn't remember her as a coach, however. Now maybe she was originally, because I remember somebody else as a coach at that time.

Bartges: Well, you know what—well, she coached for a while, but she—I'm not sure how long she coached.

Barnes: Well, I'm not either, and then she became AD [athletic director] didn't she?

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: Uh-huh. I just don't even know who the coach was at that time. Isn't that awful?

Bartges: No. I mean, there's a lot of schools and that was a while ago. You were both active in your professional organizations and were—did you become active in the AIAW?

Barnes: Yes, I was a rep from our school and I was the regional chair, whatever region that was, Midwest or Central—Central district.

Bartges: Oh. So you have a paddle?

Barnes: Yes, and I still have it.

Bartges: Oh boy.

Barnes: I still have it. I didn't throw that baby away.

Bartges: I would love to get my hands on one of those some days, but when they come up—once in a while they come up, I guess at AAHPERD during any auctions as fundraisers.

Barnes: Oh really?

Bartges: And I'm not a member of AAHPERD, but I think, Oh boy. I've seen them. They're pretty cool.

Barnes: Yeah they're—I haven't looked at mine lately. It seemed to me it was kind of like the size of a ping pong paddle.

Bartges: Yeah.

Barnes: Kind of that size.

Bartges: Is it orange?

Barnes: Yeah, I think there's orange on it.

Bartges: Did you have any other leadership positions in AIAW?

Barnes: I was president of the Missouri. Let me look national. I never was president or—I was on the Executive Committee but I don't—why would I have been on that Executive Committee? I was AIAW—on the AIAW committee. Oh, we had the People's Republic of China Basketball Tournament in 1980-1981, and I was chair. I don't know what they called that, but I took that Chinese team around the country on that tour. I was on the—

Bartges: So you were like the hostess or something?

Barnes: Yeah, (laughs) but not with the mostess. (laughter)

Bartges: Oh, come one. I don't believe that.

Barnes: AIAW Basketball Advisory Committee, whatever that was. Yeah, that AIAW—that People's Republic, they went to Iowa. They played in Iowa, Minnesota, New Jersey, D.C., Mississippi, Texas, Nevada, San Francisco.

Bartges: I wonder if I didn't see them play in Iowa because I was in Iowa then. I wasn't in Iowa City, but I drove around a lot. I used to—Do you know **Carole Baumgarten**?

Barnes: Yes.

Bartges: Do you know where she is?

Barnes: No, and I haven't heard that name for ages. I do—Where was she?

Bartges: Drake.

Barnes: Oh yeah.

Bartges: Black hair.

Barnes: She was the Drake coach right?

Bartges: Yes.

Barnes: Yeah. I don't know anything about her, can't help you.

Bartges: She's one of those people that kind of just dropped off the map.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: Did you go to the 1976 Olympics in Montreal?

Barnes: No. We chose the team and then sent them off.

Bartges: Would it—at a later date, I can't do it today, I've worn out my welcome with you I think for one day, it's a lot to remember in one sitting—have a conversation about that Olympic team at another time?

Barnes: Oh yeah, that'd be all right.

Bartges: I probably can't get to it until some time in July.

Barnes: (laugh)

Bartges: If I don't finish my proposal my advisor's going to disown me (laughs) so—

Barnes: Best you do that.

Bartges: I know. I have the cart ahead of the horse sometimes.

Barnes: Um-hmm. And don't you get a raise if you get your degree?

Bartges: You know, I never really even thought about that.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: I suppose. For me the degree is a personal thing. It's—I have sort of a different view of education (laughs) than some people.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: I do it for me. I don't do it for other things.

Barnes: Um-hmm. Good for you.

Bartges: I should ask my president that though, shouldn't I?

Barnes: Yes, you should.

Bartges: (laughs) Well, what I need to ask him is if I get fired as the Affirmative Action Officer, if I can have a tenured track position in the Kinesiology Department.  
(laughs)

Barnes: (laughs) Affirmative Action isn't tenured.

Bartges: No.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: In fact, I am the twenty-third person in this job since 1976.

Barnes: (laughs)

Bartges: They didn't tell me that when they recruited me.

Barnes: They don't last very long. (laughs)

Bartges: Yeah. That's okay. I've been here, I think it's about eighteen months now, and I'm starting to learn the university and some of the people. It's been a very enjoyable experience.

Barnes: Good. Good. I used to know that basketball coach up there, but now that would have been back in the seventies. Can't think of her name now.

Bartges: No, but—

Barnes: I think St. Cloud held the Central Regional Basketball Tournament one year.

Bartges: That could be—

Barnes: That may not be. We may have gone someplace else and they were there. I don't know.

Bartges: I'm very much out of my sphere of influence here. You know, it's just not my region. I was born and raised in suburban Chicago and my family's from Pennsylvania, so I have connections in those places. I know the Midwest, but the upper Midwest I'm not as grounded in.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: So—

Barnes: Hear you.

Bartges: All right. Well, I really appreciate your time today, and once I get this transcribed I'll send you a copy of it and that—my e-mail says this all to you as well.

Barnes: Okay.

Bartges: But they'll be some instructions on how to go through it. Usually the recordings that I do in the studio, the sound is really good so there's not very many unintelligibles or can't decipher kind of words.

Barnes: Um-hmm.

Bartges: And mostly what is helpful is to have names spelled out so that we make sure we have the right people.

Barnes: Okay.

Bartges: So—I'll be in touch, though.

Barnes: Oki-doke.

Bartges: I really appreciate your time.

Barnes: Well, good luck with it.

Bartges: Oh, thanks.

Barnes: Um-hmm, you're welcome.

Bartges: Thanks for everything you did for women's sports, too. I benefited from that and I appreciate it.

Barnes: Well I'm glad. (laughs) Glad the old-timers did something.

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Bartges: You did it right too.

Barnes: We'll see.

Bartges: All righty. Have a great evening.

Barnes: Okay thanks. You too.

Bartges: Bye.

Barnes: Bye.

**(end of interview)**