

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Phebe Scott

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

Interview # DGB-V-D-2005-004

Phebe Scott, an employee of Illinois State University who was worked for equal opportunities for women in sports, 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: March 13, 2005

Location: Ft. Myers, Florida

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: 43

Total Time: 1:19 / 1.31 = 1.31 hrs.

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

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# Abstract

## Phebe Scott, *Women's Basketball in IL*, DGB-V-D-2005-004

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Phebe Scott was born on September 27, 1922 in Boston, Massachusetts. She grew up playing sports and while in high school participated in 'Play Days'. The sports she participated in during Play Days at Fort Collins High School in Fort Collins, Colorado were basketball, field hockey, and softball. After high school, Scott earned her bachelor's degree in physical education in 1944 from the University of Michigan. While there she played basketball against other universities in a competition referred to as 'Sports Days.' She was also a referee for Industrial League basketball games during this same period. Scott participated in Postal tournaments where she displayed her athleticism in archery, swimming, and tennis and was an organizer and speaker at the National Sports Institutes. She earned her master's at Columbia University in physical education in 1946. Scott finished her education by earning a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in physical education in 1952.

After finishing her Ph.D., Scott worked at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, the University of North Dakota, and Ohio State University. It was not until 1966-1967 that Scott began working at Illinois State University (ISU). She was chair of the Women's Department at ISU and chairwoman of the Commission for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (CIAW) of the Division for Girls' and Women's Sports during the 1960s and early 1970s. Informed people recognize her as a trailblazer in women's sports. Scott's main interest was educating girls and women on the importance of equal opportunities for women, primarily through competitive opportunities in athletics. The National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators recognized her in 2007 with their prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. Under the leadership of Phebe Scott, Illinois State hosted the First National Swimming and Diving Championship (1970) and the first truly National Basketball Championship in 1972. She was inducted into the ISU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1979. Dr. Scott died August 19th, 2012 in Ft. Meyers, Florida a month shy of her 90th birthday.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Division for Girls' and Women's Sports (DGWS); Commission for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (CAIA), Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW); Title IX; Postal Tournament; Industrial League; Girls' Athletic Association (GAA); National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD); women's basketball; Fort Collins High School; University of Michigan; Columbia University; University of Iowa; Bradley University; University of North Dakota; Ohio State University; Illinois State University

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