

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Chris Voelz

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

Interview # DGB-V-D-2006-003

Chris Voelz, the former athletic director at the University of Minnesota and a member of the Women's Sports Foundation, 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: June 8, 2006

Location: Chicago O'Hare Hilton Hotel Chicago, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

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

Technical Support (cameraman, etc): Ellyn Bartges

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

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 01:47 / 1.78 = 1.78 hrs

Interview being
processed

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 13, 2013.

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

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Abstract

Chris Voelz, *Women's Basketball in IL,*

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Chris Voelz was born on May 29, 1949 in Geneva, Illinois. She graduated from West Chicago High School in Chicago, Illinois in 1966. She was the president of the Girls' Athletic Association (G.A.A) club at her high school, participated in the Postal Tournament; playing field hockey, volleyball, basketball, and softball. Voelz earned her bachelor's degree from Illinois State University (ISU) in physical education and social anthropology in 1970. She also earned her master's degree from Northern Illinois University in secondary education and sports psychology in 1974. As an undergrad at ISU, Voelz played one year of golf, two years of softball, four years of volleyball, and four years of basketball.

Voelz taught and coached at Maine South High School in Illinois from 1970 to 1978, coaching volleyball, softball, and basketball. In 1988, Voelz began her job as the Women's Athletic Director at the University of Minnesota. She fought everyday to earn better treatment for female athletes at the U. of Minnesota. After leaving the University of Minnesota, Voelz began working for the Women's Sports Foundation. (Billie Jean King founded the Women's Sports Foundation, which is an organization that fights against discrimination in sports and for equality in sports.) Voelz has spent her life either playing sports or advocating for women's sports.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Women's Sports Foundation (WSF); Girls' Athletic Association (GAA); Illinois High School Association (IHSA); Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW); Postal Tournament; Amateur Athletic Union (AAU); Catholic Youth Organization (CYO); Title IX; girls' basketball; women's basketball; West Chicago High School; Illinois State University; Maine South High School; University of Minnesota, John Wooden.

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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