

Interview with Jill Hutchinson
DGB-V-D-2004-006
Interview # 1: November 22, 2004
Interviewer: Ellyn Bartges

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of either Ellyn Bartges (Interviewer) or the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955

A Note to the Reader

This transcript is based on an interview recorded by the ALPL Oral History Program. Readers are reminded that the interview of record is the original video or audio file, and are encouraged to listen to portions of the original recording to get a better sense of the interviewee's personality and state of mind. The interview has been transcribed in near-verbatim format, then edited for clarity and readability, and reviewed by the interviewee. For many interviews, the ALPL Oral History Program retains substantial files with further information about the interviewee and the interview itself. Please contact us for information about accessing these materials.

Bartges: And I'm going to introduce you here. It's November 22, 2004, and I'm talking to Jill Hutchinson in Macomb, Illinois. Good afternoon, Jill. Thank you for joining me and agreeing to be interviewed. Some of my first questions pertain to you and sort of give me some understanding about your background. Where did you go to high school?

Hutchison: I spent two years at an American military school in Germany and two years in Albuquerque.

Bartges: New Mexico.

Hutchison: I was an army brat.

Bartges: Okay. Did you play sports in high school?

Hutchison: My two years in Albuquerque we had a phenomenal program. (laughs) And my high school PE [Physical Education] teacher was an Illinois State Normal grad [graduate].

Bartges: What was her name?

Hutchison: Hinney McDonald.

Bartges: What was her given name?

Hutchison: Elvira.

Bartges: Elvira, okay. How big was your high school?

Hutchison: Graduating class of 525, so a couple thousand.

Bartges: Nine through twelve?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: What sports did you play? I know I just asked you that but—

Hutchison: In high school—

Bartges: —In particular.

Hutchison: I played volleyball, basketball, softball, field hockey, track, speed-a-way¹. And we competed against other schools in all of them, but they were sports days, not regular games.

Bartges: Describe what a sports day was for you at that time and place in Albuquerque?

Hutchison: Sports days were events usually held on one day, on Saturday, where a number of institutions, a number of high schools would all come to one location. You would play several games in one day. They were modified games. They were officiated by players. And the whole object was to have an opportunity to compete with the de-emphasis on the winning and losing. So it wasn't as if it was a structured tournament; it was just a round robin kind of thing and you didn't even play everybody.

Bartges: Did you keep score?

¹ Speed-a-way is a team activity that combines elements of football, soccer, and basketball. teacherweb.com/IL/SpringWood/.../03-04-7th-Speedaway-S.-G.docm

Hutchison: Oh, yeah.

Bartges: Did Albuquerque High School play (unintelligible) High School, or did you get together and you mixed people from different teams on the—

Hutchison: Those were play days when we mixed.

Bartges: Okay.

Hutchison: We played sports days at that point. Play days preceded that, but we played sports days. There are several schools in the Albuquerque area, but we would bring in schools from all over the state.

Bartges: Did you have class teams at all?

Hutchison: In intramurals.

Bartges: So besides your play days, you had intramurals as well?

Hutchison: Sports days.

Bartges: Sports days, I'm sorry.

Hutchison: Sports days and intramural program, an extensive intramural program.

Bartges: And you'd participate in those too?

Hutchison: Right.

Bartges: Was your experience in basketball playing five-player or six-player?

Hutchison: I started in basketball in seventh grade when we had a team. I was in Albuquerque then, but I left after one year. Then I didn't play again until my junior year in high school, and then it was six-player. It was that three-and-three game.

Bartges: Was there a rover²?

Hutchison: Not yet.

² 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>

Bartges: Okay.

Hutchison: The rover came when I was in college.

Bartges: Okay. When did you graduate from high school?

Hutchison: Nineteen sixty-three.

Bartges: What's the highest level of education you've achieved?

Hutchison: An Ed.D.

Bartges: Where did you go to college—bachelor's, master's?

Hutchison: I did my bachelor's at New Mexico, my master's at Illinois State, and my doctorate at North Carolina, Greensboro. Another UNCG grad.

Bartges: I know lots of them.

Hutchison: I bet you do.

Bartges: (laughs) What were your degrees in, starting with your bachelor's?

Hutchison: My bachelor's was health and physical education. My master's was—what would you call it? It was in the physical education department, but I specialized in—oh, it's just life science mostly. My doctorate was in—was a combination of sports psych [psychology] and sports soc [sociology]. It was really a custom designed program.

Bartges: When did you graduate from UNCG?

Hutchison: Nineteen seventy-six, I finally graduated.

Bartges: When you were in the military, on military bases, you didn't play organized sports with that?

Hutchison: No. When I was in military bases, except for seventh grade and that was on a military base in Albuquerque, but after that (laughs) our PE classes consisted of marching, which was also very typical in those days, and very nonstrenuous types of activities—jump rope, things like that.

Bartges: Are you familiar with the Postal Tournament?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: Did you ever participate in it?

Hutchison: There was a postal bowling tournament when I was in high school that I participated in, but those were really tapering out in the sixties. I think they were more popular in the forties and fifties.

Bartges: Did you have any experience in industrial leagues?

Hutchison: Competing against teams from industrial leagues. I also played softball and competed with some of those teams, but I really wasn't part of an industrial team itself.

Bartges: I'm going to skip back a second. When you had your sports days, did you have coaches for your individual teams? That was the woman you talked about, Hinney?

Hutchison: Yeah. The coaches—the design that we were in, they would—our coach would conduct practices during the week, but on the day of competition we coached ourselves.

Bartges: And how many times during the week might you practice?

Hutchison: We practiced every day.

Bartges: For—

Hutchison: Couple hours.

Bartges: A week or two before the sports day, or was there a set period of practice?

Hutchison: Well, it kind of went from intramurals into practice into a sports day.

Bartges: Did you practice after school or in the evening?

Hutchison: After school.

Bartges: At the high school or somewhere else?

Hutchison: Um-hmm, at the high school.

Bartges: When you participated in sports day, were there any fans in attendance?

Hutchison: Once in a while parents would show up, but very few.

Bartges: Okay. Did you ever play AAU [Amateur Athletic Union] ball?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: What kind of ball—basketball, softball?

Hutchison: Well, AAU at that time controlled mostly basketball. ASA [Amateur Softball Association] controlled softball. I competed in AAU track as well.

Bartges: Where did you compete in AAU basketball?

Hutchison: New Mexico and Illinois both.

Bartges: How did you get connected with that? People you knew or was there a listing in a paper saying, We're having a tryout?

Hutchison: No. When I was in college, several of the players who had graduated before me had organized an AAU team, and so I got hooked up that way.

Bartges: Did you play sports in college?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: Again, what sports?

Hutchison: Basketball, softball, volleyball, track, field hockey.

Bartges: You were busy.

Hutchison: Yeah, I even swam one season, and tennis one year.

Bartges: I'm going to stick with basketball.

Hutchison: Good idea.

Bartges: In college, did you play five-player or six-player?

Hutchison: Started out playing six-player divided court and then—I'm not sure whether it was my sophomore or junior year, we went to the rover.

Bartges: Okay. Did you ever play five-on-five? When you played AAU, did you play six-player or did you play five-on-five?

Hutchison: Five-on-five didn't come in until 1970. I was on that rules committee that passed that.

Bartges: Okay, I have a question about that.

Hutchison: So in my educational sports, I never played five-player. I had already graduated and finished my master's, but I was still playing AAU and played five-player.

Bartges: After the rules changed?

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: Some of the questions seem maybe a little elementary, but it's hard for people now to understand that some of the people who have been so deeply involved in basketball in this state, and in girls' basketball, never played five-on-five or didn't play until they were much older.

Hutchison: Right.

Bartges: And they have no concept of six-on-six because when Iowa went out, that was the last place.

Hutchison: Right.

Bartges: So I want to make sure that I kind of document that.

Hutchison: I was in my mid-twenties when we got into five-on-five, and I competed for another ten, thirteen years.

Bartges: Did you serve in the military or the National Guard at any time?

Hutchison: No.

Bartges: Did you teach or coach in the secondary school system?

Hutchison: One year.

Bartges: Where?

Hutchison: Junior high in Albuquerque.

Bartges: Did you coach?

Hutchison: Yep. Started every sport program they had.

Bartges: What year was that?

Hutchison: Nineteen sixty-seven, nineteen sixty-eight.

Bartges: Was your principal male or female?

Hutchison: Male.

Bartges: Was he in favor or against adding girls' basketball or sports in general?

Hutchison: Very supportive. Another gal and I had just graduated from New Mexico, and between the two of us we started seven or eight different sports.

Bartges: And the two of you coached all of them?

Hutchison: Yep. The seasons were a lot shorter then. I mean, you know, that was a huge difference.

Bartges: Yes. How many games did your team have that year?

Hutchison: Oh, maybe ten, something like that.

Bartges: Oh, that many? Did you ever participate in a National Sports Institute or a National Leadership Conference?

Hutchison: Yes, a couple of those. We—

Bartges: You're the first one that I've interviewed that has.

Hutchison: It wasn't the first one, that's for sure. I was too young to get involved with the first one, but I participated in one that was some place in the Midwest, and I honestly can't remember it. I was probably twenty-three, twenty-four years old. Then we had a huge one at (unintelligible) Park. That must have been 1970, 1971, someplace in there. And it was a huge, huge time when we discussed whether we were going to go into competition, what kind of competition, what the ramifications were, scholarships, all those kinds of issues.

Bartges: Were most of the people that participated in that conference from the college venue or were they from the high school venue?

Hutchison: You know, probably I would say at least seventy-five percent were college, but there was high school representation and some really, really sharp ladies were involved.

Bartges: Any names in particular that you remember?

Hutchison: Oh, shoot. Well, you know, Kaye Pierce was involved in some of those. Kaye was at Maine South. And she was—

Bartges: I've heard that name.

Hutchison: And she was really a dynamic lady, but—oh, give me a break. A lady named Joan Shiley who was from Cleveland, but there's another lady from Shaker Heights High School in Cleveland that was a very dynamic leader, and for the life of me I can't think of her name. And I think she's still alive and she's still in the Cleveland area.

Bartges: When you talk about how you wanted to compete, what were some of the questions? What were the concerns?

Hutchison: Well, in the late sixties, early seventies, there were two huge issues. One, were women physically capable of competing at a high level without endangering the heart, the reproductive system, their bodies in general. Two,

it was just such a social change for women to compete. And so how to compete and keep all the qualities that they had endorsed from the 1930s on was part of the challenge.

Bartges: Was there a—I don't want to say a split, but sort of a changing of the guard in the attitude towards competition at this time?

Hutchison: You know, when I did my doctorate, one of my goals was to find out why the older generation was so adamantly against competitive sports. And so those people that came up in the forties, the fifties, and the sixties were raised being taught that it wasn't healthy, it wasn't socially acceptable, it wasn't desirable for females to compete, and that all of the hazards of the men's program were just horrendous, and if we get into it, we're going to go down the same trail. Then there was a new guard. And certainly the majority were younger, but they weren't all. There were people like Phebe Scott who had been at Ohio State, came to Illinois State, who really led the charge with—oh shoot—there was three people. (unintelligible). Jeez. Katherine Lay was the second one, and the third one I'm not going to remember right now.

Bartges: And I think Katherine is dead.

Hutchison: She is. Phebe Scott is still alive, though.

Bartges: I spoke with her.

Hutchison: Did you?

Bartges: Yeah.

Hutchison: Fantastic.

Bartges: I haven't interviewed her yet, though.

Hutchison: She's awesome. She is just an awesome lady and has never gotten her due for what she did. But there are people like Phebe and Katherine Lay that believe that it could be done and done right and stuck out their necks and got us into the CIAW [Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics for Women] then the AIAW [Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women], and then that transformed in the NCAA a decade later.

Bartges: Yeah, which is another whole story.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: I'm going to skip to a question later down the pike here. And one of the things that I wanted to know was, in your opinion did the AMA's [American Medical Association] endorsement for vigorous exercise help change the public educational policy towards interscholastic sport?

Hutchison: Oh yeah, there's no question. I mean, it legitimized what people had already proven, and it kind of legitimized it for the public to say, Okay, my daughter can participate, and that was probably the biggest thing.

Bartges: True. Were officials in Illinois concerned with what version of the rules were used for basketball?

Hutchison: My perception was that the officials in Illinois were concerned about basketball period because they looked at Iowa and saw basketball dominating the high school scene, and so they didn't want to get involved. This is at the high school level now. So they wanted to establish every other sports program before they got to the basketball so that they would all have some type of following. The rules—that was your question?

Bartges: The rules, yeah.

Hutchison: That—

Bartges: (unintelligible) concern. (unintelligible)—

Hutchison: Everybody was. I mean it was really a tough situation. At one point the rules committee was dominated by AAU people, and that was in the sixties because AAU was a sports governing body.

Bartges: Okay.

Hutchison: Well, the AAU people that were involved with that competed in a national league. And there were eight teams in that league. From that league they typically selected the national coach and the national team. Well—

Bartges: And the national team played Pan American games because they weren't playing in the Olympics?

Hutchison: That's right.

Bartges: So the NGB, the National Governing Body, which was run by the AAU people, was not geared into the Olympics yet. It wasn't at that scale?

Hutchison: Right. Okay. But—so that committee was dominated by AAU, but it also had representation from NAGWS [National Association for Girls and Women in Sport], the military, people in the military—army, navy, those people that played, the Y's [YMCA/YWCA]. Anybody that played basketball had some representation, but AAU had the controlling votes.

Bartges: Numerically speaking?

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: And how many people were on that committee?

Hutchison: You know, I honestly can't tell you. I got involved in 1969 probably, something like that. And officially there were probably fifteen to twenty people. In practicality maybe a dozen or more showed up. And the problem was the AAU people wanted a set of rules that they could compete with year round that would prepare their players to compete at an international level, and playing the six-player game wasn't making it because the international rules had been five-player from the get-go for women. And so some groups started to break off from that. Now, I honestly can't remember where the National Federation was at that point, but at one point they used those same rules. And I'm not sure whether they had their own rules or not, but they used the six-player rules that came out of that committee that were published by NAGWS.

Bartges: And NAGWS had always published—

Hutchison: Yes—

Bartges: —the rules until the National Federation got involved?

Hutchison: Forever.

Bartges: It was a moneymaker for them?

Hutchison: Yeah, but it started as a service.

Bartges: Service.

Hutchison: And we're talking turn of the century service.

Bartges: Yes.

Hutchison: I mean, it went back that far.

Bartges: Yes. From the lady in Louisiana and Sendra Berenson³.

Hutchison: Yeah. Yeah, I mean way back then, they started publishing a set of rules that Spaulding published for them.

Bartges: The AAU people wanting to have a set of rules in place that would enable them to compete at an international level, how important do you think that was?

Hutchison: (laugh) It depends on your perspective.

Bartges: What was your perspective?

Hutchison: Well, I was all for competition, so I wanted to move on. And from my perspective I thought we needed to make that switch to the five-player game. I thought that we had—my whole thesis was based on heart rates of females competing in a five-player game and, you know, we could easily demonstrate that females could handle it. Well, if they could handle it, for one, if there was a desire to compete at that level, then let's change the rules and let girls play the real game. So from my perspective, to grow opportunities for females to compete in basketball, I thought we had to go to the five-player game. Those who were opposed to it were the old guard. And I got involved on that rules committee when I was like twenty-three years old, and it was because I was doing that research.

Bartges: That's how you ended up on that board?

Hutchison: Basically, yeah. As I thought back on it, I think several people just got me involved because I had done the research. So the first time that committee met and actually had on the table a vote to go to the five-player game, there was an overwhelming vote to approve it. And—

³ Sendra Barenson Abbott introduced women's basketball at Smith College, and in 1899 she authored the first Basketball Guide for Women. She was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1985.

Bartges: The very first time?

Hutchison: The very first time—well, that I was involved.

Bartges: That you were there?

Hutchison: And I think it was the very first time. And there must have been four or five NAGWS reps, a whole slew of AAU reps, a few from the military, and a few from the Y. But the majority of the NAGWS reps voted in favor of the five-player game. We got out of the meeting, went back to the people—the president of DGWS [Division for Girls' and Women's Sports] or—it was DGWS then—and told them what had happened at the meeting. They were livid, didn't think that the country was ready, didn't think we could do this. And the only way that they could counter that vote, which really was official, was to disband the committee, so they withdrew from the committee. So the rules sat there for a year without change. During that year DGWS really cussed and discussed and went through the whole scenario of should they or shouldn't they. The following year they were ready to endorse it.

Bartges: Who was the president of DGWS at this time?

Hutchison: You know, I remember Fran Koenig was the one that really did it, so she must have been president.

Bartges: Fran Koenig?

Hutchison: Koenig, K-o-e-n-i-g. And she died a couple years ago. She was at Central Michigan [Central Michigan University].

Bartges: Where did this committee meet and when? Do you remember exactly?

Hutchison: We met at a motel in St. Louis that was a Holiday Inn. It's still there right now, but it's a different owner. And we met in spring, that's all I can remember.

Bartges: Spring of 1969?

Hutchison: I'm thinking that.

Bartges: I'm a little confused. How did DGWS have the power to sort of (unintelligible)?

Hutchison: Well, if DGWS disbands the committee then they can say that they're pulling out all their reps, they're not going to publish the rules, they're not going to endorse the rules, they're not going to play them in the colleges, and so they could put the poops on it.

Bartges: The committee was originated by DGWS?

Hutchison: No, it wasn't. It had to have been originated, I'm going to guess, by AAU because they were the sports governing body, but it was an agreement by everybody.

Bartges: Okay.

Hutchison: So I don't know who initially—because it would have been a decade or more before that.

Bartges: Well, I'm interested in that because you're the first person, and probably the only person that I'll interview, that was on that committee, obviously, so to have your perspective with that is important.

Hutchison: It was unbelievable.

Bartges: The next question is a little bit rhetorical, but I want your take on it for at the time. In 1971 when the National Basketball Committee finally passed and accepted the experimental rules and that became official, how did that impact Illinois at the high school level?

Hutchison: The high school level, let me think. Whoa. Well, at the time there was no organized basketball. I mean there was no state tournament. I'm trying to think back. It—I don't even know if very many schools were playing basketball on an organized basis then.

Bartges: How about at the college level?

Hutchison: Colleges went immediately. But understand that by then probably the most dynamic leadership in the country was in Illinois.

Bartges: And who was that leadership?

Hutchison: Oh my God—Phebe Scott, Laurie Mabry, Charlotte West, Joe Thorpe, Mo Bell. Who's the other one at Northern? Eugene Moyer. I mean those people were on every, every influential position there was in DGWS and AIAW, and I mean it was just a hotbed here. It was unbelievable.

Bartges: Were you coaching at the time?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: And were you coaching at Illinois State then?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: In 1971?

Hutchison: Yes.

Bartges: When did you begin coaching at Illinois State?

Hutchison: 1970.

Bartges: And what was the position title? Were you the head coach? Were you—

Hutchison: Um-hm. I was the head women's basketball coach and I was a physical education instructor as well.

Bartges: Okay, so you had a dual role?

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: How many levels of basketball did you have?

Hutchison: We had four teams.

Bartges: In 1970?

Hutchison: Um-hm. We had that up until 1980.

Bartges: And those four teams, which team traveled—one team, four teams?

Hutchison: All four teams traveled.

Bartges: How did you travel?

Hutchison: Oh my God, back then we traveled in university station wagons.

Bartges: (laugh)

Hutchison: And we'd take three or four station wagons. There might be one or two coaches. Kids would drive in cars. There were eight kids piled in a wagon. It was a trip.

Bartges: So you had assistant coaches?

Hutchison: Yep.

Bartges: How many?

Hutchison: We had one. No, we didn't. For four teams we had two coaches, and then typically in our program we had grad assistants as well.

Bartges: How many kids were on a team?

Hutchison: At least ten, sometimes twelve.

Bartges: And when did you practice?

Hutchison: After school.

Bartges: Where?

Hutchison: McCormick Gym.

Bartges: And for how long did you generally practice?

Hutchison: Well, early in the seventies, the State of Illinois had a governing association called the IAIAW [Illinois Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women] and they limited your practice. They controlled the practice time, the number of events you could have, and so forth. And I can't remember when things were the way they were, but when I first started, we were limited to six hours a week practice time.

Bartges: (laugh)

Hutchison: So—

Bartges: The NCAA saw the light—

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: —a few years later.

Hutchison: We usually tried to practice four days for an hour-and-a-half a day.

Bartges: And you were obviously playing five-player. You had uniforms?

Hutchison: When we started we had PE uniforms. Everybody was required to take PE in those days in the entire state. So for PE class, especially majors, wore crisp white shirts and crisp white shorts. And so for our uniforms we just used that and threw a pinny over the top of it. And if it was a really big event, we would run plastic red stripes down the side of our shorts to make it look really cool.

Bartges: (laugh) Who paid for your trips?

Hutchison: Well, athletics was part of the physical education department, both men's and women's, and so we were part of that department. And initially the finances came out of the physical education budget. As the program grew, then it came out of student fees predominantly, as did the men's.

Bartges: Some of the people that I've interviewed said that the university or the college might pay for the travel, like the bus or the vans or the wagons, but the players had to pay for any food, or they might get a buck twenty for food money or hotels. What was your experience?

Hutchison: At Illinois State we paid for it, but we were on a limited budget. I mean, they would get a buck for breakfast, a buck fifty for lunch, \$2.50 for dinner, that kind of thing. And if we had to stay in a motel, we paid for the motel. So we really didn't have to charge our kids. If they wanted more—they wanted something that our budget wouldn't allow for, they could order more, they paid the difference.

Bartges: They paid the difference? How many games did you play in those first, let's say two years, three years?

Hutchison: Maybe twenty.

Bartges: And where did you play your games? Did you travel mostly in Illinois or the Midwest, or did you go to any tournaments?

Hutchison: Well, the NIT [National Invitation Tournament] started in 1968, and we didn't participate in that. In 1969 Laurie Mabry was coaching, and we participated in the second NIT, and that was at Northeastern and Boston. Southern Illinois went to that as well.

Bartges: And was Charlotte West coaching then?

Hutchison: Yes. In fact, we took their plane because they have an aeronautical school—

Bartges: Yes—

Hutchison: —and they came and picked us up and then we flew out, which we thought was big time. In 1970, which was my first year—so I must have started 1969-1970. See, that doesn't sound right. I can't—forget it. I don't know what the years were. Then we went to Cullowhee, North Carolina, Western Carolina—

Bartges: Western Carolina—

Hutchison: —for the third national invitational. Then the next year was the official AIAW Tournament. So we did travel nationally. The rest of our games were all within the region, which included about six states—Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, and Illinois.

Bartges: Pretty extensive program compared to some of the other people that I've talked with.

Hutchison: It was huge. I mean, our second and third teams traveled. Our fourth team traveled. It was a—it was an unbelievable program for that time and day.

Bartges: Were most of your players physical education majors?

Hutchison: Yeah. Illinois State had eight hundred female majors.

Bartges: Wow.

Hutchison: Eight hundred. It was the most impressive program that you have ever seen. And most of them came there because they had an opportunity to play sports.

Bartges: On your team, were most of them from Illinois or were they from out of state also?

Hutchison: No, majority were all Illinois kids.

Bartges: How did you recruit them?

Hutchison: You didn't recruit them, they just came.

Bartges: They just came?

Hutchison: Yeah, and then you'd have a tryout for every sport a couple weeks before your season started, and you'd pick your best kids, and then you'd put them on teams, and then off you'd go.

Bartges: Did you ever have cuts?

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: How many people might have tried out?

Hutchison: Oh hundreds. We would have—for a basketball tryout we would keep, let's say, forty to forty-eight kids.

Bartges: For four teams?

Hutchison: Yeah, for four teams. We would have 120 kids travel.

Bartges: Wow.

Hutchison: Yeah, and it was always hard, always hard.

Bartges: This is sort of a catch-all question, and I realize that your experience at the secondary level is limited, but I want to see if you have any—I've asked other people to tell me about the role they had in getting interscholastic basketball for girls added in Illinois, at the high school level. Did you have any participation in that? The rules committee, obviously, was an important aspect of that, but did you do any lobbying or do any kind of work with the IHSA [Illinois High School Association] or any other groups, and if so what was that process for you?

Hutchison: You know, I wish I could—I really tried to think this through, and I wish a good friend of mine were still alive because she could get me straightened out. I don't know how I got involved with it either, to tell you the truth. But I can remember attending a meeting at the IHSA office in Chicago before they ever moved downstate. And Ola had called the meeting together—Harry Fitzhugh was the executive director—and they invited several females that were really active around the state. I can remember Kaye Pierce was there and several people from the suburbs—Chuckie Bremberg, Ola—oh my God, there was just a ton of people. And the essence of that meeting was to try and encourage the IHSA to allow competition for the girls and to make it an argument for that. And that's all I can remember being involved in, or how it went, or where it went. I had gotten involved with the Illinois Girls Coaches Association, IACAGWS, something like that. And that must have been why I got involved. But I was a huge advocate, so any chance I had to get involved, I got involved.

Bartges: Did you do clinics or anything like that for high schools?

Hutchison: Oh yeah, all the time. I did coaching clinics all over the state. I'd go up to Chicago, I'd do them around Central Illinois. I'd do them for free just to teach women how to coach because most of them were physical educators that didn't have a clue how to play a five-player game. They'd all been raised in six-player, so they didn't know what to do offense or defense or anything else.

Bartges: So your clinics were for coaches, they weren't for players?

Hutchison: We started camps in—the summer of 1974 was our first camp at Illinois State for kids. I lost my shirt.

Bartges: (laugh)

Hutchison: We ended up with maybe thirty-some kids that just wanted to play ball. And I just decided, We'll just keep doing this as a service to give kids an opportunity to learn the game.

Bartges: Were you familiar with the Cathy Rush camps?

Hutchison: Not at that point. I had heard about them, but the East Coast was the other hotbed, and right around Philly and in that area it was huge. So I kind of learned about them later. Frankly, I learned more about them when I started playing field hockey and I was out there at summer camps.

Bartges: What kind of obstacles do you think that the high school coaches, or that you faced in trying to get that transitional period of basketball covered?

Hutchison: One, acceptance from administrators. Two, acceptance from the IHSA, to try and make it as equitable for females as it was for males. Facilities—because the boys had dominated them for so long and that really meant taking from the boys to give to the girls. Finances—uniforms, coaches' salaries, equipment. The girls had a 30-second clock, the guys didn't. Officials, travel, all that kind of stuff.

Bartges: The girls had a 30-second clock—

Hutchison: From the get-go.

Bartges: —at college level or at the high school level?

Hutchison: Well, when the high schools played the DGWS rules, that was a 30-second clock from the very beginning because that's international.

Bartges: Okay. I don't remember that. I have no memory of that. The IHSA—

Hutchison: Um-hm.

Bartges: —what sort of obstacles did you face with them? And I've talked to Ola Bundy. I've spoken with Cindy Adams Butkovich. Joey Renard is dead.

Hutchison: Yeah, she was really something. I didn't know her either though.

Bartges: The feeling that I get from some of the people that I've spoken with is that the IHSA was working slowly and steadily—

Hutchison: That was tactful.

Bartges: —(laugh) to get these sports added. And the sense that I got was that they did hold back on basketball because they wanted to give the other sports an opportunity to establish themselves, grow their roots, so to speak—

Hutchison: No question—

Bartges: —because they thought basketball would dominate.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: Do you think that's why it took so long for basketball to be added?

Hutchison: Oh yeah, no question. I can't—I would assume Ola said that too.

Bartges: Yes.

Hutchison: Yeah, but that was a plan. That was planned from the get-go. From those who wanted the programs, it seemed like pulling teeth to get the IHSA to move. Listening to Ola's side of it, trying to get the powers that be within the IHSA to buy into it was a slow process. I think people questioned how much the women—and Ola was the only woman—how much Ola really pushed it. Ola grew up in the GAA [Girls' Athletic Association] camp sports day era, and she didn't jump on board with all four feet at the get-go either. So it was part of her buying into it to be able to sell it to the board.

Bartges: Do you think she evolved?

Hutchison: Oh gosh, yeah. Yeah, Ola's a great advocate and—

Bartges: Do you think the IHSA knew what they were getting when they hired her to replace Geraldine (unintelligible), or they didn't get what they thought they would?

Hutchison: I think at the beginning Ola was a real advocate of everything that Geraldine proposed. I mean, she was into the camps and all that, and that's what IHSA for girls was all about back then. And so I don't think they ever expected Ola to be such a fighter for the women's programs. And she didn't back down to anybody. I mean she, I'm sure, risked getting fired more than once by stating her position.

Bartges: Do you think the IHSA supported her in the way that they needed to?

Hutchison: Not always.

Bartges: From where you stood?

Hutchison: Not always. Now I was a young whippersnapper, I wanted her to move faster. So she pushed and they resisted, and I think could have helped her significantly more. But I think that was pervasive in almost every program in the country. People allowed it to happen, but they didn't embrace it because it

cost money, cost space, cost staff. And they're thinking, All right, where are we going to get all of this?

Bartges: I'm very careful not to take that side or try to look at her perspective, but I want your reaction to this statement: Ola said when I interviewed her that ultimately in 1972-1973 the IHSA just—it sort of came to the conclusion that it was time.

Hutchison: Yeah, I think it had been a lot of discussion prior to that that got them to that point, but—and I don't know who was on the board that finally got it through because that's the key.

Bartges: Lorrie Ramsey talks about going through the executive committee and going from a vote of fifteen to nothing to thirteen to two and the progression.

Hutchison: Really?

Bartges: Yes.

Hutchison: This is when Lorrie—

Bartges: When she was (unintelligible), yes.

Hutchison: Um-hm.

Bartges: Lorrie was my first interview, and there were things that now I know I should have asked—

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: —but I didn't know the process yet. She was pretty specific in the information that she gave and how that evolved. Ola just kind of summed it up in saying

that the IHSA had determined it was time. It was inevitable, it was something whose time had come.

Hutchison: I think part of it was the pressure they kept getting from heads of women's PE departments.

Bartges: If you had eight hundred kids in your program at Illinois State, and so you were graduating let's say conservatively two hundred a year—

Hutchison: Easily.

Bartges: —that's a huge amount of influence.

Hutchison: You're right.

Bartges: And a lot of the suburban schools during this period were growing. A lot of the people who I've interviewed from the (*unintelligible*) counties, up around where I'm from, their schools were built in 1968, 1969, 1970, so they had young people coming into their systems—

Hutchison: Right—

Bartges: —and new administrators and all of that sort of change, and parents clamoring now—

Hutchison: No question.

Bartges: So would you say that's an accurate portrayal?

Hutchison: Oh yeah, no question. Plus, PE was required in the state, so they had to hire these young people, and that made a difference back then. And I know that a good majority of the people that are teaching in the state are ISU grads just by

pure number, but there were also Southern grads and Eastern grads and stuff that had competitive opportunities that were out there pushing the same buttons.

Bartges: I'm going to change gears a little bit here.

Hutchison: Okay.

Bartges: Did you belong to any group or groups that were active in the civil rights movement?

Hutchison: No.

Bartges: Were you a Girl Scout?

Hutchison: Yep.

Bartges: As a child, an adult, or both?

Hutchison: Just as a kid.

Bartges: Billie Jean King⁴ says that she hates labels or being labeled; however, for the purpose of this interview, how did you or would you characterize yourself during this period in your life? And I'm looking at the period from 1968 when Linda Lee Bain—she is the last research that I've seen on this in the State of Illinois.

Hutchison: Really?

⁴ Billie Jean King is a former American professional tennis player. A strong advocate for sexual equality, King participated in and won the Battle of the Sexes tennis match of 1973 against Bobby Riggs.

Bartges: Yeah. There's nothing, which is what prompted me to do this.

Hutchison: Good.

Bartges: From 1968 to 1977 when the first tournament was added, how would you characterize yourself at that time?

Hutchison: I would say I was a...I was an activist in the sense that I was very involved trying to get a lot of things passed through organizations to allow more participation for females and to really advance the game. I was never a bra burner. I didn't feel that the way to the end was to antagonize those who thought differently. I thought the way to the end was to find a way to convince them to get them on our side. And so I thought I was pretty active on a lot of levels, trying to do that from that approach.

Bartges: What was the most effective organization that you belonged to, to try and further that?

Hutchison: Hmm.

Bartges: Or was it your status as a college coach?

Hutchison: After hosting the AIAW National Tournament, I spent the next ten years on the Women's Basketball Committee. I also spent the next ten, twelve years on the Girls' Committee. I chaired them both. I was a consultant. I mean I was a rules interpreter, and so I had positions that gave me opportunities to influence the direction of things. And that was probably—those two organizations, those two committees, I think, at the time had the most influence. I mean, we set up all the regions for AIAW for competition, we got national television coverage for our final four. We did all those things that the NCAA brags about that—but having those accesses, I had an opportunity to talk to congressional leaders, to do all kinds of stuff like that. And that just gave me an avenue. I became a speaker at a lot of clinics and did things like that.

Bartges: When did you get involved with what has evolved into USA Basketball?
Were you involved in the 1976 Olympic Team?

Hutchison: Only in that Charlotte was on that team, and I kind of became familiar with it by getting her involved and taking her to tryouts and doing some things like that. In 1978 I was selected to coach the Junior National Team, and that was really getting the 1980 team ready for the Olympics.

Bartges: And were you a coach on the 1980 team?

Hutchison: No. Let me think now, let me go back here. 1978 I coached the Junior National Team and then I helped with the national team on certain tours in the country, but I never really coached them. In 1983 I coached our Select Team, which was like our number two team that fed into our Olympic program. And so I was on USA Basketball's Selection Committee for eight years, (unintelligible) and so I got involved from that aspect.

Bartges: How exciting was it for you to have basketball added as an Olympic sport in 1976?

Hutchison: Phenomenal. I thought our time had finally come. I thought that just did it. We had a national tournament, it was going great guns, and now we could compete in the Olympics. But in 1984 to win it was huge.

Bartges: And that was America's first gold medal—

Hutchison: Right.

Bartges: —in the Olympic Games?

Hutchison: Right.

Bartges: The silver in 1976 and then the 1980 boycott⁵, so that was a long process. I'm going to list a collection of states that surround or border Illinois and the years that they implemented a state tournament for girls' basketball: Iowa 1926, Indiana 1975, Michigan 1973, Wisconsin 1976, and they started with three classes, Minnesota 1974, Ohio 1976, Kentucky 1920 to 1932 and then it was dissolved and they picked it up again in 1975, Tennessee 1965, Missouri 1973 and then Illinois in 1977. As a coach, as a player, as an advocate for girls' sports in this state, how did you feel when you saw states surrounding you competing in competitive state tournaments and Illinois didn't have one?

Hutchison: I was extremely frustrated. I just felt like we were afraid to get our feet wet. I was extremely disappointed that we wouldn't jump into it. I thought we could do it, we could do it with some class, and so it was very frustrating watching it.

Bartges: What can you tell me about the process of getting a state tournament added in Illinois? How were you involved in that process? And I know you were a college coach so your level might have been a little different.

Hutchison: I honestly can't remember being involved except trying to advocate it any time I had the opportunity, so I couldn't tell you particulars.

Bartges: Illinois State was the host institution for the first state tournament for girls in 1977. Did you have any role in that as an administrator? Charlotte Lewis talked about maybe working some games.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: What kind of stuff did you do with that?

Hutchison: Our teams served as like hosts and hostesses for the high school teams. We worked the bench, we—basically we kind of set it up and did the local stuff. We didn't have staff within the athletic department that did it, so our

⁵In 1980 the United States boycotted the Olympics, held in Moscow that year, to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

basketball program did it. And that was one of the problems that first year. We had student athletes running the clock and the scorebook and stuff like that. And there was a problem with the clock. Well, they just decided that was the worst thing under the sun having these kids doing it. They had been doing it all year, they had done it, some of them, for state tournaments, and stuff like that. They were much more experienced than anyone else unless we went to people who worked benches for the guys. So there was a big stink about that.

Bartges: What kind of problem was there with the clock?

Hutchison: I can't remember what happened, but there was an error and people just went ballistic over it. And that was one of the reasons they ended up moving it over to Champaign.

Bartges: First year it was at Illinois State and then it went to Champaign for about five years after that, or four years, and then it came back to Illinois State—

Hutchison: Right—

Bartges: —and it's still there now.

Hutchison: I was very involved with getting it back. I think when it moved to Champaign it was kind of like a little sister. You know, everybody was excited because the boys' tournament was there, but I don't know that the people in Champaign had embraced the girls. And so, one, I thought Redbird Arena had the right size and, two, we really wanted it. One, it's a recruiting tool.

Bartges: Sure.

Hutchison: Two, we wanted it to be done in such a way that the high school people felt like they were special.

Bartges: What did you think about the caliber of play during the first tournament?

Hutchison: At the time I thought it was really good. Sterling won it. They had some great kids, several of whom ended up playing for us. (laugh) Jim McKinsey, who was the assistant coach who really did most of the coaching, was excellent.

Bartges: He was the assistant coach from Sterling?

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: Okay.

Hutchison: He did most of the coaching really.

Bartges: That's a program for the first tournament. What do you think when you see that?

Hutchison: That's a hoot. Oh yeah. See the bench officials were all our players. That's a stitch. And the officials, several were our players. They're all from ISU practically, all but one of them, ISU people. (laugh) This is a riot. Oh, that's fun. Yeah, there were some great players back then. But you know, the game is so much better now than it ever was then—

Bartges: Oh yeah, it's completely different.

Hutchison: There's no question. But for the time, it was really good and it was exciting. Oh my. Dawn Hallett from Hinsdale South. Did you know Dawn?

Bartges: Yeah. Read some other names there.

Hutchison: Oh my God, there's—were you on this?

Bartges: Yeah.

Hutchison: No way. Oh yeah. Oh, that's a trip. You played with Dawn. My God, you look really familiar.

Bartges: (laugh)

Hutchison: Honest to God, you look real familiar.

Bartges: I'm about forty-five pounds heavier.

Hutchison: Yeah, but you had a great tournament, did you not?

Bartges: Eh, all right. We got beat in that first game. We lost to (unintelligible).

Hutchison: That's right (unintelligible).

Bartges: That was—we had a very good team.

Hutchison: Oh, you did.

Bartges: Dawn was a great player. I mean, she had a legitimate jump shot, a left-handed jump shot—

Hutchison: Yeah—

Bartges: —in 1977. That was unheard of.

Hutchison: She had a great stroke, yeah. If she had had a three-point line, she'd have been unstoppable.

Bartges: Oh, I know.

Hutchison: She—

Bartges: But there were some good players in that tournament: Cathy Boswell, Dawn Hallett, the guard from Joliet West, also—there was—

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: Jolene Lesseman from Sterling.

Hutchison: Yeah, Sterling.

Bartges: There were a lot of good kids on that team.

Hutchison: Oh there were a lot of good players: Marsha—

Bartges: Debbie (unintelligible) who played here.

Hutchison: Oh, that's cool. Oh, I can't believe you have this. This is fun.

Bartges: (laugh)

Hutchison: Oh, Jane Grebner from Washington. Oh—Jan Smith, a coach at Washington died of cancer a few years ago.

Bartges: Oh really?

Hutchison: Yeah. Ray Torres, the superintendent—there is one of the most supportive administrators of women's sports in the history of the world. He is awesome.

Bartges: Is he still alive?

Hutchison: Yes, he is. He's retired. He spent a couple years—a few years coaching baseball over at ICC [Illinois Central College] and just retired from there a couple years ago. He'd be a great guy to interview.

Bartges: Two other people have mentioned him. I need to get in touch with him. Um, given the previous conversations we've had, what do you think was the major reason that slowed basketball from being added? If you had to pick one, what was the a major reason that the IHSA was slow to add basketball?

Hutchison: They wanted a total program and they were afraid if basketball came in before the others, they would not get a balanced program. And it has made a difference. I mean, look at volleyball in this state. It's really established itself. You couldn't say that in Iowa.

Bartges: No, except in the eastern part which borders Illinois where they would play across the border.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: At Dubuque and at some of those other places, there's some big Iowa (unintelligible) but that's where their power is.

Hutchison: Yeah, it's really interesting.

Bartges: What role, if any, do you think homophobia played in the development and growth of girls' sports at the high school level, particularly for team sports like basketball?

Hutchison: I think it was all part of the social problems around sports, period. But I think team sports were affected more, and I think that was true in the sixties and seventies. I really thought by the time we got to the eighties, we turned the corner on it. And Billie Jean King made a huge impact on that, I thought.

Bartges: Yeah, Martina Navratilova too.

Hutchison: Yeah, but Billie Jean King—I mean she was the first one that really changed the image, I think.

Bartges: How do you think Title IX⁶ affected girls' basketball?

Hutchison: Um—

Bartges: And I know that's a big question, but—

Hutchison: Title IX affected everything, but it really brought in the scholarships and it legitimized females having equal opportunity to males. It didn't make it happen for decades. So it gets passed in 1972, it's not even in force until 1976, and it doesn't even start to show up until the nineties. So I think all that's played a social change. I mean, you can have the rules—it's just like racial issues. The rules are there, it just takes society a while to change, and I think social change is slow.

Bartges: How quickly did you see, where you were, changes in funding, travel, schedules, publicity, uniforms, officiating, facilities usage? Did you see that change pretty quickly?

⁶ Title IX is a portion of the Education Amendments of 1972. It states, in part, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Hutchison: No, really slow process. And it had to go through an administrative change to see it changed. We were part of physical education so education is always going to get funded prior to extracurricular. And until they created a separate department within the university for women's athletics and there's a separate one for men's athletics, that's when funding changed.

Bartges: The late Marianna Trekell in her book, *A Century of Women's Basketball*, stated that she felt Title IX forced the issue or the role model for women's and girls' sports towards a more competitive male model of sports. Do you agree or disagree?

Hutchison: I agree.

Bartges: Why?

Hutchison: Well, if you're going to get equality, then it's got to follow the model that's there. And the haves and the have-nots—the haves were the guys. So if you want to get equality, you got to bring it up to what somebody else has. So it went that direction. I think, in retrospect, we tried to do it differently. Had we been able to stay in AIAW, I think we could have done it differently.

Bartges: Was it almost by default that doomed it, AIAW, because of that model (unintelligible)?

Hutchison: It brought it up, yeah. Yeah, it's unfortunate, but there was too much controversy on individual campuses at that point that they were all playing under different rules. And so administrators and presidents and people like that didn't want to deal with that. Plus, women were starting to make money, and I think that made it much more attractive to (*unintelligible*) athletic department.

Bartges: Sure. Is there anything else that you could recall that might help me understand the history of girls' basketball in Illinois during this period?

Hutchison: Oh wow.

Bartges: Anything that we haven't touched on or that I've left out?

Hutchison: No, my gosh, you've hit on all the hot issues, there's no question. I just can't give you good info on what was going on internally with the high school coaches. Kaye Pierce is somebody you should try and talk to.

Bartges: Where is she?

Hutchison: You know, I know she—

Bartges: Or where was she?

Hutchison: She's—Oh, you know who else you could talk to? Oh Jill, you just had a brain lock—at Lyons Township.

Bartges: I had a name from Lyons Township.

Hutchison: There's two of them. Kaye Pierce I know is still alive. I don't know how to find her. She was at Maine South. And you might try and track her through Maine South.

Bartges: Mulder might know where she is. She was at Maine West.

Hutchison: Could be.

Bartges: Arlene Mulder.

Hutchison: Yep, right. I can't believe I cannot think of these two ladies. And they are outstanding. They can give you some insight into what was going on as well.

Bartges: Do you know anybody in the southern part of the state or south of here that might have been influential? I'm heavy on the northern part of the state, and I'm really trying to avoid that.

Hutchison: Yeah. The southern part of the state didn't get really active really early. I mean, even in Central Illinois we didn't have a lot of women that were that involved in the leadership of it.

Bartges: And I've spoken with Charlotte West. And—of course a couple people I didn't catch. Phebe's already gone to Florida, and Charlotte has also. If I go down—we have a place in Sarasota. I might go down there during spring break—

Hutchison: (unintelligible).

Bartges: —and maybe get a chance to talk to them, because I'd like very much to do that.

Hutchison: Oh, my gosh. They would give you more insight than you could—they're awesome, both of them.

Bartges: Yeah, and so influential. Their stories need told.

Hutchison: Oh, trust me. Mo Bell's another one you could talk to.

Bartges: Mo Bell?

Hutchison: Mary Bell was at Northern Illinois. She's still alive. You know, another person that would give you some insight into the officiating part of it is Jean Cancone.

Bartges: She's in that book.

Hutchison: Yes. Yeah. And she's in—she's in Normal still.

Bartges: Yeah, there's several people in Normal I still want to interview. And part of that has to do with the influence that Illinois State had. I've stuck mostly with coaches—

Hutchison: Yeah—

Bartges: —at the high school level, but I think it's important to get a couple of people who are active in the physical education department—

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: Doris Henderson.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: Betty Kiel.

Hutchison: Yeah. They're all right there.

Bartges: And they are there.

Hutchison: I'm trying to see who else was coaching then that could help you.

Bartges: I'm trying to find Jill Stray. I cannot find her.

Hutchison: Did you try Louis?

Bartges: Yes, and there's no notice. But when I talked to Anna Pennstone the other day, she said she thought she was coaching now in the southern part of Chicago somewhere.

Hutchison: She's coaching some place. You know where I might have it? Two years ago we awarded letters to all of our females and (unintelligible), so—

Bartges: You have a lot of very excited women out there. They're just thrilled.

Hutchison: Oh my God, that was the best thing we ever did in our whole life. That was awesome. I was really excited about that.

Bartges: Iowa State just did that over a period of five years, and I finally got to go back for the last one because we didn't have a game that night. It was so cool.

Hutchison: Yeah. It's the neatest thing in the world.

Bartges: And there's a lot of very grateful alumni out there too.

Hutchison: Yeah. Yeah. Oh, Judy at Pontiac. What's her last name? She would have been around in those days. Oh, here's a lady that you could talk to down south, Ann Murray down at Centralia.

Bartges: That'd be a good one. Boy, did they have a big upset in that first tournament.

Hutchison: Annie is—I think she just quit coaching. She could give you a whole lot of insight into the southern part of the state. Let me see who else is from down there.

Bartges: Yeah, they beat Joliet West that first year.

Hutchison: Is that right?

Bartges: That was a huge upset.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: And then Joliet West came back in 1978 and won it.

Hutchison: Yeah. Marge Howard at Jacksonville. I remember her, but vaguely.

Bartges: And it doesn't seem that there is any force from the southern part of the state, consistent.

Hutchison: No they—they never got involved. And that was part of the problem. The ICAGWS thing was so localized up in the suburbs that it almost forgot that the southern part of the state was down there. And of course coaches any place south of I-80 think that everybody doesn't know they exist anyway so—

Bartges: Well, there's obviously a large sphere of influence in the Bloomington, Normal, and Peoria, in that area because there's—you have Lorrie Ramsey, you have—

Hutchison: Ramsey was a great choice.

Bartges: —yourself, you have Ola. There's just a variety of people and a cross-section of categories.

Hutchison: Yeah.

Bartges: And she also mentioned the fellow who was there—the administrator at her school who was in favor of it, and I wrote down his name.

Hutchison: Whose school?

Bartges: Lorrie Ramsey's, the principal at her school.

Hutchison: Yeah, I can't remember who that was. He died also, if I recall.

Bartges: She spoke very highly of him. I think his name was Moore, Bob Moore?

Hutchison: I don't remember. I don't remember him at all.

Bartges: It's interesting that your coach at New Mexico was from Illinois State.
(laughs)

Hutchison: That's how I got here. She wanted me to come here in the worst way. I wanted to do telemetry on basketball players and measure heart rates in competition. There were two programs in the country that—one, had the equipment, and two, had any program at all, and ISU was one of them.

Bartges: Who were the big influential people in that department at that time?

Hutchison: When I came?

Bartges: Yeah.

Hutchison: Phebe was the department head. She had just gotten here. Laurie Mabry. She was—

Bartges: Was she from Illinois?

Hutchison: Yeah, she's from Vandalia.

Bartges: Oh, okay.

Hutchison: Um—

Bartges: I see a correlation also in whether people are from Illinois or not, that's why I asked.

Hutchison: Yeah. Oh Jean Cancone was on the staff. Joyce Morton. And see, a whole lot of those people, when we went into scholarships, got out of coaching because they just didn't believe in it. They'd been brought up in a different day and age. It was amazing.

Bartges: How much older were they?

Hutchison: Jean's only maybe three or four years older than I am.

Bartges: So not a big—not a generation?

Hutchison: No. Laurie's probably—she may be ten years older than I am. Jo Workman's another one. Jo's had several strokes, so you couldn't interview her if you wanted to.

Bartges: When I first got into this I had—I don't know if you know who Marianna Trekell was (*unintelligible*) or not—

Hutchison: Yep. Yeah, and I know she just died.

Bartges: —but, when I first got in touch with her, her sister wrote me back—

Hutchison: Thanks for sharing that.

Bartges: It's fun. I mean, it's fun to see people's reaction because you can see that it brings back time, and with a visual.

Hutchison: Oh my God, yeah that was fun.

Bartges: I don't usually talk about my involvement because I don't want to color their response.

Hutchison: Yeah. As soon as I saw that picture, I remember you playing.

Bartges: I was a good rebounder. My coach told me, If you ever shoot the ball you're coming out.

Hutchison: Oh God. You're kidding?

Bartges: No, I'm not kidding. We had four kids that averaged in double figures. So all she wanted me to do was rebound (unintelligible) their misses—

Hutchison: And throw it out.

Bartges: —and get the ball back. No, she didn't even want me to (unintelligible).

Hutchison: I can remember you just being a hard-nosed, in your face kind of player.

Bartges: I was. And I love basketball. I ended up, I played tennis in college.

Hutchison: Really?

Bartges: Yeah, that's where I played at Iowa State.

Hutchison: At Iowa State? Oh my God. That's amazing.

Bartges: And it just was a different world. I laughed when you said (laugh) station wagons because we used to pile into station wagons. We'd take seven tennis players and our coach, so there'd be eight of us in a wagon.

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: And you know, tennis players are just pigs for equipment and clothing.

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: And we would be jammed in there like this.

Hutchison: Oh, that's funny.

Bartges: Couldn't move, couldn't eat. We had to get sack lunches—

Hutchison: Oh yeah.

Bartges: —off our own meal cards.

Hutchison: From the dorm, yeah.

Bartges: We got our (unintelligible).

Hutchison: We did those too, yeah.

Bartges: (laugh) We would drive to Manhattan, Kansas. We'd get up in the morning, drive to Manhattan and then come back that night—

Hutchison: Oh yeah, couldn't afford—

Bartges: —because we couldn't stay.

Hutchison: Yeah. Oh, no question.

Bartges: But—and how different recruiting was too. And as a former college coach, I'd just think, Oh my God, we would just be fried if we did that now.

Hutchison: Oh.

Bartges: But you know, the coach would say, "Well, here's twenty bucks. We have some kids coming. Take them to wherever." And we would charge the bar bill. We would—

Hutchison: (laugh)

Bartges: We would (unintelligible).

Hutchison: Oh yeah, back in the good old days you could do all of that.

Bartges: Because nobody cared.

Hutchison: You're right. You're right.

Bartges: It's all changed. And nowadays people would—people who weren't involved (laugh) roll their eyes.

Hutchison: Oh yeah. Oh my God. It was even hard when we moved into the same facility the guys were in, and the maintenance guys just couldn't stand having women there.

Bartges: Oh really?

Hutchison: Oh.

Bartges: That's weird.

Hutchison: Didn't want the women at all. This is the guys' place. It was a trip.

Bartges: Well, I mean, I like going into old gyms and—one of the things I liked about college coaching, for instance, is we got to go to the (unintelligible) and play and I thought that was so cool, to go—

Hutchison: That would have been cool, yeah.

Bartges: And our kids never had any feel for history. But to go to Duke and play at Cameron, and to go into the old gyms—I worked Pat's camps for six years—

Hutchison: Oh did you?

Bartges: Going to the old gyms on Tennessee's campus and—that's just so much fun for me because I like the history.

Hutchison: Yeah. I agree. I think it's cool.

Bartges: But the kids now, they don't have an appreciation (unintelligible).

Hutchison: No, and it's too bad that they don't, but we've got to find a way to do that for them because they just don't know what to ask or what to do.

Bartges: Yeah. I don't know. It's a different—I don't miss the travel (unintelligible).

Hutchison: I don't miss the phone calls.

Bartges: Well—

Hutchison: I got so tired of those damned phone calls.

Bartges: And when the rules changed you had to keep a log of every stinking phone call you made, that's—

Hutchison: It got old in a hurry, didn't it?

Bartges: Oh, that was more than I could deal with.

Hutchison: Fun questions, Ellyn.

Bartges: Well, I really appreciate—

Hutchison: You've got an interesting project there.

Bartges: I think when I'm done—I'll graduate in May.

Hutchison: Good.

Bartges: I'm in the History Department. I'm not in the PE Department—

Jill Hutchison

Interview# DGB-V-D-2004-006

Hutchison: Okay—

Bartges: —and I'll graduate in May.

(End of Interview)