

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Lorene Ramsey

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

Interview # DGB-V-D-2004-013

Lorene Ramsey, the former head basketball and softball coach at Illinois Central College, 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: Oct 18, 2004 Location:

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Ellyn L. Bartges, 2005 Masters Capstone project at Western Illinois University and 2013 Ph. D dissertation material University of IL Urbana Champaign

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

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

Edited by: Elizabeth Wells

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Lorene Ramsey, *Women's Basketball in IL*, DGB-V-D-2004-013

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Lorene Ramsey was born on July 10, 1936 in St. Louis, Missouri. While growing up, Ramsey played softball and volleyball because they were the only sports available to girls in her area. She graduated from Washington Missouri High School in 1955. She received a bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in physical education, a master's degree from the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG) in physical education, and a master's degree from Bradley University in guidance counseling.

Ramsey initially taught for two years at Coolidge Junior High School in Granite City, Illinois, moved to Pekin Community High School in Pekin, IL for six years, where she was also the head of the Girls Athletic Association (GAA.). In 1968 she began a highly successful teaching and coaching career at Illinois Central College (ICC), where she stayed for the next thirty-four years. It was not until later that she became involved with basketball, playing through the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and refereeing clandestine competitions for collegiate competitors in central Illinois. In the mid to late 1960s Ramsey was a pioneer for girls' athletics in Illinois. She wanted all girls to have the same chance as boys to play any and all sports. Ramsey's work was influential in getting interscholastic basketball added for girls in Illinois.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois High School Association (IHSA); Amateur Athletic Union (AAU); Girls Athletic Association (GAA), National Basketball Rules Committee; Title IX, girls' basketball; Washington Missouri High School; Illinois State University; University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG); Bradley University; Coolidge Junior High School; Pekin Community High School; Illinois Central College (ICC)

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