

Interview with Cindy Butkovich

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Interviewer: Ellyn Bartges

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Ellyn Bartges: Good evening Cindy and thank you for agreeing to do this interview. I'm going to start out with some background about you and your own high school experiences and playing experiences. Where did you go to high school?

Cindy Butkovich: I went to Richwoods High School in Peoria.

Bartges: Did you play sports in high school?

Butkovich: No, we were under the auspices of the GAA program and did not have interscholastics at that time. It was the years '59 to '63.

Bartges: Was the years you were in high school?

Butkovich: Yes. Yes.

Bartges: GAA-describe what that entailed, what that meant?

Butkovich: Basically to me it was just after-school intramural program and pulling girls together that enjoyed competition with probably basketball, volleyball, softball, just some of the major sport areas.

Bartges: Was—

Butkovich: I did have an opportunity to go to leadership camp as a GAA member which was up in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. And that was fun because I found that there were a lot of other high schools in the State of Illinois that had much more to offer in their GAA programs than what we had at Richwoods.

Bartges: Did you bring that information back to your school then and push for changes or—

Butkovich: I obviously brought ideas back to our supervisor, the gal that was in charge, but I can't say that I pushed for any changes. If you don't have a large number of girls that are interested in the program then you kind of have your hands tied as to what you can do with the program.

Bartges: Who was your supervisor? Do you remember her name?

Butkovich: Her name was Marilyn Boleman.

Bartges: Boleman?

Butkovich: B-O-L-E-M-A-N, who by the way was a Western Illinois graduate.

Bartges: Oh was she? [*laughter*] Thanks. How many people might participate in GAA?

Butkovich: Oh maybe— Now this was a fairly large high school and I couldn't—I wouldn't say there were more than a hundred girls.

Bartges: And were they 9 through 12?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: What sport— I'm not familiar with GAA. When you had a GAA day did you do just one sport or did you do a sampling of sports?

Butkovich: Well and you say a GAA day. We just had an afterschool program and during the winter months we maybe would play basketball or fall we'd play volleyball, spring we'd do the softball or we may bowl, take a block of time for X number of weeks and go bowling somewhere nearby. But in those days again it was difficult to share the facility with the boys' programs, and so they were gracious enough to give us maybe one night a week where we could have the gym until six o'clock or whatever.

Bartges: So from after school to six o'clock?

Butkovich: Yes, uh-huh.

Bartges: When you played basketball did you play five-player basketball or six-player basketball?

Butkovich: Initially as a high school I want to say junior and senior I played AAU basketball and that was five-on-five, but when I went to college we still had the six-player game. Started out with three stationary on each end and then it progressed to the two rovers, two stationary on each end, and then eventually before I graduated we were into the five-player game.

Bartges: And that's how that progressed?

Butkovich: Uh-huh.

Bartges: When you had GAA days were there fans? Did anyone attend other than the participants?

Butkovich: No, no. I don't remember that we had any interschool activities where we participated with other schools; it was just basically an intramural program within our own school.

Bartges: You said your school was big. Do you know about how big it was?

Butkovich: Probably in the time I was there we were probably a couple thousand kids.

Bartges: So you had a graduating class of 500 or above probably?

Butkovich: Yes. Yes.

Bartges: Okay. And you graduated from high school in '63?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: Okay. What is the highest level of education you achieved?

Butkovich: Well I have both a bachelor's and master's from Illinois State, and then I did start a doctorate program at Indiana U, and the summer after I started that—I went just during the summer months, and then I was hired at the Illinois High School Association. So I basically kind of dropped my aspirations for that doctorate degree because I really had a full-time job at the IHSA.

Bartges: Sure. Where did you get your— You said Illinois State for bachelor's and master's?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: And did you begin college in '64?

Butkovich: Yeah, '63, '64.

Bartges: Okay so (*unintelligible*) degree?

Butkovich: Yes, uh-huh.

Bartges: And when did you start your master's?

Butkovich: I started that really about a year after I finished undergrad but I did it the piecemeal method, taught during the school year and then did extension classes in the evening and then summer school during the summer months, so in '70 is when I received my master's.

Bartges: Okay. Are you familiar with a postal tournament?

Butkovich: You know, I vaguely remember that and yet I don't remember any of the administrative details of it. I might need a little refresher as to exactly what it was.

Bartges: I don't know what it is.

Butkovich: Okay.

Bartges: It's something that's listed on the IHSA web page, and I haven't contacted the IHSA but I'm asking people if they know and I have yet to find anybody who knows what it is.

Butkovich: Well I always thought it was a GAA function, something that— It had to be individual sport type activities where you would either shoot archery and get X number of scores and turn them in, and I kind of thought maybe bowling.

Bartges: Like a distance competition.

Butkovich: That's what I kind of thought, and then you mail your scores maybe into a central site and then they determined the winner just based on the scores.

Bartges: And I have read about that in those individualized sports where you can record it into the score, but this is on the basketball thing so I'm just kind of—that's a feeler that I'm putting out there.

Butkovich: Good, well I hope you get an answer for it. [*laughter*]

Bartges: I have to tell everybody what it is because everybody says, What is that? I don't know. Did you have any experience in industrial leagues?

Butkovich: No. Actually, when I started playing softball with the Pekin Lettes many of the girls who were on the team at that time had played for the Caterpillar Dieselettes which was a nationally known softball program back—more back in the forties and fifties. And then Caterpillar which is a Peoria-based company discontinued supporting their athletic teams, both men's and women's sports. Now they had men's softball and men's basketball, women's softball, but I personally did not participate with any industrial leagues.

Bartges: When you played for the Lettes how old were you?

Butkovich: I started the summer after my senior year in high school and then I played the entire time through my college years. And I believe the last—my first summer out of undergrad I still played and then—so maybe a total of five years.

Bartges: What position did you play?

Butkovich: Oh, outfield. Again, because there were still so many of the older, experienced players I didn't really play that much but I traveled with them and just had many great times with the travels and meeting lots of neat gals. So it was a fun experience. Kind of a time, you know, becoming a little more independent, you know, and it was like going to summer camp [*laugh*] sort of. I mean, I still lived at home with my parents but yet we did a lot of things away from home.

Bartges: Did you play AAU basketball?

Butkovich: Yes I played— The Lettes had a winter team that played basketball, just a conditioning type activity I think and they invited me to play with them I believe it was during my senior year of high school. And then we also had the team— Well actually, I didn't play with them that much because I was playing college basketball when I went to ISU. I probably played a year or two years with them. I know I competed against them because our college team participated in AAU tournaments at the end of our college season and these were usually held out in the Chicago area. And so we many times played against the girls that I played softball with during the summer months.

Bartges: How did the college team stack up against the AAU team?

Butkovich: We did well. We had— I think we had a really— We were probably the best college program in the state at that time, even in the Midwestern region I would say. Iowa— I want to say Iowa Wesleyan always had a strong program and they

were always kind of our archrival. We pretty much dominated the state schools, U of I and—the state schools. So the girls that played were very skilled and so when we played in the AAU tournaments we played evenly with them.

Bartges: When you were playing— I'm going to stick with the AAU. We'll come back to the college (*unintelligible*) but the AAU team that you played with obviously you had a coach, male or female?

Butkovich: You know, our coach was just one of the older girls from the college team. We did not— As I recall— Because the college coach did not enter into the AAU program with us. I think that that—there might have been a crossing over the line type thing there. So basically we had—just the older girls that were on the college team would kind of be—they would be our leaders. And so we all pretty much just pitched in. I know one year my dad was a sponsor and gave us money and another year one of the other girl's dad gave us money to enter the tournament. And then of course we all pitched in for travel and maybe— I remember we all had navy blazers and so we all had some—obviously some individual expenses.

Bartges: How did you travel?

Butkovich: Just car, because we really only went to the Chicago area. I think we only entered one tournament and that was at the end of our basketball season in college and it was probably in March or some time like that.

Bartges: I forgot to ask, your bachelor's and your master's degree from Illinois State, what field are they in?

Butkovich: My bachelor's degree was a comprehensive major in physical education which was a K through 14 degree, 52 hours I believe in physical education. My master's was in sports administration. And then the P. Ed. that I started was basically going to be like a curriculum concentration.

Bartges: Was there one person from your professors that you would label as a mentor or someone who had a particular influence on your intellectual sport development?

Butkovich: At the time I was doing probably my graduate work you were mentioning Ohio State, Ginny Krafz and Phebe Scott were both probably the top level professors in our program. And I would say Virginia Krafz was someone I admired a great deal as far as being—in the administrative curriculum, that type of thing. I mean, there are a lot of fun people that we all enjoyed working with and they were either sport coaches or they taught us the teaching angle of physical education in our major.

Bartges: I haven't asked that question of everybody, and the more people I interview the more I think I should— I'll go back and contact them and ask them that question because I see trends and I think that is a follow-up question, that's something I should be asking.

Butkovich: Well I'm sure everyone probably had one or two people in their major field that they emulated.

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

Butkovich: No.

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

Butkovich: Yes. When I graduated from Illinois State I went back to my high school in Peoria, Richwoods High School, and taught for eight years taught physical education and then the last two years started the interscholastic teams in basketball and softball.

Bartges: So from '67 to—

Butkovich: '75.

Bartges: '75.

Butkovich: Um-hm.

Bartges: That's why history and math is not my thing. *[laughter]* Was your principal during your tenure there male or female?

Butkovich: He was male.

Bartges: What was his name?

Butkovich: During my teaching days?

Bartges: When you got basketball going?

Butkovich: That would be Bob Baietto. He was a former teacher and athletic coach while I was a student at Richwoods and then moved up the administrative ladder. And actually, the athletic director was a very dear friend, so he was probably extremely helpful in helping me to get started and to help the girls' program get started.

- Bartges: What was the athletic director's name?
- Butkovich: His name was Ty Franklin.
- Bartges: Was he from Illinois, do you know?
- Butkovich: Ty?
- Bartges: Yeah.
- Butkovich: Yes. In fact, he was born and raised right here near Champaign.
- Bartges: And how about Bob Baietto?
- Butkovich: He was from Streator.
- Bartges: Okay.
- Butkovich: Yes originally.
- Bartges: Were they in favor or against adding girls' basketball or sports for girls in general?
- Butkovich: Well I think Ty was primarily involved in helping us set up a schedule and get the officials and schedule the gyms. And he—I think a lot of it had to do with the fact that we were very good friends. And I mean I knew him as a kid in high school and then he was the one who offered the job to me to come back and teach there, so I would say I was very fortunate to have a good friend there to help set things up and get them started.
- Bartges: Did you ever— We'll come back a little bit to more specifics with adding the basketball. Did you ever participate in a National Sports Institute or a National Leadership Conference?
- Butkovich: No. I don't recall.
- Bartges: Do you recall if officials in Illinois were concerned with what version of the rules were used, six-on-six, five-on-five, with a rover, without a rover? Do you have any recollection of that? Conversations?
- Butkovich: Well you say if they were concerned about it, you mean—

- Bartges: Officials. I don't mean referees; I mean like the IHSA?
- Butkovich: Oh. I think they basically went with whatever the National Federation of High School Associations— I mean—
- Bartges: Yeah.
- Butkovich: Our high school was under the governance of the Illinois High School Association and they're of course under the federation, so whatever set of rules we started with was what was being used on a national basis.
- Bartges: In 1971 the National Basketball Committee Experimental Rules became the official rules which would have been five-player. Do you think this had any impact on the growth and development of girls' basketball in Illinois, and the popularity (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: I would say probably so because it then became identical to the boys' game, and I think probably your population was more familiar with the boys' game and they could—it was more easy for them to relate to the game that the girls were playing because it was identical to the boys.
- Bartges: As a player yourself having played six-player and then five-player which did you prefer?
- Butkovich: Probably the five except for the running back and forth. [*laugh*] But no I think it makes for a better player because you have to develop both defensive and offensive skills, so I think it makes for a better athlete and makes the game more exciting.
- Bartges: You mentioned that at Richwoods you started the basketball program.
- Butkovich: Uh-huh.
- Bartges: Can you tell me about the role you had in getting interscholastic basketball added for girls at Richwoods? Were you the first coach at Richwoods?
- Butkovich: Yes.
- Bartges: And what year— That was—
- Butkovich: That would have been—'73-'74 was the first season and I was there for two seasons before I went to the high school association. And I think basically we started—I want to say as soon as we could, although the—I believe the suburban

schools, and you may have the exact year of when the suburban schools started interscholastic basketball, because I think they were ahead of us by a couple of years. I think probably— We were in the probably Mid-State 8 Conference. It's changed names from 8 to 12 to 10 to whatever. Probably our school conference dictated when they wanted to start it too, and—I can't state that for a fact but I feel certain that the suburban schools started ahead of us.

Bartges: Actually where I went to high school at Hinsdale South the first year was '73-'74.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: And the people that I have interviewed so far, the other people that are coaches or players, also '73-'74 was the first year that they played interscholastically, that was sanctioned by the IHSA.

Butkovich: Okay, but they might have played—

Bartges: There were some situations where they might have played. Like Charlotte Lewis talked about trying out for the boys' team in—her senior year in '72-'73 and then them saying, No you can't do that when she made the boys team, you can't play there. So they started what she called an exhibition season.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: So they got some girls together and they played—Woodruff played some other schools from there and Peoria. I think she said there were six games, but there doesn't seem to be any organized competition at this point until the IHSA stepped in.

Butkovich: Right. Yes. And I would say that's very true. Again, I think Illinois, obviously we were behind the other states that surround us but I think it was just one of those things where because boys' basketball was so popular and so competitive they wanted to protect the girls from having it just get totally out of hand which I don't think it ever has and probably never would have but the men felt like they knew what was right for the girls.

Bartges: Did you face any obstacles during the process of getting a team started at Richwoods?

Butkovich: No, again because Ty was so very helpful. Now I did find that experience when I went to the High School Association because I was the first women administrator that was in charge of girls' interscholastic basketball getting into the tournament

series and getting into the serious construction I guess you could say of the girls' program. So I did definitely find that that was a roadblock.

Bartges: What was the impetus to add basketball at Richwoods? Did you go to your principal and your athletic director and say, I really want to have a basketball team here or did you have parents come to you and say, We would like our daughters to do this? Or did kids come to you and say—or a combination?

Butkovich: Well I would say— I want to say that we had the individual sports which the IHSA had started several years earlier—tennis bowling—

Bartges: Golf.

Butkovich: —and golf—

Bartges: Archery.

Butkovich: —and track I think was maybe one of the early ones.

Bartges: Yeah.

Butkovich: So I think— Again, I think the conference in Peoria decided, Okay this is the year that we're going to start girls' basketball. And again, it probably coincided with when the IHSA recognized it as an interscholastic sport—

Bartges: So did your administrators come to you and say—

Butkovich: Although they didn't really have the tournament series—

Bartges: No, not yet—

Butkovich: —at the IHSA. You're just saying they recognized that, Okay it's okay to go ahead and—

Bartges: They're two separate entities. There's the addition of basketball and then there's the tournament—

Butkovich: Right.

Bartges: —and the growth and the evolution in that process.

Butkovich: I think— I mean, we had eight high schools in the Peoria area or more and I think everyone just decided, Okay now it's time. And so I think it was just kind of an

automatic that each school was going to field a basketball team in that particular school year.

Bartges: Did your administrators come to you and say, We're going to have a girls' basketball team; would you coach it, or you're going to coach it as part of your duties?

Butkovich: I think it was probably agreed upon because I was the only one who had the experience of having played inter-collegiately so I was the likely candidate to do it, and that was great because I felt like I could contribute to the starting of the program.

Bartges: Did you get paid?

Butkovich: Probably a very small stipend and I couldn't even tell you what it was. I mean, my— Well that was back several years earlier. I would say my first salary was very small. Of course back in those days— Probably there was a small stipend but I don't remember what.

Bartges: When did you have your competitions? Were they after school?

Butkovich: Uh-huh, yes, and some Saturdays, some Saturday mornings.

Bartges: Were there fans at some of the games?

Butkovich: Yes, mostly parents, yes.

Bartges: Did they charge admission?

Butkovich: No, I don't remember that we did, no.

Bartges: What kind of uniforms did you have? Were they uniforms like the athletic department went out and bought uniforms like they did for the guys?

Butkovich: I want to say we used the pinnies, you know, the slipover shirts. I think they wore white blouses and white shorts and then had the colored shirts over the top.

Bartges: Were the other coaches—and you may not remember this—the other coaches in your conference, were they women or men, mixed?

Butkovich: Probably all women.

Bartges: How about the referees?

- Butkovich: I was going to just say the referees were the funny part of the whole thing. I would say we had probably more men than women but there were some women. The men of course were beginning referees, not the ones that refereed the boys' games because there's no way they would step down to do girls' games. But the general consensus of all the coaches—well and this was being preached to us by the IHSA—as well now accept their skill level as the fact that we're all starting on the ground floor and so we want the coaches to be courteous and positive and not be berating the officials if you felt there were poor calls. And so that was basically the mentality that we started our program on is just, They're doing the best they can, they're just beginning, we're just—the girls are beginning, the skill level is probably a little bit questionable because everyone was pretty much starting at ground zero. *[laugh]*
- Bartges: Was the mentality or the feel similar to the competitive feel of the GAA?
- Butkovich: Oh, I'd say it was a step above that.
- Bartges: Okay.
- Butkovich: Yeah because I mean it was school against school, so you were presenting your school and trying to uphold the honor of your school, etc., etc. But I'm just saying that we were all asked just to be very accepting of the officials and the job they were doing. And it worked—
- Bartges: Did you just have a varsity—
- Butkovich: Everybody was very— It was just— Were just thrilled to death to have competitive basketball and we were glad for the kids to have that level now that they could start playing on an interscholastic basis.
- Bartges: When did you practice? Did you have a set time, or did you have to juggle with the boys, or did you alternate?
- Butkovich: I would say we probably practiced right after school. I don't remember that we— never early morning unless I had the kids come in just to shoot free-throws or do something for thirty minutes before they went to class, but again, because of my friendship with the AD and he was the head basketball coach also—
- Bartges: I was going to ask that.
- Butkovich: *[laughter]* —which was a good point. But we didn't have a difficult time scheduling practices.

- Bartges: Do you recall how long you practiced?
- Butkovich: Oh, I'd say probably from four to six maybe.
- Bartges: Five days a week? Six days a week?
- Butkovich: Pretty much, I'd say about five days. And then there were times when we would have a weekend game but again most of them were after school.
- Bartges: Do you remember how many games you played in that first year in your schedule?
- Butkovich: I think maybe about twelve to fifteen both years that I was there with the program.
- Bartges: Were they pretty successful?
- Butkovich: They— The team?
- Bartges: The team, yes I'm sorry.
- Butkovich: Uh-huh.
- Bartges: When you were in college how did you decide where you were going to go to school to study PE?
- Butkovich: Probably Lorene Ramsey was one person who was very instrumental in kind of talking my mom and dad and myself into Illinois State. She had graduated from there and they thought so much of her. Of course, I was playing softball with her. And in fact, several girls on the softball team were ISU either students or graduates. And my other choice was University of Wisconsin because they had a very strong women's program—and looked over both campuses. And ISU had just renovated McCormick Gym and had made it the headquarters for the women's program and so that kind of was an attractive aspect of it, plus being a little bit closer to Peoria than Madison was.
- Bartges: You mentioned playing AAU ball, and I assume but I didn't ask so I'll go back to this, your friends and your parents, your family, they were supportive of you doing this?
- Butkovich: Oh yes. Yeah, my mom and dad were at almost every game and of course were very good friends with all the gals that I played basketball and softball with.

Bartges: When you got to Illinois State how did you get involved in athletics? Was it interscholastic competition? Was there a set coach that did any recruiting or that you went to the gym maybe and played some days and people says, Hey this is what we do, we have a team; come try out? How did that evolve for you?

Butkovich: The gal that was the head softball and basketball coach also played on the AAU team.

Bartges: And what was her name?

Butkovich: Her name was Kaye McDonald. And so I think the fact that I was on that team and she knew of my skill levels, I mean it was just an automatic that when I went to ISU I was going to play basketball and softball. I did play a little bit of volleyball but I washed out of that after a couple years. *[laugh]*

Bartges: How did you get your skills?

Butkovich: Just—just naturally, I think. I was just a tomboy as a kid. My brother— I have an older brother and he never was that interested in sports. He was a horseman. We had horses and so I just—I just had that tomboy in me I guess, and my folks never discouraged me. I mean, my dad always put a basketball standard up on the driveway and we played catch. And so they never discouraged me from playing sports.

Bartges: When you were at Illinois State you played interscholastically. Where— What kind of places would you play? Did you play just in Illinois or when you traveled how did you travel? What kind of a schedule (*unintelligible*)?

Butkovich: We traveled in a bus. And I would say I don't recall that we ever made any major trips out of state. We might have gone over into Iowa to play Iowa Wesleyan because they were one of our rivals, but basically, we did the state schools and some of the smaller private colleges in the State of Illinois. So no, I don't think we ever really traveled outside the state. No national tournaments or anything like that.

Bartges: Did you get any financial kind of support other than a bus? Like, did they give you meal money or—

Butkovich: I don't even remember that.

Bartges: Sometimes it's hard to remember those things.

- Butkovich: Yeah, I really don't— I just kind of assume that we kids all had a few bucks in our pocket, that we bought our own meals, but it might be that we stopped and got a meal and somebody paid the bill. I just— That doesn't— I don't have any recollection.
- Bartges: It wasn't on your radar.
- Butkovich: No.
- Bartges: Was there just one team? Was there a varsity team or were there (*unintelligible*)?
- Butkovich: At Illinois State we had four levels and it was just first team, second team, third team, fourth team. There were no fancy names for them. So that's— They pretty much had four levels in most of the sports.
- Bartges: So between your playing experience and your physical education background that's where you got your training in terms of being a coach?
- Butkovich: Yes. Yes. Really—and back in those days they did not have coaching classes for the girls. Now I'm assuming the men probably did have because I can talk to men who are in their seventies that took coaching classes at Illinois, but in those days they didn't really offer any kind of coaching philosophy or technique. Most of where you learned how to coach came from your physical education training because in those classes you learned to break down movement and so—
- Bartges: Right, (*unintelligible*) things?
- Butkovich: Yes. Yes.
- Bartges: With your high school team, with Richwoods, when you first began in '73-'73, did you have more than one team? Did you have a varsity and a JV or just a varsity?
- Butkovich: I'm almost positive we just had the one team and maybe carried about twelve kids on it.
- Bartges: Did you have tryouts?
- Butkovich: Yes.
- Bartges: Do you remember if you cut anybody?
- Butkovich: Yes, I'm sure I did, yeah.

- Bartges: Do you have any idea about how many people might have tried out? You said it was a big school?
- Butkovich: Yes, and yet I think it was pretty—the kids pretty well understood that this was going to be a level of competition that was over and above what GAA ever had been, so I wouldn't say that I had a ton of people.
- Bartges: Since you were in the classroom as well did you sort of recruit kids, Hey, we're having tryouts; come do this?
- Butkovich: I don't— Physical education class you would find the kids that were the natural athletes so probably between myself and my colleagues that I taught with—there were I think four of us that taught physical education—yeah we probably would spot somebody that— And mostly— And a lot of it is just peer—
- Bartges: Sure.
- Butkovich: You get— The kids that are on the team, Hey do you know any freshmen coming in that— And even in the time they had some junior high programs, or some of the grade schools had basketball programs so you had a little bit of a feeder system even back then.
- Bartges: Just getting going.
- Butkovich: And it was just word of mouth, and the older players would tell you or go out and kind of recruit some of the younger kids to come to tryouts.
- Bartges: Did you have an assistant coach at all?
- Butkovich: No. No. I had a father that thought he should be an assistant coach.
- Bartges: I think we all have that father. [laugh] Mine's (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: I don't mean— No, I don't mean my father. I mean the father of one of my better players was right there trying to help out, but we finally devised a way of keeping him away from the bench so. So I did not have an assistant.
- Bartges: Okay. My dad still tries. He's like, What are you running? It's like, Never mind dad. Did you belong to any group or groups that were active in the civil rights movement?
- Butkovich: No.

Bartges: Billie Jean King says she hates labels and being labeled. However, for the purpose of the interview, How would you have characterized yourself during this period of your life?

Butkovich: Wow I don't know. This period being the coaching period or while I was— I mean when I was in college playing, this recognition thing that we all were—or participated in a year ago— At the time we played we were just playing for fun and we were glad that we could have this competition and we had fun being with our friends and playing on a team. And there was competition of, Well I want to get on the first team. I don't want to play on the second team now or—there was that competition moving up, but at the time I guess you didn't feel like, Oh I should get a letter for this or I should get more press in the— I mean, we didn't get any kind of write-ups in the paper. Maybe they'd have one little thing on the sports day, so-and-so beat so-and-so.

Bartges: Sure.

Butkovich: So at the time— And when we had this recognition time a couple years or—I don't know, I can't remember how long it was. Was it a year ago?

Bartges: I (*unintelligible*) remember.

Butkovich: Everyone was the same way. Oh, this is neat. Oh, we're finally getting a letter, but at the time we didn't feel like we were being gypped because we didn't get a letter. It was just the fun of the competition.

Bartges: The period from probably when you graduated and began teaching, from '68 to '77 is the major period that I'm focusing on, I'm getting other stuff, but I would say how would you characterize yourself during that period, from '68 to '77?

Butkovich: Well I guess just having the opportunity to provide an interscholastic experience for kids that we didn't have. I think that was a primary thought, that I was happy to be able to work with them, coach them, teach them a few things and sponsor them as a competitive team, because at the time I would have loved to have been able to play high school basketball [*laugh*] or softball but you know it just wasn't even a lukewarm thought in anyone's mind in those days.

Bartges: 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 in 1926; Indiana 1975; Michigan '73 is the earliest date I could find; Wisconsin started in 1976 with three classes of competition; Minnesota in 1974. Couldn't find Ohio but I know it's in the sixties; Kentucky 1920 to 1932 and then they stopped then came back in 1975; Tennessee 1965; Missouri 1973, and then Illinois in 1977. As

an administrator, since we're going to jump into the IHSA now, how do you feel when you saw the states surrounding you competing in competitive state tournaments and Illinois wasn't, or as a coach? Did you give much thought to that or was it—

Butkovich: I guess not really because I sort of understood why Illinois was probably dragging their feet a little bit, just because they didn't want it to get out of hand and they didn't want—they felt that it would go too quickly maybe, I mean the growth would go too quickly. I don't know whether they felt there weren't enough people at the top that could administer such a program and keep an even keel or—

Bartges: It could have been held back by a lack of administration?

Butkovich: It might be or—

Bartges: (*unintelligible*)?

Butkovich: I'm thinking with the IHSA and the men that were in charge back in the sixties there's probably a little male chauvinism involved there, Let's just keep them in the gyms at GAA and not get them involved, because I'm sure the facility sharing was going to be—it was a major problem and they were probably just trying to delay that conflict as long as they could, and I'm sure the high school principals were very vocal about it too.

Bartges: Lorene Ramsey talked about a group of high school administrators who voted on whether they wanted to add basketball or not. It was a group of seventeen that came—must have been a committee that reported to the IHSA.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: Are you familiar with that?

Butkovich: No.

Bartges: Okay.

Butkovich: I mean, when you said a committee of seventeen I know the IHSA has their legislative commission which is a greater number of people other than the board of directors and the legislative commission makes a lot of the proposals, puts together a lot of the proposals that the board of directors eventually votes on, so I thought maybe that's what you were making reference of.

Bartges: She didn't label it. She didn't call it that.

Butkovich: But—yeah. Now again did Marian Kneer not have some idea of where that—

Bartges: She (*unintelligible*) this committee of principals. They must have been like an executive committee of principals that represented regions in the state.

Butkovich: Okay.

Bartges: And then—

Butkovich: Well maybe (*unintelligible*).

Bartges: —they reported to the IHSA then.

Butkovich: Maybe it had something to do with the legislative commission.

Bartges: Do you know Linda Lee Baynor? No it's not Baynor. She an Illinois state grad, graduated in '68, did her master's thesis with Phebe Scott on interscholastic sports in Illinois, history of—

Butkovich: I should. What is her name again?

Bartges: The book is out in the car, I think.

Butkovich: Yeah. I mean, she would have been a year behind me in school.

Bartges: Yeah. If you don't know you don't know, it's okay. It talks about up to 1968, the history of girls' sports in Illinois, and of course that's why I'm looking from '68 on—

Butkovich: I see.

Bartges: —to try to continue that out, because at that point nothing had been added so it was— She made recommendations but I just wondered if you had any exposure to that.

Butkovich: No.

Bartges: After eight years at Richwoods you then got a job at the IHSA?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: How did that come to pass?

Butkovich: I believe they were ready to add more girls' state tournament series to their program that already existed which would have been maybe about five sports which we spoke of, basically individual sports, although I believe track and field was one that was—had been started.

Bartges: I think in '74.

Butkovich: Uh-huh.

Bartges: I have it.

Butkovich: And so they advertised for another administrative person to work with Ola. And again my friend from Richwoods was a friend of Mr. Fitzhugh at the time and he strongly urged me to look into it, and at that point of course I had my master's degree. In the Peoria school system if I had desired to move up into any kind of supervisory positions over other schools in the physical education area or whatever, there weren't positions like that. I was basically going to be a teacher the rest of my life if I stayed there.

Bartges: And you had already expressed interest in administration?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: Sport administration or—

Butkovich: Right. Right. And so I went through the interview process and was chosen to work with Ola.

Bartges: You began in 1975?

Butkovich: July of '75, yes.

Bartges: And what was your title and what were your specific duties? What were your specific responsibilities?

Butkovich: Well Harry Fitzhugh was the executive director—or executive secretary is what they called him then, and then there were five of us I believe that were assistant executive secretaries. And so I was one of those— So I was basically on the same level with Ola and other names, Jim Flynn, Liz Astroth, David Fry.

Bartges: Were there three women?

- Butkovich: No just two. She and I were the only— I was the second women that came into the program.
- Bartges: You and Ola?
- Butkovich: Uh-huh. Liz Astroth is a man.
- Bartges: Oh okay.
- Butkovich: That's his nickname.
- Bartges: Okay. What were you in charge of? What were your responsibilities?
- Butkovich: The first year— Don't hold me to this but basketball was not something we started right away. That was '77; it was '76-'77. I was in charge of starting state softball series, badminton series, bowling I had but that had already been started, basketball was into that second year. I had state tennis series which had started. I had about six sports I think at the time.
- Bartges: So when you say you were in charge of— You were in charge of designing and implementing and carrying out the execution of a state tournament?
- Butkovich: Right, and that's with the help of your advisory committee who you lean very heavily on. And those are people who are out in the field who are teachers, administrators, who are experts in a sport and they're chosen to serve on this advisory committee. And those are the people who basically help you with the structure of the tournament. Although when I say that a lot—all the tournaments are pretty much structured alike. Now my first year in the office I practically lived with Mr. Astroth who was the administrator for boys' basketball. And it was such a neat experience because I had no responsibilities but I was in on every meeting with him and every decision that was made, I mean, kind of major decision. I sat down with him when he assigned officials for sectionals, super-sectionals, and going on, so it was really a neat experience because I got to be with him throughout that whole tournament. And then when it came time for me to do the girls' tournament he was there for me and with me and behind my shoulder, you know, to help me through that first state tournament.
- Bartges: So you learned with hands-on experience and by watching through that year of '75?
- Butkovich: Right.

- Bartges: So in terms of actually doing the organization for the first state tournament which was as you said '76, '77—
- Butkovich: Yes.
- Bartges: The tournament was actually in April of 1977?
- Butkovich: '77, yes.
- Bartges: When did you actually begin doing that and who—do you remember any of the people that were on that Executive Committee for girls' basketball?
- Butkovich: No. No. It'll be in that program you have there who was on the Advisory Committee, but I think—I'm sure that we met with them or we formed that Advisory Committee a year before and just started talking and deciding if there were things about the boys' tournament that we wanted to change because basically the girls' structure was going to be identical to the boys' structure. And of course the other thing is that all of the Illinois High Schools that fielded a boys' basketball team did not necessarily have a girls' team.
- Bartges: Right.
- Butkovich: You started out with a small—and I don't know the number; don't ask me how many. [*laugh*]
- Bartges: I think I actually know that. I think it's 409.
- Butkovich: Okay. And now there are 750 or more schools, the boys' programs, and I'm sure there are now that many girls' programs.
- Bartges: (*unintelligible*) though.
- Butkovich: Right, and this was only one class.
- Bartges: How early— If you were hired in July of '75 was that an indication at that point in time the IHSA had made a commitment to adding a state championship in that sport, in basketball?
- Butkovich: Oh I think so, yeah I'm almost sure, and probably they decided four years back that in 1976-77 we will have our first tournament series. And that might have been going back to when you were talking about—starting the interscholastic program in the schools might have been kind of a goal that the IHSA said, Okay

we're going to start a tournament series in Year A so everybody else kind of structured their start of a program around that particular decision.

Bartges: Did you face any obstacles during the process from 1975 to April 2nd of 1977 and what kind of obstacles did you face?

Butkovich: Well probably the major one was finding schools who would host the different levels of the tournament. We had the regionals, sectionals, super-sectionals. And that was— You're kind of— First of all you have the coaches and the administrators, athletic directors and even principals calling and absolutely reaming you out because they have to share their gyms with the girls or they have to schedule early morning maybe lunch hour practice. Anyway, I took so many phone calls and hung up on the verge of tears because these men were just— I know that they were airing their stress on me. In fact, I had a number of them who would call the next day and say, I'm sorry I was off base and da-da-da, but of course by that time I had forgotten it or it or at least realized what the problem was at his end. But probably in calling schools what you do is you group your participating schools into little geographical areas and then you try to find one of those schools that would host the tournament, or the first level, then you find another one that would host the second level. So that was probably one of the major—I don't want to say it was a problem but it was just you just had to spend a lot of time on the phone talking ADs into doing this.

Bartges: And it wasn't exactly a moneymaking prospect at that time?

Butkovich: No. And a lot of them had already hosted boys' tournaments so they knew everything that needed to be done. It wasn't like it was first base for them. They were familiar with what it took.

Bartges: (*unintelligible*) try to select schools that had hosted boys' tournaments? Was that a conscious effort?

Butkovich: I don't know. It probably was. It probably was. I mean, I just don't remember at this point in time.

Bartges: Most of the— Was there a subregional then or was it just a regional, a sectional, and a super-sectional?

Butkovich: Well I know back in the old days when they had the high school tournament we had districts, the districts to regionals. That was when we had a single-class tournament for the boys even. I think we started with regionals because again numbers were such that we could get by with doing that. I don't remember that

we ever—when I was working with the tournament got to the sub—or had to drop to the subregional.

Bartges: You talked about shadowing the boys' side. So you were responsible for assigning officials for the girls' tournaments?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: How— Was there a certification process for officials? Were they rated? How did somebody get to be a women's official?

Butkovich: It was pretty much the same process as the boys followed. The boys have a big officials department at the IHSA and you've got your recognized and your certified and there's one other before that—registered I think is the first level, and then there's a recognized and a certified. But again, especially for the lower-level tournaments it was difficult to find people who would have been— I mean, they hadn't even been in the girls' program. I mean, we hadn't even had a girls' program long enough. I think it takes five years to start. So you probably—and again I'm conjecturing here as to how we did it, but we probably had quite a few men who worked boys' games that signed up to be girls' officials. They had to be registered as a girls' official.

Bartges: Did you try to recruit women through colleges or any association or anything like that?

Butkovich: I don't remember if we did or not. I mean, we did strongly encourage young women who were out in the—teaching physical education to perhaps get into it but it was a struggle to get really good officials, although the ones that we had at the state final were those who had been even working college games. Like some of the women that we had at ISU that were rated officials, I'm sure that some of those gals worked our state tournament.

Bartges: Yeah, I think when you look through the program there's a strong Illinois State connection there. And I haven't talked with Coach Hutchison yet but I'm probably going to interview her because she helped run the physical aspect of it according to what she had said, that she got her team—kids to work and (*unintelligible*).

Butkovich: Yes, and a lot of the women who were teachers in the physical education department did a lot of the hostessing of the teams and this type of thing. Now that Jane Grebner, whose name I gave you, her picture is in there with the Washington High School.

- Bartges: Obviously— Well, maybe I shouldn't assume but I'll ask, Did you attend the first state tournament in Horton Field House in Bloomington? Physically you were there?
- Butkovich: Oh definitely.
- Bartges: What were your thoughts and/or feelings when you walked in, getting the first game going? Do you have any recollections?
- Butkovich: I know I think I was probably numb at that point. But one of the—and Ola will tell you this too. I don't remember if it was the very first game that was getting ready to tip but two schools came out in gold uniforms.
- Bartges: Oh no.
- Butkovich: Yes, it was the home uniform for one school; it was the away uniform for the other school, so— And thank goodness we didn't have television to deal [*laugh*] with, but it was just getting the coaches together and the officials and okay, who has their whites with them? Do you have your whites here in the gym? Oh no their whites are at the motel. So it's just like, Well would you mind— That's again the mentality we had is like, Hey this is a wonderful situation so let's just all work together [*laugh*]. One of the teams just went in and put on their whites and that's all we had to do, but—
- Bartges: No fuss?
- Butkovich: No, not at all.
- Bartges: Do you remember what your thoughts were about the caliber of play, having played in college yourself and also coached?
- Butkovich: I think I was impressed as I recall. Again, even though this is well probably the second or third year that some of the high schools had even had a program or say when did you start your program and when was the first state tournament series, I think I was impressed. But then we all grew up as tomboys playing basketball on the driveway, and this might have been the first time that a lot of these girls played an organized program but yet their skill level still seemed to be pretty impressive. Now not maybe five of them on the court but you may have two kids out there on a team that were really quite skilled. And again, as in softball and the pitcher with a good fast pitch, the taller players dominated, and some teams had some height. Cathy Boswell is one example of just being head and shoulders above the other kids with her skill level.

- Bartges: And they also had a big team. They had two kids that were over six foot on that team.
- Butkovich: Oh did they? I didn't remember that.
- Bartges: Renee Golpuck and Barnes I think was her name, big girl. Were you surprised by the size of the crowd, or was there a good crowd?
- Butkovich: Yes. I would say we had a real good crowd. And again, I think Washington, Illinois was in it and Sterling, Illinois was in it and they brought a good crowd. And you know I think it was just the fact that it was the first time. As I recall both sides of Horton were well filled. I don't know— I couldn't tell you the attendance numbers but—
- Bartges: Did they charge to get in?
- Butkovich: Uh-huh, yes. I mean they charged I'm almost sure all the way down the line just like a boys' tournament, maybe four dollars for the regionals and maybe five bucks for sectional or whatever so—
- Bartges: I'm going to hand you— This is— I brought one and you also had one. This is the program from the first girls' state tournament.
- Butkovich: Yes.
- Bartges: When you picked that up and you looked at it here give me some of your thoughts when you looked at that.
- Butkovich: Well I was just like, Oh I forgot that team was in. [*laugh*] I was just interested to see what teams were actually even playing. And then I went back here to the teams that had lost in the super-sectionals, that lost to the other teams. And I mean, here's one from Champaign Central. Now I had no idea that they had a team. See a girl's name here who I think may be the daughter of some neighbors of mine down the street. Isn't that funny? I can't wait to ask them if that might be one of their family people, but that's basically what it was. And then I see principals' pictures here. Here's another person you might talk to is Ray Torry who now still lives in Washington, Illinois. He's been in it from the beginning too and he's a really great fellow. His wife played on the Pekin Lettes well I'd say even the Caterpillar Deselettes softball team. Hinsdale South was playing. So yeah it's fun to—
- Bartges: I would have a particular affinity for that school.

Butkovich: You would? [laugh]

Bartges: If you look closely in the picture you'll see me.

Butkovich: Really? Are you really in there? Well, I got to get my glasses on to see it.

Bartges: That's okay. It's not about me; it's about the (*unintelligible*).

Butkovich: I didn't realize that. Well that's neat. Here you probably know all these answers but you're asking me. [laugh]

Bartges: No. Oh no I don't, because I was seventeen years old.

Butkovich: Yeah.

Bartges: And it's just a different perspective.

Butkovich: Sure.

Bartges: As a player you're in your own little world and you don't understand about what all goes into this.

Butkovich: Sure, yes.

Bartges: And so— And no, I wasn't trying to set you up. [laugh]

Butkovich: Oh yeah I do see Ed Herzog. Now he used to be the basketball coach at Limestone High School, Bartonville Limestone—

Bartges: Really?

Butkovich: —when I was in high school.

Bartges: Oh, I didn't know he was from down there.

Butkovich: Yes. Well I mean I don't know if that was his home, but he coached there for a number of years in the Peoria area.

Bartges: I don't know if he's still alive or not.

Butkovich: And Tom Howard from Palatine Fremd. I remember him. He was on the board of directors.

- Bartges: We're going to— I'm going to change a tape here. There's just a few more questions I want to ask, but I want to ask them— I didn't— I really didn't want to say much about me being in the tournament because I don't want to skew people's memories or what they're going to say.
- Butkovich: When we get finished with all this I should say, “Well what do you remember?”
[laughter]
- Bartges: I didn't have a very good memory.
- Butkovich: Well, see that's the thing with me too. I mean Ola she can remember so many things and I don't know whether it's—whether my age is catching up with me and I'm starting some dementia or what [laugh] but it just—I've had a lot of neat things happen during my life and I hope I still have a few left. But I mean something like that is such a—kind of a scary situation, you know. You go into it thinking, Well now everything's going to work out okay, but then you just like the uniforms, you're thinking, Oh jeez how could this possibly happen?
- Bartges: I was trying to remember if that was us? I think we wore black that day so we wouldn't have had on white. We were the second game; we weren't the first game.
- Butkovich: Really? Now see I don't— Do they even have the lineups here of who played whom in the first—
- Bartges: (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: They've got the bracket— They've got the brackets here. Well, yeah they do.
- Bartges: And I know that Joliet West played Centralia, we played Fremd, Washington played— I don't remember who Washington played, Sterling?
- Butkovich: Well that— No it— Those might have been the two teams that came out to face each other because they both had gold. Sterling looks like player Fenger in the first game and Washington played—
- Bartges: We didn't see that game.
- Butkovich: Mattoon.
- Bartges: Mattoon yeah. I don't know. For us it was—we were so shocked that Joliet West got beat.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: Really.

Butkovich: Now who did you beat in supers?

Bartges: We beat Niles West.

Butkovich: Okay.

Bartges: And they were favored heavily and we beat them 40 to 39.

Butkovich: That principal at Niles West was on our board of directors. Nick Nanos was his name. He was a character. Oops, don't quote me on that. *[laughter]*

Bartges: I'll be very *(unintelligible)* about.

Butkovich: Well I've gone to several of the tournaments over at Redbird Arena. Have you been to any of those?

Bartges: Oh yeah.

Butkovich: That is such a neat little arena. And I just think, what a great place for this girls' tournament because they get good crowds. I was just over there last year to see—Peoria Richwoods played I want to say Naperville Central because that was Candace—

Bartges: Candace Parker.

Butkovich: Candace's last game or I mean high school experience.

Bartges: Yeah. I never saw Candace Parker play. I saw video of her she's dunking.

Butkovich: You know and it's very heartwarming I guess is the word to see her be so team oriented when she could just score every basket if she wanted to.

Bartges: Yeah.

Butkovich: But she's a real team player. Of course, now gosh she's not even playing this year. I just wonder if she'll ever reach her ability level.

Bartges: There's a lot of discussion on lists that I belong to, you know basketball leagues, about Tennessee pushing their injuries.

- Butkovich: Really?
- Bartges: That they bring them back too fast, particularly after an ACL. And it's sort of a mixed bag. I mean, I know Pat. I worked for her for six years in summer camps and I know Jane Mosdak because she came out of Penn State, but they bring those ACL kids back so fast.
- Butkovich: Well and they get the greatest players in the country—
- Bartges: Yeah.
- Butkovich: —so it's like they don't have to worry about saving Candace for another year, I mean, just let her play until she drops and then somebody else will be there to fill [*laugh*] in.
- Bartges: Yeah. The only bad thing about that is you get a reputation.
- Butkovich: Well but it's only amongst people like you who have been on the inside maybe. I mean, to the bystander who's just watching from afar they probably don't (*unintelligible*).
- Bartges: (*unintelligible*) AAU coaches. AAU has come so far and they are so dominant in their recruiting process, the amount of influence—
- Butkovich: See I haven't been involved with any AAU girls. I mean obviously being in men's basketball I have a little bit of contact with it but I've not really seen the girls' angle.
- Bartges: The guys tend to go more towards these—not to say that AAU isn't important but these big high-caliber, the Nike Camp, the Adidas Camp—
- Butkovich: ABCD and that's Adidas.
- Bartges: Who's the guy out of North Carolina, there's a couple of them, and the guy out of New York? Those guys are powerbrokers. They are kingpins. The women's game is more governed by AAU. And when I would go to AAU— Last AAU tournament I went to there was— The handout— And you've probably seen them for the guys kind of thing. (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: Yeah and they charge two hundred bucks.
- Bartges: Yeah.

Butkovich: At the door to buy one of those programs.

Bartges: And you have to have it because it has their—it has the information about the kid in it.

Butkovich: Right. Right.

Bartges: Oh, it's a racket.

Butkovich: Oh, I know it.

Bartges: And the AAU, you would— I would be in a gym from seven in the morning until 12:30, 1:00 at night and be back the next day in order for me to look through my list of kids that I had to see and then to look around on teams from areas that we might be able to recruit from to see if there's any talent on them before they got beat out by those (*unintelligible*).

Butkovich: Did the girls ever play down in Orlando in that big complex down there?

Bartges: In the (*unintelligible*) thing?

Butkovich: Uh-huh.

Bartges: I think they did a year ago or two years ago.

Butkovich: Yeah, I've heard that's such an awesome site because it's like this huge airplane hanger that's got thirty basketball courts on it or something.

Bartges: I've heard the whole complex is just awesome.

Butkovich: I bet.

Bartges: So yeah. Well let me finish this part up. This is tape number 2 with—

Butkovich: Old what's-her-name [*laughter*]

Bartges: Butkovich. The lady I've been talking to—

Butkovich: Butko.

Bartges: Butko, okay. We're— We just got done talking about the state tournament and you going through the state tournament program there. In your opinion given the

previous data and conversation that we've talked about, what was the major reason that slowed basketball from being added as an interscholastic sport that was sanctioned by the IHSA?

Butkovich: Probably the same thing I've mentioned before is I think society, or I'm just thinking of people in the State of Illinois or those who are involved in the sports programs, felt that they did not want the girls' basketball program to get into trouble by starting too quickly and moving too quickly and becoming a problem child. And not that the boys' program ever was but at that point in time I'd say the men's program had just gone into its two-class system, and I mean you know, boys' basketball in the State of Illinois is just a fantastic phenomena as it is in Indiana, as it is in surrounding states in the Midwest. But I just think they wanted the girls to kind of take it slowly and methodically. And again, I think it was the school administrators who feared for the sharing of facilities or the need to build more facilities in order to take care of all of the sports that we're going to be using.

Bartges: Which is frequently what happened ultimately down the pike that most of these schools now have more than one gym.

Butkovich: Right.

Bartges: Do you think— Was there resistance from physical educators about a competition at this level, this type of competition?

Butkovich: I don't remember that there ever was. I just— I think women who were teaching physical education probably were pleased that the girls were finally having an opportunity to have an interscholastic program and represent their school and compete for their school, where in the past they never had that opportunity.

Bartges: At your school, at Richwoods, and when you went into the IHSA, were most of the women you involved with professionally younger? Were they your age at that time?

Butkovich: No, I was the youngest in my department.

Bartges: Okay.

Butkovich: As far as the other coaches, probably most were about the same age. There were a couple of women who were a little bit older, but generally as I remember everybody was about the same age.

Bartges: Okay.

- Butkovich: The ones in my department though as I said were all older gals than myself.
- 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? Do you think that any one group, administrators, coaches, parents, players, were more concerned or vocal about mannish behavior than others?
- Butkovich: I don't recall that that was ever the case.
- Bartges: So it was if you were a tomboy you were just a tomboy?
- Butkovich: Uh-huh.
- Bartges: There wasn't ever any implicit insinuation with that?
- Butkovich: No. I think back in those days that was not—society was not that concerned or was not even that aware of that particular characteristic in girls, and I just—I never—other than just girls-should-be-girls type of attitude that was just an old-fashioned attitude. But I would say when I went to college, you know, we had lots of support from the university and again from our families. I think they felt it was a wholesome activity.
- Bartges: Okay. You talked about facilities and things like that as factors that would influenced against basketball in Illinois. What happened to change the IHSA's stand on adding basketball as an interscholastic sport and as a championship sport?
- Butkovich: Well probably because it was one of the last they added and obviously as you had mentioned earlier most of the states surrounding Illinois had already incorporated girls' basketball. The National Federation I'm assuming was well on its way to being supportive of that. So I would— There probably was pressure to add the sport, and again it was one of the last sports we added, because I do believe volleyball probably fell into a state tournament series several years ahead of basketball.
- Bartges: I think it was two years, '75 I think. I'm not positive.
- Butkovich: Yeah. I mean any sport that was on the docket— I mean anything that's on the docket now was there in place and basketball I think was the last one to come in.
- Bartges: Except for soccer.

- Butkovich: Well yeah and that was more because of the popularity or lack of popularity in those days and now it has become very popular. And of course then we came to the point where we dropped archery, dropped field hockey. I think we had a state tournament in field hockey at one time and so there was—
- Bartges: Bowling.
- Butkovich: Yes, bowling. There was a little shift in interest areas.
- Bartges: When you were at the IHSA did you feel—or did you get a lot of contact from people in the state saying why don't you do this or suggestions on how to do it or not to do it? Do you recall any of those kinds of things?
- Butkovich: You mean in adding sports or—
- Bartges: More with basketball about (*unintelligible*) do with the tournament.
- Butkovich: Yeah, I think it was generally stated probably by the administrators of the IHSA that the girls' program was going to follow identically the boys' program so it was pretty much just set right then and there. And it was like, Well there's nothing wrong with the boys' program. They have their graduated series of tournament play and it was very successful so why not have the girls do it? I mean, you can only run a tournament one or two ways. There aren't a lot of options.
- Bartges: We talked about the number of schools that actually had girls' basketball at this time, and from the time the tournament began in April of '77 it's just done nothing but grow. Do you think that— How powerful was the IHSA at this time, in '74 to '77?
- Butkovich: I would say very. I mean when you say powerful, I mean they were the one and only body that went to the trouble of administering a state series for these different sports. I don't even think—see the football playoffs weren't even alive then I don't believe. I mean, they didn't start until much later. So probably basketball and of course they had wrestling. And then of course the girls' sports actually outnumbered the boys' sports when I first went in there as far as the tournament series. But I think the IHSA was a very strong— I mean Al Willis was one of the first executive secretaries and of course he was in the job for many, many years and very highly thought of and then Mr. Fitzhugh so—
- Bartges: Is he still alive?
- Butkovich: Mr. Fitzhugh passed away not too long ago, yeah. But nowadays when the IHSA makes a ruling mom and dad are right there to sue their [*laugh*] butts off because

of Johnny can't play because of some silly ruling. Well I mean that's why you have rules is to try to control the fairness of play from one town to the next or one school district to the next, so I think people respected the IHSA and what it stood for and what it was trying to do for boys' and girls' sports.

Bartges: There was something in the reading that I've done about a suit from two girls from Champaign. Parents were lawyers. I believe they were swimmers. Are you familiar with that at all?

Butkovich: The one major lawsuit I remember from Champaign was the boy who wanted to play volleyball on the girls' volleyball team, and I—and Ola of course had to deal with this. And this would have been back in the probably seventies, mid-to late-seventies, but no the swimmers I'm not familiar with.

Bartges: Okay. And the bowling state tournament, the first bowling state tournament for girls, do you have any recollection of that?

Butkovich: Yes, and that was in Peoria. In fact I think they've been—they were held in Peoria quite often at the—I know the lanes where they were but I can't think of their name but—Town & Country.

Bartges: The— That first girls' state tournament there were actually four boys on that team weren't there?

Butkovich: I think I recall that.

Bartges: (*unintelligible*) girl?

Butkovich: Yes.

Bartges: I found that interesting, that that was one of the things that was brought up. I was just kind of curious about the lawsuit because some people that I talked with talked about then going to the legislature to try and sort of get some equity with the IHSA but that sort of sounded like it was before you were there.

Butkovich: Well and actually the legislature has nothing to do with the high school association.

Bartges: Right.

Butkovich: I mean, the Illinois High School Association has nothing to do with the state government and a lot of people don't understand that, you know. They think that because it's Illinois that the government of Illinois runs it.

Bartges: And they don't.

Butkovich: And it's totally a private organization.

Bartges: Do you think— As a physical educator and a coach, do you think the American Medical Association's endorsement for vigorous exercise helped change public educational policy towards interscholastic sport (*unintelligible*)?

Butkovich: Probably very strongly. Yeah, I mean again this goes back to the philosophy of starting out slow and not letting this thing get into a runaway freight train. But yes, I would say probably the fact that it was okay for girls to play vigorous sport would definitely have helped to promote all the different tournament series we have now.

Bartges: That's been the one unanimous question of all of my—*[laughter]* How do you think Title IX affected girls' basketball in Illinois?

Butkovich: Well, I'm sure that it opened the door. A lot of—if we could just simply say it opened a lot of gym doors, although I know that it caused a lot of grief too with what school administrators and coaches and different people had to deal with, again with limited facilities. They had to become very creative in the use of their facilities, but it most definitely had an effect I'm sure.

Bartges: Positive or negative?

Butkovich: I would say positive in that it basically bullied people into saying, Okay now you're going to have to make some changes in order to allow for more space, more time for the girls to become involved. And I'm sure it was a positive and yet it was begrudging to many of them I'm sure, many of the school administrators.

Bartges: You were coaching in the high school in '72 when this was passed and it sounded like you had a very good working relationship with your principal and your athletic director at Richwoods. How quickly did you see changes in funding, travel, schedules, uniforms, officiating, facility usage? Did you see a noticeable difference?

Butkovich: I don't know that I did because first of all we started with nothing, so I mean in '72 we weren't doing anything so I can't say that I could compare it from not having anything to going into it, but again I felt like we were well cared for, well taken care of. We were in a good school district. I mean we had some money at Richwoods. It was on the north side of town, a little more prosperous end of town so they had the funds to be able to do the right things. I'm sure—

Bartges: Was that District 150?

Butkovich: It is now, yes, but back— Well when I went to school there it was Richwoods Township High School and it was not part of the city and then I want to say about in 1970 it was taken into the city. And we started to struggle then because it's like the school had to slide back a few steps to come to the level of the rest of the city schools.

Bartges: Well yeah, you didn't get all your own funds. You—

Butkovich: Right, we had to share.

Bartges: Thrown into a pot and then divided.

Butkovich: Yes. And we had cross-town busing which brought kids out from the south end of Peoria to the north end of Peoria, and obviously mostly black kids. They didn't want to come out and the kids that lived out there didn't want them. And so there was a lot of socialization that had to take place over several years' time. They brought them into the junior—into the grade schools too so it started then so then three or four years down the road everybody was okay with it. It was just that starting point that was very difficult for everyone involved.

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

Butkovich: I wouldn't say that— You're saying that the girls in sport had to emulate boys in sports?

Bartges: That Title IX—

Butkovich: —forced that issue?

Bartges: Channeled it that way—

Butkovich: Okay—

Bartges: —as opposed to the more congenial, less uber-competitive model that had come from GAA and play days and things like that.

- Butkovich: I think girls were ready for that. I mean, there were a lot of kids I'm sure that were forced to deal, and I guess I put myself in that category—forced to deal with the ying-yang GAA stuff. I know I always used to get balled out by the ladies that were our physical education teachers because I was too rough when I played GAA basketball. And I was trying to get every rebound and, you know, it was just one of those things where they said, Now just tone it down a little bit. And so I'm saying there were a lot of kids out there that were ready to forge on and not be told to hold back or as you say play in a congenial way. And I'm not saying they went the other direction and played dirty but they were ready to exert themselves and show their true character.
- Bartges: Is there anything else that you can recall that might help me understand the history of girls' basketball in Illinois from the period '68 to '77, including your involvement with the state tournament and how it developed and the first state tournament, anything that I might have missed that you think is important?
- Butkovich: I can't think of anything. Seems like you're covering it from A to Z.
- Bartges: I don't know about that. I get—driving away and I think—
- Butkovich: Oh, why didn't I ask this? Call me anytime. No I can't think of any— Seems like you've been very thorough in your questions.
- Bartges: Well thank you. If there was a legacy with girls' basketball in Illinois, how would you characterize it?
- Butkovich: I'm not sure what you're asking.
- Bartges: As time progresses, and it's been—it's going to be thirty years in two more seasons, so twenty-eight years it's been since the first tournament. The further we get away from it the perspective changes and you see how sport has changed and how athletes have changed. Some people call it progress, other people don't. I'm not asking for that per se, but do you think that the legacy of what was built in the early seventies and—with the first state tournament, do you think that's a good legacy and it provided a good foundation for girls' basketball in Illinois?
- Butkovich: I think so, yeah. Again going back to talking about the skill level, now to me the skill level has just skyrocketed, you know, and you've got twelve girls sitting on the bench that probably would have been the number one player back in that first group of kids, just because they've had so much more coaching and just had more experience playing in the competitive game as opposed to the GAA game.
- Bartges: Do you feel that Illinois has caught up to say our surrounding states?

Butkovich: Well, I can't say that I've ever really gone to any other tournaments in the surrounding states so you probably know better of the history; in fact you quoted when the different tournaments started. So I guess I couldn't really answer that honestly because I've not been there to compare. I mean, it's just good to know that everywhere across the nation they have this opportunity—other than Iowa still playing six-player aren't they somewhere?

Bartges: No.

Butkovich: Have they discontinued that?

Bartges: They've discontinued that. I think 1992 is the last year for six-on-six. And they had developed a—I called it a bipolar tournament. They had five-on-five and six-on-six because some of the smaller communities were resistant to adding the five-on-five.

Butkovich: Yeah.

Bartges: It was more the urban areas in the state that really pushed for five-on-five.

Butkovich: Sure.

Bartges: And that was a great contentious issue across the state.

Butkovich: Was it a problem for the kids who went on to play college basketball?

Bartges: It was.

Butkovich: Because they weren't totally developed into offensive and defensive players were they?

Bartges: No and that was the argument, and they used Title IX as part of that argument to say that they were being denied access to scholarships at a national level because only the forwards, the ones who were offensively prolific, were the ones that were being recruited (*unintelligible*)—

Butkovich: So they didn't even have rovers? They were playing three stationary—

Bartges: It was three-on-three.

Butkovich: Yeah.

Bartges: And their—

Butkovich: Now did they have a limited dribble as we did?

Bartges: Two.

Butkovich: Still two dribbles? [*laugh*] Oh jeez. They were back in the dark ages weren't they?

Bartges: Yeah, in a lot of ways, but you know their offensive players, the forwards, were tremendous offensive machines because they knew they had limited dribbles and they had to go somewhere with their dribble.

Butkovich: Sure.

Bartges: And then they had to know what to do with the ball once they picked up their dribble.

Butkovich: Uh-huh.

Bartges: So I think that— When I think of some of the tremendous offensive people that I've seen over the years, and I've been watching basketball since 1974 for girls and women, they're Iowans—Molly Tidebeck, Lorri Bauman, Kay Riek. I mean, and there's a bunch more, Lynn Morensen. Those girls— The small number is 4,000 and it went up from there, (*unintelligible*).

Butkovich: And they went on to— So they went on to a college career and (*unintelligible*).

Bartges: Lorri Bauman was—still holds an NCAA scoring record for a tournament.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: Molly Tidebeck was Pac-10 player of the year at UCLA her freshman year. Lynn Morensen played at Iowa, I think. Kay Riek played at Drake. There's just a ton of them.

Butkovich: Now we had that one little gal from Iowa come over here to play and she baled after a year or so. I can't remember who she was. I think she went back to Iowa State to play. She was from Iowa and Theresa recruited her and then— She was a guard. As a high school player I think she was a scoring machine, and she came over here and she didn't get to do that anymore and so it just changed her whole approach to the game.

Bartges: Stacy Frese didn't come here. She went to Iowa. But there were some tremendous athletes who came out of that system but half of them—

Butkovich: What ever happened to the gal that was from this area that went to Iowa to coach?

Bartges: Angie Lee?

Butkovich: Angie Lee.

Bartges: She is an assistant at Virginia Tech.

Butkovich: Is she?

Bartges: Yes.

Butkovich: Good.

Bartges: She— Bonnie Henrickson who was a head coach at Virginia Tech who is from Minnesota actually, was an assistant at Iowa; that's where she met Angie. Bonnie took the job at Virginia Tech, Angie got the job at Iowa, and went Angie wasn't successful at Iowa she went to VA Tech as an assistant for Bonnie.

Butkovich: Good.

Bartges: Bonnie is now the new head coach at Kansas.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: This is her first year.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: I knew her because she was at Virginia Tech when I was at Charlotte.

Butkovich: And didn't Angie have some problems with her lifestyle and the fact that others didn't appreciate it?

Bartges: I never heard that.

Butkovich: I was thinking that was a part of the fact—I mean what people didn't care for about her.

Bartges: I think you probably would have more of an indication in the Big 10 hallway so to speak to hear that than I would have heard. I never heard that but I know that when she was hired at Iowa, Rene Portland at Penn State said to me she says, Oh you know, she says, Let them hire Angie. I'll beat them every time I go in there because she's not ready. She wasn't ready for that position.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: But I never heard too much about—

Butkovich: She got that job when Vivian left right?

Bartges: Yes.

Butkovich: Yeah.

Bartges: Yeah.

Butkovich: And is she still coaching at Rutgers?

Bartges: Viv's still at Rutgers yeah.

Butkovich: Is she?

Bartges: Yeah.

Butkovich: Wow, she's been at it for a long time.

Bartges: My first encounter with her was when she was at Cheyney State. It must have been early eighties, '80, '81 somewhere in there. She's some kind of coach. Her brother is actually the legal counsel for the WBCA.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: Yeah. She's from a town not very far in Pennsylvania where my folks are from. In fact, my grandmother had her family in school.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: Probably her parents.

- Butkovich: Now see we— She's brought in a bunch of Pennsylvania kids to play here, and in some ways I think she's kind of losing the fandom here because there's a heck of a lot of good high school players in Illinois.
- Bartges: Ton of good high school players.
- Butkovich: Yeah, and she can't bring any of them in.
- Bartges: Look at the schools that come into Illinois to get talent.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: We used to recruit up here. It's like, Okay a moderate kid out of Illinois is going to be better than a kid from Kentucky.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: I mean, sort of the mentality (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: It's like when she came in she was the Pied Piper and she was going around town and all the old folks loved her because she was so gregarious and—you got this on camera—[*laugh*] You're going to nail me on this.
- Bartges: No.
- Butkovich: No I mean it just— I feel bad because I love to— I've got good season tickets— great seats in the assembly hall for the girls' games but ah it's just so boring and so heart-wrenching to see them lose so many games.
- Bartges: Well and especially when you see the turnover and you know that things can't be (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: She's got some good kids in here but yet it's just like, I don't know, they don't play defense. She's got some good scorers, but I don't know. Now she's lost our— She doesn't have much height at all this year. And you know, there's a bunch of 6'3", 6'4", 6'5" kids out there in the Big 10 playing.
- Bartges: Big girls too.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: Big shoulders, strong.

- Butkovich: No, I mean they get the ball high, they turn around and they put it in the basket and they're not putting it on the floor.
- Bartges: Yeah.
- Butkovich: They can run up and down the court.
- Bartges: There was a kid here, and now I'm not going to be able to remember her name, Jiminy Christmas. My mother had the kid in kindergarten.
- Butkovich: Well now Cindy Dallas—
- Bartges: She was (*unintelligible*) kindergarten.
- Butkovich: Cindy Dallas just graduated. She's been here like six or seven years.
- Bartges: Yeah she's been here—
- Butkovich: Oh my God, she's gone, but she's a Pennsylvania girl I think.
- Bartges: (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: Oh yeah, I know who you mean. She was from the Chicago suburbs, yeah.
- Bartges: My mom had her in kindergarten. That girl was 5'8" in kindergarten. I mean, I remember going to the Thanksgiving—
- Butkovich: 5'8"? Was she really?
- Bartges: Yeah, that's the God's honest truth.
- Butkovich: I can't remember her name either. She's a very—kind of a very meek personality but—
- Bartges: Leonard, no.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: Casey Lenhart.
- Butkovich: Casey Lenhart, yeah.
- Bartges: Very meek. Her parents were aggressive but the kid wasn't.

Butkovich: Right.

Bartges: And she— I saw her in kindergarten and I came home from Ames for something. Mom's like, You've got to come to the Thanksgiving program. It was a private school. And I went and mom says, You've got to look at this kid. She was— My mom was 5'8". She was as tall as my mother in kindergarten. Her parents were like—

Butkovich: (*unintelligible*) like a zombie wasn't it?

Bartges: Oh it was terrible. Here's this kid.

Butkovich: Yeah.

Bartges: You're big, people think you're older than you are so she always had that problem.

Butkovich: Sure. Well did she ever have a decent career out there?

BARGES: No.

Butkovich: Really?

Bartges: No, and I know the coach—

Butkovich: That's a man isn't it? Yeah.

Bartges: Paul Sanford, yeah. He was at Western Kentucky when I was in Charlotte. He was in our conference. Yeah, Paul kind of fell into the same thing that Theresa did and all.

Butkovich: Well and I don't know, Guenther doesn't seem to—that's our AD—doesn't seem to be putting any pressure on her to speak of. Well, I mean how do I know? That's just what it appears. I mean, she never seems to be too anxious about wins and losses other than— I think for a long time she played mind games with her kids and she got into their heads and then— And now I don't even know. She doesn't even look like she's trying to coach.

Bartges: Well she's one of those—and I've never been an advocate of this—that stands there like this.

Butkovich: Yeah, the whole game.

- Bartges: That's— I don't understand that. And my mentors were not that way, but she had a long-term contract and I don't think she is worried.
- Butkovich: And she's brought a bunch of new assistants in that—Marsha Frese, you probably know her.
- Bartges: She's Stacy Frese's sister.
- Butkovich: Okay.
- Bartges: Who played at Iowa State.
- Butkovich: And then Chris Mennig a guy.
- Bartges: I don't know that name.
- Butkovich: I can't even tell you where he came from most recently. Now this year she brought in two new—a new black girl by the name of Tracy somebody. Nice looking girl, slightly built girl, light-skinned black girl.
- Bartges: Yeah, I can't remember who it is.
- Butkovich: And then she brings this guy in from Wyoming who's a full assistant at Wyoming, and I think that's an upcoming program maybe. I think they're starting to win. And he's a full assistant and he comes here as the director of basketball operations which is doofus administrative stuff.
- Bartges: See that was a position that didn't exist when I was coaching.
- Butkovich: Well no, really that's true but everybody—well not everybody but a lot of people who are associated with both her program and our program say, Why would this guy come here, leave a full assistant's job and come in here where who knows how long Theresa's going to be even—
- Bartges: Well that could be what he's thinking. Is he from Wyoming or is he from somewhere else?
- Butkovich: I don't think he's a native of Wyoming.
- Bartges: See, I don't— I can't speak to the guy's side of it but from the women's side of it it's all about who you know and what your lineage is, what's your bloodline, and if you can connect a couple of dots that will connect to some big dogs that's going to do you.

Butkovich: Well I don't know. To me if Guenther would happen to fire her— See he— He's not— He's not going to fire somebody he hired, I mean he has that macho mentality, Well somebody's going to think I didn't make the right decision if I fire her, as he's done with our football coach. I mean, this football program is pathetic and yet—

Bartges: And no reason why.

Butkovich: No, really. I mean, we ought to have a decent program. We had a good basketball program.

Bartges: Big 10, flagship university, a state that has good football at eight different levels.

Butkovich: We've got the number one tennis program, man's tennis. We've got— Wrestling's in the top five, gymnastics is—so— But anyway it's just interesting to see whether Guenther will do anything with her.

Bartges: I don't know when her contract is up but I'm running— In my mind I'm thinking it was 2006.

Butkovich: Well I think she's got a couple more years yet.

Bartges: But I belong to a listserv. It's a women's basketball listserv, so it's chat about women's basketball but it's a pretty high level of chat. There are some Division I coaches, there are a bunch of Division I assistant coaches, they're mostly lurkers, and then a whole bunch of fans from all over the country.

Butkovich: Oh really?

Bartges: And people who are in the media, people who are in administration. It's a pretty diverse group of people. And boy Theresa gets plowed.

Butkovich: Oh really? *[laugh]*

Bartges: Oh, big time. And nobody can understand. Everybody says, Well X number of years ago when they hired Greutz it appeared that they were making this huge commitment to women's basketball, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. They were trying to make up for the Laura Golden years and everything subsequent to that. And now it's like, Okay what is Illinois doing? All the other schools in the Big 10, Minnesota made a commitment, obviously you have Penn State, Northwestern, but you don't necessarily want to be on a par with Northwestern athletically.

- Butkovich: Purdue has done pretty well.
- Bartges: Huge commitment.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: Iowa, Indiana, but Ohio State made a huge commitment when they hired Jim Foster. He's a great coach.
- Butkovich: Really?
- Bartges: Yeah, he really knows his stuff. But see then you had this lineage. It all goes back to Philadelphia—Theresa, Rene, Jim Foster, what's her name at UVA—Rutgers, Vivian Stringer. There's probably ten big-time Division I head coaches that all go straight back to Philadelphia.
- Butkovich: Isn't that something?
- Bartges: And there's—that's the kind of connection, Theresa's one of them—that's the kind of connection that an assistant would be looking for.
- Butkovich: Well and see when I was in college Immaculata was the women's program that was heads above everybody else.
- Bartges: See and if you can trace your lineage, your coaching lineage, back to Immaculata or Delta State or Queens College or maybe Texas Women's—
- Butkovich: I remember that.
- Bartges: —you're set if you can trace it back like that. Now Tennessee, Connecticut, those (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: You know, when you're talking about this guy coming here and thinking that maybe he's—you think he thinks he's got a shot at the job here, because see I'm sure Guenther will go out and hire another name person.
- Bartges: Yeah. No I wouldn't think he would (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: Well you know what cracks us up, and this is my friend Pete here, she talks—she always drops hall of fame coach. And she can't understand—or when she goes into a recruit's house— I mean, when you tell the parents that their kid's going to play for a hall of fame coach— I mean she's dropping that all the time. [*laugh*] It's like, who cares? Who wants to know that?

- Bartges: She's not in the hall of fame because of her coaching. She's in the hall of fame for the whole picture.
- Butkovich: Yeah.
- Bartges: It's a timeline, a continuum.
- Butkovich: And when I see— We've seen pictures of her when she was in college and she had the big hair, I mean the long hair.
- Bartges: She's got such big hair. [*laugh*]
- Butkovich: Long hair. I mean, she was tall. She's a big woman.
- Bartges: She is considered the first true dominant post player in women's college basketball.
- Butkovich: Really?
- Bartges: Yes, more than Lucie Harris, more than—Blaze was not a post player. She is the first true post player out of college game. I mean, she couldn't— She wasn't a dribbler. She was a back-to-the-basket (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: Well yeah, she doesn't look like she'd be extremely quick other than just be forceful.
- Bartges: And that's her legacy, and she traces that back. It's interesting— I actually interviewed with her for a position at Rutgers. My connections with Rene, her college teammate, got me that interview. And again, it's about who you know. But she ended up hiring a kid out of her own program. But I noticed when I interviewed there—she was still at Rutgers—that she had the certificate. I don't know if it was like Immaculata Day in the Town of Philadelphia or if it was her all-American certificate, but her name is misspelled.
- Butkovich: No. [*laugh*]
- Bartges: There's—
- Butkovich: What was her maiden name?
- Bartges: Shank.

- Butkovich: Shank, that's right.
- Bartges: Two different certificates, two different spellings of the name. I always thought that was interesting.
- Butkovich: *[laugh]*
- Bartges: This is the kind of (*unintelligible*).
- Butkovich: That's how important she was. They didn't even remember how to spell her name.
- Bartges: Well that's me. Here's the historian. These are the things that I notice when I go around and I look at places.
- Butkovich: Somebody screwed up.
- Bartges: Yeah. And actually, one of my teammates from—not from this year but from my senior year in '78 played for Theresa at Rutgers.
- Butkovich: Oh really?
- Bartges: Debbie Paladino. She was on their '81 AIAW National Championship Team.
- Butkovich: Huh. Now has the name Laurie Mabry come up in talking about AIAW days?
- Bartges: Um-um.
- Butkovich: Well she's an ISU— She became our head coach at ISU one year after I was there because Kaye McDonald was such a neat gal who's a good coach and then Laurie Mabry took over because Kaye she went out West somewhere. But I can't— Oh I know, Laurie lives down in Vandalia. I think she had open heart surgery not too long ago. But Jill would know her. I mean, Jill had to grow up under her unfortunately. *[laugh]*
- Bartges: Yeah and there's— As I'm going along talking to different people I think what this will turn into is sort of a labor of love. I'll do my—what I need to finish my degree but then I'll do more to just add to the information (*unintelligible*) so that somewhere down the line somebody wants it it'll be there because otherwise it won't be— Women's history's always so marginalized and unless somebody takes the time to actually sit down and think it out.
- Butkovich: I'm going to get that address of Annette Rutt for you, Annette Lynch—

Cindy Adams Butkovich

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Bartges: Oh okay.

Butkovich: —that was—she's been a head coach I can't remember where else other than Northwestern.

[end]