

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Richard L. Biery

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

Interview # DGB-V-D-2004-001

Richard L. Biery, the first girls' basketball coach at Carthage High School in Carthage, Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of Ellyn Bartges' Masters Capstone project for Western Illinois University entitled *What about the character of the girls?: Girls and Women's Basketball in Illinois 1968-1977*, and donated to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Dec, 9, 2004

Location: Carthage, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Ellyn L. Bartges, Masters Capstone project at Western Illinois University¹ and Ph. D dissertation material University of Illinois Urbana Champaign.²

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

Edited by: Elizabeth Wells

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

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¹ 2005

² 2013

Abstract

Richard L. Biery, *Women's Basketball in IL*, DGB-V-D-2004-001

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Richard L. (Dick) Biery was born on February 28, 1932 in Carthage, Illinois. He graduated from Carthage High School in 1950, where he was a member of the football, basketball, and track teams. He graduated from Carthage College in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in physical education. Following his graduation he joined the Marine Corps for two and half years. Later, Biery earned a master's in education from Western Illinois University in 1978.

Biery taught at Carthage High School from 1958 until his retirement in 1993. He started his career as a teacher and as the head boys' football coach. Biery started the girls' basketball team at Carthage during the 1974–1975 school year. He worked hard to implement the girls' program because he realized that if athletic activities were good for boys, then they would be equally good for girls. At the time he started the program, Biery was one of a very, very few males who coached females at the high school level. Biery was a successful coach, taking his girls' basketball team to the Illinois state girls' basketball tournament in 1987, 1990, 1992, and 1993.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Title IX; girls' basketball; coaching basketball at the high school level; Carthage High School; Carthage College; Marine Corps; Western Illinois University

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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