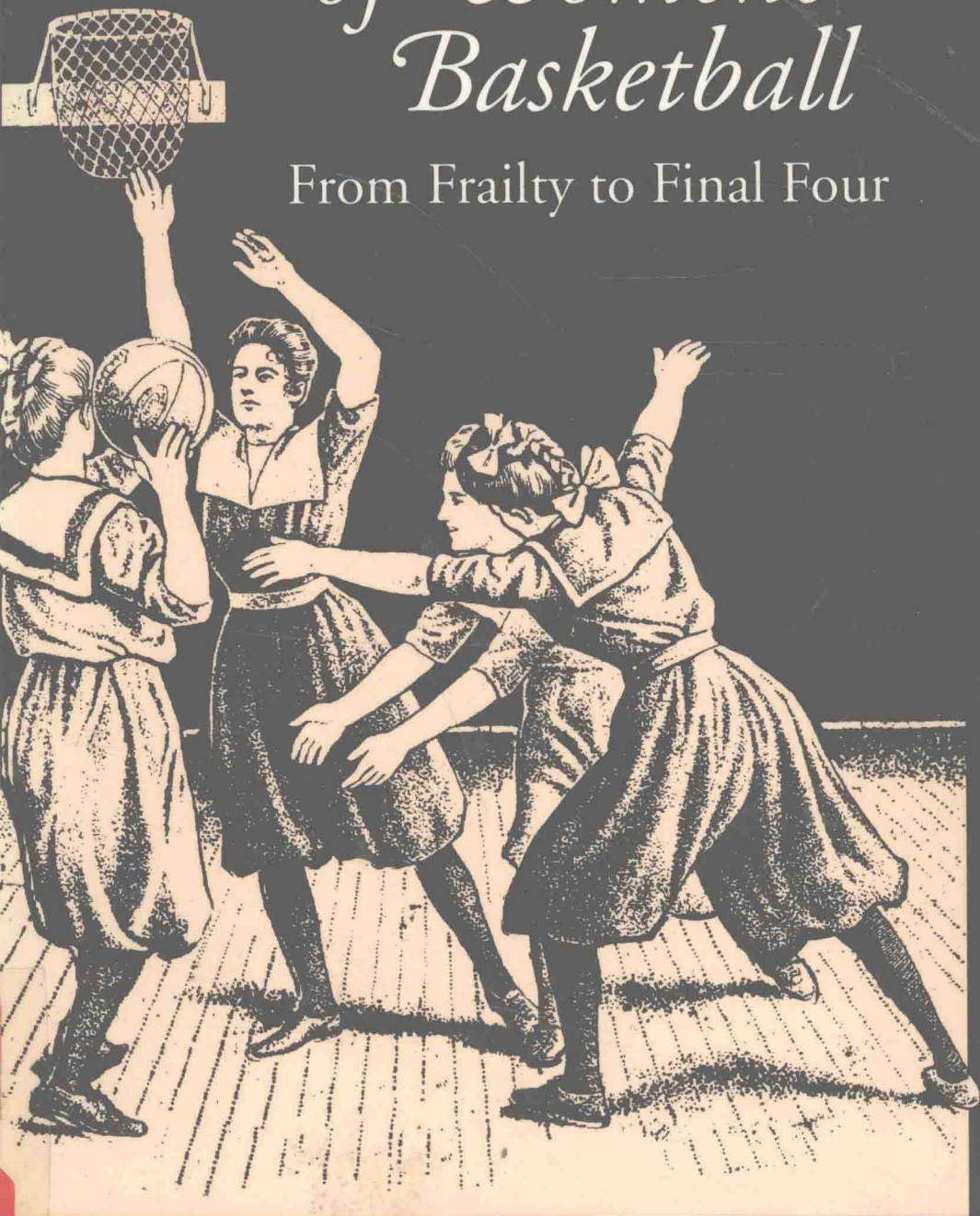


# *A Century of Women's Basketball*

From Frailty to Final Four



Edited by Joan S. Hult & Marianna Trekell

# **A Century of Women's Basketball**

**From Frailty to Final Four**

Joan S. Hult  
Marianna Trekell  
Editors

National Association for Girls and Women in Sport  
An association of the  
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education,  
Recreation and Dance

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# **Purposes of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance**

The American Alliance is an educational organization, structured for the purposes of supporting, encouraging, and providing assistance to member groups and their personnel throughout the nation as they seek to initiate, develop, and conduct programs in health, leisure, and movement-related activities for the enrichment of human life.

Alliance objectives include:

1. Professional growth and development—to support, encourage, and provide guidance in the development and conduct of programs in health, leisure, and movement-related activities which are based on the needs, interests, and inherent capacities of the individual in today's society.
2. Communication—to facilitate public and professional understanding and appreciation of the importance and value of health, leisure, and movement-related activities as they contribute toward human well-being.
3. Research—to encourage and facilitate research which will enrich the depth and scope of health, leisure, and movement-related activities, and to disseminate the findings to the profession and other interested and concerned publics.
4. Standards and guidelines—to further the continuous development and evaluation of standards within the profession for personnel and programs in health, leisure, and movement-related activities.
5. Public affairs—to coordinate and administer a planned program of professional, public, and governmental relations that will improve education in areas of health, leisure, and movement-related activities.
6. To conduct such other activities as shall be approved by the Board of Governors and the Alliance Assembly, provided that the Alliance shall not engage in any activity which would be inconsistent with the status of an educational and charitable organization as defined in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any successor provision thereto, and none of the said purposes shall at any time be deemed or construed to be purposes other than the public benefit purposes and objectives consistent with such educational and charitable status.

*Bylaws, Article III*

# National Association for Girls & Women in Sport

For nearly a century, NAGWS has been committed to the professional development of women in sports, the advancement of female sports knowledge, and the development of sport programs and increased leadership roles for women in sport. The seeds of NAGWS were sowed in 1899 when a committee was assembled to study basketball rules for girls. In the early years, NAGWS concentrated on the development of appropriate rules for girls' and women's sports. The focus later changed to the introduction of games specifically geared to women as well as the development and promotion of standards different from those associated with men's sports. Throughout its development, NAGWS has continued to influence programs and organizations that sponsor and/or promote healthy female sport participation.

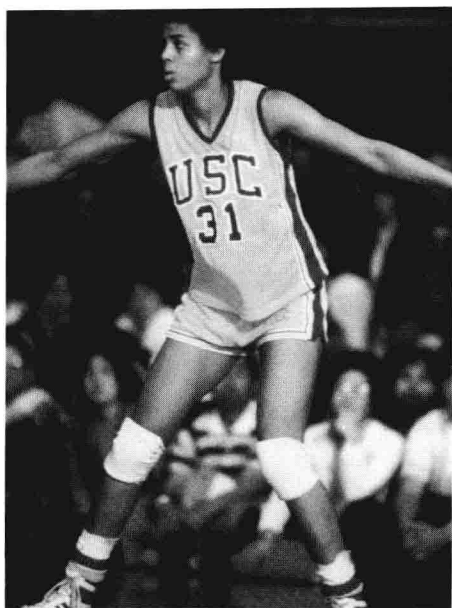
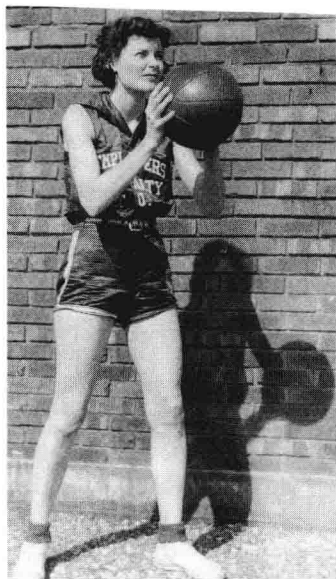
NAGWS today ...

- is a nonprofit educational association located in Reston, Virginia.
- serves a membership of over 10,000 administrators, teachers, coaches, officials, and sport leaders throughout the United States.
- is the only national professional organization devoted exclusively to providing opportunities for girls and women in sport-related careers.
- is one of six associations within the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD), an organization with over 33,000 educators and professional members.

NAGWS has grown from a small group of women interested in basketball to a stronghold of 10,000 men and women interested in addressing current concerns and taking action on several different levels and projects.

NAGWS's current focus is on increasing the number of qualified women in coaching and sport administrative positions in educational institutions and Olympic programs, from the developmental to the elite levels.

## The Changing Woman Basketball Player



Top left: players in the first decade of women's basketball; center, Helen Manley, 1918, basketball coach at Kirksville (Mo.) High School, and later a president of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; right, Gypsy Butcher, one of the Dallas, Texas, Cyclones, champions in the early 1930s; bottom, Cheryl Miller, University of Southern California, an NCAA star player of the 1980s.

# Foreword

DARLENE A. KLUKA

NAGWS President, 1990–91

During the decade of the 1990s, the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) and the sport of women's basketball will celebrate their one hundredth anniversaries. The histories of NAGWS and of the sport of basketball for girls and women are intertwined. Rules and rule guides were first prepared in 1899 and published in 1901 by those professionals committed to basketball for girls and women.

In addition to establishing women's basketball rules, NAGWS and its antecedents discussed issues that concerned those who taught and coached females through basketball. These issues were also published annually in the *Guides* and other association publications.

NAGWS is dedicated to the promotion of research relative to women in sport and sport leadership, and this book will serve as an important resource and stimulus for future research. It recognizes the contributions of the association in the development of basketball for girls and women in the United States in the last 100 years.

NAGWS is proud to sponsor this publication celebrating the centennial year of women's basketball and will continue into the next century to be committed to advocacy and enhancement of participation for girls and women in all sport.

JODY CONRADT

Head Coach, Women's Basketball, University of Texas

1991 NAGWS Guiding Woman in Sport Award Recipient

In the past two decades the growth of women's sports—and women's basketball in particular—has been unprecedented. For years, women athletes were seldom taken seriously, a fact that reflected our society's perception of women in general. Fortunately, pioneer sportswomen endured and persevered, so that today millions of aspiring talents have the opportunity to excel. This book tells the story—much of it unknown to us all—of the many girls and women devoted to teaching and playing the game of basketball from the year of its invention until the present day.

Women's basketball has become the model for women's athletics in this country. Since the implementation of Title IX in 1972, the number of women and girls participating in sports has increased dramatically

and a great proportion of these athletes participate in basketball. Perhaps more importantly, basketball has moved to the forefront of sports media coverage and has created an intense interest that has swept the entire nation. Without question, basketball has set the stage for ever greater success in other sports.

Women's basketball experienced tremendous public support in the 1980s and is now one of the most visible sports in the country. The first live broadcast of a regular season women's basketball game was a definite turning point for women in all sports. The recent publicity afforded women's basketball shows that society acknowledges and appreciates the excellence demonstrated by girls and women in sport. The most critical element in this success, however, is the female athlete's new self-acceptance as a valuable member of our society.

As we reflect on the past 100 years of women in sport, we must remember that the progress we have made is the direct result of tireless effort and commitment from women and girls of diverse ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. This book, for the first time, gives a glimpse of their devotion over a century of play.

During 1991, we therefore not only celebrate NAGWS's contribution to the growth of women's basketball over the past 100 years. We also salute the women and girls all over America—past, present, and future—who exemplify power, pride, and dignity through their participation in sports.



# Preface

This book celebrates the hundred-year heritage of girls and women's basketball. It honors the sport of basketball and the foremothers and prime movers who served on the Women's Basketball Committees and as officers and members of the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) and its antecedents, as well as the many participants in recreational and competitive basketball. *A Century of Women's Basketball: From Frailty to Final Four* was sponsored by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) Archives and the NAGWS.

Since all women's basketball really began in the educational domain, the writings herein focus on the role of physical educators in the growth and development of the sport and the evolution of competitive basketball. The sport is and has been since its early years the most popular competitive and recreational sport for women.

Throughout its history, the NAGWS and its antecedents sought to govern girls and women's athletics. The organization assumed responsibility for the original women's rules and modifications, officiating, and control of basketball. A significant number of essays herein are devoted to the role of women leaders and the story of NAGWS/AIAW (Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, founded in 1971). The Introductions to Part I and Part II describe the social and cultural context and illuminate the writings found in this volume; these chapters enable the reader to unravel the baffling rule modifications, philosophical tenets, and governance structures in women's athletics. Two essays examine the cultural and medical influences on basketball and the remaining chapters give an account of the sport, providing glimpses of early competition and modern coaches' personal experiences. *A Century of Women's Basketball* dramatically documents the evolution of the women's game.

This work provides undergraduate and graduate students in physical education, sport history, and women's history with an evidential base for understanding the unique world of women's basketball, sports, and athletics. With one exception, the collection consists of original manuscripts written especially for this volume, and thus it provides new rich primary sources. Enthusiasts of the game (both of the three-court and two-court variety) will find enjoyable reading, especially among the personal reflections and descriptions of early competition. Further, the book will be of special interest to college and secondary school women physical educators and basketball players and coaches who are part of the story.

The women's basketball *Guides* contain the rules of the sport, and served as major primary sources for the articles on rule modifications and officiating. The *Guides* also supplemented the research data for a majority of the other articles. The *Guides* were published as part of the Spalding Library by the American Sports Publishing Co. from 1901 to 1938; by A.S. Barnes and Company from 1938 to 1949; and by AAHPERD from 1949 until the last publication in 1985. The AAHPERD Archives houses the only complete collection of these publications so vital to an understanding of the rules and rationale for changes, officiating techniques, medical viewpoints, cultural and social attitudes, and the changes in teaching and coaching strategies. Early articles in the *Guides* reflect the concern for proper basketball behavior and issues of the appropriateness of competition. Officiating became progressively more important as reflected in the later *Guides*, which concentrate on rule clarifications, officiating strategies, and techniques and advanced skills.

Between 1901 and 1920, the *Guides* published photographs of high school, college, and some industrial league basketball teams. Unfortunately, they lack detailed information about games, the teams, or the athletes, but some photos are reproduced here to provide a flavor of the changing times.

## Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the AAHPERD Archives for supplying the authors with necessary research materials for the project and making available their exceptionally fine women's collection, especially the NAGWS papers and the *Guides*.

We are indebted both to AAHPERD and to NAGWS for sponsoring this centennial book and bearing the costs of extensive research and photocopying of materials. We especially appreciate the efforts of Mike Everman, past archivist, Nancy Dosch, and the NAGWS Board of Governors for planting the seed and helping to design this project. Dosch, administrative assistant in the AAHPERD Archives and the project coordinator, spent untold hours collecting the research materials essential for the authors, preparing the photographs, writing the contributors' biographies and assisting in the details of the publishing tasks.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to each of the authors who contributed to the collection. Our special appreciation goes to Carol

Jackson, special technical editor, for preparing most of the manuscripts, notably the Hult essays. We are also grateful for the willingness of Rosalie Gershon to donate her talents to the final chapter and for her assistance with several other manuscripts. We deem ourselves extraordinarily fortunate to have worked with Nancy Rosenberg, the AAHPERD book editor, whose commitment to the success of the publication and careful attention to detail have made this book a reality. Our sincere thanks to Carla Cash for secretarial support and to the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Maryland for its backing of the project. Thanks also to Patti Greenwood, librarian of the College of Applied Life Studies, University of Illinois, for her assistance.

Much appreciated also was the work of the Maryland Room's Special Collections staff at the University of Maryland for their untiring efforts to provide access to the AIAW Collection materials that have only received preliminary inventory. We also wish to acknowledge the Special Collections, College Park Libraries, for permission to quote from those materials.

Finally, we would like to thank our friends and families who have been so understanding and who gave constant encouragement, especially during the final difficult months of the project. We both have fond memories of our friends, colleagues, and mentors in our years of work in DGWS/NAGWS/AIAW and wish this commemorative collection to serve as a special tribute to all of them.

JOAN S. HULT  
 MARIANNA TREKELL

# Contributors

**Joan S. Hult** is associate professor of kinesiology at the University of Maryland, College Park. She played for the YWCA Daughters of Bethlehem and several industrial leagues and coached for 25 years in five sports. She was a national official, on the Executive Board of NAGWS, and chair of the AIAW Ethics and Eligibility Committee. She received the Educationalist Award from the United States Olympic Academy. She is an Honor Fellow of the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, a Hoover Scholar, and first woman inductee of the Concordia College Athletic Hall of Fame. She has written extensively on women Olympians, sport governance, and women's athletics.

**Marianna Trekell** is associate professor of kinesiology at the University of Illinois-Urbana. She has received the AAHPERD Honor Award. She played varsity basketball in high school and at the University of Northern Iowa. She coached at Ohio State, was a national official for 20 years, and served as the NAGWS secretary. Her writings focus on education and the history of physical education and sport.

**Roxanne M. Albertson** is associate professor of kinesiology at the University of North Texas, Denton. She played basketball at Ursinus College. She coached field hockey, basketball, and tennis and officiated basketball, field hockey, and softball. She continues to write about Southern women in sport.

**Mildred Barnes** is professor at Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg. A player at the national level in lacrosse and field hockey as well as basketball, she coached the University of Iowa to the Final Four and the U.S. team in Jones Cup competition. She chaired the U.S. Women's Olympic Basketball Committee and acted as manager for the U.S. Women's Basketball Team at the Pan American Games. Author of *Women's Basketball*, she has written extensively on basketball and other sports for women. She served as trustee of the Basketball Hall of Fame and as president of NAGWS. She is a member of the Boston University Hall of Fame and an NAGWS Honor Fellow.

**Janice A. Beran** is professor of physical education at Iowa State University, Ames. She also taught at Stillman University in the Philippines. Her writing, covering international sport and physical education, focuses on Iowa women's sport with a special interest in basketball. Through her inspiration and hard work, a team from Iowa State is demonstrating games in period uniforms using the early women's basketball rules.

**Stevoda Chepko** is assistant professor and associate chair of physical education at Salisbury State University, Maryland. She played basket-

ball at West Virginia University, coached at Castleton State College, Vermont, and was a national official. Her writing concentrates on women, sport, and culture.

**Joanna Davenport** is associate professor at Auburn University, Alabama, where she served as women's athletic director from 1976 until 1985. A former collegiate basketball and tennis player at Skidmore College, New York, she coached at the high school and college level. Davenport was a nationally rated official who served as chair for the DGWS sports guides. She was president of NAGWS and is an Honor Fellow. Her writing is on sportswomen and on the Olympic movement.

**Nancy Cole Dosch** is assistant archivist at AAHPERD and coordinator for the Women's Basketball Centennial Project. She played at the University of Maryland and coached at Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Virginia, and at Trinity College, Washington, D.C. She is currently finishing work on her doctoral dissertation at the University of Maryland.

**Lynne Fauley Emery** is professor of physical education, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She has written a book about black dance in the United States. Her more recent work focuses on the sporting experience of women and blacks in California and the West.

**Rosalie M. Gershon** owns Oral History and Memoirs, a desktop publishing company, and is a freelance writer. She played high school basketball intramurals in California. She is also a former administrative assistant for the AIAW Committee on Ethics and Eligibility.

**Brad Hedrick** is assistant professor of rehabilitation and supervisor of recreation and athletics at the University of Illinois-Urbana. He is the head coach of the University of Illinois men's and women's wheelchair basketball teams. In 1981 he was a member of the U.S. World Champion wheelchair basketball team and in 1988 he coached the U.S. Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team to the Paralympic World Championship in Seoul, Korea.

**Sharon Rahn Hedrick** was a four-year letter winner on the University of Illinois women's wheelchair basketball team and won a gold medal as a member of the 1988 U.S. Paralympic World Champion women's wheelchair basketball team. In 1977 she was the first wheelchair woman to compete in the Boston Marathon.

**Phyllis Holmes** is a professor at Greenville College, Illinois. She played basketball at Greenville College and has over 20 years of coaching and officiating experience. As an administrative assistant for the U.S. team,

she has toured all over the world. She served as chair of the NAIA Women's Basketball Committee. In 1989 she was recipient of the First Lady Award for contributions to basketball by the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union. She was elected to the NAIA Hall of Fame as a coach in 1987, and in 1988 she became the first woman president of NAIA.

**Jill Hutchison** is head women's basketball coach in her twentieth year at Illinois State University, Normal. She led her team to eight AIAW regional play-offs. Her record ranks twelfth in career wins among active NCAA Division I women's coaches. She has coached for ABAUSA, the Junior Pan American team on a tour of Central and South America, and guided the World University Games team to a gold medal in Edmonton, Alberta. She served as editor of the NAGWS basketball guides, on the basketball committee of AIAW, and two terms as president of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. She writes extensively on coaching women's basketball; her most recent book is *Coaching Girls' Basketball Successfully*.

**Betty Jaynes** is executive director for the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, Atlanta. She coached basketball at James Madison University. She was a member of the AIAW Basketball Committee and served as chair of the Kodak All-America Basketball Selection Committee and the U.S. Girls and Women's Basketball Rules Committee. She is currently a trustee and vice president of the Women's Sports Foundation, a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, and a member of the advisory committee for the Center of the Study of Sport in Society.

**Fran Koenig** recently retired as associate athletic director and director of women's athletics at Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant. She played basketball at Brown University and coached basketball at Concordia College and Central Michigan University. She has contributed more than 25 years of leadership in basketball officiating, as a national official and as chair of the DGWS Officiating Services Area and the AIAW National Championship Officials Committee. Koenig was the first woman to serve as an AAU basketball official. She was president of NAGWS and is an Honor Fellow.

**Lucille Kyvallos** teaches at Queens College, New York, and coached the women's basketball team. She played on a variety of New York City athletic league basketball teams in high school and played semi-pro basketball during and after college. She coached at West Chester State College, Pennsylvania before going to Queen's College, where her team was the first women's team to play at Madison Square Garden. She served as chair for the AIAW basketball committee, and as tournament

director for the AIAW national championship in 1973. She coached the U.S. team at the World University Games in Bulgaria. Kyvallos received the Founders Award from Kodak and the U.S. Basketball Writers Association for her contributions to the development of women's basketball.

**Patsy Neal** is wellness coordinator at the Mission Hospital, Asheville, North Carolina. She played for the Wayland Baptist "Flying Queens" while in college, was selected as an AAU All-American three times, and participated in the Pan-American Games and world tours to the Soviet Union, Germany, and France. She has coached, officiated, and written extensively about women's basketball, including *Basketball Techniques for Women* and *Coaching Methods for Women*.

**Joan Paul** is professor and chair of the Department of Human Performance and Sport Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She played AAU basketball for Epps Jewelry during her years at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, and once scored 63 points in a game. She coached and officiated girls club, church, and recreation league basketball. She has received the Outstanding Contribution Award from SAPECW and the Louisiana AHPER Honor Award. The Joan Paul Award was established at Hewitt-Trussville High School to honor an outstanding scholar-athlete. She has written on sport, physical education, and American culture.

**Betty Spears** is professor emerita, Department of Sport Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and former director of physical education, Wellesley College. She has written extensively on the history of sport, including *History of Sport and Physical Education in the United States* with Richard A. Swanson and *Leading the Way*, a biography of Amy Morris Homans, chapters in books, and numerous articles in professional journals. Spears is also a member emerita of the American Academy of Physical Education.

**Peggy Stanaland** is professor of physical education at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond. When she coached at Punta Gorda High School in Florida in the 1940s, her team used the unlimited dribble. She also coached at the University of Kentucky and at the University of Louisville. She was a nationally rated official and chaired the Kentucky Officials Rating Board. She writes on Kentucky sportswomen and Southern women in sport.

**Margaret Toohey-Costa** is professor and director of special major programs at the California State University, Long Beach. She refereed and coached in Australia. Since coming to the United States, she has written extensively on politics and the history of women in sport.

**Nancy Weltzheimer Wardwell** is coordinator of sport and leisure studies at The Ohio State University, Columbus. She has a pervasive interest in the history and promotion of women's athletics. Her doctoral dissertation was on Rachel Bryant.

**Marcy Weston** is associate director for women's athletics, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant. She played basketball at the University of Dayton and coached at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and at Central Michigan University. She has officiated at the NCAA Division I Finals. She currently serves as the NCAA secretary/rules editor and as a member of the NCAA Committee on Officiating and the NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee.



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