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# Women's Athletics at Mansfield University in Historical Perspective

Angela L. Stackhouse Hunley

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WOMEN'S ATHLETICS AT MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY IN HISTORICAL  
PERSPECTIVE

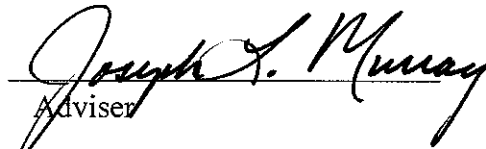
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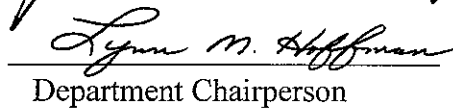
Angela L. Stackhouse Hunley

A Thesis

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Master of Science in Education

Approved:

  
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Abstract

Mansfield University, founded on January 7, 1857 as Mansfield Classical Seminary, has an overwhelming history of persistence. Along with the institution, the women's athletic programs also have a strong past. This paper outlines the history of women's athletics at Mansfield from the establishment of the school in 1857, to the first women's athletic program starting in 1900, and through the present day. It is organized according to the eras the institution went through and the athletic opportunities given to the women at that time. The focus of each chapter reflects the major accomplishments of both the institution and the women's athletic programs, events, and issues that transpired during each time period. Research was conducted by reviewing yearbooks, memorandums, and reports in the Mansfield University archives, school newspaper articles, and the university website, along with several other supplemental materials. Personal interviews also accompanied the documentary research to give a first-hand historical viewpoint of several eras. It was concluded that the women at Mansfield University have fought for, and created athletic opportunities for over 100 years. In comparison to other Pennsylvania state universities, women's athletics at Mansfield are under-funded and on the low end of receiving athletic scholarship monies. The future of women's athletics at Mansfield is uncertain due to budgetary factors that are unknown at this time.



## Chapter I

### Women's Athletics at Mansfield University in Historical Perspective

Mansfield University, founded on January 7, 1857 as Mansfield Classical Seminary, has an overwhelming history of persistence. In the spring semester of 1857, Mansfield Classical Seminary opened its doors to 105 students. Six days after the second term of school began, the Seminary burned to the ground. Despite this fiasco, Mr. Simon B. Elliot, a member of the first board of trustees, wrote, "while the walls were still falling and the fire still lighting up the darkness of the night, the friends and promoters of the school, undaunted by the disaster, assembled and pledged \$4,000 for the erection of the new building [anew South Hall was reopened in 2008 in the original location]" (Carontawan, 1937, pg. 30). The same persistence was observed over the years in regard to Mansfield Women's Athletics. The start of a long tradition of excellence in women's athletics began during the winter of 1900, as the Mansfield State Normal School witnessed the organization of the first women's basketball team, making it one of the oldest programs in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) Division II (Mansfield University Women's Basketball, n.d.). Over the last 111 years, women's athletics at Mansfield University has made great strides in its competition at the NCAA Division II level. The current women's athletic programs offered at Mansfield include:

field hockey, soccer, cross country and track and field, swimming, basketball and softball. A member of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, Mansfield respectfully participates in one of the largest and most competitive NCAA Division II conferences in the nation. Mansfield University is also a member of the Eastern College Athletic Conference, which consists of 15 states and 320 members.

On the following page, are two pictures of the women's basketball team, one from the era of the Mansfield State Normal School and one for the current era of Mansfield University. These illustrations help raise the question of how women's athletics got its start and how the program has evolved to where it is today. The two photographs have several contrasts, as well as similarities. The differences noted are the size of the two teams, the uniforms worn, and the appearance of a child in the older photograph, the appearance of the coaching staff in the current photograph, and the serious faces on the Mansfield Normal School team versus the smiles in the Mansfield University team. Each of these differences is representative of the era in which the photograph was taken. The similarities include a basketball being displayed by one of the team members, the women all wearing the same uniform, and the way the members are displayed in rows so that each person is visible.



\*Figure I-1 Women's Basketball Team Portrait, 1906  
Source: Life At Mansfield, A Visual Reminiscence



\*Figure I-2 Women's Basketball Team Portrait, 2010  
Source: Photos by Dart, Bruce Dart, Mansfield, PA

In further comparison, the photograph of the Mansfield State Normal team shows evidence of the more strict standards of modesty that were imposed on female athletes during that time. Long skirts, dress shirts buttoned all the way, and neck ties indicate the uncompromising standards placed on female athletes, and how they would portray themselves on campus. This also leads into how controversial it may have been for these women to be participating in athletics, especially in front of a co-ed audience. The photograph of the Mansfield University team is indicative of a modern time where the dress code has relaxed, and the carefree demeanor of the athletes shows how their participation in athletics is a normal part of campus life. The presence of the two coaches in the later picture also serves as evidence of how the program has expanded over the years and how institutional support of women's athletics has grown.

The second section of this chapter briefly explains, from a historical point of view, how the development of Mansfield women's athletics will be laid out according to the programs' progress from the early days of Mansfield State Normal School through the several transformations ranging from Mansfield State Teachers College, to Mansfield State College, and currently to Mansfield University. The following chapters are organized according to athletic opportunities available to women throughout each institutional period, focusing on major accomplishments, events, and issues that occurred.

Let it be noted that the vocabulary used throughout this document is parallel to that used in each time period. Specifically, Girl's Athletics and Women's Athletics are terms that are both used to represent what is known as Women's Athletics today.

Chapter II spans the years from 1862 to 1926 during the time when Mansfield Classical Seminary became the Mansfield State Normal School. The purpose of Mansfield State Normal School was to improve the professional training of teachers and to offer equal opportunities for higher education to all young men and women. The Normal School showed remarkable advances in its standards for education and student activities. The Normal Literacy, formed in 1864, was the first student organization on campus. Many more student organizations followed, including the Girl's Athletic Club, which was established in 1922. The official beginning of Mansfield Athletics was marked by the baseball team playing its first game against a local Wellsboro team in 1867. Women's athletics got its start during the winter of 1900 as the Normal School witnessed the organization of the first girls' basketball team. Athletics at Mansfield continued to progress and during the season of 1921-1922, the girls basketball team was able to play their first intercollegiate game against East Stroudsburg, losing to the more experienced opposition, 51-13.

The Girl's Athletic Club got underway with 23 initial members and continued to grow rapidly each year. Being an institution of higher education, focused on improving the professional training of teachers and offering equal educational opportunities for all young men and women, naturally Mansfield Normal enrolled a large number of women. This large population of women helps to explain the phenomenon of the early existence of Girl's Athletics at Mansfield State Normal School.

On June 4, 1926, the Mansfield State Normal School was granted the authority to bestow to its students a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. This marked the

beginnings of the Mansfield State Teachers College. Chapter III covers the years between 1927 and 1962 during the era of the Mansfield State Teachers College. It was during this time that the Women's Athletic Association emerged from the Girl's Athletic Club. The new organization was self-sufficient through its fundraising efforts and was able to give some of its member's financial aid for their participation in athletics. The effects of World War II were also causing changes on campus by allowing more opportunities for the women of Mansfield State, due to so many young men being drafted into the military. On a national level, women were beginning to receive more opportunities in the workforce and contributed to the war effort by keeping the factories and even America's favorite pastime alive. The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League emerged in the spring of 1943 in an effort to fill the baseball parks. The salaries for the women would range from \$45 to \$85 per week, with many of the players making more money than their parents at that time.

Navy war veteran, Helen Lutes arrived to Mansfield and became the director of women's physical education and took over the women's intramural program. It did not take long for Lutes to create opportunities for members of the Women's Athletic Association to travel by train to compete against local institutions of higher education. Lutes continued to direct women's athletics and, in 1957, took women's athletics to a full intramural program. During 1958, the WAA began recognizing a "Woman Athlete of the Year," a tradition that still remains at Mansfield today.

On November 19, 1959, the Pennsylvania State Legislature voted to grant collegiate status to its teachers colleges. It was then that Mansfield dropped the term

“teachers” from its name and became Mansfield State College (MSC). Chapter IV reviews the time period of the Mansfield State College, specifically 1960 to 1983. It was during that time when Mansfield was able to offer a full liberal arts education and witnessed enrollment growing three times greater than in the past. MSC took on the nickname “Mountaineers” in 1964, and women’s athletics continued with strong interest in the intramural program. The Women’s Athletic Association would travel to other local institutions and was able to compete against women at Lycoming College, Williamsport Area Community College, Lock Haven, Bucknell, and Bloomsburg.

During this time period, Title IX was passed and the nation was forced to begin compliance with gender equity in intercollegiate athletics. Title IX was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1972, as an Educational Amendment to the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Until Title IX became law, the opportunities for women in America to compete in physical activity were limited. Women’s athletics consisted of competitions that were intramural, club, or sorority matches and play days. The effects of Title IX were not immediate, as policy interpretations took time to form and be enforced. MSC has been at the forefront of creating opportunities for women in athletics; however a self-study for The Bureau of Equal Opportunity showed that Mansfield, too, had room for growth and more strict compliance with Title IX. At the end of the MSC era, with the help of the passage of Title IX, the NCAA added women’s championships in basketball, field hockey, swimming, tennis and volleyball.

In 1983, the Pennsylvania State Legislature created a state system of higher education that allowed all of the Pennsylvania state colleges to become full-fledged

universities. The state now provides funding to all of these universities to help with operating expenses and to hold down tuition costs. Chapter V examines the time period of Mansfield University, specifically from 1983 until the present day. Currently, Mansfield offers 73 four-year baccalaureate programs in the liberal arts and professional studies, 45 minors, 5 two-year associate degree programs and 6 master's degree programs. There are 3,400 students enrolled at Mansfield University and 162 full-time faculty members.

As one of the oldest programs on campus, field hockey has had many successful seasons during the current era, with the team being ranked in the top ten nationally in 1999 and in 2007. The program's first ever postseason championship came in 2001, when the Mountaineers brought home the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division II title.

The softball program has established itself as an asset to Mansfield University since its beginnings in 1980. From 1991 to 2004, the softball team won three ECAC championships and in 1995, Helen Lutes donated funding to build a field on campus to move the team from its previous downtown location. Women's cross country and track and field programs have produced many record-setting athletes. The cross country team has had five athletes compete at the NCAA Division II National Championships, as well as a fifth place team finish at the PSAC Championship in 2005. Swimming has also produced excellent athletes who have qualified and competed at the PSAC championships along with some relay teams. Women's basketball, the oldest women's



program at Mansfield, has generated 27 All-PSAC East player selections during this time period, as well as witnessed its first ever PSAC playoff berth in the 2005-2006 season.

In 2002, the newest program to be added to Mansfield's women's athletics was women's soccer. Along with this addition, in 2007 two full-time coaches were added to help uplift the women's track and field and softball programs. Also in 2007, the varsity football program was cut and moved to a non-scholarship Collegiate Sprint Football League, which in turn helped with the university's compliance with Title IX.

The final chapter of this thesis, Chapter VI, gives a summary of how women's athletics at Mansfield University have evolved since 1900 and gives a gaze into what the future may bring. Athletic scholarships are discussed, and the possibility of improved facilities and continued recruitment and retention of student-athletes are examined.

The methodology used to conduct this study of the history of women's athletics at Mansfield was grounded in the phenomenological branch of qualitative inquiry. Phenomenology is the study of the conscious experience, and is based on the belief that reality can be discovered through the recognition of certain phenomena as they become exposed in consciousness (Magliola, 1977). The specific phenomenon under investigation in this study was the progression of athletic-based opportunities given to the women of what is now Mansfield University from the era of Mansfield State Normal School through the present day.

The principal methods of historical research employed in this study consisted of content analysis and oral history. Content analysis uses a set of procedures to draw legitimate conclusions from text and can be used to reveal cultural patterns of groups,

institutions, or societies. When documents, such as yearbooks or school newspapers, are serially produced over long periods of time, cultural indicators manifested in the series of documents, such as repeat occurrences of athletic opportunities for women, add up to reliable data (Weber, 1990). Oral history is a term used to describe the act of recording the speech of people with something interesting to say and then examining their memories (Abrams, 2010). Interpretation of the data used in this study was informed by the positivist approach, which implies that the frequency of an occurrence indicates the importance of the documented phenomenon, in this case the athletic-based opportunities given to the women of Mansfield. The more frequently a certain phenomenon emerges in the recorded data, such as documentation of women's athletics, the more likely it is to be purposeful and hold importance (Lacity & Janson, 1994).

Sources of both documentary and interview data were chosen to represent a variety of historical perspectives. The primary sources of data included the following: the school yearbook, the *Carontawan*; the school newspaper, the *Flashlight*; personal interviews of alumnae and athletics staff; the current Mansfield Athletics website; and memorandums and self-studies found in the Mansfield University archives.

The school yearbook, the *Carontawan*, was used as a primary source because it offered a yearly report on the institution and the social events that the students engaged in at any given time. Each edition covered the course of a school year, and therefore the information was easily placed into its correct place on the historical timeline, when investigating each school era. Most of the editions were found in the Athletic Department's Sports Information Office or the Department's conference room. The

collection of *Carontawan* yearbooks is kept in the Athletic Department to be used as a lens through which to view the history of athletics on campus, focusing specifically on the status of each program as it changed from year to year.

The school newspaper, the *Flashlight*, was also used as a primary source because each edition reported what the students of Mansfield were involved with during a particular time period. Many articles were written about the Women's Athletic Association and the sporting events the WAA sponsored. Each article was published and dated in the newspaper, again making the information readily available in relation to each era. Copies of the *Flashlight* were found on file in the North Hall Library, as well as in the university archives. The articles found in the archives were most helpful, as they were found in the athletics section of the collection and were already separated into smaller groupings of sports-related material.

Both the *Carontawan* and the *Flashlight* would be considered material culture as they are used to help understand how women's athletics at Mansfield functioned over time. Material culture is a term used in the social sciences to describe the connection between artifacts and social relations, and for identifying and interpreting humanly fabricated objects. The yearbook and school newspaper served as artifacts that helped explain how the student culture at Mansfield was organized at a given point in time (Quimby, 1978). The articles found on women's athletics gave the students' perspective on the sporting events and their outcomes.

In both the *Carontawan* and the *Flashlight*, the sports sections were well marked and easily found. Individual editions varied in the amount of press given to women's

athletics, but in comparison to men's athletics, the women always received less attention. Nevertheless, the women always received some form of recognition, even if it was a small amount, showing that the women athletes at Mansfield, and their activities, did carry some importance across time.

Personal interviews of alumnae and athletics staff were also used as a primary source of information. These interviews offered a perspective on women's athletics that could not be captured in any other way. The interviewees offered a personal recollection of the events that were centered on women's athletics during their specific time spent at Mansfield. The purpose of these interviews was to find information on the process of the constantly evolving women's athletics program that was not recorded in writing. The information drawn from the interviews revealed the struggles and accomplishments that women experienced during the interviewees' time on campus.

The alumnae chosen for the interviews were drawn from a list provided by the alumni relations office. The list was comprised of all of the women athletes that graduated from Mansfield, and the interviewees were chosen from the list because of the specific time periods in which they participated in Mansfield athletics or due to their accomplishments during their careers as athletes. Many were hall of fame members, one was a member of the first intercollegiate women's basketball team, and two played on successful volleyball teams that traveled nationwide and to regional and national championships. Donna Strein, a 1950 graduate, was interviewed in a restaurant in nearby Montoursville, PA and the interview was audio taped for accuracy. She was a local graduate of the Mansfield State Teachers College and was able to recollect many details

of her playing days at Mansfield. The rest of the alumnae were interviewed via email due to their geographical locations.

The members of the athletics staff who were interviewed were chosen due to their longevity in the department. The athletic director has been at the head of the department for 25 years and the softball coach has been coaching women's athletics at Mansfield for over 20 years. The interviews were conducted either through email or in person. All personal conversations were audio taped to ensure accuracy. The specific interview process depended on the time of year and availability of the staff member.

The data used in the study pertained to a period that spanned over 100 years. Throughout this period, women at Mansfield were given opportunities to be involved in athletics. Further analysis revealed that the majority of the opportunities given through the present day were fought for by the women on the Mansfield campus. The continuous organization of women athletes at Mansfield has been documented since the 1900's and thus holds an important place in the history of the institution. The information presented in the chapters that follow can be used as a lens through which to view the campus, its culture, and the transformation of prevailing attitudes toward women's athletics over the course of its institutional history.

## Chapter II

### Mansfield State Normal School

1862-1926

On December 12, 1862, the Mansfield Classical Seminary became the Mansfield State Normal School of the Fifth District. The purpose of this institution of higher learning was to improve the professional training of teachers and to offer equal opportunities for higher education to all young men and women, regardless of social status or creed (Carontawan, 1937). Mansfield became the third Normal School of the state following Millersville and Edinboro. It was designed to meet the needs of students in Bradford, Lycoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga and Wyoming counties (Largey, 1984). The Normal School advanced remarkably from its opening days of 1857. The first student organization, The Normal Literacy, was formed in 1864, blazing a trail for many student organizations to follow, including the Girl's Athletic Club, which began in 1922. In 1902, Mansfield Normal School expanded its normal course from a two-year program to a three-year program, moving the institution closer to collegiate status (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.). Dr. William Ringgold Straughn, the newly elected principal, came to Mansfield in 1914 with a vision and a plan. Straughn implemented far-sighted policies that allowed the institution to grow immeasurably

stronger with the addition of new equipment and the establishment of academic and professional standards (Carontawan, 1937).

The remainder of the chapter will cover the characteristics of Mansfield State Normal School and the girl's athletic programs during this era. As academic standards were rapidly rising, extracurricular activities became an important part of Mansfield Normal's offerings as well. The baseball team played its first game against a Wellsboro team in 1867, marking the official beginning of Mansfield Athletics (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.). The early 1900's carried forward the tradition of persistence to make Mansfield Normal a place of growth for both men and women. What would become a long tradition of women's athletics began during the winter of 1900, as the Mansfield State Normal School witnessed the organization of the first girls' basketball team, under the direction of the first Head Coach, Edith Lownsberry. Along with Lownsberry, Mary Clohessey, Erie Potter, Margaret Nye, Julie Fitzpatrick and Maud Garbett, made up the first girl's athletic team in school history. The sport was played outside until 1904; the move to inside games in 1905 helped increase its popularity. In order to give the girls more opportunity to practice and play, competition was held between classes for what would become known as the "Silver Cup." The girls played against one another, much as intramural sports are played today. A typical competition would be the seniors and juniors versus the sophomores and freshmen. Soon to follow, field hockey became a team sport at Mansfield in 1915, when Irene Aubrey first introduced the sport from England. One of the first sports offered to women, field

hockey now holds the longest consecutive intercollegiate competition of any women's athletic program at Mansfield (Mansfield University Field Hockey, n.d.).

During the 1920's, the girls at Mansfield State Normal School were not allowed to play aggressively or by the same rules that were applied to boys. Women of that era were expected to act properly and it was unheard of and considered disgraceful for women to run. Women's basketball at Mansfield Normal was about to change history and the way women participated in sports. During the 1920 academic year, the senior girls (The Blacks) played the junior girls (The Reds), under the same rules by which boys had competed prior to that time. A series of three games were played on December 10 at 4:30pm. Spectators included other members of the senior and junior classes as well as some faculty members. With the lifting of the restrictions on women's play, it was argued that the senior class was at a disadvantage with inexperienced girls, while the junior class team consisted of players that had come directly from high school teams who had experience in playing by the boys' rules (Carontawan, 1920).

Women's athletics had not been recognized or emphasized to this time. In 1921, however, the Department of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania announced that the following year it would require that more emphasis be placed on women's athletics in all schools, including Inter-State Normal activities. However, in 1921, the Mansfield yearbook, the *Carontawan* stated that "Women's basketball fell far below its usual reputation and only a few pickup games were played" (p. 141). The Department of Public Instruction's plan would need one more academic year to be successfully implemented. Once basketball season ended, the plan for spring activities included



indoor baseball, volleyball, tennis and hiking. The aim of these athletic activities was to give grace and full body exercise, especially to those who were said to be faulty in posture.

The season of 1921-1922 was the first in the history of Mansfield Normal in which the girls' basketball team was able to play against an opposing team from another school. Prior to this season, all of the girls' games were played inter-class, but from this point on, Mansfield was able to schedule games with any other school of the same standing. The Lady Mountaineers lost their first intercollegiate game at East Stroudsburg 51-13 and lost again when they played East Stroudsburg at home 35-7. The two losses were excused by Mansfield Normal due to the fact that East Stroudsburg specialized in Health and Physical Education and the East Stroudsburg girls were more experienced. Besides the two intercollegiate games, inter-class games continued to be played between the senior and junior classes (Carontawon, 1922).

The 1922 season also witnessed several other firsts for women's athletics. Gym classes were taken outside to play baseball and tennis and the Girl's Athletic Club was established with 23 initial members. The purpose of the Club was to promote athletic activities of all kinds and to help generate school spirit. The organization sponsored two kinds of members: active and associate. Active members physically engaged in some sort of athletic activity and all other members were considered associate members. As the year progressed, a membership drive was held, resulting in 100 new members joining the Club, with ten becoming active members. The Girl's Athletic Club held regular meetings every two weeks in a classroom large enough to hold all of its members. They

participated in a variety of activities, including raising money to send the basketball team to East Stroudsburg. Their fundraiser, a county fair, raised all the money that was needed to send the girls to their away contest. One other major event sponsored by the Club that year was an indoor track meet, held on a Saturday evening, where the races were conducted to mirror a regular track meet (Carontawon, 1922).

In other athletic related history, the Girl's Hiking Club was also established in 1922, in order to promote walking for good health. Any girl who completed 100 miles of hiking during the school year was presented with a letter at the end of the season. The Club was capped at 40 members and any girl who did not make the cut was placed on a waiting list and given a try out once a spot opened up (Carontawan, 1922). It is evident that the women at Mansfield State Normal School were more than eager to be given athletic opportunities and were willing to work very hard to keep moving forward in the world of athletics.

In 1923, the Girl's Athletic Club expanded with individual competitions such as races and basketball throws, and group games such as German bat ball, volleyball, and basketball. The girls of the Club had to become proficient in each of these competitions in order to earn a red or black "M." The most successful event that the Girl's Athletic Club sponsored in 1923 was the "Girls' Stunt Night," which was held in the gymnasium. Basketball was the only team sport that was offered by the Girl's Athletics Club, and with no record of competitions that year, it consisted entirely of practices. The Hiking Club increased its mileage requirements for earning a letter from 100 miles to 250 miles, with

a certain number of miles required each week. During the spring, the girls would go on hikes for several days and camp at night (Carontawan, 1923).

As each year passed, the Girls' Athletic Club grew larger and became more popular. In 1924, the Club increased its membership number to 40. Not to be out-done, the Hiking Club again increased its mileage requirements for earning a letter from 250 to 350 (Carontawan, 1924). After what seemed to be an off year in 1923, Women's Athletics at Mansfield Normal got back on track in 1924. The Women's Basketball team played four games with other schools and one interclass game. The first game they played was against nearby Corning Free Academy at home with a victory of 11-0. Then, on January 12, 1924, the basketball team played the Stroudsburg Physical Education team at home and lost 26-6. The year-book mentioned that the event had very little support from the student body. The next game was against Alfred University, an away contest on January 26, which Mansfield won 14-9. Then on February 9, the team traveled to Stroudsburg to play, falling behind again 14-45. Stroudsburg Physical Education team went undefeated that season, most likely because of their experience and extra practice. The season was wrapped up on February 16<sup>th</sup> with an interclass game played between the seniors and the juniors. The seniors ended their season with a 39-2 win over the juniors (Carontawan, 1924).

Throughout the early 1920's, Women's Athletics at Mansfield experienced a phase of trial and error each school year. Often the rules, requirements, and levels of student interest would fluctuate. The year of 1925 was no different. The Girl's Athletic Club held tournaments in basketball, volleyball, swimming, skating and skiing. An

indoor swimming pool was built at Mansfield Normal in 1925, making it one of the earliest indoor facilities in the region. Specified swimming times were established for the men and women to swim separately.

In 1925, only the senior class could earn a varsity "M" by meeting the established requirements, which were not publicly stated. The Hiking Club kept its mileage requirement at 350 for senior members and moved its requirement for junior members back to 250. The seniors could earn letters and the juniors could earn numerals (Carontawan, 1925).

The girls' basketball team played three games in 1925, losing the first two and winning the last. The first game was a close loss to Corning Free Academy at home 7-8. The next game produced a similar outcome as Wellsboro High School came to Mansfield and won a 6-5 victory. The last game, which was played against the competitive Elmira Independents, saw Mansfield ending its season with a 6-2 win (Carontawan, 1925).

The following year proved to be yet another year of change for girl's athletics at Mansfield. The Girls' Athletic Club declared that 100 hours a year were to be spent in various sports for seniors to receive their letters; the same requirements were held for juniors to receive their numerals. Both junior and senior basketball teams were organized that year, and in the spring, tennis and swimming tournaments were organized. Other sports from which the girls could earn their hours included skiing, skating and hockey.

Also in 1926, the Hiking Club took in 70 juniors, which made it the largest girls' organization in the school. The mileage requirement was dropped to 250 miles for both seniors and juniors. The Club stated that its members had "...passed into the age of

happy, healthy girls” and were “enjoying the things that make life worthwhile,” thereby outshining previous generations of female collegians (Carontawan, 1926, p148). This statement was the first written commentary in the *Carontawan* yearbook to recognize the strides that had been made by the girls of Mansfield during this historical period.

Three games were recorded in girls' basketball in 1926. The first game of the season was played at home against Wellsboro High School. Mansfield Normal won this game by a score of 9-6. The next game was played in Carlisle, PA at Dickinson College, where Mansfield fell 28-41. The last game of the season was an interclass game between the juniors and the seniors, which the junior class won (Carontawan, 1926).

*The Flashlight* (February 6, 1926), Mansfield's school newspaper, featured a story that highlighted how the Women's Athletic Club aimed to foster the growth of girls' athletics. A joint business and social meeting was held in the Club House every two weeks. Each member anxiously awaited the gatherings in order to discuss the advancement of their activities. The article also highlighted how the Hiking Club was the largest and most popular girls' organization in the school, with membership growing upwards to 115.

Girls' athletics at Mansfield State Normal School during the early 1920's were progressive for the era, but meager compared to the opportunities given to women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Being an institution of higher education, focused on improving the professional training of teachers and offering equal educational opportunities for all young men and women, naturally Mansfield Normal enrolled a large number of women. This large population of women helps to explain the phenomenon of the early existence

of girls' athletics at Mansfield and the constant need for change in the way the athletic programs were run.

### Chapter III

#### Mansfield State Teachers College

1927-1960

On June 4, 1926, the Mansfield State Normal School was granted the authority to bestow on its students a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. This marked the beginning of the Mansfield State Teachers College, which would hold witness to development from 1 building on a 10 acre campus, to 20 buildings on a 50 acre campus (Carontawon, 1951). The name Mansfield State Normal School was officially changed to the Mansfield State Teachers College on May 13, 1927. This change came during the June Commencement in 1927, at which about 10 students received their four-year collegiate degrees (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.).

The remainder of this chapter will emphasize the characteristics of the Mansfield State Teachers College and the transformation from the Girl's Athletic Club to the Women's Athletic Association. During the transformation into the Mansfield State Teachers College, the campus was growing at a rapid pace, both in the classroom, through the expansion of the curriculum, and geographically, with more buildings being erected. The same can be said about the girl's athletics program. The late 1920's and

1930's remained consistent with the earlier part of the century, with a continuation of a trial and error phase in girls' athletics.

In 1927, the hiking club added 80 junior members and decided to keep its mileage requirements the same for juniors and seniors at 250 miles per year. In 1928, frustration loomed over the female athletes at Mansfield State, as noted in the following passage from the 1928 *Carontawan*.

In these days of sex equality it would seem wrong to place the women's athletic section under the minor sports. Yet it is impossible to do otherwise. The state director of Physical Instruction recommended that the fair sex should not engage in athletic competition outside of their respective schools. This suggestion has been adhered to at Mansfield, and so we are compelled to classify the ladies' endeavors among the intramural and lesser sports (p. 157).

The girls were only able to play on class teams and participate in hockey, basketball, baseball, and soccer. Additionally, interest in the hiking club suffered, as it became one of the smallest clubs at the school (Carontawan, 1927, 1928).

After a few years of setbacks and loss of interest, the Girl's Athletics Club bounced back in 1929 and 1930. The freshman and sophomore classes became actively involved, and in girl's hockey, the freshmen beat the sophomores in every game but one. Basketball was also being pursued by the underclassmen, as the freshmen won the first game of the season 23-8, but the sophomores answered back by winning the last two games, to wrap up the season (Carontawon, 1929).

The Girl's Athletic Club was determined to become a mainstay at Mansfield State as the members continued their fundraising efforts. The proceeds were spent on items such as tennis rackets and shin-guards for hockey, as the two sports were viewed as the



most important of the girls' activities, with hopes that an intercollegiate hockey team would soon form. The Club continued to expand by offering swimming, basketball, hockey, tennis and bowling to its members in 1930. In order to retain membership, the girls had to participate in at least two sports and meet the minimum hours of participation in each. To mirror the men's athletic program, the Girl's Athletic Club decided that after two years of participation the members would earn an "M" and would be entitled to the privilege of being members of the "M" club, (The Mansfield College Quarterly, 1930).

During the 1930-1931 school year, a new club was formed to further expand the options of activities for the women of Mansfield State. The Ganonkwenon Club was established to combine the interests of the Hiking and Outdoor Clubs. The Club provided outdoor exercise through hiking and encouraged its members to explore all aspects of the outdoors. "Ganonkwenon" is an Indian name that means "she is alert," which was representative of this era when women were beginning to seek out the same privileges as the men were given on campus. During 1932, bowling made its way to a year-round sport, with certain hours set aside for the girls to use the bowling alleys (Carontawan, 1931, 1932).

The mid 1930s was a time of more branching out for the girls at Mansfield State Teachers College. Each class had representative teams in basketball, baseball, track, hockey, tennis, bowling, swimming and even football. Each girl would receive her coveted "M" after earning 100 points in athletic activities. Points were earned during participation in games. At this time, some games were being moved off campus to Smythe Park, located in downtown Mansfield. Hockey was played there in the fall up

until Thanksgiving break and baseball was played there during the spring (Carontawan, 1933, 1935). The 1936 edition of *The Carontawan* dramatically showcased the growth in girls' athletics at Mansfield. Girls' athletics received a considerable amount of publicity with four pages dedicated to write-ups and pictures of the female athletic activities. Great emphasis was placed on promoting understanding of the games and their fundamentals and not on developing skilled and outstanding players. This sort of emphasis was given in order to offer prospective teachers the experience they needed in athletics to perhaps fulfill their extra-curricular duties as part of a job requirement (Carontawan, 1936).

In 1937, 16 years after the organization of the Girl's Athletic Club, its membership had grown from 23 women to 180. The Club established a loan fund of \$350 in 1932, and by 1937, 20 girls had received financial aid. This was a significant step in girls' athletics at Mansfield State and was solely funded through the Girls' Athletic Club. The Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW), formed in 1971 to sanction intercollegiate women's athletics prior to the NCAA, did not permit athletic scholarships until 1980. This means that the girls at Mansfield State Normal were receiving funding 48 years before it was being done at a national level (The NCAA News, 1999). During 1937, the girls would begin baseball practice, the most unfamiliar sport to them, in the gymnasium, with practice and games moving to Smythe Park later in the spring. New sports such as skiing and ice skating were also added to the club's wide range of activities (Carontawan, 1937).

The late 1930s and early 1940s would witness more significant changes for the girls of Mansfield State. In 1938, the girls were concerned with the image they were portraying as athletes. As they would walk through town on their way to Smythe Park for practice, they would put skirts over their gym suits in order to look more respectable. The year of 1939 proved to be yet another milestone in women's athletics at Mansfield State, as the Girls' Athletic Club would come to be known as the Women's Athletic Association (WAA). The WAA, with its 150 members, was the largest college organization to use Smythe Park and the gymnasium. The range of sports provided by the WAA included hockey, swimming, tennis, basketball, volleyball, softball, ping pong, shuffleboard, badminton, archery, bowling, and deck tennis (Carontawan, 1938, 1939).

The WAA proved to be an organization on campus that was run for women and by women. The group's female leaders would take it upon themselves to create opportunities for its members to participate in athletics. In 1942, a major accomplishment of the WAA was to raise a large sum of money to repair the bowling alleys. Not only did the women participate in all of the different sports, but they also had the opportunity to act as their own referees, umpires and coaches. This would further educate them on the fundamentals of the games and give them respect for all aspects of athletics (Carontawan, 1942).

The focus at Mansfield State Teachers College was shifted in 1943, as the effects of World War II set in. The Women's Athletic Association began to focus its attention on the promotion of physical fitness to contribute to the war effort. The standards for receiving an "M" were raised to 200 points as the women began to receive even more

opportunities to play. Due to uncertain male enrollment and the rationing of gas and tires, Mansfield dropped men's intercollegiate basketball in 1943. This gave women the opportunity to have a much more extensive intramural basketball program with 10 class teams and many more games played. As fewer men remained on campus, more time and space opened up for the women to participate in all of their activities. This phenomenon was happening all over campus. The 1944 edition of the *Carontawan* was published by a board composed entirely of women (Carontawan, 1943, 1944).

Women were also receiving more opportunities in athletics nationwide. Young men were being drafted into the armed services, which eventually shut down many minor league baseball teams and hindered the Major League. In order to fill the baseball parks, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League emerged in the spring of 1943. Philip Wrigley, of Wrigley's chewing-gum, owned the Chicago Cubs at the time and needed a solution to keep the fans coming to his ball park. Four teams were formed to start the league and each team consisted of 15 players, a manager, a business manager and a woman chaperone. Former Major League players and managers were chosen to coach the teams in order to spark more public interest in the Girls League. The players were recruited nationwide to try out and those who made one of the teams were paid well for their abilities. Salaries were high for the players; some as young as 15 were making more than their parents, who had skilled occupations. The salaries for the women would range from \$45 to \$85 per week. This opportunity for women to be paid for their athletic abilities would serve as a turning point in women's athletics nationwide (All-American Girls, 2005).

By 1946, the veterans began to arrive on campus and things were getting back to normal at Mansfield State. Among the new arrivals was Navy war veteran, Helen Lutes, who became the director of women's physical education. In addition to her teaching and coaching duties, Lutes voluntarily took over the women's intramural program. By the time she completed 28 years of teaching physical education at Mansfield State College, Lutes left an important mark on women's athletics. Long before the concept of gender equity, Lutes worked to give the women at Mansfield State the same opportunities the men were given. She would organize Sports Day for Girls and help the women expand their playing efforts beyond intramurals. Under Lutes's supervision they would travel by train to compete against Penn State, Bucknell, Lock Haven and Bloomsburg Universities (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.). Donna Strein, a 1950 graduate of Mansfield State Teachers College, who participated in the Women's Athletic Association and was a member of the Mansfield Hall of Fame for women's basketball, softball, and tennis, offered the following recollection of the sports days.

“Yeah, sports days were all we had. There was no varsity supposedly. We went to Penn State and Lock Haven and they came to Mansfield” (D. Strein, personal communication, November 14, 2010).

Under the supervision of Lutes and the Physical Education Program, women's sports at Mansfield State were being designed to provide teachers with a solid background of activities that would allow them to supervise playgrounds and recess periods once hired. The WAA began to split its athletic activities based on the season. During the fall, the girls would participate in volleyball, tennis, folk dance, square dance, and swimming. The winter months brought basketball, bowling, modern dance, table

tennis, badminton, and tumbling. The year's activities would wrap up in the spring with softball, bowling, tap and character dance, archery, tennis, swimming, and quoits.

Throughout the remainder of the 1940's, the WAA continued to draw a strong interest from the women at Mansfield State and remained the largest organization on campus (Carontawan, 1947, 1948, 1949). The men's basketball team would practice after school hours in the afternoon. During the day and in the evenings, the intramural program would run. The WAA hosted "play nights" on Saturday night in which they had babysitting available. A lot of GI's were married and had young children and the underclassmen would take care of the children so the upperclassmen could participate in the activities (D. Strein, personal communication, November 14, 2010).

The WAA also offered the women at Mansfield other opportunities to remain involved in athletics. "We learned to officiate; we had like an officiating class, precisely for basketball," remembered Hall of Famer, Donna Strein. The women were still learning to officiate, so varsity basketball players and intramural leaders would officiate games, as would Helen Lutes and one, "Mr. Duff." A typical intramural basketball season would include 10 to 15 teams. The uniforms the girls wore were a one piece suit with a little skirt. Each team would play two to three times a week and the games were played only on half the court (D. Strein, personal communication, November 14, 2010).

During 1951, golf was introduced for the first time in the women's physical education program. It was only offered to the freshman class and the women were taken to the Corey Creek Golf Course for instruction. Through the mid-1950s, the WAA remained the largest and most enthusiastic club on campus. Helen Lutes remained the

director and in 1957, she took women's athletics to a full intramural program. During 1958, the WAA began recognizing a "Woman Athlete of the Year," a tradition that remains at Mansfield today. This era was rounded out by the WAA beginning community service projects, specifically giving Christmas gifts to the Tioga County Welfare Children. Its members also consistently participated in "Sports Day" competitions with various area colleges (Carontawan, 1951, 1960).

The large expansion of the campus and the institution's authorization to issue bachelor's degrees would characterize the transformation from the Mansfield State Normal School to the Mansfield State Teachers College. A similar change on campus was reflected by an organization that was run for women and by women. The Women's Athletic Association emerged from the Girls Athletic Club during the era of the Mansfield State Teachers College. The WAA was self-sufficient through its fundraising efforts and even gave some of its member's financial aid for their participation in athletics. The efforts made by the women at the Mansfield State Teachers College would prove to lay the groundwork needed to keep the women's athletics program moving forward.

## Chapter IV

### Mansfield State College

1960-1983

On November 19, 1959, the Pennsylvania State Legislature voted to grant full collegiate status to its teachers colleges. In 1960, Mansfield dropped the term "Teachers" from its name to become Mansfield State College. Mansfield was then able to offer a full liberal arts education and enrollment tripled from 1,000 students in 1960, to 3,000 students in 1969. In 1979, Dr. Janet Travis was named president of Mansfield, and she became the first female president of a Pennsylvania state college (Mansfield University 1857-2007, n.d.). As the school grew in enrollment, new dormitories were built to accommodate the growing student population. Pinecrest Manor was built in 1962 followed by Hemlock Manor in 1964, Maple Hall and Laurel Manor A in 1967, and Laurel Manor B in 1969. The last dormitory built was Cedercrest Manor in 1976, which brought the total capacity of on-campus housing to 2,042 students (Carontawan, 1983).

The remainder of this chapter will highlight the characteristics of Mansfield State College and the effects of Title IX on women's athletics. Mansfield State College (MSC) first took on the name "Mountaineers" in 1964 and throughout the rest of the decade the Women's Athletic Association was still competing through the intramural program, along



with playing in sports days where they would compete with other area colleges (Carontawan, 1961-1969). In the spring of 1963, the women athletes at Mansfield State College would participate in sports days at Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA and at Lock Haven State College, along with hosting their own at Mansfield (The Flashlight, March 1963). The Women's Athletic Association also hosted a play date in April of 1963. Mansfield State College was well represented with about 75 girls participating in volleyball, basketball, badminton, bowling, table tennis and table shuffleboard (The Flashlight, April 1963).

In 1964, the WAA continued to stay active with intramural basketball, participation in sports days, and a new offering of golf classes. The intramural basketball program consisted of 10 teams, which were divided into two leagues of five teams each. Four games were played on all Monday and Wednesday nights (The Flashlight, February 1964). The MSC women attended a sports day at Lycoming College. Twenty members of the WAA represented Mansfield in tennis, bowling, volleyball, and basketball. The women competed against teams from Bucknell, Bloomsburg, Lock Haven, and Lycoming. Lock Haven hosted a sports day later in the year that was organized in a different format than all of the other sports days. The girls competed on color teams that consisted of members from all of the institutions. This would give the women an opportunity to meet and interact with girls from all of the schools represented. Outdoor sports, such as archery and softball, were a part of this program (The Flashlight, April 1964). Helen Lutes began golf classes in April, 1964 for the women at MSC. Classes

were held at the Corey Creek Golf Club in which 40 girls registered to participate (The Flashlight, March 1964).

The rest of the 1960's continued with a high interest from the WAA to compete in sports days and intramural programs at Mansfield State. Tennis, bowling, and basketball proved to be popular choices in which to compete. The women faculty members would even put together teams to compete with the students (The Flashlight, October 1964-April 1967).

It was during 1972, when Title IX was passed, that the nation was forced to begin compliance with gender equity requirements in intercollegiate athletics. Title IX was passed by the U.S. Congress as an Educational Amendment to the 1964 Civil Rights Act (Anderson et al., 2006). Section 901(a) of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance (Federal Register, 1979).

Until Title IX became law, the opportunities for women in America to compete in physical activity were limited. Women's athletics consisted of competitions that were intramural, club, or sorority matches and play days. The play days consisted of special dates set aside for women to compete in sports with students and teams formed within their schools (Bell, 2007). The same model was followed at Mansfield State, except women were able to compete in Sports Days with other area schools. If it were not for the support and direction of women's athletics advocates, such as Helen Lutes, the

opportunities for women to compete at Mansfield would have been very limited, just as they were limited nationwide. "I told 'Spots' Decker when he first asked me to come to Mansfield that I would, but only if the girls were given the same opportunities in physical education," stated Lutes (Basketball Centennial, 2000). The limitations the women faced were not just localized to competition; they also struggled to receive recognition.

Commenting retrospectively on *The Carontawan* yearbook, one individual affiliated with Mansfield University stated, "Our co-eds were, for years disappointed because so much space was given in this publication to male athletics. That disappointment grew until it accumulated into bitterness" (Basketball Centennial, 2000).

After several years of discrepancy in Title IX Policy Interpretation, clarity was given to the meaning of "equal opportunity" in intercollegiate athletics during 1979. As stated in the Federal Register, the policy interpretation was divided into three sections: *Compliance in Financial Assistance Based on Athletic Ability, Compliance in Other Program Areas, and Compliance in Meeting the Interests and Abilities of Male and Female Students*. Compliance in financial assistance means that such assistance should be available on a basis substantially proportional to the number of male and female participants in the institution's athletic program. Compliance in other program areas such as equipment and supplies, games and practice times, and travel and per diem, would ensure that male and female athletes would receive equivalent treatment, benefits, and opportunities. Compliance in meeting the interests and abilities of male and female students means that the athletic interests of both must be equally and effectively accommodated (Federal Register, 1979).

Progress nationwide seemed slow as interpretations and compliance with Title IX took form. Mansfield State continued to move forward in its intercollegiate competitions in women's athletics. In 1974, women's sports consisted of field hockey, tennis, and swimming, each playing a schedule of area schools. The 1974 field hockey team had an undefeated season of 8-0 (Mansfield Athletics Media Guide, 1978). The women's basketball program was added to the intercollegiate teams in 1977, playing the largest schedule of 13 other schools. Some of the schools that Mansfield State competed against at this time were: Corning Community College, Lycoming, Elmira, Wilkes, Williamsport ACC, Misericordia, Bloomsburg, Alfred A&T, Lafayette, Kutztown, Penn State Wilkes, Bucknell, and Penn State.

Josephine Cherundolo Coddington was a 1978 graduate of Mansfield State College. She played women's basketball and was a member of the first intercollegiate team that began in 1977. She was also a member of the first charter women's basketball team. There was not women's basketball when Josephine started at Mansfield in 1974, so a group of girls got together with Mrs. Sharon Zegalia to start a women's team that would remain on a probationary period until 1977. The probationary period consisted of a few pick-up games or scrimmages, after which the team had to go in front of a review board, where it was sanctioned to become a full-fledged women's basketball team (J. Coddington, personal communication, December 1, 2010).

Also in 1977, Women's Volleyball of Mansfield State hosted the Eastern Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Small College Regional Tournament and then went on to the National Small College Tournament at Pepperdine University in

Malibu, California (Carontawan 1977). Sandra Stivers Palmer, a 1984 graduate, was a member of the volleyball team that traveled to California for the national tournament.

Palmer, a Mansfield Hall of Fame member, also traveled with the volleyball team to Washington and Florida for more national appearances. In a recent interview, she offered the following recollection of the season.

We became known as a small town team that was making it big. Our reputation preceded us when we would arrive at tournament play (S. Palmer, personal communication, February 5, 2011).

After a mandatory three years as a club sport, softball was turned into a varsity program during 1980. Tom Costello served as the program's first head coach, leading the team to a 6-5 record during their inaugural season. The program continued to grow strong as the team recorded an 8-7 record the following year (Mansfield University Softball, n.d.). By 1981, the intercollegiate teams of Mansfield State consisted of field hockey, swimming, volleyball, women's tennis, women's basketball, softball, and women's track. In 1982, for the second year in a row, the women's volleyball team competed in the finals to represent the northeastern coast in Sacramento, CA. That same year, the field hockey team played a full schedule of 11 games, women's basketball had both varsity and junior varsity teams, and the swim team and softball teams also played a full schedule (Carontawan 1981-1982).

Although MSC showed progress in providing opportunities for women to participate in athletics, during 1976, a self-study of sports programs concluded that there were areas of equal opportunity in sports that needed improvement. The sports programs at Mansfield State College were directly funded through the Student Government

Association (SGA) with direct assistance from the Department of Health and Physical Education. During the 1975-1976 academic year, there were approximately 329 more female students than male students at MSC. These 329 female students contributed \$21,385 more than the male students to the SGA funds; however, there were 181 more male athletes than female. The varsity sports total was 13 programs; 8 for men, 5 for women. The men's sports program received 89% of the total athletic budget and the women's sports programs only received 11% of the total athletic budget (The Bureau of Equal Opportunity, 1976).

This self-study dealt directly with intercollegiate varsity athletics at MSC, and the administration argued that the intramural programs were allowing for equal opportunities for the women and fulfilled their athletic interests. As Title IX policy interpretations were being put into place, many institutions were able to continue giving men's athletics the majority of their support while the women were encouraged to continue to compete in intramural programs. Mansfield State, with its 75 year tradition of creating athletic opportunities for its women, too, was guilty of prolonging implementation of the changes mandated by the Educational Amendment of Title IX.

The current Director of Athletics at Mansfield, Roger Maisner, arrived on campus in 1976. He believes there has been a gradual, but real acceptance of women's athletics from the early 1970's until the present day. According to Maisner, the administration has always been supportive of women's athletics and when possible would meet any needs and challenges that would arise. The major changes on campus since the enactment of Title IX consist of growth in the number of athletes; increased interest of female athletes;

talent, knowledge and experience of female athletes; and growth in interest of the campus community, local community, and media. Reflecting on Mansfield's compliance with Title IX, Maisner stated, "I believe we are in [compliance with] most everything but the recent judge's rulings on the gender enrollment to athletic opportunities ratio" (R. Maisner, personal communication, December 4, 2010).

The 1980's proved to be a decade of change for women's athletics nationwide. With the passage of Title IX in 1972 and the addition of women's championships to the NCAA in 1981 and 1982, women's athletics would never be the same. In January of 1980, at the NCAA's annual Convention, institutional members of Divisions II and III voted to hold women's championships in basketball, field hockey, swimming, tennis and volleyball during the 1981-1982 academic year, and soon after, Division I added championships for women (The NCAA News, 1999).

Chapter V

Mansfield University

1983-Present Day

By 1983, the Pennsylvania State Legislature had created the State System of Higher Education and all of the Pennsylvania state colleges became universities. The state provides funding to these universities to help with operating expenses, which holds down tuition costs. Around the time of the legislation that created the current state university system, Helen Lutes volunteered at a phone-a-thon fundraiser to benefit the soon-to-be Mansfield University. She was able to solicit a \$10,000 donation from 1955 graduate, Tom Holleran, which went to benefit the library (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.). The oldest building on campus, North Hall reopened its doors for the first time since its closing in the early 1980's, as a library and administration building in the fall of 1996 (Mansfield University 1857-2007, n.d.).

In 1998, Dr. John Halstead was named president and remained until 2005. During his presidency, the old gymnasium was demolished and replaced with a parking lot and a child care center. In August of 2006, South Hall was demolished and a new South Hall was built in the same spot. The new South Hall is now home to the enrollment services,



financial aid, and registrar's offices, and the Athletic Mentoring/CHAMPS Life Skills program.

Today, under the presidency of Dr. Maravene Loeschke, Mansfield University offers 73 four-year baccalaureate programs in the liberal arts and professional studies, 45 minors, 5 two-year associate's degree programs, and 6 master's degree programs. Mansfield also offers several non-degree programs and hosts the region's municipal police academy. There are 3,400 students enrolled at Mansfield and 162 full-time faculty. For 154 years, Mansfield has been serving the needs of its students by providing a quality and affordable education (Mansfield University 1857-2007, n.d.).

The remainder of this chapter will focus on the characteristics of Mansfield University and the varsity women's athletics programs. Mansfield State College became Mansfield University in the fall of 1983, and at this time the women's athletic teams consisted of field hockey, tennis, volleyball, women's basketball, softball and swimming (Carontawan, 1983). Today, the NCAA Division II varsity programs consist of field hockey, softball, swimming, women's cross country, women's basketball, women's track and field, and women's soccer (Mansfield University Athletics, n.d.).

One of the oldest intercollegiate programs on campus, field hockey has been a part of Mansfield athletics for over 90 years. The team was ranked in the top ten nationally in 1999, and that same year, two athletes, Jamie Huffcut and Gretchen Reschke, were named the first All-Americans in school history. Current Head Coach, Diana Monkiewicz, has brought success to the program since her beginnings in 1998. Her team won the first ever postseason championship in program history by bringing

home the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division II title in 2001. Coach Monkiewicz was named Division II Field Hockey Coach of the Year by [womensfieldhockey.com](http://womensfieldhockey.com) in 2006, after her program earned its first-ever Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) playoff berth. In 2007, the Mansfield University field hockey team was ranked number 10 in the nation for Division II after a successful 11-7 record for the year (Mansfield University Field Hockey, n.d).

The women's softball program continued to grow and prosper in the late 1980's and 1990's. In 1989, under Head Coach Joe French, the softball team recorded a 22-13 season while earning the program's first ever postseason appearance at the ECAC Division II championships. The team made it all the way to the championship game, losing to New York Tech to end their season. The following year, they again went to the ECAC championship game, only to lose a one run game to New York Tech. In 1991, the program went on to win 33 regular season games, and advance to the ECAC championship game for the third straight year. This time, the Mounties came out on top against LeMoyne College to win their first ever softball championship. In 1992, current Head Coach Edith Gallagher took over the program. The team would again go to the ECAC championship game to win its second straight title with an 8-5 win over Southampton. From that point, the softball program would continue to establish itself in the PSAC along with two more ECAC championship appearances. In 2004, the Mounties won yet another ECAC championship title. In the most recent years, the program would earn its first PSAC playoff berth in school history in 2009 (Mansfield University Softball, n.d.).

Helen Lutes would remain a large part of women's athletics at Mansfield long after she retired from the physical education department in 1974. Lutes went on to strongly support both field hockey and softball during her remaining years at Mansfield. Lutes donated a generous amount of funding to the softball program in 1995, which would allow for a field to be built on campus. Prior to that, the softball program played its games at the community Smythe Park. Helen Lutes Field was dedicated in April of that year, and remains one of the best fields to play on in the PSAC today. Lutes would sit in a lawn chair at the end of the Mounties' dugout for each home game to cheer on her girls until she passed away at the age of 94, in October of 2005. That same lawn chair is still placed in her spot at Lutes Field during each home game in remembrance of all she did for the program and women's athletics as a whole. Before she passed, Lutes also sponsored two athletic scholarships that remain in use today for softball and field hockey players (Mansfield: 150 Years of History, n.d.).

Women's cross country and track and field programs have produced many record-setting athletes. In 2005, under Head Coach Mike Rohl, the cross country team finished fifth in the PSAC Championship and the NCAA East Regional. Mansfield has had five athletes compete at the NCAA Division II National Championships, two of whom were All-American selections. The swimming program has also sent individuals to the PSAC championship meets as well as a few relay teams (Mansfield University Women's Cross Country, n.d.).

With over 100 years of history, the women's basketball program is the longest standing women's program at Mansfield University. Since 1984, Mansfield has

produced 27 All-PSAC East player selections and continues to strive for success in the strong Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference. Under current Head Coach Ruth Hermansen, the program has witnessed more wins than under any other coach in program history. The Mountaineer basketball team earned its' first ever PSAC playoff berth in the 2005-2006 season and made postseason play again the following season (Mansfield University Women's Basketball, n.d.).

The program most recently added to Mansfield's women's athletics was the soccer team, which was established in 2002. The Mountaineers kicked off the inaugural season when they traveled to Juniata College on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002. The team would score its first ever goal in the second half of the game, but would end up losing the competition 3-1. The first home game was celebrated with the display of the 1999 Women's World Cup Trophy and fireworks as Mansfield hosted Roberts Wesleyan College. The program's first win came later that season, when the team beat Daeman College 3-2 (Mansfield University Women's Soccer, n.d.).

Current student-athletes have a different approach to playing sports than those who came before them. In the past, it was common for women to play a different sport each season and be involved in many different aspects of athletics. Today, each athlete is typically dedicated to one sport and trains to play that one sport year round (E. Gallagher, personal communication, November 18, 2010.) This transformation to one-sport athletes may coincide with how common athletic scholarship money is granted. When an athlete receives money based on athletic ability, she is expected to put all of her time and focus on developing her ability to compete in a specific sport, as opposed to playing several

sports for recreational purposes. When asked how the women athletes' experience compares overall to the men's at Mansfield, Coach Gallagher commented, "unbelievably, women still have to fight to have equal access to scholarship money" (E. Gallagher, personal communication, November 18, 2010).

With its seven current varsity women's programs, Mansfield University continues the battle for equal opportunities for women on campus. Although the tennis program has been cut from the university, several positive changes have been made to enhance women's athletics. In 2007, two additional full-time coaches were hired to help elevate the women's track and field and softball programs. That same year, the varsity football program was cut and moved to a non-scholarship Collegiate Sprint Football League. This move helped bring Mansfield into compliance with Title IX in regard to its opportunities for women athletes.

## Chapter VI

### A Summary of the Past, an Examination of the Present, and a Look into the Future of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University

Mansfield University has a unique women's athletics history because of the early opportunities given to the women of Mansfield over the past 111 years. The tradition of excellence and tenacity of women's athletics began with the organization of the first women's basketball team during the winter of 1900. This program is one of the oldest in NCAA Division II history and remains a strong part of Mansfield University's women's athletics today. The women at Mansfield began playing intercollegiate games as early as 1921 and the Girl's Athletic Club was established on campus in 1922 as a resource for women to meet and create more opportunities to compete athletically.

#### The Past

Since it opened its doors in 1857, as Mansfield Classical Seminary, Mansfield University and its women's athletic programs have been through several transformations. From the meager beginnings of 105 students total to its current 3,400, the university has withstood the test of time to become the educational institution that it is today. Likewise, the women at Mansfield have endured many challenges and fought for opportunities to grow as athletes. Since 1900, during the Mansfield State Normal School era, the women

at Mansfield have been organizing and participating in athletics. Under the direction of its first Head Coach, Edith Lownsberry, the first girls basketball team was organized and played outside until 1904 (Mansfield University Women's Basketball, n.d.). Field Hockey was soon added in 1915, when Irene Aubrey introduced the sport from England. The girls of Mansfield State Normal would play against one another in an intramural fashion until the season of 1921-1922, when the Lady Mountaineers played their first intercollegiate basketball game against East Stroudsburg. Prior to this time, the girls were not allowed to play aggressively or by the same rules that applied to the boys' teams. The Girl's Athletic Club was also established in 1922 with a purpose of promoting athletic activities of all kinds for the girls at Mansfield Normal. The club would triple in size by the end of the academic year and its members would take it upon themselves to raise the money needed to send the basketball team to East Stroudsburg (Carontawan, 1920-1922). The organization of the Girl's Athletic Club proved to be a milestone in women's athletic history at Mansfield. While its membership grew, interest in athletic activity would also grow. The earliest members created a belief system for future Mansfield women to follow, based on the conviction that they should be allowed to participate in athletics and should expect the same opportunities that were given to men.

In 1927, the Mansfield State Normal School was granted authority to confer upon its students a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. This would signify the beginning of the Mansfield State Teachers College, which would soon grow from a single building to a 20 building campus. It was during this time that the Women's Athletic Association

materialized from the Girl's Athletic Club. The improved organization was able to raise money to repair the bowling alleys on campus and further educate its members on the fundamentals of the games and act as their own referees, umpires, and coaches. After the effects of World War II set in on campus, the women at Mansfield were given even more opportunities to participate in all of their activities. With significant drops in male enrollment, more time and space were given to the women to practice and play (Carontawan, 1938-1944).

After being granted full collegiate status by the Pennsylvania State Legislature in 1960, Mansfield State Teachers College became Mansfield State College. During this time Mansfield was able to offer a full liberal arts education and enrollment tripled by 1969. The women at Mansfield continued to participate in athletics through intramural programs and sports days with other schools until the passing and enforcement of Title IX during the 1970's. By 1977, Mansfield State offered women's intercollegiate teams in field hockey, tennis, swimming, volleyball and basketball. Women's track and softball were also added to the list by 1981, giving the women at Mansfield seven varsity programs in which to participate, the same number that are currently being carried.

### The Present

It was during 1983 that Mansfield State College became Mansfield University, alongside all other Pennsylvania state colleges. Currently, Mansfield University has 3,400 students enrolled and 162 full-time faculty. Under the presidency of Dr. Maravene Loeschke, Mansfield University offers 73 four-year baccalaureate programs in the liberal



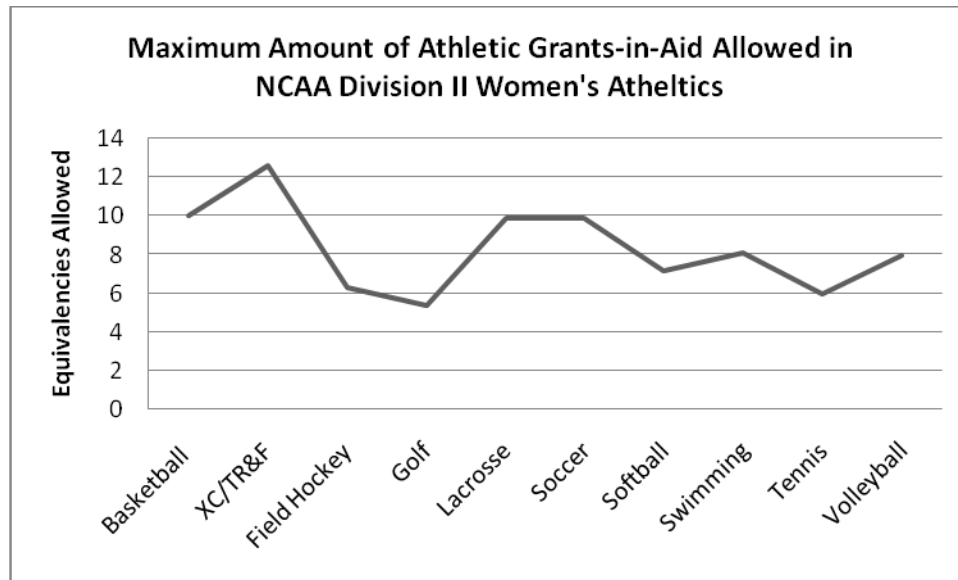
arts and professional studies, 45 minors, 5 two-year associate degree programs and 6 master's degree programs. Mansfield's athletic programs currently compete in the NCAA Division II Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC). The PSAC has 16 full-time members spread out over the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mansfield is also in affiliation with the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC), which consists of 320 members in 15 different states.

The women's athletic programs at Mansfield University are currently made up of field hockey, softball, swimming, women's cross country, women's basketball, women's track and field and women's soccer. The seven varsity sports available to women at Mansfield University represent the lowest number of varsity programs offered to women in any PSAC school. West Chester University and Kutztown University top the list with 14 and 13 programs offered, while Cheyney University and Mansfield are at the bottom of the list with seven. Let it be noted that these numbers are proportional to enrollment numbers, as West Chester enrolls 14,492 students and Kutztown enrolls 10,700. Cheyney enrolls less than 2,000 students and Mansfield, as previously stated, enrolls 3,400 (Cheyney University Admissions, n.d., About Kutztown University n.d., West Chester University Prospective Students, n.d.).

Mansfield University is also on the low end of the PSAC grants-in-aid equivalencies and athletic grant monies. As stated in the 2010-2011 NCAA Division II Manual, a full grant-in-aid is financial aid that consists of tuition and fees, room and board, required course-related books and required course-related supplies. Athletics aid is financial aid based in any degree upon athletic ability (p. 147, 155). An equivalency

simply means the amount of financial aid dollars that would equal a full grant-in aid scholarship. Figure VI-1 illustrates the maximum number of athletic grants-in-aid equivalencies allowed per women's sport for Division II, as set forth by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The equivalencies can be distributed in the form of a full grant-in-aid scholarship to an individual athlete or each scholarship can be divided among more than one athlete. Figures VI-2 through VI-7 illustrate the number of full grant-in-aid equivalencies that Mansfield University's women's programs distribute compared to the other PSAC schools that offer the same sports.

Figure VI-1



\*Data for Figure VI-1 was collected from the 2010-2011 NCAA Division II Athletics Manual.

Figure VI-2

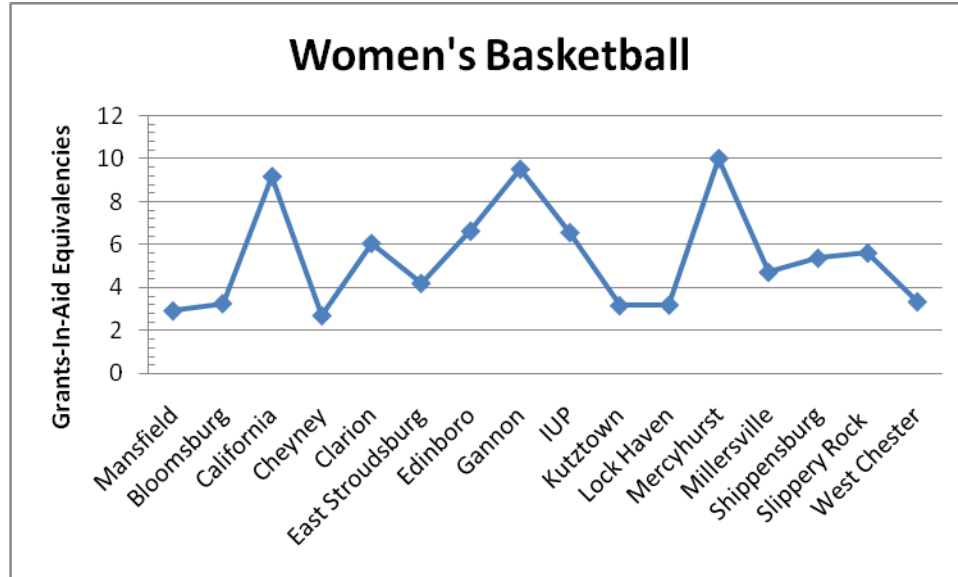


Figure VI-3

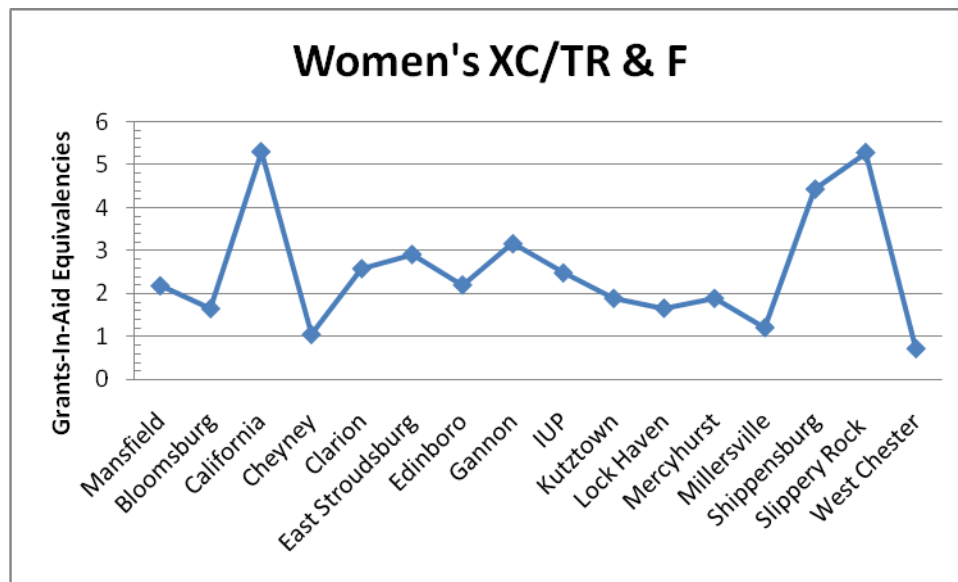


Figure VI-4

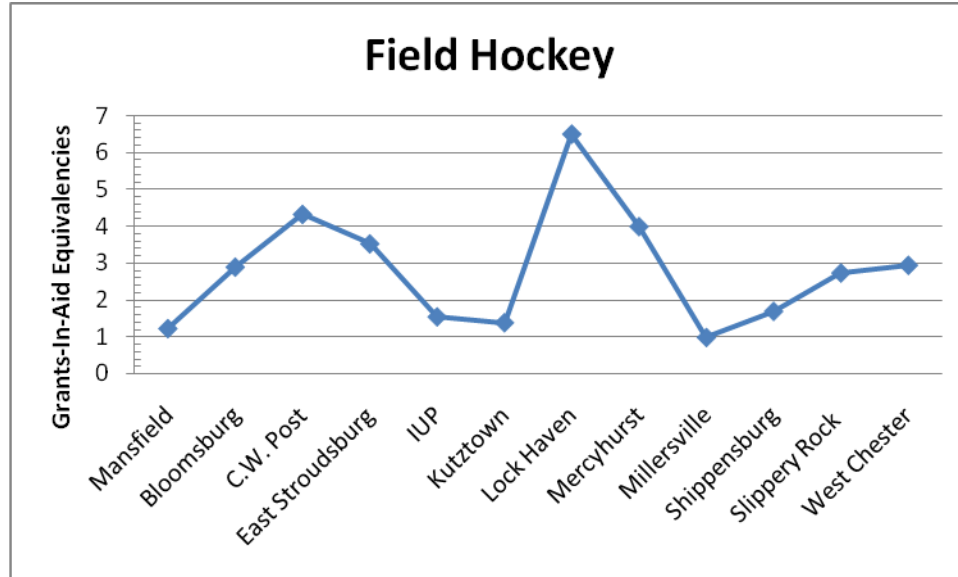


Figure VI-5

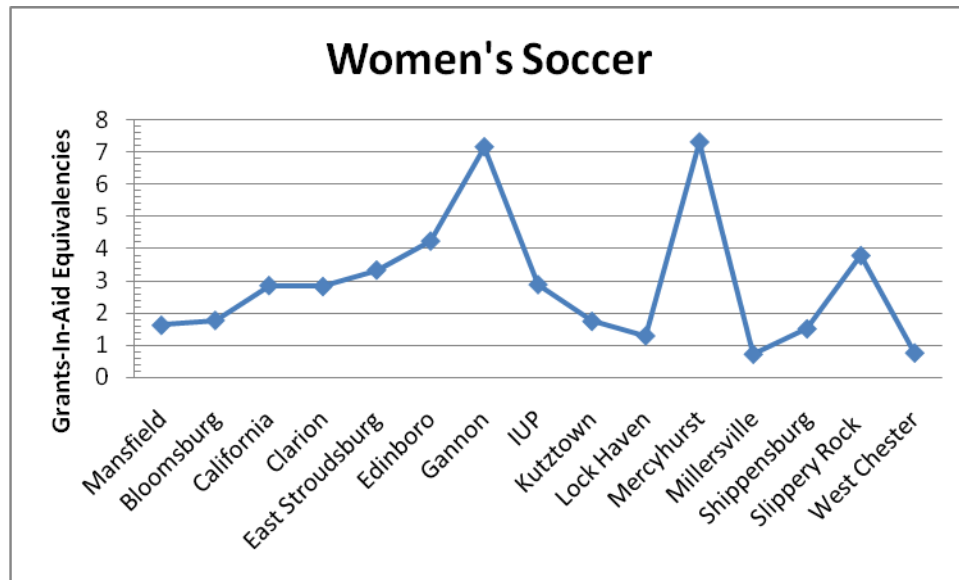


Figure VI-6

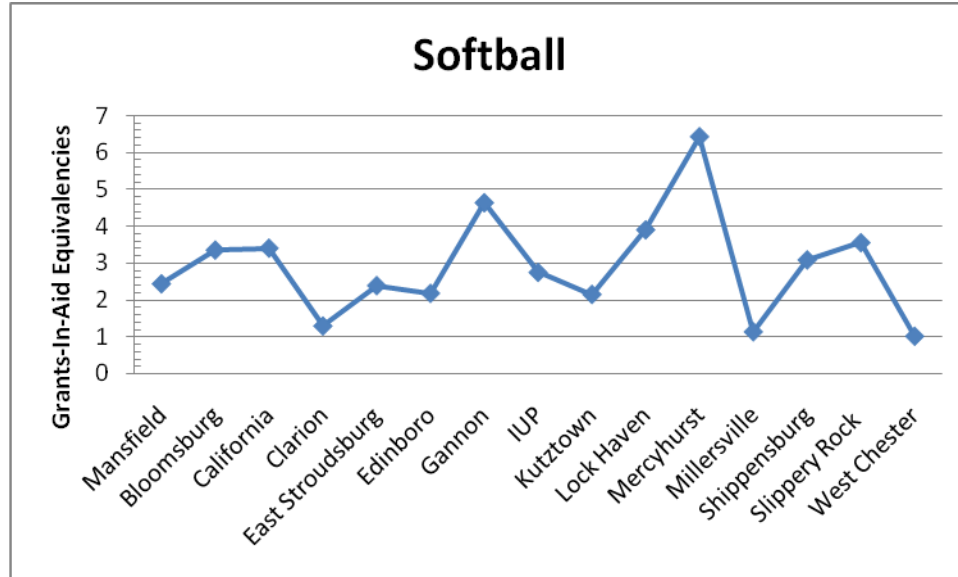
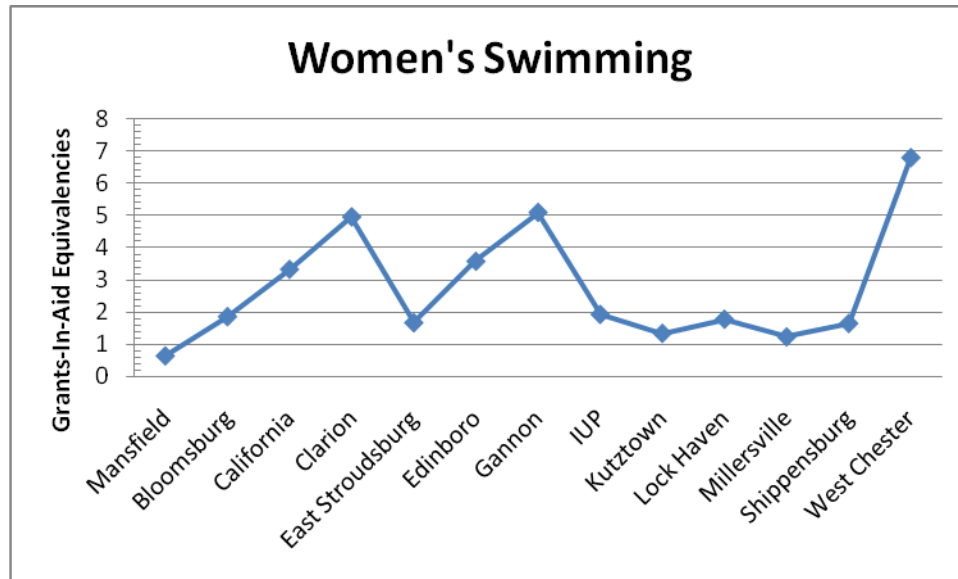


Figure VI-7



\*Data for Figure VI-2 through VI-7 was collected from the 2009-2010 PSAC Grants-In-Aid Equivalencies report from the commissioner's office.

The graphs in this section clearly demonstrate that Mansfield University's women's programs are under-funded in terms of athletic scholarship aid in comparison to both the maximum number of equivalencies allowed by the NCAA and those offered by other PSAC programs. These numbers make it difficult for the women at Mansfield to contend for championships in one of the largest and most competitive Division II conferences in the nation.

### The Future

Mansfield University's Athletic Director, Roger Maisner, is both concerned and optimistic about the future of women's athletics. The University wants to be successful in all areas, including athletics, but as far as athletics are concerned, the definition of success has not been made clear. Maisner's biggest frustration over his 26 year tenure as Athletic Director has been the lack of a clear focus on what the leadership of the institution expects from a program, a team or the athletic department as a whole (R. Maisner, personal communication, May 18, 2011).

When specifically asked about the future of women's athletics, Maisner offered the following comments.

The future of women's sports is highly tied, as it always will be, to budget. Whether it be state budget or student budget, and over the last five or six years we have been able to get the students to support us through their fees and we now have pretty good operating budgets. I have always broken down women's sports by scholarships, support staff, budgets and facilities. Unfortunately, we are inadequate in all areas but operating budgets (R. Maisner, personal communication, May 18, 2011).

Under Maisner's leadership, the athletics department has seen an addition of women's soccer and women's cross country, however, there has also been a loss of tennis and women's volleyball. Optimistically, he does not expect to see any current programs cut from the budget in the near future. As for any addition of women's teams, Maisner has always thought that women's lacrosse would be the next team on Mansfield's campus. However, due to the current budget crisis, he does not recommend making that addition at this time. If another team were to be added in the near future, it would be an under-funded, under-staffed program with inadequate scholarship money and a poor facility. The addition of women's lacrosse would certainly bring 25 more women to campus, but it would also not have the means to be successful.

Improving athletic facilities has been a constant battle for Maisner. Over the last 26 years, he has been submitting proposals to the University to improve various facilities on campus. Unfortunately, the funding for many projects has not been made available. Future needs include a new field hockey field, complete with artificial turf, a training room, small office, locker rooms, and restrooms. Currently, the field hockey program is the only team in the conference to compete on natural grass. Other future needs include new pavilions for the baseball and softball fields. These pavilions would be built to include equipment storage and restrooms.

In a time of budget crisis due to the recent downturn in the economy, recruitment and retention of student-athletes is imperative. Recruitment is needed

in all areas of the University and athletics will continue to be a leader and offer strong numbers in recruitment. Athletics has also set the standard in retention of its students and will continue to do so in the future. The need to increase roster sizes in support of overall recruitment and retention efforts is not currently being discussed in the athletic department (R. Maisner, personal communication, May 18, 2011).

A strong history of persistence among supporters of athletic opportunities for the women at Mansfield has clearly existed since 1900. Unfortunately, the future of the institution's varsity programs is tied to the economy, the federal budget, and the state budget, and therefore remains uncertain. Regardless of what happens to the current programs in the coming years, history has shown that the women of Mansfield University will find a way to continue to create opportunities to participate in athletics.



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## Appendix A

Appendix A contains all of the raw data that was used to make the graphs. The data was collected from the 2009-2010 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Grants-In-Aid Equivalencies report from the conference commissioner's office. This report was given to each of the athletic directors in the conference.

**2009-2010 PSAC GRANTS-IN-AID EQUIVALENCIES**

School	Football	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Other Men's Sports	Other Women's Sports	Total Equivalencies
Bloomsburg	10.95	3.45	3.25	9.51	13.28	40.44
California	35.63	9.03	9.16	7.32	26.46	87.6
Cheyney	7.22	3.50	2.69	2.01	2.99	18.41
Clarion	12.18	4.48	6.05	7.26	16.56	46.53
C.W. Post	33.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.33	37.76
East Stroudsburg	5.93	4.58	4.19	7.15	17.19	39.04
Edinboro	15.20	7.12	6.62	9.31	19.22	57.47
Gannon	35.27	9.75	9.50	35.87	38.71	129.1
IUP	20.85	6.42	6.55	5.14	17.31	56.27
Kutztown	6.58	4.53	3.15	6.47	12.70	33.43
Lock Haven	7.04	2.87	3.18	9.67	22.36	45.12
Mansfield	0.00	5.51	2.91	5.73	8.10	22.25
Mercyhurst	33.41	9.81	10.00	55.04	57.57	165.83
Millersville	4.94	1.80	4.70	3.84	6.94	22.22
Shippensburg	7.90	3.43	5.36	5.99	14.99	37.67
Slippery Rock	17.76	4.54	5.60	5.51	26.05	59.46
West Chester	9.26	3.12	3.33	8.90	14.94	39.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>263.55</b>	<b>83.94</b>	<b>86.24</b>	<b>184.72</b>	<b>319.70</b>	<b>938.15</b>



**2009-2010 PSAC GRANTS-IN-AID EQUIVALENCIES AND ATHLETIC GRANT MONIES**  
 (Women's Sports Exclusive of Basketball - Based on Total Athletic Grants)

School	XC/Tr & F	Field Hockey	Golf	Lacrosse	Soccer	Softball	Swimming	Tennis	Volleyball	Other
Bloomsburg	25,225.00 1.65	44,525.00 2.90		17,320.00 1.20	28,900.00 1.78	47,175.00 3.35	28,100.00 1.85	8,000.00 0.55		
California	92,389.80 5.3	40,044.00 4.28			55,145.80 2.86	56,500.00 3.40	66,379.00 3.32	56,736.60 2.57	84,186.00 4.73	
Cheyney	17,000.00 1.05							3,750.00 0.27	23,715.00 1.21	6,650.00 0.46
Clarion	29,142.00 2.58		0.00 0.06		33,912.00 2.83	18,682.00 1.28	67,884.00 4.95	11,190.00 0.75	65,964.00 4.11	
C. W. Post		175,000.00 4.33								
East Stroudsburg	43,000.00 2.91	53,650.00 3.53	4,000.00 0.24	8,750.00 0.64	38,800.00 3.34	40,000.00 2.38	25,000.00 1.66	8,800.00 0.53	34,500.00 1.96	
Edinboro	40,600.00 2.20			31,010.00 1.73	68,788.00 4.24	34,010.00 2.17	58,980.00 3.57		93,996.00 5.31	
Gannon	64,000.00 3.16		58,000.00 2.45	128,250.00 7.39	163,407.00 7.16	98,329.00 4.64	97,000.00 5.09		139,000.00 5.07	65,250.00 3.75
IUP	52,942.50 2.48	34,000.00 1.55		22,850.00 1.3	50,507.00 2.89	46,026.00 2.74	37,700.00 1.92	20,400.00 0.84	68,000.00 3.59	
Kutztown	32,750.00 1.89	29,675.00 1.39	10,750.00 0.49	9,850.00 0.74	37,541.00 1.75	38,300.00 2.14	22,300.00 1.33	6,550.00 0.26	34,900.00 2.10	11,750.00 0.61
Lock Haven	26,806.00 1.66	77,758.00 6.51		29,300.00 1.65	20,850.00 1.3	71,800.00 3.9	27,000.00 1.77		83,546.00 5.57	
Mansfield	22,303.00 2.18	21,950.00 1.23			23,250.00 1.63	28,150.00 2.43	10,500.00 0.63			
Mercyhurst	51,000.00 1.89	130,018.00 4	31,740.00 0.94	205,699.00 6.44	243,816.00 7.31	213,439.00 6.44		63,061.00 2.29	178,716.00 5.32	765,247.00 22.94
Millersville	11,827.00 1.21	17,234.00 0.99	0.00 0.00	11,593.00 0.73	12,653.00 0.73	17,350.00 1.12	23,600.00 1.22	1,701.00 0.20	11,800.00 0.74	
Shippensburg	67,435.00 4.43	25,602.00 1.70		15,396.00 0.84	27,776.48 1.52	53,492.00 3.08	29,944.00 1.64	6,748.00 0.34	22,346.00 1.44	
Slippery Rock	54,250.00 5.28	41,500.00 2.74		54,657.00 3.64	69,494.00 3.79	57,909.00 3.55		46,488.90 2.76	62,706.00 4.29	
West Chester	13,950.00 0.72	58,450.00 2.95	3,000.00 0.17	22,300.00 1.06	15,450.00 0.77	18,130.00 1.00	133,186.80 6.79	9,500.00 0.38	20,800.00 1.02	1,692.00 0.08
Total	644,620.30	709,362.00	147,534.00	556,975.00	890,290.28	839,292.00	627,573.80	242,925.50	924,175.00	850,589.00

**2009-2010 PSAC FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL GRANTS-IN-AID EQUIVALENCIES**

School	Football			Men's Basketball			Women's Basketball	
	Total Athletic Grants	Total Countable Aid	Equivalency	Total Athletic Grants	Total Countable Aid	Equivalency	Total Athletic Grants	Total Countable Aid
Bloomsburg	145,113.00	163,962.00	10.95	72,675.00	72,675.00	3.45	47,000.00	48,875.00
California	663,006.30	675,016.30	35.63	162,157.60	168,675.60	9.03	188,902.80	190,164.80
Cheyney	89,930.00	89,930.00	7.22	37,000.00	37,000.00	3.50	43,505.00	43,505.00
Clarion	170,607.00	176,685.34	12.18	79,916.00	83,643.00	4.48	97,208.00	102,458.00
C.W. Post	1,350,422.00	1,328,444.00	33.43					
East Stroudsburg	95,000.00	95,000.00	5.93	63,000.00	64,410.00	4.58	64,000.00	66,380.00
Edinboro	257,500.00	257,900.00	15.20	120,820.00	120,820.00	7.12	107,828.00	107,828.00
Gannon	961,000.00	1,170,957.00	35.27	333,454.00	334,954.00	9.75	325,759.00	325,759.00
IUP	373,480.00	377,955.00	20.85	129,170.22	129,170.22	6.42	122,363.00	122,363.00
Kutztown	114,588.00	127,255.00	6.58	84,272.00	85,822.00	4.53	64,725.00	64,725.00
Lock Haven	108,800.00	110,250.00	7.04	48,740.00	53,962.00	2.87	53,185.00	53,785.00
Mansfield				73,386.00	114,013.95	5.51	31,340.50	53,947.01
Mercyhurst	1,119,138.00	1,132,138.00	33.41	325,259.00	330,711.00	9.81	360,580.00	337,850.00
Millersville	92,791.00	85,905.00	4.94	33,061.00	33,061.00	1.80	80,000.00	80,750.00
Shippensburg	126,986.00	126,986.00	7.90	52,277.00	52,277.00	3.43	84,947.00	87,247.00
Slippery Rock	268,620.24	281,366.24	17.76	86,603.00	88,103.00	4.54	89,950.00	96,450.00
West Chester	174,600.00	174,600.00	9.26	60,900.00	60,900.00	3.12	64,833.00	64,833.00
Total	6,111,581.54	6,374,349.88	263.55	1,762,690.82	1,830,197.77	83.94	1,826,126.30	1,846,919.81

Appendix A 3

Appendix B

Interview Transcript

Topic:

History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University

**Interviewee:** Donna Strein  
**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** November 14, 2010  
**Location:** Montoursville, PA, Personal Interview

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Donna Strein is a 1950 graduate of Mansfield State Teachers College who participated in the Women's Athletic Association (WAA) and is a member of the Mansfield Hall of Fame for women's basketball, softball and tennis.

Angela Hunley: I see you played basketball, softball and tennis?

Donna Strein: And badminton and anything else that was available.

A.H.: Out of those sports, were any intercollegiate or did you participate in them through sports days?

D.S.: Yeah, sports days were all we had. There was no varsity supposedly. And we went to Penn State, to Lock Haven and then they came there. I think that was about all we had. We had a lot if intramurals.

A.H.: Yeah.

D.S.: Which we ran in the evenings. Basketball was my favorite. Which is the one that Helen, Helen being our teacher, Helen Dieffenbach, that was before she was married.

A.H.: Yep.

#### Appendix B

D.S.: She was my mentor I guess you would say and she was the one that nominated me for the Hall of Fame.

A.H.: Oh wow.

D.S.: And she always told me I was born 50 years too soon. Because like today it would be advantageous to get a scholarship and have to get aid and so on and so forth.

A.H.: Right.

D.S.: But, she and Ms. Duff, that was her first year back, they had both been in the service and they ran a really neat program that included everybody. And if there were some of us, like myself, that is we had a class and an hour in between she would say if you want to come in and use the gym, you can come in and use it.

A.H.: Wow.

D.S.: So we would go in and shoot baskets or hit softballs, whatever we wanted to do, she would allow us to do. She was very, very good at motivation and took pride in what we did. We beat Penn State in basketball.

A.H.: That is quite an accomplishment!

D.S.: Yeah! We all liked that! On the way home we celebrated, we stopped at a big restaurant and got something to eat, it was really neat.

A.H.: Wow.

D.S.: But that was in '46 when she first came in, fortunately she was there quite some time after that but also for my whole four years.

A.H.: Well I guess she (Helen Dieffenbach Lutes) had just been getting there when you got there then.

D.S.: Yes, they both had come out of the service.

A.H.: Yeah, she was in the Navy. As far as gym access, did you have to wait if the boys were there? Were there varsity sports for the boys at that time?

Appendix B

D.H.: There were varsity sports, basketball for the boys.

A.H.: Was it hard to access the gym and things like that?

D.H.: Not really. Not really. The basketball team practiced after school hours in the afternoon. But during the day and the evening we all had intramurals. They also had what they called "play night" on Saturday nights that they had babysitting for.

A.H.: Wow.

D.H.: Now I didn't have any children at that time but it was kind of neat because some underclassmen would come in and take the kids and then a lot of GI's came back since that was right after the war and they were married and had young children so they (the underclassmen) would take care of the children so they (the upperclassmen) could participate in the activities.

A.H.: That's neat!

D.S.: It was very neat. I will tell you. It was neat for me because two or three years later I was married and had a little boy and I went to them then.

A.H.: Wow. What sort of changes do you remember happening throughout your four years there as far as opportunities? Were you in the Women's Athletic Association?

D.S.: Oh yes. Oh yes. We learned to officiate. We had like an officiating class, precisely for basketball. In the softball, they did not have a class for that for officiating.

Appendix B

## Appendix C

### **Interview Transcript**

**Topic:** History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University

**Interviewee:** Edith Gallagher  
**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** November 18, 2010  
**Location:** Mansfield, PA, Via Email

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Edith Gallagher is the Head Softball Coach at Mansfield University and has been since 1992. Edith started her coaching career at Mansfield in 1990 and has been involved in softball and field hockey. She is the most successful coach in women's athletics at Mansfield and is the first women's coach in Mansfield history to reach the 300 wins milestone.

Angela Hunley: Give me a little background of your coaching career at Mansfield. What sports have you been involved in? How many years?

Edith Gallagher: I have been involved with women's field hockey and softball since 1990, so 20 years.

A.H.: Did women's athletics take on greater significance within the culture of the campus over the years? Did students begin to attend women's athletic events with more frequency? At what point did you notice the changes?

E.G.: This one is tough. I think the biggest change is in the perception from their male athlete peers. Women's athletics used to be looked at like an intramural sport. The men's sports were serious about winning and the women were just having fun. Now I think the male athletes have more respect for our female athletes.

A.H.: Did female athletes' perceptions of athletics as a career option change over the years? For example, did they begin thinking of coaching as a career choice with greater frequency?

#### Appendix C

E.G.: Yes, definitely. In the 90's very few players thought of coaching at any level. After that student-athletes began thinking of it as a possible job to go with their teaching. Now some think of coaching college as a career path.

A.H.: What changes did you witness over the years on campus in regards to your teams? How have their attitudes towards sports changed? How has the support from administration changed, etc?

E.G.: You have student-athletes now dedicated to one sport and they work out for that sport year round. We used to have some athletes who played three sports here, then two sport athletes. Now athletes are focused on one sport and they take that sport more seriously. The biggest changes in all the women's programs have been in facilities. For example when I first coached softball here we played on the high school softball field; just a field with two benches, no fences or dugouts. Then we played for two years at a bar field before they built us a field on campus. Now all the facilities have fences, press boxes, scoreboards etc.

A.H.: How does the experience for women compare overall to the men?

E.G.: Unbelievably, women still have to fight to have equal access to scholarship money.

A.H.: Is the University in compliance to Title IX? What changes would you like to see happen to increase the experience for women athletes on campus?

E.G.: I have not done a complete analysis of compliance in a few years but I would be shocked if we were in compliance.

Appendix C

Appendix D

### Interview Transcript

**Topic:** History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University  
**Interviewee:** Josephine Cherundolo Coddington  
**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** December 1, 2010  
**Location:** Via Phone Conversation

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Josephine Cherundolo Coddington is a 1978 graduate of Mansfield State College. She played women's basketball and was a member of the first intercollegiate team that began in 1977. Josie was also involved in intramural basketball and co-ed volleyball during her time at Mansfield.

Angela Hunley: I see you played women's basketball, were you involved in any other aspects of women's athletics at Mansfield?

Joise Coddington: I was as a matter of fact, I helped with the co-ed volleyball program and I was on the charter women's basketball team. That is pretty much all of the sports that I can remember.

A.H.: What do you mean by "charter women's basketball team"?

J.C.: There wasn't women's basketball when I started there in 1974. So we started, there was a bunch of us girls that got together and we talked Mrs. Zegalia into being our coach and we started on a probation period for a couple years. We had some pickup games and this and that and then we had to go in front of some review board and then during my junior year we were finally sanctioned or we were made a fully-fledged women's basketball team.

A.H.: Okay so then that was a varsity intercollegiate team at that point?

Appendix D

J.C.: Yes.

A.H.: Okay.



J.C.: The year prior to that we just played this school and that school and it really wasn't a scheduled kind of a thing and it wasn't until my junior and senior year that we were in the routine of going to set schools and they would be coming to us and we were terrible. We had tried our best but you know the other teams had been playing forever and we were just a brand new team.

A.H.: Right.

J.C.: So yes, I was a part of that charter team.

A.H.: Wow, that is really neat and great history!

J.C.: It was! We didn't know that we were history in the making at the time but there were some good players that were at Mansfield, but we were still a new team and we just didn't know the ropes then. We were not recruited or anything, because we were just a young team you know.

A.H.: Yeah, you were just getting started. Once you became intercollegiate, who did you play? How did you travel? Do you know where the funding came from for all of that?

J.C.: I can't remember how we traveled! I am sure it must have been by vans or buses. I remember playing Alfred A&M. We played schools I have never heard of. We played some school near Scranton and that was wonderful because I remember that my parents were able to come watch me play.

A.H.: Other than basketball, was there a specific sport you were personally interested in that was not available to women on campus at the time?

J.C.: No, volleyball was pretty good...Softball! Why didn't I play softball? I played in high school. When did softball start at Mansfield?

#### Appendix D

A.H.: In the '80's it became intercollegiate and I think it was only a club sport a few years before that, so they may not have had it available for you.

J.C.: Ok. Maybe that's what it was. It was Mrs.? She just passed away.

A.H.: Helen Lutes?

J.C.: Yes! Oh my gosh, she was there forever. She was an awesome lady. Yeah, so all of the other sports...I know there was swimming, there was basketball, there was volleyball, and back then Mansfield wasn't a big sports school.

A.H.: Okay.

J.C.: At the time the football team was lousy. I don't know if it still is, but we were all in the band. So we were in the band and there was really no sport that girls would come there (Mansfield) to want to play sports.

A.H.: Gotcha.

J.C.: At the time, the boys' basketball team was real good because we went all over with the basketball team. In '76, '77, '78 they were pretty good. I think at the time, we were happy with the sports that were there.

A.H.: I don't know how familiar you are with Title IX and that being passed in 1972, but I was just wondering if there was any perception of change within women's athletics on campus in the later '70s after Title IX was passed?

J.C.: Um, if there was, I wasn't aware of any changes, because I didn't know how it was before. I know they were very eager to let us play women's basketball. We just had to prove ourselves in that aspect to have a team. We had to show that we were interested and dedicated and were going to stick with it. They didn't want to soak all of this money into uniforms and basketballs, etc. But I didn't see any difference when I was there; I was too young to realize it at the time. I didn't see anything.

#### Appendix D

A.H.: What about once you were on the intercollegiate team, did a lot of students come and see you guys play? Did you get support from your peers?

J.C.: I think it wasn't a big draw that the other established sports like boys' basketball. But I think there was interest and they tried to hype it up a little bit. I was in a sorority,

so I talked my sorority sisters into coming, I know that. We didn't pack the gym by no means, but I mean there was a good showing for the first couple of years, because we were new. I think they came out the first time because they wanted to see how we looked on the court I guess. I don't think we had a huge following the first few years but we had a lot of team spirit, I will say that.

A.H.: Okay, that is good to hear. What other changes, just in general on campus did you experience over the years as far as opportunities for women? Were you guys getting more involved in your student government, etc., or were there not that many changes in that aspect?

J.C.: Well, I didn't get involved in student government, my roommate did. I was more involved in the sorority and my sorority was pretty active. I know there were fraternities that were also active. I would say that all of the sororities that were on campus back in the day were very pro let's go get involved with the Special Olympics and let's go do this and that. We would go down to the local school and help out there. We did a lot of community service.

A.H.: Okay.

J.C.: We were always out in the public. The way I remember it, we were outgoing kind of girls and were go getters and we did it! Again, I don't know how it was before I got there, but I was always pretty outgoing and the group I hung with were go getters.

A.H.: Have you been able to visit campus much since you graduated?

J.C.: I go back every year.

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A.H.: What changes have you really noticed since then? What changes thrill you to come back and see?

J.C.: Again, I was in a sorority, and my sorority sisters are from all over the United States, so we make it a point to come back for either homecoming or alumni weekend.

The changes, I mean I lived in North Hall and when they showed me the state of the art library I was just floored. I just couldn't believe what they did; it is just phenomenal what they did to North Hall. I love North Hall, I love the history behind it and we had great memories there. That's when all the freshmen were thrown together in this one massive building and it was just neat to live with all the freshmen. We got to know each other real well and that is where I met these women I come back to see each year. The campus is beautiful and of course I have always loved Mansfield. I tell the story that I didn't want to go to Mansfield, I cried all the way there, and my parents never saw me again for four years! I didn't really want to go away from home, because I was a little home town girl, but I liked it! It was a little school, in a nice little town, and I just love Mansfield, I really do!

A.H.: Do you get to go back to the basketball games or anything like that?

J.C.: No, I have never been back to a basketball game.

A.H.: As an athlete, how do you feel your experience compared overall to the men?

J.C.: Men's sports were there forever, we more or less had to prove ourselves in our first year of basketball players. I think the volleyball team and the field hockey team; I think they held their own. I think people recognized them as the athletes. That is the way I remember it. I don't know how else to answer that. We all knew who the basketball guys were! We all knew who the baseball players were! Half of my sorority was in love with the baseball players.

A.H.: I think it is still the same.

J.C.: Is it the same? I think my girlfriends who go back every year go back to see those baseball players, because they go back every year too. Most of my sorority sisters have been on the alumni board and to this day they are still on the alumni board!

#### Appendix D

A.H.: That's great you guys are staying so involved, that is wonderful! What else in general can you remember? Where did you play? Was it up in Decker Gym?

J.C.: Oh yes! What I do remember is when you walk in, to the left there is the pool. Is that still there?

A.H.: Yes.

J.C.: To the right is, of course, the gym. There was only one gym so we had to schedule our practices between the boys and intramurals. That is all I remember really about Decker. I haven't been in there since I left.

A.H.: Okay. What kind of uniforms did you wear and did you have to buy your own equipment and sneakers and stuff like that or was that provided for you?

J.C.: Boy! I am going to have to say we bought our own sneakers. I think they provided us with jerseys or shirts and shorts. I really can't remember if we had warm-ups or sweat suits or anything like that. Again, we were new and we had to prove ourselves. I guess they didn't budget for us. But, we were just tickled pink that we had shirts and shorts! We were just excited about that.

A.H.: Right. I bet that was a big deal.

J.C.: Yeah! It was new! I don't remember much about practices except that they were at odd times.

A.H.: Why were they at odd times? Were you scheduled around the boys and intramurals? Were you not given priority over intramurals?

J.C.: I don't really remember. Was there wrestling that we had to compete with? Was there wrestling at the time?

A.H.: Probably. I think so.

J.C.: It was just a different time. We didn't know if everybody had the silly rotation or if it was just us because we were low man on the totem pole.

#### Appendix D

A.H.: Right.

J.C.: We just took it the way it came because we didn't know any better. It was just how it was. We were just excited that we had a team, I guess!

A.H.: Okay, so you were not asking too many questions, you were just happy to be there.

J.C.: Right! Right. Like I said, we were new and just excited that they let us have a team. I guess we had to prove ourselves.

A.H.: Okay. That is great. I didn't realize that you were a part of that first team and I am happy you were able to talk to me about that.

J.C.: Well, I hope I was able to help you!

A.H.: Yes, you did. Thank you.

[End of Tape]

Appendix D

Appendix E

**Interview Transcript**

**Topic:** History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University  
**Interviewee:** Roger Maisner  
**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** December 4, 2010  
**Location:** Mansfield, PA, Via Email

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Roger Maisner is in his 25<sup>th</sup> year as the Director of Athletics at Mansfield University. Roger has also been an assistant and head men's basketball coach, as well as the head coach in baseball and golf while at Mansfield.

Angela Hunley: Give me a little background of your career at Mansfield. What sports have you been involved in? How many years as a coach? AD?

Roger Maisner: 14 seasons coaching basketball, 6 seasons coaching golf, 5 seasons coaching baseball here at Mansfield. Two years as a Head High School Basketball Coach and one year as a GA Basketball Coach at Michigan State. 25 years as the Director of Athletics.

A.H.: Did women's athletics take on greater significance within the culture of the campus over the years? Did students begin to attend women's athletic events with more frequency? At what point did you notice the changes?

R.M.: Yes - I've seen the growth from 1976 when I arrived to the present. Yes, the changes have been continuous, but gradual. I can't really define the "when I noticed the changes".

A.H.: Did female athletes' perceptions of athletics as a career option change over the years?

Appendix E

R.M.: Yes, for some women, there has been a real look at coaching and administration within Athletics.

A.H.: For example, did they begin thinking of coaching as a career choice with greater frequency?

R.M.: I believe so, but I believe we are not getting as many women as I would like to see looking at Athletics as a career. What are the reasons? I believe it is the realities of the demands in hours, pay, advancement etc. My opinion is that women have so many other options in their life for careers that are not as demanding and underpaid.

A.H.: What changes did you witness over the years on campus in regards to women's teams?

R.M.: There has been a gradual yet real acceptance of women's athletics from the early '70s until now.

A.H.: How have their attitudes towards sports changed?

R.M.: I haven't really been close to an awareness of attitude changes, but it has been obvious within society and the media.

A.H.: How has the support from administration changed, etc?

R.M.: I'm not sure that support from the administration has changed. It has been my experience that the administration has always been supportive of women's athletics during my tenure and where possible met most of the needs and challenges.

A.H.: After Title IX was passed in the '70s and began to be enforced in the '80s, what major changes did you witness on campus?

R.M.: The major changes have been in growth of the numbers of athletes, interest of female athletes, talent, knowledge and experience of female athletes as well as interest of the campus, community and the media.

A.H.: Is the University in compliance to Title IX?

R.M.: I believe we are in most everything but the recent judge's rulings on the gender enrollment to athletic opportunities ratio.

#### Appendix E

A.H.: What changes would you like to see happen to increase the experience for women athletes on campus?

R.M.: Improved facilities, increased coaches and support staff and more scholarship dollars.



**Continued...**

**Date:** May 18, 2011

**Location:** Mansfield, PA, Personal Communication

A.H.: What do you think the future has in store for women's athletics at Mansfield?

R.M.: It's a good question. My frustration over the years is the university not defining what they want from a program, a team or athletics. A lot of times they say that because they can fund you the way they want to so it is unfair to put demands on you. As 26 years of being the A.D. we have added soccer, added women's cross country, dropped tennis, and dropped a volleyball team. I feel terrible that these things have happened during my tenure. I think the university wants us to be successful but no one wants to define what successful is. The future of women's sports is highly tied, as it always will be, to budget. Whether it be state budget or student budget, over the last five or six years we have been able to get the students to support us through their fees and we now have pretty good operating budgets. I have always broken down women's sport by scholarships, support staff, budgets and facilities. Unfortunately, we are inadequate in all areas but budgets. The answer to your question is that it is tied to budget.

A.H.: Will more varsity teams be added or is it possible that an existing team may be cut from the budget?

R.M.: I do not expect to see any program cut. There has not been any sort of discussion of dropping any sports. I have always said we should add women's lacrosse to our programs but I will not suggest doing so at this time. As the A.D., I am not recommending that because I have been here and saw us add soccer and I was told that these are all of the things we are going to do and none of them were done. So we brought another under-funded, under-staffed, under-scholarship program in with a bad facility. If you add lacrosse and get the 25 women here, the program would not have the scholarship and support staff to be successful.

Appendix E

A.H.: Is there a possibility of improved facilities that will benefit and women's teams?

R.M.: I have been making proposals to improve facilities for 26 years. The funding has to be available and then actually used for athletics for that to happen. The things I have been working on as far as facilities go are the pavilions for baseball and softball, built with storage and restrooms.

A.H.: Is there facilities improvement priority list for the women's teams?

R.M.: I am still waiting for presidential and cabinet approval, but yes, a new field hockey field. The field would have artificial turf, a training room, small office, a locker room and restrooms.

A.H.: In this time of budget crisis and with the downturn in the economy, how important is it to recruit and retain student-athletes? Will there be a push to increase roster sizes and by how much?

R.M.: I do not believe there will be a big push coming from anywhere for roster sizes. It has never been a discussion to increase roster sizes. Enrollment is currently down, but we have never truly been in trouble for enrollment and I do not see the need to increase roster sizes to help increase enrollment. Retention has been going up and has been up for a good six years, but everyone is saying there is a big need for recruitment. Recruitment is needed in all areas of the university and athletics will continue to offer strong numbers in recruitment.

A.H.: Any other look into that future that you feel you would like to add?

R.M.: It is very questionable. It is so tied to the economy, the federal budget, and the state budget. It is scary and uncertain. We do not have a clue how bad it can get in the coming months or years and as of right now we are waiting for July to see the new budgets and tuition fees.

A.H.: Ok that is about it, thank you.

Appendix E

Appendix F

**Interview Transcript**

**Topic:** History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University  
**Interviewee:** Rene Scrip Pascoe  
**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** January 17, 2011  
**Location:** Mansfield, PA, Via Email

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Rene Scrip Pascoe is a 1987 graduate of Mansfield University who is a member of the Mansfield Hall of Fame for women's volleyball.

Angela Hunley: You played softball and volleyball, were you involved in any other aspects of athletics?

Rene Scrip Pascoe: I played volleyball from 1983 to 1987. I did not participate in any other sport; our coach strongly recommended we not play another sport.

A.H.: Were you on the volleyball team that traveled to California for the finals?

R.P.: I was not on the team that traveled to California. My freshman year we went to Florida for the playoffs.

A.H.: What was it like being on the team? Who did you play? How did you travel? What did the money to fund the program come from?

## Appendix F

R.P.: During my years at Mansfield, I felt very proud to be a part of the volleyball team. It was well recognized during those years. We received a lot of support from the President and Deans of the school. We played in tournaments every weekend. We usually left Friday afternoon and returned late Saturday night. We played mostly all Division II Pennsylvania State Schools. [Recreation Director, Hugh Schintzius] every year would set up tournaments out of the area. We traveled to the Naval Academy

yearly. My senior year we flew to Colorado to play the Air force Academy. Most of the time we traveled on a Coach Bus. My senior year, due to budget cuts, they had us travel by vans. I truly have no idea where the money came from to fund the program.

A.H.: Was there a specific sport you were interested in that was not available to women on campus?

R.P.: I felt Mansfield offered a lot of opportunity for women to become involved in sport. I was upset that they cut the volleyball program; I believe it was in 1989. I felt that they should have cut a program that had a losing record instead of one that had a history of winning. I am still very disappointed with that decision.

A.H.: What was it like being on some of the first intercollegiate women's teams on campus? What was the overall tone/campus climate towards the women who participated?

R.P.: Playing basketball and volleyball in high school I did not see it as a big deal to play a sport in college. That was what I was used to doing so it was not a big deal.

A.H.: After the enactment of Title IX, how did the perceptions of women's athletics change on campus?

R.P.: As far as Title IX, I had to look it up to see exactly what it was. I remember my scholarship changing at one point but not sure if it was related to Title IX or not.

A.H.: Did women's athletics take on greater significance within the culture of the campus? Did students begin to attend women's athletic events with more frequency?

R.P.: During my years at Mansfield, the men's athletic events did attract more spectators but the volleyball team did get a good turnout.

#### Appendix F

A.H.: Did the additional support for women's athletics change the climate on campus for women more broadly? For example, did it create a sense of female empowerment that extended into the classroom and various other aspects of campus life (e.g., student government and student organization leadership)?

R.P.: I believe being a part of a team on campus built up my confidence to get more involved in other activities. I also found myself associating more with other athletes. My

roommate played basketball and softball. Many of my male and female friends participated in sports.

A.H.: Did female athletes' perceptions of athletics as a career option change? For example, did they begin thinking of coaching as a career choice with greater frequency?

R.P.: As far as women wanting to become coaches, I did not hear that expressed amongst my friends. I do know that some of my teammates did end up coaching at a high school level. I started coaching three years ago.

A.H.: How did your experience compare overall to the Men?

R.P.: Overall, I felt the volleyball team was 4<sup>th</sup> when it came to popularity. The men's basketball, baseball and football came before us. The professors were very supportive; they were very understanding when it came to us not being able to attend class on Friday afternoons to go to tournaments.

Appendix F

## Appendix G

### Interview Transcript

**Topic:** History of Women's Athletics at Mansfield University  
**Interviewee:** Sandra Stivers Palmer

**Interviewer:** Angela Stackhouse Hunley  
**Date:** February 5, 2011  
**Location:** Mansfield, PA, Via Email

**Purpose of Interview:** This interview was conducted as research for a Master's Thesis on the history of women's athletics at Mansfield University.

**Background of Interviewee:** Sandra Stivers Palmer is a 1984 graduate of Mansfield University who is a member of the Mansfield Hall of Fame for women's volleyball.

Angela Hunley: You played softball and volleyball, were you involved in any other aspects of athletics?

Sandra Stivers Palmer: At MU, I participated in intramurals sometimes. Hugh Schintzius conducted a vast and successful intramurals program for the students. Although I played four HS sports, and considered field hockey at one point during my MU years, I remained with volleyball.

A.H.: Were you on the volleyball team that traveled to California for the finals?

S.P.: YES! Three of my four years were National appearance. We travelled to California, Washington, and Florida for NCAA Division II and III play!

A.H.: What was it like being on the team? Who did you play? How did you travel? What did the money to fund the program come from?

## Appendix G

S.P.: Being a 'sheltered' child (lack of better word), I blossomed in college. The closeness of and unity of the players was amazing. We truly became close and family. 'Schintz' maintained small rituals that reminded me I was still a kid at heart (holiday decorations on the bus for example.) The intensity of expectations and performance got to each of us at some time. There was no time for ski trips, I never went to a homecoming - we were always traveling. I missed a lot of campus activities, and TV nights with my floor mates. But, all being said, I grew up at Mansfield, and volleyball gave me that opportunity. We played Shippensburg, West Chester, Bucknell, Penn State, Nazareth

(Rochester), Houghton, Slippery Rock, that's what I can remember for now! We traveled by school bus. We had a favorite driver, Harold, who we had for nearly every away function. He became part of our volleyball family, and watched every game and match on the road. I bet we had a small fund for women's Volleyball. But, our road meals were boxed Manser meals (sandwich, chips, cookie and fruit.). Once on the road, we were allotted about \$6-8.00 for a McDonalds meal. Wendy's was a standard, too:)

A.H.: Was there a specific sport you were interested in that was not available to women on campus?

S.P.: Not at that time.

A.H.: What was it like being on some of the first intercollegiate women's teams on campus? What was the overall tone/campus climate towards the woman who participated?

S.P.: I was not aware of that notion at the time, but being a part of a winning tradition was great. We each were proud of our accomplishments, and knew after a while...we were really good! Most of us players were not stellar players when we were recruited. I think Schintz knew that. But, he MADE us into star players. His dedication into learning techniques and drills (and not always fun!!) propelled each of us into a winning team. We became known as the small town team making it big. Our reputation preceded us when we would arrive at tournament play. And I am not bragging. We just got that good. Surprisingly, we had a great deal of following and support/cheering from the campus! I think, being a women's team, with a new winning record and national play appearances created a following. A great deal of respect was beginning to be given to Schintz and the program he groomed.