

BOB SANCHUK / STAFF ARTIST  
SOURCE: NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS



**Terry Wise**  
The 57-year-old Tunkhannock resident played basketball, field hockey and softball at West Chester and was a physical education teacher at Lackawanna Trail, professional basketball referee and athletic director at Keystone College. **Where were you when Title IX was passed?** It was right at the turn of my senior year of high school in Bergen County, N.J. We had a girls athletics association. It was nothing more than a club. My junior year in high school, we were undefeated, and my senior year we were undefeated and unscored



**Kathleen Klein Prindle**  
A former Scranton Prep standout swimmer and Penn State graduate, the 41-year-old coach founded Performance Aquatics in Boca Raton, Fla., which trains Olympic athletes. **What does the atmosphere of athletics look like to you?** I see so many things that are good out of Title IX. Of course as a woman I'm going to support it. It's not perfect, but is any legislation? In swimming, we're seeing the rapid decline of college programs. ... This can have a real long-term problem, speaking from an Olympic perspective. We as a nation want to be competitive in the summer Olympics, and swimming is one of the big draws. The pool has

# Through the years

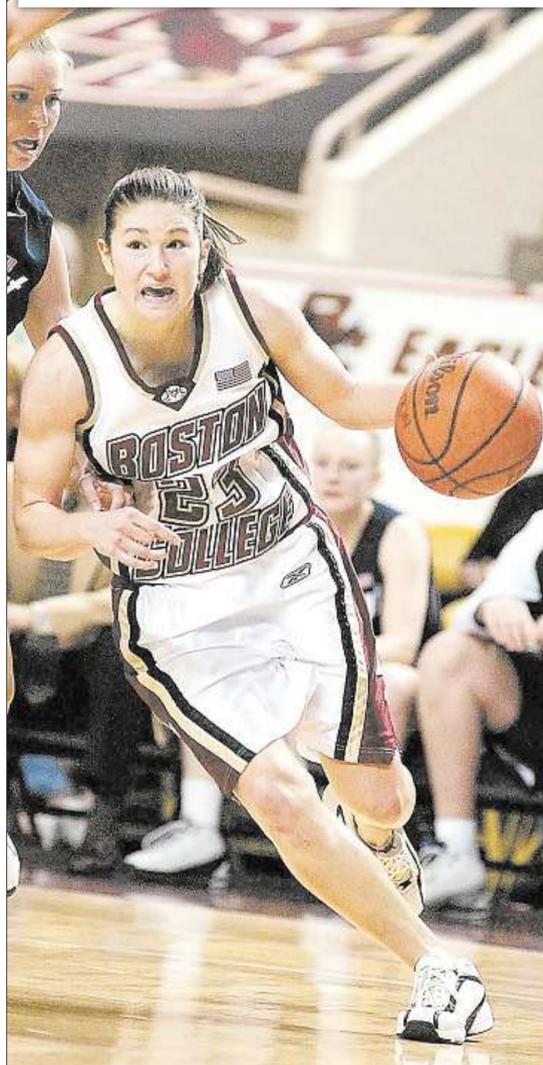
## Celebrating women who changed the face of athletics in Northeast Pennsylvania

**Lauren Garra**  
Of all the sports she 20-year-old Dunmore native played when she was younger, basketball stuck with her. After a standout career at Dunmore, she is now a senior on the University of Delaware basketball team. **What is something you'll take with you from playing basketball?** I think the experiences and the memories I made, the friendships. Being on a team is something that you can't replace. You learn time management and just learning how to work with other people in different types of situations. When games get close, or something happens to a teammate, you learn how to overcome that. I was lucky enough to be able to take that into college and be able to play. **When you come home, you often talk to younger players.** I love working with younger kids. When I was younger, I used to look up to high school basketball players that would come back and do summer camps or clinics on the weekend. If I could reach out to younger kids, and do what those athletes did for me, then I'll be happy. ... It's a great feeling to give back to them.



**Stephanie Kreiser**  
A recent graduate of Baptist Bible College, the 21-year-old from Lebanon was a four-year starter on the softball team and ranked in the top 10 in all 18 major stats categories. **What kind of encouragement did you get to play?** My dad started coaching me, not right away when I was young, but when I started my second year, he had coached me ever since then. I also played with my younger sisters. They were constantly encouraging me. We would compete against each other. **What do you remember from playing?** We barely won any games, but they were my best years playing. We always had so much fun, and I learned a lot. It was for fun. Everyone got to play. It was a really cool experience. Not only the best players got to play, we had a fun time, and I learned a love for the game. **What do you see for the future of women in sports?** I think opportunities still continue to grow and be there. It totally changes your life being able to play a sport. And that you're a woman, you're not looked down upon for it. You just be yourself and use the talents you have. It changed so much in my life and gave me something I'll never forget. I hope other people after me can have the same opportunities I had.

**Amber Jacobs**  
Since she was in first grade, basketball has been a major part of the 29-year-old's life. She played at Abington Heights (1996-2000) and Boston College (2000-04) and in the WNBA for the Minnesota Lynx, Washington Mystics and Los Angeles Sparks. She now serves as Baptist Bible's assistant athletic director and head women's basketball coach. **What was the atmosphere like when you played?** I really look back on my Abington Heights years with great pride. We had a phenomenal team with great young ladies. It wasn't just me. We were a true team. We had Mo Myers, Sue Frye, Colleen Lavelle, all these girls, that really sparked an interest in the community to be involved and watch us. In college, the same thing. I chose Boston College because they had just started gaining respect in the Big East Conference and in the top 25. **Do you find yourself changing any past coaches?** Mainly my dad. I think everybody would say, when I coach I totally am my dad. I don't mind it at all. My dad was the first person that started coaching me in basketball. He really developed me as a young player, then kind of passed me along as a high school player to coach (Vince



Bucciarelli, and into college with coach (Cathy) Inglesse. **Was playing in the WNBA ever a dream for you?** In junior high and high school, I thought I might like to play overseas professionally. In 1996 was when the WNBA formed — my freshman year of high school. They just had this huge following. I went to a game and I was just in awe of these girls like, man, that would be incredible. But also never really dreaming so big that I could actually be one of them. ... It was one of those things where if the Lord allows it to happen, awesome, I'd be so stoked. And if not, I was ready to just move on and I knew I wanted to be a coach.

**Tara Macciocco**  
The 36-year-old Olyphant resident was a senior on the Dunmore basketball team that was the PIAA Class AA runner-up in 1994. She earned a scholarship to play at Penn State and also played at Lock Haven. She is the head women's basketball coach and assistant director of athletics at Marywood. **How important was playing basketball for you?** I was always around basketball. My dad (Ross Macciocco) would coach Keystone State games a lot, and he would have those players around our house. They'd babysit me. We'd play basketball... Through high school that was my love. That's all I did. I can remember being outside shoveling snow off the basketball court in the backyard in order to be able to play and practice. It afforded me an opportunity to get my education. At the time, there weren't too many local athletes to be able to do that. **Do you think you would have still played had it not been a part of your family?** I think if my father wasn't a high school coach I don't know that I'd be where I was today. There weren't as many female athletes or female basketball players that you could look up to. Now, I think these younger athletes have more female role models in athletics. ... It's come such a long way because of I think Title IX but also because the media is starting to promote it a lot more.

**Kim Yenko**  
A Valley View grad, coached Lackawanna College's women's basketball team to its first NCAA Division II Tournament since 1995 this season. **What kind of environment are your college players competing in now?** I honestly believe it's a little bit tougher because there are so many more opportunities for these female athletes. ... For someone playing in junior college, it's a great opportunity to eventually get recognized by a Division I school, since 1995 this season. **How important was playing sports for you?** Honestly, I really would not be the person I am today if it was not for athletics.

**Mary Jo Gunning**  
Marywood's athletic director for the past 22 years, the 56-year-old attended Marywood Seminary and was in the first wave of girls to graduate from Scranton Prep in 1974. She created an intramural program for girls at Prep and competed in area swimming leagues. **What is the importance of sports in the lives of athletes?** I can see what a difference, what an enhancement — I get chills — sports can do in a young person's life and older. Any age. Male or female. I think particularly on our female side, I have seen student-athletes come in timid, unsure, and I've seen after four years of playing sports, combined with the academics and the empowerment they get from Marywood, emerge as confident young women. **Where do you see the future of athletics?** When you look at the history of the United States, oftentimes when there's major changes in societal beliefs, it has to be brought about by law. It did take the law, in this case. Now we see, hopefully, a way of life. We can't forget what Title IX is about. We constantly have to remember it's not just about female sports. I'd like the future to somehow be able to serve the needs of all students at all institutions.

1971	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
<b>1972</b> Immaculata College wins the first of three consecutive Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women basketball titles. Boston Marathon rules change and women run with official numbers for the first time.	<b>1974</b> Lanny Moss is the first woman to manage a professional men's baseball team. She was hired by the minor league Portland Mavericks. <b>1975</b> Billie Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs, 4-6, 6-3, in the "Battle of the Sexes" on Sept. 20. Rohyn Smith becomes the first female	<b>1976</b> The U.S. women's basketball team wins silver the first time the sport is held in the Olympics. Shirley Muldowney becomes the first woman to win a national event in the National Hot Rod Association Top Fuel division. <b>1977</b> Janet Guthrie becomes the first woman to participate in the Indianapolis 500. <b>1978</b> Nancy Lopez wins nine LPGA tournaments, including five in a row. <b>1979</b> Billie Jean King wins her 20th and final Wimbledon title. <b>1980</b> Mary Decker becomes the first woman to run a mile in under 4:30 in Philadelphia on Jan. 25. She is named the Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for track. Field hockey is made a medal sport for women in the Olympics.	<b>1981</b> Betty Ellis is the first woman to officiate a professional soccer match. <b>1982</b> The first NCAA college basketball championship for women is held using a 32-team field. Louisiana Tech defeated Cheney State, 76-62. <b>1983</b> Martina Navratilova earns her first of two Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year honors for tennis. Between 1983-84, she is the third grand slam winner. <b>1984</b> Georgann Wells of West Virginia dunks in a college game. <b>1985</b> Kathy Whitworth wins the last of her record 88 LPGA tournaments. Michelle Avers scores the first goal for the inaugural U.S. women's national soccer team to win the U.S. figure skating singles title. <b>1986</b> The 3-pointer is introduced in women's basketball. Anita DeFranz, a former rower, joins the International Olympic Committee as its fifth female and first African-American member. Jackie Joyner-Kersey breaks the 7,000 mark in the Olympic heptathlon, winning the first of two gold medals. Debi Thomas is the first black woman to win the U.S. Female Athlete of the Year for track. <b>1987</b> Coach Pat Summitt leads Tennessee to its first of eight NCAA women's basketball championships. Florence Griffith-Joyner sets world records in the 100 and 200 and wins both in the Seoul Olympics while sister-in-law Jackie Joyner-Kersey wins the heptathlon and long jump. Griffith-Joyner is named Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for track. <b>1989</b> Julie Croteau is the first woman to play NCAA baseball, at first base for Division III St. Mary's College in Maryland. Chris Evert is the first tennis player to reach 1,000 wins. Victoria Bruckner is the first girl to play in the Little League World Series. Judith Sweet is the first woman elected president of the NCAA. The NCAA Women's Final Four is televised live for the first time. In the title game, Tennessee staves off Virginia, 70-67, for its third NCAA title in the first OT game in the tournament's 10-year history. <b>1992</b> Nera White and Lusia Harris-Stewart are the first two women are inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. White was a 10-time Most Valuable Player in Amateur Athletic Union tournaments in the 1950s and 1960s, and Harris-Stewart was a member of the first U.S. Olympic women's basketball team in 1976. <b>1993</b> Julie Krone wins the Belmont Stakes to become the first female jockey to win a Triple Crown race. <b>1994</b> Uta Pippig wins the first of three consecutive Boston Marathons. She breaks the course record this year (2:21:45). <b>1995</b> Connecticut goes 35-0 in winning the NCAA women's basketball title. Picabo Street is the first U.S. woman to win the World Cup for downhill skiing. <b>1996</b> Women's soccer and softball become medal sports at the Olympics for the first time. Both U.S. teams win gold. Becky Gowers is the first woman elected president in the 77-year history of the National Federation of State High School Associations. <b>1997</b> Cynthia Cooper and Sheryl Swoops lead the Houston jersey is retired by the Tennessee Lady Vols. <b>2002</b> Promoter Aileen Eaton, who died in 1987, is the first woman inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame. <b>2003</b> Serena Williams beats sister, Venus, to win the Australian Open, her fourth straight Grand Slam title. <b>2004</b> Candace Parker wins the dunk contest at the McDonald's high school all-star game. <b>2005</b> With her 860th career victory, Pat Summitt becomes the winningest basketball coach in NCAA history. <b>2006</b> U.S. softball team wins sixth straight world championship, defeating Japan, 3-0, to earn the top seed at the 2006 Games. <b>2007</b> Mia Hamm and Julie Foudu are elected to the National Soccer Hall of Fame in their first year of eligibility. <b>2008</b> Danica Patrick becomes the first woman to win a major IndyCar race. Lisa Leslie earns her fourth Olympic gold in basketball. <b>2009</b> Venus Williams earns her 40th career singles title at the Dubai Tennis Championships. UCorn's women's basketball team finishes another perfect season, winning all 39 games by at least 10 points. <b>2010</b> Kim Clijsters wins her second straight U.S. Open women's championship in 59 minutes, the shortest women's final since match time began being officially recorded in 1980. Seattle Storm complete the WNBA's first undefeated postseason. <b>2011</b> Los Angeles Dodgers name Sue Falson as head athletic trainer/physical therapist, the first woman to hold that position in major professional sports. <b>2012</b> Baylor caps an unparalleled undefeated (40-0) season over Notre Dame in the NCAA women's basketball championship. Pat Summitt (1,098-208) retires after 38 years of coaching. She is named Sports Illustrated's Athlete of the Year by Sports Illustrated.					

SOURCES: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, SPORTSILLUSTRATED.COM