




1977

# Sports Information Fact Sheet About Eleanor Snell, Circa 1977

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*Ursinus College*

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## Recommended Citation

Cash, Michael, "Sports Information Fact Sheet About Eleanor Snell, Circa 1977" (1977). *Eleanor Frost Snell Programs, Correspondence and Other Documents*. 18.

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After 1977-

# NEWS ABOUT



# Ursinus College Sports

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Eleanor Snell compiled outstanding achievements at Ursinus as a coach of four women's sports - field hockey, softball, basketball, and tennis.

In her 40 year career of coaching, she never had a losing season, and compiled an overall record of 674 wins, 194 losses, and 42 ties.

In 38 years of field hockey coaching, she achieved 198 wins, 61 losses and 29 ties. Many of her students were named to U.S. teams, at least 25 who made overseas tours.

Ursinus during Miss Snell's career produced more All-American field hockey stars than any other college or university in the United States.

In 27 years of softball coaching, she won 125 games and lost 20. In fact, during the 10 year period, 1941-51 her teams lost only one game.

In 39 years of basketball coaching, she logged 269 wins, 69 losses and 13 ties, and in 16 years of tennis, her teams won 61 and lost 18.

Beginning in 1946, she also coached the alumnae hockey and basketball teams, which achieved their own impressive records.

The hockey team usually won first place in the Philadelphia Field Hockey Association, including three consecutive undefeated seasons.

The Basketball Teams were champions or runnersup in the Philadelphia Suburban Basketball League. In 1961, in addition to winning the championship, the team also won the Gold Medal Tournament, beating all other champions of all other leagues in the Philadelphia area.

A tribute written about Miss Snell in 1961 said, "Anyone who investigates the breadth and depth of women's sports at Ursinus must be prepared to stand in awe and respect before Miss Snell. She not only towers over the whole, but she is there in its midst. ...one of Ursinus' finest examples of devotion to a task and dedication to the students put under her charge."

A native of Lincoln, Nebraska, she graduated in 1923 from the University of Nebraska and received her masters degree from Columbia University in 1929.

She taught a year at the State Teachers College, Marquette, Michigan, another year at State Teachers Colleges in Shippensburg and California, Pa., and in 1931 she joined Ursinus College as an instructor in physical education.

She became professor of health and physical education in 1950.

Miss Snell served 36 years on the board of directors of the Midwest Life Insurance Co., Lincoln, Neb.

At Ursinus, she received the Lindback Award for excellence in teaching, and the Ursinus Cruins Club Award.

She held various offices on the Philadelphia Board of Women Officials, including chairman of the Basketball board for 19 years, of the softball board 21 years, and of the executive board 12 years.

She received the Outstanding Service Award of the Philadelphia Board.

Since 1972, she has been a member of the board of directors of the Northern Chester County Nursing Services.

She helped develop women's sports nationally through her membership in district and national athletic organizations.

She lives on Lucas Road, Phoenixville.

Ursinus College awarded her with an Honorary Doctorate in 1977.