5-11-1988


College Communications
Ursinus College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/snell_docs

Part of the Health and Physical Education Commons, Higher Education Commons, and the Sports Studies Commons

Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/snell_docs/17

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Eleanor Frost Snell Collection at Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Eleanor Frost Snell Programs, Correspondence and Other Documents by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. For more information, please contact aprrock@ursinus.edu.
For immediate release
May 11, 1988

URSINUS DEDICATES SNELL CHAIR

An educational milestone as unique as the woman whose career inspired its creation will be officially celebrated at Ursinus College on Friday, May 27, when the Eleanor Frost Snell Chair of Health and Physical Education is dedicated.

The opening event of the annual Alumni Weekend at the Ursinus campus in Collegeville, the dedication of this $500,000 permanently endowed chair will highlight an evening that includes the induction of nine outstanding Ursinus athletes into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Four of these Hall of Famers played for the legendary Miss Snell and are part of the nationwide "Snell's Belles" network.

Snell taught and coached at Ursinus College for 40 years, and her winning tradition on the hockey field, spanning 40 seasons (197 wins, 61 losses and 29 ties), continued unbroken for another 19 years following her retirement in 1971. In women's basketball she pioneered through the evolution of the restrictive old rules of early 6-girl basketball, to the faster, action-packed 5-girl innovations of recent years. As teachers and coaches, her students carried the Snell influence across the country, profoundly effecting women's athletics on a national scale.
The Snell Chair of Health and Physical Education has been established in honor of Eleanor Snell's distinguished career as an educator and a pioneer in the fields of women's health, physical education and athletics. Endowment of the chair insures the continued professional growth of the individual faculty member holding the chair and the enrichment of the department of health and physical education through special events and lectures. Programs that build on the traditional strengths of the women's programs instituted by Miss Snell will be especially encouraged.

Chairperson Jenepher Price Shillingford, '54, and an active committee led the way in raising the $500,000 needed to build this permanent endowment. "It was a labor of love," says Shillingford. "The goal was reached because everyone wanted to honor Miss Snell. The Snell name made the job easy."

Truly a "grass roots" effort by Eleanor Snell's former students, friends, and family members, the essential pledges and cash gifts, including 30 major gifts each in excess of $5,000, were supplemented by a variety of activities, from benefit cocktail parties, to a golf classic, clinics for high school lacrosse, softball and hockey coaches, and even the raffle of a quilted pillow.

The kick-off of the formal drive to fund the Snell Chair was held in April of 1987, when $85,000 from The Snell Fund became the nucleus of The Snell Chair. Established in 1978, The Snell Fund honored Dr. Snell's unique influence upon women's athletics and physical education at Ursinus.

###