

Women Get Short Shrift In UMass Sports

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coach, and another expert coach for the women's swimming team, Pat Griffin. Gymnastic coach Virginia Evans has proven her ability by the performance of her women's team. There are also Sally Ogilvie and Joann McGowan. Interestingly, the women's ski team is coached by a man. Even the UMass woman's junior varsity gymnastic team is coached by a man. However, not a single male varsity sport, 15 in all according to the Athletic Department head, Frank McInerney, is coached by a woman.

If this sounds petty stop and think it over. Here is a sample of other seemingly small things that all add up. Official-looking programs are printed for male varsity events. Women get mimeographed pieces of paper. When the UMass woman's varsity basketball team played UConn in the Saturday doubleheader, January 31, with the men's varsity teams of the same schools, the program carried not one word about or picture of the women. Was this just an oversight? Then there have been many oversights, such as the failure to publicize the women's games in order to draw the crowds they deserve.

Last week less than 200 people attended the well-played women's varsity basketball game against Northeastern, opposed to the 4,200 sell-out crowds the men usually get. Why? No one knew about the game.

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Advocate

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Complaint Side-Lined by UMass Sports Head

By Cindyanne Thomas

Dr. Vivian Barfield's gripe with the UMass Athletics Department came close to a solution last week, but again it's been dead-ended in the department's hierarchy.

Barfield, assistant athletic director, who has been alleging sex discrimination, finally got a job description drawn up for her by Dean David Bischoff.

But so far it's only a piece of paper waiting on the desk of Frank McInerney, head of the Athletic Department.

Last week McInerney had neither signed nor acknowledged Barfield's job description. She feels that the description is crucial to her performance as an assistant athletic director.

Now the question is whether it will be implemented. Will the promises made to her be kept by the male hierarchy (she is the only female official in the elite group)? Will she be given a chance to enter in on important policy-making decisions and help solve some of the problems? Will she be in on the search for a new female coach? And importantly, as the only woman in the group, will her vote be counted?

The half of the problem that hasn't been solved is there are unfair practices at UMass toward all women athletes—those in varsity sports, and those taking physical education courses.

First, consider the team trainers. UMass has excellent facilities and until recently had two skilled trainers, Victor Keedy and James Laughnane. Need arose for a third trainer. But was a woman brought in, especially for the 12 women's varsity teams? Another man was added to the staff. The explanation given is that Keedy thought a man better since no



Vivian Barfield, assistant athletic director at UMass, has been crying "foul" in the way the University's sports hierarchy has been treating her. (Knight photo)

woman could help with the football team.

Also, the varsity football and basketball teams have had to give up eating at their special training tables, accounting for a savings of several thousand dollars. The women's varsity teams have never had separate training tables. It's a minor point perhaps, but several thousand dollars were spent on the men, and the women never got any of this special treatment.

One boost for women is that the federal government does have certain definite guidelines insuring the equal opportunity for women in the sports field. This partly accounts for the UMass plan to recruit a new woman's coach beginning next fall semester. Officials would not comment on what sports she would be teaching and coaching.

UMass now has five excellent woman's coaches including Carol Albert, a basketball

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The University of Massachusetts, Department of Athletics, offers the following information regarding the Department's present policies and future plans as they relate to the Federal Title IX Legislation:

- I. The Department of Athletics currently offers a broad range of men's and women's varsity and junior varsity sport programs. (Exhibit) The Department believes that the programs offered enables undergraduate student-athletes to pursue their athletic interests and upgrade their level of proficiency by participating in quality programs.
- II. Athletic Department policy provides for an equal opportunity for all student-athletes to avail themselves of equipment and supplies.
- III. Athletic Department policy provides equal athletic opportunities in the scheduling of games and practice times to effectively accommodate the interests and abilities of male and female athletes. Equal opportunity for modifications in schedule of games occurs yearly through interaction with coaches, student-athletes and administration during the scheduling process. Equal opportunity to appeal for exceptions in practice time exists. Exceptions are based upon rationale presented by program heads.
- IV. Athletic Department policy provides equal lodging, per diem allowance, and transportation for all teams. (Exhibit - Modes of Transportation and Per Diem Allowances) Equal opportunity exists for exceptions based upon written presentation of appropriate rationale by program heads.

V. It is the policy of the Department of Athletics to provide the best possible coaching for all student-athletes participating in departmental programs.

Academic tutoring is available to all student-athletes. Sessions are held on a regular schedule, bi-weekly, and are approximately three hours in length. Exceptions to the fixed schedule may be approved if there is a conflict with an individual's schedule.

VI. The Department of Athletics compensation policy is governed by University of Massachusetts at Amherst Personnel/Payroll Policies and Procedures, Faculty Senate Document T75-125, entitled Academic Personnel Policy of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Boston, and Worcester, and the State of Massachusetts compensation policies.

VII. All space is assigned by the School of Physical Education to the Athletic Department for its specific programs. The Department Head is expected to utilize this space consistent with Title IX Guidelines contingent upon the impediments as outlined in the report on Section 86.33 and consistent with the recommendation for report 86.33. (Exhibit)

VIII. Department of Athletics policy provides equal opportunity for student-athletes regarding the provision of medical and training facilities and services.

IX. All University of Massachusetts/Amherst dining and housing facilities are provided by another agency.

X. It is the policy of the Department of Athletics to provide equal opportunity for distribution of informational materials to appropriate media for all programs. When events charging admission

are scheduled, radio, television, and newspaper advertising is prepared and purchased for teams participating in such events on an equal opportunity basis provided that projected revenue from the event will exceed promotional expenses.

Exhibit

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Athletics
Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Stockbridge Athletic Teams
July 1, 1976

Men's Teams

Baseball, Varsity
Baseball, JV
Basketball, Varsity
Basketball, JV
Cross Country, Varsity
Cross Country, JV
Football, Varsity
Football, JV
Golf, Varsity
Gymnastics, Varsity
Gymnastics, JV
Hockey, Varsity
Hockey, JV
Lacrosse, Varsity
Lacrosse, JV
Ski, Varsity
Soccer, Varsity
Soccer, JV
Swimming, Varsity
Tennis, Varsity
Track, Indoor, Varsity
Track, Indoor, JV
Track, Outdoor, Varsity
Track, Outdoor, JV
Wrestling, Varsity
Wrestling, JV

Stockbridge

Basketball
Golf
Soccer

Women's Teams

Basketball, Varsity
Basketball, JV
Cross Country, Varsity
Cross Country, JV
Field Hockey, Varsity
Field Hockey, JV
Golf, Varsity
Gymnastics, Varsity
Gymnastics, JV
Lacrosse, Varsity
Lacrosse, JV
Ski, Varsity
Softball, Varsity
Softball, JV
Swimming, Varsity
Tennis, Varsity
Track, Indoor, Varsity
Track, Indoor, JV
Track, Outdoor, Varsity
Track, Outdoor, JV
Volleyball, Varsity
Volleyball, JV

15 Men's Varsity Programs

13 Women's Varsity Programs

Total: 28 Varsity Programs

11 Men's Junior Varsity Programs

9 Women's Junior Varsity Programs

Total: 20 Junior Varsity Programs

Total: 3 Men's Stockbridge School Programs