

THE ARCHIVIST'S CREED:

Honor the Past, Enrich the Present, Protect the Future



– Freshmen cheerleaders of Le Moyne College.
Left to right are Pat McCassey, Ann Cassidy,
Joan Crawford and Betty Gossan.
Photo taken by Tom Fitzpatrick, 1949.

ing fields were completed, mandated two semesters of fitness courses. Freshmen were targeted as the guinea pigs for this new exercise experiment.

Physical activities included calisthenics, gymnastics, weight lifting, volleyball, tennis, golf, and swimming, among others. In conjunction with this new program, Carmen Basilio, (former middle-weight boxing champion), Susan Gibbons and Robert Deger were hired to the Athletic Staff in 1962.

Basilio, in particular, was a huge asset to the college because of his physicality and athletic prowess, attributed to his professional boxing experience. However, Susan Gibbons provided a new outlet for the growing female population on Le Moyne's campus. Gibbons stated, "Good physical condition gives a woman confidence, poise, and most of all a sense of her own femininity."

Over the course of her career at Le Moyne, which spanned four decades, Gibbons saw the evolving landscape for athletics on campus. As the initial advisor for the first female volleyball team, cheerleading, and the women's intramural program, Gibbons was more than ready for enacting Title IX, giving both sexes access to the same programs.

Gibbons was also prepared for the termination of the Physical Education courses at Le Moyne. In 1997, the Faculty Senate Executive Board resolved that "the Physical Education requirement for all Le Moyne Students be eliminated immediately." The stipulation, however, was that the college must still offer courses on recreational activities each semester "in order to foster the notion of lifelong participation in physical activity." Gibbons agrees the program "wasn't missed," even after all of her years on the Athletic Staff and in her role as Director.



Although the Physical Education has ceased to be, it probably had little effect on the weight woes of students. As mentioned in The Dolphin Editorial on November 13, 1997, "Gym isn't for everyone, and we are old enough to decide if it is for us;" adding, most don't "want Gym Class Hero on their resume." ■

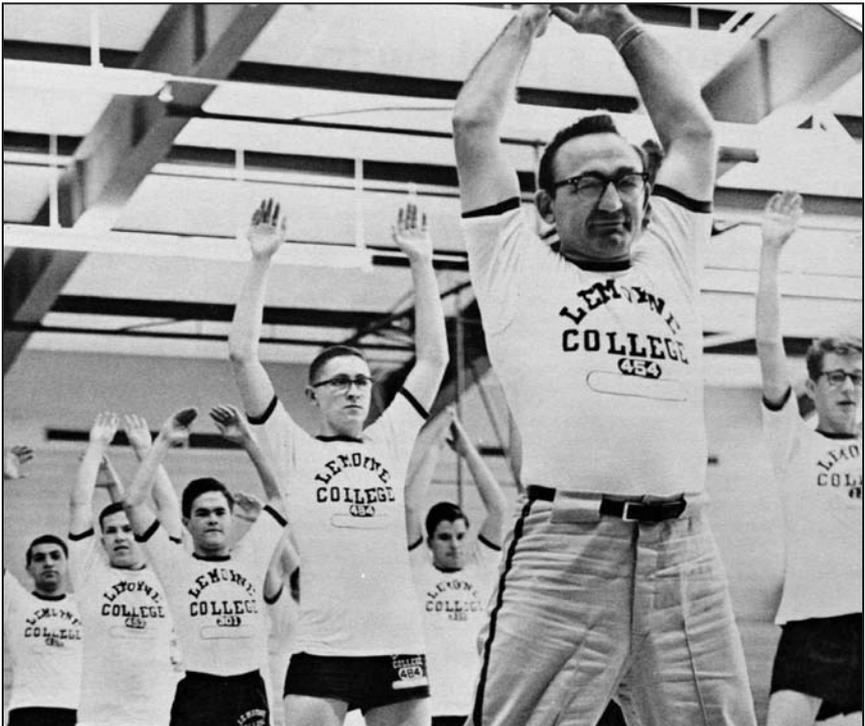
PUTTING YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

LE MOYNE COLLEGE'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

“The freshmen 15” plagues incoming students; it is a phrase that refers to what will happen to them if they consume too much food and drink and abstain from adequate exercise. This is the number of pounds each student is likely to gain, give or take a few, when he or she enters Le Moyne College.

To combat the ever-increasing problem of obesity and inactivity, the community on the Heights has its share of programs and facilities. Le Moyne offers Division I and II sports, club athletics such as rugby and hockey, intramurals, and even classes in pilates and exercise physiology. However, there no longer exists a physical fitness requirement at the college.

The physical education program at Le Moyne College began in 1962. Programs such as this were emphasized during the time by President John F. Kennedy who advocated “a sound mind and a healthy body.” The policy on the Heights, which was implemented once the million-dollar athletic center and adjacent play-



—Carmen Basilio (above) leads the male students in calisthenics.

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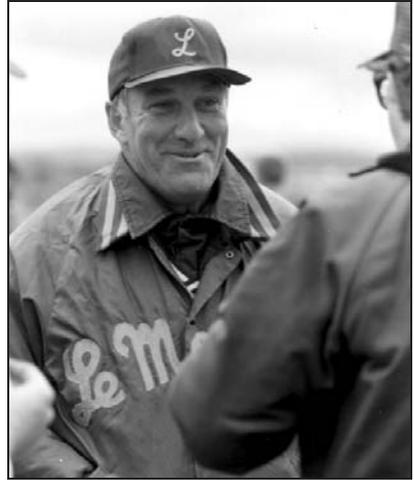
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VOICE FROM THE PAST

Everyone knows that a picture is worth a thousand words. However, the background story to any great memory, painting or photograph can fill the gaps that visuals leave behind. In honor and celebration of Dick Rockwell, an esteemed member of the Le Moyne College community, we dive into our oral history archives to uncover another's thoughts on a man so highly regarded in the history of Le Moyne athletics. Former Moderator of Athletics Fr. J.J O'Brien, S.J., shares his insights on the coach who brought baseball to the forefront at Le Moyne.



O'Brien: This is funny when Tommy was finishing out his reign, Dick Rockwell... now I knew Dick from the word go. I thought he was of the highest quality, absolute highest quality. What a blessing to have him right here now because he's the one for the job and so on and so sincere, so fair and doing a great job with the members of the team. They went on and did well and that sort of thing. Not a Catholic either, but a family man and devoted to people. All his kids went to Jesuit colleges, but lo and behold...well it was politics going on. That big fellow, what's his name again, Dean of [Student Personnel]...

Bosch: Michael Yost.

O'Brien: Yeah, trying to take over. I knew that. And I tried to kind of hold him in check when I was at Le Moyne, you know. I sat down and wrote a long, long letter to our friend Yost and simply put it in terms of the value of Dick. What a contribution he had made. I always respected how competent Dick was with the team. Yost waited to answer the letter, it took maybe a month or two, but finally he decided maybe he'd tell Rockwell 'OK.' He held Rockwell up from being appointed. Dick got to the point where he didn't know whether he was going to be [Athletics Director] or not. In fact some of the league teams wanted him in league management instead. So he was on the borderline of making a decision when I reinforced my statement to Yost and said, 'You can't find a better man. You don't have to look elsewhere; he's there.' Finally Yost told him 'OK,' and he made the offer. ■

LETTER OF NOTE

The notion of a Le Moyne College football team has always been a topic of debate. Michael Yost, vice president for student life from 1974-2001, shares his insights about such an endeavor.

LE MOYNE

Quality in the
Jesuit tradition

Rev. Ed Ryan, S.J.

Office of the Vice President for
Student Life
Le Moyne College
Syracuse, New York 13214-1399
(315) 445-4525
FAX (315) 445-4767

INVITATION

TO: Various Le Moyne College Colleagues
FROM: Mike Yost, Vice President for Student Life
RE: "BRAINSTORMING" SESSION TO DISCUSS WAYS THAT
LE MOYNE COLLEGE ATHLETICS CAN ENHANCE ENROLLMENT
--- FOOTBALL?



I realize that this is an especially busy time of the year as we wind down spring semester, '96. However, before everyone heads off in to different directions for the summer, I invite you to join Athletics Director Dick Rockwell and me to "brainstorm" the pros and cons of beginning a football program at Le Moyne as a means of attracting students to the College. Please join us at 2:00 PM next Wednesday, May 1st in the Student Lounge of the Dining Hall to discuss the informal summary of projected costs and issues concerning the inception of a football program that are contained in the attached report.

Please do not accept this as a formal proposal of something we should undertake seriously. It is my sole intent to seek feedback from and the general reactions of some of you regarding the idea. Organizations need to be innovative and make things happen for them. Is it reasonable for Le Moyne College to begin a football program? This report is intended only to be a beginning point for discussion. I am hopeful that you can attend the meeting to share reactions, to critique the information presented and to offer suggestions as to whether it is reasonable to go further with the idea.

Should you not be able to attend the meeting, please give me a call or drop me a note to share your thoughts. Thanks!

cc: Dick Rockwell

"DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?"

Le Moyne Colors Fly High, First Time Out

LeMoyne College colors are flying high today after the Syracusans' 62-59 conquest of Utica College last night in an overtime battle on the latter's court before 1,300.

Coach Tom Niland's Green and Gold-clad Dolphins were forced to the hardest sort of struggle before emerging a winner in the college's first athletic competition.

NILAND'S all-freshmen basketballers were paced by Dave Lozo of Tonawanda in their winning drive. He gathered 13

points, and was strongly supported by Joe Boehm and Len Bartosch, who collected 10 and 11 respectively.

Utica held a 31-27 edge at half-time and the regulation game ended with the score, 55-55. Lozo tallied two baskets and a foul to shine in LeMoyne's overtime bid.

Lozo finished runnerup for the game's individual scoring laurels, however, Lew Cirtelli, a product of Utica Proctor High School amassing 20 points.

Herald Journal, December 5, 1947, 49.



- Pictured above is the 1947-1948 basketball team on a road trip to Buffalo.

and the Diamond

Women Jockeys? Women Umpires? Women in the LeMoyne Intramural Softball League? The answer to all these questions is yes.

The latest advancement for women has come this week on the LeMoyne campus. The 'C Team', a member of the Western Division of the Intramural League, is entirely made up of girls.

When captain Pat Slattery was questioned as to what motivated the girls to enter a team, she outlined various reasons. Among them was the definite lack of physical activity for the girls. She cited an almost non-existent girls' intramural program (except for volleyball), and a lack of easy accessibility to the gym. Pat noted that most girls shy away from ejecting guys from the little gym.

Up to this point the girls have had 3 practices. Their eagerness and spirit is commendable. When asked how the team looked, one of the coaches, Jerry Morris, commented, "they look good, but their ball playing ability is questionable." Jim Fagan and Dick Canty round out the coaching staff.

"It seems that nowadays girls are no longer concerned just with diamonds on their fingers... they are now attracted to dirt ones, too."

THE PIPER

Friday, April 17, 1970



A-R-C-H-I-V-E-S! Ra Ra Archives!

But even when the cheering stops, still think of the archives. Want to be number one on your Le Moyne trivia? Get the facts and forget the guessing! Preserve the past and protect the future. Go to the archives!

*"Whenever a society of civilization perishes
there is always one condition present; they
forget where they came from."*

– Carl Sandburg (1878-1967)



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Send all inquiries and materials to:

William J. Bosch, S.J.

Le Moyne College Archives

1419 Salt Springs Road, Syracuse, N.Y. 13214

Archive Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - noon / 1 - 4:30 p.m.

(315) 445-4732

E-mail: boschwj@lemoyne.edu

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