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Betz, Edward Athletics Oral History

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Athletics Oral History

Edward Betz Faculty Representative to NCAA

October 2, 1985
Interviewed by Cindy Spiro

SPIRO: The date is October 2, 1985. I'm about to interview Edward Betz, Professor at the University of the Pacific from 1938-1980.

SPIRO: I'm going to be very basic and start from the beginning, like when did you come to UOP?

BETZ: oh (laughing)

SPIRO: Do you remember that? (Laughing)

BETZ: That's so far back. Let's I came to Pacific in 1938. As an instructor well really was first it was in the Junior college because the Junior College and Pacific were together in those days.

SPIRO: Was that the time when they first got together the Stockton Junior College or...

BETZ: No, the Junior College, Stockton College and Pacific made their agreement before that time. Exactly when I don't recall, but they had been in operation that way for several years during the depression that that occurred. That's all in the history.

SPIRO: I didn't realize you came in as a Junior College, as a Junior College instructor.

BETZ: Yep, Yep. First year, I taught speech in the Junior College and it was pretty much combined, but the salary was paid by the Junior College that was the only difference really because the classes were together in the same building and all that sort of thing. And the next year, [I as part my college] which was common. Almost all the instructors and professors, almost all of them, taught in both institutions.

SPIRO: Humm...

BETZ: And then that as the Junior College enlarged, then that began to break so that finally the Junior College was hiring instructors only for the Junior College and Pacific was hiring instructors only for Pacific. There were a still few of them that were joined but that was beginning to break up.

SPIRO: That was kind of a unique situation.

BETZ: Yea, that was the only kind in the country.

SPIRO: Leave it to UOP to do something like that.

BETZ: The change to the COP, later to the University of the Pacific was a change was in effect desired by both the Junior College and Pacific. The Junior College wanted to have greater identity and the College of Pacific also wanted to have more control over admissions because we had people come into the Junior College who were, who could never have gotten into Pacific because Junior College takes any high school graduate.

SPIRO: That's right.

BETZ: And so, these people would go back to home town, to the home town and well where do you go to school, well I'm going to Pacific. How do you get into Pacific? You see. So, it was not good for Pacific's reputation.

SPIRO: Yea, they had to make a decision.

BETZ: So, the Junior College served a different purpose than the College of the Pacific.

SPIRO: So, when did you become on the faculty of the College of COP.

BETZ: Well, the first year after I came.

SPIRO: Oh, I see. So, you just

BETZ: I was both.

SPIRO: You were both, so then it was one deal after that.

BETZ: Right.

SPIRO: Huh, that's interesting. What umm, do you recall any type of athletic activity for women at that time or any kind of sports activity?

BETZ: Oh yea. Oh, and you know about the WAA.

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: Woman's Athletic Association. Yea, it was very low key and nobody outside of a few interested people paid very much attention to it. There was no control over it, no university policy other

than that would apply to any activity. Theatre, debate, whatever, any club, it was kind of like a club, but of course it was different than a club.

SPIRO: So, it's like totally student run? Student master?

BETZ: It was largely, no it was, no I think it was jointed administration, student officers and advisors and I presumed like most of those things at that time the advisors kept it going really because student organizations at the time tend to be pretty loose and if they were strong students in controlling positions the organization went, but if the year they didn't like the strong president, then they had trouble. So no the WAA was pretty strong going organization as far women are concern.

SPIRO: That's interesting. In my research, I like read through all the Naranjado and all the Pacificans and around 1939 there was a dramatic decrease in reporting of the women's athletic events in WAA. It was like there was, after 1939 it was like a major drop in interest. Maybe a lot of it was attributed to the war because everything kind of took a nose dive. That '39 was a kind of cutoff point because [after] 1925 when the WAA started to '39 there was a big volume of participation and interest, newspaper articles, and Naranjado articles and after that it was like it didn't exist anymore, so that, so that's one of the reasons I ask you that cause it kind of like, you know, what, did it, what really what happen where I read.

BETZ: I don't, I didn't notice that because I was not particularly interested.

SPIRO: Right, so.

BETZ: I no way to explain that other than what you had probably was the concern about other things.

SPIRO: Yea. Now in, during the war years, they had the B12 regimen here and also physical training increase as the result of the war. Do you recall any increase, I mean did the women participate in it at all?

BETZ: Not to, not with any considerable amount. No, I would say that was not noticeable. No, I don't recall at any time, when a kind of a parallel activity, you know, like well the men are doing a lot of this physical activity stuff, we better start it. I don't recall anything like that.

SPIRO: Probably a subordinate role or not a subordinate role but another role, like in the [canaries].

BETZ: Yea, yea, the girls were active in a lot of things, but not physically activity.

SPIRO: Humm, that's interesting. Cause in some areas of the country they did have an increase.

BETZ: I don't recall anything there.

SPIRO: Do you remember, let me throw some names out at ya. In the '40's, Elvera Giorgi, her name is Elvera Melby now.

BETZ: I recall the name.

SPIRO: She was a physical education major and considered to be one of the top women athletes. She was a basketball player and it was already said well maybe she could play on the men's basketball team because they could use some help. That's one gal.

BETZ: I remember that name, but I don't recall, I don't recall her as a player or anything.

SPIRO: How about Helen Hall? She was a swimmer.

BETZ: Oh yea, mm-hmm.

SPIRO: Helen Graham. Excuse me I should say Helen Graham, Helen Graham Hall.

BETZ: She married...

SPIRO: Don Hall...

BETZ: Don Hall who was an athlete.

BETZ: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: Right, sure, I remember her, she was a very good swimmer. She was outstanding.

SPIRO: Yea, I got to interview her.

BETZ: Ah ha.

SPIRO: And the, that was, she had a lot of really good things, but umm I thought I throw those out.

BETZ: Didn't we have a woman swimmer here who had been on the Olympics, swim on the Olympics, had swam, that's right, in the Olympics...

SPIRO: Margaret Hayes.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: Yea, she umm, you know it's kind of weird because in one article it said she was attending UOP and then I couldn't find any record of her attendance, so I am still kind of searching it out. In fact, she still lives in Stockton. In fact, I talk with, no I didn't talk with her, I talked with a like a friend, a teammate of her, umm...

BETZ: She was one of those who might have been in Junior College.

SPIRO: That's true, that's true. Cause a... yea...

BETZ: Yea, I would call her, very definitely. She was on campus.

SPIRO: hmm...

BETZ: I bet you anything, you would find her record in the Junior College.

SPIRO: In the Junior College, that...

BETZ: She would never say, you see, when somebody says well something about going to school, well sure I went to Pacific.

SPIRO: Ah huh.

BETZ: Kind of thing that created a friction between the two institutions. You check the Junior College records.

SPIRO: I bet I will find it here. That that closes a lot of little questions I had on my mind. Huh, that's interesting. Well now come in to like when your daughter was enrolled. She was when?

BETZ: She was enrolled in the first freshman class of Pacific after when this break occurred.

SPIRO: Oh really? Oh my gosh!

BETZ: Yea, yea. She was a freshman at Pacific.

SPIRO: In what year was that? Do you remember?

BETZ: '52.

SPIRO: That was '52.

BETZ: Or did she graduate in '52.

SPIRO: I'll call her up.

BETZ: Yea, yea she was a, she was in the first class.

SPIRO: Oh my gosh I didn't know that all. Now Doris Meyer just raved on about Donna's athletic abilities.

BETZ: She was good at it. She didn't have enough chance to gain something from it, to participate, you know. She, she was involved in anything that there were a possibility, like touch football, flag football, I used to play that you know. It all was informal, it's not a College of the Pacific activity, it was maybe a Sororities...

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: ... would play against each other, this kind of thing and softball, she still is an outstanding hockey player.

SPIRO: Yea, that's what Doris said, she said players on the teams, the club teams.

BETZ: Played in Canada, Ireland, and the National teams.

SPIRO: Oh my gosh.

BETZ: New Zealand.

SPIRO: They didn't have Field Hockey at that time.

BETZ: Not as a, not an outstanding sport. I don't think she played it at all when she was in school.

SPIRO: That's a, that's too bad.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: That's really too bad. Cause um...

BETZ: What you don't know whether it's too bad or not, she might have been diverted to something else, she's a doctor as you know. She might have got all interested in that and not done something else. Who knows what's good or what's bad for ya.

SPIRO: That's true.

BETZ: But she needs, she's physical and so in order to keep that physical thing going, why she plays hockey, goes on bicycle rides, trip to [].

SPIRO: My gosh! She is active!

BETZ: We went to China last summer on a bicycle.

SPIRO: Ah huh, oh my gosh. Did you ride the Great Wall?

BETZ: I don't know.

SPIRO: I would think so...

BETZ: She would have been a scholarship type athlete, if she would have been in school 20 years later.

SPIRO: Yea, really. I know, I just miss the boat myself. I was one year too late. That is the way it goes. Did, uhm, when you start taking an active interest in athletic department at the University.

BETZ: Okay, when I became Dean of the Men, I think it was in 1947, I inherited the job. This is typical of Colleges at that time that the Dean of Men or the Dean of Students and it still is in many cases was the athletic representative and frequently was a Chairman of the Board of athletic control or whatever. That I didn't inherit. That was an elected, no that was an appointed position. Right, and uhm President Burns appointed whoever he wanted to. I did become Chairman of the Board, but when I, when I got my principal interest in athletics was as faculty athletic representative. I inherited that from, from Jim Carson and you have him in your notes somewhere.

SPIRO: Yes, oh yes. In fact, there was just an article in the new Pacific Review about him.

BETZ: Yea. He was the Dean of Men and he quotation marks, moved up, he advanced or had a different job, which was, well they gave it a different title. I've forgotten what the title was, something like first Dean of Personnel, but it was, I reported to him as Dean of Men, with respect to students but also faculty reported to him and the faculty chairman departments. I guess we would call it now the Academic Vice President. They didn't call it that. We still had a Dean, it was kind of an odd situation and I don't ever, I was never involved in his appointment and why it was done that way, I don't know, cause Dean Farley was still Dean of the College of Pacific, but Jim Carson had a larger hand in the administration of things.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: Ahh, he should have been made Academic Vice President, then everybody would report to him, but he wasn't. Anyway, that's not significant for your information. But when he became that, when he took over that job, Dean of Personnel, obviously he couldn't do everything he's done before and so I inherited it.

SPIRO: That was it.

BETZ: I was not an athlete obviously. When I went to college, I was about five foot eight or five foot seven. I grew late. I was one of your late bloomers in terms of growth. I was very small. I didn't really complete my growth till I was about, oh I don't know, 21 or 22.

SPIRO: That's kind of unusual.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: Usually...

BETZ: Very unusual. If I had my old college yearbooks here, you see what I look like. Well anyway. I was not an athlete. I play golf and still do of course and played a little bit of tennis which I don't anymore. You have to run too fast. When I was I, my first job was in high school and I kind of inherited there an interest in athletics. I roomed with a football coach, he and his wife needed to rent it, a person to share, not share a room, but to take one of those bedrooms in the house for extra income, those were bad days, so I ended teaching in the Fall of 1930 and next two or three years a deep deep depressions, where everybody was scratching for money. Anyway, the year after I took the room with him, he said how would you like to help me with football and basketball. I said geez, I don't know half these, it's all right you can pick it up and it's just these kids anyway. So, I was assistant football and basketball coach.

SPIRO: Oh, I didn't know that.

BETZ: Yeh. Five years. Four years.

SPIRO: My gosh.

BETZ: And I learned, I learned about athletic you know, I learn about only football and basketball. We only had three sports, football, basketball and track. So, in that I really, I really enjoyed it and I kept my interest in it and then when I had this chance to become involved in an administrative way, well that's fun. I like that. So that that's how it happened.

SPIRO: So, you remained faculty rep from 1947 to the time you retired.

BETZ: Right.

SPIRO: That's great.

SPIRO: Yea, I went to athletic representative at the conference when we joined. You see, we were independent at that time. We didn't belong to any conference and umm, let's see, no we were, yea we were involved in conference. We were involved in conference with no longer existed, the Far West Conference.

SPIRO: Wasn't that with smaller schools, live Davis...

BETZ: Davis and Chico, who else, maybe St. Mary's.

SPIRO: Those what I was thinking, St. Mary's or some, one of those Mills, no, that's not the one.

BETZ: No. Then, we got out of that for what reason, we got out of that before I became athletic director representative and got into the California State Association, which was all state colleges plus Santa Clara, Pacific, but it was not a conference that suited us because it was all State Colleges.

SPIRO: Ah huh.

BETZ: Of course, we got back into the same sort of thing in State Universities now. So, I was involved in the formation of the WCAC, West Coast Athletic Conference with Paul Christopoulos. He familiar, name.

SPIRO: Yea, he sounds very familiar.

BETZ: He and I wrote the constitution.

SPIRO: Oh really!

BETZ: Yea, for the WCAC.

SPIRO: Oh my gosh.

BETZ: Yea, I remember sitting over at the office there, working on the thing, we took a lot from the Pacific Coast Conference.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm

BETZ: And adjusted it to suit our needs and of course ratified by the conferences. I was president of the WCAC for oh two or three terms. I can't call exactly, but that you know women were farthest from our thoughts in those days.

SPIRO: At that time, there wasn't really, I mean, it was kind of a dead era.

BETZ: That's right.

SPIRO: The '50's and '60's was very much as far as participation and only towards the late '60's when the women's movement and started to get some steam, did women administrators nationwide start to change their ideas towards women athletics and athletes and because femininity was such an issue and did not want to emulate the male model, they wanted to keep it completely separate and distinct in its own way and towards the end of the '60's, when the women students started wanting more and more competitive situations, the women administrators, the newer administrators started to change things. Fran Schaafsma from Long Beach State, she was one of the people that kind of push through new legislation to create the AIAW in 1972 and umm here at UOP we were kind of...

BETZ: We weren't much involved.

SPIRO: We weren't much involved, like Doris said, the only outlet that women athletes had here was to be song leaders and yell leaders.

BETZ: Yep, Yep, I think you're right. Yep. Of course, there was the AIAW was set up then there was a further split or a change in direction because some of the AIAW people wanted to have more participation like men participation with scholarships and the whole bit and another group, women from Iowa was most vocal in that, umm, didn't want any part of that at all. They wanted athletics for women to be kept free of the things which have harmed men's athletics.

SPIRO: Scholarships.

BETZ: Scholarships and excessive competition and ball games, it won't be long before there will be a ball game and a volleyball you know.

SPIRO: Yea, that you're right.

BETZ: And gosh the women had a marvelous chance to clean up athletics, you know.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: But they goofed.

SPIRO: I know.

BETZ: They goofed, []. I thought you might have wanted to know more about...

SPIRO: My gosh how great.

BETZ: Yea, I was chairman the of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics.

SPIRO: I was just going to come to that.

BETZ: I didn't go through this and umm and sort it all out. You may want to take this.

SPIRO: May I? I'll return it.

BETZ: Sure, oh I hope so. I kept it because I knew it someday somebody wanted to do something with it.

SPIRO: Ah huh. Oh, that's tremendous.

BETZ: So, I got minutes of the WCA, NCAA, AIAW women's committee. It was a combination made.

SPIRO: That was the first such committee...

BETZ: Yea, that's right.

SPIRO: ... and the first committee NCAA tour that had women, right or was represented.

BETZ: It wasn't and NCAA committee, it was a joint committee.

SPIRO: It was a joint committee

BETZ: Yea, ah ha, it was a joint committee []. I think the best thing for you to do, we can talk about it.

SPIRO: Right, I would like to have it on tape too, but I would love to bring that with me if...

BETZ: You know how memory is like.

SPIRO: [June Frank], yup.

BETZ: Ah this is...

SPIRO: Keira, that was the gal from Iowa, Keira Muskler, wasn't it or she was, I know she was one of the more conservative of the AIAW people if I remember.

BETZ: Yea, yea I think so.

SPIRO: Well I won't forget, I went to the AIAW meeting in Washington D.C., well was my eyes open. I come in and I have all these idealistic notions of women governance and the whole bit and boy, what a political rat trap that was.

BETZ: I went to a couple of those conventions. I was a representative from Pacific.

SPIRO: Ah huh.

BETZ: And also, as a person who be liaison, cause I was chairman of this committee and those conventions were something else. They wrangle, they wrangle, they introduce motions and

substitute motions and amendments and the whole bits, so the poor chairman frequently didn't know what was going on. They were just awful.

SPIRO: And it was really sad about how prejudice toward men.

BETZ: Oh yea.

SPIRO: You must have felt like really in the minority there.

BETZ: Well, there were some, few other men there, but not very many and oh I had fun. They had a social evening and all and a dance and that sort of thing and so I had a lot of fun.

SPIRO: Yea, really.

BETZ: Oh this, I never collated this, I never put this stuff together, but you can read through it and you'll find this. What the AIAW, no wait a minute better begin this way, the NCAA became interested in women's athletics because the supreme court rulings made it essential that our organization of this kind provide opportunities for both men and women. Well, it was obvious that while the constitution of NCAA was changed from there were men were before, it was students, you see, so theoretically, why sure, we're an organization for students. If women were good enough to play basketball, why she can play basketball. That wasn't in the constitution, but that was in the rational you see. You know obviously that's not stupid, that's [business]. Though there were some women who were competent swimmers, divers and I admit, maybe occasionally a woman was on a diving team you know...

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: swimming. So, because the Title IX kind of thing began to look [how] NCAA council said we got to do something about this. So, they set up this committee to see if we couldn't get together in some way and is some kind of joint operation and the NCAA proposed a joint operation to the [AIW]. The [AIW] were adamant, they said if we're are going to have a joint operation, then we have to a woman president one year and a man president the next year. A woman president one year and a man president the next year. Well, you know, when I look back even at that time, I said to myself ladies, girls, women, whatever you are, here you are a fledgling organization with no money, no experience in controlling, managing a national organization, can you think the NCAA with all its background and the number of years in operation, tremendous budget spending, millions of dollars, that they're going to say, alright you take it over this year, we'll take it over next year.

SPIRO: That's crazy.

BETZ: Crazy, you know. That's crazy and some of that's in here

SPIRO: Oh my gosh.

BETZ: As a result, we just didn't get anywhere.

SPIRO: This is [standing].

BETZ: We got together on some rules, eligibility rules, but it didn't work out for a year or two, they just went back to where they were before.

SPIRO: Humm.

BETZ: So that's way back, the way it started and the reason that it started and of course NCAA was adamant too, they not going to give in to women, say we in effect ...

SPIRO: No.

BETZ...we want to take this over every other year.

SPIRO: Right, it's not right.

BETZ: It just couldn't be.

SPIRO: That is ridiculous opposition.

BETZ: So, I was chairman of the committee and there was two strong positions in the committee. One position was we should work to bring the [AIW] into the NCAA, it was gradually. The other position was they want to set up NCAA program for women, but we will continue to try and bring them together and then the year I went off the council, the NCAA, booked Jim Frank, who Jim Frank became eventually became president of the NCAA, but he was secretary I think at the time. They established a NCAA committee on women's athletics, not a joint committee and the council said in effect, give us something for the women. In other words, they said there's was no chance for a cooperative arrangement and I think that was probably good judgement. Well at the time, I didn't. I was trying to keep both sides together, women and the men. Trying to get them to work together and that's what, that's why this letter, because I was a little concern that they []. This was a committee set up, committee on [Governors of organization] services. I have my letter, frankly I don't know. Now I turned out to be wrong, there wasn't a battle the [AIW] just folded.

SPIRO: They just, yea, just went under. Yea, this was ah... this is the year they voted to include Division III championships. The first year that NCAA started there, there involvement. Oh, this is great information. This is super.

BETZ: They, they people who umm, some of this may not make sense to you because you don't have the necessary background, some of this don't make sense to me because I forgot some of my crap.

SPIRO: I'll tell you, it really doesn't make, a lot doesn't make sense at all because of the whole situation. Umm, it was so funny because I was at that next to the last AIW meeting, the one in Detroit when they, when the NCAA was meeting and they voted to do the Division III championships. I mean, it was like a bomb had dropped you know, it, women were crying, it was such an emotional moment. It was like they knew that it was a death of their organization and yet they

kept on butting their heads against the wall, they were trying to get legislation that was not conducive to cooperative measures with the NCAA. They kept on going against it and I mean, they just didn't learn.

BETZ: Yea, Yea.

SPIRO: I don't know if it was the stubbornness or a lot of it, I think in a way, umm there was a lot of umm, I hate to say this, women libbers that was so much into the feminist movement, that they did not have, want...

BETZ: Right, right, that's right.

SPIRO: ...anything to do with the men and they were very much one sided, short sided in them.

BETZ: Well, the battle didn't occur as I thought it would because like you said they like I said a while, they just folded up after they butted their heads against the wall and then they couldn't.

SPIRO: Yea, oh my gosh.

BETZ: What I had said there though has occurred, that is, cost has gone up, scholarship cost have gone up, [] people say that fine. I'm not sure it is fine. I'm not so sure, but ah, it's almost like men's athletic went through scholarship program, now in some university, its almost out of control [witness Mr.] has so many violations.

SPIRO: Yea.

BETZ: Was I good? I don't think it is.

SPIRO: And the drastic measure the NCAA person had to take. I mean they were really fine cracking down, but [].

BETZ: Will that happen to the women's program?

SPIRO: I don't know.

BETZ: I don't know.

SPIRO: Some yea.

BETZ: Those are some of the things you want the women to have the same athletic opportunity as the men, but you don't want them to embroil themselves in the same problems that men athletic affairs gotten into. It's got a catch twenty-two situations.

SPIRO: That's true.

BETZ: I don't know.

SPIRO: When you were a member of this committee did you feel like you accomplished any of your stated objectives or did it, was a frustrating experience.

BETZ: It was frustrating. Yea. Now the other thing we accomplished; I think was to demonstrate that a combination organization would not occur.

SPIRO: I'll say that, It's just....

BETZ: And then I guess demonstrating that, then it just follows that the NCAA doing a takeover of women's athletics and despite what they said. The people who wanted to do it right away. There were some people who wanted to takeover, not takeover, well some members in the committee, in the minority who wanted to establish [Alex for women] in the NCAA. Their argument was, well the [AIW] can go ahead you know, we have two organizations.

SPIRO: Like [NIA] type thing.

BETZ: Yea, but you know, others of us said you know that's not possible. NCAA is stronger and the [AIW] will fold up. Oh no it won't, no it won't, but it did. So that prediction was accurate, so umm, it was, well it's a catch twenty-two, so it was an impossible situation. It just had to go the way it did, though I wonder if it couldn't have been worked out some other way. If the women had wanted to really, what shall we say, give up a little bit to gain a lot, but they didn't.

SPIRO: They weren't going to give an inch.

BETZ: Nope.

SPIRO: What about like UOP specific rule in forming the Nor Cal conference? Doris had said that you were part of that and she had talked about where the program was prior to the formation of the Nor Cal conference. She said there was a pivotal meeting at Sonoma State that you, Cedric and Doris attended, that when you decided to divide philosophically or into your philological leanings into red, white, and blue conferences.

BETZ: Yea, yea, mm-hmm.

SPIRO: Can kind of, can you remember...

BETZ: Oh boy,

SPIRO: ...any of those events.

BETZ: Yea, the red, white and blue is interesting because we didn't want to have one, two and three, divisions, one, two, and three.

SPIRO: Physiological.

BETZ: Right. Still there were institutions that were, that were division one institutions and there were others division three institutions just by the nature of things. Schools like Sonoma State, you

know. They would be, I forgot, red was I guess the one and blue was the three. I don't even recall that. Anyway, they would have been a division three, but nobody wanted to make any one of the schools lesser than any of the others you see. And some of the institutions had strength in certain activities and either no strength or no team in other activities. So Pacific was strong in swimming but had no, what else, badminton team. Did we have badminton in that?

SPIRO: No, we had tennis and swimming were are strongest at that time and we just added volleyball and basketball but we were, that's when I played and we weren't very good.

BETZ: Yea, that's right. But didn't some of the schools compete in badminton.

SPIRO: Yes! Badminton was a big thing with, was it Fresno State and I think San Fran... or USF, Santa Clara I think had badminton, I think Berkeley had badminton, who else, I can't remember. I remember when I was a Nor Cal representative badminton was one of the Nor Cal sport.

BETZ: Well, you see, Pacific had a badminton team. It would have been very weak, so we would have played the, if we were a red school, we would have played a blue schools and so they had this cross thing so you could be in the strong sport, you would play the strong team and the weak sport you would play the weak teams.

SPIRO: Ah huh.

BETZ: You know, that makes a lot of sense.

SPIRO: Yea.

BETZ: It was sensible kind of thing even though it sounds kind of screwy, but it was. It was sensible.

SPIRO: There was the associate memberships.

BETZ: Yea, yea, ah huh. Yup. Demsey was really the, he was really the motivator of that. He was the one who got people together and pushed it and then the women from CAL, Santa Clara, what's her name, Mary ...

SPIRO: Marygrace Colby.

BETZ: Yea, she was a strong worker in the [comp]. The woman from Sacramento State.

SPIRO: Was that [Lud Lily] or Judy Holland

BETZ: Judy Holland.

SPIRO: Before she went to UCLA.

BETZ: Before she went to UCLA, right. She a very strong organizer in the, in that conference.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: And we met at Sonoma State, we met at Fresno, and at Pacific. We had in about three years the thing solidified.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: Then of course, it broke up because of the nature of things.

SPIRO: Men's conference [...].

BETZ: A year before that, the NorPac.

SPIRO: Right, they added the four northern schools.

BETZ: Right.

SPIRO: And that just took it economically out of our hands.

BETZ: No, it was before they added those northern schools. It was before that.

SPIRO: No, we were part of NorPac for a year.

BETZ: Yea, when you say the northern schools.

SPIRO: Oh, oh, I meant, Washington, Washington State, Oregon, Oregon State.

BETZ: Yea, right, before that.

SPIRO: Oh, before that.

BETZ: Yea, it changed.

SPIRO: I am trying to remember; see I was there since 1980 and I remember Hawaii kept trying to get into the conference...

BETZ: Mm-hmm.

SPIRO: ... and now Hawaii is part of the women's PCAA.

BETZ: Oh is it.

SPIRO: Yea.

BETZ: Huh.

SPIRO: In every other year, I think we trade off going in doing, playing a two-game double header.

BETZ: Did they finally, did they finally block Hawaii's entrance in the WCA .., into the Western Athletic conference.

SPIRO: I

BETZ: They tried to get in.

SPIRO: I know they tried to get in and they kept blocking it and I don't know. I know that Hawaii became part of the women's PCAA conference with UOP. I don't know have any idea if they are still independent. They might be still independent.

BETZ: I think they are independent. Yea. I wonder why they don't push to get into PCAA. Money I guess.

SPIRO: Ahh, it's the money. It's so expensive. That's...

BETZ: They couldn't handle all the sports. The swimming and the tennis and all that sort of thing and travel.

SPIRO: There in a bad situation over there.

BETZ: Yea, that's right.

SPIRO: But ah, that's umm...

BETZ: Okay.

SPIRO: So, at that time was there a consensus among you and Doris and Cedric about the direction of the women program that you wanted to go Division one or I mean, was there any ...

BETZ: Oh boy.

SPIRO: ... do you recall talking the philosophy?

BETZ: As far as the NorPac conference is concerned, yes, I think we all agree. Yep. I am trying to think of whether anyone. I don't think there was any major disagreement. We analyzed the thing, said it was the only way we could go. Have you had anyone else like Doris you talk with her about this.

SPIRO: I talk, oh yea. I talk...

BETZ: Was her opinion, did she express a different opinion with you?

SPIRO: No, she, well she said basically what she said that hers was more detailed because she was actually involved in the physical education department.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: And in that regard they filled a responsibility toward their majors to provide a high level competition for the women's P.E. major because women coaches were on the increase and the need was there and the need for qualified women coaches and how they get that way is to participate in high level competition.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: And that was one of the underlying reasons that Cedric wanted to go that direction. Now I haven't had a chance to talk with Cedric because he's in Arizona, but I have to write him a letter and see if he's ever in Stockton, I like to talk with him because he is a key person.

BETZ: As I recall it, we made the decision like so many decisions are made, sort of well, emotionally, but not in an emotional kind of way. We belong with this level of schools...

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: ... you see. We don't belong with Stanislaus State.

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: And we don't belong with Sonoma State and Chico, even Reno. We belong with Santa Clara and Fresno, Stanford, CAL. This is our place.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: It's too bad that we don't have more institutions like Pacific here because we don't belong with Fresno and Santa Clara, we, Santa Clara, we don't belong with Fresno and CAL and San Jose, you know.

SPIRO: Yea.

BETZ: We belong with schools like St. Mary's and Santa... St. Mary's now maybe out of it but used to be. Schools like Santa Clara and then you go south and find private independent colleges.

SPIRO: We're just kind of an enigma up here all by ourselves.

BETZ: Yea, yea.

SPIRO: We actually probably should be independent of financially, if not feasible.

BETZ: And the only way we can compete with on any kind of a basis at all, with schools that we do is simply because the coaches work harder, and we get some good kids and every once in a while, we get a championship situation, but it doesn't occur regularly like it does in some of the other institutions.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: I'm really surprised volleyball had maintained its high level as long as it has. I'm really surprised at that. Not because our level would go down but because other institutions are going to gradually creep up and their resources will one day make them a really solid ...

(Tape recording stopped)

SPIRO: That's exactly what Terry always maintained and that's why he fought year after year after year for increase in scholarships, increase in budgets and I remember when Ike was athletic director, he was very concerned about the dollar, about the bottom line and maintaining the financial picture and he was totally against increasing unnecessary, budgets unnecessarily and he couldn't really understand why Terry wanted that money. You know, he thought, well gosh, you know, here we are top of the line, we got, you know we got national contender, why do we need to increase any more, but he couldn't quite grasp the idea that other schools were increasing that up to our level and pretty soon it's going to be that point and I think the present coach, John has, well he has a gold mind with Elaine Oden and a couple of those other gals and for our sake, I mean for the school's sake. I think the levels are going to remain there. Cause I think, I think it will be like a sling ball effect like Notre Dame for so many years got the best football players because of the name, you know, but then they reaches like you said, a point.

BETZ: Yea. Notre Dame is struggling, like we are.

SPIRO: [I know like we fall down].

BETZ: And this is the problem with athletics Cindy. This is the problem. We are, we have put ourselves because of our long association with men's athletics and the ball games and championships and number one. That number one, you know, it's top of us, its dynamite, it's terrible. We have observed this, it's in our nervous systems and so we're worried because volleyball might not be on the top four this year. We got in more money, more scholarships, more whatever, to keep us up there on the top four, why.

SPIRO: What's wrong with being fifth in the nation?

BETZ: Right.

SPIRO: That's that a great accomplishment.

BETZ: And the only reason, only, after you give to why, is because well that's the way athletic is, you know, you got to be the best.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm, yea. Why did that animal turn that way, you know its

BETZ: Yep, yep.

SPIRO: Like you said, the women really blew it, they did have a chance.

BETZ: They had to do something. I don't know what they would have done but they would have done, could have done something to a...

SPIRO: They had honorable intentions. One of the interesting things on my research is not just UOP history, but history overall of women collegiate athletics and through the years you can see that they want resisted, that influence, the men influence, the male influence of men's athletic because the corruption went back to the early part of the century, you know, football ...

BETZ: Sure.

SPIRO: ... and stuff. And you know it step of the way they did things they did things that they thought would keep that from becoming that kind of an animal, but money was an underlying thing and the AIAW had to change their format to be more like the men because they needed the money to sustain the program and the NCAA has to exploit the women's athletics in order to make the money to justify the money spent on the program. I mean, I use the catch twenty-two.

BETZ: Yea, yea, you're stuck with it.

SPIRO: You'll stuck with it now, what are you going to do now. And it's sad, in a women's sport magazine they interviewed this gal that was one of the highest recruited volleyball player's in the nation a couple of years ago. When Wendy Rush went to Stanford and she kind of wrote a little chronological of her experience of being recruited and it's sad. Of course, Terry's name was in there all the time, but she had said, it was interesting, because she said of all the coaches, she really respected Terry approach to her recruiting process.

BETZ: Why didn't she come here then?

SPIRO: Because Stanford wanted her and Stanford is a big name.

BETZ: Yea, okay, yea.

SPIRO: You know that and it's funny because we, UOP has competed against Stanford being a private institution, but Stanford got the history.

BETZ: Oh yea. There's no question about it. Give anybody the chance to go to Pacific or Stanford for free, most of them are going to pick Stanford...

SPIRO: That's right.

BETZ: ... most of them. Now there's the occasional one, maybe more than the occasional one but the one with the certain type of personality that will look at Stanford and say that's a fine institution, a great academic institution but [just a] bunch of snobs over there or something like that. Something that would not appeal to him or her.

SPIRO: A lot larger atmosphere. Something that's unique to Pacific is I mean that caters to people to go to Pacific has to be a unique aspect, but it's a...

BETZ: So, we attracted a different kind student than Stanford does, I think.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm. I think it makes it much better.

BETZ: Right.

SPIRO: Umm I see, I think I asked all my questions and umm. What are your impressions of some of the woman administrators that you worked with? Maybe you touched on it a little bit but umm like a Judy Holland. I mean now she's, you know, such a big name.

BETZ: Yea, I was very much impressed with Judy Holland and gosh I'm going to have to refresh my memory, I have the darndest memory for names. I cannot remember names. Which reminds me, I gotta, I come active in Pacific Theatre.

SPIRO: I've been reading about that. That's great!

BETZ: And I'm in the next play and I'm a grandfather of the bride. There goes the bride [the name in the play]. I'm a grandfather of the bride and a dotting old doctor. One of my lines is a "[] never been my long suit [so cool]"

SPIRO: You won't forget that [].

BETZ: Let's see if I can...

SPIRO: How fun though to be able to do that kind of stuff now.

BETZ: Yea, yea. [Ed Spikes] from Springfield Collage in Massachusetts. He was a strong one for NCAA now.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: Boy, he was [].

SPIRO: Ruth Berkey and the mayor.

BETZ: Yea, she was the woman coordinator of the NCAA.

SPIRO: NCAA. I never forget when I was at Washington at the AIW. She was running for President against a gal from Texas. Ah, what's her name, a softball player, very strong? Anyway, it was the dirtiest campaign, I mean that gal from Texas got up and she just attacked Berkey from the podium, said that Berkey had to leave the room in tears. It was the dirtiest thing I had seen in my life and of course she was leading the contingent of the women's libers and the very strong feminist. You know Berkey, not only, you know, she could run the west coast, which was already a mark against her, those weird westerners but she was very, you know, feminine and she wanted to work with the men, I mean, ah she had every point against her. Boy they just ran her out, it was so sad.

BETZ: Well, you can appreciate them, since she was on the joint committee that her influence was pretty strong on the joint committee and men listen to her. She, she, she you know her, have you talked to the personally and stuff.

SPIRO: Yea, ah ha.

BETZ: You know what's she like, her personality and all.

SPIRO: Yes, very much.

BETZ: She's low key, she doesn't shout and she comes in when the time is right and said something that you know and the men, you know got to root to get something.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: And so, her presents on that joint committee was one of the reasons that we kept, try to keep things even.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm.

BETZ: Roy Mayberry, good woman, Director of Athletics at Illinois State University. Now [I thought I].

SPIRO: This is tremendous. Umm, you know I'm not going to be able to get to this stuff immediately, is it okay to have it in my procession for a while ...

BETZ: Oh yea, yea...

SPIRO: I mean, I definitely give it back to you but ah...

BETZ: July Holland is, I wish I can find the total list of that. When [Glen Arell] became faculty representative for all athletics.

SPIRO: Oh yea.

BETZ: [Glen], she was on the council.

SPIRO: Oh my gosh.

BETZ: [Glen Arell], her names in here. Why can't I find it?

SPIRO: [Charlette West], yea she was the, she was president when I was there.

BETZ: [Old Peg Burt] is one of that women's libers. You know [Peg Burt]?

SPIRO: Yes, I remember seeing her.

BETZ: Oh boy, she's a bitter woman. Ooof.

SPIRO: I know. That's the thing, they had so much hatred.

BETZ: Yea she...

SPIRO: I mean they were so bitter, against...

BETZ: You know, she made some statements that have come true. She said you know the women's athletics is going to go, we don't want women's athletics to go to the route with the men's athletics going.

SPIRO: That's the way.

BETZ: Yea, that's the way.

SPIRO: What about the changes in umm...

BETZ: [Mary Robie].

SPIRO: [Mary Robie], yes []...

BETZ: She's a strong person.

SPIRO: From Arizona right?

BETZ: Right, University of Arizona. Yea, Dempsey is there [....university].

SPIRO: I really ... I feel very fortunate being in our Western section. I got to sit with, I think, some of the premier women administrators, like Mary Robie and Ruth Berkley and Judy Holland and Mary Alice Hill, San Diego State, another one Pam Strathairn, Stanford ...

BETZ: Yea, she's nice. She's a good...

SPIRO: She's a good lady.

BETZ: Yea, really is. Somewhere here is a list of the members of that committee from the AIAW. Ah, I don't know. I'm a terrible filer.

SPIRO: Oh, you should see I got, I save everything and anything. I just got stuff all over. I just feel terrible about that, all the Dempsey information when they started the [MIG] and come for it all out and ah...

BETZ: When you get time, you'll go through here and you'll put together somehow this members of this [committee]...

SPIRO: I really think it's important that it should be written about. I think it will be very significant about twenty years from now.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: That's what I'm trying to do.

BETZ: Well, you can take it and...

SPIRO: Great. I think I am done here. Let me see. Yes that all the questions I needed to ask.

BETZ: [] how would I know. Ah, we conducted polls, we made differences and made surveys of the difference between the women's rule and the men's rule, we tried everything.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm. Nothing.

BETZ: Nothing works you know. [Charlette West] was a strong person too. She was, she's pretty [diem] as I remember against the NCAA. Some of them you know, they were so bitter against the council it was difficult to keep our tempers sometimes you know.

SPIRO: [] pretty nice. Oh great. Well I think, shoot I think I am all done. Can you think of anything else that we didn't cover that you think is important as far as your, the growth of women's athletics at University or National or umm...

BETZ: No, I think we pretty well, pretty well covered it. You have all the information about when the scholarship first were granted...

SPIRO: Oh yea, I got that.

BETZ: ... and that sort of thing, that's in the records.

SPIRO: How was the attitude of that time of like the athletic advisory board and when we started to escalate the women's sports.

BETZ: It was a, there was never any opposition to the girl's women's athletics other than financial. That's the only opposition, only, really wasn't opposition it was a necessary consideration.

SPIRO: Wow.

BETZ: Put it that way. There was never in the boards meetings any discussion, you know, "lets hold on now, women shouldn't be engaged," nothing like that at all. There was positive attitude towards the development of women's athletics until we got to the point of well, we can't afford another scholarship.

SPIRO: Right.

BETZ: That was it.

SPIRO: That's the facts of life at the University.

BETZ: That's right, that's right. And all the reports that we worked on indicated that women's athletics should reach a some kind of parity with men's athletics. Which is not to say and that was very cautiously discussed and cautiously worded because there was never the understanding that women's scholarship would be as plentiful as men's. And I guess that's still is the policy.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm, oh yes. They tried to reach a balance as far as like the Title IX calculation although I don't think Title IX is really that much of a factor anymore ...

BETZ: No more. It was. People were scared of Title IX.

SPIRO: Scared of that. Oh I know. Everybody thought I was going to sue. I just said no way, but they tried to ready a [curtie] where they have percentage of men's athletes on scholarship and percentage of women's athletes on scholarship and then tried to achieve dollar amounts compared to the percentages, not necessarily actual dollar figures matching side per side, but if 28% of the scholarship athletes were men and you know, that or 75% of the scholarship athletes where men then 25% were women, well then the men would get 75% of the scholarships and the women get 25, which I think is very fair myself. Now I mean if you going to try to achieve some kind of numerical equality that sounds fair.

BETZ: Those formulas or that formula has been developed since I...

SPIRO: Yea, that's after you retired that's right

BETZ: ... but that attitude developed right from the start.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm

BETZ: It would get some kind of parity as fast as we can.

SPIRO: Mm-hmm,

BETZ: And you know records show that gradually one more scholarship here, one more there until; how many women scholarships are there now, do you know off hand.

SPIRO: Oh, there must be close to, hum, there's gotta be close to around 60.

BETZ: That many.

SPIRO: I think, because when I left, there was 45, 48.

BETZ: Wow.

SPIRO: And I'm just estimating. It's gotta be up there. Umm, because I know volleyball has increased, basketball has increased, softball has increased, swimming, tennis, I think has maintained and field hockey has increased.

BETZ: Those are academic scholarships. How many full rides are there?

SPIRO: You know I really don't know.

BETZ: Yea.

SPIRO: My research cut off is at 1980 that's because I just can't do it all. So, I haven't been over to the University. I just lost all touch.

BETZ: [] I didn't realize somehow or another that you had [yeah].

SPIRO: You know that umm and now it's all new faces there. My access to the files are a little more difficult.

End of Interview