

## CHAPTER II

### FACTORS INFLUENCING THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN BETWEEN 1923 AND 1947

#### The National Environment

##### Socio-economic Factors--Cultural Climate

Women's actions and achievements during World War I did much to wear down the prejudice of tradition and resistance to women's suffrage. Achievements by women which kept the country going built a self-confidence and independence that could not be given up very easily. After such a powerful display of military might, Americans found it difficult to settle down to normalcy. Peace, prosperity and play were the order of the day. Freeman (1977) viewed the period as the era of "The New Physical Education" in the schools, and as "The Golden Age of Sport" for sporting enthusiasts. The new heroes were found on the field of sport as many new sports stadia were built to accommodate a nation of spectators. Sports found their way into the curriculum and amateur sports clubs flourished. Most sporting events covered by the media involved men's activities. Barck and Blake (1952) did find occasion to make an historical note when American Gertrude Ederle swam the English Channel in 1926 faster than any of the five males who had done so previously.

The end of revelry came with the Wall Street crash. Economic depression was felt at all levels of society. Unemployment was high and wages were low for those who were employed. Government programs were initiated to help ease the problems. Butterfield (1947) viewed the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) project as a major step in raising the standard of living in the south as some 500,000 homes and businesses were supplied with electricity. Reed (1972) and Tindall (1976) contended the southerners held firmly to their traditional concepts concerning church and family life. Scott (1970) placed the southern woman about a decade behind her counterparts from other areas of the country. She found that this period of time permitted a semi-acceptance of more diverse female roles and that society enabled a somewhat emancipated southern woman to experiment with her new political, intellectual, and physical powers that had from necessity extended beyond the walls of the home.

By the second quarter of the twentieth century, the women's movement gained verbal and theoretical support of "equal rights for men and women" from the Charter of the United Nations and from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Women continued to form organizations for improvements in public welfare which considerably strengthened their position in society. Membership of women in professional and industrial organizations continued to grow as organizational support of legislation was needed to

confront many of the occupational barriers women faced. As Ware et al. (1966) contended, without economic independence, women would continue the role of the dependent, regardless of their contribution. However, women now exercised their power of persuasion by voting. It was apparent though, that many men and women still had negative social attitudes toward the aggressive female.

Following World War I, the War Department took action in response to the low physical status of a great number of inductees. It was felt that a national program was needed to promote interest in programs of physical activity for young people of both sexes. The National Amateur Athletic Federation (NAAF) emerged and called on Mrs. Herbert Hoover to oversee the organization of a women's division. The 1923 Washington Conference was convened for this purpose. The Conference was attended by a number of women physical educators who were anxious to respond to the timely call. They were also anxious to respond to the AAU's attempt to act as the controlling body for women's sports.

#### Philosophies Prevalent Among National Leaders

Lee and Bennett (1960), Pallett (1955), Gerber et al. (1974), and others, concluded that the founding of the Women's Division of the NAAF gave women physical educators more clout in the power struggle to control women's athletics, as their beliefs were incorporated into an organized



platform statement concerning competition. This platform also provided internal institutional controls on women's athletics on the college level. The concern of the leadership centered around the concept of encouraging general fitness for the masses as opposed to conducting athletics for the few highly skilled. Thus, a part of the organization established to guide women's programs worked to eliminate the program already in existence and to develop a new model. Other professional physical educational organizations for women enthusiastically endorsed the platform. Sanctioned athletic behavior for college women included sports days, playdays, intramurals, and in some cases telegraphic meets. Other types of competition were occasionally held under certain restrictions. Pallett (1955) speculated that the requirement that only women should coach female athletics undoubtedly deterred progress in American women in sport. Since few women had the experience or preparation for coaching, this could have been one of the reasons why early women leaders in physical education decided against competitive athletics.

There were factors other than lack of training and experience which influenced and guided the decision-making policy for women's sports. The assessment made by Arnold (1924) indicated that there was a cause-effect relationship involved in women's participation in competitive athletics. From the basic assumption that the female form had certain anatomical and functional peculiarities, the assessment



was viewed from a physical aspect. Taken from the pretext that "athletics ought to be used as a means for physical, mental and moral development of the female, it would then seem that athletics are a means to an end." Anatomical peculiarities in the female were recognized as: being smaller in stature; possessing proportionately less strength than the male; having shorter extremities; a lighter and more elastic skeletal system, especially in the chest area; and having a trunk out of proportion to stature, including a wider pelvis, a mechanical necessity for incubation of a fetus. Such structural design rendered the female inefficient in movement and unsuited for extensive physical activity. In addition, "such activity would eventually develop a male pelvis in the female." Functional peculiarities focused on decreased fertility due to diminished menstruation which was in turn linked to contributing to the development of the "infantile uterus." Competitive athletics inflicted further harm by inducing anxiety and mental agitation.

Athletics being always competitive do their harm by inducing the individual to put forth the maximum physical and mental effort. The same exercises done without the competitive element are not as harmful. (Arnold, 1924, p. 456)

Arnold favored intramurals as the mildest form of competition and called for a restriction in the quantity and quality of athletic competition for women and stated that competition itself was the exploitation of womanhood.

There is little wonder that such literature caused many women athletes to question their femininity and incited women leaders in athletics to cry "halt" to competition.

Mosher (1925), Associate Professor of Hygiene and Medical Advisor of Women at Stanford University, California, conducted numerous studies of the health status of college women. An improved level of physical growth, efficiency, and resourcefulness when compared to her less vigorous predecessors led Dr. Mosher to advocate the benefits of physical activity for college women. Mosher concluded that movement potential in young women were still shackled by lingering Victorian concepts. She also countered attacks on physical training programs and extolled the virtues of physical activity and the benefits of physical training programs. Mosher advocated that women be freed from tradition and educated to develop healthful habits of exercise; the physical capacities of women should be developed not only as wives and mothers, but also as workers.

A more contemporary view of the female athlete was provided by Little (1929) who saw no difference in the physical training objectives or expectations of men and women in pursuit of physical development. He further contended the following:

There is no inherent difference physically between men and women which makes it desirable to expect of women anything less in the way of physical achievement, in proportion to their strength, than what we expect of men.

Wide disagreement continued to prevail concerning the woman athlete. Theories of the day ranged from the notion that women should not even wear sportsclothes to the encouragement of women athletes to serve as role models. As leaders took opposing views of the benefits of athletics for women, the topic remained an issue to all concerned. Male and female delegates gathered at the American Physical Education Association Convention of 1923, College Women's Section of the Middle West Society of Physical Education, to hear Mabel Lee's evaluation and status report of intercollegiate competition for women. The popular topic drew such a crowd that the meeting place was changed twice to accommodate the audience (Lee, 1963). In the report, Lee (1924) listed some advantages of intercollegiate athletics as:

- (1) a way of acquiring hygienic living habits
- (2) a way of acquiring social training
- (3) participants would feel and learn from defeat and victory
- (4) players would work harder
- (5) players would acquire a greater degree of alertness, initiative, decisiveness, and self-discipline.

Some disadvantages according to Lee were:

- (1) they would be apt to get more "physical straining than physical training," shown mostly in nervous fatigue
- (2) injurious emotional strain
- (3) players would keep their menstrual period a secret and play
- (4) neglect of school work
- (5) winning at any cost could promote rowdiness
- (6) undesirable newspaper notoriety, especially noting when certain players would be out of certain games. (p. 13)



Although it was felt that intercollegiate competition would raise the standard of interclass play by the intense study and improvement of technique, the needs of the "average girl" would not be met. Since women physical educators viewed sport as "play for play's sake," rather than a contest to determine athletic superiority, play precluded athletics. As a result, women students were discouraged from entering the world of athletics.

Lee (1924) reported statistics obtained from Department Directors of Physical Education for Women from 50 colleges in 23 states, which included Florida State College for Women. Statistics listed intercollegiate competition at 22 percent of the colleges. Physical, mental, and social benefits of participation were tallied at 24 percent, 28 percent, and 42 percent, respectively. Sixty percent of the directors believed that the participants were harmed physically. Few directors, 4 percent, favored competition at the intercollegiate level.

In a follow-up report of a study completed seven years after the first study, Lee (1930) found a slight increase in the number of colleges participating in athletics. However, the percentage factor was negative in comparison to the 1923 study. Telegraphic intercollegiate meets were widespread with varying degrees of favor. In 1930, a small percent of college directors felt that competition was harmful. Some approved of intercollegiate athletics;

some did not. One factor that seemed to be congruent was that women physical educators did not want to duplicate the men's athletic program. Screening fact from fiction, Tunis (1929) clarified the philosophical stand that women leaders took acknowledging that athletics meant competition but "of the right kind." The task was for women to organize athletics that would have the competitive element but none of the pitfalls characteristic of most men's athletic programs.

Thus, competition in the form of playdays was advocated. Playdays were sport contests played between squads that were formed from a definite number of participants from each of the several colleges or universities involved. The competition was then squad against squad, rather than college against college. The goal was a Play Day for every member, which emphasized "sport for sport's sake" and placed no premium upon winning (Schwarz, 1928). There were some women leaders who realized that playdays were dated and others who detected a change in the thought processes of women which predictably would be expressed through a change in women's activities.

The diverse opinions concerning women in sport led Somers (1930) to suggest that a procedure be established that would allow principles and programs to be based on research if they were to be of a constructive nature. Little mention of this approach, however, was found in a

subsequent review of the literature. Reports on women's athletics continued to be descriptive rather than experimental.

#### Status of Athletics for Women

The decade of the 30's also saw the growth of the intramural program of activities and as Hodgdon (1973) indicated, a notable change to the recreational aspect of athletics. Leavitt and Duncan (1937) found intramural programs to be an "important phase of the general administration of the [physical education] departmental program." In some instances, the program was sponsored, administered and financed by the Women's Physical Education Department with cooperative control over procedures being maintained by the Women's Athletic Association. Departmental involvement was also advisory and supervisory. The budget was generated from a percentage of student body fees at a majority of the institutions. Leavitt and Duncan (1937) concluded that the value placed on the intramural program was duly recognized as administrators designated staff leadership for the voluntary student program. Extramural competition, which included playdays, sportsdays, and telegraphic meets, was sponsored by 73 of the 77 colleges responding to the Leavitt and Duncan questionnaire, while 13 colleges reported intercollegiate competition.

Intercollegiate sports trends for women in the 30's carried over to the 40's. Conversely, the pattern for men recorded continued growth. Women's sports outside the



college setting did exist but college women were discouraged from participating.

One exception should be noted was the establishment of the National Intercollegiate Golf Tournament at Ohio State University in 1941. The invitation flyer explained that this was indeed a bold step in providing competition for highly skilled college students. Provisions were made addressing practices formerly condemned such as, having no paid admission charges, no commercialization of sport or athlete, and requiring certified health standards for participants (First Women's National Collegiate Golf Tournament, June 30 to July 3, 1941).

The war years of the 40's brought a renewed interest in fitness and recreational sport. Freeman (1977) pointed out that World War II military units included sports in their training programs. Many military sports teams competed against local college teams. In some cases military members joined college teams. Sports were encouraged as having a positive influence on national spirit. With the entrance of women into the military came a unified move toward equality. Equal effort and rank of the sexes received equal rewards. Military sports opportunities and programs were also set up for women. It became apparent that a lack of understanding prevailed regarding rules, techniques, and patterns of women's play. Women's sport was viewed and criticized by male counterparts. Both groups needed educational and practical experience to function separately and together

as co-recreational units were formed. An insight into this area of sport was presented by Schriver at the 1946 AAHPER Convention in St. Louis. Schriver (1946) urged a better understanding of sports and competition for men and women and indicated a need to recognize competition as "a natural inherent impulse nurtured by periods of practice and performance." Schriver urged acceptance of the competitive phenomenon and suggested that American girls and women be guided in a desirable, functioning, competitive capacity.

#### The Local Setting

##### Socio-economic Factors--Cultural Climate

The 1923-24 session opened with 936 students on the 270-acre FSCW campus. This acreage included the college farm which supplied fresh vegetables and dairy products to the college dining facility. The academic buildings included the administration building, education building, science hall, training school building, gymnasium and a new library building was under construction. The four residential halls, Bryan, Reynolds, Broward and Jennie Murphree were filled to capacity (FSCW Catalogue, 1923). Housing accommodations were still inadequate, as 177 women were given permission to live off campus (Florida Flambeau, 29 September 1923). Other women lived in the three sorority houses on campus, maintained by Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega and Kappa Delta. Sigma Kappa and Delta Delta Delta had construction under way. Other buildings on campus included the new infirmary, the college

dining hall, central heating plant and Camp Flastacowo, on Lake Bradford. The dining hall accommodated 1,000 and had three entrances connecting with dormitories by covered arcades (FSCW Catalogue, 1923). Camp Flastacowo on Lake Bradford was described by the students as:

A big two story house with cots for forty girls and plenty of floor space for forty more, if need be. Downstairs there is a big kitchen and pantry and range for cooking, and a big screened porch to eat on, and then a simply huge room for stories and camp-fire talk. . . . That fireplace is so large you have to climb on the table to see the top of the mantle--sure 'nough [sic]. (Students' Handbook, 1923, p. 28)

At its spring session, the State Legislature appropriated construction funds for the library, auditorium, business office and housing (Florida Flambeau, 29 September 1923). Immediate needs were also evident in the School of Education "which was so spread out it was difficult to coordinate the departments." The School of Music needed an entire building and expensive musical instruments. The School of Physical Education needed a new building and equipment. The recently completed athletic field needed additional work; the gymnasium sported unprotected light bulbs and windows; and overcrowded classes were cramped for indoor space during inclement weather (Journal of the Florida Education Association, November 1923).

Enrollment figures continued to increase, showing a remarkable 83-1/2 percent growth between 1921 and 1924 (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1924).



Quality program and instruction kept pace with the rapid growth patterns as FSCW was placed on the approved list of prominent colleges and universities by the Association of American Universities (Florida Flambeau, 22 November 1924). This recognition attested to the progress and academic development of the institution.

In addition to the Master of Arts and the Master of Science degrees, undergraduate work was offered in the following areas: Colleges of Arts and Sciences; School of Education and Normal School; School of Home Economics; School of Music (FSCW Catalogue, 1923).

Two 45-minute periods of gymnasium were required for all students. Exceptions to this regulation were made upon order of the college physician, Dr. Anne Young, in light of the entering physical examination. Students were now required to provide themselves with a gymnasium uniform of navy blue serge bloomers, which Gilbert (1979), class of 1926, further described as being pleated with four yards of material in each leg. White middy blouses and white gymnasium shoes completed the dress code. All freshmen were required to take Course 1, Gymnastics and Games. Course 7, Playground Work, was required of all Normal School seniors. Course 8, Kinesiology and Practice Teaching, and Course 9, Orthopaedics and Hygiene, were required for students to earn a state certificate in physical education. This certificate was given only in connection with a bachelor's degree in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Other physical education courses were: Course 2, Aesthetic Dancing; Course 3, English Folk Dancing; Course 4, Track and Field Athletics, Games, Swimming; Course 5, Gymnastic and Folk Dancing; Course 6, Morris and Sword Dancing; and Course 10, Corrective Gymnastics. The Physical Education program was under the guidance of Katherine Montgomery, Director, and Helen Ferree, Instructor. Student assistance was provided by Evelyn Bird and Lucille Sumner (FSCW Catalogue, 1923).

The assessment of a six dollar student activity fee supported student government, student publications, athletics, and the artist series. The college encouraged students to participate in outdoor exercises and recreational activity. The faculty ruled against intercollegiate athletics but "sought to arouse a general interest in rational athletic sport." The Athletic Association was one of the most active student organizations. With the supervision of the faculty athletic committee, Mr. Smith and Mr. Williams, and Misses Larson and Montgomery, the students organized and conducted campus sports. Facilities included six tennis courts, three basketball courts and a new athletic field (FSCW Catalogue, 1923).

By 1928, the college had become the seventh largest college for women in the United States with an enrollment surpassing 1,500 (Florida Flambeau, 26 October 1928). The school was growing at such a pace that the legislators could hardly make appropriations fast enough to insure

adequate facilities, faculties, and equipment. Dr. Turner, reporting to the faculty for the Committee on Graduate Work, announced that the college was definitely committed to the development and expansion of graduate study. At the same faculty meeting (22 September 1928), President Conradi announced the letting of the contract for a new gymnasium. A contract for a new gymnasium and library was effected by the Board of Control in the fall of 1928. Each building involved an expenditure of approximately \$300,000 (Florida Flambeau, 21 September 1928).

Because of large class sizes and the inclusion of a teacher preparation program in physical education, construction of a new gymnasium was a most timely event. President Conradi relayed a message from the State Superintendent of Education asking for the cooperation of the college in preparing a course of study in physical education. The State of Florida was in need of teachers who could teach physical education (Faculty Minutes, 2 February 1929). Certificates were still issued in physical education under the College of Arts and Sciences (Faculty Minutes, 25 May 1929).

The fall enrollment of 1,588 students in 1929 resulted in heavily loaded departments and capacity class sizes. "Miss Montgomery reported one class of 300, which was handled in squads" (Faculty Minutes, 5 October 1929). Physical education students and faculty had special cause to celebrate the Silver Jubilee as the new gymnasium was dedicated during the twenty-fifth anniversary of the college



the following May (Florida Flambeau, 29 May 1930). Upon completion of the building project, announcements were made describing the specifications of the facility:

The outstanding feature of the gymnasium is the tile swimming pool which occupied one wing of the building. The pool is forty by seventy-five feet in size, and has a depth ranging from three and a half to nine feet. In connection with the pool are sixty-five showers and the same number of dressing rooms. Lockers with combination locks are provided for 1440 students.

A main room for calisthenics and indoor games constitutes the greater part of the second wing. An added feature of this room is the gallery for visitors which has a seating capacity of 400 people. In this wing are also sun rooms and rest rooms for those students unable to take regular gymnastic exercises. (Jacksonville Times Union, 6 September 1929).

A new athletic field flanked the building west and north relegating the old athletic field to the Demonstration School while the old gymnasium was remodeled for the School of Music. A couple of years later the gymnasium laundry was enlarged and equipped to accommodate the entire campus laundry requirements, including personal laundry (Calendar of College Improvements and Events, 1905-1943).

Growth remained steady even through most of the depression. In 1932, statistics indicated a fifty percent growth for the previous decade. Steady enrollment caused the college to hover among the second and third largest of the nation's colleges for women (Florida Flambeau, 2 December 1932). Except for the 1933-34 academic session, the school registered increased yearly enrollments (Florida Flambeau, 25 November 1938).

In 1939, a bill went before the State Legislature to allow coeducation at the two state institutions of higher learning. Students at FSCW circulated petitions in favor of the move and speculated as to the anticipated changes that would follow such action. Pro's and con's of coeducation abounded. Forums and debates continued. Although males attended summer classes, alumnae opposed coeducation year round on the grounds that "the State College is not prepared with immediate facilities for making such a change, and that a co-educational college would lessen the opportunity of the women to develop leadership" (Florida Flambeau, 21 April 1939).

Through the efforts of the College Government Association, social activities were arranged to give women students more direct contact with men students. Dances were arranged on campus and male counterparts from Gainesville were invited up for the college-sponsored functions. Mary Caldwell, staffwriter for the Florida Flambeau, forecasted the events as a "first step toward co-education" (Florida Flambeau, 10 November 1939).

An evaluation of coeducation was made by former student, Clementine Newman Militzer (Class of 1932), while visiting FSCW in 1940. Having been associated with other women's colleges as well as with coeducational institutions from the vantage points of social director, student dean, and hall counselor, Militzer found that at women's colleges there were greater feelings of loyalty, interest in campus activities and intellectual emulation than were found on

the coeducational campus. The coed collegians were more interested in social affairs which Militzer favored because "they seem more normal" (Florida Flambeau, 9 February 1940).

Florida State College for Women was indeed becoming more society oriented. A social standards committee surfaced seeking to raise new lady-like standards. Students were to dress in Sunday dresses and stockings to appear at the dining hall on Wednesday nights and at noon on Sundays (Florida Flambeau, 27 September 1940).

As the nation made ready for World War II, a military training unit was set up at Dale Mabry Field in Tallahassee. Students welcomed the influx of college-age males and included them in campus recreational activities.

Recreation facilities expanded considerably during the war and FSCW became a social center for young adults as well as being an educational center for young women. The college recreation program included military personnel from the new Dale Mabry military installation in Tallahassee and Camp Gordon Johnson. Women students were not allowed to visit the Service Club but were encouraged to "get rid of that extra energy" through campus recreation. Outdoor equipment, furnished by the W.A.A., and indoor equipment, furnished by the Physical Education Department could be checked out for use by students and dates (Florida Flambeau, 12 November 1943).

News of escalated wartime activities in Europe once again diverted the attention of Americans. The American Red



Cross which was so active on campus during World War I revived its drive for membership, funds and services. Three hundred students responded to knitting and mending "Bundles for Britain" (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1940). Students had their blood "typed for defense." Dances, balls, and parties continued at Florida State while the country began to mobilize for defense.

College President Conradi received a request to immediately organize certain defense units on campus from John Kilgore, Chairman of the Division of Information, Education, and Morale associated with the State Defense Council of Florida. One of the six committees appointed was a committee on physical education, consisting of six faculty members with Katherine Montgomery as chairman. The committee was charged to increase departmental contributions to the national defense effort (Faculty Minutes, 7 May 1941).

Defense stamps and bonds were issued and defense courses appeared. With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, women students began reading the front page first instead of the society page of the newspaper.

Amid national strife and turmoil, major changes occurred at home. After thirty-two years as president, Dr. Conradi retired in 1941, at the age of 72. Dr. Doak Campbell, from Peabody College, became the third president of the institution (Florida Flambeau, 19 September 1941). Reflecting on the state of the nation, Dr. Campbell issued

three main challenges to FSCW students in his convocation address:

1. to remain calm, organized and not hysterical
2. to continue the educational process and keep alive culture and idealism
3. to accustom ourselves to hardships.

Dr. Campbell also quoted Governor Holland's message to the student body:

Go forward with what you are doing with all your might. The nation and Florida depends on its womenfolk. (Florida Flambeau, 12 December 1941, p. 2)

All activities were re-evaluated in light of new demands set by wartime priorities. A Council of Defense was established for this purpose. College shop workers found themselves teaching non-credit courses in machinery, electricity, plumbing, etc. (Florida Flambeau, 30 January 1942). Other war-related emergency courses were added on credit and extracurricular bases. The grounds superintendent grew cabbages instead of zinnias in the flower beds (Florida Flambeau, 5 November 1943).

Fall enrollment dropped 7.8 percent in 1942 to 1,845 students. Major reasons for the decline were determined to be the need of filling war-related jobs, a call which many students answered, earlier marriages for women, and more aggressive recruiting by coeducational colleges seeking to replace students vacated by the draft. Alumnae curtailed their homecoming activities and rechanneled funds for war activities (Florida Flambeau, 30 October 1942).

Once again defense requirements of the nation looked for its strength on the individual fitness of its citizens. A network of physical fitness institutes was organized which resulted in the "Victory Corps" for high school girls and boys. Florida State College for Women hosted one of the several institutes that were held in Florida (Florida Flambeau, 15 January 1943). Katherine Montgomery extended this concept to include and encourage Florida State students to respond to the ongoing need of improving their physical capacities and promoting healthier living.

Dr. Campbell optimistically planned for institutional growth for an enlarged post-war campus (Florida Flambeau, 9 April 1943). After a registration of 1,975 students in the fall of 1943 (Florida Flambeau, 25 September 1943), registration increased to over 2,200 in 1944 (Florida Flambeau, 6 October 1944). With continued growth apparent, other changes were implemented in the pacing process.

The 1944 fall registration at the University of Florida was down 80 percent. Interest in promoting coeducation in Gainesville reached its peak during this time. The issue was no longer social, but economical (Florida Flambeau, 12 January 1945). Men students were allowed to attend summer school at FSCW. In compliance with the "Service Men's Readjustment Act of 1944," the policy was changed in the spring of 1945.



Since it was "the purpose and desire of the State of Florida to aid and encourage service men and women to continue their educational training at the institutions of higher learning in this state [Florida]," the legislature enacted a law enabling spouses of service men and service women to enroll at the University of Florida and at Florida State College for Women, providing other admission and eligibility requirements were met (Florida General Acts 1945). This act became a law May 12, 1945.

Students, faculty and the residents of Florida had additional cause to rejoice as VE Day was announced the following week. The signal of victory was recognized by the ringing of the school chimes. As tones of the "Star Spangled Banner" drifted over the campus, the students and faculty gathered in quiet thanksgiving (Florida Flambeau, 11 May 1945).

Of more than 400 FSCW alumnae serving in the Armed Forces during World War II, only one woman, Lieutenant Marion C. Phillips lost her life.

Lt. Phillips received her BS degree in education from FSC in 1932. She majored in physical education and was president of the woman's Athletic Association during her senior year. She was one of the few students to wear the school "Emblem." (Florida Flambeau, 8 February 1946, pp. 1,2)

Miss Phillips was honored by the creation of an FSCW scholarship and by the establishment of a memorial library in the Merchant Marines. Following a short teaching

stint in South Florida, Miss Phillips entered nurses training in Philadelphia. After serving in several nursing capacities in the south, she joined the Armed Forces, serving in England, North America, Algeria, Rome and Leghorn. She was on leave when the plane in which she was travelling crashed into a mountain in Italy, killing the 23 army personnel on board in February 1945 (Florida Flambeau, 1 March 1946).

The faculty senate recommended the adoption of the quarter system beginning in the fall of 1945 (Florida Flambeau, 5 May 1944). Conversion to the quarter academic calendar and sitting shoulder to shoulder with the opposite sex created quite a different atmosphere at the formerly all female college. By fall of 1946, enrollment at FSCW surpassed the 3,000 mark. During the last five years, the student body had increased 50 percent.

The University of Florida ceased to have enrollment problems as 500 veterans were transferred to Tallahassee, enrolled at FSCW and housed at nearby Dale Mabry Field. Although considered to be only a temporary accomodation, women students welcomed coeducation. Dale Mabry also provided off-campus housing for women students pending completion of dormitories on campus. Florida State College unofficially dropped the "for Women" designation as a single sex institution and added 101 new members to the faculty (Florida Flambeau, 5 October 1946).

The main concern of college and university administrators was now directed to providing facilities and opportunities for the returning veterans who were given economic means to pursue higher education. As service men and women took advantage of their veterans "benefits," colleges overflowed.

Constitutions were quickly and vigorously revised to include the male population. Traditional events, customs, policies and rules were re-evaluated in view of the changing society. Some traditions were lost as others were initiated. A student poll voted 1,817 to 505 to cancel and re-schedule the 40-year old Thanksgiving Day Games. The holiday was extended giving the students Thanksgiving Day and the weekend off (Florida Flambeau, 15 November 1946).

May Day was postponed to accommodate Spring Frolics at Gainesville. At the beginning, students maintained a separate but equal attitude on many issues. As the novelty of having men on campus wore off, the thought of a permanent coeducational situation was promoted. On May 1, 1947, Governor Millard Caldwell signed the bill changing the name of Florida State College for Women to Florida State University (FSU) and making FSU and the University of Florida in Gainesville both coeducational (Florida Flambeau, 16 May 1947).



## Philosophies Prevalent Among Local Leaders

In 1923, the physical education department obtained independent status as a single and separate department. Stanaland (1954) reported little change in the service area or the teacher certification program during the 1920s. However, with the initiation of a major course of study in 1929, which coincided with the opening of the new gymnasium, startling changes became evident. From this beginning, Florida State College for Women occupied the mainstream of professional preparation, service and voluntary programs and was considered among the outstanding colleges and universities in the nation. A first year on the spot evaluation by Dr. James E. Rogers, Field Service Chairman of the American Physical Education Association indicated the following:

Your major course in physical education is equal to that of the University of Wisconsin, which has been recognized as the best in the United States. (Florida Flambeau, 30 May 1930, p. 1)

The organization of physical education departments in the early days of development concerned itself with four major areas: the departmental faculty members; the students; the college physician; and the college administration. Ainsworth (1930) identified this articulation as the most efficient means of meeting the needs of the students and providing the special services of each group. The physical education department at FSCW subscribed to this method of articulation in providing for student services

and operational standards. At the beginning of the school year at FSCW, physical efficiency tests were given in gym classes by physical education instructors measuring speed, steadiness of motion, strength in throwing, accuracy in throwing, and poise. Fall records, 1923, indicated that 66 percent of the students passed the balancing test for coordination and poise. Eighty-one percent of the students passed the Indian Club race which tested speed and control of movement. The basketball distance throw tested for strength and ability in handling a basketball and was passed by 56 percent. Fifty-one percent passed the basketball goal throw for skill and special coordination. From these measurements, certain inferences were made.

These results indicated several things about the average FSC girl. She possesses poise of a fair degree and marked ability to move with speed and accuracy. She is not skilled in the use of a basketball either for throwing or for goal shooting. Such ability comes only with practice.

The results were further interpreted:

As far as basketball is concerned, these results indicate that the game, as taught in most of the high schools, ministers to the few and not to the majority. Too great stress is put upon training a team for interschool games and not enough interest is aroused in mass competition. (Florida Flambeau, 10 November 1923, p. 6)

These tests were given again near the end of the school year. Physical examinations were also given to determine chest capacity, grip, upward pull with back and

legs, flat feet, and posture. Health examinations given by the college physician also rated students by percentage scores.

The examination was based upon 20 points, each point counting five. Acute illness since children's diseases, operations, examination of heart, blood pressure, anemia, temperature, examination of lungs, chest capacity, condition of nose and throat, constipation, headaches, mental poise, height, weight, posture, eyes, ears and teeth, head and scalp and the nutrition index were all taken into consideration when the selection was made. (Florida Flambeau, 13 March 1926, p. 1)

Activities were rated according to their physical requirements and a student participated in accordance with her health classification. Classifications were rated A,B,C, and D. Young women failing to qualify for regular gym classes were assigned to an atypical program, sometimes referred to as "singing gym." Eleanor Brewer Morgan (1979), class of 1921, explained that some girls brought excuses from their home doctors that they should not take active exercises. The school doctor insisted that these students have their regular periods of singing gym in substitution for physical education and would have to put on their gym clothes and sing for an hour. Most girls decided they were not as disabled as they thought they were and would rather participate in the folk dances and games that were played during the gym program. As facilities improved, cots were made available for students "too ill to participate in gym classes." These classes, later referred to as "sleeping gym" were mandatory, allowing no absences (Florida Flambeau, 20 September 1929).



Nelle Walters assumed acting head of the Physical Education Department in 1928-29 as "Miss Katie" (Montgomery) took a leave of absence, working toward an M.A. degree at Columbia University (Florida Flambeau, 21 September 1928). Bernice Wood was in charge of corrective exercise classes, or "D" gym. Ruth Moffett was in charge of regular gym, which included seasonal sports; Ellen Donohue had charge of physical education classes for the School of Education, which included practice teaching courses. Miriam English, dance instructor, was assisted by Miss Wood in teaching the dance classes and working with the Orchesus dance organization (Florida Flambeau, 8 February 1929).

All FSCW students took gymnasium in some form or fashion. The physical education majors were required to give six hours assistance each week. All students were required to have their final physical examinations before they were permitted to take their academic examinations (Florida Flambeau, 26 April 1929). Classes in physical education were not held during the last month of school as the weather was considered "too warm for indulgence in more exercise than necessary" (Florida Flambeau, 12 April 1929). This practice ended when the new facility opened.

Other radical changes, which were later (1943) pointed out, were seen as a switch was made in 1929 from bloomers to one-piece colorful gym suits with side split pleated skirts. The students had already taken to rolling down their hose and hiking up their bloomers.

College-owned sterilized swim suits, swim caps, and towels were furnished and maintained by the department assuring sanitation in the new indoor tile pool. Protection was further assured as the water was constantly filtered, chlorinated and tested daily by the bacteriology department. This was a far cry from maintaining the old pool which was "used one day and scrubbed out the next" (Florida Flambeau, 5 November 1943).

The move to the "most expensive building on campus" was made December 2, 1929. The faculty consisted of: Katherine Montgomery, director, in charge of individual work; Josephine Morrison, in charge of sports, Ruth Moffatt, in charge of dance; Marjorie Mayer, in charge of swimming; Dorothy White, in charge of recreation; Helen Haggerty and Bernice Wood completed the staff (Florida Flambeau, 4 October 1929). It was a time also for extending the service program into the state high schools. Miss Montgomery's concern was to provide sport opportunities and experiences for the young people of Florida according to the latest accepted programs and practices of the profession.

### Playdays

Katherine Montgomery, receiving the president's approval, extended the opportunity for sport in the form of a "playday," to the high schools within a three-hour drive from Tallahassee (Faculty Meeting, 4 February 1928).

This idea was enthusiastically received by the high school sector as at this time the state had no formal provisions for the teaching of physical education or sports in the high schools.

In 1932, the senior physical education majors along with the demonstration school girls held a playday for the small high schools from the surrounding counties. Nine schools sent nine girls each to participate in the athletic events held on the college athletic field (Florida Flambeau, 8 April 1932). The program continued to grow and to include various groups and activities over the years. In 1935, a county-wide program included students from the fourth grade to the eleventh grade. Activities included singing, one-act plays, handicraft, a health pageant as well as games and contests (Florida Flambeau, 12 April 1935). Later, in 1936, the target group invited was the 4-H Club girls. Their day-long activities included various ball games, relays, singing, dancing, individual challenges and swimming (Florida Flambeau, 8 May 1936).

#### College Sports Days

College women's sports' days in the state began in the spring of 1938 at FSCW. Activities included team sports, individual sports, games and recreation (Montgomery, Handwritten note). The following year, seven colleges were represented: Stetson University, University of Tampa, University of Miami, St. Petersburg Junior College, Georgia State College for Women, and host school, Florida State College for Women. Activities planned were archery, ping pong,



diamondball, Chinese checkers, badminton, tennis, suffle-board, and recreational swimming and diving. The evening schedule included a cookout and campfire at Camp Flastacowo (Florida Flambeau, 14 April 1939).

During the get-together, the college faculty and directors of physical education formed a state organization "to study the administrative problems that arise in colleges for women." Nellie Campbell, of Stetson, was elected the first president of the organization (Florida Flambeau, 21 April 1939). Sponsorship of the Florida College Sports Days rotated among the state schools. Representatives from Florida State College for Women were selected to participate in subsequent events according to their all-around ability in different sport activities (Florida Flambeau, 8 March 1940). It was customary for the host school to select a theme which was then carried out in decorations, skits, music and demonstrations. Although competition in sports was a part of the program, equal emphasis was given to entertainment and recreational activities. State-wide sports days continued throughout the termination of this time period, 1947, and beyond.

As a few colleges and universities made provisions for athletic opportunities for women on a competitive basis, Florida State College for Women took a determined stand against the practice. In response to Gladys Palmer's invitation to FSCW to enter the golf tournament at Ohio

State in 1941, Miss Montgomery made the following response:

We are very much interested in your Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association and its objectives. . . . To conduct a National Tournament in any activity and at the same time not emphasize winning of championships, is as difficult a feat as entering water and expecting to remain dry. With college girls, the desire to be "tops" is ever present when representing their Alma Mater in competition with other colleges.

We would however approve inter-school competition where tournaments do not exist--National gatherings of athletic teams from many colleges competing as they do in Sports days where many win and many lose but no one is declared champion. We would be interested in promoting the National Organization provided no tournaments were conducted.

However noble the purpose might be in the beginning, because human nature is as it is, we do not believe winning championships can be anything but of greatest importance in a National Tournament. If your organization will promote intercollegiate competition on sports day basis and oppose tournaments, we will be interested in joining.

Our college has never permitted tournament play, therefore our girls will not be able to enter the Golf Tournament. (Montgomery, 23 April 1941)

Florida State Women's  
Athletic Association

The Florida State Women's Athletic Association was formed in Orlando, August 29, 1935, during the State girls Diamondball tournament and was first called the State Woman's Diamondball Association. . . . At the second meeting, held November 30, 1935, in Clearwater, the name was changed to Florida Woman's State Athletic Association so as to include other sports. (Johnson, 1941)

The association served as a clearing house for all state tournaments. Membership was open only to groups or clubs. In 1941, the membership numbered 19. The association worked in cooperation with the Florida Association of the AAU, the National Section on Women's Athletics, and the Florida State High School Athletic Association. The FWSAA did not advocate tournament play for high school girls but did make provisions for business and industrial women who "apparently needed this type of activity." Tournament play was set up for volleyball, softball, basketball, tennis and co-recreation badminton. Faculty from FSCW contributed to this organization through participation in conferences and meetings. The group sought to uphold the ideals of the NSWA in providing opportunities for a wide use of leisure time activities on the part of business girls and women (Johnson, 1941).

Leadership on the state and local level was provided by members of the FSCW physical education faculty. Grace Fox served as State Representative for the National Section on Women's Athletics (NSWA) (Service Bulletin, 15 October 1936) and Katherine Montgomery was the NSWA Chairman for District 9 of the State of Florida. Together, they worked to implement plans and programs of NSWA. This involved setting up a chain of communication. An attempt was made to reach a woman in each county of the state who taught physical education for girls or conducted recreation



programs, including athletics, for girls and women. The next step was to find out what athletic opportunities were afforded girls and women in the schools and communities. In a letter to Florida teachers of physical education, Miss Montgomery communicated the following:

Athletics are gaining an important place in the leisure time of American women. This presents the greatest opportunity to-day [sic] for all physical education teachers to aid in making these activities beneficial and definitely constructive in the lives of those who participate.

Constituents were encouraged to study the best policies to pursue in accomplishing the objectives of mass participation and co-recreation while keeping athletics "on a high plane" (NSWA Files of Katherine Montgomery, 1937).

#### Status of Athletics for Women

The move into the new gymnasium had a most significant impact not only on the physical education program but also on the extracurricular program. Former facilities, equipment and accommodations suddenly seemed to have been most inadequate. In addition to inserting courses that led to the bachelor's degree in physical education, and providing adequate facilities for traditional major sports, provisions were made for expanding the minor sports program.

A wide variety of major and minor sports were scheduled on an open- or short-term basis as well as the traditional seasonal schedules. Activities included inter-class competitions, intramurals, dancing programs, water

pageants, and recreational games such as badminton, ring tennis, archery, hiking, shuffleboard, ping pong, horse shoes, golf, checkers, bridge, croquet, and ten pins. Play nights were new features which were sponsored by the athletic association and were open to the entire student and faculty group. Skating, fencing and splash parties were popular. Play nights afforded use of facilities and equipment with low-key supervision or organization on the part of the physical education faculty (Florida Flambeau, 13 December 1929; 2 December 1932).

Autrey (1976) indicated that there was not that much demand for intercollegiate athletics in the 1930s. The important thing was getting the most people involved with activity lifestyles or sports lifestyles. Autrey explicated the following:

It was more important to have a good program for all of the students on the campus, to meet their interest and their needs, than to put it (time, money, and personnel) into a few--and I think basically, that was the philosophy.

At that time, physical education in the public schools was just coming into being. The concern of the department of physical education centered on the graduates of FSCW, how proficient, how well they could sell the community on having physical education in the schools for their children.

Having a person spend all of their time on one activity would not go along with the "purpose of preparing physical educators." They (students) needed to be proficient in many activities. When you have limited faculty for developing physical educators, who also took care of everybody on campus in offering programs that would be of interest and value to them in their lives,

you just didn't have the forces, financial, personnel, or otherwise to do them all.

Even basketball team member, Janet Wells (1979), class of 1942, recalled that most students of the time period, except for a few highly spirited athletes, felt that opportunities for participation were adequate. Few students disagreed with the NSWA philosophy concerning competition, but that philosophy was rigidly upheld by the physical education department faculty. Many students were too busy to stage much of a protest over athletics as classes were still held six days a week at FSCW.

Wells (1979) also noted a decline in the high school sports program for girls during the 1940s as many male coaches decided to go along with the NSWA philosophy that curtailed interscholastic competition for girls. Many male coaches seized this opportunity to develop junior varsity teams for their boy's program.

Athletic activity for the highly skilled athlete at Florida State College for Women was mostly confined to Odd-Even campus games, entry into the telegraphic swimming meets, occasional demonstrations, and participation with other colleges in the annual college sports days. Tucker (1978) class of 1946, was of the opinion that "students were brainwashed into believing competition was exceptionally harmful."



Women's Athletic  
Association

The Women's Athletic Association (WAA) sponsored sports activities organized around the following special events: Thanksgiving Day, Field Day, a Tennis Tournament and Water Sports Day. In addition, the WAA maintained the "F" Club and Life Saving Corps.

Activities were organized first on competition among the classes. All-star teams from the classes were then chosen for Odd-Even playoffs. These teams pitted the best players from the freshmen and junior classes against the best players from the sophomore and senior classes. Odd team members represented classes graduating in odd-numbered years and Even team members represented classes graduating in even-numbered years. Basketball was the first activity which began right after school opened in the fall. The season ended with the Odd-Even basketball contest on Thanksgiving Day. During this time, a varsity team was chosen. Volleyball was the second added attraction during this period of time.

Field Day was held in April. The main prize was winning the Banner by the class amassing the most points. Spring also meant the tennis tournament with singles and doubles competition. Letters went to the winners. The singles winner also won a tennis racket and the doubles team shared a silver loving cup.

Water Sports Day was held at Lake Bradford. Winners of first places received letters while the overall class championship claimed a canoe for their efforts.

The "F" Club was composed of athletes who had won letters in any athletic event by making the varsity basketball or baseball team, by winning ten points on Field Day or Water Sports Day, or by winning a tennis championship (Florida Flambeau, 29 September 1923).

Requirements for earning a college athletic letter were found to be relatively low when compared to other colleges. The Athletic Board worked to create higher standards for entrance into the "F" Club. Major changes, which were channeled through the Faculty Athletic Advisory Board, required that an athlete earn a total of ten points for a letter. Winners of first, second, and third places earned five, three, and one points, respectively. Formerly, a first place in Field Day or Water Sports Day entitled an athlete to a letter. Students selected for basketball or baseball varsity continued as letter winners. However, basketball members also earned two points for their class toward the Banner (Florida Flambeau, 12 May 1923).

The Athletic Association revised its constitution in 1924 and joined the Department of Physical Education to meet the objective of "mass participation" in athletics. Officers were designated chairmen of certain sport committees, including basketball, swimming, volleyball, track, soccer, tennis, hockey, and baseball. Rules for each sport were regulated by the Executive Board in accordance with the policies of the Department of Hygiene and Physical Training. The following by-laws governing play were instituted:

BY-LAW 8,

1. Winner of a singles in tennis tournament shall be awarded a tennis racket and varsity F.

BY-LAW 9.

2. Varsity teams in following: Baseball and tennis shall be awarded the college letter when their degree of proficiency merits such. A committee appointed by the Executive Board and approved by faculty committee on athletics shall determine merit in each case.

BY-LAW 10.

3. Bathing Suit: The Association shall also each year award one bathing suit of suitable design to the best all-around swimmer. This award shall be made by a committee of three competent judges appointed by the Executive Board and under such conditions as shall be determined by the Executive Board and approved by the faculty Committee on Athletics.

BY-LAW 11.

4. College letter shall be awarded to individual making ten points on field day or on water sports' day.

BY-LAW 12.

5. Within each season students are allowed to participate in only one major sport.

BY-LAW 13.

6. All members of class team in a major sport, also all individuals winning first place on field day or on water sports' day shall be awarded their class numeral.

BY-LAW 14.

7. A loving cup shall be awarded to the class winning the greatest number of points in the major sports during the entire year. Winner in each sport is awarded ten points. (Florida Flambeau, 27 September 1924, p. 6)

Keeping with the trend at other colleges of mass athletic participation, the point system was adopted for securing the banner as well as for earning a letter. Students had to amass a total of 200 points in one athletic



season or accumulate a total of 400 points by the end of the year to earn the college letter. A total of 50 points was required each semester to retain an "F." Points were given for placing first, second, third or fourth in any activity, for raising the college or national record in an event, for best all-around athlete, for making the Odd-Even team or varsity, for attending practices, for officiating, for managing, for serving as an officer of the Athletic Association, and for habitually making "A" posture (Florida Flambeau, 7 March 1925).

Since "F's" were easier to earn with the new point system, a new award, the Emblem, was designed and designated the highest standard athletic achievement. The Emblem was the gold letter "F" superimposed on a garnet background bearing the three symbolic torches which were secured by a scroll. An Emblem was earned by winning seven "F's." The first three girls to wear the Emblem were Bernice Conklin, Gladys Bush and Mary Simpson Yarborough (Florida Flambeau, 4 February 1928).

The point system was criticized, according to Ainsworth (1930), because student interest seemed to be focused on the awards rather than upon the sport. Points were given for interest and participation rather than ability. The system was again changed in 1932 limiting participation to only two sports each semester and requiring a "C" average for club membership (Florida Flambeau, 6 October 1932). Requirements were relaxed the following year,

making it easier for the average player to secure an "F" with only 26 points. The F Club was very active and in 1933 sponsored a sportsmanship week as a means of consciousness raising designed to carry out campus spirit. A different program was planned for each day (Florida Flambeau, 17 November 1933). In 1940, the club adopted official garnet blazers with the club emblem, designed by Beryl Mitchell, printed on the pocket (Florida Flambeau, 27 Septmeber 1940).

#### Intramurals

Intramurals were sport contests organized and conducted by the college for students who were enrolled at the institution.

The scheduling of inter-sorority games in volleyball and basketball in 1927-28 led to the ultimate development of the intramural program in 1929 (Florida Flambeau, 4 February 1928). The program included teams from sororities, resident halls, clubs, and independent groups. Teams were limited to including three members of former Odd, Even, or class teams. Participants had to have a health grade of "A" or special permission from the director. Sports were grouped as major and minor (Florida Flambeau, 11 October 1929). Competition was equalized by rules restricting organizations to have not more than two members of the F Club, physical education students or class team members on their team (Florida Flambeau, 3 October 1930). Activities were organized on an intramural basis in addition to

interclass and Odd-Even competition. The games were then arranged annually to accomplish the following:

Encourage wide acquaintance-ship [sic], good sportsmanship, and fellowship among the girls of the different campus organizations. Another purpose was to interest a larger number of students in athletics and to allow more girls to enjoy competitive sports. (Florida Flambeau, 10 October 1930, p. 1)

Extra-curricular activity classes offered group instruction for students seeking to "learn a game well." Short-term instruction by well-qualified students extended the fundamentals learned in regular classes to situation play with the intent that:

The student completing a course of study in them will be able to go out on any court or course and play a decent game of her chosen sport. (Florida Flambeau, 2 December 1938, p. 3)

The Faculty Committee on student athletics (24 October 1930) issued a new eligibility rule effective at the end of the first quarter 1930-31. In order to take part in competitive athletics, a student was required to have a total of fifteen quality points with no incompletes or failures during the preceding quarter. This ruling was later changed to require as many quality points as credit hours. In 1932, there was no scholarship requirement for participating in intramurals, which was exclusive of inter-class competition (Faculty Committee on Athletics, 27 October 1932).

The students' welfare was further secured by obtaining permission from the school physician for students



to compete in the major and minor sports program. An "A," "B," and "C" health clearance enabled students to take part in minor sports. An "A" or "B" classification was necessary to play major sports. Minor sports included table tennis, clock golf, deck tennis, croquet and horseshoes (Montgomery, 12 October 1932). In determining eligibility, the dean of students was provided with a list of probable contestants which was forwarded to the infirmary for medical clearance before going to the registrar for grade check (Faculty Committee on Athletics, May 1933).

The WAA adopted the slogan, "A sport for every girl." Policies for meeting this objective and "mass participation" were established as a program of major and minor sports was set. The practice was made of limiting a student to compete in only one sport at a time, a major or minor (Intramurals for 1931-32, mimeograph). The Faculty Committee on Student Athletics (May 1931) felt that mass participation in athletics would also be strengthened by the seniors having elective rather than required physical education.

Intramurals were aimed at a target population such as "those students who do not take an active part in regular athletics" (Florida Flambeau, 9 October 1931). For a time, girls playing in major intramural sports were not allowed to take part in minor sports (Florida Flambeau, 16 October 1931).

Students attended professional sectional, regional and national conferences as representative of Florida

State College for Women. The Eastern Sectional Conference of the Athletic Conference of American College Women met at Syracuse University, New York, in 1930, with FSCW delegates Marion Phillips and Betty Bell attending. The agenda included discussion of problems concerning the athletic programs of the colleges including point systems, awards to encourage enthusiasm, scoring and judging. The conference drew up resolutions to foster intercollegiate activities as well as intramural sports; to institute a college "play day" or sport day for every college; and to increase the emphasis on health by having outing activities, such as camps and hikes (Florida Flambeau, 27 March 1931).

Five student organizations were associated with the Physical Education Department: (1) Women's Athletic Association (WAA) included every student enrolled in the college; (2) Physical Education Association (PEA) included every student majoring in physical education; (3) Orchesus--Natural Dance Organization included only those proficient in natural dancing; (4) American Red Cross Life Saving Corps included all Senior Life Savers, about 200 students; and (5) "F" Club included all students who had won the college letter in athletics (Guide to Physical Education Building, 1934).

Eva Byrd and Betty Bailey attended the convention of the Athletic Federation of College Women held at Dennison College in Ohio in 1934. A new set of operating

standards were set by the Athletic Association as a result of information exchanged at the convention. The program was planned to include the following:

1. The organization of a state athletic association for women composed of the athletic associations of all colleges and universities of the State of Florida.
2. The promotion of closer interests between students of FSCW and students of other colleges within the state by having playdays. The purpose of these playdays is to help erase the spirit of intercollegiate competition and promote a feeling of friendship.
3. The conduction of a service of new types of entertainment in connection with play night, including penney carnivals, silver teas and food sales. (Florida Flambeau, 11 May 1934, p. 1)

By mid-1930, competition included intramural sports, which were contests between college organizations, sororities, dormitories and clubs. Activities included tennis, basketball, volleyball, ping pong, shuffleboard, croquet, archery and horseshoes. In addition to this type of competition, interclass games were played in the seasonal sports, which included volleyball, basketball, field hockey, soccer, tennis, golf, diamond ball (softball) and swimming. Miss Montgomery (1935) reported a year-end participation record of 32 percent of the student body taking part in the extracurricular activities. Those activities conducted during the year by the Department of Physical Education and the Women's Athletic Association included: outings,



Leon County Play Day, City Playground Work, Intramural Sports, Student Leaders for Sports Instruction, Play Nights, Swimming and Life Saving. Telegraphic meets were also held in archery and swimming.

The Athletic Board and the Physical Education Department continued membership and affiliation with national associations promoting their policies and implementing their programs. The faculty offered short courses as the Tallahassee Board of Women's National Official Rating Committee was formed "to further the best interest of sports for women by sponsoring the use of women officials"

(Florida Flambeau, 28 October 1936). The Women's Athletic Association tried to provide for all activity interests regardless of health restriction. The association sponsored the "F" Club, the Numerals Club, the Life Saving Corps and the Three Torch Club (Florida Flambeau, 9 October 1936).

The Women's Athletic Association assisted the Department of Physical Education as Florida State College for Women hosted the Southeastern Section Convention of the Athletic Federation of College Women (AFCW) April 18-20, 1938. The convention registered 59 participants from 24 colleges. In the opening address, Dr. Anne Schley Duggan, Dean of the Department of Health and Physical Education at Texas State College for Women, reported that the AFCW had its beginning in 1917, with a meeting of Women's Athletic Association (WAA) presidents. The WAA's have remained

closely aligned with the Health and Physical Education Departments of the colleges. The functions or aims of the association were to serve as a recreational outlet, to play for fun, to promote friendly competition, and to develop skills. Since that time, there had been a question of renaming the organization the Women's Recreation Association (WRA) (Proceedings, AFCW, 1938).

During the convention, there were conflicting reports as to the general tendency away from team sports to individual sports, as was indicated by Dr. Duggan. Betty Ostlund, President of the FSCW Student Body, reported on a recent survey completed at FSCW, which indicated that upper-classmen favored team sports 450-183. Respondents also favored interscholastic sports, while advocating better provisions for the underskilled (Proceedings, AFCW, 1938).

A popular topic for discussion centered on intercollegiate athletics. It was determined that intercollegiate athletics would be an asset to the athletic program of a women's college for the following reasons: training rules developed good health habits, social contacts made were important, it increased interest, and developed skills. Liability-wise, participants experienced great physical and emotional strain, they were not physically fit, and there was no advantage to those who did not play on the varsity teams. Sports days, however, were promoted by the WAA because they involved more people, they required no

intensive training, they promoted friendly competition between schools, and they promoted good fundamental emotional stability. The discussion also included the value of interscholastic competition, but no decision was reached concerning the issue (Proceedings, AFCW, 1938).

In another keynote address, Dr. Olivia N. Dorman, Dean of Students at FSCW, summarized what the WAA meant on this campus. She remarked that the WAA at FSCW "contributed to the entire campus by advocating the Greek philosophy of living by taking reality and working toward perfection." The development of both mind and body was to develop the ideal citizen. The purpose of the WAA was "to present and develop the humanistic ideal of life in all-around development of body through wholesome activities." [The records show that the WAA had its beginning at FSCW in 1905, the first year of the Florida Female College.] It was enhanced in 1914 with the Odd-Even competition and since 1926, through membership in the National Amateur Athletic Association. Clubs associated with the local organization were the Life Saving Club, "F" Club, Outing Club, Tarpon Club, and the Physical Education Major's Club, "who were the Nuclei" (Proceedings, AFCW, 1938).

Efforts were continually made to stimulate student interest and participation in extra-curricular sports. It was suggested that the department cooperate with the local country club to bring in well-known golfers for public



demonstrations. Students could then substitute a class period by attending the demonstration. In addition, other colleges were contacted to determine interest in having a play day or sports day. It was further suggested that school teams play other school teams as:

Competition seems to be growing in the state and our school should be a focal point for sports conducted in the ideal way. (Sports Committee, 14 September 1938)

It was also believed that entering the best students in telegraphic meets would stimulate interest.

A new system for intramural athletics was put into effect in fall 1938 in order to create more interest and participation. Physical Education majors were excluded from participation although they could officiate, coach or advise groups.

The W.A.A. feels that these girls receive all the athletic activity they need in their courses, without entering competitive sports and perhaps handicapping other girls. (Florida Flambeau, 25 November 1938, p. 7)

Teams were composed of students who represented different sororities, religious groups, off-campus houses, the dining room girls, Spirogira and Esteren. The intramural program was under the management of a physical education major. Betty White first served in this capacity (Florida Flambeau, 25 November 1938). The following year, 1939, eligibility was determined according to the following rules:

1. A girl may play for only one organization for the year, and she must be a member of that organization. Past pledges of sororities are

eligible, but friends of the sorority who have not been pledged are not eligible.

2. Physical education majors shall not participate.

3. To compete in the major sports, that is, swimming, basketball, volleyball, tennis and badminton, a student must have all "A" health. To compete in a minor sport she must have "A," "B" or "C" health.

4. Each team must have a manager who keeps in touch with the intramural board.

5. All games must be played on schedule with a fifteen minute courtesy period allowed.

6. Only two inter-class or Odd-Even players may enter team sports; only one may enter individual sports. (Florida Flambeau, 20 October 1939, p. 3)

Intramural participation did increase as over one-tenth of the student body reported for volleyball and basketball practice. The students coached the intramural teams and the faculty coached the Odd-Even teams (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1940). Odd-Even teams were considered "big time teams" and intramural teams provided recreation "for those who just wanted to play." All students from "A" health to "D" health were encouraged to participate as the program included "standing sports" and "sitting sports," as bridge was included in the activities in which students competed for place points toward the year-end prize. A trophy was awarded to the organization accumulating the most points in intramurals for the entire year (Florida Flambeau, 1 February 1946).

The following year, fall of 1946, a new ruling allowed graduate students to take part in intramurals. They were not allowed to enter the Odd-Even contests (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1946).

The sports calendar fluctuated very little during the following years. Organized activities included basketball, volleyball, swimming, modern dance, badminton, hockey, soccer, tennis and baseball (Florida Flambeau, 22 September 1939). In 1941, the activities were juggled so that tennis and badminton opened the first semester action which was followed by basketball and volleyball, concluding with the Thanksgiving Day Games. Swimming was the last activity of the semester, being interrupted by Christmas vacation and semester exams. Spring semester started with hockey and soccer which was followed by softball, replacing the game of baseball, and archery (Florida Flambeau, 9 May 1941). Speedball replaced soccer in 1943 (Florida Flambeau, 19 January 1943).

A change was made in the regulations for the awarding of the college letter. The handbook stated:

An F shall be awarded to any girl who meets the following requirements:

A girl must have attended at least eight practices to be eligible for class and Odd-Even teams. Three practices per week are allowed.

She must participate in one class game and one Odd-Even game in each of two sports in one school year.

A person may participate in only one sport in each season. (Handbook, 1941)

The letter was awarded by the president of the WAA at the end of each semester (Florida Flambeau, 19 September 1941).



The Women's Athletic Association joined the ranks to keep Americans fit during the wartime thrusts by conducting fitness drives to encourage participation in athletic and recreational activities. It joined the College Government Association as the only other campus-wide association which claimed the entire student body membership. Before annual campus elections, the Florida Flambeau devoted a page entitled "If Elected, We Hereby Promise. . . ." whereby candidates sounded their platforms. WAA candidates were now advocates of this thing called recreation (Florida Flambeau, 10 March, 1944).

In 1944, the WAA published its second handbook since 1928. The purpose of the association was:

To stimulate interest in a program of wholesome recreational activities, to promote athletic accomplishment, and to contribute to the development of the ideals of health and sportsmanship, it includes a varied program for everyone to find some activity in which each student will have an interest. (Florida Flambeau, 2 December 1944, p. 3)

The diversity and complexity of the association may be viewed by looking at the make-up of the board.

The complete executive board for 1944-45 includes: Margaret Friday, president; Jo Guthrie, secretary; Marion Looby, treasurer; Maxine Wagner, sophomore representative; Anne Weiderquist, junior athletic manager; Margaret Fernandez, senior athletic manager; Louise Fernandez, senior intramural manager; Evelyn Berry, president of Life-Saving Corps; Priscilla Gillette, president of Physical Education Association; Mickey Fountain, president of Tarpon and Betty Lou Boynton, chairman of Playnight. (Florida Flambeau, 2 December 1944, p. 3)

## Traditions

Traditions continuing were the Thanksgiving basketball games which were preceded by demonstrations and color rush: The Odd-Even demonstrations were two of the oldest Florida State College traditions. Beginning around 1914 with short skits by each group deriding their opponents, it grew to a full-scale elaborate musical production. The purpose of the demonstrations was:

To arouse enthusiasm, to foretell the downfall of one side and the triumph of the other, and to introduce the Odd-Even teams which would compete on Thanksgiving Day. . . . The final decision upon the merits of the demonstration is [was] left to the audience. (Florida Flambeau, 1 December 1939, p. 6)

The Odds are remembered for their lantern parades and the Evens are remembered for their campfires during "night out." Spirogira, the Odd honorary fraternity was initiated in 1924 with the Even honorary following suit with organizing the Esteren in 1930.

The Thanksgiving Day games which brought many alumnae back to campus was the forerunner for the scheduled formal event of "Homecoming." Students' pleas for a homecoming were granted by the administration and homecoming became an annual affair celebrated during Thanksgiving. The three-day event included athletic activities which started with the Wednesday demonstrations. The main attractions on Thanksgiving Day were the Odd-Even basketball and volleyball games (Florida Flambeau, 13 November 1926;

4 December 1926). The games were so well attended that portable bleachers were ordered, at a cost of \$650.00 from New Castle, Indiana, to seat 500 spectators. A festive turkey dinner followed the games and a dance concluded the day's activities. Classes were opened for visitors the following day and special receptions and general hospitality sessions were scheduled (Florida Flambeau, 9 November 1929). By 1933, nearly 500 alumnae and guests joined the Thanksgiving Homecoming festivities as the red, white and purple of the Odds and the green and gold of the Evens hoisted the colors that united the campus, the garnet and the gold (Florida Flambeau, 1 December 1933).

The forum introduced by the National Student Federation of America (NSFA), January 1925, provided an organized procedure for students to discuss student affairs. Issues were presented by a pro and con panel, after which questions stimulated discussion. The question was raised as to the feasibility of keeping two separate Odd-Even Demonstrations or to consolidate the affairs. Proponents saw the present arrangement superior since it offered the students a chance to express creative talents, to develop school spirit and to have short-term fun and games. Opponents questioned the time and expense involved in staging the separate productions. Since space was a factor, they felt that by having one production, two performances would allow everyone a chance to see both groups (Florida



Flambeau, 28 February 1936). Later problems concerning the Thanksgiving Day demonstrations were identified as over-exertion by the students and continued waiting by the audience. Physical education faculty were made aware of the prevailing problems (November 3, 1938) and approved of the policy that limited a student to only one activity or demonstration on Thanksgiving Day (Minutes, Physical Education Staff Meeting, 3 November 1938; 1 December 1938).

Homecoming had also grown to include Parent's Day. Soon, the campus facilities could not accommodate the large numbers of alumnae, parents, and friends who attended. Parent's Day and Homecoming were moved to the spring to coincide with the May Day celebration (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1940). In 1943, Homecoming was again scheduled during the Thanksgiving activities. Due to a wartime scarcity of food as well as the scarcity of space, only Alumnae were invited to attend. Tradition was further altered by serving creamed turkey instead of having a fully-dressed turkey with all the trimmings at each table (Florida Flambeau, 29 October 1943).

Students joined the physical education faculty in attending sports clinics where demonstrations and discussions were given to improve officiating techniques for women's basketball games. One such clinic was held in Orlando, December 1940. Grace Fox, Mary Settle and Katherine Montgomery of FSCW and Martha Adams, assistant

community recreation leader from Tallahassee, assisted in rating basketball officials (Florida Flambeau, 6 December 1940; 13 December 1940). This annual conference grew to include a wide range of woman's sports, physical education, recreation and health concerns for the State of Florida (Florida Flambeau, 12 December 1941). Faculty and students frequently participated in district and national professional physical education association conventions and conferences. Some students were surprised to find that classes went on as usual, with student assistants taking over for the departed faculty members. Strong faculty leadership was evidenced as Dr. Katherine Montgomery, head of the Physical Education Department, received the Honor Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession by the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation in 1944. Dr. Montgomery also held offices in several other professional capacities (Florida Flambeau, 12 May 1944). Strong faculty leadership was also given by Dr. Grace Fox, Mary Settle, Caliope Papatsos and others.

#### Thanksgiving Day

The freshmen, class champions, represented the Odd lineup for the 1923 Thanksgiving Day game. After a remarkable comeback in the second half, outscoring their opponents 13 to 4, the Odds finally succumbed to a more experienced Even team 26-19 (Florida Flambeau, 1 December 1923). When the varsity was later announced, the Evens placed Ethel Henry

and Ina Simmons for the fourth time, along with senior, Teresa Murphy and sophomore, Dorothy Armstrong. The Odds were represented by freshmen Anna Mae Stenstrum and Pearl Hentz (Florida Flambeau, 15 December 1923).

As Tallahassee celebrated its centennial season in 1924, the centennial committee requested that the college stage a "model" basketball game as an example of the progress women had made in athletics during the last one hundred years. Twelve of the best players were chosen from the class teams to compete. The teams were called the "garnet" and the "gold." The game was played on a "small, dusty court" up town constructed particularly for the occasion. Players selected for the Gold teams were Vaughn, Lytle, Creary, Armstrong, Tucker and White. The Garnets listed Pepper, Hargroves, McKay, Dozier, Prime and Spencer. The Gold emerged victorious 22-19 (Florida Flambeau, 25 October 1924; 15 November 1924).

The 1924 class games were played at night under the newly-lighted courts (Florida Flambeau, 25 October 1924). The seniors were class champions (Florida Flambeau, 8 November 1924). The Odd-Even playoff added more excitement. The 10-minute quarters saw several players disqualified and disabled. As the game became more tense, the crowd became more enthusiastic. Ethel Tucker, class of 1928 scored 20 points as the Evens never trailed in a closely contested 25-24 outcome. Accounts of the game listed out-of-town



referees: Lucille Jackson, Shorter College and Florida Waite, Pensacola (Florida Flambeau, 29 November 1924).

Although volleyball had been played on campus since 1915, class volleyball teams were first organized in 1921 following the Thanksgiving Day events. No varsity letters were given at that time. In 1924 winning the class volleyball championship counted 10 points toward claiming the overall championship cup for the freshmen. Following the class championships, the first Odd-Even volleyball competition was held Thanksgiving Day following the basketball game. The Evens outpointed the Odds 15-7 and 15-6 to win both ends of the doubleheader.

The game was very close at first, but the Evens proved superior at returning. Collins and Keck were the Even stars. Willer did some excellent serving for the Odds. Flynn also played a good game. (Florida Flambeau, 13 December 1924, p. 6)

An extensive awards program was later presented at the Student Body Meeting in December. Gold class numerals on a garnet background went to all class winners in basketball and volleyball. Twenty-eight basketball numbers were handed out, followed by 24 numbers for volleyball winners. Myra Burr, Vice-President of the Athletic Association, gave an assessment of the athletic program at FSCW before announcing varsity basketball players:

Myra began by saying that in athletics came the supreme test of the ideals we strive after in college. The athletic field becomes a laboratory of conduct where sportsmanship, fair play, teamwork, loyalty, honesty, courage, and self-control is tested out and learned.

She stated that varsity had been chosen by six judges who kept careful statistics on every move made by the players, judging the girls by their team playing, their clean playing, and their accuracy in playing the ball. (p. 6)

Since competition was so keen at running center and jumping center, contestants at both positions were chosen for varsity. Varsity included Flowers, Tucker, Reece, MacKay, Lytle, Rush, Pepper, and Marsh. All varsity athletes received "F's" (Florida Flambeau, 13 December 1924). No varsity was chosen for volleyball this first year.

Isabel Randolph, of Agnes Scott College, blew the referee's whistle to start the 1925 contest. Elizabeth Clanton, of the North Avenue Presbyterian School of Atlanta, umpired a close struggle which found the Odds leading 23 to 20 when the pistol sounded a halt to the action. Running center, Rush, was singled out along with Dorothy Armstrong and McCord as standouts for the Evens. Richards provided the scoring punch for a well-rounded Odd team effort (Florida Flambeau, 30 November 1925).

Although the Evens lost their basketball game, they came back to take the volleyball crown 15-9, 15-8. Lining up for the Evens were: M. Branscombe, E. Keck, M. S. Yarborough, J. Pritchard, G. Fox, and A. Leatherman. On the other side of the net were: V. Walker, V. Everett, S. Flynn, M. Couch, A. Swindell, and E. McConnell (Florida Flambeau, 30 November 1925).

The tables turned the following year as the Evens came from behind to win 31-17. Down 16-10 at the half,

Bright and Wood entered the contest to pull it out for the Evens (Florida Flambeau, 27 November 1926). The Evens placed six out of seven players on the varsity team including Flowers, Wood, Bright, Martin, Rush and Lake. Guard, Bernice Conklin was the single Odd representative (Florida Flambeau, 4 December 1926). To complete the turn around, the Odds captured the volleyball contest 15-6, 15-11. Misses Wilburn and Sinclair, of Agnes Scott College, refereed the "fast and snappy" match.

Couch, Swindell and Baker were outstanding as strong servers on the Odd team. Their balls were placed where they couldn't be picked up just right. It was hard to determine the strongest servers on the Even team but McCall scored the greatest number of points on her serve. Yarborough and Brunson possessed a straight serve of the wrist which kept the back line players watching their step.

In the second game the Evens sneaked up and put a few markers on their score but the Odd team pulled in their own and closed the game in the lead. Brunson and Couch had a tit for tat match on the return balls but before they had words the ball was "dead again." The sidelines were kept breathless for fully five minutes while they staged their play. (Florida Flambeau, 4 December 1926, p. 5)

When the dust settled, Sybil Glynn, Mary Simpson Yarborough, Lou Cochran, Margaret Baker, Mary McCall and Marion Couch were the varsity selections.

Excitement reigned supreme when, in 1927, the Odds nipped the Evens 20-16 in a see-saw basketball battle which picked up considerable speed after the anemic 1-1 first quarter tie. A good scramble in center by Martin and Stone added momentum for the Evens. Suhrer sank two goals before the



half for a 5-1 Odd lead. Richards and Bright opened the second half scoring several opposing baskets. Spencer replaced Wood and scored immediately. Time out was called for Getsen who became winded in the furore. Bright scored two for the Evens, whose side had become very enthusiastic with their team's comeback. The final whistle sounded in the thick of a skirmish with the Odds ahead (Florida Flambeau, 26 November 1927).

The score of 63-30 might seem like an odd one for volleyball but, in 1927, teams had four quarters to tally points. Play was said to be fast and clean. Branscombe served 19 points along with 12 for teammate Brunson who combined with Fox, Dairs, McCall, Cadugar and Yarborough for the decisive Even victory. Raper played a good stiff arm defense for the Odds. Bridge, Moore, Thompson, Kent and Baker also lined up for the Odd side (Florida Flambeau, 26 November 1927).

All events were postponed in 1928 due to the death of Mrs. Edward Conradi. When the games were played, the Odds won volleyball 37-26 and basketball 33-16 (Florida Flambeau, 14 December 1928). In 1930, members of the coaching class participated in selecting the varsity team. Players were evaluated during their class games and during the Odd-Even game. Those selected for varsity were:

Volleyball--J. Grady, V. Whitfield, M. Phillips,  
V. Williams, B. Autrey, N. Lutz and L. Weston.

Basketball--T. Geiger, K. Barrineau,\* B. Gallentine,\*  
G. Jeffries, M. Roberts, D. Archer, and R. Dale.\*  
(Florida Flambeau, 5 December 1930)

In 1931, members of the class teams voted after class games were over for those to play in the Odd-Even contest. After the Odd-Even game, those players voted for membership on the varsity team. However, faculty members, class and sports managers and team captains were the final judges (Florida Flambeau, 25 September 1931).

A record 32 basketball teams entered the intramural tournament in 1932. Intramural contests now allowed organizations to sponsor teams. This arrangement seemed to increase participation as approximately 500 students turned out. Participation and place points were recorded during the year and an Intramural Champion Cup was awarded at the end of the year. In the event of a tie, scholarship was the deciding factor (Florida Flambeau, 21 October 1932).

Play continued as usual and the Evens ran up their third consecutive basketball victory 29-20. The Odds prevailed in volleyball 27-22 (Florida Flambeau, 1 December 1933).

Because of impending weather conditions, spectators at the 1933 games were informed that the games were being moved indoors. As visitors, alumnae and students rushed for a seat in the gym balcony, an airplane circled overhead dropping little silk parachutes of Even colors--red, purple

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\* Repeat varsity from last year's team.

and white. The Evens called attention to their team by hauling them to the gym in a mule-drawn wagon (Flastacowo, 1933).

Before the new gym was built, all games were played outdoors. Much ingenuity was called for to make the courts playable in the event of rain.

If it had rained the night before, the faculty and students got busy and dried the courts by using gasoline, with which they set the courts on fire, and by using sawdust, which remained on the courts until time to play the games. (Florida Flambeau, 24 November 1944, p. 2)

After experimenting with new rule changes, the 1934 basketball games adopted the two-court division. Formerly, the court was divided into three divisions. Under the new changes, the running center became a guard and the jumping center was now allowed to shoot. Thus, a team placed three guards in one division and three forwards in the other.

The college received an expense-paid invitation for the basketball team to play Martin College, Pulaski, Tennessee.

The invitation was declined by President Conradi and Miss Katherine Montgomery, director of the Physical Education department. According to the latter, intercollegiate competition violates policies which the college adopted in 1907, and is opposed by the associations and federations of which the Athletic Association and Physical Education departments are members. (p. 1)

The students responded as follows:

I wouldn't suggest it for the world but wouldn't it be nice if the team could take a week-end off and visit Tennessee. I hear it's a nice place



up there, what with the climate, scenery and all.  
(Florida Flambeau, 12 January 1934, p. 3)

New volleyball rules, in 1939, called for a limited three hits and a change in the method of rotation. The basketball turnout was so good that the Odd-Even teams divided their groups into squads so everyone would have a chance to play (Florida Flambeau, 13 October 1939).

The addition of seven new volleyball courts, in 1944, inspired many hopefuls to the courts. Sarah Bennett led the Evens, assisted by Frances Crean of the physical education faculty. Margaret Fernandez led the Odds, being assisted by faculty member, Caliope Papatsos (Florida Flambeau, 6 October 1944). Faculty assignment of extra-curricula coaching duties was now a common practice at FSCW.

The 1945-46 school year saw the switch of volleyball and basketball made from Thanksgiving to the spring. The games were officiated by nationally-rated alumnae, Helen Evens, class of 1935 and Martha Twitty, class of 1944.

The game started off with the following Even lineup: forwards Anna Geise, Amarene Thompson and Mart Urbon; and guards, Catherine Barr, Bopie Whitaker and Betty Kennedy. The substitutes were: forwards, Grace Hayes, Juanita Krentzman and Catherine Sullivan; guards, Evelyn Shea, Jean Filess and Alva Ray.

The Odd team was composed of: forwards, Nancy Ward, Lucille "Sis" Miller and Elaine Brown; guards, Betty Jane Gardiner, Clarice Trueblood and Ethel Clann. The substitutes were: forwards, Betty Schwartz, Luch Harding and Shirley Hargroves; guards, Rachel Chambers, Jane Nightingale and Mary Louise White.

The gymnasium was decorated with streamers of red, white and purple and green and gold on respective sides of the balcony. (Florida Flambeau, 8 March 1946, p. 5)

### Field Day

Mass athletics was the goal of the athletic department. A preliminary feature was added in 1924 in an attempt to get as many students out as possible for field day. The following events were set up at distances assumed obtainable, with a little practice:

Fifty-yard dash--8 seconds

Basketball throw--35 feet

Running-broad jump--10 feet

Practice sessions were scheduled alphabetically by classes every Saturday and Monday until field day and records were kept of those passing the above requirements. Points were given for each event passed. The goal was 100 percent participation from each class. Ten points were awarded toward the banner to the class that had 75 percent of its members pass the preliminaries. Two additional points were awarded for each percent over 75 who met the requirements. Girls assigned to singing gym were not eligible to participate (Florida Flambeau, 2 February 1924; 16 February 1924). When the tally was made, the junior class had the highest percentage of participation with an average of 61 for the three events. The sophomores followed closely with 56 percent. The freshmen averaged 42 percent and the seniors

trailed at 38 percent (Florida Flambeau, 15 March 1924). Preliminaries gave students an opportunity to practice for field day and to determine which events suited them best. To win the sweater as the best all-around performer, a student was required to enter five events which included a run, a jump and a throw. The walking race, standing high jump and the hop, skip and jump were eliminated (Florida Flambeau, 8 March 1924).

Records continued to be broken during FSCW Field Days. Katherine Prime topped the national discus record in 1924 at 102' 3-1/4". Pearl Hentz was proclaimed the all-around athlete, winning four first places and one second place. Her baseball throw of 180' 10" was a new school record. Her 100-yard dash time equalled the national record of 12 seconds, but was not accepted as "the wind was in her favor." Gladys Vaughn was the first to have her name inscribed on the Anne Harwick loving cup for winning the javelin throw in 1924 and 1925 (Florida Flambeau, 29 March 1924; 28 March 1925). The following year, Alice Marsh and Harriet Robinson held the college record in the basketball throw at 76' and Mildred Harris and Lucile Reece broke the school 50-yard dash time. No statistics were given for these records. Senior Lucile Reece, won the sweater as she had done as a freshman. Margaret Richards won the sweater in 1926 winning three first and two second places in the five events she entered. She broke the only record for



this year by besting the 15.4 hurdles mark with a time of 15.35 seconds. The freshmen class showed great spirit in winning the banner. Added attractions to this meet were a number of side events. Students took part in a walking race, stiff-legged race, three-legged race, and a croquet game (Florida Flambeau, 20 March 1926).

The following year, preliminaries were held as usual. Mary Simpson "Simpie" Yarborough broke Harwick's record in the javelin throw with a heave of 83' 11". Maggie Ricards repeated as best all-around scoring five first places, while setting the new college record in the running broad jump at 16' 9-1/8". Harriet Robinson achieved a new basketball throw record with a distance of 82' 11" (Florida Flambeau, 2 April 1927).

Bernice Conklin was awarded the last sweater to be given for outstanding athlete of 1928. The juniors won the banner for the third straight year (Florida Flambeau, 31 March 1928).

Beginning in 1929, the person earning the highest number of points had her name engraved on a silver loving cup that was placed in the new gym (Florida Flambeau, 22 March 1929). Freshman Marion Phillips won that first honor mostly on field events. Miss Phillips tied the 4'5" running high jump record on campus while setting the new basketball throw at 86' 1-1/2". Her standing broad jump

cleared 7' 11" and she was clocked at 8:8 seconds in the hurdles (Florida Flambeau, 29 March 1929). Her performances enabled the freshmen class to count up the most points in winning the banner (Florida Flambeau, 12 April 1929).

As a sophomore, Miss Phillips swept five first places, while breaking her own record in the high jump. Attesting to the claim of best all-around athlete, Miss Phillips' other wins were in the basketball throw, 100-yard dash, standing broad jump and hurdles (Sentinel, 5 April 1930).

The "Emblem" became the highest athletic honor awarded at the college and was bestowed for accumulating seven "F's." The first emblem was won by Edna Mattox who also claimed the Harwick cup in 1930. The second emblem was held by Marion Phillips (Florida Flambeau, 28 March 1930) and the only other student to get the award for the school year was Panama City senior, Betty Wood (Panama City Pilot, May 1930).

No new records were made the following year. Jewel Slone earned the best all-around athlete. Marion Phillips won the javelin event (Florida Flambeau, 11 May 1931). The following year, 1932, few athletes appeared for track practice. The meet was held as scheduled. Marion Phillips displayed her versatility in scoring five first places in the hurdles, dash, broad jump, high jump

and javelin throw. Dr. Raymond Bellamy was the official starter for the meet, which was scored by Olga Larson (Florida Flambeau, 6 May 1932).

After twenty years as a major spring sporting event, Field Day was dropped from the sports program due to lack of student interest and participation. Is it coincidental that in the same year the WDNAAF went on record opposing track and field events for women in the 1932 Olympics?

Field day, which created much excitement, dedicated training, and unwavering student support weeks in advance of the actual date, began to take a back seat to other activities. Political, vocational, and social concerns were identified as the culprits.

The frenzy gradually died down, however, until one year only a handful of students and faculty, including those in the matches, turned out. After that there was no more Field Day. (Florida Flambeau, 13 May 1938, p. 1)

Lack of student interest and participation was also noted during the fall activities. The Thanksgiving demonstrations that formerly held students captive for hours now lasted about 45 minutes, including "15 to 20 minutes of half-hearted yelling." The Florida Flambeau reported that students took advantage of their night out to remain that much longer on a date! Students also offered excuses for not attending the games. Faculty interest was also noticeably on the wane. In an attempt to express the overall atmosphere, the school paper offered the following explanation:



The school cannot be entirely blamed. For it is a part of the general shift which has been taking place over the entire country. The changes on the campus reflect the changes over the U.S., giving over to new interests. (Florida Flambeau, 13 May 1938, p. 8)

Interest was briefly renewed in 1945 as a Field Day was planned and directed by the senior physical education majors. Competition was based on inter-class rivalry. Any student meeting the "A" health requirement and the designated number of practice sessions was eligible to participate. New events included the shot put and basketball free throw (Florida Flambeau, 20 April 1945). After this attempt to revive a once held tradition, Field Day became a memory of the past.

With each succeeding year it became more evident that traditional events were giving way to newer interests. Activities that had served fulfilling and meaningful purposes in the past are worth remembering. Although many Odd-Even competitions continued, the past was no longer applicable to the times. It is always sad to see traditions die. The Odd-Even games of yesterday will be remembered for having met the needs of the time and for having paved the way for succeeding athletic programs and customs.

Even before the end of the Odd-Even rivalry in track and field, it was suggested that "it seems possible and desirable that competition between FSC and other women's colleges could replace and surpass Odd-Even competition" (Florida Flambeau, 8 November 1946).

There was a strong belief that Odd-Even would not die until something else came to take its place. Coeducation was considered an event which might provide the extracurricular entertainment and spirit a college campus needed. Once again, the students equated intercollegiate athletics with college spirit:

Unfortunately we don't have co-education yet, and consequently do not have intercollegiate competition. (Florida Flambeau, 15 November 1946, p. 4)

#### Water Sports

Competition in water sports was held at Lake Bradford. The property, located about five miles from the campus, was owned by the college and maintained mostly by the students. The waterfront facility dubbed Camp Flastacowo, included a large cabin, a dock, a swimming area, diving tower, and canoes.

The first canoe awarded for winning Water Sports Day the previous spring arrived in the fall of 1923. The freshmen winners, now sophomores, assisted by Miss Montgomery, held a canoe demonstration in chapel. Since the canoe would be available for use by the entire college, everyone was shown how to maneuver and care for it (Florida Flambeau, 20 October 1923).

Newcomers continued to make a place for themselves in the recordbooks as the freshmen outpointed upperclassmen for the 1924 aquatic championship. Pauline Buhner,

Mabel Decker and Fannie Mae Snyder claimed four, three and one first places, respectively. Gary Ford amassed the most points with one first place and six second place finishes. Judging the meet were Katie Montgomery, E. R. Smith, Eleanor Brewer and Helen Ferree. Eleanor Brewer's father who frequently worked with the sports program was the starter (Florida Flambeau, 3 May 1924). Miss Brewer graduated in 1921 but took a few classes following her graduation to continue working with the swimming program (E. Brewer Morgan, 1979).

Ellen Pepper, Gainesville freshman, broke college records in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle and clipped 4.5 seconds off the backstroke mark on her way to winning six events in 1925. For her efforts, Ellen was awarded a new bathing suit (Florida Flambeau, 3 May 1925).

Sporadic accounts of off-campus student participation in women's sports showed a marked ability of FSCW students to compete on a national level. As a delegate from Tampa at the National A.A.U. invitation swim meet at Rollins College in 1925, Sarah McCord placed first in the state 50-yard backstroke, second in the 500-yard free style and third in the 75-yard free style. Among national notables competing at the affair were Helen Wainwright and Gertrude Ederle (Florida Flambeau, 7 March 1925)

The following year Sarah "Russell" McCord won five events to lead all swimmers in points scored. Joyce



Pritchard, Hazel Flower and Bernice Conklin provided stiff competition in the process (Florida Flambeau, 22 May 1926). The freshmen class won the canoe in 1928 by scoring 58 points compared to 46 for the sophomores, one for the juniors and 0 for the seniors. A. P. Warren broke the college record for the 25-yard breaststroke in 19.7 seconds. Harriet Provost set the 25-yard backstroke in the identical time enroute to grabbing high point honors for the meet (Florida Flambeau, 23 May 1928).

P. Keep had three firsts, one second and one third as the freshman class repeated as the 1929 Water Sports champion (Florida Flambeau, 17 May 1929).

The 1930 swim meet was held in the new gymnasium. The method of scoring points was changed as emphasis was focused on class as well as individual results. Points were earned by attending practice and for entering events. Fifteen events were scheduled. Demonstrations of advanced swimming skills and stunts were performed between events for spectator's amusement. The sophomores (class of 1932) won the first indoor swim meet. K. Eastwood, M. Spencer, D. Archer, D. Didingler, G. Mathewson and G. Kerby were chosen varsity (Florida Flambeau, 9 May 1930; 16 May 1930).

#### Telegraphic Swim

National telegraphic swimming competition was initiated in 1930. Competition was organized on a regional

basis designated as the Eastern, Southern, Central, and Western areas. A national sponsoring college served as a central headquarters to coordinate results of regional competition (Official Aquatics Guide, 1938). The event was planned to give college women an opportunity to compete with other colleges in swimming, without leaving home, missing class, or coming into face-to-face contact with the opposition. Since the outcome of the events were not immediately known, winning did not seem to be an urgent concern. Thus, many of the "evils" of competition were minimized.

Florida State College for Women first entered the National Intercollegiate Telegraphic Swimming Meet in 1934 which was sponsored that year by the University of Illinois. Local participation required a health grade of "A" and a scholastic average of "C." FSCW entered the "competition" enthusiastically and almost apologetically in view of the prevailing philosophy concerning competitive athletics:

Don't blame us, the University of Illinois started this thing. (Florida Flambeau, 23 March 1934, p. 3)

The best three times in each event were telegraphed to the regional host school and compared with results sent in from other colleges. The top regional scores were then forwarded to the national host for comparison with other regional winners to determine the national championship. The final tally found Florida

State College for Women nosing out the University of Alabama 27-24 for the Southern Regional Championship. FSCW entrant, Martha Makemson, of Fort Lauderdale, was high point swimmer with a first place in the 100-yard freestyle (1:13.5) and two second place finishes. Claire Redfield and Mildred and Shirley Stevens also placed for Florida State (Florida Flambeau, 20 April 1934).

Participation in subsequent meets became a high point of interest among students. Regional winners sponsored the meet the following year, provided rotating regulations were met. The region with the highest number of points was the national sponsor, with assistance from the Aquatic Committee of the National Section on Women's Athletics (Official Aquatics Guide, 1938). To equalize competition, colleges were classified according to the size of their pool and to their enrollment. FSCW participated in the major group, schools having 75-foot pools and enrollments over 1,000 (Florida Flambeau, 15 March 1940).

Florida State College for Women did not enter the regional telegraphic swim competition from 1937 through 1939. This did not mean, however, that interest in aquatics was on the wane, quite the contrary. The freshmen now had their own annual swim meet, and the Odds and Evens contested vigorously after intramural contests were completed. The Life Saving Corps maintained a high membership, while the water sports program, revived at Camp Flastacowo, included



cance races, dory races, kayak races, and novelty events in addition to some swimming races and diving exhibitions (Florida Flambeau, 3 April 1936).

Amateur swimming exhibitions were held at the Florida State College for Women pool by members of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) swim teams from Florida. High school student, Katherine Rawls, of Fort Lauderdale, holder of 23 national and four world records appeared with the Miami Beach AAU swim team in a demonstration in 1935. Two programs were scheduled, one for the college students and one for state government officials, their wives and other dignitaries (Florida Flambeau, 3 May 1935). June Maule, Florida State College for Women freshman, later appeared with Katherine Rawls in a similar exhibition at Indianapolis. June competed in the AAU swim program formerly winning the Atlantic Seaboard and state diving championship (Florida Flambeau, 27 March 1936).

Katherine Rawls entered FSCW in the fall of 1936 and took part in the Second Annual Aquatic Forum at Fort Lauderdale over the Christmas holidays. The forum included competitive speed swimming, form swimming and diving events. Also scheduled were conferences by coaches and trainers on training procedures and swimming techniques. Men and women from major colleges and swim teams across the country participated in the Forum (Florida Flambeau, 11 December 1936). During the meet Miss Rawls broke the

national breaststroke records in the 50-yard and 50-meter events as 400 coaches and swimmers from 72 colleges and universities in 32 states participated in the Water Forum (Miami Daily News, 28 December 1936). Cal Bryant, technical advisor of aquatics and life saving in Washington, declared Katherine Rawls "the worlds' greatest women swimmer" (Daily News Bulletin, 28 December 1936). Following the Water Forum, Miss Rawls went on to establish the 50-yard breaststroke world record in Cuba, covering the distance in 35.2 seconds.

Miss Rawls then withdrew from FSCW to train for a meet in Australia.

Her coach advised a period of strict training so that she could lose some of the excess weight gained at college which might affect her speed. (Florida Flambeau, 15 January 1937, p. 3)

Interest continued in campus competition. Realizing that off-campus competition still did not win administrative approval the students voiced their feeling through the following statement:

Although the chances are slim that FSCW will actually have representatives at the AAU championship swimming meet to be held at the MacFadden-Deanville Pool in Miami Beach, May 22-23, the college will at least bask in the reflected glory of having one of her former students (Katherine Rawls) entered in the meet. (Florida Flambeau, 7 May 1937, p. 3)

Competition remained keen on campus and reflected an emphasis on winning. Instructors were cautioned to check eligibility rules carefully as:

The Intramural swimming meets brought to light a most amazing practice of buying students to play or swim on certain teams. (Physical Education Staff Meeting, 4 August 1939)

Instructional emphasis was placed on technique, efficiency and appreciation of synchronized movement and rhythm. Florida State swimmers and instructor, Betty Washburn, attended various water sports conferences and exhibitions discussing and demonstrating various phases of stroking. During an Alabama conference, which included five colleges, it was explained that:

Competition was sponsored not for the competitive phase but for the backing up of points made in discussions. (Florida Flambeau, 8 May 1936, p. 3)

Through continued work on improving swimming movements Miss Washburn affected a more efficient technique in executing the side stroke. Carroll Bryant of the American Red Cross publicized the new innovation as the first change in the side stroke in 25 years. A description of the change made in 1938 very closely describes the technique used in Red Cross swimming classes today.

The pull on the underarm, instead of being a straight arm, downward pull, has been changed to a slightly bent pull, more nearly parallel to the surface. In this way all energy is spent in helping the swimmer go to forward instead of using any of the energy to push the water downward. (Florida Flambeau, 18 March 1938, p. 3)

#### Tarpon Club

It was also during this period that the Tarpon Club was organized. The Tarpon Club had its formative meeting



in December 1936. Early objectives were:

To develop correct swimming and to present three demonstrations during each year, one at the opening of school for the freshmen, the second at Thanksgiving, and the later at homecoming in the spring. A committee was appointed to do research work adapting games and stunts for water use. (Florida Flambeau, 11 December 1936, p. 3)

Requirements for membership included a scholastic average of "C," a health classification of "A" or "B," a passing score on the swimming tests or diving tests, and a two-thirds vote of confidence from the active members. The Florida Flambeau (5 March 1937) reported that "the first ten girls having the highest scores will be charter members." A later issue (23 April 1937) listed Frances Hill, Florence Ward, Dorothy Colburn, Evelyn Edwards, Sara Hitchcox, Ernestine Makemson, Martha Makemson, and Mary Peacock as charter members.

Practices which became traditions included the dubbing of the new members as "Minnows" until they were initiated as full fledged Tarpons (Florida Flambeau, 13 May 1938).

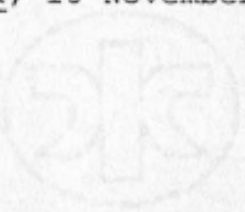
The newly-organized club quickly achieved recognition and much favorable publicity for their skill in swimming and pageantry exhibitions. In their second year, they were invited to give an exhibition at the National Physical Education Association convention in Atlanta. The following year, at the invitation of student, Martha Dent Perry, representatives from Grantland Rice--Sportlight

Films attended the fall pageant. The production was written and directed by student instructor and Tarpon Club organizer, Valerie Hunt, with assistance from faculty advisor, Marjorie Mayer. Miss Perry had appeared in several underwater films made by the Grantland Rice Company at Silver Springs, Florida including "Tarzan in Exile" starring Johnny Weismuller (Florida Flambeau, 25 November 1938). Miss Perry enrolled at Florida State for a rest and to recuperate from a sinus condition developed partly during her six years of underwater photography work (Florida Flambeau, 7 October 1938). Obviously impressed by what they saw, the movie officials announced that they would film the group at a later date. A survey was made of Camp Flastacowo and Lake Bradford as a possible filming location. Believing that the lake water would be too dark for the underwater shots, Wakulla Springs was the site finally selected. Students selected to make the production spent their Easter vacation performing before the cameras. Long hours of hard work, resulting in fatigue, cold, and sunburn, attested to the requirements of being screen stars. Quite a number of the Easter audience stood about in sweaters and overcoats as the swimmers wove their geometric patterns from scenes staged during the annual Thanksgiving pageant. Valerie Hunt, Yvonne Marchesseau, and Dorothy Colburn coached the group. Upon reviewing the film, the movie company decided to shoot more footage.

Company officials were so impressed with the formation swimming and the beautiful Wakulla Springs background that they wished to return for more scenes before releasing the picture. (Florida Flambeau, 22 September 1939, p. 3)

Paramount Studios later released the 10-minute selected short subject film titled "Aquamarine Rhythms" which was seen across the country and abroad. Tarpon Club members in the production included: Mary and Carolyn Collins, Dot Parks, Jean Wood, Louise Rice, Ernestine and Virginia Makemson, Hazel Wilkerson, Yvonne Marchesseau, Betty Bartholf, Lillian Allderdice, Constance Cureton, Frances Battle, Margaret Clements, Sandra Peckham, Patty Holbert and Frances Weber. Martha Perry and her brother, Newton, both experienced underwater film swimmers, assisted with the production (Florida Flambeau, 2 December 1938, 14 April 1939; 17 March 1939; 22 September 1939). Student Jean Knapp later doubled for Maureen O'Sullivan in the Tallahassee filming of "Tarzan's Secret Treasure" starring Johnny Weismuller (Florida Flambeau, 20 March 1942).

Several films were later made of the swimming club by cameras from Fox Movietone, Paramount, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and Twentieth Century Fox. The club was also featured in numerous lecture demonstrations at the request of professional organizations. Various colleges requested the films for use in their swimming courses (Florida Flambeau, 16 November 1945).





Golf

There were no yearly or seasonal reports of student participation in golf between 1923 and 1947. Golf was first offered in the 1926-27 academic schedule as one of the many sports included in the "gymnastics and games" course. Upon learning that she was scheduled to teach golf around 1930, FSCW faculty member Grace Fox (1980) took golf lessons at the Tallahassee Country Club. Women faculty and students were allowed to use the nine-hole golf course at the Tallahassee Country Club for a reduced quarterly fee.

The early golf courses left much to be desired in the way of convenience and expedience in directing the ball to the cup. Dr. Fox (1980) recalled that the Country Club greens were actually composed of carefully maintained sand. At FSCW golf fundamentals were taught on the hockey and soccer field behind the gymnasium. Later (1938) a four-hole golf course was set up on the "steeply inclined pastureland located slightly northwest of the physical education building." The following excerpt gives a description of the activity as it was played back then:

Although the course lacks the customary number of holes, adventure of an unusual type replaces this deficiency when the players begin their game.

Access to the golf course is gained only by climbing over a barbed-wire fence and crossing narrow boards placed over a deep ditch. Instead of teeing off from a grassy green in the usual manner, tolerant girls must make their first drives from ground that closely resembles newly plowed sod.

After searching fully a half hour for their golf balls, some girls were fortunate enough to find theirs almost totally concealed in one of the numerous hollowed spaces of the stubble-covered ground. As one girl bent to take her golf ball from the cavity in the ground, she heard something moving softly behind her. She turned and beheld a brown and white cow placidly chewing her cud. The golfer assumed the pose for a drive. The cow moved closer. Although the girl was not afraid of animals, she preferred to skip the first hole and move on to the second. However, changing positions helped the situation very little, for she encountered three more cud-chewing members just as placid as the first.

The other girls also showed signs of uneasiness and impatience, for every time any one of them would attempt to hit a ball, either one cow would close in on her or another would step in the way and intercept the ball.

As the golfers were beginning the third hole, the gym class finally came to a close, relieving the increasing tension on both sides of the two opposing factions. (Florida Flambeau, 1 April 1938, p. 3)

Sporadic newspaper coverage of student participation reported that a new record was made in golf when Marion Mickler played the nine-hole course with 56 strokes (Florida Flambeau, 2 February 1924). Dot Bullock, Elizabeth Henry and Elizabeth Love played in 1927-28, before the new gym opened (Florida Flambeau, 14 April 1928; 28 April 1928). As the hazards of play were overcome, more students became interested in golf. Golf was added to the Odd-Even game in 1941-42. Anna Shands captured low-score honors in 1944 as the Evens bested the Odds by two strokes (Flastacowo, 1944). Newcomer Jo Ann "Bopie" Whitaker led the Evens to two more titles in 1945 and 1946 (Flastacowo, 1945; 1946). As a

sophomore Bopie Whitaker won the driving title at the Florida State Women's Golf Tournament at Hollywood, Florida in 1946. Having played the game only four years, Bopie bested many seasoned players with an average drive of 220'12" in three attempts. Earlier that year she had won the best women golfer trophy at a tournament in Thomasville, Georgia. A versatile athlete, the pre-med student also played basketball, soccer, softball, and hockey on campus, and won a badminton tournament in Atlanta against male competition the previous year (Florida Flambeau, 3 May 1946).

#### Baseball-Softball

As the class of 1923 won the last baseball championship, the new championship was up for grabs. The Florida Flambeau (19 April 1924) gave the following account of the activity:

The Freshmen kept their heads throughout and did some of the prettiest and most consistent playing of any team this year. Strickland, guarding the first bag, and Ellis at midstation, were the stars and outstanding players on the Freshmen nine at both field work and batting. Hertz, flinger for the winning team, made several wild deliveries at the beginning and ambled a few Seniors to first, but as she gained confidence she heaved swift, accurate balls and showed us some good pitching. Perkins, Freshmen receiver, showed herself the star catcher of the season. At the bat she attempted several chops and generally succeeded in them. Sue Henry showed up well in short field and was excellent at the bat. She hit some pretty slugs and breazed the diamond making the disk with a scissors slide under rousing cheers from the sidelines. Henry, of the Senior gang, also excelled at scissor slides. Odom kept her own at the initial assignment, and Connor



did some pretty fly catching. Jones gave them her usual type of daisy cutters. The final score was 12-8, making the Freshmen 1924 baseball champions. (p. 3)

Competition continued in the form of class games and Odd-Even games. In 1937 the game was referred to as diamond-ball (Florida Flambeau, 23 April 1937). Many students played for their hometown teams during the summers.

Sonny Berger pitched for the A. G. Saulding team in Miami, which, as state champions, represented Florida in the National Championship Tournament in Chicago last summer. (Florida Flambeau, 14 April 1939, p. 3)

Softball was added to intramural sports in 1941. Students responded to this popular activity by signing up a total of 200 participants (Florida Flambeau, 10 October 1941).

In 1944 Vicki Lewis received a contract from the All-American Professional Girls' Softball League, sponsored by the Wrigley Company. Vickie decided to put her college degree to work and signed a contract to work for the Miami Beach Recreation Department (Florida Flambeau, 31 March 1944).

### Field Hockey

Because hockey was a favorite sport in other colleges it was felt that it should be played on the FSCW campus. At the beginning of the 1923-24 school year the freshmen were challenged to find a means of securing the \$66.00 determined necessary to buy the equipment (Florida

Flambeau, 29 September 1923). The freshmen were let off the hook due to a \$10.00 donation by T. J. Appleyard which was used for the purchase of balls, after which Mr. Kellum, the business manager of the school "found thirty hockey sticks" (Florida Flambeau, 6 October 1923). Practice sessions were scheduled for freshmen and sophomores to learn the necessary skills. The two classes had several matches during the year as the freshmen reigned undefeated (Florida Flambeau, 1 March 1924). First-year hockey players were:

Freshmen--Center, Hentz; wing, McConnell and Decker; half-back, Runyan, Dutton and Lynch; side, Buhner and Sammons; full-back, Bellew and Ticknor; goal tender, Steed.

Sophomores--Center, Armstrong; wing, O'Neal, Harvey and Jones; half-back, Holmes, Way and Peterson, side, Burr and Sligh; full-back, McGeachy and Lamp; goal tender, Sanford.  
(Florida Flambeau, 1 March 1924)

The following year, 1925, hockey and soccer were designated major sports. Varsity status was awarded an "F" and winning the championship counted as much toward claiming the banner as the more well-known sports of basketball and track (Florida Flambeau, 10 January 1925). Odd-Even competition was held with the Odds taking the first championship, 3-0. The lineup for the Odds was as follows:

L. W. McConnell, L. I. Munro, R. I. Runyan,  
R. H. Sumner, L. F. Miller, R. F. McKay,  
F. T. Tichnor, Lunch, Reese, Vaughn, and  
Gunnels.

Even lineup: L. W. Byrd, L. I. Rush, C. Fuller,  
R. I. Spencer, R. W. Murray, L. H. Killerman,  
C. H. Creary, R. H. Sampley, L. F. Shadd, R. F.  
Huffaker and G. T. Carmel. (Florida Flambeau,  
28 March 1925)

Only Lunch, Runyan and Creary were chosen for the varsity. Honorable mention went to Gunnels, Vaughn, Tichnor, McConnell, Munro, Spencer, Miller and McKay (Florida Flambeau, 28 March 1925).

Hockey matches continued with class and Odd-Even competition. The campus was growing in enrollment with 1,580 students (Florida Flambeau, 4 October 1929), and in faculty with 147. The athletic program reported an increase in equipment purchases and hockey led the Athletic Board budget allocation of \$115.00 (Florida Flambeau, 27 September 1929).

Excitement ran high as Odd-Even players were determined and students were kept in suspense evidenced by the following account of proceedings:

It has been the custom for the judges, captains, and coaches to meet the night before the day of the games and pick the Odd and Even teams. The players are told either Friday night or Saturday morning at breakfast to come out to the field to play. Sometimes they are told what positions they will fill in the all-important game, but then again they are not. No one except the ones picking teams really know "who's who" until the last moment. (Florida Flambeau, 1 March 1929, p. 1)

This custom continued and the suspense of many who tried out for the teams was followed by the surprise of those who made it. Grace Zipf Lindberg (class of 1947) who tried out for center on the Odd team recalled:

One of the greatest thrills of my life was a paper hockey stick I discovered on the door of my room that said "Congrats you made it." After an eternity of practice, we played the Even team. (Lindberg, 1979)



A proposal was made to the Athletic Board by the Department of Physical Education in 1933 to change the traditional Thanksgiving basketball and volleyball games to hockey and soccer. Miss Montgomery suggested that the change would be a practical one since volleyball and basketball could be played indoors during the winter season when weather and field conditions were at their poorest. Soccer and hockey could then be played in the more favorable fall weather. The board voted to continue the traditional homecoming activities for the present but to encourage more interest in hockey and soccer with possible scheduling changes to be made in the future (Florida Flambeau, 29 September 1933).

It was announced at the November 19 Physical Education Staff Meeting that the United States Field Hockey Association (USFHA) team would be making a southern tour in February, 1936, and would visit the campus. The college provided room, board and thirty dollars in cash to the organization. A match between FSCW and the USFHA team perpetrated daily local practices.

The tour, sponsored by the USFHA and arranged by the WAA, was to promote interest in the sport throughout the south. The team featured all-American players, who conducted a clinic, played an exhibition game, and worked with FSCW players (Florida Flambeau, 17 January 1936; 21 February 1936).

A later attempt was made to promote soccer and hockey. A "Winter Frolic" was organized in 1939 with the expectation that the festivities would rival those of Thanksgiving Day. Activities included an F-Club supper and playnight, with the main attraction being the Odd-Even hockey and soccer games. The Tally Troupers, a precision drill team, performed. A Winterlude Ball ended the occasion (Florida Flambeau, 3 February 1939). In 1945 and 1946 hockey and soccer were featured as the Odd-Even events stated during the Thanksgiving holidays. Bleachers were placed on the field to accommodate over 2,000 spectators (Flastacowo, 1946). The sports of volleyball and basketball were included in the spring sport calendar (Florida Flambeau, 12 October 1945; 6 December 1946).

### Archery

Archery was given a position as a major sport in 1936. At this time it was the only major sport allowing a "C" health certificate for participation (Florida Flambeau, 28 October 1936). In May 1937, Florida State took part in the National Archery Tournament (Flastacowo, 1937). In 1939 the college also participated in the National Collegiate Telegraphic Archery Meet. Sue Erwin obtained a "B" rating and Evelyn Butts made a class "C" rating as FSCW "placed about midway" among the teams competing (Florida Flambeau, 25 October 1940). The following year

the team placed second in the first State of Florida Inter-collegiate Telegraphic Archery Meet which was won by Rollins. FSCW entered two teams, with the second team placing fourth. Interest in archery led to the establishment of an archery club on campus (Florida Flambeau, 1 January 1941).

FSCW won the Florida Intercollegiate Archery Tournament in 1942 (Florida Flambeau, 25 September 1942) and in 1943. Shirley Bowstead of Rollins was the high scorer of the tournament edging out Sue Erwin of FSCW by eight points. FSCW entered three teams and claimed first, second, and third places against a team from Rollins and a team from Stetson (Florida Flambeau, 26 March 1943). FSCW placed fourth in the national contest with four archers rating a class "B" score (Florida Flambeau, 25 September 1943). In 1945, archery was included in the Thanksgiving Day activities (Flastacowo, 1946).

### Tennis

Because tennis was the last sport played during the school year, school was sometimes over before the results could be reported. Exact chronological accounts were determined as closely as possible. Class winners were determined as well as Odd-Even and overall championships.

Even with the new courts, students and faculty found court space a rarity. To facilitate playing time for



the large number who wanted to play, the Athletic Association made the following rule:

When the courts are crowded, no one shall play more than an hour, and no couple shall continue to play singles without first inviting anyone who is waiting to play doubles with them. (Florida Flambeau, 1 March 1924, p. 6)

An example of student interest was noted as 36 tennis fans arose at 6:30 A.M. to witness the final game of tournament play (Florida Flambeau, 3 May 1924). Walker defeated Long for the 1924 singles championship and won the tennis racket which was presented by the Athletic Association. Walker was very deserving of her "F" award as was pointed out in analyzing her technique:

Walker's strong points are, her excellent backhand, her ability to place the balls, and her endurance. Although not a swift player, she covers the court with ease and her balls are sure and safe. She is excellent at the net, and in returning. (Florida Flambeau, 12 April 1924, p. 3)

Long and Prime captured the overall doubles championship from Walker and Perkins 8-6, 2-6, 6-4 (Florida Flambeau, 26 April 1924). This type of competition continued until the opening of the new gymnasium and playing areas. With additional facilities and more activities to compete for the students time, different types of tennis competition were arranged. Ladder tournaments were popular as well as round robin schedules. Tournaments were also arranged for the men and women faculty. Tennis enthusiasts included Dean Salley, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Thompson, Misses Ferree, Montgomery, Felton, and Richey.

Nationally-known tennis figure Beth Lancaster, of Gainesville, attended FSCW in 1931 and 1932 holding the singles title both years and teaming with her twin sister, Margaret, to reign over the doubles courts. The Lancasters also competed off campus at the state level and annually at the Longwood Cricket Club, Brookline, Massachusetts. Both women attended Wellesley in 1933 as active tennis players (Florida Flambeau, 28 September 1934), and returned to Florida State in the fall of 1934. Beth won the state crown at Jacksonville her senior year (Florida Flambeau, 11 January 1935).

In 1936 tennis became a team event. A match consisted of two singles and one doubles. Team membership allowed two, three or four players of "A" and "B" health clearance. The team winning two out of three events advanced in the tournament, while the losers were eliminated (Florida Flambeau, 8 May 1936).

Already a very popular sport, tennis participation almost doubled with the onset of night playing on the lighted courts in 1937 (Flastacowo, 1937).

Tennis became more of a year-round sport in the 1940s with ladder tournaments organized early in the year to seed players for the official tournament (Florida Flambeau, 6 December 1940). In 1944, tennis tournaments started in October with an elimination tournament followed

by a ladder tournament for seeding purposes (Florida Flambeau, 6 October 1944).

#### Outing Club

The Outing Club was organized in 1930 for students not interested in the major or minor sports program. It also gave students an opportunity to enjoy sports not offered in the physical education curriculum. Activities included trips to the gulf for fishing and swimming, hikes, canoeing, horseback riding, etc. (Florida Flambeau, 17 January 1930). First organized at Smith in 1922, other eastern colleges followed with similar programs (Ainsworth, 1930). FSCW fell in line with most of the trends at these eastern colleges rather than adopting the program of the mid-western section colleges as many other south-central colleges seemed to do.

#### Modern Dance

Modern dance classes appeared in the late 1930s. The classes presented demonstrations at the Florida Association of Health and Physical Education (FAHPE) convention in Tampa in 1938 and later that year in Atlanta at the National Convention of the American Association of Physical Education. The purpose of the demonstrations was to show physical education teachers how the modern dance might be taught (Florida Flambeau, 18 March 1938).

Miss Nellie-Bond Dickinson, instructor, who will be on leave next year to study under Martha



Graham, explained the motive of each dance before presentation, and remained afterward to answer questions or repeat dances at wish of the audience.

Those who took part in the dance were: Betty Ostlund, Viola Brooks, Elizabeth Flipse, Jackie Gates, Bunny Lowery, Felicia West, Elva Melvin, Janet Cook, Mickey Conn, Janet Jewett, Jeanne Webster, and Sarah Jane Stambaugh. (Florida Flambeau, 6 May 1938, p. 2)

Modern dance was added to the extracurricular activities. Odds and Evens practiced together. The best dancers were then chosen to compete in an Odd-Even dance demonstration. The teams practiced separately and worked out their own compositions. Dancers earned the same number of points as any other major sport toward earning a letter (Florida Flambeau, 19 January 1943). Later, competition was judged by faculty members from the physical education department. A point system was established for the following criteria: originality of theme, execution, techniques, space and floor patterns, and effectiveness in carrying out the theme. The Odds had the distinction of being the first dance winner (Florida Flambeau, 16 March 1945).

Performances became more frequent and more elaborate. Exhibitions were often repeated to accommodate overflowing audiences. Judging criteria expanded to include assessment of costumes, lights and music. The selection of judges also extended out from the physical education department and included Mr. Van Ferguson, Miss Louise Gehan and Mrs. Lou Miller in 1946. The Evens chose

the "Stephen Foster Suite" theme with music arranged by Helen Edmiston.

Dorothy Butts, Doris DuBois, Ruby Lois Duke, Audrey Evans, Anne Shull and Sarah Lee Williams expressed in modern dance patterns the lament of "Old Folks at Home," or "All de world am sad and dreary. . . ."

Other dances included a solo by Anne Shull and in the finale:

Dancers Joyce Cayce, Mickey Chillingworth, Jackie Gugir, Virginia Hatton, Enid Krouse and Avonelle McNair brought the suite to a climax. This was the expression of a gay celebration to the tune of "Camptown Races," or "Somebody bet on de bay. . . ."

The Odds chose "Street Scene, New Orleans," as their theme, or "Everything Happens on the Waterfront."

The action of "Street Scene, New Orleans" centered around the arrival and departure of a Mississippi River steamboat. The music was from the Mississippi Suite of Ferde Grofe. Dancers included: Bertie Loftus, Jean Headley, Bet Cargill, Dot Wells, Jane Hardacre, Violet Walters, Vonnice Black, Clara Wilson, Betty Brobston, Lorraine Smith, Jane Carol Levy, and Valda Mock. (Program, Odd-Even Modern Dance, 1946)

A modern dance class for men was organized in 1946 as the college had an enrollment of around 800 male students. Coeducation did bring about a number of changes in the athletic arena. Perfume replaced alcohol for rub-downs and the women brought their hairdryers to the gymnasium. Some activity classes became co-ed and some "separate but equal" arrangements were made to share faculty and facilities (Florida Flambeau, 18 October 1946).

Off-campus athletic competition came quickly for male students as competition was arranged in the fall of 1946 between the "Dale Mabry Cagers" and fraternity teams from Gainesville. Sport contests were also arranged with other off-campus groups. The first intercollegiate tennis team played a full schedule under the name of Tallahassee Branch, University of Florida (TBUF) beginning as early as January 1947. The teams were also referred to as the T-BUFS and Bufs (Florida Flambeau, 17 January 1947). The men also scheduled intramurals and had their own form of student government. Even before coeducation became official, newly-elected student body president of the Tallahassee Branch of the University of Florida, Philip Rountree, stated, "I am for expansion in athletics that will put FSU men on the sports map" (Florida Flambeau, 23 May 1947).