

First, I would like to congratulate all of this evening's inductees on a well-deserved honor.

I began working at the CIAC in 1970 after graduating high school. At that time, the only committees for girls were the Girls' Athletic Committee and the Activities Committee which were responsible for sportsdays, and playdays for girls, an annual sports clinic for coaches and girls varsity competition in the sports of volleyball, gymnastics, badminton and track and field.

In the 1973-74 season the CIAC sponsored a girls basketball tournament for the first time. During the regular season, there were 120 schools participating with approximately 2500 athletes. At the end of that season, 64 teams had qualified to play in a two division championship. As the years passed, the athletic opportunities for girls grew from sportsdays and four varsity sports to CIAC sponsoring varsity competition in 13 sports and cheerleading. Presently, the CIAC has 188 schools participating in girls' basketball with some 4000 athletes. This year, 128 teams qualified to participate in a four division tournament. As you can see, girls basketball has definitely come a long way since the half-court game I played in gym class.

At this time, I would like to say thank you to the CT Women's Basketball Hall of Fame for including me with such a prestigious group of people. It is a tremendous honor.

I would also like to thank my family, friends and my family from CAS-CIAC and CAAD for attending this evening and being there for support.

Thank you.