

When Pride Still Mattered: The Legacy of Co-Rec Football

Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don't like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that.

-Bill Shankly, In Sunday Times (UK) Oct. 4, 1981

Prologue

While the statement above is in reference to the sport that Americans call soccer, the same truth applies to the American version of football and, more importantly, to the sport of Coeducational-Recreational (Co-Rec) football which was developed in Hinman College. This sport, with simple humble beginnings, grew to not only be the most popular pastime in Hinman but also swept the nation as one of the most popular collegiate sports played on college and university campuses. Most Hinmanites may not remember their professor's name or all the classes they took, but just about each and every one of them remembers the name of their Co-Rec team and what their team T-shirt looked like. Co-Rec has provided exercise and much needed recreation for Hinmanites since 1971 and has been a staple of Hinman activities ever since. More than anything else, the sport of Co-Rec is one of the truest and most lasting legacies that Hinman College gave to not only the rest of Binghamton University but to colleges and universities across the country and around the world.