Overview of the Collection

Repository: The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616
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Creator: Marquis, Gail, 1954-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis,

Dates: May 4, 2017

Bulk Dates: 2017

Physical Description: 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:17:01).

Abstract: Basketball player and financial advisor Gail A. Marquis (1954- ) was on the 1976 Olympic women’s basketball team where she helped win a silver medal. Marquis was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 4, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

Identification: A2017_099

Language: The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Basketball player and financial advisor Gail A. Marquis was born on November 18, 1954 in New York, New York. Marquis earned her B.A. degree in education and psychology from Queens College in 1980. She later received her M.B.A. degree from the University of Phoenix in 2007.

Marquis was a two-time all American at Queens College. The 1972-1973 Queens College Women’s Basketball Team made history as the first women’s team to be inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012. As a member of Queens College Women’s Basketball, in 1975, they were the first women’s team ~college or pro~ to play basketball at Madison Square Garden.

Marquis played on the 1976 U.S.A. Olympic Team in Montreal, Canada; it was the first time that Women’s Basketball was played at the Olympic Games. The team won the silver medal. Marquis then travelled to Nice, France as one of only a few women, to play professional basketball in the French Federation of Basketball. She competed for an all-French team, Olympique d’Antibes Juan~les~Pins. From 1976-79, Marquis lived in the South of France where she also studied French at L’Universite de Nice in Nice, France. In 1977, Marquis represented Team U.S.A. at the World University Games in Sofia, Bulgaria. There, the U.S.A. National Team earned another silver medal.

Marquis returned to the U.S. to play for the New York Stars and later the New Jersey Gems of the Women’s Basketball League (W.B.L.). Marquis’ N.Y. Stars set a league record for wins (28), and won the League Championship, as the first women’s pro team to call Madison Square Garden their home court.

Marquis entered the financial services industry and worked for firms including, Dean Witter Reynolds, PaineWebber, UBS, Merrill Lynch, and JPMorgan Chase in Operation, Information Technology, Sales and Wealth Management. In 2013, she launched her own company, G. Marquis~World Financial Services.

At the same time, Marquis was as a broad color commentator and sports analyst for the NCAA Division I games at
Rutgers University and Penn State University, the American Basketball League (A.B.L) and the Women’s National Basketball Association (W.N.B.A.)

Marquis is an 11-time Hall of Famer having been inducted in 2009 to the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame. She is the first woman of color inducted. She is part of the inaugural induction class into the Queens College Athletic Hall of Fame (2012), and has received numerous awards including, the Inaugural Title IX-Trailblazer Award from the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health. Marquis has served as trustee and representative to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, The Queens College Foundation, The Wellesley Centers for Women, The Women’s Sports Foundation, and the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame. Currently, Marquis serves as the director of community outreach for the School of Business at New Jersey City University and is the regional director for the New Jersey Small Business Development Center (NJSBDC) at New Jersey City University.

Gail A. Marquis was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on May 4, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Gail A. Marquis was conducted by Larry Crowe on May 4, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Basketball player and financial advisor Gail A. Marquis (1954- ) was on the 1976 Olympic women’s basketball team where she helped win a silver medal.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Marquis, Gail, 1954-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)
Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

**Subjects:**

- African Americans--Interviews
- Marquis, Gail, 1954- --Interviews

**Organizations:**

- HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)
- The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

**Occupations:**

- Basketball Player

**HistoryMakers® Category:**

- SportsMakers

**Administrative Information**

**Custodial History**

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

**Preferred Citation**


**Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

**Other Finding Aid**

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.
Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_001, TRT: 1:29:02
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_002, TRT: 2:28:53
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_003, TRT: 3:30:18
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_004, TRT: 4:30:23
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_005, TRT: 5:30:20
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_006, TRT: 6:28:08
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_007, TRT: 7:33:01
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_008, TRT: 8:29:07
Video Oral History Interview with Gail A. Marquis, Section A2017_099_001_009, TRT: 9:17:49