5-2000

A History of Athletics: Lynn University And It's Predecessors

Chris Emerson
Lynn University

Follow this and additional works at: https://spiral.lynn.edu/etds
Part of the Education Commons, Sports Management Commons, and the Sports Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
https://spiral.lynn.edu/etds/125

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Work at SPIRAL. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student Theses, Dissertations, Portfolios and Projects by an authorized administrator of SPIRAL. For more information, please contact liadarola@lynn.edu.
A History of Athletics: Lynn University
And It’s Predecessors

A Graduate Project

In Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for a
Masters of Science Degree in Sports and Athletics Administration

Graduate School
Lynn University

By

Chris Emerson

May 2000
HISTORY OF ATHLETICS
LYNN UNIVERSITY
AND ITS PREDECESSORS
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn University</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue and White Club</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Facilities</td>
<td>7-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Master Plan</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Directors</td>
<td>12-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. McCusker</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Malfitano</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Champions</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCAA Acceptance Letter</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine State Conference</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSC Agreement</td>
<td>19-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Soccer</td>
<td>22-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Soccer</td>
<td>25-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>29-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball</td>
<td>32-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Basketball</td>
<td>36-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Tennis</td>
<td>39-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Tennis</td>
<td>41-42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Golf</td>
<td>43-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Golf</td>
<td>45-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>47-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>49-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>51-52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheerleaders</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predecessors</td>
<td>54-56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronology</td>
<td>57-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

The athletic program at Lynn University is an integral part of the total University environment. Lynn University sponsors a broad-based intercollegiate athletic program fielding teams in 15 varsity sports. Lynn's student athletes compete in men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's tennis, baseball, softball, women's volleyball, and men's and women's crew.

Beginning with the 1994-95 academic year, Lynn University began competing as an NCAA Division II institution while also competing in the NAIA. The Fighting Knights became eligible for NCAA championships in 1996-97. Lynn University has won 11 NAIA National Championships and four NCAA National Championships. In 1997, Lynn was invited to join the Sunshine State Conference.
LYNN UNIVERSITY

Lynn University, founded in 1962 as Marymount College, is a small but growing private, coeducational university devoted to providing both high academic standards and the means for development of individual talents and interests. The 2,000 students enrolled in 1998-99 come from all parts of the United States and from over 70 other countries. Over 700 students live on the residential campus. The University’s accent, both academically and socially, is on the individual.

The University is located in one of the most desirable upscale communities in southeast Florida - three miles from the beaches of the Atlantic Ocean, midway between Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale. Boca Raton is a progressive area with tremendous economic potential and is quickly becoming one of the nation’s leading centers of industry. Facilities of IBM, Siemens, Mitel, Pratt & Whitney, Motorola, Burroughs, and similar companies are located just a few miles from the university, providing excellent employment opportunities for its graduates.
The excellent faculty at Lynn University is thoroughly committed to teaching and is readily accessible to students. The University has a very favorable student-faculty ratio of 20:1. Individualized attention is emphasized, and students are challenged as well as nurtured appropriately. A freshman mentoring program insures a solid transition to University life.

The core curriculum at the University is designed to provide every student with a sound foundation in the major areas of knowledge through a selection of mandatory and elective courses in computers, English, the humanities, math and science, and the social and behavioral sciences. Upon this base, students build specialized competence in their chosen areas of concentration.

An extensive program of activities complements the academic program. Students may choose from a variety of campus organizations and activities, which include student government, co-curricular clubs and organizations, a newspaper and radio station, and varsity and intramural athletics.

Lynn University has four dormitories for students who choose to live on-campus. The Lynn Dormitory provides housing for upperclassmen, and also houses the campus fitness center. There is plenty of parking available for students who wish to bring automobiles. There is also a laundromat, a full service mailroom, two swimming pools, tennis courts, intramural fields and two recreation basketball courts.
THE BLUE AND WHITE CLUB

Lynn University has benefited over the years from the support of the Blue and White Club, the fund-raising arm of the University's intercollegiate athletic program. Lynn has excelled at helping its athletes achieve success in both intercollegiate sports and academic endeavors. The Blue and White Club's purpose is to generate in-house and donation-related income to support the University's athletic programs.

Board Members of the 1998-99 Blue and White Club.
Front Row, L-R: Nan Beaty, Murray Stein, Denise Murphy, Camille Snyder, Dr. John Phillips.
Back Row, L-R: Dr. Richard Peskin, Dr. John Cristake, Dana Van Pelt, Andrew Kirsch, Jack Cohen, Densel Raines, Tim McDulcin.

The Blue and White Club welcomed more than 200 members in its first year, and now has over 300 members. Any financial contribution to the Blue and White Club will help ensure that the student-athletes at Lynn University can continue their quest for excellence both in academic and athletic arenas. There are several different types of athletic gifts for the Blue and White Club. Undesignated gifts are used for the overall athletic program. Designated gifts are used for a particular sport. Matching gifts are gifts that are matched from a company. Gifts-in-kind might include building materials, grounds maintenance, or sports equipment. Endowments and deferred gifts include scholarships, insurance policies and bequests.
THE FACILITIES

Lynn University boasts some of the most advanced and comprehensive facilities in the country. The beautiful weather in South Florida combined with an expert facilities maintenance staff keeps the fields, courts and floors of Lynn in excellent condition and looking beautiful. The soccer field is consistently chosen as host sight for either the men’s or women’s National Soccer Championships. A wall of shrubs in the outfield of the baseball field helps give the appearance of a major league ball park. The new DeHoernle Sports and Cultural Center is one of the finer multi-use facilities in the country.

The Count and Countess de Hoernle Sports and Cultural Center.

The Count and Countess de Hoernle Sports and Cultural Center is the home to the men’s and women’s basketball teams, as well as the women’s volleyball team. The de Hoernle Center has four locker rooms, a weight room and a stage for non-athletic performances. The training room for all athletics is also located in the Center. The de Hoernle Center has a seating capacity of over 1,500.
The lobby of the Count and Countess de Hoernle Sports and Cultural Center holds the Lynn University athletics championship trophies.

National Championship banners are hung in the Count and Countess de Hoernle Sports and Cultural Center.
The McCusker Sports Complex is a combination of the swimming pools, tennis courts, soccer field, baseball field and the softball field. The soccer field has a capacity of 500, but can be expanded to 2000 for the National Championships. The baseball field has a capacity of 500 and the softball field can hold over 200 people.

The soccer field during the 1998 Women's Soccer NCAA National Championship.

The Lynn University baseball field, Spring 1999.
There are currently six tennis courts located on the Lynn University campus. The golf teams play and practice on local country clubs in the Boca Raton area.
THE LYNN UNIVERSITY MASTER PLAN

The future for Lynn University looks very bright as plans to expand are currently in development. Due to current restrictions in the general area, Lynn may not offer any lighted outdoor fields. Plans are developing for lighted soccer baseball and softball fields, as well as lighted tennis courts and new academic buildings and student housing buildings. In the Fall of 1999, the new swimming pool was completed.

1 - Eugene M. & Christine E. Library
2 - Ronald & Kathleen ASSAF Center
3 - Proposed Chapel
4 - Administrative Office Building
5 - Schmidt College Center
6 - Lynn Student Center
6a - Proposed Expansion of the Christine Room
7 - Proposed Culinary Institute
8 - Count & Countess de Hoernle Sports & Cultural Center
9 - Count & Countess de Hoernle Residence Center
10 - Eugene M. & Christine E. Residence Center
11 - Trinity Hall
12 - Frierburger Hall
13 - Proposed Residence Hall
14 - Proposed Residence Hall
15 - Proposed Residence Hall
16 - Proposed Residence Hall
17 - Ritter Academic Center
18 - Proposed Health/Science Academic Center
19 - Proposed Center for the Arts
20 - Maintenance
21 - McCusker Athletic Complex
22 - Proposed Conference Center & Alumni Inn
23 - Parking Structure
24 - Administrative Offices
   a - School of Hospitality, Tourism, Recreation
   b - Professional, Continuing & Graduate Studies
   c - Pine Tree Camps
25 - Preserve
26 - Proposed Lighted Baseball Field
27 - Proposed Lighted Soccer Fields
28 - Proposed Unlighted Softball Field
29 - Recreation Pool
30 - Competition Pool
31 - Proposed Snyder Pelota/Handball Court
32 - Proposed Lighted Tennis Courts
33 - Proposed Faculty/Staff Housing
34 - Count & Countess de Hoernle International Center
35 - Unlighted Soccer Field
36 - University Bookstore

The Master Plan.
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

DR. RICHARD YOUNG

Dr. Dick Young has the experience and a record of achievement that make him a tremendous asset to the Fighting Knights’ emerging athletic program. Dr. Young came to Lynn from Florida International University, where he helped the Golden Panthers become a regional Division I power.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Young earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Ohio State University while earning two letters as a defensive back under legendary head football coach Woody Hayes. The Buckeyes won the 1954 Big Ten Championship, 1955 Rose Bowl and NCAA Division I Championship in Young’s senior season.

After serving three years as a naval aviator, Dr. Young returned to his alma mater to complete his master’s degree in education in 1959 while acting as a graduate assistant football coach. After earning his master’s degree, he was named baseball coach at Bowling Green State University, compiling a 181-146-6 record between 1959 and 1971. He was also named the freshman football coach from 1960-1968 (35-5) and was defensive backfield coach in 1959, when Bowling Green won the NCAA Small College Championship.

Dr. Young became a tenured professor and administrative assistant in Health, Physical Education and Athletics at Bowling Green, holding that position until 1971, when he was named acting chairman of the department. He became BGSU’s Athletic Director later that year, earning a doctoral degree in Educational Administration in 1975. In 1978, Dr. Young became the athletic director at Oklahoma State University, where he hired former University of Miami and current Miami Dolphin head coach Jimmy Johnson to turn the Cowboys’ football program around. Five years later, he was named director of athletics at Washington State University where he remained until 1987 before relocating to Miami and Florida International University.
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

1983-84  Shada Overton
1984-85  Shada Overton
1985-86  Roy Wiggemansen
1986-87  Roy Wiggemansen
1987-88  Roy Wiggemansen
1988-89  Roy Wiggemansen
1989-90  Paul Turner
1990-91  Paul Turner
1991-92  Paul Turner
1992-93  Paul Turner/Dr. Richard Young
1993-94  Dr. Richard Young
1994-95  Dr. Richard Young
1995-96  Dr. Richard Young
1996-97  Dr. Richard Young
1997-98  Dr. Richard Young
1998-99  Dr. Richard Young
1999-00  Dr. Richard Young
2000-01  Dr. Richard Young

RICHARD P. MCCUSKER

There is no other person in the history of Lynn University Athletics as prominent as Dick McCusker. McCusker, for whom Lynn’s McCusker Sports Complex is named, passed away on April 26, 1994 after a prolonged battle with cancer. He was a member of the university’s board of trustees since 1973. He served as secretary, vice chairman and chairman. He was involved in the school’s transition from Marymount College to the College of Boca Raton in the early ‘70s then to Lynn University in 1991. He is the first and only inductee into Lynn University’s Boca Raton Sports Hall of Fame which occurred in 1993.

One of Dick McCusker’s major goals was building school spirit through the development of the athletic programs. He loved sports and sporting events; and he believed that athletics help students to build character. The fledgling athletic programs grew and he was there on the sidelines to help them grow. He personally knew the coaches and the players by name. He saw many of his dreams come true, including the creation of the McCusker Sports Complex. Dick McCusker was one of the driving forces that led the university in the development of Lynn’s Nationally recognized athletic program.
GREG MALFITANO

Dean of Administration Greg Malfitano has been and continues to be a major part of Lynn University Athletics since the early 1970's. Dean Malfitano came to Marymount College as a student in 1972. He began working part-time in 1973, and became the Director of Residential Life in 1975.

Greg Malfitano cites the name changes from Marymount College to the College of Boca Raton, and from the College of Boca Raton to Lynn University as some of his finest memories. Also, the additions and dedications of all the new buildings on campus have formulated great memories for him. His greatest sports memory is the first National Championship in Men's Soccer in 1987.

Malfitano feels the most significant events in Lynn Athletics history are the joining of the NAIA and the transition to the NCAA Division II. “I think that joining the NCAA Division II is probably the most important event in athletic history at Lynn, but the school and the NAIA had a good marriage for 11 years.” Malfitano said.

Malfitano sees the future of Lynn Athletics as very bright. He thinks the school has a huge future, and hopes Lynn will continue to be a highly recognized NCAA Division II school in all sports. He hopes that the school will continue to build facilities, raise endowments, and attract quality coaches who believe in the small private school and are good role models. He hopes to see the Lynn University Master Plan implemented in the near future. “New facilities, like lighted baseball, soccer and softball fields will afford us the opportunity to attract a wider range of spectators and families to the sporting events at Lynn University.”
Since beginning intercollegiate play in 1983, Lynn University has been a very dominate force in both the NAIA and the NCAA. National Champions have been crowned in Men’s Soccer, Women’s Soccer, Men’s Golf, Women’s Golf, and Women’s Tennis. The first National Championship came in 1987 as coach Roy Wiggemansen led the Men’s soccer team to the title.

**NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**

1987  
Men’s Soccer  
- Roy Wiggemansen

1991  
Men’s Soccer  
- Shaun Pendleton

1992  
Women’s Soccer  
- Jim Blankenship

1993  
Women’s Tennis  
- Mike Perez

1994  
Women’s Soccer  
- Jim Blankenship

1995  
Women’s Golf  
- Gregg Cox  
Women’s Tennis  
- Mike Perez

1996  
Women’s Soccer  
- Jim Blankenship  
Men’s Golf  
- Eric Abreu  
Women’s Golf  
- Gregg Cox  
Women’s Tennis  
- Mike Perez

1994 - 1995 NAIA National Championship Coaches: Mike Perez, Gregg Cox, Jim Blankenship.

**NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**

1997  
Women’s Golf  
- Gregg Cox  
Women’s Tennis  
- Mike Perez

1998  
Women’s Tennis  
- Mike Perez  
Women’s Soccer  
- Rocky Orezzoli
January 20, 1994

Mr. Donald E. Ross
President
Lynn University
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Dear President Ross:

It is my privilege to confirm that the NCAA Division II membership, at its January 10 meeting, approved your institution’s request for a waiver of the Division II membership criteria. Subsequently, the NCAA Division II Steering Committee elected your institution to an active membership in this Association effective September 1, 1994. Lynn University will be classified as Division II in all sports.

In accordance with NCAA Bylaw 20.2.4, to be eligible for NCAA championships immediately following the September 1 on which an institution’s election to membership becomes effective, the institution shall have operated in conformity with the membership criteria of Bylaw 20 applicable to its division for a period of two years. Since your institution has projected its compliance with the Division II criteria beginning with the 1994-95 academic year, it will be eligible for NCAA Division II championship competition beginning with the 1996-97 academic year.

As a new member, I thought you might wish to have the enclosed copy of the 1993-94 NCAA Manual. Your name and the names of your institution’s director of athletics, faculty athletics representative and senior woman athletics administrator will be added to our mailing list shortly.

We are delighted to welcome Lynn University as an active member of the NCAA. If at any time this office can be of assistance, we hope you will not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

Shirley Whitacre
Membership Coordinator

SW:sdc

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James D. Matthews
Ms. Eleanor McCotter
Mr. Richard A. Young
Lynn University joined the Sunshine State Conference in 1997. Lynn was ineligible for the conference championships during its first year of competition. The 1998-99 season was the first season that the Fighting Knights were eligible to participate in conference rankings and statistics.

The Sunshine State Conference was founded in 1975, and has risen from a single sport organization to the Division II “Conference of National Champions.” Since its inception, the conference has grown steadily in the variety of sports played, membership and national prominence. Sunshine State conference schools have won NCAA national championships (41 total) in baseball, softball, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s basketball, men’s and women’s tennis, and women’s volleyball and are nationally recognized in women’s basketball, women’s rowing and cross country as well.

The Sunshine State Conference sponsors championships in 14 sports. These sports include: baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s soccer, women’s rowing, men’s and women’s tennis, women’s volleyball and softball. Member schools include: Barry University (Miami Shores); Eckerd College, (St. Petersburg); Florida Tech, (Melbourne); Florida Southern College, (Lakeland); Lynn University (Boca Raton); Rollins College (Winter Park); Saint Leo College (Saint Leo); and the University of Tampa (Tampa).
Review Period:
1. Lynn University's first three years in the Sunshine State Conference ("SSC") will consist of a "review period." The review period shall commence on July 1, 1997, and terminate on June 30, 2000. At the conclusion of this three (3) year period and contingent on final acceptance by the Executive Committee of the SSC, fulfillment of all criteria outlined in this Letter of Agreement, and the resolution of any areas of concern identified during the review period, Lynn University will be eligible for regular membership in the SSC.
2. Lynn University shall abide by all NCAA and SSC rules, including the administration and submission of all required forms.
3. Beginning on July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1998 (the first fiscal year of the review period), Lynn University may have a non-voting representative on all SSC committees.
4. Lynn University will have full voting privileges within the SSC beginning with the start of the 1998-99 fiscal year which commences on July 1, 1998, and thereafter throughout the remainder of the review period.
5. Lynn University must submit to the Executive Committee of the SSC by October 1, 1997 nine (9) copies of the institutional self-study as well as other documents, submitted to the NCAA as part of the initial application for NCAA Division II membership. Included should be a report on the areas identified in the self study in which the institution believes it is not in compliance with NCAA and/or SSC regulations or any criteria for membership.

Compliance
1. Lynn University shall immediately request an NCAA Compliance Review. This review must be completed by May 1, 1998 and submit all the findings to the SSC.
2. By October 15, 1997, the institution must submit to the Executive Committee of the SSC nine (9) copies of the Gender Equity Report which is due to the NCAA on the same date. An action plan and timetable for meeting compliance with Federal Law and/or State Law related thereto shall be included. Subsequent Gender Equity Reports shall be submitted to the SSC during each year of the review period.

Sports Sponsorships:
1. Lynn University shall sponsor varsity-level women's volleyball and softball beginning with fiscal year commencing July 1, 1997, and thereafter.
2. Lynn University will not be eligible for Sunshine State Conference championships, honors or awards for the first fiscal year of the review period (i.e. beginning on July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1998) and will not be included in the conference statistics.
3. Lynn University shall schedule as many games as possible against Sunshine State Conference Schools in the 1997-98 fiscal year.
4. Beginning with the fiscal year 1998-99 (i.e. June 1, 1998, through July 1, 1999), Lynn University teams will be fully merged into the conference schedules and will be eligible for all SSC championships and honors.

**Academics:**
During the three (3) year review period, Lynn University shall submit to the SSC, all academic data requested under the "Year End Report" section as described below.

**Facilities:**
1. Lynn University must have lights installed by January 1, 2000 on the institution's softball field, baseball field, and soccer field. If Lynn University fails to have such lights installed by such date, all of Lynn University's, conference home games or matches must be played at off-campus sites with lights.
2. Lynn University must have its baseball and softball facilities meet conference standards by January 1, 1999, as determined by the conference committee appointed by the commissioner.

**Dues and Revenue:**
1. Beginning July 1, 1997, Lynn University will pay to the SSC the Annual dues and any special assessments approved and/or assessed by the Executive Committee.
2. Any distribution to or sharing of by Lynn University of any NCAA funds or proceeds (e.g., enhancement funds) paid directly to the SSC will be determined solely by the Executive Committee of the SSC.

**Buy-in Fee:**
1. Lynn University will pay a $38,000 buy-in fee that may be paid in three installments:
   - a. 50% Before July 1, 1997
   - b. 30% before July 1, 1998
   - c. 20% before July 1, 1999
2. In the event of a less than satisfactory review by the Executive Committee of the SSC of Lynn University's membership status during the three (3) year review period and subsequent cancellation of Lynn University's SSC membership, two-thirds of the buy-in fee or any portion thereof actually paid by Lynn University shall be refunded to Lynn University by the SSC.

**Year-End Reports:**
A year-end review of Lynn University's membership status will be conducted by the SSC Executive Committee of the SSC during their spring meeting for each of the three years comprising the review period. As part of this annual review process, Lynn University must provide at the time of the spring meeting, nine (9) copies of the following documents:
1. Any reports required by the NCAA during the institution's three (3) year review period.
2. For the year just completed and for the upcoming academic year: sports sponsorship, competitive schedules, athletics' personnel changes (including changes in FTEs, as well as resumes for new hires).
3. For the year just completed: team rosters, NCAA squad list reports, the academic profile of the student-athletes by team (i.e., average high school and college GPAs and National Test scores (ACT, SAT, SATI) for all new and transfer student-athletes, cum team GPAs, a composite summary of the number of student-athletes identified as "qualifiers," "partial qualifiers," and non-qualifiers out of high school, number of "special admits") and confirmation of attendance at the NCAA Convention, a regional rules seminar and a gender equity seminar (including a list of names and titles for each institutional representative in attendance).

4. A status report on those criteria met and not met in the institution's initial self-study and action plan Gender Equity Report for achieving NCAA/SSC active membership and compliance with the NCAA/SSC regulations and recommendations as well as the NCAA's Compliance Review and Division II Certification Review. Justifications for those criteria not met, as well as any revisions to these plans, timetables, etc., should be included as part of the status report.

**Compliance with Constitution and By-Laws of the SSC**

Lynn University hereby agrees to fully comply with all the terms and provisions of the constitution and By-Laws of the SSC, as currently in existence as may be amended.

---

**Acceptance By Lynn University**

On behalf of Lynn University, I, Donald E. Ross, President, hereby accept the offer of the SSC to become a member of the SSC pursuant to the terms of this Letter of Agreement and the "Provisions for Acceptance" attached hereto as Exhibit "A". I represent a warrant that I have the approval, if required, of the Board of Trustees for Lynn University and other governing body whose approval is needed for this acceptance. I further represent and warrant that I have the full right, power and authority to accept this offer, to enter this Letter Agreement and to sign this Letter Agreement as President of Lynn University.

---

Lynn University

Dr. Donald E. Ross, President

Date: 12/13/96

---

Sunshine State Conference

BY:

Don Landry, Commissioner

Date: 12/18/96
Roy Wiggemansen came to the College of Boca Raton in 1983 to start the Men's Soccer Program. Wiggemansen led the school to its first ever National Championship in any sport in 1987. Over his four year career at the school, Wiggemansen amassed a record of 123-18-10. Robbie Church would coach the team in 1990, and post a record of 17-4-2. Shaun Pendleton took over the program in 1991, and led the team to the National Championship that same year. Through the 1999 season, Pendleton has compiled a record of 163-24-11, and consistently kept the team ranked in the top five in the country.

![Coach Pendleton talks to his players during 1994 season.](image)

**MEN'S SOCCER YEAR BY YEAR RECORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>9-5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>15-3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>20-3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>19-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>23-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>19-0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>18-5-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>17-4-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>22-0-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>20-3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>23-1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>18-6-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>16-4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>12-4-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>19-2-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>19-1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>15-3-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Since coming to Lynn, Coach Shaun Pendleton’s teams have been a model of success. The Fighting Knights won the NAIA title in his first year, 1991, lost in the finals in each of the next two seasons, advanced to the NCAA Division II Championship in 1997, and spent the entire 1998 season ranked #1 in the country before losing in the National Quarterfinals.

Morten Kristensen plays the ball as Byron Warner and Gareth Dunn look on during the 1997 NCAA Division II National Championship.

1984 -- NAIA
Gus Pardo............2nd team

1985 -- NAIA
Mark Wright.........2nd team
Euclides de Gouvia..3rd team

1986 -- NAIA
Paul Newman.........1st team
Mark Vermeulen.....1st team

1987 -- NAIA
Mark Vermeulen.....1st team
Michael Arajou.......2nd team
Euclides de Gouvia..3rd team

1989 -- NAIA
Richard Cardosa.....1st team
Ivan McKinley........1st team
Warren DuPont.......2nd team

1990 -- NAIA
Ivan McKinley.........1st team
Richard Cardosa.......2nd team
Lenin Steenkamp.......3rd team

1991 -- NAIA
Lenin Steenkamp.......1st team
Darren Read...........2nd team

1992 -- NAIA
Lenin Steenkamp.......1st team
Shawn Exsteen........2nd team
Nathan Gibson.......2nd team

1993 -- NAIA
Nathan Gibson.......1st team
Richard Hasse.........2nd team
Darren Read..........2nd team

1994 -- NAIA
Jakob Lorentzon.....1st team
Ian Hindmarsh.......1st team
Joe Schafer..........1st team

1995 -- NAIA
Jakob Lorentzon.....1st team
Ian Hindmarsh.......1st team

1996 -- NCAA Division II
Darren Warham.......2nd team

1997 -- NCAA Division II
Darren Warham.......1st team
Gareth Dunn.........2nd team

1998 - NCAA Division II
Darren Warham.......1st team
Gareth Dunn.........2nd team
When asked what attracted him to Lynn University, coach Pendleton replied, "The opportunity to win a National Championship, and the chance to coach at a Nationally ranked program." "At Lynn, I was fortunate to get the chance to coach a high caliber program that has a winning tradition and is recognized as one of the top programs in the country at any level."

Coach Pendleton's greatest memory at Lynn is winning the 1991 National Championship, and the best player he coached was Lenin Steenkamp, who played at Lynn from 1989-1992.

Coach Pendleton talks to his players during 1997 National Semi-Final.

Coach Pendleton sees National Championships in the future. "Lynn men's soccer would like to continue to compete at the highest level in NCAA Division II with the goal to win the National Title."

Pendleton attributes the success of Lynn men's soccer to the past history of the program and the reputation that has been built over the years.

Pendleton was voted NAIA Coach of the Year in 1991 and NCAA Division II South Region Coach of the Year in 1996, and Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year in 1999. Pendleton is a firm believer in education. Evident, in fact that since taking over the Lynn program, his teams have continually maintained over a 3.0 grade point average.
The Women’s Soccer program at Lynn University began intercollegiate competition in 1986, and has never posted a losing record. Jim Blankenship started the program, and coached the team for the first twelve seasons, leading the team to three NAIA National Titles. Blankenship posted an overall record of 199 wins, 37 losses and 8 ties. Blankenship departed Lynn after the 1997 season to begin the women’s soccer program at the University of Miami.

WOMEN’S SOCCER - YEAR BY YEAR RECORDS

1986...............7-7-1
1987...............13-4-0
1988...............10-5-0
1989...............11-5-1
1990...............17-3-0
1991...............16-4-0
1992...............21-2-1

1993...............17-3-2
1994...............24-0-1
1995...............24-1-1
1996...............20-1-0
1997...............19-2-1
1998...............19-1-0
1999...............11-4-0
After serving as an assistant coach for the Fighting Knights for 5 seasons, Rocky Orezzoli became the second head coach in the history of the Lynn University women’s soccer program in 1998. In his first season as head coach, Orezzoli led the Fighting Knights to an impressive 19-1 record. The team suffered only one loss on route to its first NCAA Division II National Championship.

1998 National Champions celebrate after championship game.

PAST ALL-AMERICANS

1987 -- NAIA
Tracy Roberts......1st team

1988 -- NAIA
Tracy Roberts......1st team
Suzie Womack.....2nd team

1989 -- NAIA
Annmarie Hebling...1st team
Suzie Womack......2nd team
Mickey Reigler.....2nd team

1990 -- NAIA
Peppy Albrecht.....1st team
Mickey Reigler......1st team
Suzie Womack.........1st team

1991 -- NAIA
Holly Nay..............1st team
Mickey Reigler......1st team
Peppy Albrecht......2nd team

1992 - NAIA
Peppy Albrecht.....1st team
Holly Nay..............1st team
Dorte Nielsen.........1st team

1993 - NAIA
Lene Hansen.........1st team
Dorte Nielsen.........1st team

1994 - NAIA
Joyce Parson-Roth....1st team
Cindy Marcial.........1st team
Hanne Nissen.........1st team

1995 -- NAIA
Hanne Nissen.........1st team
Cindy Marcial.........1st team
Lene Terp................1st team
Adele Talamo..............2nd team

1996 -- NCAA DIVISION II
Katie Katzmark........1st team
Marie Kolbert........1st team
Keri Remillard.........1st team
Karin Svensson.........1st team

1997 -- NCAA DIVISION II
Marie Kolbert........1st team
Jannie Nicolaisen......1st team

1998 -- NCAA DIVISION II
Jannie Nicolaisen......1st team
Marie Kolbert.........2nd team
Rocky Orezzoli came to Lynn University because of the opportunity to coach a high level college team. He had been coaching (with Jim Blankenship) the Team Boca Travel Club when he was asked by Blankenship to help coach the women’s soccer team.

According to Orezzoli, the future of women’s soccer at Lynn looks fantastic - “I hope to maintain a high level of play, continuing to play the top teams in the country. Hopefully we will win another National Title soon, and continue to be one of the top ranked teams in NCAA Division II.”

“I have a lot of tremendous memories as both an assistant coach and a head coach at Lynn, but winning the 1998 National Championship is my greatest memory,” Orezzoli said.

Both Orezzoli and former coach Jim Blankenship agree that Hanne Nissen, who played for Lynn from 1994 to 1995 has been the best player to come through Lynn. “Hanne was an incredible player on the field, and she had the greatest character off the field,” Blankenship said.

Blankenship came to Lynn in 1986 because of his good friend, then men’s soccer coach Roy Wiggemansen. “Someone else was supposed to coach the team, but Roy
Blankenship asked me to come and look at the program, I was trying to place a couple of players in college at the time, and Lynn seemed to be the perfect fit for me,” Blankenship said.

Blankenship’s fondest memory is winning the school’s first National Championship in 1992. “We were the underdog. We were playing at Pacific-Lutheran in Tocoma, Washington, and they were ranked number one in the country. It was snowing, and we weren’t expected to win, but we pulled the game out, 1-0.”

Blankenship sees the future to be very bright at Lynn with Orezzoli at the helm. “Rocky is a great coach, and he has a great personality and relationship with his players. What they accomplished last year, winning the first NCAA Division II National Championship, was a great feat. It has definitely set the tone for years to come.”

Blankenship left Lynn after the 1997 season to become the head coach at the University of Miami. “I took the job at Miami because of the opportunity to coach at the highest level in this country. I would like to build a successful program in South Florida, a program that will mirror many things from the Lynn program. Miami is also an academically challenging school.”

Lynn players celebrate after scoring a goal in 1998 National Semi-Final Game vs. Franklin-Pierce College.
Lynn University's seventh baseball coach Gregg Kilby is considered by many to be one of the top young baseball coaches in the country. Kilby worked for two of the top programs in the nation at Clemson and Nevada, and he brought that success to Lynn. Kilby came to Lynn University in 1997 from the University of Nevada, where he served as an assistant coach for one season. The WolfPack finished 30-19 that year and were ranked as high as 13th nationally. Kilby began his collegiate coaching career at Clemson, where the Tigers posted a 111-32 record during his tenure, won two Atlantic Coast Conference championships and advanced to the College World Series in 1995.

1998 Baseball Team.

SINGLE SEASON INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Batting Average</td>
<td>Brad Fairholm</td>
<td>.451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Runs</td>
<td>Jerry Baker</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runs Batted In</td>
<td>Tony Kurtz</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stolen Bases</td>
<td>Brad Fairholm</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Run Average</td>
<td>Donnie Bivens</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strikeouts</td>
<td>Everton Griffiths</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wins</td>
<td>Donnie Bivins</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saves</td>
<td>Jesse Kapellusch</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YEAR BY YEAR RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Coach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>28-22</td>
<td>Harry Christianson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>32-19</td>
<td>Harry Christianson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>22-20</td>
<td>Harry Christianson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>18-27</td>
<td>Jim Lytle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>24-21</td>
<td>Jim Lytle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>29-18</td>
<td>Joe DiBenedetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>35-9</td>
<td>Joe DiBenedetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>31-17</td>
<td>Joe DiBenedetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>37-10</td>
<td>Paul Turner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>28-23</td>
<td>Sal Giardina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>21-33</td>
<td>Tony Casas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>28-27</td>
<td>Tony Casas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>41-19</td>
<td>Tony Casas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>29-24</td>
<td>Gregg Kilby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>16-36-1</td>
<td>Gregg Kilby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>29-25</td>
<td>Gregg Kilby</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Brant St. Louis pitches while James Davis plays shortstop during 1998 season.

CAREER INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Batting Average</td>
<td>.409.............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brad Fairholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1989-91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Runs</td>
<td>32..............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ed Sisko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1987-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runs Batted In</td>
<td>174.............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ed Sisko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1987-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stolen Bases</td>
<td>66..............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brad Fairholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1989-91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Run Average</td>
<td>2.32.............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keith Elrod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1989-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strikeouts</td>
<td>206.............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Everton Griffith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1995-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wins</td>
<td>23..............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donnie Bivins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996-97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saves</td>
<td>10..............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jesse Kapellusch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1997-xx</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gregg Kilby came to Lynn University because of the location, a great baseball conference, and the Athletic Philosophy of the school. “I really liked Lynn University’s commitment to its athletic program,” Kilby said.

“My two greatest memories from Lynn include sweeping Florida Southern at their place during my first year - 1997, and beating defending National Champion Tampa two out of three games during 1999 season, which led to a national ranking of #11,” Kilby says.

The outstanding player that Kilby has coached at Lynn is Jan Ramos, who was a Freshman during the 1999 season.

Kilby sees the Lynn baseball program heading in the right direction. “I feel that we are going to be one of the top teams in the Sunshine State Conference year in and year out, and we should be fighting for a National Championship every year.”

Gregg Kilby’s greatest sports memory is coaching in the College World Series with Clemson University in Omaha, Nebraska in 1995.
MEN'S BASKETBALL

Jeff Price came to Lynn University in 1993 to start the Men's Basketball program, and built one of the top collegiate programs in the nation. Few college coaches can boast a record as impressive. The Knights won 136 games, an average of 23 wins per season, and the team advanced to postseason each of the program's 6 years of existence under Price. Through the 1998-99 season, Price had a career record of 136-41 at Lynn. The Knights set a school record in 1997 with 28 wins and only 3 losses, losing in the semi-finals of the Elite Eight in Louisville.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
YEAR BY YEAR
RECORDS

1993-94..........................23-7
1994-95..........................22-8
1995-96..........................16-11
1996-97..........................28-3
1997-98..........................23-7

Jeff Price earned his 100th career victory in just 4 1/2 years as the Fighting Knights head coach.
Quantas Simmons slam dunks during 1997-98 season.

LYNN BASKETBALL ALUMNI PLAYING PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL

Chris Davis
Jarron Jones
Offir Kuchly
Demetris Montgomery
Coy Patterson
Arteus Sullivan

ALL-TIME POST SEASON RESULTS

1998-99.....NCAA South Regional Finals
1997-98.....NCAA South Regional Finals
1996-97.....NCAA National Semifinals NCAA South Regional Champs
1995-96.....NAIA South Regional
1994-95.....NAIA South Regional Finals
1993-94.....NAIA National Tournament NAIA Eastern Regional Champs

Men’s Basketball action during 1994-95 season.
In March, 1999, Jeff Price stepped down as Lynn University’s men’s basketball coach to take the position of head coach at Georgia Southern University. It took the University only three weeks to find the right man to replace Coach Price, and the man chosen was Andy Russo. Russo was formerly the head basketball coach at Florida Tech, where he compiled a 125-94 record in eight seasons with the Panthers. In addition, he received conference honors by being named Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year twice and led Tech to five straight top-three finishes in the conference.

Before taking over the Melbourne program, Russo coached in the Italian Basketball League from 1989 to 1991. He had a stint with the Washington Huskies program for four years. Russo is perhaps most remembered for building the Louisiana Tech program into a power in the mid 1980s and helping NBA superstar Karl Malone develop in his college years at Louisiana Tech.
Jeff Price came to Lynn University to start the Men's Basketball program in 1993. "I liked the opportunity to start my own program. South Florida is a great area and a good area to recruit to. The administration at Lynn is great and they are committed to winning."

Price's greatest memory from coaching at Lynn is taking the team to the NCAA Division II Final Four in 1997, and feels the best player that he coached at Lynn was Arteus Sullivan.

Andy Russo's reasons for coming to Lynn were the opportunity to win, and the commitment to winning and sports in general at the school. South Florida was also an appealing place to live for Coach Russo.

Coach Russo's worst memory from playing against Lynn was in 1993, when the Fighting Knights defeated Russo's Florida Tech team to win their first ever game.

Coach Russo sees a bright future for Lynn Men's Basketball. "I think we can be National contenders every year, certainly Conference contenders - because any team that can contend in our conference will be National contenders."
Dan Olson was hired in 1993 to start the Women's Basketball program at Lynn University, and quickly turned the program into a national powerhouse. During three seasons as head coach, Olson led the team to an impressive record of 67 wins and 18 losses, and guided the team into the NAIA playoffs all three seasons. In the first season, the Fighting Knights won the Southeast Region of the NAIA playoffs, and advanced to the NAIA National Championships before falling to Mary University.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL YEAR BY YEAR RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>24-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>21-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>22-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>17-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>8-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>11-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cheryl Feeney took over the reigns as Head Women's Basketball Coach in 1996. During her first season, the Fighting Knights posted a 17-10 record, with a home record of 12-2. In her second season, and Lynn's first season playing a full Sunshine State Conference schedule, Lynn finished the season with a record of 8-18. Feeney left the position of Head Coach after she was promoted to be executive director of the school's Blue and White Club.
1996-98 Women’s Basketball Coach Cheryl Feeney came to Lynn because of the opportunity to work in college athletics. “I was teaching public schools in the area. I came to see a game one time during the holidays and was impressed with the school and the friendly people.”

“My greatest memory from coaching at Lynn was when we went to the University of Alabama’s Holiday Tournament, and we beat NW Louisiana to play the University of Alabama, the eighth ranked team in the country at the time,” Feeney said.

![Coach Cheryl Feeney talks to her players during 1997-98 season.](image)

The best player Feeney ever coached at Lynn was Debra Williams, who played at Lynn during the 1996-97 season.

Feeney sees the future of Lynn Women’s Basketball and Coach Celia Slater as very bright. “Recruiting is going very well, they are getting back on the right track. The Sunshine State Conference is very competitive, and I think Lynn will be very competitive in the future. Lynn now has a good coaching staff in place.”

Feeney came to Lynn with the understanding that she would work in Athletics Administration, toward which she moved after the 1997-98 season.
Celia Slater was named Lynn University’s third Women’s Basketball Coach in 1998. Slater came to Lynn from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, where she posted a career record of 68-91 over six years. Slater played college basketball for four years, first at Clemson and then at Florida State. Slater then served as an assistant basketball coach at Clemson for one season, and at the University of Alabama for one season.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SINGLE GAME INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Points Scored......51......Shander Gary
vs. Flagler.......2/19/94
Field Goals
Made.............22........Shander Gary
vs. Flagler....1/7/94
Total
Rebounds..27..Christine Richardson
vs. UMass-Dartmouth
1/5/94

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL CAREER RECORDS

Games Played..........109...........Angi Potts.................1994-97
Points Scored......1793.....Christine Richardson..........1994-97
Points Per Game........31.5......Shander Gary...........1994-95
Total Rebounds......1144.....Christine Richardson..........1994-97
Assists...............512.............Angi Potts.................1994-97
Blocked Shots.......182.....Christine Richardson..........1994-97
Steals...............228.............Angi Potts.................1994-97
MEN'S TENNIS

For the past several years, the men's tennis team has established itself as one of the top teams in the nation. The men have won numerous individual national titles. The Fighting Knights quickly gained national attention in the NCAA by placing third in the National Tournament in 1997 and advancing to the regional finals in both 1998 and 1999.

Fabio Masetta serves during 1997 season.

In their first Sunshine State Conference Championship in 1999, the men's tennis team, ranked No. 8 in the country, lost to 2nd-ranked Barry University 5-1 in the championship match. The Fighting Knights crushed Saint Leo 9-0 in the first round, and breezed by No. 6 ranked Florida Southern in the semifinals. The doubles team of Fabio Masetta and Radovan Forgacs spent the entire 1999 season ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division II.
Lynn University Men’s and Women’s tennis coach Mike Perez has been named NAIA/Intercollegiate Tennis Association Women’s Coach of the Year three times, and the NAIA’s Southeast Region’s Coach of the Year. During Coach Perez’s career at Lynn, he has coached over 60 All-American selections.

Coach Mike Perez talks to Ivan Keshinov during 1997 season.

### MIKE PEREZ’S CAREER COACHING RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>17-3</td>
<td>10-10</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>18-2</td>
<td>18-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>18-8</td>
<td>18-9</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>22-1</td>
<td>17-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>11-9</td>
<td>18-6</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>20-0</td>
<td>11-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>21-0</td>
<td>17-4</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>19-6</td>
<td>13-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>18-2</td>
<td>15-5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>185-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>21-1</td>
<td>18-2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Overall Total</td>
<td>338-93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WOMEN’S TENNIS

The Women’s Tennis team has been the most successful of all of the teams at Lynn University. The team won five National Championships in the 1990s. The first Championship came in the NAIA in 1993. The team also won NAIA National Championships in 1995 and 1996. The Women’s tennis team also won National Championships in its first two years of competition in the NCAA.

1998 NCAA Division II National Champions.
L-R: Mike Perez, Julia Jehs, Ali Peshkin, Mariola Prado, Sandy Peshkin, Karolina Triska, Katerina Koldova, Marines Duarte.

1996 NAIA National Champions.
L-R: Marines Duarte, Petra Stankova, Ali Peshkin, Cristina Cavina, Katerina Triska, Mischa Peterova, Mike Perez.
Coach Mike Perez has coached all five National Championship tennis teams, and led the Fighting Knights to a number one ranking through most of the 1999 season, before the team finished fourth in the National Championships. In their first Sunshine State Conference Championship in 1999, the team defeated NCAA 8th ranked Rollins College 5-4 to win the Sunshine State Conference Championship.

![Katarina Koldova](image)

Katarina Koldova, the number one ranked player in NCAA Division II in 1998.

WOMEN’S GOLF


The 1996 NAIA National Champions.
L-R: Christy Sirianni, Erica Kiyota, Josefin Stalvant, Zoe Grimbeek, Wendy Johnson, Gregg Cox.

RECENT WOMEN’S GOLF LOWEST AVERAGE SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Rounds</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>Anna Egertz</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>83.2 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>Josefin Stalvant</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>80.88 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>Josefin Stalvant</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>80.2 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zoe Grimbeek</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>80.5 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>Zoe Grimbeek</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>78.4 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Josefin Stalvant</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>79.4 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>Gioia Tanto</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>79.8 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carin Skold</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>80.1 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>Gioia Tanto</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>79.7 average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carin Skold</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>80.6 average</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dr. Richard Thomas was the first coach for the Lynn University Women's Golf Team. He began the program in 1988. Gregg Cox took over the program for the 1991-92 season. Eric Abreau coached the team during the 1992-93 season, and Gregg Cox reassumed the program since the 1993-94 season.

The opportunity to teach full-time at the college level is what attracted Women’s Golf head coach Gregg Cox to Lynn University. Cox has always liked to play golf, and he was the head coach of teams in the past, so coaching and teaching at Lynn was a perfect fit for Cox.

“My greatest memory from coaching at Lynn was winning the first NAIA National Championship in 1995. I promised the girls that if we won, they could cut off my ponytail, and they did!” Cox said.

The 1998 Women’s Golf Team.
Front Row, L-R: Colette Konicek, Claire Davies, Gioia Tanto, Carin Skold.
Back Row, L-R: Susanne Murtha, Katie Cruise, Erica Kiyota, Pam Landquist, Freska Darlion, Gregg Cox

The best player that Cox has coached at Lynn was Josephine Stalvant, who played from 1994-1997. Cox sees a bright future for the program. “I think we will win another National Championship within the next few years. We have a lot of young players with a lot of talent.”
MEN’S GOLF

The Men’s golf team has enjoyed tremendous success, especially in recent years. The team won the 1996 NAIA National Championship, and has been a strong competitor since joining the NCAA in 1987. Head Coach Eric De Abreau took over the reigns in 1993 from Doctor Richard Thomas, who began coaching the team in 1983. During Lynn’s first season in the Sunshine State Conference, the team placed 5th in the Conference Championship.

Wicus Potgieter practices during 1998 season.

RECENT MEN’S GOLF LOWEST AVERAGE SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Rounds</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>Henrik Nystrom</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>72.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>Alan Fort</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>75.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>Andy Farmer</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>Wicus Potgeiter</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>Wicus Potgeiter</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>75.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>Wicus Potgeiter</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>75.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eric De Abreau came to Lynn in 1985 because of the men’s soccer program, where he also serves as an assistant coach. His greatest memories from Lynn are winning the 1987 and 1991 soccer National Championships, and winning the 1996 NAIA Golf Championship. The best players that De Abreau has ever coached at Lynn are Andrew Farmer, who currently plays for the Scottish Walker Cup Team, and Henrick Nystrom, who is currently playing in the European PGA. De Abreau has high expectations for the Lynn men’s golf team. “I hope to win another National Title.”
1998 was the first season for intercollegiate softball at Lynn University. The first season proved to be a tough season for the Fighting Knights, as the players had to deal with a change of coaches before the first season began. Lindy Binns replaced original coach Cathy Adams in February of 1998, only 36 hours before the season opener.

The Fighting Knights began the 1998 season with only 10 players, and finished their first season with a record of 5-44. The first ever win for the Fighting Knights came on February 18th against Northwood University, 3-0.

The 1999 season was more successful for the softball team. Once again the team started with only 10 players, but the second season for the Fighting Knights proved to be a great improvement over the first season. The team finished with an overall record of 11-33-1, and 2-22 in the Sunshine State Conference. The first win of the season came only four games in, with a 10-6 win at St. Thomas University. The first ever Sunshine State Conference victory came on March 27th, 4-2 at Florida Tech.
Coach Lindy Binns came to Lynn University after coaching stints at Crowder College, Emporia State College, and Neosho County Community. Binns left coaching for an administrative position with the National Association of Inter-Collegiate Athletics (NAIA). Binns' work with the NAIA led to a position with the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

In 1999, Amy Alderman joined the softball team as an assistant coach. She played four seasons of softball for Florida Atlantic University, and assumed the interim Head Coach position in September of 1999.
Women’s Volleyball was added to Lynn University as an intercollegiate varsity sport in 1996. Cathy Adams was hired to coach the volleyball team in 1996, and resigned after the 1997 season. During the 1996 season, Lynn played local colleges like Trinity International, St. Thomas and Palm Beach Atlantic, and finished the season with a record of 0-13. Lynn began competing intercollegiately in 1997, and finished the season with a record of 2-24. The first-ever victory came on October 17th at home vs. Warner Southern.

AnneMarie Cardinale receives the ball as Deanna Canedo and Kristin Fantozzi get into position during the 1998 season.

1997 SEASON HIGHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Player</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kills</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Erin Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assists</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>Linelle Kagawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digs</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>Kristin Fantozzi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blocks</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Erin Stevens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lindy Binns became the new Volleyball coach for the 1998 season. Binns was hired in the spring of 1998 to coach both Volleyball and Softball. The 1998 season proved to be a struggle in the win-loss column, but the Fighting Knights were much more competitive this season than the previous two. 1998 was also the first season that Lynn officially competed in the Sunshine State Conference. The team finished the conference with a record of 0-14, but finished the season with an overall record of 3-22. The first win of the season came against Northwood on October 10th. All three wins were at home, as the Fighting Knights also defeated Georgia Southwestern and Nova Southeastern. Deb Pope was appointed interim head coach in September of 1999 and led the team to a 10-15 record overall and a 3-11 record in the Sunshine State Conference.

Coach Lindy Binns talks to her players during a timeout during the 1998 season.

**1998 SEASON HIGHS**

- Kills.................................258.................................Luciana Freire
- Assists..............................218.................................Luciana Freire
- Digs.................................244.................................Luciana Freire
- Blocks..............................28.................................Luciana Freire
In the Fall of 1998, Lynn University added a new sport, Cross Country, pushing the total number of intercollegiate sports at Lynn to thirteen. Arnie Leshin was brought on in the Spring of 1998 to be the first coach for the Fighting Knights Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams. Leshin has had over 45 years of running experience. Over his career, he has run 16 marathons, including the New York City Marathon several times.

The men’s and women’s Cross Country teams competed in the Sunshine State Conference Championships on Saturday, October 24, 1998. This was also their first ever meet of any kind. In the men’s race, Lynn finished fifth out of five competing teams. The Fighting Knights’ top finishers were Travis Hawthorne and Jay Brandt, who finished 30th and 31st respectively. The Knights’ women’s team placed fifth out of six competing teams. Marines Duarte led the Knights with a 22nd place finish.
Arnie Leshin was attracted to Lynn University because of the Boca Raton area, and the success of the athletics program at Lynn. “I had followed Lynn athletics throughout the years, and the players and people involved. I loved the campus and the people.”

“My greatest coaching memory from coaching at Lynn was getting the chance to compete in the conference meet. Just to get a full team up there was amazing.” coach Leshin said.

“My best female runner was Marines Duarte, if I could have six runners like Marines, we could compete for the conference championship every year. My best male runner was Jay Brandt.”

“There is a tremendous future for Lynn cross country. The availability of scholarships would improve our recruitment efforts. There needs to be some scholarships. There are a lot of good distance runners in the area. I think it could be a good program based on the success of the other programs at the school,” said Leshin.
The Lynn University Cheerleading squad, led by coach Karla Cordero, cheer and support the Lynn University Men’s and Women’s basketball teams. The Lynn mascot, the Fighting Knight, makes appearances at most of Lynn University’s sporting events.

The 1998-99 Lynn University Cheerleaders.
L-R: Jackie Winters, Lisa Scala, Taralynn Kiely, Dave Sacks, Steve Penza, Karla Cordero, Rob Czyszczon, Kelly Weimer, Denise Ciazza.

The Fighting Knight, the Lynn University Mascot.
Prior to Lynn University, the College of Boca Raton and Marymount College both competed on the athletic level. Marymount College competed on the club level in different sports until 1973 when Marymount became the College of Boca Raton. The first basketball club team in 1971-72 played against teams like Palm Beach Atlantic, Broward Community North and Broward Community Central. “We weren’t very competitive in our first season. I remember one game we lost 82-6,” Don Partrick said, a member of the first basketball team. “We were the Marymount Marlins, and we had a lot of fun.”

Marymount College’s junior college basketball team will open its season Wednesday, taking on Broward Community College. Marymount will play at Palm Beach Junior College the 18th, will host Palm Beach Atlantic Dec. 8, plays at home Feb. 7 against Broward Community North, goes to Broward Community Central Feb. 14, and closes at home against Central Broward Feb. 21.

In front, left to right, are Bill Peskin, John Vetti, Mike Ryan, Drew Eutmon and Gary Pancoast. In the rear are Brian O’Toole, Kevin O’Toole, Fred Hirsch, Steve Kang, Don Patrick and Mac Clery.

Members of the first basketball team at Marymount College.
The first basketball coach at the College of Boca Raton was Ed Freel, who became the Secretary of State in Delaware. He was formerly the Chief of Staff for the Governor of Delaware.

The first golf coach at the College of Boca Raton was George Skomsky, who now instructs and owns an International Golf School in Berwick, Pennsylvania.

The first basketball team’s roster, taken from the first game’s program.
Bryan O’Toole played for the Marymount College basketball team from 1972-74. He is currently a Senior Tax Specialist for GTE Service Corporation in Stamford, Connecticut.

Hirsch hits 27

Marymount age set blasted

Marymount College's men's basketball team was crushed in its season opener, 101-38, by Palm Beach Atlantic in Palm Beach. Brian O'Toole led Marymount, scoring 16 points. Marymount was slapped in the first half, 55-18, then "settled down" in the second, being outscored, 46-22.

Fla. Bible college Tops Marymount

Marymount Loses Debut

Newspaper clippings from the first season of basketball at Marymount College.
CHRONOLOGY

1962.....Marymount College Founded.
1973.....Name switched to College of Boca Raton.
September 1, 1981.....Hired Gregg Cox, Women’s Golf Coach.
September 1, 1982.....Hired Roy Wiggemansen, first Men’s Soccer Coach/second Athletic Director.
1983.....Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is Established.
July, 1983.....Joined the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.
September 1, 1983.....Named Shada Overton first Athletic Director.
February, 1984.....First Baseball Game.
September 1, 1984.....Hired Dr. Richard Thomas, first Golf Coach.
    Hired Paul Turner, third Athletic Director/fourth Baseball Coach.
August 15, 1986.....Hired Jim Blankenship, first Women’s Soccer Coach.
September, 1986.....First Men’s Soccer Match/Win vs. University of Tampa.
    First Women’s Soccer Match vs. University of Central Florida.
    First Women’s Soccer Win vs. Emory College.
November, 1987.....First Men’s Soccer National Championship.
September 1, 1988.....Hired Joe DiBenedetto, the third Baseball Coach.
1989.....Athletic complex renamed the McCusker Sports Complex.
May 1, 1991.....Hired Shaun Pendleton, third Men’s Soccer Coach.
September, 1991.....College renamed Lynn University.
    Fighting Knights nickname established.
September 1, 1992.....Hired Mike Perez, Men’s and Women’s Tennis Coach.
November, 1992.....First Women’s Soccer National Championship.
1993.....Richard McCusker becomes first inductee into Lynn University Hall of Fame.
April 23, 1993.....Hired Dr. Richard Young, Athletic Director.
    Hired Jeff Price, Men’s Basketball’s First Coach.
    Hired Dan Olson, First Women’s Basketball Coach.
May, 1993.....First Women’s Tennis National Championship.
July 1, 1993.....Appointed Eric De Abreau, Men’s Golf Coach.
September 1, 1993.....Hired Tony Casas, sixth Baseball Coach.
November 19, 1993.....First Women’s Basketball Game vs. University of Tampa.
November 22, 1993.....First Men’s Basketball Game/Win vs. Florida Tech.
November 26, 1993.....First Women’s Basketball Win vs. Pembroke State.
December, 1993.....Count and Countess DeHoernle Sports and Cultural Center opens.

March, 1994.....Men's and Women's Basketball Teams compete in NAIA National Championships in first year.

November 26, 1994.....Second Women's Soccer National Championship.

January 13-17, 1995.....Women's Basketball team plays four games in Alaska.

May 24, 1995.....First Women's Golf National Championship.

May 26, 1995.....Second Women's Tennis National Championship.

October, 1995.....Plaque dedicated to Richard McCusker at soccer field.

November 25, 1995.....Third Women's Soccer National Championship.


Hired Cheryl Feeney, second Women's Basketball Coach.

May 8-11, 1996.....Baseball team plays in NAIA Regionals at West Florida.

May 24, 1996.....Third Women's Tennis National Championship.

May 25, 1996.....First Men's Golf National Championship.

Second Women's Golf National Championship.

August 14, 1996.....Hired Gregg Kilby, seventh Baseball Coach.

September 12, 1996.....First Volleyball Match vs. Northwood.

December 18, 1996.....Invited to join Sunshine State Conference.

January 11, 1997.....Join NCAA Division II.

March 6-7, 1997.....Participated in NCAA Division II Men's National Basketball Championship.

May 11, 1997.....Fourth Women's Tennis National Championship.


July 1, 1997.....Became active member of Sunshine State Conference.

October 17, 1997.....First Volleyball Win vs. Warner-Southern.

November 7, 1997.....First Sunshine State Conference Volleyball Win vs. Eckerd.

April 1, 1998.....Hired Rocky Orezzoli, second Women's Soccer Coach.

Hired Arnie Leshin, first Cross Country Coach.

May 11, 1998.....Fifth Women's Tennis National Championship.


November, 1998.....Men's and Women's Soccer Win First Sunshine State Conference Championships.

April, 1999.....Women's Tennis Wins First Sunshine State Conference Championship.

April 14, 1999.....Hired Andy Russo, second Men's Basketball Coach.

May 17, 1999.....Hired Henry Kupczyk, second Cross Country Coach.

September 1, 1999.....Crew added. Appointed Karla Cordero as first Coach.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris Emerson earned a Master of Science Degree in Sports and Athletics Administration from Lynn University in the spring of 1999. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Sales and Meeting Management from Johnson & Wales University in Charleston, South Carolina in the spring of 1995. He also has an Associate Degree in Children’s Literature and an Associate Degree in Food and Beverage Management.

Chris was born in Binghamton, New York in 1969. His family currently resides in Concord, North Carolina. He has one younger sister, Kim who is married to Brad Baker. His father is retired from IBM, and his mother is a nurse.

Before coming to Lynn, Chris was the Leisure Activities Coordinator and Men’s Head Soccer Coach at Johnson & Wales University. Chris served as a graduate assistant in the Sports Information Department at Lynn from September, 1997 - June, 1999. In 1998, he was named an Assistant Coach on the women’s soccer team at Lynn, the team that won the 1998 National Championship.

Upon completing course work, Chris remained in the Boca Raton area, and continued to serve as an Assistant Coach on the women’s soccer team. He is currently working with youth soccer in the South Florida area.
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Interviews
Dan Partrick - Marymount Marlins Basketball - 1972-1973
Cheryl Feeney - 1996-98 Lynn University Women’s Basketball Coach
Andy Russo - Lynn University Head Men’s Basketball Coach
Jeff Price - 1993-98 Lynn University Head Men’s Basketball Coach
Gregg Cox - Lynn University Head Women’s Golf Coach
Eric Abreau - Lynn University Head Men’s Golf Coach
Paul Turner - Lynn University Athletic Director - 1989-1993
Jim Blankenship - 1986-97 Lynn University Head Women’s Soccer Coach
Rocky Orezzoli - Lynn University Head Women’s Soccer Coach
Shaun Pendleton - Lynn University Head Men’s Soccer Coach
Arnie Leshin - 1998 Lynn University Head Cross Country Coach
Gregg Kilby - Lynn University Baseball Coach
Dr. Richard Young - Lynn University Athletic Director - 1993 present
Greg Malfitano - Lynn University Dean of Administration

Publications
Lynn University Historical Final Statistics.
Funeral Eulogy of Richard McCusker.

Athletic Programs
1998-99 Men’s Basketball
1998-99 Women’s Basketball
1998 Women’s Soccer
1998 Men’s Soccer
1997 Baseball
1998 Baseball
1999 Baseball
1998-99 Softball/Volleyball

*All photographs are used with permission of the Lynn University Sports Information Staff.