

## Process Paper

When our group first began thinking about to this year's theme, triumph and tragedy, we decided to come up with a list of topics we imagined would relate the most to this topic. In our initial list, we included cold fusion, women's athletics at Notre Dame after Title IX, and the Mexico Olympics. We decided on women's athletics at Notre Dame because it's local to us, and as young women, by doing this project, we felt that we could honor those who made it possible for women like us to be able to compete in athletics and have the same opportunities as men. We particularly chose this topic because we suspected that research into a law that required equal resources for all university students regardless of gender would likely provide many examples of triumph over tragedy.

We conducted our research by going to the Notre Dame library in the summer and found several books about Title IX. Afterwards, we researched more about the time that Title IX was enacted and decided to focus on the years 1970-1980. We also found that, at Notre Dame in the 1970's, there were many important dates for the women's athletics programs there. As our research progressed, we identified trustworthy websites, such as the University of Notre Dame ([und.com](http://und.com)) and the Notre Dame Archives ([archives.nd.edu](http://archives.nd.edu)), primary sources from student-written articles from the time, and government documents. We interviewed Muffet McGraw, Missy Conboy, Mike Favorite, Susan Cahn, and Lynn Kachmarik. They gave us a different point of view that helped us better understand our topic.

Because of the variety of images and other visual resources available to us locally at the ND archives, we chose to create a documentary. As we wrote our script, we gathered images and videos, and conducted interviews. Then we created a storyboard that matched images and videos to our narration. To complete our project we used Imovie. This required us to record the audio for narration on an mp3 player and select the background music that we wanted for each section of narration. After that, we uploaded all images, videos, narration, and music into the program, and put everything into the correct order. Finally, we added other special effects and finishing touches including titles, the Ken Burns effect on pictures, credits at the end, and volume adjustments.

Our topic relates to the NHD theme because our documentary includes examples of both triumph and tragedy. There is triumph in the fact that women were allowed to attend Notre Dame and participate in sports programs beginning in the 1970's. Also, with the passage of Title IX, schools were required to allow women to participate in athletics. Our documentary also has elements of tragedy because it took so long for women to be accepted into Notre Dame and into the sporting community in general. Even now that Title IX has been the law for almost 60 years, women's sports still has had very little publicity and endorsements.