



REET HOWELL (1945 - 1993)

Dr. Reet Howell, Associate Professor of Human Movement Studies at Queensland University, died on June 10, 1993 from cancer at the age of 48.

A native of Canada, Reet received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Toronto, her Master's from the University of Alberta and her Doctorate from the University of California in Berkeley. After teaching at Palomar College, San Diego State University and the University of Ottawa, she taught at Brisbane College in Australia before taking a position at Queensland University in 1983.

Professionally involved in numerous organizations, she was a member of the Organizing Committee for the First International Congress on Women and Sport in Rome in 1980, National Coordinator for Women in Sport in the Australian Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation in 1981-1983 and Women's Commandant for the 1982 Commonwealth Games when they were held in Australia. In 1983-1984 she served as a consultant to the Department of Education in Queensland and in this role prepared a Teacher's Resource Kit for physical educators. She, also, wrote a teacher's manual for a five part video "Have A Go." In 1992-1993 Reet was on the Sport for all Commission of the Australian Olympic Committee and in March 1993 gave the keynote address at the World Congress on Indigenous Sports in Japan. Both at San Diego State and Queensland University, Reet received monetary awards to help in her research in sport history, the largest in 1987-1988 for \$40,000 from the Queensland Rugby League to write their history.

A prolific writer and speaker, she wrote many books and articles co-authored with her husband Max Howell. *Her Story in Sport* in 1982 that she edited, is considered a classic in the study of women's sport history. At the time of her death her 15th book, co-authored with Max, *Genesis of Sport in*

Queensland, was at the publishers. Her numerous articles appeared in many different professional publications, such as, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *The Physician and Sports Medicine*, *Journal of the Cricket Society* and *China Sports*. Furthermore, she was a frequent contributor to the well known periodicals of our profession, such as, *Quest*, *The Physical Educator*, *Arena*, *Canadian Journal of History of Sport* and *Journal of Physical Education and Sports Sciences*.

Reet Howell received many honours: Corresponding Fellow, American Academy, Mabel Lee Award for young scholars; Danforth Associate; Canada Council of Arts Doctoral Fellowship and in April 1993 she was an Olympic Scholar at the German Olympic Institute.

An enthusiastic member of NASSH, Reet served on the publications Board and usually presented a paper when she and Max were able to attend the annual Convention. Some of her addresses were "Women and Sport in Mesopotamia," "Women and Sport in Minoan Civilization," "The Emergence of Sport for Women in Queensland" and "Toys in the Ancient Western World."

The profession and NASSH have lost an eminent scholar and friend. Her contributions are stated in part by these remarks when she was given the Mabel Lee Award in 1979:

"Reet Howell is recognized as an innovative, dedicated and enthusiastic teacher...She has proven herself to be among the more outstanding of the profession's young teacher/scholars, particularly in the field of sport history and comparative physical education and sport."

Joanna Davenport
Auburn University