When speaking of the increased success of the Lehman College athletic department, you can name many individuals who have helped elevate Lehman to the next plateau. Throughout the many phases of Lehman Athletics, for over 30 years, Lehman College has benefited from the devoted service of Dorothy Campion.

Dorothy has outlasted several athletic directors in her 30 plus years. Chip Salvestrini, Kevin McGinnis, Ron Carter, and presently Dr. Martin L. Zwiren all have benefited from Dorothy’s contributions. According to Dr. Zwiren, “Dorothy is and always has been a valuable member of the Lehman College athletic department.”

Dorothy has athletics and Lehman College running through her blood. Her husband John was the equipment manager in what is known as the Old Gym Building at Lehman College for about 10 years before retiring in 1991. Her son Bill played center on the 1972 – 1975 Manhattan Jasper basketball teams, setting and breaking many records for rebounding and points scored. In 1986, Bill, nicknamed “The Giant in the Middle” was inducted into the Manhattan College Alumni Hall of Fame.

Clearly Bill benefited from his mother’s genes. As a youth, Mrs. Campion was the starting center for Walton High School. Standing six feet tall, the opposing coaches would complain in those days, that it was an unfair advantage for Walton. Unbelievably, her dominant height and skill at the position led her to being forced to sit on the bench in certain games. It is believed that Dorothy Campion is the first female at Walton or perhaps anywhere to slam dunk a basketball!

“Mrs. Campion is a pleasure to speak to following our basketball games”, said sixth-year Lehman College women’s basketball coach Eric Harrison. “She has so much knowledge of Lehman, and basketball, that it is great to start the morning off with another perspective of the game.”

Dorothy Campion has been a member of the Lehman College family since March, 1970. While working originally as a member of Lehman’s Physical Education Department, Dorothy has been very instrumental in the day to day activities of the college’s athletic department. With her desk at the entrance of the athletic department’s doors, nearly everyone and every piece of business pass by Dorothy. A reputation for detail and a sharp mind, Dorothy is intimately involved in paying the bills, scheduling the vans to transport the athletes, developing team rosters, and scheduling opponents. While she briefly retired in 1986, her friendships that she had made with her co-workers drew her back to Lehman. “I feel very fortunate to be part of the Lehman College family”, said Dorothy Campion. Hey, if Michael Jordan and now Roger Clemens can come out of retirement, why not Dorothy Campion. The Lehman College athletic department is glad she did.