

# MSU Sports

A Guide to the Resources in the Michigan State University Archives

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The purpose of this resource guide is to familiarize visitors of the MSU Archives with some of the available resources related to Michigan State University Athletics. Note that this guide is not a comprehensive listing of all the available sources, but is intended to be a starting point from which visitors can begin their research according to their specific needs. Online versions of the finding aids for most collections listed can be accessed by clicking on the collection name.

**1. Intercollegiate Athletics Records, 1888-1979 UA 4.3**

- 2.33 cubic feet, volumes
- Highlights of this collection are the early intercollegiate athletics records, including a brochure from the MIAA Field Days of 1888 and 1898. Also included are athletic program budgets (1954-1961), lists of varsity award winners (1943-1972), material pertaining to women's intercollegiate athletics (1972-1979), and records that relate to organizations for women's athletics in the Big Ten, and other women's sporting associations. There are several photographs that are also part of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics records. These photos date back to the 1890s for some sports. The majority of the photographs are of men's athletics. They are arranged alphabetically by sport.

**2. Sports Information Records, 1884-2009 UA 8.1.3**

- 20 cubic feet
- These records were from various public relations offices of the college. There are eight athletic record books (1884-1964) that list team members, coaches, and scores for varsity and freshman sports, new releases concerning athletic activity, players, and coaches (1942-1990) for all major sports and some minor ones. The background research for the book *Spartan Saga* can also be found in these records. Of particular note are the records for the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Field Days (1888-1907), files on Big Ten Investigations, African-American Athletes' 1968 Boycott and a large sports photos collection
- Programs, Media Guides and Information Sheets published by the Sports Information Office are available for :
  - Baseball (Serial 158)
  - Basketball, Men's (Serials 161, 162)
  - Basketball, Women's (Serials 764, 914)
  - Cross Country, Men's (Serial 232)
  - Cross Country, Women's (Serial 1098)
  - Fencing (Serial 293)
  - Field Hockey (Serial 295)
  - Football (Serial 54, 305)
  - Golf, Men's (Serial 318)
  - Golf, Women's (Serial 913)
  - Gymnastics, Men's (Serial 335)
  - Gymnastics, Women's (Serial 773)
  - Hockey (Serials 342, 343)

- Lacrosse (Serial 403)
- Soccer, Men's (Serial 641)
- Soccer, Women's (Serial 1096)
- Softball (Serial 645)
- Swimming (Serial 686)
- Tennis (Serials 691, 1095)
- Track and Field, Men's (Serial 367)
- Track and Field, Women's (Serial 912)
- Volleyball (Serial 911)
- Wrestling (Serial 760)
- The following collections have additional materials for individual sports:
  - [Football](#) (UA 8.1.3.1)
  - [Hockey](#) (UA 8.1.3.2)
  - [Soccer](#) (UA 8.1.3.3)
  - [Basketball](#) (UA 8.1.3.4)
  - [Baseball](#) (UA 8.1.3.5)
  - [Tennis](#) (UA 8.1.3.6)
  - [Golf](#) (UA 8.1.3.7)
  - [Lacrosse](#) (UA 8.1.3.7)
  - [Cross Country](#) (UA 8.1.3.9)
  - [Swimming](#) (UA 8.1.3.10)
  - [Gymnastics](#) (UA 8.1.3.11)
  - [Track and Field](#) (UA 8.1.3.12)
  - [Wrestling](#) (UA 8.1.3.13)
  - [Fencing](#) (UA 8.1.3.14)
  - [Boxing](#) (UA 8.1.3.15)
  - [Women's Sports](#) (UA 8.1.3.16)

3. **Clarence L. "Biggie" Munn Papers, 1946-1972**

**UA 17.75**

- 37 cubic feet
- "Biggie" Munn served as both head football coach and athletic director at Michigan State. Much of MSU's rise to prominence in intercollegiate athletics is due to Munn's work in these positions. The majority of the records are organized as general subject files. The files reflect activity about individual sports, as well as sporting events, planning logistics and policy and procedure. There are also records relating to the Michigan High School Athletic Association, the Olympics, speeches, and correspondence. Of particular note are his files on the development of the college's Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department, and the files about Big Ten Conference activity.

4. **Ralph H. Young Papers, 1902-1958**

**UA 17.114**

- 8.2 cubic feet
- Ralph Young served as Athletic Director from 1923 to 1954 and ushered Michigan State into the Big Ten Conference in 1949. He also served as football

coach from 1923 to 1928. During his tenure as Athletic Director, Michigan State was particularly successful in varsity Track, producing twenty-seven All-Americans, four U.S. Olympians, and three world record-holders. His records contain correspondence about various sports-related topics, subject files on the Olympics and Physical Education, office files that address the college's athletic facilities, and events. This collection contains photographs. Additionally, there is information about the following sports:

- Baseball (1922-1953)
- Basketball (1920-1954)
- Boxing (1935-1954)
- Cross-Country (1919-1952)
- Fencing (1941; 1952-54)
- Football (1919-1956)
- Golf (1951-1953)
- Gymnastics (1951-1954)
- Hockey (1953-1954)
- Swimming (1942-1954)
- Tennis (1951-1952)
- Track (1905- 1954)
- Wrestling (1954)

**5. Intramural Sports & Recreative Services Records UA 7.11**

- 19 Folders
- MSU's Intramural Sports were administered by the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department until 1964 when it came under the control of the Vice President for Student Affairs. The material in the collection consists of service and program brochures, informational flyers, guidelines for participation, schedules of events, club and team listings, and publications. Men's and Women's sports are represented.

**6. John A. Hannah Papers, 1954-1969 UA 2.1.12**

- 0.5 cubic feet
- John A. Hannah was Michigan State's longest serving President, from 1941 to 1969. His tenure was characterized by extensive growth of the University, in both size and enrollment. He also oversaw the tremendous changes in intercollegiate athletics, including MSU's entry into the Big Ten Athletic Conference. This collection is large, but sporting information can be found under the terms: intercollegiate athletics, NCAA, and the Big Ten. There is also information concerning various coaches. Some relevant photographs are included.

**7. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr. Papers, 1950-1977 UA 2.1.14**

- 1.5 cubic feet
- Clifton R. Wharton, Jr. served as MSU's fourteenth President, from 1970 to 1978.

His term of office was often turbulent, featuring student demonstrations in 1970 and 1972, as well as a National Collegiate Athletic Association investigation of the MSU football program. Of particular interest are files concerning Title IX, the federal law that ensures equal opportunity between men and women on campus. College athletics were particularly affected by this law. The pertinent files in this collection can be found in Series 2, under "Intercollegiate Athletics."

**8. Edgar Harden Papers, 1976-1980 UA 2.1.15**

- 0.5 cubic feet
- Edgar L. Harden, MSU's fifteenth president, was appointed acting president October 23, 1977 to succeed Clifton Wharton. He was formally named President March 31, 1978 to serve until the appointment of a permanent president in 1979. Harden's term was generally a placid one on campus as student activism waned. Affirmative action and equal rights for various groups were among the issues of the day, especially the Title IX issue of equality for women athletes. The files that relate to these issues can be found in the Board of Trustees file series under "Title IX," the Subject file series under the "Athletic Department," which includes presidential statements and recommendations about MSU and Title IX, and the University Committee files series which includes meetings of the Big Ten Committee.

**9. General Academic Administration Records UA 3.6**

- 1.6 cubic feet
- The Title IX Files (Series 3) contain documents on gender and race issues, equity in collegiate sports, reports, and the University's response to the U.S. Department of Education and Office of Civil Rights audit of MSU's Title IX compliance conducted in 1980.

**10. Associate Provost Records UA 3.4**

- 0.25 cubic feet
- This collection contains administrative correspondence, memoranda, and reports on athletics, and a Title IX self-evaluation.

**11. John (Jack) Heppinstall Papers, 1914-1966 UA 17.239**

- 0.3 cubic feet
- John (Jack) Heppinstall was hired by MSU in 1914 as the first athletic trainer, as well as groundskeeper and equipment manager. The job was a temporary position to help the few athletes playing multiple sports transition between seasons. Among the other duties performed by Heppinstall in his early years, were laying out a baseball field, and coaching the basketball team. Heppinstall was one of the best known athletic trainers in the country, working as a trainer for the 1948 United States Olympic team. Heppinstall worked at Michigan State University

for 45 years before retiring. The collection contains papers related to Heppinstall's career as an athletic trainer at MSU. The collection includes inventories of athletic equipment and training supplies, *The First Aider* newsletter by Heppinstall, and photographs of MSU's sports teams, and varsity club.

12. **Department of Kinesiology (MSU), 1938-2010** **UA 16.56**

- 1 cubic feet
- The collection consists of course syllabi and curriculum materials, program brochures, an index and abstracts of theses, brochures for conferences and workshops, minutes from department committees, a student handbook, staff manuals, and departmental publications.

13. **Athletic Council Records, 1920-2009** **UA 4.4**

- 12 Folders
- The Athletic Council was established in 1923 to control the governance of athletics at Michigan Agricultural College. Today the Council is involved with academic, fiscal, compliance, and student-athlete welfare matters as well. It is an advisory body consisting MSU community members that advises the Athletic Director and university administration. The collection consists of a constitution and bylaws, meeting minutes, correspondence, and reports

14. **Elizabeth (Betty) Drobac Papers, 2002** **UA 17.228**

- 1 Folder
- Elizabeth (Betty) White Drobac began teaching at Michigan State in the fall of 1950 as a member of the women's physical education staff. She taught a variety of team and individual sports including field hockey, soccer, basketball, lacrosse, volleyball, softball, swimming, tennis, badminton, archery and square dance. The papers consist of preliminary notes that Drobac wrote for a speech she gave at the Women's Varsity Letter Celebration on February 10, 2002. MSU did not award varsity letters to women before 1980. This event was to honor those women who were active in varsity sports before 1980 and to award them a varsity letter. Drobac's speech recounts the early days of women's athletics at Michigan State and memories of her time as an athletic instructor.

15. **Beth J. Shapiro Papers, 1982** **UA 10.3.102**

- 1 Folder
- The collection consists of one copy of Beth J. Shapiro's 1982 doctoral dissertation entitled, "Intercollegiate Athletics and Big-Time Sport at Michigan State University: or 'The Difference between Good and Great is a Little Extra Effort.'" The dissertation outlines the role John Hannah played in the growth of the University and its sports, fiscal trends for college athletics, the relationship

between athletics and educational achievement, and the experiences of black athletes.

## SPORT SPECIFIC COLLECTIONS

### 16. Alumni Association Records, 1869-2012 UA 10.2

- Football
- 0.5 cubic feet
- The Alumni Association records contain a list of seniors on the 1934 football team, materials from football receptions, and videos of football games and highlights.

### 17. Lauren Pringle Brown Papers, 1927-1962 UA 17.153

- Track/Cross Country
- 1 cubic feet
- Brown started his education at Michigan State in 1926. As a student he managed the production of the football publication the *Spartan Gridiron* (now the *Spartan Stadium Sideliner*). Brown was also a noted athlete during his college years. A champion cross country runner, he was voted Spartan All-American for his record in distances in 1928, and served as captain of the cross country team (1929-1931). In 1930 he was awarded a varsity letter and gold track shoes for being unbeaten for three consecutive years in dual track meets. After graduation in 1931, he accepted a position as Cross Country and Freshman Track Coach, a position he held until 1947. As coach, his cross country team won the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America Championship for five consecutive years. In 1951 he became the scorer for track, swimming, and cross country and in 1956 he devised the scoring system for NCAA Cross Country championships. The papers contain some of his coaching records, track event programs, newspaper articles, and a scrapbook. There are also pictures of different sporting events and practices.

### 18. Fendley Collins Collection, 1930-1972 UA 17.80

- Wrestling
- 10.8 cubic feet
- Collins began working at Michigan State in 1929 as a physical education instructor. He was the head wrestling coach from 1929 to 1962. In 1955 he was the coach for the wrestling team for the Pan American Games and the manager of the wrestling team for the 1964 Olympics. The collection contains information on Michigan State's wrestling team and physical education department. Also included is material relating to Pan American games wrestling team tryouts held at MSU in 1959, the Pan American Games (1959-1971), and the Olympic Wrestling Committee (1948 -1972). The photographs in the collection include team photographs, individual wrestlers, and portraits of Collins, Pan American

games tryouts, and Olympic wrestling team. Note: there is some information Collins collected about other sports.

**19. Hugh Duffy Daugherty Papers, 1947-1975**

**UA 17.63**

- Football
- 2 cubic feet
- Duffy Daugherty started his career at Michigan State as the assistant coach to Clarence “Biggie” Munn in 1947. In 1954, he became the head football coach, a position he retained for 19 years. Over that period, Daugherty’s Spartans won 109 games, lost 69, and tied 5. His teams took two Big Ten titles, placed second four times, and were consistently rated among the nation’s top ten. His popularity with sports audiences landed him a job as commentator for ABC Sports in 1973. The materials in the collection are primarily publications and news articles relating to his coaching career, including several scrapbooks. There are also photographs of football teams and friends throughout his MSU career.

**20. Porpoise Fraternity Records, 1948**

**UA 12.2.5**

- Swimming
- 1 Folder
- The Porpoise Fraternity is a swimming honorary organization. It is the Beta Chapter in the National Honorary Swimming Fraternity. The chapter was established 1930 primarily to sponsor and encourage all swimming activities. All male students of Michigan State who showed superior ability and an active interest in swimming were eligible for membership. The records consist of a copy of their Aquatic Yearbook, which lists members and statistics for the varsity and junior varsity swimming and diving program. There is also a folder of photographs.

**21. Green Splash Swimming Club Records, 1920-1988**

**UA 12.3.18**

- Swimming
- 1.8 cubic feet
- In 1920, the Women's Lifesaving Corps of Michigan Agricultural College was founded to teach swimming and lifesaving techniques to interested co-eds. In 1927, the Corps changed its name to Green Splash and reorganized into an honorary swimming club, focusing on synchronized swimming. The Green Splash represented MSU in varsity sports with club members competing in synchronized swimming competitions both nationally and in the Big Ten Conference. They also put on performances for entertainment. In 1998 the name changed to the MSU Synchronized Swimming club. The records of the Green Splash Swimming Club consist of club meeting minutes, membership information, and scrapbooks (1920-1986) containing photographs, memorabilia, and water show programs.



**22. Charles Schmitter Papers, 1940-1983 UA 17.79**

- Fencing
- 5 cubic feet
- Charles Schmitter became Michigan State's head fencing coach in 1938. He was honored many times for his coaching talents. In 1957 he was awarded the title of Fencing Coach of the Year by the National Fencing Coaches Association, was the fencing coach for the 1959 Pan American Games, and was named into the National Fencer's Hall of Fame in 1970. The collection includes Schmitter's correspondence files, newspaper clippings, fencing publications, information about the National Fencing Coaches Association, the U.S. Olympic Committee (1954-64). Also included are records about MSU physical education curriculum, campus sporting facilities, and athletic governance. The collection also contains photographs.

**UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS****1. Intramural Handbook, 1955-2011 Serials 389 and 452**

- The handbooks contain information about intramural sports including facilities and equipment available, eligibility rules, and teams and events.

**2. Men's Sports Schedules, 1911-1983 Serial 453****3. Varsity 'S' Club Newsletter, 1952-1982, 2007-2008 Serial 721**

- The newsletters have stories about all of the varsity sports teams, club members, and coaches.

**4. Press Box Information Sheet, 1945-1980 Serial 859**

- These Information Sheets were provided to members of the press at football games. Some contain probable starting line-ups, team records, season schedule, half-time entertainment, team roster, and other team information. Others were created after the game and include a play-by-play summary of the game.

**5. MSU Yearbooks, 1877- present**

- These books provide a yearly snapshot of sporting activities for the preceding school year. Summaries of the events, team histories, photos, and perspectives about popular sports.

**6. The Holcad, 1909-1925 Serial 669**

- This forerunner to the *State News* was an early newspaper that provided articles about sporting events of the day. [Note: The *State News* is available at the MSU Main Library in the microforms section.]

**7. The College Speculum, 1881-1896 Serial 662**

- The first edition of *The College Speculum* was printed on August 1, 1881, with Liberty Hyde Bailey as editor in chief. *The College Speculum's* board of

editors consisted of representatives from five societies (Natural History, Delta Tau Delta, Phi Delta Theta, Union Literary, and Eclectic). Anyone who had ever been a student at M.A.C. was allowed to submit an article. For this reason, this publication is considered to be the first alumni magazine on campus. The Speculum lasted 14 years, ceasing publication in 1895. In its time, the Speculum strengthened ties between alumni, current students, and the college administration by listing activities of M.A.C.'s extended community.

**8. The M.A.C./M.S.C. Record, 1896-1955** **Serial 48**

- This publication provides a great amount of detail concerning sporting events both held on and off campus. Most of the articles are written in a “newspaper” style.
- Digitized copies available online: <http://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/1-4-420/the-mac-record/>

**9. Alumni Magazine, 1955 – present** **Serial 18**

- This publication provides primarily feature stories, but some updates are given for larger sporting events.