Max Worthington Papers, 1926-1990

Overview of the Collection

Creator
Worthington, Max, 1909-2003

Title
Max Worthington Papers

Dates
1926-1990
1926 1990

Quantity
1.2 linear feet

Collection Number
Collection 2433, MtBC, us (collection)

Summary
The Max Worthington Papers consist of a scrapbook chronicling his career, personal and professional correspondence, and photographs. Subjects present in the collection include the Montana State "Golden Bobcats;" the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity; college football, basketball and track teams; the Helms Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame; the Montana State University Hall of Fame; Montana high school athletics; Worthington Arena; Max Worthington's retirement party; "Golden Bobcat" reunions; and the Montana Special Olympics.

Repository
Montana State University Library, Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections
Montana State University-Bozeman Library
Merrill G Burlingame Special Collections
P.O. Box 173320
Bozeman, MT
59717-3320
Telephone: 406-994-4242
Fax: 406-994-2851
spcoll@www.lib.montana.edu

Access Restrictions
This collection is open for research.

Additional Reference
An alternative form of this finding aid can be found at http://www.lib.montana.edu/collect/spcoll/findaid/2433.html

Languages
English

Sponsor
Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Biographical Note
Max Worthington was born Oct 7, 1909 in Billings, Montana. He was a star athlete at Billings High School in both football and basketball. He started his college career at Montana State College (now Montana State University, Bozeman) in the fall of 1927. He continued his football and basketball careers from his freshman year, most notably as a member of the Montana State "Golden Bobcats" basketball team. In 1932, he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education. He took a job as a coach and teacher in Shelby, Montana from 1932 - 1938. In 1933, he married Dorothy Douglas of Wisdom, Montana, and they had one son, Douglas. In 1938, he moved to Helena High School, where in 1942 he became Director of Athletics. In 1943, he joined the U.S. Navy and served in the Pacific Theater. After the war, he joined the Montana State College faculty in 1946 as Assistant Professor.
of Physical Education and Assistant Football Coach and Basketball Coach. In 1948, he became the Associate Director of Public Service, and in 1950, the Secretary of the Alumni Association. In 1964, he was appointed Dean of Student Affairs and Service, a post he held until his retirement in 1973. As Dean of Students Emeritus, Max lived in Bozeman and continued to support the athletic events of the Bobcats and other university programs until his death in 2003.

Content Description

Max Worthington's personal papers have been arranged into three series. Series 1 includes: a scrapbook and many scrapbook materials from his long career which include newspaper clippings, programs, postcards, social ephemera, brochures, World War II naval papers, collected materials of personal interest (including a Richard Nixon autograph), one oral interview, testimonials and certificates. Series 2 consists of personal and professional correspondence. (Researchers are reminded that official records generated by Max Worthington in his capacity as an MSU faculty member and administrator are held within the pertinent record groups within the University Archives.) Series 3 consists of photographs. Subjects present in the collection include the Montana State "Golden Bobcats;" the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity; college football, basketball and track teams; the Helms Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame; the Montana State University Hall of Fame; Montana high school athletics; Worthington Arena; Max Worthington's retirement party; "Golden Bobcat" reunions; and the Montana Special Olympics. Individuals prominently featured are Ott Romney, J. Ashworth "Cat" Thompson, Frank Ward, Orland Ward, Valery Glynn, John "Brick" Breeden, Schubert Dyche, Marjorie Paisley, Roland R. Renne, Tony Storti, Jan Stenerud, Lones Wigger and Bill Duncan.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Series 1: Scrapbooks and scrapbook materials, 1926-1990
Series 2: Correspondence, 1932-1989
Series 3: Photographs, 1926-1980s

Acquisition Information

The Max Worthington Papers were donated to both the MSU Archives and Special Collections by Max Worthington in several deposits between 1979 and 2001. These separate donated accessions (#2433, #78012, #90069, #92009, #92041, #94009 and #94057) have been integrated into one collection.

Processing Note

This collection was processed 2009 May 18

Detailed Description of the Collection
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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| Box 1-3     | Series 1: Scrapbooks and scrapbook materials  
Series one contains materials and papers accumulated by Max Worthington from his high school years to the late 1980s. A substantial scrapbook of college days includes his sports career and his membership in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Photographs of classmates and fraternity brothers along with newspaper clippings, correspondence, social ephemera and brochures are present. There are numerous newspaper clipping files about the “Golden Bobcats,” WWII, athletics and special events at Montana State University, legislation of the 1980s affecting the University system, the career of sports writer Bill Duncan and other diverse subjects. A comprehensive group of military records trace his service in the Naval Reserve on active duty from 1943-1946 in the Pacific Theater during WWII. His recognition as a significant athletic of the 1920-30s is represented by files of programs, tributes, souvenirs and certificates for the Montana State College Hall of Fame, Worthington Arena, and alumni reunions. Files of materials for the 1989 Montana Special Olympics, artwork of a grateful student, a group of Dorothy Worthington's employment records, legislative information of the 1980s, an audio tape interview for the 75th anniversary of the university, retirement party records, a Richard Nixon autograph and a selection of diverse memorabilia completes the series. Groups of materials are arranged in approximate chronological order. | 1926-1990 |
| Series 2: Correspondence | Correspondence collected by Max Worthington has been arranged in chronological order with special files for retirement and Hall of Fame congratulatory letters and a file of letters between Max Worthington and sports writer Bill Duncan. | 1932-1989 |
| Series 3: Photographs | Collected photographs include posed and candid shots of Max Worthington; athletic events, teams and reunions; university celebrations; WWII snap shots of shipmates, shipboard activities and ports of call. Two booklets of photographs chronicle some of the life in Lae, Papua New Guinea and the Papuan natives while stationed on the U.S.A.T. Sea Barb at Milne Bay, New Guinea with additional pictures of Leyte, the Philippines, and Australia. The final group of photos are in a ring binder which chronicles Max Worthington’s 1973 retirement party with friends and colleagues of the university community. | 1926-1980s |
Names and Subjects

Subject Terms:
Basketball players-Montana-Bozeman
Basketball teams-Montana-Bozeman
Coaches (Athletics)-Montana-Bozeman
College sports-Montana-Bozeman
Deans (Education)-Montana-Bozeman
Football teams-Montana-Bozeman
Halls of fame-Montana-Bozeman
School sports-Montana
Special Olympics
Track and field-Montana-Bozeman
Veterans-Montana-Bozeman
World War, 1939-1945-Naval operations, American
World War, 1939-1945-Veterans-Montana-Bozeman

Personal Names:
Breeden, John W., 1904-1977
Duncan, Bill, 1897-1967
Dyche, Schubert, 1893-1982
Glynn, Val G., 1903-1992
Paisley, Marjorie, 1909-2001
Renne, Roland Roger, 1905-
Romney, G. Ott-(George Ottinger), 1892-1973
Stenerud, Jan, 1942-
Storti, Tony
Thompson, J. Ashworth-(John Ashworth), 1906-1990
Ward, Frank
Ward, Orland
Wigger, Lones

Corporate Names:
Golden Bobcats (Basketball team)
Montana State University--Bozeman-Alumni and alumnae
Montana State University--Bozeman-Basketball
Montana State University--Bozeman-Faculty
Montana State University--Bozeman-Football
Montana State University--Bozeman-Sports
Montana State University--Bozeman-Track and field
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
United States-Navy-History-World War, 1939-1945
Worthington Arena (Bozeman, Mont.)

Form or Genre Terms:
Interviews-Montana-Bozeman
Oral histories-Montana-Bozeman
Photographs-Montana-Bozeman
Scrapbooks-Montana-Bozeman

Kim Allen Scott, 2009

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http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv32180