

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DIVISION

Papers, 1940-1960
3.75 Linear Feet

Accession Number 198

The files of David L. Holmes, Director of Athletics and track coach, and the files of the Health and Physical Education Division were placed in the University Archives in March, 1970. They were opened for research in June of 1979.

David L. Holmes was associated with sports at Wayne University from 1917, when he was named Athletic Director of Detroit Junior College, until his retirement from the University in 1958. In the early stages of his career he coached all sports, but later was able to specialize in coaching track. During his years as coach at the University he worked with such athletes as Lorenzo Wright, Ken Doherty, Mark Smith and John Telford. The David Holmes files in this collection are from the period 1949-1959, and reflect primarily his activities and concerns as track coach.

As noted above, sports have been part of the curriculum at Wayne since 1917. In 1932 a study was made to evaluate athletics and propose necessary changes, but none of the proposals were put into effect. Most athletic activity was halted during World War II, and in 1945 many of the programs were making a fresh start. In this year Alden W. Thompson became Divisional Director of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics. Newman Ertell coached basketball until 1948 when this position was filled by Joel Mason; Joe Truskowski coached baseball, and in 1949, Lou Zarza, a former line coach for the Detroit Lions, was hired as football coach. Throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s there was disagreement over the role of athletics in the University as to whether the emphasis should be on big-time sports competition or on producing physical education majors and coaches. In 1954 an athletic study committee was formed by Dr. Clarence B. Hilberry, then president of the University, to investigate each of the possibilities.

The papers in this collection reflect the processes of managing and scheduling competition for athletic teams at Wayne, primarily from 1946 to 1959. They show the philosophy of the coaches towards the role of sports at the University and point out the need for expanded, modern sports facilities. The emphasis is on men's intercollegiate activity rather than physical education classes.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

- Black athletes as team members
- Budget Policies
- Eligibility Rules
- Old Main gyms, lockers and showers, use and maintenance of
- Radio and television coverage of University basketball and football games, and fencing championships
- Scheduling of intercollegiate men's sports
- Wayne University participation in the President's Athletic Conference

Among the correspondents are: (an index to the location of these letters will be found on the last page of the guide)

Dr. Clarence B. Hilberry, President of Wayne University

Contents

7 ½ Manuscript Boxes

Series I, Box 1

The files of David L. Holmes, Director of Athletics, from 1949-1960. Budget requests, expense reports, correspondence regarding the use and maintenance of the gyms in Old Main and the outdoor facilities at Tartar Field as well as material relating to activities of the men's cross country, golf, swimming and tennis teams. The correspondence focuses primarily on track.

Series II, Boxes 2-8

Correspondence and other materials from the Health and Physical Education Division for the period 1940-1960, predominantly 1946-1958. Only men's sports are included, Much of the correspondence in this series documents the inadequacy of the University's physical education facilities during this period, as well as recruitment and eligibility complications caused by World War II and later military drafts. There is some information on Wayne's participation in the President's Athletic Conference.

Non-manuscript material

Three photographs of the basketball facilities at the State Fair Coliseum (1947-1948), five photographs of the Wrestling team (1954), and sixteen photographs of the 1950 N.C.A.A. Fencing Championships have been placed in the Archives Audio-Visual Collections.

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Series I
Box 1

Files of David L. Holmes for the period 1949-1959, including detailed budget information, correspondence with Divisional Director Alden W. Thompson, information on the Management of the men's cross country, golf swimming, tennis and track teams and on the Wayne Relays, which were held at Wayne University for high school trackmen. There is much discussion throughout the correspondence of the condition and use of the physical education facilities at the University during this time, particularly of the outdoor track area and the gyms in Old Main. This information can be found primarily in the folders labeled Alden W. Thompson, Buildings and Grounds, and Gym-Use of. The files are arranged alphabetically by subject. Budget Requests and Budget Expenses are arranged chronologically by season (i.e. 1949-1950 season).

Box 1

1. Amateur Athletic Union, 1949-1950
- 2-9. Budget Requests, 1949-1960
- 10-15. Budget Expenses, 1951-1958
- 16-26. Correspondence - Alden W. Thompson, 1951-1958
- 27-30. - Awards, 1949-1952
31. - Bookkeeping, 1952-1957
32. - Buildings and Grounds, 1953-1959
- 33-36. - Miscellaneous, 1955-1958
- 37-39. Gym - Use of, 1949-1958
40. Health Service, 1951-1957
41. Hotels, 1958
42. Trophies, 1953-1955
- 43-46. Wayne Relays, 1949-1955

Series II
Boxes 2-8

Files from the Health and Physical Education Division for the period 1940-1958. The files cover the management and scheduling of competition for men's sports during this period. Other subjects discussed include the inadequacy of Wayne University sports facilities at this time, rental of facilities such as the State Fair Coliseum, the University of Detroit Fieldhouse, Patton Pool and other fields and courses for home games and meets, as well as practice sessions, publicity and radio and television coverage of some sports, participation in the President's Athletic Conference (PAC), and eligibility rules.

Folders labeled "General" contain such information as general scheduling policies, budget considerations, individual and team statistics, rosters and lists of eligible players, promotion and distribution of tickets, attendance figures and inventories. Folders labeled "Scheduling" contain correspondence between Wayne and other schools and colleges regarding arrangements in games and meets, both at home and away. Among some of the exchanges in the "Scheduling" files between Wayne and southern institutions, such as

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Washington University and the University of Louisville, letters can be found discussing the difficulties caused by bringing the black members of Wayne University teams into areas where segregation was the norm.

The files are arranged alphabetically by sport. The dates on the folders labeled "General" and "Scheduling" refer to sport seasons; all other dates refer to the actual dates on the documents. Correspondence in the "General" folders often overlaps from one season to the next. Copies of Basketball Briefs and Football Facts are placed at the end of the years for which copies are available. Copies of Cross Country Facts follow "Cross Country-Police Protection." These publications contain information on the coaches, schedules, individual and team statistics and records. Copies of Spring Sports and Winter Sports, each containing similar information on several different sports, can be found at the end of the series in Box 8.

Box 2

- 1-4. Baseball - General, 1946-1959
- 5-7. - Scheduling, 1946-1959
- 8-9. - Contracts, 1950-1958
- 10-13. Basketball - General, 1947-1948 Season
- 14-20. - Scheduling, 1947-1948 Season
- 21-22. - General, 1948-1949 Season
- 23-33. - Scheduling, 1948-1949 Season
- 34. Basketball Briefs, 1948-1949
- 35-37. Basketball - General, 1949-1950 Season

Box 3

- 1-6. Basketball - Scheduling, 1949-1950 Season
- 7. Basketball Briefs, 1949-1950
- 8-11. Basketball - General, 1950-1951 Season
- 12-16. - Scheduling, 1950-1951 Season
- 17-20. - General, 1951-1952 Season
- 21-22. - Scheduling, 1951-1953 Season
- 23-28. - General, 1952-1953 Season
- 29-34. - Scheduling, 1952-1953 Season
- 35. Basketball Briefs, 1952-1953
- 36-39. Basketball - General, 1953-1954 Season

Box 4

- 1-6. Basketball - Scheduling, 1953-1954 Season
- 7. Basketball Briefs, 1953-1954
- 8-9. Basketball - General, 1954-1955 Season
- 10-11. - Scheduling, 1954-1955 Season
- 12. Basketball Briefs, 1954-1955
- 13-14. Basketball - General, 1955-1956 Season
- 15-17. - Scheduling, 1955-1956 Season
- 18. - Contracts, 1948-1953
- 19-22. Cross Country - General, 1947-1955
- 23. - Correspondence - David L. Holmes, 1949-1959
- 24. - Police Protection of Course, 1948-1958
- 25. Cross Country Facts, 1947-1955

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- 26-27. Cross Country - Contracts, 1952-1958
- 28. - Trip Cards, 1955-1957
- 29-31. Fencing - General, 1949-1956
- 32-33. - Scheduling, 1952-1956
- 34. - Bela de Tuscan, 1954
- 35. - Contracts, 1952
- 36-42. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Fencing Championships, 1950
- 43-44. Football, University of Detroit contracts and accountants' reports, 1940-1953

Box 5

- 1. Football - General, 1949 Season
- 2-5. - Scheduling, 1949 Season
- 6-11. - General, 1950 Season
- 12-22. - Scheduling, 1950 Season
- 23. Football Facts, 1950
- 24-31. Football - General, 1951 Season
- 32-39. - Scheduling, 1951 Season, A-R

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- 1-3. Football - Scheduling, 1951 Season, S-W
- 4-8. - General, 1952 Season
- 9-19. - Scheduling, 1952 Season
- 20. Football Facts, 1952
- 21-22. Football - General, 1953 Season
- 23-28. - Scheduling, 1953 Season
- 29. Football Facts, 1953
- 30-34. Football - General, 1954 Season

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- 1-7. Football - Scheduling, 1954 Season
- 8. Football Facts, 1954
- 9-11. Football - General, 1955 Season
- 12-15. - Scheduling, 1955 Season
- 16. - 1956, 1957
- 17. - Contracts, 1949-1955
- 18. Golf, 1951, 1953-1954
- 19. Golf Contracts, 1951-1958
- 20. Soccer - Promotion of, 1951
- 21-23. Swimming - Scheduling, 1956 Season
- 24-26. - Scheduling, 1957 Season
- 27-29. - Scheduling, 1958 Season
- 30-33. - Scheduling, 1959 Season
- 34. - Scheduling, 1960 Season
- 35-37. - Contracts, 1948-1958
- 38. Tennis - General, 1946-1956
- 39. - Trip Cards, 1957
- 40. - Contracts, 1951-1959
- 41-42. Track, Eligibility Rules, 1949-1954

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43. Track Shoe Repair
44. Track Trip Cards, 1957-1958

Box 8

- 1-2. Track Contracts, 1952-1958
- 3-4. Wrestling - General, 1946-1956
5. - Contracts
6. Wayne University Participation in PAC, 1956-1957 Season
7. Spring Sports, 1950
8. Spring Sports, 1952
9. Spring Sports Shorts, 1953
10. Winter Sports, 1952
11. Winter Sports, 1954
12. Winter Sports, 1955

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