

UNCG Athletics: An Archival Research Guide

“An athletics program is in many ways the most visible element of a university.”
UNCG Athletic Director Nelson Bobb, April 25, 1990

OVERVIEW

The University Archives and Manuscripts department at UNCG serves as a primary resource for information related to the history of athletics on the UNCG campus. Athletics have been on the UNCG campus since 1900 when students were first required to walk 45 minutes every afternoon before dinner. In 1900 the student Athletic Association was founded and actively recruited members for sports such as tennis and basketball. Athletics would continue to play an integral part in student life at UNCG with the introduction of intramural field hockey and softball in 1920. In 1965, with the transition to a co-educational institution, UNCG hired Frank Pleasants to develop both intramural and extramural programs for men’s athletics. In their first year of competition in 1967-68, the men adopted the name Spartans as their team name. In 1985, the administrative responsibility for the athletic program was assigned to the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs. In 1991, UNCG transitioned from a NCAA Division III school to a Division I. Currently in 2009, there are 13 men and women varsity sports at UNCG. The following is an attempt to aid researchers in learning about the exciting history of athletics on the UNCG campus by providing a selected list of available resources in the Archives.

ARCHIVAL RESOURCES

Individual Collections

Carolinian

University Archives, 1919-current

The UNCG newspaper, the *Carolinian*, contains articles and information related to UNCG sports throughout the years.

Chancellors Papers: Moran, William Edward

University Archives, 1979-1994

UA 2.8

These records contain materials such as correspondence and memorandums related intercollegiate athletics during Chancellor Moran’s time in office. This includes items related to UNCG’s transition from a NCAA Division III school to Division I school.

Committees- Intercollegiate Athletics
University Archives, 1967-1995
UA 52

This collection contains memorandums, letters, meeting minutes, annual reports, and general reports documenting the activities of the Department of Athletics from 1967-1995.

Committees- Intercollegiate Athletics, Task Force on
University Archives, 1974-1975
UA 52

This task force was created for the study of University Athletic practices and to suggest future recommendations and improvements. It was chaired by Professor Paul Lutz who submitted the final report to Chancellor James Ferguson on January 27, 1975. The collection contains the final report.

Intercollegiate Athletics
University Archives, 1963 – 1994
UA 52

This collection contains correspondence, minutes, memoranda, reports, and news releases about the Department of Athletics from 1980-1988. It also contains handbooks, committee minutes, reports, financial audits and policy manuals from 1989-1994. Materials related to the Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference from 1963-1988 are also included in this collection.

Intercollegiate Athletics- Football Handbook & Images
University Archives, 2002-2003
UA 52

While never a varsity sport at UNCG, there was an intramural football team on campus from 2002-2003. This is the handbook for the players as well as a CD of photographs related to the team.

Pine Needles
University Archives, 1900-1993
UA Reference

Pine Needles is UNCG's annual yearbook which includes photographs related to athletics on campus as well as statistical and biographical information about sports teams.

Records of the Department of Athletics
University Archives, 1925-2009
UA 52

The records of the Department of Athletics includes the Athletic Association Handbook from 1925-1934 as well as annual reports, media guides for various sports, handbooks, self studies, and manuals on policies and procedures.

Spartan Sports
University Archives, 1995-2001
UA 52

The *Spartan Sports* is a newspaper that was published weekly from 1995-2001. It documented current UNCG athletic news and photographs.

State Normal Magazine
University Archives, 1900-1919

The *State Normal Magazine* was published monthly and documented activities on the UNCG campus. Topics that have been indexed include athletics in general, basketball, football, and tennis.

Hilda Weil Scrapbook, 1922-1926
Manuscripts
Mss 318

Hilda Weil of Goldsboro, North Carolina, attended the North Carolina College for Women from 1922-1926. As a student, Hilda played on the college's Hockey, Baseball, Basketball, and Swim Teams. The scrapbook includes clippings, correspondence, pictures, booklets, cards, invitations, postcards, also ribbons, fabric scraps, party favors and other memorabilia.

Oral History Interviews

Nelson Bobb
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1983-2009
April 25, 1990

This interview was conducted by Ann Phillips as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on April 25, 1990. Nelson Bobb was the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics from 1983 to 2009 and oversaw the growth and development of the UNCG athletic program from a NCAA Division III school to a Division I school. This interview covers the development of the athletic program and Chancellor Moran's vision of the school.

Louise Dannebaum Falk
Class of 1929 / UNCG Board of Trustees for eight years
March 22, 1990

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on March 22, 1990. This interview covers UNCG's transition to Division I and also athletics on campus.

Martha Carson Isgett
Class of 1967
May 14, 1991

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on March 22, 1990. Topics discussed include physical education and intramural sports.

Elizabeth Yates King

Class of 1936

April 9, 1991

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on April 9, 1991. Topics discussed include Division I athletics.

Ann Bannerman Osborn

Class of 1947

September 25, 1990

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on September 25, 1990. Topics discussed include the UNCG athletic program.

Betsy Bullock Stranberg

Class of 1948

May 10, 1991

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on May 10, 1991. Topics discussed include Division I athletics.

Louise Ward

Class of 1933

May 14, 1991

This interview was conducted as part of the UNCG Centennial Oral History Project on May 14, 1991. Topics discussed include Division I athletics.

Vertical Files

“Athletics- History”

This file contains general information about the history of athletics on the UNCG campus from 1940s to 2006 including a detailed timeline and basketball statistics.

Specific Athletic Sports

The following athletic sports have individual vertical files containing information related to their history:

Sports- Baseball (Men's)	Sports- Soccer (Men's)
Sports- Basketball (Men's)	Sports- Soccer (Women's)
Sports- Basketball (Women's)	Sports- Softball (Women's)
Sports- Basketball (NCAA Tournament)	Sports- Tennis (Men's)
Sports- Cross Country	Sports- Tennis (Women's)
Sports- Division I	Sports- Volleyball (Women's)
Sports- Division I Appeal	Sports- Wrestling (Men's)
Sports- General	
Sports- Golf (Women's)	
Sports- Lacrosse (Men's)	
Sports- Miscellaneous	
Sports- Rugby (Women's)	

Articles

The *UNCG Alumni Magazine* has published articles related to UNCG athletics from 1961-2009. Topics include but not limited to are basketball, soccer, tennis, intercollegiate athletics and other sports. Please contact the University Archives for a detailed list of published articles and dates.

Books

Trelease, Allen W. *Making North Carolina Literate: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, from Normal School to Metropolitan University*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2004.

This book provides an extensive history of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro from its founding in 1891 up through 1994. In the book, Trelease documents the history of athletics at UNCG from its founding in the 1890s up through UNCG's entrance into NCAA Division I competition in the early 1990s.

Trelease, Allen W. *Changing Assignments: A Pictorial History of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro*. Japan: Dai Nippon Printing Company, 1991.

Using photographs from the University Archives, Trelease offers a published pictorial history of UNCG. The book includes images of various sport clubs such as swimming as well as varsity sports like field hockey, soccer and basketball.

Cross, Michael E., "The Run to Division I: Intercollegiate Athletics and the Broader Interests of Colleges and Universities." Ph.D Dissertation. University of Michigan, 1999. Print.

This Doctoral dissertation was written in 1999 and chronicles the connection of intercollegiate athletics to colleges and universities. It includes a case study of UNCG's attempts to improve its institutional competitiveness after becoming a co-educational institution by moving to NCAA Division I athletics. There is a copy located in the University Archives Reference: History.

Jones, Deborah E. “A History of Women’s Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.” MA Thesis. UNCG, 1981. Print.

This Master’s thesis was written in 1981 and documents the history of women’s athletics on the UNCG campus as well as the philosophical implications of women and sports in the 20th century. It is located in the Jackson Library tower on the 4th floor (AS 36 N65 P.E., 82-15)

Weaver, Anthony G. “Upward Reclassification of Intercollegiate Athletic Departments to Division I: A Case Study Approach.” Ph.D Dissertation. University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 2007. Online.

This Doctoral dissertation was written in 2007 and focuses on “the process of reclassifying an athletic department to Division I and its impact on the institution and its stakeholders.” To gather this information, a case study was conducted comparing Elon University and UNCG. A copy of this dissertation is available in pdf. format and is located on the NC Docks database [<http://libres.uncg.edu/ir/uncg/>] as well as online through the UNCG library catalog.

Photographs

The UNCG University Archives contains a large photographic collection related to athletics on the UNCG campus dating from 1940 to 2009. Please contact the Archives for more information about specific buildings.

Video Recordings

University Athletic Games 1993-1997

The University Archives has over 100 video tapes of UNCG men’s and women’s games. Please contact the University Archives for more specifics.

“The Birth of UNCG Athletics”

This CD-DVD is a documentary on the history of UNCG Athletics produced by the Department of Athletics in 1995.

Online Exhibits and Resources

<http://www.uncgspartans.com/>

This is the online homepage for the UNCG athletic department. It contains current information about sports programs at UNCG as well a detailed timeline about the history of the athletic department.

Sean Mulligan
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