Overview of the Collection

Creator: University of San Diego Athletics Department
Title: Athletics Department records
Dates: 1956-1993
Physical Description: 2 boxes, (.75 linear feet)
Summary: This collection contains the historical records of the University of San Diego Athletics Department. Records include administrative materials, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: University of San Diego, Archives and Special Collections
Copley Library
5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110
Telephone: 619-260-2730
spcoll@sandiego.edu

Identification: USDA_2008_018

Historical Note

Fon Johnson served as the first athletic director and the first basketball coach for the College for Men in 1955. He oversaw the creation of the football field which was completed in 1955. Gil Kuhn formed the USD Booster Club to help support the football program and coached the inaugural year of football. Desire for a football program was lackluster, however, and the program was discontinued in 1961. USD continued to compete in intercollegiate basketball, baseball, tennis, and golf. The athletic program reintroducing football in 1973 with an anonymous donation of $115,000 also adding soccer around that time. With the advent of Title IX in 1972, the athletics program grew to include female sports. Wendy Gilchrist competed in Tennis in 1971, and Terry Fowler competed as the first female swimmer in 1973. In 1978, the athletics program began moving from NCAA Division III to NCAA Division I, with the exception of the football program which remained Division III until 1993.

USD athletes were initially known as the Pioneers, but in 1961 the mascot changed to the Toreros. Torero is the Spanish word for bullfighter, and was chosen in part as a signifier of courage, honor, and fidelity.

Shortly after the College for Men and College for Women merged, emphasis was placed on the Recreation component of the Athletics Department. The aim was to provide extra-curricular activities for students as well as recreational activities for faculty, staff and alumni.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the historical records of the University of San Diego Athletics Department. Records include administrative memos, meeting minutes, correspondence, programs, and historical information, as well as newspaper clippings related to USD athletics. The records document the advancement of the athletics program, including budget planning, notable events such as the reintroduction of the football program and the move to Division I, and documentation of the recreation program that served the broader campus community.

Photographs and negatives from Crew Classics and a Crew alumni event are also included.

Arrangement

The Athletics Department records are arranged into three series:

Series I. Administrative Records
Series II. News Clippings
Series III. Photographs

Access Information

This collection is open for research.

Preferred citation

[Folder Title], Box # Folder #, Athletics Department records, Copley Library, University of San Diego, Archives and Special Collections.

Additional donations to this collection are expected.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Tessie Camina in November 2008. Further processing was conducted by Ashley Toutain in 2016.

An album of 1986-1988 Crew photographs and negatives was located in 2019. These were removed from the album to archival sleeves and folders for preservation.

**Separated Material**
Photographs of Paula Mascari have been separated from the collection and moved to photo storage.

**Related Material**
Baseball uniforms of John Cunningham, a Torero Cheerleader uniform, signed basketball, and athletics scrapbooks can also be found in the University Archives and Special Collections.

Athletics Media Guides have been digitized and are available on Digital USD.

Archived versions of the University of San Diego Athletics website are available on the University of San Diego Website Archive.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Mascari, Paula  
Maher, Leo T.  
Eagan, Brent  
Cahill, Patrick  
Jones, Alan M.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
University of San Diego  
**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
San Diego (Calif.)

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Athletics  
Football  
Basketball  
Baseball  
Tennis  
Rowing  
sports  
intercollegiate athletics  
student life

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**Series I: Administrative Records 1956-1993**

**Scope and Content Note**
Records in this series pertain to the early administrative matters of the Athletics Department. This includes intercollegiate athletics as well as the university recreation program which oversees events and campus-wide recreation activities. Among these records are memos, meeting minutes, and correspondence regarding the Athletics Department budget defect and need to raise funds.

**Arrangement**
Records in this series are arranged in alphabetical order.

**Box/Folder: 1 / 1**

**Administrator - Cahill - Correspondence 1979-1983**

**Scope and Content Note**
[Correspondence with Rev. Leo T. Maher and Rev. Msgr. I. Brent Eagan regarding passes for University of San Diego basketball and football games.]
Athletic Committee - Meetings 1969 April-May
Scope and Content Note
[Memos, agendas, and meeting minutes.]

Athletic Committee - Memoranda 1968-1971
Scope and Content Note
[University of San Diego Athletics budget information regarding the Athletics Committee's charge to address the budget deficit in the Athletics Department.]

Athletic Fund - Pledge Forms undated

Baseball Alumni List 1993

Basketball, Women's - Mascari, Paula 1990
Scope and Content Note
[Articles about Mascari's selection as the Female Scholar Athlete of the Year. Includes photographs of Mascari.]
Removed or Separated Material
This folder contains five copies of photographs. Photograph originals are located in photographs storage (People-Students-Individual-Mascari, Paula.)

Booster Club - Directory 1960-1972

Correspondence 1969

Director - Job Description 1973

Events - Mad Jack's 5 or 10 Mile Run 1978

Events - Meet the USD Coaches undated

Events - Sports Banquet [program] 1987

Events - West Coast Athletic Conference (WCAC) Visit 1978

Football - Official Brochure 1957

Fund Raising 1973

Goal/Sports Summary 1973-1974

Grid Index 1959
Scope and Content Note
[Football Guide for Southern California. Includes article about University of San Diego Football program.]

Inter-Collegiate Athletics 1970

Recreation Information Sheet 1974

Game Day Programs - Basketball 1959, 1960, 1961

Game Day Programs - Football 1956-1958

Game Day Programs - Football 1959-1961

Souvenir Programs - Israeli Olympic Team vs. USD 1957 February 23

Tennis Brochure 1992

USD Crew 1977-1991
Scope and Content Note
[Includes information about the Torero Power Ten Club which was created to support the Crew program.]

USD Sports Center - Regulations 1973


Athletics Schedules 1978-1980
Series II: **Newspaper Clippings 1960-1982**

**Scope and Content Note**
This series of newspaper clippings, largely from San Diego area newspapers, include articles highlighting University of San Diego Athletics from the 1960s to the 1980s. The bulk of the clippings document game results. Also included are articles pertaining to the growth of the Athletics Department, particularly the decision to become an NCAA Division I program in 1978 as well as to add football, soccer, crew, and women's basketball to the intercollegiate athletic program.

**Arrangement**
Records in this series are arranged in chronological order.

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<th>Box/Folder: 1 / 29</th>
<th>Advertisements undated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box/Folder: 1 / 30</td>
<td><strong>Newspaper Clippings</strong> (<em>&quot;New Nickname: Forget Pioneers - They're Toreros,&quot;</em> Southern Cross, 1961 September 21) <strong>1960-1961</strong></td>
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<td>Box/Folder: 1 / 31</td>
<td><strong>Newspaper Clippings 1970-1973</strong></td>
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<td>Box/Folder: 1 / 32</td>
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</table>
| Box/Folder: 1 / 33 | **Newspaper Clippings 1979**  
Scope and Content Note  
[Includes a series of articles about Alan (Captain America) Jones.] |
| Box/Folder: 1 / 34 | **Newspaper Clippings 1980** |
| Box/Folder: 1 / 35 | **Newspaper Clippings 1981-1982** |

**Series III: Photographs, 1986-1988**

| Box/Folder: 2 / 1-8 | **Crew photographs, 1986-1988**  
Scope and Content Note  