Guide to the Pete Zidnak Collection of San José State University Sports History
MSS.2009.11.04

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Abstract: The Pete Zidnak Collection of San José State University Sports History is the research of Professor Emeritus Zidnak on the history of athletics at San José State University.

Access Restrictions
The collection is open for research. However, patrons may not make photocopies from the binders on request of the donor.

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Processing Information

Project Information
This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

Organizational History
In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San José, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized $200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal School is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West.

Dr. Pete Zidnak (1917-2000) received his M.S. (1950) and Ph.D. (1955) in Philosophy from the University of Southern California. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Purple Heart. Dr. Zidnak began his career at SJSU in 1957 as a Professor of Business, retired in 1982, and was awarded Emeritus status in 1983. Following retirement, he began compiling a history of intercollegiate athletics at SJSU. From 1991-1996, Dr. Zidnak gathered data and facts about campus sports by utilizing past school newspapers and other archival materials. Dr. Zidnak chronicled the development of the school's intercollegiate competition dating back to the 1890s, when San José State University was known as the San José State Normal School.

Related Material
San Jose State University Football Programs collection, MSS-2009-08-04.
San José State University Spartan Sports Collection, MSS-2010-08-08.
San Jose State College "Speed City" Collection, MSS-2016-04-25.
San Jose State College Football Film Collection, MSS-2010-07-09.

Scope and Content
Pete Zidnak Collection of San Jose State University Sports History, 1890-1996, documents the history of athletics at San Jose State University. The collection consists of two binders that represent the research of Emeritus Business Professor Pete Zidnak. This research includes historical information on the formation of athletics and the emergence of intercollegiate sports competition at SJSU. The bulk of the collection consists of photocopies from archival resources that document the early history of the State Normal School, statistics on student enrollment, tuition costs, information on the athletic logo and school colors, homecoming, parades and rallies, the school band, songs, cheers and yells, and game statistics. In addition, the research chronicles other activities related to athletic governance, college life, and events related to athletics. The collection also includes a timeline and complete bibliography for further research.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged into three series: Series I. 1991 Manuscript; Series II. 1996 Manuscript; and Series III. Recollections of Louis Duino.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
College sports -- California -- San José.
San José State University -- Sports -- History
Zidnak, Pete, 1917-2000
San José State University. Library. Special Collections & Archives

Scope and Contents
This series represents the historical research of Pete Zidnak, Emeritus Professor of Business. The research includes historical information on the formation of athletics and the emergence of intercollegiate sports competition at SJSU.
Arrangement
The collection is arranged alphabetically by sport.

Sub-Series I. Original
Box 1, Folder 1 Title Page, Bibliography, and Table of Contents
Box 1, Folder 2 Background Information
Box 1, Folder 3 Archery/Arcery Golf
Box 1, Folder 4 Basketball, Men and Women
Box 1, Folder 5 Baseball, Men
Box 1, Folder 6 Basketball, Women
Box 1, Folder 7 Bowling, Fencing, and Field Hockey
Box 1, Folder 8 Football
Box 1, Folder 9 Horseshoes, Roquette/Croquet, Rowing, and Rugby
Box 1, Folder 10 Soccer, Swimming, and Tennis
Box 1, Folder 11 Track, Volleyball (Women), and Walking/Hiking/Outing

Sub-Series II. Second Copy
Box 1, Folder 12 Bibliography and Preface
Box 1, Folder 13 Background Information
Box 1, Folder 14 Archery/Arcery Golf
Box 1, Folder 15 Basketball, Men and Women
Box 1, Folder 16 Basketball, Men's
Box 1, Folder 17 Basketball, Women's
Box 1, Folder 18 Bowling, Fencing, and Field Hockey
Box 1, Folder 19 Football
Box 1, Folder 20 Horseshoes, Roquette/Croquet, Rowing, and Rugby
Box 1, Folder 21 Soccer
Box 1, Folder 22 Swimming and Tennis
Arrangement
The collection is arranged alphabetically by sport.

Scope and Contents
This series represents the historical research of Pete Zidnak, Emeritus Professor of Business. The research includes historical information on the formation of athletics and the emergence of intercollegiate sports competition at SJ SU.

Sub-Series I. Original

Box 2, Folder 1  Background Information
Box 2, Folder 2  Aqua-Skiing, Archery/Archery Golf/Kyudo, and Badminton
Box 2, Folder 3  Baseball, Men's
Box 2, Folder 4  Baseball, Women's
Box 2, Folder 5  Basketball, Men's
Box 2, Folder 6  Basketball, Women's
Box 2, Folder 7  Biking/Cycling, Billiards, and Bowling (Men and Women)
Box 2, Folder 8  Boxing
Box 2, Folder 9  Cross Country and Fencing (Men's, ROTC, and Women's)
Box 2, Folder 10  Field Hockey
Box 2, Folder 11  Football
Box 2, Folder 12  Frisbee and Fussball
Box 2, Folder 13  Golf, Men's and Women's
Box 2, Folder 14  Gymnastics, Men's and Women's
Box 2, Folder 15  Horseshoes, Ice Hockey, and Judo (Men and Women)
Box 2, Folder 16  Karate, Kendo, Ping Pong/Table Tennis, and Pistol/Rifle Shooting
Box 2, Folder 17  Polo, Riding, Roquette/Croquet, and Rowing
Box 2, Folder 18  Rugby
Box 2, Folder 19  Sailing/Yachting and Skiing
Box 2, Folder 20  Soccer, Men and Women
Box 2, Folder 21  Softball and Speedball
Box 2, Folder 22  Swimming and Synchronized Swimming
Box 2, Folder 23  Tennis
Box 2, Folder 24  Track and Field
Box 2, Folder 25  Volleyball and Walking/Hiking/Outing
Box 2, Folder 26  Water Polo, Wheelchair Athletics, and Women's Physical Education/Culture
Box 2, Folder 27  Wrestling, Auction Bridge, Chess, and Flying

Series-Series II. Second Copy

Box 2, Folder 28  Table of Content and Synopsis
Box 2, Folder 29  Background Information
Box 2, Folder 30  Auction, Aqua-Ski, Archery/Archery Golf/Kyudo, and Badminton
Box 2, Folder 31  Baseball, Men's
Box 2, Folder 32  Baseball, Women's
Box 2, Folder 33  Basketball, Men's
Box 2, Folder 34  Basketball, Women's
Box 2, Folder 35  Biking/Cycling and Billiards
Box 2, Folder 36  Bowling, Men's and Women's
Box 2, Folder 37  Boxing
Box 2, Folder 38  Chess and Cross Country
Box 2, Folder 39  Fencing: Men's, ROTC, and Women's
Box 2, Folder 40  Field Hockey and Flying
Box 2, folder 41  Football
Box 2, folder 42  Frisbee and Fussball
Box 2, Folder 43  Golf, Men’s
Box 2, Folder 44  Golf, Women’s
Box 2, folder 45  Gymnastics, Men and Women
Box 2, Folder 46  Horseshoes and Ice Hockey
Box 2, Folder 47  Judo, Men and Women
Box 2, Folder 48  Karate, Kendo, Ping Pong/Table Tennis, Pistol/Rifle Shooting, and Polo
Box 2, Folder 49  Riding, Roquette/Croquet, and Rowing
Box 2, Folder 50  Rugby
Box 2, folder 51  Sailing/Yachting and Skiing
Box 2, Folder 52  Soccer, Men and Women
Box 2, folder 53  Softball, Women’s
Box 2, Folder 54  Speeding, Swimming: Men and Women, and Synchronized Swimming
Box 2, Folder 55  Tennis, Men and Women
Box 2, Folder 56  Track and Field, Men and Women
Box 2, Folder 57  Volleyball, Walking/Hiking/Outing, and Water Polo
Box 2, Folder 58  Wheelchair Athletics, Women’s Physical Education and Westling

Series III. Recollections of Louis Duino 1994
Scope and Contents
This series contains an autobiography of Louis Duino, sportswriter and editor for San Jose newspapers from 1925 to 1975.

Box 1, Folder 25  Recollections of Louis Duino (1 of 2)
Box 1, Folder 26  Recollections of Louis Duino (2 of 2)