

Millikin University Archives: Staley Library

Ralph Allan Collection

Collection Number: 5.05ex.110

Inclusive Dates: 1950 – 1980

Bulk Dates: 1951

Quantity: 2 scrapbook boxes

Acquisition Information: Unknown.

Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research.

Copyright: Millikin University.

Photographs: Black and white photographs of various sizes located in scrapbook, one envelope with 3 black and white photographs.

Condition Notes: Paper in scrapbook is brittle, loose pages. Photos are mounted with photo corners (some photos have come out of the corners), telegrams are mounted with tape.

Processed by: Cathryne Zimmerman, January 2004; Amanda Pippitt, May 2018.

Biographical Note

Ralph Allan graduated from Millikin University in and was a part of the faculty from 1937-39, and again from 1947-81. In 1979 he was granted the status of Professor Emeritus. He was the Millikin Men's basketball coach, as well as the Athletic Director during his time at Millikin. He led the men's basketball team to the national championship in Kansas City in 1951, finishing second in the nation.

The Decatur Indoor Sports Center (DISC) co-named a weightlifting and cardiovascular center in honor of Allan. A scholarship fund was also established by Allan's family and friends and is annually awarded to a deserving student. His wife, Ellen Allan taught English at Millikin from 1959-1964.

Scope and Content Note

The majority of the collection chronicles the 1951 basketball season and contains many telegraph messages written to Allan and the team, encouraging them to do their best in the N.A.I.B. playoffs. There are also newspaper clippings and professional photographs included in the scrapbook. It is not known who assembled the scrapbook.

Series Notes

Series 1: Scrapbook

2 items

Large, black leather-bound scrapbook containing photos and telegrams relating to the Kansas City basketball tourneys in 1951, 1952. Large, brown leather scrapbook- "Big Blue Basketball with Scott Steagall."

Series 2: Programs

7 items

Programs relating to the Kansas City basketball tourneys, Millikin University Homecoming, Millikin Alumni Association, Teachers' Institute & Education Association meeting.

Series 3: Miscellaneous

3 items

Other items saved separately from the scrapbook: typed play-by-play.

Series 4: Newspapers

2 *Decaturian* issues, 1 folder of clippings

Newspapers clippings from local papers relating to Millikin basketball.

Series 5: Photos

3 items

Photos of Pi Phi? sorority and other identified people.

Series 6: Publications

2 items

Millikin University Bulletins (alumni magazines) from 1959 & 1979.

Collection Inventory

Folder/Item Title	Container #	Folder/Item #	Description
Scrapbook	F-0013	1 (not in folder)	Scrapbook of pics/telegrams from Kansas City tourneys 1951 & 1952
Scrapbook	F-0025	2 (not in folder)	"Big Blue Basketball with Scott Steagall" scrapbook
Programs	F-0013	3	1951 Banquet Program, 1950-51 Official Memorial Basketball Program; Converse 1951 Basketball Year Book
Programs	F-0013	4	Millikin

			Homecoming programs, Alumni Association dinner program, Teachers' Institute/Educational Association meeting program
Cheerleaders	F-0013	5	Undated, possibly a picture removed from a program
Play by Play	F-0013	6	Millikin vs. Eastern Illinois University
Decaturian	F-0013	7 (not in folder)	March 17, 1952 Decaturian (note written in pencil "Baby was in the car with her Dad in the parade.")
Decaturian	F-0013	8	February 19, 1971 Decaturian (note in red pen "Please return PIX! Ok? Love Mother")
Newspapers	F-0025	9	Local newspaper clippings relating to 1950s Millikin basketball team, 1971 alumni award article
Photos	F-0025	10	3 photos, one labeled Pi Phi
Publications	F-0025	11	Millikin University Bulletins (alumni magazine), 1959, 1979