

## Finding Aid

## The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field Collection: 10 Boxes, 287 Folders, 1974-2011

## Abstract

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field Collection documents the development of and the publicity surrounding the University of Texas at Austin's women's track and field and cross country programs between 1974 and 2011. UT Athletics Media Relations is the liaison between athletics personal, coaches, student athletes, and media outlets. The collection includes newspaper articles, meet programs, athlete performance statistics, promotional materials, and media publications about the UT women's track and field and cross country programs.

## Access

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## **Preferred** Citation

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field Collection, H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture & Sports, The University of Texas at Austin.

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Office	Cross-country running	-United States
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#### Administrative History

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field Collection was created and maintained by the Media Relations office of The University of Texas at Austin's Athletics Department. The office is located within the Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium complex, and reports to the Deputy Director of Athletics.

The Media Relations office serves as the principal media liaison for all sports at the University of Texas at Austin, and is the main contact between outside entities (media, authors, and researchers) and internal groups (student-athletes, athletic directors, and coaches) seeking information about UT Athletics. The purpose of the Media Relations office is to manage the media demands of the University of Texas intercollegiate athletics programs and to actively publicize and promote these programs; to provide information to the public and the media by creating and distributing media guides, news releases, graphics, photos, and social media posts; to generate content for

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TexasSports.com; to respond to media requests; and to arrange and prepare coaches, student athletes, and staff for all media interview requests. The functions of the office include collecting newspaper and magazine articles, preserving internal and external correspondence of athletics staff, and preparing information packages for the media. In addition, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requires universities to keep files and statistics related to each athletic event, and Media Relations is the source for this data.

The UT women's track and field and cross country programs were founded in 1974 with the launch of the women's athletics department. UT was one of the first public universities to comply with the Title IX law, which was passed in 1972. This law prohibits any education program or activity that receives federal funding from excluding persons from those activities or programs on the basis of sex. By establishing track and field and cross country programs for women in 1974, UT created a more inclusive, equitable athletics program, and provided opportunities to all students at the university regardless of sex.

Head coaches who have overseen both the track and cross country teams include Jack Daniels (1974-1978), Phil Delaven (1978-1984), Terry Crawford (1984-1992), Beverly Kearney (1993-2013), and Mario Sategna (2013-present). The head coach is responsible for the overall performance of the team and receives additional support from assistant coaches who train student athletes in specialized events and activities such as sprints, hurdles, relays, field events, distance, and cross country.

Since its founding, the women's track and field team has won six Indoor Track and Field (1986, 1988, 1990, 1998, 1999, and 2006) and four Outdoor Track and Field (1982, 1986, 1998, 1999, and 2005) NCAA Division I Championships. The women's cross

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country team won the 1986 NCAA Women's Division I Cross Country Championship. Women's sports at Texas began competing in the Southwest Conference in 1982-83. The cross country team has won a total of 4 conferences, while track and field has won 20 indoor and 21 outdoor conferences.

In addition to NCAA champions, the UT women's track and field team has cultivated a number of Olympic athletes. Past medalists include Juliet Cuthbert (100 meter and 200 meter, 1992;  $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 1996), Carlette Guidry ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 1992 and 1996), Nikole Mitchell ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 1996), Merlene Frazer ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 2000), Nanceen Perry ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 2000), Sandie Richards ( $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2000 and 2004), Sanya Richards-Ross ( $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2004 and 2008; 400 meter and  $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2012), Moushami Robinson ( $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2004), Melanie Walker (400 meter hurdles, 2008), Bianca Knight ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 2012), Morolake Akinosun ( $4 \times 100$  meter relay, 2016), Michelle Carter (shot put, 2016), Courtney Okolo ( $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2016), Chrisann Gordon ( $4 \times 400$  meter relay, 2016), and Ashley Spencer (400 meter hurdles, 2016).

The UT women's cross country team has produced several conference champions. Southwest Conference champions include Lori Nelson (1982), Tara Arnold (1983), Annie Schweitzer Bennett (1985 and 1986), and Tina Hall (1989). Marielle Hall (2013) was a Big 12 Conference champion.

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## Scope and Content

# The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field Collection: 10 Boxes: 287 Folders, 1974-2011

The collection documents the development of and the publicity surrounding the University of Texas at Austin's women's track and field and cross country programs between 1974 and 2011. The UT Athletics Media Relations office gathered this material to provide documentation about the women's track and field and cross country programs to UT administration, coaches, and student athletes, as well as local and national media outlets. These materials were retained in order to provide information for writers in the Media Relations office, and to fulfill external media requests.

The materials in this collection are arranged into two series: *Track and Field* and *Cross Country*. The two sports are separated because their seasons occur at different times—track and field predominantly in the spring, cross country in the fall—and different coaches and student athletes are involved. Both of these series contain season binders, press clippings, and media guides, while the Track and Field series also contains programs, magazines, and other publications.

Season binders contain press releases, meet results, individual athletes' performance information, and coaching notes. Typically, there is one binder per season. Note that a single document in the 2003 track and field season binder has been redacted due to sensitive information.

Press clippings collected by the Media Relations office, from both print and online news publications, such as *The Daily Texan* and the *Austin American-Statesman*, document the

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accomplishments of individual athletes and coaches on the UT women's track and field and cross country teams on the local, state, and national level.

Media guides provide summary information on the outcomes of individual seasons and are produced by the Media Relations Office as press kits. They contain information related to team and program history, coaching staff, student athletes, and performance statistics for individual seasons.

As noted above, programs, magazines, and other publications are found within the Track and Field series but not in the Cross Country series. The programs describe different meets and championships the UT women's track and field team participated in such as the Texas Relays, the Big 12 Championship, the Southwest Conference, and the NCAA Championship. The magazines feature the accomplishments of prominent UT track and field athletes and coaches on a national level. In particular, the magazines highlight the achievements of head coach Beverly Kearney during her tenure leading the UT women's track and field team. The additional publications consist of notes from the Media Relations office comparing Big 12 track athlete statistics, documentation and questionnaires about athletes from the 2010-2011 season, and the publication *Texas Track & Field Records & History*.

The UT Athletics Media Relations Office will continue to add to this collection in both paper and digital formats.

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### **Collection Arrangement**

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Track and Field: 10 Boxes, 287 Folders, 1974 - 2011

#### Series 1: Track and Field, 1974-2011

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Box 1, Folders 8-10: Season Binder, 1978

Box 1, Folders 11-14: Season Binder, 1979

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Box 1, Folders 39-42: Season Binder, 1985

Box 2, Folders 1-6: Season Binder, 1986



Box 2, Folders 7-11: Season Binder, 1987

Box 2, Folders 12-16: Season Binder, 1988

Box 2, Folders 17-22: Season Binder, 1989

Box 2, Folders 23-27: Season Binder, 1990

Box 3, Folders 1-6: Season Binder, 1991

Box 3, Folders 7-11: Season Binder, 1992

Box 3, Folders 12-15: Season Binder, 1993

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Box 5, Folders 5-7: Season Binder, 2001

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Box 6, Folder 7.5: Records through 2007

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Box 8, Folder 2: Press Clippings, 2002

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Box 8, Folder 10: Programs, 1983-1984

Box 8, Folder 11: Programs, 1985



Box 8, Folder 12: Programs, 1986-1988

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#### Subseries 4: Media Guides, 1977-2010

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#### Subseries 5: Magazines, 1981-2011

Box 9, Folder 13: Women's Track World, June 1981

Box 9, Folder 14: Track and Field News Magazine, 1983, 1996, 2011

Box 9, Folder 15: Alcalde, May-June 2010

Box 9, Folder 16: NCAA Champion, Winter 2010

#### Subseries 6: Notes, Athlete Documentation and Additional Publication, 1975-2011

Box 9, Folder 17: Big 12 Comparison Project, circa 2009

Box 9, Folder 18: Athlete Documentation and Questionnaire, 2010-2011

Box 9, Folder 19: "Texas Track & Field Records & History" publication, 2010

Box 9, Folder 19.5: Scrapbook Scans, 1975-79

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Box 9, Folder 21: Season Binder, 1976



Box 9, Folder 22: Season Binder, 1977

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