

The H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture and Sports
The University of Texas at Austin

Finding Aid

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Swimming and Diving Collection: 8 boxes, 1974-2017

Abstract

Dating back to 1919, when the Texas Turtle Swimming Club became first organized under the Women's Athletic Association, swimming and diving are the oldest athletic activities available to women at the University of Texas at Austin. The swimming club became an official intercollegiate team in 1969 under the leadership of Rosemary Slacks. The team received increased support and funding from the University after the passage of Title IX in 1972. The UT Athletics Media Relations Women's Swimming and Diving Collection contains season binders, publicity publications, and season information records collected by UT Athletics Media Relations between 1974 and 2017. Included among the materials are team rosters, schedules, time sheets, meet results, press releases, programs for meets, postseason results, newspaper and magazine articles, and published media guides.

Access

Access to The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Swimming and Diving Collection is restricted to visitors of the H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture and Sports. The Stark Center welcomes access inquires and encourages research appointments. For more information, phone (512) 471-4890, email info@starkcenter.org, or visit www.starkcenter.org.



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Processing Information:

Collection processed in 2016 by Erin Harbour, Elle Covington, and Chido Muchemwa under the supervision of Brent Sipes, Stark Center Digital Archivist.

Updated by Caroline De La Cerda, October 2025.

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Preferred Citation

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

Subject Index

Associations	Longhorn Aquatics	Texas Association for
Amateur Athletic Union of the United States (AAU)	National Collegiate Athletic Association	Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (TAIAW)
Association for	(NCAA)	Awards
Intercollegiate Athletics	Southwest Conference (SWC)	All-Americans
for Women (AIAW) Big 12		Big 12 Coach of the Year
		Big 12 Diver of the Year

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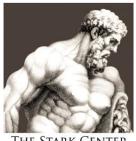
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Big 12 Diving Coach of the Year	FINA World Championships	Austin American- Statesman
Big 12 Female Athlete of the Year	NCAA Swimming and Diving Meet	The Daily Texan ESPN.com
Big 12 Newcomer of the Year	Pan American Games Southwest Conference	Organizations
Big 12 Swimmer of the Year	World University Games	University of Texas at Austin, Intercollegiate Athletics
Big 12 Swimming Coach of the Year	Events Olympic Games	University of Texas at Austin, Media Relations
National Champions	Key Terms	Office
National Coach of the Year	Diving	People
Olympic Medals	Intercollegiate athletics	Bar, Beth
SWC All-Decade Team	Swimming	Bedford, BJ
SWC Coach of the Year	Locations	Bergen, Paul
SWC Swimmer of the	Lee & Joe Jamail Texas	Brown, Mike
Decade	Swim Center	Caulkins, Tracy
Championships	News Sources	Cohen, Tiffany

Big 12 Conference

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The Stark Center

The University of Texas at Austin **Athletics Media Relations** Women's Swimming and Diving Collection

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The University of Texas at Austin

Cowley, Annette Jonsson, Birgitta Schubert, Mark

Cripps, Annabelle Kleine, Megan Scoggin, Matt

Denman, Hellen Klimpel, Carol Steinseifer, Carrie

Lanné, Colleen Sterkel, Jill Eriksson, Agneta

Tollan, Tine Fetter, Leigh Ann Lijebeng, Annie

Gamme, Kamilla Thayer, Susie Linehan, Kim

Girard, Dian McFarlane, Tracey Van Lint, Jacinta

Guido, Sara Mitchell, Betsey Wetteskog, Susanne

Hansen, Erika Patterson, Pat Wilkinson, Laura

Harris, Rachel Pennington, Joan Yeo, Joscelin

Phenix, Erin York, Teri Hayes, Andrea

Universities Hedgepeth, Whitney Potter, Cynthia

Hooker, Jana Quick, Richard Southern Methodist

University Horton-Perincheif, Katura Roach, Jack

Texas A&M University Ilyina, Vera Rhodenbaugh, Kim

University of Texas at

Johnson, Susan Rossing, Anita

Austin

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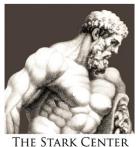
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Administrative History

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Swimming and Diving 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 University of Texas Athletics Media Relations office serves as principal media liaison for all University of Texas intercollegiate athletics programs including the Women's Swimming and Diving Program. The University of Texas Athletics Media Relations office describes its role as, to "actively publicize and promote the positive aspects and manage the media demands of all University of Texas intercollegiate athletics programs." This includes the creation and distribution of media guides, sports media fact books, press releases, photographs, maintenance of texassports.com and management of UT Athletics social media presence. The Media Relations Office is in charge of distributing media credentials for home events. It also serves as liaison for coaches, student-athletes and staff with media and conferences, NCAA and departmental contacts.

The Women's Swimming and Diving Program at the University of Texas at Austin was established in 1969. Prior to 1969, swimming and diving for women had been non-competitive. Little information about UT's early swimming and dive club exists before Anna Hiss became an instructor at UT in 1918. In 1919, the Texas Turtle Swimming Club became the first women's club organized under the Women's Athletic Association, with Anna Hiss serving as the faculty sponsor. In 1963, Rosemary Slacks took over as faculty sponsor, and officially became the first women's swimming and diving coach during the 1969–1970 season when the program made the switch from a club to a competitive intercollegiate team. That same season, she led the team to win the first Southwest Conference Women's Swimming Championship held at UT. The



Women's Swimm

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Women's team initially competed in the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women championships, but ultimately committed to the NCAA.

Passage of Title IX in 1972 brought many changes to women's intercollegiate athletics. In order to comply with Title IX, the Athletics Council at the University of Texas recommended a separate Department of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women with a Women's Athletics Council and an Athletics Director for Women. In 1975, the university hired Donna Lopiano as its first director of Women's Athletics. Under Lopiano's tenure from 1975 to 1992, the amount of university funding allocated to women's sports greatly increased.

In 1977, the Texas Swimming Center was opened. Modeled on the pool for the 1972 Olympics in Munich, the presence of a world class swimming facility at the University of Texas led to the school hosting many national and international events including the USSR vs USA Dual Swimming meet in 1978, United States Olympic Diving Trials in 1980, US Swimming International Meet in 1984 and the Phillips 66/United States Swimming Long Course National Championships and United States Olympic Team Selection Meet in 1988.

In 1978, the university hired Paul Bergen as the first full-time coach for women's swimming and diving. During his time at the University, the women he coached included world record holders, and rivals, Joan Pennington and Jill Sterkel. Bergen served as Assistant Swimming Coach for Team USA in 1980 and was instrumental in bringing the 1980 Olympic Diving trials to UT. In 1982, Richard Quick was appointed head coach. He led the team to five consecutive NCAA titles (1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1988), the longest women's winning streak at that time. He also served on the coaching staff for Team USA in five Olympic Games. Mark Schubert served as head coach from 1988 to 1991.

In 1992, Jill Sterkel became head coach, a position she held until 2006. She had been co-head coach with Mike Walker from 2000. Prior to that, she had been assistant coach since 1986. Sterkel's tenure saw success for the Women's Swimming and Diving Team. However, she is probably better known for her achievements as a swimmer. She won her first Olympic gold

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medal in 1976 as a member of the 4×100 -meter Freestyle relay, beating the much-favored East Germany. She qualified for the 1980 Olympics, but Team USA boycotted the USSR-hosted event. Sterkel received the Broderick Cup Award for the nation's best female college athlete for 1980-81. She would go on to win three more medals in the 1984 and 1988 Olympic Games. In April of 2000, she became one of 10 inaugural inductees in the Texas Women's Athletics Hall of Honor. She was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2003.

Mike Brown was coach of the Diving Team from 1976 to 1994. In his eighteen years as coach, he was named National Diving Coach of the Year three times and was part of 14 national championship and 31 conference championship teams at UT. He was inducted into UT Women's Athletics Hall of Honor in 2012. He served as Diving Coach for Team USA in the 1988 and the 1992 Olympics, and was inducted into the Texas Swimming and Diving Hall of Fame in 2012. In 1994, Matt Scoggin took over as Diving coach for both the Men's and Women's teams. He served as USA Diving Olympics Additional and Personal Coach in 2012.

The Swimming and Diving Team competes in the NCAA Division I. The team competed in the Southwest Conference until 1996 when the University of Texas, along with Baylor University, Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University, left the conference to form the Big 12 Conference with eight other schools.

In the 2000s, as the number of foreign students swimming for the university increased, there was debate about whether there should be a limit to the number of non-Americans being given scholarships to compete for the university, with some feeling deserving Americans were being denied spots by foreigners who would swim for other countries in major international competition like the Olympics. Regardless, the Women's Swimming and Diving Team has produced Olympians both for the United States and foreign countries.

As of November 2016, the Women's Swimming and Diving program has produced 44 Olympians representing 12 countries and winning 23 medals. Jill Sterkel won four medals for Team USA over three Olympic games. Joscelin Yeo represented Singapore in four Olympic

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games, a record at the time for her country. In 2000, Laura Wilkinson won gold for USA in the 10m platform diving event, while her Texas teammate Vera Ilyina won gold for Russia in the synchronized 3 meter springboard event.

Scope and Content

The University of Texas at Austin Athletics Media Relations Women's Swimming and Diving Collection: 8 Boxes, 1974-2017

The collection documents the University of Texas at Austin's Women's Swimming and Diving program between 1974 and 2017. The majority of the material covers the years between 1977 and 2006. These records were primarily generated during the swimming and diving seasons to record athlete results, improvements, and meet results. The UT Athletics Media Relations department also collected published programs, press materials, and other publicity publications related to the program as a whole, as well as to coaches, student athletes, and alumni. Documents include practice and meet times and compare UT student athlete times with the times of other athletes.

Included in the collection are season binders created by the Media Department that include team rosters, schedules, time sheets, meet results, and press releases. There are also publicity materials including athlete materials, programs for meets in which the team competed, meet results, postseason results, and articles. Published media guides are also included, which provide overall UT swimming and diving promotional information including rosters, schedules, honors and awards, best times, biographies of staff and student athletes, and lists of Longhorn Olympians. The collection also includes newspaper clippings relating to the 1974 through 2008 seasons, primarily from UT's *The Daily Texan*, and including other state and national newspaper articles, as well as online articles from websites including ESPN.com and other sports news sites.

Collection Arrangement

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Series 1: Season Binders, 1977-2006

The season binders for 1990–1991 and 2004-2005 seasons were missing upon acquisition. Newspaper clippings for the first few seasons were originally stored in the season binders, but were separated prior to Stark's acquisition of materials.

Box 1, Folder 1: Season Binder, 1977-1978

Box 1, Folder 2-3: Season Binder, 1978-1979

Box 1, Folder 4-5: Season Binder, 1979-1980

Box 1, Folder 6: Season Binder, 1980-1981

Box 1, Folder 7-8: Season Binder, 1981-1982

Box 1, Folder 9-10: Season Binder, 1982-1983

Box 1, Folder 11-12: Season Binder, 1983-1984

Box 1, Folder 13-14: Season Binder, 1984-1985

Box 1, Folder 15-16: Season Binder, 1985-1986

Box 2, Folder 1-2: Season Binder, 1986-1987

Box 2, Folder 3-4: Season Binder, 1987-1988

Box 2, Folder 5: Season Binder, 1988-1989

Box 2, Folder 6: Season Binder, 1989-1990

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Box 2, Folder 7: Season Binder, 1991-1992

Box 2, Folder 8-9: Season Binder, 1992-1993

Box 2, Folder 10-12: Season Binder, 1993-1994

Box 2, Folder 13-14: Season Binder, 1994-1995

Box 3, Folder 1-4: Season Binder, 1995-1996

Box 3, Folder 5-6: Season Binder, 1996-1997

Box 3, Folder 7-10: Season Binder, 1997-1998

Box 3, Folder 11-12: Season Binder, 1998-1999

Box 3, Folder 13-14: Season Binder, 1999-2000

Box 4, Folder 1-4: Season Binder, 2000-2001

Box 4, Folder 5-7: Season Binder, 2001-2002

Box 4, Folder 8-9: Season Binder, 2002-2003

Box 4, Folder 10-11: Season Binder, 2003-2004

Box 4, Folder 12-13: Season Binder, 2005-2006

Series 2: Newspaper Clippings, 1974-2005

This series is missing clippings for the 1986-1987, the 1989-1990, 1992-1993, and 2003-2004 seasons.

Box 5, Folder 1: Newspaper Clippings, 1974-1975

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Box 5, Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings, 1975-1976

Box 5, Folder 3: Newspaper Clippings, 1976-1977

Box 5, Folder 4: Newspaper Clippings, 1977-1978

Box 5, Folder 5: Newspaper Clippings, 1978-1979

Box 5, Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings, 1979-1980

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Box 5, Folder 19: Newspaper Clippings, 1995-1996

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Box 5, Folder 20: Newspaper Clippings, 1996-1997

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Box 6, Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings, 1998-1999

Box 6, Folder 3: Newspaper Clippings, 1999-2000

Box 6, Folder 4: Newspaper Clippings, 2000-2001

Box 6, Folder 5: Newspaper Clippings, 2001-2002

Box 6, Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings, 2002-2003

Box 6, Folder 7: Newspaper Clippings, 2004-2005

Series 3: Media Guides, 1977-2017

Box 6, Folder 8: UT Media Guides, 1977-1978

Box 6, Folder 8A: UT Media Guides, 1978-79, 1979-80

Box 6, Folder 9: UT Media Guides, 1980-81, 1981-82

Box 6, Folder 10: UT Media Guides, 1982-83, 1983-84

Box 6, Folder 11: UT Media Guides, 1984-85, 1985-86

Box 6, Folder 11A: UT Media Guides, 1986-87, 1987-88

Box 6, Folder 12: UT Media Guides, 1988-89, 1989-90

Box 6, Folder 13: UT Media Guides, 1990-91, 1991-92

Box 6, Folder 14: UT Media Guides, 1992-93, 1993-94

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Box 6, Folder 15: UT Media Guides, 1994-95, 1995-96

Box 6, Folder 16: UT Media Guides, 1996-97, 1997-98

Box 6, Folder 17: UT Media Guides, 1998-99, 1999-00

Box 6, Folder 18: UT Media Guides, 2000-01, 2001-02

Box 6, Folder 19: UT Media Guides, 2002-03, 2003-04

Box 6A, Folder 1: UT Media Guides, 2004-05, 2005-06

Box 6A, Folder 2: UT Media Guides, 2006-07, 2007-08

Box 6A, Folder 3: UT Media Guides, 2008-09, 2009-10

Box 6A, Folder 4: UT Media Guides, Misc, 2005-06, 2017

Box 7, Folder 1: UT Post Season Media Guide-AIAW: 1981

Box 7, Folder 2: UT Post Season Media Guide-Big12: 1999, 2002

Box 7, Folder 3: UT Post Season Media Guide-NCAA: 1991, 1994, 1996, 1999

Box 7, Folder 4: UT Post Season Media Guide-NCAA: 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005

Box 7, Folder 5: UT Post Season Media Guide-SWC: 1995, 1996

Box 7, Folder 6: AIAW Media Guides: 1980, 1981, 1982

Box 7, Folder 7: Big12 Media Guides: 1998, 1999

Box 7, Folder 8: NCAA Media Guides: 1983, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1992, 1993, 1995

Box 7, Folder 9: NCAA Media Guides: 1996, 1998, 1999, 2002

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Box 7, Folder 10: SWC Media Guides: 1992, 1994

Box 7, Folder 11: TAIAW Media Guides: 1976, 1981

Series 4: Meet Information Packets, 1976-2006

Box 7, Folder 12: Big12: 1999

Box 7, Folder 13: NCAA: 2002

Box 7, Folder 14: Miscellaneous Meets: 1980-2006

Series 5: Results/Scorebooks/Record Books/ Rankings, 1976-2006

Box 7, Folder 15: Big 12 Results: 1999

Box 7, Folder 16: NCAA Results: 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005