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Retrospect

News from the Winthrop University Archives and Special Collections

October, 2005

Volume 1, number 1

Archives Given Winthrop 1905 Basketball Uniform

The Archives received a wonderful addition to our Winthrop Memorabilia Collection last month. Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Coggin Everette gave Winthrop her mother's 1905 basketball uniform and a photograph of the 1905 Champion Team. The uniform belonged to Mary Elizabeth Lay, Class of 1907. Lay, the daughter of Mrs. James F. Lay of Pendleton, S.C., entered Winthrop on September 16, 1903 at the age of 16. She graduated in 1907 with a Bachelor's Degree in the Normal Literary Course (Education). At the turn of the 20th century, each class fielded sports teams and the teams played each other. In 1905, the Class of 1907 won the basketball championship and is pictured in the photograph. The uniform is in excellent condition as is the photograph. Mrs. Everette's granddaughter, Lay's great-granddaughter, is a freshman this year at Winthrop.



First Row l. to r.: Mary Lay, Forward; Gertrude Meares, Left Field; Ethel Coleman, Center Back Row: Maye Blakenship, Forward; Bessie Lynch, Guard; Ida Blount, Right Field (Captain); Annie Sitgreaves, Guard; Camille Claywell, Manager.



1905 Basketball Uniform

Lib Mahon and the All American Girls Professional Baseball League

The All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL), which was returned to the country's attention in the 1992 film *A League of Their Own*, is a fascinating subject about which little is written. Lib Mahon, Winthrop Class of 1942, joined the AAGPBL in 1944. She played in the league until 1952. Mahon's niece recently gave the Archives Mahon's papers which are a treasure trove of photographs, memorabilia and other documentation of her time in the AAGPBL as well as her career as a teacher and her interest in other sports such as bowling and basketball. We hope to have the collection available for research in 2006.



Material Added to Matt Christopher Papers



Duane Christopher recently added some additional writings to his father's papers. Matt Christopher (1927-1997) was an internationally known writer of over 100 children's books and 300 articles whose papers were deposited with the Archives in 2003. The additional material will be available for research in 2006. The collection consists of a multitude of fiction and non-fiction manuscripts. His works include comic books, short-stories and articles, poetry, screenplays, and biographies, as well as, novels. Christopher is best known for his sports-oriented children's books; however, many of his unpublished manuscripts cover such genres as mystery, science-fiction, romance, and religious works and were written for children and adults alike. Along with Christopher's one-of-a-kind published and unpublished manuscripts, the Archives also houses his contract agreements, financial statements, personal book collection, correspondence, fan mail, memorabilia, and biographical information.

Selected Collections Received Since April 2005

- Addition to SC Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs 7500 pieces
- *Preston Hollis Family History* 1 bound volume
- *Rosebarray Lafayette Rayfield and Descendants* 1 bound volume
- Addition to SC Psychological Association 3 bound volumes (2000 pieces)
- Addition to the Newcomers Club of Rock Hill 7 scrapbooks

Collections Now Available for Research

- Blair Beasley Papers Acc. 1043 63 boxes 1968-2003 and n.d.
The collection includes information from the Winthrop University Visual and Performing Arts Department of Theatre, which spans Beasley's career at Winthrop and Maryville College. The collection includes: personal and production photographs, office files, student evaluations, correspondence, play information (prompt scripts, and production notes), video tapes of productions, class notes on computer disks, memorabilia from plays and gifts, committee information, and information on the School of Visual and Performing Arts (formerly known as the Drama Department-a subdivision of the English and Speech Department in the College of Arts and Sciences.) There is also information concerning the Rock Hill Little Theater, the Palmetto Dramatic Association, and Salisbury College in North Carolina.
- Robert Wallace Papers Acc. 947 18 boxes 1600s-1997
The collection includes correspondence, (personal and professional), wills, deeds, marriage and death records, maps, inventory lists, photographs, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous items that all pertain to Robert Wallace's genealogical history.

For information on the Archives' collections and holdings, how to donate historical material, or how you can help, contact:

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or

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