

Kittie Blakemore Papers A&M 5274

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1969-1990



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Kittie Blakemore Papers A&M 5274

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Unit Date

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Scope and Contents

Papers relating to the life and career of West Virginia University women's athletics trailblazer Kittie Blakemore. Kittie Blakemore is most well known for spearheading the formation of what would later become the Women's Athletics program at WVU alongside Dr. Wincie Ann Carruth after the introduction of Title IX by the federal government in 1972, which guarantees equal opportunities for everyone, regardless of sex or gender. Blakemore also started coaching women's basketball at WVU in 1973. Materials include reports and work-related correspondence written by Blakemore, as well as older athletic promotional posters and programs detailing some of the events that Blakemore was involved in, such as various physical health clinics for athletics and local high school volleyball tournaments. Also contains business correspondence dated until 1990 pertaining to the School of Physical Education during her tenure as Assistant Athletic Director of Sports Development at WVU. Blakemore retired from coaching in 1992, from her position as Assistant Director in 1997, and she died in Warrenton, VA in 2020. A highlight of the collection is the original "Proposal for an Intercollegiate Athletic Program for Women" at WVU from 1972.