



## Western Kentucky University

UA37 Faculty Personal Papers

Series 5 E.A. Diddle

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**Biographical History:** Edgar Allen Diddle was born near Gradyville in Adair County, Kentucky on March 12, 1895 to John Haskins and Mary Elizabeth (Hughes) Diddle. He attended Centre College in Danville from 1915 to 1917, entered the U.S. Army, then returned to Centre for a time. After coaching briefly at the high school level, Diddle arrived at Western Kentucky in 1922. He was initially athletic director and coach of all sports. As the Hilltoppers' men's basketball coach from 1922 to 1964, he compiled a career record of 759 victories and 302 defeats and took his teams to ten OVC championships, eight National Invitational Tournaments and three National Collegiate Athletic Association tournaments. WKU's Diddle arena was dedicated November 7, 1963 in his honor. E.A. Diddle married his former women's basketball player Margaret Louise Monin in 1923. He died January 2, 1970. He was inducted into Western's newly created Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991, and into the Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 1992. [Encyclopedia of Kentucky]

**Description:** Artificial collection of records created by and about E.A. Diddle during his tenure as athletic director and coach at Western Kentucky University from 1922-1964. It consists mainly of scrapbooks of clippings regarding Hilltopper basketball and get well cards. William Jenkins' interviews regarding Diddle used in preparation of his book *Man with the Red Towel* are also included.

**Dates:** 1922-1998

**Extent:** 6.3 cu. ft., 67 audiotapes, oversize

### Subject Analytics:

Athletics

Athletics (WKU)

Baseball

Basketball

Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011

Football

Thompson, Kelly, 1909-1993

Western Kentucky University

### Digital Commons:

Oral History

Sports Studies

### Accession Information:

**Access Restrictions:** These records transferred to WKU Archives upon its creation.

**Allied Materials:**

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle 1915-1957](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle 1957-1960](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle 1964-1970](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle 1970-1987](#)

[UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File – E.A. Diddle 1988-2006](#)

[UA1C11/16 E.A. Diddle Photo Collection](#)

[UA19 Athletics](#)

**Preferred Citation:** UA37/5 Faculty Personal Papers E.A. Diddle, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

**Processing Information:** Records processed and collection inventory created 2017, revised 2019.

# Finding Aid Report

07/30/2019

<b>UA37.5</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Level</b>	<b>Series</b>	<b>Linked toUA37</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>UA37 Faculty Personal Papers</b>	
<b>Collection</b>	<b>Series 5 E.A.Diddle</b>	
<b>Scope &amp; Content</b>	<b>WKU Archives</b>	
	<b>Artificial collection of records created by and about E.A. Diddle during his tenure as athletic director and coach at Western Kentucky University from 1922-1964. It consists mainly of scrapbooks of clippings regarding Hilltopper basketball and get well cards. William Jenkins' interviews regarding Diddle used in preparation of his book Man with the Red Towel are also included.</b>	

<b>Container List</b>				
<b>Container</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Creator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
Box 1	2-3	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1922-1923	Baseball
Box 1	4-6	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1922-1924	Basketball
Box 1	7-8	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1922-1924	Basketball, Women
Box 1	10-11	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1922-1923	Athletics
Box 1	12	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1922-1923	Kentucky High School Athletic Association
Box 1	13	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1933-1962	Clippings
Box 1	14-16	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1944-1968	Correspondence - Personal
Description	Diddle Arena			
Box 2	1		1955	Wetherby Photo Album
Description	Wetherby, Lawrence			
Box 2	2		1956	ROTC Summer Camp
Box 2	3-4, 11-13, 15	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1949-1970	Awards
Description	All-Army Sports Program Certificate of Accomplishment Kentuckian of the Year Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame Key to the City of New Orleans			Subjects Awards

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame

Box 2	5-9		1958	Correspondence
Description	Get well cards, greeting cards and invitations.			
Box 2	10		1958-1964	Basketball Recruitment
Box 3	1-17	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1940-1965	Telegrams
Description	Canisius Game Collegiate Invitational Basketball Tournament Eastern Tour Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference National Campus Basketball Tournament NCAA Tournament National Invitational Tournament Sugar Bowl			Subjects Birthday cards
Box 35		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreels			Subjects Audio recording
	Diddle, E.A. The Impossible Dream			
Box 4		Gardiner, C. Harvey	1984	Coach Diddle, Mister Diddle: Motivator of Men
Description	Typescript, printers' proofs and book, UA1984-5 donated by Alumni Association.			
Box 7		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	nd	Memorabilia
Description	Personal items from E.A. Diddle's desk.			Subjects Calendars Pens Medals
	Address file Letter opener Note pad holder Kreuzeck Ski Club, Garmisch pin Summersports Award - Garmisch Recreational Center			
Box 8			nd	Clippings
Description	Collier's Courier-Journal Magazine Nashville Tennessean Magazine Saturday Evening Post Southern Telephone News Sport			
Box 9		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	nd; 1947-1975	Memorabilia
Description	Keys to the city Plaque - Falls Cities Chapter of WKSC Alumni Association, 1/23/1959 Plaque - Kentucky Broadcasters Association, Kentucky "Mike" Award, 1967 Plaque - National Association of Basketball Coaches, Award of Merit, 3/24/1967 Plaque - National Association of Basketball Coaches, Honor Award for 759 basketball victories Plaque - Optimist Club of Louisville, 1951			Subjects Awards Plaques

Plaque - Service to Kentucky Youth, 7/12/1975  
 Plaque - WKSC alumni, 1947

Boxes 5-6		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1954-1970	Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Reel-to-reel audiotapes of interviews by Bob Cochran, O.J. Wilson and radio broadcasts of the Ed Diddle Show on WBGN. Some are duplicated on audio cassettes. Use audio cassettes whenever possible.			Subjects Memorial rites & ceremonies
	Cochran, Bob Ledford, Cawood Wilson, O.J.			
On shelf	Scrapbooks 1-13	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1923-26; 1936-45, 1947-52, 1959-63	Hilltopper Scrapbooks
Description	Scrapbook 1923-26, D1939 - <a href="https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/28">https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/28</a>			Subjects Basketball
	Diddle, E.A. Hilltoppers			
On shelf	Scrapbook 14	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1946-1947	College High Scrapbook
Description	Scrapbook D3126 - <a href="https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/50/">https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/50/</a>			Subjects Basketball Basketball players
	College High Diddle, E.A.			
On shelf		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Scrapbooks
Description	Diddle, E.A.			Subjects Basketball
On shelf		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Scrapbooks
Description	Diddle, E.A.			Subjects Basketball
On shelf		Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Scrapbooks
Description	Diddle, E.A.			Subjects Basketball
OS Box 1	25	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1919-1957	Awards
Description	Centre College of Kentucky Official Emblem Certificate Kentucky Press Association for Meritorious Service Kentucky State Fair - Kentucky-Indiana All-Star Collegiate Basketball			Subjects Awards
OS Box 16	1	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1953	Memorabilia
Description	Diddle's 600th Victory, 33 1/3 long playing record			
OS Box 16	2	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	nd; 1956-1963	Awards
Description	Bourbon Beef Show Judge First Game of 41st Season			

Helms Hall of Fame Award (2)  
 Honorary Metropolitan Citizen of Nashville-Davidson County

OS Box 6	19	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1948	Certificates
Description	Aide-de-Camp on the Staff of the Governor w/ rank and grade of Colonel by Earle Clements			
OS Box 69	4-6	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1944-1945	Scrapbook - Hilltoppers
Description	Scrapbook D1787 - <a href="https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/24">https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/24</a>			Subjects Clippings Scrapbooks Basketball Basketball players Football
OS Box 69	7	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1945-1946	Scrapbook - Hilltoppers
Description	Scrapbook D1789 - <a href="https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/25">https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers/25</a>			Subjects Clippings Scrapbooks Basketball Basketball players
Tape Box 1	Drawer 4	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 2 - digitized  E.A. Diddle Interview by Bob Cochran (2) m334.wav, m335.wav, m336.wav			Subjects Interviews Audio recording
Tape Box 3	Drawer 1	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1982-1996; nd	Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 13 - digitized  Interviews conducted by William Jenkins, Jr. and C. Harvey Gardiner.  Diddle, Ed Jr. m356.wav Downing, Dero m368.wav Garner, J.B. m357.wav, m358.wav McGuire, Bob m359.wav Pickens, Anna m354.wav Pickens, Jim m355.wav Proctor, Bob m361.wav Ray, Don m362.wav, m363.wav Richardson, Gilbert m364.wav Strader, Wes m370.wav Sydnor, Buck m369.wav Thompson, Kelly m368.wav Whitaker, ? (2) m376.wav White, Dick m366.wav, m367.wav			Subjects Audio recording Interviews
Tape Box 3	Drawer 3	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1954-1971; nd	Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes of interviews and events. - 17  600th win (2) Basketball Banquet, 1965 m410.wav, m411.wav Bob Cochran Interview (2) m406.wav, m407.wav, m408.wav Diddle, E.A. interview (2) m409.wav, m419.wav Diddle Arena dedication m410.wav, m411.wav			Subjects Dedications Memorial rites & ceremonies Banquets Audio recording Interviews

Impossible Dream by Cawood Ledford on WHAS  
Kentucky Basketball Hall of Fame m410.wav, m411.wav  
Ledford, Cawood  
Memorial Service (2) m412.wav  
MV-6 Senior Speech (2) m413.wav  
Pep Rally 1966 m410.wav, m411.wav  
WBGN broadcast  
WHAS

Tape Box 3	Drawer 2	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1982-1996; nd	Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 22			Subjects Audio recording Interviews
	Interviews conducted by William Jenkins, Jr. and C. Harvey Gardiner.			
	Brooks, Carroll (2) - m379.wav, m380.wav Bruce, Paul (2) - m383.wav, m389.wav Clark, Ronnie - m391.wav, m392.wav Crosthwaite, Ralph - m390.wav Davenport, Bo - m385.wav Diddle E.A. - m387.wav Diddle, Ed Jr. - m388.wav Downing, Dero (2) - m386.wav, m394.wav Feix, Jimmy (2) - m397.wav Gibson, Dee - m393.wav Kereiakes, Speros (2) - m398.wav McGuffey, Harold - m395.wav, m396.wav Oldham, John - m393.wav Pickens, Anna - m399.wav Pickens, Jim - m402.wav Procter, Bob - m400.wav Rascoe, Bobby - m403.wav, m404.wav Richardson, Gilbert - m401.wav Strader, Wes - m405.wav WBGN			
Tape Box 3	Drawer 4	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 3 digitized			Subjects Memorial rites & ceremonies Interviews Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
	Cawood Ledford Documentary, nd (3), m426.wav, m427.wav, m428.wav, m429.wav, m430.wav			
Tape Box 3	Drawer 8	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970	1969	Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 4			Subjects Interviews Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
	Basketball Banquet, 1969 Interviews & Speeches (2) m608.wav, m609.wav Origination of Red Towel, nd			
Tape Box 4	Drawer 2	Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970		Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews
Description	Audiotapes - 2			Subjects Memorial rites & ceremonies Interviews Speeches, address, etc. Audio recording
	E.A. Diddle, 1959, m482.wav E.A. Diddle Recognition - 600 Wins m483.wav & Memorial Service m484.wav			

Tape Box 4                      Drawer 1                      Diddle, Edgar Allen, 1895-1970

Film/Video/Audio File - Interviews

Description    Audiotapes - 4

Comments by E.A. Diddle, donated by Dero Downing, 4/8/1997  
Impossible Dream (2)  
Speeches & Interviews, nd m608.wav, m609.wav

Subjects    Interviews  
              Speeches, address, etc.  
              Audio recording