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Title

The Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive

Date

Inclusive Dates: 1814-2008
Bulk Dates: 1960s-1990s

Extent

1,335 boxes / 695 cubic feet
Archival material in mixed formats

Name of creator(s)

Hank Kaplan (1919 – 2007)

Conditions Governing Access

Papers are open for research. Some series are restricted due to personal identification information. These series are noted when appropriate.

Physical Access

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Technical Access	Media subgroup requires special equipment for viewing, some of which is available onsite. Please contact Brooklyn College Library Archives and Special Collections with questions.
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Immediate Source of Acquisition	Collection donated to Brooklyn College Foundation by Barbara Haar in 2007.
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Hank Kaplan, alternately known as “the Lord of the Ring,” “the Human Encyclopedia” and “the Sweet Scientist,” spent his lifetime building what is indubitably the world’s largest collection of its kind. The late Mr. Kaplan recognized the importance of archiving the stories of not only the champions of the sport, but also those fighters whose names and records would otherwise be forgotten. This perspective encouraged him to collect and arrange information from the awe-inspiring to the ephemeral, as he knew that if any of these pieces were to be left out, then a complete portrait would be impossible.

Hank Kaplan was born in Brooklyn on April 15, 1919 to Jewish immigrants from Poland and Lithuania. Kaplan’s father died of tuberculosis when Hank was twelve, leaving his mother struggling to support her family. Hank and his siblings were placed in the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of New York for a short period of time, and it was here where Hank Kaplan was first introduced to boxing.

In 1939, Mr. Kaplan followed in the footsteps of his idol at the time, Jack Dempsey, and enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in Miami, where he was living at the time. In the Coast Guard, Kaplan learned to disinfect ships, and acquired skills regarding the prevention of contamination. His next assignment was with the Department of Health, inspecting ships and aircraft for signs of tropical and infectious disease. During this period of time, Mr. Kaplan took night classes at the University of Miami through the G.I. Bill. After the war, Mr. Kaplan was employed at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), also in Miami, where he worked until his retirement at the age of fifty-five. At one point during this period, Mr. Kaplan, along with four other scientists, traveled to Indonesia in an attempt to battle an outbreak of bubonic plague.

It was in Miami that Mr. Kaplan formed friendships with boxing greats Angelo and Chris Dundee. Chris owned the legendary 5th St. Gym and Angelo was the trainer and corner man for many boxing champions, including Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard. Mr. Kaplan became involved in the boxing community, promoting fights and working on his archives. Once he retired at the age of 55, Mr. Kaplan was able to devote himself full time to his passion. He founded and edited *Hank Kaplan’s World-Wide Boxing Digest*, and wrote articles for *Boxing World*, *The Ring*, the *London Times*, and Germany’s *Der Stern*. He also served as a boxing consultant to *Sports Illustrated* for twenty-four years. Once cable television became a primary source of boxing news, Kaplan began working as a consultant for ESPN, HBO and Showtime.

Not just a historian and prominent figure in the world of boxing, Hank Kaplan was also a devoted family man. He was married to his wife, Sylvia, for fifty-six years, until her death in 2006. They raised two children together in Miami. Mr. Kaplan was well loved both for his knowledge and passion about boxing, and also for his personality and kindness.

Hank Kaplan once said, “None of this is for my own glory. I have no dreams of great rewards. My love of boxing comes first.” Regardless of this sentiment, Hank Kaplan received countless acknowledgments of professional respect over the years, as well as proper awards and honors. He was elected to the World Boxing Hall of Fame in 1999, and was honored with the James J. Walker Award for long and meritorious service from the Boxing Writers Association of America in 2002. He was also the first elected president of the World Boxing Historians Association. In 1989, Hank helped establish the International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York by creating its research library and serving on its nominating committee. Many professional boxers had wished to nominate Mr. Kaplan to the Boxing Hall of Fame for years, but Mr. Kaplan stated that he wanted to see others nominated before him, and would not step down from the nominating committee. Finally, after much pressure, Mr. Kaplan did step down and was inducted in 2006.

After a brief bout with cancer, Hank Kaplan passed away in his home on the morning of December 14, 2007. As it was during his lifetime, the Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive continues to be a gift to all who seek it. The Archive documents the history of a sport, of a culture, and of a man who was dedicated to preserving his community's memory.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Because of Hank Kaplan's devotion to collecting the stories that often went untold, and his commitment to obscure and ephemeral objects, the scope of the collection is vast. The collection features 2,600 book titles, 500,000 rare prints and negatives, hundreds of linear feet of newspaper clippings from 1890-2007, more than 300 audiotapes and videotapes, over 1200 posters, approximately 200 boxes of publications, dozens of scrapbooks, reams of correspondence, and over 100 boxes of memorabilia items. Examples of memorabilia include autographed money, a heavy bag Cassius Clay punched before renaming himself Muhammad Ali, a gold cigarette case that Max Baer gave his trainer Izzy Kline, and the very scissors that Kaplan used to cut up the hundreds of thousands of newspaper clippings spanning the last century of boxing history.

The bulk of the collection is composed of the newspaper clippings (both from local newspapers as well as boxing periodicals) that Kaplan himself would collect and cut, distributing them into the appropriate files. Often, Kaplan would keep intact a copy of a boxing periodical and use a second copy to clip and interfile into the rest of the collection. Kaplan rarely purchased items for his collection, instead amassing items mostly through donation and trade. Much of the material will make the researcher wonder how Kaplan ever received them. A good example of this is the large amount of plaster mouth casts and rubber mouth guards. There are also items that indicate a close relationship that Kaplan had with others; for example there is a large amount of items belonging to Chris and Angelo Dundee, as well as Kid Gavilan.

The Hank Kaplan Archive is divided into twenty subgroups: *Photographs*; *Artwork*; *Fighters by Surname*; *Posters*; *Bouts*; *Audio/Visual Material*; *Fighters by Weight Class*; *Boxing Personalities*; *Jewish Fighters*; *Scrapbooks*; *Memorabilia, Souvenirs, and Ephemera*; *Publications*; *Programs, Press Kits and Handbills*; *Locations*; *Fistic Arcana*; *Autographs*; *Hank Kaplan*; *Angelo Dundee*; *Muhammad Ali*; and *Organizations*. See Collection Arrangement for more detailed information.

ARRANGEMENT NOTE

The Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive is arranged into twenty subgroups, which maintain Kaplan's original order as closely as possible. Though Kaplan did not have a complete catalog of his materials, nor a formalized system of arrangement, there was a very clear order to the majority of the collection. The archivists did divide the collection into distinct subgroups based on either the subject matter (ex. subgroups *Fighters by Surname* and *Bouts*) or the format of the material (ex. subgroups *Photographs* and *Scrapbooks*). Most of the subgroups were clearly identifiable based on Kaplan's original order. However, some of the subgroups were not as easy to identify, and the archivists imposed an order that logically fit into Kaplan's larger perspective.

The collection outline is below. Please see subgroup and series notes for more details.

Subgroup I. Photographs

- Series 1. Hank's Files
- Series 2. Fighters by Surname
- Series 3. Negatives
- Series 4. Fighters in Boxer Stance
- Series 5. Fighters by Weight Class

- Series 6. Subject Files
- Series 7. Fighters by Nationality, Religion and Gender
- Series 8. Autographed Photo Binders
- Series 9. Oversize Material
- Subgroup II. Artwork
- Subgroup III. Fighters by Surname
- Subgroup IV. Posters
- Subgroup V. Bouts
 - Series 1. Hank's Files
 - Series 2. Title Fights and Eliminator Bouts
 - Series 3. Title and Non-Title Clippings
- Subgroup VI. Audio/Visual Material
 - Series 1. Audio Media
 - Series 2. Visual Media
- Subgroup VII. Fighters by Weight Class
 - Series 1. Champions and Contenders
 - Series 2. Hank's Files
- Subgroup VIII. Boxing Personalities
 - Series 1. Hank's Files
 - Series 2. Well Known Personalities
 - Series 3. Boxing Columnists
- Subgroup IX. Jewish Fighters
 - Series 1. Hank's Files
 - Series 2. Fighters by Surname
 - Series 3. Miscellaneous and Research Files
- Subgroup X. Scrapbooks
 - Series 1. Hank's Scrapbooks
 - Series 2. Assorted Scrapbooks
- Subgroup XI. Memorabilia, Souvenirs, and Ephemera
 - Series 1. Clothing and Accessories
 - Series 2. Boxing Gloves and Equipment
 - Series 3. Ephemera
 - Series 4. Plaques and Trophies
 - Series 5. Exhibit
- Subgroup XII. Publications
 - Series 1. *Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest*
 - Series 2. *Boxing World and Other Sports*
 - Series 3. *The National Police Gazette*
 - Series 4. *Boxing Beat*
 - Series 5. *Boxing Illustrated/Boxing Digest*
 - Series 6. *Boxing Scene*
 - Series 7. *Boxing Today*
 - Series 8. *Fight Beat*
 - Series 9. *The Ring Magazine*
 - Series 10. *World Champion*
 - Series 11. Annual Magazines
 - Series 12. *A Television Sports Publications*
 - Series 13. Boxing and Wrestling Magazines
 - Series 14. Collectors
 - Series 15. Early 20th Century Publications

- Series 16. Fight Game
- Series 17. Flash Gordon
- Series 18. Miscellaneous
- Series 19. Newsletters and Programs
- Series 20. Non-Boxing Magazines
- Series 21. Stories and Instructions
- Series 22. Various American Newspapers
- Series 23. Victory Sports Series
- Series 24. Virgil Thrasher
- Series 25. Australian and New Zealand Magazines
- Series 26. British Publications
- Series 27. Canadian Publications
- Series 28. Foreign Language Publications
- Series 29. Japanese Publications
- Series 30. Online Publications
- Series 31. South African Magazines
- Series 32. *The Sporting Magazine*
- Series 33. Record Books

Subgroup XIII. Programs, Press Kits and Handbills

- Series 1. Programs
- Series 2. Press Kits
- Series 3. Handbills

Subgroup XIV. Locations

- Series 1. Boston
- Series 2. Britain
 - Sub-Series A. British Amateurs
 - Sub-series B. British Clippings, Old
 - Sub-series C. British Fighters

Sub-series D. British Programs

- Series 3. California
- Series 4. Canada
- Series 5. Cuba
- Series 6. Detroit
- Series 7. Florida
 - Sub-series A. Florida Amateurs
 - Sub-series B. Florida History
 - Sub-series C. Fort Myers
 - Sub-series D. Key West History
 - Sub-series E. Miami
 - Sub-series F. Orlando
 - Sub-series G. Tampa

- Series 8. Hawaii
 - Sub-series A. Figures in Hawaiian History
 - Sub-series B. Hawaiian Amateur History
 - Sub-series C. History of Hawaii

- Series 9. Illinois
- Series 10. Italy
- Series 11. Las Vegas
- Series 12. Miscellaneous Locations
 - Sub-series A. Miscellaneous International

Sub-series B. Miscellaneous U.S.A.

Series 13. New Jersey

Series 14. New York

Sub-series A. General

Sub-series B. Madison Square Garden

Sub-series C. Rochester VBA

Series 15. Philadelphia

Series 16. Texas

Subgroup XV. Fistic Arcana

Series 1. Amateurs, Olympics and Golden Gloves

Series 2. Arenas and Gyms

Series 3. Bare Knuckle Fighters

Series 4. Boxing Brothers

Series 5. Computer Generated Bouts: All Time Championship

Series 6. Fatalities and Injuries

Series 7. History

Series 8. Investigations and scandals

Series 9. Manuscripts, Stories and Screenplays

Series 10. Medical Aspects of Boxing

Series 11. Military

Series 12. Movies

Series 13. Nationality Race and Gender

Series 14. Professions (Boxers with Other Professions)

Series 15. Results and Statistics

Series 16. Rules and Regulations

Series 17. Suspensions

Series 18. Subject Files (Hank's Files)

Series 19. Yearly Reviews

Subgroup XVI. Autographs

Series 1. Single Autographs

Series 2. Multiple Autographs

Series 3. Autograph Cards

Series 4. Money

Series 5. Rare, Assorted and Correspondence

Subgroup XVII. Hank Kaplan

Series 1. Articles

Series 2. Biographical File

Series 3. Correspondence

Series 4. In the News

Series 5. Indonesia

Series 6. Memorabilia

Series 7. Miscellaneous

Series 8. Photographs

Series 9. Pugilistic Promotions

Series 10. Reports

Series 11. Writings

Subgroup XVIII. Angelo Dundee

Series 1. Biographical File

Series 2. Contracts and Agreements

Series 3. Correspondence

- Series 4. Dundee Shows
- Series 5. Events
- Series 6. Memorabilia
- Series 7. Miscellaneous
- Series 8. Photographs
- Series 9. Publications
- Series 10. Productions
- Series 11. Trainees
- Series 12. Certificates and Awards
- Series 13. Newspaper Clippings

Subgroup XIX. Muhammad Ali

- Series 1. Biographical File
- Series 2. Correspondence and Fan Mail
- Series 3. Events
- Series 4. Bouts
- Series 5. Newspaper Clippings
- Series 6. Publications
- Series 7. Miscellaneous
- Series 8. Organizations
- Series 9. Productions
- Series 10. Writings about Ali
- Series 11. Media
- Series 12. Photographs
- Series 13. Memorabilia

Subgroup XX. Organizations

- Series 1. Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)
- Series 2. Boxing Writers Association of America (BWAA)
- Series 3. Ex-Boxer's Association (EBA)
- Series 4. International Boxing Hall of Fame (IBHOF)
- Series 5. International Boxing Organization (IBO)
- Series 6. International Boxing Research Organization (IBRO)
- Series 7. The Mendoza Group, Inc.
- Series 8. National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame (NIASHF)
- Series 9. United States Boxing Association (USBA) and International Boxing Federation/ United States Boxing Association (IBF/USBA)
- Series 10. Veteran Boxers Association (VBA)
- Series 11. World Boxing Association (WBA)
- Series 12. World Boxing Council (WBC) / World Boxing Council/North American Boxing Federation (WBC/NABF)
- Series 13. World Boxing Federation (WBF)
- Series 14. World Boxing Hall of Fame (WBHF)
- Series 15. World Boxing Organization (WBO)
- Series 16. World Boxing Union (WBU)
- Series 17. Miscellaneous Organizations

SUBGROUP I. PHOTOGRAPHS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1920s-2000s Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s
Extent	97 boxes / 43 cubic feet and oversize items Includes photographs and negatives

Scope and Content

Photographs is one of the larger subgroups in the Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive, as well as one of the biggest in scope. From press and private photographs of greats like Muhammad Ali, Joe Louis and Rocky Marciano, to photographs of fighters that Kaplan had a very close relationship with, like Kid Gavilan, to fighters long forgotten by boxing historians- Hank Kaplan had it all. Not surprisingly, most photographs were meticulously labeled and organized, and all are in relatively good condition. This subgroup includes nine series: 1. *Hank's Files*; 2. *Fighters by Surname*; 3. *Negatives*; 4. *Fighters in Boxer Stance*; 5. *Fighters by Weightclass*; 6. *Subject Files*; 7. *Fighters by Nationality, Religion and Gender*; 8. *Autographed Photo Binders*; 9. *Oversize Material*.

The photographs are organized into the nine series noted above by topic or style of photograph. Within each series, photographs are generally organized alphabetically by surname. Kaplan's original order was closely maintained.

Series 1. Hank's Files

Bulk dates: 1920s-2000s

Boxes 1-34

Scope and Content

The fighters featured in this series represent a huge variety of people in the boxing world. Famous fighters are represented alongside many of the lesser known fighters and personalities, who might have only one photograph in the collection. These photographs were originally kept in Kaplan's filing cabinets. Kaplan organized the photographs into two different general sizes, (approximately 8x10, and 4x6), and then filed them alphabetically by surname, with each surname having its own folder. The 8x10 photographs were each stored in a single folder, generally a manila envelope with a metal closure, and the long side cut off so the photographs were easily accessible from the top. The 4x6 photographs were stored in regular mailing envelopes cut in half. Each envelope was labeled clearly, which means that Kaplan's organization of his file cabinets translated quite easily to the archives.

When the file cabinets were moved to the Brooklyn College Archive, the photographs were moved into banker's boxes. Original order was maintained as closely as possible. Occasionally, Kaplan had folders labeled for topics that were not names of fighters (such as locations and places), and in these cases they were relocated to parts of the photograph collection where they were more relevant (most often the series *Subject Files*).

The smaller photographs were stored in many different large boxes, sometimes creating tiers in those boxes, and it is unclear if the original order was lost in the move from Florida to Brooklyn. In some of these boxes, negatives were interspersed with the photographs in their individual half-envelopes. It is unclear if Kaplan had the photographs and negatives organized together or separately, because the envelopes were identical and it is

possible they were mixed up during the move. Because of this, and also because more than half of the negatives were stored separately from the photographs, we decided to separate them entirely into different series.

Photographs are separated into two different sets of boxes, maintaining Kaplan's original order. Within each size category, photographs are organized alphabetically by surname.

Series 2. Fighters by Surname

Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 35-51

Scope and Content

This series contains photographs of individual boxers, organized by surname. Though the majority of photographs in the Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive are organized by surname, the ones that make up this series are distinct because of the way they were stored. Kaplan kept a small box for each fighter, labeled with the fighter's name on the outside, rather than keeping them in folders arranged in his file cabinets (see Series 2). This indicates either an abundance of material on that fighter, a well known fighter, or a personal relationship between Kaplan and the fighter (see Kid Gavilan and Florentino Fernandez in this series).

Photographs are organized alphabetically by surname, and then by subject within each surname.

Series 3. Negatives

Bulk dates: 1980s

Boxes 52-59

Scope and Content

This series contains the majority of the negatives found in the collection, though on occasion there are negatives stored in other parts of the *Photographs* subgroup, if deemed appropriate (for example, if Kaplan had kept the negative with its corresponding original photograph housed elsewhere in the subgroup). The series is divided into two sections, *Fighters by Surname*, and *Assorted Fighters and Fights*. The latter has many of the more modern negatives, including numerous 35mm that are in color, whereas the former has a broader date range. The *Assorted Fighters and Fights* negatives arrived at Brooklyn College with very little clear order. Most were stored in boxes labeled "Assorted Negatives," though there were some boxes labeled by size of the negative (8x10 or 35mm), and some by photographer. The clearest subdivision was the "Platt Negatives" named for Linda Platt, a photographer from Arizona who captured many major boxing events, mostly in Las Vegas in the 1980s. Hank Kaplan had several boxes devoted to "Platt Negatives," though within each box there was no clear order in terms of alphabetical or chronological arrangement. Upon looking through Kaplan's "Assorted Negatives" boxes, many more Platt negatives were found.

The negatives that are arranged by surname are for the most part arranged alphabetically, though occasionally more negatives were found and had to be interfiled after the original processing; therefore some are slightly out of order.

The “Assorted Negatives” mentioned above were kept together and arranged with a combination of methods: by photographer, size, and format, as indicated by the folder name. Wherever possible, further subdivisions were made to label the specific fight or fighter.

Series 4. Fighters in Boxer Stance

Bulk dates: 1970s-1990s

Boxes 60-61

Scope and Content

This series is made up of all promotional photographs of fighters in what we are calling “boxer stance.” A “boxer stance” image is the fighter, in his boxing shorts posing at a gym with both fists up. In general there are multiple views of the fighter, all from the same photo session, with his information at the bottom of the card (generally his name, weight class, and manager’s information). These photos are a bit like trading cards, and the boxers tend to not be very famous. They were stored in bunches of duplicates, up to several hundred per packet, in alphabetical order with several packets in each small box. The Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive kept three of each photo if there were duplicates.

Photographs are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Series 5. Fighters by Weight Class

Bulk dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 62-64

Scope and Content

These photographs were originally stored in binders, with three-ring clear envelopes. Many of the photographs are press photos, and many of the fighters can be found in other series in the subgroup.

Arranged numerically by weightclass, and then alphabetically by fighter.

Series 6. Subject Files

Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s

Boxes 65-75

Scope and Content

This series is comprised mostly of Kaplan’s boxes that were labeled “Miscellaneous” or “Assorted,” of which there were many, as well as some photographs that comprised only a small grouping, such as photographs of wrestlers, and of gyms. The types of photos range widely in both size and scope, from 4x6 color photographs taken at the Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, NY in 2002 to black and white group shots of boxers from the 1950s. A highlight of this series are the black and white mounted photographs, which are of boxers from the early 20th century and are quite exquisite. In general, the photographs are arranged under a broad subject heading (such as locations, boxers, fights, etc.) and then arranged alphabetically under a more specific heading. However, some of the more well-known figures are arranged alphabetically by name, such as Angelo Dundee’s Office and Canastota.

An important note on this series is that we kept many of Kaplan's original labels on the folders. In this case, this means that some of the wrestling folders are labeled "midget," although we recognize that this is not the current preferred terminology.

Arranged alphabetically by topic.

Series 7. Fighters by Nationality, Religion and Gender

Bulk dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 76-82

Scope and Content

This series consists of photographs of Cuban fighters, female fighters and Jewish fighters. Below are descriptions of each.

Cuban Fighters Most photographs are promotional, of the boxers in a fighting stance, but some include photos of fights, and there are a small amount of boxers in their everyday attire. Some of the older photographs are of Kid Chocolate, from the 1920s. This folder has photos of the fighter in the ring, as well as portraits of him fishing and from his life outside the boxing ring. Other highlights include photos of Benny "Kid" Paret, Eladio Valdez ("Black Bill"), Florentino Fernandez, Julio Mederos, and Sugar Ramos.

Also included are two folders put together by Hank Kaplan, one called "Trainers" and the other, "Groups." "Trainers" contains just two photographs, but "Groups" has many photographs of multiple fighters together, as well as a short essay by Kaplan called "The Best of a Nation," giving a description of some of the best fighters featured in this series.

Arranged in alphabetical order by boxer's surname.

Female Fighters Each of the more famous female fighters has a folder of photographs in this series. There are also many photographs of a variety of women, but none with enough photographs for their own folders. In general, the women in this series are boxers, rather than promoters, trainers or managers. This is a marked difference from the material in the subgroup *Fistic Arcana*, which includes material about many different roles that females had in the sport.

Photographs are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Jewish Fighters Items are photographs of various Jewish fighters. Only included are fighters whose surnames begin with A through H. It is unclear if the photographs of fighters from the rest of the alphabet were not included when the collection was donated, lost in the move from Florida, or mixed in with the photographs of non-Jewish fighters. In any case, this series is not all-inclusive, and if a researcher is looking for a particular Jewish fighter, they should also check in the subgroup *Photographs*.

Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Series 8. Autographed Photo Binders

Bulk dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 83-95

Scope and Content

Though many photographs in the Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive are autographed, the photographs represented in this series were kept separate because of the way they were stored. Kaplan kept a binder for each letter of the alphabet, (sometimes with two letters in the same binder), with a clear pocket sleeve holding the photographs. The archivists decided to maintain this organization, replacing the binders with archival boxes with three rings, and the pocket sleeves with archival sleeves. The result is that the series is easy to look through, and is a direct reference to Kaplan's original order. The fighters in this series tend to be less famous, though this is not an absolute rule, and many of the autographed photos are actually press photos that were sent to Kaplan to hold on to or to trade.

Photographs are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Series 9. Oversize Material

Bulk dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 96-97

Scope and Content

This series represents an assortment of different fights and people. Kaplan kept these images together in an oversized box, and archivists replicated that arrangement with archival storage containers. Many of the photographs can be found in other parts of the subgroup as a smaller image.

Photographs are organized alphabetically by subject.

SUBGROUP II. ARTWORK

Date	Inclusive dates: 1920s-2000s
Extent	4 boxes / 3 cubic feet and oversize items Includes originals and copies of artwork

Scope and Content

Boxing Artwork contains both originals and copies of artwork made by various artists. The artwork primarily consists of portraits of boxers that span the 20th century. Muhammad Ali, Floyd Patterson and Joe Frazier are just a few among the many world famous boxers that are portrayed in these works of art. This subgroup contains an extensive amount of work done by Robert Carson (mostly black and white pencil or graphite portrait drawings of boxers with their name's written in a distinct font), Ferdie Pacheco ("The Fight Doctor," who had a graphic and bold painting style), and Jimmy "Duke" McKenna (whose collage artwork is made up of photographs, drawings, text and snippets from publications on one large paper), though many other artists are featured as well. There are two portraits of Hank Kaplan, including one done by Robert Carson. Another prominent piece is a lithograph of Jack Dempsey and Luis Angel Firpo, done by artist George Bellows, of which a similar piece is displayed at the Whitney Museum in New York City.

Other artwork and artists of note include the individual collections of comic style line drawings with humorous captions by Ken Bryson, Bruce Stark, and Walter Walsh Jr; eighteen black and white portraits/descriptions of boxers from the pre-World War II era by Rupert Rice; and artwork by Tom Lotta, who had an extensive career as both a boxer and an artist.

The series is arranged alphabetically by artist in two different groups; first, with all of the artists that have numerous pieces of artwork, followed by artists that have only one or two pieces of artwork. Some exceptions were made to this arrangement because of the size of the artwork. For example, all of the larger, framed, pieces were left unboxed and stored with oversized material. On the container list, artwork is generally listed with the artist named first, followed by the name of the artwork or prominent subject, then date (if dated), then style of work, and lastly a notation if it is a copy or an original. An example is below.

Box 1

Item 1. Artist: Flip Amato / Joe Frazier, painting (copy)

SUBGROUP III. FIGHTERS BY SURNAME

Date **Inclusive Dates: 1900-2005 (copies of clippings from 1880s)**
 Bulk Dates: 1950s-1980s

Extent **60 boxes / 30 cubic feet**
 Includes various paper materials.

Scope and Content

Fighters by Surname contains materials on some of the more well-known boxers, as well as boxers that Kaplan had a close relationship with. Unlike much of the Kaplan Collection, where each individual fighter, bout, or subject was stored in its own clearly labeled folder, the fighters featured in this subgroup each had their own box, labeled by the fighter's surname. The subgroup is organized alphabetically by fighter's surname, and then by subject for each fighter.

SUBGROUP IV. POSTERS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1940s-2000s Bulk dates: 1970s-1990s
Extent	13 boxes / 10 cubic feet and oversize items Includes posters

Scope and Content

There are three main categories within the series *Posters*: boxer by surname, gender/nationality/location specific boxers, and miscellaneous categories that are separated through Kaplan's personal preference or due to the special nature of the posters that are not easily integrated into the aforementioned categories.

Gender/nationality/location specific boxers include Women, Bahamian, Cuban, Florida and international. The miscellaneous categories include Memorable Fights, Hank's Mounted Posters, Newspaper Print Posters, KO Boxing Magazine Supplemental Posters, Boxing Organization Events, Amateur Boxing, Karate/Kickboxing, and a folder that consists of miscellaneous posters that are boxing related in some way. All of the folders are arranged alphabetically by surname of the first fighter that appears on the poster and then chronologically.

Single person posters and undated bouts are placed in the beginning of each folder. The only folders that do not follow this order are the Amateur Boxing and Karate/Kickboxing posters which are categorized by location, the Boxing Organization Events which are categorized alphabetically by the organization and then chronologically, and the miscellaneous folders which are categorized alphabetically by the title of the poster.

Due to the diverse sizes of the posters that Kaplan had collected, they are stored in four different types of boxes: regular (includes posters up to 20" x 25") oversized (includes posters up to 32" x 23"), flat file drawers (includes posters up to 40" x 50"), and one tube (includes posters that are 40" x 60"). The posters are organized by surname, gender/nationality/location specific and miscellaneous categories within each respective type of box. In order to ensure that the researcher is able to find each boxer within the different sized boxes, there is a note located at the end of each folder on the container list indicating where there might be more posters of the same boxer.

The series *Posters* includes large handbills, posters, large magazine supplements made with varied types of paper including glossy, cardboard, newspaper print, thin paper, and even a few large photograph posters. The most fragile are encapsulated to preserve the posters themselves. The series itself contains posters of local, national and internationally known boxers from the 1940s-2000s with the majority encompassing the 1970s and 1980s.

The series also contains autographs of fighters on specific posters which are noted within the container list. Some autographed posters within the collection are Muhammad Ali, Trevor Berbick, Gerry Cooney, Roberto Duran, Florentino Fernandez, Kid Gavilan, Marvin Hagler, Larry Holmes, Jake La Motta, Carlos Ortiz, Willie Pastrano Willie Pep, Aaron Pryor, Jose Ribalta and many more. For more boxing autographs on a wide variety of medium see the subgroup *Autographs*.

Aside from posters of dozens of memorable and infamous fights that are located within the collection, there are other posters that contain informational value and even poetry. One poster in our miscellaneous category contains a listing of the heavyweight champions of the world from Tom Pipes in 1730 to Floyd Patterson in

1960 which includes location of fight, date, number of rounds, and losing opponent. Another interesting poster within our collection is an acrostic name poem written about Muhammad Ali by Marshall Shepherd Jr. in 1976 that epitomizes Muhammad Ali's devotion to the Islam faith. He writes

“M-uhammad Ali exemplifies what a Black Man should be...

A-llah lifted him up because of the righteous stand that he took

L-ook at him dear black people as he lives by the wisdom and the book

I-n Muhammad Ali is an example for us all if we would only look”

Ultimately, the majority of the series *Posters* contains bouts between fighters that closely resembles many items that are in the series *Programs, Press Kits and Handbills*. The most unique aspects of the series are the autographs, the rare newspaper print posters, and the various miscellaneous categories that depict Kaplan's personal preferences including Hank's Mounted Posters and Memorable Fights. The art in some of the posters is also very notable. There is one French Anti-Drug ad that depicts a skeleton in complete boxing gear with syringes, pills, alcohol and other drug paraphernalia floating around it with a large lit cigarette tightly wrapped around the neck of the sickly yellowing skeleton. For more boxing related art work, see the subgroup *Artwork*.

Arranged in alphabetical order first by surname, then organization, then location, and lastly title; then further organized into chronological order when applicable.

SUBGROUP V. BOUTS

Date **Inclusive Dates: 1885-2007**
 Bulk Dates: 1950s-1990s

Extent **149 boxes / 75 cubic feet**
 Includes various paper materials.

Scope and Content

This subgroup contains three series: 1. *Hank's File's*; 2. *Title Fights and Eliminator Bouts*; 3. *Title and Non-Title Clippings*. The subgroup contains material on an immense number of bouts, ranging from the most obscure to the most well-known. The first series is much more broad than the second, and spans across the history of boxing. The second series contains material mostly regarding the more famous fights of the late 20th century. The third series has an assortment of clippings relating fighters and bouts generally, rather than specific to certain fights.

Arrangement varies by series. See notes on each series for more details.

Series 1. Hank's Files

Bulk dates: 1930s-2000s

Boxes 1-63

Scope and Content

This series is one of the broadest in the entire Kaplan Archive. It covers each weight class from strawweights to heavyweights, including "juniors" and "supers" of each weight class (ie. junior lightweights and super bantamweights), and from approximately 1885-2007. Though many fights have very little material, just their existence in the collection is representative of Kaplan's scope of material.

Arranged by weight class from lightest to heaviest, and then chronologically within each weight class.

Series 2. Title Fights and Eliminator Bouts

Bulk dates: 1960s-2000s

Boxes 64-121

Scope and Content

This series contains information about some of the major title fights and eliminator bouts in the Hank Kaplan Archive. The bouts span much of the history of boxing, from the legendary Sullivan vs. Corbett bout in 1892 to Mike Tyson's bouts from the 1990s. Information on the bouts primarily includes newspaper clippings, but some of the bouts also have programs and press information, among other materials. See subgroup *Muhammad Ali* for material on more of Ali's bouts.

Arranged alphabetically by the first fighter listed and then chronologically within each fight.

Series 3. Title and Non-Title Clippings

Bulk dates: 1970s-2000s

Boxes 122-149

Scope and Content

This series consists of newspaper clippings and photocopies of newspaper clippings that were arranged by Kaplan in shoe boxes labeled simply with the weight class and if it was a title or non-title bout. The bouts span the last century, though the older fights are all represented on photocopied paper, and the more recent fights are on newspaper. The series contains a wide assortment of different types of information.

SUBGROUP VI. AUDIO/VISUAL MATERIAL

Date	Inclusive dates: 1910s-2000s Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s
Extent	24 boxes and 72 reel boxes / 12 cubic feet Includes various media formats

Scope and Content

This subgroup contains audio cassettes, reel-to-reel tapes, compact discs, DVDs, super-8 reels and video cassettes. The media includes fights, interviews, boxing related commercials, and much more. Some of the items in this subgroup include corresponding paper items, such as notes or box covers, which were saved in the final box of the subgroup.

The subgroup is divided into two series, 1. *Audio Media* and 2. *Visual Media*. After being divided by format type, the items were separated chronologically or by subject. Various transcripts, notes, and box covers are in Box 24.

Series 1. Audio Media

Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s

Boxes 1-3 and reel-to-reel boxes 1-72, material in box 24

Scope and Content

This series contains a variety of material in audio formats. There are over 100 audio tapes, ranging from the computer generated bouts for both the heavy and middleweight championships, to radio interviews taped directly from a stereo. The audio cassettes were titled on the container list as they were labeled by Hank Kaplan or whoever gave the tape to him. There are also 72 reel-to-reel tapes. Although most of them contain the middleweight and heavyweight computer generated bouts, there are also some which contain fight promos and interviews. The computer bouts contain 15 fights for each weight class, with two reels per fight.

Arranged by media format, and then either by subject or chronologically within each format.

Series 2. Visual Media

Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s

Material in box 1 and boxes 3-24, material in box 24

Scope and Content

This series contains visual media in various formats. The films contain fights, promotions, and various boxers sparring. The majority of the series is made up of VHS-format videotapes of individual and compiled matches, interview segments, documentaries and various other categories. The arrangement of matches by boxer is alphabetical by surname based on the original tape labeling. In the case of multiple matches between opponents, Roman numerals following surname denote which one is included (if known). The majority of the matches from the late-1980s onward contain the undercard in addition to the main event. Notably, there is assorted training

and match footage from the 1910s to the 1950s as well as Muhammad Ali's 1960 Olympic gold medal-winning match and some of his earliest professional matches.

The VHS tapes are the majority of the series. They are arranged into several categories including: surname, documentaries, events/celebrations, compilations/retrospectives, promotional/advertisements, interviews, feature films, miscellaneous matches by year, miscellaneous footage, and separate categories for Angelo Dundee and Hank Kaplan. Within each category, tapes are generally organized alphabetically by surname, though sometimes they are also in chronological order.

SUBGROUP VII. FIGHTERS BY WEIGHT CLASS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1900s-2000s Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s
Extent	177 boxes / 89 cubic feet Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

Probably the most extensive subgroup in the Hank Kaplan Archive, the subgroup *Fighters by Weight Class* contains information on just about every fighter who ever fought over the past several centuries. The subgroup also had some of the clearest order in the whole collection, and the final arrangement almost exactly replicates Hank Kaplan's original order. Files were organized alphabetically either in letter-sized envelopes or in manila folders, with each box labeled with a weight class. This subgroup is probably the first place researchers should refer to when looking up a specific fighter; though names do exist in container lists across the collection, this subgroup is by far the most complete in terms of individual fighter names. The two series, 1. *Champions and Contenders* and 2. *Hank's Files*, though arranged similarly, contain material on different fighters. Refer to series notes for more detail.

Both series are arranged by weight class, proceeding from the lightest to the heaviest, and then alphabetically by surname within each weight class. Some fighters did fight in more than one weight class, and in this case, fighters are filed with the weight class that Kaplan originally classified them as.

Series 1. Champions and Contenders

Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 1-52

Scope and Content

This series was created from Kaplan's manila folders, which generally contained information on fighters that were well-known, and thus Kaplan had a large amount of material on them. Sometimes these boxes were labeled "Champions and Contenders," which is what the archivists took as the series' name, and sometimes they were labeled just "Champions" or just "Contenders." Because these items were connected with a clear alphabetical within weight class order which was maintained through several boxes, the archivists kept them together as a series, though possibly a more precise name of the series would be "Well Known Fighters" (most of whom were either champions or contenders or both). Some fighters also have files in subgroups *Fighters by Surname* and *Jewish Fighters*.

Arranged by weight class, proceeding from the lightest to the heaviest, and then alphabetically by surname within each weight class.

Series 2. Hank's Files

Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 53-177

Scope and Content

This series is the largest series in the entire Hank Kaplan Archive; it contains information on just about every fighter. Originally organized by Kaplan in letter-sized envelopes, the files were organized into boxes labeled by weight class and then put in alphabetical order. Probably more than any other part of the collection, this meticulous order epitomizes Kaplan's attention to detail and motivation to remember every fighter that history might forget. The order was generally maintained, but some fighters had very little information in their envelope, and so several envelopes were placed into one archival folder when that was necessary. Since it is the largest series, it was arranged by the greatest number of archival processors, and each person had a slightly different way of organizing until a process was standardized towards the end. Despite slight differences in arrangement, each name that is represented in the series exists on the container list, and there should be a clear location (by box and folder number) on where to locate that file. Another thing to note is that Kaplan often wrote both the location and years the fighter was active, along with any other pertinent information on the envelope. Originally, the archivist typed this information and included it on the container list; however, because of the sheer number of fighters, eventually the archivists decided to simply keep the original envelopes. For all fighters that do not have this biographical information listed in the container list, the researcher should look in the folders to find the original. Some fighters also have files in subgroup *Jewish Fighters*.

Arranged by weight class, proceeding from the lightest to the heaviest, and then alphabetically by surname within each weight class.

SUBGROUP VIII. PERSONALITIES

Date	Inclusive dates: 1863-2000s Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s
Extent	48 boxes / 24 cubic feet Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

This subgroup is comprised of materials about the personalities that make up the wide world of boxing, including promoters, managers, trainers, photographers, announcers, collectors, historians, journalists, and a myriad assortment of other professionals who contributed their expertise to the sport. The subgroup is divided into three series. The first, *Hank's Files*, was organized in letter sized envelopes, arranged alphabetically by surname. These files include personalities from popular culture (Donald Trump, Hugh Hefner, Al Capone, Mickey Rourke, Ernest Hemingway and Joyce Carol Oates for example), as well as some personalities from the boxing world (Moe Fleischer, Malcolm "Flash" Gordon, Joe Jacobs, Bert Sugar, among hundreds more). The next series, *Well Known Personalities*, features some of the better known personalities including Don King and Ferdie Pacheco, and has a more extensive scope. The third series, *Boxing Columnists*, has a vast amount of material written by various boxing columnists, both in their published version (in the form of newspaper clippings), as well as drafts- many of which have editing notations done by Hank Kaplan.

The subgroup is organized into series according to Kaplan's original order. Within each series, files are organized alphabetically by surname.

Series 1. Hank's Files

Bulk dates: 1930s-1980s

Boxes 1-23

Scope and Content

This series contains information on over 1,500 boxing personalities, including people such as managers, promoters, trainers, family members of fighters, collectors and all sorts of other individuals closely associated with the boxing world. Originally, the majority of the material was organized alphabetically in letter sized envelopes, with some material in larger folders. For the most part, the boxes were in alphabetical order with few exceptions. For instance, Baron Von Stumme is alphabetized under Von, not Stumme in the container list. Also, Raymond Warsager "The Artist" was originally alphabetized under just the first name, but was processed by his surname. The archivists maintained Kaplan's original order as best as possible, except when there were glaring errors (such as the first and surname mix ups). The information in the envelopes and in the larger folders were combined within the series; the material found in the folders is annotated by an asterisk (*) in the container list and on the folder, indicating an abundance of material.

Although the bulk dates of the series are from the 1930s through the 1980s, the earliest document is an original piece from *The London Journal* from October 17, 1863 on Pierce Egan entitled, "The Merits of Mr. Pierce Egan as a Novelist." Some of the latest information is in the correspondences from Philip Paul, which range from the 1970s-2006.

Some notable personalities include the first female promoter Aileen Eaton (i.e. the “First Lady of Boxing”), photographer Linda Platt, entrepreneur Donald Trump, Playboy founder Hugh Hefner, mobster Al Capone, actor and boxer Mickey Rourke, writer Ernest Hemingway, actor Mr. T, and author Joyce Carol Oates. There is an incomplete article on Sherlock Holmes’ sportsmanship written by Patrick J. Leonard Sr. entitled, “Sherlock Holmes, World Champion.” Leonard Funk, a First Sergeant in the United States army, is also included. He sent a picture of himself in uniform to Hank Kaplan and the letter from Harry Truman awarding the medal-of-honor for his efforts in Belgium in 1945.

Along with an extraordinary amount of correspondence and clippings, as well as a few photographs, there are some notes by Hank Kaplan himself. Moe Fleischer’s file includes drafts and a final copy of Kaplan’s “Boxing’s Farewell to ‘Sellout’ Moe Fleischer.” Kaplan also included his own biography on Angelo Dundee.

One of the most interesting and unique correspondences is from Joe Randino, a former amateur boxer who graduated from Brooklyn College in 1939. In a letter to Hank Kaplan from May, 2006, Randino writes, “I watch each night a fight channel and I constantly think of you and Angelo...Boxing was always in my blood.”

Organized alphabetically by surname.

Series 2. Well Known Personalities

Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 24-30

Scope and Content

This series includes items regarding some of the more well-known boxing personalities. Included are newspaper clippings, obituaries, tributes, manuscripts, correspondence, and press materials, among many other items. Highlights include items from Dr. Max Novich, including correspondence is between Dr. Novich and Hank Kaplan involving research questions regarding Novich’s upcoming book, “The Fighting Doctor,” which remains an unpublished manuscript. The forward, written by Kaplan, contains some interesting biographical information on Kaplan’s family history and early childhood. See Subgroup *Fistic Arcana*, Series *Manuscripts*, for the full manuscript.

Series 3. Boxing Columnists

Bulk dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 31-48

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper, magazine, journal articles, and newsletters of prominent boxing columnists. Photocopies and/or undated articles within a columnist’s folder are placed in the beginning of each folder. Undated photocopies, dated photocopies, undated newspaper articles, and dated newspaper articles are generally what makes up the series, unless specified otherwise on the container list. Some folders contain only photocopies and some contain only undated articles. The beginning of the "Undated/ Miscellaneous Authors" folder also contains miscellaneous correspondence between columnists that do not have a file in this series. Other correspondence exists in this series by Don Sauer, Harry Warren, Jack Fiske, Ben Greene, Lou Gross, and

Charlie “Lefty” Luongo. Some personal articles about the columnists also exist within the series. Jack Fiske, Ben Green, Charlie “Lefty” Loungo, Eddie Muller, Don Sauer, and Lou Gross contain the most articles in this series, spanning the most years. The majority of the boxing columnists contain only one folder of articles.

In some instances within the series, one can see the very close relationship between Hank Kaplan and the Dundee family and certain columnists. For example, Don Sauer’s professional and personal relationship with Hank Kaplan and the Dundee family is apparent in letters where the content ranges from Sauer’s children getting married and moving out of the house to complaints about neighbors, to discussions of upcoming boxers with a lot of potential. Also photocopies of Sauer’s newsletter were sent to Kaplan and Angelo Dundee with personal and professional correspondence typed directly on the paper, which also shows their close relationship.

The last three boxes of the series contain drafts of articles written for magazines such as *Boxing Digest* and *The Ring*. Many of them have edits on them, written primarily by Hank Kaplan. They are organized by the writer’s surname. The majority of the authors are organized in “Assorted” folders by the first letter of their last name. However, if a particular author had three or more pieces of writing, a separate folder was created for them. By far, the most material in this series was written either by Hank Kaplan himself or Steven C. Losch- each of them have two folders filled with their articles. See the subgroup *Publications* for the published versions of many of these articles.

The series is arranged alphabetically by columnist’s surnames and then chronologically within each folder. The columnists that are not placed in alphabetical order by surname are Jack Fiske, Ben Green, and Charlie “Lefty” Loungo due to the oversized nature of the articles in that category. These columnists are placed in oversized boxes at the end of the series. There is also a category of columnists that had very few articles and they were placed into a miscellaneous category that is arranged chronologically by decade.

SUBGROUP IX. JEWISH FIGHTERS

Date **Inclusive dates: 1920s-2000s**
 Bulk dates: 1950s-1990s

Extent **36 boxes / 17 cubic feet**
 Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

The subgroup is arranged into three series: 1. *Hank's Files*; 2. *Fighters by Surname*; 3. *Miscellaneous and Research Files*. This subgroup reflects Hank Kaplan's interest in Jewish fighters. Kaplan kept biography files for each fighter, as he did across the collection, but he also kept notes on his research as he uncovered more about the fighters. These notes reveal much about Kaplan himself, including his process of discovery, as well as the research community he corresponded with.

Arranged alphabetically by surname except in series 3, which is organized by subject.

Series 1. Hank's Files

Bulk dates: 1960s-1990s

Boxes 1-29

Scope and Content

This series consists of hundreds of individual Jewish boxers from Kaplan's files, as well as material from the Chuck Hasson Archive, and printed and photocopied material from the websites JewsInSports.com and BoxRec.com. The bulk of the material in this series was arranged by Hank Kaplan in envelopes, with the fighter's name and vital records written on the front. Fighters with abundant material were given individual folders, and fighters with less information are grouped into one folder. One of the more interesting aspects of this series is that Kaplan kept a running tally of the people who either confirmed or denied the authenticity of the fighter's Judaism. As evident in series 3, Kaplan sent many letters to fellow boxing historians and enthusiasts and kept a copious amount of notes about Jewish fighters. Many of the same names that Kaplan corresponded with from series 3 are written on the lower left hand corner of each envelope. Some fighters have a long list of confirmations, and others only have the word "possible" written there.

The last two boxes contain the printouts from the websites and the Hasson Archive. These boxes should be used just as reference; there is no original material included. Boxers are mostly from the United States, but Israel, Russia, England, Italy, Argentina and France are represented as well. The range of dates that these fighters were active is from 1888 until the early 2000s.

Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Series 2. Fighters by Surname

Bulk dates: 1960s-1990s

Boxes 30-34

Scope and Content

This series contains some of the more well-known Jewish fighters. The material featured in this series was spread throughout much of Kaplan's collection, but the archivists rearranged it so that all fighters with an abundance of material were grouped together. This series features some of the best known Jewish fighters, such as Benny Leonard and Barney Ross, but also has material on some of the less famous but still fascinating Jewish boxing icons, such as Al "Bummy" Davis and Abe Malnik.

Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Series 3. Miscellaneous and Research Files

Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s

Boxes 35-36

Scope and Content

Much of the material in this series is related to Hank Kaplan's research on Jewish fighters, specifically regarding making a definitive list of Jewish fighters across history. The materials include handwritten and typed lists of names, correspondence between Kaplan and other boxing historians about whether or not fighters were Jewish, and assorted other research notes related to this topic.

Also included are materials such as a dinner program, David H. Bloch's resume, various typed pages on the biography of Hank Kaplan, business cards, and two typescript copies of the table of contents of a book. There is also a poster titled "Wanted: Jewish Boxing Memorabilia".

Arranged by subject.

SUBGROUP X. SCRAPBOOKS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1892-1980 Bulk dates: 1930s-1950s
Extent	45 boxes / 19 cubic feet Includes scrapbooks

Scope and Content

The scrapbooks in the Hank Kaplan Archive are wonderful to look through, and like most of Kaplan's collection, incredibly organized. The subgroup is divided into two series: 1. *Hank's Scrapbooks* and 2. *Assorted Scrapbooks*, which are scrapbooks created by others or of unknown origin. Most of the scrapbooks have a particular theme; many of Kaplan's are organized by weight class, though he has other subjects as well, including several on boxer Joe Louis. Assorted Scrapbooks also has a wide variety of topics, including locations, individual fighters, Chris Dundee's scrapbook, and one on Muhammad Ali.

Divided into series by the creator of the scrapbook. Within each series, general arrangement is by topic. See series descriptions for further description.

Series 1. Hank's Scrapbooks

1950s-1960s

Boxes 1-19

Scope and Content

This series is comprised of scrapbooks related to a variety of boxing personalities, weight classes, and assorted subjects. Like the rest of Hank Kaplan's collection, the scrapbooks are meticulously organized, and in shockingly good condition. These scrapbooks were created by Hank Kaplan and focus on different subjects, including weight classes (from flyweight through heavyweight), several on boxing history, miscellaneous newspaper clippings, boxer Joe Louis, as well as some featuring boxing schedules. The scrapbooks were created within store-brought scrapbooks, with beautiful covers, and in general they are appropriately labeled. They are numbered chronologically, with only some slight breaks in the order, such as when different weight classes are featured in the same scrapbook. Also, it is important to note that not all of Hank's scrapbooks were labeled with the dates on the outside, and so what is listed on the container list is the closest approximation to the dates represented in the scrapbook. Organized by scrapbooks' subject, and then chronologically within each subject.

Series 2. Assorted Scrapbooks

Bulk dates: 1930s-1950s

Boxes 20-45

Scope and Content

This series is comprised of an assortment of scrapbooks created by people other than Hank Kaplan or scrapbooks of unknown origin. The majority of these scrapbooks are not labeled in terms of title, general theme, source or creator; however, most are dated and are generally older than the scrapbooks found in series 1. One scrapbook is dated 1892-1906 and is the oldest scrapbook in the subgroup; many others are from the 1930s. Many of the scrapbooks in this series were either not bound, or have fallen apart, but in general they were

paginated and are easily identifiable in terms of which pages belong where. Two groups of scrapbooks, both containing several books each, were either donated to Kaplan from or created by Leo Houck (box 22) and Joe Suci (box 23). These scrapbooks were wrapped in paper with a note from Kaplan, which was kept with the scrapbooks. Other interesting items in the series are Chris Dundee's personal scrapbook, and a scrapbook about Muhammad Ali, which might have been created by Kaplan, though this is not confirmed.

Organized by scrapbooks' subject.

SUBGROUP XI. MEMORABILIA, SOUVENIRS AND EPHEMERA

Date	Inclusive Dates: 1920s-2000s and undated Bulk Dates: 1980s
Extent	121 boxes / 60 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper materials, and a wide variety of other objects from pens to punching bags. See container list of each series.

Scope and Content

Hank's collection of memorabilia and ephemera is one of the more astounding in the Kaplan collection. The assortment ranges from clothing, boxing gloves, casts of fighter's teeth and mouth guards, to vintage toys, matchbooks, and funeral cards. Most of the subgroup is listed on the item level, but some objects are generally listed in groupings (such as buttons and jewelry, keychains, pens, and other small objects). Series 3, *Ephemera*, is the most assorted of the subgroup and is primarily organized by type of object. See the series statement for short descriptions of the various types which include paper products, assorted items, mouthpieces, mugs and cups, toys and games, figurines and sculptures, keychains, buttons and pins. Some of the items are organized by size simply for storage convenience; therefore, the best way to navigate the subgroup is according to the container list.

Content is organized into five series: 1. *Clothing and Accessories*; 2. *Boxing Gloves and Equipment*; 3. *Ephemera*; 4. *Plaques and Trophies*; 5. *Exhibit*.

Within each series, items are organized by material (ie all T-shirts are placed together, all jewelry is placed together), with consideration taken for the size of the object as well as the ideal storage conditions. See series descriptions for further information.

Series 1. Clothing and Accessories

Bulk dates: 1980s

Boxes 1-20

Scope and Content

This series consists of all of the clothing in the collection, including a huge assortment of t-shirts and baseball hats from various fights and fighters, and an assortment of other clothing and accessories, such as jackets, boxing trunks, robes, backpacks, and briefcases.

Objects are arranged by type.

Series 2. Boxing Gloves and Equipment

Bulk dates: 1970s-1990s

Boxes 21-41

Scope and Content

The bulk of the items in this series are boxing gloves, though also included is boxing equipment such as corner pads and speed bags. Hank Kaplan collected gloves from all sorts of events and people, and this series reflects

this assortment. It includes a variety of gloves autographed by fighters including Kid Gavilan, Trevor Berbick, Aaron Pryor, Ken Norton, Michael Nunn, Carmen Basilio, Micky Ward, Arturo Gatti, Gene Fullmer, Roberto Duran, Ken Buchanan, among many others. Other items include sparring gloves, specialty gloves (such as branded by “Jack Dempsey” and “Gleason’s Gym”), hand wraps of fighters such as Razor Ruddick, unmarked gloves (both new and quite old), giant commemorative gloves, miniature collectible gloves, and children’s gloves with Bugs Bunny insignia on them. Also included are signed gloves with messages to Hank Kaplan as well as an assortment of gloves that include a note from Hank Kaplan, such as “Sparring gloves worn by Benny Leonard ca. 1923.” These notes are stored in folders, and the corresponding item and note are listed in the container list.

Objects are arranged by type and size.

Series 3. Assorted Memorabilia, Souvenirs and Ephemera

Bulk dates: 1980s and undated

Boxes 42-109 and oversize items

Scope and Content

This series represents a wide assortment of objects that the archivists have called “ephemeral objects.” In general, these objects were not created for posterity, though they serve as emblems of the boxing world and truly represent the variety and wonder of the Kaplan collection. The items are primarily organized by size, though like objects are placed next to each other on the shelving. The best way to understand what is in this series is to look at the container list. The general categories of objects are described below.

Paper Products The paper products in this series range widely from assorted tickets to fights, dinners, events and fundraisers; to stamp collections, calendars, and equipment catalogs from companies such as Ringside and Everlast. Stickers, patches, memo pads and Catholic funeral cards are also included in this series. The majority of items are organized according to the type of material, though some items had a clear order by Hank Kaplan. Examples of this include folders of tickets, which were clearly labeled by Kaplan. These folders hold some of the older fight tickets in the collection, dating back to the 1930s. Other items organized by Kaplan include his rolodexes and address books, which were kept separately from each other though they have many duplicate names, and postcards which were stored in envelopes labeled as “duplicates,” “singles,” and “heavyweight champs.” An interesting folder is “The Collection of John Nixon,” which includes mostly stamps. There is no other mini-collection in this series, and it is unclear why Kaplan kept these items together.

Assorted Items The items in this series represent a wide range of assorted ephemera that did not fit into any of the other main categories. Items include things like jewelry and belt buckles, clocks and gym bells, oversize items such as punching bags and equipment bags and suitcases, food items such as a six-pack of Olympic boxing sponsored Coca-Cola bottles and chewing gum, Joe Louis hair pomade and Muhammad Ali shoe polish, as well as pieces of the 5th Street Gym building, the keys, and the mailbox. Most of the oversize artifacts and memorabilia are included in this grouping, as well as the things that just did not fit anywhere else.

Mouthpieces This series is comprised of plaster mouth casts and rubber mouth guards of numerous boxers; many of these items are labeled by Kaplan. Also included is a list of the majority of fighters as well as a smaller

list of the champions whose mouth casts are featured in the collection. The casts and guards are organized alphabetically, and in the container list it is indicated whether we are in possession of a cast (C), a guard (G), or both (CG), as well as how many of each we have. So for example, we have one mouth cast and three mouth guards for Lee Canalito, and it is denoted CG3.

Mugs and Cups These are assorted souvenir mugs ranging from the 1984 Olympics to “Fight Night at the Forum” Angelo Dundee mug. Ceramic, metal, and plastic mugs are included in the series.

Toys and Games The items in this grouping range from vintage boxing puppets (some in quite fragile condition) to Beanie-Baby type toys that parody Mike Tyson (aka Mike Byson) and Don King (aka Donkeying), as well as a boxing board game. This series is probably representative of the widest range of materials chronologically, and might have some crossover with the figurines and sculptures. The archivist attempted to separate items that seemed to be meant to be played with from items meant to be displayed. Some of the items are still in the original packaging.

Figurines and Sculptures These objects are an assortment of different types of sculptures and figures in all different sizes, ranging from a Muhammad Ali Christmas ornament to a Budweiser stein in the shape of a boxing glove. Also of note are two Rocky Marciano decanters, and a sculpture of Hank Kaplan done by a friend.

Keychains The keychains in this grouping are made out of a wide range of materials, including metal, plastic, and leather. Most are duplicates, and from various events and companies, such as Everlast and Ringside. There is also a large number of miniature boxing gloves on key rings, which come in a variety of colors.

Buttons and Pins The buttons and pins in this collection make up a visually appealing segment of the series. They were stored in boxes, generally with no order at all. In order to display them, special display cases were purchased, and each button is pinned on to the polyester buffing so that they stay in place. Included in this series are circular pins, mostly from the 1980s and 1990s that commemorate certain fights and fighters. There are also small metal pins and tie tacs, from a variety of different events, including the Olympics. metal award pins, usually with a ribbon attached, are also included in this series. These are from events such as Golden Gloves bouts and are quite fragile.

All objects in series are arranged by type and size.

Series 4. Plaques and Trophies

Bulk dates 1970s-1990s

Boxes 110-14 and oversize items

Scope and Content

The majority of the plaques and trophies in the collection were awarded to Angelo and Chris Dundee, as well as to Hank Kaplan. Awards are of three types: trophies, 3D plaques, and regular plaques. The trophies are all unboxed and tagged so that they can be identified in the container list. Plaques and 3D plaques, unless they are oversized and did not easily fit in a box, are in two large boxes. The first box includes all plaques awarded to

Chris and Angelo Dundee. The second includes all of Hank Kaplan's awards, awards that have no listed recipient, and photographs mounted on plaques.

Objects are arranged by type and size.

Series 5. Exhibit

Boxes 115-121

Scope and Content

This series contains assorted items that were featured in the Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive exhibit in the Brooklyn College Library. The series contains a wide variety of material, ranging from signed gloves to correspondence, to the mailbox from the 5th Street Gym. Items were retained together for the ease of creating another exhibit. Record books were also included in the exhibit; however, their records are in the book catalog, not in the archival collection.

Objects are arranged by type and size.

SUBGROUP XII. PUBLICATIONS

Date	Inclusive Dates: 1890-2007 Bulk Dates: 1960s-1990s
Extent	225 boxes / 113 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

This subgroup is one of the largest in the collection and the widest in scope, containing publications from the late 19th century through the 21st century, published in many different languages. It includes publications that Hank Kaplan worked on, such as *Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest*, as well as legendary ones, such as *The Ring*. Also included in this subgroup are publications with tiny circulations and those only published online.

The subgroup is arranged in 33 series. They are: 1. *Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest*; 2. *Boxing World and Other Sports*; 3. *The National Police Gazette*; 4. *Boxing Beat*; 5. *Boxing Illustrated/Boxing Digest*; 6. *Boxing Scene*; 7. *Boxing Today*; 8. *Fight Beat*; 9. *The Ring Magazine*; 10. *World Champion*; 11. *Annual Magazines*; 12. *A Television Sports Publications*; 13. *Boxing and Wrestling Magazines*; 14. *Collectors*; 15. *Early 20th Century Publications*; 16. *Fight Game*; 17. *Flash Gordon*; 18. *Miscellaneous*; 19. *Newsletters and Programs*; 20. *Non-Boxing Magazines*; 21. *Stories and Instructions*; 22. *Various American Newspapers*; 23. *Victory Sports Series*; 24. *Virgil Thrasher*; 25. *Australian and New Zealand Magazines*; 26. *British Publications*; 27. *Canadian Publications*; 28. *Foreign Language Publications*; 29. *Japanese Publications*; 30. *Online Publications*; 31. *South African Magazines*; 32. *The Sporting Magazine*; 33. *Record Books*.

Each series in the subgroup is arranged differently, but they are generally arranged first by title and then chronologically within each title. See notes for each series for more details.

Series 1. *Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest*

Inclusive Dates: 1979-1981

Boxes 1-5

Scope and Content

On January 11, 1979, Hank Kaplan and R. Clay Teppenpaw founded Boxing Publications, Inc. in Miami, Florida. When Kaplan founded *Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest* magazine, he became its executive editor, and Teppenpaw was the official publisher. The first five issues of the magazine were published in newspaper format from March to July of 1979. The following issue, marked Volume 1, No. 6, was published in October 1979 in a format of magazine with a glossy cover. This series contains issues from March 1979 to December 1981.

There is also a box of various other magazines published either by Boxing Publications Inc. or Clay Communication Group, Inc. Although all the magazines are in good condition, only the English edition of the *Boxing Digest* is complete.

Hank Kaplan's World-Wide Boxing Digest is arranged chronologically; other publications are organized by subject and arranged chronologically under each title.

Series 2. *Boxing World and Other Sports*

Inclusive Dates: 1963-2007, Bulk Dates: 1978-1992

Boxes 5-8

Scope and Content

This series includes the publication *Boxing World* dated from 1964 through 2007, as well as other publications associated with *Boxing World*. The series contains two issues of *Ring Side*, and eight issues of the *Boxing World* published under Bezazian. Most of the issues of the newspapers are in good condition, with a very few that have sustained minor damages from the elements. The publication has been in a newspaper format since its founding, and sometime in the beginning of 1990s, it was printed in a magazine format.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 3. *The National Police Gazette*

Inclusive Dates: 1901-1930 and 1965-1973

Box 9

Scope and Content

This series begins with the September 7, 1912 issue (weekly) and ends with July 1973 issue (monthly) of *The National Police Gazette*. This series does not contain a complete run of the magazine. Note: There is a large gap between 1930 and 1965.

The condition of publications varies from fragile to good: *fragile* (all 1912-1924 issues) indicates taped pages and some covers, tearing of pages in the top and bottom corners, and some separation of pages from the whole body of newspaper; *fine* (some 1969 and 1973 issues) means minor tears and separation of pages; *good* (all 1965-1973 issues) means all the pages are attached without any tearing; none of the pages are brittle, though they still require careful handling.

Richard Kyle Fox, one of the most influential publishers/editors of this periodical paved the road towards legalization of the sport of boxing in New York. Fox also established the tradition of awarding belts to the champion. In fact, he gave *Police Gazette* belts and medals to participants of other sports (racing, rowing, wrestling, etc.) and non-sports events (singing, dancing, rat catching, etc.).

Included in the series is one folder of *The National Police Gazette Supplements*. The supplements were full page size photos of boxers, dating from 1901 to 1916 and some undated. Of note one is a photo supplement of a French female boxer.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 4. *Boxing Beat*

Inclusive Dates: 1986-1988

Box 10

Scope and Content

Only ten issues of *Boxing Beat* magazine are contained within this series. The magazine was established in January 1986, and the earliest issue in the series dates from February 1986. John Ort, who published *Fight Beat*, was the editor of the publication for the first year, and sometime before July 1987, Ort was replaced by Ron Scott Stevens (see Series *Fight Beat*). The latest issue of *Boxing Beat* in this series is dated June 1988, and it is not known how long after that the publication was in print. All issues are in good condition, except where noted in the container list.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 5. *Boxing Illustrated/Boxing Digest*

Inclusive Dates: 1958-2007, Bulk Dates: 1959-1999

Boxes 11-30

Scope and Content

Founded by Stanley Weston on November 1958, this publication was initially called *Boxing Illustrated-Wrestling News*, which as the name suggested covered two different sports within its pages. The *Boxing Illustrated* magazine, which is still in publication today, though under a different name, has had six publishers and over fifteen different editors.

With each new publisher, the magazine underwent drastic changes, including the content, the look, and the name of the magazine. For example, initially covering both boxing and wrestling sports, the publishers, under pressure from the readers, dropped the wrestling coverage, which consequently also changed the name from *Boxing Illustrated-Wrestling News* to *Boxing Illustrated-Ringside News*. When Bert Randolph Sugar replaced Abe Glick as the publisher, he shortened the name of the magazine to *Boxing Illustrated*, which was the title for over twenty five years.

Due to ownership disputes within *The Ring*, *Boxing Illustrated* ceased to be published for three and a half years. The publication resumed on July 1988 with its annual issue. This periodical is currently called *Boxing Digest*.

The publications within this series are in good condition for the most part, except where noted. There are some gaps in the years, and not a single issue for the year 1999. Additionally, the bound issues exist for the years 1959 to 1968 (with the exception of 1967), which consequently cover the gaps within the series. One of the interesting aspects of the magazine is its publication of several photographic series, which at one point included images of wrestlers, boxers, and important boxing fights. Of note also are 2 issues: the September 1963 (signed by Carlos Ortiz) and January 1964 (signed by Florentino Fernandez & L. Rodrigues).

Arranged chronologically.

Series 6. *Boxing Scene*

Inclusive Dates: 1981-1994

Boxes 31-32

Scope and Content

Lou Sahadi was the founder of *Boxing Scene* magazine. *Boxing Scene* was published erratically on a quarterly and bi-monthly basis. It is not known exactly how long *Boxing Scene* was in print beyond 1995, but Sahadi did publish and edit another magazine from the early 1990s (see Series *Boxing Today*). All available issues are in good condition.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 7. *Boxing Today*

Inclusive Dates: 1979-1991

Boxes 32-33

Scope and Content

Boxing Today was established in 1977. However, the first issue in this collection is the February 1979 issue, which is marked as number 7 of Ideal Sports Series publication. It began as a quarterly publication, and then turned into a bi-monthly, and eventually into a monthly magazine. Each change in frequency of publication corresponds with change either in a publisher or editor.

There is a gap in the series from 1984 and 1991. All issues are in good condition, unless noted otherwise.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 8. *Fight Beat*.

Inclusive Dates: 1983-1985

Box 33

Scope and Content

Established in December 1983, *Fight Beat* magazine was published and edited by John Ort from New York. Ort opened his first editorial with: "You will notice that many of our staff are the same professionals who revolutionized boxing magazine publishing at *Boxing Today*." The series contains only 9 issues of *Fight Beat* magazine. It is not known how long the publication was in print. All available issues are in good condition, unless noted otherwise.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 9. *The Ring Magazine*

Inclusive Dates: 1924-2004, Bulk Dates: 1930-1999

Boxes 34-71

Scope and Content

The Ring, which is often called *The Ring Magazine*, was first published on February 15, 1922. Its founder, Nathaniel (Nat) Fleisher (11/03/1987-06/25/1972) was a noted boxing writer. His leadership of the magazine was not only confined to the roles of publisher and editor-in-chief, he was also a major contributor of copy with his words comprising the opening editorial of the first fifty years of *The Ring*.

In 1928, The Ring initiated a tradition when it named the reigning heavyweight champion Gene Tunney as Fighter of the Year. The practice proved a popular one, and when the magazine added Fight of the Year and Round of the Year in 1945, the publication of the annual awards issue became a highly anticipated event. Today, the list of annual awards has grown to a total of seven with the addition of Knockout, Upset, Comeback and Event.

In 1976 *The Ring* entered into a 10-year licensing agreement with a Venezuelan company to publish a Spanish-language version of *The Ring*. There was also a Japanese version published in Tokyo and a French version published in Paris. In August 2007 *The Ring* was sold to Sports and Entertainment Publications, the publishing arm of Golden Boy Enterprises.

Arranged first into groups by publication location and language (America, United Kingdom, in Spanish, and special editions), and chronologically within each group.

Series 10. *World Champion*

Inclusive Dates: 1977

Box 71

Scope and Content

Published in Brooklyn, NY, *World Champion* magazine was established by Dan Lurie in January 1977. The publication was known as “the boxing magazine by the boxing people” because as Lurie stated in the first issue, he was always the fan of boxing. He hired Lew Eskin as the editor of the publication. Unfortunately, there are only 5 issues available, all dating from 1977. All issues are in good condition.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 11. Annual Magazines

Inclusive Dates: 1952-1966

Box 71

Scope and Content

Titles within series 11 were published by a staff of writers who produced other magazines, not always related to boxing or sports in general. Both *Boxing Yearbook* and *Boxing Annual* were published from Greenwich, Connecticut, by Fawcett Publications and Whitestone Publications, respectively. The series also contains several issues of a magazine published by *True* magazine, also known as *True, the Man's Magazine*. All issues are in worn, but intact condition.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 12. A Television Sports Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1980-2007

Boxes 72-81

Scope and Content

In 1980, Stanley Weston began publishing a series of boxing magazines under the company name of A TV Sports Publications (ATSP). As the name suggests, the magazines published under ATSP covered the televised sport of boxing. Weston had at least three different magazines published under ATSP: *KO Magazine*, *Boxing 85*, and *Knockout*.

The first magazine under ATSP was *The Knockout Boxing Magazine* or *KO Magazine*, for short. It was published bi-monthly at first, then, as the readership increased, there were 12-issues per year. The highlights of the *KO Magazines* included monthly all weight class ratings and color centerfold pinups of the champions.

The *KO Magazines* span the period of 1985 to 2002. Unfortunately, there are many gaps within the collection, and because the publication of the magazine varied from bi-monthly to 12-issues per year, it is difficult to establish exactly which issues are missing (recording of the magazine by volume and number was introduced only in 1997, and the monthly publication of the magazine included an additional December issue referred to as Holiday Issue). The series begins with the April 1980 issue and ends with the February 2002 issue. The bulk of the magazines date from 1980s to 1990s, with only a handful of issues available for the period of 2000 to 2002. Of note, this series includes 3 editions of supersized color centerfolds, which were either published separately or supplementary to the magazine. Additionally, each month's issue included a color 2 page poster of boxers (pinups). However, some magazines within this collection are missing those posters.

Also included in this series is the magazine *Boxing 85*, which was initially published on a quarterly basis. However in 1988 there were monthly issues published (of which only 2 are available in the Kaplan Archive), and for the following year (1989) the magazine was published bi-monthly. Most of the information in *Boxing 85* magazine came from the three other Stanley Weston's publications, namely *KO Magazine*, *World of Boxing*, and *The Big Book of Boxing*. This group is small, and has many gaps, without a single issue available for the years 1990, 1998, and 1999.

Only six issues of *Knockout* magazine exist in the Kaplan Archive. Referred to as a sister magazine of *KO*, *Knockout* was published on a quarterly basis. Often articles in *Knockout* were reprints from *KO*, *the Big Book of Boxing*, and *World of Boxing*. In some cases, when these magazines ran out of space, the articles would continue in *Knockout*.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 13. Boxing and Wrestling Magazines

Inclusive Dates: 1951-1966

Box 82

Scope and Content

This series contains four different titles: *Boxing and Wrestling*, *Boxing International – All Star Wrestling*, *CS Boxing & Wrestling*, and *Real Ringside*, all of which published boxing and wrestling news. All issues are in good condition, unless noted otherwise.

Boxing and Wrestling magazine was founded by brothers Joseph and Benjamin Weider in April of 1951. There are only 6 issues of *Boxing and Wrestling*, dated between 1951 and 1958. Not all issues are in good condition. Some are missing covers, and others have damaged pages. However, there is a bound edition of *Boxing and Wrestling* magazines from November 1951 to December 1957 which is housed with Hank Kaplan's book collection. (see GV1115 .B594x).

There are only two issues of *Boxing International – All Star Wrestling*. The publisher was M. H. Weston, who may have also been the founder of the magazine in late 1964. The condition of magazines is worn but good.

There are only nine issues of *Complete Sports Boxing & Wrestling*, dated between 1962 and 1965. It is not known for certain who was the founder of the magazine, but the founding date could have been early 1961. Most of the issues are in good condition.

The only available issue of *Real Ringside* does not have a cover and dates from May 1956. The publisher was Arnold E. Abramson, and editor was Haskell Cohen.

Arranged by title and chronologically within title.

Series 14. Collectors

Inclusive Dates: 1988-2007

Boxes 83-87

Scope and Content

This series consists of newsletters from various organizations devoted to collecting boxing materials. The most abundant in the series is Don Scott's *Boxing Collectors' Newsletter*. But there is material from across the United States, including both full catalogs and simple typed listings.

Arranged into groups by title and by location. Don Scott's *Boxing Collectors' Newsletter* is arranged chronologically because of the abundance of material. All of the rest of the publications are organized alphabetically by their publication location.

Series 15. Early 20th Century Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1913-1967, Bulk Dates: 1920s, late 1950s and 1961

Boxes 88-94

Scope and Content

The following publications can be found within this series:

The Arena. There are only seven issues of *The Arena* magazine in this series, all of which were published by The Arena Publishing Company of Philadelphia. Of the seven issues, one dates from 1914, while the rest were published between 1929 and 1931. The condition of all the issues is good, with minor cover damage on the 1929 editions.

The Boxing and Sporting World. The first issue, marked *Vol. II No. XVII* and dated November 8, 1913, had a title of *The Boxing and Sporting World*. The next 3 magazines, dated March 7, 14, and 21, are still part of Volume II, Nos. XX, XXI, XXII, respectively. The gap between numbers XVII and XX of the same volume is explained by the change in ownership of the magazine. All 1914 issues of the magazine have Thomas J. Duffy as business manager and H. B. Becker as editor, and all were called *Boxing*. However, the March 7, 1914 issue had the identical editorial heading as November 8, 1913 issue: *The Boxing and Sporting World* published by The Boxing Publishing Company.

Boxing and Sporting Gazette. The first six issues, dated between January 24 and February 28, 1914, are part of *Volume I*, Numbers 1-6, and the last issue is dated February 6, 1915, *Volume III*, No. 29. Like many other magazines of its days, *Boxing and Sporting Gazette* also covered horse racing and baseball.

Illustrated Boxing Record. The earliest edition of the newspaper in this series is dated April 22, 1916. The last issue in the series is dated May 25, 1919 (Vol. XXXXIII No. 22), but it is believed that the newspaper was still in publication in mid 1920s, if not later.

Although all the pages of the newspapers are intact, the quality of the paper is rather poor. The publications are not brittle, but extreme care is still necessary while handling them. Also, a number of the newspapers have never been cut after they were out of the publishing house. In fact, they can be unfolded, all 16 pages, revealing a single extra large sheet of paper. To actually read the articles, the newspaper must be spread on a flat surface.

The Los Angeles Referee. All six issues belong to Volume IX, with the earliest dated December 5, 1925. All available issues have Harry L. Lewis as the editor of the paper. Some of the issues are missing the front covers. Although the paper itself is not brittle, the newspapers have seen much use. There are some torn and separated pages.

International Boxing Sport Life. Originally called *International Sport-Lite*, the newspaper first came out in July 1946. According to Lindy Lindell, author of "Metro Detroit Boxing," owner Andrew "Pop" Brown "promoted, made matches, and published a monthly boxing magazine from 1946 to 1949." Both Brown and Lindell also wrote for Hank Kaplan's *Boxing Digest*. This grouping begins with the March 1947 issue of *International Sport-Lite* and ends with the November 1949 issue of *International Boxing Sport Life*. All the issues are original except for one, dated June 1949, which is a photocopy of the magazine. One issue, February 1949, is missing pages 5-8. Except for a bit of wear and tear on the covers, all issues are in a fine condition.

The International Boxing Blade. Founded in November 1919 by Mike E. Collins of St. Paul, Minnesota. The earliest edition of *The Boxing Blade* in this series is dated June 5, 1920, and the last issue, entitled *The International Boxing Blade*, is dated January 16, 1926. The majority of the publications in the series are actually photocopies of the original newspapers; the few originals which exist are surprisingly in good condition.

Self-Defense. The publication was established in May 1927 by Joe Burten. All available issues list Dale Gardner as the editor. Two issues of the magazine are photocopies, while one, although original, is in a poor condition.

The Main Event. The issue found in this series is in good condition and dated January 15, 1949. It is 16 pages long and has no Volume and Issue number. The founder was Leonard D. Sacks.

The Knockout. Three of the issues are in a fine condition (pages are intact, some wear and tear), one is fragile (cover is separated from the body, but pages are not brittle), and one is a photocopy. The first two issues (dated 13 April 1946 and 20 March 1948 respectively) were published by the founder, Billy Van Senior, while the others (September 23 and November 11, 1950 respectively) had Don Fraser as editor and business manager.

Referee and Redhead and Referee

This series contains issues of the *Referee and Redhead* from 1943 to 1946. This magazine was previously entitled *The Referee and Announcer*. After 1950, the name of the periodical was shortened to *Referee* and one can find issues from 1950 to 1967.

Most of the magazines are in good condition, few are fragile, and none brittle, but due to their rarity, they should be handled with outmost care.

There are two items of note.

First: Several issues are autographed by boxers whose photographs appear on the cover of each issue: two (2) by Carmen Basilio, dated March 29 and September 6, 1958, and one (1) by Carlos Ortiz dated January 1963.

Second: there are two issues of *Referee* (November 25, 1946 and November 18, 1961) both of which have a duplicate issue. The fact that the two magazines have duplicates would not be of any value to note except that each issue has a very distinctive cover page, with different boxers' photographs, while the dates and volumes numbers and the inside pages are all identical.

Boxing Magazine Madison Square Garden. There is only a single photocopy of this magazine published by Ogden Printing Co., Inc. of New York City within this series.

The Ringsider. On January 6, 1947, the first issue of *The Ringsider* was published by Bill Davee and Ernie Taylor in Houston, Texas. It was the weekly "Official Boxing Publication of the Southwest," with prominent writers from major boxing metropolitans contributing including Billy Stevens (New York), Gene Vinassa (California), Danny Spunt (Chicago), and Doc Avery (New England). All issues are in good condition.

Ringside Topics. *Ringside Topics* was a boxing and wrestling magazine established in 1947 covering the sports in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. There are only 4 issues of *Ringside Topics*, 2 of which are incomplete (missing cover or pages).

The Ringsider Report. Established in 1928 by Michael Vaccarella in New York. Vaccarella was brother of Peter Vaccarella the publisher of *Ringside Boxing Record*. Considered a "sports and entertainment" publication,

the newspaper was a weekly, which had contributors such as Willie Schulkin, Fred Eisenstadt, Les Matthews, and Ben Olan among many of its writers. All issues are in fragile condition; although the paper is not brittle, careful handling is required.

The Boxing News. There is only a single issue of *The Boxing News* in this series dated November 23, 1946. This weekly magazine was published and edited by George Winn, who is better known for his annual *Boxing News Record*.

The KAYO. This magazine was published in California. There is only one issue of the publication dating from 1958. There are two copies of that one issue, but they are both missing few pages each.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 16. *Fight Game*

Inclusive Dates: 1964, 1971, 1982-1985, 1998, 2000

Box 95

Scope and Content

This series contains issues of four periodicals, two of which are entitled *Fight Game* and two others called *The Fight Game* and *Bert Sugar's Fight Game*. The entire series is arranged in chronological order. All issues are in good condition, unless noted otherwise.

The first *Fight Game* contains a single issue of the magazine from 1964, which was published by Topical Magazines from Derby, Connecticut. Douglas Allen and Hal Hennessy were the editors.

The next grouping contains the first (and only) issue in the collection of *The Fight Game* which was established in June 1971. Norman Jacobs was the publisher and the co-editors were Wm. S. Ruben and John Donovan.

The next grouping has five issues of *Fight Game* which had both Norman Jacobs and Kerry O'Quinn as publishers and Charles Jordan as editor. The earliest available issue dates from July 1982 and the last issue is dated January 1985.

Finally, there are 4 issues of *Bert Sugar's Fight Game* from 1998 and 2000.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 17. Flash Gordon

Inclusive Dates: 1968-1986

Boxes 96-106

Scope and Content

Within this series are issues of *Jack Larkin's World Boxing News*. After Larkin's death in 1968, Malcolm "Flash" Gordon, who published *Tonight's Boxing Program*, became the editor of the publication.

It didn't take long before *Jack Larkin's World Boxing News* began to resemble Malcolm "Flash" Gordon's own self-published *Tonight's Boxing Program*. However, before the two publications completely merged, "Flash" Gordon, with the help of fellow boxing enthusiast Johnny Bos, edited and published *The New York Boxing World* beginning April 15, 1969. Bos and "Flash" sold it in front of Madison Square Garden before fights for \$.35. The newsletter's unflinchingly aggressive prose took on corruption in boxing and broke some major stories, including the 1977 Ring Magazine scandal.

Quite a few of the issues in this collection are missing its back page. This is due, most likely, to the fact that the inside of every back page of the original *Tonight's Boxing Program* had printed on it the scorecard for that particular night's bouts.

In May of 1980, the magazine's name changed to *Flash Gordon's Tonight's Boxing Program and Weekly Newsletter*. In the mid 1980s the publication also began veering away from its "weekly" claim; often, as many as three weeks would pass between issues.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 18. Miscellaneous

Inclusive Dates: 1954-2005

Box 107

Scope and Content

Includes an assortment of publications that do not fit into any other series. See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 19. Newsletters and Programs

Inclusive Dates: 1931-2006, Bulk Dates: 1960s-1980s

Boxes 108-119

Scope and Content

The contents of this series includes newsletters, or fanzines. See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 20. Non-Boxing Magazines

Inclusive Dates: 1970-2005

Boxes 120-125

Scope and Content

This series contains publications that are not specifically boxing related, but contain either a cover story or featured article about a boxer or boxing. See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 21. Stories and Instructions

Inclusive Dates: 1929-2005

Boxes 126-127

Scope and Content

This series contains the type of publications which either printed boxing stories and/or specific biographies or instructions on the sport of boxing. See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 22. Various American Newspapers

Inclusive Dates: 1890-2007, Bulk Dates: 1890-1904, 1980s-2000s

Boxes 128-139 and oversize material in flat files

Scope and Content

This series contains newspapers published in the United States. A number of titles, especially dating from earlier periods, are non-sports newspapers, such as *Daily News* and *Daily Mirror*. Some titles, like *The Bulletin* and *The Oakland Times*, only have a certain number of pages, where only one page maybe dedicated to sports. See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 23. Victory Sports Series

Inclusive Dates: 1968-1996

Boxes 140-145

Scope and Content

Magazines within this series belong to the group of publications published by Stanley Weston as part of his Victory Sports Series (VSS). Three magazines in the series, namely *World Boxing*, *International Boxing*, and *the Big Book of Boxing*, were founded in between 1968 and 1969. All the titles in the present series have been compiled together because of the fact that they were part of VSS at some point during their publications.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 24. Virgil Thrasher

Inclusive Dates: 1984-2006

Boxes 146-149

Scope and Content

Virgil Thrasher's original publication, *Professional Boxing Update* began September 1984 and on May 20, 1988, *Boxing Update's Flash* was released. Both publications ran through December 2005. Coming out on the twentieth and thirtieth of each month, *Flash's* purpose was to keep its readers as current as possible with boxing results throughout the month.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 25. Australian and New Zealand Magazines

Inclusive Dates: 1939, 1950-1992

Boxes 150-153

Scope and Content

This series contains a dozen different boxing publications. The oldest publication in the series, *The Australian Boxing Blade*, which had a sub-title of *Wrestling News Incorporated*, made a debut on May 1, 1939. It was published and edited by Jack Read, the Australian boxer who fought between 1910 and 1920.

Of note are two issues of *The Small Glove News*, signed by Les Gibbons. Additionally, Hank Kaplan was the American correspondent for the *New Zealand Boxing Monthly*.

See container list for list of titles.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 26. British Publications

Inclusive Dates: circa 1900-2007, Bulk Dates: 1950s-1980s

Boxes 154-198

Scope and Content

This series includes multiple publications, newspapers, magazines and journals from Great Britain. The publication *Boxing News* makes up the majority of the entire grouping of British Publications. Most of the publications are in good conditions, except where noted.

As a publication, *Boxing News* stands out not only within the present collection, but in the world of boxing and publishing as a whole. The founding legend of *Boxing News* conveys that the newspaper was established in 1909 by John Murray in England (for a detailed history of *Boxing News*, see the 75th Anniversary issue on September 7, 1984) and its original title was simply *Boxing*. See container list for list of other titles in the series.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 27. Canadian Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1938-1991, Bulk Dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 199-201

Scope and Content

Because most of the titles within the series have only few issues each, they all have been grouped under their publisher rather than individually under their respective names. All issues are in good condition. See container list for list of other titles in the series.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 28. Foreign Language Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1934-2002, Bulk Dates: 1970s-1990s

Boxes 202-211

Scope and Content

Titles which make up the series Foreign Language Publications are arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the country. For the most part the condition of the publications within this series is good. Almost none of the items are in fragile state, unless noted otherwise in the container list. However, some issues contain are incomplete and as such have been marked in the container list as “only pages.” See container list for list of all titles in the series.

Arranged alphabetically by location, and chronologically within each location.

Series 29. Japanese Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1979-2008, Bulk Dates: 1970s-1990s

Scope and Content

The series *Japanese Publications* consists of five different Japanese magazines and one Japanese newsletter relating to boxing. Two of the five magazines contained within the series, namely *Boxing Magazine* and *World Boxing (Boxing World)*, make up the majority of the publications. The newsletter, *The Orient Boxing Monthly*, is the only publication in English within the series. Almost all the publications are in very good condition; with few exceptions where noted. All numbers within the parentheses after a month indicate number of copies of that issue.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 30. Online Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1995-1998

Box 240

Scope and Content

This series is by far the smallest in the subgroup. It primarily contains newsletters, articles, and reports from various websites, some of which no longer exist. They are organized by the authors of publications: *Mike C. DeLisa*, *Charles Jay* and *Rich Marotta*.

Arranged by title.

Series 31. South African Magazines

Inclusive Dates: 1976-2004

Boxes 241-244

Scope and Content

This series contains three different magazines relating to boxing in South Africa. *South African Boxing World* is the largest of the three magazines within the series. There are only six issues of *Boxing Beat* magazine and only one issue of the *Knockout* magazine. All the publications are in good conditions, with few exceptions where noted. All numbers in parentheses after a month indicate number of copies of that month's issue and dates within the parentheses in each folder correspond (respectively) to the volume and number of each issue within that folder.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 32. The Sporting Magazine

Inclusive Dates: 1814-1815, 1818-1819, 1825-1826

Box 245

Scope and Content

The oldest publication in the sub-group, series 32 consists of three books, each of which contains several issues of *The Sporting Magazine* bound together. The oldest issue in the series is almost 200 years old, and the pages show aged (foxing but not brittle) condition; outmost care is required in handling this publication.

The first issue of *The Sporting Magazine* was published "For OCTOBER 1792," printed in London and distributed throughout Great Britain and Ireland. The full title of the publication was *The Sporting Magazine; or Monthly Calendar of the Transactions of the Turf, the Chase And every other Diversion Interesting to The Man of Pleasure and Enterprize*. With the sixth volume, the word "& Spirit" was added to the title. Indeed, the meaning of the word "sport" encompassed such activities as horse racing, pedestrianism, gambling, cock fighting, archery, cricket, and many others. But *The Sporting Magazine* did not limit its publication to the physical activities. In fact, it also published excerpts of operas, poetry, and some of the early novels in English literature. There are also early accounts of history of boxing (pugilism) throughout the volumes of *The Sporting Magazine*, see Index for specific pages.

Arranged by title, and chronologically within each title.

Series 33. Record Books

Inclusive Dates: 1931-1994

Boxes 246-255

Scope and Content

Ten boxes that form series 33 contain various record books. Some of the books contain records from certain US states, some are regional (Mid-West), while others are more or less international. It ought to be noted that most of

the record books, sometimes referred as annuals or yearbooks, in Hank Kaplan Boxing Archive are listed in the Brooklyn College Library's catalogue; for example, *Everlast Boxing Record* can be found under GV1137 .E8x

The series is arranged by the name of publishers first and then title of the book, primarily because that is how these record books are known in the boxing world; e.g. Dick Mastro's *Official Boxing Record*, George D. Blair's *The Minnesota and Upper Midwest Boxing Record Book*, and so on. However, some records, which were published by magazines such as *Boxing Illustrated* or *Australian Ring*, are listed by the name of the magazine. All items are in good condition.

SUBGROUP XIII. PROGRAMS, PRESS KITS AND HANDBILLS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1898-2007 Bulk dates: 1970s-1990s
Extent	37 boxes / 18 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

This subgroup contains programs, handbills and press kits related to promoting boxing bouts. There is a huge diversity of materials spanning at least 100 years, and across all different weight classes as well as continents. This material was not as well organized as much of Kaplan's collection, and so the archivists had to impose an order on the material. When Kaplan did organize the items, it was generally by weight class. The archivists kept this order, but to further refine it items were further categorized chronologically and then sometimes alphabetically. Includes three series: 1. *Programs*; 2. *Press Kits*; 3. *Handbills*.

Items are generally organized first by weight class, then chronologically, and then alphabetically. However, arrangement is slightly different in each series. See series arrangement notes for more detail.

Series 1. Programs

Bulk dates: 1980s

Boxes 1-20 and flat files

Scope and Content

This series contains programs from a variety of boxing matches, ranging from amateur to world champion. There are individual paper programs, as well as glossy magazine programs. Compared to the rest of the materials in the Hank Kaplan Archive, the programs were relatively unorganized. Kaplan had many of them stored in boxes that were labeled, for example, "147-160" but within the box, the programs were not necessarily in any order. They were generally kept in the order Kaplan had them originally, and further divided into the main categories that Kaplan had organized them into. For example, the "147-160" box was divided into welterweights and middleweights, though programs and handbills in the series actually include super welterweights, junior middleweights, etc. The majority of the programs are categorized by the weight class of the boxers in the main event and then chronologically. There are some instances where the weight class is unspecified or there are multiple headlining fights and these are placed in folders for miscellaneous weight classes. Miscellaneous weight classes also contain boxing benefit shows, women boxers, amateur fights and miscellaneous fight cards and are labeled as such. The programs are also categorized by place, such as Madison Square Garden and by promotion companies such as Zabala and Black Tie promotions. The programs themselves are mostly in English and Spanish with a small percentage in German, Japanese, Korean, French, Italian, among others. The most fascinating item within the series is a rare program from a bout between Jim Jeffries and Tom Sharkey's from May 6, 1898 which is located in the Flat File drawer.

Arranged by weight class and then chronologically, with some variance including locations and promotion companies in miscellaneous files.

Series 2. Press Kits

Bulk dates: 1980s-1990s

Boxes 21-34

Scope and Content

This series contains press kits supplied to the media about particular bouts. The kits consist of folders with information vital to journalists. The documents provide information regarding the venue/hotel, boxers and their promoters, date/time/location, and boxer statistics. Most packets are concentrated on the main event and provide substantial information regarding the history of the boxers involved. Documents include prior match statistics, boxing measurements and a brief biography for each boxer. Many of the folders are customized to the specific event, such as the match between Aaron Pryor vs. Alexis Arguello titled "Ring of Fire: Battle of the Champions." This folder includes a full page picture/artwork printed directly onto the cover. Such customized folders include a title, boxer names, sponsors, promoters, date/time and place of the event. Folders without such detail contain a hotel logo or are blank. Many packets include a handbill for the event. There are a few press kits that were not housed in a folder but provide the same press information; these files are encapsulated and are contained with archival clips. All the press kits are arranged, first chronologically, and then by the last name of the contending boxer. There are two boxes that house miscellaneous press information and those are arranged by topic first and then alphabetically.

Under the miscellaneous folders, there are kits that do not directly relate to boxing matches. There are events and foundations that involve the boxing community including "Fight for Children" and "Boxers Ball." Promoters provided press packets regarding information on their organization, including boxer contracts and future event planning. Entrepreneurs in media have provided business plans such as "houseofboxing.com," or the "Rockford Flash Company." Under the folder, Pugilistic Promotions, are loose press kits with incorrect dates and/or missing files.

Arranged chronologically and then alphabetically by surname, with some variance including subjects and promotion companies in miscellaneous files.

Series 3. Handbills

Bulk dates: 1980s

Boxes 35-37

Scope and Content

This series contains handbills from a wide variety of boxing matches from all over the world ranging from amateur to professional fights from the 1920s to 2000s. Handbills are single sheet flyers for boxing matches. The oldest of the handbills are on very fragile newspaper print and they are encapsulated to preserve their contents. The majority of them are paper flyers in good condition and the ones from the 2000s are mostly glossy. The majority are in English with a small percentage in Spanish and a handful from other parts of the world. The best way to search for a handbill is to do an electronic search within the container list for the fighter's name or to browse through the folders by year to follow the bouts leading up to championship fights. Sometimes multiple flyers exist for the same fight and it may seem to repeat on the container list but they are in fact different flyers.

The majority of the handbills are categorized by year and month and the container list includes the main headlining fight of each show. Each fight is separated by a semicolon. As most of the handbills were organized in no decipherable order, they were ordered chronologically. One box of handbills entitled "Handbill Heaven" was kept in the order that Kaplan left them by surname. These contain a few programs and press information to keep with Kaplan's original order and they are noted within the container list. The overall series itself contains handbills from fights both locally and internationally, with international names such as Sugar Ray Leonard, Larry Holmes, Lennox Lewis, Joe Frazier, and George Foreman, as well as boxers whose careers span only a few fights. Closely related to this series are the program and press kit series, which have more informational value regarding the fights and the fighters themselves.

Arranged chronologically and then alphabetically by surname.

SUBGROUP XIV. LOCATIONS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1930s-2000s Bulk dates: 1960s-1990s
Extent	34 Boxes / 18 cubic feet Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

Subgroup contains materials relating to boxing in various locations. Material is on both national and international locations. Materials include clippings, programs, biography files on various fighters, among much more. See series descriptions for more detail.

Includes sixteen series: 1. *Boston*; 2. *Britain* (with sub-series A. *British Amateurs*; B. *British Clippings, Old*; C. *British Fighters*; D. *British Programs*); 3. *California*; 4. *Canada*; 5. *Cuba*; 6. *Detroit*; 7. *Florida* (with sub-series A. *Florida Amateurs*; B. *Florida History*; C. *Fort Myers*; D. *Key West History*; E. *Miami*; F. *Orlando*; G. *Tampa*); 8. *Hawaii* (with sub-series A. *Figures in Hawaiian History*; B. *Hawaiian Amateur History*; C. *History of Hawaii*); 9. *Illinois*; 10. *Italy*; 11. *Las Vegas*; 12. *Miscellaneous Locations* (with sub-series A. *Miscellaneous International*; B. *Miscellaneous U.S.A.*); 13. *New Jersey*; 14. *New York* (with sub-series A. *General*; B. *Madison Square Garden*; C. *Rochester VBA*); 15. *Philadelphia*; 16. *Texas*.

Organized alphabetically by series. Series are generally organized alphabetically by subject and then chronologically within each file, though some are broken into subseries as well. See series descriptions for more detail.

Series 1. Boston

Boxes 1-2

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper clippings, and photocopies of newspaper clippings with various newspaper columns relating to boxing within Boston. The bulk consists of a column called "Boxing Gossip," written by Charlie "Lefty" Luongo, from 1970-1985 with some columns undated. This, however, is not a full run as there are no columns from 1983 and not every column has been saved from each year. "Boxing Gossip" focuses on information about fighters, fights and new venues. The only non-newspaper item in this series is a handwritten note from Charlie "Lefty" Luongo to Angelo, presumably to Angelo Dundee.

The other column largely represented, "This and That" is written by Bill Ebel; Kaplan kept some columns from 1970-1978 (including some that are undated), although it is not a full run. "This and That" is similar to "Boxing Gossip" in that it covers general topics in boxing. It focuses on boxers and fights; however, it seems to also discuss the fighting scene outside of Boston, as well as the local boxing community.

Although they are not very well represented, there are some articles from the columns "The Chatter Box," "In the Boxing Scene," "Off the Record," "Punch Lines," "Telling it Like it Is," and other miscellaneous clippings.

The one “odd man out” in this series is the program for a fight, presumably as a fundraiser for an election. The front is autographed by Jack LaRue, a Broadway star. This autograph is in pencil, but is still entirely legible.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

Series 2. Britain

Boxes 2-9

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper clippings, photocopies of newspaper clippings, programs, promotional materials, typewritten notes, and fight results which covers a number of topics involving British boxing. However, most of the series is made up of programs and promotional materials and information about British amateur and professional fighters. More detailed information can be found in subseries statements below.

Organized by sub-series. See sub-series note for more details.

Sub-Series A. British Amateurs

Scope and Content

This subseries consists entirely of newspaper clippings related to amateur boxers and the amateur boxing circuit. Although there are clippings from various locations, the vast majority of the subseries is made up of clippings from *Boxing News*. Kaplan seemingly clipped out every article relating to amateurs in the publication.

Other clippings cover various topics including fights both in England and abroad. Most of the fights fought outside of Britain occurred on the European continent, although there is information about some fights in the United States. Information about fighters hoping to secure a place on the Olympic team and additional clippings document the careers of fighters after the Olympics.

Arranged alphabetically by subject, chronologically within each file.

Sub-Series B. British Clippings—Old

Scope and Content

The *British Clippings, Old* series is a relatively small series which contains newspaper clippings and photocopies of newspaper clippings that provides insight into professional and amateur fights around all of the British Isles in the mid-century. The entire content of the series is taken from newspapers and most detail the results of fights in some way; for example, many of the clippings about individual fighters were written in response to a particular fight. Several of the clippings in the various “Fights” folders contain information about fights throughout Britain. They provide an overview of the entire boxing community, but do not contain much detail. Other clippings focus on the fights in one particular town or area; again, there is not much focus on particular fights, venues or even locations.

In addition to information about fights, there are some clippings about boxing organizations that provided rules and regulations to the boxing community. Perhaps the most unique aspects of this series are the editorials and

letters to the paper. There are letters both to the paper and responses (although the original letters are not found within this collection), something not seen anywhere else in this subgroup. This implies a real community and relationship between journalists and readers. The letters range from challenges to corrections.

Arranged alphabetically according to subject.

Subseries C. British Fighters

Scope and Content

The *British Fighters* sub-series contains typewritten notes, fight results, and newspaper clippings which provide information about various fighters from the early part of the 20th century. There is quite a bit of information within the sub-series, but the information about each individual fighter is often quite limited. In some cases, there is only a typewritten sheet containing the person's name, likely serving as a record that the person existed and performed as a boxer. Because the information is limited on some boxers, it is hard to know exactly what links these boxers together, as they surely do not represent the entire group of fighters in Britain in the early 20th century. However, almost every boxer for which there is information was Jewish and this may be the link between the boxers in this series.

There are a few more notable boxers present in the series, including Jack Bloomfield, a professional light-heavyweight who fought the first ever boxing match at Wembley Stadium. Also included are Len Kemp and Dutch Sam, a fighter from the late 1700 to early 1800s. It is important to note that although Sam is from the 17th century, the information pertaining to him was published in the early part of the 20th century.

Arranged alphabetically by fighter's last name.

Subseries D. British Singles Programs

Scope and Content

As the title implies, this series is comprised mostly of programs for various fights involving British fighters. However, there is also promotional material and one newsletter. Promoters such as Frank Warren, Mike Barrett and Mickey Buff, among others, are represented. Matches fought in smaller venues are represented as well as those fought in Wembley Arena and the Royal Albert Hall.

Some of the programs contain handwritten notes detailing the fight and outcome of the fight. Others (though few) have signatures of boxers involved in a fight. It is unclear if Kaplan attended these matches or if the programs were donated by another boxing enthusiast.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

Series 3. California

Boxes 9-11

Scope and Content

Most of this series is made up of programs for various fights held at the Forum, a stadium in Inglewood. These programs range from 1971 to 1995, although the bulk focuses on the 1980s-1990s. The Forum held fights regularly, though it does not seem that there is a full run of any particular year.

In addition to programs, there are newspaper clippings that focus more on the mid part of the century, primarily from the 1960s-1970s. These clippings are broader in their coverage of the boxing scene in California. Various fights and fighters in multiple arenas cover a range of dates and a variety of topics. Other clippings focus on managers and promoters and various newspaper columns.

Columns about California's larger boxing community help round out the series. Regions throughout California are represented, but there is a folder specifically for the work of John Beyroot, a reporter for the Los Angeles Examiner who focuses on boxing in the Los Angeles region. Beyroot's columns are from the early 1980s and do not represent a full run of his writings. Please note that John Fiske, another noted California journalist, is not represented in this subgroup; however, his writing can be seen in subgroup VIII. *Boxing Personalities*.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

Series 4. Canada

Box 11

Scope and Content

The material in this series contains information about different locations in Canada. Some of these locations are: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Quebec. Information is about both fighters and fights.

Arranged by location within Canada.

Series 5. Cuba

Box 12

Scope and Content

The information found within this series focuses on fighters and fights in Cuba. Although some individual fights are highlighted, much of the information about fights is found in various newspaper columns. These columns have information about a variety of different fights and do not provide overly detailed information, but clue the reader into the breadth of boxing activity in Cuba.

Information about Cuban boxers is also quite prevalent, and unlike other series in this subgroup, there are several photographs of Cuban fighters. These photographs primarily show "action shots" although there are photographs of individual boxers and groups of boxers. There is also information related to Cubans who are living and fighting elsewhere, particularly Miami.

It should be noted that this series is primarily made up of newspaper clippings, many of which are in Spanish.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Series 6. Detroit

Box 13

Scope and Content

The *Detroit* series includes various newsletters about boxing in Detroit; however, as they are from different time periods, they provide a more in-depth look into the evolution of boxing in the area. Full issues and clippings of *International Boxing Sports Life* date from 1947-1949 and provide information about fights, fighters and the boxing community from this period. Full issues of *Michigan Boxing News* dates from 1971-1972 and also provide a general look into boxing in Detroit. This newsletter also contains editorials and obituaries.

There are also several programs from banquets hosted by Ring 32: the Veteran Boxers Association. These programs do not contain much information about the actual association, but they do list officers, a membership roster and some contain biographies for those honored with awards from the association, as well as photographs and a brief history of the association.

All Star Productions produced most of the fights featured in this series. Many of these fights occurred in the Cobo Arena, but some were held elsewhere. There is little information about the actual production company, but the information demonstrates who fought in Detroit. Many of the promotional materials for these fights are undated, but they appear to be from the 1980s.

Various newspaper clippings help to round out the focus of the Detroit series. Although most of these clippings focus on Detroit and the Detroit region, some have information about the larger Michigan boxing community.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 7. Florida

Boxes 14-22

Scope and Content

It is no surprise that Kaplan would have the most information about boxing in Florida, his home state. Several of the major metropolitan areas are represented in this series, including Fort Myers, Tampa and Orlando. Since Miami Beach was the only part of Florida where boxing was legal in the first part of the 20th century, most of the older information pertains to Miami and Miami Beach. Please refer to subseries statements below for more in-depth information.

Organized by sub-series. See sub-series note for more details.

Subseries A. Florida Amateurs

Scope and Content

Much of the information within the amateur's subseries contained in newspaper, correspondence, promotions,

score cards, tickets, programs, and applications focuses on various fights throughout the state. There is not much of a focus on one particular fight or fighter. However, many of the fights took place in Miami and are filed either under the name of the gym or under the general heading of Miami. Virrick and City of Miami gym are both in Miami; both gyms featured fights regularly and their files contain a lot of information about the various amateurs fighting in Miami during the late 1970s and 1980s. Please see the *Miami* subseries in the *Florida* series for additional information about boxing in Miami.

Florida was also host to several tournaments and their amateurs fought in various competitions both within and outside of the state. The Golden Gloves, Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics and tournaments sponsored by the Amateur Athletic Union provided an opportunity for amateurs, both young and old, to refine their boxing skills and establish their name. The Golden Gloves file contains information about the competition over various years, which helps demonstrate the evolution of amateur boxing and also keeps track of some of the larger stars in the amateur world.

Although many fighters are only briefly mentioned, there are some that are highlighted, particularly Woody Clarke and Richie Lee Roberts. However, Kaplan also collected materials about Sammy Masias, Alfredo Acevedo and others. The lack of focus on particular fighters is likely a byproduct of the vast scope of this subseries; a lot is represented and therefore, it is difficult to focus on one particular area.

Although the focus is on amateurs, there is a letter to Angelo Dundee regarding the use of a gym. This letter can be found in the "Professional Boxing" folder.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Subseries B: Florida History

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper clippings, photocopies of newspaper clippings, programs, newspaper columns, correspondence, and general information about boxing in Florida. Newspaper columns, including "Ring Posts" and "Spearing with Sports," provide a greater look at various fights and fighters.

There is much material relating to fights, whether it be promotional materials, results or programs. There are various programs and promotional material for fights throughout the Florida region. Generally, these programs and promotions are from the latter part of the 20th century, with some as recent as 2006.

Generally, the series focuses on various topics, without focusing too specifically on one particular area. Fighters, both nationally known and local favorites, are also represented throughout the series. Because the collection focuses on Florida, there is information specific to Latino boxers, as well as information that is written in Spanish.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries C. Fort Myers.

Scope and Content

The entire Fort Myers series consists of promotions for different fights; most of the material is handbills, but there are some programs as well. Although there is no additional information regarding the fights or the fighters, there is a great deal of information about certain fights. The War on the Peace River is an annual fight series featuring professional boxers. Kaplan has information about several but not all of the years. Also included are handbills advertising the Combat on the Caloosa, Seminole Showdown and the WBO World Title.

Although there is a folder specifically for Tufariello Promotions, they were also responsible for promoting some of the War on the Peace River fights.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries D. Key West History

Scope and Content

Despite its title, the Key West History series, almost all of the material contained in newspapers, flyers/advertisements, handwritten notes, match results, tourism maps and business cards relates to more current fights in Key West. Most of the series contains promotional materials for various fights, including the "Rumble in Paradise." Other material about fights involves promotional material and match results. These fights are all more recent, dating from 2006-2007.

While most of the series is more recent, there is information about Hemmingway and boxing in Key West and a former boxer, Pete Nebo. Nebo was a boxer who appears to have fought in the 1920s and 1930s. Hemmingway and Nebo help provide a greater historical perspective about Key West's boxing history, specifically about the 1930s. This series is small, but it is clear that Kaplan documented a smaller boxing scene in Florida that is likely often overlooked.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries E. Miami

Scope and Content

Since Miami was the only city in Florida where boxing was legal in the first part of the 20th century, this subseries contains the oldest information in the series. It consists of programs, newspaper clippings, photocopies of newspaper clippings, contracts, promotional materials, programs, show results, and newsletters. Many of the promotions and programs date back to the 1950s and 1960s. There is so much information from that time period; one gets the impression that Miamians definitely took advantage of their ability to legally box. Like much of Kaplan's material, some of these programs contain markings indicating the results of the fight. A few arenas including the Miami Beach Auditorium and the Little River Auditorium, seem to have hosted the majority of the shows, particularly during this earlier time period.

However, there is also information about the larger world of Miami boxing, some of which is as current as 2005. This includes newspaper columns detailing fights and also the general boxing community. Kaplan's writings can be found in the "Boxing: General" folder and the "Publications/Writings" folder.

For additional information about *Miami*, please see the *Florida Amateurs* series.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries F. Orlando

Scope and Content

This subseries is comprised of photocopies of newspapers, correspondence, press advisories, promotional material, and newsletters. Almost all of the information in this series centers on Pete Ashlock Promotions, one of the few (or possibly the only) promoters in Orlando. The information put out by Pete Ashlock consists primarily of newspaper articles about various fights in Orlando that Ashlock promoted. Correspondence and media promotions are also contained within these folders. The "Boxing" newsletter, which also documents boxing in Orlando, was released by the Orlando Sports Stadium, a stadium privately owned by Ashlock. As a result, the entire series focuses almost entirely on one promotion company. This could be a result of Kaplan's collecting habits and interests or because Orlando's boxing scene was relatively concentrated. George Curcio's article (filed in "Orlando Boxing, General") indicates that Ashlock was one of the few, or possibly the only promoters in Orlando.

Unlike the rest of the series, the "Miscellaneous Newspaper Articles" file is not directly related to Ashlock. These articles primarily discuss fighters in the Orlando scene or particular fights. Among these clippings is a portion of the magazine, "World Champion." In a similar vein, the "Orlando Boxing General" folder contains what seems to be rough drafts of articles about Orlando boxing. However, with the exception of an article about Don King and a piece of correspondence between Kaplan and George Curcio, the material in here relates in some way to Ashlock's ventures.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries G. Tampa

Scope and Content

Much of the information within this series consists of correspondence, promotional materials, newspaper, and media advisories and is the product of Alessi Promotions, a company that promoted boxing matches in the Tampa area. Some of the information is generally about the company and various fights; however, most has been broken down into more specific subjects. Although all of the material has been produced by Alessi Promotions, it provides a decent look into the Tampa fighting community in the early to mid 1980s. It is unclear whether or not other fights and promoters were active during this time.

A large part of this series consists of promotional materials for scheduled bouts to be held at locations around Tampa. These press releases and handbills detail several fights to occur over one day and therefore are rarely focused on one particular person, place or even weight class. There seem to be a range of fighters scheduled at this bouts, some larger than others. While most of the fights were not televised, some fights were televised nationally.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 8. Hawaii

Boxes 22-23

Scope and Content

The *Hawaii* series consists of photocopies of newspaper clippings, promotions, index, press releases, surveys, magazine clippings, interviews, computer printouts of photographs which provides primarily a historic look at Hawaii, with much of the information detailing the boxing community in the early to mid part of the twentieth century. Detailed subseries descriptions are provided below.

Organized by sub-series. See sub-series note for more details.

Sub-series A. Figures in Hawaiian History

Scope and Content

This series contains Photocopies of newspaper clippings, promotions, computer printouts of photographs focuses on four figures in Hawaiian boxing—Johnnie Yasui, Tony Gora, Anson Rego and Tad Kawamura. Yasui was a fighter in the 1930s who also had relatives who were boxers, including Fred Yasui, who is included in the series. Most of the information about Yasui comes from a packet of photocopied newspaper clippings, but there is also a computer printouts of photographs of Yasui later in life. Tony Gora and Anson Rego were also boxers in the 1930s. There is information about their fights, some of which were international, and various photocopies of news clippings and photographs.

The fourth figure featured prominently is Tad Kawamura was a coach and trainer in the late 1940s. He coached and trained for Hawaii's AAU boxing team and the Hawaii Youth Organization's team.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Sub-series B. Hawaiian Amateur History

Scope and Content

Again there are many topics covered in this subseries which consist of correspondence, index, photocopy of newspapers, photocopies of photographs and it does not focus on one particular aspect of amateur boxing in Hawaii. Within the subseries, there is quite a bit of information about the Amateur Athletic Union, which hosted fights and had a group of boxers fighting specifically with them. Some amateur boxers are focused on (e.g., Jose Mercado and Ed Townsend), but the majority is a compilation of various boxers, focusing on nobody in particular. Additional information about boxers can be found in the Newspaper Clippings, 1940s folder and within the Army Boxers file. For more information about individual professional boxers, please see Hawaii series.

This series has various interesting smaller folders as well including the index to the Star-Bulletin Advertiser which covers several years. Correspondence between Kaplan and Curtis Narimatsu, a lawyer and boxing fan, is also included in the series.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Subseries C. History of Hawaii

Scope and Content

The History of Hawaii series contains Newspaper clippings, photocopies of newspaper, press releases, correspondence, interviews, newsletters, surveys, magazine clippings, promotions, photocopies of photographs, show results which focuses primarily on the 1930s and 1940s, although there is information about the 1920s. During this time, there were soldiers stationed in Hawaii and they helped create a boxing community in which they both participated as fighters and as fans. Although there is a folder specific to soldiers and boxing, other similar information is peppered throughout the series. The larger series looks at the community as a whole and does not necessarily focus on one particular subject, although there is a subseries focusing on amateur boxing. Information about boxing on the specific islands and cities can be found throughout the series as can material relating to Mark Choo, Alky Dawson and Japanese fighters. There is information about fights and fighters, but for a more detailed look into the fighters of Hawaii, please see the Hawaii series. However, there are two folders of show results for professional matches fought on the islands. These results are from the late 1970s to 2001, a period which is not particularly well represented throughout the series and therefore may not provide much information for cross referencing.

There are also several photographs of fighters, in both promotional and action shots. It is unclear whether or not these fighters were professional or amateurs, so they are mostly filed in the professional subseries. Although there is a separate folder for Japanese fighters, any photograph of Asian fighters were not filed in the Japanese fighters' folder since their nationality was not directly stated.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 9. Illinois

Boxes 23-24

Scope and Content

This series consists of newspaper clipping, show results, promotions, correspondence primarily of show results but does not go into an in depth look at any particular fight or fighter. However, there is information about state champions and ratings for fighters, which provides insight into some of the more recognized and successful fighters within Illinois.

Within the show results, there are a number of boxers who frequently compete. While none are so prevalent they require noting, the show results may provide a useful tool for those following particular boxers and their records. Although many of these fights occurred in Chicago, there are fights throughout the state represented. Other fights are included, and many are promoted by Ernie Terrell. Terrell is a former heavyweight boxer who fought Ali for the title in 1967. In 1977, Terrell began promoting fights, primarily in Chicago.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 10. Italy

Box 24

Scope and Content

Most of this series contains notes about Italian fighters from the early part of the twentieth century. Consisting of handwritten and typed notes, calendar, correspondence. Kaplan compiled brief biographies about each fighter, noting their major fights and the highlights of their career. In the original box, Kaplan compiled a list of Champions and numbered each fighter; he created typed notes to correlate with the list. Although these typed notes are numbered (to correlate with the list), their order has been rearranged in order to process the series more effectively.

Also, interestingly, much of the correspondence describes Kaplan's frustrations in trying to find information about the fighters he is researching. Several organizations either cannot provide information or cannot provide the kind of support Kaplan needed in order to properly research these fighters.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 11. Las Vegas

Boxes 24-25

Scope and Content

This series consists primarily of newspaper clippings, promotional material, media advisories, correspondence, promotions for venues and boxing columns about various fights in the Las Vegas area. The focus is on the larger venues in the city and includes fight results, media advisories and general information about the venues. Although a variety of venues are represented, most material is about the Showboat and the Silver Slipper. The Silver Slipper folder also contains sheets from their gambling hall, in which spectators gambled on fighters. News and media advisories make up the bulk of the information about the Showboat; however, there is a lot of information about "Boxing at the Boat." Information about "Boxing at the Boat" is primarily information about the bouts in a specific night. These sheets have been written on and contain information about each bout (e.g., the winner, whether there was a KO and whether the decision was unanimous). As with the rest of the information about venues these folders contain newspaper and media advisories about upcoming fights as well as results and general information about the venues.

The series is rounded out by several newspaper columns that focus on the larger boxing scene in Las Vegas. Nevada Punchline, In My Corner and At Ringside in particular provide information about various fights, including those that were not featured at the larger venues. These columns also include commentary on various fighters. These themes are built upon by clippings of the Las Vegas section of Hank Kaplan's World Wide Boxing Digest (from 1981, not a full run), which is featured in this series. The Kaplan clipping also focuses on general information, but includes commentary about fights at the larger venues, specifically the Silver Slipper. While not specific to any one particular fighter or fight, materials about the larger Las Vegas boxing world can be found in the "Fights" and "Fighters" folders, which focus on a variety of events and people.

Arranged alphabetically by subject; chronologically arranged within each file.

Series 12. Miscellaneous Locations

Boxes 25-29

Scope and Content

The information in this series consist mainly of Newsletters, and newspaper clippings which came from a box titled "Locations" by Hank Kaplan; as a result, the contents are scattered and general. Most of the information pertains to fights and includes results or provides information about upcoming fights. It seems as though most relates to professional boxing, although there may be some information relating to amateur boxers. Most material focuses on the late 1960s through the mid-1970s, although there is a bit of information about the 1950s.

As the title implies, there is information about fights in a wide variety of areas both around the country and abroad. With the exception of the British series, the miscellaneous series is the only series that contains information about fights and fighters abroad. Countries in Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa and South and Central America are all represented. There is quite a bit of information about Argentina, including a number of folders with match results from the early to mid 1980s. Materials related to fights in the United States often fill in gaps within the larger sub-group. For example, the South, Midwest and Western sections of the country are all represented within the series.

The "Miscellaneous" file of this series contains information from the original box whose place of origin cannot be determined. There are several columns of "'Ringside' with 'Sailor' Don Sauer" also contained within this folder.

Organized by sub-series. See sub-series note for more details.

Sub-Series A. Miscellaneous International

Scope and Content

Includes assorted files on boxing around the world. Files in this series did not have enough information to warrant their own series within the *Locations* subgroup.

Organized alphabetically by location.

Sub-Series B. Miscellaneous U.S.A.

Scope and Content

Includes assorted files on boxing around the world. Files in this series did not have enough information to warrant their own series within the *Locations* subgroup.

Organized alphabetically by location.

Series 13. New Jersey

Box 29

Scope and Content

The bulk of this series consists of newspaper clippings, photocopies of newspaper, correspondence, promotional materials, show results, schedule of bouts, handwritten notes focuses on show results, rather than individual fights or fighters. Therefore, there is quite a bit of information about multiple fights, but no in depth focus on any particular fight or fighter. Many of the show results that are featured contain multiple fights for a certain

night at a certain venue. However, there is also information about the schedule of bouts at different locations, which also helps build on the theme of general fights rather than specific bouts.

Therefore, the focus of the series shifts to the venues themselves and their productions. Again, there is little, if any, information about the venues themselves, just about the fights they have hosted. Most, if not all of these locations are within Atlantic City and include The Tropicana, Sands, Playboy Hotel, Ice World and Resorts. There is some additional information, particularly relating to regulatory agencies and information about how the boxing scene is developing within New Jersey. However, this represents a much smaller portion of the series and does not allow much information for drawn out conclusions.

Organized alphabetically by subject.

Series 14. New York Boxes 30-31

Scope and Content

This series consists of Newspaper, show results, correspondence, regulations, media advisories, magazine clippings, photocopies of newspaper, handwritten notes, and newsletters focuses on New York State as a whole, Madison Square Garden and also the Rochester Veterans Boxing Association. However, there is also information about boxing throughout New York state. Show results and newspaper clippings make up the bulk of the information in the first two subseries while the Rochester VBA subseries consist primarily of newsletters the organization created. For more detailed information about the subseries, please see statements below.

Organized by sub-series. See sub-series note for more details.

Subseries A. General

Scope and Content

Much like the New Jersey series, the bulk of this series consists of show results from various venues/fights and provides a general picture rather than an in depth look into the fights and fighters. Unlike other series, the location of these fights is not always by venue, but is often by town or region. Promoters for these fights include Sciacca B. Promo, Madison Square Garden, Don King Productions, Slam Bang, Tri City and others.

In addition to information about fights, there is also quite a bit of information from the New York Athletic Commission. The commission wrote about changes to rules and regulations as well as material about players who were unavailable because they were “ill and unavailable.” The details about new policies, regulations and rules help determine the history and development of the sport within New York State.

Organized alphabetically by subject.

Subseries B. Madison Square Garden

Scope and Content

Madison Square Garden (MSG) represents the largest boxing arena in New York State and at various points in its history it held weekly fights and used boxing matches as a way to financially support itself. This series

consists of Newspaper, show results, correspondence, regulations, media advisories, magazine clippings, photocopies of newspaper, handwritten notes, and newsletters. To fight at MSG was considered an honor and a sign that one had “made it.” The bulk of the material regarding fights is in two date periods, the 1960s and 1980-1985. The various fights at the Felt Forum (later renamed the Paramount), the main boxing arena created after 1968 reconstruction. Many of the articles detail the end of various eras in fighting history at Madison Square Garden.

The physical building is as important to the series as the events hosted within. MSG was rebuilt several times throughout its existence, most recently in 1968. Most of the historic information was printed just around the time of the 1968 reconstruction. In addition to the historic information, there is material relating to the construction of the new arena, including plans for the new building.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

Subseries C. Rochester VBA

Scope and Content

Most of the series consists of the Rochester Boxing Association (RBA) Newsletter. The newsletters focus on fighters, fights and current events in the boxing world. However, unlike the other series within this subgroup, the Rochester VBA series does not focus on boxing within Rochester; instead it looks at boxing within the United States. As a result, it does not include information about lesser known boxers or amateurs, but focuses on more famous professional boxers.

Also included in this group are some miscellaneous newsletters. They include the World Boxing Historian’s Association and Collector’s Corners. The Miscellaneous folder includes one piece of correspondence from the president of the Rochester Boxing Association, Ange Prospero, and a promotion for the RBA’s dinner and dance.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

Series 15. Philadelphia

Boxes 31-33

Scope and Content

This series consisting of media advisories, newsletters, and newspaper clippings. Almost all of the information within this series was produced by Spectrum Fights, a promotion company. It is unclear whether the Philadelphia series provides a complete look at a small boxing community or whether Kaplan focused on one particular promotional company that promoted boxers he particularly enjoyed. However, it is important to note that Spectrum defines this series--the folders about individual fighters, is almost exclusively the product of Spectrum Fights. The information about fighters primarily details upcoming fights and lists results for fights that Spectrum is directly involved with. Nonetheless, there is information on several fighters who seem to be larger figures in Philadelphia boxing including Bennie Briscoe, Marvin Johnson, Matthew Franklin and Mike Rossman. Several folders detail fights produced by Spectrum. For simplicities sake, they have been broken down either by year, subject or weight class. Information about specific fights includes announcements for fights, media advisories and show results.

Although Spectrum dominates the series, there is information from other sources. Peltz boxing (whose CEO was also the director of boxing for Spectrum Fights) is included in this series. This information, much like the Spectrum information contains announcements of fights and results. The Miscellaneous folder contains additional material by boxing promoters.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Series 16. Texas

Boxes 33-34

Scope and Content

This series consists primarily of newspapers, correspondence, show results, promotional materials, of information about individual fights, but does not focus on one fight or one location in particular. Much of the series contains show results for different fights; however, there are also several announcements for fights throughout Texas. Most of the announcements are from Able Ten productions. The vast majority of Able Ten's fights took place in Houston and although there is a file about Able Ten as a company, many of the fight files contain information about what Able Ten produced.

Through the show results folders, one is able to see the scope of boxing in the early to mid-1980s throughout the state. Fights ranged from places like Houston and Dallas to Corpus Christie and Laredo. It is clear that the whole of Texas had a relatively active boxing community. Although the announcements of fights were primarily produced by Able Ten, the show results display a variety of promoters which also helps underscore the varied boxing community in Texas.

In addition to information about fights, there is documentation from the Texas Department of Labor and Statistics regarding suspended boxers and boxing regulations. However, the agency also provided information about boxers who were suspended in other states.

Arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each file.

SUBGROUP XV. FISTIC ARCANA

Date **Inclusive Dates: 1880-2003**
 Bulk Dates: 1970s-1990s

Extent **78 boxes / 39 cubic feet**
 Includes various paper materials.

Scope and Content

This subgroup was originally called “Assorted Topics,” because of the wide array of subjects that it touches upon. This subgroup became referred to, using Kaplan’s own words, as “Fistic Arcana.” That is, all subjects which do not fit into any other subgroup, but are still the essence of this collection. Subjects that make up the series’ vary widely, and the widest is the series, *Subject Files*, which has a folder for every topic possible—ranging from “Acupuncture” to “Kissing” to “Welfare.”

Content is organized into eighteen series: 1. *Amateurs, Olympics and Golden Gloves*; 2. *Arenas and Gyms*; 3. *Bare Knuckle Fighters*; 4. *Boxing Brothers*; 5. *Computer Generated Bouts: All Time Championship*; 6. *Fatalities and Injuries*; 7. *History*; 8. *Investigations and Scandals*; 9. *Manuscripts, Stories and Screenplays*; 10. *Medical Aspects of Boxing*; 11. *Military*; 12. *Movies*; 13. *Nationality Race and Gender*; 14. *Professions (Boxers with Other Professions)*; 15. *Results and Statistics*; 16. *Rules and Regulations*; 17. *Suspensions*; 18. *Subject Files*; 19. *Yearly Reviews*.

Arrangement within each series varies. See notes within each series.

Series 1. Amateurs

Bulk dates: 1970s-1980s

Boxes 1-11

Scope and Content

This series contains materials pertaining to amateur boxing. Included in this series are newspaper clippings, correspondence, publications and press releases, programs and handbills.

The first several boxes are organized alphabetically by fighter’s surname. After these boxes, the rest of the series is organized topically, including Olympic games and Golden Glove tournaments.

Series 2. Arenas and Gyms

Mostly undated

Boxes 12-13

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper clippings, correspondence and brief histories of boxing arenas, gyms, and athletic clubs. The oldest materials in this series date from the 1890s. The bulk of these venues are in England and the United States. The majority of these institutions are no longer in existence, or have stopped hosting boxing events.

Organized alphabetically by name of arena or gym.

Series 3. Bare Knuckle Fighters

Mostly undated

Boxes 14-16

Scope and Content

Bare-knuckle boxing generally refers to a form of boxing that was practiced in 18th century in England and is commonly referred to as prizefighting. The first documented bare-knuckle bout occurred in England in 1681. The first English bare-knuckle champion was James Figg in 1719. This is also when the term boxing was first used.

Organized alphabetically by the fighter's surname.

Series 4. Brothers

Bulk dates: 1980s

Box 17

Scope and Content

This series contains materials relating to brothers who have shared a career in boxing. Interesting subjects include: Twins (such as the Spanakos twins), Brother vs. Brother (i.e. boxing matches where siblings faced off against each other, such as the Robinson brothers, the Sinnolt brothers, and the Malave brothers), and Champions (siblings who have both achieved championship status as boxers includes World Champions Raphael and Gabriel Ruelas).

At times throughout international boxing history, brothers have actually been banned from fighting against each other in officially sanctioned matchups. However, the subject of Brother vs. Brother, i.e., boxing matches where siblings were forced to face off against each other, are represented in folder 17 (the Sinnolts), folder 15 (the Robinsons, who were forced to fight due to economic circumstances), and 12 (the Malave brothers, who were very nearly forced to box each other in a Golden Gloves championship bout at Madison Square Garden).

Information on Raphael and Gabriel Ruelas, two brothers who both attained the status of World Champion, are found in folder 16. However, most brotherly Champions are found in folder 24, which contains multiple lists of hand written notes compiled by boxing historian Hank Kaplan, along with statistics on 'Fighting Brothers Who Climbed to the Top of Fistic Ladder Under Queensbury Rules,' and other related articles. Kaplan also has notes found in this folder that pertain to other family members/relatives that likewise became Champions. More recently, the Spinks brothers, Leon and Michael, shared the boxing spotlight, having both achieved the rank of world heavyweight champion.

Originally Hank Kaplan kept the *Brothers in Boxing* section of his collection largely unarranged in one box labeled "Brothers." However, he did have folders entitled "Spanakos," "Moore Brothers," and "Willie Moore," probably due to the large quantity of articles found in his collection on these three subjects. This series has been arranged alphabetically by surname. Kaplan did have a separate folder reserved for brotherly

“Champions.” This subject is still represented by Kaplan’s arrangement, under the same title, as folder 24. The subjects “Twins” and “Brother vs. Brother” are based on significant patterns the archivist saw within the Kaplan Archive.

Organized alphabetically by the fighting brothers’ surname, also included are some subject files.

Series 5. Computer Generated Bouts: All Time Championship

Bulk dates: 1960s-1970s

Boxes 18-19

Scope and Content

This series contains materials about the fascinating “All Time Championship” radio program that aired in the late 1960s. Created by Murray Woroner, owner of Miami based Woroner Productions, the radio series matched 16 of the greatest heavyweight champions of all time in computer generated bouts to determine the greatest champion of all time. Each was narrated by famed radio announcer Guy LeBow, with commentary from Woroner as well. The bouts were simulated using computer data about each fighter taken from extensive records as well as interviews done with Angelo and Chris Dundee and Nat Fleischer.

Following the great success of the Heavyweight Championship (won by Rocky Marciano), Woroner followed with a Middleweight Championship and a college football championship. The radio series was intensely popular.

This series is primarily made up of photocopied newspaper clippings about the fights, as well as press releases, and correspondence to Woroner about listeners. Also included are transcripts for some of the fights, including Jack Dempsey vs. Jim Corbett, Joe Louis vs. Jess Willard, and Max Baer vs. Jack Johnson. Also included are transcripts of interviews with and about fighters, which were broadcast as pre-fight entertainment. Interviews are with fighters such as Rocky Marciano, Gene Fullmer, and Emile Griffith, as well as boxing coaches, promoters, and managers such as Angelo Dundee, and Jack Doc Kearns. See subgroup *Audio / Visual Material* for the recorded versions of these fights.

Organized by subject.

Series 6. Fatalities and Injuries

Bulk dates: 1980s, contents from 1700s-1990s

Boxes 21- 30

Scope and Content

This series contains materials that document the tragedies of boxing, including ring deaths and injuries occurring throughout the history of the sport. The materials range from lists of names and dates, to articles about fatalities that received extensive media coverage, such as Duk Koo Kim and Willie Classen. These are supplemented by statistics from other sports and personal correspondences on the subject. The controversy over whether or not boxing was dangerous enough to be banned is also well documented through articles and editorials from every perspective.

The first five boxes are arranged alphabetically, boxes 26 and 29 are arranged chronologically, and the rest are arranged by subject.

Series 7. History, Boxing through

Mostly undated, contains information regarding ancient history.

Boxes 31-34

Scope and Content

This series contains materials that refer to the early days of boxing history. Included in this series are materials regarding ancient and primitive boxing, as well as the early days of and origins of modern boxing. There are also some subjects, including locations and particular fights, which Kaplan had generally labeled "History." Also included are items on heavyweight history, material that Kaplan had originally stored in a box with the same name.

Organized chronologically, also included are some subject files.

Series 8. Investigations and Scandals

Bulk dates: 1950s

Boxes 34-35

Scope and Content

This series reflects newspaper and magazine clippings that Hank Kaplan collected regarding organized criminal activity, fraud, investigations, and scandals that haunted the boxing world in the mid-20th century. Since there was very little original order the archivist grouped materials together using the surname of the individual who was prominently mentioned in the article. In addition, when the information reflected a boxing organization or a particular fight, the name of the folder reflects that. Since many of these investigations and people were interconnected, various folders might reflect information on some of the same people. For instance, mobster Frankie Carbo's name comes up prominently in the investigations of Senator Estes Kefauver and the criminal activity surrounding the Johansson-Patterson Fight. An interesting piece of history is documented in the Muhammad Ali Prof. Sports, Inc. (MAPS) folder in which club president, Harold J. Smith was involved in a 21.3 million dollar swindle from Wells Fargo Bank. It is important to note that Muhammad Ali had nothing to do with MAPS. He merely sold the rights to his name to Harold J. Smith.

Organized alphabetically by the most prominent surname in the investigation or scandal.

Series 9. Manuscripts, Stories and Screenplays

Boxes 36-40

Scope and Content

This series is comprised of mostly original manuscripts for boxing related books and screenplays. There are original manuscripts from books and screenplays that were commercially published, and others from unpublished works. Of note here are manuscripts from Hank Kaplan's own published book; *Boxing: This is It*,

co-authored with Enrique G. Encinosa, and a manuscript for the memoir by Leo Vogelfang, a young boxer who fled the Nazis and came to America. Included as well is the Ring Lardner, Jr. screenplay for the film *The Greatest* in which Ali played himself, and depicted his road to becoming the heavyweight champion.

Organized alphabetically by the author's surname.

Series 10. Medical Aspects of Boxing

Bulk dates: 1980s

Box 41

Scope and Content

Although the origins of boxing, and its recognition as a sport, can be traced back to the ancient Egyptians, in modern times boxing has frequently been labeled as excessively violent and hazardous to the athletes participating in the sport. Articles found in this series record fatalities dating back to 1897, but it was not until more recently that serious studies were undertaken into the medical aspects of boxing. These studies, as outlined by articles found in this series, led the American Medical Association (AMA) to call for a ban on the sport in 1983. While no official ban on boxing has ever been implemented in the United States, the AMA warning has been recognized and rebutted by numerous organizations. Indeed, boxing has been banned in other countries. This information can be evidenced by articles, reports, and opinions found within this series, *Medical Aspects of Boxing*.

Hank Kaplan had labeled the box containing these articles simply as *Medical Reform*. The processing archivist changed the series name to *Medical Aspects of Boxing* because it seems to contain a broader perspective of the issue.

The folder entitled American Medical Association contains articles that illustrate the opinions of the U.S. medical community. Dr. Max Novich, once an eminent sports physician, president of the Association of Ringside Physicians, and director of the National Boxing Safety Center, who was a strong advocate of the sport, has a strong presence in this series.

Organized in alphabetical order by subject.

Series 11. Military

Box 42

Scope and Content

The series entitled *Military* is largely a chronological record of boxing history during WWII, but also expands, to a lesser degree, to include both Pre and Post WWII periods. Also included is the first folder, "World War I," which was left in Kaplan's original order.

Professional boxing in America was substantially affected by the Second World War, as many boxers became enlisted men, and boxing was a popular pastime for soldiers. The bulk of the newspaper clippings highlight the military exploits of many of the servicemen that boxed competitively while on duty, or in training, during

WWII. Many world champions, including Gene Tunney, Jack Dempsey, and Joe Louis served in the U.S. military.

This series is presented in chronological order for two reasons. The first reason is that the bulk of the articles falls within a specific time period (1940-1945); and secondly, because within most of the articles, multiple servicemen are chronicled. While Kaplan left these clippings largely unarranged, he had labeled several articles “Wartime.” The contents of folder 4, bearing the same title, are based on the original grouping, but also include other articles deemed appropriate by the archivist.

The “Military Usage of Boxing to train for Hand-to hand Combat,” and “Joe Louis in the Military” are folders of particular interest. Since boxing is a technical form of fighting and was very popular among soldiers of the period, boxing was naturally used by the Military to train for hand-to-hand combat. Folder 5 also contains articles that entertain the concept of combining techniques used in boxing with other techniques used in martial arts like Judo, to increase the effective strategies of American military men forced to use hand-to-hand combat. The great heavyweight champion Joe Louis, as accounted in folder 6, played a major role in boosting Army morale by going on tour to exhibit his boxing skills. He also lent his identity to the Army to be used in recruiting, which led to the recruitment of a young Jackie Robinson into the service.

Folders 7 through 15 detail the boxing endeavors of servicemen from each of the five major branches of the military during the years 1940-1945. Folder 10, “Air Force,” and folder 11 “Coast Guard,” include the war years, but also include post-war articles. Folder 12, “Interservice, 1940-1945,” contains articles that highlight multiple branches of the military, or the results of inter-service tournaments. Folder 13, “General Information,” has articles that touch upon boxers from various branches of the army, however, which particular branch is not specified. Most all of the articles in folder 13 are from the WWII period. The title of folder 14, “Navy History” was penned by Hank Kaplan (no archival re-arrangement); its contents include an article specifically chronicling the history of Naval boxers. Folder 15. “Military: Navy, General Information,” has three articles of unspecified date.

Folders 16-21 are from the Post WWII period up until the year 1977. Folder 16 includes articles that review the post-war years from both the standpoint of the military and professional boxing. The Army is best represented in this section, as signified by folders 17-19.

Organized by subject, with some chronological order as well (i.e. WWI at the beginning and post WWII towards the end).

Series 12. Movies

Box 43

Scope and Content

The information contained in this series reflects Hank Kaplan’s interest in boxing films, fight films, and actor/boxers. Newspaper clippings, magazines, posters, photographs, letters and various ephemera make up the contents of small box that Hank Kaplan aptly titled, “Movies.” There was very little original order except for two marked folders which housed information on the Muhammad Ali epic, “The Greatest” and Sylvester

Stallone's "Rocky" trilogy. We kept the original order of these two folders and replicated it by grouping information together alphabetically based on movie titles. Furthermore, since there was a large body of information on boxers turned actors, like Muhammad Ali, or actors turned boxer like the "Miami Vice" star John Diehl, some of the folders are titled Actor/Boxers. In addition, when something was a Broadway play and/or a made for TV movie, like the Jack Johnson biography, "The Great White Hope," special notation was made. There were a few rare instances where the information housed within this box was outside the scope of "Movies." Here we put things together in a folder titled Miscellaneous.

Organized into groups of movie titles and actor/boxes. Organized alphabetically within each group.

Series 13. Nationality Race and Gender

Boxes 44-46

Scope and Content

This series consists of three subjects: fighters whom are Cuban, women, and African American. Though there are many other nationalities represented in the Kaplan collection, these were the only three that were specifically separated into different files. They represent a wide range of individuals, both fighters and various personalities (such as promoters, trainers and managers). See below for content of each subject.

Cuban Fighters The content that makes up this section is just one box of matted pictorial works of Cuban fighters. Included are illustrated maps of Cuba, the cover of Ring Magazine, copies of photographs, and other non-photographic images of Cuban fighters.

Female Fighters The section is divided into three general sections: *Female Boxers*, *Female Personalities in Boxing*, and *Subject Files*.

Female Boxers, is arranged alphabetically by surname. Each folder has a combination of newspaper clippings, promotional material, correspondence, photographs, and other memorabilia about the individual boxer. Some notable fighters include Cathy "Cat" Davis, a lightweight champion who had by far the most positive press, Jackie Tonawanda and Marian "Tyger" Trimiari, the first women to apply for and receive boxing licenses from the New York State Athletic Commission in 1975, and Barbara Buttrick, one of the first women to gain fame as a boxer in the 1940s.

Female Personalities in Boxing, is composed of folders alphabetized by surname of the various female trainers, managers, and promoters that entered the boxing field before women were ever allowed to fight. The articles written about these women offer fascinating insight into the popular chauvinism of mid-20th Century America, which assume boxing to be the "manly" sport, and therefore ridicule women entering the field. Many of the women in this sub-series are related to male boxers, a contributing factor to many of their interests in the sport. Though maybe a stepping stone into the world of boxing, these women took their interests to the next level, and proved that females could train, manage, and promote as well as the next guy.

Subject Files, which touches on various topics in the struggle for acceptance of females in the sport, without focuses on individual women. This subseries is divided into categories and then alphabetized, and it includes articles about the legal battles that women fought to be allowed to box, articles on the history of women in boxing, a variety of organizations and publications focused on women in boxing, a folder of "first legal fights," and many articles and Letters to the Editor that debate whether women should be allowed to fight at all. The

tone of the entire series takes on this question, and it is clear that American culture struggled to answer for itself.

African American Fighters This section is quite small compared to many of the other topics in the Kaplan collection. The items in this series were culled from just one folder of Kaplan's, labeled "African American Fighters," and consists of mostly newspaper and magazine clippings, as well as photocopies, about individual fighters, as well as African Americans in boxing generally. There is also a folder of Kaplan's research notes and lists he made of fighters. This was typical of Kaplan's style; he would make a general list of names and then also have information forms which he would fill out for each fighter. For more information on individual fighters (Jack Johnson, Joe Gans, and Henry Armstrong, among many others), it would be best to check the subgroup *Fighters by Weightclass*, or the subgroup *Bouts* for information on fights that were particularly racially charged and generated lots of media attention (such as Ali vs. Foreman or Tate vs. Coetzee).

Series 14. Professions (Boxers with Other Professions)

Box 47

Scope and Content

This is a very small series that has material relating to boxers that were also Academics and teachers, actors and musicians, attorneys, businessmen, doctors, policemen, politicians and scientists. Folders are organized alphabetically by profession, with one folder for assorted professions where there is not enough material to warrant a new folder.

Organized alphabetically by profession.

Series 15. Results and Statistics

Bulk dates: 1970s

Boxes 48-53

Scope and Content

This series contains mostly newspaper clippings from various publications, such as *The Ring* and *Boxing Illustrated* that would publish various results and statistics for different fighters, as well as forms from the Florida Boxing Commission about individual fighters. The clippings can mostly be found within the subgroup *Publications* as well as in this series. The Boxing Commission forms are restricted material because of private information on the forms.

Series 16. Rules and Regulations

Bulk dates: 1960s

Boxes 54-56

Scope and Content

This series contains materials relating to the rules and regulations of various state boxing and athletic commissions. One box is made up entirely of manuals and booklets, organized alphabetically by state (with organizations at the end), ranging from the early 1920s until the 1990s. Other materials include legal

proceedings about possibly banning boxing in the United States, as well as correspondence relating to this legislation.

Materials are generally organized alphabetically by state.

Series 17. Suspensions

Bulk dates: 1990s

Boxes 57-59

Scope and Content

This series is comprised entirely of record sheets listing boxers whose licenses were suspended by the Florida State Athletic Commission. The sheets list the boxer's name, reason for suspension, and length of suspension. Reasons for suspension are mostly medical, but do include reasons such as positive drug tests, "lack of boxing skills," too many losses in a row, and old age.

Organized chronologically.

Series 18. Subject Files

Bulk dates: 1960s-1970s

Boxes 60-77

Scope and Content

This series contains articles collected by Hank Kaplan regarding a wide variety of subjects related to boxing. Some material is dated as early as 1900s, with the bulk of materials from the 1960s-1970s. The majority of the articles collected are in English, while a small percentage is written in Spanish. The articles encompass every subject relating to the sport of boxing, and include the history of boxing in various cities in the world, the gyms in which boxers fought, boxing injuries, boxing controversies, celebrity boxers, fatalities in boxing, ethnic groups in boxing, women in boxing, boxing rules and regulations, boxing equipment, other sports verses boxing, famous title matches, diseases and drug use, boxing animals, world champions, and so on. While some of these subjects are indeed present in other subgroups and series in the Kaplan Archive, the ones in this series were kept together by Kaplan and original order was maintained. Articles from newspapers, magazines and journals are the most pervasive medium in the series, with the remainder of the materials ranging from essays Hank Kaplan wrote to business cards or notes written on a piece of paper. Many of the newspaper articles are old and fragile and the most fragile articles are encapsulated in Mylar. Also some duplicates and copies exist of some of the older materials. The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject title and placed into regular sized folders and smaller envelopes which hold small newspaper clippings.

Organized alphabetically by subject.

Series 19. Yearly Reviews

Bulk dates: 1970s

Box 78

Scope and Content

This series consists of newspaper clippings and full articles, usually published in December or January that are round ups and summaries of the past year in boxing. Articles are organized based on Kaplan's notation, which was not always consistent. For example, for a summary of boxing events and personalities for the year 1970 that was published in January of 1971, Kaplan would sometimes write "yearly summary 1970" and sometimes "yearly summary 1971." If the researcher is looking for a specific year, it would be best to check the folder for that year as well as the folders for before and after that year.

Organized chronologically.

SUBGROUP XVI. AUTOGRAPHS

Date **Undated**
Extent **15 boxes / 8 cubic feet and oversize items**
 Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

This subgroup contains various types of materials which are grouped together because they have been autographed by one or more boxers, boxing personalities (referees, promoters, etc.) and others (including some actors). The sub-group is divided into five series: 1. *Single Autographs*; 2. *Multiple Autographs*; 3. *Autographed Cards*; 4. *Money*; 5. *Rare, Assorted, and Correspondence*. This subgroup also contains a few items which are located in the flat file drawers (see container list for details).

This subgroup contains a variety of items which are autographed by boxers; a number of items were signed by referees, judges, organization leaders, and even movie stars who portrayed boxers. Items in the subgroup are paper items, such as magazines, programs, tickets and stubs, handbills, posters, letters, postcards, and money. The conditions of all items range from good to excellent, with the exception of items in series 5.

Each series in the subgroup is arranged differently. See series notes for more details.

Series 1. Single Autographs

Boxes 1-10

Scope and Content

Every item in this series has one signature. Types of items include magazines, newspaper, ticket stubs, personal checks, handbills, programs, invitations, post cards, and other.

The series is arranged alphabetically by the last name of signer, except binder number five, which includes various items signed by close friends of Hank Kaplan. Both Kid Gavilan and Beau Jack were close to Kaplan, which is why there are more signed items for these two former boxers.

Series 2. Multiple Autographs

Boxes 10-11

Scope and Content

Items in this series include a number of materials which have more than one signature. Types of materials include newspapers, magazines, event programs, and photographs.

Items in series 2 have multiple signatures on them and they are arranged in two ways: (1) where items include between 2 and 3 signees, they are listed in the container list with the names of those persons and (2) when items have more than 3 signees, which are for the most part on a program of a fight or event, they are arranged by the name of the event in chronological order without the names of the signees.

Series 3. Autographed Cards

Boxes 12-13

Scope and Content

Series 3 consists of two card file boxes, the contents of which are arranged alphabetically by the last name of the signee; some items in the card file boxes are actually 3x5 cards and others are small pieces of papers or postcards. Series 3 also contains items which technically were not autographed, but are rather cutouts of envelope corners or letters with the persons' handwriting, which Kaplan kept as pseudo-autographs.

Arranged alphabetically by last name of person.

Series 4. Money

Box 14

Scope and Content

As the name suggests, this series contains signed money, specifically American one dollar bills (and in few instances two dollar bills). All the monies in the series were signed by one person with the exception of last four items, which contain up to four signatures.

Arranged alphabetically by the last name of signee.

Series 5. Rare, Assorted and Correspondence

Boxes 14-15 and oversize in reading room

Scope and Content

This series contains two types of materials. Rare items are for the most part single pieces of paper with a signature, some of which have dates on them. Their condition is poor; paper is almost brittle, suggesting their rarity. Correspondence items are specifically letters written between various boxing personalities, including a few to Hank Kaplan himself. Kaplan saved these with his collection of autographs because although some letters are typed and some are handwritten, all of them have been signed by authors. Also included is a small booklet of autographs; only some of the pages are filled.

All the items in Series 5 are arranged in alphabetical order by surnames of the signees.

SUBGROUP XVII. HANK KAPLAN

Date	Inclusive dates: 1930s-2007 Bulk dates: 1963-1992
Extent	28 boxes / 14 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper materials

Scope and Content

This subgroup contains materials relating to the donor of the collection, the Lord of the Ring, Mr. Hank Kaplan himself. The items are divided into twelve series, based on Kaplan's life and work, including themes like his promotion company Pugilistic Promotions, as well as items related to his personal life and career, such as the time he spent working in Indonesia. See the biographical note to the collection for more information on Hank Kaplan himself, and see series notes for more description of the contents of this subgroup.

Series include: 1. *Articles*; 2. *Biographical File*; 3. *Correspondence*; 4. *In the news*; 5. *Indonesia*; 6. *Memorabilia*; 7. *Miscellaneous*; 8. *Organizations*; 9. *Photographs*; 10. *Pugilistic Promotions*; 11. *Reports*; 12. *Writings*.

Arrangement across the series varies because of the diverse scope of material, but generally material is arranged by subject, and then put either chronologically or alphabetically depending on the content. See arrangement notes for more detail.

Series 1. Articles

Inclusive Dates: 1963, 1969-1982, 1992

Box 1

Scope and Content

For the most part, series 1 consists of newspaper clippings. The series contains articles written by Kaplan which appeared in newspapers, magazines and even home-made newsletters from around the world. All the clippings are stored within a single oversized box, and only include a small sample of Kaplan's writing in print (for more extensive written works, see series 11 and 12 below). The earliest items date from 1969 when Kaplan wrote for *The Reporter* of Florida. His column was called "Knockout News and Views." He also wrote a weekly column "Kaplan's Korner" for *Dispatch*, of which only a few clippings are available. Hank Kaplan wrote for a number of boxing publications, but his earliest works for *Boxing Illustrated* were penned under pseudonym Steve Barbara, a name Kaplan chose after his son and daughter. These items are contained in the first folder of the series. All items are in fairly good condition, but the outmost care must be shown in handling the material as some of them, especially the 1969 clippings, are one of a kind.

Each folder contains articles from a different publication. Publications with more than one folder are arranged chronologically.

Series 2. Biographical Files

Box 2

Scope and Content

Series 2 consists of merely six folders. The contents of those folders pertain to the achievements of Hank Kaplan. There is a folder with various copies of a list created (and constantly revised) by Kaplan listing his accomplishments and awards received from the boxing community. A number of clippings from local newspapers report on Kaplan's boxing collection, and a single undated (circa 1954) clipping shows a record of Hank Kaplan "receiving honors [for] 10 year service" as United States Quarantine Officer. All items are in good condition. Some items (as indicated in container list) are located in the flat files.

Arranged by subject.

Series 3. Correspondence

Inclusive Dates: 1947, 1948, 1959-2006, Bulk Dates: 1990s & 2000s

Boxes 2-5

Scope and Content

Series 3 has perhaps the most intimate type of information pertaining to the character of Hank Kaplan. The earliest letter in the series was written by Hank Kaplan in 1947. The earliest letter written to Kaplan dates from 1959, and it is from Mrs. Jeff Jefferds, who provided Kaplan with some information regarding boxers from the WWI period. There are similar types of letters throughout the series, but the majority of the correspondence comes from boxing organizations or collectors thanking Hank Kaplan for his contributions and directions. There are also letters from individuals who turned to Kaplan in search of their long lost family members who were connected to the boxing sport in one way or another. One folder holds letters Kaplan wrote to other people, such as Sylvester Stallone, brother of Frank Stallone, who was a friend of Kaplan's. And then there are letters from a man by name of Patrick Kilty, or Paddy "the Dublin Kid," from Ireland, who was a collector, fan and friend of Hank Kaplan. In October 1996 Paddy founded The "Hank Kaplan" Collectors Club in his hometown, which may still be in existence. The letters in the series were either handwritten, created on a typewriter or on a computer. All the letters are in good condition.

Arranged chronologically, as well as by subject (such as "Letters from Paddy of 'The Hank Kaplan Collectors Club'").

Series 4. In the News

Inclusive Dates: 1960-2004, Bulk Dates: 1980s

Boxes 6-7

Scope and Content

Unlike series 1, the newspaper clippings in series 4 contain information about Hank Kaplan, and not by him. The series contains printed news from as early as 1960s, when Kaplan was a Quarantine Inspector in the public health service, to as late as 2004, when Charlie Ross wrote his column "Punchlines." Some of the newspaper clippings contain full stories on Kaplan, others quote the boxing expert, while others are stories of travels where the writer mentions visiting the home of the Florida resident. One folder contains clippings (and a few full issues) from the Hebrew Orphan Asylum Association publication, titled *Rising Bell*, where Hank Kaplan made

the news. There are also a number of clippings in foreign languages, mostly Spanish, but some are Italian, and there is one Polish magazine. Most of the materials in the series are in good condition, with earlier clippings in slightly poorer state, but none are brittle.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 5. Indonesia

Inclusive Dates: 1968

Box 7

Scope and Content

Series 5 is the smallest one in the sub-group and the only one that in its entirety has nothing to do with the sport of boxing. In 1968, there was an outbreak of bubonic plague on the islands of Indonesia. At the time, Kaplan was stationed in Miami as quarantine officer for the CDC. He was member of a team of officers sent to Indonesia to fight the plague. The series contains information prior to, during, and after the trip to Indonesia. There are copies of official letters, forms and documents between government departments pertaining to the setup of the Indonesia team. Also hand written notes from the entire trip along with some original proofs of expenses, interactions and activities created by Hank Kaplan, bound and titled “Indonesia 1968” can be found here. The last folder in the series contains 35 mm slides which Kaplan used for Fumigation Training in Indonesia, along with a detailed description of every image on the slides. Although not in good condition, the materials are not brittle, but rather slightly yellowed.

Arranged by subject.

Series 6. Memorabilia

Inclusive dates: 1919-2006

Boxes 8-12

Scope and Content

This series consists of five different containers. One box contains the tools which Hank Kaplan used to create the collection: his white cloth gloves, the scissors which he used to cut up newspaper clippings and a mug with pencils to record information. There are two binders, which contain an array of materials such as envelopes and stationeries from boxing individuals, organizations, and events from as early as 1919; a number of unique holiday cards from such individuals as Packey O’Gatty, Jack Portney, Charlie Ross, Joe Koizumi, Jose Sulaiman, Benedikt Taschen and others; Hank Kaplan’s personal identification cards, membership cards, and some licenses—personal and other boxers’. There are also certificates which Kaplan received for having completed Real Estate trainings courses, for his service in PHS and CDC, as well as a certificate of appreciation from the government of Indonesia for his service during the outbreak of the plague. Also in this series is Hank Kaplan’s certificate of induction in the International Boxing Hall of Fame from 2006. The most interesting items in series 6 are contained in box 11; these are various letters which were written between many individuals in the boxing world, some were trainers, managers, and boxers, and then there were writers and reporters. Letters in box 11 are not arranged in any specific order; Kaplan stored these rare items in two different binders (which were combined into one), just as he acquired them.

Arranged mostly by memorabilia's size.

Series 7. Miscellaneous

Box 13-16

Scope and Content

Series 7 contains the type of materials which defied classification. Most of the folders in the series have only single pieces of paper, and some don't have dates, but all are in good condition. Mostly there are handbills, newsletters, programs from boxing shows and events, and other benefit events. There are also two stories by James Dugate, both about Hank Kaplan. Of note are folders labeled "Kaplan's contribution to 'GOAT' book"; these folders contain correspondences between various persons from the Taschen publications, copies of agreements, original receipts, and Kaplan's own handwritten notes and stories for the book.

Arranged by subject.

Series 8. Organization

Inclusive Dates: 1958-1982

Box 17

Series 8 primarily consists of various newsletters written either by Hank Kaplan or by members of the World Boxing Historian's Association (WBHA). WBHA was formerly called COBLA or Collectors of Boxing Lore Association, which was established by Spider Winkler in October 1958. When Kaplan became the president of the association in 1960, one of his responsibilities was to write the newsletter, with the last one written on June 1964. The series contains all the letters written by Kaplan and most of the letters by other presidents of WBHA until 1982. It is not known how long the association lasted, but there are no materials past 1982 in series 8.

Hank Kaplan was also founder of Veteran Boxers Association Ring 31 of Florida. Any material related to VBA 31 is located in subgroup *Organizations*.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 9. Photographs

Inclusive Dates: 1930s-2007, Bulk dates: 1970s-2007

Boxes 17-23

Scope and Content

Series 9 is the largest one in the sub-group and consists of photographs from Kaplan's life: images from his youth, with his family, and some from his employment in the public health service sector. However, the majority of photographs are of Kaplan's activities in the boxing world, Kaplan with other boxers and boxing personalities and attendance of fights and organizational events.

Photographs are stored in 7 different boxes due to variety of sizes of those images. Most of them were originally not in any particular order, but rather stored loosely in a large container. This was due, perhaps, to time constraints, since Kaplan would spend most of his time working on his collection and less on personal matters. Thus all the loose photographs arranged in a 5x6 box as follows: by appearance of individuals (Kid Gavilan, Beau Jack, etc.) on images and then chronological (first all the IBHoF events, then other events). Of note are images of Kaplan in 5th Street Gym with other boxers, including Cassius Clay, Florentino Fernandez and others, dating between 1959 and 1964.

A number of albums, labeled as “personal,” are stored in binders in their original order, but the contents of those albums are not always homogeneous, often containing photographs from a variety of events and variety of sources. Few of the “personal albums” have been created by others, who had attended the same event and sent those albums as a memory present to Kaplan. Because Kaplan had a special relationship with Kid Gavilan and Beau Jack, there are a large number of photographs of Kaplan with them, including images of their funerals. All photographs are in good condition.

Arranged by subject.

Series 10. Pugilistic Promotions

Inclusive Dates: 1981-1983

Boxes 24-25

Scope and Content

Pugilistic Promotions was the name of a company founded by Hank Kaplan, Ramiro Ortiz, and Lou Barsky in the summer of 1981. On July 30, 1981, an announcement in the local press informed the readers that “Professional boxing returns to Fort Lauderdale with a 10 round main event.” When Pugilistic Promotions Incorporated was organized, the local skepticism was high, but their first show on Tuesday August 25th was an even affair, without financial gains or losses. The next fight was enthusiastically scheduled on September 30, but now by only Hank Kaplan and Ramiro Ortiz. For an unknown reason, Lou Barsky was no longer part of the company after the first fight, and his name was removed from all the previously printed contact sheets and letterheads of Pugilistic Promotions Inc.

Hank Kaplan promoted twenty two shows with Ramiro Ortiz, with the “Final boxing show at the War Memorial Auditorium” taking place on May 18, 1983, “until October, 1983 when interior renovation plans are complete.” Pugilistic Promotions Inc. came back as promised, but now it was under leadership of Ramiro Ortiz and Chris Dundee, with Hank Kaplan having gone back to publishing.

There are two types of information to be found in series 10. Folders pertaining to each boxing show organized by Pugilistic Promotions during Hank Kaplan’s tenure, contain handbills, programs, some correspondence between the organizing parties and newspaper clippings about the shows. Additionally, there are financial statements showing expenses and profits of Pugilistic Promotions for each month between August 1981 and April 1983. The last folder in the series includes expenses of fights (1985) which were promoted by other companies, of which Hank Kaplan may have been part.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 11. Reports

Inclusive Dates: 1962-1994

Boxes 26-27

Scope and Content

Series 11 contains the typed reports that Hank Kaplan wrote for publishers. Most of the items were created on a type-writer using onion-skin paper; Kaplan labeled some of these writings as reports, but they are essentially first drafts of articles. Mainly the series consists of reports for *The Ring* magazine, dating from 1965 to 1977, and one folder from 1994. The rest of the folders contain reports for a variety of publications, but their contents are not as extensive as those for *The Ring*. Although the material on which the reports are typed is very thin, for the most part the paper is still in good condition. Nonetheless, care is required in handling these materials.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 12. Writings

Box 27-28

Scope and Content

Series 12 consists of a variety of writing samples, which could not be classified as reports (see series 11). There are summary chapters for what Kaplan called “Italian-American Champions Book.” There are also writing samples on Cassius Clay and Dundee brothers and an entire folder of handwritten notes, draft stories and lists. A folder on Jose Sulaiman contains two pages which Kaplan began writing in 2007 before he fell ill and passed away. The series also consists of copies of “BOXING—This Is It” a book published by Hank Kaplan and E.G. Encinosa. All items in the series are in good condition.

Arranged by subject.

SUBGROUP XVIII. ANGELO DUNDEE

Dates	Inclusive Dates: 1949-2007 Bulk Dates: 1970s-1990s
Extent	18 Boxes / 10 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper materials.

Scope and Content

Born Angelo Mirena on 30 August 1921 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Angelo Dundee was the eighth of the nine children born to Italian immigrants. Angelo was named after his father, who along with his mother, Philomena, immigrated to United States in 1903 from Calabria in Southern Italy. Joseph was the eldest child of Angelo and Philomena, also the only one to be born in Italy, whereas the rest of the children were born in the United States.

It was Angelo's eldest brother Joe who became interested in boxing first, for the sake of earning extra money. His father was against "fighting for money," and so Joe adopted the name Dundee to fight under, thus becoming the first in the family to carry a Scottish name. His younger brothers Chris and Angelo would also become Dundees.

When Angelo Dundee graduated high school in 1939, he worked many odd jobs until he finally got a position in Naval Aircraft Factory. After World War II, Angelo went to New York City, joining his second oldest brother Christopher, who was already famously known as boxing promoter Chris Dundee. When Chris opened his "Fifth Street Gym" in Miami, Angelo followed him. It was in this gym where young Cassius Clay had trained before his championship, and it was Angelo Dundee who trained him to that position. Angelo's fame as trainer in the world of boxing precedes his brother's fame as promoter, and Chris Dundee's boxing shows, as Hank Kaplan said, "were class acts. They went like clockwork." Angelo Dundee's name is always associated with those of Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard, but he also had fourteen other champions in the world of boxing, among whom were Carmen Basilio, Jimmy Ellis, and George Foreman. Angelo has two published books: "I Only Talk Winning" and "My View from the Corner."

The subgroup includes thirteen series: 1. *Biographical Files*; 2. *Contracts and Agreements*; 3. *Correspondence*; 4. *Dundee Shows*; 5. *Events*; 6. *Memorabilia*; 7. *Miscellaneous*; 8. *Photographs*; 9. *Publications*; 10. *Productions*; 11. *Trainees*; 12. *Certificates and Awards*; 13. *Newspaper Clippings*. Most of the materials within the series pertain to Angelo Dundee's career, with some series containing information on both Chris and Angelo Dundee. Series 1, more than any other, contains information relating to the Dundee family, of which there is only one folder. For the most part, items in the sub-group Angelo Dundee are in good condition; however, Series 6 is the most fragile part of the sub-group, consisting primarily of newspaper clippings.

Series 1. Biographical File

Box 1

Scope and Content

This series contains information of a biographical nature pertaining to the career and life of Angelo Dundee, and to some extent, his brother Chris Dundee. There are a number of family photographs, personal letters and holiday cards sent out by both Chris and Angelo to their friends and family. Of note is one folder marked "Hank's bio of Angelo," which includes two separate stories written by Kaplan on Dundee

Arranged by subject.

Series 2. Contracts and Agreements

Inclusive dates: 1955-1994

Box 1

Scope and Content

This series contains documents of agreements formed between Angelo Dundee, or his company (Angelo Dundee Inc.), and a second or third party. The series also contains contracts formed by persons other than Angelo Dundee (or his brother, Chris). There is a folder with documents pertaining to the contractual undertakings between Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3559 and other boxers.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 3. Correspondence

Inclusive dates: 1956-2007, Bulk dates: 1980-1999

Boxes 2-3

Scope and Content

Most of the letters in this series were sent to Angelo thanking him for his participation in events, but also there is correspondence pertaining to official business. All letters, if any, written by Angelo Dundee himself pertain to his professional life only. Of note is a folder titled "Fan Mail from around the world," which holds letters from Angelo's fans, one of whom is a man from Soviet Union, and another 13 year old Richard Sloan (see Series 6 Memorabilia), the official artist of the IBHF. Also in the series are letters of condolences sent to Angelo when his brother Chris passed away in 1998.

Arranged chronologically, and by subject.

Series 4. Dundee Shows

Inclusive dates: 1960s-1991

Boxes 4-5

Scope and Content

Series 4 contains information pertaining to boxing matches organized by brothers Chris and Angelo Dundee. Each folder contains information on separate events, and not all of them are equal in their volume; in fact, some have no more than a single sheet of paper. The types of documents that are found within the series are original and copies of receipts, the records of various fighter's purses (i.e. what is

owed them for their performance). Also found here are pre- and post-show correspondence between the organizing parties as well as patrons who attended the shows, and some flyers and ticket stubs from the shows. All items are in good condition

Arranged chronologically.

Series 5. Events

Inclusive dates: 1974-1999

Box 6

Scope and Content

Series 5 is comprised of only fifteen folders, containing information pertaining to events attended by Angelo Dundee. The folders do not contain extensive information, and some contain only a single item from the event. Of note is folder marked December 22, 1984, which relates to an event wherein Angelo Dundee's fighters participated, but did not get paid for over a year.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 6. Memorabilia

Inclusive dates: 1930-2006, Bulk dates: 1950-1980

Box 6-11

Scope and Content

Series 6 encompasses articles belonging to Angelo Dundee and other boxing personalities. Examples include a napkin from Jack Dempsey's Broadway Restaurant, an original menu from a ship which Chris Dundee boarded from Europe, and even Ferdie Pacheco's sketches. There is a binder which houses personal boxing licenses of the trainer from different states, as well as membership cards from various organizations, pins and name tags. The last box in the series holds the Yugoslavian flag and anthem on a vinyl disk, received by Angelo most likely during his training of Slabodan Kacar.

Arranged by subject.

Series 7. Miscellaneous

Box 12

Scope and Content

There are only twelve folders which make up Series 7. Of note is an item, titled "Boxing's Future Over the Next 100 Years" a story on the fate of boxing.

Arranged by subject.

Series 8. Photographs

Inclusive dates: 1950-1990

Box 12-14

Scope and Content

Series 8 is one of the largest, contained within two boxes, and its scope includes photographs of the trainer as well as his boxers; also within the series there are drawings of Angelo Dundee and his champions. Most of the images pertain to Angelo Dundee's career as trainer, including photographs of individual boxers. Angelo Dundee had trained two actors for their role as boxers on the screen, including Russell Crowe (*Cinderella Man*) and Will Smith (*Ali*); however, there are no photos of the trainer with Russell Crowe, and only two images exist within the series of Will Smith being trained by Angelo Dundee. Of note also is the "Pictorial History of Italian American World Champions."

Arranged by subject.

Series 9. Publications

Inclusive dates: 1979-1992

Five folders in Box 14

Scope and Content

There are only five titles which make up series 9. All items are in good condition, with their appropriate dates on the cover intact; some items, where indicated, are signed by Angelo Dundee.

Arranged by subject.

Series 10. Productions

Three folders in Box 15

Scope and Content

There are only three folders which contain various scripts and drafts of movie (instructional and/or documentary) productions.

Series 11. Trainees

Twelve folders in Box 15

Scope and Content

Series 11 contains information regarding the boxers who trained under Angelo Dundee, for the most part, and whose fights were promoted by Chris Dundee. There is a single folder of Dundee's list of boxers. Of note are two folders pertaining to the Angelo Dundee and Sugar Ray Leonard's professional disputes. All items are in good condition.

Arranged alphabetically by fighter's surname, and then by subject.

Series 12. Certificates and Awards

Inclusive dates: 1964-1981

Box 16 (plus flat files)

Scope and Content

Series 12 has only four folders within its scope, the last two of which contain plaques from corresponding organizations. As the name suggests, the series has certificates presented to Angelo Dundee and his brother for their achievements in the sport of boxing. Of note are the first two folders, which contain large certificates from the state of Louisiana to both brothers.

Arranged by subject.

Series 13. Newspaper Clippings

Inclusive dates: 1949-2002, Bulk dates: 1960s-1990s

Box 17-18

Scope and Content

One of the largest series, series 13 is also one that contains more items in poor condition due to the nature of the material. Most of the series is comprised of newspaper and periodical clippings. Arrangement of the series is in chronological and by subject matter. There are a few folders marked “foreign language” and a few others contain photocopies of possibly available material in originals.

Arranged chronologically.

SUBGROUP XIX. MUHAMMAD ALI

Date	Inclusive Dates: 1959-2005 Bulk Dates: 1960s-1970s
Extent	43 boxes and oversize items / 22 cubic feet Includes various paper materials.

Scope and Content

Born Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. on January 17, 1942, in Louisville, Kentucky, Muhammad Ali remains one of America's most iconic figures. Famous for his linguistic ability and known as the "Louisville Lip," notorious for his conversion to Islam and his adamant stance against the Vietnam War, and well respected for being "The Greatest," the story of Muhammad Ali is truly the stuff of American history.

The Kaplan Archive well documents the life of Muhammad Ali across all subgroups, but of course this subgroup has the most specific information regarding Ali's life and boxing career. The subgroup is broken down into thirteen series, each relating to an aspect of Ali's life. They are: 1. *Biographical File*; 2. *Correspondence / Fan Mail*; 3. *Events*; 4. *Bouts*; 5. *Newspaper Clippings*; 6. *Publications*; 7. *Miscellaneous*; 8. *Organizations*; 9. *Productions*; 10. *Writings about Ali*; 11. *Media*; 12. *Photographs*; 13. *Memorabilia*.

Arrangement varies across series. See series notes for more details.

Series 1. Biographical File

One folder in Box 1

Scope and Content

The entirety of series 1 is contained within a single folder. As the name suggests, everything that is within the series deals with personal life of Muhammad Ali. There are a few excerpts on the history of Ali's former namesake, the original Cassius Marcellus Clay. Additionally, newspaper clippings written about Ali's wives, as well as a few pages of his professional record as boxer, and his *Playboy* interview are all contained in the series.

Series 2. Correspondence / Fan Mail

Inclusive Dates: 1976-1982

Boxes 1-3

Scope and Content

Series 2 is also known as Fan Mail, because that is what the series mostly contains. The letters are broken down by geographical locations such as: Africa, Australia, Canada, Caribbean, Europe, India and Pakistan, Pacific Islands and USA. All letters from these locations are in English language. Another folder contains letters from around the world written in many different foreign languages. Ali's admirers wrote in Arabic, Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Turkish, Urdu, one letter reached him from the Soviet Union and one from Yugoslavia. The dates of letters range between 1976 and 1982, around the end of Muhammad Ali's professional career.

Arranged alphabetically by country of origin, and further separated by language.

Series 3. Events

Inclusive Dates: 1990s

Box 4

Scope and Content

Series 3 contains materials pertaining to various events attended by Muhammad Ali, or were organized specifically on his behalf or for his benefit. The series contains mostly event programs and invitations. Additionally, there may be a few newspaper clippings pertaining to an event and/or correspondence between the organizing parties.

Organized chronologically.

Series 4. Bouts

Inclusive Dates: 1959 to 1981

Boxes 5-17

Scope and Content

Series 4 contains materials pertaining to almost all of Muhammad Ali's professional bouts (see subgroup *Bouts* for M. Ali's fights which are missing from this series). This series is arranged in chronological order, starting with folders containing materials from Ali's amateur years, and then continues through his professional fights, from the first, against Tunney Hunsaker in October 1960 all the way to the last fight against Trevor Berbick in December 1981.

It ought to be noted here that the boxer's birth name was Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr., and up until the first fight against Sonny Liston in 1964, he fought under the name Cassius Clay. By the time of his second fight against Sonny Liston, which took place on May 25, 1965, he was officially Muhammad Ali. Thus, the current series lists all records until 1964 as Cassius Clay vs. "an opponent" and thereafter as Muhammad Ali vs. "an opponent".

Additionally, there is a folder on the computerized bout between Muhammad Ali and Rocky Marciano, and few folders on a number of Ali's exhibition fights. The majority of the materials consist of newspaper clippings; however, there are also programs, press kits, handbills, brochures, envelopes, postcards and other type of materials pertaining to some of Muhammad Ali's fights. Out of all the fights listed in the container list, the largest are folders for Sonny Liston's period. The items include, but are not limited to: press credentials, press releases, fight cards (for everyone except Liston v. Clay), contracts, financial reports, ticket forms, few letters, and an IRS summons (to Abe Glick of Miami Beach Boxing Commission). All materials are in good condition, but utmost care should be taken when handling newspaper clippings.

Arranged roughly chronologically, though if Ali fought the same person more than once, all fights are grouped together.

Series 5. Newspaper Clippings

Inclusive Dates: 1960-2005, Bulk Dates: early 1960s-late 1990s

Boxes 17-23

Scope and Content

In series 5, the bulk of the newspaper clippings date from the 1960s and 1970s, which was the professional career span of Muhammad Ali. However, what was written in the newspapers was not limited to the boxer's performance in the ring. The variety of clippings contain news reports on Ali's personal life, his marriages and children, his religion, his stand against the draft, the lawsuits and many other activities of Muhammad Ali in addition to his boxing career. Most of the folders are arranged chronologically, either by single years or several years combined. However, due to the sheer number of clippings, the series is also arranged by size, that is to say some materials can be found both in small and oversized boxes under the same years.

Additionally, there are a few folders which contain clippings from specific events, such as Ali's 1975 graduation speech at Harvard or his trip to the Soviet Union. There are some foreign language clippings and few folders of clippings from various magazines. Most of the clippings are in good condition, and there are a large number of undated items.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 6. Publications

Inclusive Dates: 1964-2007, Bulk Dates: 1970s-1990s

Boxes 24-28

Scope and Content

Series 6 consists of 5 archival containers, 2 of which are flat oversize containers. There are mostly magazines on the cover of which Muhammad Ali was featured, but not all the publications in the series are sports magazines: *GQ*, *Ebony*, and even *Parkinson Report* are examples of publications in the series. One of the oversize boxes contains mostly newspapers, or magazines published as supplements to a major newspaper. Of note is the folder marked "Billy Reed's article in various 'Sun' newspapers, 1978". Billy Reed was the sports editor of *The Courier-Journal*, and his article on Muhammad Ali appeared in several major newspapers in 1978, with painting of Ali by Herman Weiderwohl (also from *The Courier-Journal*) on the cover of those publications. Titles included in the folder are: *Chicago Sun-Times*, *The Evening Sun* and *The Sun* (Baltimore, MD), *The Sacramento Bee*, *The Sunday Bulletin*. The other oversize box contains several copies of publisher's proofs of the *GOAT* book.

Arranged chronologically.

Series 7. Miscellaneous

Inclusive Dates: 1975, 1980, 1984, 1998

Box 29

Scope and Content

There are only 5 folders in series 7, the contents of which vary. One folder, perhaps, stands out of all the rest, as it is one of the earliest medical documents in the collection that deals with Muhammad Ali's Parkinson's Disease. It is titled "Dr. Stanley Fahn's diagnosis" and it dates from 1984. Also of note, a copy of "New Federal Legislation: The Muhammad Ali Act of 1998."

Arranged by subject.

Series 8. Organizations

Inclusive Dates: post-1980

Box 29

Scope and Content

Only 3 folders make up series 8, each pertaining to a specific organization either co-formed by Muhammad Ali or founded on his behalf. The organizations are: "The Children's Peace Foundation," "Muhammad Ali Center," and "Muhammad Ali Role Models For Youth, Champions For Life." Of note is the first organization, which was founded with cooperation of Soviet Union athletes and leaders; there is a copy of a letter to Mikhail Gorbachev of Soviet Union from the co-founder Peter Georgi. For the most part, the contents of all folders include documents and various correspondence as well as press releases regarding the formation of a named organization.

Arranged by subject.

Series 9. Productions

Box 29

Scope and Content

Series 9 consists of only 4 folders, which contain press kits, pamphlets and schedules of various productions such as a documentary and feature movies. The productions are, *Ali* (the movie starring Will Smith), and two documentaries about the boxer. The contents of the folders are not extensive. See container list for more detailed listings.

Arranged by subject.

Series 10. Writing about Ali

Box 29

Scope and Content

As the name suggests, series 10 contains all sorts of writings pertaining to Muhammad Ali. Most of the writings in the series were penned by Hank Kaplan, and as such are marked under his name. However, there are few stories by other men who knew Ali, either closely such as Ferdie Pacheco, his personal doctor during his professional career, or by some other association. A folder marked "authors unknown" contains various stories about Ali whose authors Hank Kaplan did not know. There is also a folder of Kaplan's own handwritten notes on Ali.

Arranged by subject.

Series 11. Media

Inclusive Dates: 1965, 1980, 2003, 2005, unknown

Box 30

Scope and Content

There are four different types of media files which are contained in series 11: one magnetic (audio) tape, a compact disk, a DVD, and several 7 inch vinyl disks. Most of the disks contain songs or audio about Muhammad Ali. There are two fight promo disks, and several songs about or by other boxers (Joe Frazier, Joe Louis, etc.). Of note is a song by Eddie Curtis called *The Louisville Lip: He's the Greatest*.

Arranged by subject.

Series 12. Photographs

Inclusive Dates: 1960-1980, Bulk Dates: 1960s-1970s

Boxes 31-34

Scope and Content

Most of the photographs in series 12 pertain to Muhammad Ali's professional career as boxer. Two boxes contain photographs (and in few cases drawings, and other types of images, but not photographs) from some of Ali's fights. The earliest fight photo dates from May 1960 when Cassius Clay beat Allen Hudson in the Olympic Trials. A number of folders contain photographs of Ali training and posing, and several others show Ali with his trainer, the late Angelo Dundee.

Arranged by subject, and then further refined by subject (i.e. first arranged by fights, negatives, training and then a specific subject within that topic).

Series 13. Memorabilia

Boxes 35-43 and oversized items in flat files

Scope and Content

Perhaps the most unusual type of items are contained in series 13, marked as *Memorabilia*. These include Ali aftershave and cologne (unopened), various shoe polishes, belt buckles and key chains, coins from Indonesia and Malaysia (where Ali fought), empty bags of potato chips (with Ali's image on them) and unopened bag of "Muhammad Ali Spicy Chili Cheese Popcorn" which has an expiration date of August 4, 1992. A number of folders contain printed material (programs, handbills, etc.) and a binder which has some tickets and various passes from some of Ali's fights.

The largest items are two banner from events in 1992. The most unique items are two drawings made by Ali, one on paper and another on a napkin, both of which are signed by him. See container list for more details.

Arranged by subject.

SUBGROUP XX. BOXING ORGANIZATIONS

Date	Inclusive dates: 1922-2007 Bulk dates: 1970-1990s
Extent	45 boxes / 23 cubic feet and oversize items Includes various paper material

Scope and Content Note

This subgroup contains forty-four regular archival boxes and one newspaper box of materials from different organizations around the world from 1922-2007 with the majority of materials from the 1960s-1990s. There are a wide variety of items within each series including publications, newspaper clippings, programs, correspondence, press releases, handbills, ratings, and many different miscellaneous items which are organized in that manner within each successive organization. The organizations with the greatest quantity of materials are placed in their own separate series and the organizations with less than three archival folders per organization are placed in the Miscellaneous Organizations series.

There are many different boxing organizations within this series with different roles within the boxing world. There are sanctioning bodies which are responsible for the creation of rankings and title fights throughout the world and they include World Boxing Association, World Boxing Council, World Boxing Federation, and International Boxing Federation/United States Boxing Federation, among others. Other organizations are concerned with the well-being of boxers such as the Veteran Boxers Association, which concerns itself with helping boxers that are no longer able to fight and support themselves. Other organizations are concerned with accurate boxing records such as the International Boxing Research Organization and others such as the International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York and the World Boxing Hall of Fame were created in order to promote the sport of boxing's rich cultural history by preserving boxing memorabilia in museums and inducting boxers and other notable people who have contributed to the sport of boxing into their hall of fames.

The subgroup contains a wide variety of materials that are essential to the establishment and running of an organization, including newsletters, monthly bulletins, news/press releases, and promotion through newspaper press. With the various sanctioning body organizations that exist, there are extensive ratings systems that exist based on a fighters boxing record which entitle them to fight for a championship belt under a specific organization's title, which are included within the subgroup. The most fascinating aspect of the organizations subgroup is the publications that were released under various organizations from the early half of the twentieth century, which contains invaluable information about organizations that were influential to the sport of boxing. Other interesting materials within the subgroup are the reams of correspondence to and from Hank Kaplan. The oldest item within the organizations is National Sports Alliance's 'Boxing Carnival' program at Madison Square Garden on May 19, 1922 which contains a program of a Benny Leonard fight and advertisements for defunct boxing clubs/athletic associations.

The organizations are arranged alphabetically by the name of the organization, then by subject and chronologically within each subject when applicable. The Organizations subgroup contains a wide variety of items within each respective organization and therefore each organization is arranged in this order: publications, newsletters, newspaper clippings, photocopies/printouts of newspaper articles online, correspondence, news/press releases, programs, handbills, press-kits, and various miscellaneous items. They are then arranged

chronologically when possible with undated materials placed in the beginning of each respective type of material.

Series 1. Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)

Bulk dates: 1979-1980

Box 1

Scope and Content Note

The Amateur Athletic Union was established in 1888 in the United States to create standardization of rules and regulations for amateur athletes during the Olympic Games. In the 1970s, there was a push for the organization to create the same standardization under the law and the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 was created to fulfill this need in the world of amateur boxing. The organization often teamed up with Golden Gloves, International Boxing Association and the Olympic Boxing Tournaments to promote fights.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains one box of newsletters, correspondence, expense report and news releases from 1979-1980. The newsletters were written to members of the Amateur Athletic Union which consist of information regarding amateur fights and the inner workings of the organization in general. There are several pieces of professional correspondence within the newsletters to show the organization's desire to uphold the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 by making strides to include women within the workings of the organization, among other steps. Other correspondence exists in its own correspondence folder discussing the unpreparedness and overall unsuccessfulness of AAU and AIBA's bout 'Argentina vs. USA' in Miami Beach, in which every Argentinean defeated every American.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 2. Boxing Writers Association of America (BWAA)

Inclusive Dates: 1927-2003, Bulk Dates 1960-1980s

Box 2

Scope and Content Note

The Boxing Writer Association of America was first organized in 1911 under Boxing Writers Association of New York. It quickly disbanded and then became whole again in 1920 and within a few years they started their annual dinners to celebrate the contribution of writers to the sport of boxing. Their main goal was to work "for the betterment of conditions at boxing shows for both New York and visiting writers and, in a general way, for the betterment of the sport." Winners of BWAA's Fighter of the Year award include Jack Dempsey, Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier, Carlos Monzon, George Foreman, Muhammad Ali, Ken Norton, and Larry Holmes.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and the majority of this series is comprised of programs from the Boxing Writers Association's annual dinner events commemorating notable writers and boxers in the sport of boxing. Other materials in the series include two pieces of correspondence and a handwritten listing of BWAA presidents from 1957-1992. One correspondence in the series is from President of BWAA Bill Gallo congratulating Angelo Dundee for winning the "Al Buck Memorial Award" as Boxing Manager of the Year in 1980. Also within the series is one rare program from the

organization's previous name Boxing Writers Association of New York in 1945 commemorating boxing writer Edward J. Neil who died while covering the Spanish Revolution years before. The program honors his memory by representing other boxers who had fought in the military including Beau Jack and Benny Leonard within the program.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 3. Ex-Boxer's Association (EBA)

Bulk dates: 1974-1999

Box 3

Scope and Content Note

The first Ex-Boxers Association in the United Kingdom was formed in 1951 in Ashton-under-Lyne to provide assistance and promote social engagement among former boxers. During the 1950s, other branches of the Ex-Boxer's Associations were established in Leeds, Birmingham, and Sunderland. The most successful EBA was created in London in 1971 and is still in existence today with thirty two other UK based former boxers associations.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains publications and a miscellaneous folder of various EBA materials. The series includes a number of publications, newsletters, magazines, and rule books by various UK based Ex-Boxer's Associations. Within the series is the well known EBA publication *Box On!* which was published by the London EBA from 1974 to early 1980s. The items within this series are in good condition with the most rare/fragile materials encapsulated in Mylar to maintain preservation.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 4. International Boxing Hall of Fame (IBHOF)

Bulk dates: 1982-2000

Boxes 4-8 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

The International Boxing Hall of Fame (IBHOF) is an organization founded in Canastota, New York in September of 1982 to honor exceptional boxers and create "a permanent house and shrine for the sport of boxing." IBHOF is one of two internationally accepted boxing hall of fame organizations with the other one being the World Boxing Hall of Fame in southern California. The IBHOF sought to build a museum to house boxing memorabilia and create an international haven for boxing aficionados, which was completed in May of 1984 with the help of local donations of land, money, and labor amounting to eighty thousand dollars. They created their first newsletter, *The Main Event*, in August 1984 with Joe Rinaldo as President, Rusty Woolsey as vice president and Ed Brophy as Secretary. An important role that the organization plays is inducting members into their hall of fame every year. The organization recognizes exceptional boxers and those who have made contributions to the world of boxing through other means such as managers, writers, historians, photographers, and artists. Hank Kaplan was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2005.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newsletters, newspaper clippings, programs, press kits, correspondence, and many miscellaneous items. Within the series is IBHOF's newsletter *The Main Event* which discusses the newest boxing memorabilia included into the museum, upcoming events, latest inductees of the hall of fame, and general news from the organization and the boxing world. There are many pieces of Hank Kaplan's correspondence within the series and even an open letter from former New York governor Mario Cuomo detailing his excitement over the creation of a boxing museum and congratulates "the hardworking people of Canastota who have helped to create this treasure trove of boxing memorabilia." There are also newspaper clippings, correspondence, and press materials regarding Hank Kaplan's induction into the hall of fame within this series. Furthermore, there are some newspapers with local press information regarding the annual induction ceremonies in oversize box 45.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 5. International Boxing Organization (IBO)

Bulk Dates: 1992-2005

Box 8

Scope and Content Note

The International Boxing Organization is a sanctioning body that was founded in 1988. Their mission was to "have universally accepted rankings of all active boxers coupled with real mandatories and uniform rules." The organization in conjunction with Independent World Boxing Rankings published *The Top 100: Computerized Boxing Rankings* to issue rankings based on computerized statistics to avoid the inaccuracy and politically motivated actions that have influenced the creation of rankings from other organizations. Some holders of IBO title belts are Lennox Lewis, Ricky Hatton, Wladimir Klitschko, and Manny Pacquiao.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains a half box of their rankings/newsletter booklet, ratings, news release, and handbills. The series mostly contains IBO's publication *The Top 100: Computerized Boxing Rankings* Booklet from 1999-2005 which gives a brief statement from the president of the organization and a complete listing of rankings for the particular month.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 6. International Boxing Research Organization (IBRO)

Bulk dates: 1982- 2007

Boxes 9-11

Scope and Content Note

The IBRO was organized in June 1982 by 15 individuals with John Grasso as the first president and it was organized for "establishing an accurate history of boxing; compiling complete and accurate boxing records; facilitating the dissemination of boxing research information and cooperating in safeguarding the individual research efforts of its members by application of the rules of scholarly research" (First Annual Journal of the

IBRO, June 1983). The organization continues to play a role in the collection and distribution of accurate records to this very day.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains IBRO's newsletter, journal and a few pieces of correspondence from 1982-2007. IBRO's publication *The Journal* provides vast quantities of historical information about the sport of boxing and is greatly concerned with the creation of accurate records. Furthermore, there are a few pieces of correspondence within this series including one from John Grasso discussing "the possibility of forming an organization... patterned after that of SABR – the highly successful baseball research organization" which marks the first seeds of thought about the creation of the IBRO.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 7. The Mendoza Group, Inc.

Bulk dates: 1971-1976

Box 12

Scope and Content Note

The Mendoza Group, Inc. was founded in 1971 by ex-welterweight boxer Murray Gaby who named the organization after the eighteenth century heavyweight champion Daniel Mendoza. He thought that "by bringing creative public relations, merchandising and advertising methods to boxing management, [The Mendoza Group could] help a great sport re-establish its mass appeal." They were able to jumpstart the careers of Marcel Clay, Vinnie Curto and James Scott, but by 1975 they were thirty thousand dollars in debt and the organization was forced to dissolve on April 30, 1976.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newspaper articles, correspondence, news releases, Hank Kaplan's shares within the organization, stationary, and pamphlets from 1971-1976. Within the series are many pieces of correspondence from prospective boxers wishing to become a part of the group which shows the popularity and appeal that excessive advertising had on the boxing world. News releases, newspaper articles, and the organization's final tax return show the organization's decline through lack of funding.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 8. National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame, Inc.

Bulk dates: 1974- 1991

Box 12 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

George R. Randazzo and Joseph B. Granata founded the organization under the name National Italian American Boxing Hall of Fame, Inc. and held a fundraiser honoring 23 Italian American world boxing champions in 1977. Shortly thereafter, the organization was renamed to the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame and Joe DiMaggio was the first member enshrined in 1978 in their first banquet under the organization's new name.

Their mission statement is to “encourage positive lifestyle values among our young, regardless of race, color or creed, through the educating and teaching of outstanding sports figures from the Italian American Community.”

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains some publications, programs, correspondence, and various miscellaneous items. Correspondence within the series discusses Hank Kaplan’s collaboration in writing for the official program and inviting prominent Italian American boxers to the organization’s first fundraiser under the Italian American Boxing Hall of Fame in 1977. There are also a number of miscellaneous items within the series including a menu from President George Randazzo’s restaurant *Randazzo’s Little Italy*.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 9. United States Boxing Association (USBA) / International Boxing Federation/United States Boxing Association (IBF/USBA)

Bulk dates: 1976-2000

Boxes 13-15

Scope and Content Note

The United States Boxing Association was established in September 1976 after members of the World Boxing Association were displeased with the inner workings of the organization and decided to create an organization “composed of legitimate boxing commissioners legally appointed by government authority in their own respective states” to give aspiring professionals a chance to succeed in the sport of boxing through its usage of an unbiased ratings system and “uniformity in the supervision of professional boxing.” The organization eventually opened up an international office in Newark, New Jersey and changed the name of the organization to United States Boxing Association – International in 1983 and then shortly thereafter changed their name to its current designation The International Boxing Federation/United States Boxing Association. IBF/USBA remains a major sanctioning body equipped with its own ratings and title fights to this very day.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newsletters, articles, constitutions, ratings, and a few miscellaneous items from 1976-2000. The most interesting piece of information is within the IBF/USBA’s newsletters, news releases, and programs which give excellent insight into the inner workings of the organization and how it has evolved over time.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newsletters, articles, constitutions, ratings, and a few miscellaneous items from 1976-2000. The series is subdivided by the various name changes that USBA has undergone throughout its history: first USBA, then USBA-I and finally IBF/USBA. Also within this series are IBF ratings that are solely international ratings under IBF/USBA authority. The current separation divides the organization by the time periods it existed under different names and contains items such as newsletters, ratings, programs, press releases, and miscellaneous items within each successive namesake. This is the case even though the years overlap with each other at some points, as USBA ratings continue after the name change to IBF/USBA to promote the ratings nationally and IBF continues to promote ratings on an international level.

Series 10. Veteran Boxers Association

Inclusive dates: 1936-2006, Bulk Dates 1960s-1980s

Boxes 16-24 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

The first manifestation of the Veteran Boxers Association was formed in 1933 under The National Boxers' Fraternity and discontinued shortly thereafter in 1934. On June 1, 1936, the Veteran Boxers Association was incorporated in Philadelphia under the name VBA Ring 1. As the name suggests, the founding members of VBA were former boxers, both professional and amateur. However, membership into the organization was also open to managers, trainers, promoters, referees, boxing judges, "and other interested individuals united to raise funds for former boxers in need." On October 27, 1963, the National Veteran Boxers Association was created due to the inclusion of twenty-five different Rings all around the country. Each Ring was designated with a number; for example, Chicago is Ring 2, New York is Ring 8, and Brooklyn is Ring 21 and so on. In 1966, the first South African branch of VBA was organized in Durban.

The series contains many fascinating and rare items including the Veteran Boxers Association's first publication *The Veteran Boxer* which was established in 1938 in Philadelphia, but the earliest available edition in the present series dates from 1950. Four copies of Seventeen-Star issues of *The Veteran Boxer* in 1956 are signed by Carmen Basilio and Tony DeMarco, and two copies of Eighteen-Star issues are signed by Floyd Patterson. There are many rare items including the publication *Ring Recollections* which contains a pictorial history of VBA of Illinois, also known as Ring 2 (Chicago), from the founding date of January 15, 1937 until 1945, when it was published. Furthermore, the series contains the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veteran Boxers Association from June 24, 1936 embodying the mission statement of the organization and its right to create more Rings throughout the country. This founding document marks the inception of the organization and its success to this day. Another piece of information that provides a great deal of VBA historical value is within oversize box 45 regarding the history of VBA Ring 31 South Florida and prominent members within the organization.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains publications, newsletters, newspaper clippings, correspondence, programs, press releases, and a number of miscellaneous items. The series itself is divided first into National and/or general VBA materials, then International VBA materials, and finally within the respective Rings located through the United States by numerical order (Ring No.1 Philadelphia, Ring No. 2 Illinois, etc). Each division is treated as its own separate entity with separate materials in each.

The first four boxes contain VBA publications that are either published nationally under Veteran Boxers Association or are in collaboration between various Rings throughout the country. The next box contains newspaper articles, correspondence, programs and a number of miscellaneous items that are about the VBA in general or specifically about the national VBA. The next box contains materials from the International Boxing Association, the Veteran Boxers Associations of South Africa, and the VBA Rings that are located nationally in the United States by Ring number.

Series 11. World Boxing Association (WBA)

Inclusive Dates: 1930-2000, Bulk Dates 1960s-1990s

Boxes 25-28

Scope and Content Note

Irving Abramson founded the National Boxing Association in 1921 as a non-profit organization aimed “to provide emergency help to boxers and former boxers, and improve the welfare of the professional boxer.” The board of trustees of NBA included such men as Bert Randolph Sugar, Alexis Arguello, and Ben Green, “the final president of the original NBA.” The organization changed its name in 1962 to the World Boxing Association to institute reforms and to expand its authority in the boxing world. The organization is the longest running sanctioning body still in existence and continues to play a role in the creation of ratings and title fights.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject, when applicable and contains newsletters, newspaper clippings, programs, press releases, correspondences, ratings, and a number of miscellaneous items. The series contains a few folders of rare materials from the organization’s original namesake, the National Boxing Association (NBA), which remained in existence from 1921-1962 including a newsletter, a few programs from annual conventions, and newspaper clippings/ratings. Also at the end of the series are WBA/WBC newspaper articles where one can see the varied viewpoints and the animosity that people felt towards the organizations through a fallible ratings systems, officers and other official members acting as judges, corruption within the organizations, favoritism among certain boxers, the power to take away titles unjustly, and officials more concerned with politics than the sport of boxing. Furthermore, the majority of the newsletters, programs, medical reviews, constitutions, press releases, and some newspaper articles are in English and Spanish to cater to a more international audience.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 12. World Boxing Council (WBC) / National Boxing Federation (NABF)

Bulk dates: 1974-1989

Boxes 29-33 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

The World Boxing Council is a major sanctioning body in the boxing world and was created in 1963 due to internal differences between World Boxing Association members. The first president of the organization was Luis Spota, but in 1975 Jose Sulaiman was elected president and created reforms that greatly influenced the sport of boxing including the decrease of the amount of rounds from fifteen to twelve. The organization now has branches of the WBC around the world including the African Boxing Union, Asian Boxing Council, South American Boxing Federation, and the North American Boxing Federation which was established in 1969 to promote regional fights in North America.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newsletters, programs, news releases, ratings, and a number of miscellaneous items from the WBC and its division the National Boxing Federation (NABF) which includes newsletters, programs, correspondence, constitutions, and ratings for their specific branch. The most fascinating materials with the highest concentration of informational content about the organization’s inner workings are located within the monthly

bulletins and the programs of events. Also contained within the WBA series is the controversies of the WBA and the WBC within the boxing world.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 13. World Boxing Federation (WBF)

Bulk dates: 1990-1998

Box 34 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

The World Boxing Federation is a professional sanctioning body founded in 1988 by Larry Carrier with the goal of creating a new sanctioning body free of corruption by introducing unbiased ratings, non-politically motivated actions, and promoting the sport of boxing nationwide. The organization went on a hiatus for five years from 2004-2009, but now has continued to sanction title fights worldwide.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains one box of materials including publications, correspondence, news releases, and ratings from 1990-1998. The series contains the organization's publication *Boxing Review* magazine which gives an in-depth look into the boxing world and the organization's latest endeavors. The contents are all in very good condition.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 14. World Boxing Hall of Fame (WBHF)

Bulk dates: 1979-2004

Boxes 35-36

Scope and Content Note

The World Boxing Hall of Fame is a California based organization that was founded in 1979 by Everett L. Sanders "to educate and inform the general public of noteworthy professional boxers and of the history and background of professional boxing and boxers." World Boxing Hall of Fame and International Boxing Hall of Fame are the two major boxing halls of fames in the world.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains newsletters, newspaper articles, correspondence, programs for their annual banquet of champions, and news releases. The annual banquet of champions programs makes up a majority of the materials within the series and discusses brief biographies of the inductees and a listing of upcoming events. Furthermore, within the news releases are ballots for members to induct boxers into the hall of fame, which provides a fascinating look at those who did not make into the hall of fame.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 15. World Boxing Organization (WBO)

Bulk dates: 1989-2004

Box 37

Scope and Content Note

The World Boxing Organization is a major sanctioning body within the boxing world and was founded in 1988 by various boxing commissioners to create “benefits for boxers, new commissioners and individuals voicing their opinions, better safety standards and generally, improvement, whenever and wherever.”

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains one box of newsletters, programs, ratings, and a few miscellaneous items. Some of the materials including the programs are both in English and Spanish. Within the series are also a number of documents which show the organization’s inner workings including their By-Laws and a certificate of registration/certificate of assignment which entitles the organization’s namesake for ten years from 1994-2004 issued from the commonwealth of Puerto Rico’s Department of State.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 16. World Boxing Union (WBU)

Bulk dates: 1994-1998

Box 38

Scope and Content Note

The World Boxing Union is a United Kingdom based sanctioning body that was founded on December 5, 1994 by former International Boxing Federation (IBF) vice president Jon W. Robinson. The organization followed a similar ratings system as the International Boxing Organization (IBO) which published computerized ratings to eliminate the human bias and politically motivated actions of committees within the ratings system. They wanted to create high quality matches within the boxing world and eventually produced WBU title holders including George Foreman, Thomas Hearn, Mickey Ward, and Ricky Hatton. The organization went through a change in leadership with the passing of Jon W. Robinson and was denounced by the British Boxing Board of Control in 2010.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable and contains one box of newsletters/ratings, a program, an article, correspondence, news releases, rules and regulations, and ratings. Within the series contains a single piece of correspondence between CEO of Top Rank Bob Arum and president of the WBU Jon W Robinson stating that “George Foreman would be delighted to accept the belt of the World Boxing Union” which started a successful span of years for the WBU having a major name under their belt. Other correspondence includes Robinson asking Angelo Dundee to join the WBU and Edward Levine denouncing his affiliation with the World Boxing Organization (WBO) in order to work with Robinson with the WBU.

The series is arranged by subject and then chronologically within each subject when applicable.

Series 17. Miscellaneous Organizations

Bulk dates: 1922-2002

Box 39-44 and oversize in box 45

Scope and Content Note

There are a number of organizations that work on a local or state level including Detroit Athletic Club, Connecticut Boxing Guild, Summit Country Hall of Fame and Ohio State Former Boxers and Associates or outside the United States including the Philippine Boxing Association, South African Control Board, and Jamaica Boxing Board Control. Other organizations work on an international scale such as International Boxing Council, International Boxing Guild Publication, International Boxing Writers Association, International Boxing Writers Association, and International Female Boxing Association.

There are many different organizations within this series with different reasons for organizing and varied goals. There are boxing hall of fames which are separate entities from the International Boxing Hall of Fame located in Canastota, New York and the World Boxing Hall of Fame located in southern California. The goal of these organizations was to create boxing museums for the purpose of celebrating the sport of boxing and they are organized as 'Boxing Hall of Fame (location)'. The oldest hall of fame materials that are located in this series are articles from New York and New Jersey Hall of Fames in the 1950s and 1960s. There are also many proposed Boxing Hall of Fames that were never created including one in Las Vegas, which we have a blueprint for located in the flat files.

There are several pieces of correspondence which are unique in this series including Ted Brenner's involvement with the New York Boxing Club which discusses boxing results, fees and expenses of boxing shows to Joe Madden, and even a plea from Empire State Boxing Managers to revoke boxer fees instated by Brenner. We also have a copy of a release of levy from the Department of Treasury from head of New York Boxing Club Irving Cohen, who was made famous as manager of Rocky Graziano, releasing him of his debts to the IRS. Other interesting correspondence exists between Maryland State Athletic Commission's executive director Patrick Pannella and John McCain regarding a professional boxing amendments bill to amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 and introduce the United States Boxing Commission (USBC) within the Department of Commerce (DOC).

There are also a number of newsletters including the Cauliflower Alley Club's *Cauliflower Alley Digest*, International Boxing Writers Association's Newsletter, National Boxing Council's *NBC NEWS*, World Athletic Association's Monthly Newsletter and South African Control Board Bulletin Magazine, among others. The oldest piece within the series is a National Sports Alliance's 'Boxing Carnival' program at Madison Square Garden on May 19, 1922 which contains a program of a Benny Leonard fight and advertisements for defunct boxing clubs/athletic associations. The rest of the series encompasses ratings, programs, press releases, newspaper clippings, and a wide array of miscellaneous items. There is also a miscellaneous organizations folder at the end of the series which contains a booklet entitled *Boxing Alphabet Groups: Their 17 Divisions of Boxing and Their 51 Boxing Championships* by H.H. Rosenberg in 2004, which encompasses multiple organizations and another folder which includes materials from non-boxing organizations.

This series contains six boxes of materials from different organizations around the world from 1922-2002 with the majority of materials from the 1980s-1990s. They are arranged alphabetically by the name of the

organization, then by subject and chronologically within each subject when applicable. Undated items are always placed in the beginning of each new type of material. There are a wide variety of items within the series including publications, newspaper clippings, programs, correspondence, press releases, flyers, ratings, and miscellaneous items and they are organized in that manner within each successive organization. No organization within the series contains all of the aforementioned items. One organization might have only correspondences, programs, or ratings and that is the main reason why all these organizations are included in this miscellaneous series. The organizations with the greatest quantity of materials and therefore the largest informational value within the collection are placed in their own separate series which can be searched within this subgroup. The majority of items within this series are monthly ratings and programs.