# Guide to the Bill Zorn Papers, 1916-1987

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## **Overview of the Collection**

#### Repository:

Special Collections & Archives
McIntyre Library
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
P.O. Box 4004
105 Garfield Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
(715) 836-2739

https://library.uwec.edu/archives/

Reference Code: USGZE AS393

Accession Number: 89-061, 96-070, 15-017

Collection Number: Archives Series 393

**Creators:** Zorn, Bill (1899–1987)

Title: Bill Zorn Papers

**Dates:** 1916-1987

Quantity: 8.55 linear feet (15 archives boxes, one ½ record carton and one oversize box)

**Location of Collection:** D8/2e-D8/2g, A4/1c

Languages: Collection materials are in English.

**Summary:** Bill Zorn was a dean, athletic director and coach from 1928–1969 at the University of

Wisconsin--Eau Claire. The collection includes personal and administrative files.

# **Biographical / Historical Note**

Willis Lawrence "Bill" Zorn was a Dean of Men, athletic director and a celebrated coach of the UW-Eau Claire basketball and football teams. Zorn was born March 30, 1899, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He attended high school in Stevens Point, graduating in 1918. After high school, Zorn attended Stevens Point Normal School and enrolled in the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) during World War I. In 1920, he enrolled at the University of Chicago. On June 30, 1924, he married his high school sweetheart Virginia; they had one son, Bill Jr., and one daughter, Amy Lou.

After graduating from Chicago, Zorn took his first teaching position in 1924 at Hedding College in Abingdon, Illinois and in 1925 he accepted a position as the football coach at Waite High School in

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

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Toledo, Ohio. In 1928 he was hired by the Eau Claire State Normal School as a football and basketball coach. Zorn coached Blugold football until 1943 and continued to lead the basketball team for 40 years. Nicknamed "Mr. Enthusiasm," he was known for his strong character and leadership both on and off the court. Zorn led the team to conference championships in 1938, 1939, 1955 and 1956, as well as the National Intercollegiate Basketball tournament in Kansas City in 1939, 1945, 1946, 1951 and 1956. When he retired as the basketball head coach in 1968, he had compiled a record at Eau Claire of 387-357. During his tenure at Eau Claire, Zorn was also the athletic director and dean of men. His responsibilities included overseeing the athletic program for the university and the supervision of male students, with duties including discipline, providing counsel, housing and other administrative duties. From March 1943 to June 1944, Zorn coordinated the Army Air Force and civilian pilot training program that was held on campus. In addition to his work at Eau Claire, from 1954–55 Zorn served as the president of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and in 1958 was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame. He fully retired from the university in 1969 and passed away in 1987.

# **Content Description**

The series includes biographical information and administrative files from Bill Zorn's tenure as the Dean of Men, coach, and athletic director at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire. The collection is divided into six subseries: Personal Files, University Administration and Student Life, Eau Claire Athletics, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), Air Force Training Program, and newspaper clippings. Includes artifacts such as awards, certificates, diaries, scrapbooks, ticket stubs and team photographs.

## **Administrative Information**

**Acquisition Information:** Donated to the University Archives and Special Collections, University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire by Bill Zorn. Additions donated by Laurie Gapko in April 1996.

**Access Restrictions:** Box 1 is restricted. The rest of this series is open to the public. Contact Special Collections and Archives for information regarding access (715-836-2739).

**Use Restrictions:** Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. Copyright owned by the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

**Processing Note:** Processed by Andrea Stepanik in October 2009.

Arrangement: By series.

OCLC #: 21087026

# **Subjects**

#### **Personal Names:**

Zorn, Bill

#### **Corporate Names:**

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire - Athletics

University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire – Faculty National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics – History

#### **Subject Terms:**

College teachers - Wisconsin - Eau Claire College administrators - Wisconsin - Eau Claire College sports - Wisconsin - Eau Claire Basketball coaches - Wisconsin - Eau Claire Coaches (Athletics) - Wisconsin - Eau Claire

## **Detailed List of Contents**

#### Series 1: Personal

Subseries contains Zorn's personal papers, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, awards, speeches and other miscellaneous records. Also included are several photographs, including a large portrait of Zorn.

**Dates:** 1922-1984

**Extent:** 2.15 linear feet (1 archives box, and one oversized box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	Eau Claire Resume	1942-1969
11/1		
Box/Folder	Awards and Honors	1954-1976
11/2		
Box/Folder	"Bill Zorn Night" Records	1968-1970
11/3		
Box/Folder	"Mr. Enthusiasm" Personal	1967-1968
11/4	Records	
Box/Folder	Amos Alonzo Stagg Clippings	1949-1962
11/5	and Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Congratulation Telegrams	1955-1956
11/6		
Box/Folder	Speech Notes and Misc.	ca. 1965-1980
11/7	Stories	
Box/Folder	Humor Clippings and	ca. 1930-1975
11/8	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Personal Correspondence	1913-1984
11/9		
Box/Folder	Speeches	undated
11/10		
Box/Folder	Rotary Club Records	1942
11/11		
Box/Folder	Miscellaneous	1937-1957
11/12		
Box/Folder	Misc. Programs and	1922-1926
11/13	Newsletters – Prior to Eau Claire	

Box/Folder	Waite High School Newspaper	1925-1928
11/14	Stories and Team Roster	
Box/Folder	Diary - lists basketball and	ca. 1923-1929
16	football notes, schedules and	
	plays	
Box/Folder	Right hand fingerprints	7/24/1946
16		
Box/Folder	Box of sporting event ticket	ca. 1930's-1950s
16	stubs for Eau Claire State	
	Teacher's College and	
	Wisconsin State College at Eau	
	Claire	
Box/Folder	Diary – includes hunting diary	ca. 1936–1972
16	and list of anecdotal events	
	and stories	
Box/Folder	Portraits of Zorn	undated
16		
Box/Folder	N. A. I. A. Award of Merit	1954-1955
Box/Folder	Naismith Memorial Basketball	1960
16	Hall of Fame certificate	
Box/Folder	Bill Zorn Day framed comic	undated
16	strip	

#### Series 2: University Administration and Student Life

Subseries contains records of Zorn's tenure as the Dean of Men. The majority of the records document disciplinary action, housing, student life and organizations, Zorn's membership of the Administration Committee and scholarship and loan materials. Materials in Box 1 are restricted.

**Dates:** 1935-1977

**Extent:** 2.95 linear feet (3 archives boxes and one oversized box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	Student Disciplinary Action	1944-1947, 1952-1969
1/1, 1/4-1/16, 2/6, 2/15	and Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Campus Staff and Faculty	1946-1952
1/2-1/3	Disciplinary Action	
Box/Folder	Federal Housing Project	1946-1953
2/1		
Box/Folder	Housing Correspondence	ca. 1946–1967
2/2		
Box/Folder	Dr. Harry Student Affairs	1964
2/3	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Housing Regulations	1965-1969
2/4		
Box/Folder	Dorm Newsletters	1968
2/5		
Box/Folder	Parking Problem	1953
2/7		

Box/Folder   Miscellaneous Publications   Ca. 1965-1968	Dav/Ealder	Missella a seria Dublications	1005 1000
Students for a Democratic   Students for a Democratic   Society	·	Miscellaneous Publications	ca. 1965–1968
Society   Society   Box/Folder   Frosh Forum   1968-1969	<u> </u>		
Box/Folder   Frosh Forum   1968-1969   2/10			ca. 1967–1969
2/10			
Box/Folder 2/11, 2/14  Box/Folder 2/11, 2/14  Box/Folder Campus Safety and Welfare 1967–1969  Box/Folder Center Undated 1968  Box/Folder Undated 1968  Box/Folder Undated 1968  Box/Folder Undated 1968  Box/Folder Undated 1968  Z/13  Box/Folder Ullegal Drug Information 1968  Box/Folder Student Life Organizations and Events 1966–1967  Box/Folder Undated 1966–1967  Box/Folder Organization Commission and 2072  Box/Folder Organization Commission and 2074  Box/Folder Undated 2/16  Box/Folder Undate		Frosh Forum	1968-1969
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Box/Folder   Rehabilitation Foundation   Guide for Alcoholism   Sox/Folder   Campus Safety and Welfare   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1967–1969   1968	Box/Folder	Discipline Guidelines	1968-1969
2/12   Guide for Alcoholism   1967-1969   2/13   2/15   2/16   Campus Safety and Welfare   1967-1969   2/13   2/16   Center   Undated   2/16   Center   Undated   2/16   Center   Undated   2/17   2	2/11, 2/14		
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2/16         Center           Box/Folder         Illegal Drug Information         1968           2/17         Student Life Organizations and Information         1961–1969           Box/Folder         Student Life Organizations and Events         1961–1969           Box/Folder         Cheerleading         1966–1967           3/2         Organization Commission and Ca. 1967–1969           3/3         Constitutions         Ca. 1967–1969           Box/Folder         Correspondence         1968–1969           3/4         Postitutions         1968–1969           Box/Folder         Selective Service         1968–1969           3/5         Box/Folder         1968           3/6         Postitutions         1968           Box/Folder         Veteran Supplies         1968           3/6         Postitutions         1976–1977           3/7         Association Newsletters         Postitutions           Box/Folder         Faculty Committee         1955–1956           3/8         1955–1956         Postitutions           Box/Folder         Wisconsin State Colleges         1956           3/9         Public Relations         Ca. 1959–1963           Box/Folder         Presidents Council	Box/Folder	Wynot Alcoholic Treatment	undated
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Box/Folder National Defense Loan Fund 1959–1960 3/16  Box/Folder Scholarship and Loan Fund 1960		"Stuffy" Culver Memorial Fund	1956
3/16  Box/Folder Scholarship and Loan Fund 1960			
Box/Folder Scholarship and Loan Fund 1960		National Defense Loan Fund	1959-1960
·	3/16		
3/17 Report	Box/Folder	Scholarship and Loan Fund	1960
	3/17	Report	

Box/Folder	Athletic Scholarship	1962-1965
3/18	Committee	
Box/Folder	Student rally posters	undated
16/1		

#### **Series 3:** Eau Claire Athletics

Subseries contains records of Zorn's athletic activities at Eau Claire. The majority of the documents focus on basketball records, including team rosters, plays, photographs, event programs, and statistics. Also, the series contains information on the athletics budget, the Wisconsin State College Athletic Conference, athletic awards, and football records. A wide variety of photographs are found throughout the subseries, including team, individual and action shots for basketball and football. In addition, there is a cassette tape recording of the 1977 Homecoming presentation including the "Mr. Enthusiasm" cheer.

**Dates:** 1916-1982

**Extent:** 4.55 linear feet (7 archives boxes and one oversized box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	Athletic Budget and	1931, ca. 1949-1967
7/1-7/4	Expenditures; MAA log of dues	
Box/Folder	Travel Vouchers	1963-1969
7/5		
Box/Folder	Concession Expenses	ca. 1952-1965
7/6		
Box/Folder	Wisconsin State College	ca. 1924-1953
7/7	Athletic Conference - History,	
	Constitution, Game Schedules,	
	Meeting Minutes and	
	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Intercollegiate Athletics	1951-1954
7/8	Principles of Conduct	
Box/Folder	WSUAC Activity Fee Survey	1957
7/9		
Box/Folder	NAIA/WSUAC Meetings,	1960-1967
7/10-7/11	Reports and Correspondence	
Box/Folder	WSUAC Athletic Directors	1966
8/1	Meeting	
Box/Folder	Athletic Director	1966-1968
8/2	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	WSUAC Football Meetings and	1967
8/3	Reports	
Box/Folder	Athletic News Releases	1967
8/4		
Box/Folder	Athletic Injuries – Reports and	ca. 1953-1969
8/5	Expenditures	
Box/Folder	Minneapolis Laker Game	1955
8/6		
Box/Folder	"Dad's Night" Planning and	1953-1965
8/7	Letters	

Box/Folder	Boosters Correspondence	1957-1964
8/8		
Box/Folder 8/9	Letterman's Club	1952-1967
Box/Folder	Hall of Fame	ca. 1970–1982
8/10	Trail of Fame	ca. 1370 1302
Box/Folder	Ade Olson Tribute	1969
8/11		
Box/Folder	New Athletic Appointments	1957, 1967-1968
8/12	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Organization of Professional	1970
8/13	Baseball Student Paper	
Box/Folder	Basketball Prospectuses	1951-1966
8/14		
Box/Folder	Miscellaneous Basketball	ca. 1955–1956, 1967
9/1, 9/10	Scores, Plays Rosters and	
	Handbooks	
Box/Folder	Converse Basketball	1956-1958
9/2	Yearbooks	
Box/Folder	Basketball Awards	ca. 1956-1968
9/3		
Box/Folder	Basketball Plays	ca. 1956–1966
9/4-9/5		
Box/Folder	Novak's System of Basketball	1950
9/6	Handbook	
Box/Folder	Basketball Correspondence	1955-1968
9/7		
Box/Folder	Basketball Statistics	1962-1965
9/8		
Box/Folder	Basketball Player Prospects	1965-1967
9/9	Correspondence	1005 1007
Box/Folder	Basketball News Releases	1965-1967
9/11 Box/Folder	Football Game Records	1916-1965
•	Football Gaille Records	1910-1903
	Football Plays	ca 1027 1031 1038
	1 Joedan Flays	CG. 1327, 1331-1330
	Pre-season Letters to Football	1937-1940
•		1337 1310
		1948-1966
Box/Folder	Football Prospectuses	1957-1965
10/7		
Box/Folder	Football Schedules	1958-1967
10/8		
Box/Folder	Football Officials	1959-1967
10/9		
9/12 Box/Folder 9/13, 10/1-10/4 Box/Folder 10/5 Box/Folder 10/6 Box/Folder 10/7 Box/Folder 10/8 Box/Folder	Football Plays  Pre-season Letters to Football Players  Football Awards  Football Prospectuses  Football Schedules	ca. 1927, 1931–1938  1937–1940  1948–1966  1957–1965  1958–1967

Box/Folder	Football Correspondence	1959-1967
10/10	Tootsan correspondence	1333 1307
Box/Folder	Athletic Eligibility Proposal	ca. 1962-1967
10/11	, tames and an array of the poster	
Box/Folder	Carson Park Football Stadium	1967
10/12	Addition	
Box/Folder	Locker Room Athletic Poems	ca. 1942
10/13		
Box/Folder	Recording of "Mr. Enthusiasm"	1977
12/7	cheer	
Box/Folder	Football Photographs	undated
13/1-13/2, 13/4	3 1	
Box/Folder	Photograph negatives	ca. 1946-1947
13/3		
Box/Folder	Track photographs	undated
13/5		
Box/Folder	Miscellaneous photographs	undated
13/6		
Box/Folder	Homecoming photographs	undated
13/7		
Box/Folder	Basketball team photographs	undated
13/8		
Box/Folder	Basketball individual	undated
13/9	photographs	
Box/Folder	Basketball action photographs	undated
13/10		
Box/Folder	Spalding's Official Football	1916-1917, 1919, 1922, 1924,
13/11, 14/1-14/9, 15/5	Guides	1926-1927, 1931-1932, 1934-
		1938, 1940-1941, 1945
Box/Folder	Football Programs	ca. 1933-1966
15/1		
Box/Folder	Basketball Programs	ca. 1939–1972
15/2-15/4		
Box/Folder	Scrapbook - basketball and	undated
16/1	football action, individual and	
	team shots, newspaper	
	clippings	
Box/Folder	Wisconsin State College	undated
16/1	Athletic Conference Code of	
	Ethics	
Box/Folder	Football team picture	undated
16/1		
Box/Folder	Two large posters of	undated
16/1	newspaper clippings and	
	basketball team photo	

Series 4: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)

Subseries contains Zorn's personal records, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, awards, speeches and other miscellaneous records. Also included are records of Zorn's

involvement with the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball (NAIB).

**Dates:** 1944–1977

**Extent:** 2.55 linear feet (2 archives boxes and one oversized box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	NAIB Meetings	1946-1949
5/2		
Box/Folder	NAIA/NAIB Correspondence	1949-1962, 1965-1969
5/3, 5/5, 5/7, 6/1-6/2, 6/4-6/8,		
7/10		
Box/Folder	NAIA Annual Meetings and	1952-1960, 1965-1969
5/4, 5/6, 5/8, 6/3, 6/7-6/8	Administrative Reports	
Box/Folder	NAIA Committee Handbook	ca. 1958-1959
6/5		
Box/Folder	NAIA Hockey National	1969-1970
6/9	Tournaments and	
	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	NAIA Miscellaneous	1970-1977
6/10		
Box/Folder	NAIA History, Newsletters and	ca. 1944-1976
6/11	Constitution	
Box/Folder	NAIB - Correspondence,	1945-1954
6/12-6/13	Executive Committee Minutes,	
	Budget Reports and	
	Membership	
Box/Folder	Trophies/awards: to WSU-EC	1928-1965
17	For service to Boy Scouts of	
	America (1965); Boy Scouts of	
	America (1965); Metal Cup	
	"W.L. Zorn Member, Mr. Mc's	
	Gang, N.A.I.A. President,	
	1954-1955"; Angel Statue: "In	
	Honor of Bill Zorn for his	
	outstanding records at Waite	
	Good Luck Bill Your W Boys	
	27-28"	

#### **Series 5:** Air Force Training Program

Series contains records of the military training program that was housed on the Eau Claire campus from 1943–44. It includes enlistment forms and applications, correspondence, fitness guides and statistics, government property inventory and other records. A few photographs are also found in the subseries of recruits participating in the program.

**Dates:** 1941-1944

**Extent:** 0.4 linear feet (1 archives box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	"Value of Physical Fitness"	1942
4/1	Speech	

Box/Folder	Civilian Pilot Training	1942
4/2	Applications and	
	Correspondence	
Box/Folder	Enlisted Reserve Student	1942-1943
4/3	Records	
Box/Folder	Enlisted Reserve Student	1942-1943
4/4	Records	
Box/Folder	Civilian Pilot Training	1942-1943
4/5	Agreements/Press Releases	
Box/Folder	Civilian Pilot Training Clothing	1942-1943
4/6	Records	
Box/Folder	301st Air Corps Unit	1944
4/7		
Box/Folder	Eau Claire Flying School	1942-1943
4/8		
Box/Folder	Civil Aeronautics	1941-1943
4/9	Administration - Misc.	
Box/Folder	Physical Fitness and	undated [1943]
4/10	Recreation Program	
Box/Folder	Government Property	1944-1945
4/11		
Box/Folder	Navy Pre-Flight School	1942
5/1	Physical Fitness Program	

#### **Series 6:** Newspaper Clippings

Series contains newspaper clippings involving sporting and other university events involving Zorn.

**Dates:** 1929-1987

**Extent:** .2 linear feet (1 archives box)

Container	Contents	Dates
Box/Folder	Undated Newspaper Clippings	undated
12/1		
Box/Folder	Newspaper Clippings	ca. 1929-1964
12/2-12-6		
Box	Zorn Exhibit Material (Rick	1987
12/8	Pifer)	