

S. J. McKee Archives



Robert Troy Blair fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13300>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level: Sub-series
Accession Number: 18-2013
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: September 1950 - June 1954
Physical Description: 2 scrapbooks (7.5 cm)
Physical Condition: Excellent

History /

Biographical:

Robert (Bob) Troy Blair was born on March 11, 1930 in Brandon, MB. His first six years were spent in Alexander, MB, where his father and uncle operated a grocery store. In 1936, his family moved to Souris, MB, where his father ran a grocery store. Blair received his primary and high school education, with the exception of Grade 12, in Souris.

Blair remembers his school years in Souris as mainly happy years. He was involved with both piano and organ music lessons. He was never interested in physical sports with the exception of golf. World War II broke out in September of 1939. Souris became the site of #17 SFTS and home base for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Many of the service men came from England, Australia and New Zealand. Blair's mother always entertained at least two for dinner every Sunday. Rationing of sugar, tea and coffee, butter and meat became a way of life. Blair had the job every Saturday of pasting the ration coupons into booklets. It was also when he was in Grade 6, that Blair realized he was more attracted to boys than to girls. Perhaps it was because so many attractive airmen surrounded him!

In November of 1947, the Blair family relocated to Alexander where Bob Blair finished his Grade 11. This was not a good year due to bullying. In September of 1948, Blair moved to Winnipeg to attend United College for his Grade 12. Upon completion of Grade 12, Blair remained in Winnipeg until June 1950. He worked at a number of businesses - Gestetner, Eaton's Mail Order shoe department, Maple Leaf Milling, and the drug store in the Medical Arts Building. In September 1950, he entered Brandon College. Blair was very active in extra-curricular affairs while at Brandon College; particularly drama. Following his B.A. he enrolled in the Education Faculty, having decided to become a teacher.

Blair's teaching career spanned 34 years. All but one year was spent in the Brandon School Division. On his first day of teaching in the Division he met the man with whom he would spend the next 46 years. He was primarily a teacher of English and Music. A highlight of his career was exchange teaching in Sacramento, California in 1961. Orientation for exchange took place in August in Washington, D.C., where Blair had the opportunity to meet President J.F. Kennedy. He vividly recalls the morning that JFK was assassinated on November 22, 1963. In September 1965, Blair assumed the principalship of Park School and in September of 1969, the same position at George Fitton School where he remained until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of the Brandon Principals' Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and served as President of the Brandon Teachers' Association. Among his major accomplishments during his time as principal were the introduction of a centralized school library in both Park and George Fitton Schools and the integration of special needs students into regular classroom situations wherever possible. He was made a Life Member of the Manitoba Teachers' Society (Brandon) in June 1990. Following his retirement Blair worked as a Library Automation Consultant (1989-1993).

Blair also had numerous community involvements during his time in Brandon. He was active in the Brandon Little Theatre (Best Actor Award, Manitoba Drama Festival for One Act Plays in 1963), the Brandon Festival of the Arts, the Eckhardt-Gramatte National Music Competition, and Arm Industries to name a few.

Following the death of his partner in 2001, Blair moved to Saskatoon to live with a younger gay couple. He has been active in volunteerism: as an Ambassador for the Saskatoon Airport Authority, assistant with the Saskatoon Health Region's Immunization Clinics, information clerk for the Festival of Trees, data entry clerk for the Saskatoon Music Festival, on the Board of the Saskatoon Jazz Society, and Hospitality Coordinator for the Saskatoon Jazz Festival.

Robert Troy Blair died on July 2, 2024 in Saskatoon, SK. He is buried in Brandon, MB.

Custodial History:

Records were in Blair's possession until he donated them to the McKee Archives on Homecoming weekend October 2013.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of two scrapbooks containing 145 photographs and ephemera (play and graduation programs, tickets, pins, newspaper clippings) documenting Bob Blair's days at Brandon College. Social events and extra-curricular activities are heavily featured in the two scrapbooks. Also included are graduation portraits for the Classes of 1951, 1952 and 1953. Of the 145 photographs all are black and white except for two photos of the Class of '53 reconconvocation (May 1993), and one from the Class of '53 reunion (2003).

Notes: History/Bio provided by Bob Blair (October 2013).

Name Access: Brandon College
Angus Jackson
Pat Magnacca
Freshie Week
Senior Stick
Lady Stick
Harvest Cabaret
Sigma Mu
Glee Club
Bob Blair
Jack Yeomans
Walter Dinsdale
Don Cronk
Bob McPherson
Lorne Watson
Marg Sanderson
Hazel Turnbull
Claudia Dickey
Gordon Bradley
Terry Prysiazniuk
Diane Lissaman
Joan Garnett
Doris Penstock
Dianne Macdonald
Ivey Graham
Joyce Pickard
Cathy Crawford
Roberta Wilkie
Marie Kullberg
Isabel Lyon
Shirley Pryce
J.R.C. Evans
Marjorie Kyles
Jo Thordarson
Ross George

Edward Perry
Ernest Birkinshaw
Barney Thordarson
Fall Formal
Variety Night
Installation Night
Paul McKinnon
The Saga of Brandon
Bill White
Ron Bell
Jerry Jerret
Rosa Ziolkowski
Murray Smith
Class of 1951
Harold Moffat
Bill Sutherland
Murray Coulthard
Frank Adamski
John McLean
Jack Medd
Jack Muir
Bill Fraser
Ken Morrison
Clifford Kitson
Ray Brown
Mike Doig
Ernie Shaw
Jack Scott
Doreen Dennison
Lois Kennedy
Lorna Prokaska
Ferne Henderson
Doreen Fedoruk
Marg Leckie
Freshie Parade
Helen Batho
Fred Calverly
Jim Crawford
Verda Peden
Olga Evasko
Betty Finch
Fred Schwarok
Jim Struthers
Muriel Bedford
John Brown

Freshie Royalty
Booster Night
Mary Jane Sexton
Marilyn Rust
Mildred McMurray
Mary-Jane MacLachlan
George Leask
George Jakubowski
Jack Purvis
My Sister Eileen
Edith Laycock
Ivey Robbins
Ken Campbell
Mac Andrews
Marion Simmons
Arnold Minish
Madeline Irving
Ernie Criddle
Don Dillistone
Gordon Hunter
Cathy Nelson
Jim Kelleher
Anne Kelleher
Neil McKellar
Ron Doupe
Bruce Watson
Neil MacKay
Peter Prokaska
Roger Ramsden
Bill Bridgett
Graham Hunt
John Muirhead
David Brodie
Murray MacDonald
Dr. Kidd
Cam Finlay
Blair MacRae
Donna McPhail
Louise Hoey
Agnes Nicholson
Jean Allan
Joan Urie
Royce Richardson
Don Rousell
Bill Black

Ken McNeeley
Rosalie Prokopchuk
Jean Morrison
Jacice Forrest
Fuzz Fedoruk
Brian Davison
Joan MacLachlan
First International Relations Club Conference
Minot Teachers' College
International Peace Gardens
Bruce McLroy
Jean Shingfield
Campaign Week
Sigma Mu Dance
Arnold Wawruch
Jack Meyers
Jack Hilton
Bev Francis
Bert Gogol
Dick McDonald
Frank McKinnon
Stuart Craig
John Blackwood
Norman Hedison
Bob Hilton
John Minions
Kay Oliver
Mary Jane MacLachlan
Ben Ward
Ken Gunning
Trevor McNeely
Hilton Stewart
Jerry Graham
Bette Mitchell
Joan Curlock
Faye Myers
Jean Hannah
Mary Babuick
Mr. College Spirit
John Augustus McGee
Don Dillstone
Flora Johnson
Del Gusdal
Color Night
Don Burrows

Jim Casey Trophy
Marj Kyles
Prince Edward Hotel
Class Day
Dahl Harvey
Shirley Mitchell
Al Burton
Irving Bateman
Joyce Marie Thordarson
Eileen McFadden
Patricia Pope
Louise Astle
Ariel Genik
Western Canada Student Teacher Conference
Brandon College Glee Club
Be Your Age
Ike Prokaska
Joan Hilton
Fred Lynch
Garth Kidd
Ivy Robbins
Joyce Dunham
Shirley Poppo
Grand March
Westley Wong
Stewart Perdue
H.V. Kidd
J.E.M. Young
Adelene Bailey
Mrs. Evans
Dennis Anderson
Stanley Knowles
Edward Schreyer
Lou Visentin

Subject Access: Student government
initiations
student activities
dances
basketball
talent shows
drama productions
major productions
Hockey
graduations
programs
parades
dorm rooms
student housing
literary "B's"
college letters
class flags
banquets

Storage Location: 2013 accessions



Brandon University Bobcats (hockey)

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1240>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 4

Item Number: 4.218

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1992-1993

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (color)

Scope and Content:

Portrait of the Brandon University Bobcats men's hockey team. Front Row (L to R): Rick Geisel, Mike Vandenberghe, Todd Chastko, Tom Skinner, Rick Stallard, Tony Franklin, Mike Thomas. Second Row-L to R: Trevor Ross, Gord Garland, Dean Rowland, Richard Kidd, Doug Strombeck, Brad Traves, Dwayne Brook, Pat Chamberlin, Al Patterson, Merv Priest, Gord Watt, Peter McElroy. Third Row-L to R: Garth Johnson, Randy McElroy, Guy Williams, Kevin Kowerko, Scott Wotton, Shawn Carter, Bruce McCallum Blaine Sautner. Missing: Wayne Robertson.

Name Access: Rick Geisel
Mike Vandenberghe
Todd Chastko
Tom Skinner
Rick Stallard
Tony Franklin
Mike Thomas
Trevor Ross
Gord Garland
Dean Rowland
Richard Kidd
Doug Stromback
Brad Traves
Dwayne Brook
Pat Chamberlin
Al Patterson
Merv Priest
Gord Watt
Peter McElroy
Garth Johnson
Randy McElroy
Guy Williams
Kevin Kowerko
Scott Wotton
Shawn Carter
Bruce McCallum
Blaine Sautner

Subject Access: Hockey
team sports

Storage Location: BUPC color storage box

Images



Brandon University Bobcats (hockey)



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1241>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection
Description Level: Item
Series Number: 4
Item Number: 4.219
GMD: graphic
Date Range: 1993-1994
Physical Description: 8" x 9.75" (color)

Scope and Content:

Portrait of the Brandon University Bocats men's hockey team. Front Row (L to R): Rick Geisel, Bruce McCallum, Shawn Carter, Rick Stallard, Tom Skinner, Brian Webber, Dean Rowland, Richard Kidd, Chris Schinkel. Middle Row (L to R): Trevor Ross, Merv Priest, Kevin Kowerko, Mickey McGuire, Phil Valk, Brad Traves, Al Patterson, Brent McMillan, Simon Olivier, Wayne Robertson. Back Row (L to R): Tyler Boucher, Travis Lang, Randy McElroy, Darren Duncafe, Harold Nachbaur, Guy Williams, Jason Ryden, Derek Gecse.

Name Access: Rick Geisel
Bruce McCallum
Shawn Carter
Rick Stallard
Tom Skinner
Brian Webber
Dean Rowland
Richard Kidd
Chris Schinkel
Trevor Ross
Merv Priest
Kevin Kowerko
Mickey McGuire
Phil Valk
Brad Traves
Al Patterson
Brent McMillan
Simon Olivier
Wayne Robertson
Tyler Boucher
Travis Laing
Randy McElroy
Darren Duncafe
Harold Nachbaur
Guy Williams
Jason Ryden
Derek Gecse

Subject Access: Hockey
team sports

Storage Location: BUPC color storage box



Brandon University Bobcats (hockey)

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1242>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 4

Item Number: 4.220

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1994-1995

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (color)

Scope and Content:

Portrait of the Brandon University Bobcats men's hockey team. Front Row (L to R): Derek Robertson, Darren Duncafe, Tom Skinner, Rick Stallard, Dean Rowland, Bryan Webber, Tony Franklin, Guy Williams, Chris Shinkel. Middle Row (L to R): Trevor Ross, Janice Fraser, Jay Dobrescu, Al Patterson, Richard Kidd, Phil Valk, Peter Boake, Jeff Schachterle, Mickey McGuire, Angela Burtnack. Back Row (L to R): Tyler Boucher, Simon Olivier, Chad Michalchuk, Drew McRae, Jason Ryden, Derek Gecse.

Name Access: Derek Robertson
Darren Duncalfe
Tom Skinner
Rick Stallard
Dean Rowland
Brian Webber
Tony Franklin
Guy Williams
Chris Shinkel
Trevor Ross
Janice Fraser
Jay Dobrescu
Al Patterson
Richard Kidd
Phil Valk
Peter Boake
Jeff Schachterle
Mickey McGuire
Angela Burtnack
Tyler Boucher
Simon Olivier
Chad Michalchuk
Drew McRae
Jason Ryden
Derek Gecse

Subject Access: Hockey
team sports

Storage Location: BUPC color storage box

Images



Brandon University Bobcats (hockey)

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1243>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection



Description Level: Item
Series Number: 4
Item Number: 4.221
GMD: graphic
Date Range: 1995-1996
Physical Description: 8" x 10" (color)

Scope and Content:

Portrait of the Brandon University Bocats men's hockey team. Front Row (L to R): Ryan Tempol, Richard Kidd, Darren Duncalfe, Guy Williams, Dean Rowland, Al Patterson, Colin Ryder. Middle Row (L to R): Trevor Ross, Tom Skinner, Tony Franklin, Jay Dobrescu, Kent Kinaschuk, Marty Zdan, Chris Wielgosh, Graham Shindle, Jeff Schachterle, Mickey McGuire, Dennis Pinfold, Bryan Webber, Scott Coates, Wayne Robertson. Back Row (L to R): Jamie Berry, Craig Anderson, Tyler Boucher, Adrian Beaudin, Peter Jas, Chad Michalchuk, Scott Hlady, Mike Lehmann, Derek Robertson, Maria Sirdar.

Name Access: Ryan Tempol
Richard Kidd
Darren Duncalfe
Guy Williams
Dean Rowland
Al Patterson
Colin Ryder
Trevor Ross
Tom Skinner
Tony Franklin
Jay Dobrescu
Kent Kinaschuk
Marty Zdan
Chris Wielgosh
Graham Shindle
Jeff Schachterle
Mickey McGuire
Dennis Pinfold
Bryan Webber
Scott Coates
Wayne Robertson
Jamie Berry
Craig Anderson
Tyler Boucher
Adrian Beaudin
Peter Jas
Chad Michalchuk
Scott Hlady
Mike Lehmann
Derek Robertson
Maria Sirdar

Subject Access: Hockey
team sports
Storage Location: BUPC color storage box

Images

