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Dorothy "Dottie" Green Collection, 1943-1952

(Part of the Kathleen Bertrand and Linda Lundin, Honoring Women in Sports Collection) (MSS-049.01.11)

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Dottie Green Collection Biographical Sketch

Dorothy "Dottie" Green, a native of Natick, MA, was born on April 30, 1921. She spent her high school years at Natick playing multiple sports and after graduation she played semipro softball for the Boston Olympets. Green was one of three Olympets recruited by a new league, the All-American Girls Softball League, along with Maddy English and Mary Pratt. Eventually the league settled on the name All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) with the history of the league spanning the years of 1943-1954. Green was assigned to the Rockford Peaches in the league's inaugural season in 1943.

Green was renowned for her defensive talents as the catcher for the Peaches from 1943-1947. During the 1947 season Green severely hurt her knee, ending her playing career in the league but not her involvement. She became the team's chaperone, holding this position until the league ended after the 1954 season. She was one of only three players to participate in the league during its entire twelve year run and stayed with the Rockford Peaches for the entire time.

After Green was done participating in the AAGPBL she became a recreation officer at the state prison for women in Framingham, MA, where she spent the rest of her working career. She was involved with the AAGPBL's efforts to remain active in keeping the memory of the league alive. The first league reunion took place in 1982. Momentum to promote and increase awareness of the league's history continued, culminating in the league being inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY in 1988. With the release of the 1992 movie, *A League of Their Own*, interest in the league increased.

Dorothy "Dottie" Green passed away in Natick in 1992.

Scope and Content Note

The Dottie Green Collection is part of the *Kathleen Bertrand and Linda Lundin, Honoring Women in Sports Collection*. It includes original content by Green while she was a player in the All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL). The entire Dottie Green

Collection is made up her scrapbooks that cover every year of the AAGPBL with the exception of the final two years, 1953 and 1954. Some of the scrapbooks are entirely made up of original photographs and some contain only news clippings. Seven of the ten scrapbooks are held in wooden covers, six with league depictions engraved on the cover and one with painting only on the cover. All the wooden covers were created by Green. Most of the scrapbooks focus on one year. Due to the different sizes of the scrapbooks, they are not all in chronological order within the collection box number scheme.

Related collections include the numerous collections that make up the *Kathleen Bertrand and Linda Lundin, Honoring Women in Sports Collection*. Other women's baseball and softball collections include: the <u>Mary Pratt Collection</u>, the <u>Maddy English Collection</u>, the <u>All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Collection</u>, the <u>Joanne "Jo" Winter Collection</u>, the <u>Margaret "Marge" Russo Collection</u>, the <u>Helen Delores Nunamaker Collection</u>, the <u>Edith Dennison</u> Bloomer Girl Collection, the Bertha Levi Collection, the Helen Nordquist Collection, and more.

Box and Folder List

Box 1

- Scrapbook 1: 1943-1944 scrapbook representing Green's first and second years playing for the Rockford Peaches of the AAGPBL. Includes a hand-carved wooden cover done by Green with two emblems: one for the AAGPBL and one for the city of Rockford, Illinois. This scrapbook is made up entirely of photographs from the first two AAGPBL seasons. There are approximately 33 pages of photographs representing the 1943 season and 26 pages of photographs for the 1944 season. Nearly all photographs are identified and include photographs of individual players, players in day-to-day life outside of baseball, players celebrating, and more. Includes a photograph of the "Bostonians"—Dottie Green, Mary Pratt, and Maddy English.
- Scrapbook 2: "Snaps of 1948 Champs: Rockford Peaches." Hand-carved wooden cover with a team photograph on the cover of the 1948 Rockford Peaches. Entire scrapbook made up of original photos from Green's first year as a team chaperone after retiring as a player. Includes photographs of Cuban AAGPBL players. The last few pages include photographs from 1949.

Box 2

- Scrapbook 3: Scrapbook documents the 1944 season. Has a hand-carved wooden cover by Green of the "A-AGSBL" logo. Consists entirely of news clippings and magazine cut-outs.
- Scrapbook 4: The first part of this scrapbook documents the 1945 championship season of
 the Rockford Peaches through photographs of both the team and of individuals. The second
 half of the scrapbook represents original photographs from the 1946 season, mostly of
 individuals or small groups of people posing for the camera.

Box 3

- Scrapbook 5: Contains newspaper clippings from the 1946 season. Includes a hand-carved wooden cover done by Green that depicts a woman swinging a baseball bat, a baseball with "Peaches" on it, and an A-AGPBL logo.
- Scrapbook 6: Original photographs from the 1947 season. Hand-carved wooden cover by Green with the writing "Baseball Snaps" over a baseball. Contains many photographs of players during their lives outside of baseball, photographs of individual players, and a photograph of Dottie Green in bed with a large cast on her leg after she was hurt. This would be her last season as a player due to the injury and she would continue on as the team's chaperone.

Box 4

- Scrapbook 7: All original photographs. Contains a small number of photographs from 1943-1944. Most of photographs are from the 1947-1948 seasons after Green was done playing and was now acting as team chaperone.
- Scrapbook 8: "Rockford Peaches 10th Anniversary, 1943-1952." Nearly completely comprised of news clippings from the 1952 season.

Box 5

• Scrapbook 9: Hand-carved wooden cover by Green of a baseball stadium and "Peaches" across the top. Represents the 1950 season. Includes a Rockford Peaches program; a 1950 AAGPBL playoff program with the inside cover containing five player signatures including that of Dottie Kamenshek; two separate 1950 women's baseball publications that cover the rosters of the AAGPBL and some information and rosters for the National Girls Baseball League; one letter from the AAGPBL to Green that includes playoff financials; majority of scrapbook is of news clippings and a few magazine clippings.

Box 6

• Scrapbook 10: Represents 1951. Wooden cover with "Rockford" painted on it and two peaches. Contains news clippings for the 1951 season.