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UA0013

Marion Henry Papers

Prepared by:

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**Collection Overview****Creator:** Prairie View A&M University**Title of Collection:** Marion Henry Papers**Dates:** 1949-1980

**Abstract:** Marion Henry served PVAMU in many capacities since joining the staff in 1956. He served as athletic director from 1972 to 1983, and he twice won the honor of Southwestern Athletic Conference Athletic Director of the Year. He also served on various NCAA and SWAC committees, including the SWAC's 75th Anniversary Planning Committee in 1995. Marion Henry Papers covers his time at Prairie View A&M from 1949-1980. The collection consists of certificates, programs, commencements, and personal biographical materials

**Extent:** .75 Linear ft.**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research.**Identification:** UA 0013

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**Language:** English

**Repository:** Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

**Biographical Note:** Marion Henry served PVAMU in many capacities since joining the staff in 1956, including as athletic director. Born on March 23, 1927, to Dewey Henry and Mary Lee Benson in Dallas, Texas, he earned his bachelor's degree from Southern University and A&M College, and he completed his master's degree at Bradley University. He also earned a Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Among memberships in many organizations, Henry was a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for 62 years.

Marion Henry married Mary Delores Grant in New Orleans, Louisiana in October 1953, and he was affiliated with the PVAMU athletic department for over 46 years. In the early 1960s, he served as the athletic motion picture photographer in the filming of the school's only NAIA title game appearance against St. John's in Sacramento, California, and he also served as the public announcer and chief finish judge for track and field events. He served as athletic director from 1972 to 1983, and he twice won the honor of Southwestern Athletic Conference Athletic Director of the Year. He also served on various NCAA and SWAC committees, including the SWAC's 75th Anniversary Planning Committee in 1995. Some of his most significant accomplishments during his tenure included negotiating the current State Fair Classic with Grambling State, renovating the Blackshear Field press box and concession stand, chairing the first NCAA college football doubleheader at Rice Stadium, and organizing the first college basketball doubleheader at the Houston Summit.

Henry was also a powerful influence on the Whitlowe R. Green College of Education. He was Director of the Learning Resource Center, and head of the department of curriculum, and head of the department of educational media and technology. In 2011, he was selected as a member of the inaugural class of the Chancellor's Academy of Teacher Educators, a Texas A&M University System initiative acknowledging teaching excellence.

Indeed, his impact was felt by every student who crossed the stage at graduation. He served as Chairman of the Commencement Committee for more than 50 years, even serving as the Commencement Marshall for nearly three decades. He told 1876 magazine that one of his greatest honors was assisting with the development of the University Mace, Medallion, and Podium in 1983. In 1995, Henry was honored with a street bearing his name, **Marion Henry Drive**, which runs alongside the famed William "Billy" J. Nicks, Sr. Fieldhouse and leads to the football stadium, Blackshear Field. He was also inducted into the Southwestern Athletic Conference Hall-of-Fame. Marion Henry died on June 3, 2012, and he was buried in Prairie View Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

**Scope & Contents:** Marion Henry Papers covers his time at Prairie View A&M from 1949-1980. The collection consists of certificates, programs, commencements, and personal biographical materials

**Arrangement:** Collection is arranged in three series. Series are arranged chronologically by subject and format.

Series 1	Correspondence
Series 2	Printed Materials (Programs)
Series 3	Personal Information and Awards

### **Administrative Information**

**Acquisition:** Donated by Marion Henry in 1978-79.

**Preferred Citation:** Marion Henry Papers.UA 0013 Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

### **Subject Terms:**

Enter subject terms or keywords that describe the contents.

### **Inventory**

<b>Series 1</b>		<b>Correspondence</b>
<b>Box</b>		<b>Folder</b>
1		1 Army of the United States, Separation Qualification Record, April 1949
1	2	Letter from Bernice Fisk to A.I. Thomas, May 1972
1	3	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Marion Henry, June 1972

1	4	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Marion Henry, June 1972
1	50	Letter, from Henry Marion to A.I. Thomas, July 1972
1	5	Letter from Lucellustine Wilson to Marion Henry, May 1973
1	6	Memorandum to Faculty and Staff from A.I. Thomas, August 1973
1	7	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Marion Henry, September 1979
1	8	Letter from Helen Matthews to Marion Henry, September 1973
1	9	Letter from Lester Earl Cole to Marion Henry, March 1974
1	10	Letter from Samuel M. Good to Marion Henry, April 1976
1	11	Memorandum from Richard Gilkey to Marion Henry, September 1976
1	12	Letter from Hubert D. Smith to Marion Henry, September 1976
1	13	Letter from George R. Ragland to Marion Henry, September 1976
1	14	Letter from Hubert D. Smith to Marion Henry, February 1977
1	15	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Marion Henry, May 1977
1	16	Letter from Annie May Gilbert to Marion Henry, February 1979
1	17	Letter from Wayne C. Schultz to Marion Henry, May 1979
1	18	Petition by Citizens of Prairie View to Waller I.S.D., July 1979
1	21	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Marion Henry, May 1977
1	22	Letter from A.I. Thomas to Dr. Frank W.R. Hubert, September 1980
1	23	Letter from Marion Henry to Johanne Thomas, April 1979
1	24	Letter from Marion Henry to all Athletic Personnel, January 1984
1	25	Letter from Marion Henry to President Pierre, January 1986
1	26	Letter from Marion Henry to J. E. Berry, February 1984

## **Series 2      Printed Materials and Programs**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	27	Prairie View A&M University Centennial Homecoming Schedule of Activities, October – November 1978
1	28	Memorandum from Frank W.R. Hubert to Marion Henry, September 1980
1	29	Award Program Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., November 1980
1	30	Program for Presidents Dinner of Honor Students, September 1979
1	31	PVAMU 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Convocation, September 1979
1	32	Program Commencement Convocation, August 1979
1	33	Article Ken Houston Makes a Habit of Being Best Strong Safety, August 1979
1	34	Program Centennial Homecoming, October – November 1978
1	35	Article, What is Operation Success, August 1979
1	36	Program, Founders Day Banquet, May 1979
1	37	Program, Unveiling of Historical Marker, Norris Wright Cuney, 1846, 1978
1	38	Centennial Commencement, May 1978
1	39	Program, Commemorating the 100 <sup>th</sup> Year – Now & in the Future, 1978
1	40	Program, Educational Technological, 1978
1	41	The Centennial Fund, Charter Member, 1979
1	42	Calendar, Pantherland, 1975-1976
1	43	Article, A Cautious Approach, Volume 86, 1979
1	44	Program, Commencement Convocation, August 1979
1	45	Calendar of Portraits, 1978 – 1979
1	46	Program, Commemorating the Observance of the Centennial Year, 1978
1	47	Program, The Presidents Centennial Success Convocation, October 1978

1	48	Program, Dedication Ceremonies for University Buildings, September 1978
1	49	Program, Fourth Graduation Exercise, May 1978
1	50	Program, Centennial Commencement Exercises, May 1978
1	51	Program, Prospectus for the Non-Traditional Self Study, 1977
1	52	Program, The Coronation of Miss Prairie View, November 1976
1	53	Separation Qualification Record, April 1949
1	54	Homecoming Convocation, The 1976 Golden Anniversary, November 1976
1	55	Unknown Dallas Publication article, January 1971
1	56	Informer and Texas newspaper article, July 1979
1	57	Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1980-1981
1	58	The Tomball Sun newspaper article, February 1984
1	59	PVAMU Athletics article, January 2003

### Series 3      Personal Information and Awards

1	60	Resume, Marion Henry, July 1979
1	61	Award, Texas Interscholastic League of Colored Schools, April 1944
1	62	Award, Texas Interscholastic League of Colored Schools, April 1944
1	63	Award Certificate, Intercollegiate Relays and Tennis Tournament, April 1945
1	64	Award Certificate, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place, Intercollegiate Relays and Tennis, April 1945
1	65	Award Certificate, Honorable Discharge from the U. S. Army, April 1949
1	66	Certificate of Membership, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., October 1950
1	67	Certificate of Merit, Southern University, 1951 – 1952
1	68	Letter from Gus F. Mutscher to Marion Henry, October 1970
1	69	Certificate, Texas (State) Legislature, October 1970
1	70	Certificate of Appreciation, Diocese of Syracuse, May 1970
1	71	Award, Prairie View A&M, Academic Recognition, September 1972
1	72	Certificate of Appreciation, Boy Scouts of America, June 1973
1	73	Certificate, Outstanding Educators of America, 1973
1	74	Certificate, Employees Federal Credit Union, March 1978
1	75	Award, Prairie View A&M, Outstanding Achievement, April 1980
1	76	Commencement Convocation, Prairie View A&M University, May 1980
1	77	Phi Delta Kappa, Membership of Fraternity in Education, May 1971
1	78	Marion Henry biography/short introduction, undated
1	79	Resume, undated
1	80	Resume, undated (copy)
1	81	Marion Henry Portrait
1	82	Miscellaneous photocopies of educational degrees and certificates