

JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY
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Lynchburg, Virginia 24501

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JAMES "JIMMIE" BENTON BRYAN (1916-2005) COLLECTION

The collection contains newspaper clippings of the coaching career of James "Jimmie" Benton BRYAN, basketball coach and athletic director at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, Virginia. Also included are articles and newspaper clippings from his term on the Lynchburg City Council as councilman and as Mayor. The collection also contains numerous award plaques, miscellaneous photographs, and assorted ephemera.

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| BOX 1 | 1-1 | Awards/Testimonials |
| | 1-2 | Bicentennial Celebration |
| | 1-3 | Certificates |
| | 1-4 | City Council/Mayor |
| | 1-5 | Coaching Clinics |
| | 1-6 | Correspondence (Miscellaneous |
| | 1-7 | Embroidery (by BRYAN, age 8) |
| | 1-8 | Invitations (Miscellaneous) |
| | 1-9 | "Love Not Fear" (Book) |
| | 1-10 | Miscellaneous |
| | 1-11 | Miscellaneous (Former players, Football coaching, etc.) |
| | 1-12 | Newspaper clippings (1953, 1959/1960) |
| | 1-13 | Newspaper clippings (1960-1963) |
| | 1-14 | Newspaper clippings (1963-1967) |
| | 1-15 | Newspaper clippings (1967-1971) |
| BOX 2 | 2-1 | Newspaper clippings (Basketball tournaments, championships) |
| | 2-2 | Newspaper clippings (District tournaments) |
| | 2-3 | Programs (Miscellaneous) |
| | 2-4 | Photographs |
| BOX 3 | | Plaques |
| | 3-1 | 4-H Clubs |
| | 3-2 | All-State Basketball Camps (1974) |
| | 3-3 | Big Brothers/Big Sisters (1986) |
| | 3-4 | Big Brothers/Big Sisters |
| | 3-5 | Big Brothers/Big Sisters (1985) |
| | 3-6 | "Distant Friends" (1989) |
| 3-7 | E. C. Glass High School (1981) | |

(Continued)

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JAMES "JIMMIE" BENTON BRYAN (1916-2005) COLLECTION
(Continued)

- BOX 4** Plaques
- 4-1 First Community Bank (1989)
 - 4-2 Heritage DECA (1989)
 - 4-3 Limatorque (1989)
 - 4-4 Lukemia Society of America (1989)
 - 4-5 March of Dimes (1987)
 - 4-6 Pi Kappa Alpha Scholarship (1940-1941)
- BOX 5** Plaques
- 5-1 Virginia High School Coaches Association (1967)
 - 5-2 Virginia High School League Coaches Association (1971)
 - 5-3 Virginia Seminary and College (1990)
- BOX 6** Plaques
- 6-1 BRYAN Coat of Arms
 - 6-2 Community Service Award - Hunton Branch YMCA (1988)
 - 6-3 Douglas Southall Freeman Award (1985)
 - 6-4 Exchange Club (1981)
 - 6-5 FBI National Academy
 - 6-6 Lions Club - "Old Monarch"
 - 6-7 Lions Club (1989)
- BOX 7** Plaques
- 7-1 National High School Athletic Coaches Association (1967)
 - 7-2 National High School Coaches Association (1975)
 - 7-3 Pace Magazine
 - 7-4 Virginia High School Coaches Association
 - 7-5 Virginia State High School Athletic Directors Association (1982)
 - 7-6 Virginia State High School Athletic Directors (1974-1975)
 - 7-7 Virginia Sportswriters and Sportscasters (1961)
- BOX 8** Miscellaneous Ephemera (Buttons, Namecards, Ribbons, etc.)

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JAMES "JIMMIE" BENTON BRYAN (1916-2005)

James "Jimmie" Benton BRYAN, son of James Alexander Fultz BRYAN and Beulah WOODSON, was born 4 April 1916 in Staunton, Virginia. He was graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Staunton in 1936 and received a scholarship to study medicine at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. After the death of his father, he gave up his pursuit of medicine and concentrated on an education degree.

Following graduation from college, Jimmie BRYAN coached at Middlebrook High School near Staunton from 1940 until 1942. On 6 June 1942, in Staunton, he married Neva GOLDING, of Glouster, Ohio. Later in 1942, he returned to his alma mater, Robert E. Lee High School, where he coached for two years. In 1944, he became assistant football coach and head basketball coach at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg.

Coach BRYAN had an extremely successful career in coaching basketball, with his teams winning twenty-two district championships and four state championships. His personal philosophy of "love, not fear," was the basis for his first book in 1977. He retired in 1971 to become athletic director at E. C. Glass High School. In 1976, he was named athletic director for the Lynchburg City School System. He retired again in 1981.

After retirement, BRYAN concentrated on his hobby of buying, selling, and restoring antiques. In 1983, he accepted an appointment to City Council to replace the late Hubert NASH. In 1984, he was elected to fill NASH's unexpired term and was elected mayor that same year. Mayor BRYAN retired from the political arena in 1990. In speaking of his terms as mayor, it was said that he "tried to build cooperation and consensus whenever possible."

In 1994, Jimmie BRYAN completed his second book, his autobiography, "Coach: It's Great to Be Alive in Lynchburg, Virginia, Today."

Throughout his career, both in sports and in politics, Jimmie BRYAN has been honored many times. He has received awards as Coach of the Year, Distinguished Service Award, and State Athletic Director of the Year. He has been inducted into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame and the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. He has also received numerous awards and citations from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and the first Liberty Bell Award for outstanding citizenship presented by the Lynchburg Bar Association.

In 2004, the “Jimmie Bryan Athletic Center” at E. C. Glass High School was dedicated to “Coach” BRYAN. During the ceremony, several former players spoke about BRYAN’s concern for the young men in his charge and his leading by example. At the conclusion of the ceremony, “Coach” commented that he considered himself lucky to have ended up in Lynchburg. “I want to thank all of you for making Lynchburg such a fine place to be.”

[James "Jimmie" Benton Bryan Papers, Mss., MS1514, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA; Jimmie Bryan, *Coach: It's Great to Be Alive in Lynchburg, Virginia, Today* (Lynchburg, Warwick House, 1994; *Lynchburg News*, 25 June 2004, Sect. A, p. 1, col. 2.)