

ALL-AMERICAN SOAP BOX DERBY COLLECTION

Special Collections, Akron-Summit County Public Library

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NO: 12

21 linear feet

LOCATION NO: 6 A 3

ACQUISITION:

ACCESS: Restricted access: materials fragile; access by request at Main Library archives only; material does not circulate.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: Contains a wide variety of materials related to Soap Box Derby events held in Akron as well as other National races. Includes newspaper clippings, periodicals, photographs, films, posters, racing sheets, official programs, press releases, brochures, realia, and many other miscellaneous materials.

CONTAINER LIST:

SERIES I: REALIA

BOX 1 (size 15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby helmets, undated.

BOX 2 (size 15 ½" x 12 x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby wheels, undated.

BOX 3 (15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby helmets:

24th – 1961
25th – 1962
26th – 1963
27th – 1964
28th - 1965
29th - 1966

BOX 4 (size 15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby helmets:

30th – 1967
31st - 1968
32nd - 1969
33rd – 1970
34th – 1971, name on front of helmet, Jim Stower

BOX 5 (size 12" x 9" x 3"): Pennants, and Racer's hat with pins attached

BOX 6 (size 15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby wheels, undated.

REALIA NOT IN BOXES:

-Derby Model Carrying Case (size 13 ½" x 6" x 13 ¼")

-Two axles (each size 32" x 1")

-Five steering wheels (each size 23" x 4")

SERIES II: BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

BOOK:

-Watch Those Red Wheels Roll, by Marion Renick, Charles Scribner's Sons, NY, 1965.

PUBLICATIONS:

ENVELOPE 1 (size 15" x 11"): 1946 Official Program, 9th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby

ENVELOPE 2 (size 15" x 11"): 1949 Official Program, 12th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby

PAMPHLET BOX 1 (size 11" x 3" x 14"): Official Programs

1961, 1964-1969, 1971-1972, 1975-1977, 1979, 1980-1988, 1990 (and Heat and Lane results book), 1991-1992

PAMPHLET BOX 2 (size 11" x 3" x 14"): Official Rule Books

1957-1958, 1960-1961, 1963-1969, 1970-1972, 1974

PAMPHLET BOX 3 (size 6" x 3" x 8"): Rule Books

1975-1981 (one copy of 1976 and 1980)

PAMPHLET BOX 4 (size 6" x 3" x 8"): Rule Books

1982-1987

PAMPHLET BOX 5 (size 6" x 3" x 8"): Rule Books

1988-1989, 1991-1994

PAMPHLET BOX 6 (size 9 ½" x 4" x 10"): Official Records

1961-1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1972-1973

PAMPHLET BOX 7: Press Information and Souvenir Program

Press Information:

1961, 1964-1965, 1969, 1976, 1978-1979, 1980-1981, 1985-1986, 1989, 1991-1992

Souvenir Program:

August 17, 1958

PAMPHLET BOX 8: Topside and Derby News

Topside – January 1986 – October 1987 (incomplete)

Derby News – January 1979 – October 1982 (incomplete)

PAMPHLET BOX 9: Derby Director's handbooks: 1978-1985

SERIES III: OVERSIZE MATERIALS: POSTERS, NEWSPAPERS, DRAWINGS, ETC.

BOX 1 (size 30 ½" x 23 ½" x 3"):

POSTERS:

- 1965 Soap Box Derby Poster, 30" W x 40" L
- Undated, "WIN" poster, 27 ½" W x 22 ½" L
- Soap Box Derby Shield, 16" W x 17" L
- Soap Box Derby Headquarters poster, 40" W x 30" L
- "Join the Fun" poster, 30" W x 21" L
- Free Rule Book poster, 35" W x 21" L
- 26th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby poster, 34 ½" W x 45" L (2 copies)
- Official Headquarters poster, 27" W x 13 ½" L
- This is Your 1966 Soap Box Derby Headquarters, 30" W x 40" L
- ATTENTION BOYS, 1963, 22" W x 13 ½" L
- 1966 Soap Box Derby official rules poster, 35 ½" W x 24" L
- The Race is On, 1988, 11" W x 17" L
- Hey Guys! picture brochure 24 ½" W x 20" L
- Boys...here's where the fun starts picture brochure, c. 1964, 25 ½" W x 18 ½" L
- 1972 World's Gravity Grand Prix Soap Box Derby

NEWSPAPERS – see also clippings in Series IV

- All-American Derby Section, Akron Beacon Journal, 1964-1968
- All-American Derby Day Ads, 1964-1968
- Akron Beacon Journal, Roto Magazine, August 14, 1949 and August 13, 1950
- Akron Beacon Journal 1948, 1950, 1951, 1953
- 1941- (8th) Annual All-American Soap Box Derby Program and Race photo, including Claude Smith of Akron who won the race (2 copies of photo)
- Akron Beacon Journal, 2001

CONSTRUCTION DIRECTIONS

- All American Junior Division Soap Box Derby Kit car
- Soap Box Derby blueprint – Popular Mechanics N.D. 15" x 17"

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL CLIPPINGS – in boxes (size 15 ½” x 12” x 10 ½”)

Box 1: 1933-1951
Box 2: 1952-1964
Box 3: 1965-1977
Box 4: 1978-1999
Box 5: 2000-present

POSTERS AND DRAWINGS INDIVIDUALLY ROLLED IN ARCHIVAL PAPER
(NOT IN A BOX):

POSTER: 1997 60th All American Soap Box Derby, 24”L x 36” W

DESIGN DRAWINGS OF DERBY RACERS:

-2 Drawings:

-“Randy’s 74 Car”, 88” L x 24 ½” W

-also contains duplicate traced pattern inside, 88” L x 13” W

-Side of Derby Racer, “67 Jim’s conventional 60 Tacoma Designs”, 74” L x 13 ½” W

-“65 Santana side view”, 75”L x 16” W

-“Ford Type design, overhead view of bottom board, actual size”, 84” L x 14 ½” W

-“1961 racer”, 18” L x 5 ½” W

-Not labeled, drawing is cut in half, two pieces, 80” L x 15” W

-“Randy Laydown”, 86 ½” L x 21” W

-“Junior Division, 78 N. D. R., J. R.” 35” L x 26” W

-“Bottom side view, 60 Tacoma, 67 Boye”, 86” L x 23” W

-“58 Madison, 1960 West, 67 Boye”, 91” L x 29” W

-“Jim’s Laydown”, 90” L x 42” W

-“Steve Brown 71”, 40 ½” x 30” W

-2 Drawings:

-“Cob cross sections 75, maybe Janer 76 car”, 110” L x 24” W

-also inside, “Steve Brown 71, not car built”, 80” L x 11” W

-Not labeled, drawing is cut in half, two pieces, 80” L x 30” W

-“Oroville side view”, 92 ½” L x 28 ½” W

-2 Drawings:

-“bottom board view of 59 L. A. car”, 80” L x 10 ½” W

-also contains “bottom board over head view 59 L. A. car, fastest heat”,
82 ½” L x 27 ½” W

-“Tacoma design, Jim sitting, side view”, 135” L x 28 ½” W

SERIES IV: PHOTOGRAPHS

DESCRIPTIVE NOTE: SEE ALSO-Fulton Collection Derby photographs and
Subseries: Marzano donation (at bottom of this photograph list.)

BOX 1(size 9" x 11" x 3") (8 x 10): Sheets #1-8

1964 Race and close-up of Racer (Sheets #1A-1B) (**MISSING**)

1965 Race (Sheet #2) (**MISSING**)

1966 Champion Marion Watson, Marion, IN, and Derbytown (Sheets #3A-3B)

1969 Derby (Sheet #4A-4F)

1970 World Champion Samuel Gupton and Derby Race (Sheets #5A-5B)
(**5A MISSING**)

1971 Derby Race and Air Dock in background (Sheets #6A-6B) (**MISSING**)

1972 Derby Race (Sheet #7)

1975 Detroit photo (Sheet #8)

SUBSERIES: JAMES MARZANO DONATION, 1999

BOX 1 (size 9" x 11" x 4 ½"): contains (8 x 10) photographs, including the following years of
Soap Box Derby races, Akron and other national race locations:

1938, 1946-1949, 1950-1959, 1960, 1962-1964, and unidentified

BOX 2 (12" x 6" x 4 ½"): contains 17 (5 x 7) photographs, the following years;

1948, 1956-1957, 1961, 1965, 1969, and unidentified

Also contains 87 (4 x 5) photographs, the following years;

1948, 1956-1959, 1960-1962, 1964-1965, 1967, 1969, and unidentified

SERIES V: FILMS

BOX 1 (size 15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Soap Box Derby Films: 1957, 1961, and one undated.

ADDITIONAL FILMS (NOT IN BOX): 1954-1955, 1958-1959, 1960-1961, 1967

(See also SOAP BOX DERBY FILES below: FOLDER 48)

SERIES VI: SOAP BOX DERBY FILES

DESCRIPTIVE NOTE: See also Subseries: Marzano donation (at bottom of this Files list)

BOX 1 (size 15 ½" x 12" x 10 ½"): Folders 1-39 (of 58)

FOLDERS 1A AND 1B: 1995-Includes Racer Packet for Steven Brown,
Grosse Point, MI

FOLDER 2A AND 2B: 1994-Includes Racing Schedule

FOLDER 3: 1992 Race Week Schedule

FOLDER 4: 1987 Fact Sheet

FOLDER 5: 1986 Topside

FOLDER 6: 1982 Credit Vouchers (**MISSING**)
6A: 1981 Travelhost Magazine with Soap Box Derby photo on cover

FOLDER 7: 1980 Racing List

FOLDER 8: 1978 National Derby Rallies Brochure, racing sheets
8A: 1977 Racing sheets, correspondence and miscellaneous

FOLDER 9: 1976 Ticket, Race Week Schedule, Entrant List, Race Timetable, Race Results Jr. and Sr. Division, Weaver School Heat, Bus Tour Schedule

FOLDERS 10A-10D: 1975-Includes Ticket, General Information and Rules

FOLDER 11: 1974 General Information and Rules

FOLDERS 12A AND 12B: 1972-Includes news and press release, entry form, Derby News

FOLDER 13: 1971 Brochure

FOLDER 14: 1970 Press release

FOLDER 15: 1969 Brochure

FOLDERS 16A-16J: 1968-Includes brochures, official car number list, biographies of champions, newspaper clippings

FOLDERS 17A-17H: 1967-Includes small size 33 ½ rpm record of “Soap Box Derby March,” racing list, press releases, official information, official car number list

FOLDERS 18A-18K: 1966-Includes race times, tickets and badges, official car number list, measurements of winning cars, newspaper clippings

FOLDERS 19A-19I: 1965-Includes time schedules, race times, tickets, rule changes, construction manual, magazine article, newspaper clippings

FOLDERS 20A-20K: 1964-Includes brochure, time schedule, racing list, official racing car number list, newspaper clippings

FOLDERS 21A-21J: 1963-Includes topside, tickets, time schedule, racing list, newspaper clippings, brochure, biographies of champions (**FOLDER 21I MISSING**)

FOLDERS 22A-22G: 1962-Includes time schedule, racing list, official car number list, newspaper clippings, brochure, biographies of champions

FOLDERS 23A-23C: 1961-Includes racing lists, newspaper clippings, brochure

FOLDER 24A-24B: 1960 brochure, newspaper clippings (see also Subseries: Marzano donation, at bottom of list)

FOLDERS 25A-25B: 1959 brochure and newspaper clippings

FOLDER 26: 1958 brochure (see also Subseries: Marzano donation, at bottom of list),
Entry bank

FOLDER 27: 1954, 17th All American Inspection pin

FOLDER 28: 1953, 16th All American Soap Box Derby Coaster

FOLDER 29: 1952 Champion Certificate

29A: 1946, newspaper clipping

29B: 1948, Derbytown News, brochure

FOLDER 30: 1941 Champion's Page Patch, Class A Final Results, ticket

FOLDER 31: 1936 "The Soap Box Derby", by Harry Hartz

FOLDER 32: Speedstar Shell construction plans

FOLDERS 33-37: Includes-souvenir catalog, brochures and racing lists, post card,
all undated

FOLDER 38: Press badges, various years from the 38th-56th Derbies

FOLDER 39: Official Entry Forms, various years from 1958-1972

BOX 2 (15 ½" x 2 ½" x 10 ½"): Folders 39-58

FOLDER 40: Miscellaneous

FOLDERS 41-45: Includes-Junior Jetstar construction plans, How to build a Derby Racer,
part one and part two, brochures

FOLDER 46: Materials on Freddie Mohler, 1953 champ

FOLDER 47: Former Detroit Area Champions (1934-1965) (1934-1975)

FOLDER 48: Films-description, 1960-69

FOLDER 49: Fiberglass Construction, 1966 revision: 1970 revision

FOLDER 50: Fastest Time Record, 1933-1974 (**MISSING**)

FOLDER 51: "Downhill Heroes" 1934-1986 by Ralph Iula and "Soap Box Derby
Continues" 1987-present

FOLDER 52: Design and construction, 1968 revision: 1970 revision

FOLDERS 53-58: Derby prayer, decals, ad, article, Family Rally Rules brochure
(**NO FOLDER 56**)

SUBSERIES: JAMES MARZANO DONATION, 1999

ALSO IN BOX 1 (from above list):

FOLDER 24B: Soap Box Derby clippings, 1960

FOLDER 26B-C: Soap Box Derby brochure and clippings, 1957

JAMES MARZANO DONATION, BOX 1 (size 12 ½" x 2 ½" x 10"):
FOLDERS # 1-15, Marzano correspondence, brochures, etc.

FOLDER 1: Akron Ohio Soap Box Derby (**MISSING**)

FOLDERS 2-4: Correspondence with; Don Huminsky, Stan Howard, Dick Boye
(1990-99)

FOLDER 5: Derbytown brochure (**MISSING**)

FOLDER 6: Derbytown News, August 14, and August 15, 1948 (**MISSING**)

FOLDER 7: Drawings-Soap Box Derby Racers, by Jim Marzano

FOLDER 8: *Hot Rod* Magazine, "Soap Box Speed Secrets", August, 1953

FOLDERS 9-11: Invitations, newspaper clippings, 1955 and 1958
(**FOLDERS 9 AND 11 MISSING**)

FOLDER 12: Western Union telegram

FOLDER 13: *Science and Mechanics*, "Building a Winning Soap Box Racer",
April, 1947

FOLDER 14: Tickets, Soap Box Derby, August 17, 1958; Banquet of Champions,
August 15, 1964 (**MISSING**)

FOLDER 15: Welcome letters (**MISSING**)