

12-1990

## Parents Newsletter

La Salle University

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# Parents' Newsletter

La Salle University  
conducted by the  
Brothers of the Christian Schools  
since 1863

Published by the Parents' Association / La Salle University / Philadelphia PA 19141 December, 1990 Vol. VII No. 1



1991 Parents' Committee: Celeste and Bob Schaefer, Chairpersons

## Parents Enjoy 7th Annual Weekend; Lectures, Concert, Liturgy Popular

Parents' Weekend '90, the seventh annual version of the popular event, involved many at 20th and Olney on Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14, with activities designed to provide La Salle families with a pleasant reunion on campus. Sponsored by the La Salle Parents' Association, the weekend included three meals, a jazz band concert, liturgy, various sports events, and a dialogue with Brother Joseph Burke, FSC, Ph.D., the university's new provost.

As in past years, a highlight of Saturday's schedule was the Parents' College, an opportunity for parents to attend lectures by ten faculty members on various aspects of the teaching/learning dynamic. Three campus bus tours were available during the afternoon session. After the President's

Dinner, hosted by Brother Patrick Ellis, the more than 500 attendees were free to relax or attend the Masque's well-received salute to Tennessee Williams.

Brother Andrew Bartley estimated that "more than 1200 participants helped make the weekend a gratifying success for those who planned or presented." He especially credited the Parents' Committee, under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schaefer, for their work to insure success. Pointing to the overwhelmingly favorable evaluations returned by parents, he remarked that "a positive experience of this nature helps build community and confirms parents in their belief that La Salle University is a place ideally suited to providing their sons and daughters with an excellent education."

## President Notes Release Of Vatican Document About Higher Education

Recent release of the Vatican's constitution on Catholic higher education was praised as "a healthy step forward," by La Salle President Brother Patrick Ellis, who was one of 15 American college administrators selected to attend a conference in April 1989, to discuss the document.

According to Brother Patrick, the document, entitled *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* (from the heart of the Church), stresses the Catholic university's mission of service. "In encouraging students to consider their roles as servants in society is quite a new emphasis; the university used to be thought of as creating the elite in society. The Constitution gives official recognition to the changes already animating Catholic higher education," he said.

Brother mentioned that those involved in higher education should be encouraged by the fact that the document also positively addresses the issue of academic freedom by stating that the university must "possess the institutional autonomy necessary to perform its functions effectively, guaranteeing its members academic freedom, so long as the rights of the person and of the community are preserved within the confines of truth and the common good."

May the true spirit of the  
Christmas Season  
Add peace and joy to your  
world—always  
The Parents' Committee

# Campus Alerted To Increase In Mumps By Health Services

La Salle University joined the ranks of other eastern schools experiencing a significant increase in the occurrence of mumps, a highly contagious disease that can have serious negative effects on college-age students. Campus health authorities have joined in a campaign to alert the community to the need for special attention to this situation.

Before the Thanksgiving break, 22 cases of mumps had been identified on the La Salle University campus. In a series of communications with the community, Rosalea McLemore, RN, BSN, Director of Health Services, reviewed symptoms, dangers, and procedures to be followed to prevent a possibly extensive epidemic of the disease.

Citing the fact that Pennsylvania law forbids those contaminated with the mumps virus to attend class or remain in residence halls, McLemore added a call to responsible action, saying "contaminating others when you know that you have the virus is highly irresponsible and dangerous behavior."

Immunization is the only known way of controlling an outbreak of mumps. To date, more than 150 students have been voluntarily vaccinated through Health Services. McLemore, who expects that the outbreak will continue until the Christmas break, believes that the unseasonably warm weather enabled this traditional spring disease to incubate this fall.

# PAGES FROM THE PAST....

By Brother Thomas Warner

## Department of Civil Engineering THE COURSE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

FRESHMAN CLASS				SENIOR CLASS			
	Course Number	First Term	HOURS Second Term				
ELOCUTION	170	1	1	DEBATE AND ARGUMENT	173	1	1
CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE	220	2	2	NATURAL THEOLOGY	207	2	
ENGLISH	102,105,106	2	2	ETHICS	208,209		2
GERMAN (FRENCH, elective)	130 (120)	2	2	ENGLISH	111,112	1	1
CHEMISTRY	10	2	2	METALLURGY	16	1	
CHEMICAL LABORATORY	11	2	2	CONTRACTS AND SPECIFICATIONS		2	
PHYSICS	180,181	2	2	BUSINESS LAW	2		2
PHYSICAL LABORATORY	182	2	2	RAILWAY ECONOMICS	41	2	
TRIGONOMETRY (LOGARITHMS)	180	3		RAILWAY DESIGN	42		2
ALGEBRA (SLIDE RULE)	183		3	GEODESY	43	2	2
FREEHAND LETTERING	30	2		HYDRAULIC INSTALLATION	57		4
PROJECTION SKETCHING	31	1		ROADS AND PAVEMENTS	60	2	
MECHANICAL DRAWING	32	3		BRIDGES AND BUILDINGS	62	4	
DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY	33	2	2	TRUSS DESIGN	64		3
PLANE SURVEYING	35	3	3	CEMENT TESTING	66	2	
TOPOGRAPHICAL DRAWING	44		2	REINFORCED CONCRETE	68	4	4
STRUCTURAL DRAWING	45		4	MASONRY DESIGN	72	3	
				ASTRONOMY	74	2	
				ENGINES AND BOILERS	75	3	
				REFRIGERATION	76		3
				ELECTRICITY	77	1	2
				INSPECTION VISITS	80	4	
				THESIS	81		6

Engineering at La Salle? Yes, in the early part of the century La Salle College offered an engineering course leading to a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. In the 1915-1916 College Catalog, for example, there are listed two schools within the college: the "Department of Arts" and the "Department of Civil Engineering." Of the 140 course offerings, 48 were in engineering. The courses in Civil Engineering, with their emphasis on roads, railways, bridges and tunnels, were most timely during a period of the nation's dramatic expansion. The railroad was, of course, the chief mode of transportation, but

the mass-produced automobiles and trucks were already coming on the scene. They would create a need for all those roads, highways, bridges and tunnels — and a need for engineers to build them.

Among those who earned the B.S. in C.E. was the esteemed J. Russell Cullen. Mr. Cullen, later to become President of the La Salle Alumni Association and President and Chairman of the Board of Nason and Cullen, whose firm was selected as the general contractor for La Salle University's new Connelly Library, was a most successful engineering graduate.

## A CELEBRATION OF FAMILY: PARENTS' WEEKEND 1990



HERE THEY COME! On the way to dinner.



WELCOME is the word from Brother Patrick.

PARENTS' PROGRAM A FIVE-YEAR RECORD		PARENTS' PROGRAM A FIVE-YEAR RECORD	
Dollars		Donors	
1990	\$69,119	1990	1,007
1989	\$46,393	1989	695
1988	\$64,156	1988	668
1987	\$39,051	1987	506
1986	\$32,756	1986	502

## Parents Top 1990 Annual Fund Goal; Establish \$60,000 For 1991 Campaign

La Salle's Parents' Committee, meeting on Sunday, October 14, reported that parents had contributed significantly to the success of the university's Annual Fund campaign, exceeding their announced goal of \$55,000 by almost \$15,000.

Dr. Fred Foley, Vice President for Development, announced that parents gave \$69,119 in 1990, compared to \$46,393 in 1989. Perhaps even more gratifying, he said, was the fact that 1,007 parents participated, an increase of 312 over the 1989 total.

Encouraged by the report, yet conscious of economic uncertainties, the committee unanimously agreed to establish the parents' goal at \$60,000 for the 1991 campaign. Mr.

Robert Schaefer, Co-chair, cited early solicitation and better follow-up as possible reason for the 48.9% increase in giving.

In addition to financial matters, the parents assessed the various events of Parents' Weekend, formed several sub-committees, and discussed suggestions from other families for improving La Salle University as an educational experience for its students. "The university appreciates the involvement of parents in the life of our community," according to Brother Andrew Bartley, FSC, Coordinator of Parents' activities. "The generosity to and pride in La Salle of our Parents' Committee members contribute to the unique spirit of the La Salle Family," he said.

## Students Assist Needy Through Varied Projects In Community Outreach

As part of La Salle's outreach to the community, members of La Salle's Committee for the Homeless have volunteered for several projects designed to aid the homeless, especially those in the local area. Primary activities involve them in serving at soup kitchens and participating in a program called Habitat for Humanity.

Almost 70 members expressed a willingness to assist at St. Francis Inn, located in Kensington, or St. John's Hospice in center city. Committed to working hand-in-hand with the Philadelphia Committee for the Homeless, La Salle volunteers also directly offer nourishment to street-dwellers.

The Habitat for Humanity program, nationally known, involves volunteers in the construction of housing for those in need of shelter rather than in fund-raising activities in their behalf.

Students are required to sacrifice Saturday free time by donating hours of hard work to achieve worthwhile goals. La Salle's chapter of the Habitat is headed by Joseph McLaughlin, a senior who values the satisfaction one feels "when you can actually see your efforts turning into something—something you can leave behind."

## Fitness Facility Opens

La Salle's South Campus development now includes a physical fitness center adjacent to St. John Neumann Hall, the newest dormitory facility. Officially opened after Thanksgiving, the center will be available without charge to all students, faculty, and administrators.

Mr. Edward Lawless, Director of the Fitness Center, helped plan the design and select the equipment needed to develop what he believes is "one of the nicest student-faculty fitness centers in the east." In expanding fitness services beyond the confines of Hayman Hall, La Salle has responded to the needs of an increasing number of community members interested in personal health and fitness, according to Lawless.

Already equipped with eight Olympic benches, several Nautilus and Paramount machines, and numerous free weights, the center will eventually include computerized stationary bicycles and stair-simulators to add cardio-vascular components to the available supervised programs.

## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE...

In addition to the four Christian Brothers who died during the semester, the following members of the La Salle Family have also entered eternal life

**Elizabeth A. Ellis**  
Mother of Brother Patrick Ellis,  
President of the University

**Kathryn D. Scotti**  
Mother of Kathleen McNichol

**Richard Flaherty**  
Son of Joan Flaherty

**Madeline McManus**  
Mother-in-law of Margaret McManus and mother of James McManus

**Dr. Warren E. Smith**  
Husband of Rosa Lec Smith

**William Halligan**  
Brother of Fr. Raymond Halligan, O.P.

**John Burke**  
Husband of Helen McGinniss Burke

**Dennis Courtney**  
Son of Dr. Robert Courtney

**Vera Berry Edgar Berry**  
Mother and brother of Raymond Berry  
Mother-in-law and brother-in-law of Ellean Berry

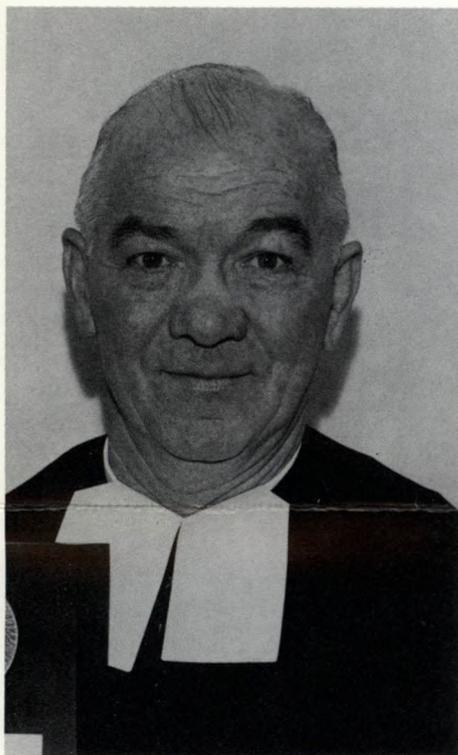
**Robert T. Cornelison**  
Father of Bob Cornelison and father-in-law of Tamara S. Cornelison

**Dr. Gregory Leville**  
Supervisor and teacher in the Graduate Pastoral Counseling Program

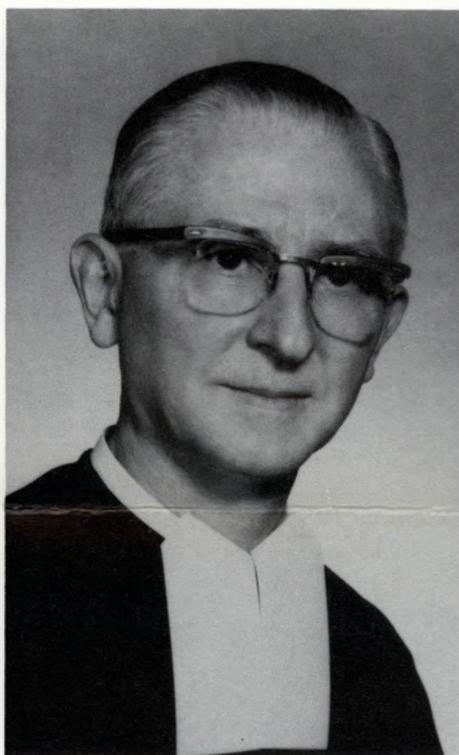
**Elizabeth Fox**  
Mother of John Malone and grandmother of Sarah Malone

**Robert Murphy**  
Computer Science/Math, '84

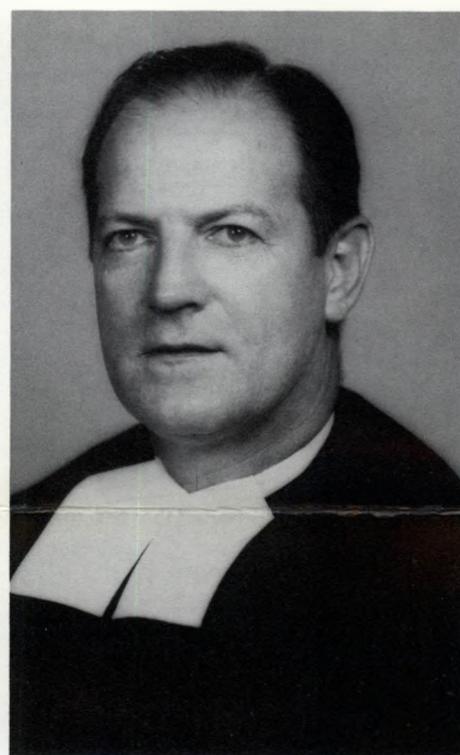
# La Salle Mourns Loss Of 4 Christian Brothers



Brother Anthony Wallace, FSC



Brother Paul Sprissler, FSC



Brother David Pendergast, FSC

The entire La Salle community paused to mourn the deaths of four Christian Brothers who contributed significantly to the excellent reputation of the university. Brother D. Thomas Gimbom, FSC, Ph.D. died on Friday, September 14 at the age of 84; Brother Anthony Wallace, FSC, D.Ed. died on Friday, October 26 at the age of 80; Brother G. Paul Sprissler, FSC, Ph.D., President Emeritus of La Salle College, died a day later at the age of 83; Brother David Pendergast, FSC, M.Sc., died November 11 at the age of 75. In separate services held at the De La Salle Chapel, all four men were remembered for their lives of dedicated service as educators.

Brother Thomas received his Masters in Religious Studies from Notre Dame and a Ph.D. from Catholic University in the Classics, Latin and Greek. After arriving on campus in 1935, Brother Thomas obtained the notable distinction of being the only faculty member to be a professor in four different departments: the classics, German, philosophy and religion. He was chairman of the religion department from 1960 to 1965, as well as head of the maintenance department. He was devoted to the Bible, and continued to teach a foundation course in the Bible in his later years.

Brother Anthony, nationally prominent for his work on numerous councils and committees, served as associate professor of education at La Salle (1938-43 and 1971-77), chairing the department from 1958 to 1962. In 1973 he became the first Catholic educator to be honored with a Distinguished Achievement Award by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

He taught summer courses at Villanova University, and was regarded as an expert in the accreditation process for both elementary and secondary schools. A lifelong interest in athletics continued in Brother Anthony's retirement years, as he offered support and encouragement to many members of various Explorer teams.

Brother Paul earned a doctorate in chemistry at Catholic University in 1942. He became dean of La Salle College in 1944 and was named President the following year. His term of office, coinciding with the influx of World War II veterans, became a period of remarkable population growth and facility expansion. He presided over the beginning of the Evening Division (1946), later serving as its dean. A member of the American Chemical Society and many other professional organizations, Brother Paul was listed in both *American Men of Science* and *Who's Who in the East*. After resigning

as president, Brother Paul continued to serve La Salle as professor of chemistry and consultant to the Physical Plant Department.

Brother David, who spent almost 50 years at La Salle, served as the first Dean of the School of Business and as Publicity Director during the Tom Gola era of Explorer basketball supremacy. After retiring as dean in 1969, he became director of educational services at La Salle's computer center, where he was responsible for class scheduling, registration and other data processing. A native of Orange, N.J., Brother David graduated from La Salle in 1938 with a degree in mathematics. From 1941 to 1948 he served as principal of La Salle College High School.

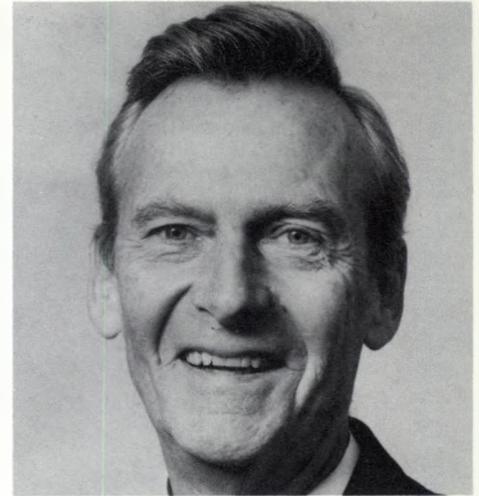
Brother Patrick Ellis, FSC, current President of the university, reviewed the accomplishments of these men as "uniquely different in scope, yet remarkably similar in competence and dedication." "La Salle University," he said, "was indeed enriched by the presence of these gifted and generous Christian educators whose memory should encourage us to continue their legacy of excellence."

# Open House Beckons Future Explorers



La Salle University presented its 37th annual Open House on Sunday, November 4, 1990 to a campus overflowing with prospective students and their families. Sponsored by the Student Government As-

sociation, the day provided numerous variations on the theme "Expanding on Excellence," calling attention to the obvious growth evident almost everywhere: academically, aesthetically, and athletically. Featuring something for every member of visiting families, the full program offered tours, music, games, displays, and gifts. Of special interest were the food samples available at various exhibits, including those of the modern language department and various international clubs. Brother Gerald Fitzgerald, FSC, Director of Admissions, praised the work of the SGA in making the day "a special outreach to so many already considering La Salle University as a desirable place for expanding on excellence in their own lives."



*Brother Emery Mollenhauer, F.S.C.*

## Brother Emery Honored For Service To School

Brother Emery Mollenhauer, FSC, was a principal honoree at the fall Honors Convocation, Saturday, October 20 in the Union Ballroom. The program, intended to honor students who had earned Dean's List status, provided an appropriate forum for honoring an educator who served as the university's chief academic officer for many of his more than 30 years of service to La Salle.

Brother Emery received the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters and an award for distinguished service from the Sears Foundation. Cited by Brother Patrick Ellis, FSC, President, for "the insight and inspiration" he offered others, Brother Emery responded to being honored with some views on "Our LaSallian Heritage," a topic he has explored for many years.

In his acceptance speech, Brother Emery congratulated the honored students for their accomplishments saying, "you, after all, are the reasons for the existence of both La Salle University and the Christian Brothers." He went on to identify key elements in the mission and heritage of the university and upon the unique qualities of La Salle as a community.

Currently on sabbatical from the university, Brother Emery is spending the first semester doing research and attending classes at Manhattan, New York. His tentative second semester plans include similar activities at St. Mary's, California. If he decides to resume his distinguished teaching career here, he would return to La Salle next fall.



*DOORS OPEN to welcome La Salle parents.*

## Explorer teams contend for MAAC supremacy; Harriers repeaters as conference champions

La Salle athletes remain competitive in almost every sport offered by the MAAC. Already the La Salle men's cross country team successfully defended its championship status by edging the Iona Gaels through placing five runners in the top twenty finishers. Bob Ilik finished first for La Salle in capturing seventh place. In the women's section, La Salle placed third despite losing Sheila Regan, their top runner, through injury. The men's soccer team, after a good season, lost to eventual champions, Loyola of Baltimore.

Expectations remain high for successful seasons for both the men's and women's swim teams. With the departure of Army to another conference, La Salle seems poised to challenge for dual titles. The men, lead by Mike Travers and Eric Buhain, and the women, paced by Cindy Meehan and Chris O'Connor, should lead the way to the MAAC and Eastern Seaboard championships.



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## PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

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### Frosh Begin Service after Their Election to SGA Membership

Five freshmen were recently elected to represent their class as members of the Student Government Association. Stephen Cusano, Kathleen Howley, Chrissy Mancini, David Martin, and Melissa Rebl have already assumed responsibilities within the SGA.

The new senators, elected from among 16 candidates, were the choices of approximately 20 percent of their classmates who this year were given three additional weeks to identify potential leaders. They will experience a modified formal orientation program while immersing themselves in SGA's hectic calendar of events.

Cusano (Archbishop Ryan), Howley (Hallahan), Mancini (Norristown), and Martin (Archbishop Carroll) are all business majors; Rebl (Gwynedd Mercy) is the lone liberal arts major among the electees. All were expected to assist with preparations for Open House and all hoped to "make a difference," for the La Salle community by their involvement.

### Art Museum Offers Quality Exhibits

The La Salle University Art Museum continued its series of special exhibitions with a showing of recent acquisitions titled "Paintings and Prints." Covering the 17th through 20th centuries, the exhibit was scheduled to run from Thanksgiving to January 20, 1991.

The museum, considered one of the area's finest, is open Tuesdays through Fridays between 11 and 4, and on Sundays between 2 and 4. It is located in the lower level of Olney Hall, 20th Street at Olney Avenue. For information about the exhibit, call Caroline Wistar at 951-1221. →

One of the Art Museum's recent acquisitions is a portrait of David Gelston by Charles Willson Peale, one of America's foremost colonial portrait painters. The simplified, direct yet elegant work is a good example of the American style: an unidealized, accurate likeness, yet one which subtly suggests the sitter's professional and social status. Peale's house "Belfield" is now a National Historical Landmark adapted to administrative use by La Salle University.

