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Summer 1991

### The La Salle Explorer, Vol. 6 No. 6

La Salle University

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# The LA SALLE EXPLORER

VOL. VI No. 6

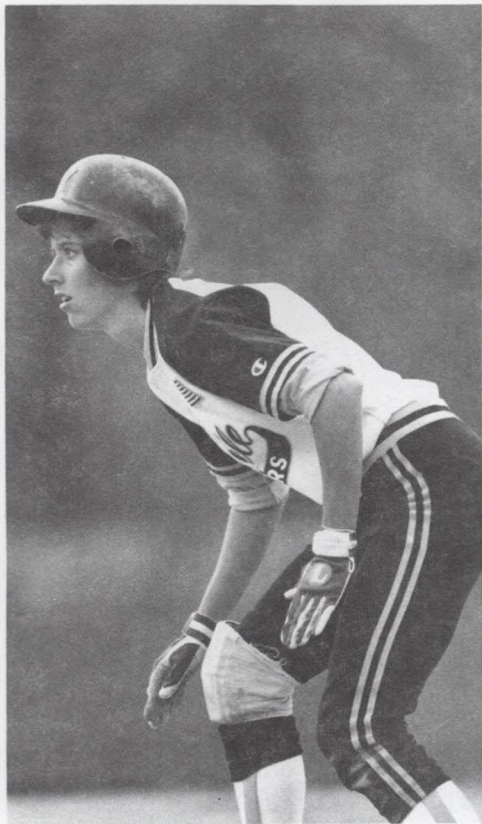


Summer 1991

## McGrath Rewrites La Salle Softball Records

Senior Mary McGrath has taken her last at bat as a La Salle Explorer, but her career is not one that will be quickly forgotten. McGrath spent a prolific four years on the diamond, establishing herself as one of the best players to ever don the Blue and Gold.

From the moment she arrived at La Salle, McGrath assumed the role of starting centerfielder. The move has paid dividends for both La Salle and McGrath. In her four years the Explorer record was 95-84-1, including two Metro Atlantic



McGrath capped her career by leading the nation in triples average.

Athletic Conference Championships and one Eastern College Athletic Conference Tournament appearance. McGrath's batting average has steadily increased each year along with her production. In the last release of the NCAA Division I softball stats she was ranked ninth in the nation with a .442 batting average. But McGrath's biggest claim to fame this season is her place as the national leader in triples average. In 47 games she belted out 12 triples for a 0.26 per game average.

Offensively, McGrath led the team in nearly every category this year. Aside from batting average she was tops in hits (65), runs scored (46), doubles (9), triples (12), homeruns (4) and walks (15). Her slugging percentage was an overwhelming .748. This inflated production was also evident in the MAAC Tournament at Niagara University, earning her MAAC All-Tournament honors for the third consecutive year.

After four years of such statistical domination, McGrath has made her name a common occurrence on the pages of both the La Salle and NCAA record books. Her biggest milestone at La Salle is her hit total of 193, eclipsing Cecelia Campbell's old record of 137. It appears as though this record will be around for some time to come. Also to McGrath's credit are three other career records and four season records. Going beyond the recognition at 20th and Olney, McGrath has carved her name into the national ranks. Prior to the 1991 season she was 14th in career homeruns (16), second in runs batted in for an individual game (8) and fourth in total bases for an individual game (10) in NCAA Division I competition.

Seventeen-year Explorer Head Coach Rick Pohlig agrees that he has definitely lost one of La Salle's finest. "Statistically, I'd have to say that Mary was one of the best players to ever play for me," said Pohlig. "She was just a tremendous athlete and person who always displayed a unique competitiveness for the game." A new offensive philosophy is already on the drawing board for 1992.

## La Salle Heavyweight Four Wins Dad Vail Gold

The victor's gold has found its way around the necks of a La Salle University heavyweight four crew team once again. As the banks of the Schuylkill overflowed with 65,000 cheering spectators and alumni, the La Salle boat raced home in a time of 7:21.35 to claim the Dad Vail men's heavyweight four title. Not since 1958 has a heavyweight boat from La Salle made it to the top in this regatta of North America's elite.



All Gold—John Fitzpatrick, Austin Kuebler, Tim Curran, Dan Hoover and Russ Mellott.

On their way to ultimate victory the four man boat of bowman Russ Mellott, Dan Hoover, Austin Kuebler, stroke John Fitzpatrick and coxswain Tim Curran never held back. Day one's agenda featured the head race—a qualifying race where boats are selected to advance on basis of time alone. The Explorer team went up against boats from 46 other schools and clubs, surfacing to the top with the number one time of 6:38.5. Now pared down to just 12 boats, La Salle advanced to the semi-final race. The result was victory again, as the Explorer four surged out to defeat their nearest competitor by a margin of seven seconds.

Continued on page 2



## Cole Headlines Spring Academic Success

Three La Salle University athletes are proof that academics and athletics can be combined to make a recipe equaling success. Sophomores Jennifer Cole, Kelli McGahey and Martin Lewin have all been recognized for their ability to balance both worlds.

Cole, the starting catcher on the Explorer softball team, received the highest honor by being named to the GTE CoSIDA District II All-Academic softball team. To be named to this team an athlete must have earned a grade point average of 3.20 or higher while combining this with all-star athletic credentials. Cole did all this and more. In the classroom she majored in chemistry and ran up a 3.81 G.P.A. After joining the softball team at the conclusion of basketball season, Cole started every



Jennifer Cole

game behind the plate and committed just one error for a .995 fielding mark. At the plate she batted at a .272 clip, knocking in 15 RBIs. She was also named to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference All-Academic softball team. On the Explorer hardwood Cole is a standout guard who will be La Salle's top returning player. She averaged 14.8 ppg this past season to earn All-MAAC and All-Philadelphia Big 5 second team honors. Cole is now a candidate for the national GTE Academic All-American team which will be announced June 3. She lives in Valparaiso, Indiana.

McGahey earned her way onto the MAAC All-Academic team by virtue of a 3.10 G.P.A. in business and for her impressive credentials as the rightfielder on the softball team. She took a starting role in all 47 of La Salle's games and batted a hefty .313, third on the team. McGahey's power

at the plate was also demonstrated by her .440 slugging percentage that included five doubles, four triples and two homeruns. Another area of expertise for McGahey are the basepaths. She was perfect in the base swiping category, taking 12 in 12 attempts. Like Cole, McGahey is only a softball moonlighter, having come to La Salle on a field hockey scholarship. She was the team's leading scorer for the past two seasons and was voted to the 1990 Mid-Atlantic Regional All-Star team. McGahey attended Bishop Eustace and is a native of Blackwood, NJ.

Lewin, a two-year starter at the shortstop position, was named to the MAAC All-Academic baseball team. Off the diamond he registered a 3.20 G.P.A. as a psychology major, while batting .303 this season (third on the team). His overall totals fell short of his potential due to a mid-season injury that cost him eight games. Lewin hails from Cherry Hill, NJ.



Kelli McGahey



Martin Lewin

## Dad Vail Gold

*Continued from page 1*

Now the stage was set for the Saturday afternoon final. Six teams would be vying for the Dad Vail gold: La Salle, Fordham, Bucknell, Washington, Trent and Loyola. Head Coach Pete Sigmund readied his team as they were about to measure their whole season in one race. Putting their undefeated record on the line, La Salle met the challenge. It was a slow race, but the Blue and Gold easily held off the pack to take the sweetest of victories in a time of 7:21.35. Fordham was the next boat to cross the finish line at 7:27.13.

Sigmund captured the feeling best by saying, "It was the best day of my crew life. To win gold at the Dad Vails with 1,000 La Salle alum there to share the excitement, it was just an incredible experience." Sharing in the enthusiasm was crew alumnus Tim Reagan, currently the Assistant Director of Alumni at La Salle. "It was nice to see that a small program backboned by alumni support could make such an impressive showing." La Salle crew is back on the map!

*Thank You  
to the following La Salle Corporate Sponsors*



## Explorer Notes . . .

### Basketball

Basketball Captain/graduate Doug Overton had his high school number (11) retired by Dobbins Tech (Philadelphia). La Salle coach "Speedy" Morris attended the ceremony, which also saw numbers retired for Bo Kimble (Loyola Marymount), Linda Page (North Carolina State), Horace Owens (Rhode Island) and Dawn Staley (Virginia).

La Salle senior-to-be Jack Hurd will join a team of National Invitation Tournament All-Stars on a trip to Belgium and Germany. The tour will take place August 1-15.

Milko Lieverst, the Explorers' 6-9 center, is spending part of the summer in his native Netherlands, where he will try out for the Netherlands National team in preparation for the 1992 Olympics.

### Softball

Girls High pitching standout Heather Sudul has committed herself to La Salle next fall. Sudul ran up a record of 9-1 with two saves, while allowing a stingy 0.83 ERA. She also owns a powerful bat, hitting at a .650 clip from the number three spot.

### Baseball

From Bench to Bookkeeper to Ball Player . . . Perhaps the biggest success story on the baseball diamond this season was that of freshman Doug LeVien (Brooklyn, NY). LeVien made his way onto the team as the bookkeeper, but when the Explorers experienced some mid-season woes, Coach Gene McDonnell gave him his chance. Doug proved to be a solid centerfielder and responded offensively by whacking triples his first two trips to the plate. From that point on, LeVien never relinquished his starting role, and finished the season batting .275.

In other hardball news, sophomore first baseman Dan Karbach (Cherry Hill, NJ) was voted to the All-MAAC baseball team. Karbach started all forty games for the Explorers while batting .259 with 26 RBI's.

### Women's Basketball

Head Coach John Miller has announced that seniors Mimi Harris and Laura Reigstad and junior Jenny McGowan will serve as tri-captains for the 1991-92 season. Last season Harris ran the point contributing 6.1 assists per game while Reigstad averaged 5.3 points per game from the forward position. McGowan played five games and then redshirted the remainder of the season for medical purposes.

### Track

Sprinter John Hunter (so., King of Prussia, PA) ran away from last week's IC4A meet at James Madison University with All-East honors. Hunter's medal-winning performances in the 100 and 200, with times of 10.66 and 21.66 respectively, earned him fifth place finishes in both events. His time in the 200 was his best ever in the event, while his fifth in the 100 came after setting another personal record in the trials with a time of 10.59.

In other competition, Explorer senior Dave Thompson's (Baltimore, MD) height of 6'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " landed him a sixth place tie in the high jump. Thompson's performance was also a personal best. Teammate Tom Schwind (jr., Chalfont, PA) turned in a fifteenth place showing in the 10,000 with a time of 32.05. La Salle's 4x400 relay team also combined for a tenth place finish. Chris Donato (so., Pottstown, PA), Ed Kelleher (fr., Philadelphia, PA), Eric Mobley (so., Philadelphia, PA), and Mark McCall (so., Philadelphia, PA) clocked their best time of the season with a 3.14.12 finish. McCall also qualified for and competed in the 400, but did not place.

### Golf

In an effort to qualify for the NCAA golf championships, two Explorers travelled to Hogs Neck, Maryland to compete in the District II Easterns. Leon Kasperski's (sr., Philadelphia, PA) rounds of 76 and 80 (156) earned him the twenty-nine spot in a field of ninety golfers. Teammate Brian Shaw (jr., Dublin, Ireland) was close behind with a forty-first place finish, stroking rounds of 81 and 77 (158).

## La Salle Captures Seventh Commissioner's Cup

The final results of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference's 15 championship events are in and La Salle University has been crowned the victor in a lop-sided Commissioner's Cup race. The cup is awarded as a symbol of overall excellence within the MAAC championship structure.

The Explorers finished with a total of 111 points—an overwhelming 37.5 points ahead of second place Manhattan, Fairfield, Canisius and St. Peter's. This is the seventh time that La Salle has won the cup in the eight years that they have been a MAAC institute. In 1990 the Explorers finished second to Fordham by a margin of 5.5 points.

In the individual men's and women's race La Salle also claimed victory. The women ran up a total of 47.5 points to edge out the 41 points of second-place Canisius and Fairfield, while the men had a winning total of 63.5 points to hold off Iona (51.5).

On the way to capturing these three cups La Salle won individual titles in men's cross country, men's swimming, women's swimming and men's basketball (1st place tie with Siena). Second place victories were registered in men's

soccer, volleyball, men's indoor track, women's indoor track and baseball.

The rest of the field finished as follows: Canisius, Fairfield, Manhattan, and St. Peter's (73.5), Siena (72.0), Iona (69.0), Loyola (66.0) and Niagara (44.5).



*The men's swimming team captured their sixth MAAC Championship.*



# 1991 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Commissioner's Cup Standings FINAL

SCHOOL	GLF	WTN	MTN	MCC	WCC	SOC	VOL	INTK	MSW	WSW	WBB	MBB	SB	BASE	TOTAL
1. La Salle	7.0	2.0	5.5	10.0	7.0	8.0	16.0	10.0	6.0	9.0	6.5	6.0	111.0		
2. Manhattan	2.0	3.0	4.0	6.0	8.0	6.5	1.0	20.0	—	4.0	5.0	5.0	6.5	2.5	73.5
Fairfield	6.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	6.5	7.0	—	5.0	6.0	10.0	2.0	10.0	9.0	73.5
Canisius	1.0	6.0	7.0	7.0	10.0	4.0	6.0	11.5	4.0	—	4.0	1.0	8.0	4.0	73.5
St. Peter's	4.0	7.0	5.5	4.0	5.0	2.5	10.0	11.0	3.0	3.0	7.0	6.5	2.5	2.5	73.5
6. Siena	8.0	8.0	2.0	3.0	6.0	5.0	2.0	10.5	—	—	8.0	9.0	4.5	6.0	72.0
7. Iona	5.0	5.0	10.0	8.0	—	1.0	3.0	7.0	8.0	5.0	2.0	6.5	2.5	6.0	69.0
8. Loyola	10.0	10.0	8.0	2.0	2.0	10.0	5.0	—	7.0	8.0	1.0	3.0	—	—	66.0
9. Niagara	3.0	—	—	5.0	3.0	2.5	4.0	—	6.0	7.0	3.0	4.0	4.5	2.5	44.5

The La Salle Explorer was written by Dawn Wright, Assistant Sports Information Director. Explorer Notes contributed by Bob Vetrone and Shannon O'Shea student assistant. Photography by Martha Ledger, La Salle News Bureau.

**La Salle University**  
**Explorer News**  
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