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The

LA SALLE EXPLORER

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JUNE/JULY 1994

BASEBALL SLIDES...SOFTBALL SHINES IN SPRING SPORTS WRAP-UP

by Colleen Corace

Spring sports seasons seem to come and go in a blink of an eye. Perhaps the baseball team wished it never came at all. The squad never seemed to get into full swing. They ended a sporadic year with a 10-36 overall record. Of the 10 wins, three came over MCC opponents. One of the highlights of the season was the play of senior *Doug LeVien* who led the team in batting (.324) and at one point was on a 22-game hitting streak. For his exceptional play, *LeVien* was named to the All-MCC Second Team. However, the future looks bright with freshmen like *Brian Schaller* who earned MCC All-Newcomer team honors. *Schaller* also batted .297 and led the team in runs, hits, triples and homers.

By contrast, head softball coach Ray Perri and his young squad were a little more successful, as they finished their season at the .500 mark (25-25). Much of the credit for the 25 wins can be attributed to the consistent play of a few individuals. Freshman *Kristen Biddle* led the team in batting (.325), while *Jen Bostak* led the Explorers with 57 hits and 30 runs. *Biddle* was named to the MCC All-Newcomer Team along with teammate *Jen Reuter* and *Bostak* was named to the All-MCC First Team. First baseman *Leah Gontarz* earned Second Team All-MCC honors. Senior pitcher *Heather Sudul* had 25 RBI's to lead the team in that category and also had 118 strikeouts for an ERA of 1.58.

On the links, La Salle's golf team participated in three tournaments during the spring. They opened at the Loyola Invitational where *Mark Iatarola* was La Salle's top finisher with his round of 80. Then the Explorers met local rivals St. Joseph's and Penn at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. The match was extremely close with La Salle coming out on top by beating the Hawks by one stroke and the Quakers by three. *Chris Sivak* led the way with his 73 and *Mark Sheehan* and *Eric McNamee* shot 75 and 78 respectively. The golf

team closed out their spring season in the Rutherford Intercollegiate at Penn State. *Sivak* was La Salle's top qualifier with his three day total of 238.

Moving onto the courts, the men's tennis team started their spring season by defeating Coppin State, but just as a spectator would follow the ball back and forth during a match, so did La Salle's record move back and forth between wins and losses. The Explorers lost to Penn, but beat St. Joseph's. They also fell to Delaware and Villanova, but downed Wagner. La Salle also lost to Towson State, but closed out the season with back-to-back victories over Rider and Drexel. *Anthony Russo* accumulated the most individual wins with 14 to his credit and *John McGinty* also made a strong showing with his 11 wins.

The men's and women's outdoor track season kicked off at the Raleigh Relays in North Carolina. The men's 4x1500 captured third and the women's 4x1500 took fifth. *Joe Cranston* placed fourth and *Terri Lewandowski* finished first in the 1500 meters, while *Jen Quigley* claimed second in the 800 meter run. The Explorers also competed in meets at Penn, Rider, Princeton and hosted a triangular meet with St. Joseph's and Villanova. At Rider, both the men and the women finished second overall with many exceptional individual performances. *Cranston* and *Lewandowski* again claimed first in the 1500 meters and *Quigley* recorded a first in the 800. *Steve Nyce* took first in the shot put and *Bridget Carney* captured first place in the 100 meter. A number of men qualified for IC4A's, but *Quigley* was the only woman to qualify for ECAC's.

Finally down on the Schuylkill River, the men's and women's crew team rowed their way to some fine finishes. La Salle participated in the Kerr, Murphy and Bergen Cups and the renown Dadvail Regatta.



"BUCK'S BOX" by Bob Vetrone

Did you know...

Beginning on August 15, 1977, a column appeared in the Philadelphia Bulletin and later the Philadelphia Daily News called "Buck the Bartender". For 15 years, through December 23, 1992 the popular column was written by veteran Philadelphia sportswriter/broadcaster Bob Vetrone. Since 1990, Bob has tooled his trade as one of La Salle's Assistant Sports Information Directors. As Editor of the Explorer News, Bob is resurrecting the spirit of his former column in a feature called "Buck's Box".

Readers are invited to submit items or trivia questions, pertaining to La Salle University athletics. Send them to:

"Buck's Box"
La Salle University Athletics
1900 West Olney Avenue - Box 805
Philadelphia, PA 19141

IN FAST COMPANY

Coach Charles Torpey's track team received national notice with a 4x1,500 time of 15:31.31, the 10th best in the country this past season.

The Explorer foursome consisted of freshman Brian Gallagher, junior Joe Cranston, senior Robert Forberger, and freshman Troy Harry.

RUCH'S RUT. . .BUT GOOD

If you're a follower of marathon runs, this may not be too obscure a fact for you, but did you know....?

In the 1994 Broad Street Run, Kevin Ruch, a runner from La Salle University, '86, finished third with a time of 49:47. So?

Ruch has been in six of these Broad Street journeys, He has finished in succession -- second, third, second, third, second and third, this year.

Now, that's consistency.

IN CASE YOU WONDERED...

During La Salle University's 1994 baseball season, senior outfielder Doug LeVien hit in 22 consecutive games before being stopped by Lafayette on April 22.

So, you wondered: Who holds the NCAA Division I record in that category?

You need wonder no more.

In 1987, current major leaguer Robin Ventura, while playing for the Arizona State Sun Devils, hit safely in 58 games in a row.

DOWN BY THE RIVER

One of the highlights of the spring crew season is the La Salle Invitational on the Cooper River, in (take your choice) Pennsauken or Camden, NJ. In the 1994 regatta, on April 9th, 22 crews took part and plans are underway to make it even a bigger social event in 1995.

One idea is to add a picnic atmosphere for students, alumni and friends of La Salle -- sort of a mini-Dad Vail type of thing. Sean Drea, the crew coach, and Dr. Jim Kelly, the crew moderator, are open to suggestions. Sean's number is (215) 951-1869 if you care to join in something that could become a major social happening for all Explorers. Stay tuned.

PAULL TO LEAD GALLAGHER CLUB

Former La Salle basketball star George Paull '67 has been named head of the Gallagher Club. Paull succeeds Jack McMemanin who guided the club for the past two seasons. The club, dedicated to the support of La Salle men's and women's basketball, is named in honor of the late Dr. Eugene Gallagher '48. Dr. Gallagher was an avid fan and former team physician who passed away at courtside during the closing minutes of La Salle's 1974 Sugar Bowl Tournament victory.

In his three year career, Paull scored 1,016 points (13.7 points per game). Paull led the Explorers in field goal percentage during his sophomore and senior years.

Membership dues are just \$25.00 per year. For more membership information call Tim McNamara at (215)951-1535 or George Paull at (215)548-0840.



DORMAN NAMED WOMEN'S SOCCER COACH

Craig Dorman, who had been assistant women's coach at La Salle University since 1989, has taken over as head coach. Dorman replaces Betty Ann Kempf, who started the Explorers' program in 1986 and was named head coach at Seton Hall University last spring.

In announcing the appointment, director of athletics Bob Mullen said: "We are pleased that we are able to retain a person with the wealth of experience that Craig brings to the job. The continuity that he provides is a welcomed bonus."

Prior to joining the La Salle staff, Dorman was an assistant at Villa Joseph Marie High (Yardley, PA) and the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association State Select Team. He was head coach of the Keystone State Select Team and is licensed by the United States Soccer Federation as a referee and coach.

THE TRAIN AND THE BOSS - A GREAT COMBINATION

You don't usually link Lionel Simmons and Bruce Springsteen in the same paragraph but these two men with charitable instincts have crossed paths, in a fashion.

Simmons, La Salle University's all-time basketball scoring leader and the third highest in the NCAA's Division I with 3,217 points, grew up at 3rd st. and Washington ave., in the South Philly projects. Much of his early basketball education was acquired at the Sacks Playground, just a few blocks away and, in fact, the L Train still sponsors a summer league there.

Where does The Boss, from Freehold, N.J., fit into this? He did a video -- "Streets of Philadelphia" -- in conjunction with the award-winning movie, "Philadelphia." Part of the video was shot at the Sacks Playground, and as reported by Stu Bykofsky in the Philadelphia Daily News, Springsteen learned there were some things that were in desperate need of repair.

Springsteen instructed his company, Thrill Hill Foundation, to donate money to help with those repairs. Sure enough, the playground received a check for \$45,000, and Lionel, way out west with the Sacramento Kings during the NBA season, was happy to hear that the money will go toward the playground's repairs and improved lighting for the court, where he conducts clinics and sponsors that league in his old neighborhood.

AN EX-EXPLORER AND HIS LITTLE EXPLORERS

The way it usually happens at the La Salle University's Hall of Athletes dinner is this:

A former teammate, or designated presenter, reads off the athlete's accomplishments, the recipient goes to the podium and ex-teammates and others at the dinner give her or him a standing ovation.

For former soccer star Vince Kelly (Class of '78), it was a little different at last year's banquet. A tableful of youngsters joined the standing ovation and were as enthusiastic as any alum.

These were the Marlton Outlaws, the under-12 team Vince coaches in South Jersey. To even the most jaded banquet-goer, it was a treat and might have even brought a tear to a few of the diners.

"I've been coaching youth teams a few years," said Kelly, a Territory Manager for Honeywell, Inc., "and it was quite a thrill that they were able to see me inducted into the Hall of Athletes."

It was also a special thrill for one of the Outlaws, Vince's son, Ryan, who is on the under-12 team that benefits from the experience their coach accumulated in his own career at Philadelphia's Cardinal Dougherty High and La Salle.



Several inquiries have been made as to how a former La Salle athlete or coach gets into the Hall of Athletes. There is a committee, of course, and that committee is always seeking nominations. But especially in the case of athletes from many years ago, there isn't always a whole lot of material from which to draw. So, if you wish to recommend someone, gather some information and contact Alumni Director Jim McDonald (215) 951-1535.

This year's inductees will be the entire 1980 field hockey team, which captured the national AIAW title. The date is Oct. 7, in the Union Ballroom on campus, and for information, call the La Salle University Alumni Office, (215) 951-1535



The **La Salle Explorer** is a publication of the La Salle University department of intercollegiate athletics

EDITOR: Robert Vetrone, Sr.
Contributors: Colleen Corace, Howard Pachasa, and Sue Senner

Athletic Department Directory

Robert Mullen	Director
Tom Meier	Associate Director
Kathy Mc Nally	Assistant Director
Howard Pachasa	Assistant Director/ Sports Information Director
Peter D'Orazio	Intramural Director/ Ticket Manager

Telephone Directory (215 area code)

Administrative Office:	951-1516
Sports Information Office:	951-1605
Sports Information FAX:	951-1694
Ticket Office:	951-1999

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS FOR LA SALLE ATHLETICS

Aug. 27 - La Salle trip to Veterans Stadium PHILLIES vs. COLORADO ROCKIES. (Call Ed Turzanski, 215 951-1391).

Oct. 7 Hall of Athletes Dinner, honoring La Salle's 1980 national championship FIELD HOCKEY team, Union Ballroom on campus. (Contact Jim McDonald, Alumni Office, 215 951-1535).

TBA - Gallagher Club MEET THE TEAMS Night (men's and women's basketball). New President George Paull will set the date along with coaches "Speedy" Morris and John Miller

TBA - BLUE CHIP DINNER in Union Ballroom (contact Tom Meier (215) 951-1516.

La Salle University Explorer News

1900 West Olney Avenue - Box 805
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19141