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Alumni Association Newsletter: September 1967

La Salle University

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REV. LEON SULLIVAN TO RECEIVE SIGNUM FIDEI MEDAL

Reverend Leon Sullivan, pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia and founder of the Opportunities Industrialization Center, has been chosen to be the twenty-sixth recipient of the Alumni Association's annual Signum Fidei medal. He will receive the award at a dinner on campus October 7.

The Opportunities Industrialization Center (O.I.C.) has received national attention as a successful program for teaching trades and raising the horizons of the poor and culturally deprived, particularly the ghetto-bound negro.

Founded in 1942, the "Signum Fidei" medal derives its name from the motto of the Brothers of the Christian Schools -- "Sign of Faith." It is given by the Alumni Association to recognize personal achievements in harmony with the established aims of La Salle College and the objectives of the Brothers, and is awarded annually to a person who has made "most noteworthy contributions to the Advancement of Christian principles." Reverend Sullivan was selected by a committee of Alumni under the chairmanship of H. Peter Gillingham, '49.

The Signum Fidei dinner, to which alumni and friends are invited, will be held in the Ballroom at 8 P.M. on October 7. Tickets are $6.00 and may be purchased by sending a check or money order to the Alumni Office, La Salle College, Philadelphia, Pa. 19141.

DOWNTOWN CLUB OPENS WITH MAYORALITY CONTESTANTS

The Alumni's Downtown Club will open its fifth season on September 13 at the Adelphia Hotel, 13th and Chestnut Streets, at 12:30 P.M. The first speaker will be District Attorney Arlen Specter, the Republican candidate for mayor of Philadelphia. He will be followed at the second luncheon on October 18 by Democratic candidate Mayor James H. J. Tate.

It will be a return engagement for each man. Specter appeared September 15, 1965 when he was running for the office he now holds. Mayor Tate addressed the Downtown Club on May 20, 1964.

Subsequent luncheons will be held usually on the third Wednesday of the month. However, there is no luncheon scheduled for December, and a second annual joint luncheon with St. Joseph's Alumni is being planned for January.

Those interested in being placed on the Club's mailing list should call the Alumni Office, VI-8-8300, ext. 288.

RODDEN TO BE HONORED BY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Daniel J. Rodden, professor of English, 13 year director of the Masque and founder-managing director of the College's acclaimed Summer Music Theatre, will be honored at a testimonial dinner at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on Saturday evening, October 28 at 7:30 P.M.

An alumnus of the Class of 1941, Rodden received a Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degree from Catholic University in 1949 and returned to La Salle that year to teach in the English department. He guided the fortunes of the campus theatre group from 1953 until 1966. In 1962 he instituted the "Music Theatre", presenting professional musical comedy productions each summer on campus. The venture has been enthusiastically received by critics and public alike. (Continued on Page 4.)
The fourth annual Homecoming Week-end will be held November 17 through 19, the same week-end chosen by the student body for the Tap Off Rally. The innovation was announced by Alumni President Daniel H. Kane, '49, who also designated James J. Kenyon, '63, general chairman of the Week-end. The Friday night Stag Reunion and the Saturday evening dinner-dance continue as the main alumni attractions, chaired by Raymond P. Loftus, '65, and J. Russell Cullen, '60, respectively. Thomas J. Lynch, '62, will act as coordinator with the students for Sunday's events.

STAG REUNION TO FEATURE COACH HARDING

James F. (Jim) Harding, the new head basketball coach, will be guest speaker at the annual Stag Reunion. Signed last Spring to a four year contract, he had compiled an outstanding record at Loyola University (New Orleans) and Gannon College.

At Gannon, Harding's three year record (1963–1966) was 57–12 including consecutive 20–3 seasons his last two years. His 1964–65 team ranked sixth among the nation's small colleges. He was chosen "Coach of the Year" in Pennsylvania colleges the following season, as Gannon finished seventh nationally. Two of his Gannon teams finished in the nation's top ten, defensively.

Harding resigned from Gannon in 1966 to accept an executive business position in Milwaukee. He remained active in basketball this past season, however, as a scout, clinic speaker and television commentator.

The Monte Carlo casino will return to the Club Room this year and a trio from a local string band has been secured to entertain. Sandwiches will be available for purchase.

Other features of the Stag will be the usual beer 'n' pretzels, door prizes and sports films. The admission charge remains $3.00.

FOOTBALL RETURNS TO LA SALLE???

Club football, a recent and growing phenomenon at eastern colleges may be a Homecoming Week-end feature. The students have worked hard for the past two years to make it a reality. On Saturday, November 18 a home game has been tentatively scheduled with Adelphi University at 2 p.m. in McCarthy stadium. Further details will be announced in the near future.

FATHER HEATH TO BE HONORED GUEST AT HOMECOMING DINNER

The popular Homecoming Week-end dinner-dance will light up the College Union on Saturday evening, November 18. Successful from its inception in 1964, this affair has grown to the point that the committee finds it necessary to limit ticket sales. Chairman Cullen suggests an early reservation.

The Alumni Board of Directors has invited Rev. Mark Heath, O.P. to be an honored guest at the dinner-dance. Father Heath was re-assigned by the Dominican Order to Providence College this year after fourteen years at La Salle. He had been College Chaplin for twelve years and director of the graduate program in Theology for the past two years. He will be chairman of the Theology department at Providence.
END SET FOR NOV. 17-19

TAP OFF RALLY FESTIVITIES

The cash bar will open for pre-dinner cocktails at 7 p.m. Dinner will be served in the Ballroom at 8 p.m. and the bar will re-open after dinner and music for dancing will be provided until 1 a.m.

Because of increased costs, it has become necessary to make a small increase in the ticket price this year to $11.00 per couple.

TAP OFF RALLY PARADE AND BASKETBALL PREVIEW

On Sunday November 19, the annual Tap Off Rally, sponsored by the Sigma Phi Lambda fraternity, will commence with a parade from Broad Street and Stenton Ave at 1 p.m. Floats from thirty-five fraternities, clubs, and campus organizations will be entered in competition for the President’s cup.

The parade will end at McCarthy stadium where the rally will be held. The program will include guest speakers and the annual band competition followed by a preview scrimmage of the basketball team in the Gym. This year’s Basketball Queen will be crowned at the student dance on Sunday evening.

There will be an alumni hospitality room on campus during the festivities. Details will be announced.
RODDEN HONORED (Continued from Page 1)

Many of Rodden's friends from the theatre and academe are expected to join his former students and Masque alumni in paying tribute to him for his contributions to the theatre at La Salle College.

Tickets are $15.00 per person and may be procured through the Alumni Office.

NEWS NOTES

Director of Alumni Jim McDonald had an opportunity to meet some of our west coast alumni in July while attending the American Alumni Council's annual conference in San Francisco. As a result of a meeting in Los Angeles a La Salle Club has been established there. Francis X. Farrell, '46, M.D. was elected president.

The Alumni Office staff has been doubled with the addition of Francis J. McGovern, '66, as assistant director and Veronica McDermott, who will complement secretary Helen Hanna, as clerk-typist.

There will be an organizational meeting of alumni in Bucks County, Pa. at the George Washington Motor Lodge in Trevose on September 14 at 8 p.m.

On September 20 the alumni residing in Montgomery County are invited to an organizational meeting at Al Schoellhammer's ('51) Hatboro Manor, 122 N. York Road in Hatboro at 8 P.M.

HEAVY TRAVEL, TWO TOURNEYS HIGHLIGHT 1967-68 COURT SCHEDULE

Tournament appearances in Boston's Garden and the new Madison Square Garden highlight the college's 25 game 1967-68 basketball schedule which will carry the Explorers to every section of the country except the Pacific coast.

Jim Harding makes his coaching debut when the varsity opens the season against Rider in its first of a dozen Palestra appearances, Saturday, December 2. Thirteen road games are slated. The Explorers have the possibility of two more contests if they make the Middle Atlantic Conference playoffs, in March.

The team will be playing in Boston for the first time since 1950 when they compete in the second annual Garden Invitational, December 20-21, against North Carolina State, Providence and host Boston College.

La Salle then goes to the New Madison Square Garden for the ECAC Holiday Festival, December 26-28-30, against an impressive field consisting of Louisville, St. John's, Columbia, Syracuse, Penn State, Boston College and West Virginia. Other road opponents include such powers as Miami (Fla.), Loyola (New Orleans), Western Kentucky, Duquesne, Creighton and Canisius.

La Salle, which once again will be playing one of the toughest schedules in the country, has Palestra dates slated against Niagara and its fabulous sophomore Calvin Murphy, and Syracuse as well as the traditional Big Five rivals.

New opponents (all series resumed) include Rider, Bucknell, West Chester and Morehead (Ky.) State. All except Bucknell will play at the Palestra.

The team will be attempting to bounce back from a disappointing 14-12 record last year. Harding will be making his debut with a nucleus of six lettermen including three starters, Larry Cannon, Bernie Williams and Stan Wlodarczyk.

The 1967-68 schedule:

DECEMBER--2, Rider; 6, at Gettysburg; 8, Albright; 13, at Bucknell; 16, Niagara; 20, at Boston Garden Invitational; 26-28-30, at New York Holiday Festival.

JANUARY--2, at Miami(Fla.); 6, St. Joseph's; 9, at Loyola (New Orleans); 13, Syracuse; 20, at Western Kentucky; 24, Pennsylvania; 28, at Duquesne; 30, at Creighton.

FEBRUARY--3, West Chester; 7, Lafayette; 10, Temple; 14, American U.; 17, at Canisius; 24, Villanova; 28, Morehead State.