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Diary of a Long Distance Leaper
Ira Davis, who competed in three Olympic Games, sits on the threshold of perhaps his greatest triumph
By Robert S. Lyons, Jr., '61

Ira Davis displays architect's rendition of proposed $800 million Penn's Landing development near Philadelphia's historic district.

It was the summer of 1954 and Ira Davis recalls sitting on a little hill next to La Salle's track talking to coach Frank Wetzler. Nearby, construction workers were hammering away, building the (old) Library. Wetzler had invited the young Philadelphia high school star for a campus visit on the recommendation of one of his Explorer athletes, Charlie Peoples, '53.

"I was like two weeks away from going into the service because nobody wanted me," recalled Davis recently while sitting in his neatly-appointed office on Germantown Avenue, which is located about a good workout away from McCarthy Stadium. "I wasn't good enough for your other major schools or your track powers. So we were sitting on a little hill and I was trying to be impressive. I was trying to tell him that I was thinking about going to Morgan State, a big track school. He didn't know it, but I knew that they didn't want me. And then he said to me, 'Well, Ira, what would you rather be: a big fish in a big barrel with a lot of small fish?' Well, that really made a lot of sense. So, needless to say, I selected La Salle. Frank also became a father image to me because he took a lot of time and interest in me. His honesty was something that was important. It impressed me."

The strong legs and physical quickness that carried Ira S. Davis, '58, to the Olympics three times are still very much in evidence. Maybe there's a little gray around the temples, but the physique looks just as trim as the one that earned him a spot on Sport Magazine's All-Time Track and Field Team in 1964. The former American record-holder in the triple jump relies more on his hands and mental toughness these days and has established himself as one of the leading minority entrepreneurs in the Philadelphia area. It hasn't been easy, but the 53-year-old Davis sits on the threshold of perhaps his greatest triumph as part of a group of investors who have been selected to develop the Penn's Landing waterfront along the Delaware River and, hopefully, end a construction night-
DAVIS—continued

mure that has plagued Quaker City officials for more than 30 years.

Davis has rebounded from some early setbacks to start a total of seven separate businesses that, he says, generate $18 million annually. They include one of the largest minority-owned construction companies in the Delaware Valley as well as one of the area's biggest minority moving, warehousing, and trucking operations. He's also involved in a Ford-Mercury dealership in Delaware. He is one of three members of The Welcome Partnership, a joint venture of Philadelphia-based Asbell & Associates and New York-based Rose Associates, who were chosen last June over eight other competitors to develop an $800 million complex of office, retail, hotel, entertainment, and residential facilities near the city's historic area.

"The actual world was a lot more difficult than I could ever have imagined," says Davis, who competed in the 1956, '60 and '64 Olympics. "I found that other people seemed to be moving faster than I was. They were wheeling and dealing and doing things a little different than the way you should do it, but they were moving. My progress was very slow. Some things weren't happening, and a lot of times I doubted myself. I was tested a lot, but I decided to stay on track. I found that basically you can be honest and still be successful. And then all of a sudden over the years, I noticed that a lot of people who were in front of me came back—just like running a steady race, being in shape. All of a sudden I started to pass these people."

Davis, who recently established Davis and Associates, a limited partnership, says that all of his companies "in one form of another" will probably be involved in the Penn's Landing project. He has a 10 per cent interest in The Welcome Partnership, which is the fifth group attempting to develop the site. The most recent was Willard G. Rouse, 3rd, who is best known for developing One Liberty Place, the highest building in Philadelphia. Rouse surprisingly pulled out early last year blaming projections of declining retail sales, fewer rents per square foot than previously anticipated, and an office vacancy rate of 12 per cent in center city.

Previous developers were victimized by a variety of problems including different visions of what the retail and commercial markets would bear, short-sighted profit projections, and, perhaps, the two major obstacles that are finally being resolved—public transportation and accessibility.

The Welcome Partnership plans to take more of a gradual, "market driven" approach in developing the site. The $75 million first phase, which will contain less retail space than Rouse had projected, will include a hotel, shops, and parking garage. Its focal point will be the Crystal Pavilion, a 24,000 square foot, glass-enclosed atrium that will be used as an exhibit hall and for retail, entertainment, and cultural uses.

Gerald M. Maier, '64, an executive with Asbell & Associates and the project manager for Penn's Landing, has known Davis for 20 years ever since both worked for the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority—Maier as a project manager downtown and Davis uptown in the communities. "It's been good long term relationship," Maiier says. "Ira is the kind of guy who has never asked for anything in life but he's always been the first one to do favors for other people. All the good qualities like honesty and integrity apply to him."

Should The Welcome Partnership succeed, it would be another milestone in the uphill struggles of the one-time scholastic sprinter and long-jumper and basketball playmaker who spent his senior year at Philadelphia's Overbook High School feeding Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlin, who remains a good friend today.

Wilt, who was a year behind Davis in school, "was a gentleman and a good student," Ira recalls. "But we had our little differences from time to time. I remember we decided that he was getting a little big-headed and he didn't want to practice with the team. So the team got together and we decided that we were going to freeze him out. We wouldn't feed him, we wouldn't throw the ball to him." Overbrook won the game and Davis was high scorer with 13 points. Wilt failed to score in double figures. "After the game was over we all got together, apologized, and made up. The next week we played Roxborough and that's when he scored 90 points. I was always down court with the ball and I would wait and throw to him."

Even though he was the team's second-leading scorer and co-captain (along with Temple's Mel Brodsky) and a highly-regarded point guard known for his quickness, Davis was not recruited to play college basketball. He went on to earn an accounting degree at La Salle while learning a track event (then known as the "hop, step, and jump") that few Americans ever heard of. He also became the youngest triple winner in the history of the Middle Atlantic Conference by taking the 100, 220 and, broad-jump in 1956 at the age of 19. Two years later he won the IC4A 100 yard dash in 9.6, a time that still stands as the La Salle record.

But it was the triple jump that catapulted Davis into world-class status. In the spring of 1955 while Wetzler was conducting State Department clinics in Austria, Ira worked out with the Shanahan Catholic Club. Shanahan's coach, long-time Philadelphia track fixture Jack Pyra, told him that Penn Relays' officials were looking for people to compete against 1952 Olympic Gold Medal-winner Adhemar da Silva, of Brazil, the world record-holder, at Franklin Field.

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look the American record away from Davis for a few months in 1956. Otherwise, Ira was our nation’s best for almost a decade and held the record of 53 feet, 11 inches for about a year after he officially retired in 1965.

Davis learned fast. Sharpe showed him the event for the first time on Tuesday. Ira tried it and immediately strained a muscle. Three days later with his leg heavily taped, the young Explorer freshman jumped 45 feet in the Penn Relays. Within a year he made the Olympic team and broke the American record. All because of Wetzler, who became one of the nation’s outstanding track coaches before his traffic death in 1969 from injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Now it was the spring of 1956. “I’ll never forget it,” says Davis. “I can remember him (Wetzler) saying to me, ‘Okay, now we’re going to work on it. And that’s

Davis is one of three members of Welcome Partnership who were chosen over eight other competitors to develop office, retail, hotel, entertainment, and residential facilities along the Delaware River waterfront.
DAVIS—continued

“I decided that for me to really understand the business, I had to wait four years before I put a tie back on”

how he put it. The man came up with all kinds of training techniques and drills and stuff. I began to realize that he was the best coach in the country. Frank spent a lot of time with me during those years. He would give up his summer vacation with his family and he would meet me up on the track during the week and we would work out. The man was truly a tremendous coach, a tremendous friend. Like I say, he was like a father.”

After graduating in 1958, however, the man who at one time leaped to second place in the world rankings in his specialty, found it extremely difficult getting his business career off the ground. Especially while he was trying to raise a family, train for Olympics (his best finish was fourth in 1960), and compete internationally. First, an accounting business didn’t work out. Then he tried real estate. There was an unsuccessful attempt to get a polyethylene plastic bag firm started and a short time with a beauty products distributorship.

Davis went to work for the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority as a project manager in 1965 and soon developed a small insurance agency, a personal tax service, and a novelty store during the summers in Atlantic City. He was also coaching track at La Salle.

“I made a couple of dollars, but it still wasn’t a lot of money,” he says.

The turning point finally came in 1973 when Ira bought out his ailing uncle’s moving company, a two-truck, “mom and pop” operation that had been in business for 45 years but had never generated more than $88,000 in revenue. “I decided that for me to really understand the business, I had to roll up my sleeves and get myself out on the trucks,” Davis recalls. “It was probably a good four years before I put a tie back on. Once I remember working 23 hours straight because we had two moves going in the same day and didn’t have the right equipment. The next morning my hands wouldn’t function. I couldn’t hold a glass of water. My muscles were so exhausted, and fatigued, nothing would work right.”

Soon, though, with the help of a 4% Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority Loan, Davis built a larger warehouse, developed some commercial accounts and expanded into the long-distance market. Within three years, he was doing $225,000 annually and today is closing in on $2 million. “We had some rough spots when money was tight and interest was high,” he says.

In 1984, Davis became CEO of a masonry construction company he incorporated with Frank Giovinazzo, a long-time Philadelphia contractor. Since their first job in 1985, a $1.1 million contract at Philadelphia’s Society Hall Sheraton, Davis-Giovinazzo has done “in excess of $30 million worth of work” at such sites as La Salle’s Connelly Library, The University of Pennsylvania Hospital, and Atlantic City’s Trump Castle.

In 1985, Davis purchased another warehouse in northeast Philadelphia. He set up a pair of transportation/trucking companies to haul steel, paper, general commodities, and trash, and started a public warehousing company for the storage of large electrical equipment and the like. These three companies which he calls “The International Group” collectively generate close to $5 million annually. Then he formed Tri-State, an environmental company specializing in the disposal of material from construction sites. Two years ago, he joined forces with James X. Clemens, a general contractor who has developed small shopping centers in the Delaware Valley along with some center city office buildings. With Ira as CEO, the Davis-Clemens Construction Co. specializes in tailoring newly-constructed buildings for particular tenants.

“About his venture with Clemens, Davis says, “I didn’t want the larger construction companies to think that I was going to try to muscle in on their territory, so I had to find a niche where I could fit, be of service, and expand in the general construction area. Tenant fitout is something you don’t find a lot of people involved in.”

Davis’s family is heavily involved in his various enterprises. His wife, Julia P., handles the book work and marketing for the automobile dealership while daughters, Judith and Jeaneen, and son Ira, Jr., serve elsewhere in executive and supervisory capacities. Although he lost in a bid for a seat on City Council in 1983, Davis remains close to the political scene in Philadelphia as a member of Mayor Wilson Goode’s Economic Round Table. (A fellow member is La Salle’s Brother President Patrick Ellis.)

Davis says that he doubts that he’ll run again for public office. However, he explained, “I will always be involved in politics. It’s a major part of our lives. You just cannot function without being involved in the political process.”

Davis runs and exercises regularly but his competitive activity is now limited to races like the “master’s” events at the Penn Relays where he has teamed up to run with old friends like Bill Cosby. Ira has made guest appearances on Cosby’s TV show and the two have discussed a joint business venture at some later date. Cosby, in fact, made personal appearances and helped raise funds for Ira’s City Council campaign.

Davis was one of the first American athletes permitted to travel behind the Iron Curtain in 1959. He’s also participated in State Department tours of such countries as South Africa and Japan, trips that enabled the athletes to mingle with the leaders of each country.

“The top brass would always be there,” he recalled. “But we also moved around and understood what was happening on the lower levels. Understanding what was happening all around the world made me realize how fortunate we are. Even though there are problems here in the States, this is the best place that anybody can be as far as I’m concerned.”
Davis says that he has “coined the direction and feeling of his La Salle experience” in his business development. “There’s a number of things that I’ve used as a guide,” he says. “But I guess that I can go back to sitting on that hill. The thinking process that you develop at La Salle is very helpful. I think that the fairness at La Salle also comes from logic and La Salle was very good at teaching logic.

“I found that the honesty that I saw at La Salle was important. Naturally in business you’ve got to wheel and deal a lot—and I’m not saying that it’s not a calculated arena to be in. But basically you can be honest. Even though people told me that I’ve been too honest, that you can’t do that and be successful. And I said, ‘you can.’ And that’s my motto: being straight up with everybody.

“What I consider the La Salle experience, which is a combination of things—the relationships, the track experience, the honesty that’s been involved with that experience—I’ve been able to carry that through life and without any regrets. With the experience I’m going through now, I can draw on that. “I find that there are so many people in this city who are affiliated with La Salle—judges, lawyers, architects, just in every walk of life. La Salle students are all over the place. It’s a fact.”

As for the future, Davis says that he would like to be strong in real estate management and development in Philadelphia.

“Dollar-wise, I’m not that much concerned,” he says. “I think I can live comfortably with what I have. I’d like very much to be in a position to develop other minority businesses. The key to my people coming out of poverty is economic stability. I’d like very much to be a front-runner in helping reach that goal.

“If I can do that for the next five years, I will feel very good about myself.”

Less Than an Inch Away From a Bronze Medal

Ira Davis has bittersweet memories about his three Olympic appearances. “I don’t think I really reached my potential,” he explained recently, referring to his 10th, 4th, and 9th place finishes in the ’56, ’60, and ’64 Games, respectively.

Ira missed a bronze medal by the slimmest of margins in Rome in 1960. On one of his early jumps, in fact, he broke the Olympic record but it only put him temporarily in second place because the leader also had broken the mark set by Brazil’s Adhemar da Silva in Helsinki in 1952. Then a third competitor smashed the Olympic record.

It came down to Ira’s last jump. Going down the runway, he recalls, “I really got a tremendous hop and a tremendous step. In fact, it was such a tremendous hop step, I almost landed in the pit. But it was so far that my control was off and I couldn’t hold my jump. If I could have held that jump, I know I could have smashed the world record. At any event, I didn’t do it.” So Davis was in third place with one athlete left to compete.

The remaining jumper was Vitrold Kreyer, a Russian who had competed against Davis in Melbourne in 1956. The two had become friends and Ira visited Kreyer’s house in Moscow during the first U.S.-Russian meet in 1958. They exchanged gifts. One of them was an emblem, “The Stickman,” that Ira used for a long time as the logo for his moving and storage company. “He drew it out,” Davis recalls. “It’s the second phase of the triple jump when you ride and you step. It was very meaningful and I said to myself in the stadium in Moscow, ‘I’m going to use this emblem.’ ”

So there was Davis, sitting there watching Kreyer on the runway. “I could remember him rocking and I can remember him gazing and glaring down there. And all of a sudden, something hit me. It sounded like, ‘Boy, he’s going to beat you!’ And at that point he took off and went down the runway and got his jump off and the crowd said, ‘OOOH.’ And when the measurement was called out, he had beaten me by two centimeters.” The two met again in Tokyo four years later but neither did well.

Davis, who says that he still gets very emotional when he watches track and field, deplores fans who criticize young athletes when they fail to perform up to expectations.

“I’m not only talking about track, I’m talking about football players, basketball players, all sports,” he says. “I get upset when people make comments about them. They fail to understand and realize that you’re talking about 20-year-olders who are in the first part of their lives. How much can you learn in that period of time. And what pressure! So why don’t people put this thing in perspective and give these young people their due?”
La Salle's Connelly Library has only been open since 1988, but it has already attracted attention from scholars located as far away as Singapore, England, and Spain who are interested in researching one of the most unique Special Collections in the world.

Housed in the elegantly-furnished Special Collections Department on the second floor of the library—under the careful supervision of John Baky, the university's bibliographer of rare books and manuscripts, is a collection of 3,500 items comprising "Imaginative Representations of the Vietnam War."

The Collection includes novels, short stories, poetry, music, films and videos, TV productions, comics, photography, and other examples of graphic arts. There's even a "Vietnam Veteran's Trivia Game." Some of the material has been used to provide research for many of the 38 accepted doctoral dissertations covering either film or fiction of the war.

La Salle's collection also served as one of the focal points at last year's meetings of the Popular Cultural Association and American Cultural Associations in St. Louis where 18 separate panels were held discussing the imaginative side of the Vietnam conflict.

"There are other huge collections of the historical, factual side of the war, but La Salle's is the largest collection of its kind in the world," said Baky, who has first-hand knowledge of Southeast Asia as a former Army First Lieutenant assigned to an Infantry Division. He received the Bronze Star in Vietnam.

Colorado State College, in Fort Collins, started one of the original collections focusing on fiction and poetry, one that Baky says is "very tightly circumscribed" because it only accepts material written before 1978 by veterans or portraying actual combat. As far as the historical/factual side of Vietnam is concerned, California-Berkley probably has the world's largest collection—2 1/2 million items including official government and foreign language documents—"all of the things that I wanted to avoid because we don't want..."
to duplicate effort,” explained Baky.

The genuine reason for starting the Imaginative/Vietnam collection, said Baky, had less to do with his own experiences in Southeast Asia (his unit was awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry) than the fact that the university was anxious to add a Special Collections Department to its proposed new $11 million Connelly Library.

“So the trick was to try to isolate one or two or three collecting areas that could ensure a national reputation fairly quickly without an extraordinary expenditure of funds,” he explained. “As I looked at things, everything was either too expensive, or had already been collected to death by other institutions.”

Baky, who is now a Captain in the U.S. Army, decided to concentrate on something that was current because, not only is it usually less expensive to begin, but “no one else really knows if they want to collect it yet.” That narrowed his decision to either a phenomenon, a person, or a political or historical event. Recalling that imaginative representations of World War I were highly-prized more than a half-century later, he focused his attention on Vietnam. “This collection is designed to be important 50 years from now, not five years from now,” he explained. “This subject area is an attractive investment because I’m convinced that’s going to be finite. The current high rate of publication will moderate slowly within another year or so.

“The fundamental aspiration of the collection has a dual intention,” added Baky. “First, to discover how a discrete body of creative literature becomes mythopoetic. That is, how a complex event is interpreted through creative means. Also, it’s intended to discover how creative treatments of an event employ aesthetic values to reveal both the fact and emotional essense of traumatic cultural phenomena.”

For a while, though, Baky thought that his collecting hopes would end before they began. The mood about Vietnam even in 1986 just wasn’t the same as it had been for the two World Wars. “At first it was hard to identify imaginative literary creations at all because everyone was afraid to produce that kind of expression,” he recalls. “But much early fictive material remained hidden. A lot of it was ephemeral and a lot of it was reputable but published in small press runs. People tended to read it and save it because it was literally unique or special to them. But there wasn’t a lot of it available to institutions.”

The watershed year came in 1978 when mass market films like The Deer Hunter and Apocalypse Now became popular. “All of a sudden it became morally fashionable and commercially viable to represent this material though people necessarily didn’t agree (with the war) at that point,” says Baky. “It was no longer the kiss of death to try to produce a personal Vietnam War expression.” By 1980, there had been at least ten films about Vietnam. Two years later when the monument was dedicated in Washington, a flood of material started, much of it fiction and poetry. Baky quickly identified about ten dealers across the nation who was anxious to add a Special Collections Department to its proposed new $11 million Connelly Library.

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Baky, who joined La Salle’s library staff in 1980, is developing a number of other “promising” special collections that are, he explains, “subject-oriented because they’re more versatile for a university that does not have a well-developed Ph.D. research curriculum.” These collections have begun to generate financial support from such foundations as The Samuel S. Fels Fund that recently awarded La Salle a $15,000 grant for their cataloguing and preservation efforts.

Other Special Collections in the Connelly Library include:

- “Prose Writers of the 20th Century Who Have Converted to Catholicism,” including such people as Graham Greene, Katherine Anne Porter, Evelyn Waugh, and T.H. White (who considered converting). “This fits our criteria of being able to create something that will be unique 50
“A lot of the material was visually ingenious and very carefully done... it’s indicative of a cultural period in time. It preserves a point of view that’s irreplaceable."

years from now.” explained Baky. “But we must try to attract visiting scholars.

• “Alternate Formats of the Book,” a collection of about 50 items from the 1960s and 1970s when some people made free-spirited but noble attempts to change conventional publishing habits. For example, La Salle students produced a Yearbox instead of a Yearbook in 1966. Most of the material was highly perishable and very expensive because of small press runs and many of the copies have disappeared from circulation.

“A lot of the material was visually ingenious and very carefully done,” said Baky. “And even if it weren’t, it’s indicative of a cultural period in time. It preserves a point of view that’s irreplaceable.”

• “Japanese Tea Ceremony” as an adjunct to the program conducted by Brother Joseph Keenan, F.S.C. (see La Salle, Winter 1987-88). So far it’s a small collection of about 60 items limited to the English language but it covers all aspects of the ancient ceremony including architecture, history, utensils, and lore. Already available to serious majors, Baky hopes to expand into the Japanese language.

• “The Germantowniana Collection” concentrating on the gardening/horticultural aspects of the area and the planned gardens at Belfield, rather than its well-documented historical aspects. La Salle could never compete seriously with the Philosophical Society or Yale University for Charles Willson Peale’s papers, but could focus, perhaps, on his attitude toward painting nature. La Salle owns the 6,000 Peale family papers on microfilm.

“The Germantown/Belfield collection is another example of how, if you can’t compete in one heavily-collected area, you can refocus that emphasis a little and become very productive in several new ways,” said Baky.

• “Books of Poetry by Contemporary Poets,” all either autographed by the poet or accompanied by a signed letter. Described by Baky as “quite a little gem,” the collection of about 300 titles was donated by Richard E. Lautz, an associate professor of English at the university.

Other “potentially interesting” special collections include the works of the late Alan Paton, the best-selling author and one of the most prominent advocates of social justice in South Africa. He received an honorary doctor of letters degree from La Salle in 1986. Also, there’s a collection of theatre and movie programs, posters, and memorabilia donated by Frank C.P. McGlinn, an emeritus member of the Council of President’s Associates.

Baky has one major problem. He would like to see Special Collections expand into other areas but is severely limited by a lack of space. Moreover, in some cases, La Salle just may not be the “appropriate place” to house something that may fit perfectly into a larger, more mature collection elsewhere. “I’ve turned down at least one offer like this,” he explained. Accepting it, “just wasn’t appropriate to the larger, national scholarly community. Collecting according to our own unique institutional identity will enhance our stature.”

Baky, who won the Bronze Star as an Army infantry officer in Vietnam, says that subject-oriented special collections have helped enhance the university’s national reputation.
Not only is Lionel Simmons (above) "an outstanding player," says Georgia Tech coach Bobby Cremins, "but he is truly a great person."
By the time the L Train stopped, the Explorers won more games than any team in La Salle's history and their All America became a real-life Cinderella in Sneakers

It was 4:35 PM on a rainy afternoon in Hartford. The new-fashioned scoreboard said there was 15:6 to play. Lionel Simmons had committed his fifth personal foul and it was all over for him.

The L Train had made its last basketball stop for La Salle University. The cheers started among the hardy group of La Salle fans from across the court.

They continued and swelled from 15,000 fans in the Civic Center, and even the opposition players came over to shake his hand and wish him well.

His teammates and coaches embraced him, physically. Everyone embraced him emotionally with their cheers and applause.

The L Train had, indeed, made its last stop as a college basketball player.

You wouldn’t exactly call it an auspicious start—40 minutes, 18 points on 7-for-13 shooting and 3-for-5 from the line, two rebounds, three assists, a block and a steal. But on November 28, 1986, in Miami, against the Penn State Nittany Lions, Lionel Simmons and his coach, Speedy Morris, began a rebirth of a great basketball tradition and started on a four-year ride to fame and success that will be difficult to match.

La Salle lost that one, 59-58, to Penn State. In the next four seasons, Simmons, Morris and Simmons’ fellow South Philadelphia High product Bob Johnson wouldn’t lose many more.

When Simmons and Johnson left the NCAA Tournament loss to Clemson on St. Patrick’s Day, 1990, in Hartford, Connecticut, they took with them a four-year mark of 100 victories and only 31 losses. Of course, since their careers at La Salle started simultaneously, Morris, Simmons and Johnson share that .763 percentage.

Not bad for a coach who had never coached Division I men’s basketball before 1986-87, a “pretty good 6-6 in-betweener” player whose college invitations were more in the teens than the hundreds, and a thin, long-range bomber who had commanded hardly any attention in high school.

“When I started my college career,” Simmons said, “like every college player, you dream of 1,000 points.” Obviously, 3,000 was nowhere in his dreams.

But not only did the silky-smooth 6-7 forward go past 1,000, he burst past 2,000, and hit 3,000 on a momentous night at the Philadelphia Civic Center, a night which will never be forgotten by anyone who was there or who saw glimpses of it on TV news or read about it in their favorite journal.

And by the time it was all over, Simmons was the third highest scorer ever to play Division One basketball. Think about that ... nearly 300 teams play NCAA Division One basketball every season. That means about 3,600 youngsters are out there every year, reaching for the brass ring of success.

And then think of how many years and how many great stars have elevated their game to superstar level—including a goodly share from La Salle. When you put all that together, you then realize that 3,217 points is quite an undertaking.

Add to that 1,429 rebounds, the highest total of any of the elite five who have surpassed 3,000 points; school records in steals and assists, and you have the makings of a Cinderella Story—Cinderella in Sneakers?

Truly, the Lionel Simmons Story and the Speedy Morris Story have parallels. Both are Philadelphia-born and bred and Philadelphians from the heart out.

Neither has ever been possessed of wealth—although that should change for Lionel any contract-signing day now—and both have worked long and hard to achieve what they have.

Yet, when either speaks of the glory of the 1989-90 season, seldom does “I” creep into the conversation. “We had goals,” Morris said. “We wanted to win the tournaments we were in during the season and we did. We wanted to win the Big 5 outright, and we did, and we wanted to win the MAAC again.”

They did, going unbeaten in the Big 5, with exciting victories over Villanova, Pennsylvania, St. Joseph’s. The late Hank Gathers, shown defending against La Salle’s Jack Hurd, led Loyola-Marymount to a 121-116 victory in January at the Civic Center, as coach Paul Westhead’s Lions handed the Explorers their only regular season defeat.
and Temple, and went 16-0 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference regular-season and swept through Fairfield, Siena and Fordham in the MAAC Tournament in Albany.

The MAAC Tournament in Albany. Will there ever be for the coaches, the players, the fans—anyone connected with college basketball—a more emotional time? The joy of winning an NCAA Tournament berth was jostled by the knowledge of a death of a friend to many of us, and especially to Speedy, Lionel, Bob, and fellow Public League products Randy Woods and Doug Overton.

Toward the end of a semifinal victory over Siena, word filtered to the La Salle bench that Dobbins Tech product Hank Gathers had died while playing for Loyola Marymount in a game on the West Coast.

As soon as he heard the news, Overton had to rush to the locker room where he was able to let his emotions flow in the form of tear upon tear. Simmons came out of the game and immediately buried his head in a towel and did the same.

By now, it was evident to everyone that something was wrong. Fortunately, the game had turned into a 16-point victory over Siena, so that it had assumed less importance.

The La Salle dressing room was a study in gloom but compassion, silence but understanding, and coach Morris’ words helped comfort everyone. Family members were allowed in to help ease the pain of the loss of a strong, young and gallant friend.

Then the question became: Would La Salle’s players, those with strong ties to Hank Gathers, be able, or be willing to play for the title the next night against Fordham?

“There is no hurry for you fellows to decide what to do,” Morris told the team. “Let’s meet back at the hotel and talk things over. It will help us all to talk about it.”

What seemed like hours later, most of the team had congregated in Morris’ suite. Simmons, Overton, Woods and Johnson came in about 20 minutes later and, as he had been so often for this team, Overton was the spokesman.

Which was especially appropriate in this situation since he and Gathers had been Dobbins Tech teammates, along with Hank’s fellow Marymount star, Bo Kimble.

“We want to play,” Overton said to his hushed teammates. “Hank worked hard to get what he got and we want to work hard and he would want us to play and play hard.”

Morris accepted the words but also told the team to sleep on it and if Gathers’ close friends decided not to play in the title game, he, his staff and their teammates would understand.

The next day—championship day—Morris, Simmons and Overton appeared at a press conference prior to their shootaround at the Knickerbocker Arena. The players reiterated their desire to play and dedicate the game to their lost friend.

Another development—a beautiful development—was an offer from Fordham coach Nick Macarchuk to forfeit the game to La Salle so that the Explorers would not have to play but would still earn the NCAA berth and the higher seed in the tournament than had they lost but which they deserved.

A surprising turn, unless, of course, you’ve known Nick Macarchuk as long as those of us on the basketball beat have. The fact that La Salle decided to play did not detract from the kind of feeling expressed by the Fordham coach.

La Salle played and won, 71-61, in what was an excuseable lackluster performance, but one that had helped the team shake a small portion of the sorrow that had surrounded it.

There was a celebration—and believe us, Hank would have wanted the guys to celebrate, too—and even in the midst of their pain, the players were able to feel proud of their record, 29-1, 21 consecutive victories since a January 6 loss to—that’s right—Loyola Marymount, when Hank Gathers and Bo Kimble put on a Civic Center show that produced a 121-116 victory.

So, through championships in the Coors Light Classic in Fresno, California Thanksgiving weekend, through the Sugar Bowl Classic Triumph with wins over Florida and Ohio State, through a 4-0 Big 5 record, and the first-ever victory over Notre Dame for Speedy, Lionel and Bobby, La Salle began to get noticed.

Maybe some loyalists felt the Explorers should have gone even higher than the 11th spot in the wire service polls they achieved right before the NCAA Tournament, but others were content to go into the NCAA Tournament in that position.

On Sunday, March 11, at about 6:40, gathered in the Student Union Ballroom with about 200 well-wishers, the team found out its next stop—the Hartford Civic

Bobby Johnson, the only other senior in La Salle’s lineup, came off the bench on numerous occasions to trigger dramatic Explorer comebacks. His eight three-pointers helped defeat St. Joseph’s and clinch La Salle’s first Big Five crown since 1974-75.
Center on the following Thursday, as a fourth-seed against Metro Conference runner-up Southern Mississippi.

And another piece of irony—it was the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles who had kept Morris, Simmons and Johnson from winning the National Invitation Tournament in their rookie season of 1986-87. Southern Miss won that one, 84-80, in Madison Square Garden.

Only La Salle's seniors and Southern Mississippi coach M. K. Turk were central figures in that game who were still around for the "rematch" and so the previous meeting had little to do with the match-up.

After a slow start, the L Train and his co-engineers showed their domination and coach Morris and All-American Simmons had achieved another goal—winning an NCAA Tournament game.

Just ahead, two days later, loomed the Atlantic Coast Conference regular-season champion Clemson Tigers, with their "Duo of Doom" insiders, Dale Davis and Elden Campbell. But for more than 20 minutes, the duo seemed doomed to early extinction. Playing with astounding aggressiveness on defense—sparked by the doggedness of guards Overton and Woods—La Salle built a 19-point lead just before halftime and led by 16 at the half.

But the intermission gave the Tigers a chance to regroup and appeared to slow down the Explorers. The inside strength of Clemson, especially on the offensive boards, was too much and soon it was a tie game.

La Salle bounced back into a five-point lead, was unable to hold it, and finally was eliminated, 79-75.

It was a defeat that could have been devastating, but this team had been through devastation far greater, in the loss of a dear friend, and had achieved so much in individual and team performance that would not permit it to be a devastating loss.

Not many teams go 30 and 2 with 22 wins in succession—no La Salle team ever had—and only four other teams have had a 3,000-point scorer in their midst; and only two coaches had ever won 100 games in their first four seasons, as Speedy Morris has.

There were other highlights—Doug Overton became the Explorers' all-time assist leader, and he still has a season to add to that; Bob Johnson hit eight three-pointers in an exciting come-from-behind victory over St. Joseph's that made it 4-0 in the Big 5; Simmons' career-high 40 points at Manhattan, and the season-long contributions of Jack Hurd, Milko Lieverst and Bron Holland.

Put them together with the deep five who wrapped up almost every La Salle victory and you have a blend of experience, youth, enthusiasm, ability, spirit and coaching expertise that produced a season beyond belief.

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Searching for a way to close this brought us upon a segment from a story written by Dick Jerardi, the Philadelphia Daily News sports writer who has covered La Salle the past few seasons. Better than anyone else could, he wrote:

"This group and this player were part of something great. Anybody who had the privilege to watch them, to believe in them, to know them, should be eternally grateful.

"Special moments in life are rare. So are special people. This La Salle team is one for the archives. Lionel Simmons is one for the history books."

Bob Vetrone has been a writer, broadcaster and publicist on the Philadelphia and national scene since 1946. He is a member of the Philadelphia Big 5 Hall of Fame and recently was inducted into the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame. He spent part of the 1989-90 "Train Ride" as interim Sports Information Director at La Salle and has since joined the Athletic Department on a full-time basis.
Brother Emery Mollenhauer Resigns as Provost

After 30 years in La Salle’s administration, most recently as provost and corporation vice president, Brother Emery Mollenhauer, F.S.C., Ph.D., has announced his resignation, effective June 30. Brother Emery served as dean of the Evening Division for nine years (1960-69) before serving as academic vice president, then provost for the last 21 years (1969-1990).

Brother Emery came to La Salle in 1960 as an assistant professor of English, and was later named associate professor, a position he continues to hold. He has also been director of Summer Sessions since 1961.

During his tenure as dean of La Salle’s Evening Division, enrollment increased to an all time high of 3,000, a new liberal arts program was initiated in 1964 and women students were admitted for the first time in La Salle’s history in 1967.

“I cannot think of another example of service so sustained and so distinguished,” said La Salle’s Brother President Patrick Ellis, F.S.C., Ph.D., when announcing Brother Emery’s decision to step down.

Brother Emery Mollenhauer

“It has included outstanding leadership in curriculum development, build-up of faculty, responses to new societal needs, all within a framework of genuine working collegiality,” Brother Patrick continued. “Our relations with the Middle States and other accrediting bodies have benefited immeasurably from Brother Emery’s service, perhaps most significantly in his preparatory work but also in his participation off-campus.”

A native of Philadelphia, Brother Emery earned his bachelor’s degree in English from The Catholic University and his master’s and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. He also pursued graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania, Laval University (Quebec), the Catholic Institute of Paris, and the University of London.

A member of the Board of Trustees of La Salle College High School, Brother Emery has also held positions on the boards of other academic institutions and associations. He has been a member of numerous evaluation teams for Middle States Association accreditation visits and chaired five decennial evaluation teams for Middle States.

Ira Davis Honored at First African-American Alumni Reception

Ira S. Davis, ’58, recently received La Salle University’s first Warren E. Smith, M.D., award during the first African-American Alumni cocktail reception held in the Ballroom, on campus, on February 1.

Presenting the award, a reproduction of Gilbert Young’s “He Ain’t Heavy” was Crystal Grace, treasurer of La Salle’s African-American Student League and Stephen McGonigle, ’72, president of the university’s Alumni Association.

Davis was honored with the Warren E. Smith, M.D. Award for his commitment to La Sallian values, his contributions to the community, his professional success and because he serves as an outstanding example to La Salle students.

The three-time Olympian owns seven separate businesses including one of the area’s biggest minority moving.

Ira Davis (center) receives first Warren E. Smith, M.D., award from Crystal Grace as Stephen McGonigle watches.
warehousing and trucking operations and one of the leading minority masonry construction companies.

In addition, Davis is one of three members of the Welcome Partnership which was chosen to develop the Penn's Landing waterfront.

The award was named for Dr. Warren E. Smith, '54, who had served La Salle for many years as a psychiatrist in the Counseling Center. He recently retired as an assistant professor of psychiatry at Hahnemann University, and is now a consultant to various organizations.

The award was presented during the first African-American Alumni reception which also served as the kick-off event for La Salle's Black History Month celebration. In attendance were nearly 200 alumni, faculty members, administrators and current La Salle students. The evening offered cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and most importantly the opportunity to catch up on old friendships, share experiences and meet new and interesting people.

Any members of the Alumni who were not contacted about this event and who would like to attend similar events in the future are asked to write to the Alumni Office, c/o La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA 19141 or call (215) 951-1535.

New St. Miguel Townhouses Dedicated

La Salle took advantage of warm weather to hold a traditional dedication ceremony with a Latin flair when the university's 75 townhouses were dedicated on March 15 to St. Miguel Febres-Cordero, a Christian Brother from Ecuador.

The ceremony included a band playing traditional Latin music, a welcome by La Salle's Brother President Patrick Ellis, F.S.C., Ph.D., and brief speeches by Federal Court Judge Joseph Rodriguez, '55, and Common Pleas Court Judge Nelson Diaz, an honorary alumnus. Following the ceremony a reception featuring Latin style food and music was held in the townhouses' community room.

The St. Miguel townhouses are occupied by nearly 375 La Salle students.

St. Miguel was a popular Ecuadorian educator and writer who joined the Brothers of the Christian Schools in 1868. He died in Barcelona, Spain in 1910 and was canonized a saint by Pope John Paul II in 1984.

La Salle Freshman Named Kemper Scholar

Michael McLaughlin, a freshman from Philadelphia, is the first La Salle recipient of a scholarship from the Kemper Scholars Program, supported by the James S. Kemper Foundation.

McLaughlin, a finance major, is a member of the Honors Society, as well as a reporter for the Collegian, the university's student-run newspaper.

As a student at West Catholic Boys' High School, where he graduated in May 1989, his interest in a business career was evident through his involvement in West Catholic's Investors Club.

In addition he has attended numerous business and leadership workshops and he worked in the Securities Operations Department of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc. last summer.

The purpose of the Kemper Scholars Program is to help highly motivated students combine their university studies with carefully selected summer jobs to enhance their personal and professional development in preparation for a career in business. Only twenty schools nationwide have students participating in the program.

McLaughlin was chosen after a rigorous and highly competitive selection process which dealt with the concrete evidence of an interest to work in the field of business. After being chosen, the students must commit themselves to three summers of employment at any Kemper Office across the United States.

Kemper Scholars must maintain a grade point average of 2.8. Students do not necessarily have to major in business, but they must be committed to work in a business related field. In addition to the summer employment, Kemper Scholars may be granted financial aid to meet any unsatisfied financial need. They are urged to contact one another and the foundation during the year.

First James Finnegan Fellowship Awarded

Joseph R. Hainthaler, a junior from North Haledon, N.J., has been the first recipient of the James A. Finnegan Public Service Fellowship at La Salle University.

Hainthaler is majoring in both economics and political science. He possesses a 3.93 Grade Point Average.

Michael McLaughlin

Federal Court Judge Joseph H. Rodriguez, '55, speaks at dedication ceremony for the new St. Miguel Townhouses.
Jude Sapone, F.S.C.

The university lost two of its most popular long-time faculty members recently when Brother Gilbert Jude Sapone, F.S.C., Ph.D., '39, former chairman of the Classics Department, and Dr. Bernard B. Goldner, retired chairman of the Management Department, passed away.

Brother Jude, a member of La Salle's faculty for 29 years, died on Nov. 24 in Einstein Medical Center after a long illness. He was 73.

Dr. Goldner, who retired last September after 40 years of service, died on Jan. 4 at Temple University Hospital. He was 70.

A native of Pittsburgh and a member of the Brothers of the Christian Schools for 55 years, Brother Jude taught Latin and Greek and religion at La Salle University from 1951 to 1960 and again from 1966 until he retired in 1986. He was chairman of the Classics Department from 1951-60.

Brother Jude was recalled in an eulogy delivered at his funeral by Brother Arthur J. Bangs, F.S.C., Ph.D., '53, associate professor of education, as a man who “knew exactly what he was about and pursued it to the end.”

Added Brother Bangs: “The demands, the excellence that Jude imposed upon his students only mildly resembled the expectations he imposed upon himself when he prepared with an awesome thoroughness and exactitude his own lessons . . . The craft of instruction Brother Jude judged an important one—a most serious enterprise, a sacred mission.”

From 1960-66, Brother Jude served as Visiting Professor of Classics at the University of Pittsburgh. He also taught at Calvert Hall High School, in Baltimore (1935-46), West Catholic High School for Boys in Philadelphia (1946-47), and Central Catholic High School, in Pittsburgh (1947-51).

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees at La Salle College and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He also did graduate work at The Catholic University, in Washington, D.C., at the American Academy, in Rome, and American School in Athens.

The author of Inscriptions Illustrative of Roman Private Life, published in 1954, Brother Jude was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, American Philosophical Association, Classical Association of Middle Atlantic States, Classical Association of Pennsylvania, and Classical Association of Philadelphia.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Catherine Mango, of Boston.

Mass of Christian Burial was sung on Nov. 27 at the La Salle University Chapel. Burial was the following day at the Christian Brothers' Cemetery, in Ammendale, Md.

Dr. Goldner, a professor of management, also directed La Salle's Small Business Development Center for eight years. He and his staff spent hours offering financial, marketing, management, and business advice to hopeful entrepreneurs.

Dr. Goldner, an internationally-recognized expert on creative thinking, taught seminars for numerous corporations and lectured frequently on management and creative problem solving throughout the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Israel, and Japan.

A 1940 graduate of the Wharton School, he also earned master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. He landed in France shortly after D-Day, served as a Captain in the Quartermaster Corps, and earned three battle stars in Europe during World War II.

Dr. Goldner was the author of The Strategy of Creative Thinking and numerous articles on creativity and management. He was a member of a number of professional associations and served as chairman of the Philadelphia area of the Small Business Advisory Council.

He is survived by his wife, Isabelle; two children, Lawrence and Wendy, two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Jan. 5 at Joseph Levine & Son Memorial Chapel, Inc., in Philadelphia. Burial was in Montefiore Cemetery.

In recent weeks, several of Dr. Goldner's closest friends and relatives have established a special scholarship fund in his memory at La Salle. Anyone interested in making a contribution to the Dr. Bernard B. Goldner Scholarship Fund should send his/her donation to Brother Charles E. Gresh, F.S.C., director of the annual fund, La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA 19141.
Pennsylvania's former Secretary of the Commonwealth and past president of Philadelphia City Council.

The fund provides for at least one fellowship per year to one or more La Salle students interested in pursuing a career in public service. In addition, the student awardees are placed in internship positions in local, state and federal government offices.

**$600,000 Grant**

**Awarded From The Pew Charitable Trusts**

La Salle University has been awarded a three-year $600,000 grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts to strengthen undergraduate liberal arts teaching.

The grant will be utilized by La Salle’s School of Arts and Sciences for a series of seminars, workshops and pilot teaching projects involved in the establishment of an Institute for the Enrichment of Liberal Arts Teaching.

According to Brother James Muldoon, F.S.C., Ph.D., dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, the Institute will include teacher seminars on a variety of topics as well as a summer workshop on student learning styles. Also included will be colloquia in which participating faculty can share their insights with other faculty members.

In addition, a Pilot Phase to begin in 1991, will allow the faculty to take the ideas gleaned from the seminars and workshops and incorporate them into specific courses.

“This gives us the opportunity to get into a forced setting certain things we’ve done in disjunctive units in the past,” Brother Muldoon explained. “The Institute’s goal is to help the faculty make themselves better teachers.”

La Salle’s Brother President Patrick Ellis, F.S.C., Ph.D., extended his sincere appreciation to the Trusts for the generous grant.

“Over the years,” he said, “La Salle University has benefited in many tangible ways from The Pew Charitable Trusts’ outstanding commitment to private higher education in the Delaware Valley. We are indeed very grateful for the Trusts’ most recent decision to support the Institute for the Enrichment of Liberal Arts Teaching and pledge to do everything in our power to ensure its success.”

The Pew Charitable Trusts consist of seven individual charitable funds established between 1948 and 1979 by the sons and daughters of Joseph N. Pew. The Trusts support nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life for people and communities and encouraging personal growth and self-sufficiency.
SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

'48
Michael C. Rainone, Esq., senior partner of Rainone and Rainone, was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Balch Institute in Philadelphia. Herman D. Staples, M.D., was elected vice president of the International Society for Adolescent Psychiatry.

'39
Joseph Haydt is retired and has been living in Florida for ten years.

'49
Walter Brough served as co-producer for the television shows Spenser for Hire in 1987-88 and Mission Impossible in 1988-89.

'52
Brother James Kirkpatrick, F.S.C., principal at Bishop Walsh Middle/High School, in Cumberland, Md., received a Medal of Honor from the Baltimore Archdiocese for his example of faith and commitment to the service of others. John F. Ricks retired as a special agent for the FBI in 1980 after 25 years of service. He is currently security director of Valley Bank of Nevada-Reno.

'55
Walter T. Peters, Jr., the former regional representative of the U.S. Secretary of Labor, has been elected to the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority, in Camden, N.J.

'56
Dr. Joseph P. O'Grady, professor of history at the university, is serving as a “core presenter” at a 21-month series of seminars entitled “Discover America: Behind the Headlines With Benjamin Franklin,” sponsored by the International Visitors Center of Philadelphia to acquaint foreign visitors with the American political and social system.

'57
Robert W. Kraemer, a physicist at the Carnegie Mellon University faculty for 25 years, has been named head of the Pittsburgh university's Physics Department.

'58
Citicorp/Citibank of New York has appointed John Haggerty as president of Citicorp National Services, Inc., a consumer financial services subsidiary headquartered in St. Louis, Mo.

'60
Robert F. Pappano has been appointed solicitor of Marple Township, a municipality in Delaware County, Pa.

'61
Matthew A. Bowe, who served as an officer with the U.S. Army for 25 years, is now admissions officer at Valley Forge Military Academy and Junior College, in Wayne, Pa.

'62
John P. Broderick, director of International Programs at Old Dominion University, in Norfolk, Va., participated in a Fulbright-Hays Seminar for International Education Administrators in West Germany in 1988 and served as the project director for a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad in Morocco in 1989.

'63
Joseph L. Folz, CPCU, is resident vice president of the New Jersey branch office of the Harleysville Insurance Company. For the past two years he served in the same capacity for the company's office in Chesapeake, Md.

'64
Joseph Batory, superintendent of the Upper Darby (Pa.) School District, has been named one of the 100 outstanding school managers in North America. He is cited in The Executive Educator 100, a blue ribbon listing similar to the Fortune 500 or the Forbes 400 for business and industry. Wallace Cannon has joined the Kennett Square (Pa.) based Genesis Health Ventures as vice president of program development. Joseph E. McCullough was selected executive vice president of South Jersey Gas Company. He will oversee the company's marketing, external relations, and human resources functions. Ray Minger is director of five Minger and Lee's Tae Kwon Do (Korean Karate) Schools in Philadelphia and Bucks County. He also teaches history at Bensalem (Pa.) High School. John P. Penders, Esq., a partner in the Philadelphia law firm of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman and Goggin, was admitted to the American Board of Trial Advocates.

'65
Thomas V. Grady has been named manager of development and training for Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) of West Point, Pa., in the U.S. Prescription Drug Division of Merck & Co., Inc. Robert J. Hannigan recently joined American City Mortgage Company as vice president, income property lending. Stephen Van Benshoten is playing the title role in The Nerd, at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, in Indianapolis.

'66
John J. Higgins was elected corporate vice president of IBM in Armonk, N.Y., where he is assistant general manager, finance and planning, U.S. Marketing and Services. Dr. Robert P. Johnson, a family physician at New Holland Family Health Center, has been elected president of the 530-member medical and dental staff at Lancaster (Pa.) General Hospital.

'67
Dr. Louis J. Beccaria has joined the University of Delaware as director of development. Colonel John T. Digilio, Jr., administrator for the Lutheran Center for the Aging, in
Smithtown, N.Y., was the first recipient of the "Colonel Gouverneur Morris Citizen/Soldier Award" in recognition of his outstanding participation in professional and service organizations. He was chosen from over 25,000 New York Army and Air National Guard members. Lawrence R. Mesarick was appointed principal of Pinelands Regional Middle School, in Tuckerton, N.J. Brother Lawrence E. Oelschlegel, F.S.C., Ph.D., lecturer in English at La Salle, celebrated his 25th anniversary as a member of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. Joseph J. Talarico has resigned as director of public relations. Southern Europe/Middle East Area of CIGNA World Wide Incorporated, in Philadelphia. John T. Thorn, Esq., a senior partner with the Philadelphia law firm Cozen and O'Connor, P.C., has been selected for inclusion in the sixth edition of Who's Who in American Law.

Leo J. Hughes, owner of Hughes-Penglase and Associates, in Chalfont, Pa., was inducted into Pierce Junior College's Alumni Hall of Fame for his commitment to the college, volunteer services, and involvement in the community.

Frederick Gunther has started a general merchandise wholesale business named F.S.G., Inc., in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. Richard P. Hamilton has been named chairman of the Theology Department at Archbishop Kennedy High School, in Conshohocken, Pa. The Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce has appointed James F. McManus senior vice president of programs, responsible for directing all chamber programs, councils and committees in the areas of small business, business development and business support.

W. David Breen, a partner in the Delaware County (Pa.) law firm of Cronin, Emuryan and Breen, has been elected president of the Delaware County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. James F. Nageli was named head of the Theology Department at Canton (Ohio) Central Catholic High School. He is also a part-time lecturer in theology at Walsh College.

Michael J. Diccicco was named president and chief operating officer of Letven/Diccicco Advertising and Public Relations, of Horsham, Pa.

Retired La Salle baseball coach Gene McDonnell, '55, (second from right), who guided the Explorers to a record 430 wins in 30 years at the helm, had his uniform number retired in ceremonies prior to the La Salle-St. Peter's basketball game at the Civic Center on Feb. 5. Also honored were former La Salle baseball greats Tom Filer, '78 (right), a pitcher who was named 1989 Comeback Player of the Year by the Milwaukee Brewers; third baseman Steve O'Donnell, '89 (left), who is playing in the Los Angeles Dodger system, and Barry Petrachenko, '83, who was voted the Most Valuable Player of Team Canada in 1988.
Sallyanne Harper was promoted to director of the financial management division of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She is responsible for the agency's accounting systems, finance systems and internal controls. Susan Coia Gailey, Ph.D., is a health policy analyst with the consulting firm, Lefelbev & Company, Inc., coordinating a five-year federal grant for the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Robert Thomas Cornelson received a Ph.D. in religion from Emory University, in Atlanta, Ga. Francis Donnelly of King of Prussia, Pa., joins the professional staff of the accounting firm Maille, Falconiero & Co.

BIRTHS: to Ralph Ehinger and his wife Ellen McDonald Ehinger ('79), a daughter, Samantha Anne; to Marlyn Alkins and her husband, Jerrold, a daughter, Jennifer Lynn.

Wayne, Pa. Ralph Ehinger, M.D., and his wife, Ellen McDonald Ehinger, have named their second child, a daughter, Rachel Ashley; to Mark A. Di Rugeris, a Pathologist in Philadelphia.

The new Crime Prevention Officer at Philadelphia's 14th Police District is the professional staff at the account firm Maille, Falconiero & Co.

Dwight Vare, Va., has been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal in recognition for his outstanding accomplishments. Leonard Zimmerman has been appointed a campaign associate of the Federation Allied Jewish Appeal, in Philadelphia.

Dr. Louis J. Gringeri has opened an office for the practice of family medicine in Newtown Pa. Hal Hirsch, D.M.D., opened an office in Laurel Springs, N.J. Burton Langer, M.D., practices pediatric and adolescent medicine with Francis T. Ferry, M.D. ('74), and Carole A. Subotich, M.D. ('80), at Woodbury Pediatrics, in Woodbury, N.J. Marine Captain Stanley R. Snock, serving at Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Va., has been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal in recognition for his outstanding accomplishments. Leonard Zimmerman has been appointed a campaign associate of the Federation Allied Jewish Appeal, in Philadelphia.


'85

Pamela A. Rosso-Duffy is a supervisory contract specialist for the Department of Defense in Philadelphia.

MARRIAGES: Karen A. Bruno to Rod J. Gullo; Pamela A. Rosso to Gerard Dufey.

'86

Susan Marie Boltz has begun first year studies at the Dickinson School of Law, in Carlisle, Pa. Maria Therese Formanek is a registered nurse at Thomas Jefferson University.

Assistant Director of Alumni Appointed

Margaret M. (Margie) Kraft joined the staff of the Alumni Office as an assistant director in January. She joins Director Jim McDonald and Assistant Director Chip Greenberg in the effort to organize activities for and provide service to over 29,000 La Salle alumni.

Margie has a degree in English from Chestnut Hill College and included in her diversified experience are eight years in trade association management. Her primary responsibility in the Alumni Office will be the coordination of the Class Reunion Program.
MARRIAGES: Patrick Michael Clowry to Susan Kathleen Rogers; Maria Therese Formanek to Thomas P. Murt ('89 MA); Michael Cameron O'Connor to Wendy R. Strickland.

'S88

William J. Adams has completed a master's degree in speech communication at Indiana University and is now pursuing an MBA at the same school. Maureen T. Gimpel, who is pursuing J.D. and LL.M. (international law) degrees at Duke University, has been elected to La Salle University's Board of Trustees. Diana M. Piccinini is teaching severely emotionally disturbed adolescents in Baltimore County, Md. Karen Rio works at Prudential Insurance Company by day, teaches aerobics at Progressive Fitness Center, of Horsham, Pa., at night and serves as a cheerleader for the Philadelphia Eagles professional football team in her spare time. Christine Desiderati Shunk is a legal assistant with Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoads law firm, in Philadelphia. Judi Walsh has received a six-month extension on her Fulbright Grant to study the changes the news department of Television-New Zealand will undergo during the introduction of the first private television channel in that nation.

MARRIAGES: Diana M. Piccinini to Daniel Mueller; Christine M. Desiderati to Joseph V. Shunk ('88 BLS).

'S89

Kenneth Bradley, Barbara L. DeVenuto and Robert M. Slutsky have begun first-year studies at the Dickinson School of Law, in Carlisle, Pa.

'87

James J. Comitale, a third year law student at Dickinson School of Law, in Carlisle, Pa., represented Dickinson at the Irving R. Kaufman Securities Law Moot Court Competition in New York City. Leigh Anne McDonald was named a public relations assistant for the Philadelphia Phillies. Michael J. Sepanic was appointed assistant director of the Office of Public Information at Rutgers University's Camden (N.J.) campus. Paul Winter, of King of Prussia, Pa., is a registered representative with Vanguard Discount Brokerage Services and chief of section five for the fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta.

'S87

Simon Nagel, manager of the business management/pricing branch at the GE Space Center APMRO (Air Force Systems Command), received the Air Force Outstanding Civilian Career Service Medal upon his retirement after 34 years of government service.

'S84

Lawrence Mellon, M.D., has been elected corporate vice president of Charter Tread Corporation, in Valley Forge, Pa.

'S59

Thomas A. Manning has joined the New York research firm of Audits and Surveys as a representative with U.S.C since 1969. Robert A. Rende, president of Rende and Associates, Inc., specialists in creative interior and exterior landscape architecture, has been elected chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

'S61

Dr. Martin Ney, superintendent of the Mullica Township (N.J.) School District, has been elected president-elect of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA) for 1989-90. Joseph T. Paslawski graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

'S62

Joseph J. Semeister, Jr., is teaching chemistry at Springfield High School, in Delaware County, Pa., where he has been a science teacher for 27 years.

'S63

Gene Conboy completed 40 years of service at SmithKline Beecham Corporation. William A. Garrigle has been re-certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a certified trial attorney. Currently he is chairman of the Camden Inn of Court, a program under the sponsorship of the New Jersey Supreme Court and the Camden Bar Association. Frankford Trust Co., in Philadelphia, has appointed John J. Lehane vice president of the bank and a member of the officers' loan committee. Thomas A. Smith, Jr., was promoted to vice president and general manager of Franke, Inc.'s Kitchen Systems Division, in Hatfield, Pa. Franke, Inc. is a Swiss manufacturer of high and stainless steel kitchen equipment and accessories. Frank B. Stull has been appointed vice president of the finance division of Heinz U.S.A., in Pittsburgh, Pa., division of the H.J. Heinz Company.

'S64

Dennis S. Marlo has been elected senior vice president and chief financial officer of Main Line Federal Savings Bank, in Villanova, Pa.

'S65

James J. David has been promoted to colonel
and has received federal recognition in the Georgia Army National Guard. Gabriel F. Mascio has been named vice president of marketing for Susannah Farms, a meat processing manufacturing company in Pennsauken, N.J. William E. Smith is director of chemical research for Polaroid Corporation.

'66
Joseph W. Gunder, Jr. has started his own business, United States Accumulator Company, in Phoenixville, Pa., offering products and services related to the battery industry. Thomas D. McGovern has been appointed athletic director at Lower Merion (Pa.) High School. John W. Wiercinski has joined Meridian Asset Management, Inc., a subsidiary of Meridian Bancorp, as vice president in employee benefit and institutional sales. He is responsible for business development in the Northern Philadelphia suburbs, New York City and New Jersey.

'67
James A. Guerrera celebrated the first anniversary of the Realty Firm Carey and Guerrera, in Huntington Center, Shelton, Conn. Edward Kelly is warehouse manager for Gunton Corp. in Norristown, Pa., a distributor of Pella Doors and Windows. He was also promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

'68
Ford Motor Credit has appointed Frederick W. Maier manager of the Pittsburgh (Pa.) branch. He is a 22-year veteran with Ford Motor Credit and served most recently as an operations specialist for the North Atlantic Region.

'69
BIRTH: to Frederick Wilson and his wife, Patricia, their third child, a son, Timothy Joseph.

'70
John E. Wroblewski was appointed regional sales manager for GTE North, Public Communications, in Erie, Pa.

'71
Laurence J. Kelly attended the 1989 Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) meeting held in Toronto, Canada as a Court of the Table Qualifier. W. Dan Nagle has been named vice president of sales and marketing of the Tastykake Division of the Tasty Baking, in Philadelphia. He was also elected to the firm's Board of Directors. Frank J. Peditto has been named vice president of finance at Spectacor Management Group, in Philadelphia, the world's leading private management and development company for public assembly facilities. Robert V. Sorensen, CPA, has been appointed Treasurer of LifeQuest, a healthcare system comprised of Quakertown Community Hospital, in Quakertown, Pa., and seven other subsidiaries. Navy Commander Anthony E. Steigerman visited Hong Kong during a deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean while serving aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, homeported in Alameda, Calif.

'72
Frank J. Carr was named director of accounting at the Philadelphia Geriatric Center. Thomas J. Fitzpatrick has been appointed president and chief executive officer of Spring Financial Services, in Mt. Laurel, N.J. Richard J. Haselbarth has joined Sellersville Savings and Loan Association, in Perkasie, Pa., as vice president, mortgage lending officer. Stephen M. Hoffman was promoted to vice president of international examinations at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Dr. Robert Kaplan has opened a new office for chiropractic health care in Cherry Hill, N.J. He maintains a practice in Philadelphia, as well. Glenn Ruffell wrote a book of surrealistic short stories titled The Plantings, published by Runaway Spoon Press. William D. White is an organic chemist for Rohm and Haas Co., in Philadelphia. Robert Young teaches mathematics for Springfield High School, in Delaware County, Pa.

MARRIAGE: Robert Joseph Richardson to Lisa Ann Demers.

'73
Vincent P. McNichol has been promoted to vice president at W.H. Newbold’s, a regional investment firm, in Jenkintown, Pa. John J. Middleton, Esq., is director of legal affairs at Girard Medical Center, in Philadelphia. Alan L. Smith has been awarded the professional insurance designation Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) by the American Institute for Property and Liability Underwriters.

MARRIAGE: Donald Joseph Spence to Patrice Lynn Beittel.

'74
Anthony W. Martin was elected township supervisor in Warrington, Pa.

MARRIAGE: William J. McManimen, III to Joanne Michel.

'75
James A. Spaziano, vice president of real

Former Explorer basketball players who gathered at the Civic Center for an old-timer’s game prior to the La Salle-Fairfield contest on Feb. 18 included (from left): Frank Hoerst, ’39; George Paul, ’67; Bill McGonigal, ’58; Buddy Donnelly, ’52; Jack Haggerty, ’57; Matt Fanning, ’61; Ed Altiere, ’55; Bob (Ace) McCann, ’50; Bill Ring, ’68; Bill (Inky) Gallagher, ’50; Mike Boligits, ’67; Frank Corace, ’64; Joe Rapczynski, ’74; Frank Moffatt, ’74; Stan Williams, ’81; Dave Davis, ’83; Chip Greenberg, ’86; Ralph Gilmore, ’84; Chuck Storm, ’67; Joe Lynch, ’65, and Charley McGlone, ’42.
Borrowers in Default of Student Loans are Granted Grace Period

U.S. Secretary of Education Lauro F. Cavazos recently announced a special six-month grace period that will allow borrowers currently in default to pay off their federally-guaranteed student loans without penalty. The program is authorized by provisions of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1988, as amended.

Under the student loan payoff program, which began on March 1, 1990, borrowers who have defaulted on federally-guaranteed student loans may contact the guarantee agency holding the loan and arrange to repay the loan in full before August 31, 1990.

Payment in full of principal and interest due on defaulted loans will save these borrowers the cost of penalties, administrative charges, and collection fees—costs that can total up to 35 percent of the debt.

Consumer credit reporting agencies will receive notice that a loan has been paid in full. This is a one-time opportunity for borrowers to satisfy the legal obligation of their defaulted student loans.

Fla. William F. Nolan, II, a senior contract administrator with the Defense Contract Administration Services Management Area, received his master's of science in administration degree from Central Michigan University.

MARRIAGE: Anthony Barbuto to Donna Siethers.

Fidelity Bank of Philadelphia has appointed Fred S. Bachman to tax officer. Barbara Elliott, a human resources consultant, has joined the management team at Argo Associates, of Malvern, Pa. Michael McGirney attended John Marshall Law School in Chicago, passed the Illinois Bar, and is now working as Assistant U.S. Attorney in Miami.

Elizabeth S. Weigand, Edwin J. Detrick, Home Builders. Marketing of the National Association of

Paul J. Kelly, III is the administrator of The Robinson Trusts, in Philadelphia. Giles and Ransome, of Bensalem, Pa., a distributor of heavy equipment, has named Dennis Runyon as corporate vice president of finance.

MARRIAGE: Joseph Charles Yates to Kathy Jean Hall.

Joseph Benonis was appointed director of materials management at St. Francis Medical Center, in Trenton, N.J. Peter J. Farano has been named pathologist at Frankford Hospital in Philadelphia. Dan Rongione is vice president and a director of the Bolman Hat Company, inAdamstown, Pa., the world's largest producer of men's and women's headwear.

BIRTH: to Thomas F. Crawford, Esq., and his wife, Joan, a son, Christian James; to Joseph Lukas and his wife, Penny Klosz-Lukas, their second son, Michael Stephen.

Paul Reibold is controller of Cutler Sign Industries.

MARRIAGE: John Francis Donegan, Jr., to Carla Jo Reifsteck.

BIRTH: to Paul Reibold and his wife, Denise William Reibold ['80], their first child, a daughter, Lindsay Kate; Paul T. Schwab ['86 MBA] and his wife, Maria Musumeri Schwab ['80 BA], a daughter, Alyson Maria; William J. Mahler and his wife, Donna M. Thorp-Maher ['82 BA], their first child, a son, William Jeffrey.

Christopher J. Crowe is an assistant vice president at Merrill Lynch's newest branch, in Cape May, N.J.

Thomas Hagan has joined Abington (Pa.) Federal Savings Bank as an internal auditor. Kenneth Jenkins has been promoted to assistant vice president of American ReInsurance Company, in Princeton, N.J. James R. Moran has been promoted to assistant store manager at Mr. Goodbuys, in Wyncote, Pa. Marc Orsimarsi is corporate controller of Canterbury Education Services Corporation.

MARRIAGES: Michael Joseph Matthews to Janice A. Novak; Marc Orsimarsi to Nancy Stevens.

BIRTH: to Diane Mulherrin McCarthy and her husband, William Jay McCarthy, their first child, a daughter, Maggie.

James Bolitz was promoted to manager at the accounting firm of Laventhol and Horwath, CPAs, specializing in accounting and auditing. Rick DeCarolis has been promoted to senior business analyst, International Insurance Department, at the Prudential Insurance Company of America, in Newark, N.J. Mary Ehrlichman has been promoted to senior loan officer of Fidelity Bank, in Philadelphia. John F. Glowacki, Jr., Esq., is an attorney with the firm LaBrum and Doak, in Philadelphia. Sharon M. Laydon has been appointed controller of St. Joseph Hospital and Health Care Center, in Lancaster, Pa. Donna M. Shea is a senior financial analyst for Bell Atlantic Properties, Inc., in Philadelphia.

MARRIAGE: James Bolitz to Tina Reuter.

BIRTH: to Michael DeMarco and his wife, Bernadine, a daughter, Michelle; to Kate Griffin Stavis and her husband, Jim, their first child, a daughter, Elizabeth; to Thomas Zamadics and his wife, Anne Marie, a son, Joseph Coltn.

Robert A. Hopstetter is a tax senior associate for Coopers & Lybrand, in Harrisburg, Pa. Michael Spadaro is territory manager for Teriemo Corporation, in Piscataway, N.J.

MARRIAGES: Mariellen Caviston to Brian F. McGovern; Cathleen M. Fraser to Robert M. Foley.

Marie R. Elliott, FLMI, is branch administrator of the Philadelphia branch of Manufacturers Life Insurance Company.

MARRIAGE: Linda Marie Spadaro to Edward P. Movinski.

Frank Fitzpatrick is a copywriter with Reynolds and Schaeffer Associates, a marketing and communication firm in Cherry Hill, N.J.

Paul T. Dotzman is working in the small business lending area of Bucks County Bank & Trust, in Doylestown, Pa. Mary Elaine Egan is an intern in the healthcare audit depart-
Chapters Plan Various Events for Spring & Summer

Brother President Patrick Ellis, F.S.C., Ph.D., addressed a group of Central Pennsylvania alumni at the Harrisburg Marriott on March 9. James L. Hagen, '62, chaired the event.

MBA Alumni honored Core-States C.E.O. Terrence A. Larsen at a dinner in the Union Ballroom on March 19. Also, honored was MBA alumnus ('80) William J. King, Chairman and C.E.O. of Dauphin Deposit Corporation.

The Communication Alumni held their third annual dinner on campus on March 30. Alumni President Stephen McGonigle was a guest.

The re-activated Education Alumni Association held an informal reception on April 3 in the Dunleavy Room. A steering committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Bernard Rafferty is planning elections and professional programs in the coming year.

The alumni honor society of Alpha Epsilon had a meeting on April 4 and adopted rules of procedure including three year terms for officers starting in 1991.

MARRIAGES: Carolyn A. Skrobola to Mike Mession (USN); Joseph V. Shunk to Christine M. Desiderati ('88 BA).

'B89

Barry Petrochanko, second baseman for Team Canada, was named "Player of the Year" for 1989 by Baseball Canada.

B.S. NURSING

Alice E. Shuler received her MSN from the University of Pennsylvania and is presently director of mental health services in Hillsborough County Jails, in Tampa, Fla.

GRADUATE RELIGION

Anne-Marie Kiehne is a nursing instructor at Immaculata (Pa.) College. JoAnne Ruth is a labor and delivery nurse at Rolling Hill Hospital, in Philadelphia. Mary L. Wilby has been named clinical nurse specialist at the new oncology unit at Presbyterian Medical Center, in Philadelphia.
his faith and commitment to the service of others.

'63
John P. Broderick is director of international programs at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. He has participated in a Fulbright-Hays seminar for International Education Administrators in West Germany and served as project director for a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad in Morocco.

'89
MARRIAGE: Thomas P. Murt to Maria Therese Formanek ('86 BA).

MBA

'73
Paul Smith has been named acting director of administrative services at Temple University, in Philadelphia.

'75
Kathleen Burns Kapusnick has been named treasurer of Alco Standard Corp.

'80
Joseph O'Neill has been promoted to vice president of Security Savings Bank, in Salem, N.J. Lawrence S. Weigand has been appointed vice president of accounting and support services at Princeton Financial Systems, Inc., a designer and provider of investment management and accounting systems for institutional investors.

'81
Stephen Scott has joined Lanard & Axilbund Inc., in Philadelphia, as a sales associate in the firm's industrial real estate division.

'82
Stanley V. Todd has been named tax manager at Maillie, Falconiero & Co., a regional accounting firm based in Oaks, Pa.

'85
John Birchaks is vice president of finance and marketing of the Philadelphia Weight Watchers' franchise.

'86
BIRTH: to Paul T. Schwab ('80 BS) and his wife, Maria Mosumeri Schwab ('80 BA), a daughter, Alyson Maria.

'87
John J. McColgan was named vice president and controller of reporting at First American Savings, in Jenkintown, Pa.

'89
Rick DeCarolis ('83 BS) has been promoted to senior business analyst, International Insurance Department at the Prudential Insurance Company of America, in Newark, N.J. Michael V. Griffin has been appointed senior vice president—claims division for Hill International, Inc., an international construction consulting firm in Willingboro, N.J.

The Christian Brothers held a reunion on Nov. 9 at La Salle University of all the recently-named vicars of the Archdiocese with many of their former Brother teachers. All attended either West Catholic, La Salle High, La Salle University, or a combination of these. Seated are Rev. Thomas Hilferty (left) and Rev. Frank Menna. Standing (from left): La Salle University's Brother President Patrick Ellis, Rev. Msgr. Charles Devlin; Brother Colman Coogan, Provincial; Rev. Msgr. James McDonough, Rev. Msgr. John Bartos, Rev. Msgr. Edward Cullen, and Rev. Msgr. Thomas Leonard. The vicars celebrated the liturgy in the Brothers' chapel and then joined in a social and dinner.

MOVING?

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1. PRINT your full name, class year and new address on the opposite side of this form and

2. Attach the label from the back cover of this issue and mail to the Alumni Office, La Salle University, Phila., PA 19141.

NECROLOGY

'16
John Austin McCarthy

'49
James M. Gallagher

'50
Charles V. Bradley

'52
Theodore J. Simendenger

'54
John J. Graham

'64
Francis de Sales Kerr

'84 (Hon, LL.D.)

William A. Rudolph

'72

Jack M. Keen

'73

Peter F. Walsh, Jr.

'84 (Hon, LL.D.)

James Guo
A Class Reunion Gift—an investment in La Salle’s future

Respond generously to your caller for the Reunion Gift

Your Alma Mater needs your help to move through the 90’s

The Fiscal Year ends June 30th

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Cinderella in Sneakers

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