INTRODUCTION

TEAM

# PAGES  MISSING YEARS:

Introduction                       5  N/A
Baseball                           51  1971-76, 81, 82
Men's Basketball                 45  1977
Women's Basketball               37  Complete*
Men's Cross Country              50  Complete*
Women's Cross Country            37  Complete*
Field Hockey                      21  Complete
Golf                               45  Pre-1999
Men's Lacrosse                    17  Complete
Women's Lacrosse                  15  Complete
Men's Soccer                      25  Complete
Women's Soccer                    24  Complete
Softball                           39  Pre-1990
Men’s Swimming                    13  Complete
Women’s Swimming                  19  Complete
Track & Field                     12  Complete
Volleyball                         23  Pre-1989*
Appendix                           20  N/A

TOTAL PAGES: 498

*Records are complete but some individual data is missing

NOTE TO THE READER: Please keep in mind when perusing the pages of this book that some of the information is incomplete. The Saint Joseph’s Sports Information Department went to great lengths to make certain that the data is as accurate and as complete as possible, with the understanding that some information simply was not available.

It is the hope that by putting this book in the hands of interested SJC Athletics followers we will begin the task of filling some of the “gaps” within. Although much of the missing past has been recovered with the help of alumni and the meticulous work of SID staff and interns, we know more digging lies ahead.

The Ninth Edition of the Saint Joseph’s College Athletics Record Book has grown in some areas and been streamlined in others. In the end, the 2017 edition is 13 pages shorter – in an attempt to fit the book binding more neatly - than the 2016 copy.

As always, we welcome feedback and if anything is found to be inaccurate or incomplete, please let us know!

All the best,

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Saint Joseph’s College Athletics Record Book ~ NINTH Edition

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Athletics Overview

Athletic Directors

Rick Simonds (1981-92, 93-03*)
*On Sabbatical in 1992-93

Mike McDevitt (1992-1993)

David Roussel (2003-2006)

Brian Curtin (2006-)

Conference Membership
WMAC (-1993)
MAC (1993-2002)
NCAA Division III (1974-)
NAIA Division II (1971-2002)
NCAA Division III Independent (2003-07)
NAC (Baseball 2005-07, Men's Lacrosse 2008-10, Field Hockey 2008-2013
GNAC (2007-)

Facilities Built
Bernard Currier Gymnasium
(September 8, 1985)
- Named for Bernard P. Currier, the 8th President of Saint Joseph’s College
- Nicknamed The Monster Building, The Cow Palace, and The Chamber of Horrors. The building, which was originally constructed as a maintenance building, was memorialized on February 19, 1999 with a special ceremony entitled, “The End of an Era.” The last actual game was a MAC playoff game.

Richard W. Bailey Field
(September 8, 1985, re-dedicated April 9th, 2011)

Westerlea Way Field
- Opened in 1990

The Harold Alfond Center
(September 17, 1999)
- A $7.5 million facility named for the state of Maine’s leading benefactor for educational facilities, Harold Alfond. His gift towards construction was the largest gift in Saint Joseph’s College history.
- It includes: natatorium, fitness and weight room, climbing wall, dance studio, elevated indoor track, 12,000 square foot gymnasium with seating for 1,300, three batting cages, four locker rooms (two with saunas), athletic training room, student lounge, hospitality suit, classrooms and athletic offices.

Larry Mahaney Diamond
(Major enhancements, September 29, 2001)
- Named for the well-known Maine businessman and philanthropist, Larry Mahaney. Larry Mahaney Diamond at Ward Park is New England’s only fully lighted collegiate baseball/softball complex.
- Includes: four outdoor batting cages, 10 bullpen mounds, on-field locker room, NEVCO 324-square-foot, inning-by-inning electronic scoreboard, fully-equipped press box, 500-seat bleacher area, concession stand, in-ground irrigation system, public address system, an alumni box overlooking the home dugout, a state of the art video stand in right-center field, and protective fences in front of both dugouts.

Mercy Field
(October 2002)
Mercy Field, which overlooks the scenic view of Sebago Lake and the White Mountains, was constructed in 2002 and is set on the north end of campus behind Mercy Hall. The facility serves as the host for the SJC field hockey team and features hillside grass seating, along with a set of 100-plus capacity bleachers, to help accommodate the large crowds that can be found at the field, especially during the Monks’ playoff runs.
ABOUT SJC ATHLETICS

Saint Joseph's College offers 19 varsity sports programs and is a member of the NCAA Division III and the Great Northeast Athletic Conference. The Monks compete among many top-ranked teams and long-time local rivals during the teams’ respective regular seasons and consistently advance into conference tournament play.

Saint Joseph’s is dedicated to the NCAA DIII philosophy of making athletics an integral part of the educational experience and creating an opportunity for student-athletes to become well-rounded individuals. The College also places an emphasis on the primary tenets of the GNAC: Community, Sportsmanship and Integrity.

The GNAC includes institutions from all six New England states: Albertus Magnus College (CT), Anna Maria College (MA), Emmanuel College (MA), Johnson & Wales University (RI), Lasell College (MA), Mount Ida College (MA), Norwich University (VT), Rivier College (NH), Saint Joseph College (CT), Simmons College (MA) and Suffolk University (MA) in addition to Saint Joseph’s College.

In all, 15 St. Joe’s programs participate in the GNAC: men’s and women’s cross country, field hockey, golf, men’s and women’s soccer and volleyball in the fall; men’s and women’s basketball and women’s swimming in the winter; and baseball, men’s and women’s lacrosse and softball in the spring.

HISTORY

Saint Joseph’s College became a co-educational institution in 1970 and shortly thereafter announced the addition of an athletics program. The effort to establish a successful athletics program was spearheaded by the college’s first Athletic Director, Chris Kiernan, who also served as the Director of Admissions and Head Coach of the men’s basketball program at St. Joe’s.

The men’s basketball program, which played an exhibition schedule in the winter of 1970-71 before playing a varsity slate the next year, was the first varsity sport at Saint Joseph’s. Baseball and softball were added in the spring of 1975 and women’s basketball followed in 1977. Women’s volleyball became a varsity sport in 1978 and cross country began at St. Joe’s in 1980.

Women’s soccer was added in 1988, while men’s soccer and golf were both added to the fall docket at Saint Joseph’s in 1990. Field hockey came to St. Joe’s in 1995 as the 11th Monks’ varsity program. Men’s and women’s lacrosse teams and men’s and women’s swimming programs were added in 2008 to bring the total to 15 varsity squads. Four years later, men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track and field programs were added to the varsity offering, pushing the total of varsity teams up to 19.

AFFILIATIONS

The Saint Joseph’s athletics program started out as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), Division II, in 1971 and gained NCAA DIII status in 1974. The Monks had a dual affiliation with the NAIA and NCAA until attaining NCAA DIII Independent status in 2003.

All SJC teams competed as NCAA Independent programs - other than the SJC baseball program, which joined the North Atlantic Conference as an associate member in 2005 - until Saint Joseph’s joined the GNAC in the fall of 2007. Field hockey played in the NAC from 2008 – 2013 and joined the GNAC in 2014, while men’s lacrosse played as an independent team in 2008 and participated in the NAC for two seasons before joining the GNAC in 2011.

TRADITION

In 40 years of NCAA participation, Saint Joseph’s College Athletic programs have collectively won 124 championships and made 35 appearances at the national level. Throughout the years, the Monks have captured 75 conference titles and 40 regional crowns. Thirty-nine different Saint Joseph's athletes have combined to garner a total of 53 All-America honors in the history of Monks Athletics.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

1912 Established Saint Joseph’s College; located at Saint Joseph’s Academy, Portland
1915 Chartered by State of Maine as first Catholic College for Women in Maine
1949 Changed name to College of Our Lady of Mercy for more visible identity Affiliated with The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
1954 Purchased Verrill estate on the Shore of Sebago Lake, Standish- 115 acres
1956 Moved from Portland to new campus in Standish
1960 Full-time Enrollment- 100
1970 Transitioned from an all-women’s college to a coeducational institution
1970 Gymnasium built; affectionately known as either "The Monster Building" or “Chamber of Horrors”
1970 Began first athletic teams for men and women: The Monks/Lady Monks
1974 Men’s Basketball stars John Alexander and Mike Johnston garner All-America recognition
1975 Baseball and Softball added as varsity sports
1977 Women’s Basketball added as a varsity sport
1978 Volleyball added as a varsity sport
1977 Monks Baseball team captures the first conference title (WMAC) in SJC Athletics history
1979 Built Tennis courts with three playing surfaces
1980 Cross Country added as a varsity sport
1981 SJC Cross Country runners make Monks’ first appearance at national level in NAIA Championship
1982 Developed the campus beachfront
1982 Dedicated the Margaret H. Heffernan Center, multipurpose building
1985 Fulltime traditional enrollment- 500
1985 Dedicated Msgr. Edward F. Ward Field for baseball/softball/outdoor sports
1985 Dedicated gymnasium in memory of Bernard P. Currier, 8th president
1985 Received national coverage for men’s basketball team in Sports Illustrated
1987 Men’s Basketball team defeats Biola (CA) in the NAIA National Tournament
1987 Installed night lighting for Ward Park (first college campus in Maine to have it)
1988 Women’s Soccer added as a varsity sport
1990 Men’s Soccer and golf added as varsity sports, Westerlea Way Field opened
1995 Field Hockey added as a varsity sport
1998 Introduced the Honors Program for on-campus traditional students
1999 Fulltime Traditional Enrollment- 772
1999 Completed construction and dedicated The Harold Alfond Center
2000 Inaugural Saint Joseph’s Athletics Hall of Fame class inducted
2001 Bernard P. Currier Hall (122 beds) completed
2002 Mercy Field opened
2003 Monks leave NAIA and attain NCAA DIII Independent status
2003 Feehey Hall (122 beds) completed
2003 Men’s Basketball team becomes the first SJC program to appear in an NCAA Tournament with an at-large bid
2004 Alfond Hall completed
2006 Monks Baseball team tops Bowdoin in NCAA DIII Regional Tournament – the first NCAA Tournament victory in SJC history
2006 Celebrated 25 years on the lake
2007 Joined Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Men’s & Women’s Lacrosse and Men’s & Women’s Swimming added as varsity sports
2007 Women’s cross-country team captures first GNAC Championship for Saint Joseph’s
2008 Full time Traditional Enrollment- 1,062
2008 Jillian Leger named GNAC Woman of the Year
2008 Field Hockey and Men’s Lacrosse programs become associate members of the North Atlantic Conference
2009 Men’s soccer program wins GNAC Championship and makes the program’s first NCAA Tournament appearance
2009 Saint Joseph’s athletics partners with Presto Sports, www.gomonks.com launched on October 15th
2010 Men’s lacrosse program moves to GNAC after two seasons in the North Atlantic Conference
2011 Softball team wins GNAC title, appears in NCAA Tournament for first time in program history
2011 Alyssa Dunn selected as GNAC Woman of the Year
2012 Baseball Head Coach Will Sanborn ’86 becomes the department’s all-time wins leader, surpassing Rick Simonds
2012 Saint Joseph’s athletics partners with Stretch Internet to create department’s first video portal, www.gomonks.tv
2012 Men’s & women’s indoor and outdoor track added as varsity sports, bringing the SJC athletics offering up to 19 teams
2012 Baseball team breaks SJC single-season wins record – finishing the year 39-7 overall and ranked 14th nationally
2012 Hannah Gajewski named GNAC Woman of the Year
2013 Danyelle Shufelt named GNAC Woman of the Year
2014 Women's Basketball program wins GNAC Championship, advances to NCAA Tournament for the first time
2014 Head Baseball Coach Will Sanborn '86 becomes first coach in SJC history to reach 600-victory plateau
2014 Rachelle Messuri named GNAC Woman of the Year
2015 Women's Lacrosse program captures first conference championship and makes first NCAA Tournament appearance
2015 Theresa Hendrix selected as GNAC Woman of the Year
2016 Field Hockey program claims first conference championship and wins first NCAA Tournament game in team history
2016 Men's soccer program advances to second round of NCAA Tournament with PK win over Babson College

WHY THE MONKS?

Saint Joseph's is the only college or university in the United States, in any division, to have "The Monks" as its nickname. What is a "Monk"? The term "Monk" describes a priest or religious who has dedicated his life to the church. Throughout history, traits common to Monks world over include: "togetherness," "a group coming together with one purpose," "the struggles and importance of self-sacrifice," "physical and mental discipline," and "inner energy" - all traits that make for a good teammate, a good student-athlete.

The Saint Joseph's College athletic teams proudly wear the nickname, "The Monks."

The history of Saint Joseph's College becoming "The Monks" dates back to 1970. It was only one year after the Board of Trustees decided that the College would become co-educational that then-College President Bernard P. Currier hired Christopher Kiernan from Assumption College to be the Director of Admissions and the Director of Athletics.

Up to that point, athletics at Saint Joseph's was more of an activity for the students than a competitive varsity program. Chris Kiernan was challenged to make the change to varsity sports and was literally starting from square one with no budget. The first big question -- where would he get uniforms? From his time at Assumption College, Kiernan knew that Assumption Prep was about to close its doors, so he called the prep school and asked if he could have their team uniforms. Assumption Prep sent Kiernan the uniforms and on the uniforms was the prep school's nickname: "Monks." So, from that point forward, the Saint Joseph's teams were known as "The Monks."

One of the earliest Monk keepsakes in the Saint Joseph's College Athletics Department came from friends of President Currier. Fr. Edmond Haughey, C.S.C., Dean of Admissions at Stonehill College, and Fr. John Corr, C.S.C., President of Stonehill College - who was also a member of Saint Joseph's Board of Trustees - were traveling in Ireland one summer and purchased the small wooden replica of a Monk for President Currier. President Currier kept the Monk statue in his office until he passed away in December 1978, when it was given to Chris Kiernan by President Currier's widow. Kiernan returned the Monk to Saint Joseph's at the inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony in November 2000. That work of art has become a fixture in the Saint Joseph's College Athletics Department and can still be found in the offices today.

The Monk logo has seen many versions, one was put to cartoon form in the 1970s and revised in 1999 by local cartoonist Steve Meyers. Meyers was also a political cartoonist for the Portland Press Herald and, at the time, had done mascot drawings for other colleges and schools in the area.

In April 2007, the newest version of the Monk logo was unveiled. Created by Patrick Corey of DesignM-DesignW, the new logo brings a new look just in time for Saint Joseph's entry into the Great Northeast Athletic Conference, the College's first-ever full-time membership in an NCAA Division III conference.

Current and former student-athletes know they are unique and know they carry a special tradition when they don the Saint Joseph's College royal blue and white. GO MONKS!!