



Club News



Summer 2007

M Club Board Members 2006-2007

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Helena Bragg (Lacrosse '98)

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Country '02)

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Past President,
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Past President,
Al Naylor (Track '78)

Past President,
Lisa Gibson (Field Hockey '94)

Past President,
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David Diehl (Swim, Soccer '63)

Director of Athletics,
Deborah A. Yow

Editor in Chief,
Russ Edwards (Football '99)

www.theMclub.org

From Your President

Dear Fellow Terps,

Happy Summer 2007! I hope you enjoy any travels and vacations that you may have planned for the season. Personally, I look forward to traveling to the University of Michigan to participate in the annual National Letterwinners Association conference. I have never been to Ann Arbor, so it will be fun to experience a new place. Plus, I am eager to share with other universities the exciting things our M Club is doing and anxious to hear what other clubs like ours have going on.

We love hearing what's new within our Terp family, so please be sure to keep in touch and share any news (anniversaries, weddings, baby announcements, engagements) you have about yourself or other letterwinners.

Our membership goal for the year is 1500 active members and I'm confident we will achieve it. Please see that you have paid your dues (only \$30) and check with your former teammates as well--- perhaps you will see some in your travels this summer!

Enjoy the season, **Helena Bragg, M Club President**

Notes and Events

M Club Annual Meeting – The annual meeting of the M Club Board will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2007. All M Club members are invited to attend (information will be mailed this Summer). Mark your calendar and plan to be there. Hear the latest M Club news and be part of the planning for the future of our organization.

M Club/Rodman Golf – Don't forget to sign up for the annual M Club/Rodman Golf Tournament scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2007. Information (with entry form) will be posted on the M Club web site (www.theMclub.org) this summer.

12th Annual Letterwinners Day – Mark November 10th on your calendars for the 12th Annual Letterwinners Day (Boston College game). Detailed information with a response form will be mailed this summer. Please plan to be here to share the day with former teammates and friends.

Hall of Fame Induction Dinner – This year's Hall of Fame Induction Dinner will be held on October 26, 2007. Invitations will be mailed in August. The Hall of Fame Class of 2007 includes: **Carin Peterson** (field hockey/lacrosse), **Buddy Williamson** (track & field), **Bob Kessler** (basketball), **Joe Campbell** (football), **John McHugh** (wrestling/coach), **Fred Funk** (golf), and **Jack Heise** (meritorious service).

Inside this issue:

Pres. Letter

Notes and Events

Terp Topics

Membership



ATHLETES HELPING ATHLETES



Terp Topics and Tidbits by Van Sigworth



Response to our column has been terrific. However your columnist does make a mistake or two. So let's set the record straight.....**Tony Massenburg** (basketball '90) did not help "lead the Terps to Gary Williams first final four". Gary began his amazing eleven consecutive trips to the NCAA in '94 and won the 2002 National Championship against the toughest bracket ever (Wisconsin, U. Conn., Kentucky, Kansas and Indiana). And how about that 2004 ACC Tournament Title over the top three tournament seeds? Sorry coach. Just an excuse to tell the whole story.....And here's another amazing Terp coach. Many of us remember **Jim Ruckert** (track '49) when he was **Jim Kehoe's** Assistant Track Coach from 1951 to 1971. Yes, this is the same guy who, in 1961, out ran a 1911 Ford and a race horse at the 50th Anniversary of the Laurel Race Course

and, in 1949, ran 32 miles, without stopping from Washington to Baltimore to win a \$50 bet. Jim's finest coaching happened in 1976 when he was asked to assemble a Terp team to compete in the Fourth Annual Great Canoe Race at Busch Gardens in Los Angeles, CA, which had been dominated by a somewhat arrogant Univ. of Southern Calif. Team. This was an endurance test of who could complete the most laps in 72 hours. Ruckert, who was also a competitive canoeist for the Washington Canoe Club, had four weeks to select, train and coach a 15 man and 13 women team of Terp track stars, intramural basketball players, a football player and the athletes from the women's Physical Education Dept. Ruckert's Terps won, beating the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by 22 laps, UCLA was third and USC was 43 laps behind the Terps. Ruckert retired from the Prince George's County public school system in 1983 where he taught environmental education and has lived across the street from Kehoe for 40 years. "We keep an eye on each other and we both need help".....An M Club congrats to **Debbie Skelly** (basketball '75) for coaching her Prince Georges County Md. Pallotti High School girl's basketball team to their 100th victory last Jan. 5. In seven seasons Debbie has amassed a career record of 103-59 that includes three championship titles.....More coaching accolades...**Bernie Walter** (baseball '65), a 2001 Anne Arundel (Md.) County Sports Hall of Fame inductee, became only the third Maryland coach to be inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame last Jan. 5 in Orlando, Fla.....So where is **Greg Manning** these days you ask? Our ol' former M Club Executive Director writes that he will be "inducted into the Pennsylvania Capital Area Chapter Sports Hall of Fame". Greg adds, "Now, I have some bragging rights in my own house. Lea (his wife) was inducted into the Univ. of Tennessee Hall two years ago and recently the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame." Greg and Lea also run a basketball camp in Georgia..... Way to go **Andy Gell** (track '03) who placed 882nd in the Boston Marathon (hey, that's in the top 19 percent, 18-39 yr. class) with a time of 2:59:08 "despite brutal conditions".....Talk about brutal conditions...**Francis Ciganek** (track/XC 2000) ran in the Antarctica Marathon on Feb. 26th, held at King George Island with 188 runners from 19 countries. Runners had to traverse ice, snow covered mud, white-out conditions, and ¾ mile climb up a glacier in sub-zero wind. He placed 13th running a 4:33.57 and was the youngest athlete at age 25. His to-do list is to run a marathon in all seven continents.....Congratulations to **Duane Simpkins** (basketball '98) on becoming the new head basketball coach at St. Albans (Wash. D.C.). Previously, he coached at Sidwell Friends (D.C.) for two years and took the Quakers to their first Mid-Atlantic title.....On May 9th **Adam Ambrus** (track, XC '05) placed ninth in the flat, scenic New Jersey Marathon with a 2:47 which I think is a new Md. ex X-C record. It sure beats the heck out running in the Antarctic.....**Dave Murray** (track '56), after 38 years ended up as the President of Ben Dyer Associates. Since then it's been engineering consulting and civil land development. When asked what's he doing now Dave responded, "Not much but busy as hell". Dave and wife Rita are living the good life in Beltsville, Md....**Mike Buonvini** (track '68) was a big dude who tossed the shot put for the Terps. He's been teaching high school calculus for 38 years at Great Mills High in St. Mary's Co, Md. Mike and wife Lynn "love to bicycle". Hey, it works. Mike is 50 lbs. lighter.....**Doug Tucker** (track '63) has an economics consulting firm in Potomac, MD. Doug and Jeanne

(Continued on page 3)



ATHLETES HELPING ATHLETES



Terp Topics and Tidbits by Van Sigworth

have three kids and says Doug, "It's great to see Terp track come back. One of the hero's of my life is Jim Kehoe.".....**Mike Echols** (football '87) was a tough tight end and today may even be tougher. He has a Masters in Bio Technologies and works for ICF in Fairfax, Va. where he is into analysis and assessments for threats against the United States. He and wife Leslie have three children and reside in Ft. Washington, Md. Mike loves to "talk about the Terps with anybody in the area".....Neat note...**Greg "Fly" Robertson** (track '80) was one of our great hurdlers. His nine year old son, Greg Jr. now wears dad's old sweats. Dad has been a Sports Specialist with The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission since 1983.....There's going to be a track reunion and golf tournament on Aug. 27th. Contact Coach Valmon at avalmon@umd.edu for details.....I'm deeply saddened to have to report the death of **Miriam**

Alperstein, wife of Hotsy Alperstein, on the morning of May 23 after a long illness. Details to follow.....**Henry A. (Hank) Poniatowski** (football '61) passed away on April 28 at his home in Nanjemoy, Md. after a long battle with colon cancer. He is survived by his wife Melissa Gibson, four stepchildren, Sean, Kyle and Teague Gibson and Kara Hawley, six grandchildren, all of Maryland. He is also survived by a sister, Helen Omiecinski of East Syracuse, NY and a brother Ray Poniatowski of Camillus, NY.....We praised his work with the Boys & Girls Club of Annapolis in our last column. Sad to report that at age 29 **LaRon Cephias** (basketball '01) suddenly collapsed at his home in mid April. He was our team captain when the Terps made their first Final Four NCAA appearance in school history. Coach **Gary Williams** said, "He was one of those guys who, after you coach, you become friends with when he's done playing. You don't have good teams without players like that. He was just a really good guy." Cephias is survived by his parents, Sharon Ford and Ron Cephias and two sisters.....The graduation date of Charles Hiden was incorrectly reported in our last column. He graduated on January, 1951 with a B. A. degree in Physical Education. I thank our Honorary M Club member **Barry Gossett**, C.E.O., Action Mobile Industries, for bringing this to my attention...and an opportunity to pass on some very warm and interesting information about Charles Hiden. Mr. Gossett wrote, "Charles was one of my teachers at Hyattsville Junior High School from 1953 to 1955. As the school's baseball coach and physical education teacher he was a great person, teacher, and a mentor to a 14 year old. Even though he told me I was too slow to play on the team he kept me as the manager for two years. The lessons he taught the team in practice and games are still part of my life and many of his players. Those lessons of teamwork, game strategy, respect for the competition, love of the game and helping each other in competition to do the best really made playing the game fun! Although we did go undefeated for those two years, he taught us that playing hard and doing your best all the time was more important than winning. It took many years for me to realize the value of his teachings but how valuable they are! He was a TERP of great dimensions!".....And we thank you sir for sharing this warm and personal insight into the true character of **Charles Hiden** (basketball, baseball '51).....

Van Sigworth

SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES

2006-07 Reps

Vicki Brick—WBBALL

Bob BodeII—MBBALL

Maureen Musselman—SPIRIT

TBD—COMP. CHEER

Chuck Wight—MSWIM

Marjorie Bollinger—
WTRAC/WCC

Al Naylor—MCC/MTRACK

TBD—WFH

Ed Gregory—MLAX

Steve Hayleck—WRES

TBD—VOLLEY

TBD—MTEN

TBD—WTEN

Maureen Dupcak—WLAX

Katy Headman—WSWIM

Dan McGuire—BASE

Jamie Wu—FOOT

TBD—MGOLF

TBD—WGOLF

TBD—SOFT

TBD—MSOC

TBD—WSOC

TBD—GYMN

AT-LARGE

Bob Stumpff—WRES

James Ransome—FOOT

Connie Carpenter— MBBALL

Jack Flynn—MBBALL

Bob Weiss—BASE

Logan Schutz—MTRAC

Russ Edwards—FOOT



M Club News

M Club Foundation
2707 Terrapin Trail, Comcast Center
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

Phone:
301-314-7020
Fax: 301-314-9318
www.theMclub.org



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M Club Membership Form

Please check the web site to see if you are active or call 301-314-5372 before you pay again for 2007

(Please complete all of the requested information so that the M Club files can be brought up-to-date)

Name: _____; Sport(s) Participation Year(s) : _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Company Name: _____ Position: _____

Work Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____; Work Phone: _____

FAX: _____; Email Address: _____

Your annual dues to the M Club help fund our scholarships and special athletic department activities for the student athletes.

My dues payment of: \$____ is enclosed: \$30 (current membership);
\$30 sustaining fee appreciated (original life members only)

Membership Type: Letterwinner; Associate; Honorary; Life (sustaining fee)

I desire to pay by _____ check (enclosed); or charge the amount to my credit card VISA MasterCard

Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp Date: ____/____; Signature: _____

Make Checks Payable To: M CLUB FOUNDATION and Mail to: M Club Foundation, 2707 Terrapin Trail, Comcast Center, University of Maryland College Park, MD 20742 (Phone: 301-314-7020; FAX: 301-314-9318) M Club Tax ID# 52-6018880



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