

Baseball Squad Faces New Fall Season

Delco's Baseball Team is facing an unusual season, with some definite pluses and minuses evident already.

Two of the biggest pluses are returnees Brian Marshall and Keith Barry. Marshall was named to the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference All-Conference First Team at the end of last season. He was honored as a first baseman with a .368 batting average, 4 homeruns, and 19 RBI's. But Marshall was also a starting pitcher for Delco, ending the season with a 3-3 record and an ERA of 3.92. He will probably do double duty for Delco again this season.

Returning outfielder Keith Barry was given Honorable Mention on the All-Conference Team. He was an offensive dynamo for Delco last season, finishing with a .317 average and a school record for stolen bases: 35. The previous high was 23. He is expected to spark the team again this year.

Named to the All Conference Second Team was Delco outfielder Joe Freynik, who is attending school at University Park this semester.

Other pluses are returnees Rob Lahrman (who last season pitched 3-3 with a 3.92 ERA while hitting .324 with 10 RBI's), outfielder Barry King (who hit .275 with 3 home runs and 17 RBI's), pitcher Billy Rankin (a transfer student from Drexel who shut-out PSU Ogontz in a memorable game last spring), and

pitcher Joe Hoffacher (who is also a top seed on Delco's men's tennis team.)

"Four out of last spring's five starting pitchers and four out of the top five hitters are returning this season," noted Head Coach Jim Diskin, "so we're hopeful of having a good year. Actually, I would be disappointed if we're not a strong contender in the league."

The biggest minus facing Coach Diskin and his team is the new experience of playing fall baseball. In the past, the fall season was a time for scrimmages and looking over the other teams. It was a chance to get an in-depth look at your own players before the real season opened in the spring.

But this year the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference voted to switch to a regular fall season and eliminate the spring season, mostly to accommodate the northern Pennsylvania teams who can't schedule home games and sometimes even practices in early spring due to unpredictable weather. Sometimes their fields are still under 6 inches of snow when the season opens.

"It's not all that much different for us," observed Coach Diskin. "If it's above freezing, we practice. Nobody's going to get hurt just because it's cold. If we called off practice, the guys would be outside playing street hockey or something anyway."

Although Coach Diskin thinks the league will switch back to a spring schedule in '91-'92, for right now the challenge is to play fall baseball with all the unique problems it brings. The worst will be the struggle for field time with the campus soccer team. Game and practice times for the two teams will have to be worked out week by week. And rainy weather could turn the already tight schedule into a nightmare. Another problem will be getting officials, since many of them also officiate football. "There could be some headaches ahead," said Diskin.

The season opens next week on August 29 with a game at PSU Hazleton. "It's hard to assess your new players in such a short time," said Diskin, "especially their offensive ability." Ted Ragni will be helping in this area as Assistant Coach.

"It will be a fast season," noted Coach Diskin, "over by the middle of October. But if the schedule works out, we'll get to play more baseball than before. We ask these kids to do a lot in a short period. And I appreciate the support I get from the faculty. They've never turned me down when I've needed their help."

So for all its pluses and minuses the new fall baseball season is here. "But you know," said Diskin, "traditionally it's always been a spring sport."



Student Government Association of officers stand ready to make 1990-91 a memorable year at Delco. Clockwise from top: Chuck McCarthy, President; Rich Schaffer, Vice President; Michelle Walsh, Treasurer; Jill Rhodes, Secretary.

Photo by: MARIANNE RHODES

BASEBALL 1990

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 29	W	PSU Hazleton	A	1:00 pm
Sept. 1	S	PSU Wilkes-Barre	H	1:00 pm
Sept. 4	T	PSU Ogontz	A	1:00 pm
Sept. 6	R	Haverford JV	A	3:30 pm
Sept. 12	W	Luzerne County C.C.	A	1:00 pm
Sept. 16	Sn	Northampton C.C.C.	H	12:00 noon
Sept. 18	T	Delaware C.C.C.	H	1:00 pm
Sept. 22	S	PSU Berks	A	1:00 pm
Sept. 27	R	Haverford JV	H	3:30 pm
Oct. 2	T	Philadelphia C.C.	A	1:00 pm
Oct. 6	S	Montgomery C.C.C.	H	1:00 pm
Sept. 29 & 30		CCAC Playoffs		
Oct. 13 & 14		EPC Playoffs		

Head Coach — Jim Diskin
Asst. Coach - Ted Ragni

Talking With Tiz Delco Offers Wide Variety of Sports

A recent interview with Athletic Director Tiz Griffith provided insight into the current state of athletics on this campus.

Tiz, what intercollegiate sports are being offered for Delco students this year?

Well, in the fall we will offer men's soccer, women's volleyball, and men's tennis, as usual, with men's baseball added in for the first time. That baseball change was a league decision and we are making the best of it. It's going to cause problems, of course, with scheduling the field use with the soccer team. Then in the winter we'll have men's basketball, women's basketball, and men's volleyball. In the spring there will be men's lacrosse and women's tennis.

Are the coaches in place for all these sports?

Yes, and I'm really excited about all of them. Alan Miller is returning for his fifth year as soccer head coach, and Jim Diskin is coaching baseball again, assisted by Ted Ragni. Robert Saba is taking over the women's volleyball coaching in the fall, and he will continue to coach men's volleyball in the winter. I'll be doing both men's and women's tennis again for the fifth year.

And I'm really excited about our new head coach for women's basketball. He's Ed Dale, a math teacher at Penncrest who's had many years of experience coaching men's basketball and women's track and cross country. He has a lot of integrity and concern for young people. He's really highly regarded in this area. He will be a strong addition to our women's sports program which is already a good one. But it's a real challenge to get women out for sports.

Bill Wiley, our outstanding men's basketball coach, will be returning for his sixth year here, and Lou Tosti will be the assistant coach again. In the spring, John Terrell will begin his fourth year coaching our lacrosse team.

How about athletics on campus for students who don't have the time or inclination for intercollegiate sports?

We have a lot to offer them too. First of all, the gym and weight room are both open from 11 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday, for recreational use. Then we also have an extensive and enjoyable intramural program. We offer whatever the students ask for. That usually includes coed basketball and often coed volleyball too. But we can also offer softball, tennis, or whatever the campus is interested in. Students can see me in Room 130 of the Commons Building if they have a request for a particular intramural sport.

In closing, let me change the subject to you, and ask how that ceremony went last May when you were inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Terrific! But it kind of overwhelmed me when I arrived at the banquet. I was expecting something more low key, not the 400 to 500 people who were there. I had a speech ready, but at the last minute the enormity of it struck me and I suddenly got nervous. It was a real thrill, though. And the local press gave me a lot of attention because I was the only woman of the thirteen inductees! (Tiz was honored for her outstanding field hockey efforts at Temple University and for being named to the All-College hockey team in 1958-61, as well as to the Women's National Field Hockey Team in 1961.)

Soccer Team Has Few Returnees

Although it will be difficult to duplicate last year's very successful soccer season with only three or four players returning, Coach Alan Miller is busy preparing for the opening scrimmage against Widener University's J.V. on August 30.

"The first two weeks will be pretty crazy," said Coach Miller. "With practice only beginning officially after physicals are given on August 23, we're going to really have to hustle to get ready for a game on August 30. Actually, I'd like to see the physicals given earlier to give us more time to put a team together."

Coach Miller is expecting at least six freshmen to come out for the team, but

could use more, as well as some new sophomores, to give the team some depth.

The team's schedule is almost a duplicate of last season's, and, again, PSU Ogontz will be the toughest opponent. "Just about their whole team is returning," said Miller. "Playing them is going to be a real challenge."

There are also the challenges of sharing a field with the baseball team ("Our goals will have to be moved around every day.") and of working without an assistant coach. ("Apparently, it's not in the budget, so I end up taking care of the phone calls, paper work, and equipment.")

Looks like a challenging season. Stay tuned.



Delco soccermen prepare for their opening game August 29 against Widener.

Photo by: JOHN PALKA

MEN'S SOCCER 1990

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 30	R	Widener J.V. (scrimmage)	A	4:00pm
Sept. 10	M	Haverford J.V.	A	4:00 pm
Sept. 12	W	Ursinus J.V.	A	3:30 pm
Sept. 15	S	Tournament at PSU York	A	TBA
Sept. 18	T	Valley Forge J.C.	A	4:00 pm
Sept. 19	W	Swarthmore J.V.	H	4:00 pm
Sept. 22	S	PSU Scranton	A	1:00 pm
Sept. 26	W	PSU Wilkes Barre	H	4:00 pm
Sept. 29	S	PSU Ogontz	A	1:00 pm
Oct. 2	T	PSU Mont Alto	A	3:00 pm
Oct. 4	R	DCCC	H	4:00 pm
Oct. 10	W	PSU Hazleton	H	4:00 pm
Oct. 13	S	PSU Berks	A	1:00 pm
Oct. 15	M	Widener J.V.	H	4:00 pm
Oct. 18	R	PSU York	H	4:00 pm
Oct. 24	W	Regional Playoffs		
Oct. 26	F	Championship at University Park		

Coach: Alan Miller