

## 25 MEMORABLE GAMES - ALUMNI MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE

(IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

**November 26, 1949.** Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse hosts its first college basketball game. Rhode Island defeats Saint Joseph's, 62-46.

**February 4, 1953.** Ed Garrity pours in 40 points in a 111-92 win over Rhode Island, setting a Fieldhouse scoring record that would last for nearly 50 years. Daughter Mary Sue Garrity scored 1,362 points for the Saint Joseph's women's team between 1974-78.

**December 6, 1955.** Saint Joseph's defeats Millersville, 76-60, in the Fieldhouse debut of new coach Jack Ramsay. The famed "Dr. Jack" went 232-72 in 11 seasons on Hawk Hill before going on to a Hall of Fame career in the NBA.

**February 28, 1961.** The Hawks nip Albright, 76-74, for win No. 12 in a then-school record 15-game winning streak. The streak ends with Saint Joseph's reaching the NCAA Final Four for the only time in school history.

**December 7, 1965.** In their final season together, all-time greats Jack Ramsay, Cliff Anderson, and Matt Goukas play only one Fieldhouse game (a 98-68 rout of Bellarmine). The 1965-66 season concludes the best two-year stretch in school history as the Hawks go 50-8, reached two NCAA regionals, and sweep the Big 5 twice.

**January 17, 1974.** The first Saint Joseph's women's basketball team, coached by Ellen Ryan, makes its debut against three-time national champion Immaculata. The Mighty Macs win easily, 59-24, but the Hawks finish their initial season with a 9-2 record.

**February 5, 1974.** In his final season as head coach, Jack McKinney's "grim, grisly, and gruesome" Hawks defeat Georgetown, 70-64. With prior year stars Mike Bantom and Pat McFarland gone, little is expected of a Saint Joseph's team that lands in the NCAA Tournament.

**March 8, 1976.** Women's basketball, with former Immaculata star Theresa Grentz coaching, defeats Rutgers, 80-52. The Hawks finish the season with an 18-3 record and place third in the AIAW national championship.

**February 25, 1978.** Under coach Rene Portland, another former Immaculata star, the women's team defeats No. 10 Montclair State, 85-76. It is the Hawks' third win over a Top 10 team at the Fieldhouse that season, which ends with another third-place showing in the AIAW national championship.

**March 4, 1981.** Coach Jim Lynam, playing without injured star Bryan Warrick, leads the Hawks to a 60-55 win over Temple in the East Coast Conference quarterfinals. Saint Joseph's would take the ECC crown at the Palestra and knock off top-ranked DePaul in the NCAA Tournament.

**January 15, 1985.** National coach of the year Jim Foster leads Saint Joseph's to a 71-63 win over No. 10 Penn State. The 25-5 Hawks win the most games in school history and reach the NCAA women's basketball championship for the first time.

**February 27, 1986.** Saint Joseph's defeats Penn State, 59-51, in an Atlantic 10 quarterfinal game. The Hawks go on to capture their first Atlantic 10 title at the Meadowlands and, behind A-10 Player of the Year Maurice Martin, advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

**March 11, 1987.** The women's basketball team wins the first NCAA Tournament game in program history, defeating South Alabama at the Fieldhouse, 67-56. All-America Dale Hodges leads the Hawks to two more NCAA homecourt triumphs in 1988 and 1989.

**January 4, 1990.** Philadelphia native Bo Kimble sets a new Fieldhouse record with 54 points, including a near-halfcourt shot at the buzzer, as Loyola Marymount nips the Hawks, 99-96. The game reunites former Hawk assistants Jim Boyle, coaching Saint Joseph's, and Paul Westhead for LMU.

**February 4, 1991.** First-year coach John Griffin leads an upset of Elite Eight-bound Temple, 66-60. It is believed to be the first time the Saint Joseph's student section ever stormed the court at the Fieldhouse.

**February 25, 1993.** Bernard Blunt, Rap Curry, and Carlin Warley combine for the most dramatic finish in Fieldhouse history. The Hawks go the length of the floor in the final 2.7 seconds and Blunt's jumper defeats George Washington, 74-73.

**February 15, 1994.** Reserve Kevin Connor hits two foul shots with no time left as the Hawks upset No. 10 Massachusetts, 81-80. This is the highest-ranked opponent ever defeated by Saint Joseph's in the Fieldhouse.

**January 10, 1996.** Three free throws by junior guard Terrell Myers with no time left send a game with No. 1 Massachusetts into overtime, but the Minutemen prevail, 94-89. Saint Joseph's next game against Arizona is cancelled when coach Lute Olsen refuses to fly cross-country to face the Hawks.

**January 2, 1997.** The women's basketball teams hosts No. 8 Tennessee before an overflow Fieldhouse crowd. The Lady Vols prevail, 64-52, but the Hawks win their first Atlantic 10 championship, break the school record for victories in a season (26-5), and reach the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

**February 25, 1997.** Many claim the Fieldhouse was at its all-time loudest as the Hawks end Massachusetts' streak of five consecutive Atlantic 10 championships with a 78-63 victory. Junior point guard Rashid Bey leads the Hawks to a 26-7 record and the NCAA Sweet 16.

**November 18, 2001.** Former Hawk Cindy Griffin returns as women's basketball coach and defeats No. 23 Rutgers, 64-58, in her second game. Griffin takes Saint Joseph's to five WNIT post-season appearances in her first six years at the helm.

**March 5, 2003.** All-America David West of Xavier outlasts counterpart Jameer Nelson of the Hawks in an 88-80 overtime victory for the No. 18 Musketeers. Both teams would advance to the NCAA Tournament.

**March 2, 2004.** Saint Joseph's defeats St. Bonaventure, 82-50, to complete a perfect regular season (27-0). Led by consensus national Player of the Year Jameer Nelson and consensus national Coach of the Year Phil Martelli, the Hawks would earn a No. 1 national ranking and a top seed in the NCAA Tournament.

**March 21, 2005.** Saint Joseph's wins its third consecutive National Invitation Tournament game in six days at the Fieldhouse, 68-60, over Holy Cross. Atlantic 10 Player of the Year Pat Carroll leads the Hawks to the N.I.T. championship game.

**March 6, 2008.** The "Fieldhouse Finale" had many former SJU coaches, players and mascots were in attendance, including Jack Ramsay, Mike Bantom and Jameer Nelson. The on-court Hawks added to the celebration with a 71-66 upset of #8 Xavier, that eventually helped boost them into the NCAA Tournament.

## MICHAEL J. HAGAN '85 ARENA FIELDHOUSE EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

As the home of the Hawks, the Fieldhouse is the well-loved shrine and the very heart of Saint Joseph's athletics. *With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph's University* will preserve this storied facility while bringing the athletic complex to a level befitting such a venerable tradition.

The Fieldhouse, home to Saint Joseph's University basketball since 1949, will be named for Michael J. Hagan '85 at the conclusion of the multi-year project, which began in the fall of 2007.

Because of the Maguire Campus acquisition, the vast needs of the University's intramural program and several varsity sports will finally be addressed, creating an opportunity to dramatically improve the infrastructure for men's and women's basketball.

### SJU Basketball Center

The first stage is the construction of a two-story, 20,000-square-foot new wing adjacent to the existing Fieldhouse. It will add state-of-the-art locker rooms for players, expanded coaches' offices, conference rooms, academic and video study space, and a new Athletic Hall of Fame Room.

### Upgrades and Renovation

Additionally, an upgrade and renovation of the current athletic complex will be completed by adding a dedicated practice facility with permanent wood flooring as well as locker rooms and offices for soccer, lacrosse, track, and cross country.

### The Michael J. Hagan '85 Arena

The cornerstone of the project is the complete overhaul of the interior of the Fieldhouse, to be named the Michael J. Hagan '85 Arena, followed by the construction of an upper-level concourse, expanded seating (a minimum of 1,000 seats will be added), and more. Home court advantage will be secured, and the Hawks will have a true home where the Saint Joseph's athletic tradition will live for years to come.

## ALUMNI MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE THE HEARTBEAT OF HAWK HILL

Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse, the on-campus home of the Hawks, was named for Saint Joseph's graduates who gave their lives in World War II. The building was dedicated on November 11, 1949, and 15 days later hosted its first basketball game, a 62-46 loss to Rhode Island.

Overall, the men's basketball owns a stellar 319-82 record (.795 winning percentage) on Hawk Hill. Among the highlights are a 34-game winning streak from the late 1950s to the early 1960s, an 11-0 record in 2000-01, and another 11-0 mark as the Hawks completed a perfect regular season in 2003-04 behind consensus Player of the Year Jameer Nelson and consensus Coach of the Year Phil Martelli.

For much of the 1980s and 1990s, the Fieldhouse was the practice home of the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers. This was a natural extension of a legacy in which Saint Joseph's products – George Senesky '43, Dr. Jack Ramsay '49, Jack McKinney '57, Paul Westhead '61, Jim Lynam '63, Matt Goukas '66, and Jim O'Brien '74 – would become head coaches in the NBA.

Women's basketball came to the Fieldhouse as a Division I program in 1973. In 35 seasons, the women's team has compiled a gaudy 331-116 record (.740 winning percentage) on its home floor. Former Hawk players and coaches include Theresa Greutz, Rene Muth Portland, Jim Foster, Muffet McGraw O'Brien '77, and Geno Auriemma.

An historic basketball arena, the 3,200-seat Fieldhouse has hosted more than 125 sellouts over the last 15 seasons. Excitement was at a fever pitch in 2003-04 as crowds watched the Hawks make their historic run to a number one ranking. The Fieldhouse has played an even larger role in the University's history. Major events such as Commencement, the Hand-in-Hand Festival, and the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration have been held in the building, along with the centennial celebration of the College in 1951. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at the Fieldhouse in 1967.

Yet it is the passion of Hawk fans that stands as the greatest legacy of Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse. In 2003, Sports Illustrated listed "The 100 Things You Have to Do Before You Graduate." Ranked No. 12 was: "Go to a Saint Joseph's basketball game and shout 'The Hawk Will Never Die' — the most defiant cheer in college sports."

