



# Lady Royal Basketball

## Season Preview

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### General Information

**Name:** The University of Scranton

**Location:** Scranton, Pennsylvania 18510

**Founded:** 1888

**Nickname:** Lady Royals

**President:** Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.

**Web Address:** www.scranton.edu/athletics

**Athletics Director:** Toby Lovecchio (Scranton '85)

**Associate Athletics Director:** Steve Klingman

**Assistant Athletics Directors:** Bryan Lurie, Becky Davis (SWA), Kevin Southard

**Affiliations:** NCAA Division III, ECAC

**Conference:** Landmark

**Conference Members:** The Catholic University of America, Drew University, Goucher College, Juniata College, Moravian College, Susquehanna University, United States Merchant Marine Academy

**Head Coach:** Mike Strong (Concord '67, 687-141,830, 29th year)

**Assistants:** Marc Kudrich (Scranton '89, 10th year), Christie Kennedy Augustine (Fordham '92, 1st year), Chris Strong (Scranton '93, 3rd year)

**2007-2008 Record:** 21-6 (13-1 Landmark Conference, 1st; Lost in opening round of NCAA tournament to Medaille, 56-54)

**Letter-winners Returning/Lost:** 7/6

**Starters Returning/Lost:** 2/3

#### Returning Letter-winners:

Jennifer King, G/F, 5-10, So., 3.1 pts/0.9 rebs

Molly Klusek, C, 6-3, Sr., 5.7 pts/3.7 rebs

\*Megan Kopecki, G, 5-9, So., 12.0 pts/3.8 rebs;

Landmark Conference Rookie of the Year & 1st-team selection

Colleen McLane, G, 5-4, So., 1.9 pts/1.2 rebs

\*Ryan Mooney, G, 5-6, Jr., 5.6 pts/4.1 rebs/3.9 assists

Courtney Roselle, G/F, 5-10, So., 2.2 pts/2.4 rebs

Kelly Tratthen, F, 5-11, Sr., 2.5 pts/3.7 rebs

#### Letter-winners Lost:

Brittany Bontemps, G/F, 5-9, So., 1.8 pts/1.1 rebs

\*Julie Brophy, G, 5-9, pts/ rebs

\*Kathleen Daly, F, 5-11, pts/ rebs

Michelle Fabio, F, 5-11, pts/rebs

Marisa Healy, F, 6-1, pts/ rebs

\*Stephanie Remington, G, 5-10, pts/ rebs

#### Top Newcomers:

Kelly Carman, Fy., C, 6-1

Sarah Gage, Fy., F, 5-11

Sidney Jacques, Fy., G, 5-9

Anne Kelley-Kemple, So., 5-10, F

Mike Strong isn't taking any shortcuts in his quest to reach another impressive milestone.

As he enters his 29th season only 13 victories shy of 700 for his coaching career, he faces a brutal non-conference schedule that should toughen up his Lady Royals for their second season in the Landmark Conference. Scranton will play at least four, possibly five, non-conference games against teams that qualified for the NCAA tournament in 2008, including a date with runner-up Messiah College at home on December 2nd and an away encounter with Kean, which advanced to the Elite Eight, on December 19. The Lady Royals will also be severely tested by Albright (NCAAs, 20-7) on December 16 and Rochester (NCAAs, 22-6) on January 6.

Strong isn't the only one in search of a milestone. The Lady Royals are 17 wins away from becoming the first program in NCAA Division III women's basketball history to record 800 victories. Even though Scranton has won at least 20 games in each of the last 17 seasons, reaching this coveted plateau isn't a shoo-in.

Gone from last year's 21-6 Landmark Conference championship and NCAA tournament team are six letter-winners, including three starters, the most notable being forward Kathleen Daly, the Landmark Conference Player of the Year and an honorable mention all-American. The Lady Royals also bid farewell to power forward Michele Fabio, reserve forward Marisa Healy, and guards Stephanie Remington and Julie Brophy. This senior class won four straight conference championships (three in Scranton's previous affiliation with the Freedom Conference); advanced to the NCAAs four times, including Final Four appearances in 2005 and 2006; and posted an overall record of 108-14 (.885).

Be that as it may, Strong still has a number of important pieces returning, especially in the back court. Junior **Ryan Mooney (Spring City, Pa./Pius X)** will run the show from the point-guard position, after starting 26 games last year and leading the team in assists (3.9) and minutes played (28.8). A hard-nose defender who isn't afraid to attack the basket off the dribble on offense, she led the Landmark Conference in assist-to-turnover ratio (1.56), the ultimate test of a point-guard.

Opposite Rooney will be sophomore **Megan Kopecki (Millington, N.J./Watchung Hills Regional)**, a first-team all-Landmark Conference selection who made history by becoming the first freshman in Scranton history to lead the team in scoring (12.0 points per game). Kopecki also led the Lady Royals in field goal percentage (.485), free throw percentage (.768) and steals (2.3), which further solidified her selection as the Landmark Conference Rookie of the Year. She

Emily Rainey, Fy., 5-10, F

\*Starters

#2005-2006 statistics

#### Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Sat.	N15	vs. Montclair St. (at DeSales)	8:00 pm
Sun.	N16	at DeSales Tournament	1/3 pm
Sat.	N22	vs. Cabrini (at Dickinson)	8:00 pm
Sun.	N23	at Dickinson Tournament	2/4 pm
TUE.	D2	MESSIAH	6:00 PM
Sat.	D6	*at Moravian	5:30 pm
TUE.	D16	ALBRIGHT	6:00 PM
Fri.	D19	at Kean	7:00 pm
Tue.	D30	at Widener	7:00 pm
Fri.	J2	at Gettysburg	8:00 pm
Sat.	J3	at Gettysburg Tournament	2/4 pm
TUE.	J6	ROCHESTER	6:00 PM
FRI.	J9	*SUSQUEHANNA	5:30 PM
SAT.	J10	*JUNIATA	2:00 PM
Fri.	J16	*at Goucher	5:30 pm
Sat.	J17	*at Catholic	2:00 pm
SAT.,	J24	*USMMA	5:30 PM
SUN.	J25	*DREW	2:00 PM
Fri.	J30	*at Juniata	5:30 pm
Sat.	J31	*at Susquehanna	2:00 pm
Sat.	F7	*at Drew	5:30 pm
Sun.	F8	*at USMMA	2:00 pm
SAT.	F14	*CATHOLIC	5:30 PM
SUN.	F15	*GOUCHER	2:00 PM
SAT.	F21	*MORAVIAN	5:30 PM
W/S	F25/28	Landmark Tournament	TBA

#### 2007-2008 Results (21-6)

Date	Lady Royals	OPP	R
N16	61	New Paltz	52 W
N17	84	Muhlenberg	60 W
N28	53	Messiah	61 L
<b>D1</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>Widener</b>	<b>48 W</b>
<b>D4</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>!Moravian</b>	<b>63 L</b>
<b>D7</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>49 W</b>
<b>D9</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>Baruch</b>	<b>53 W</b>
<b>D17</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Mt. St. Mary-NY</b>	<b>64 L</b>
<b>D19</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>Kean</b>	<b>82 L</b>
J4	58	P.R.-Mayaguez	47 W
J8	52	P.R.-Bayamon	65 L
J11	69	!Susquehanna	57 W
J12	71	!Juniata	66 (ot) W
<b>J18</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>!Goucher</b>	<b>56 W</b>
<b>J19</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>!Catholic</b>	<b>41 W</b>
J26	68	!USMMA	33 W
J27	68	!Drew	45 W
<b>F1</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>!Juniata</b>	<b>54 W</b>
<b>F2</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>!Susquehanna</b>	<b>57 W</b>
<b>F9</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>!Drew</b>	<b>44 W</b>
<b>F10</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>!USMMA</b>	<b>64 W</b>
F16	59	!Catholic	54 W
F17	83	!Goucher	53 W
F23	92	!Moravian	85 (2ot) W
<b>F27</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>\$USMMA</b>	<b>44 W</b>
<b>M1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$Juniata</b>	<b>52 W</b>
<b>M7</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>*Medaille</b>	<b>56 L</b>

#### Home Games in Bold

!Landmark Conference Games/\$Landmark  
Tournament/\*NCAA Tournament

enhanced her reputation even more by scoring a game-high 15 points, pulling down seven rebounds, and handing out four assists in Scranton's heart-breaking 56-54 loss to Medaille in the NCAA tournament, its first loss in an NCAA opening round game since 1995.

Sophomores **Jennifer King (Taylor, Pa./Riverside)** and **Colleen McLane (Scranton, Pa./Scranton Preparatory)** will fill in as capable back-ups to Kopecki and Mooney, respectively. King's confidence soared as her playing time increased midway through the season, coming to fruition with a season-high 11 points in 11 minutes of action in a 73-54 victory over Juniata on February 1 and with nine points-all in the second-half-in the loss to Medaille in the NCAA tournament. McLane is a spitting image of Mooney; a gritty, hard-working point-guard who makes good decisions, puts good pressure on the basketball up front in the Strong's trademark full-court press, and passes the ball well.

It's up front where the Lady Royals may be a bit green. Senior center **Molly Klusek (Philadelphia, Pa./Archbishop Carroll)** has shown signs of becoming an effective post player-scoring in double-figures three times, including an 11-point outburst in 14 minutes of action in Scranton's dramatic 92-85 double overtime victory at Moravian on February 23rd-but injuries limited her to just 13 games last season. Fellow senior **Kelly Tratthen (Olyphant, Pa./Lakeland)** joined the program last year and provided valuable minutes as a key reserve at power forward, especially on the boards. She made the most of her playing time, averaging nearly four rebounds in less than 10 minutes of action per game, and showed signs of being a dominating presence on the boards-pulling down 14 rebounds in a 63-61 loss to Moravian and 11 apiece in wins over Drew and Goucher on January 27 and February 17, respectively.

Strong is confident that talented sophomore **Courtney Roselle (Cedar Grove, N.J./Mount St. Dominic)** can increase her scoring and rebounding output. She appeared in 22 games, played 10-or-more minutes 10 times, and pulled down five-or-more rebounds on four occasions. All three will be asked, however, to take up the scoring slack created by Daly (11.5 points per game) and Fabio's (7.7 points per game) departure.

If anything, newcomers **Sidney Jaques (Rosemont, NJ/Hunterdon Central)**, **Emily Rainey (Mechanicsburg, Pa./Mechanicsburg Area)**, **Kelly Carman (Rockaway Park, N.Y./The Mary Louis Academy)**, **Sarah Gage (Ledgewood, N.J./Roxbury)**, and **Anne Kelley-Kemple (Livingston, N.J./Mt. St. Dominic Academy)** could be inserted into the lineup more quickly than any other of Strong's recruiting classes in recent years.

**News & Notes:** Scranton led the Landmark Conference in scoring defense (55.7 points per game allowed) and scoring margin (+10.4) and was second in field goal percentage defense (.365) last year...the Lady Royals have held their last 87 opponents to less than 50 percent shooting from the field; the last team to shoot at least 50 percent of its field goal against Scranton was Catholic University in a 64-56 victory on November 26, 2005, at the DuFour Center in Washington, DC...Strong is averaging 25.4 victories per year since the 2000-2001 season...Kopecki's 325 points last year was the most by a Lady Royal freshman since three-time all-American Jennifer Nish tossed in 366 points in 1994; Nish finished second behind Jackie Dougherty in scoring that season.