

# Ten LCMR athletes set to play sports at next level

By R.E. HEINLY

Special to the Star and Wave

ERMA — In a recent ceremony, 10 athletes from Lower Cape May Regional High School signed Letters of Intent to play sports in college.

They were Christina Adams, Melanie Amador, Marissa Giancola, Leah Jones, Jordan Klein, R.J. Lamoreaux, Joe McGhee, Cecilie Reeb, Katya Simonsen and Maddie Sloan.

While from diverse sports, they shared much in common. Superintendent Chris Kobik praised them as outstanding citizens of both school and community and worthy role models. Athletic Director Eric Simonsen emphasized that they were true scholar-athletes, excelling in the classroom as well as in sports.

They each expressed excitement and confidence about meeting these challenges with the help of his or her parents, teachers and coaches. They expressed gratitude for the opportunity to do so and confidence that they will succeed.

No athletic scholarships are awarded at Division III schools.

— Christina Adams

**Sports:** Cross country and track and field  
**School:** Southeastern Nova University (DII)

Adams received an athletic scholarship for both sports. She was All Cape-Atlantic League in 800 meters and javelin. She was LCMR's female athlete of the year for 2019. A four-year varsity performer. Coaches Rich Demers (cross country) and Dave Pacevich (track and field) credited her combination of talent and work ethic, plus a never-give-up at-

titude and an ability to overcome adversity thanks to a very supportive family, for her success.

Adams said she was excited and grateful for her college opportunity and thankful for the help of her parents, teachers and coaches in helping her to get it. She will major in nutritional sciences and hopes to be a dietitian.

— Melanie Amador  
**Sport:** Women's lacrosse  
**School:** Chestnut Hill College (DII)

Amador received an athletic scholarship. She was All Cape-Atlantic League and All Cape May County as a goalie. She recorded more saves than any other goalie in the state while helping lead her team to the best record in school history and the second round of the NJSIAA playoffs. Coach Joanne McLaughlin called her the solid rock of the team's defense, saying she kept improving for four years and felt she would keep doing so in college because of her hard work and determination.

Amador said she recognizes the challenge of having to improve even more to continue her success at the next level and is determined to do so.

— Marissa Giancola  
**Sport:** Women's lacrosse  
**School:** Kutztown University (DII)

Giancola received an athletic scholarship and was recruited as an attack player. Coach Joanne McLaughlin, who played herself at Kutztown, knows how highly competitive the PSAC is but said she is sure Giancola will do well there due to the combination of talent and hard work she displayed over four years at Lower.

Giancola plans on ma-



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Lower Cape May Regional High School student athletes who recently signed letters of intent to attend college are, front row from left, Marissa Giancola, Maddie Sloan, Cristina Adams and Melanie Amador. Back row, from left, are Leah Jones, Katya Simonsen, Cecilie Reeb, Jordan Klein, R.J. Lamoreaux and Joe McGhee.

joring in graphic design. She's said she's confident she can meet the challenge of playing in the PSAC thanks to the coaching she's received at LCMR.

— Leah Jones  
**Sport:** Field hockey  
**School:** Wesley College (DIII)

Jones received grant and scholarship aid to attend Wesley. She was an attack player and was recruited as such. She's undecided as to a major. Coach Ann Bracken said she is sure Jones will do well because of her drive to improve and succeed and also lauded her leadership abilities.

Jones said she understands the challenges of both academic and athletic success at the college level and is both excited by them and sure she'll meet them.

— Jordan Klein  
**Sport:** Football (DIII)

**School:** Widener University

Klein had the ability to play a variety of positions at LCMR. While many good athletes play both offense and defense in high school, he went beyond that to play tight end, wide receiver, offensive line, defensive line and linebacker. He has been recruited to a top DIII school as a linebacker, a position at which he made second team All Cape-Atlantic League this year. He received a Presidential Academic Scholarship and plans to major in electrical engineering. Coach Brian Hindle praised Klein's combination of ability and attitude, saying he was sure to succeed in both areas in college. He also lauded Klein's adaptability, versatility and coachability on the football field.

Klein said he is grateful for the opportunity to continue his academic and athletic career, understands the challenges of both and vows to succeed in both.

— R.J. Lamoreaux  
**Sport:** Football  
**School:** Ursinus College

(DIII)

Lamoreaux played offensive and defensive line and was second team All Cape-Atlantic League this year. He was recruited by Ursinus to play offensive line and received a Gateway Academic Scholarship to attend. He will major in premedical studies. Coach Brian Hindle praised Lamoreaux as a hard worker and great student sure to succeed in college.

Lamoreaux said he is excited at the great opportunity he has and has vowed to work even harder athletically and academically at Ursinus.

— Joe McGhee  
**Sport:** Football  
**School:** Kean University (DIII)

McGhee played offensive tackle and defensive end and has been recruited as a defensive end by Kean. He will major in mathematics and wants to teach and coach. He received a Maxwell Football Foundation Mini-Maxwell Award for combined athletic and academic excellence and community service. Coach Brian Hindle lauded McGhee as a super

all-around school and community citizen and as an incredibly hard worker who never quits, has excellent leadership skills and maximizes his talents, saying he will surely do well at Kean.

McGhee said he hopes to meet the academic and athletic challenges of college and thanks his family, teachers and coaches for helping him achieve the success he has enjoyed thus far.

— Cecilie Reeb  
**Sport:** Field hockey  
**School:** Western Connecticut State University (DIII)

Reeb will continue to play defense in college after an outstanding career at LCMR. She plans to major in criminal justice. Coach Ann Bracken praised Reeb's tenacity and work ethic, which she said she is sure will bring her continued success at the next level. Bracken feels no one will outwork Reeb or have a better attitude.

Reeb said she is excited about the new challenges she will face in college and vows to meet them.

— Katya Simonsen  
**Sport:** Field hockey  
**School:** Cabrini University (DIII)

Simonsen was an attack player at LCMR and will continue in that position at Cabrini. She has received a partial academic scholarship and will major in graphic design. Despite starting playing field hockey later than most high school players, she quickly grew into a key member of her team, according to coach Ann Bracken. Her athletic skills combined with an outstanding work ethic and attitude are bound to bring her continued success, according to Bracken, who called Simonsen very coachable.

Simonsen said she understands the challenge of playing in college, is excited about doing so and is determined to work even harder to succeed there.

— Maddie Sloan  
**Sport:** Softball  
**School:** Lock Haven University (DII)

Sloan played shortstop for LCMR and was one of the team's leading hitters. She plans to major in criminal justice. Coach Kiersten Hughes called Sloan a talented player with a great sense of the game and the potential to get even better at the next level.

Sloan said she is aware of the difficulty in playing in the tough PSAC and is determined to improve and meet that challenge. She's excited and nervous about the opportunity to do so.



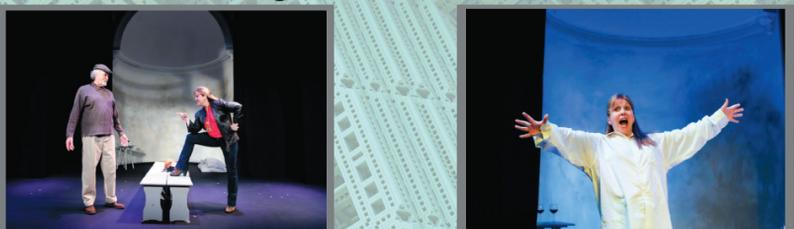
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BY SIMON STEPHENS DIRECTED BY ROY STEINBERG

WED-SAT 8:00 PM | SAT & SUN 3:00 PM

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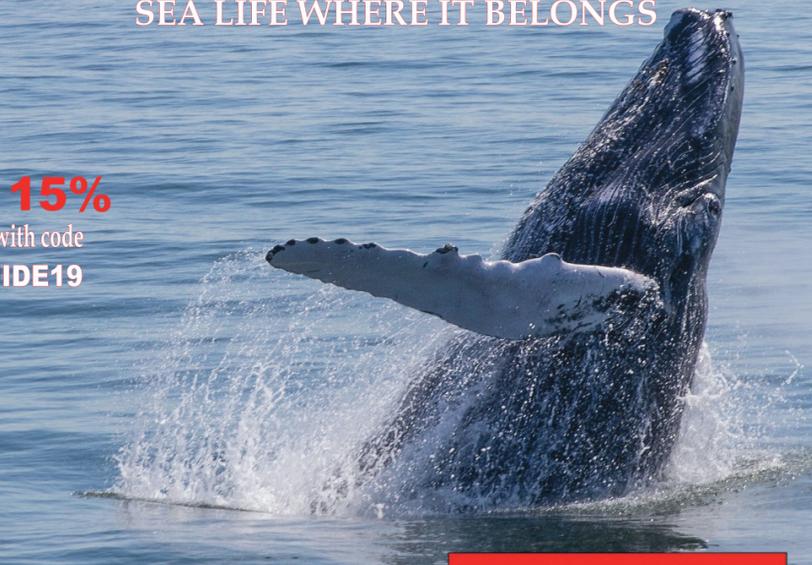


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