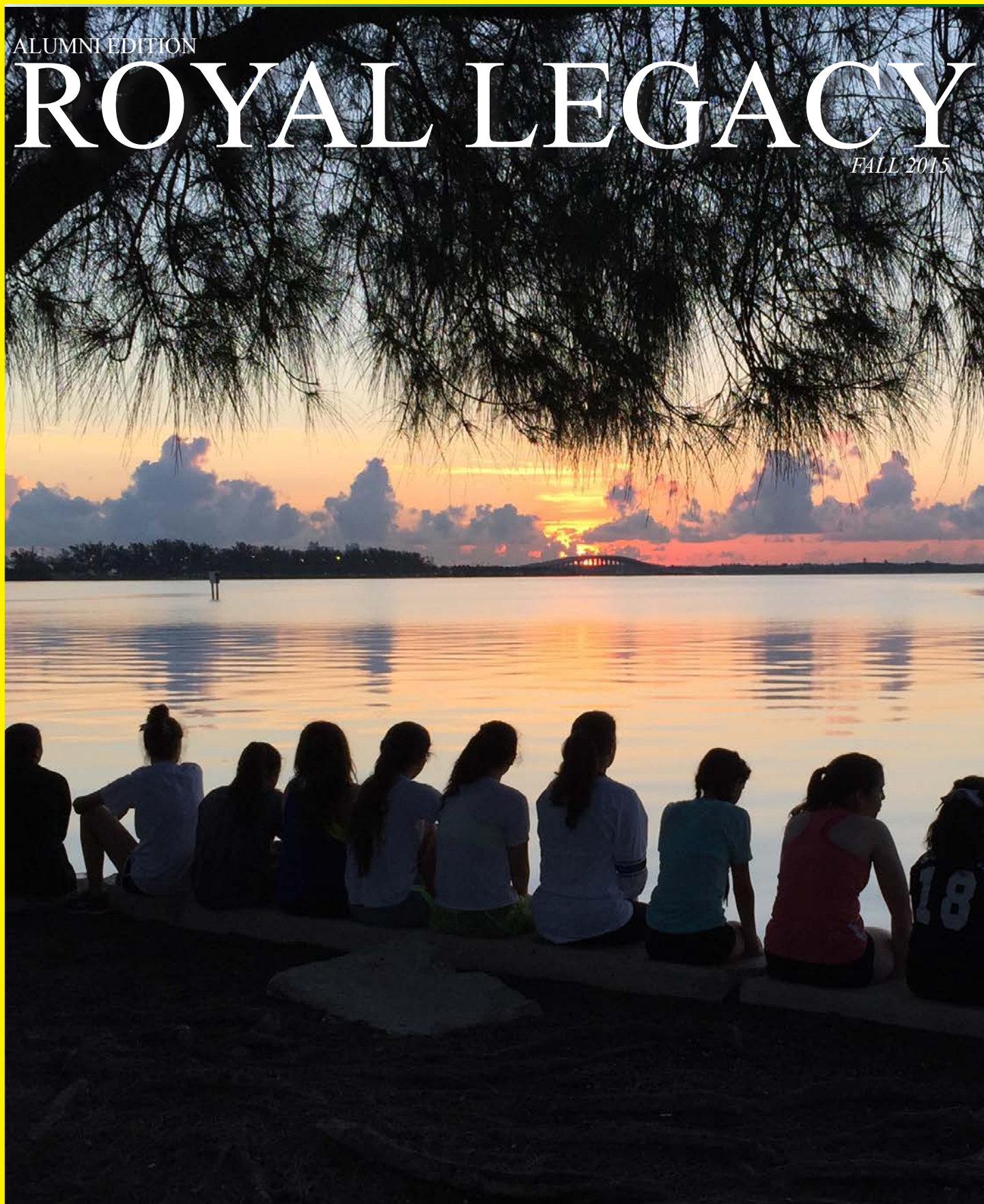


ALUMNI EDITION

ROYAL LEGACY

FALL 2015



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coming events!

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Program for students

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Trimmer Retires
& enters ILS Hall
of Fame



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IMMACULATA- LA SALLE

Upcoming Events 2015-2016

Alumni Sports Hall of Fame
October 15, 2015

Alumni Pig Roast
October 16, 2015

Tricky Tray
November 13, 2015

Food & Wine by the Bay
February 5, 2016

Alumni Hall of Fame
April 23, 2016

ILS Golf Tournament
May 6, 2016



Dear Alumni,

Welcome to the second edition of *Legacy*, our new magazine specifically published for our alumni. As we continue to build bridges with alumni, both recent and more senior, we hope to increase dialogue, participation, and communication with everyone who once called Immaculata-La Salle their “home away from home.”

We would very much like to keep our alumni informed of all the great things happening at our ever-growing school by the bay. Over the last several years, we have ushered in the “iPad Era,” and transformed ourselves into the leader in the Catholic school community with regards to effective use of technology. We were the first Catholic school in Florida to earn the “Apple Distinguished Educator” award and we are continuing to blaze new paths with technology.

Immaculata-La Salle is proud to introduce new concentration programs in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) as well as in Health Sciences. Both new programs were created in direct response to the growing need for skilled workers in these global and dynamic fields. In fact, Immaculata-La Salle has earned national accreditation for these programs from Advanced Ed, the largest accreditation agency of its kind. We are proud to say that we are the very first Catholic school, in a network of over 30,000 such schools, to earn this accreditation.

We continue to make improvements to our campus, including renovating the newly acquired youth center and pavilion. A new practice field has been constructed for the baseball and soccer teams. Our old stage has been demolished and construction of a

brand new, state-of-the-art stage is almost complete. Other long-term plans are in place for a new track, a new football field, as well as an athletic field house, locker rooms and bathroom facilities, and new spectator stands.

Although we at Immaculata-La Salle continue to look to the future by committing to new forms of technology, new facilities for our campus, and new and better ways of educating our students, we remain dedicated to the Catholic education system. We remain committed to the oratory tradition of Don Bosco, founder of the Salesian Order, and his philosophy which incorporates the three elements of reason, religion, and loving kindness. There will always be a demand for quality Catholic education, and we are here to meet that need.

We would like to thank, in a very special way, all of the families and alumni who have donated to our causes so far. A large part of the Catholic system is the commitment to including the less fortunate youth of our community in our school. We are constantly searching for qualified, underprivileged students to join our community of learning. And of course we are committed to keeping tuition costs as low as possible. That being the case, we rely on the generosity of our parents, donors, and alumni. We encourage all of our alumni to contribute in any way they can, large or small.

Again, we would like to thank all those who have donated so far. We are blessed to have the support of parents, alumni, and members of the local community, and we look forward to your continued support in the coming years.

God bless.

Sincerely,

Sr. Kim Keraitis, fma

Sister Kim Keraitis, FMA
Principal, Immaculata- La Salle High School



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Credits:

Graphics Coordinator
Elena Capablanca

Articles
Jeff Kruse

Editors
Alicia K. Garcia
Ana Laura Garcia

Development Coordinator
Wendy Vargas

Thank You For Your Collaboration:
Sr. Kim Keraitis
Fredy Padovan
Yearbook Staff
Martha Canelon (Cover Photo)
ILS Alumni Association

New Branches for Solid Roots in STEAM Education

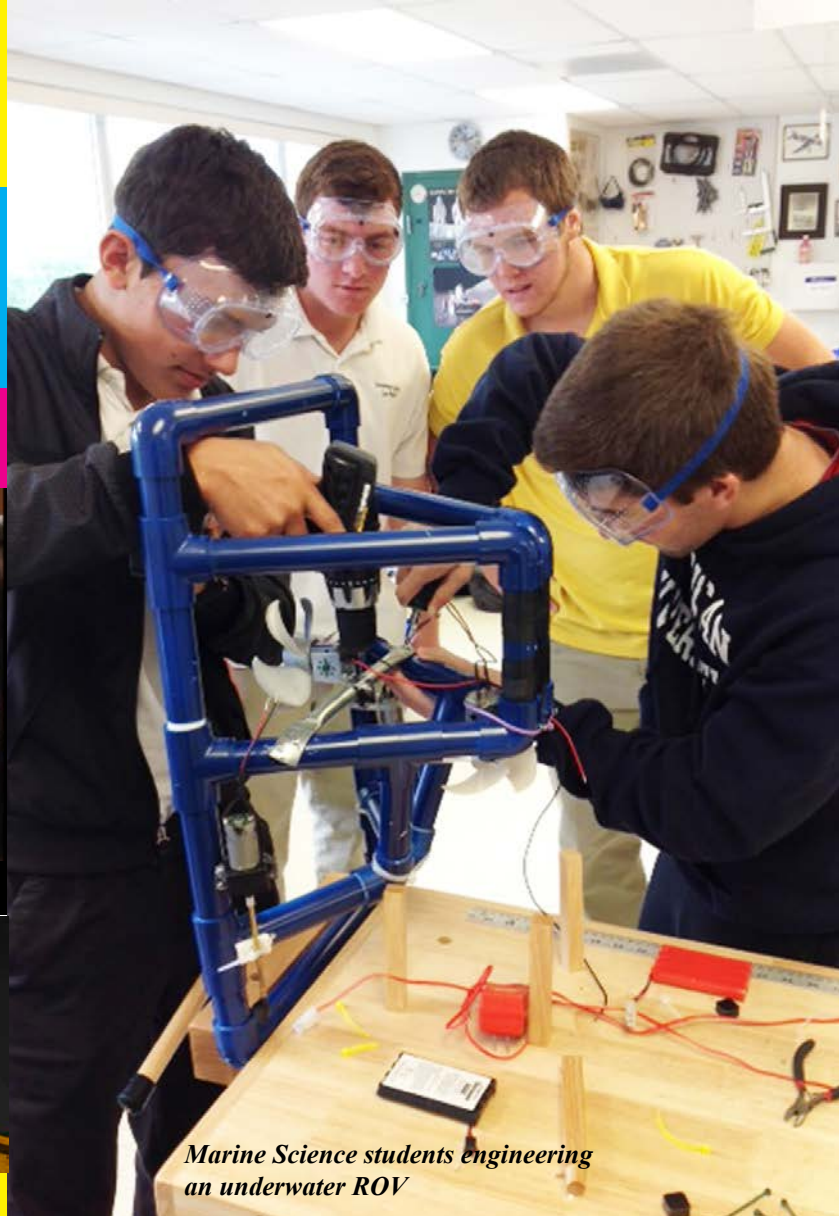
at Immaculata-La Salle High School in Miami, FL



3D Animation students creating virtual project



*Video production student
designing broadcast layout*



*Marine Science students engineering
an underwater ROV*

Immaculata-La Salle is proud to announce that we are the first Catholic school (in a network of over 30,000 Catholic schools) to earn accreditation for our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program. In addition, La Salle has taken the initiative and added certain art courses to the program, such as 3D Animation and Digital Design, so that the new acronym is actually “STEAM.”

In alignment with La Salle’s overall mission and vision, the administration and faculty are committed to increasing STEAM literacy for all students, in response to the growing demand for these skills in a dynamic and global workforce. According to the National Academy of Engineering, STEM careers will grow at twice the rate of other types of employment over the next 5 years. That being the case, Immaculata-La Salle is forging a new path with regards to a progressive and valuable curriculum.

As part of the new initiative, all incoming freshmen will take “Introduction to Engineering.” Those students earning a “B” or better will be invited to select a STEAM focus: either Engineering, Computer Science, or Digital Arts. Those who complete the STEAM program will be able to graduate with accredited certifications in a variety of specific disciplines.

While the administration at ILS believes strongly in that the STEAM program is vital to the future success of our students, we have not forgotten about the past, and how we arrived here. We remain committed to the higher goal of developing young men and women into responsible members of society; people are able to utilize their education to contribute to the greater good.



Health Science

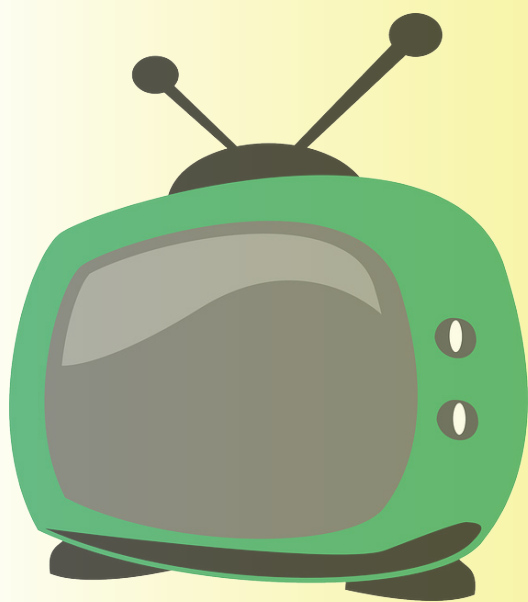
Upon earning accreditation for our STEAM program, and in partnership with Mercy Hospital, the administration of ILS has introduced advanced courses in Health Science. In response to the continued demand for skilled workers in the health and medical fields, the “Health Science Focus” initiative will be introduced to all incoming freshmen. Specifically, all freshmen will take a class called “Medical Skills and Service,” which covers such topics as basic health care skills, health care occupations, computers in health care, and legal aspects for the health care consumer.

Students who earn a “B” or higher in “Medical Skills and Service” will be invited to continue their Health Science Focus, and take more advanced health courses, such as Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology, and Allied Health Assisting. Upon completion of the Health Science Focus, students will be eligible

for certification in First Aid, CPR, as well as Certified Medical Administrative Assistant.

As always, the administration at ILS remembers the greater goal of the Catholic system, including charitable work for the needy or less fortunate. As such, program requirements include outreach work, where students will be encouraged to use their skills to help serve others in the local community. Students will be obligated to maintain membership in one of the medical clubs on campus, such as the Future Medical Professionals. Students in the Health Science Focus program will complete service hours at Mercy Hospital.

Don Bosco would be happy to know that we are offering the most advanced curricula to our students, but he would be thrilled to know that while doing so, our young people are maintaining their Catholic identity.



Trip to CBS News Station with Elliott Rodriguez ILS Alumnus

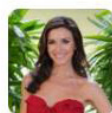
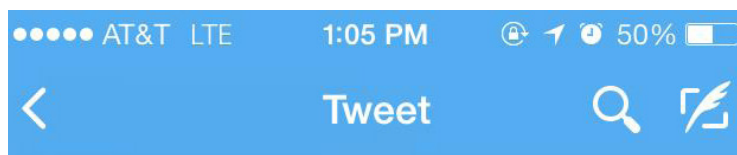
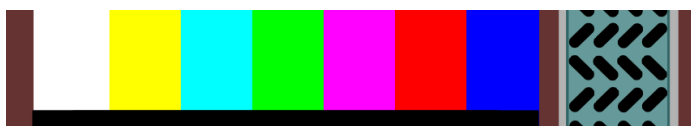
On February 5, 2015 a group of ILS Seniors from the Television Production Portfolio class had the opportunity of a lifetime to witness a live broadcast from behind the scenes at the CBS 4 News Station. The students were introduced to lead anchor and proud ILS alumnus, Elliot Rodriguez.

Mr. Rodriguez expressed what a special occasion this was, as Immaculata-LaSalle still holds a very special place in his heart. He then posted a group photo with the graduating seniors on Facebook, and joked that he could not remember when, exactly, he graduated.

Not only did the students see a live broadcast, but they also got to talk to a few of the employees that work at the station, including chief meteorologist, Lissette Gonzalez. Miss Gonzalez was happy to share with the students a little about what her job entails, and then she took to Twitter and publicly thanked our students for coming in.

The La Salle students were able to take a very informative tour of the CBS facility, including a behind-the-scenes look at the news room, the engineering room, and the graphic design room. The hosts at CBS channel 4 were kind enough to share their experiences and gave the students a real-life glimpse into the world of news broadcasting. "It was a great opportunity to see how much work goes into producing a 30 minute news broadcast," said senior Stephanie Ortega. "This tour opened our perspective to new fields in the world of television production and also inspired me to pursue my interest in broadcasting." Regarding her thoughtful teacher, Ms. Spencer, Stephanie said, "I thank Ms. Spencer for taking the time to plan such a wonderful trip for the graduating senior class who has been doing Television Production since their sophomore year. This trip was a great way to remember all that we have accomplished since then at ILS."

Kudos to Giovanna Spencer for going the extra mile to offer her students an educational experience they will not soon forget.



Lissette Gonzalez
@LissetteCBS4

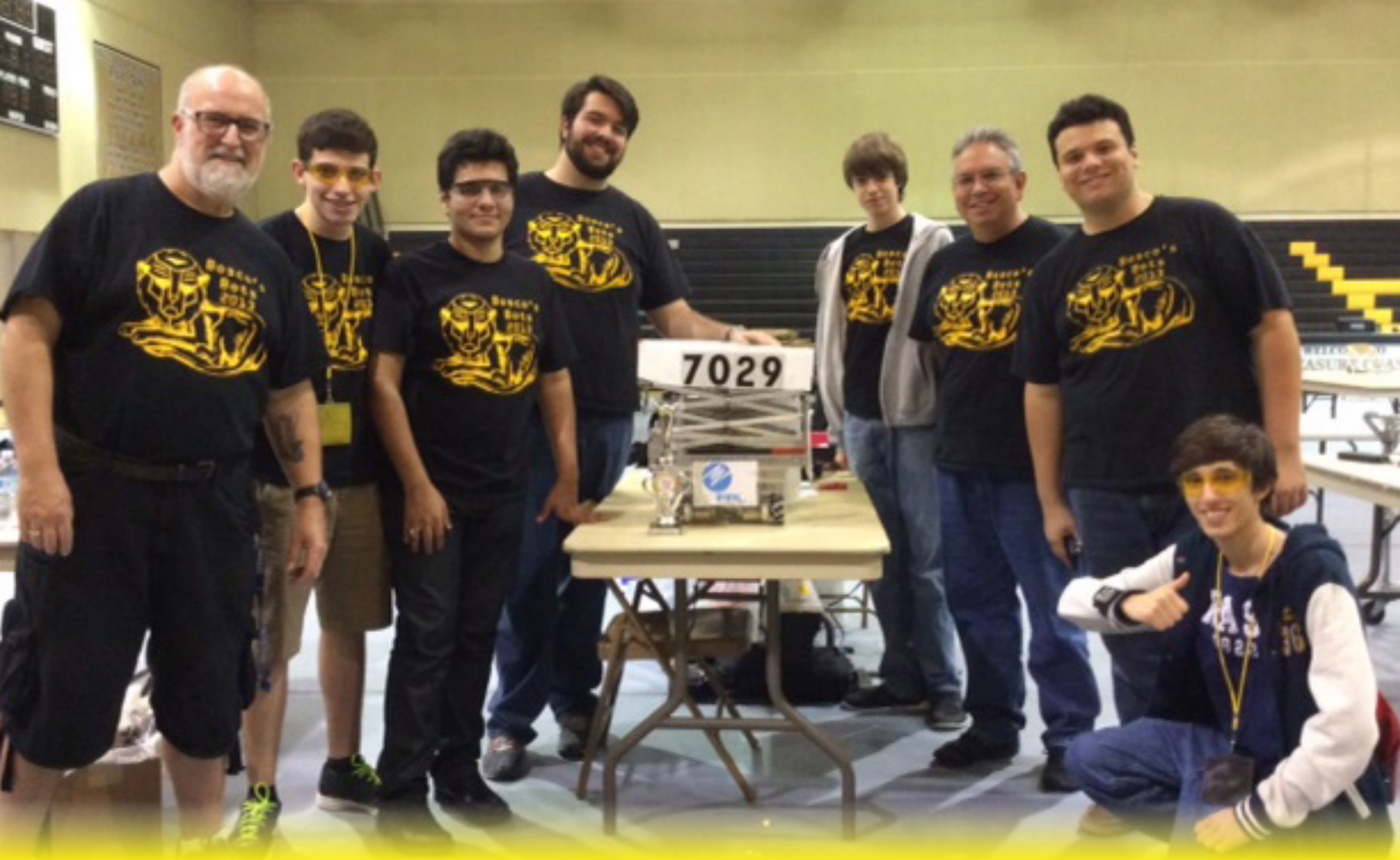


Thanks La Salle high school
Broadcasting class for visiting
[@cbsmiami](#) today! Anchor
[@ERodCBS4](#) attended La Salle!



Reply to Lissette Gonzalez, CBS4 Miar





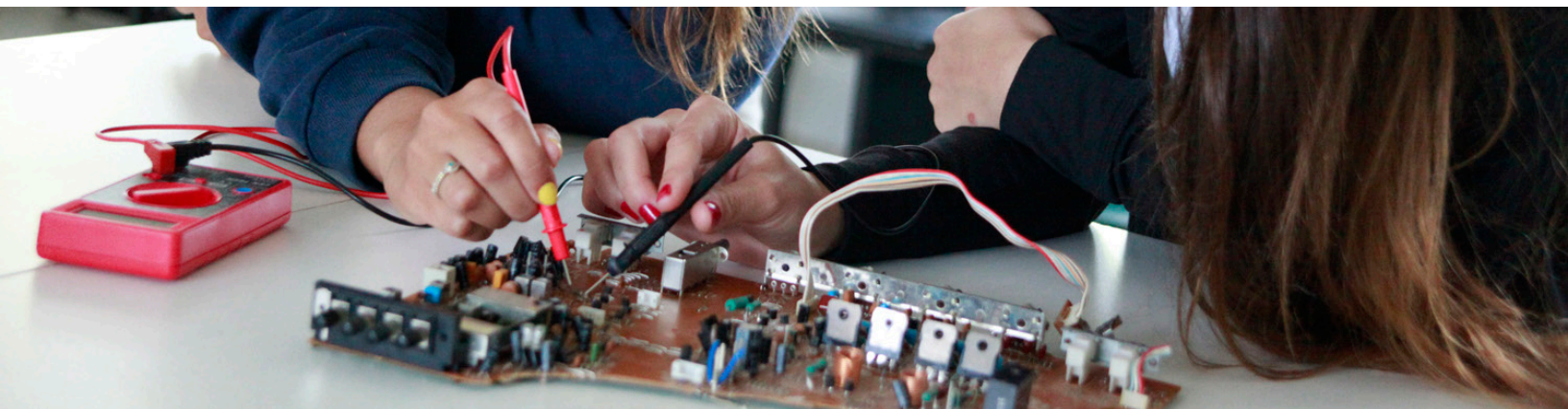
Robotics

In its rookie year, Bosco's Bots bashed the competition, with a top-5 finish at the FTC Robotics Tournament at Terra Institute in Kendall, and an impressive 2nd place finish in the championship round of the South Florida League of FTC Robotics Competition. This past year, in just their second year of existence, Bosco's Bots continued to steamroll through the competition.

Armed with a corporate sponsorship from Rockwell Collins, an avionics corporation specializing in aerospace and defense, and of course with the support of generous ILS parents, this past year's Bosco Bots had the resources to compete with the big boys at FAU's new Tech Runway facility, where they finished with an impressive 4th place. That strong finish qualified them for a trip to the state finals at Treasure Coast High School, where the "Little Bot That Could" came away with a thrilling 2nd place finish.

Of course at La Salle, it's never just about competing. There is, and always will be, the higher goal of developing charitable young men and women, who seek to share their talents and skills with the community through outreach work. True to form, Bosco's Bots traveled to schools such as St. Helen's Academy in Fort Lauderdale, a school just beginning their journey in the field of robotics. This trip was a positive experience for both the ILS Robotics team as well as the youngsters at St. Helen's, who were able to meet a genuine, full-size robot up close and personal.

Congratulations go out to Pablo Garces, robot programmer, Nick Suarez, robot driver, and the rest of the robotics team. And sincere thank you's to Mr. Perez, Armando Rodriguez volunteer mentor (and ILS parent), and especially to moderator, Scott Givonetti.



Alessandra Lopez del Rincon



Senior Jorge Piedra with Ms. Capablanca & Sophomore Regina Gutierrez



Photography Club

ILS students who enrolled in Ms. Capablanca's (La Salle Alumnus class of 2002) photography class went on quite a roll last year. Many students entered their photographs in various competitions and came out as big winners! Jorge Piedra (12th grade) and Regina Gutierrez (10th grade) both came out winners in the Dade-Heritage Trust student art competition, where they submitted photographs of historical places around South Florida. Another outstanding ILS photographer,

Alessandra Lopez del Rincon (10th grade), is making headlines with her creativity and talent. Her work has been featured in almost every contest she entered this past year, including the Dade Heritage Trust, the Capture Coral Gables contest, our own ILS Inklings publication, and VSCO's Photo Sharing App "Popular Page." Congratulations and special thanks to Ms. Capablanca for inspiring our talented and creative students at ILS.



ILS students and Ms. Wildenburg (far right) looking extremely stylish on South Beach

Fashion Club

The ILS fashion club was fortunate enough to attend The Funkshion Fashion show, hosted by the Art Institute, in stylish South Beach. The show featured sensational clothes designed by Fashion Institute students and modeled by professional models. Ms. Wildenburg (La Salle Alumnus) and the Fashion Club had front row seats to all the action, as they were formally invited by

Charlene Parsons, Director of the Fashion Department at the Art Institute. Mrs. Parsons is an enthusiastic supporter of ILS, since her husband was Head Football Coach and a teacher at La Salle in the 1960's and 1970's. Mr. Van Parsons is a beloved member of the ILS family, and a member of the La Salle Sports Hall of Fame.

Key Club presents...

Team Leadership
Character Service
Opportunity
Unity



Key Club students helping at St. John Bosco

Key Club at ILS has been steadily growing in numbers and has become dedicated to community service. The students engage in monthly service projects, assisting organizations such as Camillus house, St. John Bosco Parish, Missionaries of Charity, as well as local hospitals, community organizations and our own school. Every year Key Club's from all over the state of Florida and the Cayman Islands meet in Kissimmee for their annual state convention. There are competitions, conferences on leadership, and service projects. During the convention there are also volunteer hours provided for the statewide Eliminate project, which is dedicated to the prevention of neonatal tetanus all over

the globe. It is important for the Key Club organization to make service fun and meaningful, so every year the organizers of the conference have a theme. This past year our students were "Stars of Service," and truly they deserve Oscars for their volunteer work! Our very own ILS key clubbers entered the poster contest at the state convention and won first place! Our poster, which is featured on this page, demonstrates our students being true Superstars of Service! Congratulations to the Key Club and Ms. Capablanca who took time off from their spring break to attend and represent ILS at the convention. Keep up the great work!



ILS students are all smiles at retreats!

Campus Ministry

Don Bosco said, “Walk with your feet on Earth, but in your heart, be in Heaven.” This is exactly what the peer ministers do in the Campus Ministry Department here at Immaculata-La Salle. In a world dominated by technology, electronic communication, screen time, and the 24-hour news cycle, the role of Campus Ministry has never been more important. Thankfully, the peer ministers at La Salle make sure that the real priorities of their fellow students remain in order.

Peer ministers play the most important role in the Campus Ministry Department. They organize and run the hugely popular retreats on campus, but their role is larger than that. They see themselves as modern day disciples, who have a personal responsibility to help their peers maintain a healthy relationship with God. Of course this is not an easy task, and it requires some training, which they receive in their peer ministry class. Marion Delaney, 2015 president of the Campus Ministry Club, put it this way, “We work on activities that strengthen our relationships with ourselves, with the people in our lives, and most importantly, with God. In order to lead others, we first must know ourselves, and to lead others to God, we must first know Him ourselves.”

There are several large retreats that take place each year here at ILS. Judging by the number of students who sign up to attend, clearly the peer ministers are doing something right. The retreats are enormously popular with students of each grade level, and credit for that goes to the Peer Ministers as well as Julie Anne Cannon, head of the Campus Ministry Department. We asked a few peer ministers what exactly makes these retreats so popular. Marion Delaney responded, “What makes our retreats so success-

ful is the Salesian component they have. There is a spirit of joy and youthfulness that fills all the leaders and the participants and inspires them to live out the faith after the retreat is done.” J.C. Alvarez, Vice-President of the Campus Ministry club, added, “The retreats are so amazing because the participants come in not knowing what to expect. They get kicked out of their comfort zone and put in a place where they are vulnerable, and while in that state of vulnerability, the participant experience an incredible amount of love.” Andres Saladrigas, peer minister, continued, “The retreats give the kids at La Salle the opportunity to let go of any trials and tribulations they may be carrying with them.”

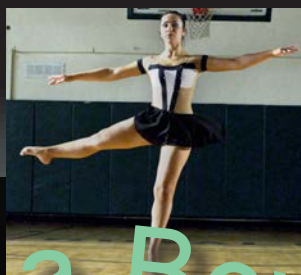
Taking responsibility for the spiritual development of one’s peers sounds like it could be a difficult task. We asked the peer ministers what was the hardest part of their jobs. “The biggest challenge is to find ways to make the teachings of our faith relatable to us as teenagers,” said Delaney. “It’s a big challenge, but I think we accomplish that very well.”

Although a large task, the mission of the peer ministers is clearly defined and very much successful. “As Salesian youth leaders, we strive to create an environment where everyone can come to know God and grow in their faith. Through our effort to live out the oratory teachings of Don Bosco, we aim to build a community where we can serve others, live joyfully, and become closer to Jesus.”

If ever you feel concerned, or uncertain about the youth of today, just have a conversation with one of Immaculata-La Salle’s peer ministers.



Student altar server Inigo Isla prepares for the Eucharist.



Taking a Bow At ILS



Student alter server Inigo Isla prepares for the Eucharist.



After the 2014-15 Immaculata-La Salle Drama club performed the light-hearted “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” they shifted course and performed the quite serious “Antigone,” a classic Greek tragedy, written by Sophocles. In the original play, a young woman is put in a terrible position where she must choose between remaining loyal to her family and the deadly consequences of violating the laws of the kingdom. As if performing an ancient Greek tragedy was not difficult enough, the Drama Club’s executive board decided to perform a more modern interpretation

of the original. And so, this past year’s Drama Club decided to set the play in the Red Scare era of the late 1950’s, quite an appropriate time period considering the plot. Nothing like a little dose of McCarthyism to spice up a Greek tragedy! Drama teacher and director, Margie Ricke, placed the artistic interpretation of the play in the hands of La Salle drama veteran Christina Cano, who played the lead character, Antigone.

Ms. Ricke also teaches several other classes, including Costume Design here at LaSalle. The students from her Costume Design II class constructed all the costumes for Antigone, as well as two other one-act plays performed later in the year, completely from scratch. It’s turned out to be quite a large project, but Ms. Ricke’s students were up to the task! “I’m so proud of them,” gushed Ms. Ricke.

Ms. Ricke has a lot more to be proud about, as well. This past year, she sent 11 of her students to the Florida State Thespian Festival in March. Two of her students, “Antigone” star Christina Cano, as well as Estefania Martinez, each received a rating of “Superior” in their respective events at the festival. The rest of the students had the opportunity to attend workshops in all aspects of theater, talk to representatives from schools of theater, and watch full length plays performed by other high schools from all over the state.

Bravo, Ms. Ricke.

Immaculata-La Salle's Best Kept Secret



ILS Debate Team braved the elements at Harvard University.

Small picture: Arianis Blanco, Marianna Troia, and Camila Camacho Sanchez. Troia was the 2015 Salutatorian, the FL Lincoln Douglas Debate State Champion, and is currently in her freshman year at Yale.

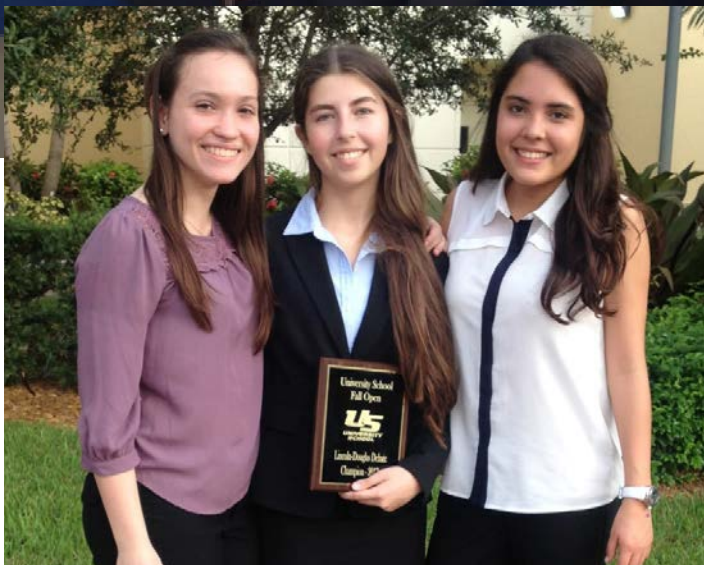
Debate is not a club at Immaculata-La Salle High School; debate is a team.

Since 2006, the Immaculata-La Salle Royals Debate Team has grown from just one debater to over a dozen competitive debaters, and our students are no longer mere participants, rather they are contenders. In addition to several state championships, five appearances at national championship tournaments, including the 2014 National Catholic Forensic League National Championship in Chicago, the ILS Royals Debate Team was invited to compete in tournaments at Harvard University, Georgetown University and the University of Florida. Simply put: ILS Royals Debate is on the map.

ILS debaters are different from the others. Debate is not the friendliest or most forgiving sport. But from the beginning, ILS Royals Debate has tried to embody the spirit of Don Bosco. Junior Public Forum debater Arianis Blanco likes to say that “Since we are Salesian, we believe that we shouldn’t mistreat another debater just to have an advantage. Sometimes, we can be too nice! It’s a Salesian thing!” This doesn’t stop the team from winning, but the ILS style of debate does disarm their opponents, and impresses the judges. The students learn to apply Salesian teachings and values, and to win in the process. Arianis Blanco adds, “One of the great-

est strengths the team has is that we understand how to debate strongly, but we don’t change our personalities or morals in order to just win a title. Our team has the strength to see the bigger picture of debate: it’s an intellectual sport that allows you to grow and learn more.”

Competing in debate gives students the possibility to not only learn about interesting topics, but also allows them to develop and strengthen their voices. Sophomore Camila Camacho-Sanchez is clear about the impact of debate on her persuasive skills. “Debate has taught me to articulate my thoughts well, how to defend my arguments and opinions when necessary. Debate gave me a space to argue, to not be compliant. It taught me to play to my strengths and the significance of well delivered logic and rhetoric.” Arianis continues, “Debate allows you to develop a voice that is dominant and influential, that has the capacity to strengthen a truth and change our world. That is why debate is tremendously valuable.” In fact, many ILS Royals Debate alums go on to pursue degrees in Law, International Relations, Political Science, Economics and even Medicine. Our alums are representing ILS at Harvard, Yale, Emory, American University, Loyola Chicago, the London School of Economics, Florida State University, the University of Miami, Florida International University, and the Uni-



versity of Florida. Simply put, the impact of the Royals Debate Team is felt both at home and abroad.

The educational advantages of participating in debate competitions are immense. Congressional Debate State Championship Qualifier, Monica Lopez, puts it this way, "Debate teaches important skills, like time management and responsibility, as well as educates us on current events and international relations far beyond what is taught in a classroom at a high school level." The width and breadth of supplemental learning that happens when a student becomes a member of ILS Royals Debate is significant.

Senior Guilherme Tomas explains that, "My experience with speech and debate has not only given me the chance to improve my research and public speaking

skills, but also to compete in an event that resembles a sport in certain aspects. It allows me to use my intellect as an athlete uses his body and it has given me the same sense of self-improvement." A Florida Forensic League State Championship Qualifier, Tomas is seeing the hard work of his past three years of competing in various styles of debate pay off.

As the ILS Royal's Debate Team continues to travel along the path that was blazed by district champions which include alumni Daniel Ducassi, Delfina Martinez-Pandiani, Tony Diaz and Marianna Troia, our program will remain strong for years to come. The new officers of the team, rising seniors Arianis Blanco, Camila Camacho-Sanchez and Monica Lopez understand that by striving to achieve their goals of being the best debaters in our district and in our state, they are actively building the ILS team of the future. They will have the responsibility of mentoring and contributing to the formation of the new members of the team. ILS has sent six debaters to nationals in five of the last six years. Next year's ILS Royals Debate Team looks to add to those numbers. While embodying our Catholic values, the spirit of Don Bosco and a love of learning and speaking, the Royals Debate Team will continue to make the school proud and contribute to the prestige of our beloved ILS.

ILS' Purple Heart Club Visits Miami VA Hospital

The Purple Heart Club supports the brave men and women serving our country in the U.S. Military. There is a surprisingly large number of students who join this club every year. It definitely warms the heart to know that students at ILS have a deep appreciation for those who have served, and continue to defend this great nation.

The Purple Heart Club's goal is to support active and former U.S. Military servicemen and women in any way they can. That means fundraisers for the Wounded Warriors Project, letter-writing campaigns, supply drives, and trips to the local V.A. Hospital.

This past year was a busy year for the Purple Heart Club. They made 3 field trips to the Miami V.A. Hospital, where students participated in wheel-chair basketball games with disabled veterans. The club also organized parties for the disabled veterans on Halloween, and for Thanksgiving and Christmas. No matter what the occasion, La Salle students are eager to show their support for our U.S. Military Veterans.

Last year, in observation of Veterans' Day, the Purple

Heart Club welcomed some very special guest speakers to La Salle. Students at ILS were treated to the first-hand stories of Anibal Naranjo, member of the Brigade 2506, famous for the Bay of Pigs Invasion, as well as John Mele, 92 year-old retired Naval officer from World War II. Both veterans discussed, first-hand, their unique experiences of marching in Cuba during the Bay of Pigs, and sinking German submarines. ILS students learned some history lessons from the people who were actually there.

David Page, senior President of the Purple Heart Club, is planning to attend Valley Forge Military Academy, and then apply to the Naval Academy, where he plans to train to be a Navy SEAL. David has several family members currently serving their country in the Marines and Army. Senior Vice President of the Purple Heart Club, Paul Fernandez, has an older brother currently serving in the Marines. David Morales, three-sport varsity athlete, has already enlisted in the U.S. Navy. It's good to know that students at ILS appreciate the sacrifices made by so many for our freedom. Our prayers go out to family members, friends, and all those who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. God bless America!



Purple Heart members at the Miami VA Hospital's Spinal Trauma Ward.



Purple Heart girls with a retired U.S. Army veteran.



Listening to war stories.



Seniors David Paige (former president of the Purple Heart Club future Navy SEAL) and Jorge Piedra, with a retired U.S. Veteran



Jason Quiroga, class of 2014, Future NASA Engineer

On the first day of school of his freshman year, a young Jason Quiroga was asked by his teacher, Mr. Kruse, what he wanted to be when he grew up. Without hesitation, Jason said he wanted to be an engineer and work for NASA. It seems that clarity of goals, as Mr. Kruse was explaining that day, is one of the best indicators of future success. And it seems Jason Quiroga is well on his way.

Mr. Quiroga recently visited Kennedy Space Center with the Technology Department of the Honors Program at Miami-Dade College. He met with the director of NASA's internship program and shared many of his achievements with technology and robotics. Last year, as a senior at ILS, Jason captained La Salle's Robotics team to their 2nd place finish in the league championship. He was then selected from hundreds of applicants to offer a presentation on his team's robot-building strategy at the 2015 Florida Collegiate Honors Council: Breaking Boundaries. According to Jason, his project will "show how specific algebraic and geometric methods can improve and advance the precision and accuracy of a robot's hardware and software."

Clearly, Jason is adding value. It just so happens that currently, NASA is working on Mission RESOLVE, which is planning to send a rover to the moon in the year 2020. This rover will be equipped with a robotic drilling system designed to find water on the moon, which could then pave the way towards actually colonizing the moon! NASA will need many great engineers to make this happen, and our own Jason Quiroga will most likely be one of them.

Thank you, Jason, for continuing to represent Immaculata-La Salle and our STEAM initiative so well in our community!

LACROSSE TEAM



The 2014-15 Royal Lions lacrosse team definitely had their work cut out for them this past year. They have the “good fortune” of belonging to FHSAA District # 31, which means their in-district opponents include Columbus, Gulliver, Ransom, and Belen, all of whom are top-25 teams in the entire state of Florida. Despite the strong competition, ILS Lax finished the season with a respectable 4-6 record.

First-year coach (and proud La Salle alum) Anthony Vuono has no illusions about the fierce competition his team is facing. He knows that above all else, he must develop mentally and physically tough players in order to just compete and survive. Coach Vuono and Assistant Coach Charlie Rodriguez (also a La Salle alum) place enormous value on keeping their players in superior conditioning, as well as molding an identity around playing a tough, physical brand of lacrosse.

Coach Vuono’s approach has been paying dividends. Although

they are over-matched, skill-wise, by opponents with many more years’ more experience, The Royal Lions had some success this past season, including a huge win against St. Brendan’s, one of La Salle’s biggest rivals. Senior captains Aurelio Miranda and Kevin McNamara provided both production and leadership, with fellow seniors David Morales and Antonio de la Herria providing much-needed defense. Thankfully the team got big production on offense from freshmen Alessandro Capua and leading scorer Jessie Fuchs.

If the Royal Lions lacrosse team can continue to develop their young talent, they have a bright future in the “fastest game on two feet.” And you can bet they are learning a lot about facing and overcoming adversity. As Coach Vuono constantly reminds them, “Once a task has begun, never quit until it’s done. Great or small, do it well, or not at all.” That is great advice on the lacrosse field and off it, as well.



It was a tough year for the Immaculata-La Salle football team. The team played a demanding schedule in a very tough district. And despite losing key players to injuries, the Royal Lions fought their way to a solid 4-6 record against some of the most formidable opponents in the state. Most notably, the team had a last-second victory over heavily-favored Benjamin the opening week of the season.

Senior Captain Manny Readon had another outstanding season. Head Coach Willie Trimmer noted, "Manny was exciting to watch every time he touched the ball." In fact, his nickname on the team is "The Mamba" because he is not just exciting, but deadly when he touches the ball. Senior Captain David Page had an excellent year on the offensive line, and is expecting to attend the Naval Academy after graduation. Terrill "Bang Bang" Hanks also had a great year, and has recently signed a letter of intent to play Division I football at New Mexico State University.

Terrill Hanks is joining a growing list of La Salle football players who have continued their playing careers at the college level. In fact, Terrill's brother, Allen Edwards, class of 2012, made the jump from junior college to Division I when he recently signed a letter of intent to play for the University of Pittsburgh. Alejandro Cardenas, ILS class of 2014, just began his sophomore season as the punter and placekicker for Fordham University. Sam Miller, class of 2010, made it all the way to the NFL, most recently on the practice squad for the Buffalo Bills. Clearly the coaches at La Salle are doing something right.

There is a lot of talent returning for the 2015-16 football team. Offensive Coordinator (and La Salle alumnus) George San Miguel, and Defensive Coordinator (and also La Salle alumnus) Anthony Vuono are returning to the sideline for this year's team as well. ILS is also proud to introduce new Head Coach Matt Dillon for the 2015-16 campaign.

TRIMMER RETIRES



Retired Head Coach Willie Trimmer, with seniors Noel "The Jamaican Sensation" Brown (25) and J.C. "The Anchor" Alvarez

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the retirement of Immaculata-La Salle's Head Football Coach, Willie Trimmer. Willie has been a successful coach his entire adult life, with coaching positions in Ohio, Illinois, and even overseas in Germany. But Trimmer found his true home right here at Immaculata-La Salle, where he coached for 15 seasons, which is an eternity in coaching years. In fact, Trimmer is the longest tenured coach

in ILS history, and one of the longest tenured coaches in all of Miami Dade County.

Willie ushered in an era of success never before seen here at ILS. In a super-competitive area such as south Florida, he matched the best win-total the school has ever known. After the 2012-13 season, he was named the Southern District Coach of the Year. He has coached



four raw, young men into Division I college players, and many more into Division II and III players. However, as great a coach as he is, Willie is an even better human being. He personifies the Salesian spirit like few others can. Everyone who knows him says he cares deeply for his players, his students, his colleagues, and of course for his family. He raised his two children here in Miami, and watched them matriculate right here at Immaculata-La Salle. Willie is a man of principle; winning has always been important, but not nearly as important as molding adolescents into young men of high character.

Although Trimmer is a hard-nosed, high-intensity coach while on the football field, no one will soon forget the joyous moments he has brought to our school community. His selfless acts of humility have both inspired and entertained the rest of us. For example, Willie agreed to attempt an ill-fated slam dunk just for the amusement of our student body. The Miami Heat Extreme Team was visiting our school, and Willie agreed to attempt an acrobatic slam dunk off a spring board that the Extreme Team brought with them. Nobody else would even attempt it, but Willie sure did. And it certainly did not work out the way he had planned, as Willie ended up flat on his face directly on the gymnasium floor, much to the delight of the crowd. That one is still getting hits on YouTube.

A second great Trimmer story was when he was caught on film jumping into a practice drill and taking on the entire offensive line... of his own football team! One of the players paid a very dear price for it after being introduced to a Trimmer block. And who can forget when Willie was the victim of a classic prank by his players? Knowing his intensity and focus on preparation, some of his players played a joke on him by chastising an imaginary player, named "Jason," for not having all the proper practice gear at the beginning of practice. Willie heard what the players said, and then lost it, screaming at a player that did not even exist. The prank continued for some time, much to the delight of the players. Later in the season, during a pre-game pep talk, Willie was complimenting his team on how far they had come that year, even going out of his way to compliment "Jason," the player that never existed!

But that's Willie....always the optimist, always quick with a kind word or a compliment even for an imaginary person.

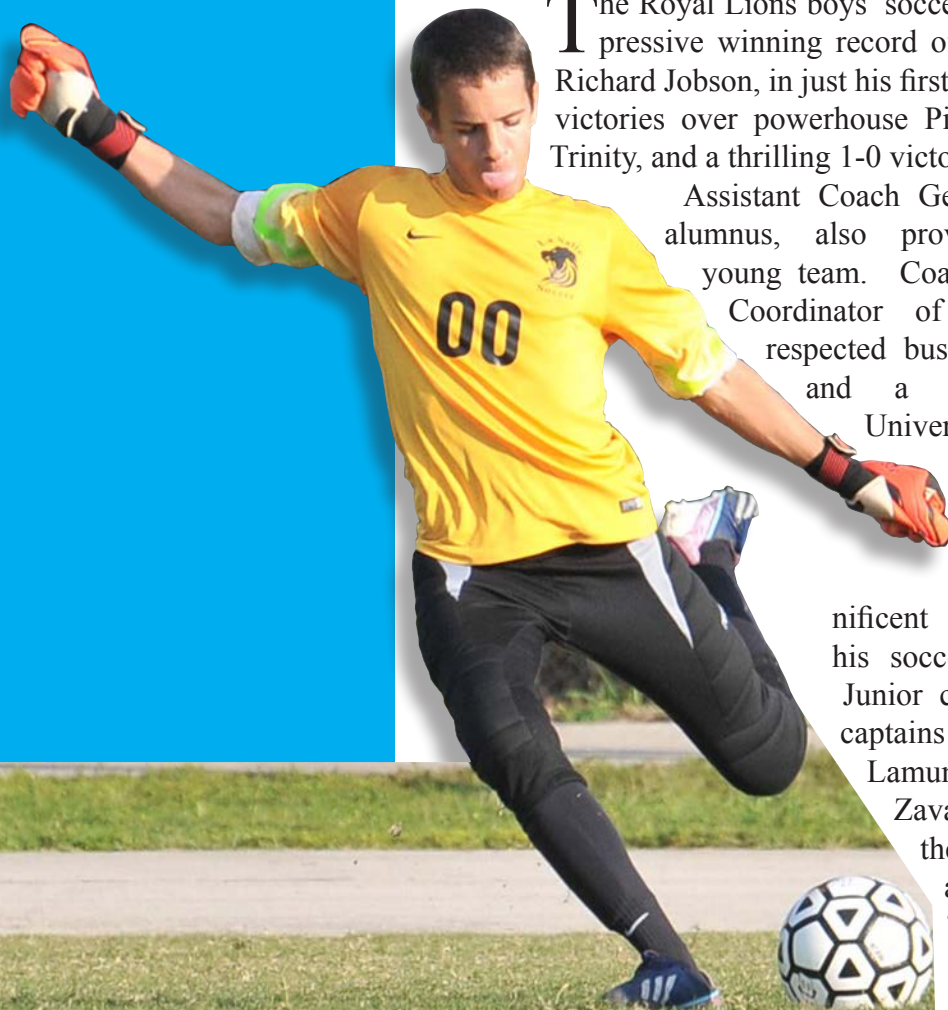
Trimmer's friends and colleagues will tell you that above all, he is a gentleman... humble, good-natured, and fiercely committed to living a wholesome, Christian life. Coach Trimmer will be dearly missed, and we wish him well in his golden years.



BOYS' SOCCER



Daniel "The Jet" Neret is about to take off!
Senior goalie and co-captain Gabriel Pineda



The Royal Lions boys' soccer team finished last season with an impressive winning record of 7-6-3 in a talent-rich district. Coach Richard Jobson, in just his first season, guided this year's team to huge victories over powerhouse Pine Crest, perennial contender Palmer Trinity, and a thrilling 1-0 victory over district rival, MAST Academy.

Assistant Coach George San Miguel, a proud La Salle alumnus, also provided critical leadership for this young team. Coach San Miguel is also the Offensive Coordinator of the La Salle football team, a respected business man in the Miami community, and a professor at Nova Southeastern University. Together, head Coach Jobson and Assistant Coach San Miguel were able to develop this year's youthful team into contenders. Senior goalie and co-captain Gabriel Pineda had a magnificent season and is expected to continue his soccer career at Jacksonville University. Junior captain Nico "Que Rico" Bared, vice captains Ivan Godward and Juan Carlos Lamuno, as well as leading scorer Pipe Zavalía are all juniors and will return for their senior campaign. You can bet that a trip to the district finals will be the "goal" for the 2015-16 ILS soccer team.



Senior Captain Nicole Baldassini powers her way to a Lady Lions victory. Baldassini accepted a full soccer scholarship to the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

GIRLS' SOCCER

The 2014-15 girls' soccer team had a good season, finishing 10-7 and more importantly, 5-1 in district play. The team was led by first year Head Coach Gamy Lozano and Assistant Coach Anthony Vuono. Both coaches are La Salle graduates, and ironically, they both played on the LaSalle boys' team in the late 90's that won the first ever district title for the boys' squad.

Coach Gamy and Coach Vuono were able to muster everything they could from this year's team, with the team philosophy, "Dot your i's and cross your t's!" Evidently being prepared for big games was crucial for this year's team. And that preparation paid off...with huge wins against district foes. The Lady Lion's soccer team had a big 2-1 victory over Carrollton in the first game of the season. They beat Mater 2-1 in a big win at home, and had possibly their biggest victory in a 1-0 thriller over arch-rival Doral.

Senior Captain Nicole Baldassini had a huge year, as

did her younger sister, junior captain Flor Baldassini. "Flor kept us in games left and right this season as a fast and aggressive sweeper, providing a strong presence on defense..." commented big sister Nicole. "Four-year varsity players Karina Radice and Karina Tremols had a huge impact on the team, playing in every game with passion and a lot of heart." Goalkeeper Talia Sabino also had a big year before suffering a concussion. Thankfully freshman defender Olivia Flood was able to step in at keeper for the Lady Lion soccer team.

Obviously the expectation was to compete for the district title this past year, and the Lady Lions fell short of reaching their objective. Nevertheless, the team had some major successes, especially considering the district in which they went a stunning 5-1. Said captain Baldassini, "We had an amazing season this year, and this team plays with tremendous heart. I wish them luck next season, and I know they are going to bring our district title back home. Where it belongs."



Boys' BASKETBALL

Playing in an extremely talented district, the 2014-2015 Royal Lions basketball team stayed competitive with a 10-13 record. The team over-achieved in several big games, beating their biggest rival, Belen Jesuit. The Royal Lions hoops team also beat FL Christian on a buzzer-beater by Jesus Cruz, and his cousin, Ian Cruz had his own buzzer-beater in a thrilling win over Dade Christian. The team showed a lot of mental toughness in a comeback win over SLAM from down 15 points to winning by 15.

The team fought through more than their share of injuries. Three starters went down with the typical ankle injuries, but playing very physical and tough opponents made the team's injury report read like an emergency room's dossier, including torn ACL's, torn MCL's, concussions, stitches in the head, and a broken nose.

Sole senior Brett Richard and captain Alejandro Britos provided critical leadership throughout a tough season. Despite losing key players for extended periods of time, the Royal Lions stuck together and put together a solid season.

As with all athletic teams at ILS, winning games is subordinated to the higher goal of teaching and developing young men of high moral character. Coach Mikey Gilbeau, in just his second year, has developed a skilled core of young players, almost all of whom are returning next year. With the return of junior power forward Steven Bier from a knee injury, sharp shooters Oscar Gaetan and Julian Pita, and fan favorite Justin Sapp, the 2015-16 La Salle basketball team should be a force to be reckoned with.



Head Coach David Fernandez draws up the next play, with A.D. and Assistant Coach Chris Crotty

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

First year Head Coach David Fernandez convinced his girls that if they just “played their game,” they would have the opportunity to win every game on the schedule. And despite playing in a super district with powerhouses like Booker T. Washington, St. Brendan, and Monsignor Pace, the 2014-15 Lady Lion hoops team finished with an impressive 16-8 record.

Early in the season, the Lady Lions had huge wins over Doral and Mater Academy. Their two biggest regular season wins came against district rival St. Brendan. In the first game, the Lady Lions went on a late fourth quarter run to come away with an impressive 6 point win on the road. When they played St. Brendan the second time, our girls were without their best player, and found themselves down by 13 at the half. But they “played their game,” and came back for a hard fought 51-49 victory.

Senior captain Nicole Lorenzo was the squad’s best all-around player, leading the team in scoring, assists,

and steals. She will most likely take home All-Dade honors. Senior Isa de la Madriz was also named captain this year, after distinguishing herself as a four-year varsity letterman. Said head Coach Fernandez, “Her leadership and experience were key to our success.”

As a first year Head Coach, Fernandez established a couple of goals: to exceed the previous year’s win total, and to reach the district finals. The team accomplished the first goal, but fell slightly short of the second. Their regular season win total earned them a first round bye in the district tournament, but the team came up short in the semi-finals against Booker T. Washington. Despite being in control for most of that game, the Lady Lions lost a heartbreaker in overtime.

Said Coach Fernandez, “This team is at the start of a new era. We have a long road ahead of us, but this group of girls did a great job of adjusting to a new coaching staff and coming together for a successful season.”

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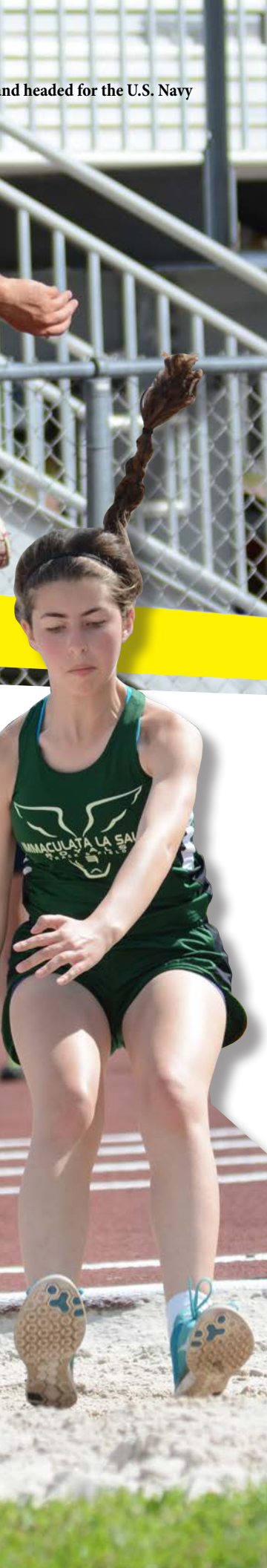
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A male athlete in a green and white singlet is captured mid-air, leaping over a hurdle. He is wearing green shorts and white socks. In the background, two female spectators are visible behind a chain-link fence.

David Morales leaping a hurdle, and headed for the U.S. Navy

ILS Track & Field

A female athlete in a green singlet with a white eagle logo is in the middle of a long jump. She has a braid in her hair and is wearing blue and white shoes. The background shows a track and some greenery.


Senior long-jumper Mariana Troia jumping her way all the way to Yale.

The 2014 track program at La Salle was magnificent. The team set records for the best 4X1 boys' relay in the history of the school...by a lot. That team featured senior Leon Rechourse in the anchor position; he also set school records in a handful of other categories, and was first team All-Dade in the triple jump.

Naturally, there were some questions about how this past year's squad would perform, after graduating so much talent. Thankfully, Coach Eddie Cerdeiras has an effective model to which he strictly adheres: harmony between body, mind, and soul. Everything is done for the glory of God. This model is reflected in the t-shirts the student-athletes often wear: "Do my best, and to God, I leave the rest."

This model served the 2015 La Salle track team quite well. Stand-out performers included; Stephanie Marsellos in the discus, and Mati De Leon in the shot put. Coach Eddie and his wife Coach Aimee took the initiative in developing some new talent as well, with Ivan Godward (from the boys' soccer team), Andres Saladrigas (from the swim team), freshmen runners Mariana Gonzalez, Amanda Ruiz, and Augustin Cardano, as well as sophomore runners Brando Mena and Juan Aguirre. With returning track stars Manny "The Mamba" Readon and Josten "Boogie" Borgella, the other teams in the district had better watch out!

In addition to Coach Eddie and Coach Aimee, the track team is fortunate to have Patrick Abada, former Olympian from the French National Team (1976), as their pole vault coach, Nathan Gomez as their strength coach, and Tomas Cerdeiras coaching the hurdlers and long jumpers. With such outstanding leadership in place, it's no wonder the track team over-achieved this past season.

A full-page photograph of a baseball player in a green jersey and gold helmet, swinging a bat. The bat has "EASTON" written on it. The player is on a dirt field with a chain-link fence and spectators in the background.

Frankie Ortega eyes up the pitch.

Baseball

Everything was new for the 2014-15 Royal Lions baseball team this past year. New head coach, new home field, new uniforms, and perhaps most importantly, a new culture for the La Salle baseball players to embrace.

First year head coach Hernan Adames commented, "The main goal is to bring a culture that is different from what they have been used to in the past. Our emphasis is on team chemistry." Part of that philosophy is also ensuring that players have fun and celebrate, regardless of what the scoreboard says. "Win or lose, I tell them to have the same attitude," says Coach Hernan. "We don't want to be too high on the wins or too low on the losses." Perhaps the only thing that did not change this past season was La Salle's commitment to the Catholic system. "We are firm believers in the Catholic system," said Coach Hernan, "We want them to understand that through baseball, [the Catholic system] will prepare them for what they will face in life."

The 2014-15 ILS baseball team benefitted greatly from Coach Hernan's new philosophy. The team played loose and carefree baseball, the way the game is supposed to be played. Our Royal Lions came away with a much improved record of 12-13, losing a heartbreaker, by a score of 2-1, in the district semi-finals. Along the way, the team earned some huge victories against powerhouse programs Pace, Florida Christian, and American Heritage. Perhaps the biggest win was a thrilling 1-0 victory against 20-win and arch-rival Belen Jesuit, on a pinch-hit, game-winning, walk-off home run by "Super" Mario Sanchez.

Pitcher Jacob Perea distinguished himself by leading the district and placing second in the county in victories. Closer Joshua Leon led the district and (Dade County) in saves with his wicked, 12 to 6 curve ball. Senior Eric Hazday led the team in hitting and was selected to the Senior HSNB All-Star game as an outfielder. Southpaw senior Brandon Blanco earned a Scholarship to play baseball at St. Thomas University and was an NAIA national runner-up.

This coming season the Royal Lions will have 4 powerful arms coming back in the pitching rotation. Considering the success they attained this past season, our 2015 team should be district favorites. Take me out to the ball game, Coach Hernan!



Head Coach Aimee Cerdeiras is a very spiritual person, and an example of how to be a good Catholic. When she prays with her swimmers before a meet, naturally they always pray to Don Bosco. But in addition, they would ask Moses, if it wasn't too much trouble, if he could split the water for them. And that's the Salesian spirit...alive and well with the ILS swimming team.

The team goals are like other sports: improve from last year and represent your school in tournament competition. Most notably, "it's not about winning, but doing your best in and out of the pool." Well said, Coach Aimee.

The 2014-15 team was led by senior captains Isa Antonini and Andres Saladrigas. In addition, seniors Meghan Miranda and Maria Shubert-Fontes swam on the varsity level for all four years of their high school careers.

Isa Antonini had quite the tumultuous season. It started when she slammed her finger in a car door right at the beginning of the season. She had to sit out of some meets but quickly drew tired of that. So instead, she began swimming with her injured hand held high out of the water, swimming with one arm, on her back, in freestyle racing. And she beat much of the competition she faced! Thankfully after about half of the season, Isa started competing normally when her hand healed. It seemed unlikely that she would be in good enough shape to qualify for districts, but of course she did! She was district champion in the 50 freestyle and finished a very respectable 4th place in the 100 backstroke, qualifying her for regionals. She finished regionals 9th overall in the 100 backstroke, which qualified her for state competition. Isa finished 17th in the state of Florida.

Not bad for one hand and a prayer.



“Finish on empty!” was the mantra of the 2015 Immaculata-La Salle Cross Country team. And it’s safe to say they did that in every race. Having only four seniors on the girls’ team, and no seniors on the boys’ team, this young crop of runners got some much-needed leadership from Head Coach (and also Athletic Director) Chris Crotty and Assistant Coach (and proud La Salle alumnus) Tomas Cerdeiras. Coach Cerdeiras was a four year sprinter at La Salle, and ran Cross Country for two years. Somehow Coach Crotty and Coach Cerdeiras motivated this young team to over-achieve this past year, with some big-time running from Captains Camile Mena (girls) and Juan Aguirre (boys).

Many of the young runners had big finishes in big meets. Freshman Mariana Gonzalez finished in the top 10 of every race in which she ran. She set school records, and then broke them. She even went on to districts and finished in a very respectable 4th place, as only a freshman! On the boys’ squad, standout runners included sophomores Joseph Castellvi and Brando Mena, who finished in the top 15 of the prestigious Spanish River Invitational.

Even though ILS’s district is very tough, (with formidable opponents Gulliver, Ransom, St. Brendan, and Carrollton) expectations for the 2015-16 team remain very high. Although all of the runners will “finish on empty,” you can bet some of them will “finish in first!”

CROSS COUNTRY

The 2014-15 ILS Cross Country Team
Coach Tomas Cerdeiras with the team slogan on his shirt



GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL



The 2015 girls' varsity volleyball team had huge shoes to fill coming into the season. The previous year's squad was very talented, with 12 seniors on the team. That team steamrolled through the regular season, and then through the playoffs, capturing the first ever district title for the La Salle ladies' volleyball squad. After graduating 12 seniors, with only one senior on this past year's team, there were naturally some questions about how the 2014-15 squad would perform.

With outstanding leadership from senior captain (and student body president) Stephanie Marsellos, along with junior captains Veronica Gomez and Tina Escarra, the 2014-15 ILS volleyball team finished the regular season with a winning record. Said Marsellos, "Our stand outs were our setters, Vero and Tina. Setters are like the quarterback of a team. They make all the plays happen. In my mind, those girls are the MVP's."

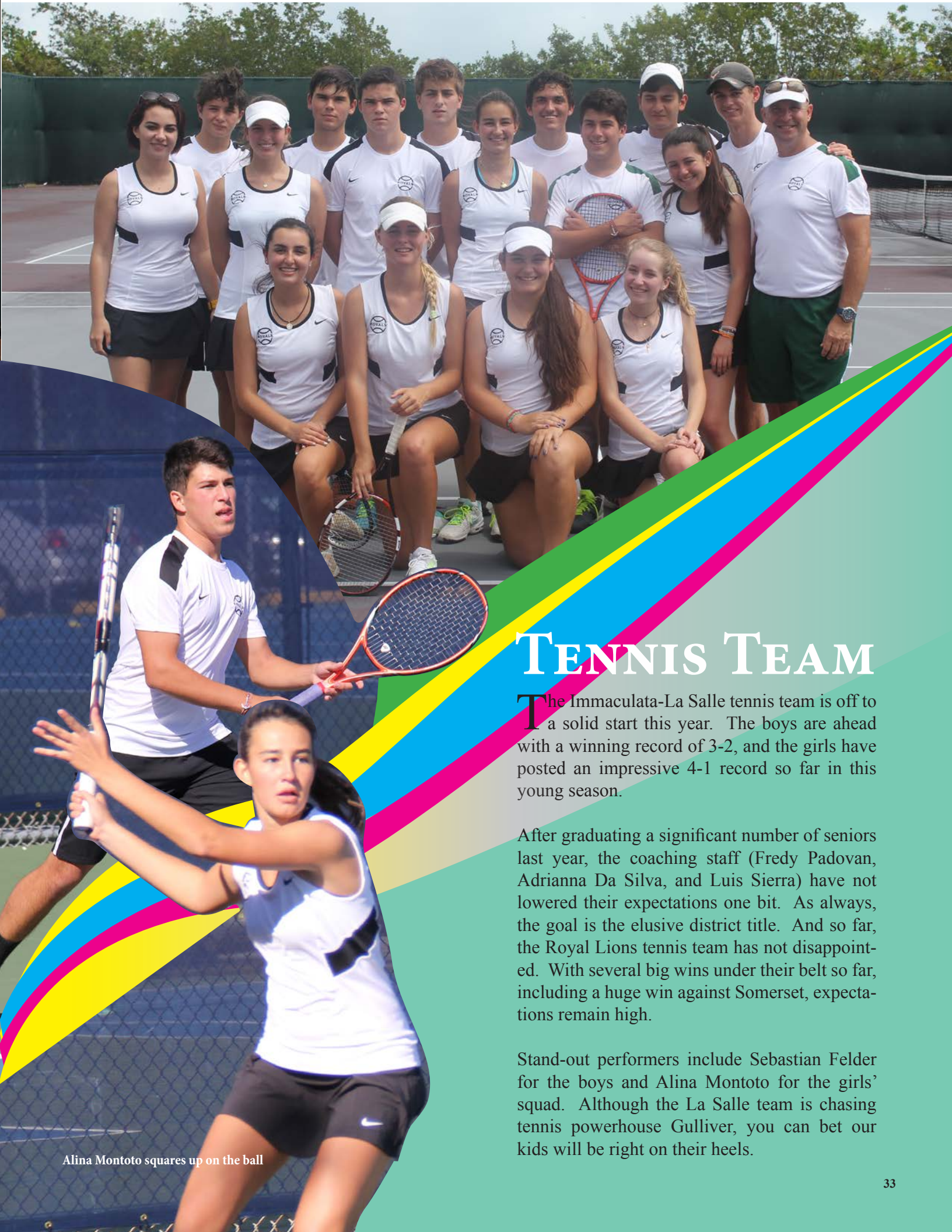
This past year's squad saved their best for the districts, with their biggest win coming in the district semi-finals, when they beat heavily favored MAST Academy. Considering the Lady Lions had already lost to MAST earlier in the season, the victory was all the sweeter.

Although the Lady Lions lost in the district finals against perennial powerhouse Monsignor Pace, the Lady Lions certainly were not hanging their heads.

Enormous credit goes to Head Coach Odette Partridge, who gambled by bringing three freshmen onto the varsity squad this year. Coach Odette made all the right moves this season, and with the help of Assistant Coaches Danny Saladrigas and Melissa Capablanca, the team over-achieved all year long.

Regarding the 2015-16 season, Stephanie Marsellos remarked, "Although I won't be here to see it, I know next year's girls will take it home and get our title back." Even after finishing second, there was no doom and gloom. "I'm proud of these girls..." Marsellos continued, "We had our ups and downs but no matter what we were always there for each other on and off the court."

Considering the captain's words, district title or not, the season was a huge victory.



TENNIS TEAM

The Immaculata-La Salle tennis team is off to a solid start this year. The boys are ahead with a winning record of 3-2, and the girls have posted an impressive 4-1 record so far in this young season.

After graduating a significant number of seniors last year, the coaching staff (Fredy Padovan, Adrianna Da Silva, and Luis Sierra) have not lowered their expectations one bit. As always, the goal is the elusive district title. And so far, the Royal Lions tennis team has not disappointed. With several big wins under their belt so far, including a huge win against Somerset, expectations remain high.

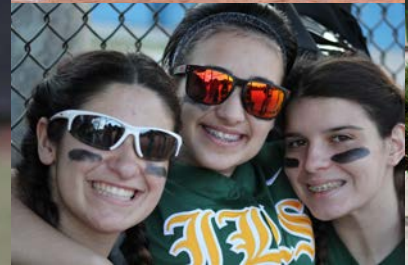
Stand-out performers include Sebastian Felder for the boys and Alina Montoto for the girls' squad. Although the La Salle team is chasing tennis powerhouse Gulliver, you can bet our kids will be right on their heels.

Alina Montoto squares up on the ball



SOFTBALL

Captain Maddie Sardinas checking out the signs.



The Immaculata-La Salle softball team made some real noise this past year! In the third year of its existence, the Lady Lions finished with an impressive 8-8 record, with a huge victory against their biggest rival, Miami Country Day.

Captains Maddie Sardinas and Erica Quintero had a huge impact on the young team. Maddie has demonstrated outstanding leadership with her no-nonsense attitude. She is first to arrive at practice and the last to leave. Erica also had a great season, slugging an in-the-park home run against Mater Lakes and an RBI double in the huge win against Miami Country Day. Freshman pitcher Arianna Arroyo has been a force on the mound, averaging seven strikeouts per game.

Head Coach Tim Gamwell adopted a philosophy from UNC soccer coach Anson Dorrance: that nothing can take the place of willpower. “You need to build an indomitable will. This means you must be relentless; you must never give up.” And Coach Gamwell expects that same will from his players. Said Coach Gamwell, “As a program we always focus on the next pitch...one more at bat, one more play. This intense desire pushes all the girls to be their best, and to expect the best from each other, even when they are down in the count or behind in runs. We never give up.”

Coach Gamwell’s philosophy seems to be working. Last year, they cut their teeth against former state and district champions including American Heritage Plantation and Marathon. After proving they could play with such powerhouses, and with the majority of the young team returning, this year’s team should be making even more noise.

Legacy Spotlights



Manny Fernandez, '75

Immaculata-La Salle is proud to spotlight Mr. Manny Fernandez, class of 1975. Mr. Fernandez now makes his home in Singapore, as he is the Director of Asian Relations for CoBank, a large national cooperative bank serving vital agricultural industries from Denver, Colorado, all the way to Singapore.

Manny credits Coach Hackett, then a coach at Immaculata-La Salle, with helping him earn a football scholar-

ship to Guilford College in North Carolina. According to Manny, Coach Hackett drove up and down the east coast, visiting potential colleges for Manny to attend. After graduating, Manny was recruited by a fellow football alumnus from Guilford to work in the banking business.

In 1999, Manny was recruited to work for CoBank and moved his family from North Carolina to Denver, CO,

where CoBank's headquarters are located. After running CoBank's Latin American Division and later the entire International Division, Manny was offered the opportunity to move to Singapore to manage CoBank's Representative Office, which manages all of their business in Asia. Evidently, living in Singapore suits Manny just fine. "I'm very blessed as it has been a very rewarding, enlightening, and cultural experience to be an Expatriate in Singapore."

We asked Manny if there was anyone in particular who had a positive influence on him while he was here at Immaculata-LaSalle. He explained that he is eternally grateful to his teachers and in addition there were a few coaches who "were dedicated to their profession and genuinely cared for their players and their students." In particular, Manny named Coach Parsons, Coach Grosso, Coach Hickcox, Coach Hewitt, Coach Caballero, and of course, Coach Hackett. It seems that Manny had some fun while he was here at ILS, as well. He said he has many fond memories, including numerous pranks, which are still fresh in his mind.

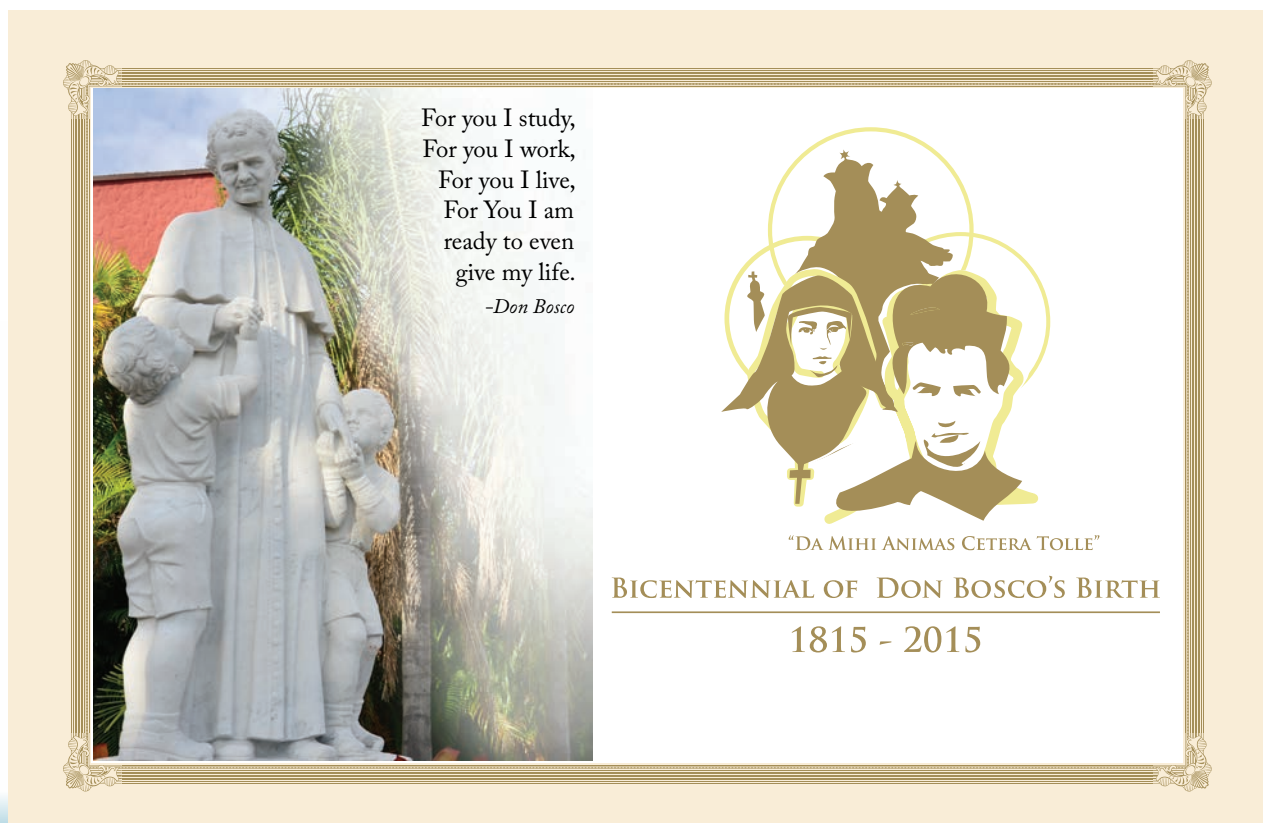
Apparently during his senior year, someone "kidnapped" all the school buses and parked them in front of the homes of La Salle students (Manny's house being one of them.) Attendance was particularly bad that day, and Father Francis, the Principal, came on the

loud-speaker and read the "ransom notes" that had been left to locate the buses. To this day, the perpetrators of this all-time classic prank have yet to be identified.

Manny also remembers Brother Richard's wooden paddle. Clearly, misbehavior was handled quite differently back then. According to Manny, he will never forget that wooden paddle. Despite the paddle punishment, "Whatever we did wrong and got wacked for was simply too funny and worth the pain, especially the pranks that took place during field trips." Manny left out the details, but referred to one prank as "Moon Over Miami." I think we can fill in the details on that one, Manny.

Manny fondly recalls the first day of his freshman year, when he made many of the friendships he still has today. He also remembers powder puff football games, where the girls played football, and the boys dressed up as cheerleaders with wigs and too much make up. And of course, Manny can still remember graduation day. As great as it was, Manny says, "When I look back, I'm sad because it ended one of the most fun and rewarding times of my life. I will never forget ILS!!!"

We are very happy to hear that, Manny.





Royi Membiela '76

Considering her position and level of success in the Miami community, Legacy is very proud to spotlight Roymi Membiela, class of 1976. Roymi is Corporate Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer for Baptist Health, South Florida. Roymi has already been awarded the Saint John Bosco Alumni Award, and was inducted into the La Salle Hall of Fame in 2012. She remains very active with the school and our alumni, participating in fundraising activities, supporting the school through Baptist Health sponsorships, and even taking valuable time out of her busy schedule to make an appearance at Career Day!

Of course, a person doesn't simply wake up one day and become a Chief Marketing Officer, so we asked Roymi how she came to be the top marketer at Baptist Health. Over 10 years ago, she started out working as a marketing consultant to Baptist. The folks at Baptist Health must have recognized they had a marketing genius on their hands, and so they offered her a position

as Assistant VP in the marketing and public relations department. Four years ago, Roymi was promoted to Corporate Vice President and she currently serves as the organization's Chief Marketing Officer.

When asked what the keys to her success have been, Roymi responded by saying that she sets extremely high standards for herself, much higher than her employers ever would. She has incorporated the best practices she has observed in colleagues as well as competitors. Most notable she said, "The most important key to success is recognizing that each day brings the opportunity for a new lesson, and we must remain receptive to learning and changing along the way."

Occupying such a prestigious position as Chief Marketing Officer, what suggestions would Roymi offer our students today about competing in the business world. "The work environment is very competitive, and a high school education needs to be supplemented with a four year college degree, at the very minimum. Knowledge of digital integration in business is at the epicenter on the requirements of most careers. It is important to understand that technology drives all businesses, and that technology changes daily. Given this, the education process needs to remain an ongoing task for all graduates, way past the completion of their desired degree. To remain current with technology will be the equivalent of remaining competitive and marketable. To remain current, we must accept that we are perpetual students."

In addition to the world-class business advice we received from Roymi, she had one other very valuable suggestion. She advised our students to find their passion. "Passion is what will separate the good from the great in a professional environment. Passion is something that has to be ingrown and nurtured by each individual. While it can't be taught, its importance must be emphasized. Students need to fully understand that the passion they feel for the careers that they choose will become the secret ingredient behind their success."

These are passionate and intelligent suggestions from Roymi Membiela, class of '76, and Chief Marketing Officer at Baptist Health.



Philip Mudd, class of '79

Legacy is very proud to spotlight Philip Mudd, class of 1979. Mr. Mudd has spent a long career defending our country while working for the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has held very important senior positions at both the CIA and the FBI, including Deputy Director of the CIA's Counterterrorist Center, and Deputy Director of the FBI's National Security Branch, a position to which he was specifically appointed by then-Director of the FBI, Robert Mueller. Mr. Mudd later became the FBI's Senior Intelligence Adviser.

With such an impressive resume, it's no wonder that Mr. Mudd is a highly sought after contributor to CNN and many other networks in the civilized world. In fact, it was one day when Mr. Mudd was scheduled to appear on CNN that he stopped by La Salle for lunch and we were able to spend a few minutes with our favorite CIA agent.

We asked Mr. Mudd about his time here at La Salle, and he happily recalled some of the more memorable moments. He specifically remembers being taught humility by Coach Grosso and Sister Elizabeth, whom he fondly referred to as "Sister Red," no doubt due to her red hair. Specifically, Sister Red called him out in front of the whole class and told him that he was not trying hard enough. Phil actually admitted that Sister Red made him "almost" cry that day. Who knew the Deputy Director of the FBI's National Security Branch could

be intimidated by Sister Red? Phil played baseball at La Salle, and remembers that he "got [his] butt kicked" frequently. He recalls a solid relationship with then-Coach Dennis Hackett, who also taught biology.

After graduating from ILS, Mr. Mudd attended Villanova University, graduating cum laude, and earned a Master's Degree in English Literature from the University of Virginia. Naturally, we could not resist asking Phil how he went from LaSalle baseball player...to Master's Degree in English Literature...and then to Deputy Director of the CIA. The answer, he said, was simple enough. "I needed a job."

Evidently during the Reagan era, the CIA had a large budget and were hiring. At the suggestion from his father, Phil decided to apply. The world has been a safer place ever since then.

Mr. Mudd has been the recipient of many awards and commendations, including the Director's Award, the George H.W. Bush Award for excellence in counterterrorism, the CIA's Distinguished Intelligence Medal and the Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal, the first-ever William Langer Award for excellence in analysis, and numerous Exceptional Performance awards. Considering we had such a highly decorated patriot at our disposal, we asked him to share some advice with our students. He immediately said "Every day is a gift..." and should be treated as such. He reminded us the value of maintaining a healthy balance between mind, body, and soul.

In addition, Mr. Mudd made some recommendations for a successful career. He immediately rattled off five points which he considered critical.

- 1-Be willing to learn.
- 2-Get along well with others.
- 3-Be able to write well.
- 4-Be able to speak properly. And 5-Don't choose a "job," but rather choose something you're passionate about, because if you choose just a job, you will be outperformed by someone else who is actually passionate about their "career."

Phil suggested that we all take a good look in the mirror. "You," he said, "can define your life as joyous or not." Lastly, Phil concluded, "Choose joy and practice it." Coming from the Deputy Director of the FBI and CIA, would you argue with that?

Carlos Martinez, '77

Legacy is very proud to spotlight Carlos Martinez, class of 1977, currently serving as Chief Public Defender of Miami-Dade County. Carlos was kind enough to answer some questions about his time here at Immaculata-La Salle.

Mr. Martinez' story is a very impressive one, coming from very humble roots before eventually going all the way to holding an important position as Miami's Chief Public Defender. Both of Mr. Martinez' parents worked for St. John Bosco, and they very much wanted young Carlos to receive the discipline that comes with a Catholic education. Carlos is quick to thank Monsignor Vallina for arranging for him to attend ILS.

Although Carlos made it a long way from ILS to the Public Defender's Office, the journey was not an easy one. Carlos worked in a gas station for 11 years, finishing high school and then college. Although it took him eight years to graduate college (working full time and paying his way through school,) eventually he made it to law school. Again, it was a Catholic priest Carlos credits with giving him the guidance he needed to make such an important decision. Father John Hanrahan, from St. John Bosco, recommended that Carlos consider law school after Carlos refused to concede a point in a friendly argument. It seems that St. John Bosco has been keeping an eye on Mr. Martinez for quite some time.

We asked Mr. Martinez how he came to be Miami's top Public Defender, and the answer was an interesting one. On the way to a Summer Honors Program during law school, Carlos witnessed a traffic accident and had to wait around for the police to show up. By the time he got to class, the professor had already distributed the internship assignments, and the only one left was the Public Defender's Office. As it turned out, that seemed to suit Carlos very well.

There are many students at ILS who would also like to

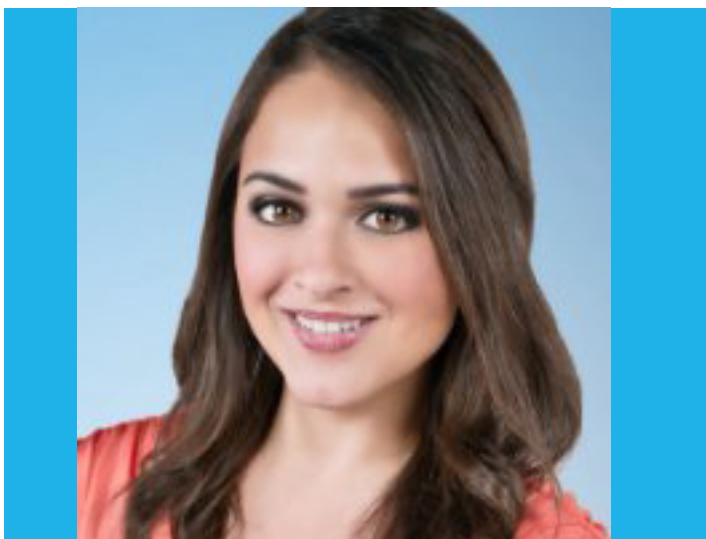


be lawyers, so we asked Mr. Martinez if he had any advice for them. He made sure to caution that with rising tuition costs, students must seriously consider if they really want to practice law, and to make sure they have a financial plan before committing.

When asked if he had any other advice for young people, his answer would please St. John Bosco, himself. "Don't forget your Catholic roots. Service to others runs deep in our tradition. Make sure you take opportunities to assist people in need. Whether it be the kid in foster care, the elderly person at a home, the incarcerated person, or the homeless person you see around our community. Your focus on education is important, but so is the nourishment for your soul."

Don Bosco couldn't have said it any better than that, Mr. Martinez.





Liane Morejon '04

Legacy is delighted to spotlight Liane Morejon, Immaculata-La Salle class of 2004. If you ever watch the news on Channel 10, the local WPLG station, you may have seen Liane Morejon, the morning news reporter. Liane has also done the traffic report for Channel 10 News and has worked as a producer and associate producer at Channel 10. Already in her young career, Mr. Morejon has proven to be as adaptable as she is talented.

Liane was a guest at the annual Immaculata-La Salle Food and Wine Festival recently, and Legacy was able to catch up with her and ask her about her time here at La Salle. She fondly recalls being involved in many activities at the school, from cheerleading to student council, as well as the drama club and the Close Up trip. Liane was able to get plenty of experience performing in front of people while appearing in productions here at the school, and she was quick to recognize our in-house director, Ms. Ricke, with assisting in the development of her talents. "Ms. Ricke was a beautiful, reinforcing, confidence-building presence in my life. I'll never forget her."

Liane graduated from the University of Miami with

a double-major in Broadcast Journalism and Theatre Arts. She also earned a graduate certificate in Broadcast Journalism from Barry University. We can imagine that being an on-air reporter for Channel 10 would be an exciting job, and Liane echoed that sentiment. "Every day is different," she said of her exciting career, and "I love being out in the field, meeting new people, and bringing their stories to light. You never get bored, that's for sure."

Liane was not always a dynamic and sensational reporter. It took a lot of hard work and perseverance for her to reach such a position. After graduating from U.M., she spent an entire year applying to TV stations all over the country, sending out resume tapes, interviewing, and getting lots of rejections. But she never gave up, and while earning her graduate certificate at Barry, Liane was able to secure an internship at WPLG, Channel 10, which eventually made all the difference. She had to work overnight, from 1 AM until 9 AM, four days a week including weekends. But in her spare time, Liane trained to become a fill-in traffic reporter, while still producing her own shows. Eventually her work ethic paid off, as she was offered a position as a full-time reporter for Channel 10.

There are many students at ILS who would love to have a career like Liane's. So we asked her if she could provide them with some advice. She encouraged them to seek out internships, as she has done throughout her career. "Learn everything you can (editing, web writing, producing, assignment editing) and be adaptable. Never stop asking questions." With regard to their time at La Salle, Liane offered, "Enjoy your time at La Salle. High school is the time to try new things and make mistakes. That way, when you get to college you will have an idea of the direction you want to go in."

These are very wise words for such a young woman. It's no wonder Channel 10 wants Liane Morejon, La Salle class of 2004, bringing the news into your living room.





Bill St. Pierre, '77

Legacy is thrilled to spotlight Bill St. Pierre, class of 1977, who has quite an interesting story to share with our alumni. Bill makes his home in Fairbanks, Alaska, of all places, and recently made news as Executive Producer of a new film called 'Mining for Ruby.' In addition to moonlighting as a movie producer, Bill has had a string of successful businesses in Fairbanks, including restaurants, hair salons, and an internet service provider. Currently, Bill owns and operates several radio and TV stations, one of which is a Fox affiliate.

Thankfully, Legacy was able to track down Bill and ask him about his time here at Immaculata-La Salle. Coming from a large family who happened to live close to La Salle's campus, Bill was coming to La Salle even before he actually attended. He fondly recalls chasing his brothers around, playing in the woods, and snorkeling in the bay in front of Vizcaya. When we asked about any teachers or coaches who had a particular influence on him while he was here, Bill was quick to credit Sister Elizabeth and Coach Grosso. Sister Eliza-

beth taught him some important lessons and gave him some "tough love." Without Coach Grosso's help, Bill says he may never have attended college. Thankfully, with some assistance from Coach Grosso, Bill was able to attend Kent State University and graduate with a business degree, majoring in Finance and Real Estate.

How exactly does one go from Miami to Alaska? We were wondering the same thing, and so we asked Bill that question. As it turns out, the father of some friends from La Salle was in the Air Force and was transferred to Alaska. Eventually, Bill decided to explore the great Alaskan frontier and found that it suited him well. He worked for a time in radio advertisement sales, which obviously led him to owning and operating successful radio and TV stations.

In 2014, 'Mining for Ruby' was released to enormous critical acclaim. Set in majestic Fairbanks, Alaska (of course) the film is described as 'Silver Linings Playbook' meets 'Erin Brockovich.' The film would never have been made without its executive producer, our own Bill St. Pierre. Bill is quick to defer credit to the director of the film and the cast. Nevertheless, we are

proud to count an executive producer as one of our esteemed alumni.

Although Bill insists that he had zero artistic input into the movie, there is an ironic little plot twist that our readers may find interesting. In the film, the two main characters are wondering if it would ever be possible to run off to a warm place together, such as Cuba. In the movie, it happens that ties between the United States and Cuba were warming up a little bit. As it turns out, as we all know, that actually has taken place in real life, long after the movie was made. This could be a case of life imitating art, rather than the other way around.

Being a successful and dynamic business man, we asked

Bill if he could share anything with the students here at ILS. He certainly did not disappoint. Ever the humble person, Bill insists that his achievements have been the result of “trial and error,” as well as following the “old wisdom” he was taught here at Immaculata-La Salle. “No pain, no gain” and “Suffering brings enlightenment” are two philosophies to which Bill subscribes. In addition, Bill noted that “hard work is always better than laziness,” and that we should all “remember to count our blessings.”

We are grateful to Bill for allowing us to interview him, and we look forward to the next time he visits the “Lower 48.”

Don't forget to look for the Alumni table at events throughout the year!



Alumni support education by helping others attend our high school and making futures brighter!

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celebrating our
Salesian spirit,
deeply rooted in our
Catholic identity,
through our **mission,**
through our **values,**
through how we **live**
our **lives.**



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November 7, 2015
(11:30am)

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December 5
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HALL OF FAME

Ana Magda Guillen



Ms. Ana Magda Guillen is an Enrolled Agent and owner of an accounting firm named Guillen & Associates, Inc. in Coral Gables. She has been at 250 Catalonia Avenue Coral Gables, Florida for 24 years. In 1971 she graduated from Immaculata –La Salle High School with honors. In 1975 Ms. Guillen graduated from Florida International University with a BBA in Accounting. In 1996 she became an Enrolled Agent, a tax specialist who is licensed by the Internal Revenue Service Center.

She has just been awarded the Enrolled Agent of the Year Award given by the Florida Society of Enrolled Agents. FSEA has more than 950 members in the state of Florida and it is an affiliate member of the National Association of Enrolled Agents in Washington D.C. She was the immediate past president of the FSEA as well as the present president of the Miami Dade Enrolled Agents. Ms. Guillen has always been involved in professional associations as well as charitable associations. Her community work is very extensive. She taught pro bono tax classes for the Enrolled Agents exam at Miami Dade College until last year. One of her most dear projects was that for 14 years she partner with CBS Channel 4 Neighbors for Neighbors and took care of the phone bank during tax season. The phone bank answered over 1000 calls during each season.

JoAnne B. Pumariega



JoAnne (Buttacavoli) Pumariega was born in Miami, Florida and attended St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School before graduating from Immaculata-La Salle High School in 1970. Her ILS activities included serving as the Co-Editor of the Royal Courier (with her future husband, Andres), Vice President of the Junior Class,

Secretary of Student Council, National Honor Society, Math and Spanish Clubs, and she was a nominee in for the Silver Knight Award in Journalism. She went on to graduate with both a BA and MA degree in Mathematics and Education from the University of Miami. Her teaching career has spanned over 40 years, including teaching at the college level (Miami Dade College, East Tennessee State University, and Penn State University-Berks campus in Reading PA) advanced high school level (Durham Academy in NC and University School of Nashville, TN) and she elementary school (Spanish and remedial Math in South Carolina), and has been certified in several states. She is currently a full time Instructor in Mathematics and Spanish and a member of the Science Division faculty at Penn State Berks.

Her major area of expertise is in mathematics education and support for undergraduates who are not mathematics majors, teaching Probability and Statistics and College Algebra along with tutoring all levels of mathematics. Her research collaborations and journal publications combine her experience in Mathematics and Spanish along with psychological/social topics. Her main area of research interest is that of “Math Anxiety” in non-mathematic majors. JoAnne has also been increasingly involved in the development and implementation of on-line Mathematics courses (both hybrid and fully on-line) at PSU-Berks, including lecturing and faculty development in this area, earning her certification in the Penn State on-line World Campus.

She has also been very active in campus activities and initiatives around diversity, culture, and inclusion. These have included serving as the founding faculty sponsor and co-advisor of the PSU-Berks Latino Unity Club (2009-2014), member (2007-present) and Chair (2012-present) of the Science Division Diversity Committee, and organization and participation in numerous diversity-related activities on the PSU-Berks campus. Over the years, JoAnne has served as President of two faculty women’s organizations (at ETSU and the University of South Carolina), as well as a Chairperson of the Board of Education at St. Mary’s Catholic School in League City, Texas for a two year term. She has received honors related to her dedication and enthusiasm for teaching and mentorship of undergraduate students, including the ETSU “Above and Beyond” Teaching

Award (May 2002) and the 2013 PSU-Berks Freshman Advocate Award. She has been involved in numerous Catholic volunteer and charitable activities, including serving as a CCD instructor, Eucharistic minister, and lector in various parishes in the South and Pennsylvania, Treasurer of the Council of Catholic Women in Houston, TX, and Vice President of the Council of Catholic Women in Johnson City, TN.

Fernando A. Amandi



Fernando A. Amandi has over 35 years of experience in Senior Executive and General Management positions with four US multinational companies (Citigroup, Motorola, American Express, and Sears Roebuck) within the United States and Worldwide responsibilities. He is the former Chief Operating Officer for Citibank Consumer Bank International in Latin America, President of Motorola International Network Ventures based in London, England and Senior Vice President and General Manager of the American Express Consumer Financial Services Division in Latin America. With a corporate background that includes vast experience and knowledge in the areas of Banking, Telecommunications, Financial Services, Credit Cards, Retail, Travel and Tourism, Mr. Amandi has initiated and led a wide variety of global businesses, operating divisions and joint venture companies.

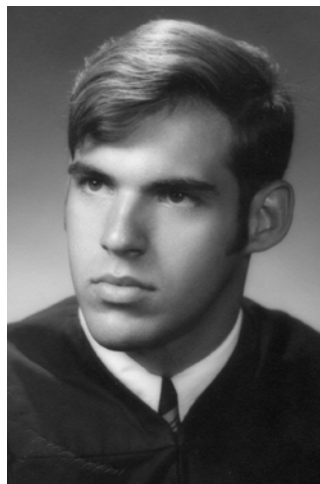
He has been a leading advocate in the areas of international commerce and entrepreneurship, with a special concentration and expertise in Latin America and the Caribbean. At present, he is the Managing Partner of Fanta Real Estate Investments, LLC, based in Coral Gables, Florida. He has extensive involvement in foreign affairs and social causes. He is a world traveler and maintains homes in Coral Gables and Saint Johns, Florida as well as Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

Mr. Amandi attended the University of Miami majoring in Economics, with Graduate General Management studies at Columbia University. He is currently a member of the President's Council at the University of Miami. He served honorably in the US Army Reserves of the Florida National Guard as a Non-Commissioned

Officer for 6 years and was Chairman of the John Kerry for President National Hispanic Council. He is a former member of the Defense Business Board at the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. and recipient of the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, which is the highest award that is presented by the Secretary of Defense to a private citizen, politician, non-career Federal employee, or foreign national.

A committed family man, he has been married for 43 years to his wife, Teresita, and together they have raised three grown children - sons Fernand, Christian and daughter, Theresa Lynn, with four grandchildren - Roman James, Luna Simone, Mina Therese and John Ulric.

Roberto Lopez de la Vega



Roberto López de la Vega was born in La Habana, Cuba on December 1st, 1952. He arrived in Miami, via the Pedro Pan project in 1961. He attended Sts. Peter and Paul Elementary and Immaculata-La Salle High School. He was a member of Mu Alpha Theta and the National Honor Society. He was also member of the Chess Club and Key Club. He lettered in

Football and Track and Field.

Upon graduation from La Salle, he attended the University of Miami and then transferred to the University of Florida in Gainesville where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He began to work as a chemist, performing research in the development of better adhesives. Not fully satisfied, he decided to make a difference and pursued teaching as a career. In 1974, he became a faculty member of the Urban League of Greater Miami Street Academy, a facility for black students who were having a difficult time adjusting to Miami Dade County's new integration policy. It was meant to provide an education for students who were dropping out of school at an alarming rate and had a propensity to get in trouble with the law.

A similar facility was then built for Cuban and Latin adolescents at 208 SW 8th street, The Latin Street Academy. Robert was instrumental in the establishment of

this facility. He was an enthusiastic teacher. He enjoyed teaching in general teaching these adolescents in particular.

As a member of the Faculty of the Greater Miami Urban League Street Academy, Robert witnessed one of the bigger students, bullying a smaller weaker, student. The bigger student already had a criminal record, as did many in the facility. Robert separated the two students, pushing the bully back. This person threatened Robert. He told him he would come back and kill him. Some-time later, possibly the next day, Robert approached the principal and various staff members, since he was worried about what this person had threatened to do.

As the faculty was gathered in the main office, the bully arrived and pointed a gun at them. Robert went towards Mr. Aparicio Morejón, the bullying student. Reacting to the gun, Robert said: ¿estás loco? Mr. Morejón shot Robert with a 0.22 caliber pistol. He then proceeded to shoot the principal, and the parole officer that had been assigned to Mr. Morejón. Everyone survived, except Robert. He died on the operating table at Jackson Memorial Hospital on November 7, 1975 at the age of 22. Robert is a true example of what the St. John Bosco Outstanding Alumni Award represents.

An outstanding student at Immaculata- La Salle High School, he graduated with honors 45 years ago in 1970. He contributed to the betterment of the school. In the short time he was able to, he contributed very positively to his community; he affected the lives of his students in a very positive manner. He could have taught in many places. He felt that in the Street Academy he could make a difference. He did. He was also an outstanding son and oldest brother to his 8 siblings.

Arturo Blanco



Arturo Blanco, “PeeWee”, graduated from La Salle High School in 1969. He married his High School sweetheart, Elsa, and has two children, Christopher and Charisse, and five beautiful grandchildren. He was taught to play the guitar by his friend Pepe Perez, and during their time together at ILS the two went on to form THE ANTIQUES

in 1967. In 1969, THE ANTIQUES made their first Album,”Va Cayendo Una Lagrima,” which topped the charts in Latin Music and propelled the band into local stardom and the national spotlight.

Arturo took over as the Business Manager in 1971 and led the way to the continued success of the band producing three additional Albums with fabulous re-makes of songs such as “Dias Como Hoy,” “Tu Me Acustambraste,” “Crumbs off the Table,” “Last Tango in Paris,” “Cuando Vuelva a Tu Lado,” and many other great hits. Arturo graduated from FAU in 1972 with a degree in History, and later received an MS degree in Criminal Justice from Nova University. While attending school and later working, PeeWee continued to lead the members of THE ANTIQUES until 1976.

At that time, his professional career began a serious path when he went on to work for the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons. He held a number of positions with this agency including Teacher, Principal, Associate Warden and Camp Administrator. He retired in 2007 and has been very active traveling around the world through several continents from the Americas, to Europe, Africa, and through Asia. His hobbies include playing golf with friends, but his favorite time is spending time with his grandkids. Arturo has been blessed with the relationships he built at Immaculata-La Salle, and to this day he enjoys lunch and fellowship with his former classmates and long-time “Royals” friends.

Ramon Garganta



Ramon Garganta graduated from ILS in the summer of 1969 and enjoyed much success with THE ANTIQUES through the end of 1972. He continued his education and successfully achieved a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Science from Saint John Vianney College Seminary.

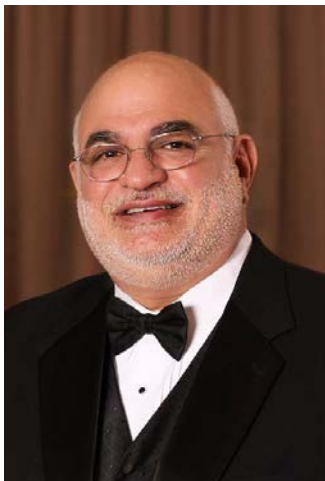
Throughout all this time, Ramon incorporated under the corporate name “Chainsaw Productions” doing production work for bands like Marilyn Manson and the Spooky Kids. He worked with them from their beginnings with their first performances being at the Reunion Room in Fort Lauderdale. In addition, he also worked

with other performers such as Ronnie James Dio, Ozzy, and other hard rock bands. Other production assistance services were provided by Ramon for the Latin artist circuit such as Juanes, Franco de Vita, Julio Iglesias, and many more. In 2004 he performed live at the Fillmore in Miami Beach with the Argentine artist Diego Torres, author of the hit “Color Esperanza”. His final involvement were with the popular Univision Shows, Amor a la Musica, Premio Lo Nuestro, and Salza Live until retiring from that profession in 2012. He attributes these challenging ventures to “...this is what finally turned my hair white.”

Ramon is the proud father of three, Ramon Jr., Amanda Elena, and Regine Marie, and six grandchildren. Ramon now lives in Miami with his wife, Ilka and their three dogs Keeno, Angel and Aliester.

Today, he owns FIRST RESPONSE REMEDIATION SERVICES and works directly with insurance companies to assist Homeowners and Businesses in rapidly recovering back to their normal lives after unfortunate accidents. He finds this more relaxing and rewarding.

William “Billy” Khoury



William “Billy” Khoury graduated from La Salle in 1969. He was invited to join THE ANTIQUES as lead singer, and as one of the original members of the band in 1967. He is married to his soul-mate Vivian, and has three children, Alexander, Jonathan, and Jacqueline.

In 1969, he left the band in order to play Varsity football in his senior year. It was a decision he would never regret, but kept in close touch with his “brothers” from THE ANTIQUES, and today enjoys sharing personal events with many of them.

Choosing a career in the Aviation Industry, Bill spent significant tenures with the leading firms in the field, until he opted for the entrepreneurial challenges of owning his own businesses. He applauds the success had by his classmates and confidently attributes his success to his parents, his education at La Salle, and to the brotherhood he shared with his band members of THE

ANTIQUES. He quotes: “You cannot really understand the rush you feel from playing in front of groups of friends, who danced to your music, who asked you to repeat a song, or who slow-danced and looked at you as if to tell you not to stop playing. It feeds the soul!”

Jose (Pepe) Perez



Jose (Pepe) Perez was the Lead Guitar player, Musical Director and Business Manager for THE ANTIQUES from their inception in 1967, when Pepe and Arturo Blanco, as founding members decided to start a garage band.

After two years at MDJC, Pepe left THE ANTIQUES in 1971 to study in Gainesville at the University of Florida where he earned a BA in Design and two Master’s Degrees in Architecture and Structural Engineering. However, he could not give up his love of music. Consequently during the time at UF, he started another musical band called CATARRO where he applied much of his experience with THE ANTIQUES and thus successfully paid all of his tuition and expenses by playing his guitar until final graduation in 1976.

He proceeded to complete his internship with several Architectural firms, taking his Architectural Board Exams and finally becoming a registered Architect in 17 states. In 1982, he finally ventured out on his own and never looked back. Today, he resides in Jacksonville, Florida where he is the principal partner in PEREZ, QUINIONES AND HOENSHEL. PQH GROUP is one of the most thriving and productive Architectural firms in NE Florida providing Architectural and Engineering services to municipal, federal and private clients.

Pepe unequivocally attributes his business success including his negotiation and personal skills to those band years particularly with THE ANTIQUES. He says”... managing the bands was truly a balancing act with the different personalities of the members, the selection of music adapted to our individual musical talent, dealing with the different clientele from loving parents who wanted parties for their daughters to hard core night club owners and, keeping up with studies from the time



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at ILS to completion at UF.” However, Pepe’s proudest accomplishments are his two sons who also both graduated from UF. One a physician in Philadelphia and one a Marketing Director of a Medical device company in Tampa.

Frank Batista



Frank Batista graduated from La Salle High School in 1970. At the time, Frank was the lead singer of THE ANTIQUES and enjoyed the release of his first ever recorded which hit the top of the “charts in South Florida and remained in first place for seven consecutive weeks. He performed with THE ANTIQUES when the group

first won “The Battle of the Bands” at the Dinner Key Auditorium in 1971.

Shortly after, Frank left the band and continued his academic pursuits at the University of Miami. He could not leave his love of music and he was recruited as the lead singer by the musical group “Coke.” This twist of fate gave Frank the opportunity to record his second album ever where he wrote and arranged several songs. In 1975 he completed his Bachelor of Arts Degree and later a Master’s Degree in Counseling Psychology from U of M. In addition, Frank sang second Tenor in the University’s concert choir and toured with the Miami Symphony Orchestra with Guy Lombard, conductor.

Frank received a faculty assignment from the University of Miami School of Medicine as a research associate and during this time he met and married his wife of 36 years Ana Maria. They have a 34 year old son, Frank, who is a professional fashion and celebrity photographer based in Los Angeles. In 1983, Frank began his career with Miami Dade County as Center Director for a Career Opportunity Center specializing in vocation assessment, counseling and career development.

His pursuit of higher education led him to receive a Master’s in Business Administration in 1984 from Barry University and, in 1988 Frank decided to conclude his academic journey in Psychology and received his Doctorate degree from Columbia Pacific University. He ascended the administrative ranks for the next 32 years

and is currently serving his community in public service. In 2010, with the revival of the “Back to the Open House” movement, Frank was contacted by the Smithsonian Institution informing him that they were putting together a special traveling exhibit to several major cities named “American Sabor”. THE ANTIQUES were chosen to be part of the exhibit and were displayed in the History Miami Museum in downtown, from August through October of 2014.

Frank’s musical endeavors continue to date, performing with known musicians at functions and concerts throughout South Florida. In 2006, he reunited with long lost friend Luis “Mr. Galaxy” Serrano, original member of the Miami Sound Machine and composer. Both decided to bring back the memories of a golden era, went back to the recording studio and so was born the BLAST FROM THE PAST experience. The third CD in this series, “Memories of You,” will be released at the end of Spring 2015.

William Trimmer



Coach Trimmer has taught high school and coached football for over four decades. For the last 14 years he has been the Head Football Coach and Business Department Head at Immaculata-La Salle. His time at ILS he finds most rewarding because of his involvement with Salesian education. He is feels that ILS has it right with the complete development of our students. Willie was born

and raised in Verona, New Jersey. He was voted into graduate of Montclair State College where he was a member of the 1970 Knute Rockne Bowl Champions. He was voted to the Sports Writers of America’s Academic-All American Team. He completed his graduate studies at Xavier University in Cincinnati. Upon graduation, Coach Trimmer worked at many different schools around the United States and the world. Throughout the years he coached and taught in New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois and Germany.

In 2001 he was hired to coach the Royal Lion football team. Over the years the program developed into a competitive small high school program. Along with the Athletic Director, he was instrumental in the program

joining the Southeastern Football Conference. This conference echoes his beliefs in ethics, honor and character. Coach Trimmer and his wife of 37 years, Charlene, plan on retiring at the end of the school year. Their plans include travel, especially to visit their children, both ILS graduates, Chelsea (2010) and Blaise (2011). Even though he will be leaving ILS he will always remember the people, especially the children that he met and helped during his career.

John Forte

John is originally from New York and is a graduate of the University of Dayton with a degree in Civil Engineering. He moved to Miami in 1964 where he developed an apartment complex in Miami Beach, Forte Towers which consisted of 1205 rental apartments. This would become the first of many residential and commercial developments he would build across Miami-Dade County. Today John continues to develop properties in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and Port St. Lucie, Florida.

John has four children and 9 grandchildren and is married to Maria Restrepo Forte, Immaculata Class of 1966. He serves on the University of Dayton Board of Trustees, is President of Boca Canyon SA de CV, a Mexico Development Company and President of Forte Properties. John is an advocate for education and animal rescue providing scholarships for students in need and aid to facilities that rescue animals in need.





IMMACULATA-LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL
MIAMI, FLORIDA • SINCE 1958

Valedictorian



Daniel Verdear
(University of Miami)

Congratulations!

To the Top ILS Royals of 2015
May the Lord continue to guide
your education & life's journey.

2015 Notable Seniors:
Marion Delaney,
Stephanie Sila and
Siena Rodon

Salutatorian



Marianna Troia
(Yale University)

Great job to Immaculata-La Salle's class of 2015!
Earning \$14,718,000 in scholarship awards over the next four years!

ALUMNI 2015 LIST OF COLLEGES

Immaculata-La Salle is proud to announce the list of colleges and universities to which last year's seniors were admitted. It is an impressive list, with several Ivy League schools represented. **\$14,718,000 in scholarship money was awarded to our graduates over the next four years.** Congratulations to the ILS Guidance Department for a job well done.

(College Freshmen acceptances for 2015-2016)



Amherst College
American University in DC
American University in Paris
Atlantic Theater Company
Auburn University
Bard College
Barry University
Baruch College
Bentley College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis College
California College of Arts
California State University . San Francisco
California State University. San Diego
Carnegie Mellon School of Drama
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University of America
Clemson University
College of Lewis and Clark
College of William & Mary
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Dean College
DePaul University
Drexel University
Duke University
Ecole Hotelier in Lausanne, Switzerland
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emory University
Emmanuel College
Endicott College
Eugene Lang University
Flagler College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Gllion Institute of Higher Education. Switzerland
Lafayette College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University in Chicago
Loyola University in Maryland
Loyola University in New Orleans
George Mason University
George Washington University

Georgia Institute of Technology
Hawaii Pacific University
Hofstra University
High Point University
Iona College
Jacksonville University
John Cabot University
John Hopkins University
Johnson & Whales University
Manhattan College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercer University
Methodist University
Miami Dade College
Miami Dade Honors College
Middlebury College
Marymount University
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
New College of Florida
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New School of the Arts
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
Nichols College
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio University
OTIS College of Art & Design
Pace university
Parsons School of Design
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Philadelphia University
Pratt Institute of the Arts
Providence College
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Radford University
Rollins College
Rutgers University
Salve Regina University
Santa Fe College
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Springhill College
Stanford University
Stetson University

St. Joseph University
St. John's University
St. Leo University
St. Thomas University
St. Michael's College
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Tallahassee Community College
Texas Christian University
Trinity College
University of Alabama. Tuscaloosa
University of California at Berkeley
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Colorado. Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois. Urbana Champagne
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
University Massachusetts. Amherst
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of North Carolina. Chapel Hill
University of Pittsburg
University of Rhode Island
University of San Francisco
University of St. Louis
University of South Florida
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Vermont
University of West Florida
University of Wisconsin. Madison
Valencia College
Valley Forge Military College
Villanova University
Virginia Institute of Technology
Wake Forest University
Washington College
Winthrop University
Virginia Tech
Westminster College
Wheaton College
Xavier University
Yale University



THE LEGACY CONTINUES

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