

ALUMNI EDITION

# ROYAL LEGACY

FALL 2016



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ILS Hall  
of Fame



Dear Alumni,

We are proud to introduce the most recent edition of Royal Legacy, the new Immaculata-La Salle magazine published specifically for our alumni. We are delighted to see many of you at the Hall of Fame ceremony, the alumni pig roast, and the Sports Hall of Fame, but we would still like to strengthen our relationship with all of you. We are hoping this magazine will help to reach more alumni, open channels of

communication, and bring you back to the "school by the bay" to re-connect with old friends and new.

Great things are happening at Immaculata-LaSalle. We have been enjoying notable recognition as an "Apple Distinguished Educator" for several years now, based on our implementation of the iPad era (the first Catholic school in the state of Florida to earn this distinction). We were the first Catholic school to earn accreditation for our S.T.E.A.M program. We have partnered with Mercy Hospital for a new Health Science initiative, a fast track program for students interested in careers in the medical and healthcare fields. We have even re-designed our classrooms into 21st century learning spaces where our students enjoy mobile, ergonomically designed furniture, smartboards, and a visually stimulating learning environment.

Our campus is constantly being updated, renovated, and improved. Our old library is now a modern learning center. We finished renovating the youth center and were able to develop space for additional practice fields. We installed a brand new, state-of-the-art stage in the cafeteria. We also have plans to build a new field house

adjacent to the football field, complete with spectator stands, new locker rooms, concession stands, a weight room, a new trainer's facility, and a brand new sound system. We will be announcing a capital campaign in the near future to fund this ambitious project. With all of this new construction comes the possibility of naming rights for our senior donors. The new field house will have many distinct spaces which will be adorned with plaques commemorating the generous donations of the members of the Immaculata-La Salle family.

Despite our growing enrollment, our award-winning technology programs, our cutting edge curriculum initiatives, and our bold plans for the new field house, we remain, above all else, a Catholic school molded in the tradition of Don Bosco, founder of the Salesian society. We continue to embrace our rich history, and we look forward to continued partnership with our esteemed alumni in the future.

We would like to offer our thanks to all those who have contributed in different ways to the success of Immaculata-La Salle High School. We look forward to the continued support of our alumni community in the coming year.

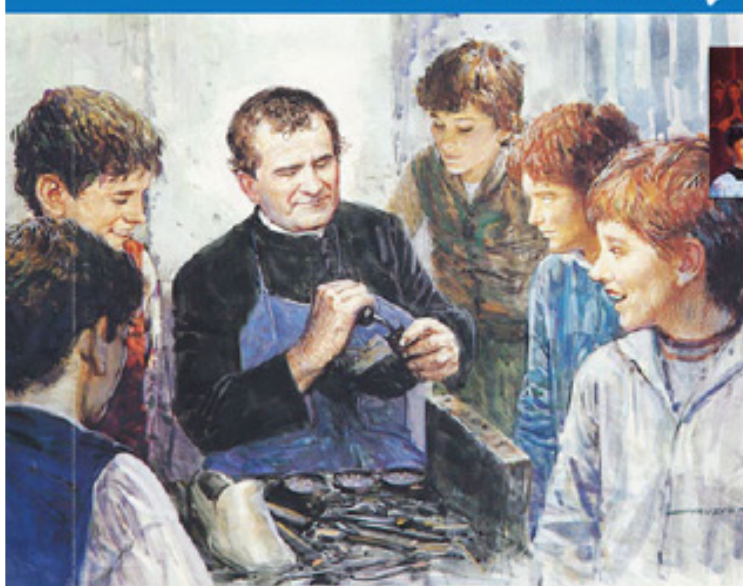
Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,

*Sr. Kim Keraitis, fma*

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

**Serve the Lord Joyfully!**



**DONIS  
BOSCO  
HERE**

**Celebrating Our  
Salesian Joy**





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# SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## - 2015 -

Coach Grosso organized a beautiful event this past fall to honor the newest members of the Immaculata-La Salle Sports Hall of Fame. Presenters for the event included Coach Tony Caballero, Coach Mike Masciello, and the legendary Coach Van Parsons.

Inductees were:

Jose Arellano ('62) for baseball  
Emilio "Smitty" Diequez ('64) for football  
Jimmy Fenton ('65) for baseball  
Harley Miller ('65) for football  
Ernesto Erdman ('66) for baseball  
Peggy Youngblood ('72) for basketball  
Joe Ludovici ('75) for football  
Frank Vigil ('75) for basketball  
Ramon Lopez ('75) for football  
Luis Fernandez ('76) for football  
Julio Varona ('76) for track  
Molly Gonzalez ('79) for volleyball  
Tony Labra ('79) for football  
Roy Barreto ('80) for football  
Victor Bitar ('80) for football  
Rolando Aedo ('83) for soccer



*Mario Carbonel & Van Parsons*







*Al & Bob Chism*



*Julio Varona '76 & George San Miguel*



*Molly Gonzalez '79 & Marti Acosta*



*Jason & Gaston Arellano*



*Ken Lambert & Tony Labra*



*Grosso & George Gutierrez*



*George Armada & Frank Vigil '75*



*Roy Barreto & Virgil Fernandez*



*Joe Ludovici & Dino Gallardi '75*



*Ramon Lopez*



*Emilio Diequez '64*



*Ernesto Erdman '66*



*Rolando Aedo*



*Mike Masciello &  
Victor Bitar*



*Dr. Luis Fernandez*



*Harley Miller '65*



*Mike Masciello & Roy Barreto*





**ILS FOOTBALL**





HIGH SCHOOL



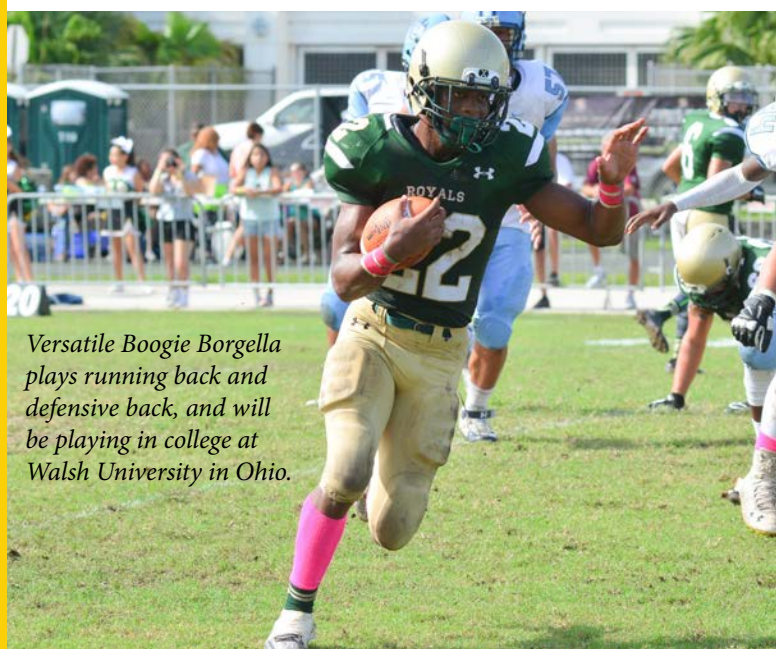
2015-2016



*QB Andy Rodriguez  
drops back to pass*



*Rafael "Irish Cream" Crotty staying hydrated.*



*Versatile Boogie Borgella  
plays running back and  
defensive back, and will  
be playing in college at  
Walsh University in Ohio.*





*Dr. Jones lowers his pads, on the way to 1100 yards this past season.*

The Royal Lions football team began the Coach Dillon era with a respectable 5-5 record, a slight improvement over the previous year's 4-6 record. The Royal Lions were able to make this improvement with a very young and inexperienced team, starting 10 sophomores and 2 freshmen, while playing a demanding schedule in a very tough district. And despite losing key players to injuries, the Royal Lions fought their way to a solid .500 record against some of the most formidable opponents in the state.

Despite a tough year, there were significant highlights to the season, including the outstanding play of sophomore Draquann "Doctor" Jones, who led the district in rushing with 1,100 yards total, averaging over 8 yards per carry. Dr. Jones ran for an astounding 345 yards on 22 carries in the final game of the season against Miami Country Day. For his effort, Jones was named the SE United States Player of the Week by ESPN.

Several senior leaders on the team had great campaigns this past season, including Boogie Borgella and Giancarlo Dago. Dago signed a letter of intent to play football and throw the discus at FIU. Despite suffering a serious knee injury, Borgella signed his letter of intent to play at Walsh University, on a full scholarship, in North Canton, OH. Dago and Borgella joined a growing list of La Salle graduates who are continuing their football careers at the college level. This past year,

Terrill "Bang Bang" Hanks had a huge year, starting as a freshman at New Mexico State, a Division I program. Hanks' brother, Allen Edwards, class of 2012, is playing D-I ball at Pitt. Alejandro Cardenas, class of 2014, just finished his sophomore season as the punter and place-kicker for Fordham University. And Sam Miller, class of 2010, made it all the way to the NFL, most recently on the practice squad for the Buffalo Bills.

Look for the Royal Lions to compete for the SFC Championship next season as they return some outstanding talent. In addition to Draquann Jones, look for Cam "The Man" Ryals to make a difference in the backfield. The receiving corps is stacked with Tavares "Tookie" Brownlee, Daniel Burke, Collie "Flower" Williams, and converted-quarterback Andi Rodriguez. Look for rising seniors Charles "Uncle Chuck" Mickens, and Alex Torres to lead a talented defense. The lines will be anchored by Jimmy Vargas and Rafael "Irish Cream" Crotty, and the kicking game is in the capable hands of Alexander Garcia, one of the top kickers in Dade County.

With Offensive Coordinator (and La Salle alumnus) George San Miguel and Defensive Coordinator (also La Salle alumnus) Anthony Vuono joining Head Coach Dillon on the sideline next year, the Royal Lions should be a force to be reckoned with.

MAKING<sub>SCHOOL</sub>

HISTORY

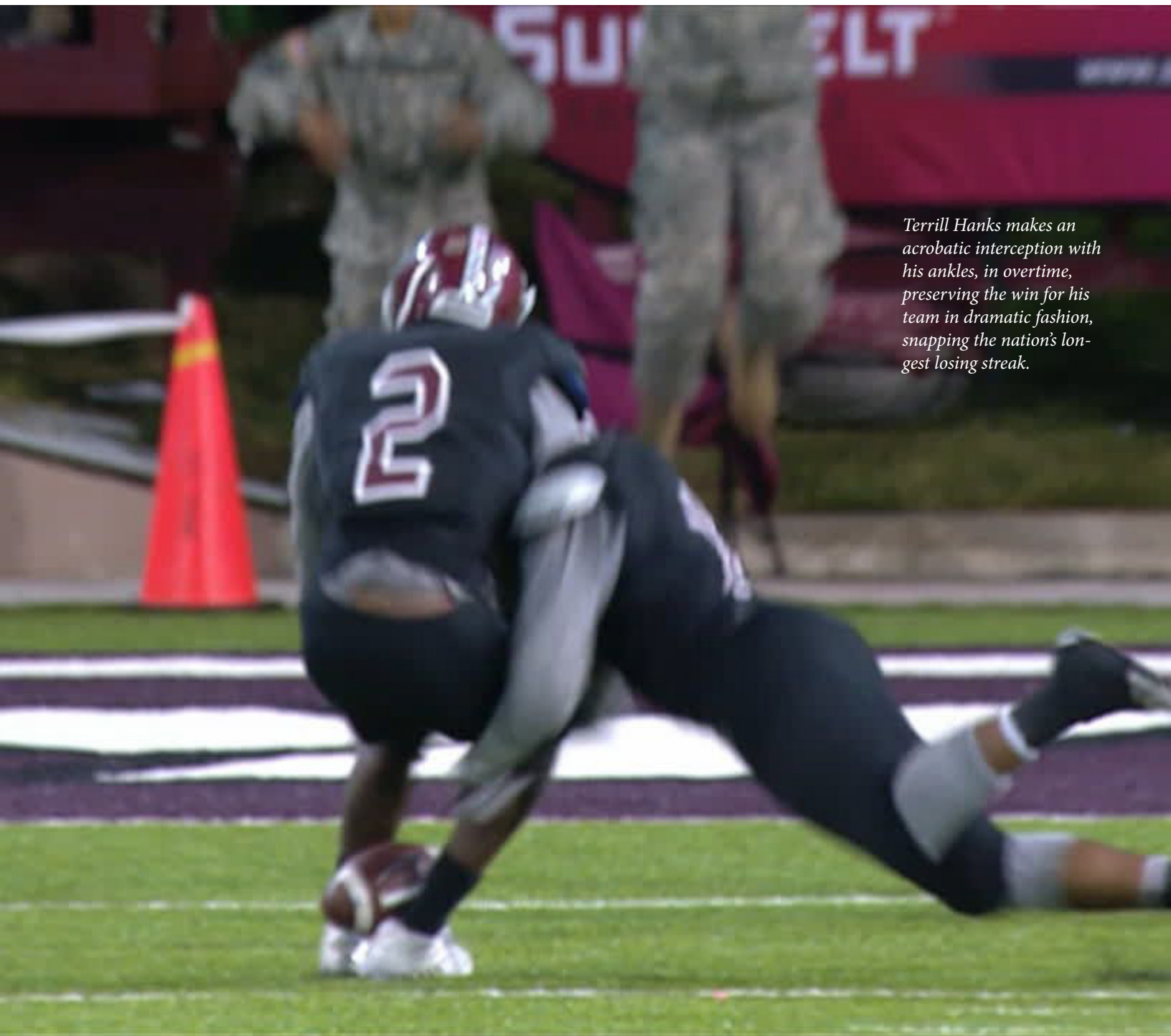
APPEARING ON

**ESPN**



**TERRILL**





*Terrill Hanks makes an acrobatic interception with his ankles, in overtime, preserving the win for his team in dramatic fashion, snapping the nation's longest losing streak.*

# HANKS

# MAKING SCHOOL HISTORY

## APPEARING ON **ESPN**



*Terrill Hanks ('15), Division I football player, and Adrianna Weekly, also class of '15, who is studying at the London School of Fashion.*



*Terrill "Bang Bang" Hanks, playing Division I football at New Mexico State University.*

Terrill Hanks, class of 2015, one of La Salle's favorite sons, graduated and seemingly went straight to the highlight film on ESPN's Plays of the Week. But it wasn't an easy journey from playing in "The Jungle" to playing in Division I of the NCAA. Last year, Terrill accepted a scholarship to play football at New Mexico State University. Of course, he had no idea what he was getting himself into. Little did he know how different things would be in New Mexico. Little did he know how much he would miss his family and friends here at La Salle. And little did he know that he would be thrust into a starting role on a struggling football team. But he has handled everything magnificently. We caught up with Terrill to chat about his experience since leaving Immaculata-La Salle.

Terrill said that things in New Mexico are naturally very different from Miami. He is still getting used to being in a desert, surrounded by mountains and people wearing cowboy hats. We asked Terrill what he misses from home. "I miss the atmosphere at La Salle. I loved coming to school every day. I miss the retreats, going to Mass with my classmates, and boy do I miss the food! Especially chicken patties and cookie Thursdays."

Terrill was voted homecoming king, but he sincerely wanted another student to win it. Both of those things speak to his high character. Everybody loved Terrill when he was here, not because he was a talented football player, but because he was a kind, gracious, and humble young man. Thankfully, that hasn't changed



one bit since he went away to college. Terrill is very close with Coach Eddie Cerdeiras and many other coaches, teachers, and students. Before every game at New Mexico, Terrill called Coach Eddie from the locker room and they prayed together on the phone. “You can do anything through Christ,” he reminded me.

New Mexico State is not exactly a powerhouse football program. They were in the Mountain West Conference, and then moved into the Sunbelt Conference. They are the “new guy on the block” in Division I football, meaning they have to get accustomed to playing superior teams. That meant that Terrill was thrust into a situation where he was playing bigger, stronger, and more talented players. In addition, his coaches did not hesitate to move him from safety to the line-backer position, where his mental and physical toughness and durability would be tested. It was a very long freshman season for Terrill, as well as his team. New Mexico State had the dubious distinction of carrying the nation’s longest losing streak, with 17 straight losses. They lost every game last year, until Oct. 31, 2015, when our own Terrill “Bang Bang” Hanks made history.

The New Mexico State Aggies were playing their conference rival, Idaho. The game was not pretty, with the Aggies down by 23 points in the third quarter. But New Mexico State mounted a ferocious comeback and tied the game, sending it to overtime. Eventually, Terrill’s team took a one-touchdown lead, but Idaho was marching down the field toward the Aggie’s end zone. The Idaho QB threw a pass over the middle, right in front of end zone. The ball was tipped up into the air, and one of Terrill’s teammates bobbled it before it dropped towards Terrill’s legs. There was no way he could have caught it with his hands, but somehow Terrill managed to catch it with his feet! He pinned the football between his ankles and maintained possession while falling to the ground. It’s an interception! Terrill’s acrobatic catch ends the game, and ends the nation’s longest losing streak. The crowd goes wild, the team rushes the field and piles up on top of Terrill in the end zone.

We asked Terrill what he was feeling after that play. “Pain!” was his response. “The first thing I will tell you is...never do a dog pile after a win.” Evidently during the celebration, with all of his teammates piled on top of him, Terrill cracked a rib. But when they finally let

him up, the moment began to sink in for Terrill. He was smiling but crying at the same time. When they showed the video on ESPN later that night, the rest of the country got to see what we already knew....that Terrill Hanks is a very special person. Not because he made a ridiculous catch, and not because he ended the nation’s longest losing streak, but because of the joyful, unselfish person that he is. The Salesian spirit from La Salle runs very deep in Terrill Hanks, like The Force in a young Jedi Knight.

Said Terrill, “I want to shout out to Coach Eddie, the football team, and the whole La Salle family!” Rest assured, Terrill, we will be shouting right back at you.

*Terrill Hanks being treated by his friend and mentor, Coach Eddie Cerdeiras. Terrill and Coach Eddie pray together on the phone before every game.*





## ILS New Head Football Coach

Coach Matt Dillon arrived at ILS in January 2015, replacing the retired and beloved Willie Trimmer as our Head Football Coach. Coach Dillon grew up in south Florida, having graduated from Northeast High School in Fort Lauderdale in 1977. Coach Dillon's history is an impressive one, both as player and coach. He was recognized as a small college All-American quarterback at Cornell College in Eastern Iowa, having led the entire nation in passing efficiency twice, while breaking every quarterback record in the history of the school, including throwing for over 5,000 yards and more than 50 TD's in his career. When his college career was over, Coach Dillon was selected to the Cornell College All-Century Team as the QB and a year later was inducted into the Cornell College Sports Hall of Fame.

With over 30 years of coaching experience, Coach Dillon has earned a remarkable reputation for improving football programs and cultivating the best effort he can get from his players. He took a struggling program in Bozeman, MT, with a record of 0-10, and coached them to a 6-4 record the very next year. After returning to his home state of Florida, he took a 1-9 Pope John Paul II and turned them into a 9-2 team the following year. During 6 seasons at Dowling Catholic, Coach Dillon proved he can sustain excellence with a 64-7 record, and 2 state championships. Coach Dillon received "Coach of the Year" honors a remarkable 12 times, including State of Iowa Coach of the Year, and was a finalist for Palm Beach County Coach of the Year.

Let's not forget that Coach Dillon graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Business, and a Master's degree in Athletic Administration. Immaculata-La Salle is thrilled to have Coach Dillon on board with us. Go Royal Lions!





Immaculata-La Salle alumnus Nathan Gomez (class of '09) was hired this past season as the new Head Baseball Coach. Nate has had a magnificent baseball career, which began of course right here at ILS. Nate was a four year varsity starter for the Royal Lions, playing first base and pitching. As a pitcher he maintained a staggering 1.2 E.R.A. which earned him career and single season school records. Coach Nate fondly recalls the 2007 season when his E.R.A. was second best in Dade County, the Royal Lions were district champs and went all the way to the regional finals, eventually losing to blasted Gulliver.

Coach Nate went on to play Division I college ball on a pitching scholarship. Nate joined his older brother, Victor (also a La Salle alum), at Marshall University, where he graduated with a degree in Exercise Physiology. By the time he graduated, Coach Nate had placed in the top 10 in Marshall history in hits, walks, at-bats, and games played, and finished 2nd all time for doubles.

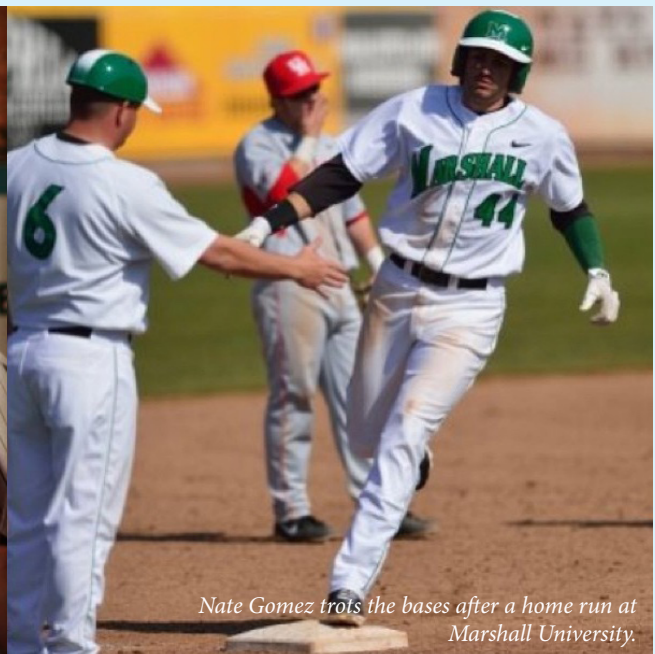
Nate teaches Weight Training and Competitive Fitness, and is also the Strength and Conditioning Coordinator for all the school's athletes. La Salle is thrilled to have Nate Gomez, proud La Salle alum, running the baseball program.

# NATE GOMEZ

CLASS OF '09 NEW ROYALS HEAD BASEBALL COACH



*La Salle alum Nate Gomez (#44), class of '09, standing next to his brother Victor (#32), class of '07. The two brothers played together at LaSalle and then again at Marshall University.*



*Nate Gomez trots the bases after a home run at Marshall University.*





*The 2015-16 La Salle varsity baseball team.*

# Baseball Team

The La Salle baseball team had a solid season this past year, accumulating a 14-11 record with a super-competitive schedule. The La Salle baseball program has been hanging tough with some pretty ferocious competition, constantly playing against baseball powerhouses and 20-win teams.

This year's team experienced some huge highlights, including beating Douglas High (ranked in the top 10 in Florida) and a huge walk-off win against arch rival Belen Jesuit (for the second year in a row.) There were plenty of individual accomplishments as well. Senior Danny Rodriguez signed a letter of intent to play Divi-

sion I ball at Spring Hill College in Albany, NY. Senior catcher George Fernandez signed to play at F.I.U. Junior third baseman Santos Grande had a magnificent year, earning 2nd Team All-Dade honors and being named District 5A Hitter of the Year, boasting a .450 average. Seniors Carlos Quintana, George Fernandez and Danny Rodriguez were all selected to play in the Dade County Senior All-Star game.

First year Head Coach (and La Salle alumnus) Nate Gomez tells his players to "Win every pitch!" If they keep doing what they're doing, they might win every game!





*Junior Santos Grande, flashing the leather on the hot corner, was named District 5A Hitter of the Year with a whopping .450 average.*



*Senior Danny Rodriguez will be playing Division I baseball at Spring Hill College.*

[www.StarActionShots.com](http://www.StarActionShots.com)



*Senior catcher George Fernandez lunges for the tag. George will be playing at F.I.U. next year.*



*They call junior pitcher Joshua Leon "12 to 6" for his nasty curveball.*



*"His most special talent is who he is as a person." Those of us who know A.P. are not surprised.*





# Alex Class of Perez 2011

A.P. "IRON MAN"

Alex Perez, or "A.P." as he was called at La Salle, has been making quite a name for himself in the sport of baseball. He has been called an "Iron Man" and compared to Derek Jeter. But he has also been called the "man with the golden heart." The people from La Salle who know him well are not one bit surprised.

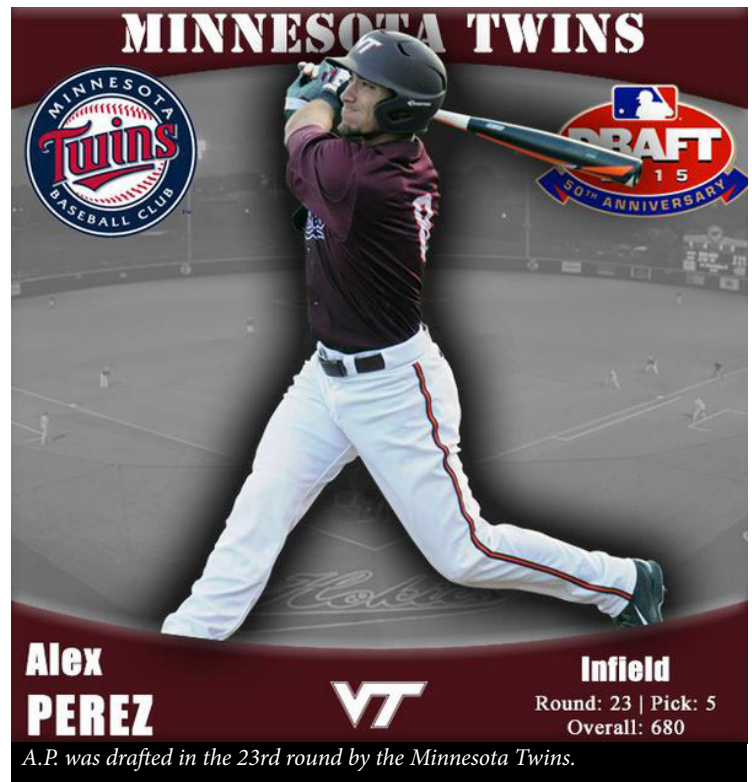
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Alex Perez agreed to shave his head for a fundraiser for children with cancer.

Alex was a four-year varsity starter at La Salle, playing both shortstop and pitching. His senior year, A.P. was named the ILS “Athlete of the Year” and also garnered Miami Herald pitcher of the year, and first-team All-Dade honors. As a senior, Alex hit .440 with 2 home runs, 12 doubles, 35 runs scored, and 35 RBIs in only 29 games. On the mound, he posted an 8-1 record with a 2.33 ERA and 102 strikeouts. In short, he was unstoppable.

Alex continued his playing career at Virginia Tech which boasts a Division I program. They call him the Iron Man because he started every one of the 55 games during 2012 season. That continued all the way through the 2015 season to the point where he holds the school record for consecutive games started with 224. At one point, he was the active leader for consecutive games started in the entire NCAA. He also holds school records for most triples in a game, most assists in a game by a second baseman, most assists in a season by a second baseman, and most assists in a career. At the plate, A.P. had 15 game-winning RBIs and 20 game-winning runs scored. He also had two huge



walk-off RBI’s, including one against the 6th best team in the nation at the time, his hometown University of Miami on April 14, 2012. Doesn’t get much sweeter than that.

Well, maybe it does. A.P. made Sportcenter’s “Top 10 Plays of the Week” with a “Jeter-esque” jump throw from deep in the hole at shortstop.

At the conclusion of his college career, A.P. was drafted in the 23rd round of the MLB Draft by the Minnesota Twins. Since then he has been steadily climbing the ranks of the minor leagues for the Twins organization. As of June, 2016, he was with the Fort Myers Miracle, hitting an astonishing .313. A.P. doesn’t just get by on talent. He is one of the hardest working guys you will come across. He is listed at 5’10 and 180 lbs. Logan Bible, A.P.’s roommate at Virginia Tech, commented, “He may be a little guy, but he can throw up some pretty big weight in the weight room.” With regard to Alex’ work ethic, Logan continued, ““He comes in after practice each and every day when guys are going back to their apartments and he gets his extra hacks in. He always worked harder than everyone else....you can see he had an extra gear.”

A.P. said on his twitter account, “Ambition is priceless. It’s something that’s in your veins and I pray that never changes for me.” With all of the praise A.P. receives for his on-field talent and work ethic, the highest





*Captain of the Virginia Tech Hokies.*

praise is reserved for his character. It was due to his high character, not his high batting average, that his college coach, Pat Mason, made him the team captain. Said Mason, “He’s the most respectful person you could ever be around. He is the first one to pick up a teammate if they make an error or if things aren’t going good. He’s the first one to pat someone on the back or congratulate you when you have a baby. He’s awesome. The way he talks to and treats kids who come to the ballpark, or alumni, or recruits...he just treats everyone with the same respect and kindness. He’s

one of the best guys I’ve ever met in my life.” As seems to be the case frequently, the conversations about A.P. the ballplayer turn into conversations about A.P. the person.

“His most special talent is who he is as a person.” Suffice it to say that A.P. represents La Salle and the Salesian spirit in a remarkable way. Everyone at La Salle is proud of Alex Perez, just not surprised.

Flor Baldassini, Captain of  
ILS Girls Soccer Team



Nicole Baldassini,  
playing for the NJIT  
Highlanders



3 SISTERS

3

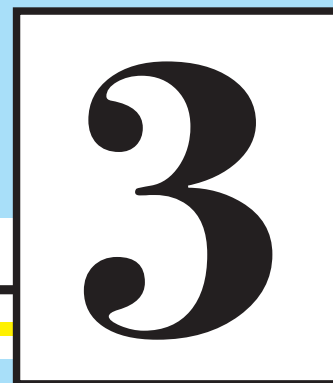


Sol Baldassini, playing for the Georgia College Bobcats



**COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIPS**

# 3 SISTERS



Legacy is proud to spotlight the three Baldassini sisters, all of whom have graduated Immaculata-La Salle, and all of whom are attending college on full scholarships thanks to their soccer skills. All three young ladies are excellent students, leaders in their respective classes, and clearly, hard-working soccer players.

The Baldassini family is originally from Argentina, where all three sisters earned a spot on the Argentinian national team. All three sisters were 4-year starters on the varsity squad during high school, all three were captains of their respective La Salle teams, all three competed on the La Salle track team, and all three received a multitude of awards and accolades, both academic and athletic.

Sol is the oldest sister and is currently a junior at Georgia College, playing defensive mid-fielder for the Bobcats. While at ILS, Sol lead her team to two district titles, was named captain for her senior year, set a school record for the 4X8 relay on the track team, won 2nd Team All-Dade honors, and won the scholastic award for Anatomy Honors class. Sol is majoring in Accounting, and is planning to continue her soccer career by playing professionally in Europe.

Nicole is the middle child of the Baldassini family, and is currently a freshman at New Jersey Institute of Technology, a Division I soccer program in Jersey City, NJ, on a full scholarship. While at ILS, Nicole earned 1st Team All Dade honors twice, was captain and MVP of the soccer team her senior year, and was awarded Stu-

dent Athlete of the Year, with the highest GPA (4.89) of all student-athletes at La Salle. Nicole is majoring in Bio Medical Engineering and is planning to go on to medical school to become a doctor.

Flor is the third daughter in the family, and was a ferocious defensive midfielder for the Lady Lions. She just began her freshman year at Stetson University in Deland, FL, where she earned a full scholarship. Flor was a four year varsity starter, was awarded the Coach's Award for her junior year, was captain for her junior and senior year, and was awarded MVP honors her freshman and her senior years.

When asked about their favorite soccer memories from La Salle, all three Baldassini sisters responded with the same memory. There was one season (2012-2013 school year) when all three sisters were playing on the La Salle varsity squad together at the same time. It's no wonder the team went undefeated that year! Sol recalls scoring a come-from-behind goal, shot from almost the mid-field to tie the game against Doral Academy, preserving the undefeated season. Nicole recalls beating Archbishop McCarthy for the first time in school history that year. Just so happens, Nicole scored the go-ahead goal in that game. In addition, when recalling their high school soccer careers, all three sisters were quick to thank Coach Gammy, Coach Vuono, Coach Vengoechea, and especially Coaches Eddie and Aimee Cerdeiras.

Sol, Nicole, and Flor are not just one-dimensional



# COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIPS



Flor Baldassini signing day. Flor is sitting (second from left) signing her letter of intent to play soccer for Stetson University, accompanied by (standing from left) La Salle Athletic Director Chris Crotty, Coach Anthony Vuono, La Salle principal Sister Kim Keraitis, and Coach Ramiro Vengoechea, and (sitting from left) Mrs. Veronica Baldassini, Flor Baldassini, Mr. Gabriel Baldassini, and grandfather Ricardo Barreiro.

soccer players. All have distinguished themselves as outstanding students, as loving daughters, and as good Catholics. Sol fondly recalls participating in the famous La Salle retreats. In one such retreat, she gave a moving witness talk to her fellow classmates. Nicole speaks glowingly of her mother, who spent countless hours driving her around to practices and tournaments all over Florida. Flor is quick to credit her success to her father, who was quite the “footballer” in his day. The Baldassini sisters personify the type of people that we, at ILS, are trying to cultivate. They are excellent students, but also compassionate, responsible citizens, as well.

It is clear that all three Baldassini sisters were raised properly and have benefitted greatly from the Catholic education they received at Immaculata-La Salle. All three display humility and grace at all times, deflecting credit for the wins, and accepting responsibility for the losses. All three value the love of their family, and point to their teachers and coaches as the inspiration for their success. These three young ladies represent the best of a Salesian education.



2015-16 Lady Lions accumulated a 10-7-1 record with 4 players earning All-Dade honors.

# ILS SOCCER GIRLS

Junior Shayna Welsh (#1) played forward and was voted “Most Improved Player” this past year.







ILS junior Karina Santin (#9) scored a school record 39 goals this year.

Flor Baldassini (#10) accepted a full scholarship to play Division I soccer at Stetson University.

Nikki Marabona (#13) is petite but powerful, earning 3rd Team All-Dade honors.

The 2015-16 ILS girls' soccer team had a solid season, finishing 10-7-1. The team was led by second year Head Coach Gamy Lozano and Assistant Coach Anthony Vuono. Both coaches are La Salle graduates, and ironically, both played on the La Salle boys' team in the late 90's that won the first ever district title for the boys' squad.

Although the Lady Lions fell short of their goal of a district title, the season was not without its highlights. Junior superstar Karina Santin had a season for the ages, setting a school record with 39 goals, and being

named 1st Team All-Dade. Senior captain Flor Baldassini was also named 1st Team All-Dade, and earned a full scholarship to play Division I soccer at Stetson University. Freshman Stephanie Cuan earned 2nd Team All-Dade and junior Nikki Marabona 3rd team All-Dade.

The Lady Lions had some great moments this season, including huge wins against division rivals Mater Lakes, MAST Academy, and archrival St. Brendan's. There is plenty to build on for next year and we look forward to a great season.





# 2015-16 ILS BOYS' SOCCER

The Royal Lions boys' soccer team finished the season with a winning record of 8-6 in a talent-rich district. Second year Head Coach Richard Jobson, along with Assistant Coach (and La Salle alumnus) George San Miguel led this year's team to big victories over several division foes, including arch-rival Belen Jesuit who eventually won the Florida 5A State Championships. Unfortunately the Royal Lions lost a handful of key players to season-ending injuries, and were forced to start 8 freshmen for most of the season. Despite a compromised and very young team, the Royal Lions were able to produce a winning record.

Senior Marcus Cordon was elected to 1st Team All-Dade and is considering offers from multiple schools, including Brown, Columbia, and FIU. Senior Captain Nico "Que Rico" Bared and Juan Carlos Lamuno were both voted FL All-Stars. Bared signed a letter of intent to continue his soccer career at St. Michael's. He will be joining last year's captain, Gaby Pineda, who is currently at St. Michael's as well. Nico Bared's older brother Chris, a La Salle alum, is playing soccer on a full scholarship at Villanova University. Clearly there is much talent coming out of the Immaculata-La Salle soccer program. The other teams in our district better watch out!

*Bishop Peter Baldacchino, of St. Kieran's Church, is a big fan of Royal Lions soccer.*







*Felipe Zavalia thrives in the rain.*



*Freshman Lucas Rodriguez lines up the corner kick.*



*Juan Carlos Lamuno displaying the skills.*



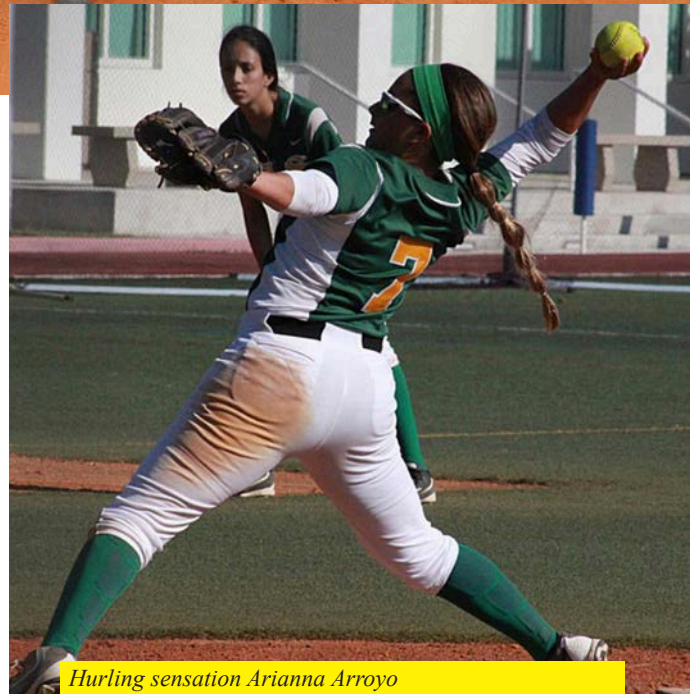
# 2015-16 ROYAL LIONS SOFTBALL TEAM



*Junior Karina Santin, scored 39 goals for girls' soccer and seen here sliding home scoring more runs for the softball team.*



*Sophomore catcher Beatriz Triay*



*Hurling sensation Arianna Arroyo*

The ILS softball team is officially on the map. This was the fourth season since the softball program was reinstated here at La Salle and the girls are making sure that it was the right decision. The team accumulated a 10-4 record with big wins over Miami Country day and Palmer Trinity in the playoffs. Eventually they Lady Royals lost in the semi-finals to SLAM, but not before making some serious noise.

Senior captain Maddie Sardinas served up valuable leadership for a young team, consisting of mostly sophomores. Standout performers included Maddie's younger sister Laura Sardinas, sophomore Kimberly Montessi, and pitching sensation Arianna Arroyo.

With new coach Rick Hernandez, an experienced Miami softball coaching veteran, and the intensity displayed by this young team, look for the ILS softball team to make more some more noise next season.





*Paola Lisazo prepares to serve.*



*Freshman tennis stud Simon Ribas prepares for the backhand.*



*Adrianna Baez is all about the thumbs-UP.*



*2015-16 La Salle tennis team, with coaches Fredy Padovan (standing left) and Adrianna DaSilva (standing right).*

# ILS TENNIS TEAM

This year's tennis team was young but competitive. So young, in fact, that they had no seniors on either the boys' or the girls' squads. The boys' team fielded only 2 juniors and the rest of the team were freshmen; the girls fared slightly better with 5 juniors, 1 sophomore and 1 freshman.

Never-the-less both teams competed in a talent-rich district and came out with some impressive wins. Highlights included beating district rival MAST Academy in the battle for Key Biscayne, and an impressive 7-0 shutout win over St. Brendan's.



# 2015-16 Alumni



*Brandon Gali (left) was clearly out-sized by Michael Santiago (right).*



*Jesus Cruz (left) does not look too happy about going up against his Assistant Head Coach, Glen Rodriguez (right).*



*Glen Rodriguez was head and shoulders above the varsity squad.*

Head Basketball Coach Mikey Gilbeau renewed an old La Salle tradition by inviting a handful of basketball alumni to come back to Don Bosco Arena for a “friendly” game of hoops against the current varsity squad. The event turned out to be a huge success, despite some shoddy officiating from Athletic Director Chris Crotty and La Salle alumnus Anthony Vuono. Just about everyone had a blast, with the possible exception of sophomore Brandon Gali who suffered a minor injury after colliding with a much, much, much larger player from the alumni team. In the end the current Royal Lions varsity squad was a bit over-matched by the sheer size and strength of the alumni squad, but it was certainly fun to watch.



*(Standing from left) David Fernandez (La Salle alum and current teacher/girls' basketball coach), Kevin McDonnell, Santos Laphitzando, Moses Hernandez, Tyler Greenspan (wearing questionable headscarf), Danny Hoffman, Brett Heimann, Glen Rodriguez (Assistant Coach of current varsity team), Henry Alvarez, Mariano Cuesta, and Michael Santiago. Crouching in front are Ryan Garcia and Sam Miller.*



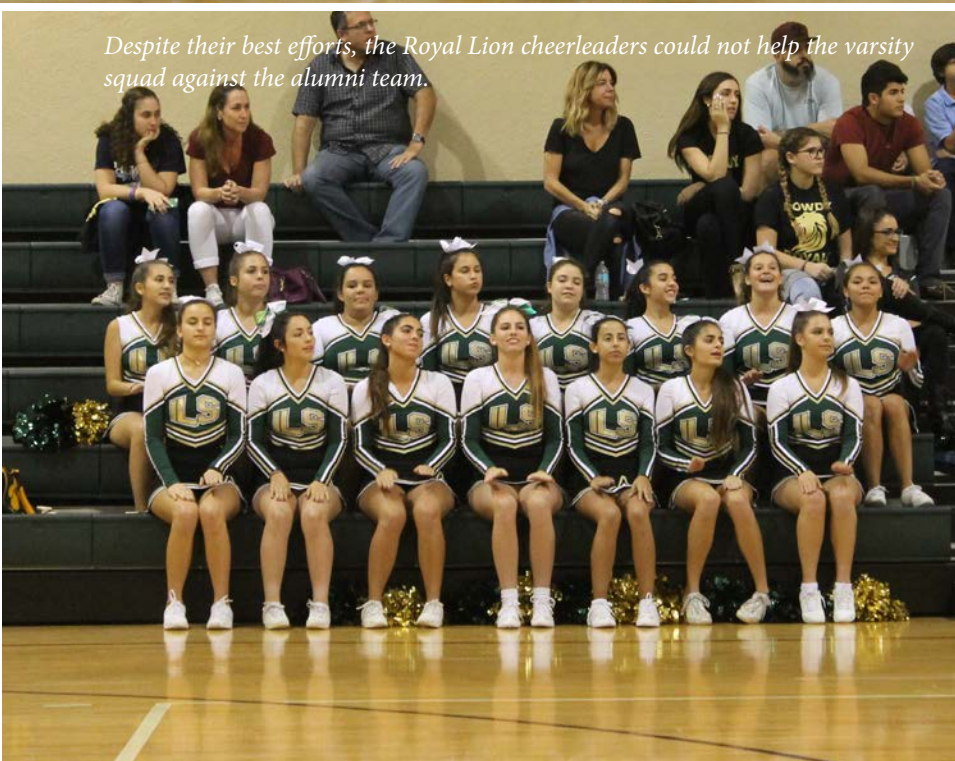
# Basketball Game

*David Fernandez (right) jukes Jesus Cruz out of his shoes.*



*Tyler Greenspan is an Assistant Coach for the varsity squad, but showed no mercy for his players on this day.*

*Despite their best efforts, the Royal Lion cheerleaders could not help the varsity squad against the alumni team.*



*Sam "Pookie" Miller drains a free throw. Pookie went all the way to the NFL, but was also quite the hoops star at La Salle.*





*Head Coach Mikey G is supremely confident in Ian Cruz.*

# 2015-16 BOYS'

Although they did not reach their goal of a district championship this year, the Royal Lions boys' basketball team made some serious noise. With significant talent up and down the roster, this year's team competed at a high level all season long, finishing with a 17-9 record.

In a season filled with excitement, perhaps the biggest highlight was beating arch rival Monsignor Pace. Pace eliminated the Lions from the district tournament last year, but our boys got their revenge this year. In addition the Royal Lions came roaring back from a 20-point deficit to get a win over powerhouse Gulliver.

*Junior Oscar "Baby O" Gaetan driving in for a layup.*





# BASKETBALL

Seniors (and cousins) Ian and Jesus Cruz both had MVP-caliber seasons, and are each being recruited by a number of Division II schools. Juniors Oscar “Baby O” Gaetan, Julian Pita, and Collie “Flower” Williams will lead a talented roster next year. With Head Coach Mikey Gilbeau and Assistant Coach (and proud La Salle alum) Tyler Greenspan returning to the sideline, you can expect the district championship will be returning to Don Bosco Arena next year.

*Junior Julian Pita doing his Air Jordan impression.*





*Members of the 2015 Royal swim team celebrating a victory.*



*Paloma Sanchez swam the butterfly stroke in the medley relay.*



*Cado Abada making an underwater turn.*



It was a solid season for the La Salle swim team this year. The Lady Royals were particularly strong in the medley relay, with Alexandra Cerda swimming the freestyle, Gabby Antonini the backstroke, Alexis Rodriguez the breast stroke, and Paloma Sanchez the butterfly. This crew advanced to regionals, finishing 12th. In addition, Francisco Barrone-Vera qualified for regionals in the 200 and 100 freestyle. Most notably, Gabby Antonini and Paloma Sanchez advanced all the way to the Florida State Finals. Antonini swam the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke, and Sanchez swam the 50 freestyle.

Head Coach Aimee Cerdeiras had all her swimmers in prime condition for the long and arduous season. Coach Aimee makes sure the team prays before each meet. They pray to Mother Mary and Don Bosco, but also to Moses, so maybe he could split the water for them. Considering the success of La Salle swimmers, you can bet Moses was listening.



*Paloma Sanchez and Gabby Antonini, both of whom made it all the way to states.*



# MAKING WAVES

## 2015-16 ILS SWIM TEAM



The 2015-16 girls' basketball team grinded their way through a difficult season, collecting an 8-13 record along the way. Playing in a very difficult district with powerhouses like Booker T. Washington, St. Brendan's, and Monsignor Pace, the Lady Lions had to earn every one of those 8 wins.

Perhaps the biggest win of the season came against Miami Edison. After being blown out at home by 20 points against Edison, the Lady Lions went on

the road, in a hostile environment, and punched out district rival Edison. Jaylene Cruz was the unanimous MVP of the team, leading the team in points, rebounds, and blocks. Junior captain Gabby Xiques had a strong season and will be back to lead next year's squad.

With savvy Head Coach David Fernandez and veteran Assistant Coach Chris Crotty patrolling the sideline, the Lady Lions will be right back in the race next year.

# 2015-16 GIRLS'



*Coaching gurus Fernandez and Crotty looking on intently.*





*Head Coach David Fernandez  
instructing the team.*

# BASKETBALL



*Freshman sensation Jennifer Yanes*



*Sophomore hoopster  
Sophie Benevides.*



# TRACK & FIELD

## ILS 2015-16

*Cado Abada can pole vault over buildings.*



*Boogie Borgella runs track and will be playing football at Walsh University on a full scholarship.*



*Valeria Otero competes in the long jump.*





*No way Belen can keep up with the speedy Salesian, Augustin Cardano.*

Head Track Coach Eddie Cerdeiras has an outstanding philosophy to which he subscribes: harmony between mind, body, and soul, and by all means, everything is done for the glory of God. This philosophy is reflected in the t-shirts the student-athletes often wear: “Do my best, and to God, I leave the rest.”

This philosophy has served the La Salle track team quite well. It was a successful season for the track program, with the boys’ squad winning the Westminster Christian Invitational, and a number of individuals garnering much-deserved recognition. Giancarlo Dago and Cado Abada qualified for the state tournament in the discus and pole vault, respectively. School records were broken by Mati de Leon for the discus, Augustin Cardano for the 2 mile, and sophomore sensation Mariana Gonzalez for virtually every long distance running event in which she competed. The boys’ 4x1 relay team, consisting of Cam “The Man” Riles, Marcus Cordon, Boogie Borgella, and Ivan Godward, broke the school record, then broke it again.

Coach Eddie Cerdeiras’ philosophy seems to have been passed down to his sons Tomas and Eddie, Jr., both of whom are La Salle alumni. Tomas is competing in the decathlon at the college level and E.J. is running the 800 meter and cross country. E.J. was awarded Student-Athlete of the Year at Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina. Coach Eddie preaches harmony between mind, body, and soul; of course a Student-Athlete of the Year award brings a little extra harmony to the Cerdeiras home as well.







# 2015-16 Royal Lion Lacrosse Team



*Senior Diego Aguirre, captain of the Royal Lions lacrosse team*



*Senior Oscar Rojas about to score*



*Senior Nick Perez eludes a helpless defender.*

It was a difficult year for the Royal Lions Lacrosse squad. They managed one win in their ultra-competitive district, which includes powerhouses Columbus, Gulliver, Ransom, and Belen, all of whom are top-25 teams in the entire state of Florida. Knowing the fierce competition they faced all year, Head Coach (and La Salle alumnus) Anthony Vuono keeps his players in superior conditioning and has cultivated a team identity characterized by a tough, physical brand of lacrosse. Although they may have been over-matched skill-wise by the competition this year, at the very least the team is developing mentally and physically tough players.

There is some quality talent on the squad, including

captains Diego Aguirre and Carlos Lopez, and leading goal scorer Jessie Fuchs. Chuck "Rage" Damon earned 1st Team All-Conference and 2nd Team All-Dade honors, and the freshmen and sophomore classes are showing a lot of potential.

If the Royal Lions lacrosse team can continue to develop their young talent, they have 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." Great advice on the lacrosse field and off it, as well.



*The boys' cross country squad waits for the gun.*

# 2015-16 ILS Cross Country Team



*Mariana Gonzalez, the speedy sophomore Salesian superstar.*



*The indomitable Augustin Cardano.*



*Junior runner Brando Mena strives for the finish line.*



*Sophomore Amanda Ruiz leads the pack.*

This young group of runners had a great season in 2015-16. Head Coach (and Athletic Director) Chris Crotty described the group as extremely dedicated and resilient, which are great qualities to possess in the sport of cross country. Running can be a lonely endeavor, with nobody to help you out, nobody to call time out. It takes a special person to push themselves to victory, one step at a time.

The boys' squad was led by sophomore captain Augustin Cardano (also a record-setting track star) and Diego Aguirre. The girls' squad was led by sophomore

sensation Mariana Gonzalez. Mariana had an incredible season, finishing in the top 10 in almost every race in which she competed. She also qualified for regionals, with an impressive top-20 finish.

You know you have a young team when your captains are sophomores. But that's a good thing heading into next year, with the top 5 runners on both teams returning for next season. "Finish on empty!" That is the mantra of the cross country team. You can bet some of these runners will be finishing in first!



# Form Part Of Our Giving Tree And Leave Your Legacy For Years To Come

Boulder  
\$150,000.00

Rock  
\$100,000.00

Stone  
\$75,000.00

Framed Acorn  
\$50,000.00

Crowned Acorn  
\$25,000.00

Acorn  
\$15,000.00

Platinum Leaf  
\$10,000.00

Gold Leaf  
\$5,000.00

Bronze Leaf  
\$2,500.00

Ways to give can be made in Outright Gifts (checks payable to ILS), on line @ [www.ilsroyals.com](http://www.ilsroyals.com) and by matching gifts.

For any question or for further information please contact  
Jeff Kruse  
Office for Advancement  
(305) 607-5766  
[jeff.kruse@ilsroyals.com](mailto:jeff.kruse@ilsroyals.com)





# Keep the LEGACY Alive!

“Immaculata-La Salle High School commits to providing the highest quality of Catholic education based on the gospel and the Salesian Preventive System of reason, religion and loving kindness.”

Immaculata-La Salle depends on the generous support of our parents, alumni and friends to help close the gap to cover the full costs of providing our students with a superior educational program.

Donations like yours, in small or large ways, have a lasting impact on our commitment to help with our students' education. With many improvements heading our way and in trying to keep our exceptional education at its lowest cost possible, we rely fully on your generosity and kindness. Thanks for your interest in supporting our institution. Every effort counts and is greatly appreciated.

Together we can make our legacy better and greater!

[www.GiveToLS.com](http://www.GiveToLS.com)





*Senior captain Marcus Cordone (All-Dade soccer star) sets up his serve.*



*Captain Nicholas Doimeadios ready to spike.*







2015 - '16

# Volleyball



*Andres Saladrigas  
with some serious air!*

In just its third year of existence, the boys' volleyball team has been steadily improving. This year's squad had 2 huge wins over district rival FL Christian, as well as a number of non-district wins. Senior captain Boogie Borgella, who also stars on the football and track teams, along with Nick Doimeadios and sophomore sensation Patrick Stoodley led a young team to a successful season. Stoodley's older sister, Ericka, was captain of the girls' squad here at La Salle, now at FIU. Marcus Cordone (All-Dade soccer star) lent his talents to this year's volleyball squad and sophomore Derek Bernabeau had a breakout season.

The boys' volleyball program was started thanks to the efforts of La Salle alumnus Andres Saladrigas, who is currently playing Division II volleyball at Emmanuel College in Boston.

*La Salle alum Andres Saladrigas, now playing Division II volleyball at Emmanuel College in Boston.*



**EMMANUEL 3**  
**ALBERTUS MAGNUS 0**  
03.22.16 | BOSTON, MASS.



@ECSAINTS

## STATS OF THE MATCH

**SALADRIGAS - 30 ASTS**  
**ENGLISH - 11 KILLS**  
**JORDAN - 7 KILLS**  
**WINGARD - .455 ATK %**  
**HESS - .561 ATK %**

## UP NEXT



**VS. ENDICOTT**  
**03.24 | 7:00**

	ALBERTUS MAGNUS	EMMANUEL SAINTS
1	25	27
2	18	25
3	9	25
4	--	--
5	--	--
	5-10	15-9

**ANDRES SALADRIGAS**

**30 ASSISTS, 5 DIGS**



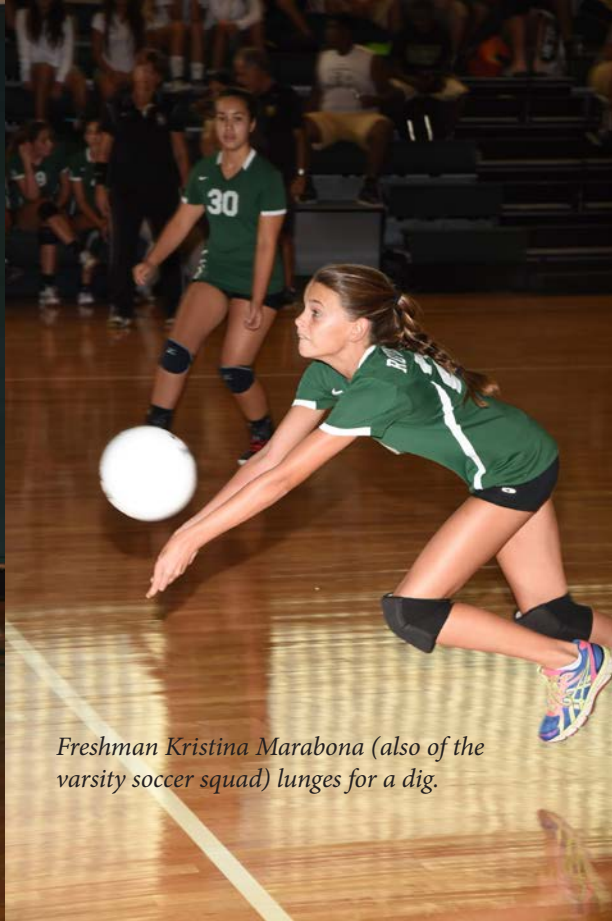




*Junior Sophia Falero was a force for the Lady Lions this year.*



*Sophomore Ivanna Santoscoy scans the court.*



*Freshman Kristina Marabona (also of the varsity soccer squad) lunges for a dig.*

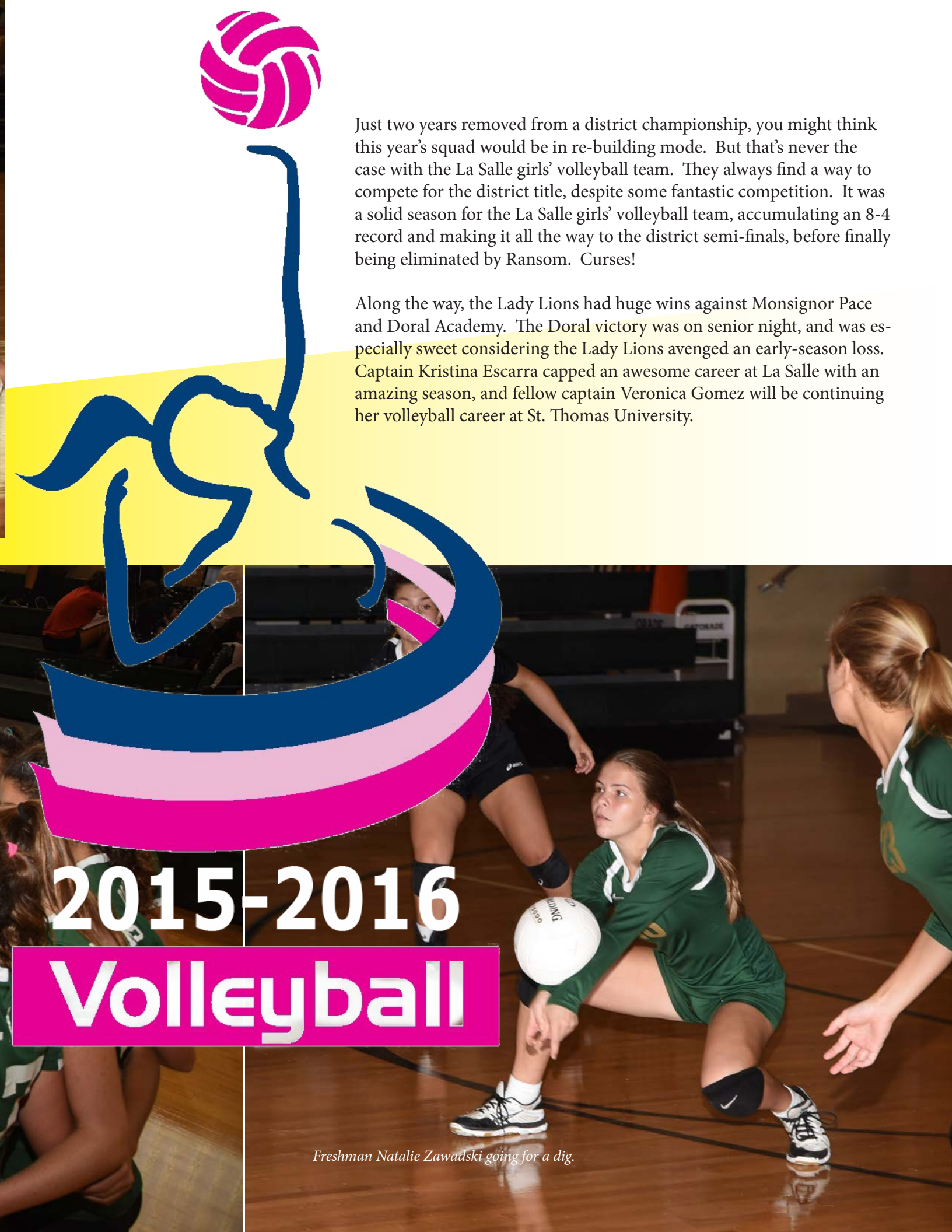






Just two years removed from a district championship, you might think this year's squad would be in re-building mode. But that's never the case with the La Salle girls' volleyball team. They always find a way to compete for the district title, despite some fantastic competition. It was a solid season for the La Salle girls' volleyball team, accumulating an 8-4 record and making it all the way to the district semi-finals, before finally being eliminated by Ransom. Curses!

Along the way, the Lady Lions had huge wins against Monsignor Pace and Doral Academy. The Doral victory was on senior night, and was especially sweet considering the Lady Lions avenged an early-season loss. Captain Kristina Escarra capped an awesome career at La Salle with an amazing season, and fellow captain Veronica Gomez will be continuing her volleyball career at St. Thomas University.

The background of the page is a collage of volleyball-related images. On the left, there's a blue line graphic that starts from a pink volleyball at the top, loops down, and then forms a large, abstract shape that frames the text. Below this, there's a pink banner with the text '2015-2016 Volleyball'. The right side of the page features a large photo of a volleyball player in a green jersey, crouching and ready to dig for a ball. Other players in green jerseys are visible in the background and foreground, some in action and some sitting on the bench.

2015-2016

Volleyball

*Freshman Natalie Zawadski going for a dig.*



# IMMACULATA- LA SALLE

## *Upcoming Events* 2016-2017

**Alumni Sports Hall of Fame**

October 13, 2016

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**Alumni Pig Roast**

October 14, 2016

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**Tricky Tray**

December 2, 2016

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**Food & Wine by the Bay**

February 3, 2017

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**ILS Golf Tournament**

May 5, 2017

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**Alumni Hall of Fame**

May 20, 2017



# La Salle Debate Team Continues its Dominance

It was a phenomenal year for ILS Royals Debate Team. Traveling to the annual Harvard University Invitational Tournament, ILS students competed against the best debaters in the country, and still came home with winning records! ILS debaters took most of the top spots in their district and qualified 6 students for the Florida Forensics League State Championship Tournament. Senior Arianis Blanco was invited to compete in International Extemporaneous Speaking, and seniors Alex Zawadzki, Maria Fernandez, Camila Camacho-Sanchez, along with sophomore Maria del Rocio Velilla dominated the Public Forum Team Debate. Junior Kelly Liang competed in Student Congress, and Camila Camacho-Sanchez became the third debater in LaSalle history to earn a Degree of Distinction from the NSDA Honors Society. Quite a list of accomplishments!

This past year the debate team graduated 8 seniors: Arianis Blanco, Camila Camacho-Sanchez, Lindsay McElroy, Maria Fernandez, Sofia Hernandez, Monica

Lopez and Gabriella Hernandez. Each of the seniors were members of the National Speech & Debate Association Honors Society and wore their cords proudly over their graduation gowns. This was one of the best graduating classes of debate team members and they will surely be missed. Of course there are new members who are waiting to take on the leadership positions, including rising senior Kelly Liang and rising juniors Gloria Gonzalez and Maria del Rocio Velilla. Special thanks to J.C. Moya for moderating such a talented group of debaters.

Not surprisingly, senior debater Arianis Blanco was the La Salle Valedictorian at graduation. This marked the second consecutive year, and the third time in the last four years, that an ILS Royals debater was our school's valedictorian. Evidently there is a massive correlation between debaters and valedictorians. Certainly no debate about that!



*Senior debaters at graduation with moderator J.C. Moya (center) and ILS Valedictorian Arianis Blanco (far right).*





## ILS Teacher Receives Cervantes Outstanding Educator Award

Rebecca Shaw, Immaculata-La Salle's Science Department chairperson and Marine Biology teacher was recognized this year as a Cervantes Outstanding Educator Award winner.

Ms. Shaw has been part of the Immaculata-La Salle family for 10 years. She is a passionate educator, friend and mentor to her students, and a teacher who inspires by her example. Miss Shaw instills in her students a love for science, a sense of global awareness with regard to protecting the environment, and a purpose in finding God throughout nature. Miss Shaw practices what she preaches by coordinating yearly mission trips to Nicaragua in order to provide fresh water, sustain-

able gardens, and much needed food and supplies for a Salesian-sponsored school.

Miss Shaw exposes students to the precious natural resources in the South Florida community and advocates for conservancy and preservation. Above all, she cultivates in her students an appreciation for all of God's creations. Congratulations to Miss Shaw on her award and a job well done.

*Photo: Immaculata-La Salle award recipient Rebecca Shaw (center right) poses with Immaculata-La Salle Principal Sister Kim Keraitis (center left) and the presenters of the Cervantes Outstanding Educator Awards.*



# *¡Feria Latina!*

## ILS Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

At Immaculata-La Salle High School, it is important to educate students about culture as well as the Catholic tradition. Those lessons can take many forms. In the spirit of St. John Bosco, the Foreign Language Department, together with the Spanish Honor Society and the Latin American Club organized a wonderful celebration called “Feria Latina.”

Feria Latina was a special day, especially when you consider the extremely high percentage of Latin American students and faculty here at La Salle. Mass was celebrated in both English and Spanish, much to the delight of the LaSalle student body and faculty. The Mass was offered up to Our Lady of the Americas

in order to reflect the celebration of Spanish culture.

In addition to Mass, students and faculty were treated to a very diverse and delicious lunch, with dozens of types of food, all representative of Latin American countries. Each country had its own station set up, complete with visual boards displaying information about the country, its customs, and even a replica of the country’s flag. It was a combination of lessons in history, geography, culture, and cuisine.

Feria Latina was a tremendous success, as well as a wonderful learning opportunity for students at Immaculata-La Salle High School.



Father J.C. and head altar boy Inigo Isla at Mass during Feria Latina.





# Campus Ministry



*During retreats, students write down personal regrets, then symbolically burn them in order to help forgive themselves and move forward.*

*It couldn't be a La Salle retreat without a big group hug.*





# Continues to Inspire



As the t-shirt says, Campus Ministers encourage others to "Walk with your feet on the ground, and your heart in heaven."



Senior Campus Ministers Giancarlo Dago (left) and Teresa Gutierrez (right) with Campus Minister Julie Ann Cannon (center).



Lots of fun time is always included in Campus Ministry retreats.





Don Bosco said, “Walk with your feet on Earth, and your heart in Heaven.” This is the philosophy to which the La Salle Campus Ministers subscribe. They see themselves as modern day disciples, and their goal is to help their classmates grow in the Catholic faith.

Campus Ministers are very busy people. They organize every school Mass, they run regular prayer services, and of course they organize and run retreats, which have become extremely popular here at La Salle. There is a retreat specifically for freshmen called “Cornerstone” which is meant to provide a foundation for the young freshmen on their journey towards Christ. The retreat for sophomores is called “Ignite,” inspired by St. Katherine de Siena’s quote, “Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.” Juniors and seniors attend the ETC retreats, which stands for “Encounter Toward Christ,” summarizing the spiritual goal of the Salesian experience.

Much credit goes to Anthony Vuono, Marta Alvarez, and especially Julie Anne Cannon, head of the Campus Ministry Department, for cultivating such a successful program. “She is incredibly devoted to her role as Campus Minister. She does so much work behind the

scenes to make things happen,” said Nico Bared, senior Campus Minister, about Miss Cannon. “She is one of the most selfless people I have ever known.” Miss Cannon emphasizes among her Campus Ministers that they must always form themselves, and their own relationships with Christ, before they can help anybody else. It certainly seems like the good advice is paying off. Giancarlo Dago, senior Campus Minister (and captain of the football team) stressed that they must always act as good examples of the Salesian spirit and encourage others to act as good Catholics as well. As a result, Campus Ministers develop leadership skills of a different kind.

The success of La Salle Campus Ministry is being spread into the community, as well. D’Andre Mickens, La Salle class of 2014, along with fellow classmates Lorena Estevez and Alexia Hirlemann, have formed the Salesian Youth Movement. Together they are organizing retreats and mission projects here in Miami. Victoria Weekly, also class of ’14, is active with the Gospel Roads group at the University of West Florida. We are proud to report that the Salesian experience is yielding such fine young student volunteers, ministers, and leaders.



*Lots of bonding at the freshman retreat.*



# ILS Students Get “Close UP” View of Democracy in Action



*A group of very enthusiastic (and very cold) ILS students in front of the Library of Congress.*



*ILS students Samuel D'Alfonso and Santiago Romero stand in front of the Lincoln Memorial, in hopes that Abe's honesty might rub off on them.*

The Vision Statement of Immaculata-La Salle High School includes the commitment to the “holistic formation of young people into good, faithful Christians and productive, responsible citizens.” The Salesians at La Salle enthusiastically search for ways to educate their students in the area of responsible citizenship. What better way to do that, than with an educational trip to Washington, D.C., in order to fully understand how to be a responsible citizen of the United States?

In early February, 18 ILS students braved the freezing temperatures in order to travel to Washington, D.C. as part of a program called Close Up. Close Up gives students and educators an inside look at democracy in action. Using the nation's capital as a living classroom, participants get a “close up” view of the U.S. government. ILS students were able to visit and learn about many historic sites and memorials, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Holocaust Museum, the Jefferson Memorial, and the National 9/11 Pentagon Memo-

rial. Students also attended classes and workshops, to discuss and debate the purpose and significance of the historical sites they were witnessing.

Highlights of the trip included not just visiting memorials, but actually meeting some of our political leaders in Washington. Students met Florida State Representatives Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Mario Diaz-Balart. There was plenty of fun time as well, as students were treated to several live plays, including *The Glass Menagerie*, by Tennessee Williams, at the infamous Ford's Theater. When asked about their favorite part of the trip, many students mentioned the chance encounters of running into John McCain and Nancy Pelosi inside the Capitol.

Immaculata-La Salle believes in developing engaged and informed citizens, and we owe a big “Thank you!” to Gabe Suarez and Ana Lourdes Garcia for hosting the trip for the La Salle students.





## Actors Shine on Brand New Stage

Students in the drama club and theatre classes were thrilled to be the first people to use La Salle's brand new, state of the art stage, which was just constructed this past year. The new stage has a technologically advanced back screen, meaning the actors perform in front of a vivid and realistic background. This is not your grandfather's old wooden sets cobbled together by a stage crew, but rather a cutting edge visual backdrop. The new stage includes an advanced LED lighting system, which can convey any color in very bright fashion, but without the heat. The new stage also came with all the usual "bells and whistles" including a labyrinth of back rooms, costume changing areas, hidden microphones, a sophisticated sound system, a fog machine and other special effects, and of course, new curtains. What new stage doesn't come with new curtains?

This past year, the drama department put on several large productions, including *Anne Frank* and *The Wizard of Oz*. There was also a production of *Shakespeare in the Park*, which was entirely student-run, and took place outside the Youth Center. In addition, the drama club produced *Occupation Murder*, which was a classic dinner theatre experience, complete with audience participation. The drama club also hosts an annual haunted house during the Halloween season. The club produces a frightening and fun haunted house, and in doing so, raises money for the Lotus House, which is an organization dedicated to assisting homeless women and children right here in Miami. Quite a good cause, organized by La Salle alumnus Bella del Oca, a veteran of La Salle theatre who currently volunteers her time for the Lotus House. Don Bosco would be very proud of the folks in the drama department at ILS.





*ILS students performing in The Diary of Anne Frank*





# The Health Sciences

## IMMACULATA-LA SALLE

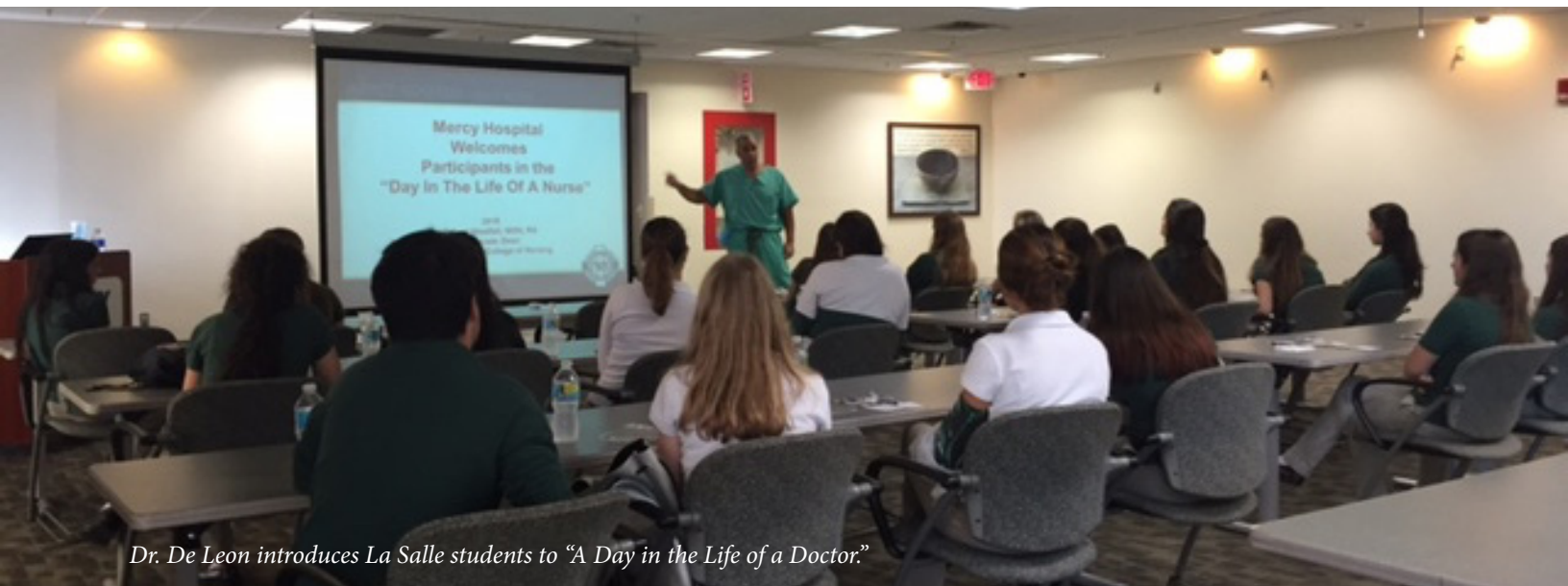
In response to both the global and local demand for skilled healthcare workers, La Salle just completed year 1 of their comprehensive Health Sciences Concentration program with magnificent results. Students interested in the medical or healthcare fields enrolled in classes ranging from First Aid and CPR to such advanced courses such as Anatomy and Physiology.

In addition to learning in the traditional classroom environment, all students completed mandatory rotations at Mercy Hospital in a variety of roles in different departments. Freshmen began with assisting in different administrative roles such as medical records and risk management. Sophomores got their hands dirty in wound care, and occupational and physical therapy. Juniors learned more advanced skills including radiology and pathology, while seniors gained valuable experience working in the emergency room, the maternity ward and even the behavioral health department.

Clearly, these are not candy striper duties the students are charged to fulfill.

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 included accumulating 40 hours of volunteer time at Mercy Hospital, all of which was in addition to their mandatory rotations at the hospital.

Much credit goes to Kimberly Shaw, Science Department Chairperson, as well as Dr. De Leon, head of the Mercy Hospital OBGYN Department (and proud La Salle father) for instituting the partnership with Mercy Hospital. Great to see our students benefitting from the most in-demand curriculum and real-world experience, while at the same time learning the value of volunteering at a wonderful Catholic hospital.

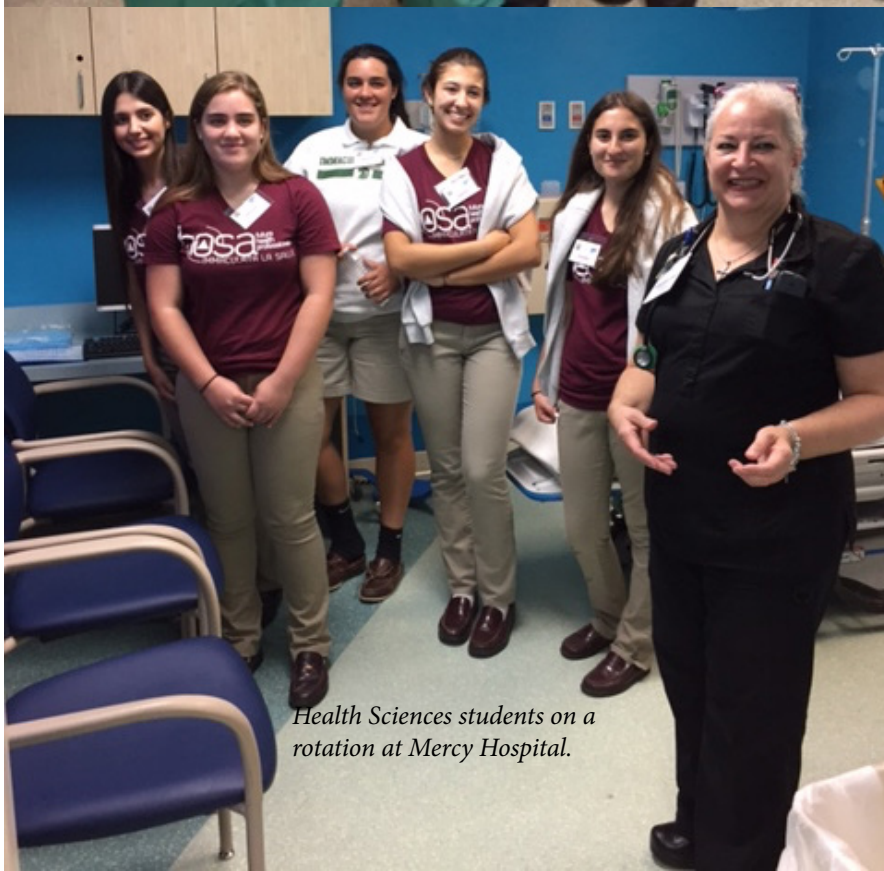


*Dr. De Leon introduces La Salle students to "A Day in the Life of a Doctor."*





*Health Sciences students looking fashionable in their new scrubs.*



*Health Sciences students on a rotation at Mercy Hospital.*



*La Salle students in the Health Sciences program preparing for.....not sure what they are preparing for!*



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



*Dr. Frank Maderal, class of '76, Board Certified Difference-Maker*

## Dr. Frank Maderal

Legacy is proud to feature 3 alumni, all named Dr. Maderal. The oldest is Dr. Frank Maderal, who graduated in 1976. Dr. Frank was a 4-year varsity letterman in both football and track. He was also a member of the National Honor Society and counted the money as the student council treasurer. Dr. Maderal was admitted to the prestigious ILS Alumni Hall of Fame, and always makes it a point to attend the annual Alumni Pig Roast at ILS Homecoming.

Dr. Maderal always knew he wanted to be a doctor. His grandfather was a doctor and his grandmother a dentist, so it's safe to say that science runs in the family. Dr. Frank obtained his medical degree from The University of Domenica, and then completed his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at Charity Hospital and at Louisiana State University Medical Center, both in New Orleans.

Dr. Maderal is Board Certified in Gastroenterology and has been in private practice in South Florida since 1986. He has served as Chief of Medical Staff at Hialeah Hospital and has sat on the Board of Trustees for several other hospitals. Dr. Maderal has been

recognized by his peers as a leader in his field, having served as the President of the Dade County Medical Association and on the Board of Governors of the Florida Medical Association. He is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at Florida International University – Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine.

Dr. Frank has never forgotten from where he came. He still recalls his time at La Salle as a very positive experience. He appreciates being part of “a great class, such a tight knit community, with so many great friends.” We asked Dr. Maderal what he is most proud of, considering his distinguished career. Forever the humble man, with so many honors and accolades to his name, Dr. Maderal responded that he is proud to have made a difference in someone's life. Well said, Dr. Maderal. We are certainly proud to call you an Immaculata-La Salle alumnus.



*Dr. Martha Maderal, class of '79, Founder of Palmetto Smile Center*

## Dr. Martha Maderal

Dr. Martha graduated from La Salle in 1979, then attended the University of Florida where she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree as well as her Doctorate. As if that was not enough, Dr. Maderal also earned an MBA from the University of Miami.



Evidently, members of the Maderal family are big proponents of education. Dr. Martha Maderal says she was greatly influenced by her grandmother, who was also a dentist. Abuela inspired Martha from an early age to pursue a valuable education, and clearly she was paying attention.

Dr. Maderal opened her very own dental office in Miami Lakes back in 1985. Her areas of specialization include general dentistry, orthodontics, cosmetic dentistry, and sedation dentistry. Dr. Martha is committed to excellence by utilizing the latest techniques and by investing countless hours each year to continuing her own education. Remember she learned that from her grandmother!

Dr. Martha has many wonderful memories of her time at La Salle. She fondly recalls her teachers and coaches, particularly her Spanish teacher Mrs. Torres and of course old Coach Grosso. Dr. Martha called Immaculata-La Salle “an amazing environment” in which one can matriculate.

We asked Dr. Martha Maderal if she could offer any advice to any young ILS students who were interested in pursuing a career as a dentist. She repeated some of the same great advice that her grandmother gave her many years ago: work hard, expose yourself to many areas of study, then follow your passion. Looks like Abuela’s advice worked out very well for Dr. Maderal. As Dr. Martha has said, “A beautiful smile can make a lasting impression.” Knowing that she cares so much about her patients and her practice makes us, here at ILS, smile ear-to-ear.

## Dr. Ana Maderal-Cozad

The list of impressive Dr. Maderal’s continues with Dr. Ana Maderal-Cozad, class of 1979, who also knew from an early age that she would be a dentist. She was greatly influenced by her grandparents, and always held a curiosity and a passion for science. Here at Immaculata-La Salle, we would like to believe perhaps some of her teachers helped to cultivate that love for science. Like her siblings, Dr. Ana was quite the well-rounded student, having run on



*Dr. Ana Maderal-Cozad, class of '79, Founder of Allure Smile Center*

the track team and also been on the cheerleading squad.

Since graduating from ILS, Dr. Ana continued her education at University of Florida, and earned her D.D.S at U.C.E. Coming from the Maderal family, we know that education and training are important. Not to be outdone by her siblings, Dr. Ana earned a Master’s Degree from the International Congress Of Oral Implantology. She completed her General Practice Residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center, and founded the Allure Smile Center, where she has been practicing for over 20 years.

Dr. Maderal Cozad is an active member of organized dentistry, including the A.D.A., F.D.A., and S.F.D.D. She is highly trained and certified in many advanced fields including Dermal Fillers, Invisalign, and an orthodontics member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. Clearly, Dr. Ana has quite the work ethic, which should come as no surprise to anyone, including her grandmother. After all, Dr. Ana recalls being employed as an assistant by her grandmother while she was a student here at ILS. Highly educated, compassionate, clearly hard-working, Abuela would be proud of all the Dr. Maderal’s. We at Immaculata-La Salle sure are.

Legacy would like to thank Dr. Frank Maderal, Dr. Martha Maderal, and Dr. Ana Maderal-Cozad for participating in our magazine.





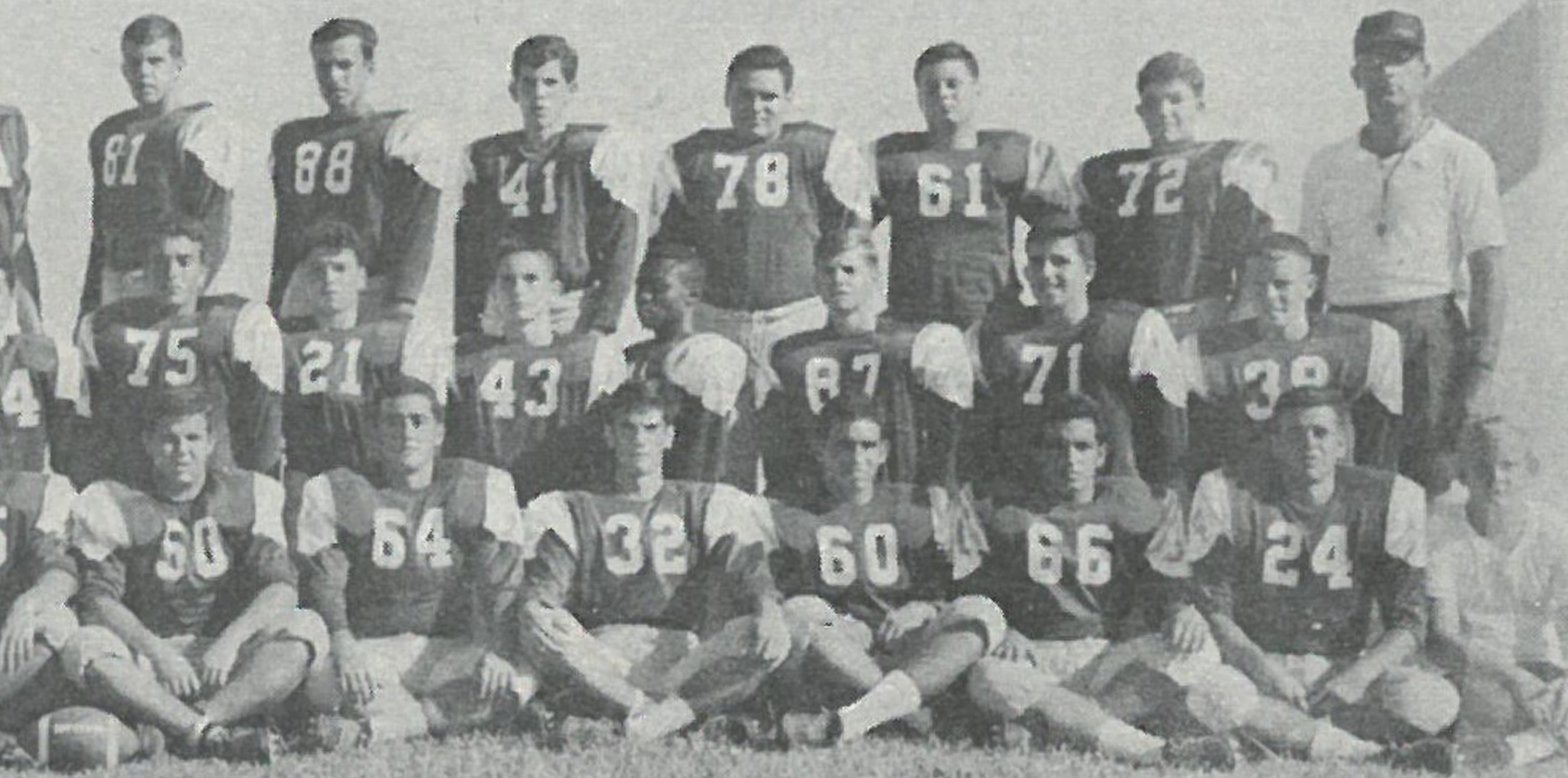
# THE 1964-65 LA SALLE

COURTESY OF HARLEY MILLER, SPORTS EDITOR, LA SALLE NEWSPAPER.



# Harley Miller's ILS Legacy

Class of 1965



## FOOTBALL TEAM



# Harley Miller's ILS Legacy

## Class of 1965

Harley Miller had quite the impressive career at Immaculata-La Salle High School. In addition to playing varsity football, tennis, track and field, and freshman basketball, Harley was also the sports editor of the newspaper and senior editor of the yearbook. But it wasn't all just fun and games for Harley. During his junior and senior summers, he worked construction jobs in order to stay in shape for football.

As it turns out, those construction jobs were a glimpse into the future for Harley. After graduating from La Salle, he went on to graduate from the M.E. Rinker School of Construction Management with a degree in Building Construction from the University of Florida and became a Florida certified General Contractor. Harley co-founded Miller Construction Company with his brother Tom in 1973 and has enjoyed tremendous success. Harley's philosophy was to always make sure that his clients were delighted with his work. It certainly seems like that philosophy has served Miller Construction very well.

Harley Miller has been recognized in countless ways by his peers as a leader and role model in his field. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Advisory Council for the M.E. Rinker, Sr., School of Building Construction at the University of Florida, is an Advisory Board member and former President of the South Florida Chapter of NAIOP Commercial Real Estate Development Association, as well as a past President and Director for the Construction Association of South Florida (CASF). In addition, Mr. Miller was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of the M.E. Rinker School of Building Construction in 2002 when he

received the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame Award. Mr. Miller has always believed in giving back to his community. He has distinguished himself by participating in many charitable activities including two golf tournaments that he founded which benefit a number of South Florida charities. He is a board member and former President of The Lighthouse of Broward County and serves as a board member for Junior Achievement of Broward County. He also supports the United Way, Children's Aid Club, Children's Harbor, and Habitat for Humanity.

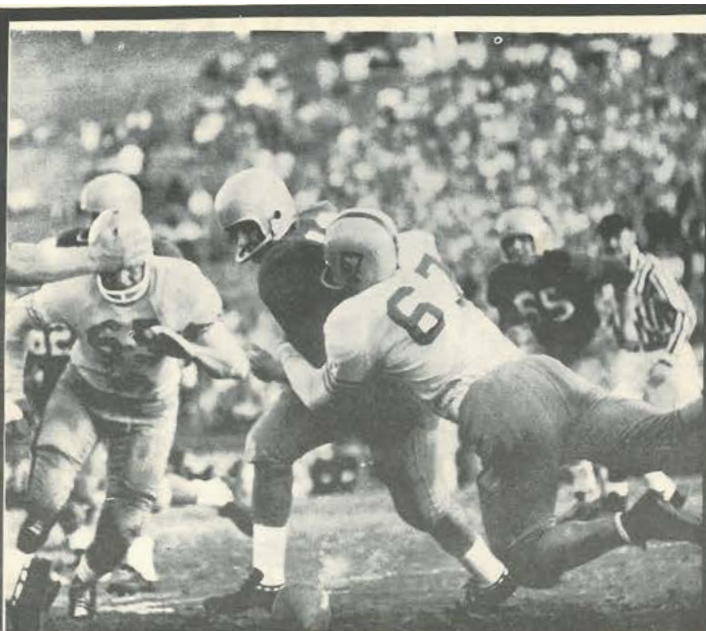
As busy as he is, Harley was happy to take the time to indulge us with some tales of his youth here at Immaculata-La Salle. He certainly has many memories from the gridiron, playing under Coach Van Parsons (when he was a rookie coach) and Alan Minter, coach and good friend. Harley still remembers at the end of each football season, the senior players would play the coaching staff. It was supposed to be "touch football" but as it turned out, the participants seemed to forget that rule. You can bet there were some bumps and bruises after those games. Harley also fondly recalls Brother Bernardo, Brother Ronin, and Brother Mark from the Christian Brothers administration here at ILS, as well as learning Latin, although perhaps not so fondly.

With his dedication to running a respectable company, his tireless charitable endeavors, and his unselfish belief in serving others, Harley Miller is an example to us all. We are grateful to call him a La Salle alumnus.

*Action shots of La Salle football team, circa 1964, thanks to Harley Miller ('65), La Salle football player.*







### It Pays to Put Your Money on the Team with the Strongest Reserves

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find it pays off in regular dividends—every three months or every 90 days. So, put your money with the FIRST team, America's Oldest Federal... Largest in the South.

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**Coaching staff left to right:  
Don Ploskunak, Gil Verderber & Van Parsons.**



**Cheerleaders left to right: Sandy Russell, Mary F. DeMarco,  
Teddy Astray-Caneda, Sofie Sauri, Carol Desbin & Ida Fumero**







Grace Gunderson made a very long trip every day from the Homestead Airforce Base all the way up to La Salle. She recalls driving an old green Kingwood station wagon and filling it up with a handful of La Salle kids along the way. Four of her five sisters (Ruth, Ernestine, Annie, and Mary Frances) also attended La Salle. Despite the daily 50 mile, round-trip drive, they all think very fondly of their days at La Salle.

Grace's father was a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, and raised his children in quite a structured environment. Grace credits this upbringing for her drive to excel both in the classroom and on the athletic field. Grace played volleyball, basketball, softball, and ran track. She was even a wide receiver on the Powder Puff girls' football team! In 2012, she was inducted into the La Salle Hall of Fame for her accomplishments on the volleyball court. It seems that athleticism runs in the

Gunderson family. Grace's sister, Ernestine, was inducted into the La Salle Hall of Fame in 2014 for her basketball accomplishments, and Grace's daughter, Christina, is a Duke University graduate who played volleyball for the Blue Devils and is now Duke's Director of Volleyball Operations.

Grace's academic accomplishments are no less impressive than her athletic accomplishments. The year she graduated from La Salle, Grace received the Miami Herald Silver Knight Award for Scholar-Athlete of the Year. After graduating from ILS in 1976, Grace attended Auburn University and later graduated from Florida State University with a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Science.



*Photo to the left: Grace Gunderson-Falcone (right), with Joe Ludovici (center) class of '75, and Maggie Santana (left), class of '83 and current teacher at La Salle*

(class of 1976)

# Grace

## Marie Gunderson-Falcone

Grace began her career at the Grant Center Psychiatric Hospital here in Miami, before accepting a nursing position at Duke University Hospital in 1984. Grace continued her education at Duke, earning first a Master's Degree in Nursing and eventually her Doctorate.

During her nearly three-decade tenure at Duke, Grace has had several roles with its world-renowned Department of Psychiatry, and currently directs a specialized program for brain stimulation called electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), utilized for patients with severe psychiatric and coexisting medical disorders. Grace is also a Clinical Associate at the Duke School of Nursing, teaching classes at Duke as well as the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

We asked Grace about her experience at La Salle, and she was kind enough to indulge us. Her favorite class

was Architectural Drawing, taught by Coach Van Parsons. She fondly recalls bringing her mother, who is Azorean (Portuguese), to one of the La Salle dances. Grace's mom felt very much at home at the dance, and loved sitting with all the Cuban mothers. Regarding her time at La Salle, Grace said, "I am very grateful that I was able to experience the overwhelming dedication, spirit, comradery, and lasting friendships that everyone had at La Salle."

In her free time, Grace enjoys studying genealogy, and has found her family history so compelling that she has traveled to the Azores, a series of islands off the coast of Portugal where her mother is from, seeking long lost relatives. From Homestead to Duke University, and all the way to the Azores Islands, Grace will always find family right here at Immaculata-La Salle High School.





**Pedro Martin Class of 1967**

**Chairman & CEO of the Terra Group**

**Voted 2006's Developer of The Year by the American Institute of Architects**



Legacy is honored to spotlight Mr. Pedro Martin, Chairman and CEO of Terra Group, which is located just a couple miles down Bayshore Drive. One thing is for sure: Mr. Martin knows Miami real estate. It's no wonder that his offices are just down the street from his alma mater, Immaculata-La Salle High School.

Mr. Martin appreciates the value of education very much. After graduating from La Salle, he went on to earn an engineering degree from the University of Florida in 1971. Then he went on to earn his MBA from Rollins College in 1976. While at Rollins, Mr. Martin had a professor who was also an attorney. This professor must have had some influence on young Pedro, because after earning his MBA, he went on to law school at the University of Florida, where he graduated with a law degree in 1978. For those of you keeping count, that's three degrees (Engineering, MBA, and Law) in eleven years!

Mr. Martin practiced real estate law as a partner at Greenberg Traurig for 25 years, representing developers and financial institutions. Eventually, Pedro wanted to get back into the business side of real estate and founded the Terra Group in 2001. Soon after, he began developing commercial and residential buildings all over Miami, including Coconut Grove, Miami Beach, Doral, and Sunny Isles. Ever driven past the "Grove at Grand Bay" or the "Park Grove" in Coconut Grove? Or seen the beauty of the "Glass" building in Miami Beach? These now-famous properties are all the work of our own Pedro Martin.

We are very proud to point out that Mr. Martin is quite the philanthropist in our community. He contributes

to the community through service, volunteering, board memberships, fundraisers, sponsorships and donations. He and his company support literally dozens of charities and civic organizations. Mr. Martin contributes to the arts and cultural organizations, including the Adrienne Arsht Performing Arts Center, the Gusman Center for Performing Arts, and the Concert Association of South Florida. The Terra Group also supports museums including the Freedom Tower Museum, Miami Children's Museum, and even Vizcaya right next door. Other recipients of Mr. Martin's generosity include a considerable list of schools, including the University of Miami School of Architecture, and of course Immaculata-La Salle High School. There is a very long list of people and organizations who are extremely grateful for the generosity of Mr. Martin and the Terra Group.

We asked Mr. Martin about his time here at La Salle and he immediately recalled playing basketball with his friends and teammates. They won their division championship during his junior year, back in 1966. Pedro recalls many of his teachers and coaches, especially Brother Andres and Coach Alan Minter, always supporting him in his endeavors. When asked about any advice he could offer current La Salle students, Pedro was quite direct. "Prepare yourself!" he said. As mentioned earlier, Mr. Martin believes in worthwhile education, in choosing an appropriate path for yourself, and then getting the required education to become successful. Coming from a man with an Engineering Degree, an MBA, and a Law Degree, would you really argue with him?







# Rodney Barreto Class of 1976 Miami's Finest Ambassador

Legacy is honored to spotlight Rodney Barreto, Immaculata-La Salle's class of 1976. Mr. Barreto is quite the busy man, having served in countless capacities in business, politics, philanthropic projects, and outreach work in the Miami community. Perhaps he is best known as the man to bring the Super Bowl back to Miami. If nothing else, that accomplishment surely makes him a hero in quite a few circles.

Mr. Barreto refers to himself as a "serial entrepreneur," meaning he has had his hand in countless business endeavors. He is currently President and CEO of The Barreto Group, a diversified consulting company specializing public affairs, real estate, and healthcare data management. Mr. Barreto is also the founder of Floridian Partners, LLC, a consulting firm recognized by policy makers as one of the top public affairs firms in the state of Florida. Rodney was also a founding partner in Healthcare Data Solutions, a full service electronic medical records company which has earned high praise in its field. Coming from humble beginnings as a Miami city police officer, Mr. Barreto has certainly come a long way in the business world.

As successful as his business career has been, Rodney's efforts in the public sector may even be more impressive. He served ten years on the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, having been personally appointed by Governor Jeb Bush and re-appointed to a second term by Governor Charlie Crist, a testament to his reputation as a public servant. Being held in such high regard led to Mr. Barreto serving in many other capacities as well. He has twice chaired the Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors here in Miami. He was Chairman of the 1999 Breeder's Cup Championship, Chairman of the 1999 Sister Cities International Convention, and Co-Chairman of the City of Miami Centennial Celebration in 1996. Rodney was also instrumental in bringing the Ultra Music Festival

to Miami, and he created the Big Orange New Year's Eve Celebration, a tradition that continues to this day.

Perhaps most notably, Rodney has been Chairman of the South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee an astounding three times, an accomplishment that no one else in the country can claim. During his tenure, he has raised in excess of \$40,000,000 to bring the Super Bowl back to Miami, ensuring that Miami shines in the spotlight as an international destination for business and tourism.

Mr. Barreto has always found time to volunteer and give back to his community. Among other projects, he has served on the boards of The Baptist Hospital Foundation, Goodwill Industries of South Florida, The Bonefish and Tarpon Trust, and The Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation. He has received dozens of awards and accolades for his continuing contributions to the city of Miami, including being presented the Key to the County by Mayor Stephen Clark and being presented the Key to the City of Miami by Mayor Manny Diaz.

Long before being presented with the keys to the city, Rodney was the Captain of the ILS football team. Always able to make time for his Alma Mater, he was kind enough to offer some words of wisdom for our students. "Pursue your passion, and never take 'no' for an answer. Work hard, and trust the people that support you, and good things will come." Always the realist, he added, "Prepare for rejection. Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and try again. Nothing comes on a silver platter."

Being the only man to ever chair 3 different Super Bowl Committee's, he should know. Congratulations to Mr. Barreto, Miami's finest ambassador, and proud Immaculata-La Salle alum.





# Ervin Gonzalez class of 1978

Before he became a world famous trial lawyer, Ervin Gonzalez was the captain of the La Salle baseball team. He was a four-year starter on the varsity squad, playing shortstop (the most difficult position to play) and the hot corner (third base). But Ervin was no one-dimensional jock; he was a member of student government, the math club, and the National Honor Society.

After graduating from La Salle, young Ervin went on to St. Thomas University's Biscayne College, where he graduated *summa cum laude* (for those who don't speak Latin, this is an academic distinction meaning "with highest honors"). In other words, Ervin was a magnificent student. He then went on to study law at the University of Miami, graduating, of course, *cum laude*.

Ervin A. Gonzalez is board certified as a specialist in civil trial and business litigation law by The Florida Bar and The National Board of Trial Advocacy. He is a partner at Colson Hicks Eidson in Coral Gables, Florida. Ervin is a former Governor of The Florida Bar, Past President of the Dade County Bar Association, Past President of the Dade County Trial Lawyers

Association and a former Director of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers. He has been appointed by a Federal Judge several times to serve on the Steering Committee for major lawsuits including the BP Oil Spill Litigation.

In 2008, Ervin was featured on the cover of Florida Super Lawyers. In 2009 and 2010, he was named one of the Top 10 Lawyers in the State of Florida. Additionally, he was named one of the "Top 11 Lawyers in the Nation for 2005" by Lawyer Weekly USA and received the "Most Effective Lawyer Award" for Civil Litigation from The Daily Business Review in 2005 and 2006. He was recently named one of the "Top 500 Litigators in the Nation" by Law Dragon. Ervin has also been rated as one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in the Nation by Hispanic Business Magazine. We really don't have enough space to print all of Mr. Gonzalez' accomplishments, honors, and awards, but suffice it to say if you need a good lawyer, you should really call him.

We asked Ervin about his time here at La Salle, and he was kind enough to share some memories. Of course he remembers the tradition of hanging toilet paper all over the campus for the senior prank. Sister Red Worley threatened to have the seniors arrested if they went through with it. It's really a good thing Sister Red did not follow through with her threat, because it's hard to be a trial lawyer with a criminal record. Ervin also fondly recalls Coach Grosso who had a big influence on his life, teaching him "how to win, how to lose, how to respect others, and how to respect myself." Ervin also recalls Mr. and Mrs. Maderos, Mr. Hackett, his biology teacher, and of course Van Parsons, the baseball coach, football coach, and Athletic Director. When asked about any advice he may have for current La Salle students, he suggested they enjoy their time at La Salle to the fullest. He mentioned that during high school, you're young enough to enjoy life but old enough to develop yourself academically while building a foundation for life's challenges.

Mr. Gonzalez believes that Immaculata-La Salle is a great place to build that foundation. "To this day," he said, "I still bleed green and gold." We do too, Ervin, and we are proud to call you our alumnus.

*Photo: Ervin Gonzalez, class of '78, trial lawyer and one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics in the Nation" by Hispanic Business Magazine*



# Jason Quiroga, class of '14, Future NASA Engineer



*Jason Quiroga, class of '14, with Eduardo Padron, the President of The Honors College at Miami Dade College, taken at last year's freshmen induction ceremony, where Jason was asked to speak.*

Jason Quiroga always knew he wanted to be an engineer for NASA. In fact, he told his teacher as much on the first day of his freshman year at ILS. Fast forward about 6 years, and he is indeed well on his way. After 2 years in the Miami-Dade Honors Program, Jason is transferring to the University of Central Florida in Orlando due to its affiliation with NASA. Jason has already worked closely with engineers from NASA, who happen to be professors at U.C.F. Last year, Jason completed a rigorous NASA program called the NASA Aerospace Scholars project at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama. He worked closely with engineers on a project called mission RESOLVE, an exploratory project to drill for water on the moon. Upon his completion of the program, Jason addressed the Miami Dade College Board of Trustees and the Miami Dade College Foundation Board of Directors detailing his experiences at NASA.

Jason was invited back to NASA in the spring to see the progress of their work. He shadowed NASA RESOLVE mission engineers and also met with the Project Lead Engineers from several departments in order to secure his next internship with NASA. Most recently, Jason's work at NASA was featured in a slide presentation during the Miami-Dade Honors Class of



*Jason Quiroga, NASA intern, taken at Kennedy Space Station*

2016 Hooding Ceremony, in which Secretary of State John Kerry gave the keynote address.

Jason credits many of his teachers at Immaculata-La Salle with cultivating in him a desire to discover and pursue his highest goals. He says that the education he received at ILS prepared him for the rigorous academic curriculum he will be facing as an engineer and intern at NASA. La Salle is the only Catholic school, in a network of over 30,000 Catholic schools, to earn accreditation for their STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) program. Jason is very grateful to have graduated from Immaculata-La Salle High School.

We are grateful for graduates like Jason Quiroga, who are representing Immaculata-La Salle so well in the scientific community.





Valedictorian:  
**Arianis Blanco**



Salutatorian:  
**Andrea Mercenari**

***Congratulations!***

To the Top Two ILS Royals of 2016  
May the Lord continue to guide  
your education & life's journey.

Great job to Immaculata-La Salle's class of 2016!  
Earning **\$16,585,683** in scholarship awards  
over the next four years!

**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!**





# ALUMNI 2016 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. \$16,585,683 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 2016-2017)

Academy of Art University  
Adelphi University  
The University of Alabama  
American University  
The American University of Paris  
Ancilla College  
The University of Arizona  
Auburn University  
Ave Maria University  
Barry University  
Beacon College  
Becker College  
Belmont Abbey College  
Belmont University  
Benedictine University  
Bentley University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
University of California Davis  
University of California Los Angeles  
University of California Santa Cruz  
Case Western Reserve University  
The Catholic University of America  
University of Central Florida  
Chapman University  
College of Charleston  
Chicago State University  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
Colorado State University  
Columbia College Chicago  
Concordia University - Ann Arbor  
University of Connecticut  
Cornell College  
Curry College  
University of Dallas  
University of Dayton  
University of Denver  
DePaul University  
Dowling College  
Drexel University  
Eckerd College  
Elon University  
Emerson College  
Emmanuel College  
Emory University  
Endicott College  
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, Los Angeles  
Flagler College  
Florida A&M University  
Florida Atlantic University  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Florida International University  
Florida Polytechnic University  
Florida Southern College  
Florida State University  
University of Florida  
Fordham University  
Franciscan University of Steubenville  
Franklin University Switzerland

The George Washington University  
The University of Georgia  
Guilford College  
Hofstra University  
College of the Holy Cross  
Hult International Business School  
in San Francisco & London  
IE University  
Iona College  
Ithaca College  
Jacksonville University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson & Wales University (Charlotte)  
Johnson & Wales University (North Miami)  
Kiev National Economic University  
Langston University  
Lawrence University  
Lehigh University  
Loomis Chaffee  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University Chicago  
Loyola University Maryland  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Lviv Medical University  
Lynn University  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Marquette University  
Maryland Institute College of Art  
University of Maryland  
Marymount Manhattan College  
MCPS - Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences  
Mercy College  
Merrimack College  
Miami Dade College  
Miami Dade Honors College  
Miami International University of Art & Design  
University of Miami  
Miami-Dade College  
Miami-Dade College - North Campus  
Misericordia University  
Mount Ida College  
New College of Florida  
University of New Haven  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York University  
New York University (Steinhardt School)  
University of North Carolina at Asheville  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of North Florida  
Northeastern University  
Northeastern University  
University of Notre Dame  
Nova Southeastern University  
Oglethorpe University  
University of Oklahoma  
Pace University, New York City  
Pennsylvania State University  
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras

Purdue University  
Rhodes College  
Richmond The American International College  
in London  
Ringling College of Art and Design  
Rollins College  
Saint Joseph's University  
Saint Leo University  
Saint Michael's College  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco  
Santa Clara University  
Santa Monica College  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
University of South Alabama  
University of South Carolina  
University of South Florida  
University of Southern California  
Southern Methodist University  
Southern Methodist University  
Spring Hill College  
St. John's University  
St. Thomas University  
Stetson University  
Stonehill College  
Stony Brook University  
Syracuse University  
Tallahassee Community College  
The University of Tampa  
Temple University  
Texas Christian University  
The New School - (Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts)  
The New School - (Parsons School of Design)  
The Ohio State University  
Trinity College of Florida  
University of Tulsa  
University of Mount Olive  
University of Utah  
Valencia College  
Vanderbilt University  
University of Vermont  
Villanova University  
University of the Virgin Islands  
University of Virginia  
Wagner College  
Wake Forest University  
Walsh University  
Warren Wilson College  
Washington College  
Washington State University  
University of West Florida  
Wheaton College MA  
Wheelock College  
College of William and Mary  
Winthrop University  
University of Wisconsin  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute





*Gaetan graduates (from left): Jason, Amanda, Monica, and Oscar. Future La Salle graduates Giorgio and Alessio.*

# ADOZEN GAETAN'S

Gigi Gaetan is entering her junior year at ILS and will graduate in 2018. Her grandfather, Oscar, graduated in 1965. In the 53 years between those graduations, three generations of Gaetan's will have attended La Salle.

A total of 12 Gaetan's will proudly call themselves ILS graduates, including Oscar Sr. ('65), George ('75), Oscar Jr. ('90), his wife Annette ('90), Jason ('93), his wife Ingrid ('90), Amanda ('05), Monica ('97), Galiana ('14), Oscar III ('17), Mia ('17), and Gigi ('18). That may be some kind of record. And there are more on the way!





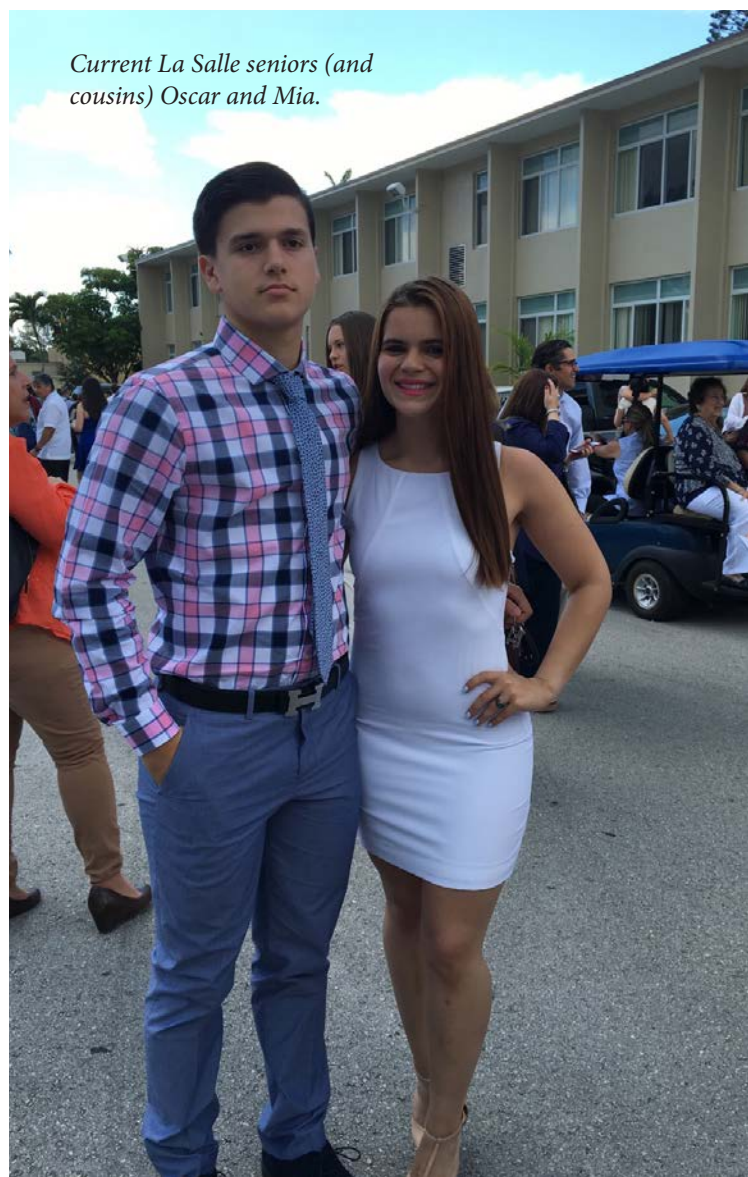
*Gigi, the La Salle baby of the family, at least for now.*



*Oscar Gaetan, star shooting guard for the ILS basketball team.*



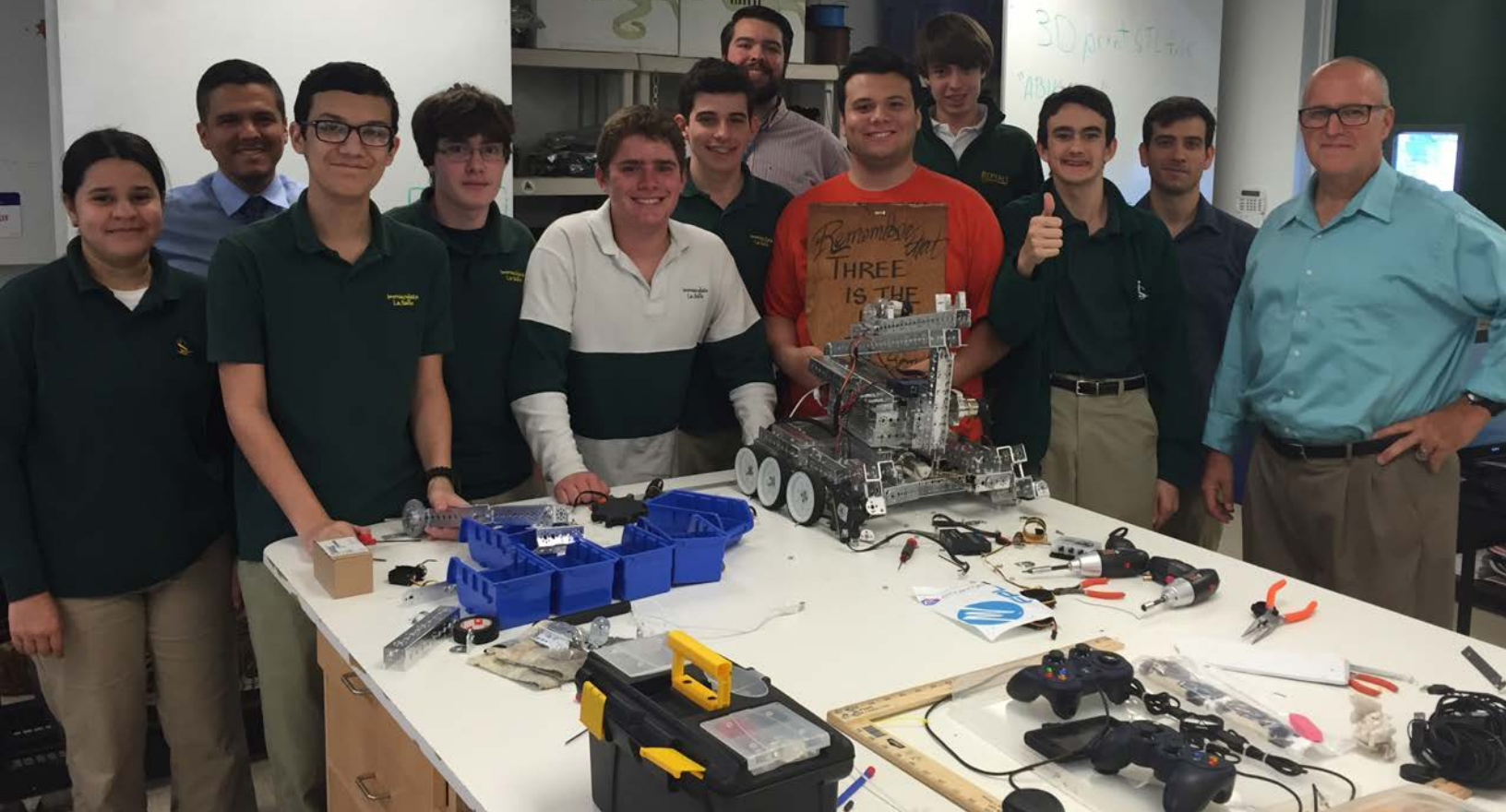
*The patriarch: Oscar Gaetan (left) class of 1965 with his wife Amelia*



*Current La Salle seniors (and cousins) Oscar and Mia.*

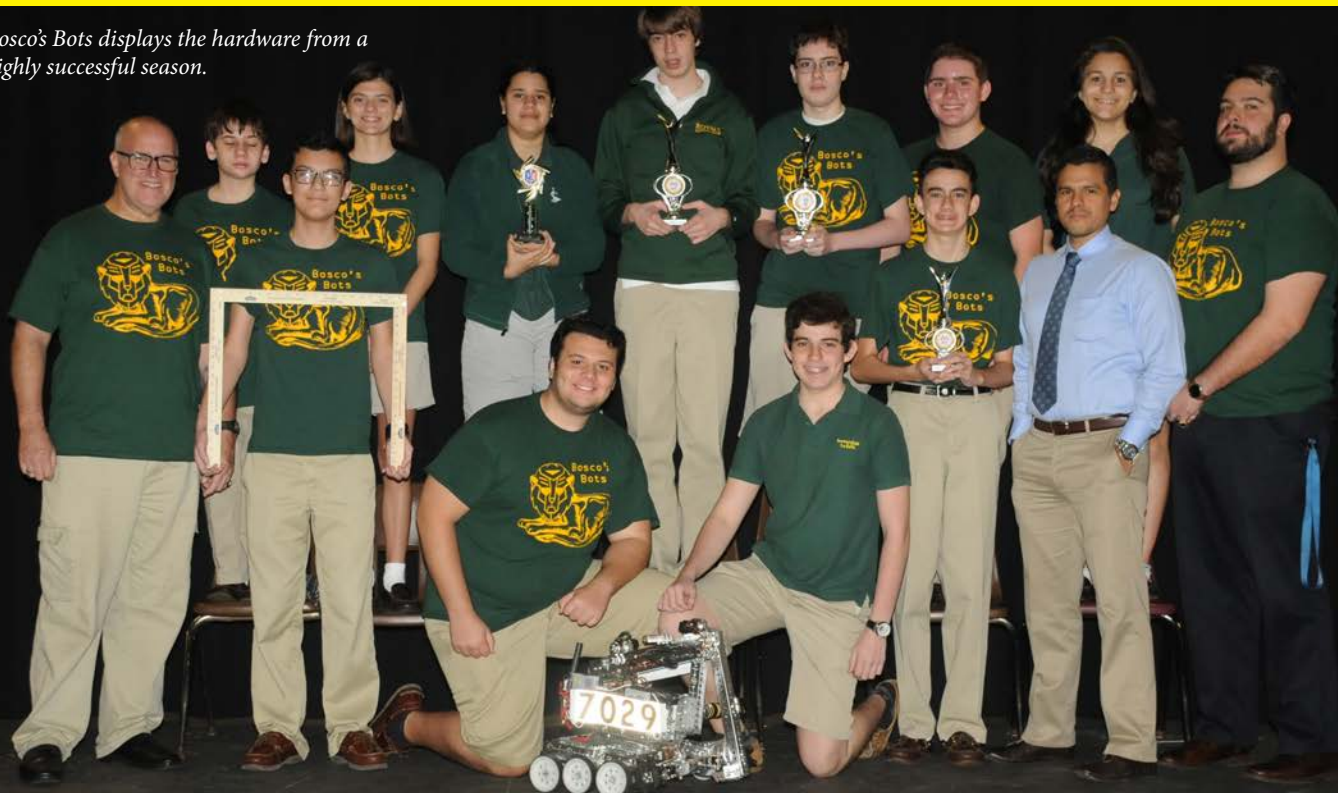


2015-16 Bosco's Bots team  
in the La Salle STEAM lab.



# BOSCO'S BOTS

Bosco's Bots displays the hardware from a  
highly successful season.





# Robotics Team Highlights La Salle's STEAM Initiative

The robotics team at La Salle, better known as Bosco's Bots, has been an award-winning robotics team for several years now, having competed at a variety of tournaments all over South Florida. This year, Bosco's Bots finished in first place at the South Florida FTC Qualifying Tournament at St. Thomas Aquinas High School, and earned second team finalist honors at several other tournaments.

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. True to form, Bosco's Bots traveled to St. Michael the Archangel, a Catholic K-8 feeder school for Immaculata-La Salle here in Miami. Several members of the La Salle robotics team, along with Scott Givonetti, the moderator of Bosco's Bots, brought a variety of robots to St. Michael's for the day, where the entire student body was treated to demonstrations of small robots, big robots, and even a brand new drone, all created in La Salle's STEAM lab.

High praise goes to Pablo Garces (robot programmer) and Nick Suarez (robot driver), the two "grandfathers" of Bosco's Bots, as well as Dan Lopez, programming teacher, and the new team coach, Peter Perez, who has been a team mentor for 3 years. Special thanks to Scott Givonetti for moderating the team since its inception.

There is a global need for STEM (Science, technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education at this

point in our history, and Immaculata-La Salle is there to meet that need. In fact, La Salle was the very first Catholic school (in a network of over 30,000 Catholic schools) to earn accreditation for their STEM program. In addition, La Salle has taken the initiative and added certain Art courses into the program, such as 3D Animation and Digital Design, so that the new acronym is actually "STEAM."



*Student driving one of the many robots created in La Salle's STEAM lab.*

Don Bosco would be proud of the fact that La Salle has taken the initiative as a leader in such exciting fields as robotics. However he would be thrilled to know that while doing so, we have not forgotten our Catholic identity.



# HALL OF FAME

## 2016 Inductee Bios

### Brother Carl Shonk Distinguished Faculty Award

Carmen Hoyos

### Order of the Royal Palm Award

The Sisters of Saint Joseph

### Don Bosco Outstanding Alumni Award

Fernando Casamayor, Class of 1987

Nancy Foye-Cox, Class of 1964

Mike Parra, Class of 1986

Andres Pumariega, Class of 1971

Gail Wright-Wilder, Class of 1966

### Fernando Casamayor

Fernando Casamayor possesses a Bachelor's of Professional Studies Degree from Barry University and joined the City of Miami's administrative team in April, 2014. As Assistant City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, he is responsible for the oversight of Finance, Grants Administration, Information Technology, the Office of Management and Budget, Procurement, Risk Management and Strategic Planning. He is also the City liaison with the Firefighters' and Police Retirement Trust, the General Employees' and Sanitation Employees' Retirement Trust and the Liberty City Trust. During his tenure, the City of Miami has achieved a Fiscal Year 14-15 year-end fund balance of over \$147 million, received multiple bond rating upgrades, and has been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association for excellence in financial reporting and budgeting. The City has improved transparency and increased community involvement in strategic planning as well as improved the procurement process and implement-



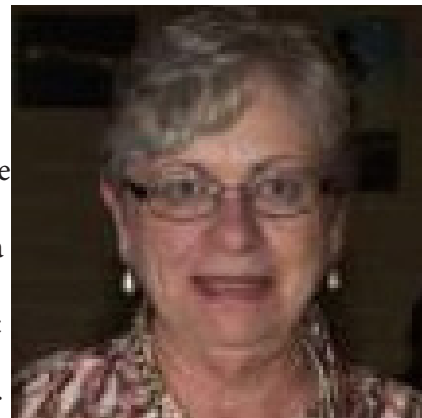
ed a safety and employee wellness program.

Prior to joining the City of Miami, he proudly served as the Miami-Dade County Tax Collector since 2007. Among his various assignments during his 26 year career with Miami-Dade County, Fernando served as an Assistant Tax Collector and Special Projects Administrator with the Tax Collector's Office as well as a Budget Analyst with the Office of Strategic Business Management. Along with his financial and public sector management experience, Fernando is well adept in the field of customer service having served the citizens of Miami-Dade County for more than 11 years with the Clerk of Courts as well as the Miami-Dade Transit Agency.

Fernando grew up in the City of Miami, having attended Henry M. Flagler Elementary, Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School and La Salle High School. He and his lovely wife Marcia are the proud parents of their son Daniel and are active in their parish and the community.

### Gail Wright-Wilder

Gail Wright-Wilder is a seasoned non-profit executive who has served the Miami-Dade County community since 1974. Following a 3-year stint as an English teacher in Catholic schools, she embarked on a fundraising career working for four local hospitals, social service agencies, and the arts. In 1995, she was recruited by three attorneys to be the administrator of a new legal services organization. The agency's main funder insisted that the attorneys find someone with financial and human resources experience to establish solid administrative and financial controls. Having developed management and budgeting skills as a department head and senior manager at the hospitals, Gail organized Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (now Americans for Immigrant Justice) so it





# 2016 INDUCTEES

could open its doors in January 1996. In her nearly 18 years as the Director of Administration and Finance, the agency grew to 50+ employees with a \$4.2 million budget. She spearheaded two successful million-dollar, multi-year grant projects involving multiple partners. Her personal “report card” every year has been the clean (unqualified) opinion on the financial audit. Gail’s commitment to serving the least among us has focused on creating strong and sustainable community organizations so that the professionals – attorneys, doctors, nurses, dancers, artists - can build on their special talents advocating for human rights, healing the sick, and bringing joy to the heart through the arts.

## **Mike Parra**

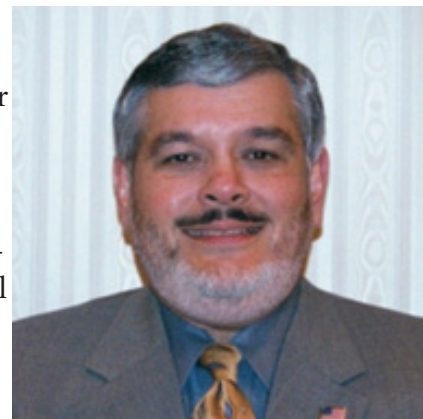
The son of Cuban immigrants, Mike grew up in Miami and played baseball at Immaculata-La Salle. He put himself through college juggling classes and a full time job to build a career in transportation. He worked for 10 years with TNT



Express Worldwide, holding positions as regional operations manager, gateway manager and general manager of Latin America and the Caribbean. Parra started at DHL Express in 1997 as service center manager in South Florida and quickly progressed through various senior management roles, including his appointment in 2009 as General Manager and Senior Vice President responsible for all operations and sales activities in the Western United States and Guam. In 2011, he became responsible for the Americas region network operations. He now serves as CEO for the Americas at DHL Express responsible for the management of DHL Express business activities in 50 countries and territories across the Americas, which includes the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and South America.

## **Andres Pumariega**

Dr. Pumariega has devoted his over 35 year career in psychiatry and child/adolescent psychiatry to children’s systems of care and cultural diversity in mental health. He is currently Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry, Cooper Health



System and Cooper School of Medicine of Rowan University. After graduating from ILS in 1971, he received his BS from the University of Miami in 1973, M.D. from the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1976 (and later inducted into its Alumni Hall of Fame in 1999) and residency and fellowship in general and child psychiatry at Duke University Medical Center (1980). He previously headed two pediatric psychiatry consultation-liaison services (Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine-Texas Children’s Hospital); three directorships of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (University of Texas Medical Branch, University of South Carolina, and East Tennessee State University), and chaired two departments of psychiatry (East Tennessee State University and Reading Hospital and Medical Center, also Professor of Psychiatry at Temple University). He is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA), Distinguished Fellow of the Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP), Fellow of the American College of Psychiatrists, and Life Fellow of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. He has served as Associate Editor of the American Journal of Orthopsychiatry and the Journal of Child and Family Studies, and on the Editorial Board of Community Mental Health Journal, Journal of Child and Family Studies, and Adolescent Psychiatry. He helped draft the CMHS Cultural Competence Standards (1999), the only national cultural competence standards for behavioral health, and is lead author of the AACAP Practice Parameter for Culturally Competent Care (2013),



the only cultural practice parameter in Medicine. He served as President of the American Orthopsychiatric Association (2010-2012) and President of the American Association of Social Psychiatry (2013-2015), now Immediate Past President. He was the founding Chair, Work Group on Systems of Care (1994-2001), Co-Chair of the Committee on Diversity and Culture (2007-2015) in the AACAP; and Chair, Committee on Hispanic Psychiatrists (2006-2009) of the APA. He has over 180 scientific publications, over published 250 abstracts, two edited textbooks, four edited journal special issues, and multiple research and service demonstration grants. Andres has received numerous awards, including the APA's Simon Bolivar Award and Lecture in Hispanic Psychiatry (2004), and the AACAP's Jeanne Spurlock Award and Lecture on Diversity and Culture (2007). He was appointed by Secretary Shalala to the Advisory Committee of the Center for Mental Health Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1998-2001), and by the Obama Administration to serve on the Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (2016-2019). Andres has been happily married to JoAnne Buttacavoli Pumariega, M.A. (ILS Alumni Hall of Fame 2015) for over 40 years, and their daughters are Christina Pumariega M.A., working actress in New York City with multiple performances to her credit, and Nicole Pumariega, M.D., MSBME, resident physician in Cooper Health entering Ophthalmology residency at Drexel University in July 2016. They enjoy travel, cross-cultural discovery, and spending time with their daughters, including attending Christina's performances.

### **Nancy Foye-Cox**

Nancy Rose Foye-Cox is the eldest of four daughters born to the late Edward Daniel Foye, Jr. and Rose Jeannette Ryan Foye, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on August 19, 1946. Nancy graduated from St. Michael the Archangel School before graduating from Immaculata Academy in 1964. She was In National Honor Society, 4-H and Glee Club, and first-page co-editor of the Corona school newspaper.



A 1968 Florida State University alumna, she retired in 2013 with 40+ years in government with counties in Florida and Ohio, the State of New Mexico, and the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. She recruited women as city and county managers at the International City & County Management Association (ICMA) (1977-1979); and was an Equal Opportunity Officer and Diversity Trainer at FIU (1995-1999) and an American Association of University Women (AAUW) National Diversity Resource Team member (1997).

After teaching at Immaculata-LaSalle (1970-1972), her first government job was with Dade County Housing & Urban Development, and her last was Victim Advocate with the Summit County, Ohio Prosecutor's Office. With Dade County (1972-1977 and 1982-1989). Nancy was recognized by the National Association of County Information Officers for managing communications and the airport media center during Saint Pope John Paul II and President Ronald Reagan's Miami Visit (1987); she planned the official Dade County Sesquicentennial celebration (1986) and the opening of the new Miami-Dade Main Library and Cultural Center (1984). She was named a Trailblazer by the Metro-Dade County Women Employees Association (1989).

An American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) National Council member (2012-2015), she was on the PA TIMES editorial board and helped plan the 50th ASPA Annual Conference in Miami (1988). As National Committee for Women in Public Administration Co-chair (1980-1981), she published a commemorative newsletter edition and organized a luncheon to honor ASPA's 'Decade of Women' (1971-1981). A Section for Women in Public Administration charter and Board member, in 2014 Foye-Cox received the Dedicated Service to SWPA Award and convened an ASPA Women Founders Panel for the 75th ASPA Annual Conference. She has written book chapters, and continues to write articles, about the history of women in the profession.

Most noteworthy is her leadership as a national co-founder of National Women's History Week. Nancy was one of 45 women representing 37 national women's organizations participating in the Summer Institute in Women's History for Leaders of National Women's Organizations at Sarah Lawrence College with support from the Women's Action Alliance and the Smithsonian Institution (1979). The historic outcome called for the implementation of National



Women's History Week to focus on the role of women in American history. Nancy and Dr. Bettye Collier-Thomas co-founded the first National Women's History Week in the District of Columbia (1980) and also founded the first Florida celebration in Dade County (1982). National Women's History Month became a reality in 1987.

Retirement has not slowed her down. In 2015, she joined the Board of the National Women's History Project (NWHF), which recognizes and celebrates the diverse and historic accomplishments of women by providing informational services and educational and promotional materials. Previously, she chaired the Broward County, Florida Women's Hall of Fame Selection Committee (1997-2000). Now a Juvenile Court motivational speaker, Foye-Cox is on the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio Council Executive Committee and co-chairs their Commission for Racial Understanding. A Friend of Historic St. John's Episcopal Church-Ohio City, she led the effort for the Ohio Underground Railroad marker installed there (2015).

Nancy's life, career and community outreach has made a positive impact. Whether being a great student and ILHS educator, advocating for individuals and causes, uplifting women and their role in society or shaping this country's history in a positive way, she remains dedicated and devoted to her faith in God and humanity. Nancy's spouse, Raymond W. Cox III, is a Professor of Public Administration at the University of Akron. They have lived in Akron, Ohio since 2000 and will celebrate their 27th wedding anniversary on May 19th. Son, Geoffrey, and daughter-in-law, Devyani, reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

### **Carmen Hoyos**

As a little girl, Carmen played "school" with her older sister. Back then, her sister was the teacher, of course. And Carmen, eager to enjoy her weekends or her summer, easily fell into the role of the "bad" student – escaping the confines of the Florida room that made up their "one-room Miami school-house." Her sister would drag her back and make her write lines on the chalkboard. So Carmen did not go on to study Education, but rather Psychology. Once



graduated, she wondered about a possible job and one came – where she least expected: Corpus Christi Elementary School. She became an elementary school teacher, thinking it was just temporary until she found her "real" job. Then, she fell in love with all those little inner city kids who needed so much more than a teacher – they needed someone who could recognize all that stood between them and their education and that affected them the way it did. Carmen remembers the kids more than her lessons and how she tried to raise them above the poverty, the language barriers, and the alcoholism that was for many their home environment. She felt a calling to return day after day for the sake of those children; to be sure they were safe. She kept returning for more than 7 years. She then realized that all those years of working in education and her interest in psychology had a point of commonality: counseling. She found her job and her authentic self. She entered St. Thomas University and earned a Master's Degree in guidance counseling.

This year marks her 20th year at Immaculata-La Salle High School. Her influence can be felt in the marine science program that began with her desire to teach an elective that spoke to one of her passions. It can be felt in the many international and domestic missions whose footholds are the steps she took to create the incredibly successful Mindo orphanage mission to Ecuador, which ran for over 10 years and still runs today with alumni. These experiences formed her vision when she took on the role of activities director, in which she coordinates and guides students and teachers to create meaningful experiences from their own passions and sense of compassion. As counselor, Carmen has guided and helped the Sophomore classes. It seems a proper fit that she should have the class that traditionally experiences the most growing pains, the one that goes through a time where most become "bad" students for a while. It was also a perfect fit that, for a long time, she was the counselor for the transfer students who needed someone to steer them through a new home safely.

For more than anything, what Carmen has offered ILS is the dedicated concern for people who are in need that propelled her to study psychology in the first place. Her love of people – especially children – and her empathy and care for the difficulty that living sometimes is are what make her the laudable educator we honor today.





**Jr. Varsity \$10,000**

**Name on End Zones**

**Varsity \$25,000**

**Name on 50-Yard Line**

**Captain \$50,000**

**Name on Plaza**

**Assistant Coach \$100,000**

**Names of 4 Interior Rooms**

**Head Coach \$250,000**

**Name of Track and Press Box**

**General Manager \$500,000**

**Names of Buildings**

**CEO \$1,000,000**

**Name of Sports Complex**



# Building on the Legacy

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## Giving Opportunities

For giving opportunities please contact:

Jeff Kruse

[jeff.kruse@ilsroyals.com](mailto:jeff.kruse@ilsroyals.com)

or by calling

305.607.5766





THE LEGACY CONTINUES

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