

The 426

Issue 3 | December 2018

Merry Christmas



TRADITIONS

Gabe Nava '80

"Black Shoes & Big Games...
Always"

TRUE BELIEVERS

School Staff in The 426

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Maricela Kaples '19

Doing great things!

BLACK SHOES AND BIG GAMES, ALWAYS!



Gabriel Nava started at Holy Cross in August of 1976. He was a stocky kid, not very tall, who carried himself with a presence of a kid who far exceeded his stature. As freshman, most followed a path all too familiar; a path chock full of insecurity and a colossal lack of confidence. But not Gabe. This kid seemed to know the direction he was headed and he didn't let the expected insecurities of goofy freshmen get in his way.

These many years later no one is surprised to find a loving husband and father who has helped to raise two amazing Holy Cross kids. Jay is a 2017 graduate who excelled as a scholar, athlete, and musician and who is currently pursuing his musical endeavors at Southwestern University in Georgetown. Maggie, his daughter, is a junior and like her brother is also a stand-out student-athlete who is currently ranked #1 in her class academically and who last spring received All-State honors for softball and track.

There is little doubt that Jay and Maggie are fully aware that their success is absolutely related to the love of their mom and dad, but what they might not know is how their pop was able to influence the growth and knowledge of many of his freshmen classmates at Holy Cross.



Getting back to August of '76, there was a moment, a snapshot, if you will, that left an indelible mark that served to shape those 9th graders who were smart enough to pay attention. Such a moment came to pass as they readied themselves for their first freshman football game. As they sat nervously getting dressed, a teammates came over to comment on the used black football cleats that Gabe wore for practice and for games. Having spent two weeks together it seemed the teammate assumed that they had built enough familiarity that he could come over and let Gabe know that his cleats were a bit old and out of date. He laughingly said that maybe the team could all pitch in and get him a pair of the white Riddell shoes that most were wearing at that time. No one will ever forget Gabe's response: "These are my brother's shoes. He was the best football player to have ever played at Holy Cross."

The total lack of response from anyone at that moment spoke volumes. Nothing but silence. It was pretty evident that even a

bunch of coarse and unsophisticated freshman were able to glean the inherent wisdom that their teammate uttered on that morning.

There is no way Gabe could have known that he would outlive his brother who died in 2002, and that someday those words he spoke would serve as the ultimate epitaph that one Holy Cross football player could utter for another. For many years now that story has been shared with the members of the Holy Cross football teams with the hope that they will begin to understand true brotherhood.

Toward that end, Holy Cross football teams continue to pay homage to the spirit of Eddie Nava, '70 and to his little brother Gabriel Nava, '80 by asking the football players to wear black cleats. The hope is that it serves as a constant reminder of the obligation to find the substance in each other that will make us better football players and, ultimately, better people.



TRUE BELIEVERS!

Holy Cross is blessed to have so many dedicated faculty and staff who believe in the mission of our great school! Below are just a few that have already committed to
The 426 Scholarship Program!

IMELDA TREVINO
CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ
ROSARIO VILLANUEVA
HELEN MORALES
JOSEPH FORMAN
MIKE HARRISON
ANGEL CEDILLO '80
VINCE PADILLA '81
RICHARD VASQUEZ '98

Faculty & Staff Testimonials

I decided to give back to The 426 Scholarship Program because I believe in the mission of Holy Cross and want to help future students have the opportunity to be a part of the Holy Cross Family.

- Christina Rodriguez

I hope my contribution can help a family in need send their child to Holy Cross. As a parent of Jason, a 1995 graduate and grandmother of two current students (Autumn & Heaven), I know the importance of a Holy Cross education.

- Rosario Villanueva

I give to The 426 Scholarship Program to honor the legacy of the Holy Cross Brothers. The brothers who built the traditions that inspired us alumni and continue to inspire the kids who walk our hallways today.

- Richard Vasquez '98

MARICELLA KAPLES CLASS OF 2019

Ms. Maricella Kaples is the #1 ranked student of the graduating class of 2019. She is a two year Dual Credit Student through our partnership with Our Lady of the Lake University and will graduate with 18 college credit hours in May. Along with her demanding course schedule, she is the chief marketing officer of the 3-time state qualifying robotics team, the Vice President of National Honor Society, and is the Testing Team Captain of the 4-year state qualifying academic team -- testing in math and science categories.

Outside of the veins of her studies and leadership roles, Maricella is a sought after tutor and has helped students in multiple grade levels after school and has competed as a member of the varsity basketball team. Recently, she was one of the two Holy Cross recipients of the prestigious Valero Alamo Bowl Scholarship and the LCpl. Mark David Juarez Scholarship.

Her tenacity and love of learning has earned her the deep respect of her peers and teachers and will fuel her continued success as she goes on to study Graphic Arts at either the University of Texas or St. Edward's University.

426: AMBITION



HOLY CROSS OF SAN ANTONIO

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE 426 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

SCHOOL UPDATE

On behalf of the Holy Cross Community we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Below you will find just a few of the Fall 2018 updates:

Academics:

Dual Credit Program at Our Lady of the Lake: Our dual credit students completed a successful fall semester having earned, collectively, 180 college credit hours. Their professors continue to be impressed by the quality of students they receive from Holy Cross. With the academic success they experienced at Our Lady of the Lake, our students are eager to begin their next semester on January 14th.

Blended Learning Program: Our inaugural semester using Apex Learning systems has been very successful. Students and teachers alike have been learning much with the implementation of our Blended Learning Model in their math, science, and social studies classes. We are making preparations to expand this model to more content areas and offer more classes through this model. [Click here to learn more about our Holy Cross Academic Experience.](#)

DASA (Debate, Art, Speech, and Academics) Team: The DASA season started on December 15th at the Judson Speech and Debate Tournament. Competing against 4A through 6A schools, senior Destini Salas placed 1st in Prose Interpretation and 4th in Poetry Interpretation and Freshman Jason Fuller placed 5th in Extemporaneous Speaking -- it was his very first tournament. This is an awesome start to the season and has already inspired other knights to join the team.

Robotics: Our team finished their season with a third consecutive trip to the state Texas BEST Competition. We were the only Catholic School in San Antonio to compete in every category. Go Knights!

Christian Service: For the fall semester, our 283 students have accumulated 5,404 hours of Christian service. Brother Roger Croteau, CSC reminds our students that:

"With the passing of time, you may forget the hours you have volunteered but it is the hope you will remember the smile you brought to a child, the warm thank you which you received from a nursing home resident, the joy on the face of a special need child who hugged you, or the heartfelt acknowledgement you received from a parent for giving extra attention to their child."

Fall Sports:



Cheer: Earned 1st place in the TEXAS NCA Competition and on track to compete in NCA Nationals!



Cross Country: Both Male & Female teams competed at the State Meet.



Volleyball: reached the playoffs for the 5th year in a row and took an early exit during the first round playoff game.



Football: District Champions! Eliminated in the Area playoff game. Victorious over both Catholic School rivals in San Antonio!



OFFICIAL HOLY CROSS OF SAN ANTONIO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

January 15, 2019 General Alumni Meeting - 6:30 pm in the school cafeteria. Elections will be held at the meeting. You must be present to vote!

It's time to get involved with your Alumni Association. We are currently seeking nominations for the Executive Alumni Board. All graduates are welcomed to be active members of the Alumni Association!

President - Vice President - Secretary - Treasurer - Parliamentarian

If you are interested in nominating someone or self nominating for the positions listed above, please email the principal, Dr. Rene Escobedo at rene.escobedo@holycross-sa.org. We will also be accepting nominations the night of the meeting.

Working Committees

We are also looking for graduates to assist in our working committees. This is a great way to give back and make a difference!

Standing Committees

Alumni Softball Committee & Alumni Golf Committee

We are looking for Alumni to help with the Annual Softball Tournament as well as the Annual Golf Tournament. If you want to be a part of either of these committees please let us know!

New Committees

The 426 Committee is a new committee that will be designed to recognize the members of The 426 Scholarship Program. This group will create a sense of camaraderie and enthusiasm that should foster continued growth of this much needed Scholarship Program.

The Alumni Outreach Committee's primary focus is to locate ALL of our alumni. Each graduating class should be able to reach everyone of their classmates. Holy Cross of San Antonio will be much stronger if all of our Knights are part of it!



Christmas blessings to all!



Merry Christmas
From
HOLY CROSS OF SAN ANTONIO

Wishing you a Blessed New Year!

Photo taken at our Annual Posadas 2017

**THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO HELP! CLICK HERE TO REFER
SOMEONE TO THE 426 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TODAY!**

