

# Pope John Paul boys enjoy school's best soccer season

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*The Pope John Paul II elementary school boys' soccer team recently concluded a season that featured five tournament titles and a 29-game unbeaten streak. Going into this season, the school had never even reached a tournament final. - Photo submitted*

The Pope John Paul II elementary school boys' soccer program opened the 2013 season having never reached a tournament final.

The team recently finished a campaign that included championships in five of six tournaments entered as well as a 29-game unbeaten streak.

Significant tournament victories included titles at invitationals hosted by St. Andrew and St. Marguerite, and the Loyola Cup. Ironically, the one tournament Pope John Paul failed to win this season was the one it hosted May 28, when a last-minute goal resulted in a semifinal loss to St. Andrew.

Daniel Bustamante, Christian Lopac, Anthony Taylor and Rafael Valentini tallied in the final of the St. Andrew tournament, when Pope John Paul blanked St. Marguerite 4-0.

At the St. Marguerite tournament, Lopac and Valentini scored goals in the last two minutes of the final against St. Andrew, forcing a shootout that Pope John Paul won with a goal by Taylor.

Gianfranco Mirto, Michaelangelo Mirto and Bustamante scored goals to give Pope John Paul a 3-0 win over St. Bernadette in the Loyola Cup final.

Nicolas Noblecilla and Lopac had markers in Pope John Paul's semifinal loss to St. Andrew at the Pope John Paul tourney.

Also contributing to the team's success this season were Daniel Montus, Josh Spano, Ethan Ioanidis, Matthew Barker, Nathan Chang, Carson Kennard, Matthew Lopez, Taylor Marcos, Anthony Marceau, Jacob Resendes, Philip Travado and Jack Turchet.

The club was coached by Matthew Aslett and Nic Bruno, and Anthony Ceelen was the manager.

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