



# ROUNDTABLE

## NEWS AND VIEWS FOR AND FROM KNIGHTS

### Knights Rule the Basketball Court

by James Sablan for Marianas Variety and Roselyn Monroyo for Saipan Tribune



### LADY KNIGHTS

The Mount Carmel School Knights added another title this year with the girls' team, the MCS Lady Knights 1, came out victorious over their younger siblings, MCS Lady Knights 2, 49-21 during last Friday's championship game of the 2017 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Girls Varsity Basketball League held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

It was a win-win situation for the Lady Knights but only one team could come out a winner.

MCS 1 quickly set the tone early in the game with Jan Travilla and Aureli Santos contributing four points each.

MCS 2 struggled to get the ball past half court due to MCS 1's relentless defense. But with a few successful attempts, Joanne Paraiso finished strong with four points, 4-10.

MCS 1 continued to remain in control thanks to their better ball handling skills moving the ball around to create open shots.

Quina Flores and Ya Han lit up the second quarter with 11 points together alongside Tawnee Manibusan's four points to extend the gap to double digits while MCS 2 kept pace with four-point shots.

After the half time break MCS 2 reassessed the situation with better defensive effort. They foiled inside passes turning defense into offense with Louisa Han and Katelynn Rabang finishing on the other end.

But despite their efforts, they still had a lot to work with as MCS' kept their momentum flowing to keep a safe distance 35-14.

Even with the dominant lead by MCS 1, MCS 2 continued to give their all.

Princess Alcantara started to play more aggressive and was awarded as she drew a few fouls to put up four points from the free throw line.

MCS 1's ball movement kept them in control as Karleen Reyes and Travilla filled the stat sheets with rebounds and assists while putting up three points apiece.

Manibusan led the final quarter with four points while Flores and Jehn Villgomez supported with a combined four points to secure their victory, 49-21 for the girls' championship title—a twice the celebration for MCS.

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### Board Approves Strategic Plan and Salary Increase



Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez (fifth from left) gathers with members of Mount Carmel School's Board of Directors and Leadership to present the school's first ever strategic master plan. From left to right: Board Treasurer Will Hunter, School President Galvin Deleon Guerrero, School Principal Frances Taimanao, Board Member Lynette Villagomez, Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, Board Chair Vicente "Ben" Babautia, Board Member Merced "Marcie" Tomokane, Board Vice Chair Jacqueline Cbe, Board Member Mark Rabauliman, Faculty Representative Rosiky Camacho, and Parent Teacher Organization President Luis Camacho.

At its meeting this past week, Mount Carmel School's Board of Directors approved the school's first ever strategic master plan, which included a planning priority to making teacher salaries competitive by increasing salaries for the second time in two years.

"This is just one more example of how our board and leadership are moving the school forward to provide the best Catholic education we can in our region," said school president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero. He added, "We are committed to improving teaching and learning by raising salaries, updating our curriculum, and improving our facilities and student support services, which are all included in the strategic plan."

The strategic plan is the result of a two year process of engaging key stakeholders of the school, including students, parents, faculty, staff, administrators, board members, and even the school's AlumKnights. The Strategic Planning Committee, which was chaired by board vice chair and 2005 AlumKnight, Jacqueline Che, identified six planning priorities for the plan:

school finances, teaching and learning, student support services, facilities and resources, Catholicity, and supplemental programs. Each planning priority features a set of strategic objectives supported by specific action plans to move those objectives and priorities forward.

One strategic objective is making teacher salaries competitive in the current job market, in order to recruit and retain highly effective teachers. The board actually began fulfilling that objective when it raised teacher salaries by 14% two years ago, which was the first time that the school's teachers had gotten a raise in over a decade. For the upcoming 2017-2018

school year, the board voted to raise salaries by 5% as part of a long-term, sustainable plan to make salaries competitive.

School principal, Frances Taimanao, was very happy with the board's decision. As she put it, "This is a great way to show appreciation to our teachers, especially those who have been with us for many years." Taimanao added, "This salary increase honors their commitment and dedication to our school."



## Announcements

**Class of 1990 Scholarship for Graduating Seniors**  
Need an additional \$1,000 for college? Then the 1990 AlumKnights want to help. Pick up the scholarship application guidelines/criteria with Ms. Tasia.

**Prom Tickets For Sale!**

Single: \$35, Couple: \$60, Triple: \$90. Purchase your tickets now from the Business Office, Tiana DLG, Quina Flores, or Cliaire Calage Anyone from grade 10-12 may attend. Non-MCS students should schedule an appointment with Ms. Taimanao and bring a valid I.d

**PTO End of Year Carnival**

Celebrate the end of the school year with the Mount Carmel School Parent Teacher Organization's annual carnival on Thursday, May 25, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on the school campus. Have fun with water balloon activities, a bouncy room, games, and concessions! Raffle tickets will also be sold for the following prizes: \$100 Cash & 2 Lets Go Tour  
3 Lets Go Tour  
2 Sea Touch Tour  
2 Lets Go Tour  
Theme Lunch for 2 @ Fiesta Resort  
Lunch Buffet for 2 @ Isla Cafe, Kanoa Resort  
Lunch Buffet for 2 @ Kili Cafe & Terrace, Hyatt  
Lunch buffet for 2 @ PIC  
\$20.00 GC to 670 Rocksteady  
\$20.00 GC to Shirley's Coffee Shop  
\$20.00 GC to 670 Rocksteady  
\$10.00 CG to Shirley's Coffee Shop  
McDonalds Gift Certificate for McGiddles, Big Mac and Hotcakes  
5- I Love Saipan Shirt  
4- \$20 GC to Hermans Bakery for Baked Goods.  
1- Dinner Ware set  
1- Large Tray Platter

## In the Future

**End of Year Awards Ceremony**

Thursday, May 25, 8:00 am, Cathedral

**Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony**

Thursday, May 25, 5:00 pm, Cathedral

**Baccalaureate Mass**

Friday, May 26, 6:00 pm, Cathedral

**8th Grade Graduation**

Saturday, May 27, 10:00 am, Cathedral

**Senior Graduation**

Saturday, May 27, 5:00 pm, Cathedral

## ESLR of the Week

#3. Integrate religious themes to reinforce Catholicism and sacramental virtue of life.

## Knights Rule

*continued from front*



### THE BOYS

Mount Carmel School's Anthony Deleon Guerrero drives against two Marianas Baptists Academy players during the second quarter of their title game in the high school division of the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

Scoreless in the first quarter, Mt. Carmel School exploded for 30 points in the fourth en route to a 50-39 victory over Marianas Baptist Academy in the boys high school division finals of the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Anthony Deleon Guerrero, Matthew Richardson, Matthew Ong, and Myles Santos teamed up in the Knights' come-from-behind win to give MCS its second straight championship and second in a row against MBA. The Knights took their first division crown in the 2014-2015 season against Eucon International (55-46) before defending the title against MBA last year following a 70-35 demolition of the Tigers.

MBA then seemed to have a strong chance of avenging its loss to MCS last weekend after shutting down the Knights in the first quarter and leading by as much as 11 in the first half, 19-8. MBA remained ahead at the end of the third, 25-20, and even stretched it to 7, 28-21 before Deleon Guerrero and Richardson combined for the pivotal 10-0 scoring spree to put the Knights on top. Deleon Guerrero made 4 points off drives in that rally, while Richardson hit two triples with his second breaking the deadlock, 31-28, 5:58 left in the match.

It was a seesaw battle in the next minute of the game, as Minsu Park tried to keep MBA in the game. However, after the last standoff, 35-all, Matthew Ong, who was scoreless in the first three periods, drilled 6 straight points off a split from the free throw line, a triple, and a floater and Richardson added a pair of free throws to put the Knights on top for good, 43-35, with a little over a minute remaining in the finale.

Despite its safe lead, MCS played tough defense against MBA in the closing seconds to complete the come-from-behind win.

"It's our defense that brought us back into the game. When we started playing good defense, we're also able to get our offense working," MCS coach Francis San Nicolas said moments after the exciting title match.

"I would like to commend my players for fighting back and keeping their focus. After we failed to score in the first quarter, I told them to keep their head in the game because that's just eight minutes, we still have 24 minutes to play. I just want them to be patient and work harder on defense," the Knights mentor said.

The Knights' defense held MBA scoreless in the last two minutes and change of the second quarter and in the first three minutes of the third. MBA was stuck to 19 points, allowing MCS to bring the deficit down to single digits at the break, 10-19. Santos scored 7 of the Knights' 10 points, stepping up just when MCS gunners were still looking for their rhythm and preventing MBA from pulling away.

Then in the third canto, one of MBA's scorers, Deleon Guerrero, became aggressive on offense and though he missed most of his shots, he still earned points from the foul line, canning seven free throws. Santos contributed a pair as the Knights moved within 5, 20-25. MBA was held to three field goals in the penultimate frame, as MCS' pressure defense right from the backcourt rattled the former.

Deleon Guerrero then added one more free throw to start the fourth quarter for the Knights, while Park countered with an and-1 play to up their lead to 7, 28-21. However, MBA collapsed after that while Deleon Guerrero and Richardson anchored MCS' rally before Ong put the finishing touches in the Knights' successful comeback bid.

Deleon Guerrero paced MCS with his 13 points, while Richardson added 12-10 came in the fourth quarter—and Santos and Ong combined for 15 points. Park led MBA with his 19 points, while Dave Lee and Paul Song contributed 9 apiece, but were held to one free throw apiece in the fourth period, leaving the former the only player on his team to make a field goal in the payoff canto.

The title win against MBA gave the Knights a perfect record this season and it was the third straight year that MCS ended the competition undefeated.

**SCORES**

**GIRLS:** MCS 1 49 - Alice Choi 12, Jan Travilla 11, Quina Flores 9, Ya Han 8, Aureli Santos 4, Karleen Reyes 3, Jehn Villagomez 2; MCS 2 21 - Joanne Paraiso 6, Louisa Han 4, Cho 4, Prince Alacantara 3, Riley Buenaventura 2, Katelynn Rabang 2

**BOYS:** MCS 50 - Deleon Guerrero 13, Richardson 12, Santos 9, Ong 6, Gamab 4, Yun 3, Yun 2, Muna 1.

MBA 39 - Park 19, Lee 9, Song 9, Aaron 2.  
Scoring by quarters: 0-6, 10-19, 20-25, 50-39.