

FRED RILEY

Coach, Teacher, Mentor

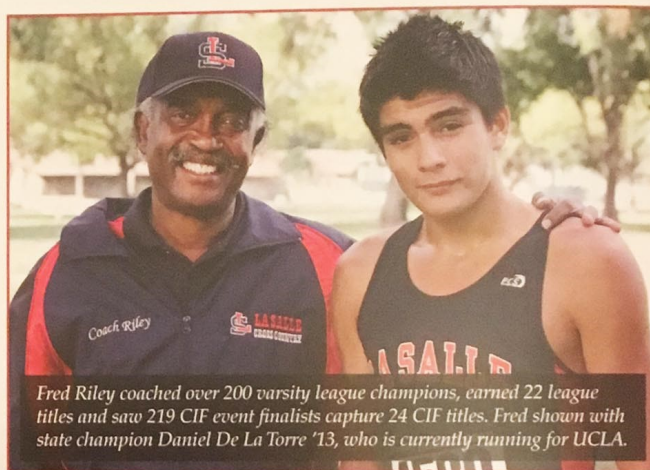
By: John Blackstock '67

The La Salle community lost a great man and coach February 12, 2017. Coach

Fred Riley's passing from an abdominal aneurysm came as a shock to the La Salle community. Mr. Riley, Computer Science Department Chair, taught at La Salle for over 20 years and worked in Catholic education for more than 30 years. He touched many lives through his roles at La Salle as computer teacher and cross country and track and field coach. Coach Riley led the Lancers to numerous league, CIF and State titles in his 20 plus years at La Salle. He made a major impact on the lives of hundreds of student-athletes (including his son, Westley who graduated in 2007) who have gone on to do phenomenal things.

Our traditional Lenten support campaign for our Twinning School in Nigeria has been re-named Riley's Race 4 Change and a plaque for the Showdown winners commemorating Fred's passionate support for this Christian Brother's school in Africa has been created.

In addition, La Salle has established the **Fred Riley Memorial Fund for Track & Cross Country** to provide

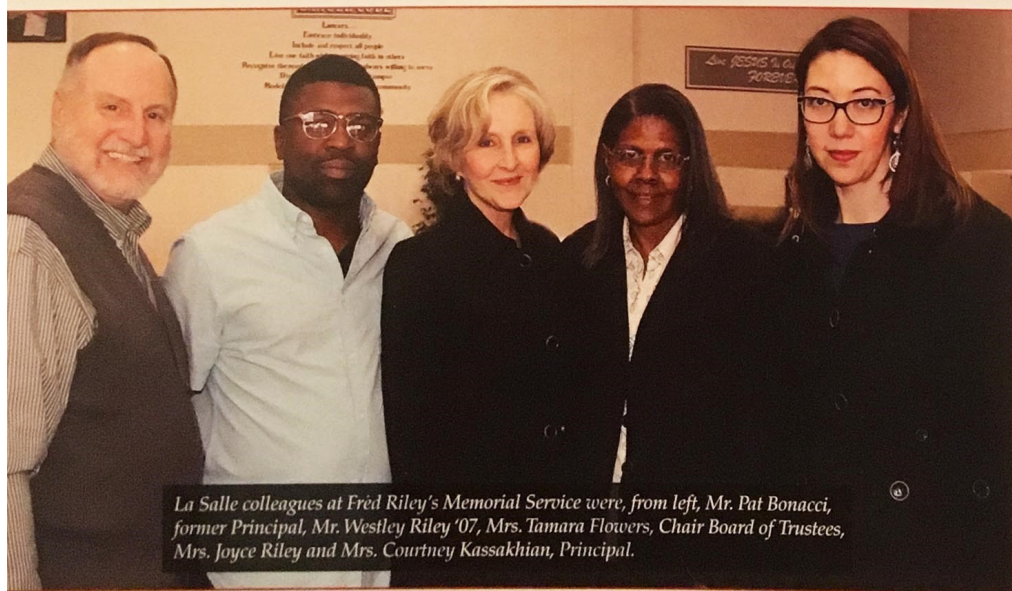


Fred Riley coached over 200 varsity league champions, earned 22 league titles and saw 219 CIF event finalists capture 24 CIF titles. Fred shown with state champion Daniel De La Torre '13, who is currently running for UCLA.

professional development for Track and Cross Country coaches now and in the future. Coach Riley's former athletes and assistant coaches Chris Ring '01 and Kjersti (Housman) Holyfield '04 have been named the new Head Coaches of Track and Cross Country respectively. Coach Riley will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

We have received hundreds of messages through the Alumni Office regarding the passing of Coach Riley. They have all been touching, but one seemed perfect to pass along as we grieve the loss of our colleague, friend and teacher.

"Mr. Riley always advised us to not try and run a sub-second half split. He said to just go out strong and you'll be able to achieve more. Fred always went out strong and achieved oh so much. Taken too soon, but he used every moment that he had to the fullest. I will miss his humor, his laugh, his even keel, his smile and his passion for the success of those under his care. Rest in peace Mr. Riley, yours was a race well run."



La Salle colleagues at Fred Riley's Memorial Service were, from left, Mr. Pat Bonacci, former Principal, Mr. Westley Riley '07, Mrs. Tamara Flowers, Chair Board of Trustees, Mrs. Joyce Riley and Mrs. Courtney Kassakhian, Principal.

To make a donation to the Fred Riley Memorial Fund for Track & Cross Country go to www.lancernetwork.com/CoachRiley.