

# MIAMI-DADE GIRLS' SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

## FINALISTS



Grace Aldrich  
Carrollton



Tyra Cox  
Miami Northwestern



Gigi Khoury  
Westminster Christian

GRACE ALDRICH

**Carrollton**  
**Sport(s):** Cross-country, track and field, soccer.  
**Class rank:** School does not rank.  
**College:** Boston College.  
**Athletic honors:** Two-time Miami Herald Runner of the Year in cross-country; State champion in 1,600 meters and 3,200 meter relay in track and field at 2025 meet.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.90 GPA, 1410/34 SAT/ACT; National Merit Finalist, High Honor Roll all four years of high school, National Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, Mu Theta Alpha, Hispanic National Honor Society.  
**Class schedule:** AP Calculus BC, AP Micro/Macroeconomics, AP Psychology, Great Christian Thinkers, Honors Genetics and Genomes, Honors Literary Monsters and Witches and the Divine Comedy, Dante's Journey of Love and Knowledge.

TYRA COX

**Miami Northwestern**  
**Sport(s):** Track and field, cheerleading.  
**Class rank:** N/A.  
**College:** Florida.  
**Athletic honors:** Three-time All-Dade first team track selection.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.37/3.63 GPA, 1380 SAT; A/B Honor Roll recipient, Dual enrollment, Honors student.  
**Class schedule:** DE: Preparing for Student Success, Psychology of Career Adjustment, Economics/Government, English 4 Honors, Journalism, Leadership Skills.

GIGI KHOURY

**Westminster Christian**  
**Sport(s):** Softball.  
**Class rank:** 3rd of 143.  
**College:** Georgia Tech.  
**Athletic honors:** Three-time first team All-Dade softball selection.  
**Scholastic honors:** 4.0/5.41 GPA, 33 ACT; President of multiple honor societies, AP Capstone Diploma, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Book Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Youth Leadership Forum: Medicine Program.  
**Class schedule:** AP Lit, AP Biology, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Government, PHY 1004 DE at Miami Dade, Christian Living.

GIOVANNA MUSIELLO

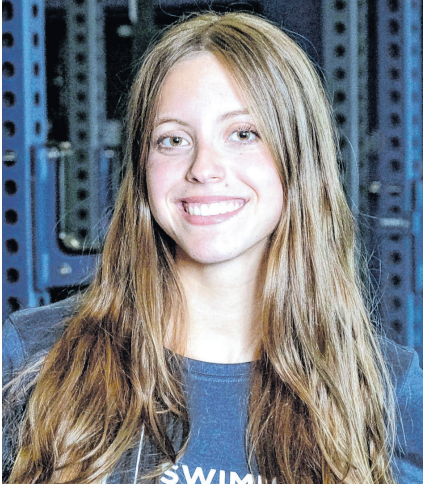
**Gulliver Prep**  
**Sport(s):** Swimming.  
**Class rank:** School does not rank.  
**College:** Rice.  
**Athletic honors:** Three-time All-Dade first team swimmer, 200 IM state champion, .  
**Scholastic honors:** 4.02/5.72 GPA, 1440 SAT; completed 12 AP courses, Scholastic All-American.  
**Class schedule:** AP Literature, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry.

KATARINA SLAZAS

**Palmetto**  
**Sport(s):** Badminton, soccer.  
**Class rank:** 98th percentile.  
**College:** Purdue.  
**Athletic honors:** Four-time Miami Herald Badminton Player of the Year and GMAC girls singles champion; Third-team All-Dade selection in soccer.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.964/5.345 GPA, 1560 SAT; National Indigenous Recognition Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, AP Capstone Diploma, NMSQT Letter of Commendation, National Paderewski Medal Recipient, Panther on the Move Award, Panther of Distinction Award.  
**Class schedule:** AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science A, AP Statistics, AP Psychology, AP Macroeconomics, AP English Literature and Composition, AP U.S. Government and Politics.

SYDNEY WILSON

**Miami High/Mater Lakes**  
**Sport(s):** Basketball, volleyball.  
**Class rank:** N/A.  
**College:** FIU.  
**Athletic honors:** 2024-25 Miami Herald Basketball Player of the Year, 3-time first team All-Dade selection; 2-time first team All-Dade volleyball selection.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.95/4.51 GPA, 1350 SAT; Dual enrollment courses at FIU, STEM classes, Florida Academic Scholarship (FAS) tier of the Florida Bright Future Scholarship program.  
**Class schedule:** FLVS English 3, Physical Education, FIU Principles of Microeconomics, FIU Anatomy & Physiology 1 with Lab, FIU Introduction to Criminal Justice, FIU Anatomy & Physiology 2 with Lab, FLVS English 4, Geography.



Giovanna Musiello  
Gulliver



Katarina Slazas  
Palmetto



Sydney Wilson  
Miami High

OTHER NOMINEES

**AIE Charter:** Alexa Garofalo (softball, track and field, cross-country, basketball, volleyball); **Booker T. Washington:** Deztinie Lewis (cross-country, volleyball, track and field, soccer); **Braddock:** Braelon Cintron (volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball); **Coral Gables:** Dimitra Boutsis (swimming, water polo); **Coral Park:** Carmen Dragustinovis (wrestling, cross-country, flag football); **Coral Reef:** Rocio Diaz (soccer); **Cutler Bay:** Abigail Lintner (swimming, water polo); **Divine Savior:** Aida Johnston (cross-country, basketball, track and field); **Don Soffer:** Rebecca Aguilar (cross-country, soccer, flag football, track and field); **Ferguson:** Sophia Diaz (basketball, golf); **Goleman:** Victoria Lora (badminton, bowling); **Hialeah Gardens:** Sophie Ciara Artega (flag football); **Keys Gate:** Alexandra Mendez (cross-country, soccer, track and field); **Krop:** Jennifer Orisma (volleyball, basketball, softball, flag football); **La Salle:** Annette Labrada (track and field, cheerleading); **Lourdes:** Mia Roca (soccer); **MAST:** Florencia Alvarez (soccer); **Mater Academy:** Sarah Restrepo (volleyball); **Mater Bay:** Melany Morales (basketball); **Miami Beach:** Leah Mercer (water polo); **Miami Country Day:** Nicole Rivero (cross-country, soccer, lacrosse); **Miami Springs:** Gia Culler-Guerra (golf); **North Miami:** Anyery Perez (volleyball, flag football); **North Miami Beach:** Yohaney Cayaso (basketball); **Palmer Trinity:** Isabella Egea Guimaraes (lacrosse); **Ransom Everglades:** Casey Manno (soccer, water polo); **St. Brendan:** Gabriela Page (cross-country, soccer); **South Miami:** Kate Ai (soccer, flag football, volleyball, badminton); **Southwest:** Tatiana Perez (softball); **Sunset:** Paula Vil-lacreses (badminton, soccer, bowling, cross-country); **TERRA:** Abbigail Laine (cross-country, soccer); **Varela:** Kelsi Sell (track, cross-country).

Credits: The Miami Herald's Miami-Dade girls' Scholar-Athletes were selected by Executive Sports Editor John Devine, Deputy Sports Editor Andre Fernandez and Sportswriter Jordan McPherson based on nominations submitted by the candidates' athletic directors. Photos provided by each school.

Andre C. Fernandez: @FernandezAndreC

# Miami High and Mater Lakes' Sydney Wilson is the Dade Girls' Scholar-Athlete of the Year



Sydney Wilson will attend FIU in the fall.

BY ANDRE FERNANDEZ  
afernandez@miamiherald.com

Sydney Wilson grew up as one of five siblings, all of whom were solid athletes. From a young age, though, Wilson developed the skills that made her stand out and gave everyone an idea she might be a versatile athlete who could excel in multiple sports. Wilson proved to be exactly that once she got to high school, becoming one of the top players in Miami-Dade County in basketball and volleyball. But Wilson's work ethic and excellence isn't limited to sports. She is an accomplished student as well with an academic résumé that will give her the opportunity to study at FIU starting this fall. Wilson is the Miami Herald's Miami-Dade County Girls' Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Wilson starred in both of her favorite sports at two different schools. On the basketball court, she



Miami High's Sydney Wilson

was part of two state final four squads at Miami High and earned Miami Herald Co-Player of the Year honors this past season while leading the Stingarees to the regional finals. But in the fall, Wilson starred on the volleyball court for Mater Lakes Academy, where she led the Bears to their first appearance in the state final and earned first-team All-Dade honors. "It's just putting in the work early on and getting the fundamentals down," Wilson said earlier this year. In basketball, Wilson was one of the best point guards in

the state, averaging nearly eight assists per game. In volleyball, she was one of the most versatile hitters and setters in the state, and finished this past fall with 268 kills, 61 aces, 286 digs and 191 assists. In the classroom, Wilson maintained a 4.51 weighted GPA and scored a 1350 on the SAT. She took multiple dual enrollment classes at FIU during her senior season. Wilson also received the Florida Academic Scholarship tier of the Florida Bright Future Scholarship program, which will cover 100 percent of her college tuition. Wilson also completed more than 100 hours of community service while running the concession stand at various Miami High athletic events and others like the basketball league for the Kiwanis of Little Havana Foundation. She continues her family's athletic tradition, as her older sister and former teammate, Joelle, was a Miami Herald Athlete of the Year.

Andre C. Fernandez:  
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# MIAMI-DADE BOYS’ SCHOLAR ATHLETES FINALISTS



Jonas Duque  
St. Brendan



Vicente Gonzalez  
Columbus



Michael Larionov  
Palmetto

JONAS DUQUE

**St. Brendan**  
**Sport(s):** Basketball.  
**Class rank:** 72nd of 311.  
**College:** FIU.  
**Athletic honors:** First team All-Dade basketball, led team to first regional final.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.83/4.48 GPA, 1280/26 SAT/ACT; Law and Global Business Academy member, Florida Bright Futures – Florida Medallion Scholarship, Honor Roll, College Board National Recognition, Student Ambassador.  
**Class schedule:** AP Statistics, English IV, Speech II Honors, Business, Law Honors, United States Government, Economics, Personal Finance, Global Studies, Ceramics and Pottery.

VICENTE GONZALEZ

**Columbus**  
**Sport(s):** Football.  
**Class rank:** Top 1 percent.  
**College:** Miami.  
**Athletic honors:** Two-time state champion, 4-time regional champion.  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.97/5.42 GPA, 1510 SAT; AP Capstone Diploma recipient, Mas Family Program member, Mas Scholar, completed most externships including multiple Fortune 500 companies.  
**Class schedule:** AP Calculus BC, AP English Literature, AP Statistics, Honors World War II, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, Honors Personal and Family Finance, Honors Principles of Entrepreneurship.

MICHAEL LARIONOV

**Palmetto**  
**Sport(s):** Tennis.  
**Class rank:** 99th percentile of 670.  
**College:** Carnegie-Mellon.  
**Athletic honors:** Two-time All-Dade second team selection.  
**Scholastic honors:** 4.0/5.368 GPA, 1510 SAT; Outstanding Junior Language Arts of the Year (school wide), AP Capstone Diploma, AP Scholar with Distinction, Envirothon Aquatics Category Winner.  
**Class schedule:** AP Computer Science Principles, AP Calculus BC, AP US Government and Politics, AP Macroeconomics, AP Statistics, AP Physics 1, AP English Literature.

MARCO PRIEGUEZ

**Belen Jesuit**  
**Sport(s):** Cross-country, track and field.  
**Class rank:** School does not rank.  
**College:** Penn.  
**Athletic honors:** First team All-Dade cross-country, track.  
**Scholastic honors:** 4.189/5.515 GPA, 1490/34 SAT/ACT; College Board National Hispanic Recognition Scholar, 2023 & 2024 AP Scholar with Distinction, Principal’s Honor Roll, First Honor Roll, and Academic Achievement, Academic Achievement, Inducted into the following Academic Societies: Mu Alpha Theta-Math, National English Honor Society, Rho Kappa- Social Studies, Science, Spanish.  
**Class schedule:** AP English Literature, AP Calculus AB, AP Comparative Gov. and Politics, AP Macroeconomics, AP Psychology, Honors Philosophy, Honors, Latin American History, Honors Ignatian Spirituality.



Marco Prieguez  
Belen Jesuit

JORDI QUIRCH

**Gulliver Prep**  
**Sport(s):** Lacrosse.  
**Class rank:** School does not rank.  
**College:** USC.  
**Athletic honors:** First team lacrosse (2025); second team (2024).  
**Scholastic honors:** 3.98/5.53 GPA, 1510 SAT; Silver Knight nominee.  
**Class schedule:** IB HL English, Economics, Global Politics.



Jordi Quirch  
Gulliver

ETHAN SULLIVAN

**Ransom Everglades**  
**Sport(s):** Cross-country, swimming, track, water polo.  
**Class rank:** School does not rank.  
**College:** Undecided.  
**Athletic honors:** 3-time USA Triathlon All-American, three-time cross-country state qualifier, swimming state finalist and school record holder, track and field state finalist.  
**Scholastic honors:** 4.23 weighted GPA, 1590 SAT; Bryan Cameron Impact Scholar, International Research Olympiad Bronze Medalist, Coolidge Senator, International Climate Science Olympiad Semi-Finalist, Cum Laude, National Merit Semifinalist and National Merit Hispanic Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, Ransom Everglades Gold Seal of Bilitery.  
**Class schedule:** AP Spanish Literature, Film Theory and Method, Multivariable Calculus, Advanced Cell and Molecular Biology, AP Macro/Microeconomics, Survey of Organic Chemistry.



Ethan Sullivan  
Ransom Everglades

OTHER NOMINEES

**AIE Charter:** Jaiden Giron (track and field, soccer, volleyball); **Braddock:** Andrew Sarmiento (baseball); **Coral Reef:** Luis Marti, (track and field, cross-country); **Cutler Bay:** Brandon Smith (swimming, water polo); **Divine Savior:** Mateo Sotelo (cross-country, track and field); **Don Soffer:** Lucas Szydlowski (volleyball, cross-country); **Ferguson:** Isaiah Lacayo (bowling); **Goleman:** Eddie Molliner (football); **Hialeah Gardens:** Nicholas Ceballos (baseball); **Homestead:** Fabio Perezleguizamo (football, wrestling); **Krop:** Daniel Gumbiner (golf); **La Salle:** Billy Saleh (football, track and field, wrestling); **MAST Academy:** Pablo Rodriguez (soccer); **Mater Academy:** William Mompeller (swimming); **Miami Beach:** Emmet Berman (water polo, basketball, swimming, bowling); **Miami High:** Carlos Miranda (volleyball); **Miami Springs:** Aaron Bowe (cross-country, track and field); **North Miami:** Johnrisha Jeantinor (basketball); **North Miami Beach:** Malik Charles (football, baseball); **Northwestern:** Terrance Harrell (track and field); **South Miami:** Cedric Rodriguez (badminton, tennis, swimming); **Southwest:** Myron Mendez (wrestling); **Sunset:** Harry Homick III (cross-country, track and field); **TERRA:** Anthony Lander (swimming); **Westminster Christian:** Natan Rowlands (track and field).

**Credits:** The Miami Herald’s Miami-Dade boys’ Scholar-Athletes were selected by Deputy Sports Editor Andre Fernandez and Sportswriter Jordan McPherson based on nominations submitted by the candidates’ athletic directors. Photos provided by each school.

Andre C. Fernandez: @FernandezAndreC

## Belen Jesuit’s Marco Prieguez is the Miami-Dade Boys’ Scholar-Athlete of the Year

BY ANDRE FERNANDEZ  
afernandez@miamiherald.com

Belen Jesuit’s cross-country and track and field programs have a longstanding tradition of excellence. But over the years, several of the members of each squad show their strength not just when they’re putting in the miles, but in the classroom as well. Belen senior Marco Prieguez is another perfect example of this combination. Prieguez has been a standout on the Wolverines’ cross-country and track teams throughout his high school career.

The highlight came this season, however, as he was finally able to enjoy not just a team state championship in the fall in cross-country, but also a state title in track earlier this month. While Prieguez has been impressive when it comes to running, he’s even more so academically. And that’s a big reason he’s this year’s Miami Herald Miami-Dade County Boys’ Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Prieguez was a first-team All-Dade selection in cross-country after finishing fifth individually at the state Class 3A meet with a time of 15:36. His season-best time was also impressive as he ran a time of



Courtesy of Belen Jesuit

Belen Jesuit’s Marco Prieguez.

15:23. He finished sixth at state in the 1,600 meters in track and field, helping Belen win the team title. He did all of this while maintaining an impressive 5.515 grade point average, scoring a 1490 on the SAT and a 34 on the ACT. His stellar academic résumé helped him earn an opportunity to attend the prestigious University of Pennsylvania, joining a long line of Wolverines athletes to enroll at Ivy League schools. Prieguez has been part of three consecutive state titles in cross-country since joining the team as a sophomore. An honors student, AP Scho-

lar with Distinction and a member of five National Honor Societies, Prieguez also participated in numerous community-service activities including the Fundacion Hermanos De La Calle, which translated to English reads “Brothers from the Street Foundation” where he continuously prepared and delivered homemade food to the homeless or recently homeless, and created a focus group to discuss issues affecting individuals experiencing homelessness and how to target these issues in everyday life.

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@FernandezAndreC



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