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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY HIRES NEW FOOTBALL COACH

February 5, 2016 – Ave Maria, FL – Ave Maria University is pleased to announce the hiring of Joe Patterson as the next Head Football coach for the Gyrenes. Coach Patterson is entering his 20th season as a football coach. Patterson is concluding his 12-year tenure as head football coach at St. John’s College High School in Washington, D.C. During that time, his teams made the playoffs 10 times. The Cadets recorded several wins against nationally ranked opponents, including a 35-2 win against the IMG Academy in 2014.

“Joe is a great addition,” said Kimberly King, Director of Athletics, “He is a proven leader and brings with him both a passion for football and excitement for advancing the Catholic Mission of the University. He is the perfect fit for what we are trying to do here.”

Coach Patterson has a reputation for developing great talent. During his time as the varsity head coach, 79 of his players went on to play Division I-A or I-AA football. He also coached eight All-Americans, including five Under Armour All-Americans.

Patterson’s academic track record also stands out as his football program posted a 3.00 GPA or higher in nine out of the 12 seasons. Coach Patterson, who graduated Summa Cum Laude from Villanova University, taught in the Honors Program at St. John’s.

Patterson and his wife, Jana, are the parents of six children: Anne, Tommy, Patrick, Edward, Bernadette, and Maximilian.

Coach Patterson is replacing Marty Quinn, who resigned for personal reasons after four seasons at AMU, three as Head Coach.

The Athletic Department at Ave Maria has grown from sponsoring six varsity level sports in 2008-09, to boasting 16 varsity-level programs for the 2015-16 season, with over 400 student athletes. The Athletic Department staff has grown to include six administrative and athletic support positions, 13 head coaches, and 17 assistant coaches. The athletics program had a budget this year of \$1.8 million.

Ave Maria University is a Catholic, liberal arts institution of higher learning devoted to Mary the Mother of God, inspired by St. John Paul II and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, and dedicated to the formation of joyful, intentional followers of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament, scholarship and service.

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