

# Papa Said Whaaaatttt??

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*By Elijah Caine*

Papa John's is one of the biggest pizza places in the world. It is one of the biggest pizza franchises in the United States and is spreading all over the world. Recently, Papa John's been in a little bit of trouble since CEO, John Schnatter, stepped down due to him saying some racial slurs. Papa John's Pizza was started not far from Louisville in Jeffersonville, which is why I'm going to tell you all about them. Papa John's started its journey in 1984 when it was founded by John Schnatter, also known as Papa, hence the name. It started out as a broom closet in the back of his dad's tavern in Jeffersonville, but was later transformed into the place we know today. Once it was founded, Papa John's finally went public in 1993. Just a year after that, the company had over 500 stores, overtime Papa John's was able to amass a total of up to 1,500 pizza stores. Along with that, Papa John's was able to become the third-largest take-out and pizza delivery chain in the U.S. With the success of his company came a great deal of sponsorships, such as when he signed a contract with ESPN Regional Television in 2006 to become the annual PapaJohns.com bowl. Or, in 2010 when he signed an agreement with the NFL and Super Bowls XLV, XLVI, and XLVII to be their official pizza sponsor. And in 2011 became the official pizza sponsor of the NFL in Mexico, Canada, and the UK. Unfortunately for Papa however, with great success, also comes great controversy. Schnatter's first ever controversy occurred when he made a statement during a company conference call where he blames the NFL's handling of its players National Anthem protests. He blamed the protests for the declining in his pizza sales. Which resulted in both of them losing shares since Papa John's has been their official sponsor since 2010. Unfortunately in 2018, the company lost the sponsorship during another conference where Forbes later learned that Schnatter had used the N word and other racial slurs during the call. This resulted in him subsequently losing his sponsorship with the NFL, as well as later having to step down as CEO and Chairman of Papa John's. This caused the company as a whole to lose tons of money. Regardless, I think pizza is pizza and Papa John's is good!!

## Turning in Cleats for Spikes

*By Julia Baird*

For this 2019 cross country season, we have gained lots of runners! Two runners stood out in particular, cousins Angel and Sabas Gonzalez. They joined the cross country team because there is no longer a soccer team at J-town, due to lack of members and no coach. They have been on the team for a couple of months now, and are already such a big part of the cross country family. Sabas decided to run cross country because he wanted to get better at running. He said he wanted to reach his dreams and set goals for himself so he can get better and better. Running is something he has a big passion for and he loves to do it. Angel wanted to run cross country because he likes just going out for a run and he thinks it is a good hobby for after school. He said he really enjoys the social aspect of running and making new friends. Their favorite part is being a part of the team and meeting new people. They also like the competitive part of running. They really like the sense of community and the fun we have at practices. They overall really enjoy everything about the cross country team, from the teammates to the practices and meets. Sabas was very disappointed on not having a soccer team, he really wanted to improve his skills. Angel said many of his friends played and they are disappointed that there is no soccer team. I asked if they will keep running. They both agreed they definitely want to keep running to improve their times and it will help them with other sports. They both really enjoy running in general. They have a ton of dedication, the entire cross country team is extremely excited to have both Angel, and Sabas on the team this season! The question now is will J-town ever have a soccer team again?...I guess we'll find out soon enough!

