

HALL OF FAME

EST 1985

Class of 2010

Induction Banquet and 25th Anniversary Celebration

June 18, 2010 Victoria Palms Resort Conference Center Donna, Texas



We Salute You,

Hall of Fame Class of 2010.



300 South 8th Street McAllen, TX 78501-2721 (956) 661-0400

HALL OF FAME



elcome to the 25th Anniversary Banquet for the RGV Sports Hall of Fame. Founded during the summer of 1985, the original board members took three years to develop the criteria of selecting inductees to the newly founded Hall of Fame, and to promote the first banquet held in Edinburg, April 7, 1988. The best of the best were selected that first year, and since then, the organization has held 22 consecutive banquets. This year is the 23rd annual banquet and this class will bring the total number of inductees to 189 in the RGV Hall.

I offer my congratulations to the 2010 Class of seven inductees! We are proud to welcome two highly successful track coaches, two outstanding Pan American University (UTPA) athletes, one of whom was a record setting base stealer and the other a great UTPA basketball star, having played nine years in the NBA. In addition, we have a well known basketball coach with 30 years of outstanding teams, and two tremendous football players who were standouts not only at their local high schools, but even more so at the collegiate level!

I also want to congratulate our 2010 Distinguished Service Award recipient, Roland Lomblot, who has generously and unselfishly given thousands and thousands of volunteer hours to the youth baseball programs first in McAllen and then throughout the Harlingen area.

Other award recognitions to be given at this year's banquet will be to 18 past and present Hall of Fame board members, who served the organization with distinction for ten or more years or were past presidents. These truly dedicated volunteers gave beyond the call of duty, and several are still serving as active board members. I look forward to honoring these men and women who established the Hall of Fame and have laid the groundwork, that will keep the history of SPORTS in the Rio Grande Valley alive for generations to come.

We still have much to do to finish the plans we've been discussing for a permanent sports museum, and raising the funds to build an educational facility/museum. Here the public can come learn not only about the inductees and their careers, but about all the exciting high school and college sports that have entertained the Valley faithful for decades.

For now, let's enjoy the memories and stories of these seven inductees from the Class of 2010.

Sincerely,

RGV Sports Hall of Fame, President 2008-2010

RGV Sports Hall of Fame Inductee, Class of 2004

Special Thanks

Biography Writer: Dr. Greg Selber Graphic Design: Dr. Kimberly Selber Portraits by Jesse Garcia: Classic Images Portrait Studio - Pharr Video: Jose Luis Cano - Edinburg

Charlie Varyhan

Inductee Flowers donated by:
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Making Memories, Today

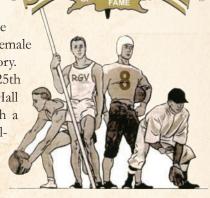
Then it was founded in 1985, the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame imme diately became a repository of history and memory, with the goal of honoring a select group of the area's best athletes for their performance.

The brainchild of a handful of Valley greats from sports and media, the Hall inducted its first class in 1988 and has been bringing luminaries of the local sportsworld together annually ever since. Over 189 men and women who made a name for themselves in high school and beyond are enshrined in the Hall, with an average of six to seven joining the august body of outstanding sports figures each summer.

The board of directors and selection committee construct a list of several dozen athletes to vote on each year, collecting information on each one and weighing their contributions under a number of criteria. There are coaches, officials, administrators and media on the list, as well as ballplayers, in recognition of the fact that without this important support crew, the games and players themselves would not mean nearly as much.

While the honor list is heavy with football stars from the past-understandable in a pigskin-crazy environment like the Valley-the organization has made a concerted push in recent years to give credit and glory to candidates from all sports, and members have also focused on uncovering the stories of the notable female sports stars through history.

Celebrating its 25th year of existence, the Hall continues to evolve, with a brand-new Web site a fullcolor RGV Sports Hall of Fame commemorative book scheduled to be ready for the induction ceremony of 2011.



Recognizing Achievement

The long-range goal of the organization is to find a permanent physical home for the Hall, from which to display memorabilia plus intermittent and permanent exhibits, and to have a venue to use for hosting events.

As we look forward to the latest gathering, and listening to the stories of the seven new enshrinees June 18 in Donna, the Hall of Fame wishes to thank all Valley athletes and fans for contributing to the growth and popularity of the organiza-

Preserving the history of the area's games is our business, and we do it gladly.



At the first meeting for the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame: June 16, 1985. (From left) Adrian Flores, Pikey Rodriguez, Jim Brooks† and Craig Smith† Standing: Camilo Rodriguez†, Max Cavazos, Dr. Tomas Esparza†

HALL OF FAME



Ernie Ayala



Richard Escobar



Richard Flores



Roy Garcia



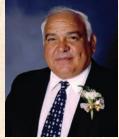
Rene Garza

Thank Of

honored board members, past & present, for your outstanding service to the RGV Sports Hall of Fame.



Joe Karam



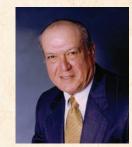
John Lerma



Tomas O'Cana



Al Ogletree



Joe Rodriguez



Pikey Rodriguez



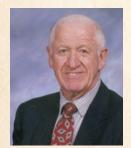
Ester Salinas



Tony Trejo



Carlos Vela



Tom Weekley



Charlie Williams



Chipper Zamora



Ronnie Zamora 25 Gnniversary Celebration 🖊 5



GILMA & LUPE SALINAS

RGV Sports Hall of Fame Inductee, Class of 2003

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Hometown: Edinburg, TX High School: Edinburg High

College: New Mexico Highlands/Pan American College

Sport Best Known For: Baseball

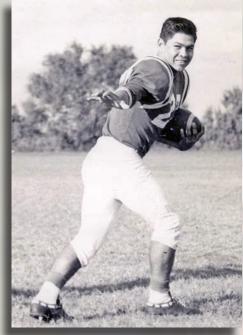
He was once known as the "Prince of Thieves," after having set a national NAIA record for stolen bases at New Mexico Highlands in the 1960s, and has been an administrator at Edinburg North High for 20 years. Luis Alamia Jr. lettered four times in baseball (two in basketball) and gained All-State recognition at Edinburg High before graduating in 1961 and heading to college. At Highlands he hit .304 and broke the record for steals in 1962 before coming back home to finish his career in baseball at Pan Am.

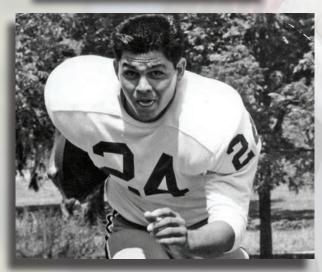
Alamia played semi-pro ball for a number of years and then led EHS to two district titles as coach in the late 1960s. Armed with a master's degree, he has been a tireless athletic supporter and administrator at North since its inception in 1991, and was also active in youth sports as a coach for 10 years.

Congratulations to the 2010 Inductees of the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame.











Hometown: La Joya, TX
High School: La Joya High
College: Southwest Texas State
Professional: San Antonio Toros
Sport Best Known For: Football

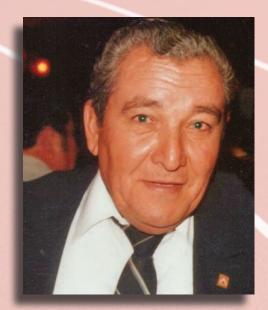
This son of migrant workers worked his way up the hard way, eventually earning a master's degree after a standout football career and becoming a head coach, athletic director and principal at Los Fresnos High.

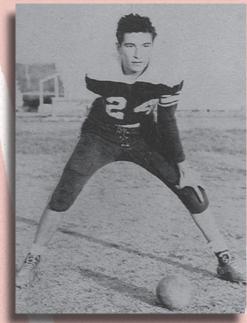
After graduating from La Joya High in 1961, Rey Farias walked on at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos and became an honorable mention Little All-America pick in 1964. He was second in the Lone Star Conference in rushing and scoring as a senior for the Bobcat team that won the league that season.

Farias joined the semi-pro San Antonio Toros and played several seasons as a dangerous receiver out of the backfield and kick-return specialist.

After his playing days, he moved to Los Fresnos, where he coached the football team for four seasons (1975-1978) and transitioned into administration for 24 years, in time becoming a member of the school board.











Hometown: Rio Grande City, TX High School: Rio Grande City High College: Pan American College

Sport Best Known For: Track & Football Coaching

It's hard to find a more inspirational story than that of Wilfrido "Willie" Garcia, who lost his right arm at age 14, but battled through that to become a member of the All-District football team in 1953 as a senior center from Rio Grande City High. He went on to play baseball at Pan American College in the mid-1950s.

Later, he started teaching and coaching at his alma mater, went to Brownsville Hanna as an assistant, and eventually won state titles as head track coach at Brownsville St. Joseph in 1971 and 1972.

Having earned a master's degree in education administration, Garcia served as a principal on both high school and elementary levels in La Joya, and was accorded Congressional Recognition by Rep. Solomon Ortiz in 2000 for a lifetime of service.











Hometown: Mission, TX High School: Mission High

College: Pan American University

Sport Best Known For: Track/Cross Country Coaching

One of the most consistent winners in track and field since the 1980s, Kathy Abbenante Howell has a resume to die for. She earned two degrees and her master's from Pan American University and put that knowledge to good use for area track and cross country runners, winning eight district titles at Mission and Veterans Memorial.

She started as basketball and track coach at Mission Jr. High and from 1979 to 1985 clinched five titles in hoops and four in track.

From 1986-99 she was with the Mission Lady Eagles and they captured five league titles, three regional crowns, and were state finalists six times. The crowning moment came in 1991, when Mission won the state championship in cross country. Her teams finished in the state top 10 four times.

Later, at Mission Veterans Memorial, Howell paced the track team to five district titles and three second-place finishes, while her cross country girls have been to the Regional Championships the last six seasons.



Home of the RGV Sports Hall of Fame Exhibit

CONGRATULATIONS DONNY MARTIN

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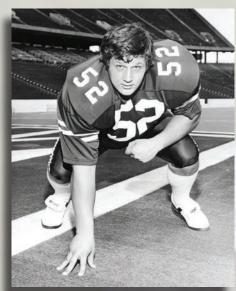
· Open ·

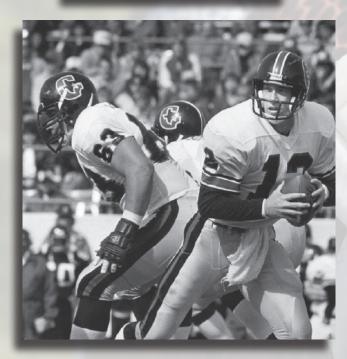
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Hometown: Port Isabel, TX High School: Port Isabel High

College: Rice

Professional: Houston Oilers and Houston Gamblers

Sport Best Known For: Football

He was voted one of the Top 50 football players in Valley history, after making it all the way to the NFL with the Houston Oilers.

Donny Martin was a two-way star for Port Isabel from 1975-78 who won three letters, was the team's O-line MVP as a senior and also was selected to the All-Valley team that season. He played for Coach Tommy Roberts as the Tarpons began their great dynasty.

Martin earned a scholarship to Rice University, where he was a two-time Offensive Line MVP with the Owls and lettered all four years at Rice.

A 260-pounder with a 500-pound bench press, Martin was on the Houston Oilers' squad in 1983 and started the whole next season for the Houston Gamblers of the USFL.

A fierce competitor who used awesome strength along with great football savvy, Martin made his mark at every level, from high school to the pros.

Congratulations



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Hometown: Edinburg
High School: Edinburg High
College: Pan American College

Sport Best Known For: Coaching Basketball

One of the area's most accomplished basketball mentors, Erasmo "Mo" Molina has always been known for producing consistent winners.

An Edinburg High graduate (1965) who won five letters in basketball and baseball in high school, Molina began his coaching career in Harlingen and later led programs at Rio Hondo, San Benito, and P-SJ-A before coming to McAllen Memorial in 1985.

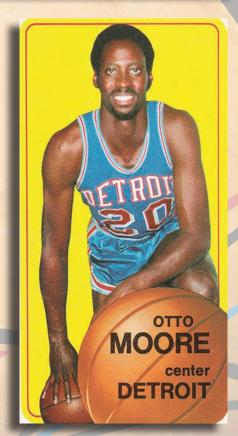
With the Mustangs, he won 20 games eight times in 14 years, including district titles in 1986 and 1990. In all, he's a 7-time Coach of the Year with nearly 400 wins who assumed head duties at Marine Military Academy in the mid-2000s and also did an assistant stint with the professional RGV Silverados of McAllen.

A patient, cerebral leader, Molina has been active in state coaching organizations for over 25 years, and has been instrumental in organizing a number of local camps for kids.

CONGRATULATIONS BRONGS LOUIE, KATHY, MO, OTTO & WILLIE **UTPA Athletes & Coaches Inducted into** the RGV Sports Hall of Fame Arnie Alvarez, 2007 Richard Avila, 2003 Tony Barbosa, 2005 Jack Bloomfield, 1993 Jim Brooks, 1990 Guadalupe "Lupe" Canul, 2002 Max Cavazos, 1991 Thomas Esparza, Ph.D., 1991 Camilo Estevis, 1995 Richard R. Flores, 1992 Willie W. Garcia, 20 Jesus "Chuy" Guerra, 2000 Oton "Tony" Guerrero, 1995 Lucious "Luke" Jackson, 1995 Alex Leal, 1996 Felipe Leal Garcia, 2000 Jim McKone, 1994 David Mosqueda, 1993 Al Ogletree, 1989 Mary Lee Rabke, Ph.D. John Anthony Raders, 2003 Jody Ramsey, 1999 Camilo "Bucky" Rodriguez, 2002 Joe A. Rodriguez, 1991 Pikey Rodriguez, Jr., 2001 UTPA ATHLETICS Hector Salinas, 2009 Lupe Salinas, 2003 Rene Torres, 2007 Reggie Tredaway, 2009 ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME Robert Vela, 2008 D. Joe Williams, 2003 WWW.UTPABRONCS.COM Sam Williams, 1988









Hometown: Miami, FL

College: Pan American College

Professional: Houston Rockets, New Orleans Jazz,

Detroit Pistons, Phoenix Suns,

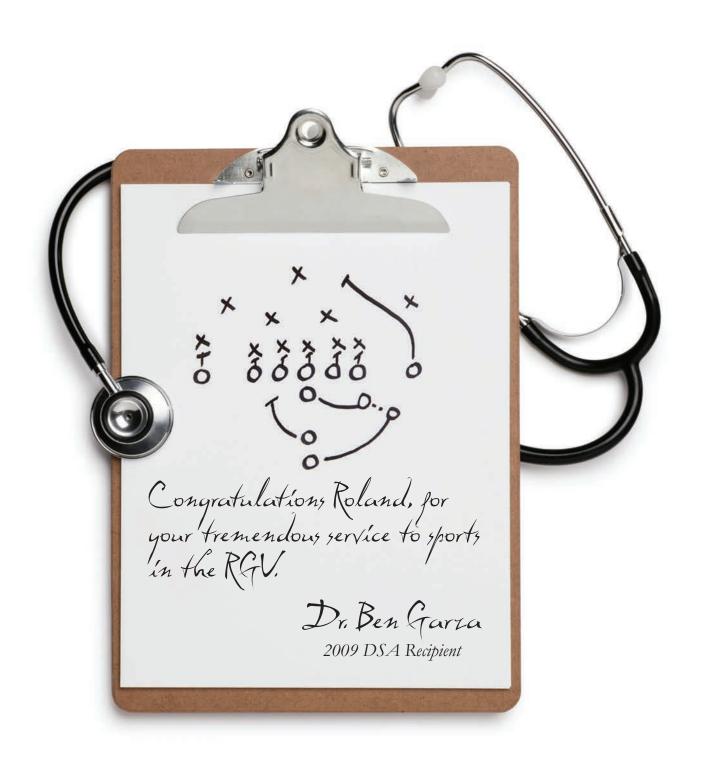
Kansas City Kings

Sport Best Known For: Basketball

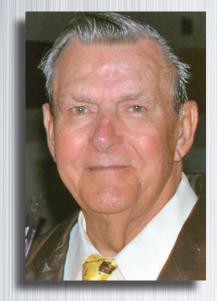
Pan American College had some outstanding basketball players in the past, and one of the best was Otto Moore, a 6-foot-11 center who left the school as the number one all-time rebounder and scorer.

Moore, originally from Miami, came to the Valley in 1965 and scored 1,880 points and grabbed 1,679 boards from 1965-68. In college he grabbed at least 25 rebounds nine times, with a career-best 35 against Lamar in 1966, and was in the top 10 of NCAA rebounders three seasons.

From there he went on to enjoy a 9-year career in the NBA with five teams, including the Houston Rockets. Playing for the New Orleans Jazz in 1975-76, he led the team with 136 blocked shots and 793 rebounds. He averaged 8.2 points and 8.2 boards in 682 games, after having been a first-round choice (No. 6 overall) in the 1968 draft by the Detroit Pistons.



Edinburg Medical Center 1200 South 10th Avenue Edinburg, TX 78539-5516 (956) 383-2761





In 1987, great sportswriter Buddy Green wrote that "the Valley should appreciate Roland Lomblot," and now, it will.

Lomblot was born in Milwaukee in 1925 and worked for the Border Patrol for 30 years after moving to the area in 1955. His selfless dedication to Little League and American Legion Baseball has led to him receiving this year's Distinguished Service Award.

Lomblot coached several Pony League teams throughout the 1960s and 1970s, first in McAllen and then

Harlingen. He mentored 12-year-old Sammy Garza of Harlingen, who went on to star at quarterback for Harlingen, UTEP and later the NFL and CFL, and also coached a number of notables including Bucky Rodriguez, Bobby Ply, Ted Uhlaender and Eliseo Pompa.

From 1980 onward, he helped rebuild a struggling Colt League in Harlingen, eventually serving as Division II Baseball Chairman of the Texas American Legion before retiring in 2001.



Inductees by Class Uear

• 1988 •

Alaniz, Leo "Najo" †
Davis, C.W. "Napper" †
Landry, Thomas Wade "Tom"†
Morrow, Bobby
Williams, Charlie
Williams, Sam

• 1989 •

Beaudry, Charles, Ph.D. †
Boyle, C.L. "Smokey" †
Cannon, Bobby †
Creasey, George †
Heald, Dessie †
Lawrence, Jimmy †
Lerma, E.C. †
Lohr, Larry †
Ogletree, Al
Scott, Earl

• 1990 •

Brooks, Jim †
Farris, Bill †
Lackey, Bobby
Rodriguez, Camilo †
Stephens, Jerry †
Stromeyer, George Jr. †
Stromeyer, George Sr. †
Watkins, Mary F.

• 1991 •

Cavazos, Max †
Esparza, Thomas, Ph.D. †
McMurtry, Paul J. †
Peña, Bernardo †
Ply, Bobby
Rodriguez, Joe A.
Silver, Gene
Uhlaender, Ted †

• 1992 •

Davis, Gilly †
Flores, R.C. "Fito" †
Flores, Richard
Gorges, Matt
Martin, Robert L. "Bob" †
Thomas, Amilda, Ph.D. †
West, Tom
Zavaletta, Gus

• 1993 •

Bloomfield, Jack
Conner, M.F. "Red" †
Garcia, Roy
Garza, Eleuterio
Mosqueda, David
Robie, Glen †
Stewart, Ray †
Vest, George †
Wright, Jim

• 1994 •

Evans, Norm
Hirst, Gerald
Hudson, Jim
Longhofer, Jesse D.
McKone, Jim
Sauceda, Dora †
Smith Jr., Frank
Villarreal, Eliseo †
Zamora, Lupe "Chipper"

• 1995 **•**

Ayala Jr., Ernesto
Cantu, Ramon O. †
Cleckler, Mary Jeanne
Drew, Tom
Estevis, Camilo
Guerrero, Oton "Tony"
Jackson, Lucious "Luke"
Parker, Lloyd

• 1996 •

Casso, Teresa
Etnire, Stanley †
Garza, Leo Jr. †
Helms, J.W. †
Helms, Jim
Leal, Alex
Pedraza Jr., Luz
Reichert, Tommy †

• 1997 •

Cantu, Juanita M. †
Conover, Brooks W. †
Cortez, Robert
Flores, Adrian †
Labar, Wayne †
Platt, Jimmy
Rabke, Mary Lee, Ph.D.
Stevenson, W.M. "Buster" †

1998 •

Butler, Tony †
Esquivel, Carlos †
Hernandez, Alfredo "Boxer" †
Levermann, Margaret †
Levine, Lewis Milton "Lew"
Nixon, Charles M. †
Pemelton, Billy Gene
Soza, Guadalupe "Lupe"
Ward, Al

• 1999 •

Butler Kalencki, Jeanie Crane, Corky Garcia, Gonzalo † Martinez, Carmen G. Ramsey, Jody † Rivas, Homero, M.D. Sanchez, Sr., Joe R. † Vela, Efraim White, Howard A. "Andy"

• 2000 •

Avila, Celestino Z., M.D.
Guerra, Jesus "Chuy"
Leal Garcia, Felipe
Lerma, John C.
Maldonado, Frank "Pancho"
Rodriguez, B.R. "Poppy"
Vela, Ernesto V.
Woodson Winston, Teresa

• 2001 •

Clark, Margaret M. †
LaGrange, Charles
Levermann, Gerald "Dutch"
Nyquist, Larry
Owens, Carl B.
Rodriguez, Pablo "Pikey"
Salazar, Dolores
Villarreal, Vic †
Weekley, Tom B.

• 2002 •

Aranda, Olga Avila, Alfredo Canul, Guadalupe Gerlicki, Joseph † Hinojosa, Rene Manuel † Martinez Sr., Homer Moxley, Paul Rodriguez, Camilo "Bucky" Shuford, John Albert "Lefty"

• 2003 •

Avila, Richard Capello, Robert Coleman, Bert † Crafts, Willie Raders, John Salinas, Lupe Villegas, Ramiro Williams, D. Joe

• 2004 •

Anzaldua, Amador "Mayo" †
Balducci, Roxanne
Capello, Juan J., M.D.
Edwards, Freddie Allen
Gonzalez, Rogelio "Roy" †
Harbour, Todd
Hollingsworth, Hank
Mims, John
Vasquez, David
Vaughan, Charlie

• 2005 •

Barbosa, Tony
Castillo, Juan
Denson, Don
Gonzalez, Paula
Hall, James C. "Red"
Houghtaling, Jim †
Lugo, Alfredo
Rodriguez, Hesiquio "Zeke"
Wise, Steve
Zamarripa, Nora

• 2006 •

Barker - Davis, Rochelle Field, Jackie † Garza, Gil Garza, Meme Garza, Leonel G. Garza, Rene G. McLish, Rachel Rodriguez, Amador † Spoonemore, Carl

• 2007 •

Alvarez, Arnie †
Longoria, Sylvia
Pompa, Eliseo
Solis, Merced
Torres, Rene
Villarreal, Magda

• 2008 •

Corona, Regino C. Filoteo, Joe Keyes, Bert R. Moore, Tommy Vela, Robert † Young, Russell

• 2009 •

Bazan, Pete Cox, Tommy † Detmer, Sonny Roberts, Tommy Salinas, Hector Tredaway, Reggie Wright, Lum

The Class of 2011 will be announced November 1, 2010 on our website RGVSportsHallofFame.org

Distinguished Service Hward

he RGV Sports Hall of Fame each year honors a person or business in the Rio Grande Valley that has made a major contribution in time or monetary support of SPORTS in the Valley. The award is referred to as The Distinguished Service Award. It is not to be confused with the selection of the annual induction awards for those players, coaches, administrators, officials or sports journalists, who are elected to the Hall of Fame for their outstanding achievements.

The award was first presented at the Hall of Fame's 1995 Induction Banquet, eight years after the inaugural induction banquet of 1988. Glenn Roney, well known banker and business giant in McAllen, was the first recipient of the prestigious award. Sixteen men and women have been presented with the DSA honor.

Glenn Roney, McAllen Roy Gonzalez, McAllen Robert Valadez, Mission Othal Brand, McAllen Joe Ochoa, Edinburg Irma Elizondo, Pharr Herman Keillor, MD, Harlingen Greg LaMantia, McAllen Val LaMantia-Piesen, McAllen Jorge Salcines, McAllen A.C. Jaime, Pharr Charlie Isbell, Brownsville Joe Ayala, Harlingen Bill Guthrie, Harlingen Larry Pressler, McAllen Dr. Ben Garza, Edinburg



2010 RGV Sports Hall of Fame Scholastic Achievement Award

Victoria Ponce

Edinburg High School Class of 2010

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Charlie Vanghan President Harlingen



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Tony Trejo Immed. Past Pres McAllen



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Rene Garza Director Mission



Armando Gomez Director Pharr



Tony Guerrero, Jr.
Director
Mission



Manuel Hinojosa Director Port Isabel



Jim McKone Director McAllen



Tomas O'Cana Director Edinburg



Dan Ogletree Director McAllen



Pikey Rodriguez
Director
McAllen



Carlos Vela Director San Juan



Tom Weekley Director McAllen

Past Presidents

E.C. Lerma (1985-88)

Carlos Vela (2000-02)

Charlie Williams (1988-91)

Rene G. Garza (2002-04)

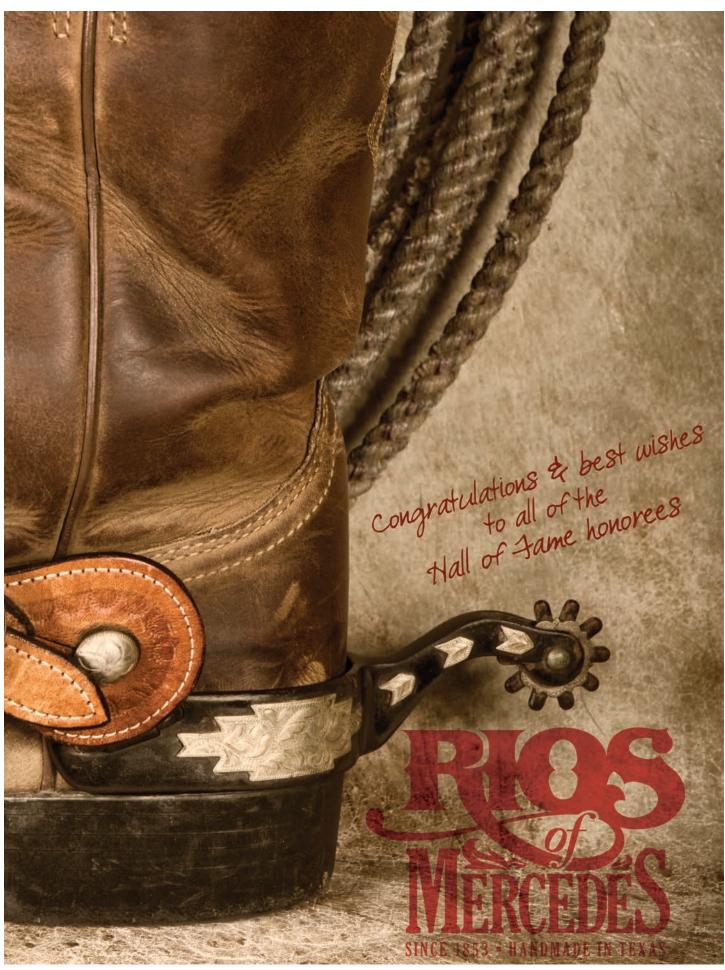
Tom Weekley (1998-2000)

Joe A. Rodriguez (1991-94) Roy Garcia (1994-96)

Ronnie Zamora (2004-06)

John Lerma (1996-98)

Tony Trejo (2006-08)





Membership has its benefits

Regular Member - \$15

Member qualifies to submit a candidate for a Scholastic Achievement Award.

Patron Member - \$50 to \$149

1 ticket to the Annual RGVSHOF Induction Banquet or 1 RGVSHOF embroidered cap.

All-Star/Sustaining Member Sponsor - \$150 to \$299

Includes name on the RGV Sports Hall of Fame web site. 2 tickets to the Annual RGVSHOF Induction Banquet or 1 RGVSHOF embroidered cap.

All-Valley/Table Sponsor - \$300 to \$499

Includes name on the RGV Sports Hall of Fame web site. 8 tickets (1 Reserved Table) to the Annual RGVSHOF Induction Banquet. Program recognition at the banquet.

All-State Sponsor - \$500 to \$999

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All-American Sponsor - \$1,000 to \$2,999

Includes company logo and name on the RGV Sports Hall of Fame web site. Company logo on the sponsor banner hung year round at the temporary museum in Port Isabel, TX. 8 tickets (1 Reserved Table) to the Annual RGVSHOF Induction Banquet. Company name recognized as a co-sponsor of a Scholastic Achievement Award. 2 RGVSHOF embroidered golf shirts and 2 caps.

MVP Sponsor - \$3,000 Plus

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TO BECOME A MEMBER

Contact Charlie Vaughan at 956-778-2688 or CVCattle@aol.com

Attention Members & Sponsors

To receive the gifts designated for the donation you make, please notify the Hall of Fame. Otherwise, donations or sponsorships are considered to be fully tax deductible, and no gifts or banquet tickets are expected in return.

Tickets for the Annual Induction Banquet are distributed in May. If you donate \$50 or more and request a banquet ticket, they will be mailed at least ten days before the banquet.

*The RGV Sports Hall of Fame is a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization. Memberships & Sponsorships are annually renewable.

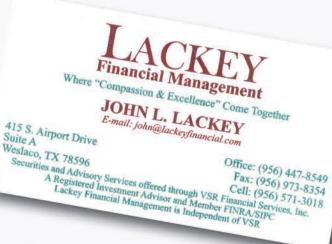




Paul Peña SITE MANAGER

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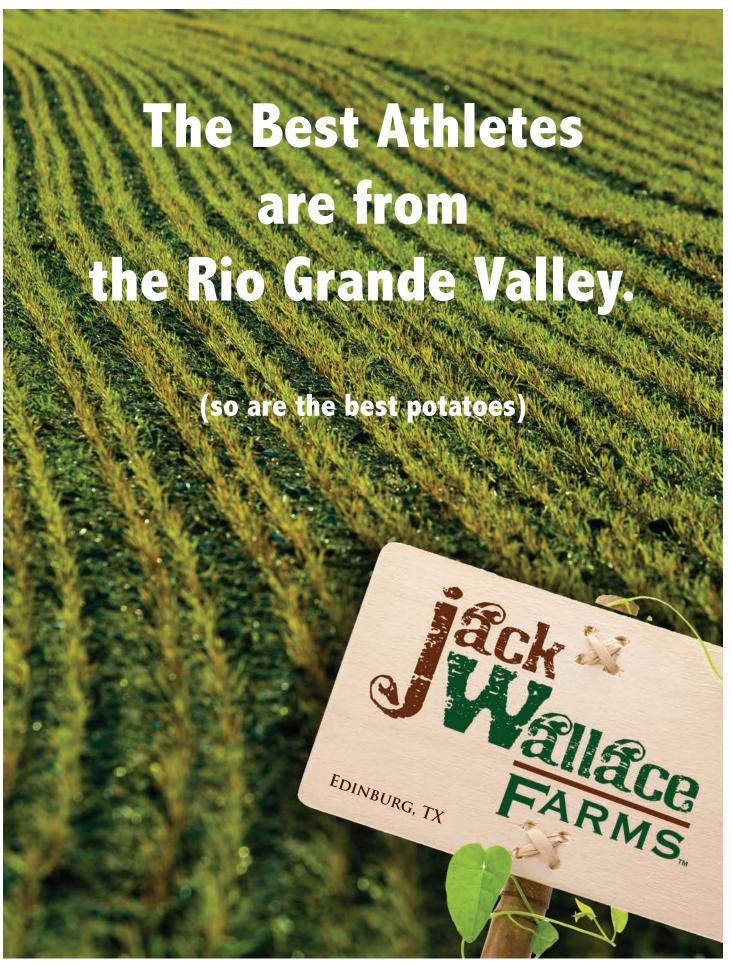
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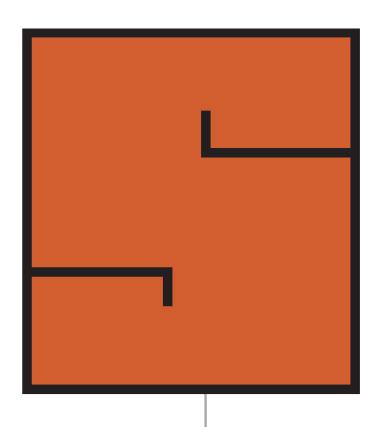


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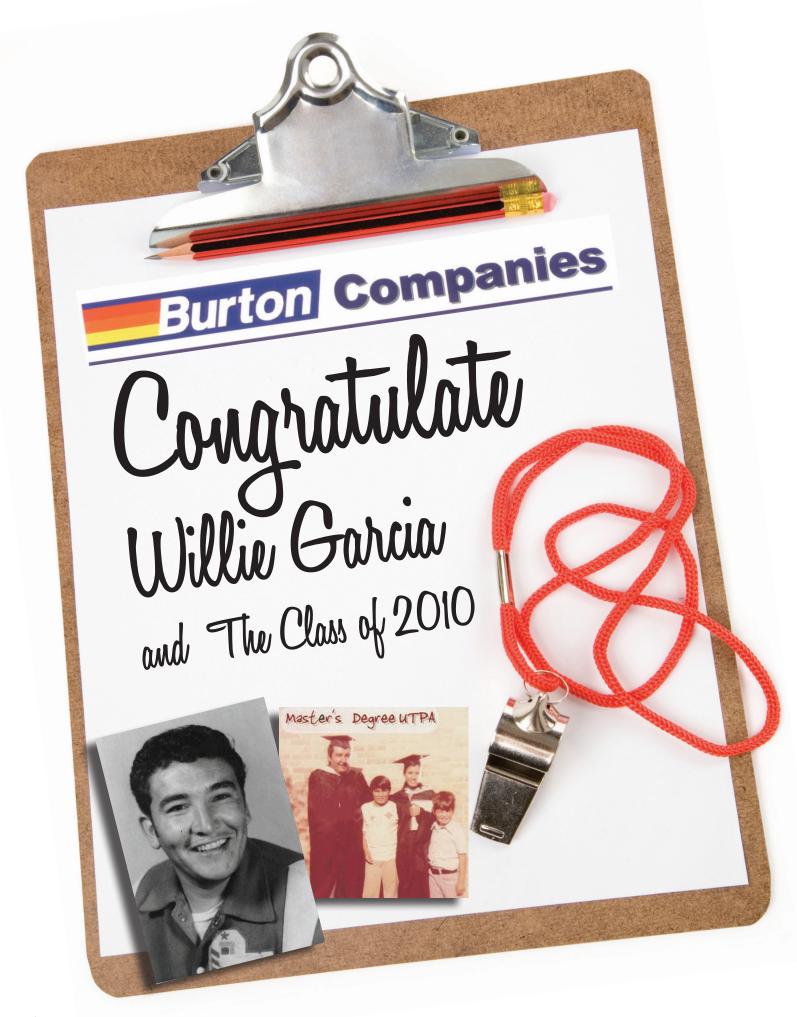
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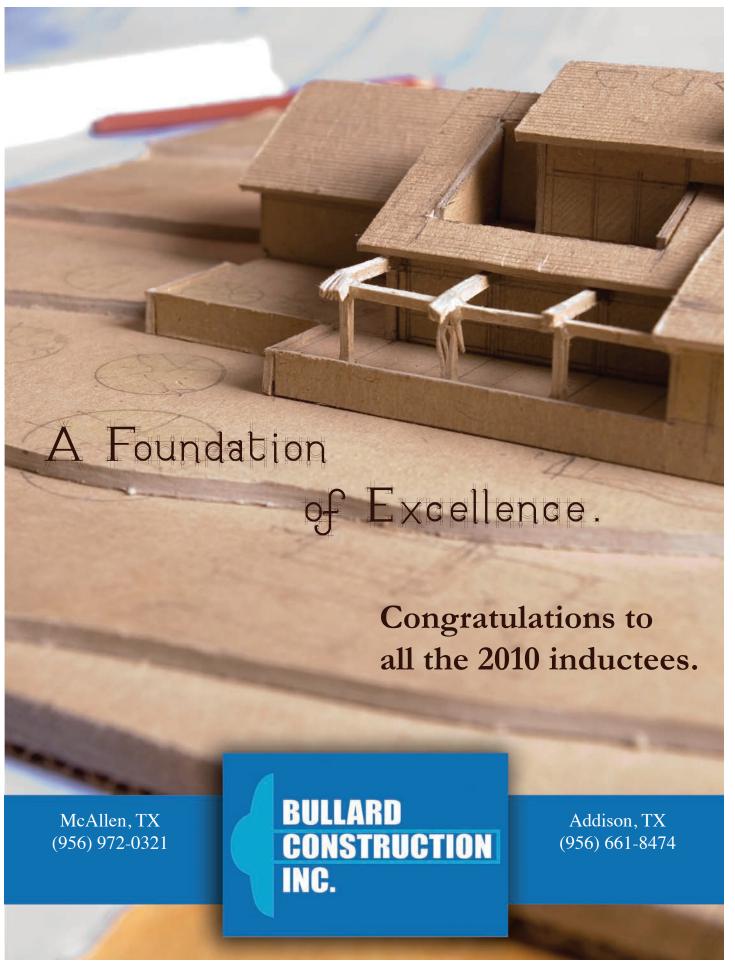


Winston Ayala RGV Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors

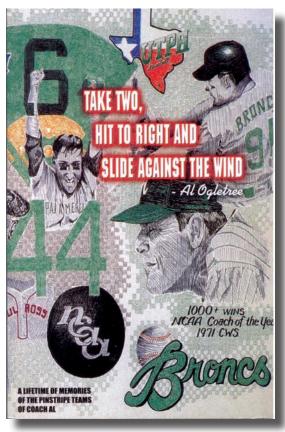


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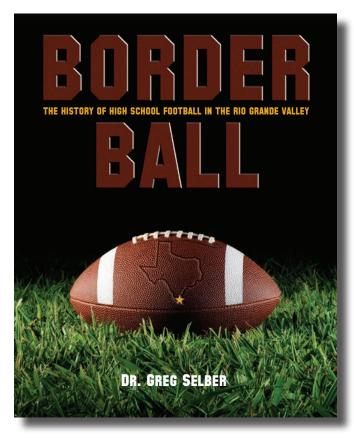
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