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**SPORTS**  
HALL OF FAME

**2014**  
INDUCTION BANQUET

**CONGRATULATIONS  
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PAN AMERICAN BRONCS  
AND THE CLASS OF 2014**



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President's Message

Welcome to the 27th Annual Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet. 2014 marks the 29th anniversary of the organization and the third year in a row that we have held our induction banquet here in the City of Pharr. The Board of Directors are happy to be here this evening and are happy everyone could join us tonight for this year's event. The Sports Hall of Fame is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing recognition to our local talent—those who have represented the Rio Grande Valley throughout Texas and the Nation.

Tonight will be a memorable night for the inductees and their families. We all look forward to hearing their stories of the past and of their most memorable moments during their sports career.

I would like to congratulate this year's 2014 Class of seven inductees. A diverse group consisting of one woman – Nancy Clark (Harlingen), who participated in Division I tennis at The University of Texas at Austin and went on to win many championships in open tournaments across the state of Texas and nation over the next 31 years. The six men start with Jesse Gomez (Raymondville), who grew up as a local all around athlete and later played for Texas Southmost College, eventually moving on to play semi-pro baseball in the U.S. and Mexico back in the 1950s. Vernon Hallbeck (San Benito) went on to play football for Texas Christian University, helping lead the way to the Southwest Conference Cotton Bowl Championship in 1955 and later making his mark in the Canadian Football League. Herbie Hinojosa (Brownsville) started early in life with his outstanding career racing horses, taking his 3,000th career victory in 1981 with a final career total earnings of more than \$17.9 million. Gerald Lambert (McAllen) took his high school football performance on to Texas A&I University to help win the 1959 NAIA National Championship, receiving All-American honors and being inducted into A&I's Hall of Fame in 1975. Johnny Olvera (Brownsville) started as a Little League baseball legend and became an outstanding athlete in football and baseball throughout his high school career, leading his teams to victory. Olvera eventually moved on to play four years of baseball with The University of Texas. Leo Araguz (Harlingen) became a three-time All-Southland Conference selection as a punter while at Stephen F. Austin University and later moved on to play for four NFL franchises, averaging 42.6 yards per punt.

The ultimate goal of the RGV Sports Hall of Fame organization is to have a permanent place to honor our inductees and display some of their memorabilia. We are in the process of making this dream come true with local entities and local businesses for key sponsorships.

Finally, I would like to thank the board members in allowing me to serve as their president for this year and the upcoming 2015 year.

Sincerely,

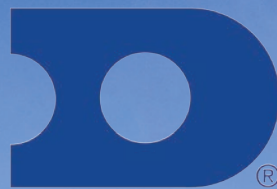
*Dan Ogletree,  
RGV Sports Hall of Fame Chairman of the Board 2013-2015*

*Special Thanks*

Biography Writer: Dr. Greg Selber  
Graphic Design: Dr. Kimberly Selber  
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# CONGRATULATIONS Class of 2014 You scored big.



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# Making Memories, Today

When it was founded in 1985, the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame immediately 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 sports world together annually ever since. More than 200 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.

Highlights for this year's class include a Cotton Bowl fullback, a Brownsville legend who became a baseball player for UT Austin, and a jockey whose career and life story are the stuff of fairy tales.

The Selection Committee constructs a list of about 20-30 athletes to vote on each year, collecting information on each one and weighing their contributions under a number of criteria. There are a number of coaches, officials, administrators and media on the list, as well as ballplayers. The Board of Directors recognizes that without this support crew, the games and players 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. As tennis great Nancy Clark joins the club this year, the diversity (and quality) of the group will be augmented.

Celebrating its 29th year of existence, the Hall continues to evolve, with an updated Web site and a full-color RGV Sports Hall of Fame commemorative program once again this year.



## 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 honorees July 12 in Pharr, the Hall of Fame wishes to thank all Valley athletes and fans for contributing to the growth and popularity of the organization.

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

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## LEO ARAGUZ

**Hometown:** Harlingen

**High School:** Harlingen High School

**College:** Stephen F. Austin

**Sport Best Known For:** Football

Leo Araguz is a guy who never gave up, even when the odds seemed to be stacked against him.

He had been a standout athlete at Harlingen High School who went on to fame as a professional football kicker, and is still active today in the Lone Star Football League with the RGV Sol.

He played football and soccer with the Cardinals and earned a scholarship to Stephen F. Austin University, where he made All-Southland Conference three times, leading Division II booters with a 42.6 yard average in 1992.

After a stint in the World League, he was working as a substitute teacher at Coakley Junior High in Harlingen, working out, and hoping for a shot.

He got it with the Raiders at the end of the 1996 season, filling in after injuries felled two Oakland punters, and was the team's punter from 1997-1999, averaging a career-high 45.0 per punt in 1997.

During a 7-year career in the NFL, Araguz punted 322 times for an average of 42.6 with the Raiders, Seattle Seahawks, Minnesota Vikings, and Detroit Lions. He holds the record for most punts in an NFL game, with 16 for 709 yards for the Raiders in 1998.

Along the way he also played for the New York/New Jersey Hitmen in the XFL (2001). Araguz returned to action in 2011 with the RGV Magic in Arena Football, and kicked three seasons for them. In 2014 he joined the Sol as their punter at age 44.

# CONGRATULATIONS BRONCS

**NANCY K. CLARK,  
R.P.H., M.ED., PHARM. D.**

***UTPA Athletes, Coaches  
and Alums inducted into  
the RGV Sports Hall of Fame***

Louie Alamia, 2010  
LuAnn Alexander, 2013  
Arnie Alvarez, 2007  
Richard Avila, 2003  
Tony Barbosa, 2005  
Jack Bloomfield, 1993  
Mike Brisky, 2012  
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, 2010  
Jesus "Chuy" Guerra, 2000  
Oton "Tony" Guerrero, 1995  
Donald Guillot, 2011  
Kathy Howell, 2010  
Iris G. Iglesias, 2012  
Lucious "Luke" Jackson, 1995  
Alex Leal, 1996  
Felipe Leal Garcia, 2000  
Jim McKone, 1994  
Erasmó "Mo" Molina, 2010  
Otto Moore, 2010  
David Mosqueda, 1993  
Al Ogletree, 1989  
Mary Lee Rabke, Ph.D., 1997  
John Anthony Raders, 2003  
Jody Ramsey, 1999

Camilo "Bucky" Rodriguez, 2002  
Joe A. Rodriguez, 1991  
Pikey Rodriguez, Jr., 2001  
Hector Salinas, 2009  
Lupe Salinas, 2003  
Patsy Sanchez-Paredes, 2013  
Rene Torres, 2007  
Reggie Tredaway, 2009  
Carlos Vela, 2011  
Pete Vela, 2012  
Robert Vela, 2008  
D. Joe Williams, 2003  
Sam Williams, 1988  
Raul Zamarripa, 2013



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## NANCY K. CLARK, R.PH., M.ED., PHARM. D.

**Hometown:** Harlingen

**High School:** Harlingen High School

**College:** The University of Texas at Austin

**Sport Best Known For:** Tennis

At age 14, she entered three different age-group competitions at a tennis tournament, and won all three, showing that Nancy Clark was going to be something special. Clark was a superstar at Harlingen High who later became The University of Texas's No. 1 player for three seasons.

In junior high she had been too good for her age level and ended up traveling with the Cardinal varsity; upon reaching high school she dominated the Valley consistently, ranking as No. 1 two years, winning state in 1964 and also advancing far into the bracket as a doubles player. She was a state champion in doubles with teammate Pam Riepen.

At UT, Clark was the top player for three years, and in 1970 was undefeated in doubles with partner Royce Ann Marshall. Unbeaten again in 1971, Clark finished her college days on a high note.

After graduation from Texas, Clark continued to win championships in open tournaments statewide, including the Texas Open Women's Doubles State Championship in 1974. That was the first in a string of awesome post-college performances that lasted through 2005. She had the distinction of winning major Texas Open doubles titles with both her mother and father, and reunited with Riepen in the 35- and 40-year old divisions to capture many significant wins. She later earned a master's degree in education from The University of Texas-Pan American and a doctorate of pharmacy from The University of Florida, and now works at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen.

# Congratulations

## Class of 2014

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1995 RGV Sports Hall of Fame Inductee,  
**Oton Guerrero**

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## JESSE S. GOMEZ†

**Hometown:** Raymondville  
**High School:** Raymondville High School  
**College:** Texas Southmost College  
**Best Known For:** Baseball

Jesse Gomez was one of the finest baseball players that the Valley produced in the 1950s; his services as a pitcher were in high demand for decades.

He was a superb, all-around athlete in high school at Raymondville (Class of '49), playing quarterback for three seasons and making All-District twice. He also pitched for the Bearkat baseball team and later played football at Texas Southmost College in Brownsville.

Gomez was everywhere in the 1950s, playing for semi-pro teams in Corpus Christi and the Valley, even taking a turn in Guadalajara with the Mexican semi-pro league. In 1951, he was the star thrower of the Pearl Beer team and eventually became player-manager for the Edinburg Ginnners, one of the Valley's best outfits.

The Ginnners were one of the many outstanding ball clubs in deep South Texas at the time, and went to battle every year against the Brownsville Charros and Mission 30-30's, among others.

The right-hander Gomez mowed them down with abandon in the 1950s, leading the Ginnners from the mound and also as player-manager for several seasons. He was a teammate of such luminaries as R.C. "Fito" Flores and Camilo Estevis in that golden era of Valley baseball.

Later he transitioned onto a new road, becoming an outstanding football official, a long-time businessman in the insurance industry, and a regular in volunteer and philanthropic events. But Gomez is best known as a legendary hurler of the 1950s, during a time when baseball in the Valley was king.

RAYMONDVILLE Bearkats of 1949

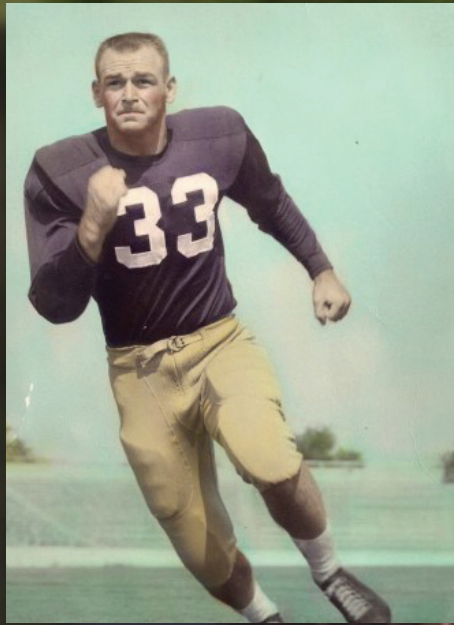
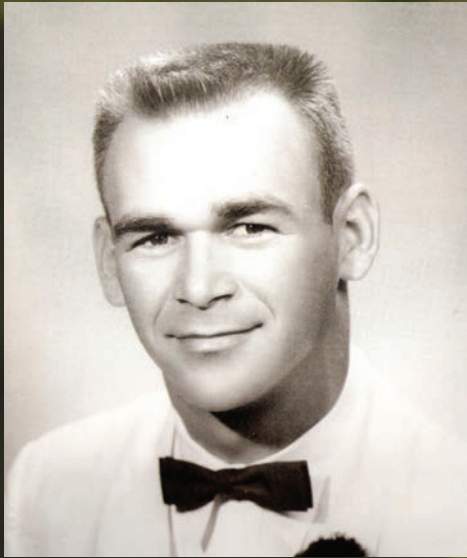


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## VERNON HALLBECK†

**Hometown:** San Benito  
**High School:** San Benito High School  
**College:** Texas Christian University  
**Best Known For:** Football

The Valley sent dozens of gridiron athletes to the Southwest Conference back in the glory days, and one of the toughest was Vernon Hallbeck of San Benito. Hallbeck was a star for the Greyhounds under Coach Jim Barnes in the early 1950s.

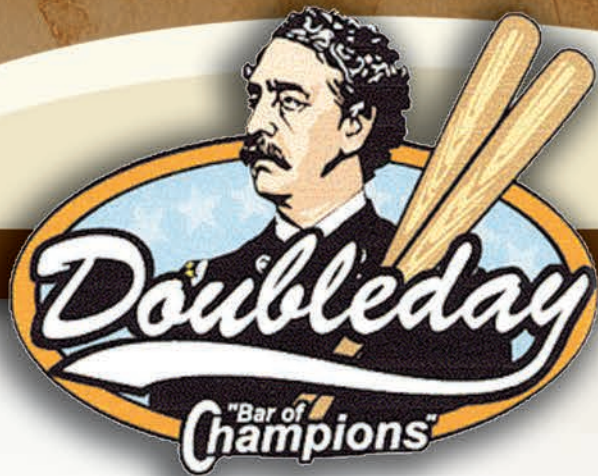
He played as a guard and linebacker, and was a teammate of future Olympic hero Bobby Morrow. He also competed on the basketball team, helping the 'Hounds to the district title in 1952, when they went 21-3 and lost to eventual state champion San Antonio Alamo Heights in the playoffs.

Earning a spot on the squad at Texas Christian University, Hallbeck ended up as a two-way starter. His punishing running and blocking from the fullback position paved the way to the Cotton Bowl for the Horned Frogs after they won the SWC title in 1955.

The Frogs of Coach Abe Martin were ranked in the Top 10 in 1955, going 9-1 and losing only to Texas A&M. Hallbeck opened holes for All-American Jim Swink in '55 and rushed for 164 yards in 1956.

Hallbeck worked as an assistant coach for his alma mater from 1958 to 1963 after having played a year in the Canadian Football League with Calgary (1957), and took part in four Cotton Bowls as a player and coach.

In 1994, the Horned Frog veteran was honored with induction into the TCU Sports Hall of Fame. Hallbeck worked in real estate from 1962 to 2002 and passed away in 2011 at age 77.



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Exhibit

**Congratulations**  
**Heriberto**  
**“Herbie”**  
**Hinojosa**

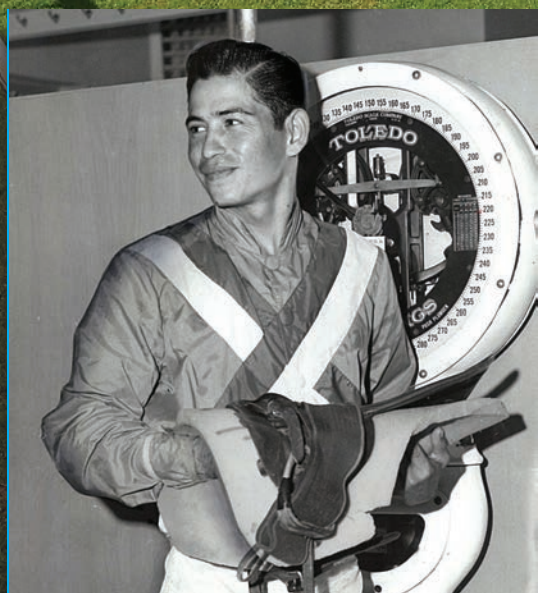


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## HERIBERTO “HERBIE” HINOJOSA

**Hometown:** Brownsville

**Best Known For:** Horse Racing

He rode from obscurity and hard times into the bright lights, becoming a famous jockey whose story was finally chronicled in 2013 by Roy Bragg of the San Antonio Express-News.

Heriberto Hinojosa was born in 1936 to a migrant family of eight at El Ranchito, a colonia near Brownsville, and started racing horses at the age of eight.

He raced in northern Mexico as a youth before moving to New Mexico and working his way onto the pro circuit. Hinojosa rode his first winner at a pari-mutuel event in 1954 and over the next 40 years became a competitor against the greats, including Willie Shoemaker and Eddie Arcaro. He became friends with many sporting legends, and also of famed actor Roy Rogers.

Hinojosa was sixth in total wins for 1961 and 1962, and finished among the top 20 money winners five times as a pro. He piloted Neapolitan Way to second place in the 1974 Preakness Stakes, beating that year’s Kentucky Derby winner, Canonade. He also rode two fifth-place horses at the Belmont Stakes during his career and finished fourth in a 1978 race, behind the last Triple Crown winner, Affirmed.

He was a multiple graded-stakes winner and in 1981 became the 31st North American jockey to reach 3,000 victories. In 25,160 career starts, Hinojosa won 3,334, coming in second 3,349 times, and third 3,246 times. Hinojosa, who moved back to Brownsville in 2001, compiled total earnings from his career as a jockey of \$17,962,176 .



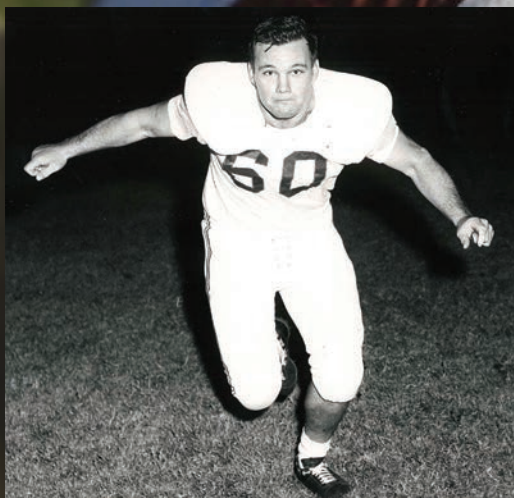
# CONGRATULATIONS GERALD LAMBERT AND THE CLASS OF 2014

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## GERALD LAMBERT

**Hometown:** McAllen  
**High School:** McAllen High School  
**College:** Texas A&I  
**Best Known For:** Football

One of the greatest linemen in Valley history, he was a Little All-American in college and was drafted by the Oakland Raiders in 1960.

Gerald Lambert (McAllen High class of 1955) starred for three years on varsity for McHi at guard. The Bulldogs advanced to Class AAA state semifinals in both 1952 and 1954, beating region powers San Antonio Edison in '52 and Alamo Heights in '54 to advance to the state semis.

Lambert was selected as an outstanding football player in District 8-AAA at the annual Valley football banquet and was named first-team All-State for 1954.

At Texas A&I – now Texas A&M-Kingsville – he was an Associated Press Little All-American and received NAIA All-American honors. He was a key cog for the 1959 A&I football team that won the NAIA national championship and Lone Star Conference title, and was named outstanding lineman in both the title game and semifinals.

A teammate of Hall of Famers Willie Crafts and Jesse Longhofer, the rugged lineman led the Javs to a 12-1 mark and the national title, won against Lenoir-Rhyne, N.C. 20-6 down in St. Petersburg, Fla. in a nationally televised contest.

Soon after, Lambert played in the All-American Bowl in Tucson, Arizona after his senior season and was eventually selected by the Raiders of the AFL on the 11th round in 1960.

Lambert was inducted into the Javelina Hall of Fame in 1975 and coached 12 years before taking a position as the superintendent of transportation for Bryan Public Schools.



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## JOHNNY OLVERA

**Hometown:** Brownsville  
**High School:** Brownsville High School  
**College:** The University of Texas at Austin  
**Best Known For:** Baseball

One of the most coveted schoolboy athletes in Brownsville history, Olvera became a three-sport standout for the Eagles who eventually played for a nationally ranked baseball team at UT.

Olvera, or Johnny O as he was widely known, was a well-known Little League legend who made All-District four times in high school in baseball and football, also competing on the basketball squad. As a running back with exceptional speed, he rushed for more than 1,000 yards in his sophomore year on the Eagles team of 1969.

That was one of the greatest Brownsville teams, as the Eagles won a co-title in 26-4A with Harlingen, advancing to the playoffs by virtue of a 26-0 regular-season shutout of the Cards. Coach Joe Rodriguez' team defeated Corpus Christi Miller 25-15 before losing to Seguin in the next round. Olvera ended his high school football days as an All-District defensive back, giving credence to his versatility and talent.

In baseball, he led the Eagles to two playoff trips as a pitcher-outfielder. Olvera led the district in hitting twice and was a tremendous defensive gem. He batted over .330 lifetime and earned a scholarship from Coach Cliff Gustafson at UT. Olvera worked his way into the starting lineup as a senior for the 'Horns and was among the team leaders in stolen bases and runs scored for 1976. That season the team played in the NCAA Regionals and lost to Oklahoma in the final game, barely missing out on the College World Series.



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2 RGVSHOF embroidered polo shirts and 2 caps.

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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 and a reserved table to the Annual RGVSHOF Induction Banquet.  
Program recognition at the banquet and company name as a sponsor of one table.  
Company name recognized as a co-sponsor of a scholarship.  
3 RGVSHOF embroidered polo shirts and 3 caps.

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Company logo on the sponsor banner hung year round at the temporary museum in Port Isabel, TX.  
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Program recognition at the banquet and company name as a sponsor of two tables.  
Company name recognized as a co-sponsor of a scholarship.  
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## **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.*

## **TO BECOME A MEMBER**

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# Hall of Fame Inductees

Alamia, Luis Jr.	2010	Creasey, George†	1989	Hinojosa, Rene Manuel†	2002
Alaniz, Leo "Najo"†	1988	Davis, C.W. "Napper"†	1988	Hirst, Gerald	1994
Alexander, LuAnne	2013	Davis, Gilly†	1992	Hollingsworth, Hank	2004
Alvarez, Arnie†	2007	Denson, Don	2005	Houghtaling, Jim†	2005
Ausmus, Don	2013	Detmer, Sonny	2009	Howell, Kathy	2010
Anzaldua, Amador "Mayo"†	2004	Drew, Tom	1995	Hudson, Jim†	1994
Aranda, Olga	2002	Edwards, Freddie Allen	2004	Iglesias, Iris G.	2012
Avila, Alfredo	2003	Esparza, Thomas, Ph.d.†	1991	Jackson, Johnnie	2013
Avila, Celestino Z., M.D.	2000	Esquivel, Carlos†	1998	Jackson, Lucious "Luke"	1995
Avila, Richard	2002	Estevis, Camilo	1995	Knetig, Ed Jr.	2012
Ayala, Jr., Ernesto	1995	Etnire, Stanley†	1996	Keyes, Bert R.	2008
Balducci, Roxanne	2004	Evans, Norm	1994	Labar, Wayne†	1997
Barbosa, Tony	2005	Faria, Rey	2010	Lackey, Bobby	1990
Barker-Davis, Rochelle	2006	Farris, Bill†	1990	LaGrange, Charles	2001
Bazan, Pete	2009	Field, Jackie†	2006	Landry, Thomas Wade	
Beaudry, Charles, Ph.d.†	1989	Filoteo, Joe	2008	"Tom"†	1988
Beene, Cathy A.	2012	Flores, Adrian†	1997	Lawrence, Jimmy†	1989
Bloomfield, Jack	1993	Flores, R.C. "Fito"†	1992	Leal Garcia, Felipe†	2000
Boyle, C.L. "Smokey"†	1989	Flores, Richard	1992	Leal, Alex	1996
Brooks, Jim†	1990	Garcia, Gonzalo†	1999	Lerma, E.C.†	1989
Brumley, Bob†	2011	Garcia, Roy	1993	Lerma, John C.	2000
Bush, Bruce	2011	Garcia, Willie	2010	Levermann, Gerald	
Butler Kalencki, Jeanie	1999	Garza, Eleuterio	1993	"Dutch"†	2001
Butler, Tony†	1998	Garza, Gil	2006	Levermann, Margaret†	1998
Caldwell, Earl†	2013	Garza, Leo Jr.†	1996	Levine, Lewis Milton "Lew"	1998
Cannon, Bobby†	1989	Garza, Leonel G.	2006	Lohr, Larry†	1989
Cantu, Juanita M.†	1997	Garza, Meme	2006	Longhofer, Jesse D.	1994
Cantu, Ramon O.†	1995	Garza, Rene G.	2006	Longoria, Sylvia	2007
Canul, Guadalupe	2002	Garza, Sammy	2011	Lopez, Carlos	2013
Capello, Juan J., M.D.	2004	Gerlicki, Joseph†	2002	Lugo, Alfredo†	2005
Capello, Robert	2003	Gonzalez, Paula	2005	Maldonado, Frank "Pancho"	2000
Casso, Teresa	1996	Gonzalez, Rogelio "Roy"†	2004	Martin, Donny	2010
Castillo, Juan	2005	Gorges, Matt	1992	Martin, Robert L. "Bob"†	1992
Cavazos, Max†	1991	Green, Buddy†	2013	Martinez, Carmen G.	1999
Clark, Margaret M.†	2001	Guerra, Jesus "Chuy"	2000	Martinez, Homer Sr.	2002
Cleckler, Mary Jeanne	1995	Guerrero, Oton "Tony"	1995	McKone, Jim	1994
Coleman, Bert†	2003	Guillot, Donald	2011	McLish, Rachel	2006
Conner, M.F. "Red"†	1993	Hall, James C. "Red"†	2005	McMurtry, Paul J.†	1991
Conover, Brooks W.†	1997	Harbour, Todd	2004	Mims, John†	2004
Corona, Regino C.	2008	Heald, Dessie†	1989	Molina, Mo	2010
Cortez, Robert	1997	Helms, J.W.†	1996	Moore, Otto	2010
Cox, Tommy†	2009	Helms, Jim	1996	Moore, Tommy	2008
Crafts, Willie†	2003	Henson, Bob	2013	Morrow, Bobby	1988
Crane, Corky	1999	Hernandez, Alfredo "Boxer"†	1998	Mosqueda, David	1993



# HALL OF FAME

Moxley, Paul	2002	Salinas, Lupe	2003	Vela, Pete	2012
Nixon, Charles M.†	1998	Sanchez, Joe R. Sr.†	1999	Vela, Robert†	2008
Nyquist, Larry †	2001	Sanchez-Paredes, Patsy	2013	Vest, George†	1993
Ogletree, Al	1989	Sanders, Travis	2011	Villarreal, Eliseo†	1994
Owens, Carl B.	2001	Sauceda, Dora†	1994	Villarreal, Magda	2007
Parker, Lloyd †	1995	Scott, Earl	1989	Villarreal, Vic†	2001
Pedraza, Luz Jr.	1996	Schulgen, George L. Jr.	2012	Villegas, Ramiro	2003
Pemelton, Billy Gene	1998	Shuford, John Albert		Wallace, Jack Sr.†	2012
Peña, Bernardo†	1991	“Lefty”†	2002	Ward, Al	1998
Platt, Jimmy	1997	Silver, Gene	1991	Watkins, Mary F.†	1990
Ply, Bobby	1991	Smith, Frank Jr.	1994	Weekley, Tom B.	2001
Pompa, Eliseo	2007	Solis, Merced	2007	West, Tom†	1992
Rabke, Mary Lee, Ph.d.	1997	Soza, Guadalupe “Lupe”	1998	White, Howard A. “Andy”	1999
Raders, John†	2003	Spoonemore, Carl	2006	Williams, Charlie†	1988
Ramsey, Jody†	1999	Stephens, Jerry†	1990	Williams, D. Joe†	2003
Reichert, Tommy†	1996	Stevenson, W.M. “Buster”†	1997	Williams, Sam†	1988
Rivas, Homero, M.D.	1999	Stewart, Ray†	1993	Wise, Steve	2005
Roberts, Tommy	2009	Stromeyer, George Jr. †	1990	Woodson Winston, Teresa†	2000
Robie, Glen†	1993	Stromeyer, George Sr.†	1990	Wright, Jim	1993
Rodriguez, Amador†	2006	Thomas, Amilda, Ph.d.†	1992	Wright, Lum	2009
Rodriguez, B.R. “Poppy”	2000	Torres, Rene	2007	Young, Russell†	2008
Rodriguez, Camilo Sr.†	1990	Tredaway, Reggie	2009	Zamarripa, Nora	2005
Rodriguez, Camilo “Bucky”	2002	Uhlaender, Ted†	1991	Zamarripa, Raul	2013
Rodriguez, Hesiquio “Zeke”	2005	Vasquez, David	2004	Zamora, Lupe “Chipper”	1994
Rodriguez, Joe A.	1991	Vaughan, Charlie	2004	Zamora, Ronnie	2011
Rodriguez, Pablo “Pikey”	2001	Vela, Carlos	2011	Zavaletta, Gus†	1992
Salazar, Dolores	2001	Vela, Efraim	1999		
Salinas, Hector	2009	Vela, Ernesto V.	2000		

## *Distinguished Service Award*

Glenn Roney, McAllen	1995	A.C. Jaime, Pharr	2004
Roy Gonzalez, McAllen	1996	Charlie Isbell, Brownsville	2005
Robert Valadez, Mission	1997	Joe Ayala, Harlingen	2006
Othal Brand, McAllen	1998	Bill Guthrie, Harlingen	2007
Joe Ochoa, Edinburg	1999	Larry Pressler, McAllen	2008
Irma Elizondo, Pharr	2000	Ben Garza, MD, Edinburg	2009
Herman Keillor, MD, Harlingen	2001	Roland Lomblot, Harlingen	2010
Greg LaMantia, McAllen	2002	Emilio O. Hernandez, DDS	2011
Val LaMantia-Piesen, McAllen	2002	Brownsville	
Jorge Salcines, McAllen	2003	Benjamin Lopez Jr., Mission	2012

**The Class of 2015 will be announced in January on  
[RGVSportsHallofFame.org](http://RGVSportsHallofFame.org)**

# Scholastic Achievement Awards



*Austin Figueroa*

Robert Vela High School

## E.C. Lerma Memorial Award

Austin Figueroa is a 2014 graduate of Robert Vela High School in Edinburg. Academically he excelled, ranking 6th in a class of 355 and graduated with a cumulative GPA of 104.26. Austin was a member of Mu Alpha Theta math honor society for 2013-2014 and President of the FCA for 2010-2014.

Austin excelled in cross-country and track during his high school career. He was a member of the varsity cross-country team that qualified for Regionals in 2012 and 2013. In Track, he was a varsity member for three years running the 1600 and 3200. The team finished the season ranked 2nd Valley wide and Austin was an important part of the team.

Austin will be attending Rice University in Houston in the fall where he will major in Aerospace engineering. Austin is the son of Hernan and Elva Figueroa of Edinburg.



## Scholastic Achievement Award

*Sponsored by Dr. Celestino Avila*

Alma Cortez is a 2014 Donna High School graduate. An outstanding student, Alma was an all-A honor student and graduated with a GPA of 100.23, ranking 1st in a class of 504.

Throughout high school, Alma was dedicated and committed both on and off the field. She was a member of the National Honor Society for three years, Student Council, and Junior Class President. Alma also found time to be in CC youth groups, Fall/Spring Festival, and Feast of Sharing.

Alma was very involved in athletics while at Donna High School. She played soccer one year and basketball for three years. However, Cross-Country was her sport. She was All Valley and won the Meet of Champs, District, Area and qualified for Regionals. She was ranked 1st in the 800 meter run in the Rio Grande Valley.

Alma will be attending the University of Texas at Austin and majoring in Petroleum Engineering in the fall. She is the daughter of Adan and Mary Cortez of La Feria.



*Alma Cortez*

Donna High School

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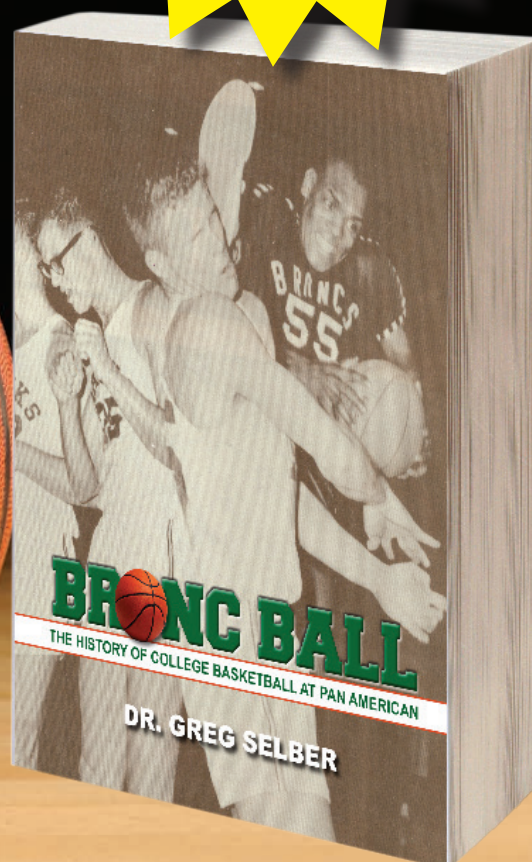
# BRONC BALL

THE HISTORY OF COLLEGE BASKETBALL AT PAN AMERICAN

Bronc Pride is alive and well once again in the Rio Grande Valley. Bronc Ball and its author, Greg Selber, remind us how deep that pride runs. Through a brutally honest and meticulously well-researched lens, Bronc Ball powerfully tells the story of college-level basketball in the Valley as well as the integration of the sport and the evolution of Pan American University into The University of Texas-Pan American.

— Robert S. Nelsen  
President UT Pan American

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