



Pictured above are graduates that attended the baccalaureate service at First Baptist Church on May 18. Front, from left: Macesly Thomas, April Pagel, Jessica Godley, Monica Barrow, Hillary Johnson, Violette Villafuerte, Katlyn Thomas, Dulce Llanos, and Christopher Mayfield. Back Row: Kourtney Korenek, Marisol Tapia, Stephanie Castillo, Jessica McLean, Samantha Castro, Jaclyn Gonzalez, Jeremy Gonzalez, Mayra Marquez, Taylor Cook, Yolanda Cisneros, Daniel Goodwin, Eduardo Losoya, Danielle Herrera, Shelly Myres, and Jonathan Dishongh.

Mahalitic Receives Award

The United States Achievement Academy (USAA) announced that Jordan Marie Mahalitic from Eagle Lake has been recognized by the USAA as a student of excellence in English.

Jordan who attends Rice High School, was nominated for this honor by Glenda Beall a teacher at the school. Jordan will appear in the USAA's official yearbook, which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, USAA students should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, founder of the USAA.

The academy recognizes students upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors, and other qualified sponsors and upon the standards for selection set forth by the Academy. The standards of selection include academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability, and recommendation from a qualified sponsor.

Jordan is the daughter of Stephen and Mary Mahalitic of Eagle Lake. The grandparents are Sam and Carol DeStefano of Mumford and Arthur and Clara Mahalitic of Eagle Lake.

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Rice Graduates Honored With Baccalaureate Service

The Sanctuary of First Baptist Church in Eagle Lake was the setting for a special service for Worship and Blessing of Eagle Lake area graduating seniors from class of 2008 Sunday afternoon, May 18, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance, the Baccalaureate is the traditional spiritual and Christian commencement service for graduating seniors.

The service opened with a processional, with the pastors of area churches leading the way up the aisle, followed by senior class members in attendance.

Seniors and guests were welcomed to the service by Rev. Steve Whitfield of Christ Church, with introduction of participating ministers. Whitfield welcomed guests, including Rice School Board members Betty Schuirring, and Carolyn Baird. Rice District Superintendent Michael Lanier, Rice High School principal Leroy Stavinoha and assistant principal Eric Grogan.

Graduating seniors in attendance included Monica Barrow, Samantha Castro, Stephanie Castillo, Yolanda Cisneros, Taylor Cook, Jonathan Dishongh,

Jessica Godley, Jaclyn Gonzalez, Jeremy Gonzalez, Daniel Goodwin, Danielle Herrera, Hillary Johnson, Kourtney Korenek, Dulce Llanos, Eduardo Losoya, Mayra Marquez, Christopher Mayfield, Jessica McLean, Shelly Myres, April Pagel, Marisol Tapia, Katlyn Thomas, Macesly Thomas and Violette Villafuerte.

The seniors came from at least nine area churches including Living Hope, White Cloud Baptist, the Parish of the Nativity, St. Mary's Parish, First Baptist Eagle Lake, Eagle Lake United Methodist, Shepherd's Way, Christian City and St. Robert's.

Rev. Mercy Fling of Living Hope Church, and the Living Hope worship band consisting of Sterling Fling on guitar, Cherrie McCain on flute and Josiah Fling on drums led a time of stifting songs of worship.

Area ministers including Revs. Whitfield and Rev. Mercy Fling, Rev. Ardie Nelson (Eagle Lake and Garwood United Methodist churches) and Rev. Mario Vasquez (Iglesia Bautista Getsamani) each brought a word of encouragement and charge to the seniors.

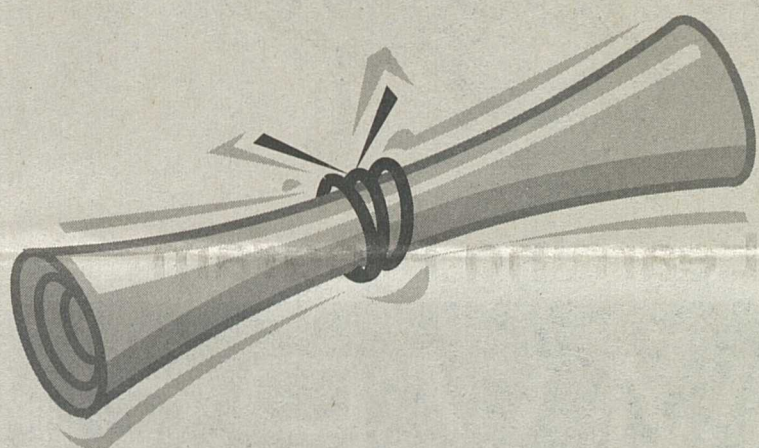
Rev. Joe Fling of Living Hope Church delivered the Baccalaureate message. Rev. Fling spoke from Jeremiah 29. He told the seniors that when God's people were in their darkest hour, not knowing which way to go, that God reminded them that He had only good plans for them. Rev. Fling charged the seniors to remember to turn to God in prayer in times of uncertainty.

Fling also thanked First Baptist for their willingness and hospitality in hosting this service for the community.

The service closed with a time of laying on of hands to bless the seniors by prayer and proclamation.

The service was well attended by family and friends of the graduates. The service concluded with refreshment and fellowship in the prayer garden of First Baptist.

Special thanks is extended to all those who participated and whose attendance made this day and this service special to the senior class of 2008. We again extend our blessing, and know that the hopes and best wishes and blessings of the whole community are with you, Class of 2008.



Congratulations on your achievement.
This is the first step to a future filled with great things.



Sarah Navarro



Racheal Navarro

We love you...

Grandma and Grandpa Cardenas, Momma, CoCo, Bully and Stacy, Micah and James, Mary and Donna



John and Lisa Delgado are pleased to announce the graduation of their daughter, Anna Danielle Delgado, from Keystone National High School. Ana attended Rice High School for two years and completed her final year at Keystone National High School in May 2008. Anna plans to attend Wharton County Junior College during the summer and fall semester and then transfer to the University of Texas in Austin next year.

Anna will pursue a career in nursing.

With Love

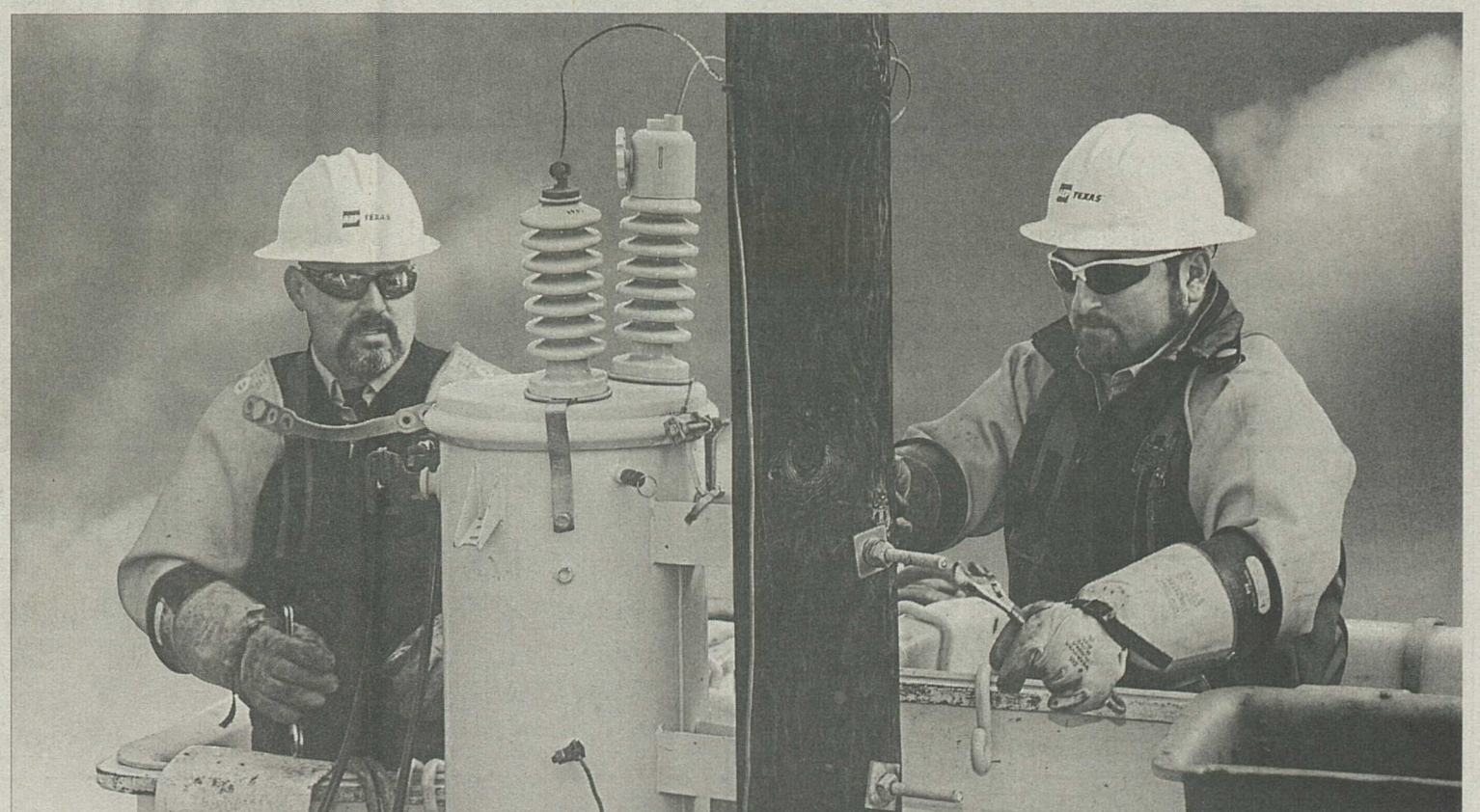
Congratulations!!

Anna

We are proud of you
Brian Cardenas
2008 graduate
Eagle Lake Junior High
Congratulations!
Love,
Mom, Dad,
Sergio and Zachary
God Bless You



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