

2015
Graduation
Keepsake

A special supplement to the
MARTINEZ NEWS-GAZETTE



ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL &
VICENTE MARTINEZ HIGH SCHOOL

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**MARTINEZ
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DAVID L. PAYNE, Publisher

RICK JONES, Editor
editor@martinezgazette.com

GERARDO RECINOS,
Sports Editor
sports@martinezgazette.com

SCOTT BABA,
Production Editor
production@martinezgazette.com

REBECCA KAPSALIS,
Front Desk/Circulation
subscribe@martinezgazette.com

ROBERT PERRY, Advertising
advertising@martinezgazette.com

BARBARA CETKO,
Legal Notices
mtzlegals@pacbell.net

ROBERT PEREZ,
Press Foreman

Graphics & page design by
Scott Baba
photography by
Robert Perry

**615 Estudillo St
Martinez, CA 94553
Phone: (925) 228-6400
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Alhambra graduates, faculty, family, friends and loved ones gathered for the 2015 commencement ceremony at Knowles Field, Friday, June 13, 2015.



All hail the conquering graduates!

By **RICK JONES**
Photography by **ROBERT PERRY**

In front of family, loved ones and well-wishers, Alhambra High School's Class of 2015 celebrated their graduation in typical Bulldog style. A packed stadium and sidelines saw 267 senior graduates accept their diplomas on Friday, June 12, 2015, at Knowles Field.

With the Alhambra High School Band and Orchestra playing the traditional Pomp and Circumstance, the students entered the stadium to wild cheers and applause.

The festivities began with a rousing performance of the Star Spangled Banner by senior McKenzie Favors.

Alhambra principal Tom Doppe introduced distinguished guests, which included members of the Martinez Unified School District board, district superintendent Rami Muth, Martinez Mayor Rob Schroder, and various staff from the district office.

Doppe then turned the ceremony over to the Alhambra Student Body (ASB) officers and Grace Perkins, ASB president.

"Today's is one of those

days we will look back on," Perkins began. "It's a milestone to graduate from high school and one we worked hard to achieve. The memories we made here at this great school and in this great town will be the ones that we cherish."

Perkins encouraged her classmates to keep the memories of their time at Alhambra.

"(Cherish) the ones we laugh about at reunions and tell our children," Perkins laughed. "Think about to the first week of freshman year when some of us felt lost finding our first period, myself included, now fast forward to our senior year when barely any of us showed up for our first period."

"Think about the other accomplishments we learned each year. We learned to drive

which is a slice of freedom for us and terrifying for our parents and the Martinez Police Department.

"Remember the teachers who taught you to question the world we live in. Remember the times and the people you encounter."

Each year the students chose a faculty member to speak, AP Government teacher Amy Yunis earned the 2015 honor.

"I've been asked to speak before," Yunis began. "I was terrified of standing here and doing this and I've always turned it down. After my initial relief I regretted that decision."

"I realized I ask all of you to do very difficult things and you usually rise to the occasion. I did not rise to the occasion. You don't always get a

second chance, so when you do take it."

Yunis urged the students to strengthen the community bond that has developed.

"Some of those around you, you may not see them again," Yunis said. "Take a look around. I want you to see them, this is your community. I want you to honor them. Tonight's your night, celebrate it"

Salutatorian Sam Francis took the podium next.

"I like to think about all the friends I've made and the relationships I've built," Francis said. "I don't know all of my peers, but I would like to thank each one of you for making the last four years the best they could have possibly been."

Our class is so accepting

See AHS, Page 3

AHS

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and we all feel so comfortable around each other, that is what makes it so amazing.”

Francis closed with a crowd-pleasing chant. “Amy Yunis for President 2016!”

Sam Nishita, 2015 valedictorian, spoke next to the crowd.

“I want to thank Mr. Doppe and the fantastic faculty we have here at Alhambra and their attention to high-quality education.”

Nishita recapped the accomplishments of the 2015 graduates.

“From a well-deserved, three years running, last place finish is the parade float contest to the first ever Alhambra High Film Fest, all the way to multiple NCS entries in numerous varsity sports. But we are not finished yet.

“Our slate is wiped clean and what we choose to do is up to us. It is our time to make a difference.”

Before the diplomas were handed out, Principal Doppe offered some final words.

Doppe used a line from poet John Milton, who was going blind late in life.

“‘When I consider how my light is spent’, it’s that line that echoes in my mind,” Doppe said.

“When you reflect on your years at Alhambra I hope you feel that you spent your light in a worthwhile way. As a class you accomplished much, your brilliance shown in the classroom, you lit up on the athletic fields. and you shone on the stage.

I hope you consider how you use your light each day as you move on to college and into your careers. I hope that you make choices everyday that are worthwhile that show that you value the light.

“Class of 2015, you will be missed. You continued on the legacy of Alhambra in a fine way,” Doppe said. “As you move on in life, know that Alhambra will always be a home for you.”



Teacher Amy Yunis and Olivia Mendoza at the Alhambra Commencement Ceremony on June 12, 2015.



2015 Valedictorian Sam Nishita addresses the crowd.



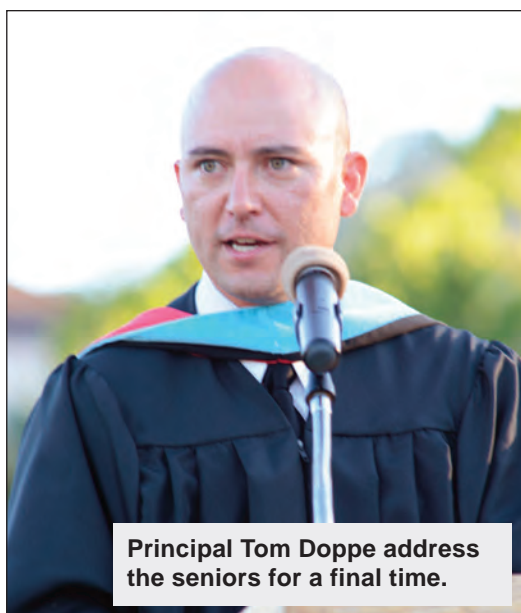
Sarah Hatch is all smiles as she receives her diploma.



Marquiz Ridou accepts his diploma.



Cheyenne Davis celebrates her graduation.



Principal Tom Doppe address the seniors for a final time.



ASB President, Grace Perkins gives a speech to her fellow graduates.

Local organizations award over \$94,000 in scholarships to Alhambra High students

By **RICK JONES**
Martinez News-Gazette

The 2015 Alhambra High School Senior Awards ceremony was held Wednesday, June 3, 2015.

Seniors and family gathered at the Alhambra High Auditorium as students were presented with awards. Ninety-two seniors

received over \$94,000 in local scholarships.

"I continue to be amazed every year that we recognize so many students and that the community has so many different scholarships they are able to award," Principal Tom Doppe said.

"For some of you this is quite literally the culmination of 13 years of work. You have applied yourself in the class-

room and have given yourself in the community. We are all very proud and very impressed with what you have accomplished," Doppe continued.

Alhambra High School 2015 Awards and Scholarships

Salaman Abdurrohman: Leader Development Award 2014-2015.

Raquel Acosta: Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2014-2015.

Jamie Agostino: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer.

William Anderson: Ford Motors/AAA Scholarship.

Eric Angeles: Searles Family Scholarship.

Paris Arditti: Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2013-2015.

Mark Azevedo: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Education Association Scholarship, Jay Heeb Kiwanis Vocational Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship.

Kaleb Bateman: Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Eagle Scout Award.

Samantha Bituen: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer.

Jessica Blum: Graduation with Honors, Alhambra Class of 1975 Teacher Appreciation Scholarship.

Kayla Bond: Soroptimist International of Martinez Rose Camarata Gaffney Memorial Scholarship, Jay Heeb Kiwanis Vocational Scholarship.

Aaron Brinkman: National High School Orchestra Award.

Harrison Brown: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Estate of A. Joseph Tavan Scholarship, AHS Boosters Scholar Athlete Scholarship, Martinez Lions Club Scholarship, Don Weiss Memorial Math Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Martinez Chamber of Commerce Young Man of the Year Award.

Madeline Buck: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, CSF Scholarship, Grad Night Scholarship.

Sarah Bullington: Concord Korean Baptist Church of Martinez Scholarship.

Avedis Buyuker: Lawrence "Jo-V" Miller Memorial Scholarship.

Isabella Campos: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Nicholas Carreon: Graduation with Honors.

Julia Castro: Graduation with Honors. Edwin Cerda: Caldwell Flores Winters Scholarship.

Kevin Chouinard: Graduation with Honors, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, Concord Korean Baptist Church of Martinez Scholarship.

Estafania Colmenares: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Rose Clyne: Searles Family Scholarship, Moss Family Scholarship, Rose-Christensen Family Scholarship, Jennifer Hollis & Chad Norris Memorial Scholarship, Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2015, Martinez Chamber of Commerce Young Woman of the Year Award.

Ryan DeMello: Arthur McHarry Vocational Scholarship.

Mia Dirito: Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2015.

Jack Dolin: Graduation with Honors.

Kaitlin Doolittle: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Matthew Dragicovic: Graduation with Honors, Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship, Grad Night Scholarship.

Jose Elizondo: Leader Development Award 2014-2015.

Kaitlyn Emigh: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Education Association Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, AAUW Pleasant Hill/Martinez Scholarship, Italian Catholic Federation Scholarship, Sonoma State University Presidential Scholarship, Madelyn Simpson Scholarship, Forrest W. and Ida J. Benson Scholarship.

Josh Evans: University of La Verne Academic Scholarship.

Ruth Fernandez: Graduation with Honors, Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Maria Filice: Graduation with Honors, Alhambra High School Water polo Award, The Alhambra Way Scholarship Award.

Ciazonne Foster: Helen Nunes Memorial Scholarship, Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Samuel Francis: Salutatorian, Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship

See AWARDS, Page 5



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Eleanor Roosevelt

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AWARDS

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Federation Sealbearer, CSF Scholarship, Frank Walsh Academic Kiwanis Club of Martinez Scholarship, Martinez Education Association Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship.

Kyle Frohlich: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Eagle Scout Award.

Julissa Garcia: Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship.

Christian Giannini: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Arts Association Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, AHS Drama Foundation Scholarship.

Laurel Green: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Arts Association Scholarship, Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, AAUW Pleasant Hill/Martinez Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Grad Night Scholarship, Italian American Federation Scholarship.

Theresa Grube: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Rotary Club of Martinez Academic Scholarship.

Alexandra Haisley: Graduation with

Honors, Northern California Scholarship Foundation.

Hailee Herndon: Clement Viano Memorial Scholarship, Tony Rose Memorial Scholarship, Martinez Lioness Club Scholarship, Jenna Betti Memorial Scholarship, Moe Williams Memorial Scholarship, AHS Basketball Scholarship.

Tyler Higgins: Ford Motors/AAA Scholarship.

Grant Hill: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Historical Society Scholarship, The Alhambra Way Scholarship Award.

Helene Hollidge: Alhambra High School Water polo Award, Outstanding Leader Development Award 2012-2015.

Sierra Kaul: Martinez Arts Association Scholarship, Brooks Institute High School Senior Scholarship.

Zach Keever: University of California Santa Barbara Athletic Scholarship

Diana Keller: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship, Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship.

Courtney Kelly: MSA San Francisco Bay Area Academic Scholarship, BYU Athletic Scholarship.

Michael Kelly: Outstanding Leader Development Award 2013-2015.

Akash Kumar: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Dustin Langner: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Lioness Club Scholarship, AHS Basketball Scholarship.

Megan Lau: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Rotary Club of Martinez Academic Scholarship, Alhambra High School Staff Scholarship, Martinez Arts Association Scholarship, AHS Drama Foundation Scholarship, Loyola Marymount University Arrupe Scholarship.

Cory Lozow: AHS Basketball Scholarship.

Hayden Manning: Mitchell Hodgson Memorial Leadership Scholarship, Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2013-2015.

Drake McCord: Graduation with Honors, Montana State University Freshman WUE Scholarship.

Cadence McCracken: Graduation with Honors.

Olivia Mendoza: Clement Viano Memorial Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2011-2015.

Adam Millson: Graduation with Honors, Seattle Pacific University Scholarship Award.

D'Angelo Morales: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Melissa Motta: Graduation Honors.

Joseph Mussano: Graduation with Honors, John Phillip Sousa Award.

Courtney Nelson: McDonald Family Scholarship, Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, Martinez Women of the Moose Chapter 519 Scholarship, Purdue University Merit Scholarship.

Sam Nishita: Valedictorian, Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Estate of A. Joseph Tavan Scholarship, Martinez Sportsmen's Club Scholarship, Martinez Lioness Club Scholarship.

Spencer Olson: Graduation with Honors, Azevedo Family Athletic Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship.

Kieran Parhar: Graduation with Honors, Alhambra High School Athlete of the Year Scholarship, Antone Pellegrini Football Scholarship, Lawrence "Jo-V" Miller Memorial Scholarship, Kiwanis Club of Martinez Kate Hopkins Memorial Scholarship.

Joe Peixoto: Luso-American Fraternal Federation Scholarship.

Jack Peterson: Graduation with Honors.

Mikayla Reichhold: Mitchell Hodgson Memorial Leadership Scholarship, Leadership Outstanding Service Award 2012-2015.

Brianna Rios: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, PG&E Scholarship.

Gregory Rossi: Ofc. Thomas Tarantino & Sgt. Paul Starzyk Memorial Scholarship, Azevedo Family Athletic Scholarship.

Tara Schueller: Graduation Honors.

Andrew Silva: ROP Students of Excellence Award for Creative Writing.

Elianna Spitzer: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Lioness Club Scholarship, Lippow Development Company Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Brandeis University Alumni and Friends Scholarship.

Ariel Stelljes: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer.

Mariah Strykers: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, Leila Bray Memorial Scholarship, Martinez Lions Club Scholarship, Paul Yriberry Memorial Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Gonzaga University Presidential Dean Scholarship.

Connor Sullivan: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Estate of A. Joseph Tavan Scholarship, McDonald Family Math & Science Scholarship, Martinez Education Association Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Grad Night Scholarship.

Allie Timbrell: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Seal-

bearer, Alhambra High School Athlete of the Year Scholarship, Clement Viano Memorial Scholarship, Officer Thomas A. Wagley Memorial Scholarship, AHS Boosters Scholar Athlete, Scholarship, Tim Bruder Memorial Track & Field/Cross Country Scholarship, Grad Night Scholarship, St. Mary's College Academic Scholarship.

Zack Titlow: Imagine America Foundation Scholarship.

David Towers: Leader Development Award 2014-2015.

Elaina Trebino: Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship.

Ian Tuck: Nunes Family-Bulldog Fire Memorial Scholarship, Jay Heeb Kiwanis Vocational Scholarship.

Madilynn Turner: Kate Hopkins Memorial Cheer Scholarship.

Kathrina Vakili: Grad Night Scholarship.

Lucia Valentine: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer.

Carlos Vergara: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, Chase Family Trust Scholarship, Alhambra Class of 1975 Teacher Appreciation Scholarship.

Michael Viano: Graduation with Honors, Tim Bruder Memorial Track & Field/Cross Country Scholarship, Arthur McHarry Vocational Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Fratellanza Club Scholarship.

Jessica Viera-Ramirez: Educational Talent Search Scholarship.

Thuong Lili Vo: Graduation with Honors, Martinez Women's Club Scholarship, Martinez Health Auxiliary Scholarship, Firefighters Burn Foundation Scholarship, Alhambra Class of 1975 Teacher Appreciation Scholarship.

Jamie Wanket: Fleming Family Water polo Scholarship, Martinez Education Association Scholarship, Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship, Seattle University Academic Scholarship.

Adora Wayne: Harambee Award & Scholarship.

Isabella Williams: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Samantha Williams: Soroptimist International of Martinez Violet Richardson Award.

Mackenzie Wilson: Martinez Council of PTAs Scholarship.

Harrison Wygal: Alhambra High School Counselors' Scholarship.

Lisa Yee: Graduation with Honors, California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer, CSF Scholarship, University of California Davis President's Community Service Award and Mentor Award, Julie Bryant Memorial University of California Davis Scholarship.



Mark Ross

Martinez City Councilman

Class of 1975

Congratulations Graduates

I wish you the best of
luck on the road ahead.
May good health and
good fortune follow you
every step of the way.

A letter to the 2015 graduates

By JOHN FULLER

To the class of 2015, on June 13 you take the first step as graduates of Alhambra High School. All this week you will hear words of wisdom and insight to what to expect as you begin your next stage of life. From me I only have a wish – wealth.

Wealth in most people minds means money or a lot material accumulation. Though according to the dictionary.com wealth also means – an abundance or profusion of anything; plentiful amount. Hence, I wish wealth for the Class of 2015.

May you have a wealth of memories. Make life an adventure, you only get one shot at it. Enjoy the moments

as they happen. Every so often take a moment to reflect on your experiences and remember life is good.

May you have a wealth of education. Never stop learning. A boss once told me you should try to learn something new everyday. The day you stop learning is the day you stop growing as a person. So whether it is in or outside the classroom strive to continually learn.

May you have a wealth of courage. It is courage that will enable you to get the most out of your journey in life. There will be times of fear and uneasiness in your life. It will be how courageous you are during these times that will determine your success. Be like the Irish boxer in the ring and give it all

you have 'til you have no more.

May you have a wealth of values. The Alhambra Way is the greatest gift Alhambra High could have given you. It is the starting point as you start to figure out who you truly are. Define your own values and live by them daily. Though your values may change, stay strong to them as you fortified them. Life is easier to live when you have a foundation of values to direct your path.

May you have a wealth of spirituality. There is something bigger than you in life. You will need to figure out what it is. Take the time to explore the world and challenge yourself. Never stop looking at the big picture and where you fit into it. Trust me there is

a place for us all here in this world.

May you have a wealth of love. Always realize there is someone that loves you. Family and friends are there for you, just reach out and ask for help when needed. You are graduating from a long line of Bulldogs that have supported you directly or indirectly. This town cares for you. We wish you well as you leave us. Remember "Once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog".

To the Class of 2015, I wish you wealth today and everyday going forward.

John Fuller is the president of the Martinez Unified School District Board and a regular columnist for the Martinez News-Gazette.

Alhambra athletes shift to college sports

Football

Grant Hill-University of San Diego
Kieran Parhar-UC Davis
Josh Evans-University of LaVerne
James Gonsalves-DVC
Clazonne Foster-DVC

Baseball

Zach Keever-UC Santa Barbara
Garrett Nichols-DVC

Soccer

Kaitlyn Emigh-Sonoma State
Jessica Viera Ramirez-Marymount California University
Melissa Motta-Kansas Wesleyan University

Softball

Courtney Kelly-BYU
Shelby Clemons-Sonoma State

Basketball

Cory Lozow-DVC

Cross Country/Track

Allie Timbrell-St. Mary's College
Michael Viano-Fresno State
Raleigh Adams-Undecided



Courtney Kelly (above) will be going to BYU in the fall, while Grant Hill (below) is headed off to USD.



Raleigh Adams: Male Athlete of the Year

By GERARDO RECINOS

The 2015 Les Schwab Male Athlete of the Year is Alhambra High School senior Raleigh Adams.

Adams leaves Alhambra with his future destination still up in the air, but one thing is for sure, he will continue to hurdle wherever he ends up. Adams continued his dominance of the Diablo Foothill Athletic League, and then did more of the same at the North Coast Section Meet of Champions.

For most of the season those who followed Adams' progress through the words of track and field writer Joel Timbrell might have wondered how an athlete could continually set a new school record. Then they might have been even more surprised to know that Adams was not only setting new records seemingly every time out, but they were his own records he was breaking.

As it stands Adams' record time in the 110-meter hurdles is almost half a

second better than any other Alhambra hurdler ever. His first place time at the Meet of Champions (14.66) is still .33 seconds off his PR.

Adams has also excelled at the 300-meter hurdles (Adams holds the school record in the 300 meters as well, with a time of 37.99, almost two seconds faster than any time ever recorded at Alhambra) which he also swept at DFAL meet, and at the Meet of champions, both times which qualified him for the CIF State Meet in Fresno at Buchanan High School.

As a two-time First Team All-DFAL athlete, Adams and Dublin's Mecca McGlaston were the only DFAL athletes to place among the top six finishers. McGlaston took second in her 100-meter hurdle race in 13.18.

At the state meet Adams again broke another Alhambra record in the 300-meter hurdles, but his 110-meter performance was what earned him a state medal, as he took sixth overall, despite nearly not making the finals.



Bri Perez: Female Athlete of the Year

By GERARDO RECINOS

The 2015 Les Schwab Female Athlete of the Year is Alhambra High School sophomore Briana Perez.

Perez was the Diablo Foothill Athletic League's Most Valuable Player, keeping up the tradition of people named Perez winning the award, (Perez's older sister Kylee won the award three times) and the sixth time in a row a Alhambra player has taken the award.

Bri also follows her sister Kylee by winning the Les Schwab Athlete of the Year award.

Perez lead the Bulldogs to their second straight North Coast Section Division II title, leading the team with 14 home runs, 48 hits, 55 runs scored, a 1.367 slugging percentage, and outrageous .721 on-base percentage, and a OPS of 2.088. Perez also stole 26 bases on 27 attempts, and only struck out four times all season.

Perez not only lead the softball team to another championship, but was part of the Bulldog team that brought

back playoff basketball to Alhambra after a seven-year drought, and was named as a second-team all-DFAL selection.

Her 9.8 points per page and 3.1 rebounds per game were all respectable stats, but her defensive numbers are most impressive. Perez typically had the task of guarding team's best scorers. That makes her 4.4 steals per game that much more impressive.

Perez scored in double digits in 12 games this season, and her season-high 25 points against Freedom was the highest point total by a Lady Bulldog this season.

Perez hit leadoff for Paul Buccellato this season, and still came second on the team in RBIs.

"I've got one of the best home run hitters around," said Buccellato. "I like Bri leading off. If you look at it she is still leading in RBIs in NCS. Because the bottom of my lineup gets on base, she drives them in."

Perez was named Athlete of the Week three times this school year, once in basketball, and twice in softball.





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Martinez Education Foundation

Thanks its Busi-Kids Supporters

The Martinez Education Foundation ("MEF") would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their support in 2014 for MEF's Busi-Kids program. Their generous support helped MEF provide grants in the amount of \$132,702 to teachers and classrooms throughout Martinez's public schools. With their help, we as a community are improving our schools for current and future students!

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Dr. Kent & Nancy Hobert	Melvin Wells, DDS	Mike & Diane Beck
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Congratulations, graduates!

"Destiny is not a matter of chance. It is a matter of choice."

-William Jennings Bryan

Debbie McKillop, Martinez city council member & daughters

Congratulations Graduates!

"All our dreams can come true...if we have the courage to pursue them."

-Walt Disney

Councilmember Lara DeLaney

Rose Clyne, AHS 2015 graduate
Martinez Young Woman of the Year.



Congratulations, graduates.

Ready for summer and planning her college commute, she's going places.

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Joannie Suitos was dressed for the occasion.



Michael Moore was thumbs-up at the celebration.



Shelby Clemons uses a selfie-stick to capture the moment



Luke Zaro celebrates the evening.



Andrea Bennett yells to family and friends after getting her diploma.



Ian Tuck receives his diploma.



Madelynn Alford, Hayley Ward, Gabriel Perez and the Alhambra High band provided music at the ceremony



Kaitlin Doolittle (center) applauds a speaker.





Congratulations class of 2015.

May your new journey be filled with passion, excitement and adventure.

Anamarie Avila Farias, councilwoman/ AHS class of 1992

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Congratulations to the class of 2015, and to our daughter Sarah Beth Hatch. We wish you all luck in your future endeavors and wherever life takes you. Always remember to give back to Martinez.

Mayor Rob &
Suzanne Schroder



Vicente Martinez High, Briones Class of 2015 celebrates commencement

By RICK JONES
Photography by
ROBERT PERRY

Graduations are traditionally a celebration with a festive atmosphere, and on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, the combined senior classes of Vicente Martinez High School and Briones High made certain to live up to that tradition.

The threat of rain forced the commencement from the Martinez Amphitheater but didn't dampen the mood of the event.

In front of a proud, rollicking crowd 47 graduates from Vicente and Briones received their diploma at the Martinez Junior High auditorium.

Vicente principal Carol Adams, who after eight years is

leaving Vicente High School, welcomed the gathered distinguished guests and award presenters. Adams also introduced the Vicente and Briones teachers and staff in attendance.

appreciation for them, and their commitment to the students' success."

Labeled as alternative and independent schools, Adams pointed out the degrees the stu-

continue to look forward and take advantage of opportunities.

"Please remember this graduation celebration as evidence that you have the talent and the strength and the stamina to ac-

Muth spoke of Adams, saying "Mrs. Adams, she is a leader who leads by example. Students told me that she holds you accountable yet established boundaries that are firm and fair. and at the same time always shows that she cares. that is truly a rare combination. We will miss her guidance and her leadership."

Also, David Eliaser, a long-time teacher at Vicente, "a tireless advocate for your school. He will be greatly missed," said Muth.

"Each student chose to be here today and each made a conscious decision to persevere when they could have given up," Muth explained. "That choice alone speaks volumes about who each of you are as people, and

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"Each student chose to be here today and each made a conscious decision to persevere when they could have given up. That choice alone speaks volumes"

— Rami Muth, Martinez Unified School District Superintendent

"Our teachers and support staff are an extraordinary group of people who are talented, committed, caring and nurturing individuals who continually go the extra mile for their students," Adams said. "Students, when asked about what worked at our schools, started with the staff's

dents received were no different.

"We know not all minds are alike, and that is a good thing for society," Adams said. "Our school celebrates the wonderful difference in how students are smart, and provide an avenue for all students to learn and grow."

Adams urged the students to

complete your goals and everything you dream about for the future. You have earned this high school diploma which was 13 years in the making. I want you all to be very proud, this is your time to soar."

Martinez Unified School District Superintendent Rami



Congratulations to the graduates of Alhambra High School, Vicente Martinez High School, Briones School and Martinez Adult Education on your well-deserved success.

The future is yours, and it is bright.

Wishing each of you the very best on your graduation day and beyond.

Deidre Siguenza

Martinez Unified School District
Board Member

Paid for by Deidre Siguenza for School Board 2014 FPPC No. 1369376



On behalf of the Martinez Unified School District, Superintendent Rami Muth congratulates all the graduates of the MUSD Class of 2015!

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

—Harriet Tubman.



Martinez Vicente and Briones students gather on the stage as the ceremony begins.



For the 11th year, the Saints Motorcycle Club, raised money for scholarships. The club raised \$19,000 for 2015 Vicente/Briones graduates.

GRADS

Continued from Page 12

the wonderful opportunity that awaits you in the future.”

Mayor Rob Schroder spoke briefly and urged the graduates to give back to the community and to those who have helped and made a difference in their lives.

The Saints Motorcycle Club, who traditionally make a loud entrance, had their audible presence muted but made a big impact at the ceremony.

The club made presentation of 19 scholarship awards, totally \$1,900. This was the 11th year the Saints have presented scholarships.

Other scholarships were presented by the Kiwanis Club, the Zichichi Family, the Lioness, the Martinez Education Association, the Rotary Club, Campos Family, Hobert Medical Pathways, and Creekside Church

Class Speaker Robert Tyler took the podium next.

“I congratulate you, it has been a long hard fought battle to get to where we are today,” Tyler began. “Some might say we have not taken a traditional path to get here and this is true. Ours was an alternative, ours was a different path, ours was an unique path. And although our trip may have been a little bit different, our path may have been more winding, the hills climbed a little bit steeper, the directions not quite as obvious, our destination is exactly the same and for that our arrival may be a little bit sweeter.”

“Fellow graduates I am excited for each and everyone of us. we are about to embark on the next phase of our lives, may it be unuqe and successful as it’s always been. I am honored and proud to stand among you as the class of 2015.”

After the speakers, 2013 graduate Nick Napolitano led the graduates and crowd in a karaoke to the tune “Don’t You (Forget About Me)” by Simple Minds. The auditorium stage soon transformed into a dance club as graduates, teachers, and families joined the celebration.



At left: Vicente-Briones alumnus Nick Napolitano comes in from the crowd singing “Don’t You (Forget About Me).” Below, Carol Adams and other staff joined on the stage for a short dance party.



Anthony Hernandez accepts his diploma.

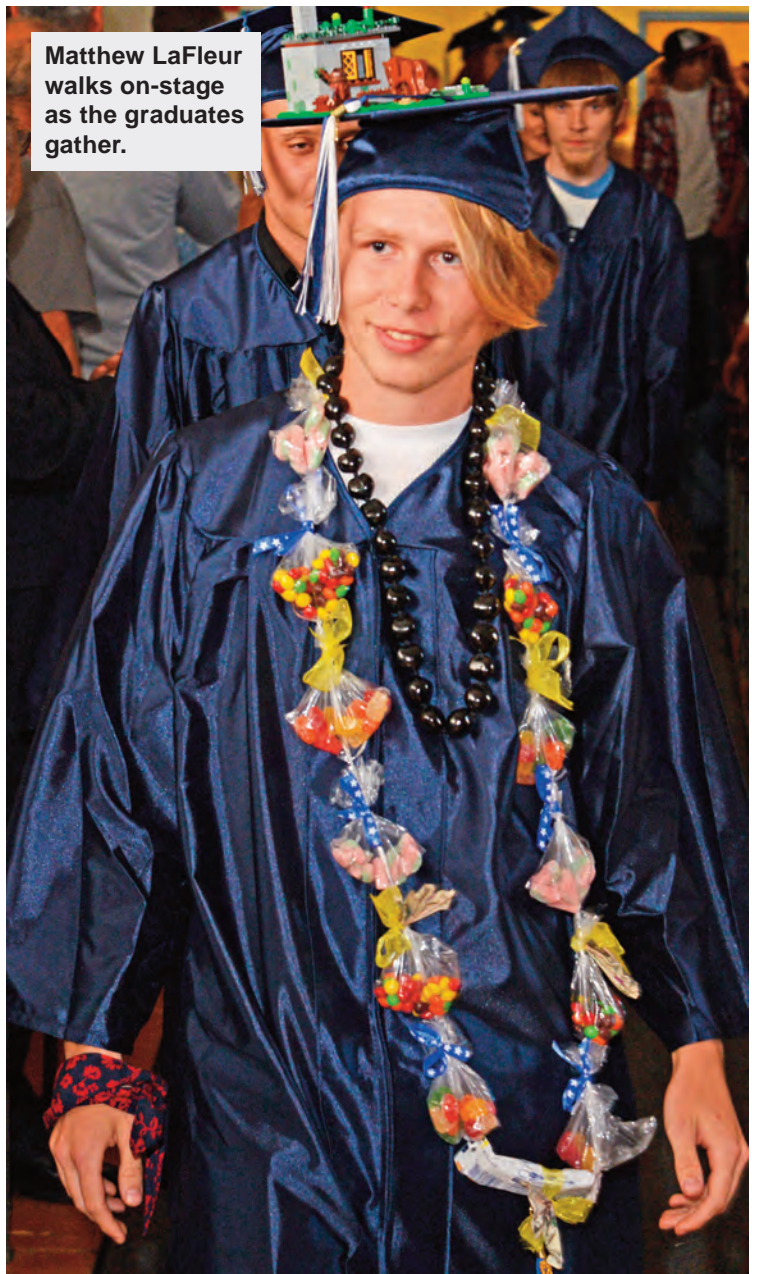




Robert Tyler addresses his fellow graduates.



Christian Waite accepts a scholarship from the Saints Motorcycle Club.



Matthew LaFleur walks on-stage as the graduates gather.



Summer Wolfe accepting an scholarship award.

Congratulations Class of 2015

Alhambra High School

Muhammad Salman Abdurrohman
Raquel Marie Acosta
Jasmyne Christine Adame
Raleigh Carl Adams
Jamie Lynn Agostino
Brooke Marie Aguiar
Ulises Aguilar
Nathaniel Jesse Alcala
Alana Anna Anderson
William Taylor Anderson
Eric Aquilizan Angeles
Paris Nicole Arditti
Mark Russell Azevedo
Henry Bailey
Savannah Rose Balestrieri
Andrew Barrett
Kaleb Reid Bateman
John Henry Behr
Janean Noel Bell
Andrea Rose Bennett
Tiera Naomi Beverly
Karlei Darlene Bishop
Samantha Jules Bituen
Zackery Norman Alan Blanchette
Jessica Marie Blum
Kayla Beane Bond
Emme Kalyn Bradford
Aaron Wesley Brinkman
Harrison Matthew Brown
Madeline Mei Buck
Nicolas Walter Buitrago
Sarah Lindsay Bullington
Kelly Ann Buonserio
Avedis Buyuker
Isabella Campos
Lauren Ashlee Carpoff
Nicholas Bailey Carreon
Francis Marc Caruso
Matthew Alfonso Casatico
Julia Lynne Castro
Edwin Cerda
Kevin Antoine Chouinard
Zachary Taylor Christman
Julia Michelle Clack
Kelsey Elizabeth Clark
Shelby Rae Clemons
Rose Xiaobao Warner Clyne
Casey Nicole Coffman
Maxwell Rodney Coker
Nicholas Melone Coker
Estefania Colmenares
Kylah Shae Colvin
Maghan Saleen Combs
Jasmine Daisy Cota
Sarah Lynn Dahl Mahy
Alixandrya Louise Davis
Cheyenne Skyy Davis
Angelina Marie Daza-Sanchez
Ryan DeMello
Hannah Irene DeWitt
Noelia Elizabeth Diaz
Dakota Kenneth Dillon
Mia Marie Diritto
Jack Gregory Dolin

Courtney Lynn Donahoe
Kaitlin Diane Doolittle
Matthew Montgomery Dragicevic
Rachel Renee Orion Duncan
Oscar Duran
Jose Armando Elizondo
Kaitlyn Stacey Emigh
Mac Robert Espinosa
Joshua Scott Evans
Camille Nicole Falchetta
Mckenzie Faith Favors
Ruth Alejandra Fernandez
ChrisBaby Michael Ferrera
Maria Anna Filice
Jennifer Leslie Fogelman
Jasper Skye Fontaine
Kamron Rosario Fragoso
Samuel Wylie Francis
Julia Raven Frank
Richard V. Freeze
Kyle Christopher Yuki Frohlich
Anthony Michael Gaines
Briley Noel Garcia
Julissa Garcia Meza
Christian Samuel Giannini
James Michael Gonsalves
Manuel Sparacino Gonzalez
Raquel Elizabeth Gonzalez
Dallen Robert Graham
Laurel Rose Green
Theresa Noel Grube
Fernando Gutierrez
Alexandra Ann Haisley
Jack Robert Hammond
Mallory Nichole Hansen
Hannah Isabella Hatch
Sarah Beth Hatch
Tyler Healy
Glenna Belle Herbert
Hailee Marie Herndon
Joseph Loyd Higby
Tyler Graham Higgins
Grant Michael Hill
John Charles Hise
Haley Larissa Holcomb
Helene Caroline Hollidge
Shelby Taylor Holton
Shelbie Marie Hosford
Jonathon Floyd Huntman
Megan Cassandra Huster
Rebecca Anais Jimenez
Brandon Scott Johnson
Sierra Maria Leone Kaul
Kevin Allen Kearney
Zachary James Keever
Diana Susan Keller
Courtney Rose Kelly
Michael Anthony Kelly
Joshua Jordan Kimura
Karlye Ryan Kirkpatrick
Akash B. Kumar
Vineet Kumar
Courtney Taylor Laerzio
Gavin Michael Lakeman
Dustin Lee Langner

Zachary Sebastian Lanway
Tanner Wayne Largent
Jordan N. Larson
Joseph Thomas Latham
Megan Siu Lau
Jean-Baptiste Lehuard
Justin Lawrence Villadolid Lejano
Kristy Salgado Lejano
Kobe Josh Bautista Liao
Kaelin Jessica Limacher
Tyler Donn Lipary
Jordan MacKenzie Lloyd
Brie Michelle Longeway
Kelsey Maye Loyd
Cory Joseph Lozow
Elizabeth Madieros
Mason Sidney Madsen
Hayden Patrick Manning
Braelyn Renee Marti
Antares Sebastian Martinez
Jesus Daniel Martinez
Angelo Steven Martino
Michael Anthony Marty
Benjamin Joseph Matera
Ivory Shalise Maxwell
Sarah Ashley McBride
Cameron Drake McCord
Cadence Celeste McCracken
Sydney Fortune McDonald
Dominic Rosario McKenna
Olivia Justicia Mendoza
Carlee Lauren Mercure
Sabrina Marie Meza
Aaron Edward Miller
Adam David Andrew Millson
Marissa Yvette Molina
Valeria Molina
Chandler Richard Moore
Michael Herbert Moore
D'Angelo Miguel Morales
Sierra Alicia Morales-Hallmark
Melissa Elizabeth Motta
Madison Tamie Muraoka
Joseph Louis Mussano
Courtney Nicole Nelson
Garrett Ronnie Nichols
Ed Mc Claire Manaois Nicolas
Sam Morio Nishita
Jose Manuel Ojeda
Destiny Endrina Oliveros
Spencer William Olson
Cortney Leeann Outman
Kieran Charles Parhar
Jordan B. Pastor
Paige Kristine Patterson
Dominic Anthony Paulazzo
Joe Ildio Peixoto
Roxanne Elizabeth Pereira
Summer Marie Pereira
Alyssa Rae Perez
Grace Lenore Perkins-Brown
DeeDee Rose Perry
Shankari Persaud
Jack R. Peterson
Adrianna Marie Pinon

Chase Michael Plummer
Giulia Porcu
Robert Scott Preston
Katharine Cheryl Pruter
Zulema Quintero
Victoria Marie Ramirez
Justin Michael Reardon
Mikayla Paige Reichhold
Madisyn Elizabeth Reynolds
Erik S. Richards
Justin David Ridout
Marquis Kevin Ridout
Brianna Guadalupe Rios
Jedrik Gavin Rodriguez
Brennan Michael Rosselli
Gregory Parks Rossi
Blanca Rosa Ruan
Elizabeth Marie Russo
Dana Sabaria
Brianna Monserat Sanchez
Sabrina McDowell Schaefer
Kayleigh J. Schmid
Tara Megan Schueller
Kayla Jeannette Schwartz
Ali Shahab
Austin Tyler Shipp
Alambar Shreesh
Andrew Chance Silva
Savannah Theresa Simoni
Julian Soria
Carly Rae Spencer
Elianna Rose Spitzer
Ariel Michelle Stelljes
Kaitlyn Ann Stilwell
Nicholas Girolamo Stockdale
Sara Paige Strunk
Mariah Helen Strykers
Joannie Escobar Suitos
Connor Bartholomew Sullivan
Bailey Nicole Surges
Theresa Elizabeth Taylor
Jourdan Nicole Thompson
Killian Edward Thompson
Allie Joy Timbrell
David Daniel Towers
Katherine Christine Treadwell
Elaina Isabel Trebino
Ian McRae Tuck
Madilynn Jennifer Turner
Kathrina Nicki Vakili
Lucia Helena Needham Valentine
Elizabeth Arlene Vallerga
Nicole Patricia Vargas
Carlos Mathew Eusebio Vergara
James Deepak Verma
Michael Anthony Viano
Jessica Viera Ramirez
Thuong Vo
Sean Quinn Walker
Abigail Ginesi Walsh
Jamie Marie Wanket
Adora Gean Wayne
Lindsey Lee Wells
Theodore Chandler Wells
Isabella Rae Williams

Samantha Marie Williams
Mackenzie Rae Wilson
Zachary Michael Wooldridge
William Harrison Wygal
Lisa Toshie Yee
Dale Wayne Young
Luke Paul Zaro
Angelina Matildé Zuniga
Gabriella Eustacia Zuniga

Vicente Martinez High School and Briones School

Avalos, Daniela
Bedessie, Phillip Brandon
Bennett, Kaylen Rose
Blackbum, Sarah Lindsey Renee
Bonner, Darren Richard
Borden, Victoria Leigh
Brown, Hailey Noel
Cano, Sean Daniel
Casares, Eric Oliva
Edd, Tyler Jeremy
Espinoza, Edgar
Evans, Micheala Nicole
Gastello, Angelo Jonathan
Girard, Alexandria Kailyn
Gray, Alexandra Susann
Harding, Kimberly
Hernandez, Anthony Keegan
Herndon, Danielle Elise
Herr, Liberty Taylor
Johnson, DayNiria Latorr
Johnson, Thurston Charles
Johnson, Tony Andre
Kadlec, Brianna Renee
LaFleur, Matthew Justin
Lawson, Briar Woodrow
Lenihan, Kyle James
Lira, Leticia
Lopez, Irene Dalilah
McBride, Madison Taylor
McEvoy, Chase William
Miller, Gregory Taylor
Mitchell, Carter Alexander
Nunez, Carlos
Ratto-Foster, Ciazonne Olajuwon
Sharkey, Christian Michael
Thomson, Daniel Richard
TimmLibron, Cheyanne Chantel
Titlow, Zachary R
Trujillo, Angelo
Tyler, Robert James
Victoria, Jamal Rasheed
Villalobos, Rafael Mauricio
Waite, Christian Jonathan
Wildberry, Aurora Cassiopia
Wolf, Autumn Breann
Wolf, Summer Christine
Wright, Tanya Lilianna Vieira

*Publication of a student's name is
not verification of official graduation.*

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100 years of supporting our schools and employing our Graduates!



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015

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