



## Eagles 4H members placed third with lambs

■ by Adriana Sanchez  
*Staff Writer*

Students from Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) were taken to the 2013 Kenedy-Kleberg County Junior Livestock Show, which was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Sponsor for Eagles 4H was English III teacher, Katherine Kriegel. The participants were juniors, Zackarias Duran, Rene Villavicencio and seniors, Mathilda Mireles, Zenia de Leon, Priscila Gutierrez, Nathan Zelaya, Rebecca Lambbarria, Jimena Gonzalez and Job Ramirez. The 4H club got the lambs at the beginning

of the school year, and since then, they worked them out and cared for them.

“We walked the lambs for thirty minutes and braced them for fifteen minutes every day,” said senior participant, De Leon.

She also said that one of the hardest tasks in the 4H club was making the lamb stay calm and know how to walk straight. Even though it was the wildest of Eagles 4H club, De Leon’s lamb got third place in its category, medium wool class. Just as De Leon did, participants, Mireles and Lambbarria, got also third place, in their class weight each, medium wool class,



photo provided by: Jennifer Ortega

Eagles 4H Club at the Kleberg-Kenedy Junior Livestock Show.

the three of them making it to the actual sale.

“It feels really good, because I know that

all my hard work was worth it,” De Leon said.

For contestants, Duran, De Leon, Gutierrez, Lambbarria

and Gonzalez, were their first time joining the 4H club. The other five lambs got a red ribbon, where they were sold to Tom Kocurek, form Kocurek Land, Improvement Inc. in Banquete.

“I feel really proud of myself. And also, without Felipe’s [Herrera] and Adriana’s [Sanchez] help, it would not worked well,” Gutierrez said.

4H Eagles got the Best Stewards’ award, which is basically the club who took more care of the lambs. For 4H Cooking Club, participants, Gonzalez and De Leon, also got a blue ribbon in

Homemaking category, both making cakes.

“I think that is a really great learning experience and I think is great how the school [PPAS] facilitates and encourage the program,” Kriegel said.

Not only did the Eagles 4H club have fun, PPAS students also went to get on all the rides at night at the carnival. Mireles said that after showing her lamb, she went to the fair to spend time with her family and friends. She also said that her favorite rides were Force 10, Blizzard and the Ferris wheel.

## Annual Mo Ranch trip is great experience

■ by Hefzi Jimenez  
*Staff Writer*

From February 15 to February 17, 35 students from Presbyterian Pan American School went to Mo-Ranch in Hunt. The students were selected by Pastor Mary Rogers Ellsworth and Principal Ellie Perez. Pastor Mary Rogers Ellsworth said that Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is a camp and conference center affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). It is 500 acres on the North Fork of the Guadalupe River in the scenic Texas Hill Country. Mo-Ranch stands the name of Daniel J. Moran, who owned the 6,800-acre ranch for 13 years prior to his death in 1948 and it was purchased by Presbyterians in 1949. Its landmark



35 students attended Mo Ranch this year.

structure is Manor House, built in 1929 by Houston Oilman O.R. Seagraves. It still contains the distinctive Monterey furniture purchased by Seagraves and included in his sale of the property.

“It was a beautiful place with a river and mountains all around,” Teodoro Alvarado said. “The houses and bridges were really nice, but the most awesome part were the activities.” Alvarado said that his

favorite activity was the post because it made him realize how much he trusted in himself. He also said that he decided to go because he heard from his friends it was a great experience and he liked the idea of having the experience.

Valeria Saenz, Junior and participant at Mo-Ranch said that she enjoyed all the activities but her favorite part was the dinner time because the food was delicious and it was a cool time to talk with friends.

Fernanda Aleman, junior and participant at Mo-Ranch, said that it was a great opportunity to enjoy the environment and to have fun. She thinks everybody should go to Mo-Ranch and encourages all who want to go to work hard so they are allowed to go.

## Last pep rally of the year held

■ by Ana Luisa Martinez  
*Staff Writer*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> pep rally for 2012-2013 at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) was held on Friday February 8<sup>th</sup>. The pep rally took place in the gym during 5<sup>th</sup> period and different sport teams were presented. The winter season coaches presented the athletes from girl’s soccer, and girl’s and boys’ basketball. Also the cheerleaders performed a routine and cheered for all the students who were called from each sport.

Coach Reili Cantu presented the girls’ soccer team, Coach Rebecca Perkins presented the girls’ basketball team, and Coach Dan Meek presented the boys’ basketball team.

“I like that the athletes get recognized because it is a way to honor them and because it is a way to notice the work

they do, going to all practices,” said Klarissa Rodriguez, a 17-year-old senior at PPAS. At last, like a tradition for PPAS, Mrs. Ellie Perez, the school principal, made the competition of who could cheer the loudest. The cheerleaders helped each of their classes and some of the teachers were appointed as judges. The winners were the seniors.

The pep rallies are made to show the school’s spirit and to recognize the students who participated in the winter sports.

“I love to see the school spirit that the students have. I love the show the cheerleaders put on and see all the students come together,” said Cheerleader Coach Sylvia Garza.

The pep rallies are organized by all the cheerleaders, the

cheerleaders’ managers, and Coach Garza.

Regina Hernandez and Jimena Gonzalez, both seniors at PPAS, are the head cheerleaders and are the ones who make most of the routine with the help and input of all the other cheerleaders.

They are the ones who make the pep rallies possible at PPAS. Other things that happened during the pep rally were the introduction of the spring sports and a competition which consisted of one students of each class running for money. The event ended with a prayer and excitement since this was the last pep rally until the next school year.

“I think we should do more pep rallies, one every week,” said Alejandra Luna, a senior at PPAS.

## Lady Eagles beat Orange Grove

■ by Hyun Suk Choi  
*Staff Writer*

Both Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) Boys’ and Girls’ Basketball teams’ (Eagles and Lady Eagles) long journeys ended on February 2, 2013. The Lady Eagles had a great season with five wins. However Eagles had more losses than wins, four to seven. On February 2, they had their last game of the season. The Lady Eagles won the game by 31 to 28 against Faith Christian Academy (FCA), however, Eagles lost by 50 to 54 against Banquete.

“It was a very intense and exciting game. Both teams fought for victory, but just the best team got it,” said Hefzi Jimenez, 16-year-old junior



photo by: Hyun Suk Choi

Basketball season ended for both boys and girls. captain of the Lady Eagles. After the game of the Lady Eagles, there was an Eagles’ game. At first they were losing badly, a 17-point gap, however, after they cut the lead of Banquete, they had changed, but still not

enough to change the game.

“It was a very good game. Gustave Rumongi, [18-year-old senior at PPAS], was the best player on our team. We were like a real team. We had a plan and played good, but we were unable

to win. They were a good team,” said Joseph Kimenyi, 16-year-old junior at PPAS. During 2012–2013 basketball season, both boys’ and girls’ teams improved a lot.

Rebecca Perkins, coach of the Lady Eagles, said there was improvement in her team. During this season, they learned how to play as a team.

Even though Eagles could not have more wins during this season, Dan Meek, coach of the Eagles, thinks there were good things on their team. Meek said he was disappointed, because he could not have a winning season, but he was happy to see new faces whose could play basketball. He said this season was a good beginning for the 2013 – 2014 season.

## Eagles fall short in first game of the season

■ by Ingrid Araujo  
*Staff Writer*

Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) started their baseball season and lost, 6-3, against Rivera Feb. 18 for their first game of the season.

Eagles Baseball team is coached by Hardy Robertson.

“They practice one hour a day and learn how to run the bases, how to throw the balls correctly and hit,” Robertson said. Eagles catchers are

Hector Garcia and Ulysses Iracheta.

Edwin Manrique, 17-year-old junior, plays right fielder. His specialty is throwing the ball in a right way and faster.

“Playing baseball was an essential part of my childhood, playing with my brother and cousins,” Manrique said.

The pitchers of the team are Hyun Suk Choi, Zack Duran, Samuel Godinez and Guillermo Aranda.

“I like to play

baseball because I feel comfortable in the field, and connection between the glove, the ball and myself,” said 17-year-old Catcher Ulysses Iracheta.

Iracheta is in the second year playing baseball. He likes when he throws the ball hard and catching when it’s time to bat.

Junior 17-year-old, Zack Duran likes to play baseball because he feels relaxed. Playing baseball makes him

remember his mom, he said. He plays shortstop, pitcher and centerfield. It is his second year plays baseball and in the first year, he made a home run. Duran said when he was a kid, and his dad was in Mexico City, his mom, his brother and him, went to Tamazopo, San Luis Potosi and his mother taught him and his brother how to play baseball and later on, it became his favorite sport.

## Lady Eagles soccer plays in tournament

■ by Armando Navar  
*Staff Writer*



photo provided by: Alexandra Zavala

Lady Eagles soccer wins 2nd game of the season.

The last girl’s soccer game for Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) was on January 29, 2013. The lady eagles participated in a tournament against Raymondville High School. The varsity team lost on penalties, 2-0, and the junior varsity won, 7-0.

Monica Ruiz, 16-year-old, sophomore said that she’s happy with the soccer team because she thinks nothing is impossible if they give their best. We can be the best team, she said.

“I think everybody would like to be the best player, it’s like a goal that encourages you to go to every practice even if you feel tired or sick,” Ruiz said.

Ruiz said Head Coach Reili Cantu helps the team to be better and to be better soccer players.

“Of course, I think I still have a lot to improve, so we can become a better team,” Ruiz said.

Katia Navar, 18-year-old Senior, said that she feels good when she plays soccer because she loves playing soccer on the field.

“I always give everything that I have because it is a game and if I do not, then the team will get mad,” Navar said.

Rosita Galvan, 16-year-old junior, said that soccer is her favorite sport and her family plays well at soccer. Galvan is motivated by her brother, Sergio Galvan, who teaches her everything that he knows about playing. “I play a striker. It is exciting to wait for the ball and watch everybody in their positions,” Galvan said.



# A history of Chinese New Year

by Merry Kim  
Editor-in-Chief

February 10 is Chinese New Year for 2013. According to the website, www.hg.pho.to, the Chinese New Year starts with the New Moon on the first day of the New Year and ends on the full moon. These countries use the Chinese calendar for festival dates – Asia which includes China, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, Macau, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand elsewhere. Chinese New Year is considered a major holiday for these countries and they celebrate the Chinese New Year with

different celebrations. But the meaning of the celebration is almost similar in every celebrating country. New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are celebrated as a family affair, a time of reunion and thanksgiving.

The celebration was traditionally highlighted with a religious ceremony given in honor of Heaven and Earth, the gods of the household and the family ancestors.

Since Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) is an international school, the students from different countries had different opinions and basic knowledge of Chinese New Year.

"I knew what Chinese New Year is but I don't really know lots of things of Chinese New Year such as where it comes from, how many countries celebrate it, nor why they have different date for the same celebration," said Sophomore Javier Castellon, from Mexico.

A junior, Jinghan Li from China, informed that Chinese New Year is one of the biggest celebrations in China and she loves it. She also said that on New Year's Day, boys and girls of Beijing put 1m-long wooden sticks on their legs and they dance on the stilts and visit the houses.

"For me, that's the most interest things to watch

every New Year," Li said.

The reason people call "Chinese" New Year even though lots of other countries celebrate it is because it is based on the calendar of the moon and most of Asia countries celebrate it, and China is the biggest country of Asia.

"In South Korea, we have this interesting tradition going on during the Chinese New Year. The children, under age 18, bow down to adults in their family, and the adults give them words of wisdom with some money. I think it's cool," said Grace Han, sophomore from South Korea.



photo provided by: Melissa Windham

*A Groundbreaking Ceremony was held at Pan American School on Feb. 8 for an infrastructure improvement project. Pictured are, Pan American School staff, board members and U.S. Department of Agriculture officials along with U.S. Representative Filemon Vela's office. The project is expected to be completed this May.*

## Student Council Vice President named Student of the Month

by Enrique Varela  
Staff Writer

Ana Jimena Gonzalez is an 18-year-old senior at Presbyterian Pan American School, (PPAS) from Matamoros Tamaulipas. Gonzalez has been chosen as the student of the month (SOM) for February.

"I feel honored because I feel that I did something right and I have been recognized for that," Gonzalez said.

She is a dual credit student at Costal Bend College, where she is taking English, Economics, Government, and Math.

At the end of her junior year, she was one of the most destacad students who got the privilege of taking the accuplacer test, placing her at college.

Gonzalez thinks that she



photo by: Enrique Varela  
Senior Ana Jimena Gonzalez

deserves the title of SOM because she had worked hard to do her best in the activities that she is and because she does all her homework.

Gonzalez plays soccer, is head cheerleader and a member of 4H. She loves math, to read and dance.

After that, she plans to go to college and study

Actuarial science. She sees herself in ten years with a master's degree in economy, and she will be starting her own company.

Gonzalez favorite classes are physisc and Pre-cacculus, and Ms. Kriegle and Mr. Robertson are her favorite teachers.

She will be gone next year but she takes with her many memories, like when the girl's soccer team won a game, or when she watched Nathan, Tavo and Kike's physics video, and many more that she will not forget.

Even though she is an exeptional student, she never expected to be choosen at all, she said.

"One of the things that I what to acomplish is graduating from high school with honors," Gonzalez said.

## National Honor Society member named Student of the Month

by Enrique Varela  
Staff Writer

Sergio Felipe Herrera, a 19-year-old senior, at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) has been chosen to be the Student of the Month (SOM). Herrera is from Valle Hermoso, Tamaulipas, Mexico. He came to PPAS to finish his last year of high school in the United States.

"I feel honored. I feel that all the effort that I have put in my studies is being appreciated," Herrera said. He also said that not only one student deserves SOM each month. He said that everybody deserves this position.

Herrera also loves being in class and even though he has



photo by: Enrique Varela  
Senior Sergio Felipe Herrera

no favorite teacher he likes Economics, Pre-Calculus, History, and English because they all contribute to increasing his knowledge. The most important goal that he wants to accomplish is attending college, where he would love to study agriculture and economics because is what he is passionate

about. He also wants to be someone productive and become a better man. Herrera is already part of 4H, which gives him good preparation for what is to come in college.

He likes to spend time with his friends, read, listen to classical music and watch movies. He also practice baseball, track and field, and cross country, but his favorite sport is swimming.

"I see myself in ten years working hard in my own ranch, with a family," Herrera said.

He said he never expects to be chosen for SOM but he feels happy that he was. Among those things, he said that he will never forget PPAS and his friends who are like brothers and sisters for him.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Valentine's Day brings serenades, roses and baloons

by Jahdai Sosa  
Staff Writer



Photo provided by: Susana Parra

Seniors enjoy serenades in celebration of Valentine's Day

On February 14, 2013, Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) celebrated Valentine's Day delivering serenades, balloons and roses during school.

The senior class prepared for the celebrating. To deliver the serenades, the senior class was separated in groups. Playing guitar was Enrique Varela, Job Ramirez, Daniel Magallanes and Emmanuel Rossano. Singers Daniela Dueñas, Klarissa Rodriguez, Cynthia Jacobo, Sergio Galvan, Maria Pinto, Regina Hernandez, Felipe Herrera and Elizabeth Aguilar. Playing the violin and ukulele was Magdiel Alanis.

The serenades, balloons and roses were ordered by a member of the senior class by anyone who wanted to send to someone, and they could either say who it was from or make it anonymous.

Tito Alvarado, 18-year-old junior, said that he really enjoyed this day because you get candies, cup cakes, and you show your friendship.

"I think that this day is awesome because I celebrated with candies and letters that I received from my cousins and friends," Alvarado said.

Sarid Ramon, 16-year-old sophomore, said that she is very happy about this day because she gave and received letters and candies.

Edwin Manrique, 17-year-old junior, said that he enjoys every single day because it's a gift from God, but he thinks that this day was a special day, and we should be nice and show our feelings to our friends and relatives.

"I received letters from all my friends and especially from the ones from San Fernando," Manrique said.

## Masquerade Ball has good atmosphere

by Libni Robles  
Staff Writer

This last February 8<sup>th</sup> was the second time at Presbyterian Pan American School that a Masquerade Ball was held. It consisted of wearing a mask and dress fancy for the occasion. Campus Ministry Council (CMC) was the group in charge of this activity. The main purpose was to host a different kind of dance and for students to have a good time.

"We are trying to think outside the box, so people can enjoy the activities if they were at home," said Daniela Duenas, organizer of the dance.

The dance started at 7 p.m. and elapsed with a little

assistance through the night, because a lot of students were not able to come.

"CMC should consider making the activities a day when everybody is here," said Junior Susana Parra.

Students were dancing to the rhythm of the music while others preferred to talk in the hang-out-area.

"I had a good time, I think the organization, the decoration, and the atmosphere was good," Parra said.

The juniors were selling fancy food like pina colada, brownies, strawberries with chocolate, and different kind of snacks. Parra also o said that this kind of dance helps students to distract their minds

from school and leave stress. The music stopped around 10:30, and the students were dismissed. Some of the CMC's themes for the next dances are the 60's

and black & white. "I think that they (students) would like it," Duenas said.



*Pan American School's Aquatic Science class was joined by Professional Shark Diver Eli Martinez on Tuesday, Feb. 19. Martinz spoke about his experiences with sharks and his shark diving trips. Martinez has been featured on National Geographic, Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, CNN and The Today Show.*

## "Won't Back Down" is emotional and real

by Osmara Perez  
Staff Writer

Recently released on DVD, the movie "Won't Back Down," is not your typical action or romance movie, but more a drama about the disaster that is today's American public education system. According to www.imdb.com, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Viola Davis and Holly Hunter, are the

three managements.

Jamie (Maggie Gyllenhaal) is a desperate mom that wants her daughter, Malia to receive help because she is dyslexic and can't read. But in Malia's school, there are problems and the school is failing to help Malia and other children as well. Some of the teachers don't care about the kids and because of it; Jamie

decides that it's time for her to do something about it. One day, Jamie goes to Malia's school and she confronts Nona Alberts (Viola Davis), one of the only good teachers at the school and encourages her to help her start a school after she learns about a new law that allows a combination of parents and teachers to take over a school

and turn it around. Jamie is frantic to save her daughter's future and Nona to restore her love for teaching and rebuild her life.

This movie brought emotion and real-life examples to the big screen. The main cast was outstanding and I definitely recommend making it a movie night by renting this DVD, popping popcorn and relaxing.