

El Dorado Club debutantes honored

Eight debutantes were presented at the 42nd annual El Dorado Sweetheart Ball, which was held Feb. 27 at the Knights of Columbus Hall on North 14th Street.

Debutantes presented were Alexandra Arredondo, Andrea Renée Cuevas, Elisha Marie De La Garza, Jacquee Lynn Duron, Daniella Marie Martinez, Camille Mora, Kaela Marie Pena, and Tiffany Vela.

The El Dorado Club honored Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Bazan, Major & Mrs. Hector "Lauro" Lopez (Ret.), and Mr. & Mrs. Edelmiro "Miro" Rodriguez.

The El Dorado Club debutantes were also awarded scholarships during the presentation.

The club would like to thank the merchants and foundations that have contributed to the scholarship fund.

The debutantes were introduced as follows:

Alexandra Arredondo

Debutante Alexandra "Alli" Arredondo is being presented tonight by her father Mr. Marcus Arredondo. She is the daughter of Marcus Arredondo and Debbie Brannon of League City, Texas. Her maternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Efrain Chapa. Her paternal grandparents are Elvia Norris and the late Mr. Hector Arredondo.

Alli is an 18 year old senior at Clear Spring High School in League City. She, along with her classmates, will be in the first graduating class. She has been actively involved in various organizations throughout her high school career. She recently received her Silver Award – the second highest Girl Scout Award and is currently pursuing her Gold Award. She and her troop have been together since the fourth grade and have visited many places including Savannah, Georgia the birthplace of Juliette Lowe; founder of Girl Scouts. She also has participated in FFA where she had the pleasure of showing market rabbits. During her four years she has been a member of the of the Varsity Tennis Team and she has held the position of team Co-Captain for two years. She has also been active in the Culinary Arts Program. After being accepted to the Culinary Arts traveling team she has been competing against other teams throughout the Houston area. She also was chosen to be part of the competition baking team.

In addition to her many school activities, she also is a

firm believer in community service. She has participated in many projects such as "Hearts Across America" where she and others donated cards to recognize and thank our nations heroes; "Hats for the Homeless" where she and others made hats and scarves to be donated to the Star of Hope mission to provide for the homeless, and "Caroling for Cans" a project to gather food for the less fortunate and bring a sense of community throughout the city. Her most recent and probably most memorable community service project was helping along the side of her family and hundreds of other volunteers to help build a home for The Extreme Home Make Over Show to be aired next month in Kemah, Texas. After graduation Alli plans to attend the University of Texas in San Antonio, to pursue a degree in education.

Alli's escort for the evening is Albert Chapa, son of Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Chapa of Rosenberg, Texas.

Alli's dress was beautifully made by Mrs. Jilma Vidaurri. In addition, Noelia Chapa her grandmother, spent many hours embellishing it. Alli appreciates it and loves her very much!

Alli is proudly following the steps of her mother Debbie Brannon and Aunt Jackie Chapa-Guerrero who were both El Dorado Debutantes.

Alli would like to thank her grandparents, family and friends for the love and support they have given her.

Andrea Renée Cuevas

Debutante Andrea Renée Cuevas is being presented tonight by her father Mr. Roel R. Cuevas. She is the daughter of Roel and Laura Cuevas. Her paternal grandparents are Elias and Lalie Cuevas of Kingsville, Texas.

Andrea is a 17 year old senior at H. M King High School. She has been actively involved in various organizations and activities throughout her high school years. Andrea was in speech, public debate, children's play, Business Professionals of America and part of both the Mighty Brahma and Badger band. She has contributed countless hours of community service in the Kingsville Area. She is currently employed at the King Ranch Saddle Shop as well as Acme Radiator and Muffler Shop. After graduation Andrea plans to attend Texas A&M University-Kingsville and pursue a career in anesthesiology.

Andrea's escort for the evening is Ernesto "Nocky" Garza, son of Marty and Wilva West and Nocky Garza of Kingsville, Texas.

Andrea would like to thank Mrs. Emily Canales for making her dress.

Andrea would also like to thank her parents, grandparents, Savannah Garza-Drake and Mr. & Mrs. Marty and Wilva West for helping her prepare for this special evening.

Andrea would like to honor her grandfather the late Ricardo "Rico" Castillo, a founding charter member of the El Dorado Club, on this special night.

Elisha Marie De La Garza

Debutante Elisha Marie De La Garza is being presented tonight by her father Mr. Armando De La Garza. She is the daughter of Armando and Deborah De La Garza. Her paternal grandparents are Mr. Antonio De La Garza and Mrs. Vicky De La Garza of Premont, Texas. Her maternal grandparents are the late Mr. Rosendo Mena and Mrs. Virginia Mena of Harlingen, Texas.

Elisha is a 17 year old senior at H.M. King High School. She also attends Coastal Bend College where she is taking dual credit courses. She will graduate under the Distinguished Achievement Program. Elisha has been a member of the award winning Brahma Marching Band for four years playing her flute and cymbals with the drum line. As a sophomore and senior she marched in state competition at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas. She has been a member of the Kings Ladies Drill Team for three years. As a sophomore she was first

lieutenant and as a junior she was Co-Captain. She was also selected, two years in a row, to participate in the Capital One Bowl halftime performance in Orlando, Florida. She was also a member of the Lady Brahma Soccer team. After graduation, Elisha plans on continuing to take her basics at Coastal Bend College and then transferring to Texas State to complete her studies in Physical Therapy.

Elisha's escort for the evening is Jose Castillo, Jr., son of Jose and Olivia Castillo of Riviera, Texas.

Elisha would like to give an extra big thanks to Mrs. Emily Canales for all the special attention in making and hand embellishing her dress.

Elisha would like to thank her parents, brother, grandparents and family and friends for all the love and support they have given her throughout the years.

Jacquee Lynn Duron

Debutante Jacquee Lynn Duron is being presented tonight by her father Mr. Ernesto Duron. She is the daughter of Ernesto and Rosa Duron. Her maternal grandparents are the late Roman Mata Sr. and Elena Mata. Her paternal grandparents are the late Antonio Duron Sr. and Diria Duron.

Jacquee is an 18 year old senior at H.M. King High School. She also attends Coastal Bend College where she is taking dual credit courses. She will graduate under the Distinguished Achievement Program. While in high school she has been involved in various extracurricular activities. Jacquee has been a member of the award winning Mighty Brahma Band for four years. As a sophomore and senior, she marched in state competition. She was a drill instructor her senior year and was also recognized as a Marcher of the Week. She has made the district band the past two years and qualified for region this past year. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, inducted her junior year, and participates in community service projects with the organization. Jacquee also participates in UIL Computer Science and Accounting. Jacquee is also involved with her church choir at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church where she plays flute at mass. In the fall, Jacquee plans on attending Texas A&M University-Kingsville where she plans to pursue a career as a pre-vet major.

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Alexandra Arredondo



Elisha Marie De La Garza



Jacquee Lynn Duron



Andrea Renée Cuevas



Camille Mora



Tiffany Vela



Daniella Martinez



Kaela Pena