



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

GCM has 259 in inaugural class

By Shannon Daughtry
The Baytown Sun

Thursday night's rainy weather may have moved Goose Creek Memorial High School's inaugural graduation into the school's basketball stadium, but the stadium walls could hardly contain the class of 2010's loud cheers and raging emotions.

Goose Creek Memorial, which opened two years ago, said goodbye to its first graduating class of 259 seniors, who received \$520,000 of scholarships Thursday night.

GCM principal Al Richard said it was hard to believe two years had passed as he reflected on how much the school, faculty and students had grown since the school's opening.

"We took an empty shell of a building and made it into a living organism," Richard said to the crowd. "Your leadership as students, and most importantly the first graduating class of Goose Creek Memorial, has set the bar – you have paved the way for future generations of students."

Richard talked about all of the firsts that the class of 2010 and Goose Creek Memorial shared together: the first homecoming dance, the first pep rallies, the first prom, the fact that they both survived a hurricane and two snow days.

Richard was not the only one reflecting on the history that has only began to evolve at Goose Creek Memorial. Senior class president Alexis Cantu remembers walking through the doors of the high school on her very first day.

"This is the end of the first chapter at Goose Creek Memorial," she said. "And although the odds were against us, we proved them wrong — we will leave a path from what we started."

Tannya Singh, the class of 2010's third-ranked senior described her time at Goose Creek Memorial as an unforgettable journey and one of the best choices she has ever made.

"We were given the choice whether or not we wanted to come to Goose Creek Memorial," Singh said. "By choosing Goose Creek Memorial, we were choosing to be leaders. Leaders on a journey we will never forget."

Valedictorian Sunayana Yadav was honored to be the first valedictorian in the history of Goose Creek Memorial.

Yadav described her class, the faculty and the school as a whole as a family, and that description could not have been made any better as teachers and students exchanged hugs, tears and encouraging words as they were distributed their diplomas.

"We are history in the making," Yadav said. "We are a symbol of brilliance as the first ever and we leave behind tradition, legacy and success as the first class to graduate from this high school."

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