



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

RSS conducts graduation ceremonies

By Robert Chambliss
The Baytown Sun

The Stallworth Stadium bleachers were full and the weather was cool as the Ross S. Sterling Rangers class of 2010 walked at graduation Friday night.

And with the famous words "I certify that this class met all the requirements to graduate," Dr. Toby York, superintendent of GCCISD, started that commencement ceremony; on a night that emotions ran the highest they've ever been for most of the Ranger seniors.

York then gave advice to the graduating seniors. He said, "Take what you have learned and use it. You can apply your knowledge and experience you have already learned out in the world while you are learning new knowledge wherever you are.

"Best of luck, success and happiness to you, and congratulations to you on your accomplishment tonight."

But it wasn't about York on Friday, however, it was about the students in the graduating class. It was about people like Chad Arabie and Chevonte Taylor, two of the many students graduating in the class of 2010.

Arabie and Taylor each had something to say about the graduation, but each eventually went back to thanking the staff of Sterling high school.

"I really think this is a big milestone in my life," Arabie said. "This is what we have been working for practically our whole lives, so this definitely is a big moment.

"I have to also say this is a sad moment though, for me at least. I mean even though this is awesome, this might be the last time I ever see some of these people again. It is hard to think about that, but I know that we all must move on eventually."

Arabie has decided to attend the University of North Texas in the fall. He is going for a degree in biology, before pursuing a career as a teacher.

His dream job is to move back to Baytown upon graduating from college and teach at his alma mater.

"I grew up in Baytown, so I feel I need to come back here when I am done with college," Arabie said. "I have learned a lot of stuff from this town, but none more important that sticking to your roots.

"I would like to come back here and help out at the school, trying to make the students smarter. However I can better my home community I will."

A lot of Arabie's feelings were the same for Taylor.

"I am really excited that I am graduating," Taylor said. "I would also add that I am happy to be in Ranger blue.

"I think that this will be a great memory for the rest of my life, but at the same time I also know how serious life is about to get.

"My life is now on me. I have no time to waste and no time to play, instead I have to buckle down, because life is about to get real."

Taylor is also continuing his education. He will be attending Cisco College in the fall to major in computer systems information. He also plans on playing football during his time there.

Both students, along with all of the graduating class, would agree though, to thank their teachers and coaches along the way.

"I'd like to thank everyone who believed in me when no one else did," Taylor said.

Arabie also wished to thank the coaches who pushed him for four years.

"Those guys did an amazing job with us," Arabie said. "They deserve a lot of credit for all the people they have helped, because I can say they have truly helped mold me into the man I am today."

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