

20th Century Memoirs

Table of Contents

Chapter 1..... Graduation Memories

Livia Cortez

Chapter 2..... Scraping By

Susan Gardner

Chapter 3..... A Life of Fun

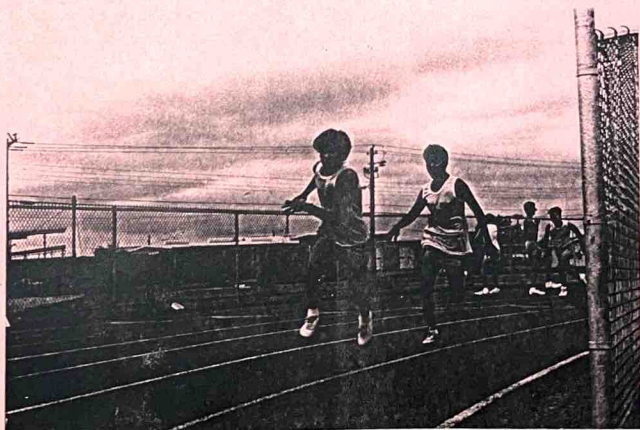
David Pearl

Chapter 4..... College Courses

Irma Valdez

chapter 1:

GRADUATION MEMORIES



Livia Cortez
English 101-BG
October 19, 1995
Final Draft

October 19, 1995

Dear Grandchildren,

"Congratulations!" "Congratulations!" That was the word that I was told before, during, and after my graduation from Alice High School. I was very proud of myself. Now, as a Texas A&M-Corpus Christi student at the end of the 20th century, I have the opportunity to write a letter to you about one of the most important days of my life: my graduation. I want to mention my academic goals and how I accomplished them. I am also going to mention the history and politics of our school's sports program. I'm also including how I succeeded with my personal goals. I am mentioning how I got two of my friends back together whom hadn't spoken for years because of personal conflicts.

As I walked down the track of Memorial Stadium (a place where we held countless football games in Alice, Texas), I realized many people were crying, however I was not. I felt that I was a strong person that didn't have to cry to let my feelings show. As I looked at the huge crowd applauding, I was in pure shock of the situation. As I waited for the ceremony to begin, I began to flashback to my accomplishments of my thirteen year career. I thought about my school as a whole. I was very proud of our academic program and our extra-curricular activities. I met many wonderful teachers and students that are my friends to this day. I felt honored to be a part of Alice High School.

First of all, Alice High was a challenge to many of its students. Our campus was named as a "Mentor School" in Redbook Magazine in the year of 1993. Redbook Magazine mentioned that our academic, fine arts, and sport programs were amongst the best in the country. I graduated in the top quarter of my class in the advanced program. I really did not know how I managed to do so well when I was in Basketball, Track and Field, Marching and Concert Band. I was also the captain of our Band's Color Guard which was great because I felt that I represented a good leader, but most importantly I enjoyed going to see our great football team win. In 1992, our football team went as high as the quarter-finals. During the years of 1993-1994 our team went as far as regional and because of our great programs it kept the students off the streets. I did many of these activities because it made me feel like a well-rounded individual. During graduation, I felt that I accomplished something truly wonderful during these thirteen years. It was just a small stepping stone to something bigger such as attending college and reaching a true career. As I went up to the presenter to receive my diploma, I finally felt that this moment was genuine. I realized that school was over and that I was never going to see many of my friends again.

Lastly, I did do something at the very end of graduation that I am very proud of. The most memorable thing that I will remember about my graduation is that I brought two of my friends Amy Villareal and Rebecca Lopez together. After five years of separation, I thought it was hopeless to try to get them to be best friends again, but once I saw that they were asking about each other, I could not let the opportunity pass of trying to

reunite them. I concluded that the reunion would happen at our graduation. At the very end of the commencement, I found everyone hugging and crying. I saw Amy and Rebecca standing next to each other. All of the sudden, getting them back together felt too easy. I told the both of them to try to settle their differences because their friendship was too great to waste. I started to cry because it hurt me so much to see my friends suffer the way they had for so long. As they faced each other, they hugged each other by themselves. Rebecca's mother came to me and she was crying because she knew that they loved each other and she thanked me for getting them back together. I had never felt so good about myself. At that point, I said to myself that nothing is impossible to accomplish.

Grandchildren, I hope that you cherish your school career because it is a very special time that only you can hold on to. Do well in your academics and join activities. You are going to make life-long friends so make the most of your school days.

With love,
Livia Cortez

chapter 2:

SCRAPING

BY

Core Curriculum



Texas A&M University Corpus Christi



The Island University

WALMART

ALWAYS THE LOW PRICE
ON THE BRANDS YOU TRUST

ALWAYS

STORE 1494 PHONE: 994-9010
4833 S.P.I.D. CORPUS CHRISTI TX

ST# 1494	OP# 00000931	TE# 13	TR# 05373	
NOTEBOOK	007172350450		2.54	J
NOTEBOOK	007172350450		2.54	J
NOTEBOOK	007172350450		2.54	J
HAIR COLOR	007124920104		6.82	J
	SUBTOTAL		14.44	
	VENDOR COUPON		1.00	-C
	SUBTOTAL		13.44	
SALES TAX 1			1.04	
	TOTAL		14.48	
	CASH TEND		20.48	
	CHANGE DUE		6.00	

TC# 891805866807660
SEPT. 2, 1995 OPEN 24 HOURS
08/28/95 22:45:55



Susan Gardner
Allison-BG
Final Draft

October 19, 1995

Dear Grandchildren,

As I close the book on my high school years, I greatly look forward to beginning a new life at college. I have already done extensive research and planning into my Freshman year of college. I want the independence, but I know there are not as many benefits as I might think.

Before classes started in August, I first had to move into my brand new Mirmar Apartment on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus. I moved out of my parent's home in Orange Grove, TX and headed down to Corpus Christi with my belongings stuffed into three cars. Move in day was so chaotic; people were running here and there unpacking. I got really lucky because I got three pretty cool roommates one in which we are joined at the hip and never go anywhere without each other. Of course, living on campus is not cheap; I pay \$295 a month for a nine-month lease. Living on my own is not as easy as I thought it was going to be.

I was ecstatic that I received a scholarship, yet it did not fully pay for my classes. I wrote an essay on Thomas Jefferson my senior year in high school and received \$500 a semester for four years, which equals \$4000 total to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. My parents and I made the decision that they would pay for my apartment, the rest of my tuition, and my car payment and I would cover all other expenses. So I found myself in the middle of the summer job hunting. I finally settled down into a job that meagerly covers my extra expenses. The job I found is a small clothing store called "Benjamins", in the Padre Staples Mall. The store is one of the hippest stores in Corpus Christi. We carry such brands as; Lucky Brand, Mossimo, Stussy, 26 Red, Johnny Cotton, Diesel, and many more. Although things are hip, they are quite expensive. For example, a pair of Lucky jeans run from \$60-68 and a pair of Diesel jeans run about \$98, but they are one of the best made jeans on the market.

Therefore, my job helps but it still does not give me much money in my pocket. On a monthly average, my groceries cost \$50. I never realized how much money my parents spent at the grocery store until I had to buy things such as soap, deodorant, shampoo, toilet paper, and most of all food. Gas costs about \$40 a month because I fill up my car with Unleaded Plus which is about \$1.19 a gallon. My phone bill ranges anywhere from \$15-35 depending on how much I call my friends out-of-town that month. Actually, this price is not bad because we get a discount for living on campus. And lastly, but not leasty, I spend about \$45 a month on entertainment. If we decide to go out to a club one night it sets us back \$5. Or if my roommate and I just decide to go to a movie, all new releases are \$5.50. So things quickly add up. I haven't run short of money yet, but I also have not been able to save any either.

When I signed up for my fall classes at Freshman orientation, there was not much of a choice. Last year here at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi the staff came up with a

Triad Program. This program is made up of three courses in which you have to take together. This limited us Freshman to take one out of three triads. I ended up taking Political History and Political Government, which consists of about 250 students per class. This type of class is not great when needing individual help; it is more of a lecture class to go over our readings. Along with these two classes I also have to take English Composition 101 as a Freshman. I decided I wanted to stay in the 13-14 hour range this semester so I had room for one more class, which is my public speaking class. This class is scary because I am not good in front of an audience. But this class is required, so I decided to go ahead and take it my Freshman year so it would help me with my nightmare of speaking in front of other classes. My last class is Freshman Seminar, which is also required. This class is not enjoyed by many Freshman because it is just an extra "blow off" class to introduce Freshman to college, and, in my opinion, the class is just another excuse to take more of our parents money. At this rate, it will definitely take two years before I can actually get into my major.

My studies take up a majority of my time and effort, yet I do not have the grades to show for it. Everyone will tell you college is a lot harder than high school, and those college students or graduates are right. I will admit I do other things besides sit at home and study. It seems as though I never sit still; I always have something keeping me busy or there is always something fun going on. For example, the other night me and my friends ended up cruising down Ocean Drive, by the college, and ended up at Cole Park. We didn't get home till 2:30 in the morning. Or I may just be up talking to my roommate or writing a long letter to my boyfriend Michael Coleman, who is in the Air Force. Thus, there is plenty to keep me busy while I'm own my own because I don't have my parents around with their strict rules.

With all this time on my own, and not enough time for luxury, I hardly get the chance to go see my family. For example, my grandparents are always begging me to come visit but I never have any time. Maybe things will be different when you grandchildren go to college and you will manage to find time to come see grandma.

With Love,

Susan Gardner

A LIFE OF FUN



February 2, 1995

Dear Grandchild,

Today is Thursday, February 2, 1995. It is another sunny morning with a light haze of fog. The fog is breaking up while the sun breaks through. I am still living at home here in Orange Grove, Texas. My parents and I live in a small two bedroom and one bath house on the corner of farm to market road 624 and county road 738. It is a beige house with shrubs and a few trees in the yard. Our yard is usually kept pretty clean.

So far, high school graduation was the best time of my life. I graduated from a senior class of sixty-five people. I fell twenty-third in my class. We had a party every night of the last week of school. This was the biggest step of my life. My friends and I decided to have the most fun that we could. On graduation night we all went to a ranch out of Orange Grove. We had an old truck hood that we tied onto the hitch of a truck with a chain. We each took turns riding on it through the fields. It was dangerous but we had a blast. We all ended up staying out there that night. I slept in the bed of my 1984 Ford pickup truck. My class had a close bond between each other. All but a hand full of my graduating class still lives here. I really like my hometown and don't think I'll ever move away. Everyone here is friendly, and we all know each other.

My parents bought me a truck for my graduation present. I have a brand new 1995 Dodge Dakota pickup. It is forest green on top and bottom with tan down the sides. I bought a compact disk player for it shortly after I got it. Now all of my friends want to take my truck so we can listen to our music. The most popular groups that we listen to are Nirvana and Bush. These are both rock and roll groups. The most popular country singer has to be George Strait. I think everyone has a least one of his albums. I personally have about four or five.

The big issue on television today is the OJ Simpson trial. He was accused of murdering his ex-wife and her new boy friend. OJ was a national celebrity. He won the Heisman trophy when he played college football, and played with the Super Bowl, Buffalo Bills. This trial has been going on some time now, and, in my opinion, was blown way out of proportion. This was the most televised court case up to now. There were several television cameras placed all over the court room. I don't think that anyone really cared toward the end. We just wanted it to be over.

I'm finally start to catch up with technology. I just got a mobile phone last December. It has been one of the best investments I have made so far. The monthly bills run about fifty dollars a month just to have the phone, but the calls only run two cents a minute. My average bill runs about seventy dollars a month. I also got a computer this year. It is a Packard Bell 486 with a CD ROM. I haven't bought any other software for it, but it came with alot in it already. My printer is a Cannon Bubble Jet.

The laws around here are strict. The easiest one for me to break is the speed limit. The speed limit is fifty-five miles per hour, but I usually drive about sixty or sixty-five. Another law that is easy to break is drinking under age. The drinking age is twenty-one years old. If you are caught drinking

younger than this the police will give you a ticket for minor in possession of alcohol. The fine for this is one hundred thirty dollars and six months probation. When I got my minor in possession ticket all I had to do was pay the fine and I didn't have probation, but my friends that got one after me had both of these penalties. I think every one in this town has had one some time in there life. I will try my hardest not to get another one.

This was a very brief description of life in 1995. I wish that I could stay this young forever and never have any other responsibilities. I will never have another childhood, but I enjoyed the one I had. I hope you are enjoying yours.

Love,
your grandfather
David Pearl
Composition 101
Final Draft

chapter 4:

COLLEGE COURSES



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
CORPUS CHRISTI



The Island University



Dear Grandchildren,

O.K. right now I'm 19 and starting college. I don't know how college will be in your time, but this is how it is for me. (And don't worry this isn't going to be a boring old story about how I have to walk twenty miles, in the freezing rain, to school.) I do have to walk, but it only takes five minutes if I take the short cut. My college experience starts at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi. Here are the courses I'm taking and my opinion on them.

My first course on Mondays is Political Science with Dr. Dave Billeaux. We're studying how different interest groups and lobbyists shape legislature. If this sounds boring trust me it is. You may be asking yourself "if it's so boring then why is she taking it?" The answer is that it's a requirement. Even though it's a boring class Dr. Billeaux is good teacher; it's just that I'm not interested in Political Science. He also tried to put us all at ease the first day of class, because he knew that it was the first college class that most of us are taking. When people talk in his class he doesn't point them out, which shows that he is a very patient man with his students; or is it that we just haven't pushed his buttons?

My second class is Political History with Dr. Robert Wooster. I have to confess I really like history more than Political Science; I hope Dr. Billeaux doesn't find out. We just finished studying the civil war. Dr. Wooster loves history and takes it very seriously. The reason I know that he takes history seriously is that when we were studying the Civil War, he demanded respect for the soldiers that fought in the war and if you couldn't give them that respect; then you were expected to leave the lecture hall. Now don't get me wrong he does kid around with us and make us laugh; just don't expect him to be nice to you if you talk in class.

My first class on Tuesdays is English Composition 101 with Dr. Libby Allison. Dr. Allison is a successful writer, and she knows that we can all be successful writers as well. Because she believes in us she pushes us to write our best and hopefully become better writers in the future. In order to help up achieve this goal she gives a lot of assignments. For example, one such assignment was our Audience and Purpose papers. This assignment was designed to help us understand who our paper is supposed to be aimed towards and why. I like this class because she takes no excuses; she doesn't baby us, and she treats us like adults.

After English I go to my Freshmen Seminar class with Dan Holbrook. Dan is a down to earth guy, he gives me the impression that he was a hippie when he was young (a hippie is a person who in the 60's had long hair and spoke of peace) just because of the fact that he is so liberal. This class is designed to help us cope with college pressures, such as budgeting our time for tests, and how to study for a college test, useless things like that. In my opinion this class is a total waste of time, because if you don't know how to budget your time by now then I think you're pretty much lost.

The last class that I'm taking is Sociology with Dr. Pamela Meyer. Dr. Meyer is a nice professor, because she always has a smile on her face; I don't know how she does it. This class is really interesting. We're learning about different kinds of human societies and in turn seeing the faults and/ or advances in our own. She makes learning about different societies really

interesting by comparing it with our own society. For example, when we were reading about how the Hindus consider the cow a sacred animal, because it is the way they survive. This is done by the production of calves by the cows for plowing and fertilizer for farming. She compared the cow to a car, because many people have become dependent on the car for their survival. This makes it a lot easier for us to relate to what she is teaching.

Well kids those are all the classes that I'm taking this year in college. I know a lot of things will change by the time you get this letter, but always remember that college is a lot of work, but don't get discouraged you can make it. And if you're thinking "well then I just won't go to college," then think again, because I will still be around, and I'll be nagging my head off til you enroll.

P.S. If I'm not around I'm sure your parents will be glad to do the nagging for me.

Love your grandmother,

Irma Valdez
Sec. BG
Final Draft
October 19, 1995

101.1.2

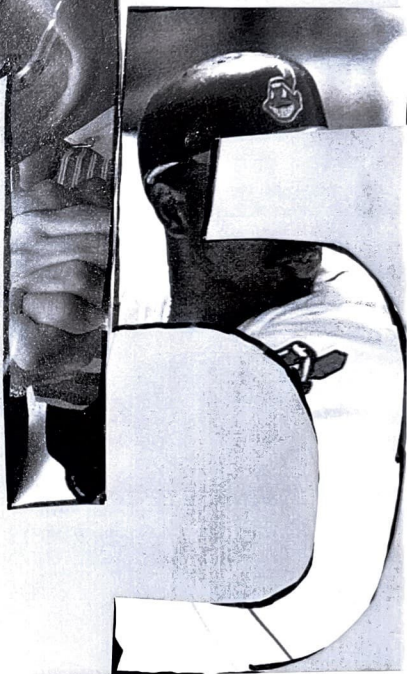


Table of Contents

1. Section 1- Ernesto Eduardo Cantu

2. Section 2- Damon Donoho

3. Section 3- Jeremy Pendergast

4. Section 4- Conclusion

Section 1

Dear Grandchildren,

The year is 1995, I have just started college at the University of Texas A&M-Campus Christ, and am learning how to manage my money. There is no more splurging at the mall on compact-disk, with outstanding music for listening pleasure, or buying expensive clothing. I have learned the real value of the dollar bill, it is one hundred percent new, but just another bank. As you grow older you will realize that money controls everyone's life, or at least

Growing up I never had the opportunity of being or the ever so popular, "As a basketball player for the Chicago Bulls." My parents could not afford to buy me a new expensive product. Every one would spend the money as if it were theirs and getting me buy whatever I want. I come to realize that expensive products are really not. I look at things as if it were new things like new that I am making hard to earn money. A couple of days before school started I walked into Sports World located in Denville, Ohio. I went to a sporting goods store named CLANBIS where I saw a replica jersey of "Magic" Johnson for an unbelievable price of \$49. "Magic" Johnson is one of the best basketball players to ever play professional. From the 1980's he had the Los Angeles Lakers, another NBA franchise, to Los Angeles. He is known for his incredible skills that someone would pay so much money for a muscle shirt just because it is because the one worn by this great basketball star. Another thing that I saw that was very expensive was a pair of shorts named Rockjacks for \$330, I said to myself, "are these shorts made of gold or silver?" Together they were made of leather, so I passed up on them. As I continued my walk around the mall I decided to grab a bite to eat. It cost about \$5 to eat lunch and walk away from a drink at McDonald's. This price is average for a fast food meal. Finally, on my way home from the mall, in my 342,000 1995 Ford Escort, I stepped to fill up the gas tank. I always try to find the least expensive gas station, and \$1.01 per gallon was the best price. I also purchased a 30 oz. Coca Cola (a refreshing soft drink) for 79 cents and a lottery ticket for \$1.

Money is the heart of all the problems in the world today. Everyone wants to have control, no one wants to be told what to do. Greed is a major problem that we face, even go up because the producers know we cannot live without the basic necessities of life which are food, shelter, water, and oxygen, so a profit is made by those who control these necessities. Learned women also control our spending habits. Learned women are material objects that we as consumers have learned to want to keep up with our styles and be the "spend money to be around" with others. Education is the key to success, it gives you the power needed to survive in society.

I don't know how much a Coca Cola will cost in the year 2040, but when we think of the 75 cents we pay now and think it is a high price, you will probably laugh because the price is so different from what you will be paying. I hope I am still alive when you

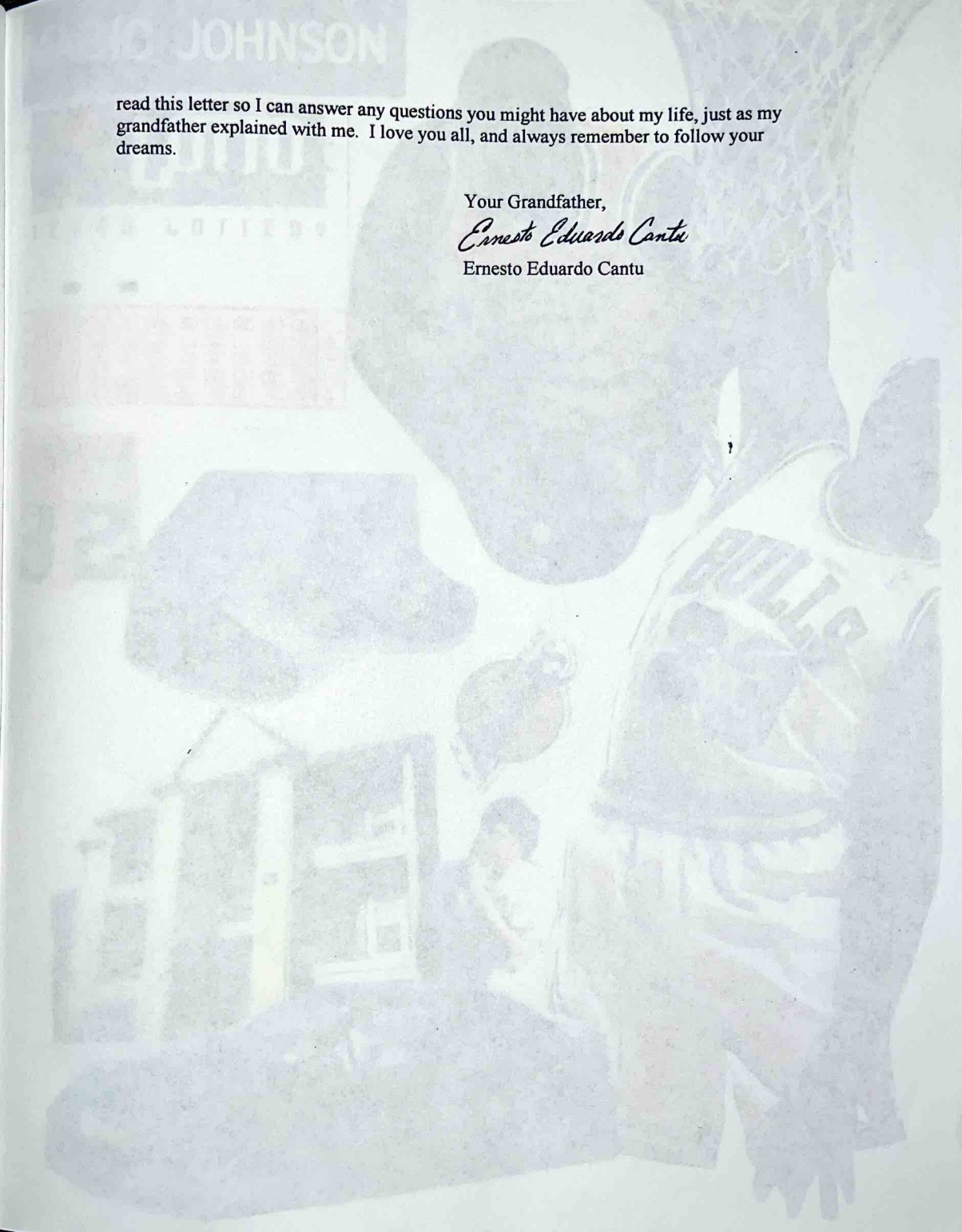
Dear Grandchildren,

The year is 1995; I have just started college at the University of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, and am learning how to manage my money. There is no more splurging at the mall on compact disks, disks containing music for listening pleasure, or buying expensive clothing. I have learned the real value of the dollar bill, it is one hundred pennies now, not just another buck. As you grow older you will realize that money controls everyone's life, or at least in my lifetime it does.

Growing up I never had the most expensive clothing or the ever so popular, "Air Jordan's". These are shoes endorsed by Michael Jordan for Nike. Michael Jordan is a basketball player for the Chicago Bulls, an NBA Franchise. My parents could not see themselves spending so much money on something that is manufactured the same as a less expensive product. Every once in a while my parents would spoil me by giving me money and letting me buy whatever I wanted. Now that the money is coming out of my own pocket, I come to realize how expensive material objects really are. I look at things in a whole new perspective now that I am working hard to earn money. A couple of days before school started I walked into Staples Mall located in Corpus Christi. I went to a sporting goods store named CHAMPS where I saw a replica jersey of "Magic" Johnson for an unbelievable price of \$40. "Magic" Johnson is one of the best basketball players to ever play professionally. During the 1980's he led the Los Angeles Lakers, another NBA Franchise, to five world titles. He is famous, but I couldn't believe that someone would pay so much money for a muscle shirt just because it resembled the one worn by this great basketball star. Another thing that I saw that was very expensive was a pair of shoes named Rockports for \$230, I said to myself, "are these shoes made of gold or what?" Evidently they were made of leather, so I passed up on them. As I continued my walk around the mall I stopped to grab a bite to eat. It costs about \$5 to eat a hamburger with some fries and a drink at McDonald's. This price is average for a fast food meal. Finally, on my way home from the mall, in my \$12,000 1995 Ford Escort, I stopped to fill up the gas tank. I always try to find the least expensive gas station, and \$1.01 per gallon was the best price. I also purchased a 20 oz. Coca Cola (a refreshing softdrink) for 75 cents and a lottery ticket for \$1.

Money is the heart of all the problems in the world today. Everyone wants to have control, no one wants to be told what to do. Greed is a major problem that we face. Prices go up because the producers know we cannot live without the basic necessities of life which are food, shelter, water, and oxygen, so a profit is made by those who control these necessities. Learned wants also control our spending habits. Learned wants are material objects that we as consumers have learned to want to keep up with new styles and be cool (good person to be around) with others. Education is the key to success, it gives you the power needed to survive in society.

I don't know how much a Coca Cola will cost in the year 2040, but when we think of the 75 cents we pay now and think it is a high price, you will probably laugh because the price is so different from what you will be paying. I hope I am still alive when you



read this letter so I can answer any questions you might have about my life, just as my grandfather explained with me. I love you all, and always remember to follow your dreams.

Your Grandfather,

Ernesto Eduardo Cantu

Ernesto Eduardo Cantu

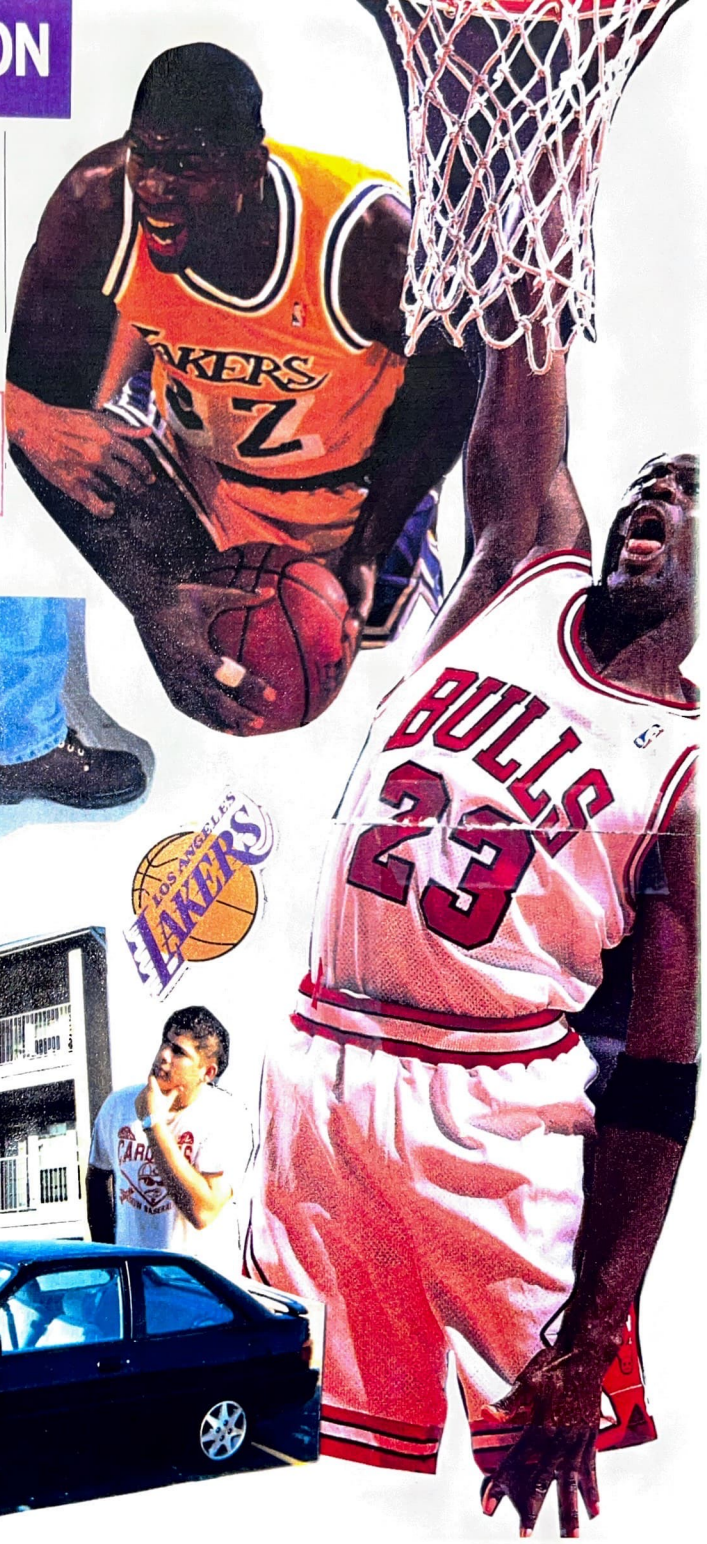
MAGIC JOHNSON



TEXAS LOTTERY

Play E

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
UP	VOID																																																



Section 2

Damon
Robert
Donoho

October 16, 1995
Final Draft - 86

Dear grandchildren,

Our world is always changing and adapting to new technology, so I'm sure that by the time you read this letter, everything I am doing will be out of style. In order to understand how our world is right now, it would be best to tell you all the things I do on a typical Monday of college.

I wake up at 6:00 on Monday mornings, take a shower, and then prepare to go to work. It usually takes me 30 minutes to get to work, Nueces Veterinary Hospital, so I leave my apartment, located on campus, at about 6:30. I have a blue, 1993 Chevrolet truck, and this is how I get to work. I am currently a veterinarian assistant for Dr. Brad C. Hoke, so I have to arrive at the clinic early in order to get the clinic ready for the day. During this time I walk the dogs, clean cages, set up the computer, and take appointments for surgery. Since I have a class at 10:00, I usually leave the clinic about 9:15 on Mondays and travel back to Texas A&M - Corpus Christi.

My class at 10:00 is a large, lecture course called Political Science, and it usually has about 250 students in attendance. This course mainly deals with the United States government, how it works, and what it accomplishes. Then at 12:00, I have another lecture course, American Political History. This course is in nearly the same format as my first course, but instead deals with America's history and explains how America has gotten to where it is. Immediately after this, at 1:00 in the afternoon, I go to my last class, a Zoology course, which is the only class that I am currently taking for my Biology major. The course deals with the Animal and Protista Kingdoms, and goes into depth on the specific phyla within each.

Then I usually go to the gym to work out in the weight room, and basically relieve some of the stress I have felt throughout the day. Often times I play some racquetball with my friend, Scott Walker, because it is a sport that involves a lot of exercise. Then at about 5:30, I go home and take another quick shower. This is usually the time when I do some studying and homework, before watching the exciting Monday Night Football game.

One of my greatest interest, is watching football, and my favorite team, the Dallas Cowboys, are playing well enough to be in Super Bowl XXX. I really like all the players on the team, but there are particular ones that stand out from the rest. Troy Aikman, the quarterback, is one of the greatest quarterbacks in the NFL (National Football League), and MVP (Most Valuable Player) of Super Bowl XXVII. Emmitt Smith, the running back, has won two rushing titles, broke several records, and was the MVP of Super Bowl XXVIII. And then there is Michael Irvin, a wide receiver, who is the leading receiver this year, and preparing for a successful climb to the top. It is stars like these players, that make watching the Dallas Cowboys so exciting.

This brings me to the Monday Night Football game at 8:00, which usually features very exciting teams within the NFL. This game is usually very good, allows me to relax from the day's tiresome events. After football ends at 11:00, I usually do some assigned reading until I drift off to sleep.

So now you have a better idea of what all your grandfather

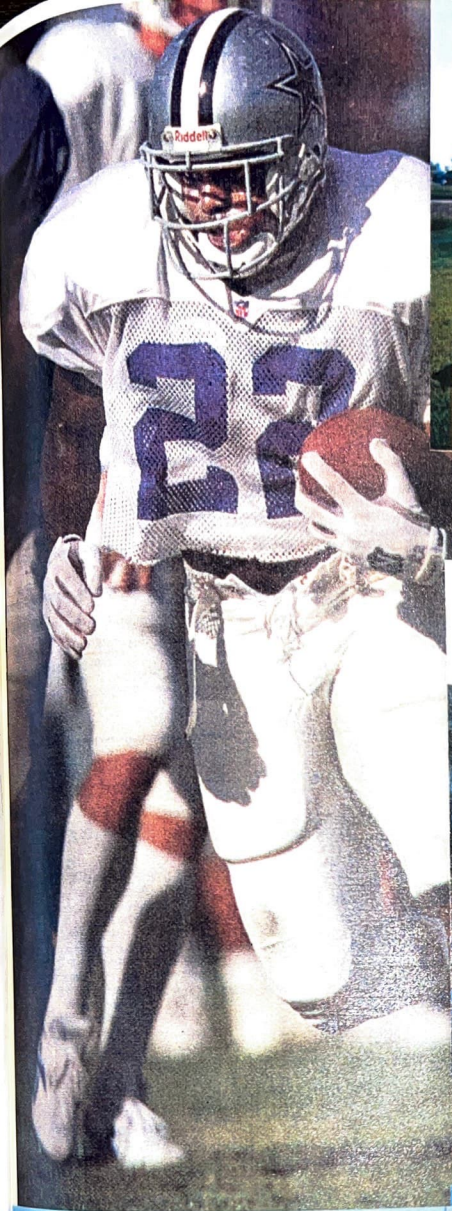
does on a typical Monday. I hope that the future is showing you how far our world has changed since I was in college, and I also hope you have learned from my experiences. Good luck in the future, and I hope you enjoy your college years.

Your grandfather,

Damon Donoho
Damon Donoho

Damon's Aunt Place
← Emmitt Smith
← Damon's Home ↓

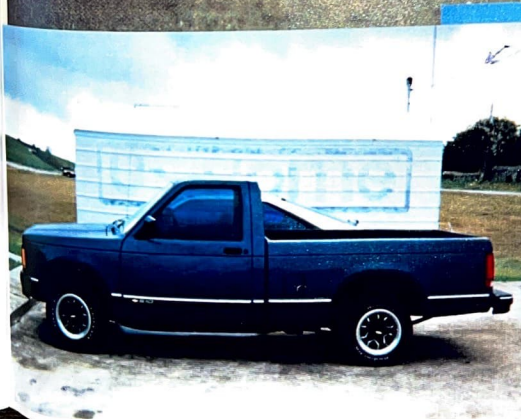
Damon's Trailer
← Damon's Office ↓



↑ Damon's Work Place
← Emmitt Smith
↓ Damon's Home ↓



↑ Damon's Truck
← Miramar Office ↓



Section 3

Jeremy Glen Pendergast

Jeremy Pendergast
Composition 101 BG
October 19, 1995
Final Draft

My dear grandchildren,

Contrary to what you may think, I wasn't always a bitter and depressed old penny pincher. Once, a long time ago, I was a bitter and depressed young penny pincher. I know you may find this hard to believe, but, yes, your grandfather used to be a college student. Actually, I am a college student. This letter is actually an assignment by my Composition 101 instructor, Dr. Libby Allison. Don't, however, feel slighted by this fact. I probably would have gotten around to writing to you eventually. You can thank Dr. Allison though for getting me in gear a little early. (Actually, it's probably about 35 years early, but who's counting.)

As I said, I am currently enrolled as a full-time college student. Right now, I attend Texas A&M University -- Corpus Christi, Texas, but I'm not sure whether or not I'll stay here. I might move to Austin due to some recurring problems in my ordinarily hum-drum life (but that's another letter entirely!). I'm taking 13 hours this semester, with classes on Monday through Friday.

My first class on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays is Political Science with Dr. Billeaux. This class is my favorite. This is probably due to the fact that politics and Pendergasts go way back. I'm sure by now you know all about Thomas Pendergast. If not, ask your parents. I'm sure they'll be delighted to tell you all about how he got Harry Truman elected as President of the United States, a position that will no doubt be as highly revered (not to mention corrupt) in your day as it was in his and mine.

My other class on these days is Political History with Dr. Wooster. This is another great class. It starts at 12:00 and gets out at 12:50. Dr. Wooster really takes history seriously, which is great. It really helps make the class much more interesting. This course requires a lot of reading. That's really the only downside, but that's not even that bad.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I go to three other classes. First, I have Composition with the aforementioned Dr. Allison. This class will be the death of me, partly because I never took my English classes in high school seriously, and partly because I can't write a good paper to save my life. Hopefully this letter will be filled with enough heart-felt sentiment to get me a good grade.

My second class is Freshman Seminar with Dr. Holbrook. I won't even to begin describing this class. It is a pure scheduling nightmare. Luckily, my classmates and instructor are all wise enough to agree with me on this point, so we all get along just fine.

My third class on Tuesdays and Thursdays is Social and Cultural History of the U.S. It is the second semester version of Political History. I'm not sure why I'm taking it. It's an okay class. We cover much of the same material as the Political History class, so this class really isn't that hard. I must admit, though, that this class is a little boring, and it isn't hard at all to find reasons not to go.

Well, those are my classes. Nothing too impossible. Just enough to keep me on my toes.

As far as living conditions on campus, I'd say I'm doing fairly well. I live in the Miramar University Apartments on campus. Walking to class from home only takes about 5 minutes, so transportation is no problem. The apartments are nice, and I get along great with my roommate (probably known to you as great uncle Eric Spolans). The only problem that concerns me (actually it concerns my parents more than me) is food. Eric and I are always without it. I guess that's fine, because our friends always bring over something to eat. Lately, I've taken to be a bit of a vegetarian (never a vegan -- I couldn't bring myself to give up cheese or chocolate) so I've been cooking a lot of beans and rice. My latest "bean escapade" has left me frazzled. I've been cooking the damn things for two days, and they're still a little crunchy. Kids, trust me, buy canned beans. The dried, "do-it-yourself" beans take far too long.

Well, I've given you quite a little bit about myself, and I don't even know you yet. I hope this letter reaches you in the best of health. Chances are, I'll be seeing you around sometime. Tell your mom and dad I said hi. Come to think of it, tell them to call me if they get the chance. It'll be great to hear from them. (That is, I think it will be great to hear from them. I don't even know who they are yet!)

Love and best wishes,

Jeremy Pendergast
Grandpa Pendergast



PERY, OLEN, PENDERGRASS

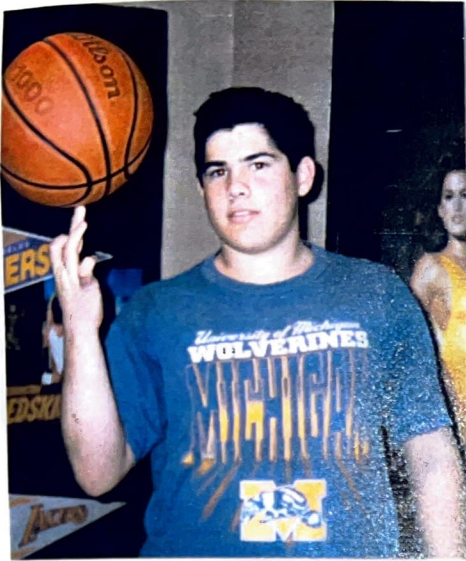


Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
The Island University

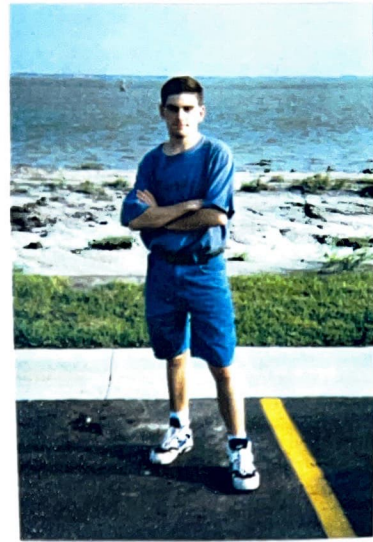
Manchu Wagon
Ramen
Oriental Noodle Soup
Beef Flavor
AMERICA'S FINEST ORIENTAL NOODLE SOUP
QUALITY GUARANTEED
COOKS IN 3 MINUTES
NET WT. 3.0Z (85g)

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
The Island University
STUDENT DISCOUNT CARD
COMPLIMENTS OF THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR SALES
CARD MUST BE PRESENTED BEFORE ORDERING MDS&S SERVICES
CONTINUOUS SAVINGS VALID THRU 8/31/96
NOTICE TO CARBONILERS & MERCHANTS - QUESTIONS CONCERNING DISCOUNT OFFERS BY THIS CARD SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO TARGET PUBLISHING CO. (713) 537-4464

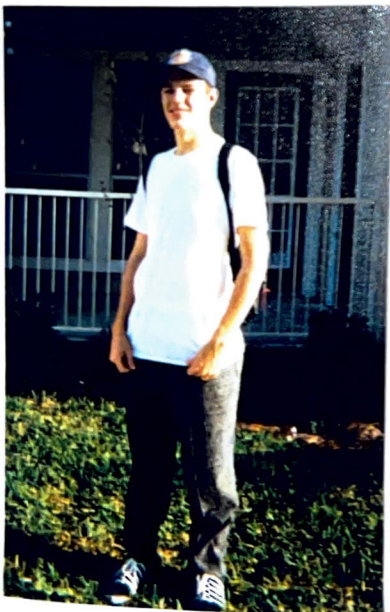
About the Authors



Ernesto Eduardo Cantu is seeking a double major in kinesiology/biology. He hopes to become an educational instructor/coach at high school level.

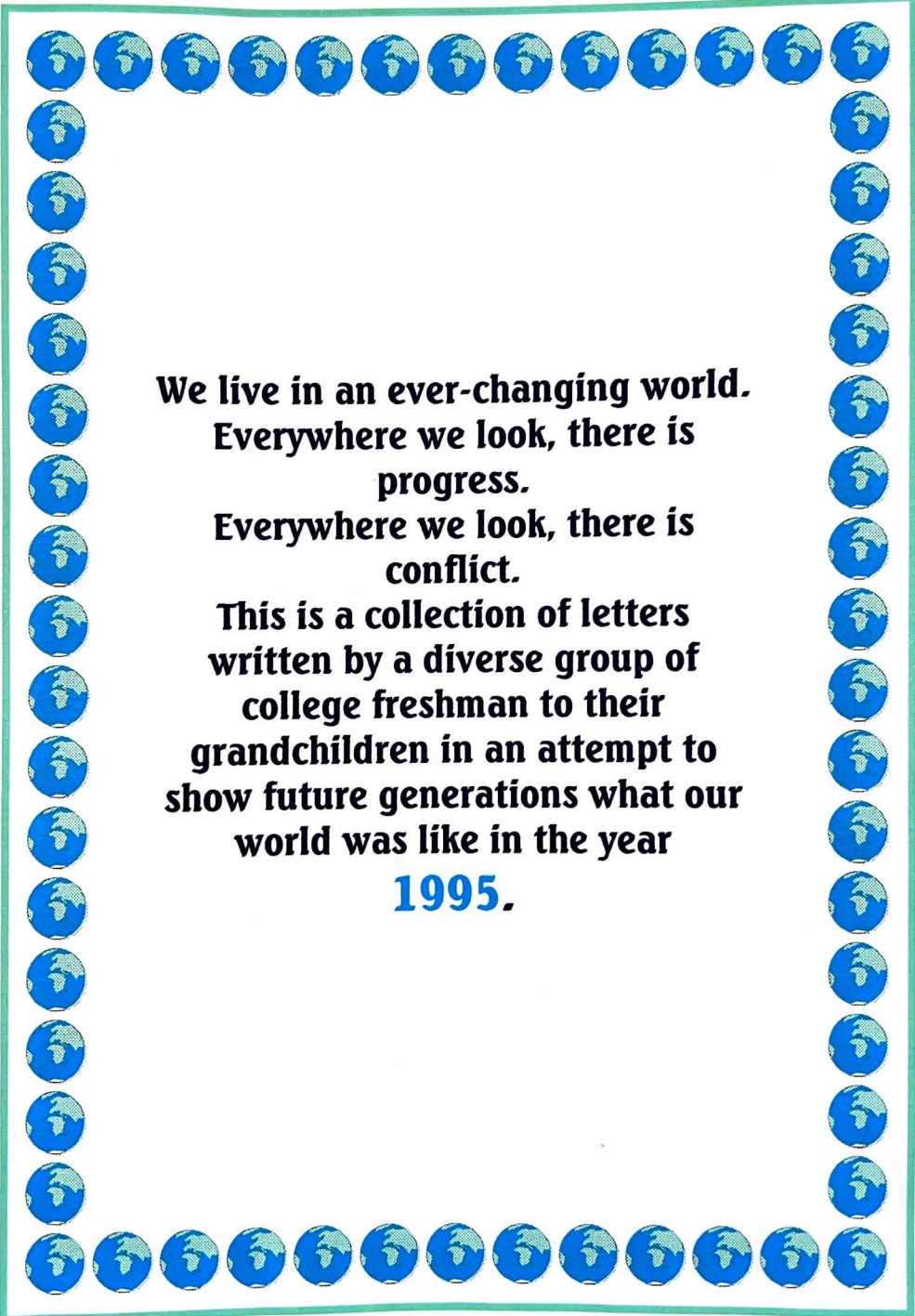


Damon Donoho is seeking a major in Biology at Texas A&M. He hopes to eventually gain acceptance into Texas A&M University College Station Veterinary School.



Jeremy Pendergast is currently enrolled in Texas A&M University -- Corpus Christi. He is majoring in sleep deprivation and hopes to one day be a contender.

101.1.3



**We live in an ever-changing world.
Everywhere we look, there is
progress.
Everywhere we look, there is
conflict.
This is a collection of letters
written by a diverse group of
college freshman to their
grandchildren in an attempt to
show future generations what our
world was like in the year
1995.**



**A Weekend in the Life
of David Cavazos**

David Cavazos
Eng 101 BD
11/6/95 Final

Dear grandchildren,

As a freshman at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, it was required of me to write a letter to my grandchildren, so here it is. My day begins with a shower, followed by breakfast. I usually eat pop tarts for breakfast on the way to class due to the fact that I wake up late for class. I'm not even sure if you know what a pop tart is, but just in case I'll tell you anyway. A pop tart is some what of a pastry that is filled with fruit jam. Pop tarts come in a plethora of flavors, some even have icing and sprinkles on the outside. They come two to a pack and are warmed in the toaster. A toaster is a metal box with anywhere from two to six slots across the top. The pop tarts are placed one in each slot and the lever is pulled down. As the pop tarts are lowered, there are metal bands that become red hot and cook the pastry. This is a daily ritual for me from Monday through Friday.

My weekends, however, are spent at home, in San Benito. Friday after class I gather up all my dirty clothes from the week and take them home to dear ole mom. On the weekends I am obligated to tend to my cattle. After breakfast, I go to my pasture and feed my cattle. If there is anything that needs to be done, such as mending a fence, or giving a shot to a cow or anything of that sort it is my responsibility to make sure it gets done. While I and, Art, a friend of mine, are busy stringing a fence, my father is busy getting the fire ready for the barbecue. My dad loves to barbecue and this is the prime opportunity to. My parents will call up my sister, Denise, my brother, Danny their friends, my friends, the neighbors, and just about whoever else wants to come.

After the work is done for the day, my friends and I will get together at someone's house at around seven in the evening and begin thinking about what to do. We usually end up about twenty miles from civilization near the arroyo. Someone will get the urge to build a fire, which always starts off as a normal fire about three to four feet tall, but eventually turns into a twenty foot bon-fire. It's almost like a small party, some people are fishing, some are drinking, a couple are around the fire, and a couple doing other things, but we are all friends! This goes on until about two or three in the morning once we get bored of that, we all go back into town and find out where the other parties are. At around 4 or 5 A.M. the night starts to come to an end, and I take everyone home, that I picked up, on my way home. When I get home, I usually get yelled at for coming home so late, before I go to bed. The following day I'm up at around ten-thirty or eleven to finish the work that was left at the ranch.

The day is spent almost exactly the same as the previous one. It's now Sunday and my whole family meets at church, after church we almost always go out to eat. After that, my friends and I will go bass fishing until about five or six in the afternoon. Then I'll go home take a shower and get ready for the drive back to Corpus to recover from the weekend. And the cycle starts over on Monday morning.

Love your grandfather,
David Cavazos



Home Is Where The Heart Is
by Carlye Clark

Dear Grandchildren,

November 4, 1995

I am writing you this letter to show you how the "world worked" when I was eighteen. The year is 1995. I'm a college freshman at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, in Corpus Christi, Texas. I am full of hopes and dreams for my future as well as yours. I hope that when you read this I will have laid a good foundation for the futures of you and your parents.

I am also worried that you won't have the opportunities that I have had. I have this overwhelming fear of what the world is going to be like for my children and you. I picture the world as a very dark place in forty years. It has already changed so much from the tree lined streets of the 1950's, where kids were free to play outside without the fear of a drive-by shooting or being kidnapped. Now, I don't feel I can trust a licensed day care center not to neglect or hit my children.

Speaking of children, I am now in the beginning stages of planning my wedding and my life away from home. I can't wait to be in my own house and live on my own terms. The man I plan to marry is wonderful. His name is George Leonardo Lerma, Jr. He has a level head and knows what he must do to provide a good life for us. I will continue going to school after we are married and receive my degree in Education. We are planning on having a family so I'm not sure if I will start teaching right away or not. We both agree that I should stay home with the kids when we start our family. That way they will have a parent around at all times and not have to go to a day care center or be home alone. George and I will not put our children in a day care center, we would rather leave them with someone they love and trust. I think the trouble in this world today starts at home. The kids who are brought up in single-parent families with no father figure or stable lifestyle pay for it. These kids have a low self-esteem, poor value systems and usually aren't taught to have respect for people no matter what their age, social status, or color. These are the ones who are causing problems. It's not the children's fault, but the parents responsibility to teach them this.

The gangs of today are a result of parental neglect, racism and prejudice. My brother, Adam, who is your Great Uncle, lives in Los Angeles, California. His son Chris (who is 14) has been chased home from school by gang members, threatened, and has gotten into fights. Luckily, at his young age he stands six feet tall and can defend himself. But others don't stand that tall and can't defend themselves. Recently a five year old girl was shot and killed over a stupid argument between two young men about who had the better car. Everywhere I look, I see different people trying to get ahead of one another. The African Americans of today are trying to prove their self-worth in the world, while many white people are trying to keep them out of it.

Because of all the gangs and violence that surrounds us, I am scared to bring children into this world, but I will. I believe that children are the purest form of humanity and can be molded into respectable people. There is also no greater love than the love you get from your family, and no matter what mistakes you make, your family will be there. I also hope that, as a teacher I can help in some tiny way to show these children

to treat people with the respect that they deserve. This lack of respect leads to wrongful displays of violence, racism and prejudice towards innocent people.

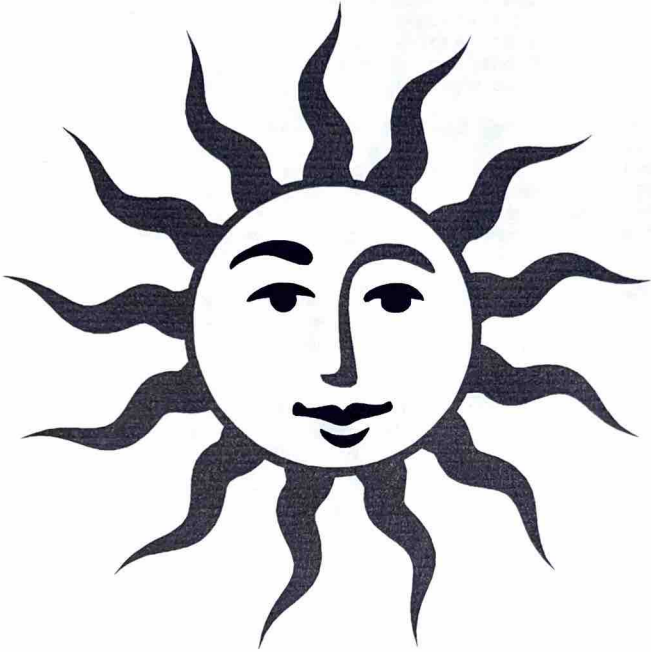
I hope that when you read this, it is evident that I have succeeded in my goal of raising a family I can be proud of free of hate and full of love and happiness. I ask you to do the same for your children, because the love you give your children at home will prevent your daughter from taking the wrong kind of "love" from an abusive boyfriend and your son will know that he can be accepted because of who he is, not because of what he has.

With love and hope,

Your Grandma Carlye



An Enlightening Of 1995
By Tracy Harvey



An Enlightening Of 1995
by Tracy Harvey

Tracy Harvey - Section BD
10-19-95
English Comp. 101

Dear Grandchildren:

The intent of this letter is to inform you, my future generation, of life before you were born. I hope that you find its content to be an intriguing and important part of your history. The letter is going to be written to you, not from your grandmother, but about the life, politics, and history through the eyes of Tracy Marie Harvey, the 18-year old Freshman at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi in Texas.

At this point in my life I have lived for two months here on the college campus. I share a 4-bedroom apartment with 3 other girls - Jennifer Bronson, Ashlee Straabe, and Jaime Bailey - all of whom I like and get along with very well. I love college life - being out on my own, cooking in my own kitchen, and best of all, having an apartment that overlooks the bay. Right now my aspired goal is to graduate in Pre-Med and go on to medical school. It is going to take quite a few years and much hard work for me to achieve this goal. In the meantime I plan to enjoy college and give it my best.

There are a few things about life in these last few years of the twentieth century that I would like to share with you. Technology, for instance, is one thing I am positive will be very different in your lifetime than it is in mine because of the rate it is advancing. Computers play a part in every little aspect of America today. They are inserted into our cars, radios, televisions, automatic doors, space shuttles, and the list goes on. Most people have one in their homes, but I do not yet. Cars are also a very important part of American life so that we can go from place to place. People are predicting that by the time you are my age the cars will be flying and running on sunlight or something to that effect. Today they are still on four rubber tires and use gasoline as their "go power".

Television, with it's sidekick, the remote control, is probably the number one source of entertainment in America. They have upgraded since first being invented in the 1940's to having small boxes in the corner that you can watch another station on and closed captions for the deaf.

The telephone, though, has really amazed me in its progress just from the time I was a child until today. When I was young I don't remember anyone having a cordless phone, and I especially know that they did not have car phones or cellular phones, which are both very common today. They have just recently come out with monitor phones that you can see the person on the other end, but those are still very rare.

In the ever-changing politics of the United States, our current president is Bill Clinton. He is well-known for being controlled by his wife, Hillary. In Texas, the current governor is George Bush, Jr., who was just recently inaugurated in January of this year. His father, George Bush, Sr., was the the previous president of the U.S. before Bill Clinton.

There are many big issues that are very conflicting among politics and among the people. One of the biggest is the issue of abortion and whether or not it should be made illegal. There are strong opinions on both sides, and people are willing to go to jail or even to kill someone to be heard. I personally think

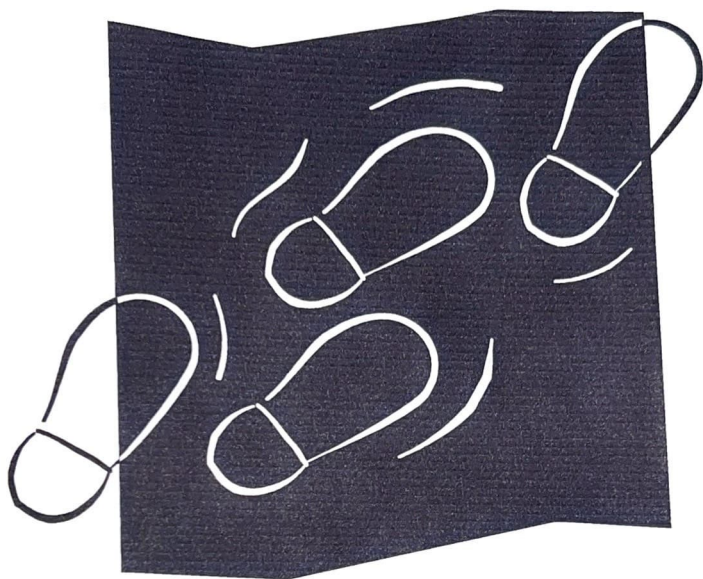
abortion is murder, but it should not be denied in certain cases like incest, rape, or life-threatening situations. AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a sensitive subject to touch on because it is so rapidly spreading and killing people - especially since there is no cure. It is a small and very deadly virus, which once is contracted, eats away at the immune system so that a person can die from the most minor sickness. Another sensitive subject is the matter of Gay Rights. Gayness is becoming more and more acceptable now and they are starting to demand rights. I think it is disgusting and always will be. Other than those negative issues, there are a few positive trends that are steadily growing in popularity. One in particular is being environmentally smart. It includes recycling, animal rights, and Greenpeace. People have come to realize that in order for us to preserve the earth for our future, we must learn to take care of it.

I want to end with one of the most important things that happened in this century, and it happened last week. It was last Tuesday, October 3, 1995, that the students all over campus were crowding around the TV monitors and everything was quiet for a few rare moments. Everyone here at TAMU-CC, and all across America, were waiting for the verdict reading of O.J. Simpson, the ex-pro football Hall of Famer. After a trial that lasted for a little over a year, the jury found him "Not Guilty" on the charges of murdering his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman. It was a joyous moment for some who thought he was innocent, and an angry moment for others who thought he got away with it because he was rich and famous. And then there were those who were just glad it was over with - like me.

Well, I hope this letter has been fascinating and will be something you will always remember. See you in the future.

Your Grandmother,

Tracy Harvey
Draft Two



A Walk Through 1995
with Shannon Middleton

Shannon Middleton
11/07/95
Final Draft
Eng 101 - BD

To Whomever Reads This,

Right now it is the year 1995, and I'm in my Freshman year of college. I just got home from my busy class schedule and turned on the television. As I watched I began to think about just how things are going. In college I'm having a great time but I don't believe that the rest of the world is having such a great time. Let me start by telling you about some of the tragic recent events that have shaped this year to make it what you read in the History books.

I'll start with one of the most popular topics on television, the case of O.J. Simpson. O.J. Simpson is a very famous former football player that was put on trial for a double murder. He was accused of killing his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. It is though T.V. that the whole world was able to watch this trial in their home from the beginning to the final verdict. As everyone, I followed the trial but I did not see the entire case. I can remember though, when the verdict was about to be announced. Our professors let us out early and everyone rushed to the closest television. Many people just stood in front of the T.V. as the jury read the verdict. The jury had found O.J. Simpson to be not guilty on all charges. The next day he was a free man but he still has civil lawsuits to go through. On matters more close to home, here in Corpus Christi, the trial of Selena's death is about to begin in Houston. Selena is a Latino singer from Corpus Christi. One of her employee's was recently accused of shooting and killing Selena at a hotel in Corpus. Selena was a young Hispanic woman that was very popular here in the South Coastal Bend area and amongst the Hispanic culture. This case, unlike O.J.'s, will not be aired on T.V., but the news media is still closely following and reporting on the trial.

Lately, the U.S. has had growing fears of terrorist attacks such as the bombing of the World Trade Center and the Oklahoma City bombing. I can remember I was at the airport about to fly home, Midland, for the weekend, October 6, and an announcement was made that security is at level three. The reason was that of the trials of the accused terrorist of bombing the World Trade Center had begun. On a even heavier side, the bombing in Oklahoma was a very disastrous event. It is not completely known yet who was actually involved, but many people believe who it was a terrorist attack. Many men, women, and children were killed in these awful tragedies. The most tragic aspect of the bombing is the great number of innocent children that were pulled out dead. The public kept there T.V.'s on as rescuers searched for the remaining survivors; yet because the nursery was on the second floor not many survivors were found. As I watched the rescuers recover the dead bodies on the television, I had a sick feeling about everything. I could not believe that someone would do this to innocent children. This event stirred deep emotions of the people in the U.S.

In today's society non-curabile disease have become of great

concern. The biggest problem, right now, within our society is the non-curable disease of AIDS. AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. AIDS is a very serious disease that can take many year to develop. AIDS is contractable through sex, blood transfusions, and unsterile needles, to name a few. When AIDS was first recognized many people believe that only homosexuals could contract it. But anyone dealing with blood, needles and/or sex is at risk of contracting AIDS. For anyone that has come in contact with any of these risks testing centers are available. The only thing is that because this disease does take such a long time to develop one could be carrying the disease around and not even know. I can only hope that your generation will be able to find a cure.

These are only a few events that cause me to wonder if this year has been a great year or has it been disastrous. I can only wonder how your Freshman year in college will be. Will your schedule be just as busy? Who will the President be? Will terrorist still be of great concern? Will your generation find a cure for Aids? You'll have to continue when the time comes and save this letter so the next person, in the next generation who reads it can compare the two different generations.

Sincerely,

Shannon Middleton

Technology in 1991
by Shannon Middleton



Technology in 1995
By Chris Washa

Chris Washa

October 23, 1995

Draft 1

Dear grandchildren,

I am writing this letter in my freshmen composition class, at Texas A&M--Corpus Christi, in order to show you what a normal day in the life of a college student would be if you lived in the 20th century. I live in a house out on Padre Island with my mom, dad, and brother. I set an alarm clock in order to wake me with enough time to get up and make it to class in time for our early morning lectures. Since I don't live on campus, which a majority of the students do, I have to drive my Honda Accord about seventeen miles to class. Right now my goal is to graduate from this university as a nursing major. It is going to take a few years of hardwork and determination to achieve this goal but, I plan to enjoy as much of this time as possible.

Technology, is advancing in such a rate that I predict all of the newly invented technologies will be out dated by the time this letter is read. Computers are used basically by everyone and everything. Computers at this time run our lives. For example, the cars that are being driven on our highways are run by computers and the televisions and radios that are associated with our everyday lives are run by computers. Televisions are advancing at a fast rate, they have gone from small, unclear screens to large clear screens that can be operated from the

convenience of our couches by the development of the remote control. Radios and stereos are another example of the advancement in technology. When my mother was young they had a thing called a record player in which a disk turned and a needle ran along a groove in the disk which in turn produced music. This record player made music in which the clarity was not very good. Now days, we have a object called a compact disk (CD) player. This is a disk that is turned at varies rates while a laser ran along a groove in the disk. This CD player produces a clarity that is unheard of. There is also a thing called a laser disk player that hasn't become to available yet, it will probably be outdated by your time.

In the everchanging and controversial issue of politics, our current president is Bill Clinton. He is a Democrat from the state of Arkansas. Bill Clinton succeeds George Bush Sr., whose son is now the governor of Texas. George Bush Jr. was inaugurated in January of this year.

I want to end with one of the most highly publicized and controversial issues of this century. After a little over a year of deliberation over the matter, the Los Angelos courts found O.J. Simpson not-guilt of the double murder charges that were brought against him. The many people who thought he was guilty were very upset with the verdict. October 3, 1995 was the day that at least half the nation had there eyes glued to the television set as the verdict was read. Being an ex-football Hall of Famer with a lot of money, many people thought it was the money and fame that set him free.

I hope that I have given you a little incite onto what the past was like and what the future will have in store for you .

Take care and always be careful.

Your Granfather,

Chris Washa

H. E. M. COMPANY
MANUFACTURERS OF BOOKS
100 N. BROAD ST. NEW YORK

PK 11

ESTEBAN S.
AGUIRRE

1

DEBORAH A.
MARTINEZ

9

MELANJE T.
SHODROK

9

KEVIN D.
HOLLEY

5

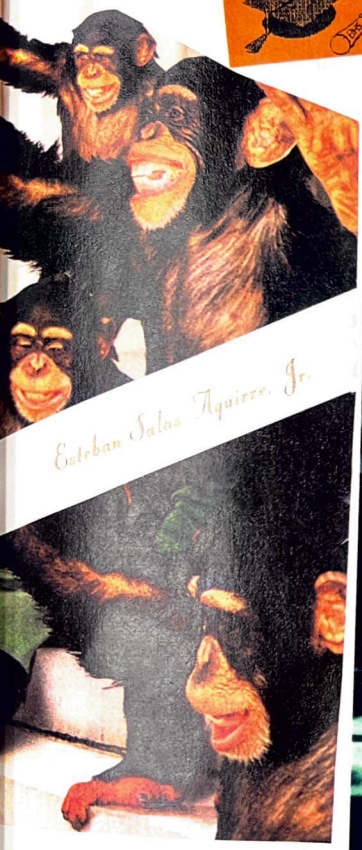


DEAR GRANDCHILDREN....

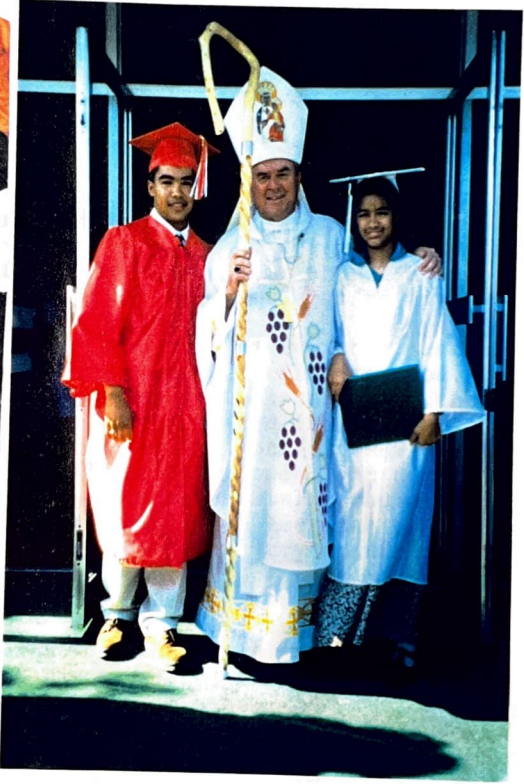
Graduation

Burbank H.S.

Class of '95



Esteban Salas Aguirre, Jr.



Notre Dame



Hey Kids! Well, it's getting close to the end of the century, and I thought that I might interest you a little about your grandma and my days. I wanted to let y'all in on some of the technological advancements and some major political events that are hitting our news headlines.

First of all, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I am the first child to attend any college or university in my family. There are three children, and I am the second oldest in my family. I am interested in becoming a trauma nurse or a registered nurse. My dream is to attend the University of Notre Dame. So one day I hope that I can successfully accomplish these goals. I am a freshman in college in the year 1995. I am currently attending Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Some of the classes that I take are Freshman Composition I, Political Science, and U.S. History. In my freshman composition class, I am using a computer instead of writing by hand. Computers are fairly new to us, and the technology of computers are improving on a daily basis.

Not only computers, but cellular phones, and compact disc (C.D.s) are rather new. In the 1970's, cassettes were one of the newest resource to listening to recorded music. In the 1990's, CDs are now the most popular listening device. CDs are medium-sized discs that have laser printed signals that play the music when they are read. Also in the 1990's, cellular phones were introduced to us. Not only can we talk when we are at home, now we have a phone that can be used anywhere as long as the phone is in reach of its signal. Now that I have told you'll about some technological advances, let me give you'll an insight to some political issues.

There are two major trials that have either just ended or just getting underway. First, the O.J. Simpson case. This trial had been shown on most all television channels for the last year. O.J. was a famous football player in the 1980's, and a famous movie star after his career playing football. He was accused of murdering his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ron Goldman. This case was very controversial because O.J. Simpson was a major role model for the African American community. Finally at the beginning of October a jury found O.J. Simpson innocent of all he was accused of.

Second, there is another case that recently got underway. This is about the murder of Selena Quintanilla Perez. Selena was a very famous Tejano singer, and a role model for most Hispanic teenagers. Selena was not only known for singing, but she was also known for her fight for education. She was shot down in a Corpus Christi hotel room in March of 1995 by Yolanda Saldivar. This was a major shock to the Hispanic community. Many Hispanics loved Selena like if she was their relative. Yolanda Saldivar is currently going to trial for this murder. Now let me give y'all an insight to the controversial issues that we have faced.

Two controversial issues that affect every American citizen are abortion and AIDS. Of the two, abortion, in my opinion, is the most talked about issue. Abortion is a way of getting rid of an unwanted pregnancy. This is a good example of the separation between church and state. The state allows abortion to be practiced in a state licensed facility as long as the pregnant female is of the legal age. But the church is against this practice. They feel that this is immoral and should not be practiced at all. They believe that this practice is murder and people who do this are killing the unborn fetus. In my opinion,

I am for abortion, but only in extreme circumstances. First, I feel that a woman can have an abortion if she is sick. For example, cancer of the uterus that could cause long term suffrage to the child. Second, if a woman had been raped, to avoid any recollection of that tragic day she might want to have this procedure done. The other controversial issue is AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency System). This disease is now one of the most scrutinized diseases in the nation. It can be contracted by practicing unsafe sex. AIDS eats at the immune system then slowly but surely, this disease will kill you.

Well these are some of the issues that are facing the 20th century. Political and technological issues will face you every day of your life. I hope in your century the abortion and AIDS issues will be abolished. God Bless You and Take Care.

Love Always,
G-pa Steve



Letter From A Friend: Mission High School student Deborah Harwood displays the letter she received from President Clinton.

Virgo (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

FOR CALL: 800-243-3878. CREATIVE PRODUCTION: JESSICA CHAMBERLAIN. DESIGN: FRANCESCA VONN. ART DIRECTOR: GINA HENNING. SPONSOR: GIGAWATT. CONTENTS LTD. TENCOR, NJ

95
MTV
MUSIC TELEVISION®

**FREEEDOWN
AMERICA**

October 19, 1995

My Dearest Grandchildren,

I am in awe that you might be reading this forty or fifty years from now. As I sit here and wonder about what your lives might be like and what kind of persons you and your parents will be, as well as who your grandfather will be, I become even more bewildered. Words cannot begin to express the sentiments that I wish to convey to you. However, I will try my very best.

At this point and time in my life I am a freshman at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi where I am pursuing my degrees in Communications and Political Science. I hope to go into the field of journalism or at least something related to it. I would imagine that you, as my descendants, love to write. After all, my father is a journalist based in Mexico and my mother an English teacher. However, we must keep in mind that I am a mere 18 years old at the time that this is written and, therefore, possibly prone to many detours in the future. At this very moment I really don't have the slightest clue as to where my life is headed. I can only hope that it is similar to the plan that I have laid out. Unfortunately, I have no say as to what will happen; only God and the progress of time will be able to tell.

The progression of which I speak will be tremendously affected by the current situation in my world. The technological advancements, foreign relations, and political/domestic state which I am now experiencing is of extreme importance to your generation. It is difficult to envision myself at this point as a part of your history. The possibility that there might be a cure for AIDS when you read this and that things which I now find so richly fascinating and out-of-this-world will someday be trivial to you all, is amazing to me.

Greatly affecting what your generation will be like are the technological advancements that are happening right now. Laptop computers and cordless phones are popular at this moment, as are phone caller identification mechanisms (gadgets which are able to identify the calling party before the receiving party answers the phone) and compact discs for precise music listening. And on the horizon is the full distribution of monitor telephones equipped with television screens so that the parties can see each other speaking. Also, watches that will be able to download information from computers, therefore, allowing people to carry their software with them at no inconvenience, are predicted for the near future. Obviously, the microchip is extremely essential to my generation; much, if not all, of what we do is dependent upon the accuracy of it. Right now, my generation is awaiting the day when every automobile functions on either solar power or disposed of waste. (Yes, my current car is a massive ton on four rubber wheels that uses petroleum, a non-recoverable natural resource, to move.)

Foreign relations are somewhat stationary at this point. There really isn't as much conflict as there was say, five years ago when there was possibility of war against the Middle East. (To you all that time will probably be better known as "Operation Desert Storm".) However, that is expected to soon change. Many of today's nations are aiming for recognized superiority by the entire world. Right now, the nation that is considered socially ahead of the rest is our beloved country. Political bodies such as Japan and the Middle East, though, are threatening to change that. With the recent fall of the Berlin Wall, as well as the disassembling of the Soviet Union, most of the U.S.A.'s enemies

have been weakened. That, in turn, has caused for the American government to focus on domestic problems, such as health care reform and civil unrest, instead of trying to make peace abroad. Sadly, though, methods were not found to improve foreign relations...only ways to stall for time. Therefore, the foreign situation should also be a touchy subject in the future.

I hope political circumstances will not monopolize your generation, although I'm sure it will as they controlled all of the generations before it. Because of the heavy role of politics, the present domestic state in which I'm living in, is in the dire situation that it is. A lot of racial hatred and social confusion is taking place in 1995. The "trial of the (20th) century" was just decided last week, and the accused, O.J. Simpson, a legendary professional football player, was acquitted of murdering his ex-wife, Nicole Brown and her friend, Ron Goldman. Due to the interracial marriage of Brown and Simpson, as well as the racial hatred expressed by one of the investigating officers, the acquittal awakened questions concerning equality and whether it ever really existed in the first place and confirmed that racism is still a very serious issue, no matter how much people try to deny it. Americans are at war with one another and foreign nations are loving every second of it.

Perhaps the most prominent factor for today's problems is the rise of domestic terrorism, and violence on a whole. Just six months ago, two former American soldiers planted a bomb in a federal building in Oklahoma City, killing over 100 people. And at this moment there is speculation as to whether or not the very recent derailment of an Amtrack train in Arizona was a result of domestic sabotage. It is slowly becoming dangerous to even walk out into one's own front yard for fear of being shot down by a drive-by shooter. Children are killing children, and some are even killing their own parents.

Ironically, though, I haven't had to endure much of what my counterparts in New York or Dallas have had to; I'm from the sheltered area of the Rio Grande Valley in deep South Texas and, as a result, I have not been exposed to the travesties which have plagued the rest of the nation. Therefore, I'm more ignorant than most of my classmates; however, going away to college is quickly changing me. I have now been able to see and experience things that I otherwise wouldn't have. I have grown more in the past month-and-a-half of college than I did in the previous 17 years. My hope for you, my beloved grandchildren, is that your world is more free of hatred and social discontentment. And, that you learn from the mistakes of your forefathers and move to make America the lovely place it was once meant to be. Never forget to strive for peace and harmony...

Love always,
Grandma Deborah

P.S.

Today, October 19, 1995 marks the 45th birthday of your great-grandmother (my mother) Sandra.



GUMDROPS ON RODENTS AND FISHSTICKS ON CHICKENS,
LIGHT WOOLY LEGGINS ON UPPITY MUNCHKINS,
MOLDY OLD SAUSAGES EATEN WITH FANGS,
THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THANGS!



My dear grandchildren,

Believe it or not I, at one time, was as young as you. I sit here at a computer in a lab in my freshman year of college. I can imagine that my world of today is much different than that of my tomorrow and of your present. I'll not hold back that the future both excites and terrifies me. I have seen many changes in my time, not all of them being for the best. Things have gotten more violent. I do hope, for everyone's sake, that the violence has not increased by the time that you read this.

The biggest legal case of all time (or so we have been told) has recently come to an end, the O.J. Simpson case. If this is in your history books or not I do not know, but it has become the biggest brouhaha of media coverage that I have seen in my young life. It does, however, give a few commentaries on today's society. One is that if you have money, no one can touch you (O.J. payed millions of dollars for his defense team and they got him acquitted); another is that anyone can become famous for the stupidest reasons (Kato Kaelin was a good for nothing mooch who lived with the Simpsons and he has gotten his own radio talk show and countless interviews). The media swears the case will be in the history books, so we'll just wait and see.

As for the "normal" world around me, some of it is good and some of it is horrifying. One of the biggest scares in today's society is AIDS. I hope that by the time you read this, that AIDS has been eliminated. What is it? AIDS is a horrible disease that attacks the immune system of the person infected. The way to be infected is through bodily fluids, so you can get it by having sex or sharing needles or even getting a blood transfusion. Thousands of people have already died from it and I fear thousands and thousands more shall die before a cure is found. On the up side, the technology of today is unlike anything I could have imagined just a few years ago. I am certain that you will probably look back and think I lived in the stone age compared to yours, but all these advances are new and exciting to me now. One such thing is the internet. Since I have been going to Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, I have been able to explore this new wonder. One can talk to anyone in the world at the touch of a button, and if electronic mail keeps advancing as it does, the post office may become obsolete. But enough of these boring things, you are probably wondering what your old fogey of a grandmother did for fun in her day.

I love music. Bands such as Toad the Wet Sprocket, R.E.M., and Bush being some of my favorites. I still like to listen to some old music as I also enjoy watching old movies. It is a way to look back and see a time long gone; one that seemed so much nicer and cleaner than that of today. I also enjoy the current movies, in fact they are one of my favorite pastimes. The biggest ones of late include Pulp Fiction, Forrest Gump, and Batman Forever, to name a few. I love reading classic literature as well as just plain old magazines and such. Reading is an excellent escape from the hassle of day to day life. Don't think, however, that I never go out to have fun. I love going to concerts, dancing at clubs, going to parties, and just going wherever to do whatever I want. It is great.

Well, I suppose that's it for now. My grandfather loves to

tell stories about his youth, so I am pretty sure that I'll be the same. I hope that this has given you some kind of insight into a time long passed. I suppose that I'll see you in about 50 years; until then, good-bye.

Love always,
Melanie



103

IL GAMES

Texas A&M University
Corpus Christi



BUST



Foot Locker
Where it all begins:



Dear Grandchildren,

I writing this letter in my freshman year of college, at Texas A&M--Corpus Christi, to show you how a normal day in my life goes. My normal day begins way too early, it seems like the night goes flying by. I begin my day off by waking up around 8:30 A.M. to the sounds of Tori Amos blaring through my stereo speakers. Her soft, subtle voice slowly wakes me. Tori Amos is a musical artist that uses various talents in her deep, quite songs. This usually tends to wake me, although sometimes it helps me fall back to sleep. After finally deciding to get out of bed, I turn on the television which always seems to be set on ESPN Sportscenter. ESPN is a television channel set up for the pleasure of viewing sports all day long. This time is one of my more relaxing moments of the day. After enjoying this peaceful moment of the day I begin to prepare myself for what the day has in store for me.

Each day tends to bring new and interesting things into my life, this includes information that I learn in my classes, whether we're talking about the politics of today the past or even the future. My day changes as the world changes, changes are made by politics and through the variety of people I converse with. The politics today in my opinion are in drastic need of change in order to assure a bright future for you and your families. Our government has difficulties setting aside their own beliefs to listen to the feeling of the general public. This is a major reason why I wish more people will become involved in the politics of this country and strive towards changing this nation for the future. The topic of getting the public to vote, is a major topic in my political history classes.

This problem has plagued the United States for all of its duration. The only way this country can resolve this problem is by evaluating the consequences and encouraging able voters to do so, to save and protect the future of this country from unwanted rule.

My day also tends to include the viewing of The Rush Limbaugh Show. This helps me stay on top of this nations political events. Rush Limbaugh is a strong political character in this country, he uses his money and power to show the effects of poor governmental rule and to deplete the reputation of the Democratic party. After having a full day of learning about politics through television and the words of others, I like to relax by going to the beach with my roommate Omar, and some of my good friends, namely Melanie, this gives me a chance to experience nature and reflect on my day and my life. I enjoy spending time with my friends because they usually bring me some peace in this crazy, mixed up world we live in.

At night I tend to do a little studying(occasionally) while listening to some of my favorite music. My favorite bands to listen to are Bush and Nine Inch Nails. These bands are alternative rock bands, that express very deep emotional messages in their music. The reason I like these bands so much is because they tend to release some of the energy I might have built up inside during the day. When finished with my homework I try to watch the nightly news, to see what events occurred in the world today. Recently, the world has been paying attention to the trial of O.J. Simpson an ex-football player, accused of killing

his wife and one of her male acquaintances. This trial lasted a little over a year and a acquittal verdict was awarded, this trial is the longest in U.S. court history. The decision was not liked by everyone because there were signs of racial favoritism by the jurors. Although this decision was not liked by everyone, I feel that it was the right choice due to lack of substantial evidence. Support for the legal and judicial system of the U.S. is another problem that this country faces and is trying to resolve.

I sincerely hope this letter has helped inform you of the kind of person I am and the kind of world I live in. The only piece of advice I can give you is be very concerned with and strive to make the world a better place for your children.

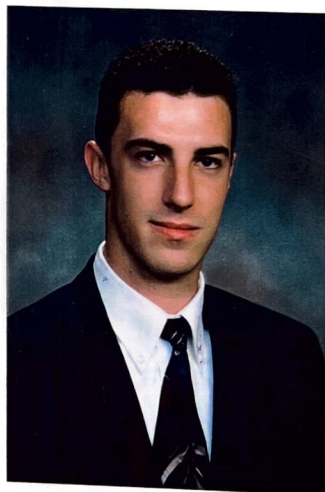
Love always,
Grandpa "Kevin" Holley

101.1.2

Letters to our Grandchildren



Daniel M. Armendariz



David P. Bailey



Alisa H. Reninger



Jeanelle Taveau

Table of Content

Daniel M. Armendariz.....page 2
David P. Bailey.....page 5
Alisa H. Reninger.....page 8
Jeanelle Taveau.....page 11

November 7, 1995

Dear Grandkids,

I am writing this letter to tell you about my life as a college student in South Texas at the end of the 20th century. Your "Bampaw" went through a great deal of changes as a freshman in college.

First, I became an Internet junkie, sending E-Mail to Heather Elizalde, Esequiel Elizalde III, and Zeke William Elizalde. Also, the reason why your "Bampaw" always reads *Wired* is because Dr. Libby Allison, my English 101BG professor asked me to write an essay on Audience and Purpose on *Wired* which I enjoyed reading so much and subscribed to the magazine. *Wired* is a magazine for people who are interested in the Internet and future explorations in computer technology such as Virtual Reality, artificial intelligence, and higher quality models of computers.

Besides becoming an Internet junkie, your "Bampaw" collected many boxes of baseball, football, and basketball cards with Michael Elizalde. My favorite baseball cards were Cal Ripkin, Jr. of the Baltimore Orioles, Ken Griffey, Jr. of the Seattle Mariners, and Greg Maddux, the pitcher for the Atlanta Braves, which won the Pennant in the National League in 1995. My favorite football cards are Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys, Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins, and John Elway of the Denver Broncos. My favorite basketball cards are Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls and Shaquille O'Neal of the Orlando Magic.

Also, while your "Bampaw" was in college I watched to O. J. Simpson trial everyday. The trial concerned the guilt or innocence of O. J. Simpson for the murders of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman, on June 12, 1994. I watched the trial from late June 1994, till the end of the trial in October 1995, waiting to see him get convicted, but as you know O. J. Simpson was not guilty in the eyes of the jury. He may get convicted in the wrongful-death civil suits for Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman filed by their parents. Also, O. J. Simpson has to go to court for custody of his two children, mothered by Nicole Brown Simpson.

Besides watching the O. J. trial your "Bampaw", spent most of his days at Esequiel Elizalde Jr. and Janie Elizalde's house. What was great about them was that while your great-grandmother, Velma Cantu Armendariz, was not being a mother to me, Esequiel Elizalde Jr. and Janie Elizalde were like my perfect parents. If I had not already told you, they are the ones that won \$16.7 million dollars in the Texas State Lottery. They lived in a two-story house in Kings Crossing which included: a workout room, a swimming pool, a big screen TV, a laser disc player, 6 bedrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 BMWs, a Mercedes, a Suburban, and a fully-loaded computer. Besides all the possessions that they had, they treated me like part of the family. Also, Zeke William Elizalde was only 1 1/2 when I met him, and I treated him if he was my own son.

Besides having a great family, your "Bampaw" is a Republican. Now, Bill Clinton is President of the United States which I hate. I am a conservative Republican and a straight-ticket one at that. This meant that no matter who the running

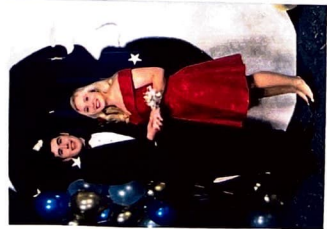
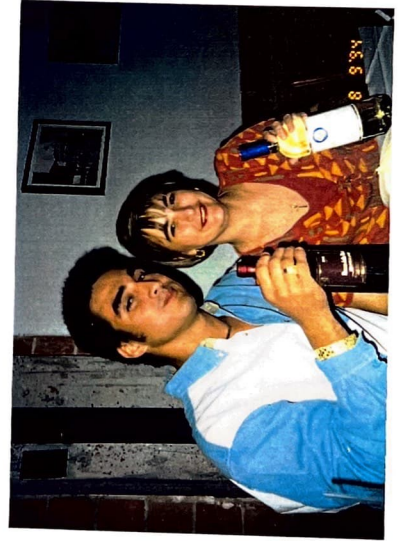
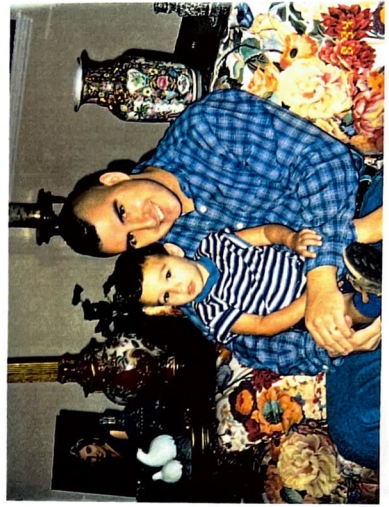
for election I always voted for the Republican candidate. Also, I am of a fan of Rush Limbaugh, and I read all of his books which include: *The Way Things Outta Be* and *See, I Told You So*. If this is not ironic, I am also a fan of Howard Stern. Howard Stern's book *Private Parts* was a big success and is being made into a movie. Besides being conservative on most issues, I was liberal on issues concerning the environment. Whenever Corpus Christi had an Ozone Action Day, I would rollerblade to college on the rollerblades I had received for my 19th birthday which was on October 24, 1995.

Altogether, your "Bampaw" had an interesting life as a first year college student at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and at Esequiel Elizalde Jr. and Janie Elizalde's house at Kings Crossing.

Love,

Daniel M. Armendariz

Daniel M. Armendariz ("Bampaw")



October 11, 1995

Dear Grandchildren,

Right now, I'm a hard working, youthful eighteen year old. However, by the time you read this I'll be a distinguished older man or I will have "passed on." Regardless, my purpose in writing this letter is to tell of how life is for me as an eighteen-year-old. Life will have probably changed drastically since I was younger.

As of September 1995, I am enrolled as a student at Texas A & M University - Corpus Christi, pursuing a degree in computer science. College life is really different from high school. I have really had to study in college. In high school, I rarely had to study to ace tests. Now, I feel I bust my butt on tests and assignments just to find out my efforts are worth a "B", or "C." Furthermore, college assignments take much more time to complete than high school assignments. In high school, assignments usually took one night. However, in college, I spend about one week. All of these professors are trying to load me down with work, such as my English professor, Dr. Libby Allison, making me write letters. In this English class, we have been peer editing our papers through the network, which is a way to communicate from one computer to another. Our class is an intra-class network, meaning that we can read our fellow classmates' papers. In my history classes, about two hundred people fill the lecture hall and the professors keep notes on the computer. They display these notes through the computer on a huge projection screen. In addition, the school issues I.D. cards with magnetic strips on the back, which can be used for checking out equipment for sports, entering the campus late at night, and a variety of other things.

Lately, I have been learning how to use the Internet. This network goes outside the classrooms, campus, state, and sometimes the country. I have talked to people from all over the United States and read mail from people all over the world. This technology may seem archaic, but it is relatively new to me and many of my classmates. I've been told by some professors, such as Dr. Libby Allison, that this is one of the first colleges to actually use the Internet and computers at this level.

Last weekend, I went to watch a band called the Toadies at a concert. They play a type of music called alternative or grunge. Alternative is supposed to be music that just doesn't fit in any category, but it's become much like rock. This music is probably "the oldies" to you. I bet recording companies during your time will be selling sets of the "grungy ninety's," because companies today are really trying to push music sets, such as "The Rockin' 80's, The Groovin' 70's, etc." Lately, music has been trying to mesh together, such as rap singers in rock bands and country band playing rock. To me, this "meshing" make classifying music difficult.

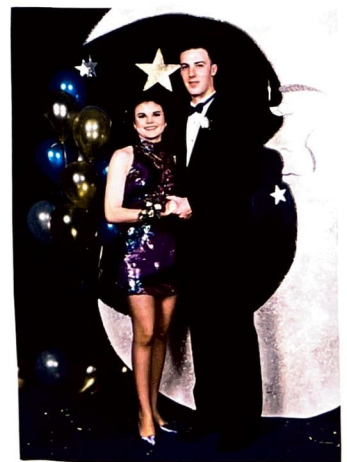
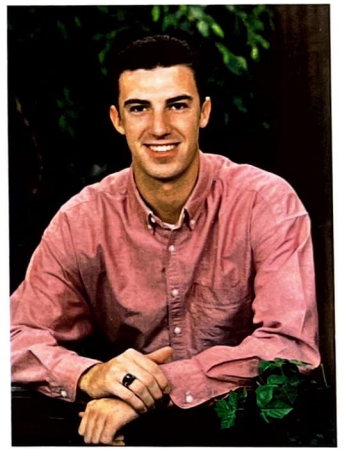
For the past two years, I have been restoring a classic car, a 1968 Chevelle SS 396. These cars are mostly mechanical. Unlike the new cars of the 1990's. New cars have all these computer chips and boards to regulate everything from fuel intake to exhaust. The old cars were simple and easy to work on. A comparison would be like building a log cabin to building a skyscraper. The log cabin is like the old car. Nowadays, people can hook their car up to a computer to fix it.

I enclosed some photos of me when I was eighteen. I'm a stud, and good-looking too. By the time you read this, I probably will have lost my youthful appearance, but I am hopeful I won't have lost my youthful spirit.

Love,

David Bailey

David P. Bailey



October 18, 1995

Dear grandchildren,

I am aware that when you read this letter I will look, talk, and act like a grandmother. But, please understand that at this moment of time I am full of youth and zeal; your grandmother at age 18. I am attending Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi and am experiencing the norms of today's everyday life. I write this letter to share with you a day of my life, October 6, 1995, so you may compare the way you and I have lived. I also write this letter to share with you my hopes for both your future and mine.

As the day began my twin sister, your great aunt Christina, and I hurried out the door while screaming at each other about being late. We got into our white 1993 Ford Escort and drove to Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, a fairly small college. As we drove down Ocean Drive we heard on the radio President Bill Clinton talking about the O.J. Simpson trial. O.J. Simpson was a football star accused a beating his wife and another man to death. The trial had been going on for almost a year and, after the verdict (not guilty) was read, people still were talking about it. I guess the reason the trial received so much attention was that it was a scandal involving a well known star.

When the car was parked Christina walked to her class and I walked to the student center. When I got to the center, I heard a song of Micheal Jackson's being played in the pool room. He is a famous pop star who has been accused of molesting little boys. Some people say the reason why Micheal Jackson married Elvis Presley's daughter was so he could seem like a normal heterosexual, not a man interested in little boys. If you do not know who Elvis Presley is, he is a famous rock star who overdosed on drugs. As you can see, scandals of famous people are well known and well publicized.

Once I got to the student center's lounge I sat down near the big screen television and watched the weather reporter talk about hurricane Roxanne. I hoped it would not come through Corpus Christi, though the surfers waited for it impatiently. I then took out my gender communications paper and read through it. I wrote the paper about the problem with using the word "he" as a generic term for all people. The usage of this word was very controversial in our society just a few years ago. Some people, mainly women, thought that since it was okay to use "he" as a generic word for all people, then it should be okay to use "she". So, in my paper I used the word "she" as a generic term, to prove a basic point that it is not right to exclude one sex in writing regardless which sex it is.

After I finished reading over my paper I decided to go into the the store on campus. On the way there I saw a young women wearing a sports bra and biker shorts with nothing else; it seems to me that are society sheds more clothing every year. When I got to the store I saw a great variety of boxer shorts in stock. I found it odd that wearing men's underwear was in fashion for both men and women. I contemplated what kinds of clothing would students be wearing at this school forty years from now.

Finally, when the time came to 10:00 a.m. I left the students center and went to my history class. Then, after the history lecture about the Civil War, I went to the computer rooms and wrote my boyfriend on the Internet. The Internet is a way

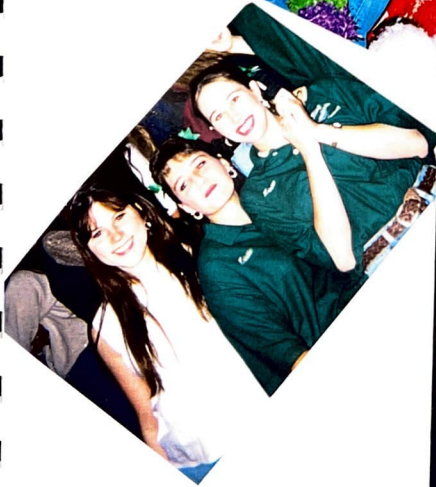
of talking to people through the computer. I asked him if he would meet me in the lounge at 2:00 p.m. and take me home. Once 2:00 p.m. rolled around I met Daniel and was ready to head for home. And that was the end of October 6, 1995's school day, during my freshmen year in college.

Before I close this letter, let me tell you about my hopes for the future after college. I hope that I become a writer, so I may make a difference in this world. I also hope that I will be able to discipline myself so I may reach that goal. My hope for you, my grandchildren, is that you have many school days to write about, as I have had. I also hope that you make a difference in this world with what you do after college.

Thank you for reading your old grandmother's thoughts. I will see you in about forty years, so until then I will be praying for you.

Love your grandmother,

Alisa Hope Reninger



October 17, 1995

My Dearest Grandchildren,

I am writing this letter to inform you of what my life was like in 1995 as an 18-year-old college student. Our society is different from those of the past as I'm sure it will be different from those of the future.

The advancements in Medical Technology fascinate me. With my father, your great grandfather, being a physician, I have had the opportunity to learn about these improvements first hand. Everyday new medications are discovered which aid in simplifying medical procedures. For example, currently a drug is being tested that will help people lose weight. In the surgical area of medicine, the discovery of laser and orthoscopic surgery has simplified the surgical procedures and stress on the patient. In orthoscopic surgery, a surgeon places a tiny camera through a half-inch incision in the area that is being operated on. Then two additional incisions are made to insert the tools needed for the procedure. The doctor performs the surgery by watching what he/she is doing on a video screen.

An aspect of our society that is bothersome to me that I hope has changed long before you read this letter, involves the salaries of teachers and law enforcement officials. Teachers are expected to educate the people who are next in line to run our country. Teachers put in more work than the typical 8:30am to 3:30pm school day. Many teachers arrive early to school and stay many hours after the final bell rings to help students. Also, teachers often spend their personal time planning the next school day and expressing concern for their students through parent/teacher conferences or setting up additional tutoring times. Another severely underpaid profession is law enforcement, especially the officers in the Department of Public Safety. The troopers work long, odd hours 365 days a year. The troopers are all too often isolated, when simple back-up could take anywhere from 15-30 minutes to arrive. The public has invested their trust in law enforcement officials to keep the roads safe, and police officers are expected to protect the general welfare of the people. Every time law enforcement officials go on duty they are risking their lives for us. Unfortunately, it seems we show them our gratitude by paying them salaries which barely cover their living expenses. I hope this will change in the very near future.

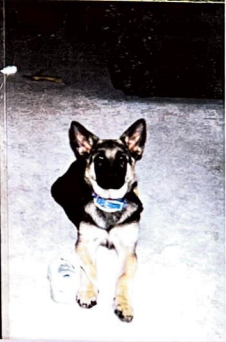
Another issue that bothers me and that has been on the rise over the past five years, is the individual's lack of responsibility in society. No one is responsible for his/her own actions anymore. The plaintiff, the one at fault, blames the defendant, the one who is accused for the irresponsible act. The plaintiff sues the defendant and the case ends up in court. The irony is that in today's society the plaintiff, the one really at fault, usually wins and receives a generous amount of money for his irresponsible behavior. This is directly linked to lawsuit abuse. One of the most recent and ridiculous cases involves a woman who bought a cup of coffee at McDonald's a fast food restaurant, and she spilt the coffee on herself. As a result, the coffee burnt her. Well, that's to be expected because coffee is hot. Since she burnt herself with the coffee she spilt, she sued McDonald's and gained 3 million dollars for her irresponsible act. This too must change. Lawsuit abuse is

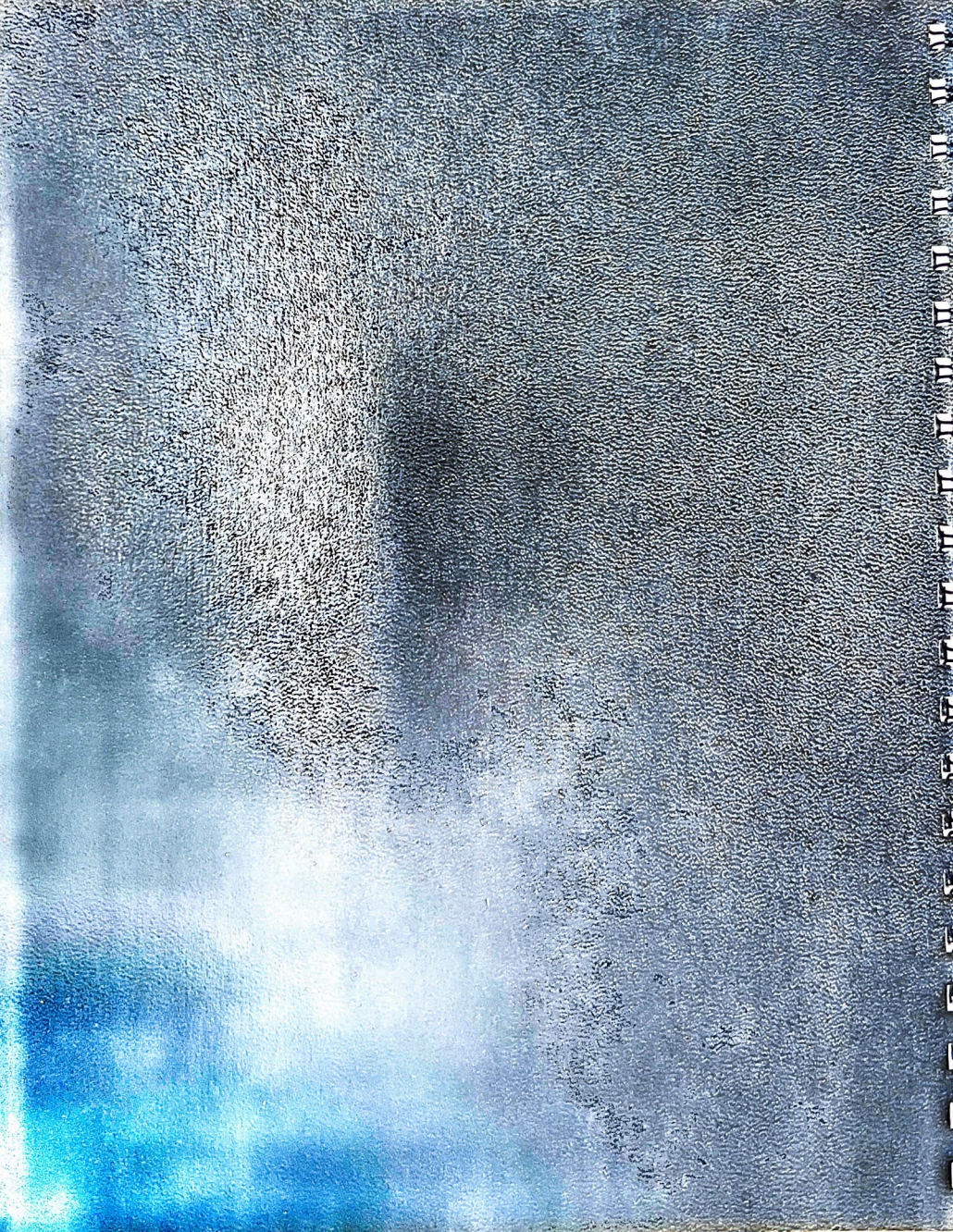
costing the tax payers thousands of dollars a year for a worthless cases.

Lastly, I'll share with you the prices we pay for items daily. For example, today I stopped at a gas station to fill up my 1994 3/4, ton extended cab Chevy pickup truck (cost estimated \$22,000) with unleaded gasoline which cost 97 cents a gallon. I went in to pay for the gas, and bought a 16-ounce Gatorade at \$1.05 a bottle and a Snickers candy bar at 65 cents. I purchased these items with a Texaco (name of gas company) credit card. The card is plastic with a magnetic strip on the back. The magnetic strip is "read" by the main company computer, and my purchase is recorded. Once a month a bill is sent to my home by the United States Postal service with the collected data. I have a certain number of days until I have to pay the amount that I have charged on the account. On a typical school day one can find me in a pair of windshorts and a t-shirt which cost about \$20 each, along with a pair of Nike basketball shoes which range from \$80 to \$120 a pair. These are just a few prices of common items during this period of time.

I hope with the information I have provided, you have some idea of what life was like when I was an 18 year old college student. I wish you all the best of luck and I encourage you to strive for excellence. All the work is worth it in the end.

Your loving grandmother,
Jeanelle Taveau







Letters . . .



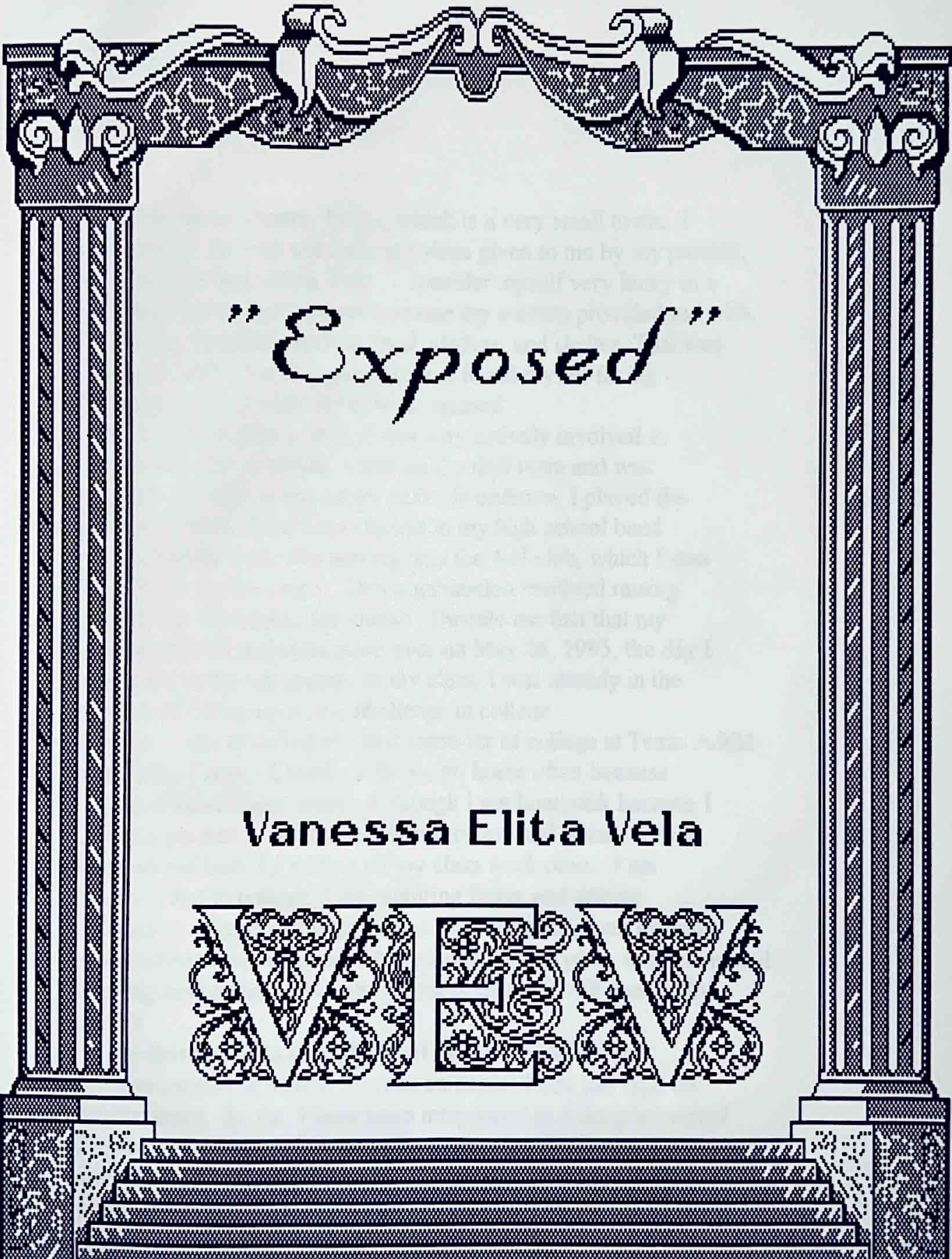
by :
Vanessa E. Vela
Lisa M. Moore
Stephanie E. Fuglaar
Carolyn M. Gonzales

Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	<i>Vela, Moore, Fuglaar, Gonzales</i>
<i>“Exposed”</i>	<i>Vanessa E. Vela</i>
<i>“A little bit of sports”</i>	<i>Lisa M. Moore</i>
<i>“Change is necessary”</i>	<i>Stephanie E. Fuglaar</i>
<i>“Then and Now”</i>	<i>Carolyn M. Gonzales</i>
<i>acknowledgments</i>	

Introduction

The following collection of letters is dedicated to and written for the future of our earth, our legacy, our grandchildren. Hopefully, they will reflect upon the events in these letters and feel the same feelings of joy we felt as we experianced them.



"Exposed"

Vanessa Elita Vela

V E V

To My Future Grandchildren,

I grew up in Zapata, Texas, which is a very small town. I was brought up with old fashion values given to me by my parents, Juan Manuel and Ofelia Vela. I consider myself very lucky in a way that I never had to work because my parents provided me with everything I needed, such as food, clothes, and shelter. This was fine for a while, but as I grew older, I found myself facing closed doors that were about to be opened.

Throughout high school, I was very actively involved in extra-curricular activities. I was on the drill team and was selected 2nd officer my senior year. In addition, I played the clarinet as well as the bass clarinet in my high school band. Another extra-curricular activity was the 4-H club, which I was involved in for ten years. This organization involved raising animals for the county fair shows. Despite the fact that my extra-curricular activities were over on May 26, 1995, the day I graduated in the top quarter of my class, I was already in the process of taking up a new challenge in college.

Now, I am attending my first semester of college at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. I do not go home often because Zapata is three hours away. Although I get homesick because I miss my parents as well as my two brothers and sister. I try to keep myself busy by getting all my class work done. I am realizing that in college, I am maturing faster and getting exposed to a variety of experiences. For instance, I am learning to be independent, meeting different people everyday, and seeing and learning new things. Though college is tough, it will eventually pay off.

My favorite class is English 101BG. I am so thrilled because instead of having to write on paper, I can just type on the computer. So far, I have been introduced to a program called Daedalus. I think that it is so technologically advanced. We have what is called the Internet. Just by pressing a few keys on the computer, I am able to write to my friends anywhere in the

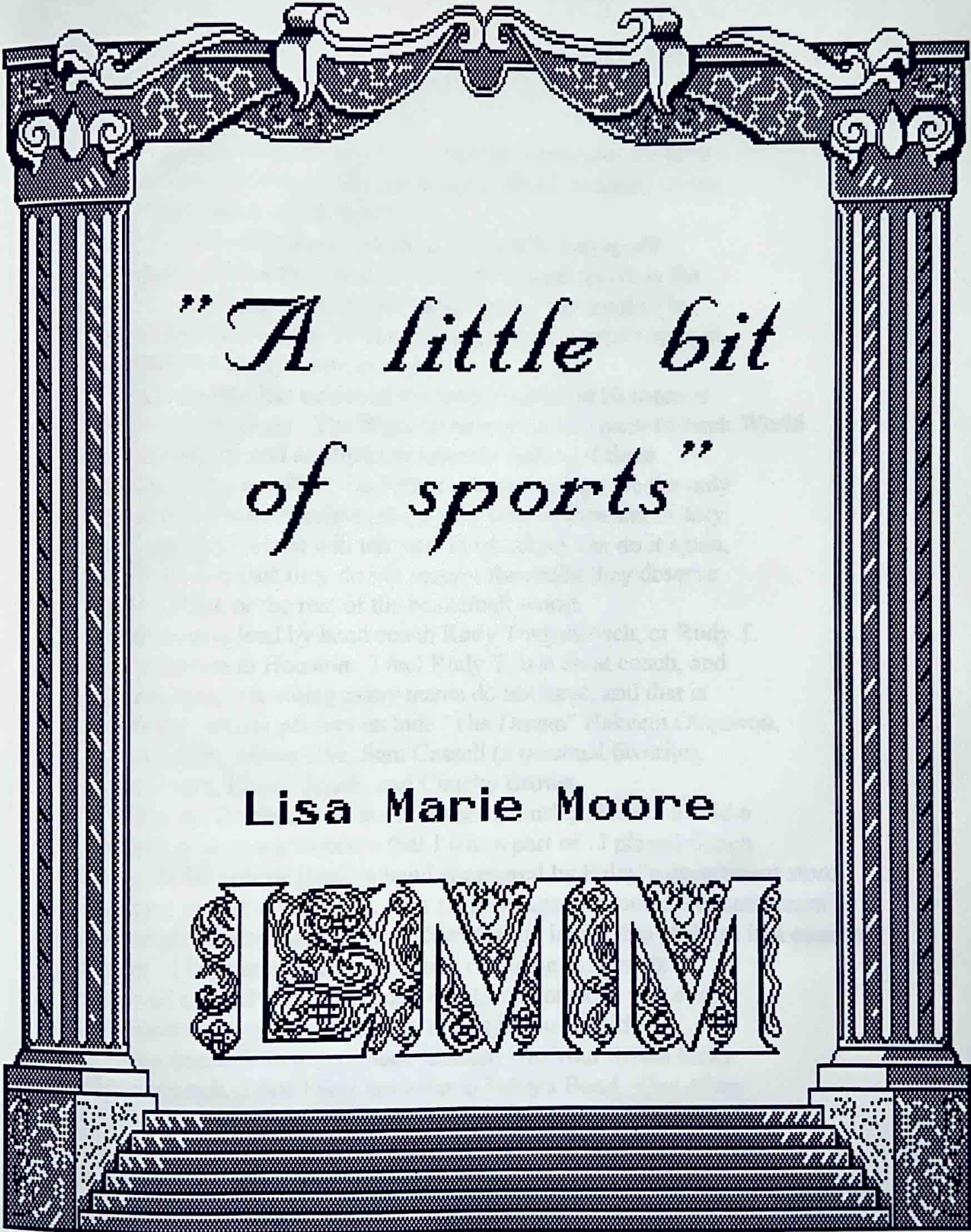
United States or the world.

I am always interested in what the latest fashions in college are. If you lived the life of a teenager at this time, trends would be easy to get into. For example, the clothing during the 1970's, were "bell bottoms" and "clogs", which are an older trend, that are back in style. The 90's fashions are a combination of old and new styles. However, body piercing, which is a whole new trend of its own, is considered the "in" thing as well. In this time and age everything and anything goes. From army boots to clunky high heels, so long as it's different, it's the latest look.

I hope this letter is a window to the past for all of you. By writing this letter, I hope that you might have a better understanding of where and how I lived my life. I hope that by the time you all read this letter the world will have continued changing because change is good.

Sincerely Your Grandma,

Vanessa E. Vela



*"A little bit
of sports"*

Lisa Marie Moore

UNIVERSITY

Dear Grandchildren,

As I sit here wondering where I will be when you are born and growing up, I have had time to think about incidents in my life that have been of interest to me.

Living in the Houston area most of my life, I have not managed to escape the influence of professional sports in the city. I am not what most would call a "jock," nor could I be, and I am not an avid fan of most sports, but the sports teams in Houston have always amazed me.

The team that has achieved the most success in Houston is the Houston Rockets. The Rockets have won two back-to-back World Championships, and are looking towards making it three Championships in 1996. These two championships are the only professional sports championships ever won in Houston history. As anyone in Houston will tell you, the Rockets can do it again, despite the fact that they do not receive the credit they deserve from the NBA or the rest of the basketball world.

The team is lead by head coach Rudy Tomjanovich, or Rudy T. as he is known in Houston. I feel Rudy T. is a great coach, and gives his team something many teams do not have, and that is confidence. Major players include "The Dream" Hakeem Olajuwon, Clyde Drexler, Mario Elie, Sam Cassell (a personal favorite), Robert Horry, Kenny Smith, and Chucky Brown.

When the Rockets won the first championship, Houston held a parade in downtown Houston that I was a part of. I played french horn with the Foley's Band, a band sponsored by Foley's department store where the potential members, who range in age and musical talents, learn a specific piece of music and must demonstrate leadership abilities in a musical manner. I have to say the experience of seeing thousands of people all excited about one team was the greatest. I was even lucky enough to get on television, that is if you consider getting a french horn mouthpiece jammed into your mouth lucky. The only catch is that I was not even in Foley's Band. One of my friends was though, and when she went to get her music for the parade, I decided it would be a fun experience to march in downtown Houston. This year when they won the second

championship, I did not participate in the parade, but I did go to the parade and crowded on the downtown streets getting a glimpse and snapshot of my favorite players.

Another Houston team that has experienced much notoriety, but not in a positive manner, is the Oilers. They have been in the record books a few times, but only for making some of the biggest mistakes in football, including being the first team to lose to an expansion team in 1995. In the past they have come close to achieving success, but they always find a way to mess things up. They have choked more times than any team I know of. Despite the many fallen hopes, "True Blue" fans have still managed to make it to games and cheer on the team to minimal success.

This year all feelings towards the Oilers and the organization's administration changed when Bud Adams, the owner, decided to sell the team to someone in Nashville, Tennessee. At first, the people of Houston were angry because not many people have a high opinion of Bud Adams or how he runs his team. Now, many people have decided that this move may be good because Houston needs a good football team with good players and good management.

As far as baseball goes, the Astros are all we have. Despite the 1994 baseball strike that turned many fans away from baseball, the real fans of the game have stuck by. Because of the low turnout at many Astros games, the team management sponsored games where admission was free. The Astros did well this year, and my younger brother, Roy, followed every game and every player to the very end, and even got a few autographs along the way. This summer Roy finally got to go to a game and see his hero, Jeff Bagwell, in action. At the game, Roy was one of the many children that night to get hit in the shoulder by a foul ball. If you ever get a chance to go to the Astrodome, look for a statue of Vivian Smith, my great-great aunt. Her husband gave the land to the builders of the Dome many years ago, and after he died, she was a major part of the Astros life, throwing out the first ball of the season in the Astrodome for many years.

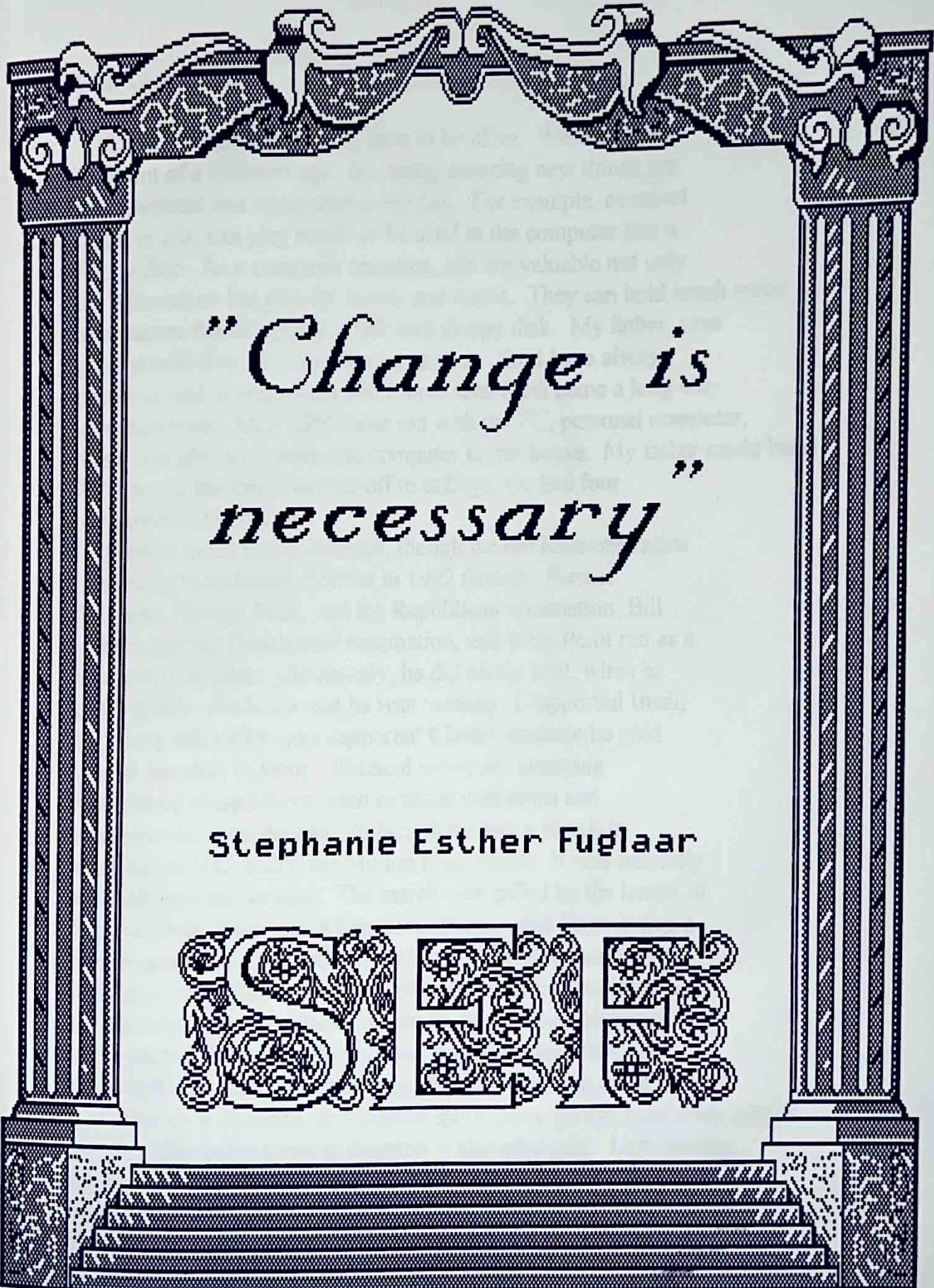
A team that has recently come out of the woodwork in Houston is the hockey team, the Aeros. As of now, I am not sure how they have done in their league because I do not follow hockey, but I do hope this team does not follow the losing tradition of many

Houston teams. Another new team in Houston professional sports is the soccer team called the Hot Shots. As with the Aeros, I do not know how well the team has done so far.

I hope that with the little bit of information I have given you about sports in the Houston area you will be able to compare the way sports are at the time you are reading this with the way they are at the time I am writing this.

Your loving grandmother,

Lisa Moore



*"Change is
necessary"*

Stephanie Esther Fuglaar

S E R I E S

Dear Grandchildren,

The 1990's are an exciting time to be alive. We are on the forefront of a different age. So, many amazing new things are being created and discovered everyday. For example, compact discs, or cds, can play music or be used in the computer like a floppy disc. As a computer resource, cds are valuable not only for information but also for games and music. They can hold much more information than the 3 and a half inch floppy disk. My father, your great grandfather, was a computer analyst. So, I have always been exposed to computers and I have seen them come a long way in a short time. After IBM came out with the PC, personal computer, there was always at least one computer in our house. My father could build PC's; so, by the time I moved off to college, we had four computers in the house.

Politics hasn't really changed, though we did have one rather interesting Presidential election in 1992 though. Former President, George Bush, had the Republican nomination, Bill Clinton had the Democratic nomination, and Ross Perot ran as a non-party candidate. Amazingly, he did pretty well, when he could decide whether or not he was running. I supported Bush; but, many other teenagers supported Clinton because he paid special attention to them. Political views are changing. Acceptance of minorities, such as racial minorities and homosexuals, is on the rise. In fact, there was a march in Washington D.C. called the Million Man march. It was basically all black men and women. The march was called by the leader of The Nation of Islam, Louis Farrakan. From, what I saw it was a very peaceful orderly march. I think what Farrakan had to say will make a big difference in the future because he teaches non-violence and urges the black community to pull themselves up out of the ghetto. Hopefully, by the time you read this letter, the world will be a safer and more peaceful and accepting place.

I grew up in Houston, so Houston sports have always been a big part of my life. The sports scene in Houston is also changing. Last summer, the Rockets won the NBA finals for the second year in a row. Those were great games to watch. When they won, the city of Houston and its suburbs partied for about three days. There was

a huge party on Richmond street and later a parade. The baseball team in Houston is called the Astros. They have done all right in the past. But, because of the baseball strike people's interest in baseball has declined. The Aeros, the Houston hockey team, are just getting themselves established. It seems strange to have a hockey team in Houston, especially since we really don't have a real winter here. The Aeros' rink is about twenty minutes from my house. My friends and I tried to go ice skating there once or twice, but the schedules are kind of weird. The Oilers have left Houston. I am not too upset about it. They were never very good any way. Maybe now we will get a good team.

In the last few decades, the government has realized how precious the environment is and worked on cleaning it up and protecting it. Lately, the environment has become a major issue in elections and peoples lives. More people have started recycling. Companies are manufacturing products with recycled materials and making things easier to recycle. Strict rules are placed on dumping hazardous materials anywhere. My mother is a chemist at Houston Lighting and Power and works mostly with the environmental problems. She has to make sure they are following all the regulations and not contaminating the ground, air, and water, or endangering any animals.

Things are changing in my life also. I started college this year. Living on one's own for the first time is a new experience. Things that probably never crossed my mind before suddenly become very important. I am also living in a different town, Corpus Christi. I spent my entire life in the Houston area; so, it is a big change. It is really weird not knowing where anything is or not knowing a lot of people. College is also different. It gives the student a lot more freedom. The work is not very difficult because I spent four years in college prep courses. There is just a little more of it. I study a lot; if I am going to get into graduate school or medical school, my GPA needs to be a three or better. My new life is different. I like it though; change is good. I am also getting to experience something I would rather not, a long distance relationship. I live three and a half hours away from my boyfriend. We are able to talk on the phone and write letters, but that is a lot different than seeing him every day.

I hope that the changes we are going through will make the world a better place for you and your children. Always remember to accept change and not go against it because change is necessary. I also hope that you will remember all that we have gone through to give your world. Do not just throw it away.

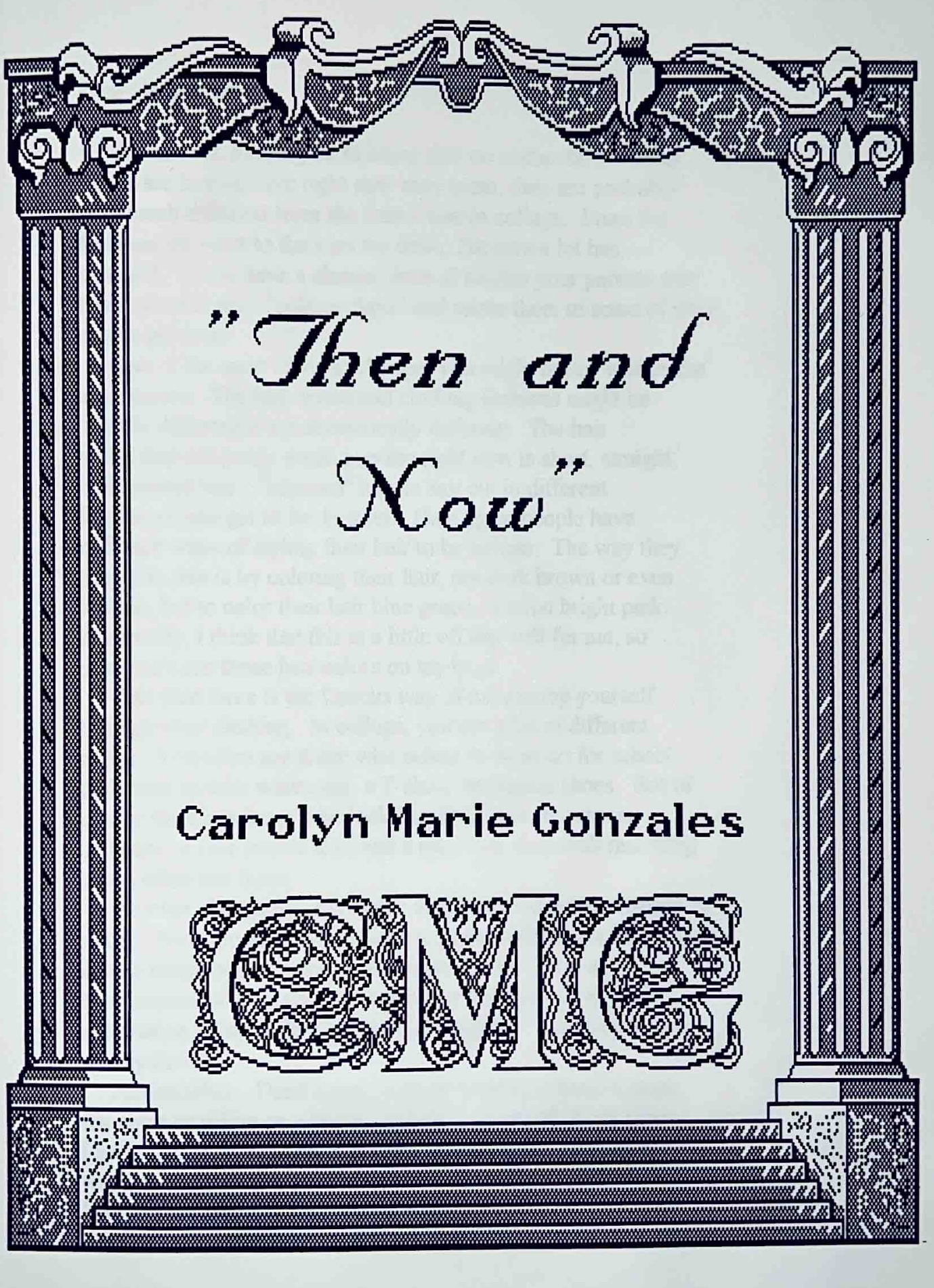
Love,

Stephanie

*"Then and
Now"*

Carolyn Marie Gonzales

CMG



*"Then and
Now"*

Carolyn Marie Gonzales

C M G

Dear Grandchildren,

To start off, I want you to know that no matter how normal things are in your time right now may seem, they are probably very much different from the time I was in college. From the fashions we wear to the cars we drive, I'm sure a lot has changed. If you have a chance, look at photos your parents may have of me in my "college days" and relate them to some of your recent pictures.

One of the most obvious changes you might notice will be the appearance. The hair styles and clothing fashions might be slightly different if not dramatically different. The hair styles that are pretty much popular right now is short, straight, and layered hair. "Layered" hair is hair cut in different lengths as you get to the bottom. Then again people have different ways of styling their hair to be unique. The way they might do this is by coloring their hair, not dark brown or even blonde, but to color their hair blue green, or even bright pink. Personally, I think that this is a little off the wall for me, so you won't see those hair colors on my head.

And then there is the famous way of expressing yourself through your clothing. In college, you see a lot of different styles. You often see those who refuse to dress up for school and come in with warm-ups, a T-shirt, and tennis shoes. But of course there are those who look like they have to impress someone; a nice ironed shirt and a matching skirt with matching shoes often suit them.

Another change that may have also occurred is the changes in music. Now, popular music more college students are listening to is new music by the name of Alternative music. It is a combination of rock and pop music put together. A popular Alternative group is the "Smashing Pumpkins." Personally, they are my favorite.

Automobiles. Don't worry, I never went to school walking ten miles or riding on a horse. In fact, I got my first car when I turned sixteen years old. It wasn't a brand new car, but it was one I didn't have to complain about. It was a gray 1990 Mitsubishi Galant. I liked the car because it wasn't too small

and wasn't too big. It was a great car, however, to go out in. Even now the most impressive cars are still the most expensive cars. I'm sure that hasn't changed. The most popular cars out right now are the fastest ones like the Chevy Camaros and the Ford Mustangs.

Even after all the changes you could name, technology has to be the most important. By now your computers can probably walk to wherever you are to serve you in anyway possible. Now computers are rapidly getting advanced enough to where they can produce sound, photographic images, and create life-like video games.

I hope this letter has at least given you some idea of how it was during the time I was going to college. If I am still alive by the time you read this, please do not hesitate to ask me questions about anything, or if you just want to hear some stories.

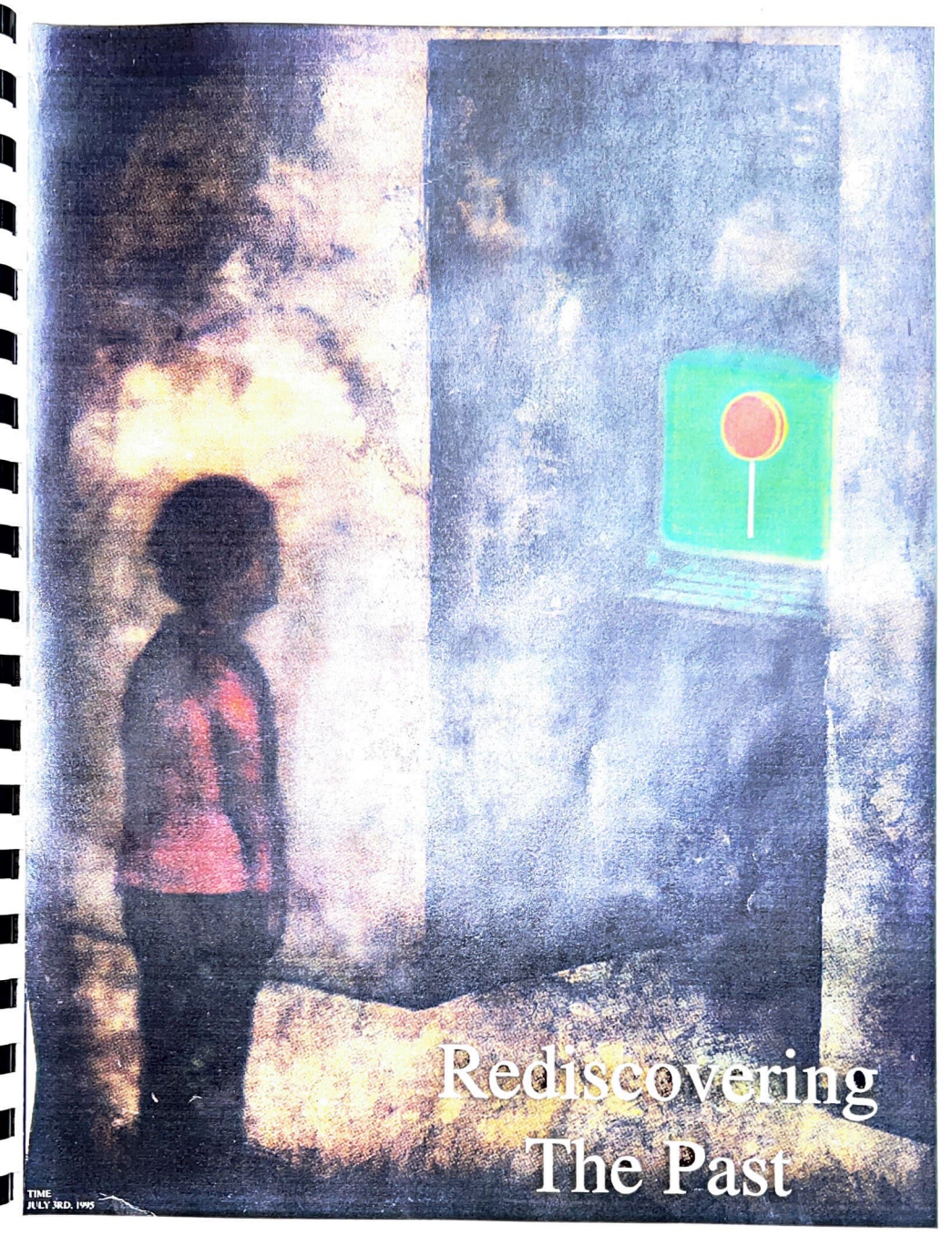
Sincerely,

Your Grandmother
Carolyn Gonzales

acknowledgments

Kinko's copies

101.1.3



Rediscovering The Past

INTRODUCTION

This is a collection of letters written in the fall of 1995, by four Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi freshmen. The letters were written to their future grandchildren and are meant to be read as the grandchildren enter college (around 2045). The intent of these letters is to allow the future generations a view of life at the end of the 20th century; to show the culture, politics, and history that exist at this time.

Stacy Durheim



Stacy Durham

Dear Grandchild,

I am writing this letter to you, the grandchild that I may never even meet, to try to explain to you the lifestyle of an average college student in the year 1995. I am hoping that this will both interest you and teach you a little about the politics and the history of my life.

I will first give you some of my history that has lead to my average day as an eighteen year old college student. I am now attending Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi. I have lived in Corpus Christi my entire life. My major is biology, with the emphasis on pre- professional health. The medical technology is continuously advancing. I will bet that this is still true in your lifetime also. There are eye surgeries done with lasers, kidney stones removed with water-shock therapy treatment, and everyday there are new hopes for cures of HIV and cancer. This is all very new and exciting for the people of my time.

Well, now I will get on with " A day in the life of Stacy Durham". I wake up in the morning at 7:30 a.m. My usual routine is to first eat a bowl of cereal, usually Frosted Flakes. Then, I will watch the morning news for a couple of minutes. The recent topics are the murder trial of O.J. Simpson, the trial of Susan Smith, who drowned her two children, and also the upcoming presidential election, where Clinton is up for re-election. Nothing really amazes me anymore, every time I turn on the television I see murder, injustice and corruption. I hope that things will soon take a turn for the better.

I then finish getting ready for school. I take a quick

shower, brush my teeth, and put on a little make-up. Then, rushing out the door, I grab my backpack and frantically search for my keys. I drive my 1990 Toyota Tercel about seven miles to school, trying to remember not to exceed fifty-five miles per hour on the freeway and to fasten my seat belt, which is now a law. I drive around hoping to find a parking spot, and hurry to class. My classes include algebra, political science, history of the U.S., composition, and freshman seminar.

After about 1:00 p.m., I go home and either take a nap or study for a couple of hours. Then, I go to work at a computer programming company, called MPC. There, I help write computer programs using the operating system, Linux. I also install different computer hardware. This is a really great job, because many people are still very computer-phobic. I can not wait to see how much computers have advanced by the time you read this letter. I imagine that your entire lives are ran and organized by computer systems, that is still a very frightening concept to me. After work, I sometimes go to a friend's house and hangout for a while, unless I still have a lot of homework.

Well, grandchild, I truly hope that this letter will help you get a general view of what life was like in 1995. I also hope that you are happy and successful, and that your world is bright and safe. Thank you for reading this letter and for opening your mind to a different period of time.

Love always,

Stacy Durheim



Natalie Thomas

My dearest grandchildren,

Looking out the window on a cool, sunny october day, I begin to wonder how your live have been affected by the actions of my generation. I worry that the AIDS epidemic is still in progress, and if drugs and crime are ruining the lives of my beloved grandchildren.

During the 1990s, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS, became an apparent threat to the lives of millions. This lethal virus which is spread through sexual contact, attacks the bodies immune system leaving the person vulnerable to such illnesses as the common cold or flu. Education of teenagers about sex became popular, and was taught at school and through the television in various ways such as commercials. During the 1970s, free love and sex were promoted, but during my generation, abstinence was the key to a long and healthy life free of disease.

Drugs were not "in" during my generation, in fact, many campaigns such as commercials and rallies against drugs were quite common. They were used to educate the public on the affects drug abuse has on our health and perception of life. For example, drugs can alter a person's mood and consciousness, making them less interested in achievements and in the future. A drug abuser is also more likely to experience health problems such as memory loss and seizures. Although such campaigns existed during the 1990s, drug abuse was still high and more lethal than ever. Drugs, common in other decades, were more potent than ever before. For instance, with the developement of new skills in the production of marijuana, scientifically known as cannabis sativa, its affects were 100 percent more potent than earlier generations. The widespread use of hallucinogens, such as lsd, and stimulants, such as cocaine, were common, and the abuse of prescription pills became popular.

The crime rate was very high during my generation, because of a decline in morals. Teenagers, too young to support themselves, were having children. Gang related activities became common among various age groups. "Kids killing kids" was the ideal expression used to define crime. Drive-by-shootings became popular, and manslaughter rates were higher than ever. Laws declined police power, thus the public remained unprotected against the gangs and other dangerous factions.

My beloved grandchildren, I sincerely hope that the standard of living has improved during your generation. I hope that the AIDS epidemic is no longer a threat, and that drugs and crime are not destroying your precious lives. I wish to apologize for the actions taken by my generation, and I hope that future generations will learn from our mistakes.

Love,

Natalie

Cris Dennen



Chris Dennen

Dear Grandchildren,

This letter's purpose is to inform or interest you in the everyday life of a college student at Texas A & M University Corpus Christi in the year 1995. Also, the importance of the technology and history of this time will provide you with some sort of an example from someone who is here.

The difficulties in today's society are more of a mental block than they are a physical one. The thoughtfulness of people is down and life is somewhat forgotten. No one looks at you directly in the face, they pretend as if you are not there. Mentally escaping from this, you have to think about school academically. The problem I have encountered mostly has been the technological difference between college and high school.

College is so much different than high school. Technology is the main aspect that deters me. Computers are everywhere, many are harddrives with some even being CD-ROM's. If you are not somewhat computer literate than you are lost. The school issues out these cards called Sandollars, in which it works like a bank card. You have a certain amount of money which allows you to buy food, books, school supplies, or any other thing you can get on the university campus. The school also has televisions in every building stating special dates or a breaking news story, such as O.J. Simpson verdict in his trial for murder. O.J. Simpson is a celebrity who was on trial for the murder of his wife. The library is huge with materials containing any information you might need. They have computers there to tell you where every piece of information in the library is.

As I entered my political history class, I was amazed by

the equipment in there. The teacher came in to class and started using a microphone, so the class could hear him. He then used hand-controlling device to change a computer screen to project pictures upon a board on the wall. These advancements I have never seen before and was confound by them.

After eating lunch, I read a newspaper article in which it said George Bush, Jr., the governor of Texas at the time, signed a bill becoming effective January 1, 1996, which stated that carrying a concealed weapon is legal. This article upset me as I walked to my car to go home, envisioning a person pulling gun out of his jacket and blowing my head off.

As I left school, I stopped by Circle-K, a convenient store which carried items such as food, drinks, medicine, and candy. Circle-K used to have some competition from a different store called Seven-Eleven. I think they had some sort of buy out of other store and Circle-K came out the big winner.

I arrived at my house and unlocked my door. Safe and sound in my room, I turned on my compact-disc player, a way of listening to music, and I was transcending into my peace-Away from the pressures I had encountered just a few hours before-Away in my own solitude.

Love,

Chris G. Dennen



Rebecca G. Gomez

November 7, 1995

My Distinguished Grandchildren,

With your first days of college in mind, I write this letter to you. You will be eighteen and starting a new chapter in your life when you read this. Knowing what you are going through, I feel I have some insight, after all, I too am experiencing the same type of events. I want you to know how I began my first year as an adult.

Despite my love of learning and the joy I had in the discussions with my instructors, I found that high school was not the place for me. Therefore, I decided I was not going back to school. I informed my mother of my decision. My argument was: I wasn't dropping out, instead I was becoming a student of life. My decision visibly broke my parents' hearts; yet, they supported me one-hundred percent.

My parents had every right to be disappointed, after all, it was considered a terrible act to "drop out" of high school. The general consensus was that all a "drop out" could hope for was a job at McDonald's (the biggest hamburger chain in America). Despite this, I KNEW I was making the right decision for me. With my mother at me side, I officially checked-out of high school. The difficult part of the whole process was the disappointment in my instructors' eyes. They were so certain that I was making the biggest mistake of my life.

The exhilaration I felt the next morning, is indescribable, it was like being reborn. The grass was green, the sky was blue, and for the first time in my life I was FREE! Never before

did I see the world, I always knew it was there but had never noticed. I found myself overwhelmed with joy and peace. THIS was the beginning of my journey, but not the start of my adulthood.

When I refer to the start of my first year as an adult, I think of 1995. This year, I received my G.E.D. three days after my eighteenth birthday (February 7th). At this point, I was unsure about going back to school, but, your great grandmother, Eloisa Gomez, was determined to open the door for me. I applied to Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi in March. After passing my A.C.T. and T.A.S.P. exams, in April, I was accepted into the University. Your great grandmother was twice as excited as I was; she literally jumped up and down. Being accepted was the easy part, now I actually had to go back and rejoin the world of school; I was just a tiny bit apprehensive.

As summer began, I voted for the first time (in the mayor's election). It felt good to vote, it had been something I had looked forward to for a long time. After, I bought my first car (Diva), I decided to take the driver's license exam.

With my tiny apprehension growing into a small panic, I began working as an office assistant for the Social Science Department on campus a week before classes started and was able to get a feel for the campus. I found college very different from public school. It took me quite some time to adjust to having a hour between classes; I even felt guilty the first time I took a soda into class with me; I kept expecting someone to yell at me. What I found the most surprising was that no one forced me to do my studies and it was extremely easy NOT to do them. I also discovered that it was important to have fun and

even more important to laugh, because you can quickly burn out if you only study and work.

Soon after school began, I found that my perceptions quickly changed. I no longer dreaded school, instead I found myself looking forward to class (some more than others). I began to see my professors as tools to aid me in reaching my goal of getting a doctorate. Most importantly, I realized that I am an adult. No one will reprimand me if I don't go to class or decide not to turn in an assignment, of course there will be consequences, but the decision is mine.

At the same time, it is not easy going to school and work. Because of this, I learned to balance my homework, class time, work hours, and extracurricular activities. By the time Friday comes I am exhausted, but I am loving every tiring minute of college. I have been exposed to a whole other way of thinking and of seeing life. I have learned so much this year, and it's not quite over yet. I have grown up. I am an adult.

My dearest grandchildren, your about to enter an exciting time in your life. Enjoy it. Don't worry about pleasing anyone but yourself. Take things a day at a time; don't try to do everything. Have fun, just don't let your classes suffer. Always remember that I had to go through the same things you are doing and I did it way back in 1995. Good luck.

Your grandmother,

Rebecca G. Gomez

The Awesome Foursome
of
TAMU-CC

Texas A&M University Corpus Christi



The Island University



Table of Contents

Section

Section - Daily Life

Section - The Past

Section - Life in Texas

College Life

These letters of four college students to their future grandchildren serve as a remembrance of what life was like in the mid-nineteen nineties. Each letter clearly depicts a story of what day-to-day life was like for us and what current events molded us and our environment. Our life styles may have been different, but we shared a common goal, we wanted our grandchildren to know who we were and what we were about. These letters will not be found in any History book, but they do have valuable information about what society was like.

Table of Contents

Racism

Letter 1- Billy King

Pollution on the Beaches

Letter 2- Lori McKenna

College Life

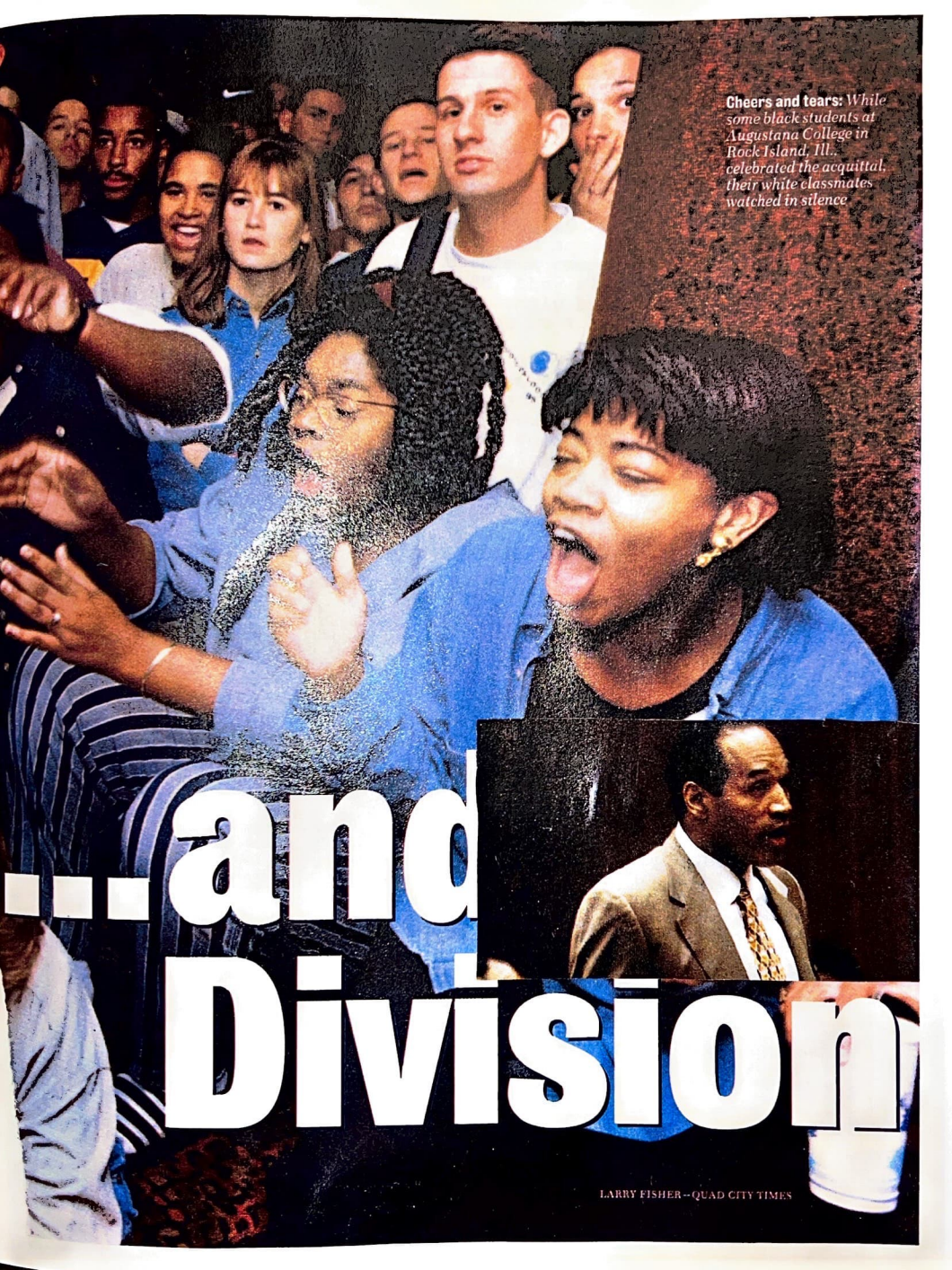
Letter 3- Teresa Wilburn

Sports

Letter 4- Bobby Hinojosa



Billy King



Cheers and tears: While some black students at Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill., celebrated the acquittal, their white classmates watched in silence

...and Division

LARRY FISHER—QUAD CITY TIMES


Racism

When I was a college student, America was divided following the verdict in the case of Rodney King vs. The Los Angeles Police Department. A primarily white jury found several police officers innocent of brutally attacking King, a black man. The evidence in this case included an appalling videotape of the police officers brutally beating King while he lay helpless on the ground. This videotape, which was aired across the country, offended the black community. The black community was so outraged after the verdict was given, they rioted the city, which caused massive destruction. They strongly believe that racism was the reason for this attack, and so do I.

A second case of racism involved a popular figure in the black community, O.J. Simpson. Simpson was a superstar running back in the NFL (National Football League) for many years, serving as a role model to the black youth. This case involved the racist actions of the Los Angeles Police Department once again. Simpson was charged with the vicious killings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. The LAPD was accused of planting evidence at the residence of Simpson in order to put him in jail. The black community once again felt that the white police officers acted in a racist manner, in order to incriminate Simpson for a crime he didn't commit.

It's Over Edition

Will Rosa Lopez get a talk show? Is there a Hertz commercial in Allan Park's future? The trial's over, but the CW just can't let go

Players	Conventional Wisdom	Players	Conventional Wisdom
 Ito ↓	Like a weak person, he lost control of the courtroom early on, allowing the lawyers to turn the trial into a marathon of minutiae. Next time, sideline those sidebar.	 Dupps ↓	Hey, we're outta here! Imprisoned so long they bonded on everything—especially the need to go home to work on their books.
 Cochran ↑	The black community's now superstar beat The Man at his own game. But that Fruit of Islam escort was rotten.	 Geraldo ↑	The father of tabloid TV puts on glasses, cuts through b.s. His CNBC show was best nightly trial fix.
 Clark ↓	Ignored jury consultants' advice, hung on to Fuhrman much too long. But her commitment and smarts still make her a Yuppie role model.	 Abramson ↓	She and all the other legal kliegles became predictable and tedious. Naturally, the CW couldn't get enough of them.
 Shapiro ↔	Only member of defense team to express some ambivalence about their race-card tactics. But stash your dirty laundry in O.J.'s garment bag.	 Shipp ↑	No more Jacuzzi's for Ron. Black former cop and ex-O.J. friend put integrity before race and Rockingham perks. This is still sad, O.J.
 Darden ↔	The most genuine of the bunch was considered an Uncle Tom by many blacks, blamed for the glove fiasco. Says he may quit the law. Who wouldn't?	 Resnick ↓	One of many 'friends' of Nicole who saw dollar signs before bloodstains. But she was still right about O.J.
 F. Goldman ↑	His civil suit will likely force O.J. to take the stand. But his biggest contribution was giving victims' families a voice.	 Cowlings ↔	Al, in your book, don't forget to tell us exactly what O.J. was planning to do with that disguise, passport, cash and gun in the Bronco.
 LAPD ↓	Neither time nor competence for a frame-up. But if this is how they conduct a high profile case, it's time to call the coroner—this force has no pulse.	 Kardashian ↓	Phew—acquittal means no indictment as an accessory for whisking away O.J.'s garment bag that night.
 Lee ↔	The best witness money can buy. Fellow scientists not impressed with his choice of clients—but jurors impressed that he said hello every day. His fees should skyrocket.	 Fuhrman ↓	Even ex-LAPD chief Daryl Gates has cut him loose. Even if you didn't plant the glove, you sowed the seeds of O.J.'s acquittal.

Billy King
English
October 19, 1995
Final Draft

Dear Great Grandchild,

I am writing you in order to describe what life was like when I went to college to give you a sense on how the times have changed. The attitudes that society feels about numerous topics will have undoubtedly changed with the times. I want you to know who I am, and the environment in which I was raised while attending college.

When I attended college, students felt a freedom that they never felt before, time. Ever since I was five up until college, students were required to attend school a minimum of seven hours a day. However, in college, a student's full schedule adds up to be over 25 hours less school time per week. This required students to make choices concerning their time management. The most important advice I can give you on how to do well in college is to manage your time well. This tool will not only keep you in school but improve your grades, because you will have already prepared for tests where others are cramming to learn as much information as possible in a small amount of time.

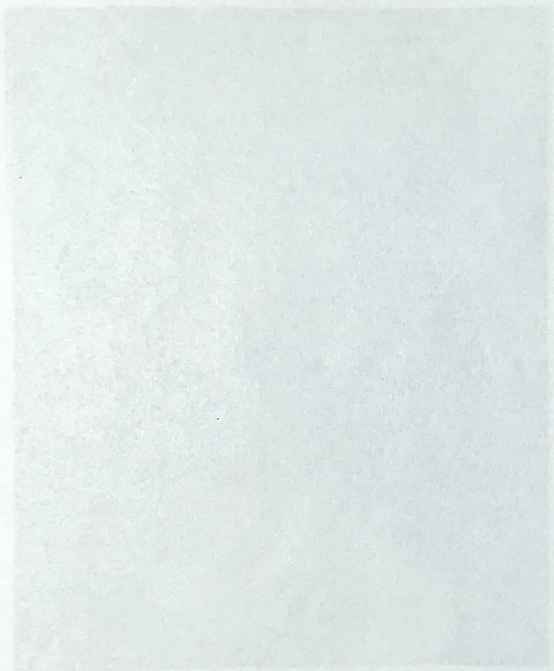
Times will have changed politically when you begin college. When I attended college, society was dissatisfied with the government and the steps they took in running the country. A big problem was the national debt which always seemed to keep growing, as well as the amount of taxing the government would issue. It seemed that the candidate that promised to lower taxes would always be elected. Abortion was an issue that was split between the people. Some believed in the right to life, while others believed in the right to choose, and yet some believed in both, but with special circumstances, like if a woman got raped and became pregnant then she could have an abortion.

Our nation was also plagued with deadly diseases like Aids and Cancer. These diseases have killed millions of people, and thus made it necessary to begin to teach children as young as twelve years old about sex education. These diseases are not only deadly, but the risk of catching one are increasing, which will make your generation the most vulnerable.

During my generation, racism had become less tolerated in public, however, gripping footage has shown this to still be a problem, as in the Rodney King beating where many peace officers were shown beating a helpless black man. Also in the case of O.J. Simpson, where the majority of blacks voted him innocent of the crime of double homicide, the majority of whites voted him guilty. This not only shows the lack of unity between the blacks and whites, but also shows the bitterness of blacks against whites, where they would side with their brother, instead of believing the evidence which clearly proved him guilty.

I have written you in order to describe what life was like when I went to college, and I hope I have accomplished my goal. Times I'm sure have changed since I went to college, but I hope you can

gain an appreciation of the decisions we made. Your generation will have many dangers including diseases, racism, and possibly the corruption of government, but if you are strong and study hard, you will succeed in your society.



Lori M. [unclear]

SAVE OUR MEMORIES



Lori McKenna

SAVE OUR BEACHES

In today's times beaches are very popular among vacationers and the locals. Whether it be to swim or just catch a little bit of sun the beaches prove to be the perfect place to get away from the work life. However, we find now a days that it is rare to go to a beach and find no trash or litter.

This garbage that is spread through out the beaches looks harmful and is harmful for the preservation of the beach and the animal life. There must be a stop put to the the littering of our oceans so that in the future for years to come the beach will remain the perfect vacation spot. Always do your part to help save our beaches for the sake of future generations.



November 5, 1995

To my niece,

Hello. I am your aunt. This letter I hope will inform you on what life was like both historically and politically forty years ago when I was a student in college. The purpose of this letter is to remind you and others the way things were in the 90's so that you understand. It may be helpful to understand my letter by knowing where I lived. I lived in Corpus Christi in South Texas. Many things happened in my life that I want you to know about. Three issues that I found important in life while living in Corpus that you should be most concerned about are technology, environment, and headline breaking news.

There were top-of-the-line inventions that boosted the 90's technology well into the 20th century such as the Macintosh II AC or laptop computers with high tech color printers. People in my days were also impressed by compact discs (cds). Cds were small round discs that played music when put into a cd player. These two things were among the many items that every household was equipped with in order to be caught up with the 90's technology. Other important things were the introduction of cellular phones and pagers. Most people became so accustomed to relying on these things on a daily basis because they made communication in the 90's much more advanced. If you needed to get a hold of someone that wasn't at home then you could page him or her or call him or her wherever from your cellular phone.

Secondly, the environmental problems that I had to face along with the other people of Corpus Christi is well worth studying in order to keep the environment from deteriorating any more than what it is already. Some real problems were with the Ozone Layer because it was slowly deteriorating because of cars, factories, etc. The problem concerning the Ozone Layer was; therefore, not just in Corpus Christi; however, Corpus did have more of a problem than certain cities or states. There were even certain days that were labeled as an Ozone Action Days where it was advised by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ride your bike to school or work and not to use aerosols or anything harmful to the ozone. Corpus also had a serious problem with polluted beaches and parks. Trash along the beaches was very upsetting to most of the locals because the beaches were one of the few things that people were proud of in Corpus. There was a big emphasis on being sure to throw away trash properly. A common slogan, aired on television regularly, said "Don't Mess With Texas." This was Texas' attempt to keep people from throwing their trash out the window while driving down the highway.

Finally, I think that now you are a twenty-year-old college student you should be aware of the news issues that I dealt with while going to school that were constantly involved in my life. In the future some of these events might be learned only by reading history books in school. One issue is the O.J. Simpson case. O.J. Simpson, a former professional football player, was accused, arrested, and tried for the murder of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her suspected lover, Ronald Goldman. The world was shocked when the news hit the television. His loyal fans felt he was innocent, and those of us (myself included) who didn't care, just wanted the whole thing over with. I believed he was guilty. After six months in court,

many jurors later, and exclusive media coverage the jury found Simpson innocent on both charges of murder. I believe that if it had been an average man who was on trial for two charges of murder, he would have gone to prison for life without parole with only a week in court. Therefore it just goes to show you that money and fame in my days could buy people and things. I hope things aren't still like that for you.

Well, after reading my letter things should be much clearer for you on certain topics in the 90's. I bet my days in college are considered outdated compared to your present college life. I hope that you can always remember these things so history (my history) isn't completely diminished in the minds of Twentieth Century people. Once Mrs. Jennifer Graham, my history teacher, told me that the reason for studying history is so that we don't repeat our ancestors' same mistakes. I hope that in comparison to my life yours is much better. Take care of yourself so that you can live a long and prosperous life as I once did.

Your Loving Aunt,

Lori McKenna

Lori McKenna

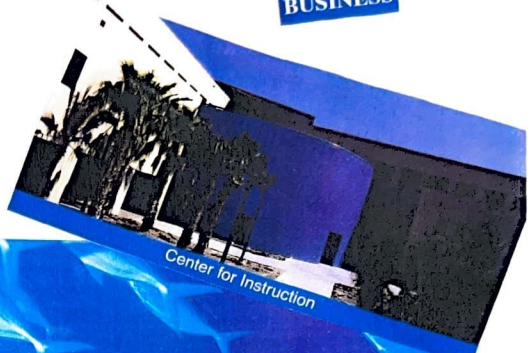


Jeressa A. Wilburn

COLLEGE LIFE

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BUSINESS



Center for Instruction

EDUCATION

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Texas A&M University Corpus Christi



The Island University

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is located midway along the Texas coast on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico. The site is built on 240 acres of land. In the year we were freshman, 1995-96, we were only the second group of freshman on the campus because TAMUCC was only a junior/senior college.

For most students, many of their classes are located in the Center for Instruction building (as pictured above). That is where we spend most of our class time. It is also one of the places we come to use TAMUCC's great computer resources. I am typing this portion of the book in the computer lab in the CI building right now.

The colleges that were available during the time we were there was: Arts and Humanities, Education, Business, and Science and Technology.

English 101
10-19-95

Dear Great Grandchild,

Through the course of time everything changes, people, the environment, as well as daily life. I know that before you read this letter you thought of your great grandmother as just another old link to your family tree, but I hope to change that through the course of this letter. I want you to know who I am, and what the world was like when I was in college. Hopefully you will be able to appreciate who I was and what I mean in your life.

College is everything that I expected it to be, work. I am not a person who can study every day, but that is exactly what is required. I am the type of person who crams at the last minute, and so far that is working, difficult, but it works. That is not the case for Chemistry, however. In Chemistry I am struggling because it is different from the science classes I took in high school. We are constantly taking tests, and each test or quiz makes me sick to my stomach, but I think I will be all right. The reason that I am taking this class is that my major is Environmental Science, and once I have completed college I plan to become a Chemical Engineer. I am disheartened to see this planet slowly deteriorate, and that is why I want to work in a field that desperately needs to take into consideration the environment. In the rest of my classes, Political Science, Political History, Freshman Seminar, and English, I am doing great. Of course, there is always room for improvement.

Aside from school, there is the apartment life. Here at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, they do not have the traditional dorms, like you would see at many of the older universities. Instead, they have apartments, and you have a choice of single, double, or quadruple bedroom apartments. I have a double with an old friend from high school, Melinda Cordova. She is a very studious person, and every day she is in her room studying. I wish that I could have half of her patience to study like that at every day.

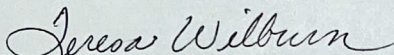
I am the work study in the Science and Technology Department-Dean's office. I get five dollars an hour, which is a good sum of money for a college student at this time period, and the work is not that hard. All that I have to do is run some errands and file papers. The money that I earn goes towards all my college expenses, particularly the apartment fees and food. The scholarships and grants that I received only cover the tuition and one month of the apartment rental. Overall my tuition came out to be \$976.00, and the apartment fee is \$325.00 per month, and my food bill comes out to around \$100 a month.

I wonder what the world has come to, and what problems you are having to deal with. The major events which affected me and the world today are these: the O.J. Simpson trial, an ex-Pro football player accused for the murder of his ex-wife and her friend; the

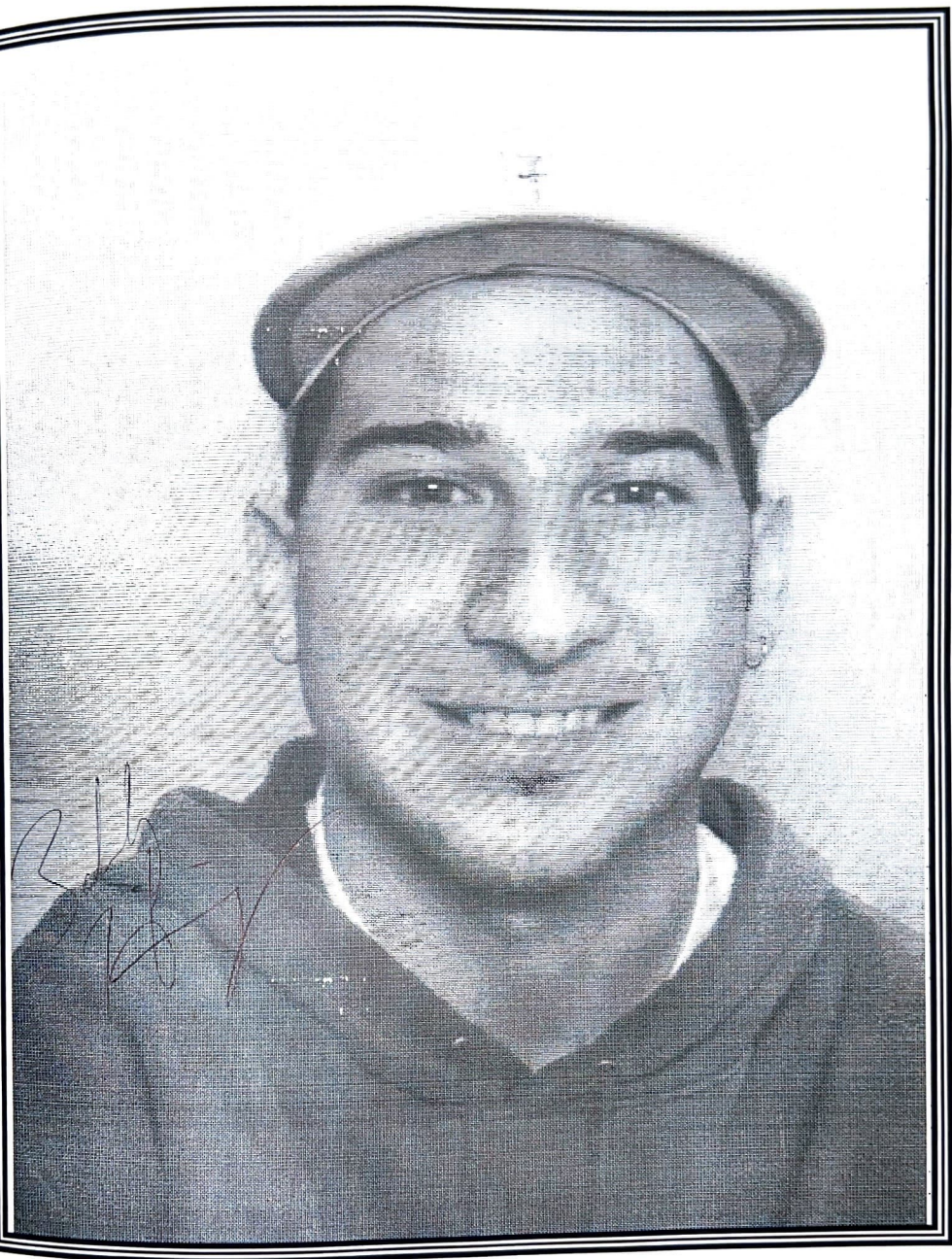
Amtrak derailment, which recently happened and is attributed to a group calling themselves "Brothers of the Gestapo"; the Gulf war crisis, and many other events. Another issue that is on the minds of many young adults today is AIDS. AIDS, a virus which has no known cure at this time, and is taking the lives of many people around the world. I hope that by the time you read this that there was a cure found and that you do not have to worry about this deadly disease. It sounds so odd to be referring to the current events that are happening right now to be considered ancient history to you.

I wish that I could be there to see the things as you see them, so I could experience the life you have. In a way I wish you could be here to experience "my time". That is one reason I have for writing you this letter. The other reason is so that you can put a personality with my name, so you know what type of person I am. This way I am not some old person that is in your family tree. I hope that you better understand who your great grandmother really was. Great grandmother, that too sounds so odd because marriage is so far from my mind right now, and children is an even scarier thought.

Love, one of your oldest relatives,



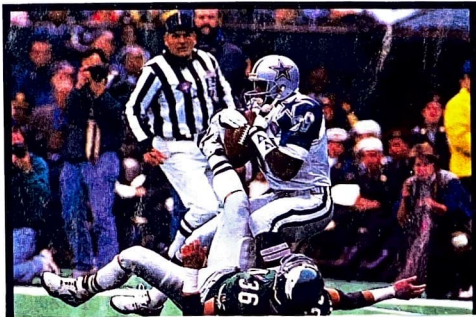
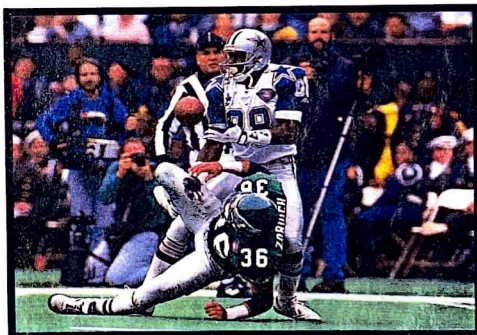
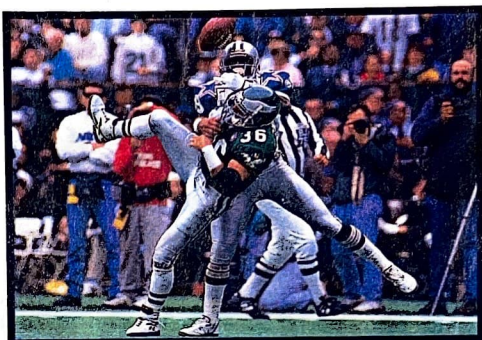
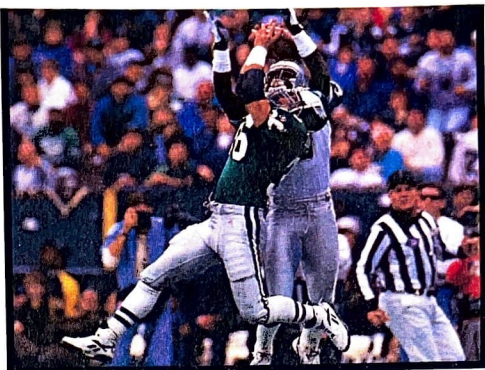
Teresa Wilburn



It's the game of our lives!



When people think of "America's Team", most people think of the Dallas Cowboys. They earned this title in the 1970's when they were the dominate team in football. But with their lack of production in the 1980's, the title took a back seat and people thought of them as the team that could not beat anyone. Now in the 1990's, with four play-off appearances in five years and two Super Bowl wins in three years, the title of "America's Team" is back in full force.



AL HEBBURN (3)

October 17, 1995

Dear nephew,

By the time you read this I may have already gone on to a better world. I am writing this letter for your eyes only because I wanted you to get an idea about the type of world I lived in, so you could compare how your world stacks up. I am 18 years old now and a first-year college student. In government, the Republicans run Congress and O.J. Simpson, the football star, was recently acquitted of two counts of murder. AIDS is the top threat in society and the Dallas Cowboys dominate the National Football League.

In politics, Bill Clinton is President, but people think his wife, Hillary, is always making the decisions. The main concerns are welfare and the national debt. Welfare is a concern because of the abuse of food stamps and medical insurance. Congress is claiming they are on a mission to trim the national debt, but nothing gets done because of the methods suggested. The president vetoes proposed bills because he is a Democrat and Congress votes no on bills because Republicans dominate the votes.

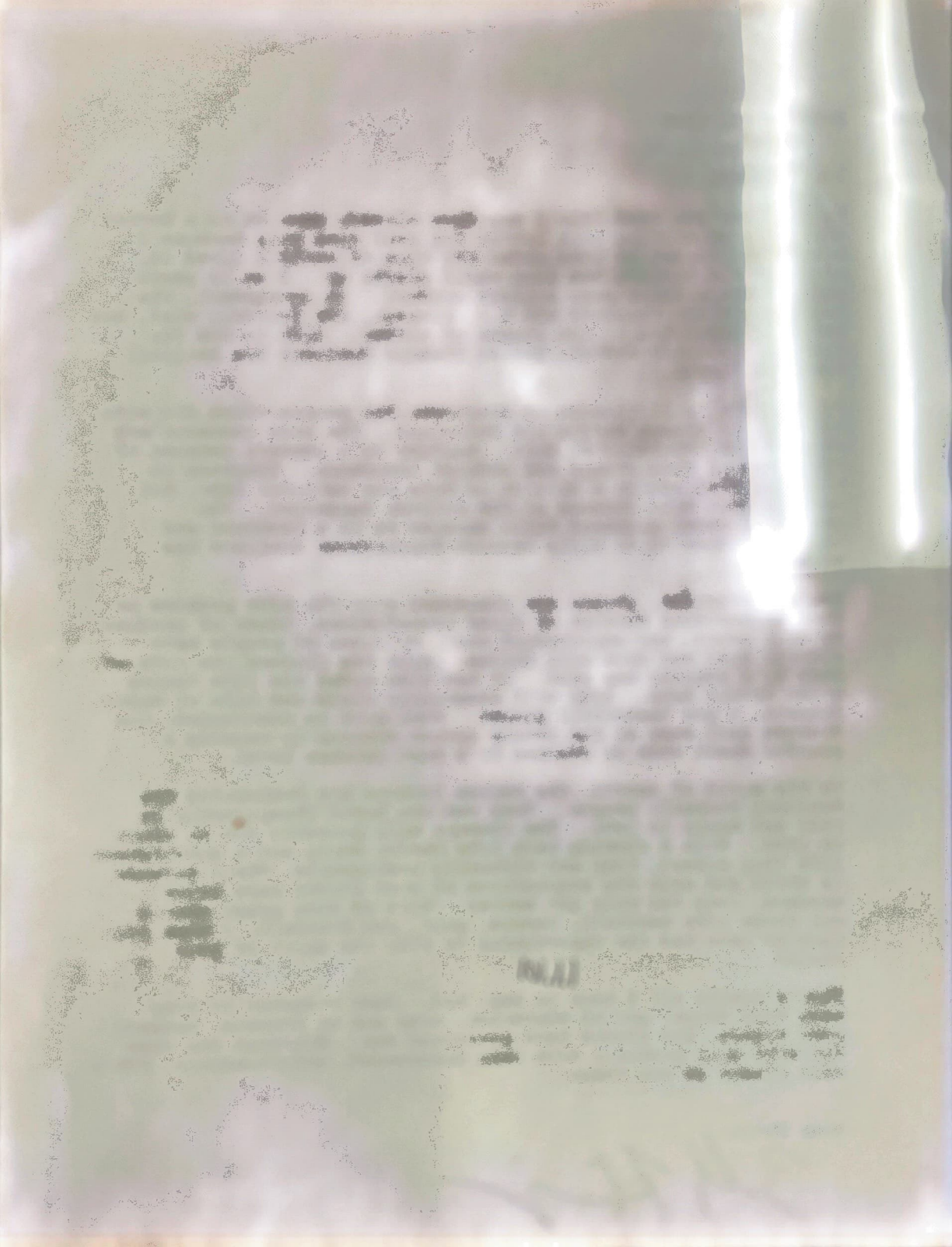
Besides politics, people are concerned with the AIDS problem we have encountered because of blood transfusions, reuse of needles by drug users, and unprotected sex. Millions of people have already died and more will follow. AIDS has claimed the life of Eazy E, a popular rap star. It has also ended the life of tennis great Arthur Ashe. AIDS will eventually claim the life of Magic Johnson, a pro basketball player. When AIDS is contracted, the disease eats away at the immune system eventually causing a painful death when it reaches it's most intense level.

In the world of sports, the Dallas Cowboys are dominating the National Football League. They won the World Championship in 1993 and again in 1994. The Cowboys will probably win it again in 1996. With a running back like Emmitt Smith and a quarterback like Troy Aikman, they are virtually unstoppable. Their defense is solid and with the acquisition of star corner back Deion Sanders, they can only get better. With so many great sports out there like baseball, tennis, golf, and football, I hope you have or have had the opportunity to play the sport of your choice.

That's really all I have to say, kid. Just remember to stay away from drugs, get an education, stay out of trouble, respect your elders, and always have protected sex. Although the cure for AIDS will probably have been discovered, unfortunately, STD's will always be out there.

Your Uncle,





To Our Grandchildren:

by

Liz Conrad

John Iden

Morgan Jolley

Kristy Kostelnick

Table of Contents

Letters to our future grandchildren

1. *Liz Conrad*
2. *John Iden*
3. *Morgan Jolley*
4. *Kristy Kostelnick*

So Much for Bosnia



JUNE 12, 1994

Bosnia: It's a conflict America doesn't want to get into

O.J.

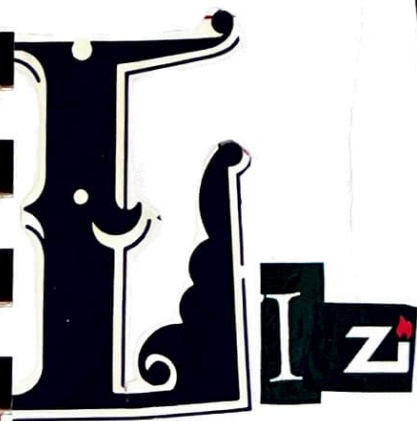


The Murders

NICOLE BROWN SIMPSON AND RONALD L. GOLDMAN are brutally slashed to death outside Nicole's Brentwood condo while her two young children sleep upstairs.



Capture the moment...



Liz Conrad
10-19-95
Final draft

Dear Grandchildren,

Today, I was reading an article about DNA replacement in Newsweek magazine and began to wonder how this will affect future generations. In particular, I started to imagine my grandchildren and how life will be for them in 30 years. This letter is directed to my descendents with the hope that what I have experienced will somehow help them to understand the ground work of their present day society. Also, I wonder how history has been written compared to how I have experienced it first hand.

One of the greatest events of 1995 centers on the racial issues that resulted from the murder of African-American O.J. Simpson's caucasian spouse Nichole and her friend, Ron Goldman. Never before has a double murder trial played such a role in everyday American life. The international news channel, CNN, broadcasted the trial as if it were a soap opera. The nation was divided and still remains so between those who support Simpson and those who believe that he actually killed his own wife. Ugly heads of racial tension surfaced when the police detective, Mark Furmann, was exposed as a man of hatred and vindictiveness. He had initially investigated the crime scene and helped compile the state's evidence against Simpson. Although I personally feel that he was guilty and has been wrongly freed because of his wealth and power, fortunately for Los Angeles and for the entire nation, the football legend was found innocent. Several years prior, riots erupted when L.A. police were captured on video beating African-American Rodney King. I feel that because of his innocence, the city of Los Angeles was spared further racial hatred and life now continues as normal.

A second and even more troubling event for me is the seemingly endless slaughter of human lives in Bosnia. DNA restructuring can prevent certain genetic problems but cannot end the ethnic injustices that are occurring among the fighting religious sects of Bosnia. The former Yugoslavians are massacred; yet little care seems to be given for their deaths! Several years before this, our nation sent multitudes of troops into Kuwait, but that was an oil rich emirate worth defending. Ironically, Bosnia is simply a nation torn asunder by ethnic hatred; therefore, some believe it is not worth the same political effort. Sadly, everything revolves around governmental wants and not human needs.

Even at the modern university Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, which I currently attend, I probably cannot relate to your futuristic lifestyle; I can only predict. Two of my favorite pastimes are dove hunting and fishing; interestingly, the killing of wildlife is still a sport and not deemed totally unacceptable which I feel it will be in your lifetime. We are primarily a carnivorous society; however, some people, for instance your Great Aunt Catherine and Uncle Vince, are leading a vegan lifestyle. A vegan is an individual who denies all animal products from his or her diet; butter, eggs, milk, and meat are unacceptable. A vegetarian simply refuses meat; most likely, you are one of the two. With all of the fats and other harmful product we consume, I am sure you can only imagine the terrible

things that we're doing to our bodies. I wonder, will you ever taste a dove? I predict it will be a violation of federal law, but I cannot help but wonder how you, the generation of the future, will deal with my suspected regulations. Will you also be guilty of carnivorous tendencies?

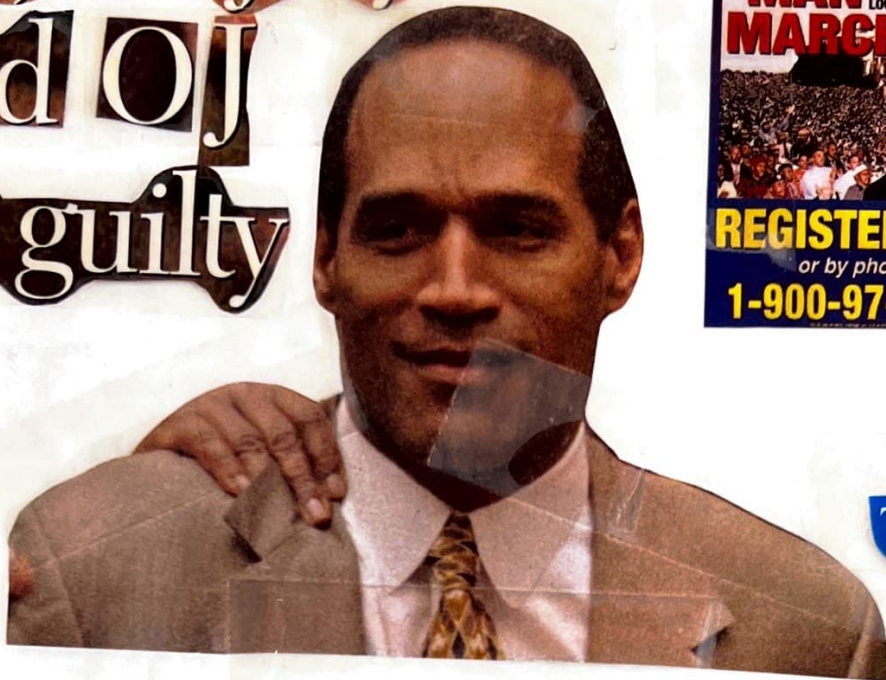
In closing, dearest children, I only hope that your generation will be better equipped than we are. My generation has been labeled "Generation X" by our parents, and that seems to be a slap in the face. This generic title is given to us because we are looked upon as selfish, unproductive citizens without any true identity. I have always believed that I am someone with contributions and attributes worth recognizing.

I participate in beach clean-ups on Padre Island, and I work with the Christian soup kitchen for the needy. Regardless of the neverending hours that my friends and I devote to helping society, there are countless numbers of gang members who perpetrate society and poison it. I believe that the events of the last part of the Twentieth Century will be so different from what you will experience; so I hope your generation will be able to overcome all obstacles. The Simpson trial, the Bosnian massacres, and the nonvegan lifestyles are all important to me. I wonder what will fill your lives in the not so distant future? Have fun and be careful!

Fondly,

Grandmere Liz

We, the jury
find OJ
not guilty



OCTOBER 16, 1995 • WASHINGTON, D.C.

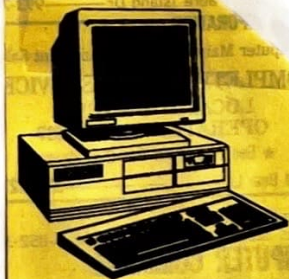
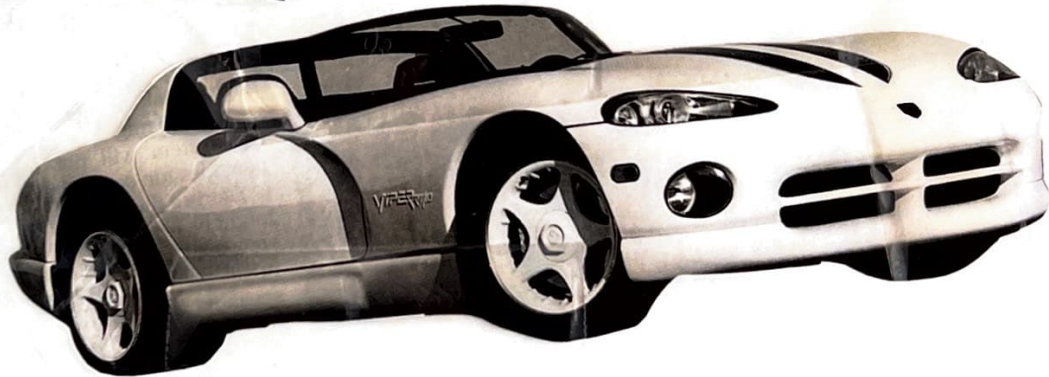
MILLION MAN MARCH
Led by MINISTER LOUIS FARRAKHAN

REGISTER HERE
or by phone at
1-900-97-MARCH

Texas A&M University
Corpus Christi

The Island University

AIDS



Networking

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking Causes Lung Cancer, Heart Disease, Emphysema, And May Complicate Pregnancy.

but wait,
there's more. . . .

To My Grandchildren:

The reason that I am writing you this letter today is to give you an idea of what my life is like during my freshman year of college. It is the 11th of October, 1995 and I just arrived home from a tough day of school at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christ. As I was driving home I began to recall all of the current events and issues surrounding my lifetime. I started wondering if all of the technology we know in the late twentieth century will be obsolete by your life time.

In my generation, we are just beginning to become computer literate. All kinds of new things have been recently introduced that can be done with these machines. For instance, all of the students of my English 101 class have been taught to send their written work to each other through an inter class network, allowing us to look over each other's work and send comments over the computer. A number of us also have been learning to e-mail friends and teachers both on and off campus across the internet.

Lately, I have been following a number of judicial trials as well as some important health issues on T.V. The O.J. Simpson trial recently ended about two weeks ago and although I did not follow the trial day by day, I still wonder if justice has been served with his non-guilty verdict. O.J. is a famous ex-football star that has been accused of the double homicide of his ex-wife Nicole Brown and her friend Ronald Goldman. Also, a famous Tejano star from my home town of Corpus Christi, Selena, has been murdered and her killer, Yolanda Saldivar, is awaiting her trial. Secondly, A number of health issues, such as the right for a woman to terminate her pregnancy through abortion and the deadly disease AIDS, have made me curious as to how they will play a role in your lifestyles and lives in general. So far we haven't found a cure for AIDS, the fatal disease that attacks the immune system. I wonder if there will be, if the disease still exists, for your generation. With the issue of abortion, it is hard to find a group of people who are one hundred percent for or against it although much controversy is surrounding this issue.

President Clinton is now getting ready for the 1996 presidential elections. He is hoping for re-election but some people do not think he is the most popular candidate because he has been under constant criticism of whether or not he has followed out his presidential duties. One of the issues I believe the next group of presidential candidates will campaign on is working on the problems of air, water, and land pollution and the depleting of the ozone layer. These are two important events that have worried and puzzled many people of this country and around the world.

Ever since the civil rights movement in the 1960's, the United States has become more tolerant of certain trends and lifestyles. For instance, body piercing and tattoos have become a rising trend in our modern society. Also, a large amount of attention has been given to the rights of minorities to ensure equal rights of all Americans. This has also lead to good relations with some foreign countries.

Television has become a big part of all our lives. Movie stars like Sylvester Stallone, Sharon Stone, and Chevy Chase have made an impact in their own ways. During the 1980's, Stallone was thought by many to be one of the all-time great action stars. Recently, Stone has caused some controversy of how far an actress can go in portraying the lifestyles of gays in the movie

Basic Instinct. In addition, Chase has given us the pleasure of his outstanding comedy.

I currently do not know what the future has in store for your generation, but I do believe the we are all moving in the right direction. The many people of the world have been trying to take care of our environment and their culture. I just hope that the many technological advances in store for you will bring positive things to both the world and its people.

Sincerely,
John Iden
Draft 1

(Encl)



RAGE

GEN



Morgan Jolley
October 19, 1995
Final

October 12, 1995 a.d.

To my prodigy,

Hello children; I hope the world is treating you kindly. I thought that you might want to know how it was for me when I was a teenager in college, so I decided to write this letter to tell you. I'll be talking about my personal life, today's news, politics, clothes, and current technology.

Well, my personal life could be going better, but it would be a lot worse if I did not have one! You see, your grandmother, Ann Marie Pietrantonio, and I are in a bit of a tip now. We don't get to see that much of each other, and I wonder how far we have drifted since I am going to college at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and she is a senior in Orange Grove High School (Orange Grove, Texas). I know that things will get better, though, because we both want to make our relationship work. I guess it's not as bad as I make it out to be. Things in the country could use some work though.

Probably the most talked about thing in the U.S. was the nationally broadcasted O.J. Simpson trial. The trial, which took about a year, finally ended last week. O.J. Simpson was accused of murdering his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman. The jury took only about four short hours to contemplate the fate of O.J., and to the disappointment of many Americans, he was found not guilty. Believe me when I say I could have lived without the long boring trial. Unfortunately, more tragedy has occurred.

Terrorism in the United States has returned for yet another year. This time, though, it's our own people that have caused the disaster. A group of people got together and successfully derailed an Amtrak passenger train in Arizona. They did it by pulling up the spikes that held the rails down, and when the train came speeding by, it came off the tracks. A note was left by the group saying they did it in retaliation of the Waco incident.

Waco is a town in Texas where a man known as David Koresh lead a group of religious people known as the Branch Davidians. David Koresh had his people preparing for a last battle. The incident ended with government forces assaulting the Branch Davidian compound. David Koresh had the compound put to fire, and was assumed to have burned to death.

Excuse me a second while I change the music CD (that means compact disk for you modern youngsters) in my computer... The band Alice In Chains has to be my favorite band. Try looking it up in the hard rock section section of your local music store some day.

On the medical front, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is still being a nuisance with all its problems. AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease that attacks the body's immune system leaving it defenseless to normal everyday illness. I hope a cure for the deadly disease is found soon, because people are dying from it every day.

In the political world, next year President Bill Clinton will be challenged in the 1996 Presidential Election. I hope someone capable wins. We need a good president to lead the nation.

You might be interested in what people are wearing these days. Well, I don't know, but if it's different it's usually good. I can tell you, however, that your grandmother looks great in any clothing. (Be sure to show her this letter, so I can get on her good side!)

Let's talk about technology. Earlier I mentioned using audio CDs in a computer. That's called multimedia. Today, a person can have their television, phone, and other household appliances connected to their computer. This is big stuff now days! Currently the fastest personal computer processor is a 586 (for DOS based systems). Next year, though, they'll come out with the 686, and my computer now will be out dated.

Overall, the year 1995 has been fun. I hope I have given you at least a little taste of the current times, and I hope to write you again one day, perhaps in happier times. For now, though goodbye.

Love,
Grandpa Morgan

SIMPSON

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
The Island University



HURRICANE SEASON

1995

South Texas Livestock Auction		Beeville Livestock Commission	
Weight (lbs.)	Price	Weight (lbs.)	Price
200-300	64 to 75	60 to 81	60 to 81
300-400	57 to 68	35 to 75	35 to 75
400-500	48 to 65	35 to 62.5	35 to 62.5
500-600	51 to 62	35 to 57	35 to 57
600-700	52 to 58	35 to 54	35 to 54
700-800	52 to 54.5		
Heifers		Heifers	
Weight (lbs.)	Price	Weight (lbs.)	Price
200-300	59 to 70	48 to 74	48 to 74
300-400	50 to 59	48 to 74	48 to 74
400-500	49 to 58	35 to 65	35 to 65
500-600	40 to 51	40 to 64	40 to 64
600-700	49 to 55	35 to 56	35 to 56
700-800	50 to 54	35 to 54	35 to 54
Slaughter Cows		Slaughter Cows	
Grade	Price	Grade	Price
Boning Utility, 2-3	32 to 34.5	28 to 31	28 to 31
Low/Dressing	28 to 33	22.5 to 28	22.5 to 28
Canner	26 to 29		
Slaughter Bulls		Slaughter Bulls	
Grade	Price	Grade	Price
1200-2000 lbs	40 to 46	1000-2000 lbs	35 to 48
Young Cows	35 to 48		
Middle-aged	46 to 51	40 to 54	40 to 54
Aged	38 to 46	35 to 40	35 to 40
	20 to 38	30 to 35	30 to 35

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Livestock Futures					
CATTLE					
40,000 lbs. - cents per lb.					
Oct 95	66.42	66.45	66.20	66.40	-0.02
Dec 95	67.82	67.90	67.65	67.87	-0.03
Feb 96	66.85	66.90	66.67	66.80	-0.07
Apr 96	67.20	67.20	66.97	67.10	-0.05
Jun 96	63.15	63.27	63.12	63.17	-0.03
Aug 96	61.85	61.90	61.75	61.90	+0.05
Oct 96	62.50	62.75	62.50	62.55	+0.05
sales71 open int621					
FEEDER CATTLE					
50,000 lbs. - cents per lb.					
Oct 95	65.65	65.72	65.55	65.72	-0.03
Dec 95	64.40	64.50	64.25	64.45	-0.02
Feb 96	63.35	63.55	63.32	63.40	-0.12
Apr 96	61.95	61.95	61.75	61.85	-0.10
Jun 96	61.55	61.75	61.50	61.50	-0.02
Aug 96	61.05	61.25	61.00	61.10	-0.02
Oct 96	62.80	62.85	62.80	62.80	-0.02
Dec 96	62.50	62.52	62.50	62.52	+0.02
sales71 open int621					
HOGS					
40,000 lbs. - cents per lb.					
Oct 95	45.45	45.65	45.07	45.40	-0.32
Dec 95	45.10	45.40	44.75	44.82	-0.63
Feb 96	48.10	48.40	47.87	47.90	-0.47
Apr 96	47.50	47.70	47.30	47.37	-0.30
Jun 96	52.60	52.65	52.40	52.57	-0.33
Aug 96	52.45	52.45	52.20	52.35	-0.25
Oct 96	51.85	51.95	51.60	51.80	-0.10
Dec 96	47.95	48.25	47.85	48.02	+0.27
Feb 97				48.47	+0.25
sales108 open int108					
PORK BELLIES					
40,000 lbs. - cents per lb.					
Mar 96	62.40	63.15	61.95	62.90	+0.03
May 96	62.15	62.92	61.85	62.80	+0.03
Jul 96	62.60	63.67	62.60	63.40	-0.15
Aug 96	63.40	64.70	63.40	64.70	-0.15
Oct 96	61.80	61.80	61.80	61.80	-0.60
Fri.'s sales12 Fri.'s open int73					



1250 Padre Staples
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

BEALLS

Kristy K.

Hallettsville
Population: 2,718

Kristy Kostelnik
October 19, 1995
Draft 3

To my grandchildren:

How are you? I am your grandmother and this letter's purpose is to give you some idea about what goes on in the life of a college student at the end of the twentieth century. I hope you find it some what interesting or informative. There will most likely be a chance for us to discuss the topics touched on in this letter, but until then this will have to suffice.

Today is October 12, 1995. At this time I am eighteen years old, a freshmen in college at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, and I just got home from one of my classes and am watching MTV. MTV stands for Music Television and is a mostly music video channel. My roommates and I have also been checking the weather channel quite often lately to hear the latest coordinates, speed, and direction of tropical storm Roxanne since we live so close the Gulf of Mexico. In addition to viewing these features on T.V., getting to see the entirety of a television show has been hard to do until the deliberation of the verdict in the O.J. Simpson trial. O.J. Simpson, a national sports hero and role model for many, was charged with the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown and her friend Ron Goldman, but was found not guilty on both counts. This is a landmark trial because it could and most likely will set precedence for similar trials concerning the same subject, in the future. Since there were so many questions about the role of racism, planted evidence, and the obvious abuse Nicole Brown suffered from the hands of O.J. Simpson in this case opinions about Simpson's guilt and innocence are varied.

Other than watching television I attend six classes and work on most Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at Beall's in Padre Staples Mall. My title as sales associate requires a number of tasks to be completed every time I work. In the department I am assigned to, the Men's Department, I must greet customers that enter within thirty seconds, suggest particular items, know almost everything about the merchandise, and open at least one Beall's charge account per every \$3,000 merchandise I sell. These tasks are sometimes hard to do, especially when intolerable customers are encountered. All in all, though, this job is not so bad since I get to meet a great deal of people.

Then, when I am not working, my classes keep me extremely busy. They include Political Science, Political History, Freshmen Seminar, Composition, Chemistry, and Chemistry Lab. Of which Chemistry is my most preferable because it is associated with my career goal, which is to become a Registered Nurse. I would like to work in pediatrics because I love spending time and interacting with children. In addition to this I also enjoy going home to Hallettsville and spending time with my family when I can.

When I get to go home some weekends, spending time with my parents and brother are some of my favorite activities since I

Kristy Kostelnik
October 19, 1995
Draft 3

To my grandchildren:

How are you? I am your grandmother and this letter's purpose is to give you some idea about what goes on in the life of a college student at the end of the twentieth century. I hope you find it some what interesting or informative. There will most likely be a chance for us to discuss the topics touched on in this letter, but until then this will have to suffice.

Today is October 12, 1995. At this time I am eighteen years old, a freshmen in college at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, and I just got home from one of my classes and am watching MTV. MTV stands for Music Television and is a mostly music video channel. My roommates and I have also been checking the weather channel quite often lately to hear the latest coordinates, speed, and direction of tropical storm Roxanne since we live so close the Gulf of Mexico. In addition to viewing these features on T.V., getting to see the entirety of a television show has been hard to do until the deliberation of the verdict in the O.J. Simpson trial. O.J. Simpson, a national sports hero and role model for many, was charged with the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown and her friend Ron Goldman, but was found not guilty on both counts. This is a landmark trial because it could and most likely will set precedence for similar trials concerning the same subject, in the future. Since there were so many questions about the role of racism, planted evidence, and the obvious abuse Nicole Brown suffered from the hands of O.J. Simpson in this case opinions about Simpson's guilt and innocence are varied.

Other than watching television I attend six classes and work on most Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at Beall's in Padre Staples Mall. My title as sales associate requires a number of tasks to be completed every time I work. In the department I am assigned to, the Men's Department, I must greet customers that enter within thirty seconds, suggest particular items, know almost everything about the merchandise, and open at least one Beall's charge account per every \$3,000 merchandise I sell. These tasks are sometimes hard to do, especially when intolerable customers are encountered. All in all, though, this job is not so bad since I get to meet a great deal of people.

Then, when I am not working, my classes keep me extremely busy. They include Political Science, Political History, Freshmen Seminar, Composition, Chemistry, and Chemistry Lab. Of which Chemistry is my most preferable because it is associated with my career goal, which is to become a Registered Nurse. I would like to work in pediatrics because I love spending time and interacting with children. In addition to this I also enjoy going home to Hallettsville and spending time with my family when I can.

When I get to go home some weekends, spending time with my parents and brother are some of my favorite activities since I

do not see them very often. I also enjoy seeing both sets of my grandparents and my aunts, uncles, and cousins. On your grandmother's side of the family there are eight siblings, which makes for great parties and family gatherings, and on your grandfather's side there are five which also makes for great times when we all get together. Since almost all of both of these families live in Hallettsville, contacting them for gatherings is fairly simple.

In Hallettsville my father owns cattle and had intended on expanding this relatively small endeavor, but the cattle market has dropped considerably due to NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and the drought in Mexico. Since they have no way of continuing their livestock's upkeep, Mexican cattlemen flooded the markets with cheap cattle, especially in Texas, leaving little to no competition for Texas cattlemen. This has affected many herd owners in the beef industry, including my father, your grandfather, and your Great-Grandpa Jansky.

Well, these are some of the events that detail my everyday life and I hope they may give you some idea as to what my life is like. I contemplate what circumstances your lives consist of in the future and what dramatic changes have occurred. There are so many questions I have for you, but I'm sure we will have plenty of time to talk one day.

With love,
Your grandmother,
Kristy Kostelnik

101.1.4

**TO THE
GRANDCHILDREN
OF:**

JUAN HERNANDEZ

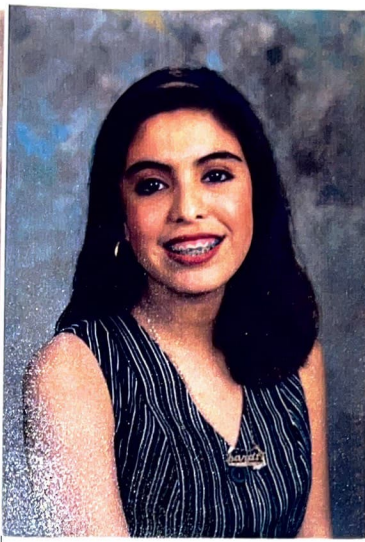
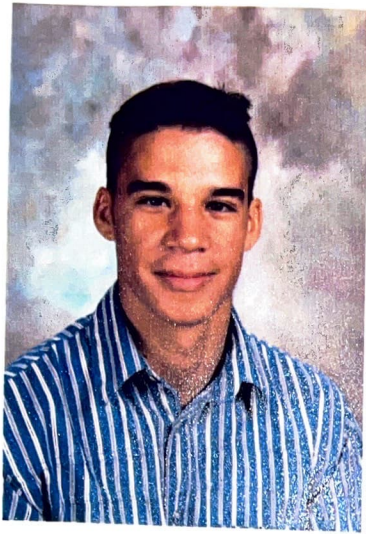
JOHN CANALES

JUAN GARCIA

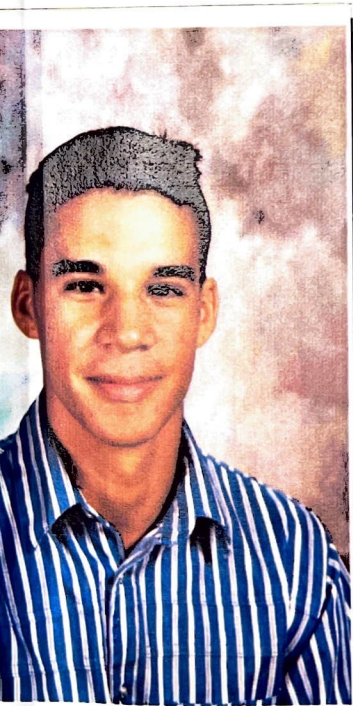
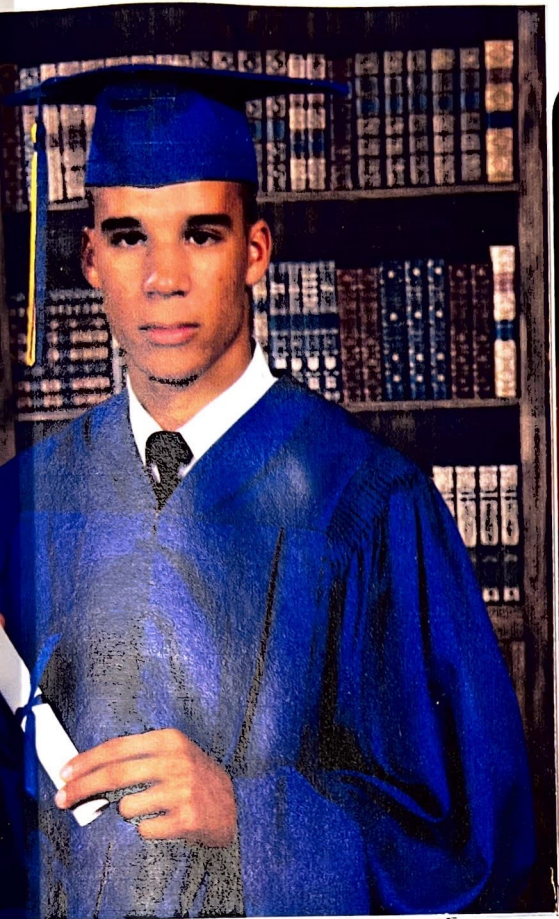


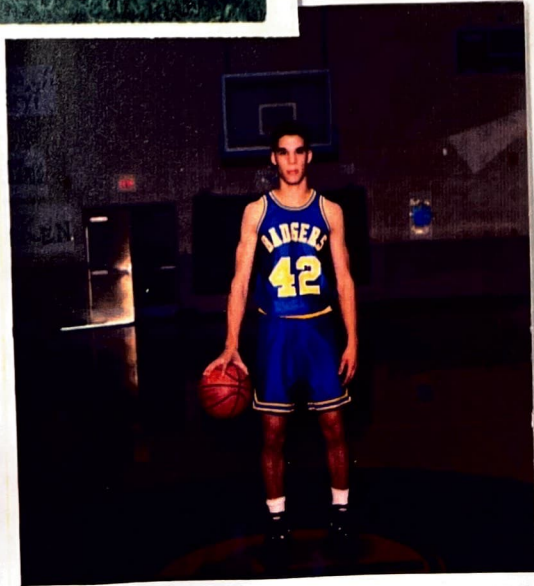
Ride the Wave of the Future





**Juan
Hernandez**





...and because
 ...and parents a
 ...father's name is
 ...isabella chavez
 ...around where
 ...is a different
 ...and you change your
 ...is more checked
 ...my friend
 ...I weigh about 175
 ...sometimes lift
 ...191 Ford
 ...I drive 1000 miles
 ...father and last

...two weeks ago
 ...was always on TV
 ...of them argue all the
 ...I think that he
 ...with the carrier of

...life
 ...about
 ...we

...his
 ...we

Juan Hernandez
October 11, 1995
Composition 101

Dear Grandchildren,

My name is Juan Enrique Hernandez, and I am your grandfather. I am 18 years old and I am a freshman at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi. The date is October 16, 1995. I wanted to inform you about who I am, the way I live, and other things you might want to know about my lifetime.

I come from a family of six people. I was born at Spohn Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas. I have an older brother named David. He attends Texas A&M University - Kingsville. My younger brother and sister are twins. Their names are Andy and Andrea. They are both juniors at Bruni High School. My parents are both teachers. My dad teaches at Bruni High School and my mom teaches at Oilton Elementary. My father's name is Raul Hernandez and my mother's name is Amelia Hernandez. We used to live in Corpus up to my sixth-grade year, and then we moved to Mirando City. Mirando is a very small town located 32 miles west of Laredo. The town is so small that the school board ended up closing down the high school on May 24, 1995. The last senior class of Mirando High consisted of my two best friends, Sam Bowers and Valentine Esquivel.

All the high school kids now had to be bused to Bruni High School. Bruni is another small town located 12 miles west of Mirando. I played football, basketball, baseball, and track for Bruni. My favorite sport is baseball. We almost advanced to State my senior year, but we lost to D'Hanis in the first round. I was also in One-Act Plays for four years. Two of those plays were "Rest in Peace" and "Blood Wedding". I like to be on stage and act out different characters. I ended up graduating third out of my senior class. There were only 24 students but the competition was pretty tough. I'll never forget Magda Gutierrez for beating me by one single point for the Salutatorian title. I decided to attend Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi because of all the relatives I have here. I visit my grand-parents a lot because they only live 7 miles away. My grandfather's name is Jorge Chavararia and my grandmother's name is Amelia Chavararia. They live in the Molina neighborhood. That's around where West Oso High School is located. So far college is a lot different from high school. You are now on your own and you manage your own time. It's hard to live without my Mom's home cooked meals because I'm a big eater. I love hot and spicy Mexican food. I always eat a lot but I never gain weight. I weigh about 175 lbs., and I stand 6 feet - 1 inch tall. My hobbies are lifting weights and working on my truck. I own a 1991 Ford Ranger. You constantly have to be changing the motor oil every 3000 miles and keep maintaining the engine so it could run better and last longer.

An important event that just happened two weeks ago was the verdict of the O.J. Simpson case. The case was always on T.V. and after awhile it got really boring hearing them argue all the time. The jury finally found him not guilty. I think that he is innocent but he still had something to do with the murder of his wife. The killing of the Super Tejano Star-Selena just happened about 4 months ago. She was very beautiful and she sang beautifully. I've always enjoyed hearing her music. My

favorite baseball players are Nolan Ryan and Jeff Bagwell. I remember watching Nolan Ryan pitch in the Houston Astrodome. It was amazing to see him throw his 101 mph fast ball. He played for the Houston Astros but later finished his career with the Texas Rangers. He is truly one of the greatest pitchers. Jeff Bagwell is a big guy that plays first base for the Houston Astros. He has a lot of power in his swing. I'll never forget the times he broke his hand getting hit by pitches at the plate. The way he stands in the batters' box, is the same way I stand to hit. I like to get down low with my legs apart so you could get a better view of the ball. Your swing becomes quicker and the power of the swing is determined by the muscle in your arms.

I just wanted to write to my grandchildren to let you know at least a little about me. I'm sure by know the world is more advanced then the one I live in today. Advancement in technology is important but, I feel that being part of a family is more important. I hope you just remember me because if it wasn't for me you would have never existed. Take care and please visit me more often.

P.S. If you're wondering
about where grandma fits
in on my life, well sorry
I haven't found her yet.

Love Your Grandpa,

Juan Henandez '95'

Juan Enrique Henandez



**John
Canales**





John Canales
Oct. 19, 1995
Composition 101
Final Draft

Dear Grandchildren,

I am writing this letter to inform you about the politics and the history in my lifetime as a college student in South Texas. In writing this letter, I hope to inform you of the life I lived forty years ago. If you want to know the past, the best way to learn is through first-hand experience not second-hand text books. There are some events you should know about that happened in my time. We had events such as the murder of Selena and the O.J. Simpson murder case. There were also technological advances and environmental issues during my college life.

The month is October, and I am 6 months away from turning 19 years old. It's a warm day in Corpus Christi and many South Texans and international fans are talking about the trial of Yolanda Saldivar who murdered Selena Quintanilla Perez. Selena was a native resident of Corpus Christi, who became a well known Tejano singer. Selena was murdered on March 31 in Room 158 of the local Days Inn Hotel. The death of Selena affected many Americans, mostly of Hispanic heritage. It was a tragedy to her husband, family, friends, and all those who followed her career. She was on her way to super stardom and she was only 23 years old.

Along with the Selena trial, there was another big trial in our country. This trial was the longest in U.S. history, lasting 9 months. It was the murder case of O.J. Simpson vs. the state of California and the families of Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman. This trial was as big as a three-ring circus. The defense and the prosecution each had four lawyers. All the evidence which included motive, DNA results, and the victims' blood all over his clothes. Even with this evidence, he was still proven not guilty. Most Americans were shocked about the verdict; others were happy to see that he was set free. They let him go because the prosecution was unable to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that O.J. was guilty.

Technology in my day was moving very fast and many people were excited with all the technological advances. Some of the more popular inventions of the 20th century were the C.D. ROM and cellular phone. These two inventions revolutionized the working man and women, and they also expanded the growth of the business.

Another major and very "cool" invention was Virtual Reality. With Virtual Reality, you are able to experience 3-D images by wearing a special helmet device. It was the latest invention that blew my mind. In forty years, all these inventions will be out-of-date, and you will probably laugh at all of these "old" inventions.

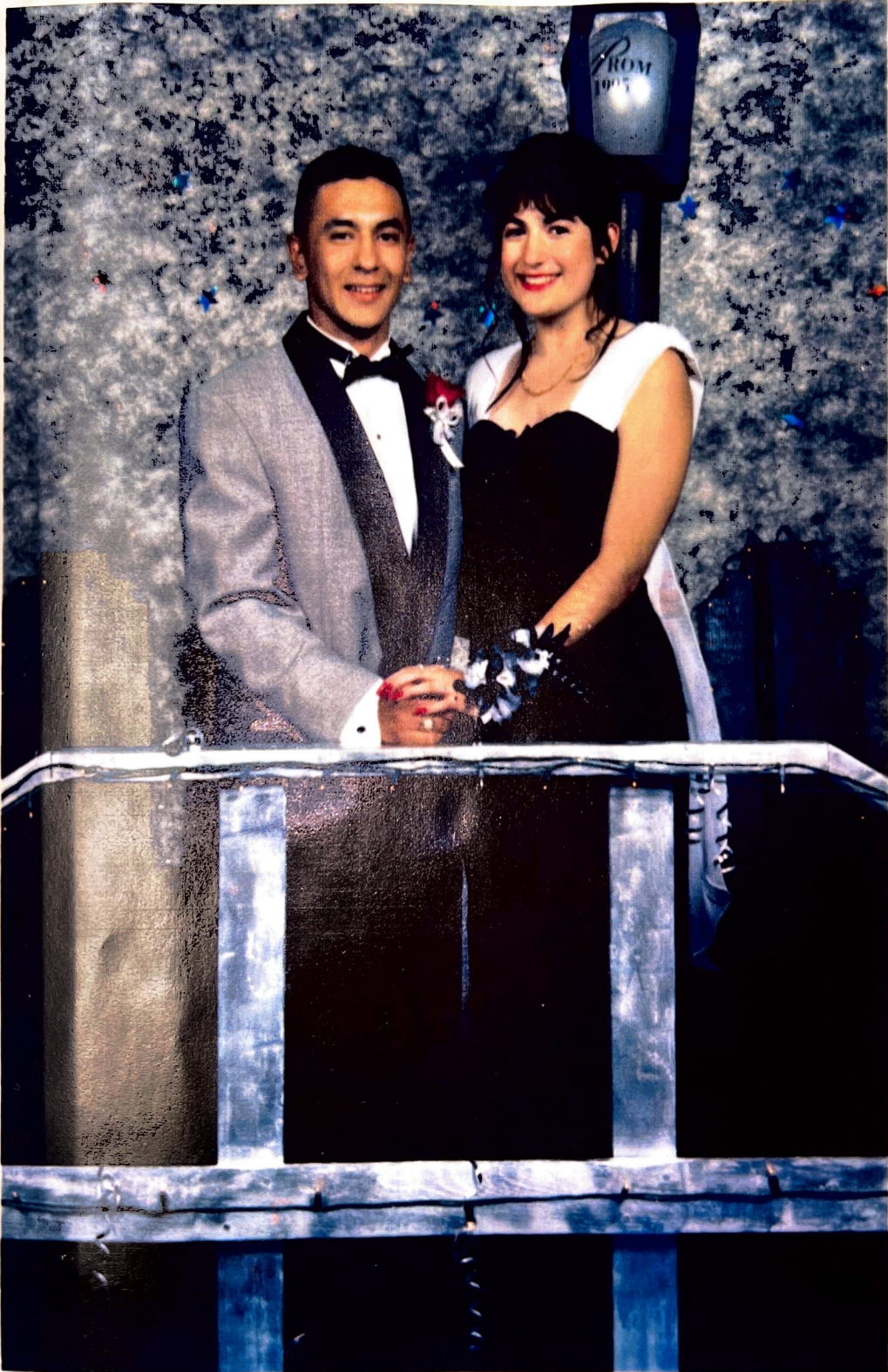
The environment during my day was going through ecological problems. A real problem was a deteriorating ozone layer. The deterioration was being caused by car fumes, factories, and aerosol. These fumes would eat away at the ozone layer, causing global warming. Living in Corpus Christi, there are always pollution problems on our beaches because of off-shore oil rigs and trash thrown. The oil from the rigs and trash being thrown led to dirty and sometimes toxic beaches.

I hope you can read this and understand how America was in the past. You'll probably read this and laugh, but please understand that the world changes. You too will probably write a letter to your grandchildren, and they will probably think that your politics and historical events were funny as well.

Your Grandfather,
John Canales



**Juan
Garcia**



11/07/95

Juan Garcia BD

Dear Grand kids,

Hopefully I will still be around to read this to you and tell you more in detail about how my life was back in my day. But if for some reason something is to happen to me I will let you know a little of what was going on in my prime during the ninety's. Hopefully it will help you understand a little of why things are happening to you and know a little more about history.

Some of the major issues in court that are going on right now are The trial of O.J. Simpson. And the murder of Tejano music star Selena. Just a few days before I wrote you this letter the verdict for O.J. was given. He was found not guilty on two counts of murder. However he is still pending on civil cases. Selena's case just started up two days ago and I will inform you later how that goes. To tell you the truth these cases are getting on peoples nerves. But when you read about this in your history books you can say, "My grandpa was there and he saw everything."

The most modern device we have today is the computer. Computers do wonders for us. We are able to do so many things like learn history, learn to read, have sex, cure diseases, deliver mail, meet companions and many, many more things of this nature. If it were not for the computer we would be so far behind in our technology. The computer is the backbone to our society.

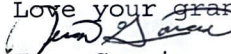
Hopefully by the time you read this letter your generation will have a cure for one of the most horrible diseases to ever have existed. This disease is called the AIDS virus. It is a sexually transmitted disease. There are a few other ways to get it however, like blood transfusion, or just mixing blood with the wrong people. Some of the biggest stars of my time have been infected with this virus, not including the millions of people who have died from it already. Or the millions of people who don't know they have it. It is one of the scariest things out there today. Some of the celebrities that I mentioned to you that have it are Magic Johnson, the father from the T.V show the Brady Bunch who has already died from it, and many more who just don't know that they have it.

We are faced with some other scary things besides disease. These other things are gangs and drugs. When you talk about one you practically talk about both of them. It is so bad in some places that you can't even walk outside and water the plants in peace after certain hours. It started in the big cities like Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Houston, but now it is pretty common just about anywhere you look. With gangs, more than likely you are going to have drugs. This something I hope you never get involved in but it is something you are going to decide how to handle. Hopefully this will not be an issue for you. Or you and your peers might have a different way of handling it. This is not just a gang problem however. Regular people are either killing themselves doing this or getting people killed by handling it or selling it. There is a big drug war going on right now and I don't think we are doing to good. Hopefully in your time they will have a solution for this big problem we are faced with.

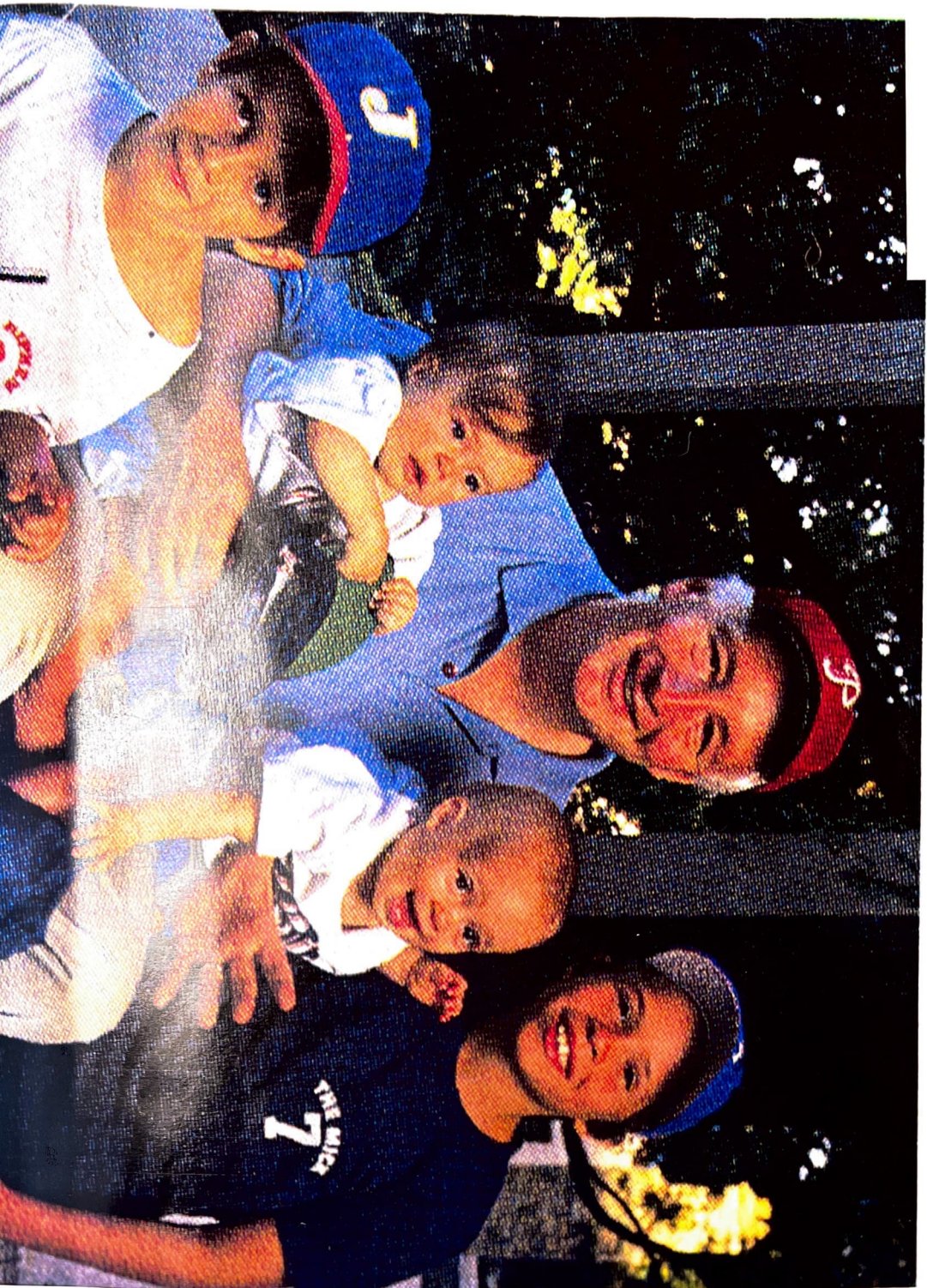
I also want to let you know a little about myself. I am

currently 19 years old and am attending Texas A&M - Corpus Christi. I have a girlfriend whose name is Margie Torres. She is great, and hopefully someday you will call her grandma. I was a pretty good athlete in high school and was a pretty big guy on campus. I was also faced with many of the decisions you are making or are about to make. I think I made some pretty good decisions, and if you need help never be afraid to ask, hopefully me or somebody around you. Your great grand parents were great as well. They helped me through a lot and I probably wouldn't be who I am today if were not for them. I owe them a lot of thanks. And thats all I have to say about that.

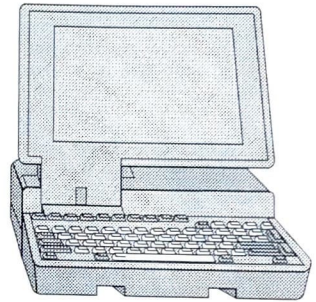
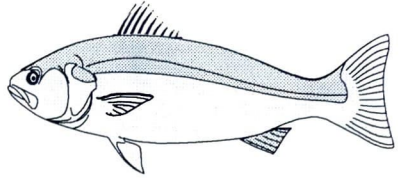
However everything we have is not bad. We have great people out there trying to make a difference, it is just that we need more of these people or your life will really be screwed up. It is up to my generation to try to fix things and make things better for you. Just remember no matter how things were or how they are going to be, you have to make the right choice in whatever you do. Just be smart. Hopefully you won't just have to read this letter, I hope I am here to talk to you about it and many more things when the time is right. Just remember that I love you and take care.

Love your grandpa,

Juan Garcia

Draft Two

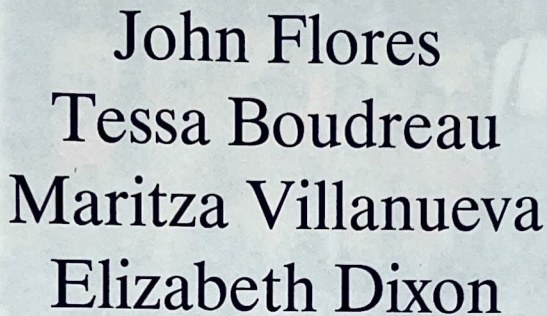


101.13



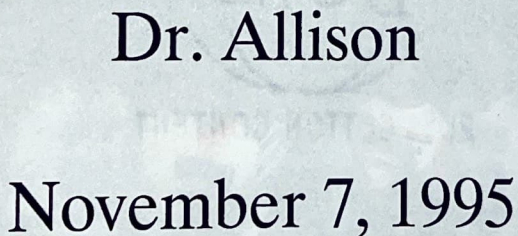
The future belongs to those
who believe in the beauty of
their dreams.

-Eleanor Roosevelt



John Flores
Tessa Boudreau
Maritza Villanueva
Elizabeth Dixon

Composition 101/BG



Dr. Allison
November 7, 1995



John Flores



Dear grandchildren,

It is the year 1995, and it is a very difficult time in this year. I'm sure whatever time you are in, it is easier to get things done, since I'm sure by now you are much more advanced and industrialized. Anyway, let me go ahead and tell you a few things about your grandpa.

I graduated from Bruni High School a couple of months ago, and let me tell you, I had a blast. I was in all the sports that were offered. I was on varsity in football, basketball, baseball, tennis, and track ever since I was a freshman. It was very easy for me in high school. While I was in high school, I did odd jobs around the town that I lived in, so I could get spending money. I would cut lawns and paint houses on the weekends. Besides that, and my parents supporting me, I would also work every summer to get the money I needed for school clothes. I had a summer job teaching at a program for future engineers called TexPrep. In this program, high schooler's would take classes in many different math departments. I taught basic algebra. I have to admit, it was tough earning my money, but it wasn't anything compared to how tough it was for my parents to get money. Both my parents, Juan and Hilda, your great-grandparents, worked in the fields, cutting down trees when I was a kid. Neither one of them graduated from high school. They had money problems, so they had to drop out and work. Yet, they made it through the rough times and managed to raise me well.

Right now, I'm in college, and I don't have my parents around me anymore. They're about 150 miles away from Corpus Christi, and it's hard to keep in touch with them. College also isn't what I expected. It is much harder than high school. I graduated from high school as the valedictorian, but college, so far in the first month, has made me feel like I'm stupid. There is a lot of work that is expected from you. Not only do I have to read about 100 pages a night for different classes, but I also have to write a paper almost every week. Besides the work, I also have to worry about groceries, my job, and money. Let me give you some advice. While you're in high school, take every class that is college bound, because while you're in high school, you don't have to pay for your education. In college you have to pay for every little thing.

Let me give you some examples on how much I pay so that I can get through college. My tuition and fees are \$950.00. The apartment I live in is \$325.00 a month. Then I have to buy groceries, and essential things like toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc. I bet you are laughing right now, because I'm sure these costs seem like very little to you. Even \$5.00 is a lot to pay for a meal in 1995. You probably are paying \$5.00 for just a drink by itself. All this stuff is expensive when you have a job that pays only \$4.50 an hour.

Well, I better let you go. Your grandpa is a busy man, as I'm sure you are too. I wish I could've had more time on this earth to be with you and share certain experiences, but I guess everyone has to go. I'll see you in another world if God is with us. Take care of yourself and follow your dreams.

Your grandfather,
John Flores

December 1995

To my Grandmother, Grandfather,

My little ones. I bet you think that life while I was growing up was simple and that my generation didn't really do anything for fun. I know that's the way you think because I initially thought the same about my grandparents.

My generation is known as Generation X because its make-up varies greatly. You can't just put one word on us to describe us. More than half of my generation won't be able to find a good paying job in their major after graduation. We are also the generation that will face the greatest economic burden so far supporting Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare so that our parents and grandparents will be taken care of for the rest of their lives.

I have personally gone through a lot of changes within the past year. I should be in my sophomore year of college, but I let my financial situation become a major factor in my choice of schools. I didn't want my mother to have to pay for any of my education so I chose the United States Air Force Academy (USAF). Getting in there was no easy by any means. There is quite a bit of politics involved in earning a nomination to USAFA, let alone receiving an appointment because the tax payers' foot the bill for the education at USAFA, all the military academies for that matter. In the spring of my junior year, I had to start the application process for USAFA. I couldn't start petitioning the Senators in the 11th Congressional District until the fall of my senior year. I had to ask one of them about why I would need a nomination to an academy, USAFA in particular. The Senators from Texas received about 800 petitions the year I went in. I received nominations from Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, and a presidential nomination because my father is retired military. I received an appointment to enter as the graduating class of 1999 in the middle of March 1994. I had also applied for an Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Scholarship, but in case USAFA didn't pan out. I received the scholarship as well. I turned down the scholarship to go to USAFA, not only to save my mom money, but also because I thought it was the perfect place for me to be. I attended Basic Cadet Training (BCT or "beast") the summer of 1994 and was sent home in the middle of it on Medical Turn Back status because of knee problems. This meant that my appointment would carry over until the next year so that I could become part of the class of 1999. I took that year off from school because I was determined to go back and become a member of the "Class of 99." I didn't count on having severe personality conflicts with USAFA's way of life, but I did. I saw resigning from USAFA as the only way to preserve who and what I was. I was lucky to be a late add as a freshman in Texas A&M-CC for the Fall 1995 semester. I advise you now do not take any time off between high school and college if you plan on getting a college education. It is extremely hard to get back into the swing of things after a year of playing. I regret turning down my ROTC scholarship because I think I would have been just fine in an environment that wasn't 24-7 (24 hours a day seven days a week) like USAFA.

Recently I witnessed a mockery of a trial. It was the O.J. Simpson murder trial. O.J. Simpson, a Football Hall of Famer,

November 1995

To my dearest grandchildren,

Hey little ones! I bet you think that life while I was growing up was sedate and that my generation didn't really do anything for fun. I know that's the way you think because I initially thought the same about my grandparents.

My generation is known as Generation X because its make-up varies greatly. You can't put just put one word on us to describe us. More than half of my generation won't be able to find a good paying job in their major after graduation. We are also the generation that will face the greatest economic burden so far supporting Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare so that our parents and grandparents will be taken care of for the rest of their lives.

I have personally gone through a lot of changes within the past year. I should be in my sophomore year of college, but I let my financial situation become a major factor in my choice of schools. I didn't want my mother to have to pay for any of my education so I chose the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA). Getting in there was not easy by any means. There is quite a bit of politics involved in earning a nomination to USAFA, let alone receiving an appointment because the tax payers' foot the bill for the education at USAFA, all the military academies for that matter. In the spring of my junior year, I had to start the application process for USAFA. I couldn't start petitioning the Senators and the Congressman from my district until the fall of my senior year. I had to write essays for each one of them about why I would be a good choice to be given a nomination to an academy, USAFA in particular. The Senators from Texas received about 800 petitions the year I sent mine in. I received nominations from Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz, Senator Kay Baily Hutchinson, and a presidential nomination because my father is retired military. I received an appointment to enter as the graduating class of 1998 in the middle of March 1994. I had also applied for an Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Scholarship, just in case USAFA didn't pan out. I received the scholarship as well. I turned down the scholarship to go to USAFA, not only to save my mom money, but also because I thought it was the perfect place for me to be. I attended Basic Cadet Training (BCT or "beast") the summer of 1994 and was sent home in the middle of it on Medical Turn Back status because of knee problems. This meant that my appointment would carry over until the next year so that I could become part of the class of 1999. I took that year off from school because I was determined to go back and become a member of the "Class of 99." I didn't count on having severe personality conflicts with USAFA's way of life, but I did. I saw resigning from USAFA as the only way to preserve who and what I was. I was lucky to be a late add as a freshman to Texas A&M-CC for the Fall 1995 semester. I advise you now do not take any time off between high school and college if you plan on getting a college education. It is extremely hard to get back into the swing of things after a year of playing. I regret turning down my ROTC scholarship because I think I would have been just fine in an environment that wasn't 24-7 (24 hours a day-seven days a week) like USAFA.

Recently I witnessed a mockery of a trial. It was the O.J. Simpson murder trial. O.J. Simpson, a Football Hall of Famer,

was being tried for the murder of his ex-wife and a friend of hers. O.J. paid about 8 million dollars (an unusually large amount of money in my day) for his team of defense lawyers. The LAPD handled the evidence poorly, and the key detective is an accused racist. The trial was televised and went on for nine long months. Maybe for you a trial that long and one that is televised is no big deal, but I found it to be extreme. Also, the LAPD cannot go after anyone else for the double murder because they botched the evidence. The prosecution's case lost all credibility when the key detective was portrayed as a racist, whether he was or not did not really seem to hold any relevance other than the defense team's claim that the LAPD and Mark Furman (the key detective), in particular, had it in for O.J. because he was an African-American man married to a white woman. O.J. was found not guilty due to reasonable doubt as he should have been due to the poor quality of evidence. I however feel that O.J. killed those two people, but we will probably never know for sure.

For the past two years a girl named Shannon Faulkner was in a legal battle with the all-male Citadel, a state-supported military academy, trying to get in. She was allowed to enter as a cadet this year while the legal battle was still going on, only to drop out a week and a half after she entered due to what she termed "personal reasons." The Supreme Court threw her case out saying it was "moot." There were several girls ready to pick up Faulkner's spot to continue that case, but now they must file their own lawsuits.

Another case that is up for review by the Supreme Court this session is a Colorado State Constitution amendment that was passed in 1992. This amendment basically says that any homosexuals, lesbians, or bisexuals are not to be counted as a minority and can not say that they were discriminated against due to their sexual lifestyle. One of the justices seems to be in favor of upholding this amendment as constitutional while the others don't necessarily seem too sure. Frankly, I'm hoping it is declared unconstitutional.

All my love, your old grandma.



Maritza Villanueva



November 1, 1995

To my dear grandchild,

As you are now approaching high school I want you to realize that your high school years will always be your "golden years". At the time, you'll think of them as awful days full of homework, but as you go on to college, you'll realize that those days were the most carefree. I still recall my first year in high school, and I remember the good times as well as the embarrassing ones.

I went to Simon Rivera High School in Brownsville, Tx. The first day of school, I walked into Rivera, and I realized that I was faced with new challenges. Not only was high school bigger than junior high, it was also full of new people I had never seen before. Seeing all these new faces really scared me, so I started looking for my friends. As soon as I found my friends, we started comparing our class schedules and that's when the big question arose: "How are we going to find our classes?" We noticed that the seniors were running all around school with fishing rods, calling all the ninth graders "fish", so we knew that they wouldn't be much help to us. (When I say "fish", I mean ninth graders). But as the bells started ringing, we started going our separate ways in search of our classes. By the end of the day, not only did we find our classes, but we found out that high school was going to be blast! Not only was high school the place to "socialize" and be invited to "parties", it was also a place where you could be yourself. Of course, there were rules in high school such as: no fighting, no kissing in the halls, and no obscenities. But these rules never hurt anyone, people always found a way to have fun even if it had to in a "safe" way. One thing that I will always remember in high school, is "school spirit". Every time there was a game or any kind of competition, we would dress up or paint our faces in our school colors. There was nothing like going to a game or pep rally and cheering until your voice was gone. You might not know what a pep rally is, it is a gathering of the whole school with the purpose of cheering and showing your school spirit.

Even though there were a lot of good things to admire my first year in high school, there were also a lot of serious things. In my first year in high school I was exposed to a lot of new things that I had never taken into consideration. I was exposed to a place where there was a whole new wave of people and not all these people were good. This is where I realized that not only were you invited to parties, you were also invited to drugs, sex, and alcohol. Of course, you'll get invited to these in junior high, but when you get to high school, things get more serious and more deadly.

My first year in high school was one of those years where I grew aware of the problems in society. This happened when Carla Villarreal was murdered in 1992. The loss of Carla made all of us more aware of the dangers in society. Today, murders are committed everyday, but I had never had someone from my high school get murdered before.

Violence was not the only problem that we had to confront while I was in high school. There were also other things such as teenage pregnancy. I remember that when I walked into school that year I saw a lot of teenage girls pregnant, and it scared me

to see so many of them at the same time.

Even though I was learning and realizing many things, I was also getting involved in school. I participated in many extracurricular activities such as Debate, Air Force R.O.T.C, and U.I.L (University Interscholastic League). I was a proud Staff Sergeant in R.O.T.C, I was captain of Debate Team and participated in many events such as Ready Writing and Literary Criticism in U.I.L.

Your first day of high school might not be the same experience as it was to me. But I want you to understand that even though you have more freedom in high school, it doesn't mean you take it all in one big swallow. The more freedom you have, the more responsible you'll have to be. The older you get, the more mature you'll have to become. My first year in high school was fun, but I did not ignore the problems around me or give in to the bad crowd. I suggest you do the same, because not only can high school be fun, it can also be a blast! So please take all this into consideration and remember to be responsible. And please, remember your gramma as you're walking down the aisle in graduation.

Love,

Gramma Maritza

Elizabeth Dixon



Elizabeth Dixon



November 1, 1995

Dear Grandchild,

I was sitting in the living room the other day and started thinking about how when you are my age a day in your life will be totally different than a day in my life. I decided that I would write this letter to you so that you will have something to look to for comparing your life to mine when you are ready to see just how life was when I grew up.

Today is Tuesday, October 19, 1995, so I got up around 8:00 and got ready for class. I got together my books and walked to class. The walk takes about ten minutes. You see, I live on campus. I don't live in a typical dorm, however. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi decided to try something different when it went to a four year college. (It was Corpus Christi State University, an upper-division, two-year college, until 1993.) There is an apartment complex that consists of two-bedroom and four-bedroom apartments on campus that are used for students. I live in a two-bedroom and have a roommate who is from Houston whose name is Catherine Berry.

My first class of the day is English. It is held in a computer lab that has an IBM compatible at every chair. We can put information on the computers and "mail" it to each other. We can also send feedback on our work and other messages to each other.

Next I have Freshman Seminar which is a class for freshmen only. We work on things that will help us become better students like study skills, memory work, and last week our professor, Dan Holbrook, gave us an assignment that made us do minor research in the library.

After that I have a short break that I use to relax or grab some lunch from the student center. I can choose from Taco Bell, Whataburger, a pizza place, or a submarine sandwich place.

Then I have Public Speaking which is part of the basic curriculum here at Texas A&M - Corpus Christi. My professor is Dr. Kelly Miller who is a really great teacher. She's young and can relate to us while at the same time making sure we learn and do the things that we need to do to become good public speakers.

My last class of the day on Tuesdays and Thursdays is College Algebra. We use a graphing calculator in this class. My professor, Wesley Petty, hooks his calculator up to an overhead projector so the whole class can see what he is doing.

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays my day is a little different. I only have one class on those days. It is Political History of the United States with Dr. Robert Wooster. We are in a large lecture hall that is two stories high. Dr. Wooster uses a microphone and an IBM compatible computer that projects outlines and other information onto a screen that helps us follow his lecture. He can also display movies or other images with the use of a laser disc player. This class is what I expected college to be like. We have a grader whom we turn all of our work in to, and Dr. Wooster doesn't really tell us to do our readings. He just reminds us every now and then. We are mostly on our own but I feel that if I needed help he and my grader, Jason Gentry, would be more than willing to help.

The funny thing that I have noticed is that mostly men teach

classes like math and science while women teach classes like speech and English. This may be because I am only in my first year. I'm not saying that this is wrong but I thought things might be different now that I am in college.

I also hold down a part-time job at Riviera Lanes, which is one of the three bowling centers in Corpus Christi. It is about 20 minutes from the campus. I work 3-4 nights a week for about a total of 25 hours. I don't find it that hard to manage with school because most of my hours are on the weekends.

At work I am responsible for welcoming people and checking them in. I give them a lane and rental shoes if they need them. If needed, I show them how to use the automatic scorekeepers. When they are done bowling, I check them out. At the end of the night I count down my cash register and take a tally of the day's business. I then check the registers from the snack bar and lounge. When I have compiled all of the information from all three cash registers I put it into the main register. Since Riviera Lanes is a corporation we are monitored by our owners who live in Virginia. Our register is "polled" at 4:00 am by another computer. The last thing I do at night is set the alarm and lock the door.

As you can see my life is rather busy with school, work, and going home on the weekends. I use all sorts of technology every day and every day new things are being invented and old things are being improved. I know things will be different when you are my age. I can only hope that you will be wise about the things you do and the choices you make in life.

Love,

Grandmother Elizabeth

101.1.1