

## LOCAL SPANISH STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE MASTERY

Congratulations to fourteen Spanish language students from Celeste High School who attained regional recognition for excellent performance at Net Olé recently held at Texas A&M Commerce on April 21, 2009. Net Olé is the Northeast Texas Organization of Language Educators. This contest has been hosted for high school students to compete against each other in a friendly competition of knowledge and skills in Spanish, French, and German for over 30 years. Net Olé takes place each year in the spring. It is a multi-layered competition between high school language students. They compete in categories based on their level of language study or the knowledge they possess. The levels are beginner, intermediate, advanced, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> year advantaged, and bilingual/heritage speaker.

The students at Celeste High School competed in a total of 12 categories and almost all placed in each.

Spanish 3 students Olivia Amaro, Chase Kieffer, and Carden Russell all placed at Net Olé. Olivia scored Excellent on her Reading Comprehension test at the bilingual level which is the most challenging category. Chase scored Superior on his Reading Comprehension test on the Advanced level and on that same level Carden Russell scored Excellent. These are the two highest scores possible and these students demonstrated their ability to read in a foreign language very well. Spanish 2 student Bailey Frasier placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Verbal Fluency and Brooke Burden placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the same category. This is a very challenging category because they have to sustain a conversation in Spanish for up to 3 minutes, and it has to be grammatically correct. Also in Spanish 2, Macie Mayrell placed 8<sup>th</sup> in sight reading poetry and 8<sup>th</sup> in prepared speech. Level 2 student Lisa Baker placed 6<sup>th</sup> in prepared speech. Micah Fredrickson placed 4<sup>th</sup> in sight-reading poetry and 6<sup>th</sup> in memorized prose. Brooke Burden and Josh McCaslin placed at the excellent level in intermediate Reading Comprehension. This means they missed only 1 question. Josh McCaslin also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the entrée competition where he made paella, a regional rice and seafood dish from Spain. Ashley Cairns placed 1<sup>st</sup> with her entry in the salad competition. At the Beginner level, Amanda Gilliam and Taylor Chase placed at the Excellent level for Beginner Reading Comprehension.

The students listed above are all students in Señora Lamb's Spanish classes, and they have been achieving successes like these since she first came to Celeste in 2006. It is an honor when a student places at Net Olé because more than 600 French, German, and Spanish language students attend each year from high schools around northeast Texas. Please join the district in congratulating these students on their well-deserved honors.

