

From Lady Chaps softball to Texas Rangers baseball

By Forrest Allen

For former Midland College (MC) Lady Chap softball player Monique Corralez, the 2011 Major League Baseball (MLB) World Series bore special significance.

Corralez played outfield for the Midland College softball team under the direction of Coach Tommy Ramos from 2004-2006. She is currently employed with the Texas Rangers baseball team as a community outreach assistant. Her responsibilities include working with the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation in various capacities. She procures signed team memorabilia items for the Foundation's silent auction, which raises money for scholarships for deserving students. Additionally, Ms. Corralez ensures that the scholarship monies are sent to the proper universities on each student's behalf. She also mans the auction booth during games in Arlington.

Corralez, a 2004 graduate of Midland Lee High School, earned a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) in 2008. During her time at UTD, she worked for the Frisco Roughriders of the Texas League (Rangers AA Farm Club). She interned for the Rangers beginning in January of 2010 and became an employee in March 2010. She credits her parents, Gracie and Moses, for providing her with determination and her work ethic.

Corralez' personality is warm and engaging, and she can always be seen smiling. Those traits are on full display when she and her fellow community outreach staffers visit with school children. The Rangers are involved in several school-based initiatives, such as scheduled school visits and a storybook series. It is those aspects of the job that most excite Corralez who says, "The best and worst parts of my job are the irregular working hours. It's a double-edged sword. But I'm not one to work an 'eight to five' (job) sitting at a desk all day."

When asked about her experience with this year's MLB World Series, Corralez shared that the highlight was "my all-expense-paid trip to St. Louis for games one and two of the series." She also enjoyed the opportunity to watch a complete game for a change without having to work at the auction booth! During the season's home games there are precious few opportunities to watch the entire game.

Ms. Corralez cited the exciting atmosphere both inside and outside of the stadium during the World Series, particularly outside where people were assembled all over the parking lot and the area immediately outside the Busch Stadium. Corralez says, "They had really good music being played. There was a true feeling of excitement largely due to the St. Louis franchise having such



Monica Corralez at 2011 World Series in St. Louis

a long, established history within the sport."

Ms. Corralez listed Rangers pitcher Derek Holland as one of her favorite players. She initially met Holland when she worked for the Roughriders during Holland's minor league years. During that time, former Midland College baseball outfielder Tim Smith was also playing with the Roughriders and

introduced Holland to Corralez. "He

(Holland) is great with the kids and fans," stated Corralez.

She also named two-time MLB All-Star second baseman Ian Kinsler of the Rangers as one her favorites and said, "I love to watch him play."

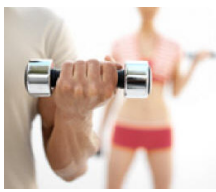
As for the future, Corralez is very happy in her role with the Rangers and hopes for a long career with the club. She admits to being "spoiled" as a result of their two highly successful seasons in 2010 and 2011, including the club's two World Series appearances.

"I feel connected to the success of the team," Ms. Corralez said. "I love seeing the excitement on the faces of the kids throughout the community during school visits. It's their team."

EXPRESS

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The Midland College Workforce Continuing Education spring 2012 course schedule will be online December 16! If you'd like to begin your new year updating or learning new career skills, visit www.midland.edu/workforce and browse through our spring course offerings. Spring learning opportunities include real estate, computer training, electrical courses, personal fitness trainer certification, and business courses!



At MC, it's good to have a half-century behind you . . .

COLLEGE CLASSICS is a special Midland College program which includes a series of courses designed especially for local residents who are 50 and older. For just \$25, Midlanders can enroll in as many classes as they choose. Classes are held once a week for four weeks. The Winter/Spring program will consist of three sessions as follows:

- Session I: January 30 - February 24
- Session II: February 27 - March 30
- Session III: April 2 - May 4

The COLLEGE CLASSICS Winter/Spring 2012 Schedule promises the return of some favorite classes as well as new ones. The Schedule will be mailed to former program participants on January 4, 2012. If you are new to the program and would like to be included on the mailing list, please contact the Community Programs Continuing Education office at (432) 685-4518.

IRA Charitable Rollovers to Midland College Foundation

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 permitted individuals to "roll over" up to \$100,000 from an individual retirement account (IRA) directly to a qualifying charity without recognizing the assets transferred to the qualifying charity as income. This provision has been extended until **December 31, 2011**.

The principal rules for direct transfers from an IRA to the Midland College Foundation are that the IRA owner must be 70 ½ years or older and that the transfer is for no more than \$100,000 each year.

Heritage societies meet on the MC campus



Pictured from left to right are Dollye Neal Chapel Director J. Don Wallace and Barbara Clack, Col Theunis Dey Chapter member and co-hostess for the November 14 meeting.

During the month of November, Midland College was proud to host meetings of the Col. Theunis Dey Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and the Dr. John Woodson Chapter Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century. Both organizations promote the preservation of American history and support charitable projects and historical education.

The Col. Theunis Dey Chapter NSDAR held its meeting on Monday, November 14, in the Dollye Neal

Chapel at Midland College and enjoyed a program featuring music in colonial America. The Chapter later presented Midland College with a contribution to the Dr. Nick Elderkin Music Scholarship in honor of Chapel Director J. Don Wallace.

On Tuesday, November 15, members of the Dr. John Woodson Chapter met in the Foundation Dining Room located in the Jack E. Brown Dining Hall on the MC campus. Recently retired MC Vice President of Institutional Advancement and current Executive Director of the FMH Foundation Dr. Eileen Piwetz led members on a photographic safari of Africa during her "Out of Africa" presentation.



Pictured from left to right are Dr. John Woodson Chapter Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century officers: Registrar Connie Corley, Treasurer Dalys Atkinson, Chaplain Charlotte Starr, Secretary Marianne Green, and Regent Gretchen Bell

Midland College

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