



# RAIDER LIFE

Royal Palm Middle School

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## Royal Palm Student Wins District and Places in Regional Spelling Bee

By Michael Sklar with Miss Parra



For the first time in Royal Palm Middle School history, a Raider has taken the school and district spelling bee. Most Mariano Ramirez became the Royal Palm Spelling Bee winner and also competed at district where he also took first place.

In talking to Mariano shortly before he was set to compete in the regional spelling bee, he said he was nervous in his spirit to how he was preparing for the bee. Mariano said, "I've been studying for more than two hours ever night" (Wow, that is dedication and a truly competitive spirit).

Mrs Farley, the coordinator and sponsor of the school spelling bee, is very excited for Mariano's accomplishments. "He can do it, he can take state. He's well prepared and a strong competitor" in helping prepare Mariano for state, Mrs Farley says she's encouraged him to make practice cards and to practice in front of a mirror to shake off stage fright.

Royal Palm is excited for Mariano, and looks forward to cheering him on to a win on March 23rd.



Far Left: Mariano Ramirez brings home 2nd place in the Regional Spelling Bee. Above: Mrs. Farley, Mariano, and Mrs. Strong celebrate Mariano's win at the WESD District Spelling Bee.

## Cheer takes 1st Place in the Fiesta Bowl Championship

By Jacqueline Hernandez with Miss Parra

On December 15, 2012 the stage at Washington High School was set for the annual Fiesta Bowl Play, Cheer, and Twirling Tournament. Royal Palm cheerleaders participated in what was the first competition experience for most of the cheerleaders and took home first place.

Although the event was high stress, Mrs Parra, coach, said most of the cheerleaders handled the pressure better than she thought they would. Mrs Pollart, coach, added that the rainy weather made everything that much more stressful, but she was so happy the girls all showed up on time and ready to compete. Both coaches agree that the girls definitely showed the best performance for the competition and they hit every note clearly.

The cheerleaders presented the trophy to Mr. Hoover the following Monday and proudly showed off their first place medals. The cheerleaders are looking forward to the State Championships on March 1st with pride and can't wait for you to bring home the grand prize.



Back Row: L to R: Vanessa R, Sheyema M, Ray T, Joaz M, Jeremiah B, Tania M, Myssa O. 3rd Row: L to R: Cheyly S, Gloria V, Lacie C, Bridgitt S, Gabby R, Angel F, Marlee W. 2nd Row: L to R: Gemma E, Waly M, Elizabeth C, Erika L, Wany B. Front Row: L to R: Brianna B, Alisa L, Sarah A.

## Baltimore Ravens upset the San Francisco 49ers in the Super Bowl

By Sydai Hendrix with Miss Parra

On February 3, 2013, the Baltimore Ravens won the Super Bowl for the second time in franchise history. Ravens Quarterback, Joe Flacco led his team in an exciting win over Colin Kaepernick and the San Francisco 49ers with a very close score of 34-31. The 49th Super Bowl was held at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans.

What makes this game so interesting is that head coaches for the Ravens and the 49ers are brothers. John and Jim Harbaugh are separated in age by just a year. One can only imagine what it must be like to go up against a sibling in the biggest game of the year. In the end, the older Harbaugh took the win and when they met up at halftime the brothers congratulated each other and wore their separate caps.

As this was already an exciting event, the audience also got an amazing, never performance from Beyonce. Her performance was so hot that the Superdome lost power during the game for over half an hour in the third quarter. Beyonce did not disappoint her fans and even added a wonderful surprise when former Diddy's child band-aid, Michelle Williams and Kelly Rowland joined her on stage.