

Charles Lewis Veliz



High school football: week 8



Del Valle has surprised some people with its play on the football field this season. Some of those responsible for the team's 6-0 record are, from left, coach Chuck Veliz, linebackers Erik Cortez and Mike Muller, running back Blake Esteban and quarterback Matt Cortez.

Del Valle turns doubters into believers



UTEP FOOTBALL ASSISTANT COACH

WIDE RECEIVERS

**CHUCK
VELIZ**

UTEP '87

First Season at UTEP
20TH Season as a Coach



COACHING EXPERIENCE

2017-Pres.: UTEP

Wide Receivers Coach

2002-16: Montwood H.S.

Head Football Coach

1998-2002: Del Valle H.S.

Head Football Coach

1992-98: Riverside H.S.

Defensive Coordinator

1988-92: Del Valle H.S.

Varsity Assistant Coach

1987-88: Bel Air H.S.

Assistant Coach



Oct. 10, 2009: Montwood head coach Chuck Veliz consoled El Dorado running back Nick Kilgore after a loss. *Times File Photo*

CHARLES LEWIS "CHUCK" VELIZ

PERSONAL PROFILE:

Full Name: Charles Lewis Veliz

Place of Birth: El Paso, Texas

Date of Birth: April 25, 1964

Elementary & Middle School: Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School; 8600 Winchester;
El Paso, Texas 79907

High School: Ysleta HS; Class of 1982; 8600 Alameda; El Paso, Texas 79907

College: UTEP 1982-1987 (Bachelor's Degree in Education; Major-History, Minor-PE)

Texas Teaching Certifications: Secondary History (6-12); Secondary Physical Education (6-12)

*Certificates Active for Life; Certificates in Good Standing

PLAYING HISTORY:

Ysleta High School (1978-1982)

-Varsity Football Starting Quarterback 1981-82

-Varsity Baseball Starting 3rd Baseman 1980-81 & 1981-82

*Two Time 1st Team All District & All City 3rd Baseman 1981 & 1982

COACHING HISTORY:

Bel Air High School (1987-88) *under Bob Savage (HOF 1993)

-JV Football & Baseball Coach

Del Valle High School (1988-1992)

-JV Football & Baseball Coach

*Won 4 consecutive Baseball District Championships

Riverside High School (1992-1997) *under Tom Work (HOF 2010)

-Offensive Coordinator (1992) / Defensive Coordinator (1993-1997)

*2 District Championships / 2 Bi-District Championships

*First football championships in school history

Del Valle High School (1998-2001)

-Head Football Coach

*Prior to Veliz' arrival, Del Valle's football record was 26-60-3 with zero playoff appearances and zero championships

*35-10 record; .778 winning percentage

*3 District Championships

*2 Bi-District Championships

*1 Area Championship (Beat Abilene in 2001)

*Sweet 16 Appearance (played DeSoto in Sun Bowl in 2001 in front of 20,000 people)

- *Coached EP Times Player of the Year (2001): Rudy Contreras
- *Coached EP Times Defensive Player of the Year (2001): Luis Contreras
- *Other Notable WINS vs out of town teams: Plainview, Lubbock Coronado
- *PLAYERS THAT WENT ON TO PLAY COLLEGE BALL:
Rudy Contreras (Sul Ross), Buddy Nunez (WNMU), Daniel Chavez (WNMU), Sergio Campos (WNMU), Steve Mascorro (NMSU), Adrian Estrada (WNMU)

Montwood High School (2002-2015)

-Head Football Coach

- *Three years prior to Veliz' arrival, Montwood's football record was 10-19 with zero playoff appearances and zero championships
- *99-53 record; .676 winning percentage
- *8 District Championships
- *5 Bi-District Championships
- *Coached EP Times Player of the Year (2004): Eddie Britton
- *Coached EP Times Player of the Year (2007): David Reza
- *Coached EP Times Offensive Player of the Year (2013): Warren Redix
- *Ended LC Mayfield's 28 game win streak in 2007 in Las Cruces, NM
- *First El Paso school to beat Odessa Permian twice
- *Only El Paso team to beat Midland Lee in the playoffs in Midland, Texas
- *Only El Paso team to beat San Angelo Central in the playoffs in San Angelo, Texas
- *Other Notable WINS vs out of town teams: Plainview, Midland High, Odessa, Las Cruces High, Las Cruces Mayfield, Lubbock Monterey, Amarillo High, Amarillo Tascosa
- *PLAYERS THAT WENT ON TO PLAY COLLEGE BALL: Julio Lopez (UTEP), Jason Donaldson (UTEP), Josh Flores (UTEP), Nathan Stukes (UTEP) Bobby Deharo (UTEP), Josh Ortega (UTEP), Jorge Rodriguez (UTEP) Mike Veliz (Sul Ross), Danny Perez (UTEP), Eddie Britton (Texas Tech) Tim Rocha (Sul Ross), Jorge Amezaga (Sul Ross), Richard Cortez (Sul Ross) Nick De La Cruz (Virginia Military), Steve Tapia (Fordham) Andrew Fernandez (Tyler JC), Tyrese Andrus (Incarnate Word), Warren Redix (UTEP)

University of Texas at El Paso (2016 & 2017) *under Sean Kugler & Mike Price

-QB & WR Coach

- NOTABLE PLAYERS COACHED: Aaron Jones (Green Bay Packers / Minnesota Vikings) Bobby Deharo (Indianapolis Colts), Mark Torrez-QB, Zack Greenly-QB, Kavika Johnson-WR

COMMUNITY WORK:

- Glazier Football Clinics: National Speaker (2006-2016)
- Southwest All Star Showcase Team (13u Coach) - 2023
- El Paso United Youth Football All Star Team (11u Coach) - 2026
- Co-Founder of Veliz Passing Academy (2019-current)
 - *First of its kind in El Paso, Texas
 - *Hosts two camps a year that draw over 100 athletes per camp
 - *TRAINEES THAT HAVE GONE ON TO COLLEGE FOOTBALL
 - Gabriel Herrera - QB (UTPB)
 - Orion Olivas - QB (Houston Christian)
 - Jalen Promesse - WR (McMurry)
 - Sebastian Ochoa - QB (McMurry)
 - Gage Guardiola - QB (NM Highlands)
 - Zach Rodriguez - QB (UTEP)
 - Chris Bustillos - QB (McMurray)
 - Ben Carney - QB (U.S. Academy-Kings Point)
 - Junior Saucedo - QB (Hastings College)
 - Ricardo Portillo - QB (Central College)
 - Chris Harris - WR (North Dakota St) -NATIONAL CHAMPION
 - DJ Crest - WR (Texas Tech)
 - Elijah Uribe - RB (Sul Ross St)
 - Devin Granados - QB (Southern Nazarene)
 - Angel "Speedy" Munoz - Ath (New Mexico State)
 - Michael Southern - QB (UTEP)
 - Jalen Partida - WR (Oklahoma-Panhandle St)
 - Jude Blanco - WR (NM Highlands)
 - Debo Perales - QB (Missouri Western)
- Member of El Paso Basketball Officials Association (2001-current)
 - *21 years as College Basketball Referee
 - *Referee of College Division II Rocky Mountain Championships
 - *Numerous Texas State Playoff games (Bi-District, Regionals, Quarterfinals, Semis)
 - *Selected to referee the State Title Basketball game in 2020 (cancelled due to Covid)
 - *Referee of State Title Basketball game in 2025 in the Alamodome (San Antonio, Tx)
- Member of El Paso Fastpitch Hall of Fame
 - *Inducted in 2019
 - *Current Vice President

ATHLETIC SUPERLATIVES:

- El Paso Times Football Coach of Year 1999 & 2001
- 134 WINS as HS Head Football Coach
- 18 overall championships as HS Head Football Coach
- Only El Paso born person to be a head football coach & coach at the Division 1 level

IMPACT ON EL PASO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS (Former Players & Assistants who have gone on to become head coaches:

Scott Veliz – Hanks Football

Rudy Contreras – Del Valle Football

Julio Lopez – Eastwood Football

Noe Robles – Americas Football

Daniel Chavez – Riverside Football

Hristo Gonzalez – Cathedral Football

Willie Romo – Montwood Baseball

Miguel Padilla – Hanks Girls Basketball

Joe Vasquez – former Gadsden Football

Gary Recoder – former Riverside & Bel Air Football

David Telas – former Horizon & El Dorado Football

Adrian Telas – former El Dorado Softball

Rich Rodriguez – former Montwood Softball



To the El Paso Hall of Fame Committee,

It is my pleasure and honor to write to you in full support of Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Hall of Fame. With his impressive record, multiple championships, and numerous program turnarounds, it is clear that he is more than deserving of this recognition. However, beyond the wins and accomplishments, the countless lives he has positively impacted should be the number one reason he is inducted.

Many sixteen-year-old student-athletes simply live day by day and enjoy their high school careers, but for me, one man changed my life forever. I attended Del Valle High School, which at the time was not known for football and had never experienced a winning season, much less championships. My sophomore season marked a turning point for the program. Coach Chuck Veliz arrived with a vision that very few believed was possible. He transformed what was once considered the laughing stock of high school football into a powerhouse.

Coach Veliz changed my teammates' lives and mine both on and off the field. He turned us into winners, not just in football, but in life. He taught us to believe in ourselves and to strive for excellence in everything we did. His impact on me was so great that my dream became to follow in his footsteps. I aspired to become the head football coach at Del Valle High School and give back to the community just as he had done.

Under Coach Veliz's leadership, we achieved our first winning record, first district championship, bi-district titles, and an area championship. While these accomplishments are remarkable, they do not compare to the positive influence he had on us as young men.

Coach Chuck Veliz is a true motivator, an inspiration, and an exceptional role model. To this day, he continues to inspire me to be a better coach and, more importantly, a better husband, son, and father. I will always be grateful for the day he entered my life as a sixteen-year-old boy and helped shape the person I am today.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rudy Contreras

Del Valle High School Head Football Coach





To the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Committee Members,

My name is Julio Lopez and I just wrapped up my 11th season as the Head Football Coach and Athletic Coordinator at Eastwood High School. I graduated from Montwood High School in 2007 and had the honor of playing for Chuck Veliz for four years from 2003-2006, as he not only revitalized the Montwood Football program but where he also cemented himself as one of the most successful head coaches in El Paso history.

Beyond his track record of success in terms of wins, championships, playoff wins, and beyond, I believe he will go down as one of the more influential coaching figures in our towns' history for how he changed the game. His offenses, the way he scheduled non-district, and his success against out of town competition all were examples of changing the way our city thought about things, and paved the way for where we are right now as a Texas High School football community. I can tell you as a player, and even now being in my role for as long as I have, Chuck Veliz is one of the greatest motivators I have had the pleasure of being around. Year in and year out, his programs were in the hunt for championships and always known as one of the premier programs in town under his leadership. A lot of people just think that Montwood Football was always known for that, however I can tell you as a young man that went through that feeder and grew up in the community, the program was stale and very mediocre prior to Coach Veliz coming along and injecting life into it. When you think of the best coaches that have ever roamed the sidelines in El Paso (most of which are already in the hall of fame), it's impossible to have that conversation without mentioning Coach Veliz and his tenures at Del Valle and Montwood. In addition to changing the way we did things in El Paso, I believe he was instrumental in what the rest of the state thought of us as well. I believe he was one of the few coaches you could really point to that changed the perception of what El Paso football is and how we are viewed by those out of town with his success and the way he challenged the status quo. I am forever grateful that I was able to play for him and I believe he is more than worthy of being honored as one of the best coaches in El Paso history.

Sincerely,

Julio Lopez

**Letter of Support for Coach Charles ‘Chuck’ Veliz
El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame**

To the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

It is my honor to write this letter in full support of Coach Chuck Veliz’s nomination for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. As a former player of Coach Veliz—and now a head coach myself—I can say without hesitation that his influence helped shape not only the athlete I became, but the leader and man I am today.

Coach Veliz dedicated his career to building programs that were rooted in discipline, accountability, and pride. He demanded excellence, but more importantly, he taught us how to pursue excellence with integrity. Under his leadership, football was never just about the game; it was about preparing young men for life. Whether we were winning on Friday night or grinding through a difficult practice, Coach Veliz never let us forget the value of hard work, resilience, and character.

What stands out most about Coach Veliz is his unwavering commitment to the young people of El Paso. He poured countless hours into his players, making sure we succeeded not only on the field, but in the classroom and in our lives beyond high school. He believed in us before many of us learned to believe in ourselves. That type of mentorship is rare, and it stays with you forever.

Now, as a head coach, I find myself echoing lessons I learned from him—lessons about leadership, toughness, and doing things “the right way.” The example he set continues to guide me, and I know I am only one of many former players who carries his influence into the work we do today.

Coach Veliz’s legacy is deeply woven into the fabric of El Paso athletics. His impact reaches far beyond wins and losses; it lives in the generations of student-athletes he helped mold, the programs he strengthened, and the community he uplifted. He is the kind of coach who leaves a mark not just on a school, but on a city.

For these reasons and many more, I strongly and proudly recommend Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. He is deeply deserving of this recognition, not only for his accomplishments as a coach, but for the lasting impact he has had on countless lives—including mine.

Respectfully,
Former Player at Del Valle High School

Guillermo “Willie” Romo

Current Head Baseball Coach Montwood High School

Chucks Letter

From Daniel S. Chavez <dchavez59@yisd.net>

Date Thu 1/29/2026 6:41 PM

To William Veliz <wveliz1@yisd.net>

Good afternoon Members of the Selection Panel,

I am writing to formally and wholeheartedly recommend my former coach, Chuck Veliz, for induction into the El Paso Football Hall of Fame.

Coach Veliz had a profound impact on my life, both on and off the field. I had the privilege of playing for him at Del Valle High School from 1999 to 2001, during one of the most historic and successful periods in the program's history. Under his leadership, our team achieved a milestone that had never been reached before advancing to the Texas High School Playoffs Sweet Sixteen. That run not only put Del Valle football on the map, but it also set a new standard for what our program believed was possible.

Beyond wins and accomplishments, Coach Veliz inspired his players to play for something greater than themselves. He instilled pride in representing our school, accountability to our teammates, and loyalty to the program. His influence extended far beyond the players on the field; he challenged coaches around him to grow, improve, and be better leaders than they ever thought they could be.

The lessons Coach Veliz taught me during those years directly influenced my decision to pursue the same path he modeled—one rooted in leadership, discipline, and service to young athletes. His legacy is evident not only in the victories he achieved, but in the countless lives he shaped through football.

For his historic success at Del Valle, his lasting impact on players and coaches, and his contributions to football in the El Paso community, I strongly believe Coach Chuck Veliz is more than deserving of recognition in the El Paso Football Hall of Fame.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Daniel Chavez

Riverside HS Head FB Coach

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El Paso athletic Hall of Fame induction

From Tom Work <twork42@gmail.com>

Date Mon 2/2/2026 11:53 AM

To William Veliz <wveliz1@yisd.net>

You don't often get email from twork42@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame members;

My name is Tom Work and I was honored to be inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010. I am hoping to pay it forward by nominating Coach Chuck Veliz, a former colleague, competitor, and friend of 35 years. I feel that Coach Veliz is the embodiment of what this esteemed group of individuals is all about, and I am honored to nominate him to our prestigious organization.

I was the head football coach at Riverside High School from 1992 to 2006, a period of unprecedented success for our football program, resulting in nine District, 10 Bi-district, and two Area Championships, at a school that in its previous 20 years of existence had not won a single football championship at the varsity level. Chuck Veliz was the first coach I hired in 1992, and I was thrilled that he agreed to join our program. Chuck had been an assistant coach at Del Valle High School, where he achieved great success at both the JV and varsity level. I knew acquiring his services was critical for us to achieve the lofty goals I had set forth for our program. Chuck's contribution to our success was immeasurable. I never worked with a better coach during my 31 year career or a coach who had a greater impact on the student athletes he cared for..

I hired Chuck Veliz as our offensive coordinator in 1992; but being an offensive minded head coach, I knew we needed a brilliant coach on defense, so the following year I asked Chuck if he would be willing to take over our defense. Chuck selflessly agreed and spent the next five years molding our defense into the top unit in the city, including one year as a top-ranked defense in the entire state. Chuck's ability to relate to our players was unmatched and, to a man, our kids would run through a wall for Coach Veliz. To this day, I hear former players bragging on social media about their days as part of Coach Veliz' Orange Swarm Defense, and the pride they had in that unit was unmatched. I do not know anyone during my 30 year coaching career that impacted more lives than Chuck Veliz. He loved his players, and they loved him equally, and looked up to him as a role model for success. Chuck had an uncanny ability to relate to our players, having grown up in the Riverside attendance area. His charisma, sense of humor, and positivity definitely rubbed off on our kids, and everyone enjoyed being around him. It was a fun time to be a Riverside Ranger. Chuck made sure of that!!

Chuck left Riverside in 1998 to become the Head Football Coach at Del Valle High School, where he achieved immediate success. He followed that up with another successful stint as Head Football Coach at Montwood High School. He moved on to the college ranks and coached receivers at UTEP for

two years, following his high school career. At each stop he worked his magic and brought unprecedented success to his teams, his players, and the entire communities he served. Chuck Veliz is widely known as one of the most innovative and creative football minds In the game. To me, more important than that is the fact that he is a man of faith and a devoted family man, who preaches character and walks the talk.

I was blessed to witness firsthand the impact that a great coach can have on kids, and his ability to improve their lives. The 1990s was a great time to be in the lower valley and the Riverside High School community. The positivity that emerged in this proud neighborhood was something special, and Chuck played a large part in helping to lay the foundation for that. As a man that received many blessings during a long, joyful career, having Chuck Veliz to work side-by-side with as I got my head coaching career started was one of the best ones for sure. I wholeheartedly endorse him for the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame, and I believe that he is definitely worthy of this esteemed honor. Thank you for your consideration for my friend Chuck Veliz.

Respectfully yours,

Tom Work

Dear Members of the Nomination Committee,

I am writing to formally endorse the nomination of Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. Throughout his career, Coach Veliz has consistently demonstrated exceptional athletic skill, unwavering sportsmanship, and a deep commitment to the values of this organization. His achievements both on and off the field have inspired fellow athletes and contributed greatly to the El Paso community.

Chuck took over the 0-10 football program at Del Valle High School in 1998 and not only turned the program around but took the team to the Sweet 16 Texas state championship game in 2001. His overall record was 35-10 including 3 District Titles, 2 Bi-District Titles, 1 Area Championship and the Sweet 16 appearance.

I can speak more frankly about his time at Montwood High School during my years as principal. Regarding the football program, once again he took over a fairly unsuccessful program that most schools on the schedule chose as their homecoming game into a team that won 8 District titles and 5 Bi-District titles.

Chuck is one of those rare coaches who can coach just about any team in any sport to success because of his deep understanding, not only of the sport, but of the athletes themselves. An example would be the year at Montwood when we had no coach for the girls' Junior Varsity softball team. Coach Veliz stepped up and took on the job even though the season overlapped our Spring football. The team went undefeated that season! Those girls benefited in a way that they never would have if he had not taken over.

While at Montwood, in addition to his athletic accomplishments, his assistance to me during the time Montwood was the District Executive Committee chair was invaluable, and I will be forever in his debt. He also dedicated time to mentoring younger athletes, spending time with the feeder school programs and initiating charitable initiatives, further exemplifying his impact beyond competition. He has always led by example, motivating others to strive for excellence.

During his career, Chuck worked with some of the legendary coaches in El Paso, many of whom are in the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame themselves, including Bob Savage and Tom Work. Thirteen of his coaching assistants have gone on to be successful head coaches in their own right, not only in football, but also in baseball, softball, and basketball. He has also served as a basketball referee and as an assistant to Coach Sean Kugler at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Coach Veliz deserves this honor, and I respectfully urge the committee to consider his outstanding legacy for induction into the Hall of Fame. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Juni Mathews

5347 Santa Teresa
El Paso, Texas 79932

(915) 241-8668
jmath58046@aol.com



J.M. HANKS HIGH SCHOOL

J.M. Hanks High School

2001 Lee Trevino Dr. • El Paso, Texas 79935 • 915-434-5000

Dear Hall of Fame Committee,

I write to you in strong support of the induction of Coach Charles Lewis Veliz, known to many as “Chuck,” into the El Paso Hall of Fame. My name is Miguel Padilla, and I am currently the Head Coach for Girls Basketball at Hanks High School. Before becoming a head coach, I was a student athlete at Del Valle High School from 1990–1993, where I played football and wrestled. It was during that time that I first met Coach Veliz and came to appreciate the profound and lasting influence he would have on my life and on so many young people in our community.

I have known Coach Veliz for more than three decades, initially as my coach and later as a mentor whose lessons have shaped my approach to coaching and to life. In my years leading teams, I have learned many technical and tactical elements of coaching, but none more important than what I learned from Coach Veliz about the human side of our work. Coach Veliz taught me that coaching is far more than X’s and O’s; it is about building relationships, investing in players as people, and creating something meaningful that endures beyond the playing field.

Coach Veliz served as more than a coach to us—he was a father figure, a motivator, and our most steadfast supporter. I still remember his refrain during my freshman year: “Trust the process, fellas.” At the time, the phrase felt like a simple instruction; over the years it revealed itself to be a guide to character. Through his words and his example, Coach Veliz instilled respect, responsibility, discipline, and accountability. He emphasized the importance of showing up, doing the work, and holding one another to high standards. Those lessons helped shape us into young men and productive members of society.

Coach Veliz’s impact was not limited to pep talks. He consistently demonstrated patience, fairness, and dedication. He celebrated our successes, corrected us when we strayed, and always made it clear that his expectation was for us to grow as athletes and as people. The culture he built at Del Valle prioritized teamwork, humility, and perseverance—qualities that many of his former players carry into their families, careers, and communities today. His consistent, high integrity leadership produced results on the field and, more importantly, produced men of character off the field.

In my professional experience as a coach, I have seen many mentors work to develop athletes’ skills; few have matched Coach Veliz’s ability to develop character alongside performance. He had a gift for connecting with students from different backgrounds and for helping each individual see their potential. That talent for mentorship is precisely the kind of contribution the El Paso Hall of Fame honors: sustained excellence, positive community impact, and the shaping of future generations.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the El Paso Hall of Fame Committee consider inducting Coach Charles Lewis Veliz. His influence on my life—and on the lives of countless others—represents the highest ideals of coaching and community leadership. Inducting Coach Veliz would not only recognize his past accomplishments but would also celebrate the enduring legacy he has gifted to Del Valle High School and the broader El Paso community.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration. I am confident that Coach Veliz’s character, service, and lifelong commitment to young people make him a worthy and deserving candidate for the El Paso Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Miguel Padilla

Email: mpadilla15@visd.net (915) 929-3251 cell

Health Teacher/ Head Coach Girls Basketball Hanks High School

To the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

I am writing to nominate Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. Coach Veliz was my high school football coach at Montwood High School, where he established himself as one of the most winningest and respected high school football coaches in El Paso. His success on the field was a direct result of the discipline, accountability, and high standards he demanded from his program.

Coach Veliz played a pivotal role in my development as both an athlete and a person. Under his leadership at Montwood, I gained the foundation necessary to compete at the next level. Because of his coaching and belief in me, I went on to have a successful college football career at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). During that time, I also had the opportunity to participate in a camp with the Indianapolis Colts, an experience that further validated the level of preparation and guidance Coach Veliz had provided me early in my career.

What makes Coach Veliz's impact truly special is that his mentorship did not stop after high school. He continued to mentor me at UTEP, this time as a coach, helping shape my understanding of leadership, preparation, and accountability at the collegiate level. His influence remained constant as I transitioned from player to coach, and those lessons continue to guide me today.

Coach Veliz's legacy goes far beyond wins and championships. He has helped countless athletes earn college opportunities and has positively impacted generations of young men through football, education, and character development. His commitment to excellence and to the El Paso community is unquestionable.

Inducting Coach Chuck Veliz into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame would be a well deserved recognition of his achievements, leadership, and lasting influence on El Paso football.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Bobby DeHaro



AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL TRAILBLAZERS



To the High School Football Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

It is with the utmost respect and pride that I nominate Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. Coach Veliz has long been one of the most influential and respected football minds in El Paso, Texas, and his decades of service to the game have shaped countless players, coaches, and programs across our region.

Throughout his career, Coach Veliz served with distinction at Riverside High School, Del Valle High School, Montwood High School, and later at the University of Texas at El Paso. At every stop, he brought with him an innovative, offensive-minded approach that consistently elevated the performance of his teams and set new standards for preparation, creativity, and execution. His ability to design dynamic offenses, maximize talent, and strategically attack opponents made him one of the most forward-thinking coaches in the area long before such concepts became commonplace.

Beyond his football intellect, Coach Veliz has been a mentor of rare quality. On a personal level, he profoundly shaped my own coaching journey. His influence helped guide me from assistant to head coach and athletic coordinator at Americas High School, and the lessons I learned under him continue to guide every decision I make. He taught me the foundations of building a positive team culture, developing a cohesive coaching staff, and ensuring that every athlete—regardless of skill level—receives thoughtful evaluation and opportunities for growth.

Coach Veliz also instilled in me the importance of diligence, competitiveness, and integrity in every aspect of our work. His example showed me how to lead with both high expectations and genuine care. Through film study, game-planning sessions, player development meetings, and everyday interactions, he demonstrated what it means to be a complete coach—one who prepares thoroughly, competes relentlessly, and invests wholeheartedly in people. Few individuals have had such a far-reaching and sustained impact on high school football in El Paso. Coach Veliz's legacy is visible not only in the programs he led, but in the coaches he developed, the athletes he inspired, and the standards he set for the generations who follow.

For these reasons, I strongly and wholeheartedly endorse Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. His contributions to the sport and the community are enduring, deeply meaningful, and unquestionably deserving of this honor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Noe Robles

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noe Robles', written over a horizontal line.

Head Football Coach & Athletic Coordinator
Americas High School





CHUCK VELIZ

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH/ATHLETIC COORDINATOR
DEL VALLE 1998-2001 & MONTWOOD 2002-2015
UTEP 2016-2017 WR/QB'S COACH

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AT THE EL PASO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME,
In 18 years as a head coach, Chuck Veliz earned:

- A 134-63 overall record with a 68% winning percentage
- 1 Area, 7 Bi-District, & 10 District Championships
- 15 Playoff Appearances with 8 wins
- 2 El Paso Times Coach of the Year Awards

I played quarterback for Coach Chuck Veliz in 2007 at Montwood High School. As a freshman he would tell you, "The three hardest jobs in the world are an Astronaut, a Brain Surgeon, and Playing QB for me. But if you do, you can achieve anything you want in your life." It was difficult, but it forced me develop a very thick skin, and gave me ability to think critically to problem solve under pressure.

I was the first of a string of four consecutive senior starting QB's at Montwood High School from 2007-2010. It is something that I don't think will ever be seen again. Players were not looking to go to other schools for a chance at multiple years of starting on varsity. The reason for that was Coach Chuck Veliz. If you played football in El Paso at that time, you know there was one coach who was schematically and tactically ahead of the rest on both sides of the ball. The confidence he gave us as players knowing we had the schematic advantage going into each game was instrumental in our success as a team. He was an innovator. Offensively, no one in town was doing the things we were doing through the air. In our district in 2007, outside of Hanks, no team was within 2000 passing yards of us. Even Hanks, who had 55 more passing attempts than us, were not even within 1000 passing yards of us. Defensively, I went through El Paso City Records. We are talking Single Game: Passing yards, Passing TD's, Receiving yards, Receptions, Receiving TD's, Rushing yards, and Rushing TD's. There are hundreds of those big games in El Paso history, and not a single one was accomplished on one of his defenses. Every Friday night, he was able to call both sides of the ball at an extremely high level. Now, a coach myself, I have the ultimate respect for how difficult that is, year in year out, and win like he did. Truly remarkable.

Finally, in my time at Montwood, I saw Coach Veliz save a lot of young men with his football program. He saved me from making a big mistake in the summer after my freshman year. I tried to quit football to go straight basketball. He talked me out of it that day, and I'm thankful he did, I would have never been El Paso Times All City MVP, and may have never found my calling as a football coach. I am now the Offensive Coordinator / Assistant Head Coach at Hanks High School under his brother, and my coaching mentor, Scott Veliz. A lot of that has to do with the foundation of football knowledge I learned while playing for Coach Chuck Veliz. The same can be said for some of the top programs in the city. Julio Lopez at Eastwood who played receiver for him a year before me, Rudy Contreras at Del Valle who played QB for him, Daniel Chavez at Riverside who played Offensive Line for him, and Scott Veliz at Hanks who is his brother and coached with him at Riverside High School. In the near future, I hope to add to this list of prominent programs in the city influenced by Coach Chuck Veliz when I become a head coach myself.

It is for all of these reasons, that I believe, Coach Chuck Veliz should be inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

David Reza
Offensive Coordinator Hanks

CONTACT

David Reza

@ Coach_Reza12

📞 (915)-494-2771

🌐 dreza6@yisd.net

Offensive Coordinator

Hanks HS



El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame

President Ray Adauto



To the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

It is both an honor and a privilege to offer my strongest support for the induction of Coach Chuck Veliz into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

Coach Veliz played a defining role in my life and in the lives of countless young men across our community. He began his coaching career as an assistant at Riverside High School before earning head coaching opportunities where he built disciplined, competitive, and consistently successful programs. He was a winner at more than one school, yet he always carried himself as a servant leader. No matter the success, he credited his assistant coaches and his players. It was never about him.

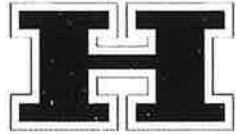
I had the opportunity to play for Coach Veliz during my senior year. Late that season, I suffered a significant shoulder injury. It was my final year, and I was determined to play through it. Coach Veliz pulled me aside and told me something that has stayed with me for more than three decades. As much as he wanted me to compete, my long-term health mattered more than any game. Nothing, he said, was worth that kind of risk.

In that moment, I understood who he truly was. He did not see me as a position on a depth chart. He saw me as a young man with a future. He was willing to sacrifice a competitive advantage to protect one of his players. That decision taught me more about leadership than any speech ever could.

During my time under his guidance, I earned All District honors. Yet he constantly reminded me to stay humble and keep working. Recognition meant nothing without discipline and team commitment. He treated every player the same. Starters, backups, and role players alike were expected to work, were valued, and were part of the team. He created a culture where every athlete felt they belonged.

I came from a challenging upbringing and could have easily gone in the wrong direction. Coach Veliz kept me focused on my grades, on college, and on building a future beyond football. He held us accountable while making sure we knew he cared.

Even years after graduation, whenever I saw him, he remembered my name, my position, and even my son's name. That kind of investment is not accidental. It reflects a coach who never stopped caring about the young men he mentored.



Today, I am a coach myself. The standards I hold my athletes to such as humility, discipline, accountability, and teamwork are standards I learned from Coach Veliz. My players benefit every day from lessons he taught me in 1993. That is the true measure of legacy.

Coach Veliz won games. He built programs. But more importantly, he built men. His impact continues to ripple through generations because those he coached now lead others. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly and without reservation support Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. He is more than deserving of this honor.

Respectfully,

Gabriel Luera

Hank's Football - Defensive Coordinator



To the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

It is both an honor and a personal privilege to write this letter in strong support of Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

Coach Veliz served as the Defensive Coordinator for the Riverside Rangers during my junior and senior years of high school. Under his leadership, I developed not only as a football player, but as a young man learning what discipline, accountability, and belief truly mean.

Coach Veliz had a rare ability to see potential in his athletes before we saw it in ourselves. He pushed us beyond what we thought were our limits. He demanded excellence, not just in physical performance, but in preparation, focus, and mental toughness. His defensive schemes were disciplined and strategic, but more importantly, his leadership philosophy was transformational.

There were moments as a young athlete when the stage felt too big, the pressure too heavy. In those moments, Coach Veliz was steady. He taught me that hard work and dedication eliminate doubt. He instilled in me the confidence to believe that I could compete with anyone in the region. Because of his mentorship, I became one of the top players in our area but more importantly, I learned how to carry myself with resilience and grit.

The lessons he taught did not end on Friday nights under the lights.

Today, as President of the Ysleta Independent School District Board of Trustees and as a business professional serving major regional construction projects, I still lean on the principles Coach Veliz instilled in me: preparation, accountability, composure under pressure, and belief in your team. His influence shaped my leadership style. His impact extended far beyond the football field.

Coach Veliz built more than defensive units he built character. He built confidence. He built men who would go on to serve their families, their businesses, and their communities.

The El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes excellence in athletics, but it also honors legacy. Coach Veliz's legacy lives in the countless athletes he mentored who continue to lead in their professions and communities today. I am proud to be one of them.

For his impact on the game, for his commitment to developing young men, and for the lasting imprint he has left on our community, I strongly and wholeheartedly recommend Coach Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

Respectfully,

Carlos "Charlie" Bustillos
President, Ysleta Independent School District Board of Trustees
Riverside High School Class of '94

Letter of Recommendation for Chuck Veliz from Armenia Smith

1390 Leeward Dr.,

Rockwall, Texas 75087

Cell phone: 214 403 2920

February 15, 2026

Dear Esteemed Selection Committee,

It is my distinct honor and unqualified pleasure to recommend Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. I have had the privilege of knowing Chuck for 27 years, during which I saw firsthand his extraordinary athletic prowess, unparalleled dedication, and exemplary character.

Chuck Veliz's athletic career in El Paso was simply remarkable. He consistently proved a level of skill and commitment that set him apart. Veliz, who played quarterback in high school at Ysleta (1982), was an assistant coach at Riverside and Bel Air before his promotion to head coach at Del Valle in 1998. As the principal, it was extremely exciting to hire such an incredible head football coach.

He proved that Del Valle's football team was ready for district and post district play. In 1998, Del Valle won their first district championship. In 2000, Del Valle played their last game (Area) Thanksgiving Break in Midland. Even though we lost, it was amazing to be on the sidelines and watch Del Valle High School be an extraordinarily strong, well coached competitor. His 2000 team went 11-1. That year Chuck was the El Paso Coach of the Year!

Mr. Veliz coached his last season at Del Valle in 2001 before taking the Montwood job in 2002. He had eleven winning seasons at Montwood. I was the principal at Eastwood High when he retired. Eastwood's head football coach was Julio Lopez, a former player for the RAMS. Mr. Veliz recommended Julio for the Eastwood job. As written in the El Paso Times when Chuck accepted the UTEP job: "I would have run through a wall for him,"

said current Eastwood coach and former Rams player Julio Lopez. "I've been fortunate to have been around great coaches in my career and Chuck is one of them. He did a great deal in his career."

Beyond the statistics and accolades, Chuck Veliz is a true leader and mentor to his coaches and players. He has incredible work ethic, always pushing himself and those around him to achieve greatness. Before each game he told the team to work hard and bring pride to themselves, family, school, community, and El Paso. Even after a tough loss, he was always the first to congratulate the opposing team and encourage the team to learn from the experience.

Furthermore, Chuck Veliz's impact extended far beyond the playing field. He was an excellent Social Studies teacher. He was a willing cheerleader at assemblies to promote school spirit for all sports. He also consistently proved strong moral character, sportsmanship, and humility, serving as an outstanding role model for teachers and students. He is a good son, brother, husband, and father. Chuck inspired twelve coaches in El Paso County- from Scott Veliz at Hanks to Julio Lopez at Eastwood High School.

In conclusion, Chuck Veliz, coupled with his dedication to high school football and with his outstanding leadership and character, makes him an incredibly deserving candidate for El Paso's Athletic Hall of Fame. His legacy continues to inspire, and he would undoubtedly be a distinguished addition to this esteemed group of athletes.

Thank you for considering Chuck Veliz for this prestigious honor. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Armenia Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Armenia Smith

(Principal Del Valle High School 1997-2000 and Eastwood High School 2011-2017)



Garland Independent School District
Office of Superintendent

Dear Members of the El Paso Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

My name is Ricardo Lopez, Superintendent of Garland ISD and a proud El Pasoan. It is with the highest level of respect and enthusiasm that I submit this letter of recommendation in support of Chuck Veliz for induction into the El Paso Hall of Fame. Coach Veliz's career represents not only sustained excellence on the football field but also a groundbreaking legacy of leadership, representation, and opportunity for Hispanic coaches across Texas.

Street Address

Harris Hill Administration Building
501 S. Jupiter Rd.
Garland, TX
75042

Phone

972-487-3023

FAX

972-485-4936

Coach Veliz is one of the trailblazers among Hispanic head football coaches at a time when leadership opportunities at the highest levels of Texas high school football were limited and often inaccessible. Through competitive success, professionalism, and integrity, he broke long-standing barriers, proving that Hispanic coaches could not only lead programs but also build champions. His success opened doors statewide and reshaped perceptions, inspiring countless young coaches who saw in him a path that had previously seemed unattainable.

Nowhere was his impact more immediate and transformative than at Del Valle High School. When Chuck Veliz took over the program, Del Valle was not regarded as a regional power. Under his leadership, the Conquistadores were completely redefined. He installed a culture of discipline, accountability, and belief that elevated the program to one of the most competitive teams in the area. His teams consistently competed deep into the postseason, most notably guiding Del Valle to the Sweet 16, firmly establishing the school as a legitimate contender on the statewide stage and demonstrating to the state that El Paso football had arrived.

From 1998 to 2002, Coach Veliz compiled an outstanding 35-10 record, highlighted by an 11-1 season and recognition as El Paso Times Coach of the Year. More than wins, his Del Valle teams were known for toughness, preparation, and confidence; all hallmarks of a program that expected to compete with anyone, anywhere. That transformation set a new standard for the school and left a foundation that endured long after his departure.

Coach Veliz continued his legacy at Montwood High School, where, over 14 seasons as head coach and athletic coordinator, he led the Rams to 11 winning seasons, numerous playoff appearances, and district championships. His teams were consistently among the most disciplined and competitive in West Texas, and he amassed 134 career wins, placing him among the most successful coaches in the region's history.

Beyond the field, Chuck Veliz's influence is measured in lives changed. He mentored generations of student-athletes, many of whom went on to play college football, and all of whom benefited from his emphasis on education, character, and responsibility. His service

extended beyond school campuses through community involvement and youth football camps, ensuring his impact reached far beyond Friday nights. Most notably, he was a great teacher. I experienced the same passion and attention to detail in teaching that he brought to coaching, as his student teacher at Riverside High School. His impact is still with me today, and I am forever grateful for his mentorship and tutelage.

Chuck Veliz is not only a winning coach but also a pioneer, program builder, and role model whose career has altered the landscape for Hispanic coaches throughout Texas. His induction into the El Paso Hall of Fame would honor not just his achievements, but the doors he opened and the standard he set. He was the one that kicked the door down to allow so many to benefit today, not only in El Paso but in powerhouse places like Dallas, Houston, and Austin.

One of El Paso's strengths is always honoring pioneers and ensuring our city never forgets. I trust the committee recognizes Chuck Veliz as a statewide trailblazer to be inducted into the El Paso Hall of Fame.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ricardo López", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ricardo López
Superintendent of Schools
Garland ISD
C- 915-929-3714

Coach Veliz

From: Sean Kugler (skugler@o-linepride.com)

To: sunkings03@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 04:46 PM MST

To whom it may concern,

Chuck Veliz it's a very dedicated and hard-working coach. This was on display on a daily basis when he was the wide receiver coach at Utep for me . He did a great job with the players on and off the field, and did a great job coaching and recruiting. His work in high school is worthy alone for him to be in the Hall of Fame, he would have my vote in a heartbeat. Sean Kugler.

Texas Educator Certificate

This certifies that

Charles L Veliz

*has fulfilled requirements of state law and regulations of the
State Board for Educator Certification
and is hereby authorized to perform duties as designated below:*

PROVISIONAL

Description	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Status
Secondary History Grades (6-12)	12/09/1987	Life	<u>Valid</u>
Secondary Physical Education Grades (6-12)	12/09/1987	Life	<u>Valid</u>

**Official Record of Certification
Thursday, January 29, 2026**

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