

# New Mexico Activities Association

## Student-Athlete Spotlight



Presented by Subway



### Perez is prepared to see his Name in Lights

By Tyler Dunkel, NMAA Sports Information Director

"They say the neon lights are bright on Broadway. They say there's always magic in the air." These were lyrics sung by singer George Benson in the song "On Broadway" and, for Santa Fe High School senior Jordan Perez, he hopes that one day his name will be in lights on that famous street.

Perez, a former football player, is a member of the Santa Fe High Mixed Choir, something he was thrown into as a freshman.

"My freshman year, I was enrolled in a class called Intro to Construction. For some reason, I was switched into choir class. I was really confused about how I even got into that class because I had never sang in my life and didn't consider myself a good singer at all."

He continued by saying, "Crazy, though, how things work out. I was tenor leader my sophomore year and over the last four years, I have really become passionate about singing. I was also introduced to theater during that time and have enjoyed being a part of a few productions as well."

Perez's singing career took off from there. He had some experience with singing, only because he was required to take choir class in middle school but says it has been a great experience.

"Like all my classmates, I had to take choir in middle school. It was required and I honestly didn't take it too seriously. But, as fate would have it, I was somehow thrown into the mix and have enjoyed every moment."

In fact, Perez wasn't even sure he could carry a tune but was surprised to find out that he may actually have the ability to sing.

"I was surprised in my ability to sing. I thought, 'No way I can do this.' I wanted to fit in, so I sat right next to one of the seniors and tried to match pitch with him the whole time."

In all his dreams of high school, Perez thought he would play sports, like he always had growing up. He thought he would be a member of the Demons' football and basketball teams.

"I thought when I entered high school that I would continue to play football and basketball but choir really struck a cord. Now that I'm serious about singing, I want to pursue singing in college."

Perez also says this path has made him a better person.

"I feel that being in choir has transformed me into a better person. Before, I was just friends with the jocks. Now I have broadened my friendship base and the people I associate



with. It has really made me a more outgoing person.”

He continued by saying, “If I would have continued with sports, I probably wouldn’t have received a scholarship. This journey has made me a more well-rounded person for sure. It has opened up more doors than I could have imagined.”

Perez plans to continue his singing career in college and hopes to one day be on Broadway, singing and acting.

“I had an audition for the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in Los Angeles. I waiting for them to call me back. I’ve been accepted to CSU-Pueblo and Metro State in Denver. I’m hoping to get into AMDA but if not then I will attend CSU-Pueblo next fall, study music and join the choir. After college, I want to perform on Broadway someday.”