

00:00

Music

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So the biggest thing that motivates me and actually gets me to get up in the

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morning is, who can I put a smile on today. I've gone to really difficult

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times in my life to where I couldn't smile, so I made other people smile and that

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made my day and it made my problems just vanish, so that would be what drives me.

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Gil is about the team and about the group and about, you know, the the community's success

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it's not about him, it's about everybody else being successful and that's really

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uncommon for a young man who was essentially homeless halfway through the

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sophomore year. You know after he was homeless he connected with people, found

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a way to live with some friends and he's accelerated his entire existence. He's

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now a straight-a student, he's a leader in so many different areas, he's simply

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taking charge of his life. So Gil is one of my top three stem standouts and I

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hope that I'm able to follow Gil through his college career at the Mexico Tech.

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He has skill sets in the electronics, mechanical engineering, computer science

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and if anybody needed any help with any of that he was more than happy to take

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his time and spend it with them. We're very proud of Gilbert for all that he's

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done to represent our school. His involvement in ROTC has not just been

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within the program itself, but he takes every opportunity to represent West Mesa

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high school and Albuquerque public schools. And it's I've been doing this

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job 20 years and he's one of the finest young men I've been privileged to teach

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in my 20 years in this job. So whenever I go and help veterans, it

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makes me feel like I'm doing my part and I'm helping people who helped us.