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HOUSTON CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Paper: HOUSTON CHRONICLE**Date:** THU 12/29/1994**Section:** A**Page:** 29**Edition:** 2 STAR**Gang member gets 28 years in drive-by shooting**By JENNIFER LIEBRUM
Staff

A southwest Houston gang member nicknamed "Goofy" was sentenced to 28 years in prison Wednesday for killing a teen-age girl and wounding her friend after the pair were caught in a drive-by shooting.

Rani Goodgame, 18, and her friend Jessica Uvalle, 14, had gone to a house in the 6400 block of Grapevine on Oct. 2, 1993, to drop off a pager when Fidel Marquez Jr., 18, drove by with friends.

Prosecutor Denise Nassar said the girls were victims of a simmering feud among members of a gang called La Raza 13.

After seeing his daughter's killer led away Wednesday, Kenneth Goodgame said Marquez's prison sentence was not enough.

"I don't have a daughter. I think these guys ought to spend the rest of their lives in jail," he said, tears streaming down his face. "I don't know what you have to do to them to make them realize that they are taking away people's lives, affecting families for the rest of their lives."

The fatal feud started back in Dec. 30, 1992, when Hector Gomez, 19, and his fellow gang members armed themselves with bats, guns and knives to fight with another gang known as the Hiram Clark Mexicans, Nassar said.

Though Gomez was an official of rank in his gang, its leaders turned on him for some reason for killing Carlos Martinez, 16, during that encounter.

Records show that some members were planning to testify against Gomez, so he split off with Marquez and began plotting to take over the gang himself.

The result was a series drive-by shootings, Nassar said.

Rani Goodgame and her friend apparently went to a party that was being held by La Raza's leaders.

On that same evening, Gomez and Martinez' houses were shot up while they were attending another party. When Gomez and Martinez learned of this, they assumed that La Raza gang members attending the other party were to blame, Nassar said.

The girls were outside the La Raza party when the shooting started.

Though Gomez fled to Mexico shortly after the incident, he soon returned and was captured during one of his visits to a girlfriend.

In August, Gomez pleaded no contest to two counts of murder, one count of attempted capital murder

and one count of burglary of a motor vehicle.

State District Judge Mike Wilkinson sentenced him to 45 years.

Marquez later confessed to his role in the crime and pleaded guilty to murder and attempted capital murder.

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