

# El Editor

"El Respeto al Derecho  
Ajeno es la Paz"  
Lic Benito Juarez

Casualties of  
War in Iraq  
3,357  
as of Feb 07,  
2007

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## Klan Rebounds with New Focus on Immigration

The Ku Klux Klan, which just a few years ago seemed static or even moribund compared to other white supremacist movements such as neo-Nazis, experienced "a surprising and troubling resurgence" during the past year due to the successful exploitation of hot-button issues including immigration, gay marriage and urban crime, according to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

The League, which monitors the activities of racist hate groups and reports its findings to law enforcement and policymakers, has documented a noticeable spike in activity by Klan chapters across the country. The KKK believes that the U.S. is "drowning" in a tide of non-white immigration, controlled and orchestrated by Jews, and is vigorously trying to bring this message to Americans concerned or fearful about immigration.

"If any one single issue or trend can be credited with re-energizing the Klan, it is the debate over immigration in America," said Deborah A. Lauter, ADL Civil Rights Director. "Klan groups have witnessed a surprising and troubling resurgence by exploiting fears of an immigration explosion, and the debate over immigration has in turned helped to fuel an increase in Klan activity, with new groups sprouting in parts of the country that have not seen much activity."

The full ADL report, including a slide show of recent Klan meetings and rallies and a state-by-state listing of active Klan chapters, or "Klaverns," across the country, is available on the League's Web site at [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org).

ADL has identified the following states as being notable for active or growing Klan chapters:

SOUTH: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas MID-WEST: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio GREAT PLAINS: Iowa and Nebraska MID-ATLANTIC: Maryland,

New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia The troubling Klan resurgence has manifested itself in a number of ways: -- Longstanding groups have increased their activity and experienced a rapid expansion in size. -- New groups have appeared, causing racial tensions in communities previously untroubled by racial issues. They hold anti-immigration rallies and recruitment drives and distribute racist literature with a new emphasis on the immigration issue, and Hispanics. -- Klan groups have become more active in parts of the country that had not seen much activity in recent years, including the Great Plains States such as Iowa and Nebraska, and Mid-Atlantic states such as Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. -- Klan groups increasingly are cooperating with neo-Nazi groups, especially the Minnesota-based National Socialist Movement. -- The Klan has adopted new publicity tricks, such as sending racist fliers to school teachers during Black History Month, and has embraced the Internet as a means to spread anti-Semitism and racism. One group, the Empire Knights of the KKK, runs an Internet-based radio station, dubbed "KKK Radio," which broadcasts white

power music and racist and anti-Semitic propaganda. Reinventing the Klan

"Although some Klansmen may still hold cross-burnings dressed in robes and hoods, today's young Klansmen are more likely to look virtually indistinguishable from racist skinheads or neo-Nazis," said Ms. Lauter. "Today's Klans



men may be as likely to gather at white power music concerts or socialize at so-called 'unity rallies' with other white supremacists, as to participate in ritualistic cross burnings in the rural wilderness."

Since the early 1990s, Klan groups have become increasingly "nazified," with members embracing and immersing themselves in neo-Nazi and racist skinhead subcultures, adopting the music, dress, tattoos and imagery of neo-Nazis, according to ADL. Another trend has been "the collusion and cross-fertilization" of Klan chapters and

other major American racist groups.

In March 2006, for example, about 80 members of the National Socialist Movement and various Klan groups met in Laurens, South Carolina, to discuss ways to increase cooperation. Groups on hand for the event included the National Socialist Movement, Aryan Nations, the Griffin Knights of the KKK, the Teutonic Knights of the KKK and the Yahweh

## Richardson has chance to invigorate Hispanic voters

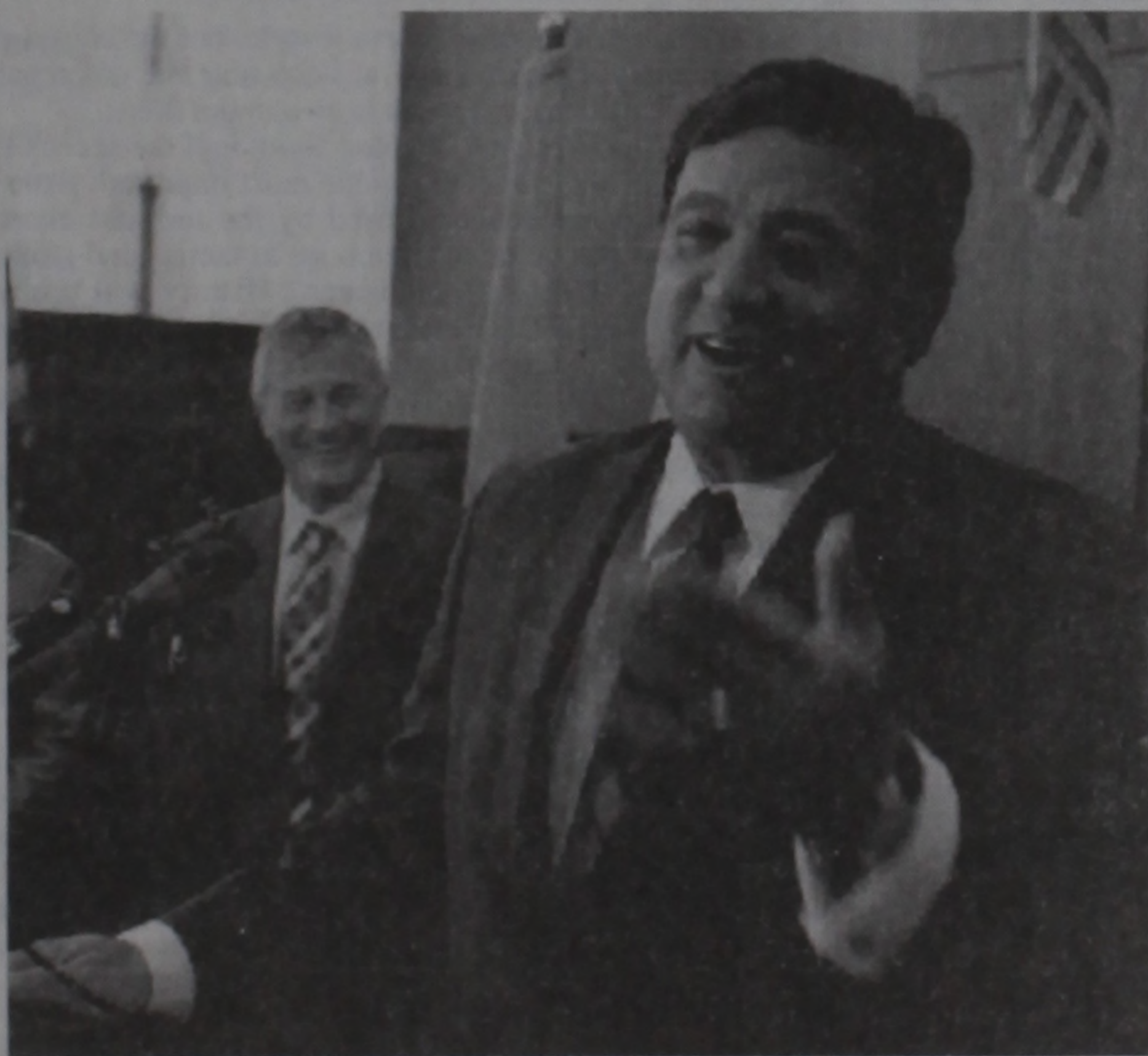
Gov. Bill Richardson, now a presidential candidate, right, comments in this file photo about the spaceport in District Court before he signs it into legislation as Mayor William "Bill" Matiaze listen.

After announcing that he had formed a presidential exploratory committee, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson quickly made two national media debuts -- one on TV, one on radio.

On "Meet the Press," he reached out to the traditional U.S. voter who historically watches the Sunday-morning political show on TV.

Then two days later, he appeared on "Piolin por la mañana," a Spanish-language radio show hosted by Eddie "Piolin" Sotelo that is broadcast nationwide and is the No. 1-rated radio show in Los Angeles. The entire 30-minute interview was in Spanish, a first for any presidential candidate.

"There's no doubt that his participation in the primary process is a historic occurrence," said Adam J. Segal, director of the Hispanic Voter Project at John Hopkins University. "He is



the first high-profile Hispanic to run for president. I do think there is an opportunity for him to excite and mobilize voters like no one has in the past."

Richardson, a former Cabinet member in President Clinton's administration, announced Jan. 20 that he had formed a presidential exploratory committee. Last week in El Paso, he said he is in the race for the long haul and would seek the 2008 Democratic nomination for president.

"I am after the Hispanic vote," said Richardson, who had a fundraiser Jan. 29 in El Paso. "But I am also after the Anglo vote, the Native American vote and every other vote that is out there. I'm not running as a Hispanic. I am running as an American governor who is proud to be Hispanic."

Richardson is one of nine Democrats who have formed a presidential exploratory committee, with at least two others, including former Vice President Al Gore, being mentioned as future candidates. Among the announced candidates, New York Sen. Hillary Clinton, the wife of former President Clinton, and Illinois Sen. Barack Obama have been mentioned as frontrunners.

But that was before Richardson jumped into the race, some experts said.

"He has the ability to penetrate the Hispanic media like no other candidate, but I also think he has a high-level of legitimacy," Segal said.

According to exit polls during the 2004 presidential election, Hispanics accounted for 8 percent of the overall vote, an increase from 6 percent in 2000. It is estimated that more than 9 million Hispanics voted.

However, that number is small compared with the overall Hispanic population. According to U.S. Census figures, Hispanics now make up 15 percent of the overall U.S. population and the figure is growing. But more importantly, Hispanics showed political clout in 2006 when millions of them protested in unity against immigration laws being pushed by a Republican-dominated Congress.

Those protests, and the continuing war in Iraq, are frequently mentioned as the two main reasons why Congress is now controlled by Democrats. And analysts are

saying that Hispanic voting power is growing.

"It is historic that I am Hispanic and running," Richardson said. "And I will use my Spanish to reach out to voters."

Richardson, who was born in California, was re-elected last year in New Mexico by 69 percent of the vote. He is a former congressman, former ambassador to the United Nations and was the Secretary of Energy during the Clinton Administration.

Bruce Buchanan, a political science professor at the University of Texas at Austin who specializes in presidential politics, said that being a minority is no longer a major barrier in this country.

"I don't think that his minority status will be the deciding factor in his race," Buchanan said. "He is no one's affirmative action candidate. He is a talented guy."

Richardson's ability to get the Democratic presidential nomination hinges on whether he can raise enough money to keep up with Hillary Clinton and Obama, both of whom are expected to raise \$100 million each.

"What will hurt Hillary is the Clinton baggage that comes from her husband," Buchanan said. "She's got some Demos working against her and the Republicans will work against her. For Obama, he needs more name recognition."

In El Paso, longtime Democrat Rose Maya said she has not decided whom she will support.

"There are too many candidates right now," she said. "Richardson does have some experience, and Clinton may not have the experience, but she has the knowledge."

El Pasoan Michael Apodaca, a State Democratic Executive Committee member, said he is leaning toward Richardson.

"He has the experience that none of the other candidates, including Hillary, have," Apodaca said. "He has White House experience and international experience."

## NCLR Protests 2008 Bush Budget

Washington, DC - Washington, DC - The National Council of La Raza (NCLR), expressed strong concern over the fiscal year (FY) 2008 Budget Request released by the White House today. The proposal calls on Congress to make drastic cuts to programs critical to Latinos and other working Americans. "The President's budget proposal misses an opportunity to invest in Latinos," said NCLR President and CEO Janet Murguía. "Our nation has always relied on the millions of Americans, including Latinos, who make up our nation's middle class. Unfortunately, this budget cuts programs critical to the Latino community and will make it more difficult for working families to climb the economic ladder and move solidly into the middle class." The FY 2008 Budget Request reduces funding for a number of domestic programs that were created to improve the economic security of low-income households, help U.S. families attain self-sufficiency, and strengthen American workers' ability to maintain our nation's standing as the world leader in business, science, technology, and innovation. Attached is NCLR's preliminary analysis of President Bush's FY 2008 Budget Request. "To be truly competitive, a nation must have an educated workforce. Yet, the President's budget eliminates successful programs such as Even Start, a program with a strong track record in helping children and families improve their literacy levels," noted Murguía. "A nation's economic health also depends on the good health of its families, but this budget does not address health care coverage for Latinos. The only outcome that this

budget proposal can achieve is more uninsured Americans." Like other Americans, Latinos want their leaders to act fiscally responsible. Unfortunately, the President's budget cuts programs that invest in children and poor families while pushing to extend tax cuts to the wealthy. This would only widen economic inequality and undermine hardworking Hispanic families. "Strengthening our economy while ensuring a solid Hispanic middle class is in the best interest of the nation as a whole, and achieving this goal is within our reach," concluded Murguía. "Fortunately, congressional leaders are presented with an opportunity to deliver more for Hispanic Americans. In particular, new Latino leadership in Congress can ensure that the needs of the Latino community are heard and that Congress delivers a budget that makes sense for all Americans."

The President's budget would provide no increase in funding, even before considering inflation, for English-as-a-Second-Language and adult basic education services.

The Administration fails to provide resources to restore legal immigrant access to vital programs for Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Food Stamp Program (FSP).

The budget provides no additional resources to improve Fair Housing laws.

The President's budget would eliminate funding for the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP).

The budget would fund Head Start at its FY 2007 funding level of \$6.789 million. Adjusted for inflation, Head Start funding has declined by more than 10% since 2005.

## NCLR Critica Propuesta de Bush

Dicha propuesta no hace nada para invertir en familias hispanas

Washington, DC - El Consejo Nacional de La Raza (NCLR) expresó una gran preocupación por la Propuesta de Presupuesto para el Año Fiscal 2008 (FY 2007, por sus siglas en inglés), presentada hoy por la Casa Blanca.

Dicha propuesta hace un llamado al Congreso para que haga recortes drásticos a programas que son críticos para latinos y otros trabajadores estadounidenses. "La propuesta de presupuesto del presidente falla en dejar pasar una oportunidad para invertir en la comunidad latina", afirmó Janet Murguía, presidenta de NCLR. "Nuestro país siempre ha dependido de los millones de estadounidenses - incluyendo latinos - que forman la clase social media. Desafortunadamente, esta propuesta contempla recortes a programas críticos para la comunidad latina. También hace más difícil que familias trabajadoras puedan superar económicamente y formar parte de la clase media."

La Propuesta de Presupuesto para el Año Fiscal 2008 reduce fondos distribuidos a varios programas domésticos que fueron creados para mejorar la seguridad económica de hogares familiares de bajos recursos, ayudar a familias estadounidenses a alcanzar la auto-suficiencia, y fortalecer las habilidades de trabajadores estadounidenses para que nuestro país siga siendo el líder mundial en los negocios, las ciencias, la tecnología, y la innovación. Adjunto está el análisis preliminar de NCLR de la Propuesta de Presupuesto para el Año Fiscal 2008. "Un país necesita una fuerza laboral educada para ser realmente competitivo en el mundo. Sin embargo, el presupuesto del presidente elimina programas exitosos tales como Even Start, un programa con un récord comprobado de ayudar a niños y familias a mejorar sus niveles de analfabetismo", enfatizó Murguía.

"La salud económica de un país también depende de la salud de sus familias, pero este presupuesto no contempla cobertura de seguro de salud para latinos. El único resultado que esta propuesta de presupuesto tendrá son más estadounidenses sin seguro de salud". Tal como cualquier estadounidense, los latinos quieren que sus líderes sean responsables en temas fiscales. Desafortunadamente el presupuesto del presidente recorta programas que ayudan a niños y familias pobres mientras que provee recortes en los impuestos de los ricos. Esto sólo hace más grande la gran brecha de desigualdad económica e impacta negativamente a familias trabajadoras hispanas. "Tanto fortalecer nuestras economías como asegurar que exista una fuerte clase social media hispana está en el beneficio propio de este país en su totalidad. Y, alcanzar esta meta está a nuestro alcance", concluyó Murguía.

"Afortunadamente se le ha presentado a los líderes del Congreso un oportunidad para hacer más por los hispanoamericanos. En particular, el nuevo liderazgo latino en el Congreso puede asegurarse de que las necesidades de la comunidad latina sean escuchadas y que el Congreso presente un presupuesto que haga sentido para todos los estadounidenses". El presupuesto del presidente tampoco hace nada para invertir en las siguientes prioridades:



# HISPANIC RECRUITMENT GOAL - MINUS CHANCELLOR'S EFFORT= SAME OLD RESULTS

By Abel Cruz

Suppose I'm a high school student who just happens to be Hispanic and I believe that the road to a better financial future goes through college; whose job is it to make sure that I take that road when I graduate?

Is it mine alone, or is it within the recruiting functions of a college or university to recruit me because they want to increase the number of Hispanic students that attend their school? Will it influence my decision to go to a particular college or not if I do get recruited? Is it the high school's role to make sure I am well prepared, not only academically, but in all other facets? Does the responsibility fall to my parents or in many cases single parent? Does it fall to the Hispanic community to play a role in motivating me to make the right decision? And finally, how much does the fact that I am not recruited by a university at all, have to do with me not enrolling in college?

All these questions came to mind as I read the reader's comments concerning Texas Tech University Chancellor Kent Hance's not yet, having taken the time to meet with members of the Hispanic community to discuss issues relating to Hispanic student enrollment at Texas Tech.

Any way you look at it, the question was a good one which generated a discussion that should always be front and center; since we all have a stake in getting young people, regardless of skin color, to college. In fact the success of a city and community should in some way be measured by how many of its youth attend college; which would be a direct reflection of its school and community support system.

The basis for the question was: "To date, Chancellor Kent Hance has not had any type of special meeting with Lubbock Hispanics to discuss any special needs or to investigate ways to address special problems that Hispanics students encounter at Tech". The question asked if readers felt that it showed a lack of concern on the part of Texas Tech. The importance of the question is obvious since Hispanic student enrollment has mostly remained at a stagnant level and does not closely reflect the population of this city, region or state. Its importance is further amplified when we look ahead and see what we are doing to make sure that the youth of today; of which the majority not enrolling and completing college are mostly minority; are prepared to compete in a global job market. Among the responses were at least 2 which refuted the premise of the question by saying that this particular issue is not a responsibility or function of the chancellor's office.

But as it turns out, "The Chancellor is the chief executive officer of the TTU system" and is responsible "for all aspects of TTU system operations"; according to the duties and responsibilities outlined by the TTU Board of Regents. Now as a matter of practicality, the Chancellor has other university officers and administrative staff to help him carry out the day to day functions of his office. But it turns out that the chancellor also has a direct responsibility to lead the university administration in the effort to carry

out the goals set forth by the university.

Being that one of the stated strategic goals of the university is to increase Hispanic enrollment, (more on this later) then it does fall within the parameters of Chancellor Hance's office to advance that goal. In fact, the board of regent's Chancellor's job responsibilities outlines that the chancellor will "carry out such policies...and goals and interpreting and articulating the TTU system's academic, administrative and developmental policies, program needs, and concerns, to the general public, and other constituencies at the community, state, and regional, and national levels". In other words, it calls for the chancellor to communicate goals to the universities constituencies and garner community support to achieve the university's goals.

And like it or not, the Hispanic community in this city constitutes a constituency group which should play a part in helping the university reach it's Hispanic enrollment goals. The fact that a particular group is not a mega-dollar-donor of the school should have no bearing at all.

Anytime, you have a large Hispanic population like we do in this city which results in a large Hispanic, public or private, school population (in this city alone over 50% of the LISD system's enrollment is Hispanic), then I would think that it would work to Tech's advantage to have the Chancellor make an effort to reach out to diverse segments of the Lubbock community in order to motivate a discussion of the issues and hopefully influence the large pool of potential students to at least consider enrolling at Texas Tech.

So at least on paper, it would seem that the chancellor does play an important role in shaping the way the university will achieve its goals. Beyond that, if the university is to ever achieve its diversity goals, and they do have one, then it would make sense for Chancellor Hance to lead the effort. In this instance, the more attention it gets and the higher it is on the Chancellor's priority list, the more attention it will get from the university as a whole.

Another aspect is that most universities are reluctant to provide accurate enrollment numbers when it comes to their student body's racial makeup. Some fear the implications, or accusations of affirmative action or preferential treatment, while others are afraid they will be criticized for their low ethnic student numbers. In a response to an inquiry from El Editor, the chancellor's office stated that "the number of Hispanic students that are retained has improved steadily over the last few years", but they do not provide hard facts and figures to back up their assertion. They also provide an 11.49% Hispanic enrollment figure which some people dispute. It would be good if the university could provide the number of Hispanic students who not only enroll but actually graduate.

Which leads me to the question of just what is Texas Tech doing in the area of Hispanic recruitment? For starters, the university has a University Strategic Plan which was initiated in 2001. The plan addresses "Access and Diversity" and states that the goal is to "Recruit, retain, and graduate a larger, more academically

prepared, and more diverse student body". Part of its vision statement says that the university is committed to the values of: mutual respect, cooperation and communication, creativity and innovation, community service and leadership, academic and intellectual freedom, pursuit of excellence, public accountability; and last but not least, diversity.

The fact that diversity is last on that list of values might be an indication of why the university has not made greater strides in achieving its diversity goals.

To be sure the university makes an effort to attract a diverse student population; including a stated goal to increase "Hispanic student enrollment by 10%" over the current level. This goal is assigned to the office of the university Provost with a target date of fiscal year 2008. Unfortunately, while the goals are admirable, the efforts presently being made by the university seem to be lacking.

For example, in the Office of Admissions, in a 2005 update entitled "Goals and Accomplishments" the first goal is to "increase the proportion of diverse new students to reflect the population of Texas", and listed as an accomplishment is: "hosted 353 students of color at spring receptions". Even if all 353 students enrolled at Tech, at that rate, how long will it take to achieve the 10% increase?

Another glaring problem is the disparity which exists between the number of freshman of Hispanic descent who apply to Tech and the number who ultimately enroll. During a 6 year period, from 1999 through 2005, a total of 10,438 Hispanics applied. Out of that number 6,145 were admitted while 4,293 or 41% of those applying did not make the cut; out of the over 6,000 that were admitted, only 2,357 actually enrolled at Tech.

While there is a significant number of Hispanics applying, the fact that 41% did not meet admission requirements indicates that at least that many were not properly prepared either academically or in some other way which resulted in ineligibility. That issue is worth taking a look at. Another problem is that only 38% of the Hispanic freshman admitted actually enrolled at Tech. What happened to the other 62%? Were those students recruited by other universities?

An additional problem results when for some reason or another, Hispanics drop out at a higher rate than whites. This would indicate that once enrolled in college, there might be common issues or obstacles keeping minority students from obtaining a college degree. If the powers that be at Tech are serious about racial diversity and achieving a diverse balance in its student body, then issues like these must be addressed.

And if Chancellor Hance can play a role in helping to achieve those goals then why would anyone have a problem with that?

Otherwise, the goal of increasing Hispanic enrollment at Texas Tech will fall by the wayside and ultimately will be worth about as much as the paper it is written on.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your letter to  
 editoreditorial@  
 sbcglobal.net



LETTER TO THE EDITOR: If

I may I would like to

respond to your article BEHIND THE BLUE WALL OF SILENCE. The article concludes that we need a civilian review board to oversee the internal affairs department of the Lubbock Police Department. During my 15 years as a Lubbock police officer, the subject came up occasionally, and while I did not fear such a turn of events I was generally opposed to the notion. Now the worm has turned. When my one and only internal affairs investigation of any consequence was completed, my career was ruined, my finances destroyed, wife ill and faced with criminal charges, I resigned. I tried to take my consequences manfully. Upon the first question by a detective about my actions, I admitted without reservation exactly what I did, what my mental state was and why I grabbed a rich spoiled brat by his neck who I had just witnessed trying to run over George, my cat. A civilian review board would have been a blessing compared to what they put me through - suspended at home for seven weeks without so much as a phone call from a single one of my superiors, detectives drove by my house everyday (I was later told that they had a pen-register on my phone and had to come to my neighborhood to check it), and the DA was going to charge me with assault unless I agreed to resign. I took the deal.  
 Marshall Paul via email

## Open Letter to Mayor Miller

Dear Mayor Miller,

Please reference my letter of June 19, 2006 in which I asked you and the City Council for your help and support in improving East 16th Street from the tri-corner of Idalou Road, Vanda Street and E. 16th to the corner of Cherry and E. 16th. The improvement is a distance of about 0.41 miles. The street is currently strip paved and very narrow and is lined on the south side by trees that are dangerously close to traffic. The street serves St. Patrick Catholic Church at 1603 Cherry Street. Traffic consists almost exclusively of families driving to and from St. Patrick Church.

In the Town-Hall meeting held at the Parkway Neighborhood Association attended by Councilman Floyd Price and Linda Deleon and a standing room only crowd of residents from the East Lubbock Community, you stated that the City did not own the land needed for the right of right (ROW), but that if we could get the owner of the property to donate the ROW, that the street would be improved to meet City Specifications.

I have good news. The land needed for the ROW is owned by Ms. Marjorie C. Kastman, I asked County Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez to speak to Ms Kastman on my behalf to ask if she is willing to donate the needed ROW. Ms Kastman's answer is "Yes."

I am motivated solely by and for the safety of families driving on E 16th Street. I appreciate your help in resolving this public safety issue that I have been asking the City to fix for over 6 years.

Sincerely, -- John P. Cervantez

# TOMORROW SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY

By: Ysidro Gutierrez

Americans want what is good for our country. We want our nation to prosper. We want to live in peace. We want to be safe. We want our children to get a quality education. We want quality medical care. We want to enjoy a long healthful life. Americans should not count on the Federal Government to provide any of these. The President began the 2007 State of the Union address on a positive note. But, in short order it became agonizingly apparent that we are a Nation divided with Republican on one side and independents, conservatives, and Democrats on the other. There is good cause for Americans to believe that tomorrow will be like yesterday.

After the speech Republicans lavished accolades on the President for style and delivery. Across the aisle people spoke of the Presidents lack of enthusiasm, energy and conviction.

For those interested in substance not style, but the causal observer with a critical eye and an analytical mind will at once note the discrepancies in the Presidents speech. The President was weak in two major areas,

1) The War: The President devoted about half the speech to the war in Iraq. This was proper since the war is the single most important issue of our time. He spoke eloquently about the dangers posed by the terrorist enemy, and of the need to defeat terrorism but remained stubborn in tactics and strategy which are opposed by all but the staunchest Republicans. History will probably note that this was a Republican War. The President remained adamant about the surge of 21,500 troops and asked America to allow time for the surge to work. This sounds reasonable, except that the plan is opposed by retired generals, the Iraqi people, and most Americans who believe the surge will make matters worse. On its surface the surge has little chance of success. There have already been 4 surges of troops. None have worked. Democrats were quick to express the belief that the strategy is reckless and will not work. There is little cause to hope in a strategy that does not work.

Another facet of the war was its cost. The \$400 billion dollars spent in Iraq to date is off-the-books. This means it is not counted against the budget deficit. This is important because the President spoke of a Balanced Budget as a major goal. But until he is honest with the American people about this creative accounting of war expenses, the American people will have little cause to trust him or to hope in it. Absent from the President's speech were America's allies or a coalition of nations committed help the President's latest surge succeed in Iraq. Long ago American Military leaders learned an important lesson which should be applied to the war - that America should not go at it alone. The President has forgotten this lesson. If America tries to be policeman to the world, it will be costly and has no chance of success. This is why the President is alone on his plan in Iraq. There is little reason to hope in its success.

2) The Budget: The most memorable words in the speech may be the meaningless rhetoric selected to propose a balanced budget without raising taxes. Taken at face value it too, like the war is reckless. The "\$9 Trillion Dollar National Debt." will be a burden on our children long into the future. China and Japan are America's biggest creditors. Some day they will demand payment on the loan. If we can't make it, they will do more than repossess the car. It is hard to Balance the Budget when you have such high interest payments.

The Present also proposed ending earmark spending, but only some of it. If he was serious, he would end all earmarks. There is little cause to trust in the President's commitment to end earmarks.

Also casting doubt on a Balanced Budget was the President proposed new federal spending. Higher spending is not the conventional way to Balance the Budget. Either the President is out-of-touch or he slept during arithmetic in high school. Some facets of the speech were quite appealing. It is good to spend American dollars to fight AIDS and Malaria in Africa. Health Care insurance and comprehensive immigration reform should be top priority issues for the domestic agenda. Energy independence would make Americans safer.

The President showed great skill in how he ended the speech by highlighting four American Heroes: 1) The New York hero who saved a stranger's life. 2) The basketball star who built a hospital for his hometown. 3) The Woman entrepreneur who built a multi-million dollar business in an America of limitless opportunity. 4) The soldier wounded using his body to shield his men from enemy fire.

# SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPE LINE

By Armando Gonzalez

Parents must be vigilant and very carefull with how the teachers and principals treat our children in school. In the short time that I taught High School in two different area Schools, and observed teachers and campuses I saw the In School Suspension rooms. These rooms were, and are filled by mostly Hispanic and Black students. A person can visit any area school and find that a majority of them are filled with Chicanos and Blacks. I believe that this is an ongoing conscientious effort by some of the School District's teachers to make it hard for minority students to graduate from High School. There are attorney's organizations and some educators organizations that are actively studying the phenomenon of the

"SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE". Texas Applesed Scholarship Committee is one of those. Another organization is the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). In my understanding it starts with a child going to ISS. After ISS, or for absences, or any other student code violation, they can be sent to Project Intercept, Stars Program and even to the Lubbock County Juvenile Justice Center where they are removed from the custodial parent(s) by the State and students as young as ten years old are incarcerated. If they continue to be non-conformists

(that is not obeying and resisting institutionalization)they can then be sent to The Texas Youth Commission, which is a juvenile prison system, after a CRIMINAL COURT HEARING. Since Columbine, 1995, School Districts and society in general have become intolerant of any misbehavior in the school system. As usual, when fear surfaces among the Anglo establishment the Hispanic, and Black children are the ones that are held to the fire moreso than any other ethnic group(s). It is important to understand that with this fear a whole new beaurocracy and a whole newsystem of inner, sovereign government has been created. The School Districts answer to no one. Federal Courts and State Courts are slow to usurp or circumvent the Districts authority and power. Open, clear, and flagrant violations against the Constitution are the ones that are scrutinized by the Courts. This means that they can do just

about anything they want without being held accountable. In other Southwestern States, like Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, the ACLU has taken many School Districts to court because of Civil Rights Violations on the part of over zealous principals. They bring to light the signing of the "pink slip," by a student after the student has gotten into trouble with the teacher. When the student is made to sign the pink slip/in essence a confession has been made by the student. Students sign the pink slip because the authority figure - the school teacher, or principal has told them to sign it. The student is then prosecutable by the local School police and then are treated as any criminal. I believe, however, that having the student sign the pink slip amounts to coercion on the part of the principal, teacher. Principals and teachers are not peace officers, law enforcement officers or any members of the court. I believe what happens is that the signature obtained from the student is unconstitutional because it is a coerced confession. The student is then locked up due to the confession obtained via the signature. Principals and teachers are not officers of the law. I intend to start up a search committee made up of interested parents of students regarding this matter. If you believe your student has been unduly sent to ISS please email me at agonzales101@yahoo.com. so that we can unite to fight the SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE. If you email me just send your email address or contact info. We will set up a meeting very soon to plan how we can dismantle this pipeline. Sincerely, Armando Gonzalez, M.Ed.

I want to express my appreciation to all my friends who showed so much concern during my recent kidney transplant. Everything to now seems to be working out good.. Mil Gracias  
 Bidal Aguero - Publisher

# Ralph and Shafeek Nader's Family Values

By José de la Isla

Hispanic Link News Service  
 HOUSTON - It is somewhat rare to find a contemplative Ralph Nader writing his personal reflections instead of pleading a public-policy issue.

But in Nader's new book, The Seventeen Traditions, published by HarperCollins, he reflects on lessons learned growing up in a town in northwest Connecticut, the family restaurant, from his mother, father, an older brother and two sisters.

We have come to know Ralph Nader as a wooden personality, a willing naysayer when necessary, the conservationist, consumer protector, twice presidential candidate and foe of corporate excesses.

Now 73 years old, Nader enumerates the values that got him that way, which come from a set of family traditions that became personal practices.

They include solitude, independent thinking, civics, patriotism, charity, business, work, listening, the value of the family table and eight others. Each one forms a chapter in this short 150-page book. Ralph Nader burst onto the national scene after his 1965 book "Unsafe at Any Speed." It showed how faulty engineering went into the Chevrolet Corvair and other U.S.-made autos. Ever since, he became known as a consumer crusader.

Half a dozen years after the book appeared, Shafeek Nader, Ralph's brother, telephoned me in Oregon and had me join him and Sheldon Manifee, a journalist and author, in Washington, D.C. Shaf was founder of the Northwest Connecticut Community

College. Together Sheldon and Shaf spearheaded an initiative at the American Association of Community Colleges to revamp and improve colleges around the country to make them more publicly responsive. Then, as always, resistance and avoidance of change hides behind pretended ignorance and wacko priorities.

Shaf soon had me traveling around the country. One time he had me go to Bethlehem, Pa., to meet a dean there named Alfredo de los Santos.

In Washington, I had moved into a basement apartment on 19th Street near DuPont Circle. One day, I saw Shaf coming out a building diagonally across the street. It was only the smallest leap of inference to know that was the famous rooming house where the Nader brothers lived. Ralph was reputed so frugal he didn't even have a telephone but used the pay phone around the corner.

Among people my age at that time, Ralph Nader was a legendary hero. General Motors had tried to discredit him and hired private detectives to tap his phones (probably why he had none), investigated his past, and hired prostitutes to compromise him. But they failed to find any wrongdoing. In turn, Nader sued the company for invasion of privacy and used the settlement to expand his consumer rights efforts.

Even though Shaf knew where I lived, he and I never walked home together. When he hopped a ride with me to some event (he didn't own a car), he had me drop him off at the Mayflower Hotel, saying he wanted to pick up the next morning's newspaper,

which came out at 11 p.m., so as to not give away where he lived.

With the college association's convention coming up in Washington, Shaf, Alfredo and I came up with a new spark plug for the community college movement. We formed an affiliate group, Congreso Nacional de Asuntos Colegiales to advocate for recruitment and retention and relevant programs for Latino students. With the national college leadership converging in the city, the plan unfolded.

Following some strategically placed position papers, a cocktail party, and an imported mariachi serenade, the talk of the convention was the need to advance Hispanic community-college interests. That was nearly three decades ago. Today, 55 percent of all Hispanic students enrolled in higher education are in community colleges.

Shafeek Nader - an uncompromising advocate for local, democratic decision-making - was a farsighted man who passed away in 1986. The civic values he lived by are memorialized in The Shafeek Nader Trust for the Community Interest that he created. I sensed all along Shaf and his younger brother Ralph must have been a lot alike. Now, Ralph has confirmed it. From reading the book, I realized two things. They shared the same personal ethic and civic culture to wear as body armor to engage in public issues. And there are 17 traditions that made them that way.

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## El Editor

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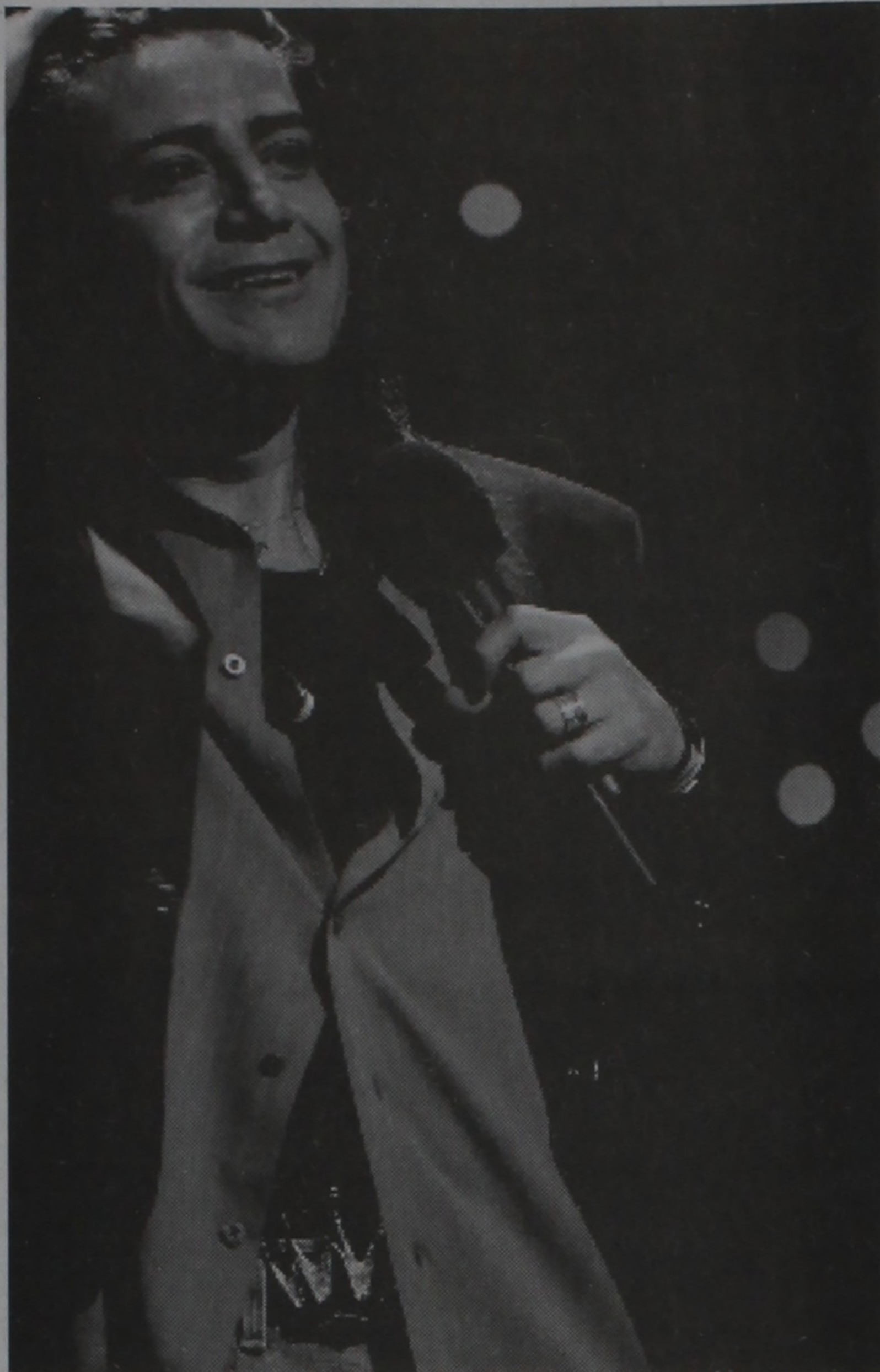
# Alex Reymundo's HICK-SPANIC: Live in Albuquerque

There's a new kid in town... OK, he's not really new in town and he is far from being a kid but he sure is funny and showtun is going to show us just how funny Alex Reymundo really is. Reymundo's debut on Showtime of his first solo one-hour comedy special, Alex Reymundo's HICK-SPANIC: Live in Albuquerque, premieres Saturday, March 3 (8pm ET/PT). Additional Showtime airdates: March 6 (10pm), March 9 (10pm), and March 25 (9 pm).

Best known as one of the "Original Latin Kings of Comedy," alongside George Lopez, Cheech Marin, Paul Rodriguez and Joey Medina, the past several years have been a whirlwind of progress of Alex Reymundo.

It was recently announced that he has inked a development deal with Showtime. Under the pact, Reymundo is attached to star in a comedy series project, Hick-Spanic, as well as to headline his own one-hour stand-up comedy special of the same name and host the upcoming comedy specials, The Latin Divas of Comedy and Payaso Comedys Slam.

Alex Reymundo delivers his first live stand-up show before a live audience in Albuquerque, NM at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, rocking the house with his uniquely branded style of comedy Hick-Spanic, half-Hillbilly and half-Hispanic Reymundo delves into growing up an immigrant in a large, Mexican family in the South. Alex delivers the punchat every turn leaving the



audience with only one conclusion: there is a new Latin breed of comedy in town and it's Alex Reymundo.

Currently performing on a 25-city nationwide tour with Ron White, who is success from the hugely successful "Blue Collar Comedy Tour," Reymundo brings to the stage the humor of his blue collar roots with the perseverance and drive of a Latino immigrant for a clash of cultures which is

ultimately hysterical. This bilingual performer has lent his lightness to many corporations, associations, and products, all the while, keeping his eye on moral responsibility to his community. When asked what he thinks of his own success and what's in store for the future, he replies with a simple, "Everything can be accomplished with hard work and the right attitude." The sky truly is the limit for this performer.

# 'Bella' y El Presidente

El Presidente George W. Bush invitó al director de cine mexicano Alejandro Monteverde a sentarse en el palco de la Primera Dama durante su discurso sobre el Estado de la Unión, televisado a nivel nacional. Monteverde y otras personalidades fueron invitadas porque son un ejemplo brillante de las grandes contribuciones de los inmigrantes a la sociedad estadounidense.

"Me siento verdaderamente honrado y bendecido por la invitación del Presidente Bush y el premio recibido," dice Monteverde. "Soy solo uno de millones de latinos en este país que son héroes cotidianos, que cuidan a otros y a sus propias familias, mientras se esfuerzan por alcanzar el Sueño Americano. Estoy profundamente agradecido por este país y la oportunidad que se me ha dado y estoy eternamente agradecido por los sacrificios que hicieron mis padres para permitirme venir aquí."

Monteverde escribió y dirigió la película "Bella", ganadora del Premio a la Mejor Película Elegida por el Público, en el Festival de Cine Internacional de Toronto 2006. Al director también se le honró con el título "Outstanding American by Choice" en una ceremonia de la Casa Blanca. La iniciativa "Outstanding American by Choice" del Servicio de Inmigración y Ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos reconoce los logros excepcionales de los ciudadanos nacionalizados en los Estados Unidos. A través de su participación cívica, logros profesionales, y ciudadanía responsable, los acreedores de esta distinción han demostrado su compromiso a este país y a los valores cívicos comunes que nos unen como estadounidenses. Otros personajes que han sido distinguidos en el pasado son: El Senador de Estados Unidos Mel Martínez; el Congresista, Tom Lantos, de la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos; la Congresista Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, de la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos; el Secretario de Comercio Carlos Gutié-

rez, entre otros más. Entre los personajes distinguidos en la ceremonia de la Casa Blanca está Manny Díaz, Alcalde de Miami. Su oficina ha sido instrumental en asegurar el estreno de la película "Bella", de Monteverde, en el primer fin de semana del Festival de Cine Internacional de Miami, el 4 de marzo de este año. Además, el Alcalde Díaz, también desempeñó un papel preponderante en organizar una proyección privada de "Bella" para los líderes latinos y personalidades de influencia de Miami el 13 de

marzo, evento auspiciado por Jeb y Columba Bush. Alejandro Monteverde nació y se crió en México y llegó a los Estados Unidos para estudiar cinematografía en la Universidad de Texas, en Austin. Desde niño, Monteverde soñó con hacer películas que contarán las historias de los héroes cotidianos que conoció mientras crecía: gente pobre que vivía sus vidas con gracia y dignidad, amor y compasión, incluso frente a la demoleadora miseria y la falta de oportunidad en su natal México.

# Legends Musical Pairing: Alejandro Fernandez and Beyonce

Alejandro Fernández and Beyoncé, two of the music worlds biggest stars and most acclaimed voices, have recorded Amor Gitano, a sensual, flamenco-pop track that will debut February 12, on the premier episode of Telemundo's El Zorro novela. The track will also appear on the artists' respective solo albums. El Zorro is produced by Sony Entertainment Television and airs Monday - Friday at 9:00pm for 120 episodes.

The recording came together in a synergy of Sony's biggest talents and greatest assets. Sony music execs Kevin Lawrie, President Sony BMG Latin, was consulting with Sony Entertainment Television, the producers of El Zorro, to come up with song for their new show. At the same time that Beyoncé and Fernández were in the process of selecting material for their individual upcoming projects. Paul Forat, VP of A&R, first heard the song from Reyli and suggested it could be perfect for Fernández. Lawrie contacted Mathew Knowles, President and CEO Music World Entertainment, about Beyoncé's Spanish material, and the duet was born. The track was recorded at the Rock the Mic Studios in NY in mid January, with Rudy Perez (producer for Christina ... Aguilera, Marc Anthony), who is producing the Spanish songs with Beyoncé, at the helm.

Amor Gitano was written by Grammy winning songwriters/recording artists Reyli Barba and Jaime Flores, co-written by Beyoncé and produced by Grammy winning producer Rudy Perez and is a thrilling blend of the stars' voices in a heated declaration of love and passion. "I'm your gypsy, your pilgrimage", sings Fernandez. "I'm your thief, I'm going to love you even if they tear my heart out," answers Beyoncé. The song opens with un cantando, a flamenco shout-out and proceeds with compelling flamenco rhythms and guitars, strong enough to make even the least Latin among us move.

Amor Gitano goes to radio later this month and will be available for streaming on telemundo.yahoo.com.

Amor Gitano will appear on Beyoncé's upcoming special edition of B'day along with six other Spanish language tracks including a Spanish version of the #1 hit Irreplaceable. A special video version of the album on DVD, with 12 videos including two in Spanish, will be available on DVD exclusively at special releases for April.

Amor also appear on Alejandro's upcoming June album of all two years.

Bring - two legends: 15 year career, singer Alejandro has exemplified that modern culture offers: its rich tradition music and future with his the world. In dro Fernández debut, self-titled

ing one of the most prolific, successful and memorable careers in Latin music. Since then, the son of legendary ranchera singer Vicente Fernández has done what few progeny of famous parents have ever been able to achieve: He's followed in his father's footsteps, but at the same time, he's carved out his own, separate path, releasing 16 albums and selling nearly 20 million copies along the way thanks to a magnificent, velvety voice and an unparalleled stage presence. Alejandro is one of only a handful of artists that have managed to become a superstar and combine the world of traditional ranchera music with the world of pop. His vocal abilities are of world renown: In 1998, he was invited by Plácido Domingo to perform in Vienna, and recently José Carreras, Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti invited him to perform as a special guest of the Three Tenors.

Alejandro has also forayed into film, most recently portraying Mexican hero Zapata in the acclaimed film by Oscar-winning director Alfonso Arau ("Like Water for Chocolate"). He received a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2005, has been the voice of the History Channel for Hispanic Heritage Month, and is the winner of two Latin Grammys and numerous international awards.



Walmart. Both are scheduled

Gitano will Latin-superstar Fernández's album, his first new material in

ing together his legendary dro Fernández tied the best Mexico's He channels tion through personifies its appeal around 1992, Alejandro-released his album, launch-



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# Desafiante presupuesto de Bush

El presidente Bush reveló ayer un proyecto presupuestario de \$2.9 billones, que le asignaría al Pentágono un aumento sin precedentes de \$50,000 millones, pero que reduce programas que les gustan a los demócratas, incluyendo algunos de investigaciones para costear la calefacción de los pobres.

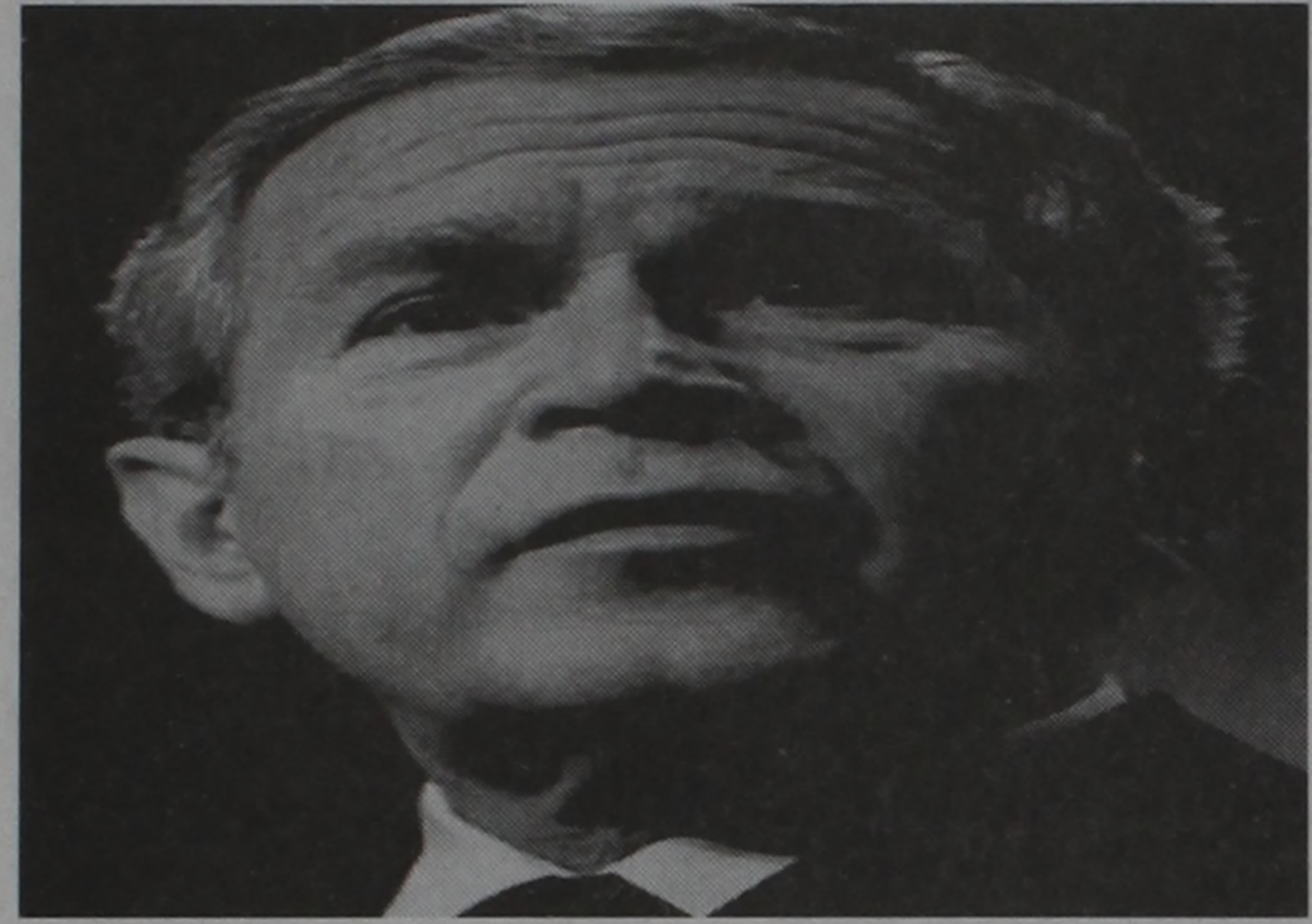
Con el control del Congreso por primera vez en una docena de años, los demócratas acusan a Bush de recortar los programas nacionales utilizando trucos para confundir y pronosticar un equilibrio presupuestario en cinco años, así como ignorar un peligro para los impuestos de las familias de clase media. Su pedido de \$245,000 millones para las guerras de Irak y Afganistán ha dejado atónitos a los legisladores.

A pesar del consenso de que hay que hacer cuanto antes algo sobre los costos cada vez mayores de programas como el Seguro Social y el Medicare, Bush sugiere más bien medidas modestas y se niega a aumentos de impuestos con los que podría persuadir a los demócratas a negociar.

guerra después del 2009. Bush también propone modestas rebajas para los programas de Medicare y Medicaid, que cada vez crecen más, pero no enfoca el crónico déficit en años futuros que forzaría a sus beneficiarios a dolorosos sacrificios. Las instituciones que ofrecen servicios costeados por el Medicare tales como los hospitales y asilos, y las que ofrecen ayuda a domicilio se verían afectadas por recortes de pagos, y los beneficiarios que tienen ingresos altos tendrían que pagar primas más altas.

“El presupuesto actual es una noticia devastadora para niños, ancianos y personas impedidas que dependen de los programas de Medicare y Medicaid”, dijo Rich Umbdenstock, presidente de la American Hospital Association. “Los están escogiendo injustamente a ellos para que lleven la carga de lograr un equilibrio presupuestario”.

Los recortes al Medicaid consistirían en parte en reducir los pagos a los estados para gastos administrativos que, según activistas, obligaría a



“Ambos bandos están reuentes a sentarse a hablar”, dijo el senador Judd Gregg de New Hampshire, el republicano de más categoría en el comité presupuestario del Senado. “La Casa Blanca les tiene miedo a los impuestos, y los demócratas a controlar los gastos”.

Los demócratas atacaron de inmediato.

“El Presidente ha ofrecido más de lo mismo, proponiendo un presupuesto que rebaja del Medicare y del Medicaid y envía \$240,000 millones más del dinero de los contribuyentes a Irak”, dijo el representante Rahm Emmanuel, demócrata por Illinois. “No es lo que el pueblo de Estados Unidos quiere”.

Bush anunció que su plan presupuestario “protege a nuestro país y combate el terrorismo, manteniendo fuerte la economía con impuestos bajos, y manteniendo los gastos bajo control”. Tras reunirse con su gabinete, dijo: “El Congreso tiene que prestarle atención a un presupuesto que dice ‘no’ a los aumentos de impuestos y que, debido a la disciplina fiscal, se puede balancear en cinco años”.

Bush dijo que se necesitan \$245,000 millones para operaciones militares y diplomáticas en Irak y Afganistán durante el próximo año y medio, elevando así las asignaciones monetarias al Pentágono para las guerras hasta \$662,000 millones. Pero su presupuesto presupone, al menos en papel, que no se van a necesitar más fondos para la

los estados a transferirles esas rebajas a éstos.

Los demócratas se quejan de que Bush intenta llegar a sus metas de equilibrio presupuestario en cinco años pronosticando ingresos mucho mayores por concepto de impuestos que lo que esperan los asesores no partidistas del Congreso. El proyecto presupuestario de Bush pronostica un superávit de \$61,000 millones en el 2012, pero el plan generaría ese año casi \$100,000 millones en burocracia, según los cálculos de la cautelosa Oficina Presupuestaria del Congreso.

Extendiendo las rebajas de Bush, la mayoría de las cuales se vencerían en el 2010, costaría \$211,000 millones en el 2012 y \$1,600 billones durante la siguiente década, según los documentos del presupuesto.

Irak sigue siendo un lastre para las finanzas del país, representando bastante más del proyectado déficit de este año, de \$244,000 millones. Para el 2008, el año presupuestario que empieza el 1ro de octubre, Bush ve solamente una pequeña disminución en el déficit de \$239,000 millones. El Presidente espera que esa disminución continúe hasta llegar a un superávit en el 2012, tres años después de que él deje su cargo.

Bush propone eliminar o reducir marcadamente 141 programas federales de un total de \$12,000 millones.

# Texas gov., lawmakers in vaccine dispute

Gov. Rick Perry's office challenged lawmakers Wednesday to override his order that schoolgirls be inoculated against the virus that causes cervical cancer, acknowledging for the first time that the Legislature holds that power.

Opponents of the order have argued that legislators should have heard from doctors, scientists and patients before the state implemented the requirement, and some Republican lawmakers have already filed bills to override the order.

Lawmakers are welcome to try to bar the requirement, said Perry spokesman Robert Black. Some lawmakers have said that any legislation they pass on the issue would trump the governor's order — an argument Black agreed with.

“If the Legislature feels strongly one way or another about preventing cancer in young women ... they should act on it,” Black said.

Perry's order Friday required the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to adopt rules requiring the Merck & Co.'s new Gardasil vaccine for girls entering the sixth grade as of September 2008. The vaccine protects girls against strains of the human papillomavirus, or HPV, that cause most cases of cervical cancer.

Conservatives say the order contradicts Texas' abstinence-only sex education policies and intrudes on families. They also balk at the \$360 cost for the three-shot series and said Gardasil is too new to force on girls as young as 11 and 12.

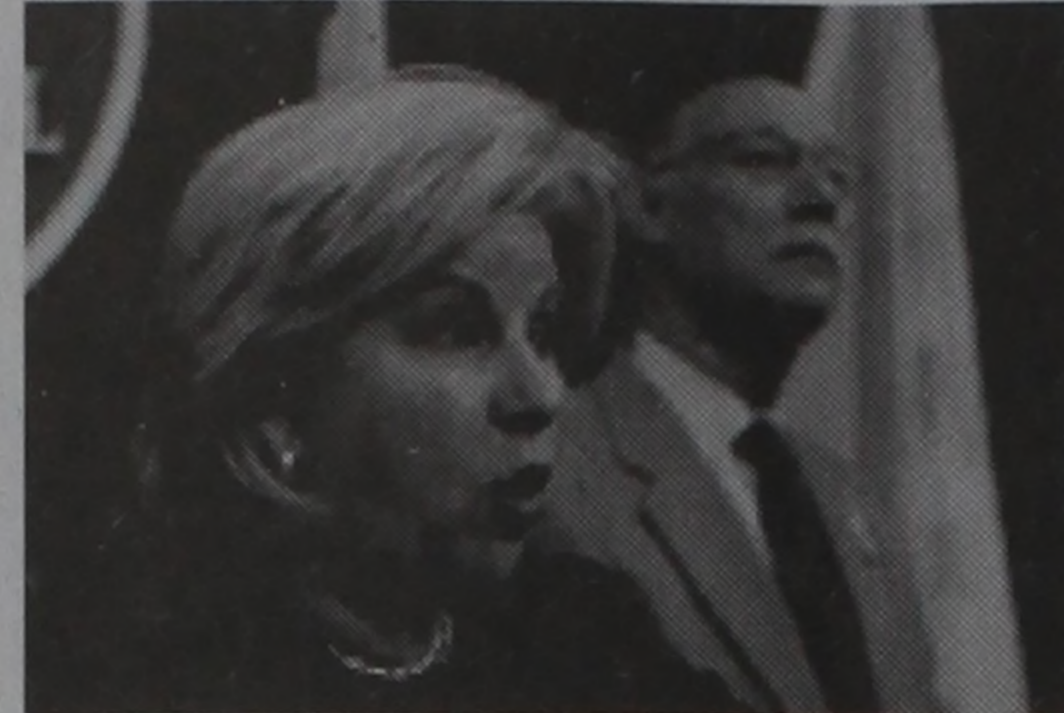
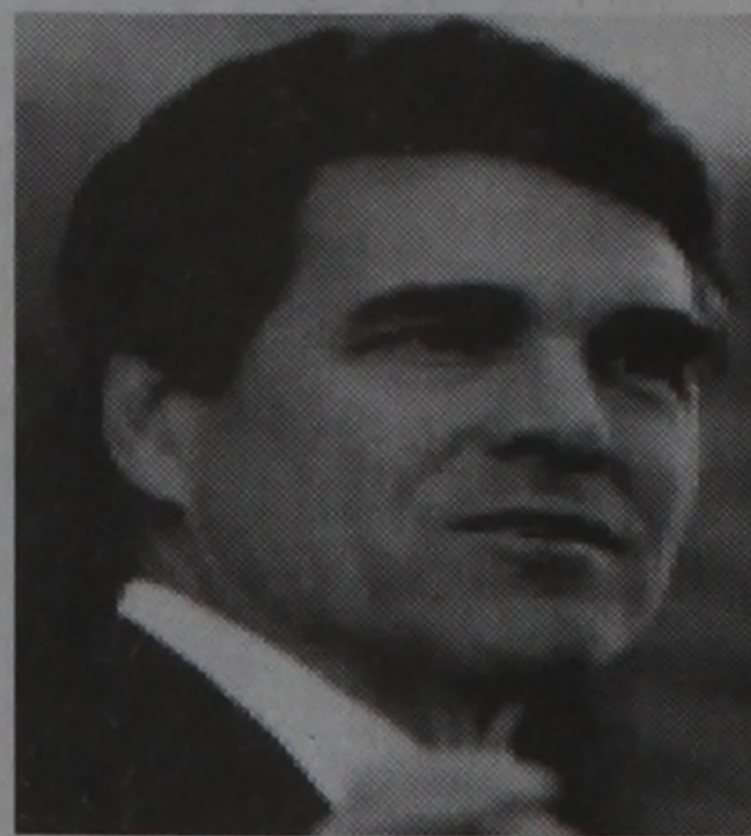
Parents can elect to avoid the vaccine by filing an affidavit outlining their religious or philosophical objections. But several lawmakers said they would prefer a program in which parents opt in instead of opting out.

Perry firmly defended his actions in his State of the State speech on Tuesday, saying “If I err, I will err on the side of protecting life.”

State Sen. Jane Nelson asked Attorney General Greg Abbott on Wednesday for a ruling on the order's legality and guidance on legislative recourse. She did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Merck is bankrolling efforts to pass state laws requiring the Gardasil vaccine for girls across the country, funneling money through Women in Government, an advocacy group made up of female state legislators nationwide. Perry has ties to both.

One of the drug company's three lobbyists in Texas is Mike Toomey, Perry's former chief of staff. His current chief of staff's mother-in-law, Texas Republican state Rep. Dianne White Delisi, is a state director of Women in Government.

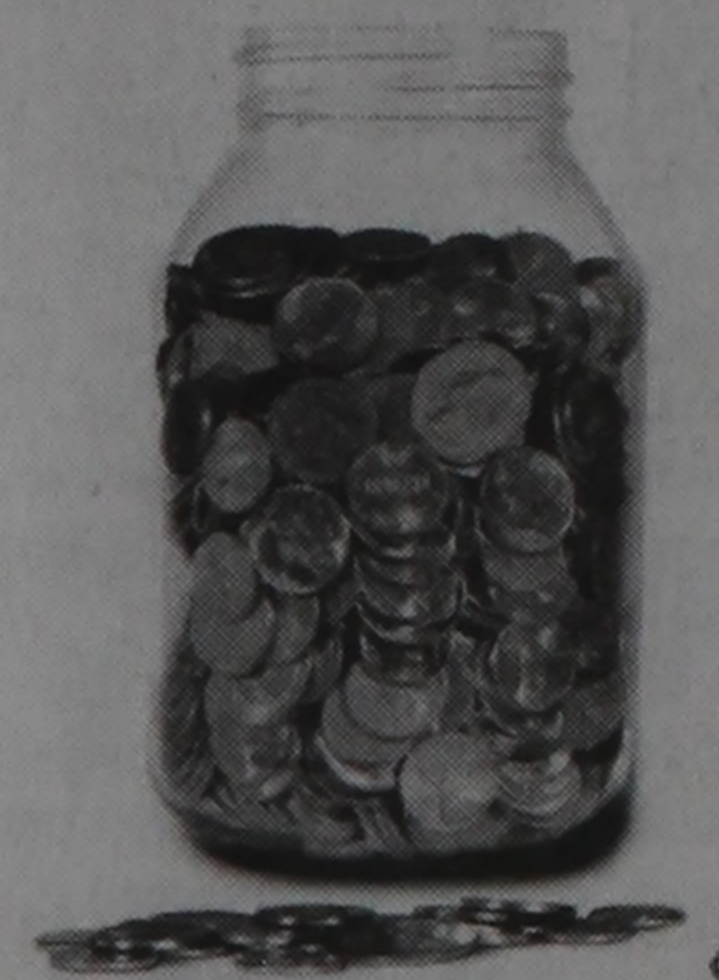


# How often do you count your change?

Do you sometimes wonder how much money you may have around the house in loose change that you're not putting to good use?

If you set out to look carefully in every corner for a minute, you will find out that it's more than you can imagine.

However, many people do not value four quarters as much as a paper dollar and may leave that loose change sitting unused for



a while. According to Coinstar, the leading self-service coin-counting machine company, there are about \$10.5 billion in unused coins in American homes.

In the case of many Hispanics who are starting to get ahead in this country and don't have a credit card or bank account, paying cash for their purchases results in a collection of loose change. In these cases, accumulating coins at home is like having your own private savings account. That is why Coinstar Centers, self-service coin-counting machines, located at a great many of the nation's grocery stores, have become very popular among Hispanics.

The machines are very convenient and easy to use. They save you time since you don't have to sort out and wrap coins to take them to the bank, something that many people consider to be embarrassing. All you need to do is empty the your full container of coins into the machine and wait for it to count them. You will then be presented with a receipt that you can redeem for cash with the store or grocery store cashier, or use it toward the payment of the purchases made there. In the United States, these machines only charge 8.9 cents per dollar counted.

Another advantage is that you can also turn your loose change into a gift certificate to be cashed at the Amazon.com Web site, without a charge for counting money. Some Coinstar Centers also offer Hispanics a variety of extra benefits, including cash cards that may be used as credit cards and prepaid telephone cards.

Below, a few interesting facts:

· Approximately 80% of household collect coins.

· It is estimated that in each home there is at least \$99 in unused coins.

· In each home, an average of \$5.50 is gathered weekly.

· A 16-ounce glass jar full of coins contains approximately \$28.54.

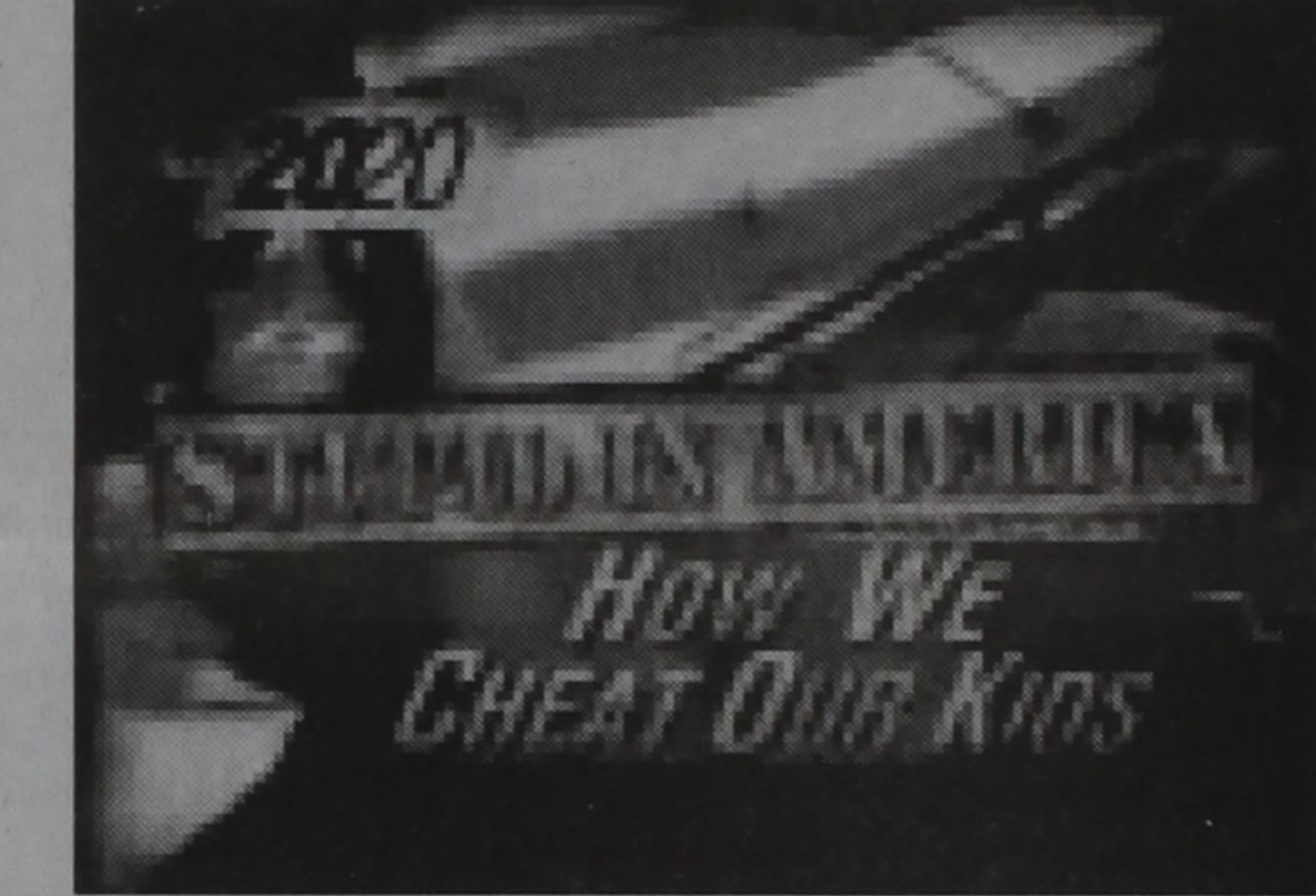
· Don't you think it's time to put the coins you have around to use?

· When you do it, you will contribute to keeping this country's economy going, which after all, benefits everyone.

# Education Rally for School Choice Brings Thousands to Texas Capitol

Approximately five thousand parents, school children, and educators from across Texas converged upon the Texas Capitol today, to reinforce a message to Texas Legislators that all students should have access to a broader range of public and private schools.

John Stossel, of ABC News 20/20, addressed the crowd about his investigative piece “Stupid in America.” Others addressed the crowd and urged participants to speak directly to legislators about the growing need for school choice in Texas. Speakers included Dr. Howard Fuller, former superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools, Rebeca Nieves Huffman, President of the Hispanic Council for Reform and Educational Options, Catholic Bishop Gregory Aymond of Aus-

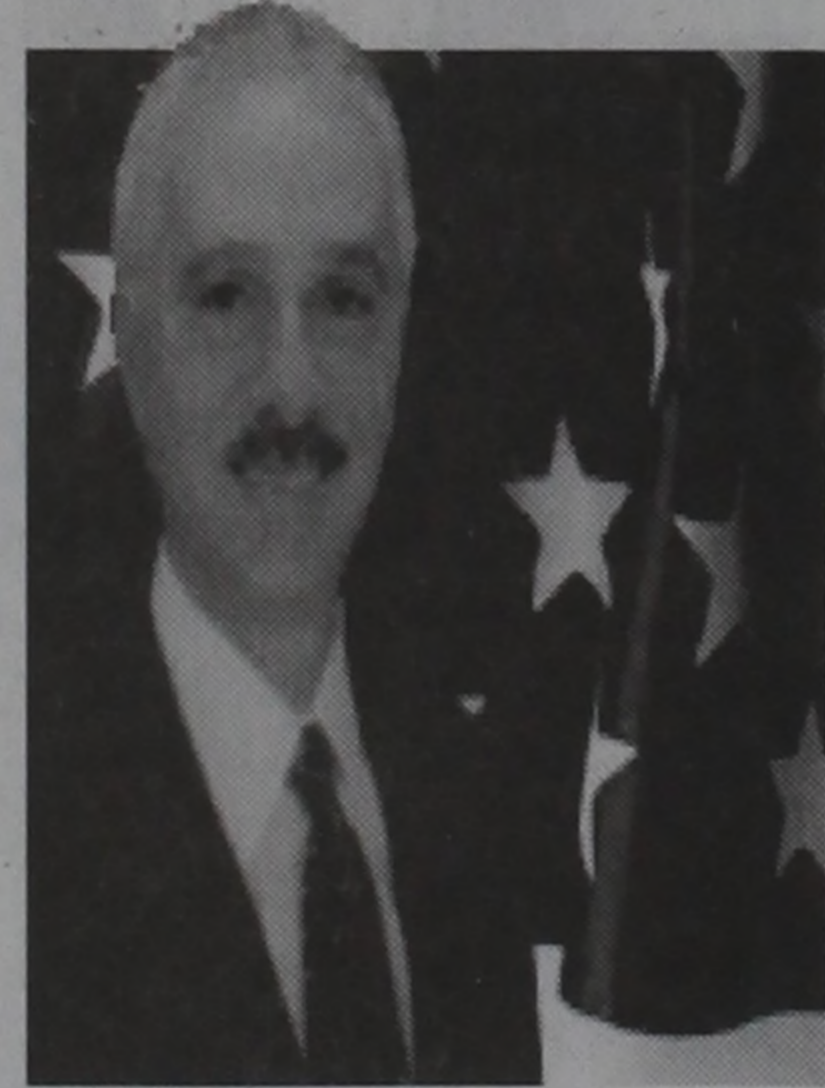


tin, Rabbi Aryeh Feigenbaum of Dallas, Rev. Raymond Bryant of San Antonio, and Rev. Eleazar Rodriguez, Jr. of Houston. Several parents also addressed the diverse gathering and large groups visited Texas legislators to inform them about the importance of the school choice issue.

Today's education rally was organized by Texans for School Choice, the Hispanic Council for Reform and Educational Options (Hispanic CREO), Agudath Israel, the Black Alliance for Educational Options, and the Texas Catholic Conference, as well as other organizations.

# Lost in Translation and Out of a Job

ALVARO CIFUENTES FOR VICE CHAIR



Alvaro Cifuentes, chair of the Democratic National Committee's Hispanic Caucus since 2001, resigned over the weekend over allegations that he used what is considered a racial slur in the African American community during a confrontation with an aide to DNC chair Howard Dean at the DNC's annual winter meeting in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Cifuentes got into a heated argument with the aide, Matt Nugent, calling him “boy” several times.

In an e-mail obtained by the island daily El Nuevo Día, Mr. Cifuentes apologized to the aide and the DNC, saying that having grown up in Puerto

Rico, he was not aware that the word “boy” when speaking to an African American man would be considered racially insensitive. “Boy” in the Spanish-language would translate to “muchachito,” and is commonly used in Spanish to be dismissive of a person's opinion. Its female counterpart, “muchachita,” is used for the same purpose.

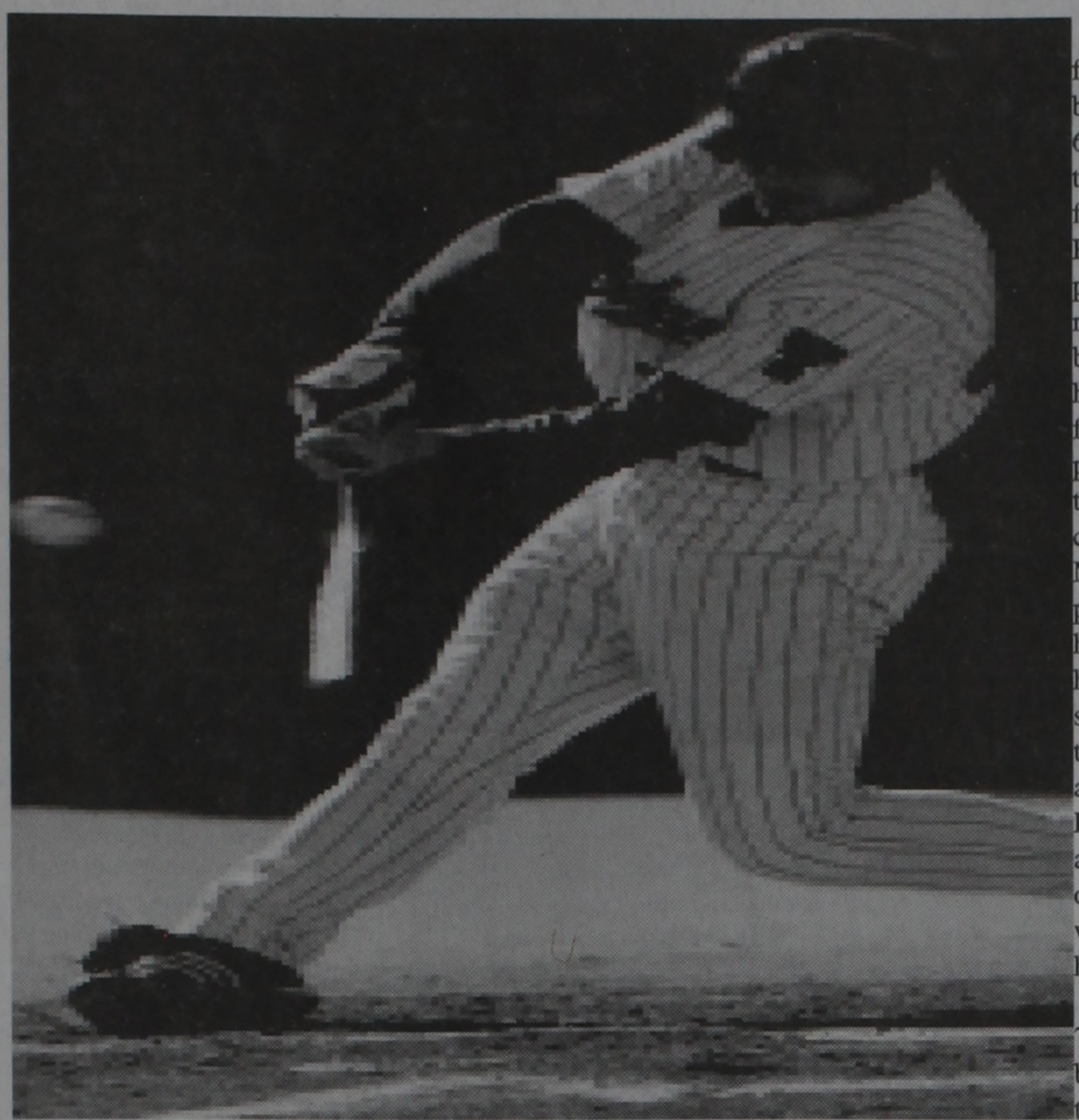
Mr. Cifuentes, a chief of staff to former Puerto Rico governor Pedro Rosselló, is a well-known figure in Democratic Party circles. While Mr. Cifuentes has resigned as DNC Hispanic Caucus chair, he remains a DNC member. He was not available for comment.

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# Tech Falls To New Mexico 15-13



After falling behind 6-1 in the top of the fourth, the Red Raiders plated three runs in the bottom half of the frame to pull within two. Junior catcher Matt Smith picked up his first hit of the season in the inning and the Red Raiders took advantage of two walks and a hit batter. Trailing 7-4 in the bottom of the fifth, the Texas Tech

LUBBOCK, Texas - New Mexico used six home runs to snap an eight-game losing streak to Texas Tech as the Lobos dropped the Red Raiders 15-13 on Tuesday afternoon at Dan Law Field.

The loss drops Tech to 1-2 on the season while New Mexico improves to 1-0. The Red Raiders return to action on Friday at 3 p.m. as Tech will face Northwestern in the first game of the Red Raider Classic.

New Mexico didn't waste any jumping out to the lead as leadoff hitter Matt Foote deposited the third pitch of the ballgame over the left field

fence to give the Lobos a 1-0 lead. With the bases loaded, third baseman Ian Hollick and designated hitter Matt Hibbits notched a pair of sacrifice flies to push the UNM lead to 3-0.

Sophomore right fielder Roger Kieschnick put the Red Raiders on the board in the bottom half of the first when he belted a solo home run to left field. The home run marked his first of the season.

Jordan Pacheco extended the New Mexico lead back to three runs when he hit a towering home run in the top of the third that cleared the green monster in center field.

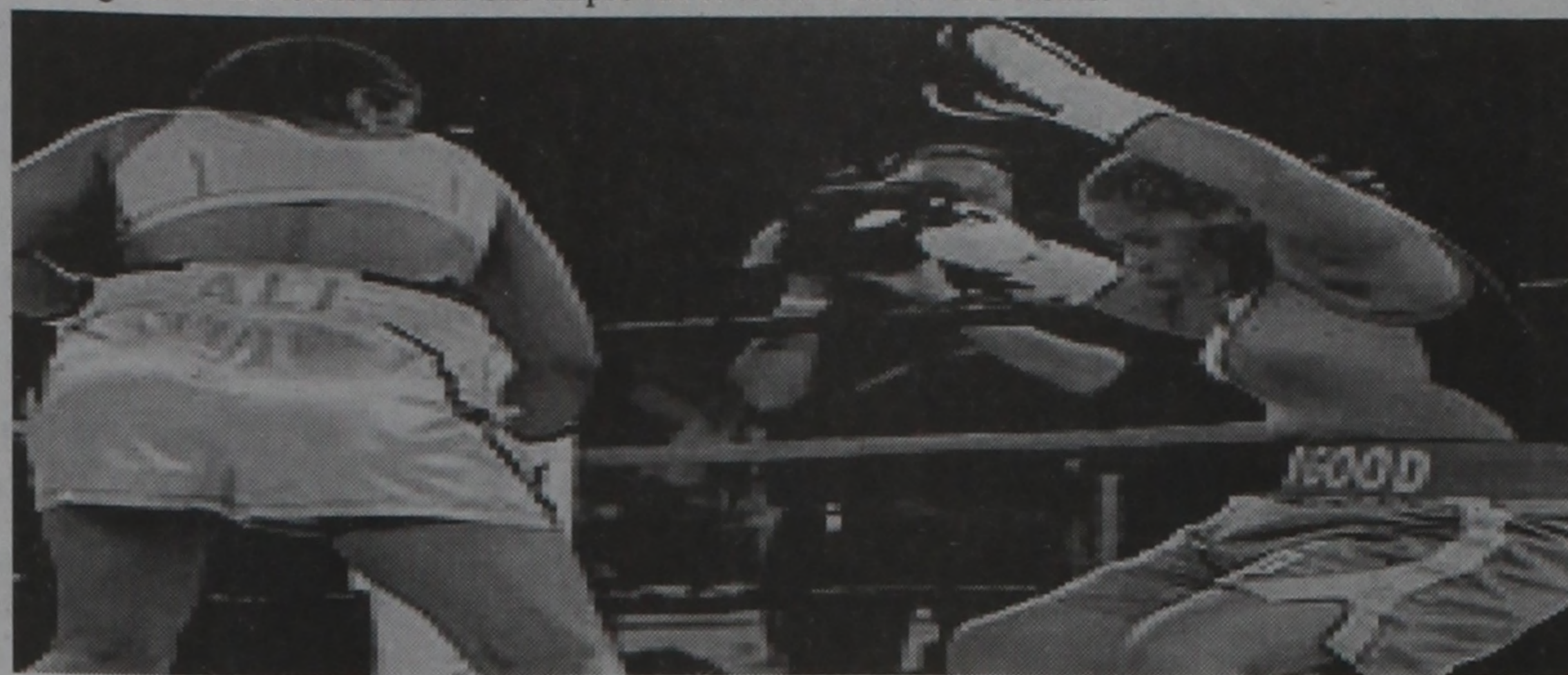
bats came to life as three Red Raiders hit their first home runs of the season. Junior catcher Matt Smith belted a two-run home run while freshmen Taylor Ashby and Chris Hall hit back-to-back solo home runs to give Tech an 8-7 lead.

The Tech lead didn't last long as the Lobos plated two runs on a failed double play attempt to take a 9-8 lead. Tech reliever James Leverton came in relief and induced Jay Russell into what should have been an inning-ending double play but shortstop Kyle Martin's throw was high to first and that allowed two runs to score.

# Laila Ali drops Guyana's O'Neil in 56 seconds in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa -- Laila Ali wasted little time in retaining her WBC and WIBA world titles, knocking out Gwendolyn O'Neil of Guyana at 56 seconds of the first round Saturday in their super middleweight fight.

The 29-year-old daughter of boxing great Muhammad Ali headlined the first women's professional boxing match in South Africa. She improved to 24-0 with 21 knockouts.



"I have my cell phone back in the dressing room, and I will be giving my father a call," she said. It took only two stiff straight rights from Ali before referee Ian John Lewis counted out the challenger in the scheduled 10-rounder. Ali apologized to fans, including former South African President Nelson Mandela, for the brevity of the fight.

"I would have liked to have shown the fans a few more rounds," she said. "But hey, I'm happy with the KO."

Ali took a punch to her left eye in early exchanges and was unable to see out of it. Laila Ali connects with a right vs. Gwendolyn O'Neil. (Getty Images)

"I was glad to land that first right and have a chance to let it clear," she said. O'Neil fell on her back after that right, and took a mandatory eight-count before continuing. However, she was clearly stunned and it was a matter of time before the second straight right landed. A wobbly O'Neil struggled to her feet but was counted out.

O'Neil's record dropped to 12-1-5. She was knocked out by Ali in the third round in 2004 in Atlanta.

"I was out to make it quicker than the last time," Ali said. "But I did not expect it to be this quick." Ali barely made the 168-pound weight limit at Friday's weigh-in.

"This will be my last fight for a while," said Ali, who previously said she plans to have a family. Ali also met with Mandela's ex-wife, human rights activist Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, in Soweto and spoke to students at a school during her visit.

## NCAA Game Summary - Nebraska At Texas Tech

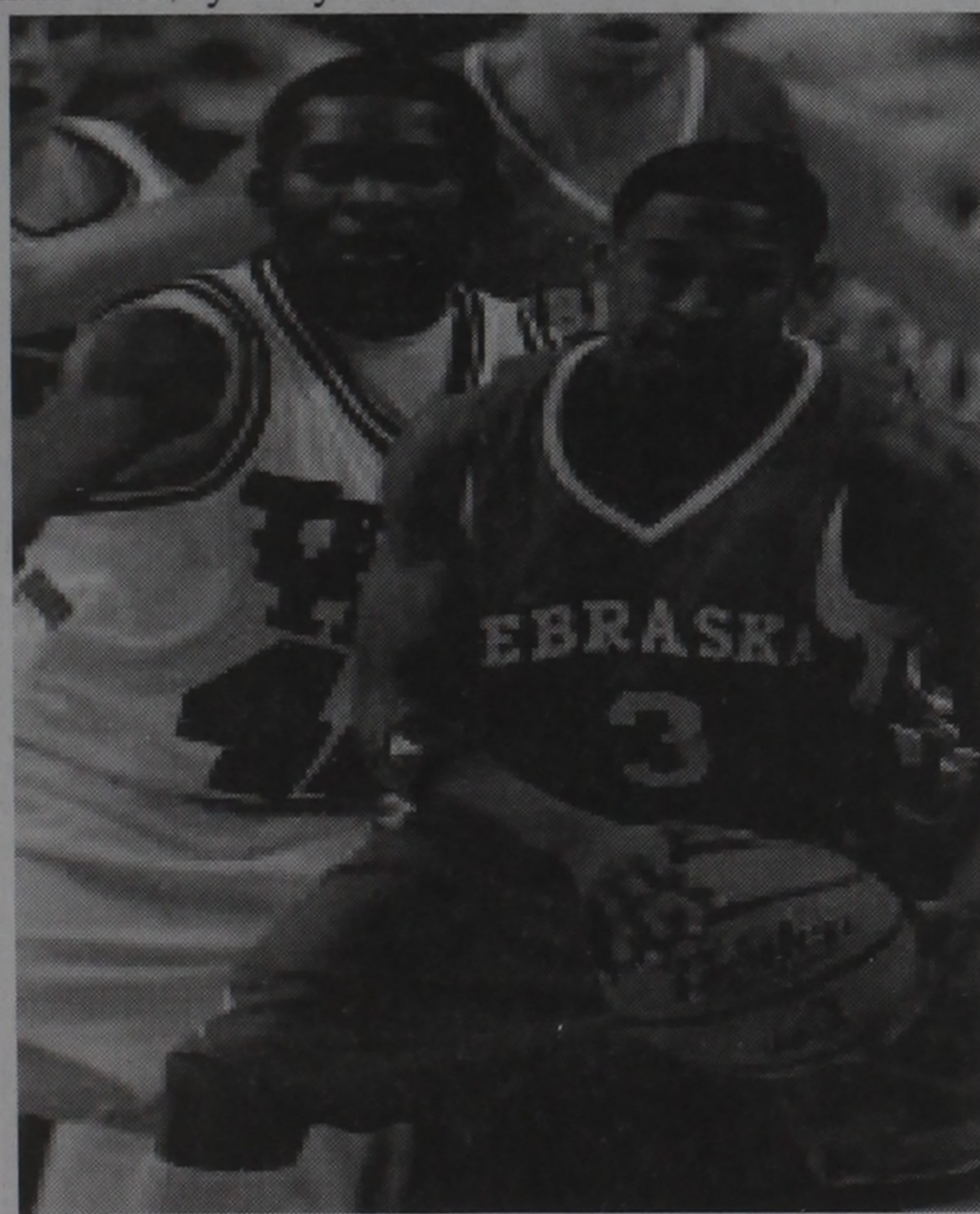
Lubbock, TX - The Nebraska Cornhuskers seemed to have a last minute visit by Lady Luck

to post a 61-59 victory over the Texas Tech Red Raiders in a Big 12 matchup from the United Spirits

stormed back to catch up and win when Nebraska inbounded the ball at its end of the court with 18 seconds remaining and got it to Marcus Perry on the left side. His 3-point attempt missed, but Aleks Maric tipped the rebound out to the right side and Tech's Charles Burgess saved the ball from going out of bounds.

Despite shooting just 37 percent from the floor in the first half the Red Raiders went into the break with a 29-16 lead. The Cornhuskers shot a 54.2 percent from the field in the second stanza, but needed Richardson Jr's heroics to capture the two-point victory.

Nebraska connected on 10-of-26 attempts from long range, while Texas Tech netted just 7-of-20 shots from behind the arc



and used a last second three-point basket by Charles Richardson Jr.

Arena. After a big half time deficit, the Huskers

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## WINTER GALA TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Gala spurs interest in Hispana banquet and scholarship applications Lubbock, TX - The Hispanic Association of Women (HAW) is an organization that has been organizing the efforts of Hispanic women within the Lubbock community since 1983. HAW promotes education, defines issues of concern, forms coalitions and develops leadership skills, and, strives to empower women and youth.

As a result of an increase in the number of scholarship applicants last year, members will be hosting a Winter Gala. The proceeds from the gala will be circulated to deserving young women during the annual Hispana of the Year Awards & Scholarship Banquet scheduled in early spring.

The gala will be held Saturday, February 10, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., in the banquet room of the Holiday Inn Towers located at 8th and Ave. Q. The event will feature dancing, live entertainment, dinner, and a cocktail hour.

## CALL FOR YOUNG ASPIRING MUSICIANS

Lubbock, TX - Mariachi Nueva Generacion, the first youth mariachi ensemble created in Lubbock, will be holding workshops for youth interested in beginning and advanced Mariachi.

The courses will be taught by recognized mariachi instructors, including Oscar Castillo, guitar; Manuel Cedillo and Nick Medina, vihuela; Augustine Medina III, guitarron; Ed Cornelson and Ruben Ortiz, violin; and Carlos Merlo and Rick Martinez, trumpet.

The classes are open to students in junior high or high school, with no previous experience required. Class sizes will be small and include voice instruction as well as take home practice materials.

Registration is now open with a registration fee of \$10. The classes will begin Friday, February 17th, in the Band Hall of the Lubbock High School campus from 1:00 to 5 p.m., and continue on Saturday, February 19th, from 9a.m. to 3 p.m.

A final concert featuring Damas de Jalisco from San Antonio, with special performances by Mariachi Nueva Generacion, and Mariachi Cavazos Middle School will be held Saturday, February 17, 2007 at 7 p.m., in the Lubbock High School Auditorium, located at 2004 19th Street.

The concert is sponsored by Latino Lubbock Magazine, Kings Food and Gas, Univision, and Dr. George Garza and Claudia Garza and Family.

Tickets for the concert are \$10, and can be reserved by calling (806) 438-1369.

Under the direction of Augustine Medina Jr., Mariachi Nueva Generacion of Lubbock has 30 student musicians. The program provides leadership and music training, especially to Hispanic youth in the Lubbock community, and requires parent involvement. As a result of this program other youth mariachi programs have stemmed in Lubbock schools.

## Xenon Pictures Announces the Feb. 6th DVD Release of LOS LONELY BOYS: COTTON-FIELDS AND CROSSROADS

The Acclaimed Documentary by Award-Winning Filmmaker Hector Galan 'LOS LONELY BOYS: COTTONFIELDS AND CROSSROADS' scores a pleasing impact with spirited live performances.

-Variety  
"This is a document of persistence, passion, and some of the finest rock & roll since Stevie Ray Vaughan's untimely exit." - Marc Savlov, The Austin Chronicle.

## LA CAMINADA/WALK FOR EQUAL QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL TEXAS HISPANIC/LATINO/NATIVE-AMERICAN CHILDREN

On Saturday, February 10, 2007 at 9:00am at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 400 Callaghan, Laredo, TX invites you to a Special Blessing Masses. Following this mass there will be "La Caminada/Walk" for Equal Education for all TEXAS Hispanic/Latino/Native American Children. La Caminada/Walk begins after the Mass on Hwy 35 North to reach San Antonio, Tx on Saturday, February 24, 2007 at 9:00am. Mass will be held at this time at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 1321 El Paso St., San Antonio, TX. Then from 10:00-12:00pm Plaza MADRES MARCHA information, then La Caminada/Walk continues on Hwy 35 North to reach Austin, TX on Tuesday, March 6, 2007, 9:00am Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church (2 miles to State Capitol). MARCHA begins after Mass to the Texas State Capitol. The Educational Program is to start at 1:00 pm.

## Attention Entrepreneur & Business Community

You are invited to attend the Starting Your Own Business Workshop (SYOB). The workshop is four night over a two week period and starts Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 6-8-13-15 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. This workshop is for those looking to start, who recently started and for those who have been in business and are looking to expand or turnaround their struggling business.

Business say that they have become very informed during the four nights and walk away feeling it was a good investment of their time. It is the best \$45, four nights, twelve hours that anyone looking to start, expand, or turnaround their struggling business is going to invest. For more information go to: <http://www.ttsbdc.org/lubbock/Workshops/workshops.htm>

## DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PUBLIC MEETING

The next step in the future of downtown Lubbock will be taken during a public meeting on February 13, 2007. The Downtown Redevelopment Commission is currently working on a 25-year plan for the area. Citizens submitted ideas to the Commission, EDAW, Development Strategies, and Parkhill, Smith, and Cooper during a public meeting in November. EDAW has compiled those ideas and will share several different possibilities during the February 13th meeting of what downtown Lubbock could look like in 25 years. Citizens will again be asked what they would like to see in downtown Lubbock in the future.

The meeting will take place on February 13, 2007, from 7-9 p.m. at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Banquet Hall, 1501 Mac Davis Lane.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY HALF PRICE SALE IS SATURDAY

The Annual Book Lover's Sale will be held on Saturday, February 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the basement of the Mahon Library, 1306 9th St. All items will be half price, including books for adults and children, "Better Books," tapes, CDs, and videos.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Lubbock Public Library, the sale is open to the public, and the proceeds benefit the programs and services of the library.

Book sale attendees are also invited to visit the C-Span2 "Book TV Bus," which will be parked in the Mahon Library parking lot from 11:00 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information, please call 775-2824.

## Valentine Recipes

### Melt Hearts With BrightIdeas.com

(Family Features) - Cupid understands that it's the people we care about every day - and those who care about us - who are our valentines. Best friends, running buddies, office mates, parents and children touch our hearts on a daily basis. Why not say "you mean the world to me" this Valentine's Day by stirring up something special for those you cherish? Start with these sweet ideas made for sharing and fun activities for the family. A multitude of bright, festive ideas - invitations, gift tags and more to download - that will fire your creative spirit can be found at [BrightIdeas.com](http://BrightIdeas.com). Gather the Gang

Have the family get together to make sweet favors - perfect for school or the office - and make Lovepops: Bake heart-shaped sugar cookies on a stick, frost with red or pink icing and decorate with M&M's. Heart-Felt Parties Make your sweet holiday celebration fun, unforgettable and full of spice.

Host a "Couples Dinner Party," and have everyone attend in cocktail attire or black tie. Right before you serve dessert, have the men at the table switch seats - it's a great way to mix and mingle with your guests!

Masquerade Parties are great for all ages - try hosting a Venetian Masquerade for adults and a fun and festive "make your own mask" party for kids.

For a quick and inexpensive romantic touch to your dinner for two - scatter rose petals across your tabletop. To set a really sweet mood, scatter Valentine's M&M's with rose petals.

Create lively conversation by printing a famous love quote underneath each guest's name; place a Dove Rich Dark Chocolate Heart next to each card.

Create the Perfect Date Night Valentine's Day should be celebrated with that special someone. To plan the perfect date night, check out indulgent and romantic ideas at <http://www.brightideas.com/valentines/date>.

Bright Ideas for Every Season Don't

miss out on creative fun designed especially for every season. Sign up for seasonal newsletters, special recipes just for you, entertaining party ideas complete with invitations and party favors. All entertaining, all the time! Visit [www.BrightIdeas.com](http://www.BrightIdeas.com) for tastefully sweet ideas for every year round celebrations.

### Mocha Delight

Ingredients  
Cake  
4 tablespoons butter, melted  
1 cup graham cracker crumbs  
1 22.5-ounce box brownie mix  
Frosting  
3 egg whites  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened  
2 tablespoons instant espresso coffee  
Decoration  
1 bag Dove Rich Dark Chocolate Hearts  
1 cup whipped cream or topping

Preparation Heat oven to 350°F. Line bottom of 9-inch springform pan with waxed paper; grease. Add melted butter to graham cracker crumbs and press into bottom of pan. Prepare brownie mix according to package directions; spread over crumbs. Bake until firm, approximately 35 to 50 minutes, until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from oven to a wire rack; cool completely and remove cake from pan. Meanwhile, prepare frosting: Whisk egg whites and sugar together over simmering water until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat; using electric mixer, beat until cooled. Add butter one nugget at a time while continuing to beat. Dissolve espresso in 2 tablespoons warm water. Beat espresso into frosting. Frost top and sides of cake. Snip small corner of a resealable plastic bag; place whipped cream inside. Pipe 8 rosettes around outside edges of cake. Place a chocolate heart atop each rosette. To serve, place 8 chocolate hearts in a small, resealable plastic bag. Microwave until melted, about 15 seconds. Cut a corner of bag; randomly drizzle chocolate on dessert plates. Place a cake wedge on each plate. Serves Makes: 16 slices

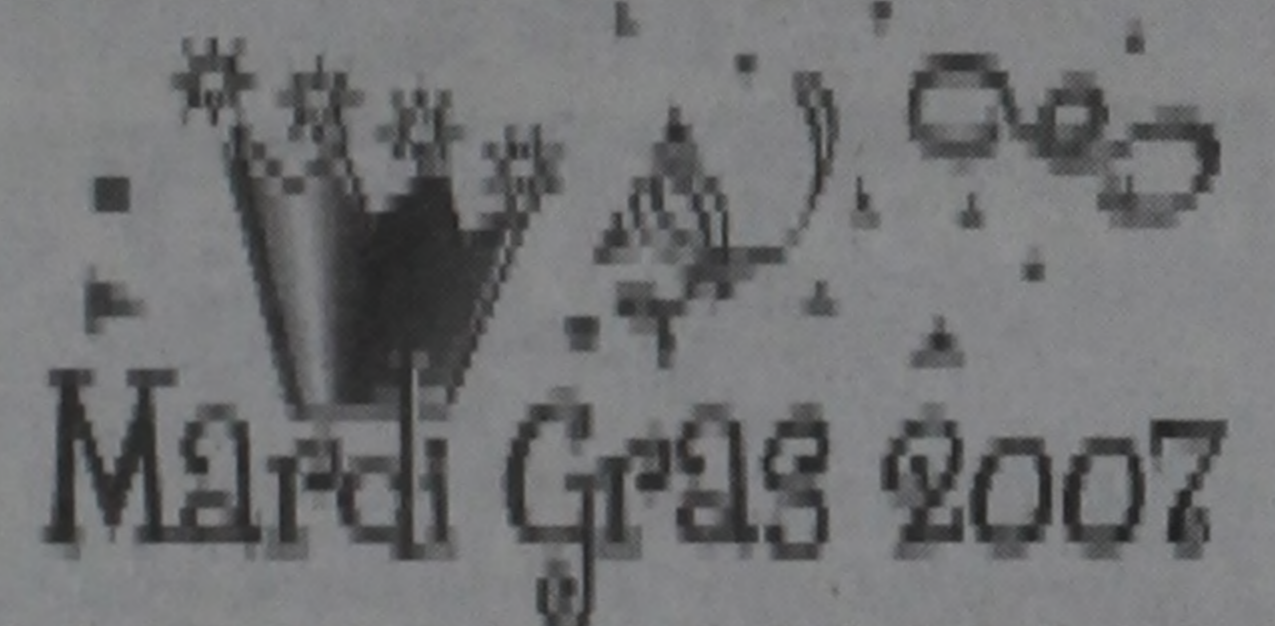
### CITY OF LUBBOCK Recreation Center Supervisor - #48258 Maggie Trejo Supercenter

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