

Casualties of  
War in Iraq  
3,163  
as of Mar 1,  
2007

# El Editor

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

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## U.S. economy leaving record numbers in severe poverty

By Tony Pugh

WASHINGTON - The percentage of poor Americans who are living in severe poverty has reached a 32-year high, millions of working Americans are falling closer to the poverty line and the gulf between the nation's "haves" and "have-nots" continues to widen.

A McClatchy Newspapers analysis of 2005 census figures, the latest available, found that nearly 16 million Americans are living in deep or severe poverty. A family of four with two children and an annual income of less than \$9,903 - half the federal poverty line - was considered severely poor in 2005. So were individuals who made less than \$5,080 a year.

The McClatchy analysis found that the number of severely poor Americans grew by 26 percent from 2000 to 2005. That's 56 percent faster than the overall poverty population grew in the same period. McClatchy's review also found statistically significant increases in the percentage of the population in severe poverty in 65 of 215 large U.S. counties, and similar increases in 28 states. The review also suggested that the rise in severely poor residents isn't confined to large urban counties but extends to suburban and rural areas.

The plight of the severely poor is a distressing sidebar to an unusual economic expansion. Worker productivity has increased dramatically since the brief recession of 2001, but wages and job growth have lagged behind. At the same time, the share of national income going to corporate profits has dwarfed the amount going to wages and salaries. That helps explain why the median household income of working-age families, adjusted for inflation, has fallen for five straight years.

These and other factors have helped push 43 percent of the nation's 37 million poor people into deep poverty - the highest rate since at least 1975.

The share of poor Americans in deep poverty has climbed slowly but steadily over the last three decades. But since 2000, the number of severely poor has grown "more than any other segment of the population," according to a recent study in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

"That was the exact opposite of what we anticipated when we began," said Dr. Steven Woolf of Virginia Commonwealth University, who co-authored the study. "We're not seeing as much moderate poverty as a proportion of the population. What we're seeing is a dramatic growth of severe poverty."

The growth spurt, which leveled off in

2005, in part reflects how hard it is for low-skilled workers to earn their way out of poverty in an unstable job market that favors skilled and educated workers. It also suggests that social programs aren't as effective as they once were at catching those who fall into economic despair.

About one in three severely poor people are under age 17, and nearly two out of three are female. Female-headed families with children account for a large share of the severely poor.

'I DON'T ASK FOR NOTHING'

A few miles from the Capitol Building, 60-year-old John Treece pondered his life in deep poverty as he left a local food pantry with two bags of free groceries.

Plagued by arthritis, back problems and myriad ailments from years of manual labor, Treece has been unable to work full time for 15 years. He's tried unsuccessfully to get benefits from the Social Security Administration, which he said disputes his injuries and work



According to census data, nearly two of three people in severe poverty are white (10.3 million) and 6.9 million are non-Hispanic whites. Severely poor blacks (4.3 million) are more than three times as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be in deep poverty, while extremely poor Hispanics of any race (3.7 million) are more than twice as likely.

Washington, D.C., the nation's capital, has a higher concentration of severely poor people - 10.8 percent in 2005 - than any of the 50 states, topping even hurricane-ravaged Mississippi and Louisiana, with 9.3 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively. Nearly six of 10 poor District residents are in extreme poverty.

history.

In 2006, an extremely poor individual earned less than \$5,244 a year, according to federal poverty guidelines. Treece said he earned about that much in 2006 doing odd jobs.

Wearing shoes with holes, a tattered plaid jacket and a battered baseball cap, Treece lives hand-to-mouth in a \$450-a-month room in a nondescript boarding house in a high-crime neighborhood. Thanks to food stamps, the food pantry and help from relatives, Treece said he never goes hungry. But toothpaste, soap, toilet paper and other items that require cash are tougher to come by.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Festival Viva Aztlan Kicks off March 9 at Civic Center

By Bidal Agüero

Viva Aztlan simply stated means "our heritage lives!" For thirteen years the Viva Aztlan Dance Festival brings the blare of trumpets and the stopping of little feet that highlight Mexico's traditions into the Lubbock community for all to enjoy. The initial concept: to involve all communities in an exciting way. The festival is a competition for ballet folklorico groups which will be held at the Civic Center Theatre March 9-10. For the third year Mariachi a Mariachi concert and workshops will be held for a taste of spicy Mexican ballads and corridos. The added bonus for participating Mariachi groups is being conducted for local Mariachi students by members of the nationally known "Los Arrieros from El Paso/Juarez."

The founder of Viva Aztlan, Bidal Agüero, is very excited about the 13th Annual



Anniversary because it brings back memories from 1994, when he envisioned a bigger future for the folklorico groups in Lubbock. "Thirteen years ago I saw a surge of folklorico groups being formed in Lubbock. I felt the only way these groups could expose themselves and enhance their skills was to bring in other folklorico groups from other cities." Since most folklorico groups in Lubbock did not have the money to bring master instructors from Mexico, Viva Aztlan created this opportunity.

Agüero and his devoted committee members then asked folklorico groups across the United States to participate in the competition. To much of their surprise they have hosted groups from New Mexico, Colorado, Illinois, Texas, and as far away as México. The first year of the competition was a great surprise to all the committee members because the kids evolved around the word "competition". The charisma they manufactured while performing was not to win a trophy, nor was it a manufactured entity. The charisma came from the naturalness of their soul.

Ballet Folklorico has a tradition that runs deep within Mexico's culture. When a dance is taught to a group of dancers they will learn the steps, the movement, the grace and persona that is coupled with that particular dance. Since every song has a different meaning students also learn the origin of the song and also learn why costumes differ from song to song.

Upon asking Marisol Agüero, a dancer for Ballet Folklorico Aztlan in Lubbock, why she enjoys dancing folklorico at the Festival she said, "I like to see groups of dancers coming together to learn about our heritage." She continued saying that the most enjoyable part of dancing included meeting people from all over the United States. "We are all get so close and we laugh so much."

Zenaida Agüero Reyes, committee chair of Viva Aztlan, said the festival has also become a close-knit collaboration of dancers, groups, and instructors. "It's not about awards anymore. It's a chance for groups to network and educate themselves." Over 500 students participate in the competition and special workshops that are given by the master instructors each year.

## MARIACHI CONCERT - MARCH 9 FOLKLORICO SHOWCASE - MARCH 10

## Latin American Gangs Tell Different Story Than Media

By Raúl Damacio Tovares

This is a story about Latin American gangs — but with a twist. It differs from the ones you've been reading in the newspapers and viewing on TV news.

Titled "Youth Gangs in Central America, Mexico and Washington, D.C.: A Transnational Examination," it's based on research conducted by the Center for Inter-American Studies and Programs at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México.

Shared by the Washington Office on Latin America last month at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., it concludes that there is no international network of Latino gangs involved in drug trafficking or other types of crimes.

Its research team found that while youth gangs are a serious community problem both in the United States and in Latin America, the idea of an international cartel dealing in drugs, death and arms is more a figment of the imagination of newspaper and television reporters than a reflection of the actual gang situation.

Interviews with gang members, some of whom were in prison, in five Latin American countries and the Washington, D.C., area revealed that while some gang members in Latin America know someone living in the United States, actual involvement of young people from different countries in organized, criminal activities doesn't exist.

The study, funded by the Ford Foundation and the Kellogg Foundation, brought together scholars from various Latin American countries. They included Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador and Colombia, as well as Washington, D.C., and Long Beach, Calif.

Community leaders, police officers and politicians were interviewed. They tended to see the gang problem as serious, but not to the extent reported by the news media. Local media have painted a picture of youth gangs in the "Northern Triangle" as a serious threat to public safety, even to national security.

In fact, these groups of mostly marginalized young men with little education and low-level work skills have few resources at their disposal.

That the news media have managed to fabricate an image of a nefarious, well-organized, wealthy and ruthless organization that casts its net over a multi-country geographic area is

a testament to the power of the media and fear and gullibility of citizens.

There is no doubt that some young men in particular neighborhoods are terrifying local resi-

quencies of breaking the law and understand crime doesn't pay.

The study finds, not surprisingly, that gang members tend to come from violent homes. They are either not doing well

ing of gang bonds. It can also lead young people who have never been in a gang to join one for support and protection.

A more effective model of the use of police methods is provided by the Gang Intervention Partnership in Washington, D.C., which in addition to policing, draws on schools, health and social service agencies and community leaders to intervene, to keep gangs from developing. When necessary, they repress gang activity with police action.

Other successful programs are Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles and Operation Ceasefire in Boston. Homeboy Industries, founded in 1988, encourages and helps gang members to find employment. Operation Ceasefire combines policing with arms control. Since it was founded, gang homicides dropped 70 percent, according to the report.

The news media would do well to stop its sensational reporting. It just leads to fear and frustration, eventually to strong-arm police tactics and inflammatory political rhetoric.

Reporting on the reality of Latino gang activity, the young people involved in the gang lifestyle and the programs that achieve some success would do so much more for the community.

(Raúl Damacio Tovares is the author of Manufacturing the Gang. He teaches in the communication program of Trinity University, Washington, D.C. and may be contacted at tovaress@trinitydc.edu.)

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dents. They shake down people for money, sell drugs, and are only too willing to use violence to get their way. However, most young Latinos, even most gang members, do nothing more than "hang out." They know the conse-

in school, have been expelled or have simply quit attending. They lack skills that allow them to get good-paying jobs.

While media reports can legitimize excessive police action, such action can lead to the strengthen-



# COMMUNITY VOICES

Last week, Lubbock Police Chief Claude Jones called a rare news conference to discuss the Chippendale dancer's arrests. Yet when it has come to more important issues involving Lubbock police officers, it seems the LPD has either refused to comment or has simply ignored the situation. Just a couple of weeks ago 3 people were murdered on the East side of town; 2 on the night that at least 7 officers were at Jake's Bar waiting to see if the city's Sexually Oriented Business ordinance would be violated. This past Saturday night, police raided a local nightclub leading some people who were there to charge that the police had used racial profiling tactics during the raid.

Question: What is your opinion on the kind of job Chief of the LPD Claude Jones is doing running the Lubbock police department? What is your overall opinion of the Lubbock Police Department?

## More Critics than Praise

—First of all as in Education, there are always more critics that come out to criticize than praise. But, in this situation, it is our belief that that the city politicians are demoralizing their own judgment. "Those without sin cast the first stone."

What maybe "sexually motivated to one maybe a passing 'fancy', to down right humorous. So let's get serious about MURDER, and leave the dancing to us. We can either go or not go to Jake's or another place that would have such entertainment. It's our money, time to do as we choose, oh, that's right, that would be the AMERICA, we in TEXAS must not belong to. WOW, what a revelation of freedom of choice and the pursuit of happiness.

EOC

## City Council to Blame

I do not think the police are as much to blame as the city council. Generally the police are going to do what the people want and that is to enforce the law. I think where I see a big issue is in the way our local governing board is creating these ridiculous ordinances and imposing their religious values and morals on the people of Lubbock. What about the separation of Religion and State? I think people should have the right to do and go where ever they want within reason. Business is Business and I think we should have all kinds of entertainment within the city limits as long as it is run legitimately. I also think most people act as adults and know right from wrong, however they should have the right to attend an adult show if they so choose. I do not think it is the city council's right to tell me what business to support or not support. In essence what I am saying is government for the people and by the people and not just by some people. Thanks.

Frank Silva

## Lubbock Shameful Laughing Stock

Last Friday night, yet another SHAMEFUL chapter in Lubbock history unfolded at an unlikely place...the noncontroversial confines of Jake's Sports Cafe. Once again, Lubbock's reputation was sullied by an idiotic police action.

Let us not forget that this is the SAME police department which has freely used tasers to harass citizens, most recently the young Black man who was tasered during a routine traffic stop. They have tasered young nursing mothers, mentally challenged people, and people in their own homes... Juan Nuñez was killed by police tasers.

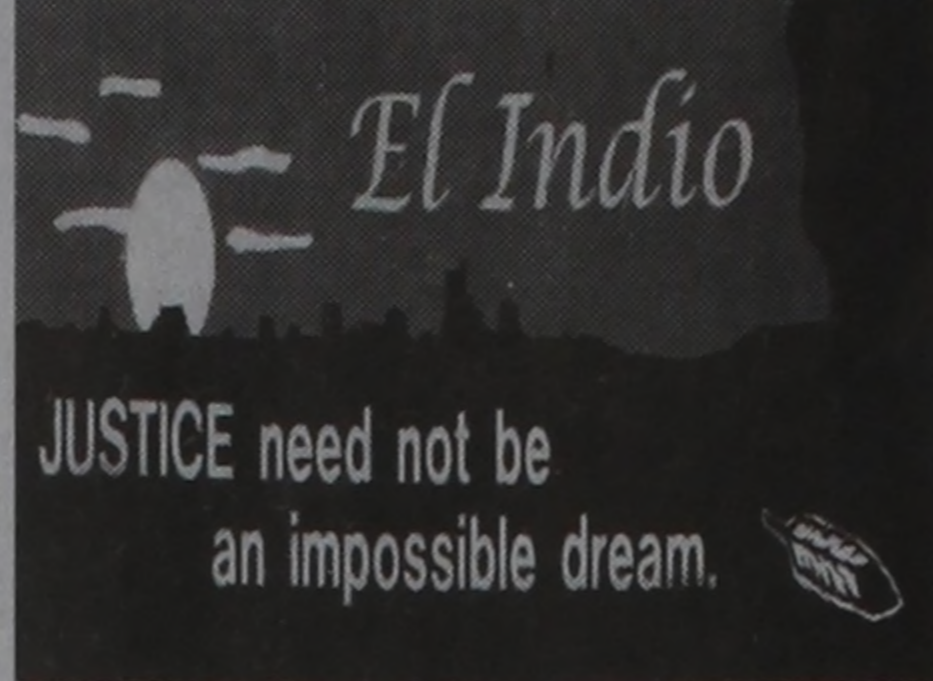
After all this, a police car was partially dismantled by officers at a drunken party to allegedly prevent one of their own from driving and nothing was done by the Department to punish those responsible for damage to public property.

The crying need for a Police Review Board has been well documented here in El Editor. The Chippendale Incident underscores this need...how long are we going to wait for action before another catastrophe takes place?

Now Police chief CLAUDE JONES has tried to quell the firestorm by saying that the police acted on state law rather than the Council-initiated ordinance on "sexually-oriented" businesses...but hey, we all heard the police representative on camera Friday night when he said the dancers were arrested under the "ordinance"...which Jones tried to cover up by talking about "state ordinances". If you know the law, you know that there is no such thing...we have state "laws" and city "ordinances". Like his predecessor, Chief CLAUDE JONES should be fired...for his poor handling of this incident and the police car situation.

The "CHIPPENDALE INCIDENT" is making Lubbock a NATIONAL LAUGHING-STOCK all over again...haven't we played this role before?

It is HIGH TIME that we establish a POLICE REVIEW BOARD. It is HIGH TIME that we institute true "Public Hearings" or "Town Halls" where the public can be effectively heard. It is HIGH TIME for Lubbock to grow up, and realize that all of your dreams for a vibrant, cosmopolitan city cannot happen unless diversity of opinion and lifestyles are respected!  
Cynthia Jimenez - Texas Tech Student



## New Voting Machines Are A Colossal Mistake!

By Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

It is intriguing to see the current news about the Texas Democratic Party suit against the electronic voting machines. Here in Lubbock County, we had a series of public hearings and one seminar to examine potential voting machine choices.

I spoke during these hearings, and received a lot of criticism about my opposition to the new machines. We could best characterize Lubbock County's purchase of the eSlate voting machines as a rush to judgment.

Unfortunately, that rush to judgment is a mistake that cost millions of dollars in taxpayer money. Now it is becoming increasingly apparent that these machines are a colossal mistake, and should be retired to the dustbin of history. Spending even more money to fix the electronic machines is money down the drain. Even with paper trails, these devices are clearly more trouble than they are worth.

The best system? The old-fashioned hand-counted paper ballots, using neighborhood volunteers instead of corporate minimum wage workers...numerous jurisdictions have returned to this system, including our neighbor to the west, New Mexico. Today, Missouri is in the news...considering a return to paper ballots...Tomorrow...the nation!

Those of us who advocated this foolproof method were called names at the hearings...but the momentum is on our side.

In Iraq, when important new elections were scheduled, did they use electronic machines? No, they used hand-counted paper ballots. We must return to the tried and true: Hand-counted paper ballots are the only way to guarantee the integrity of our votes!

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# Did We Really Get the Mayor We Voted For?

By Abel Cruz

"How about I admit I made a mistake? How about I admit that I didn't dig enough, didn't ask enough questions? — Mayor David Miller - KFYO Radio Interview 9/29/2006

"How about, we the voters admit we made a mistake. How about we admit we didn't dig deep enough or didn't ask enough questions — before we voted this man into office? Lubbock Voters — March 1, 2007

The first quote is by Mayor David Miller during a 2006 radio interview during which he attempted to justify and defend his flip flopping on the issue of raising city taxes.

The second quote? OK. I admit I made it up. Although it's probably too soon to make that judgment call, it wouldn't surprise me if that's how most Lubbock voters are feeling these days.

A little bit less than a year ago, conversations about city politics revolved around who would win the Lubbock Mayor's race. Back then, a lot of people were talking about the man the majority of Lubbock voters believed was, figuratively speaking, a political "knight in shining armor". He would be the one who would save us all from the "man who would be mayor", former Councilman Tom Martin. To many Lubbock voters, especially to a large majority of this city's Hispanic electorate, Miller was the "anti-Tom Martin". And in terms of leadership style, he has mostly lived up to that expectation.

It's his 9 month record as Mayor that some people are looking at and questioning.

Running on a message of "creating partnerships and a team building" philosophy, most voters believed David Miller would ride into city hall on his white horse and with one fell swoop of his imaginary sword; clean up city hall; tax rates would not go up; he would shine the light of day on a "behind closed doors or secretive" form of city government. He would conduct city business in an atmosphere of openness and accessibility; one in which all citizens would enjoy equal access. And finally, he would build the "mother of all partnerships" and lead us all to the "model city" promised land!

Based on what we've seen since the new council's honeymoon period ended, his honor's vision of a model city has been blurred by a long list of calamitous mishaps along with some questionable city council actions.

Consequently the council is nearer to becoming a shining model of a dysfunctional political family; almost a modern day feud similar to the Hatfields and McCoys. Why even the longest serving member on this current council, District 3 Councilman Gary Boren, is quoted as saying that, "The last eight months have been very disjointed; it seems like we're not all singing out of the same hymn book". (KFYO Radio Interview, Feb 27, 2007)

This council has gone from forming partnerships to forming council factions which seem to have a fondness for pointing fingers at each other. On one side we have the quartet of Miller, DeLeon, Price and Jones singing out of one hymnal. On the other, we have the trio of Boren, Leonard, and Gilbreath singing out of another; although Gilbreath has been known to sing out of both hymn books from time to time.

A candidate's promise not to raise tax rates has resulted in a Mayor's broken promise. Miller has referred to the media as the enemy; simply because it happens to have opposing views or has questioned the mayor's actions.

Open government has turned into a "no comment" form of government. An effort to improve public safety by placing red light cameras at some Lubbock intersections has been exposed as nothing more than a "money grab". The city manager disingenuously promises unbudgeted raises to 3 assistant city managers and after voting against the raises in December, the mayor once again flips and casts the deciding vote in favor of the raises in February. Councilwoman Linda DeLeon's town hall meeting goes from a discussion of a new Mercado Project to a local radio station operations manager yelling at the mayor and other council persons in attendance. It produces not an open discussion but a "see ya" from the mayor. And the highly trumpeted "Mayor's Night In", an idea which gave Lubbock citizens some face time with the mayor seems to have gone the way of the dinosaurs.

And the list just goes on and on and on.

How did this happen? Why does the mayor suddenly find himself the object of ridicule along with rest of the city after the Chippendale incident?

First and foremost, this mayor has hurt himself by going against his own campaign rhetoric to conduct city business out in the open.

During the McDougal administration most of us knew that deals were struck long before votes were taken; and that for the most part, former District 5 Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Tom Martin led the choir with a "verbal whip" instead of a baton; figuratively speaking of course. In one instance in early 2006, council action even resulted in allegations that some council members had violated the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

The majority of the voting public, sensing that things were not quite right and not willing to take a chance on Tom Martin's leadership style, decided to go in a different direction and selected an outsider as Mayor. Thrown into the mix was a new face on the council, John Leonard, and most people shared a sense of optimism about the future of city politics.

Yet here we are, 9 months removed from the election and it seems that the "disjointedness" on this city council has not only not given birth to a model city but rather to a series of public spat between various council members; a loss of public confidence in the mayor by some of the very people who voted for him, and a sense that the promise of open government has given way to a secretive way of doing business that would make even VP Dick Cheney jealous.

One recent issue stands out as an example of the kinds of things that have led us to where we are today. The red light cameras situation has demonstrated that the people's business, the issues that really matter to people, continues to be conducted out of the public view; behind closed doors. And it confirms the old adage that "you can't teach an old dog new tricks"; or if you'd rather, old habits are hard to break.

Otherwise, why would City Manager Lee Ann Dumbauld budget for some city positions in the final city budget based on the potential revenue that the installation of red light cameras would generate; months before the council approved the installation of the cameras? Answer: Because way back then she was pretty confident that the red light cameras were a done deal.

If so, then why go through the charade of holding public hearings and meetings for the public to voice their opinions when the deal had already been closed? Why try to deceive the public into believing that red light cameras are a public safety issue when it's really the revenue you want from the thousands of citations that you plan to issue?

Most recently, City Manager Dumbauld has continued the charade by instituting a hiring freeze; which according to local media means "the city can't hire new police officers". Apparently Dumbauld is attempting to place blame for her not being able to hire new police officers, (once again using the public safety angle), on the delayed installation of red light cameras. By extension she seems to be pointing the finger at Councilman Boren and Leonard who have voiced legitimate concerns relating to the cameras. Unfortunately her action only contributes to the divisiveness that exists on the council already.

In a rare display of truthfulness from an elected official, District 5 Councilman John Leonard, who has been opposed to the cameras all along, confirmed what most of us already know. Leonard was recently quoted in the local media as saying: "It is all about money, from the first week in office between the new mayor and myself discussions were initiated on well, how much revenue red light cameras would bring...it wasn't until we tried to sell the idea to the public that we started talking about public safety."

Add to this the Chippendale dancer's fiasco, and I think most people would agree that that only added to the controversy over how this city is being run and whether the Mayor, city council and LPD overstepped the boundaries of common sense. The fact that absolutely nothing resulted from the whole "Chippendale sexcapade", other than the LPD overreacting and wasting taxpayer resources, has only added to a feeling of skepticism about whether this mayor is right for this city and if he is in fact the kind of mayor the majority of voters had hoped he would be.

But by all indications, it seems the knight's shining armor has dulled considerably...and the chink in the armor has become a large gaping hole.

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# Address to Lubbock City Council

March 5, 2007

By: Ysidro Gutierrez

Editor's note: the following is a statement made by Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez during the Public Comments section of the Council meeting Honorable City Council

My name is Ysidro Gutierrez. I am the elected representative on the Lubbock County Commissioners Court, for Pct 3.

Since I've served in this capacity, I've come to believe that the most satisfying aspect of being an elected representative is assisting constituents when they ask for help.

Perhaps the Honorable members of the City Council believe as I do? Not long ago, a friend called to ask for my help. I was ready to do anything I could because this person, Mr. Armando Gonzales, who is present today, is one of my best friends. Armando is the father of Mr. Chris Gonzales, who is also a close personal friend of mine, and is the operator and soon will be the owner of South Beach Club in the Depot District

My friend Armando explained that he was worried, as fathers everywhere worry, when their sons face difficulty.

Mr Gonzales ask for my counsel when he discovered that this Honorable Council had resolved to purchase the South Beach Club building and property. At first I was incredulous, surely the City of Lubbock was not going into the night club business. But, my unbelief soon turned to shock as Councilwoman Linda Deleon stated at the Feb 5 meeting of Hispanic Agenda that this Honorable Council had decided to demolish the South Beach. It quickly became apparent why my friend Armando was concerned for his son, in view of the actions of this Honorable Council.

I am come today for three purposes:

First to introduce my friend Chris Gonzales to you; Secondly to appeal for restraint; and Thirdly to explain my motivation. Being here is difficult, but the difficulty is measured because as fellow elected representatives I know you empathize. If any of us are to be criticized or disparaged, let it be because we acted on behalf of friends. Let it be because we did what is right.

Chris Gonzales and his wife Angela are the operators of South Beach Club.

- Their enterprise is profitable.
- They provide jobs, make payrolls, purchase supplies and services, and generate tax revenues for the City.

But, in addition to his personal success, Chris is a generous contributor to the community.

The revenues from South Beach Club make it possible.

Over the last three years, he sponsored the Northwest and East Lubbock Little Leagues, providing uniforms, equipment, and snacks for the whole season.

He sponsored the "First Annual Bikers Against Child Abuse" fund raiser in 2004 and again in 2005.

When the citizens of the Guadalupe Neighborhood needed help, he opened South Beach for them to raise funds. All proceeds were designated for the building fund for a new community center.

He partnered with the USMC during the annual "Toys for Tots" campaign in 2004 and 2005 providing Christmas joy to countless children in our community.

Chris and his cousin Jessie Gonzales, operate a gym for young children — at no charge! The gym is free because of the success of South Beach and the generosity of Chris and Jessie.

Last year Chris was named the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Business Man of the Year. And, Chris served as Vice President of the Depot Entertainment District.

Every two months, he donates the box from South Beach to the Hispanic Student Association at Estacado High School. And he has helped the TTU Hispanic Student Society. He has done so for quite some time.

The funds raised at South Beach for the benefit of local organizations — stays in Lubbock.

Twice, I have written letters commending him for these.

Chris and Angela are model entrepreneurs and true assets for Lubbock. They are exactly the type of citizen Lubbock desires and needs.

Now I'd like to appeal to this Honorable Council for restraint.

Last year the US Supreme Court ruled that it was lawful for government to use eminent domain to take away one persons property and give it to another person so that the other person could profit from the original owners property. When the Supreme Court ruling was announced in Texas, the whole of Texas was stunned and resolved that this would not happen here. It was categorically rejected for use throughout the State.

I've heard several of you say that you are free to buy any property at any time. This is true, you can, you have the power, you have the public's money, you have the ability to buy any property on the market.

Because Government has access to the public treasury, Government is more powerful than any one citizen. It is true that no one citizen can resist Government. Unrestrained Government is the juggernaut of lore.

Private citizens have but one recourse; to petition the Government for redress or to just ask — Why? Why would City Council tear down a thriving business. South Beach is the only venue in the Depot District that regularly draws from 1200 to 1500 customer. Why would City Council deprive a family's of its livelihood. Why would City Council deprive the Hispanic Community of the music that enriches our culture and forms our tradition. Why would City Council contribute to unemployment. Why would City Council diminish the tax base. Why would City Council do all these without the courtesy of informing the Gonzales' of its intentions.

My friends have repeated queried this Honorable Assembly concerning these matters, but answers have not been forthcoming.

My Third purpose this morning is to explain why I'm here.

Not long ago, a prior member of this Honorable Council tried to stop Councilwoman Linda Deleon from building her All American Concrete business at its current site, I stood with the Councilwoman in support of her right to own and operate her business in opposition to all attempts to stop her. I did all I could to get public support for her and I encouraged her to persevere

I am here today in support of my friend Chris Gonzales for the very same reason.

Hispanic entrepreneurs should be invited and encouraged to build and to grow successful enterprises; that they may prosper.

South Beach has a bright future. They have good cause for optimism. The Gonzales' should be encouraged to persevere, as Councilwoman Deleon.

I close with this appeal: Please, let us work together as we have in the past to make Lubbock better. I worked closely with Phyllis Jones and Jim Gilbreath on the Citizens Advisory Committee: With Linda Deleon and Floyd Price in assisting the Lubbock Boys and Girls Club: With the Mayor in building strong cooperation between the County and the City.

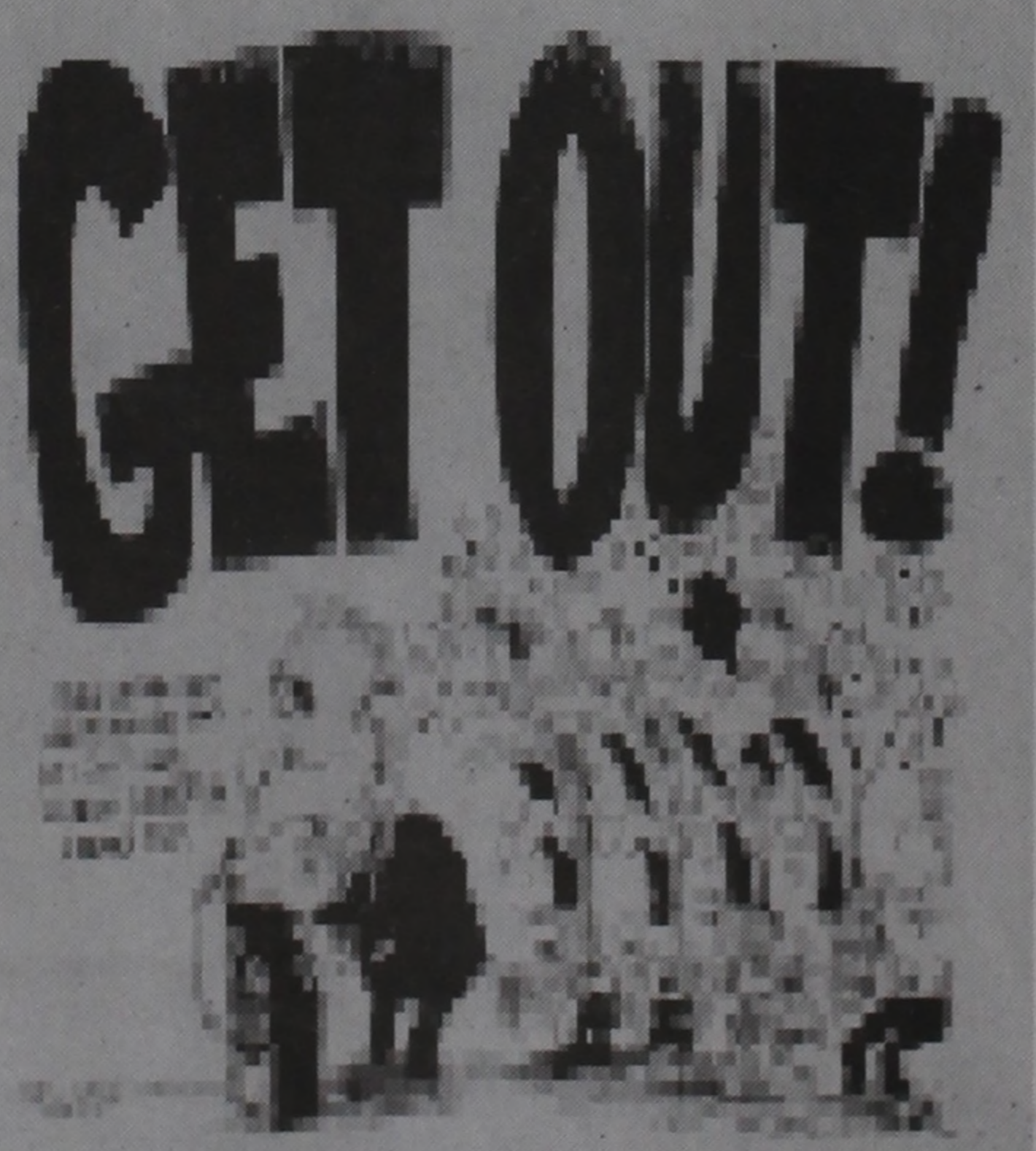
I look forward to joining with Mr. Boren in the future.

Honorable City Council these are my friends, the Gonzales'

# Security Failures of Bush Presidency

- Homeland Security—D Minus
- Borders—F
- Sea Ports—D
- Air Ports—D
- Harbors and Shipping Container Docks—D
- Transportation, Industrial, Nuclear Plants and Fissile Material, and Public Infrastructure—D
- Food Supply—D
- Immigration—D
- Emergency Management and Natural Disasters—F
- North American Security Alliance—C
- Front on Terrorism—F
- Al Qaeda, based out of Pakistan—F
- Taliban, based out of Pakistan—F
- Hezbollah, based in Syria, Iran, and Southern Lebanon—F
- Afghanistan—D
- Iraq—F
- North Korea—D Minus
- Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Securing of Former-Soviet Nuclear Materiel—D Plus
- Biological and Chemical Non-Proliferation—D Plus

- Diplomacy, International Good Will and Foreign Relations—D Plus
- Western Hemisphere—D
- 1. Venezuela—F
- 2. Cuba—D
- 3. Colombia—D
- 4. Brazil—C
- 5. Mexico—D
- Africa—C
- 1. Sudan—F
- 2. AIDS—B Plus
- 3. Malaria and Other Communicable Diseases—B
- Europe—D
- Middle East—D Minus
- 1. Lebanon—D
- 2. Iraq—F
- 3. Afghanistan—D
- 4. Iran—F
- 5. Syria—D
- 6. Saudi Arabia—C





## Nueve mexicanos a la conquista del Oscar

Por primera vez en la historia del cine, un grupo de nueve mexicanos aspiran a ganar un Oscar durante la 78 entrega de los premios de la Academia de Hollywood que se realizará este domingo en el Teatro Kodak de Los Angeles (EEUU).



La lista de mexicanos que esperan alcanzar la gloria de Hollywood en esta premiación está integrada por Adriana Barraza, quien compite como Mejor Actriz de Reparto por su papel en la cinta "Babel". Por esta misma película está nominado el realizador Alejandro

González Iñárritu en tres categorías: Mejor Director, Mejor Película y Mejor Edición, por la cinta "Babel"; mientras que Guillermo Arriaga es candidato en la categoría de Mejor Guión Original.

Por su parte, Alfonso Cuarón aspira al Oscar por Mejor Edición y Mejor Guión Adaptado por la cinta "Children of Men".

Guillermo del Toro aparece en las categorías de Mejor Película Extranjera y Mejor Guión Original por su filme "El Laberinto del Fauno".

Eugenio Caballero destaca en la categoría de Mejor Dirección de Arte por "El Laberinto del Fauno" y Fernando Cámara por Mejor Mezcla de Sonido de la película "Apocalypto" producida por Mel Gibson.

Emmanuel Lubezki y Guillermo Navarro compiten en la categoría de Mejor Fotografía por "Children of Men" y "El laberinto del fauno", respectivamente.

Cada uno, por su parte, ha declarado que independientemente de ganar o no la estatuilla, se sienten ganadores con el simple hecho de ser candidatos a este premio, ya que cada uno ha tenido que trabajar contra corriente debido al escaso apoyo que hay en México para la cinematografía.

La mayoría de los mexicanos que aspiran al Oscar, con excepción de Fernando Cámara y Guillermo Arriaga, residen fuera de México, "obligados" a buscar oportunidades para explotar su talento.

Y aunque producciones como "Babel" y "Children of men" no son producciones mexicanas, como lo es "El laberinto del fauno" una coproducción de México y España, el hecho de que éstas sean dirigidas por talento de este país, ha generado un gran ánimo en la comunidad cinematográfica mexicana.

En la historia de 78 años del Oscar, México sólo ha obtenido cuatro estatuillas, dos obtenidas por el mexicano nacionalizado estadounidense Anthony Quinn, en 1953 y 1957.

Las otras dos estatuillas pertenecen al mexicano Manuel Arango que con "Centinelas del desierto" se llevó los premios como Mejor Documental Corto y Mejor Cortometraje de Ficción en 1972.

Twenty top recording artists will headline the 2007 National Tejano Music Convention & Awards presented by AARP. The three day event which is scheduled for August 17-19 at the Las Vegas Hilton attracts more than 5,000 Tex-Mex music fans and industry representatives. Now in its fourth year, the National Tejano Music Convention & Awards serve as a "meeting ground" in advancing the Tejano (Tex-Mex) music genre.

Scheduled performers include: East LA's Los Lobos, considered by critics to be one of the greatest live acts in rock music history. The band returns to their Mexican-American roots with a set dedicated to the Tex-Mex musical influence in the U.S. Also performing is Chente Barrera y Taconazo, 2007 Grammy Award recipient for Best Tejano Album; five time Grammy and Latin Grammy Award recipient Jimmy Gonzalez Y Grupo Mazz; Two time Grammy Award recipient Bob Gallarza presenting the acclaimed vocalist Jimmy Edward; Tejano and Conjunto pioneer Esteban Jordan; Tejano superstars Ram Herrera, Los Desperadoz and Joe Posada featuring Leslie Lugo; top female vocalist Shelly Lares; the reunions of Grammy and Latin Grammy Award recipient Sunny Saucedo with Eddie Gonzalez and Dee & Delia of Culturas; Rebecca Valadez; Hugo Guerrero; La Tropa F; and Jesse



Serrata with special guest Cha Cha Jimenez.

The Convention will be hosted by comedian Alex Reymundo, one of the "Original Latin Kings of Comedy," who is scheduled to debut on the Showtime Network in his first one-hour comedy special, Alex Reymundo's "HICK-SPANIC: Live in Albuquerque." The special premieres Saturday, March 3 (8pm ET/PT). Reymundo is also set to star in a Showtime comedy series project, as well as host the upcoming comedy specials, The Latin Divas of Comedy and The Payaso Comedy Slam. Currently performing on a 25-city nationwide

tour, Reymundo, a Texas native, brings to the Tejano Convention 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.

Convention highlights include seminars and workshops for artists, management, and fans; a TejanoExperience Expo & Fanfare uniting artists with their respective national fan base; a master-class series inviting musician's to pick-up "tips of the trade" from renowned artists; and the nightly concerts/dances showcasing the industry's "best of the best" recording artists in

a Vegas-style extravaganza. In 2007, the Convention will present the Tex-Mex Special Achievement Awards honoring lifetime & pioneering accomplishments, non-performing significant contributions, and humanitarian efforts in the Hispanic community. "The Convention is the collective voice of the music; a unifying force joining both fans and industry leaders while promoting the rich variety, artistic value, cultural and historical significance of Tex-Mex music," said David Chavez, Founder and Executive Producer.

Convention sponsors include CMT Television Network, Southwest Airlines, Gibson Guitars, Casino Del Sol, and BNET Radio.com. For registration, agenda and performance schedules, log on to tejanoticket.com or call (913) 397-8850.

The National Tejano Music Convention & Awards is produced by LatinPointe, Inc., a national Hispanic communications, branding, and programming corporation, based in Olathe, Kansas. LatinPointe creates "signature English language programming and national events" with an emphasis on "brand development." David Chavez currently serves as Executive Producer of the Hispanic-themed, English-Language primetime TV special, the ALMA AWARDS on the ABC Network.

## J.Lo and Bon Jovi to appear on American Idol



Jennifer Lopez, Gwen Stefani, Tony Bennett, Diana Ross and Bon Jovi are among nine musical stars who are set to appear on "American Idol" this season.

Others to appear as celebrity coaches or guests of the hit show will include former Bee Gee Barry Gibb, coun-

try singer Martina McBride, Scottish singer Lulu and Peter Noone of Herman's Hermits, host Ryan Seacrest announced on the show Thursday.

Former "Idol" winner Carrie Underwood and former finalist Kellie Pickler also will perform on the show.

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# Hay Que Desarticular Wall Street

George Muñoz  
Hispanic Link News Service

Como residentes de los Estados Unidos, creemos en la meritocracia. Creemos que para progresar, el mérito, y no las conexiones, debe tener el mayor peso. Es una meta loable. No obstante, por desgracia no da señales de desaparecer el sistema de compadraje.

El gobierno estadounidense debería ayudar a desarticular los requerimientos del "compadraje" que funcionan como obstáculo al avance profesional por mérito de las mujeres y personas de color. Pero mediante una prestidigitación del compadraje, nuestro gobierno se ha convertido en cómplice en dificultarles a estos dos grupos a situarse entre los grandes de Wall Street.

La venta de acciones y valores al público está regulada por el gobierno. Para hacerse corredor de valores, hay que pasar un examen sobre valores llamado "Series 7". Lo administra NASD, Inc., un regulador de la industria de valores, nombrado por el gobierno.

No es un examen difícil de aprobar. Lo que es difícil es que uno no puede examinarse, sin importar lo calificado que sea, a menos que un agente/corredor ya certificado, lo "auspicie". El auspiciador no agrega nada. Uno mismo paga el costo del examen. El auspiciador sólo lo matricula y por el privilegio el examinado queda agradecido. Al no tener conexiones con empresas de valores, es difícil conseguir quién le auspicie, con lo cual no se convierte en corredor de valores.

¿Por qué tendría que importarnos esto? Porque después de tener casa propia, la inversión en valores tiene un rol muy importante en la acumulación de riqueza económica. Aproximadamente la mitad de los hogares propios ha comprado también valores, de manera directa o indirecta. La mayoría los tiene por medio de pensiones de empleo - 401(k).

La acumulación de riqueza económica es lo que necesitan los latinos. Los hogares propios hispanos sólo tienen una décima parte de la riqueza que tienen los hogares blancos. En lo que va creciendo económicamente la comunidad latina, conviene que tengamos asesores en finanzas de nuestra propia

comunidad.

Un estudio que realizó el Consejo Nacional de La Raza halló que no es suficiente distribuir información financiera sobre las inversiones. Para ser eficaz, son necesarios los consejos personales y el acceso a asesores en finanzas. Uno de los asesores más importantes es un corredor o agente de valores. Mucha de la riqueza económica de este país se acumula mediante los mercados de capitales. Por esta razón, tiene sentido que los latinos se sumen a las filas de agentes de valores.

NASD ha certificado a aproximadamente 663.000 agentes de Bolsa, de los cuales muy pocos son personas de color. NASD ha estado considerando eliminar el requerimiento de ser auspiciado, pero no ha tomado acción por lo que las empresas de valores no quieren entregar el poder de decidir quién puede unirse a la profesión.

Una cosa es necesitar de un auspiciador para ser miembro de un club. Pero ser agente de valores es una profesión, no es una cofradía. NASD tiene que dejar de tratarla como tal.

Así como hemos luchado contra los requerimientos de "aprendiz" que han sido obstáculo para las mujeres y las minorías que quieren habilitarse para ejercer un oficio, tenemos que luchar contra este tipo de requerimiento de auspicio en el ámbito de empleos profesionales.

Quiero animar a los dirigentes latinos y organizaciones de defensa a comunicarse con NASD para exigir que ponga atención a este problema. Es crucial atender a la brecha económica. En nuestra comunidad contamos con el talento de aprobar todo y cualquier examen de calificación profesional.

Si logramos desarticular el obstáculo del compadraje, ayudaremos no sólo a los latinos, sino también a todos los jóvenes - hombres y mujeres - que se gradúan de la universidad con fabulosos credenciales, pero sin contactos en Wall Street.

(George Muñoz fue secretario asesor del Tesoro de los EE.UU. durante la administración de Clinton. Comuníquese con él a: george@munozgroup.com). © 2007

# Credit Cards Double-Edged Sword for Many Hispanic Consumers

By Hildy Medina, Hispanic-Business.com

Credit card use among Hispanics is on the rise and so is their debt, a trend civil rights advocates say could lead many of them to financial ruin unless stronger protections are put in place, according to a national study released Thursday.

Hispanic families carrying credit cards grew from 43 percent to 53 percent between 1992 and 2001. So did the average credit card debt, which increased 20 percent over that same period.

Hispanic consumers are not the only ones using their Visa or MasterCard more and more. Credit card use among all Americans is the highest it has ever been - more than tripling since 1989. Hispanics, however, are much more likely to carry a balance than whites. An estimated 77 percent of Hispanics reported having a credit card balance, the study said, compared to about 45 percent of whites.

The median net worth of a Hispanic household in 2002 was \$7,932 compared to \$88,651 for white households, according to figures from the Pew Hispanic Center. The report, released by the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), says the dilemma that needs to be addressed is how are these Hispanic Households supposed to successfully manage their

credit card debt and still build their credit history.

In that respect, credit cards have become a double-edged sword for many Hispanic consumers.

"They need access to credit but are in danger of becoming victimized and because of their economic standing, rising household debt is a serious concern," the report noted. "Increasing wealth levels for Latinos will undoubtedly be accompanied by some form of increased household debt. Good public policies are needed that promote wealth accumulation and access to good credit, without endangering the financial standing of families."

The "Latino Credit Card Use: Debt Trap or Ticket to Prosperity?" study reports that many Hispanics do not have enough access to competitive interest rates. These consumers are instead forced to rely on subprime or predatory lenders that charge exorbitant rates that can add up to 300 percent for short-term loans.

A recent survey by the NCLR found that 12.9 percent of Hispanics have a credit card interest rate greater than 20 percent, compared to 7.5 percent for whites.

This keeps many Hispanics away from credit cards altogether. Although more Hispanics are using plastic today, credit card use among Hispanic

ics is low, 56 percent, compared to 80 percent among whites.

Among the barriers to getting credit cards or good interest rates is low income, a lack of credit history, credit card industry policies and a lack of comparison shopping for credit cards by Hispanics.

"We feel the industry has to do more to identify credit-worthy Hispanics," Beatriz Ibarra, the report's co-author and an assets policy analyst with NCLR, said in a telephone conference. "We feel that the government should support financial counseling programs; this will go a long way for Latinos to distinguish good from bad debt."

Bank of America's announcement this week that it will offer credit cards to customers without Social Security numbers, the majority of whom are undocumented Hispanic immigrants, was met with mixed feelings by civil rights advocates.

Some say it could serve as a valuable tool for Hispanic immigrants wanting to build a credit history and keep them

away from shady lenders. Others worry it might be too risky for undocumented immigrants.

"I'm afraid that the people that are undocumented are going to be targeted and scrutinized," said Teresa Lambary, program director for the Spanish Coalition for Housing, a Chicago-based nonprofit that provides financial counseling to moderate to low-income individuals. "And what is the interest rate, is it going to be something manageable or a gun? You're not really doing anybody a favor if you're going to be charging 23 percent."

Customers with a checking account at Bank of America that's in good standing for three months are eligible. The card comes with an upfront fee and an interest rate that can exceed 21 percent.

The report offered various recommendations that could help protect Hispanic credit card consumers, from increased regulatory oversight to get rid of abusive practices in the credit industry to government-funded financial counseling.

## Texas Tech Red Raiders Outlasts Baylor Bears, 85-74 Final



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# Texas Tech Defeated New Mexico 10-8

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - Sophomore right fielder Roger Kieschnick went 5-for-5 with five multiple base hits to help the Red Raiders overcome a

six-run deficit as Texas Tech defeated New Mexico 10-8 on Tuesday afternoon at Isotopes Park in Albuquerque.

The win gives Texas Tech an overall record of 10-4 on the season while New Mexico falls to 6-8. The season long series between these two border rivals is now tied at 1-

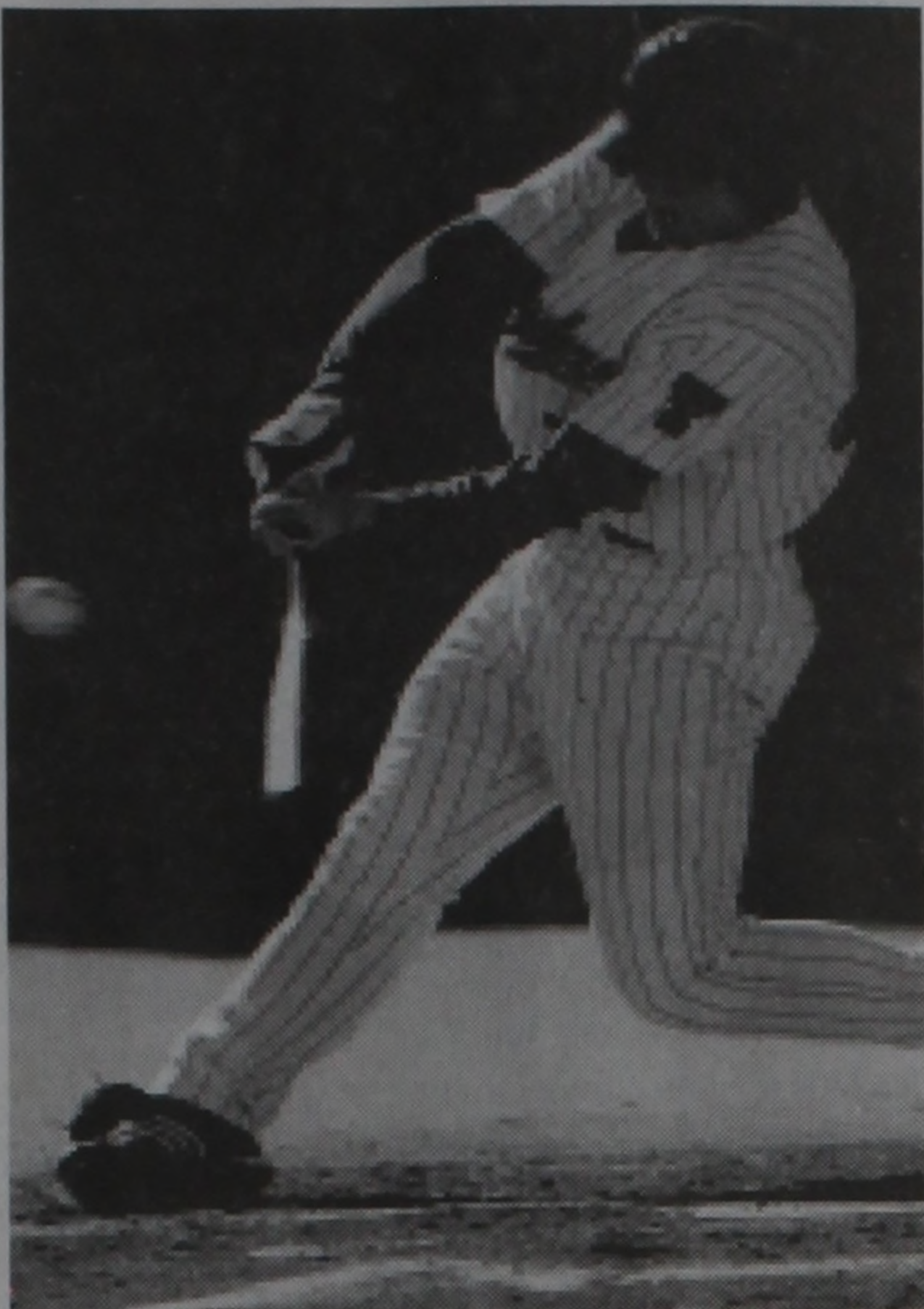
1 with the next game scheduled for April 17 in Lubbock.

Sophomore outfielder Roger Kieschnick gave Texas Tech and early 1-0 lead when he belted a one-out solo home run in the bottom of the first inning. The Red Raider lead wouldn't last long as Tech starter Sam Janca gave up a run in the bottom of the first and two in the bottom of the second that gave UNM a 3-1 lead. Janca, a true freshman from Georgetown, surrendered three hits (one home run) and three walks and struckout two in his first career start as a Red Raider.

New Mexico freshman right fielder Adam Courcha, who homered in the second, drove in two more runs in the bottom of the third with a double to the gap in left center field that made

the score 5-1.

Kyle Martin plated Tech's second run of the ballgame in the top of the fourth with an RBI single to left field. Martin's



single scored Roger Kieschnick who led off the frame with a double to the gap in left center.

New Mexico pushed its lead to 8-2 with a run in the fourth and two more in the bottom of the fifth off Tech reliever Trey Schurr.

The Red Raiders got back into the ball game with a three-run sixth inning. Kieschnick led off the frame with his second home run of the game that made the score 8-3. Freshman center fielder Taylor Ashby drove in the second run of the inning with a sacrifice fly to center and Tech plated its final run on a two-out fielding error by Lobo third baseman Ian Hollick.

A pair of runs in the top of the seventh pulled Red Raiders within one, but Tech was unable to tie the game as the Red Raiders left the bases

loaded after UNM reliever Scott Gracey entered the game and recorded two crucial outs to end the threat. Kieschnick picked up his fourth hit of the game in the inning when he laced an RBI triple the gap in right-center field.

Kyle Martin made up for Tech's mistakes in the seventh as he gave the Red Raiders a 10-8 lead with a two-run home run in the top of the eighth. Martin's home run followed up an RBI groundout by Matt Smith that tied the game at 8-8 as he drove in Chris Hall who reached on his second double of the game. Kieschnick continued his power hitting as he added his fifth multiple base hit of the day with a double that bounced off the wall in right field. Kieschnick wrapped up his

career day by going 5-for-5 with two home runs, two doubles and a triple. It marks the first time in known history, that a Red Raider collected five multiple base hits in a single game.

As effective as Kieschnick was at the plate, freshman right-hander Paul Gonzales was equally impressive from the mound. Gonzalez (1-1) entered the game in the seventh inning and retired nine of 10 batters to pick up his first career win. Scott Gracey was charged with the loss for New Mexico as he gave up three runs in 1 2/3 innings of relief.

Texas Tech returns home to Dan Law Field on Friday for a three-game series against the Cal-State Northridge Matadors. First pitch on Friday is set for 6:30 p.m.

# The Billion Dollar Cowboy

There are six massive cranes working on what will be a 300-foot-tall new Texas Stadium for the Dallas Cowboys. The plans were unveiled to the public this week. To say it is Texas-sized is almost an understatement. And you could not have a more stark contrast to the stately Ballpark. This is a steel and glass monument like no other field in the world. It can seat up to 100,000 (though games will typically be 80,000). It will be the largest such venue in the world, and in theory will be open in 2009. (<http://stadium.dallascowboys.com/>) Click the Link.

The video screen hanging 110 feet above the field will be 60 yards (180 feet!) long and weigh 600 tons. The end zone seats get screens that are merely 48 feet wide. Monster screens will hang outside the field for those who just want to come and tailgate.

The two steel arches supporting the stadium are over one-quarter of a mile long and will be the largest single-span arches in the world, bigger than the St. Louis arches. The Statue of Liberty could fit under the retractable dome. Each end zone will have a glass door 120 feet high and 180 long, which can be opened in just 18 minutes.

And the cost? \$1 billion, give or take. Ten times the cost of the Ballpark. The taxpayers are contributing \$350 million, plus a ton of new roads. The mind boggles at the expense, both public and private.

After you go into the site, click on each picture and get a preview of different areas and amenities.

# Vasquez-Gonzales: Fight of the Year?

By Bart Barry Special to CBS SportsLine.com

Anyone check out that hellacious conference call Israel Vazquez and Rafael Marquez put on last week? The invective those two exchanged didn't need to be translated. It could be felt. Here's a tiny sample (expletives deleted).

Israel Vazquez: "I feel ready." Rafael Marquez: "I am 100 percent."

There also was last September, when Israel Vazquez jumped on a table in MGM Grand, tore off his shirt and told Jhonny Gonzalez that, while Israel Vazquez didn't have a problem with Jhonny Gonzalez, he couldn't be responsible for what "I.V." did to him.

How about when Rafael Marquez, in a Feb. 22 press conference before his rematch with Silence Mabuza, told Mabuza to kiss his wife and child before he came to their Saturday fight

because, he was just saying, well, "You never know?"

Fine. Anyone unable to recall the above incidents is forgiven. They never happened. They never will. Neither WBC super-bantamweight champion Israel Vazquez nor IBF bantamweight champion Rafael Marquez would do such things to promote a fight. And yet, when Vazquez and Marquez battle this Saturday night for Vazquez's super-bantamweight title, there's a real chance they could make 2007's Fight of the Year.

It's almost as if the quality of a boxer's pre-fight performance is inversely proportional to the quality of his performance in the fight itself. Can that be? Such a theory would indict Ricardo Mayorga's performance against Oscar De La Hoya. It might also suggest that "R.J.J." wasn't very good the first times he fought Antonio Tarver.

Dangerous reasoning like that could even lead to blasphemous statements like this: Bernard Hopkins was not great in his rematch with Jermain Taylor.

Let's stop there. Anyway, a search for exceptions to this theory turns up some quasi-counterarguments. Shannon Briggs, after all, did manage to knock Sergei Liakhovich out of the ring -- after 35:40 of decidedly not "decapitating" him. And Fernando Vargas did, sort of, lose honorably to Shane Mosley -- even if Vargas was still alive when those fights ended.

Perhaps the point is better put in the form of a question: When was the last time the Fight of the Year was preceded by an intriguing press conference or an outrageous conference call?

Fact is, heavyweights are the only ones who should even attempt pre-fight promotional stunts, especially during fight

week. Heavyweights, after all, are the only ones who aren't starved and dehydrated and psychologically stretched to a place somewhere between distraction and panic by the weigh-in. But even heavyweights are best when someone else supplies much of the material, someone like, say, Bundini Brown.

What makes the leadup to this Saturday's fight so pleasant, then, is that Israel Vazquez and Rafael Marquez feel no need for erratic behavior. They know that serious fans require little pomp. They know that a 122-pound championship, no matter how certain it is to please an audience, is unlikely to attract few but serious fans.

Whither Vazquez-Marquez? To answer that question, we may look to last September's Vazquez-Gonzalez fight -- the best 2006 fight any of us saw from inside. In that match,

*continue on page 6*

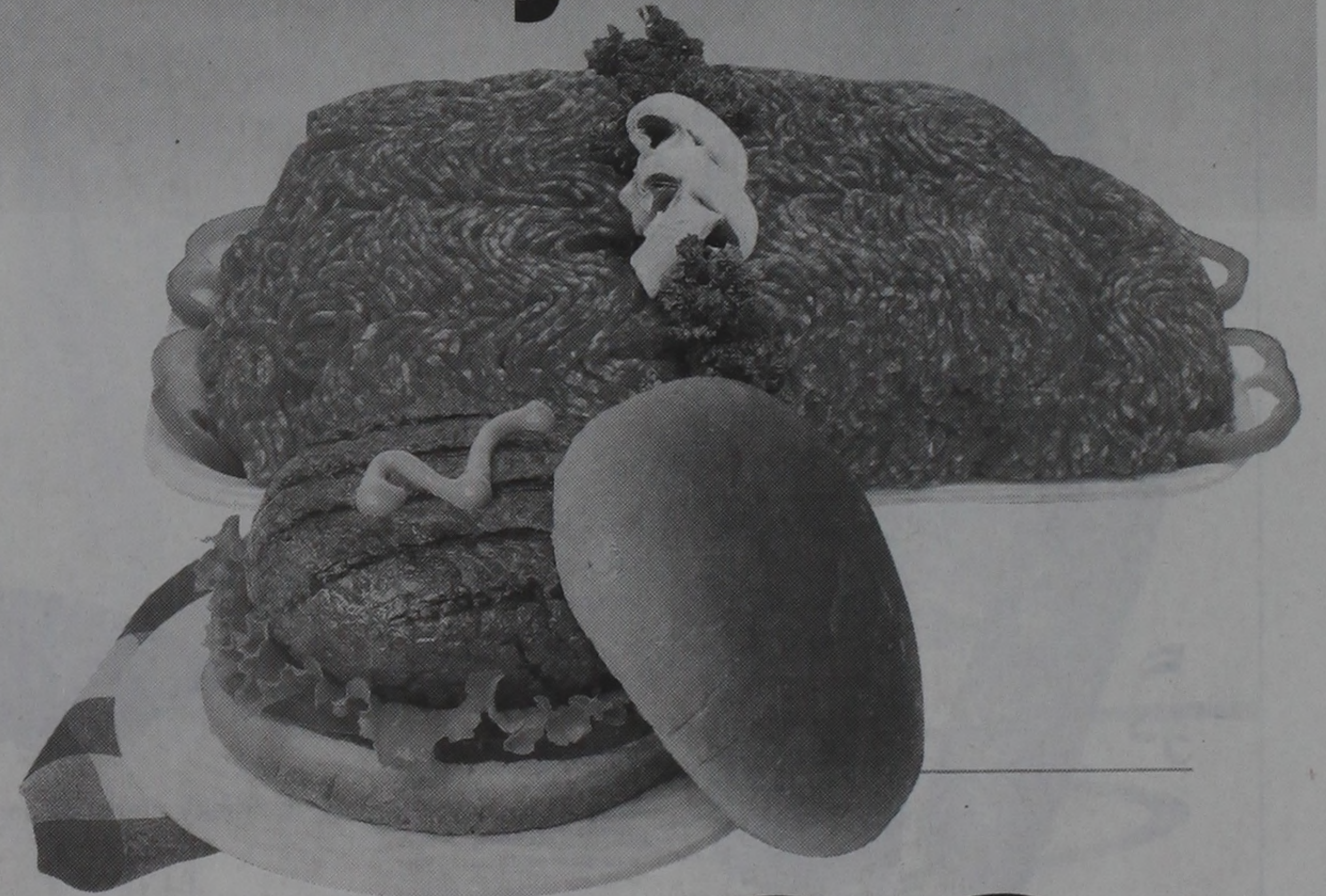
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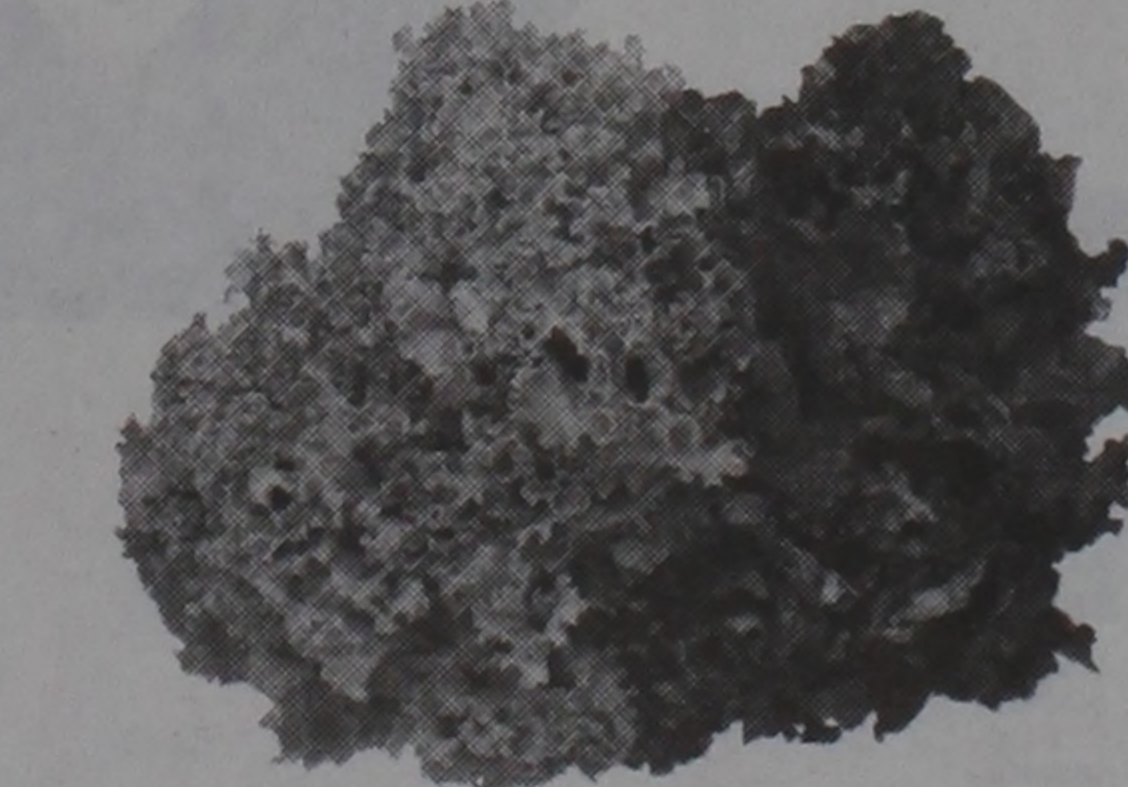
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# Many Children Need a Boost to Be Safe

**TxDOT Campaign Promotes Booster Seats for Added Protection**

AUSTIN, TX — State officials have a message for parents of children who have outgrown their conventional child safety seats: many need booster seats to ensure their safety while riding in a car, van, SUV or pickup truck.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Department of State Health Services are launching their annual "Buckle Up Your Child" campaign. This year's initiative places special emphasis on keeping children up to 8 years old in booster seats and preventing children from graduating to safety belts too early.

"Without booster seats, children are often at risk for serious injury from the very things that parents think will

protect them—their safety belts," said Carol Rawson, Deputy Director of TxDOT

Administration (NHTSA), approximately 7,500 lives have been saved by the proper use of child

back of the vehicle's seat with their knees bent comfortably over the front edge of the seat and still touch the floorboard with their feet; the shoulder belt fits snugly across the chest; and the lap belt sits low and snug against the child's hips and upper thighs.

State law requires children younger than 17 years old to be buckled up in the front and back seat, and those younger than five years old and less than 36 inches tall must be secured in child safety seats. Violations can result in a fine of up to \$200. Though law in Texas does not require booster seats, advocates are hopeful that the safety benefits of booster seats will be motivation enough for parents to use them.

For information about booster seats, car seat installation or arrangements to have a child's safety seat checked, parents or other caregivers can call Safe Riders at the Texas Department of State Health Services at 1-800-252-8255.



Traffic Operations. "Safety belts are designed for adults, and they can fit properly on big kids, too. Some children who are older need a boost so their safety belts will fit them properly. Proper fit helps children avoid neck and internal injuries that can sometimes be caused by safety belts during a crash."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety

restraints over the past 20 years. Yet motor vehicle crashes still remain the number one killer of children ages 4 to 15 in America. Too often, improper use of child safety seats and booster seats is to blame.

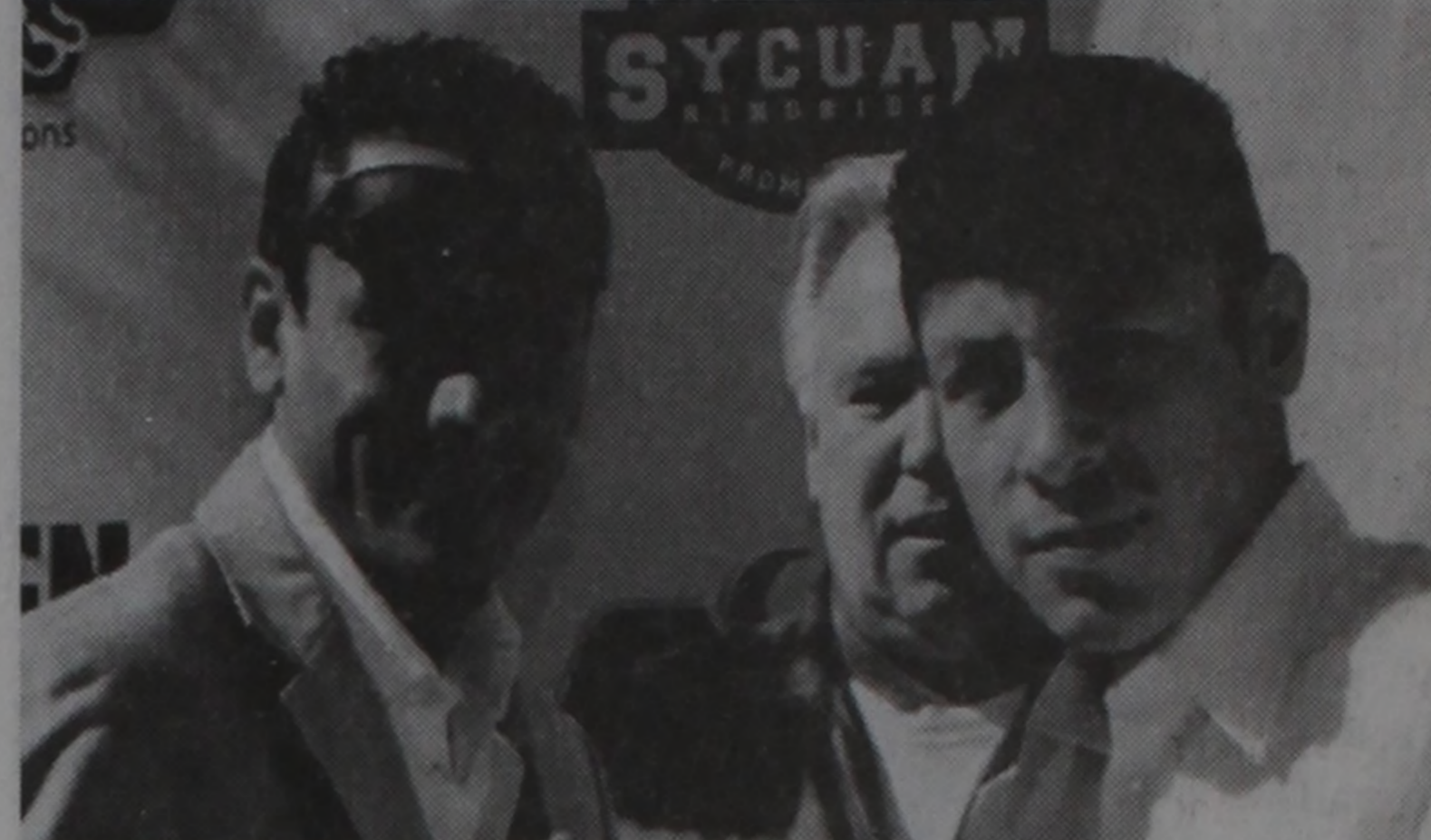
Booster seats are recommended for children 4 to 8 years old, less than four feet, nine inches tall and less than 80 to 100 pounds. Children can use safety belts alone only when they can sit against the

# Boxing Match

from page 5

Israel Vazquez, who hasn't fought beneath 122 pounds in a decade, gradually brutalized a 118-pound champ moved up to super-bantamweight.

Through six rounds, Vazquez had been knocked down twice and trailed Gonzalez 58-54 on the 15Rounds.com scorecard.



But that was when ringsiders noticed the comparative ruin of Gonzalez's face. Vazquez would go on to knock down Gonzalez in Round 7, win Rounds 8 and 9 convincingly and force Gonzalez's corner to wave the white towel in Round

10. Which is not to imply Gonzalez has Marquez's offensive arsenal. At 118 pounds, Marquez is arguably the world's premier puncher. But this fight will be made at 122 pounds, and whether he was Gonzalez or

Oscar Larios or Marcos Licona, no Vazquez opponent has had trouble landing punches. But taking Vazquez punches can be another matter.

Regardless of its outcome, this fight should be an exceptional one. Neither fighter backs up. Respectful as they are during conference calls, neither man respects his opponent's power in the ring. Both have proven chins. And since 2003, Vazquez and Marquez have a cumulative record of 14 wins, no losses and 12 knockouts. Probability says one of these champions will stop the other sometime after the ninth round.

Then, once they finish their pugilistic artwork, both Vazquez and Marquez will be complimentary to one another. Win or lose, each will say he was not surprised by his opponent's heart or power; he knew his opponent was a deserving champion before the first bell rang. The most the loser will say to the winner is: "I hope you'll give me a rematch."

Probability also says Vazquez-Marquez will be 2007's Fight of the Year until at least March 17. That night, Rafael Marquez's older brother, Juan Manuel Marquez, will make a pay-per-view battle with WBC super featherweight champ Marco Antonio Barrera. That fight will be the rare "chess match" that features punches.

The pre-fight press conference and conference calls for Barrera-Marquez, too, will bear a startling resemblance to those of Vazquez-Marquez -- quiet and humble men readying themselves to ply a terrible craft. Juan Manuel Marquez will say it is an honor to fight Marco Antonio Barrera the same way Rafael Marquez said it is an honor to fight Israel Vazquez, and Marco Antonio Barrera will call Juan Manuel Marquez a champion the same way Israel Vazquez called Rafael Marquez a champion.

Dull, uneventful pre-fight ceremonies lead to great fights. So, after these fights happen, our inverse-proportionality theory will be about complete. There will be only one missing piece. Rumor is, a multi-city pre-fight promotional tour is currently taking the country by storm. Anyone care to guess how things will go on May 5?

## Lubbock High School Junior Varsity Team



Lubbock High School Junior Varsity Team. Bottom row left to right: Monica Perez, Stephanie Garcia, Liz Gutierrez, Maya Hernandez, Amber Perez, Abbie Calderon, Cassandra Mendez, Cynthia Salazar. Top row left to right: Coach Ellis, Brittney Arguijo, Marisol Agüero, alex Olivarez, Ana Cunningham, Kayla Garcia, Candice Armstrong, Alyssa Quevedo, Angelica Aguilar, and Coach Culwell.

## LEPC receives Emergency Preparedness Grant

The Lubbock County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was notified that it would receive more than \$17,000 in grant monies from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) program.

The grant money will be used to continue promoting and encouraging emergency preparedness activities to citizens of our area, bring awareness to the community on activities of the LEPC and the Wally Wise Program.

The Wally Wise Program with its mascot Wally Wise the Turtle was launched last year following receipt of a \$13,000 grant from HMEP. This program teaches kids the importance of planning ahead for

possible emergency situations.

This year's campaign will include billboards, poster contests and community appearances at schools and local events. Also, planned are sponsorship of the Farm Safety Day Camp with the County Extension Office and a seminar on Disaster Preparedness for Faith Communities.

The HMEP program provides financial and technical assistance that enhances local hazardous materials emergency planning and training activities for LEPCs throughout the nation. The next general meeting of the Lubbock county LEPC is May 10th, and welcomes involvement by citizens.

## Lubbock PAGATourney

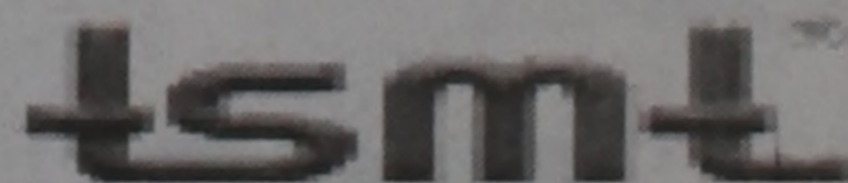
The Lubbock Pan-American Golf Association would like to give thanks to all the golfers that came out on Feb. 18 to support the organization in its golf tournament that was held at Meadowbrook Golf. Tournament monies go toward scholarships, community functions & local charities.

Championship flight 1st Richard Montoya-JW Norris; 2nd Billy West, Sr-Sam Ortiz; 3rd Ron Rogers-Ryan Rogers. First Flight 1st Alvino Lovato-Mando Lovato; 2nd Richard Moreno-Joe Zamora; 3rd Ben Jaime-Steve Deaton. Second Flight 1st Charlie DeLaCruz-Heavie DeLaCruz, 2nd Elijah Morin-Doug Barnes, 3rd Pete Rodriguez-Freddie Gamboa.

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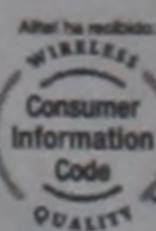
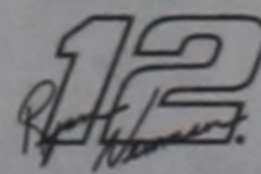
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# Richardson Promotes His Presidential Run to Hispanic Leaders

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson amused an audience of Hispanic leaders in the fourth week of his campaign for the Democratic nomination for president.

Being a Hispanic is a positive credit for his "win," Richardson said in a speech Tuesday. He added that since the beginning of his presidential drive, his poll numbers have risen from 1 percent to 8 percent.

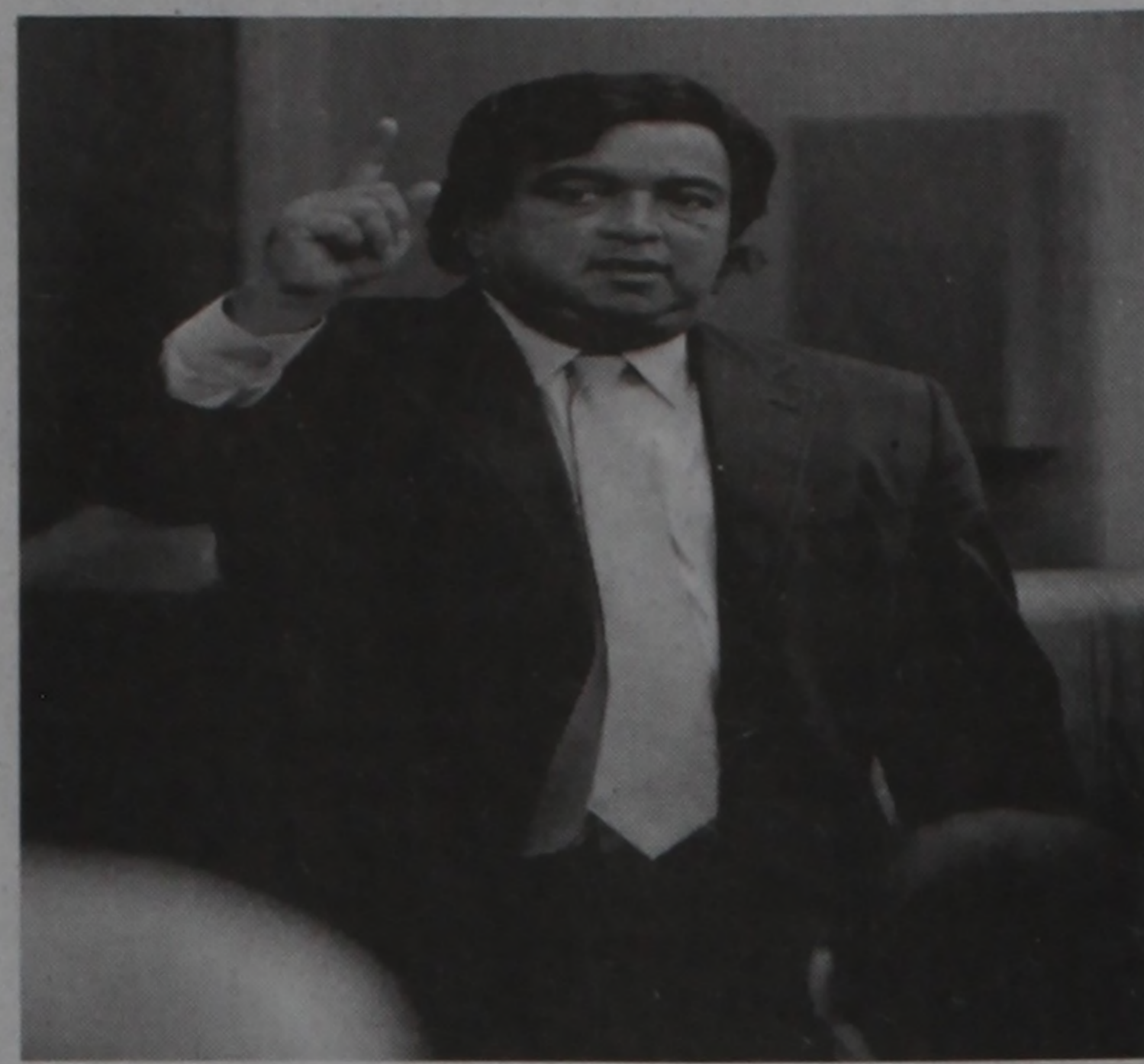
"I am moving up!" he said to applause and laughter.

At a luncheon sponsored by the Latino Leaders Network, Mickey Ibarra, the group's chair and founder, urged the Hispanic community leadership to work together and promote the fast-growing minority.

"We must build each other up, don't you agree?" he said, clearly referring to Richardson.

Speaking without a formal written speech, Richardson asked, "Am I going to be the first American president to do more for Hispanics than any other president?" He answered his own question with a strong "Yes!" But he said he wasn't just running on Hispanic issues.

Born Nov. 15, 1947, in Pasadena, Calif., to an American father and Mexican mother, Richardson grew up in Mexico City before moving to New England, where he attended high school and college.



Richardson, who served as member of Congress and was U.S. ambassador to the United Nations as well as secretary of energy in the Clinton administration, has been nominated four times for the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in negotiating to free hostages in several countries.

The governor recalled his last visit with his 93-year-old mother, who calls him a Spanish nickname "Mijito," a term of endearment for a young boy. He said she asked him, "Are you still governor of New Mexico?" and was bamboozled when he told her he was starting his presidential campaign. She asked

him, president of which country? That drew a laugh from the crowd.

Richardson said he is seeking help for his "long journey" and is confident he can win. He ended his speech by saying, "In fact, I think I am a best qualified for this job."

Richardson is one of the three diverse candidates in the large pool for next year's elections. Other candidates for the Democratic nomination include Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., whose father is a black African and whose mother is white, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., the first woman to have a good chance to win.

Ibarra announced the group's new Web site, which he said was a sign of the group's expansion.

# Clinton Proposes \$50 Billion Energy Research Fund

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., announced Tuesday that she will reintroduce legislation calling for a Strategic Energy Fund to promote a healthier environment and a healthier economy.

"Still, too often, people try to set the environment against the economy, but a clean energy agenda is a jobs agenda, and we have to take that message and drive it home day after day," she said at a summit of the Apollo Alliance, a lobbying group devoted to the marriage of job growth and energy progress.

The group promised to make energy a major campaign issue.

Clinton's legislation, which she first introduced in May, would earmark \$50 billion for research, development and deployment of clean energy. The funds would come in part, Clinton said, from ending tax breaks to big oil companies. She called the initiative "an Apollo project for energy," referring to President John F. Kennedy's promise in the 1960s to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade.

Mark Kibbe, senior tax policy analyst for the American Petroleum Institute, said Congress intended the tax incentives to promote domestic oil production.

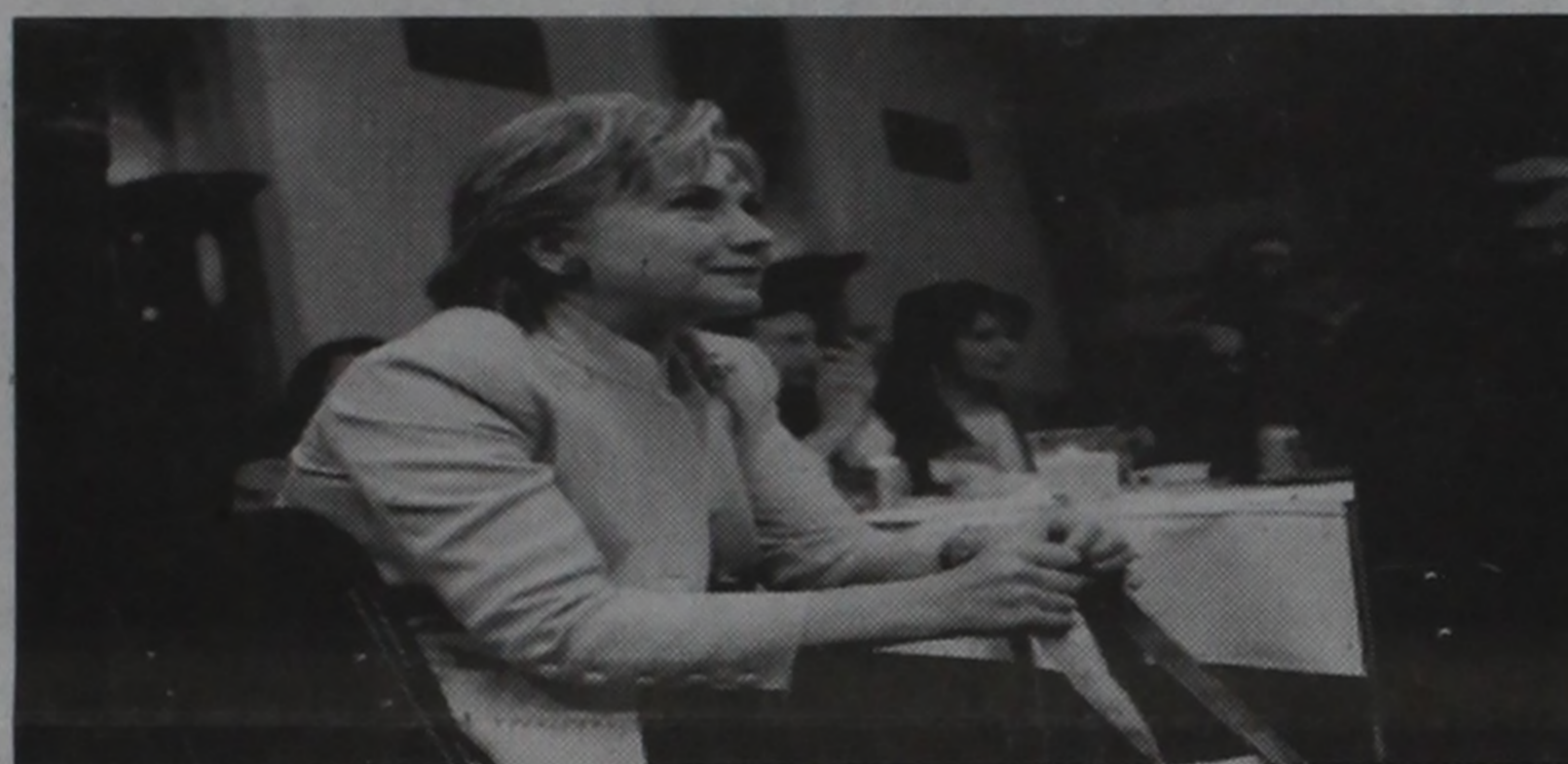
"Congress needs to take a look at why those provisions are in place, what they are intended to do, and understand what happens if you take those things away," Kibbe said. "We would say, 'Look before you leap, and then understand the ramifications of making some of those choices would be.' I don't think the results would be what Congress would want to happen."

Clinton said the fund would invest in technology and ideas that already exist "that can quickly contribute to a cleaner, more independent future," including ethanol, wind power and clean coal technology. The fund would quadruple tax breaks for owners of hybrid and clean diesel cars.

She said \$9 billion of the fund would "unleash American ingenuity" in advanced research.

"We have a big decision to make," she said. "We really are at a turning point. We can wait for something terrible to happen ... or we can be smart again as Americans and start planning for the future, and taking steps that will take us to that new future, will, in effect, create that new future for us."

The giants of energy are preparing for that future, Kibbe said, because the energy com-



panies of today want to be the energy companies tomorrow, in whatever form that energy may come.

"Our industry is very much in support of alternative energy," Kibbe said. "With the energy demand growing at the rapid rate that it is, not only in the U.S., but overseas, as well, we need energy from every source that we can get it."

"Just about all of the major companies are investing in hydrogen. We still need to satisfy current demands for energy. ... We don't want to jeopardize the

present as we look to the future. We need to do both."

Sen. Bernie Sanders, Ind.-Vt., also spoke at the summit, highlighting the importance of energy legislation for middle-class Americans.

"There are people in the environmental community who have ignored the needs of working families, and there have been people in trade unions and representing working class families who have not paid enough attention to the economy," Sanders said. "By bringing all of our people together, we are going to be a very, very potent force here on Capitol Hill."

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# Consumer Watchdog Says Grandma's Getting Screwed Over Medicare Drug Costs

A Consumer watchdog group said that over one-quarter of sampled medicare plans charge seniors five percent or more for drugs and that nearly every sampled Medicare plan increased drug costs from January to February after seniors 'locked-in'.

A new report from Consumers Union finds that it may be difficult - if not impossible - for Medicare beneficiaries to have confidence that their private Part D insurance plan will not change or increase prescription drug costs for the year they are locked into the plan.

Consumers Union found that 28 percent of the private insurance plans it tracked in five zip codes across the country increased their costs for a group of selected drugs by 5 percent or more in 2006. Some cost increases were dramatic - one Florida plan increased its costs for the selected drugs by nearly one-third, or \$795, for the year.

Beneficiaries also might be in for a shock in 2007. During the one-month period from January to February 2007 - right after beneficiaries locked into a plan for the calendar year - 95 percent of the sampled plans increased their costs by some degree for the package of five widely used prescription drugs. Of those, 21 percent hiked costs by 5 percent or more in that one-month period.

"Seniors likely expected their Medicare drug insurance plan would have predictable costs, but our sample shows some dramatic increases," said Bill Vaughan, senior policy analyst for Consumers Union, publisher of Consumer Reports. "What's most disappointing is we found costs going up just one month after beneficiaries locked into a plan for 2007."

"The whole point of having Medicare drug insurance is to protect against the unexpected, and we're finding a lot of unexpected cost increases," Vaughan added. "Each time drug costs go up under these plans, seniors are pushed that much closer to the brink of the doughnut hole coverage gap."



Vaughan said the cost increases underscore the need for Congress to require drug price negotiation to get the best deal for seniors, as well as offer a consistently priced, Medicare-administered drug plan in addition to the private plans.

"Seniors and taxpayers deserve a Medicare drug insurance plan that has the best possible prices, and is consistent throughout the year," Vaughan said.



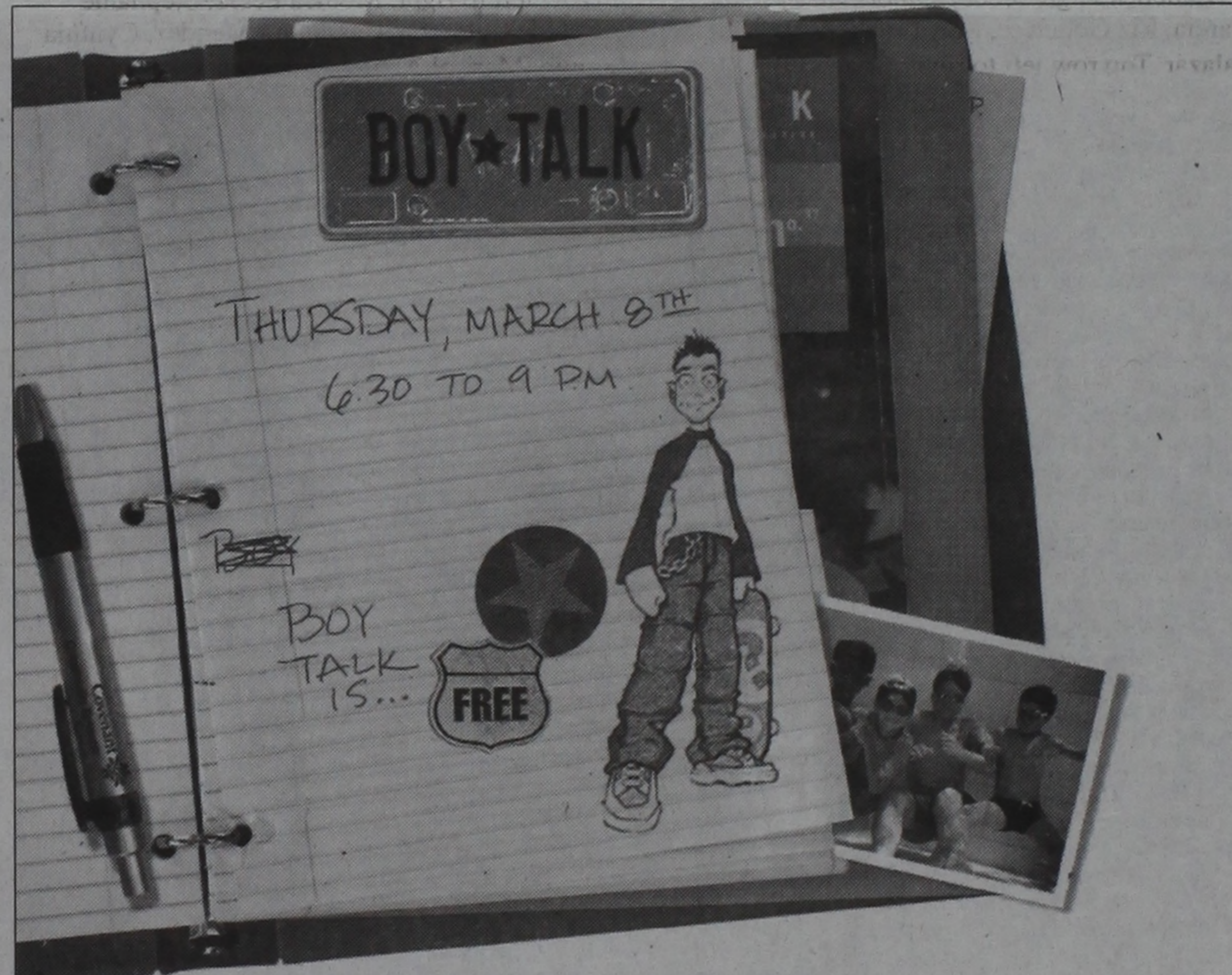
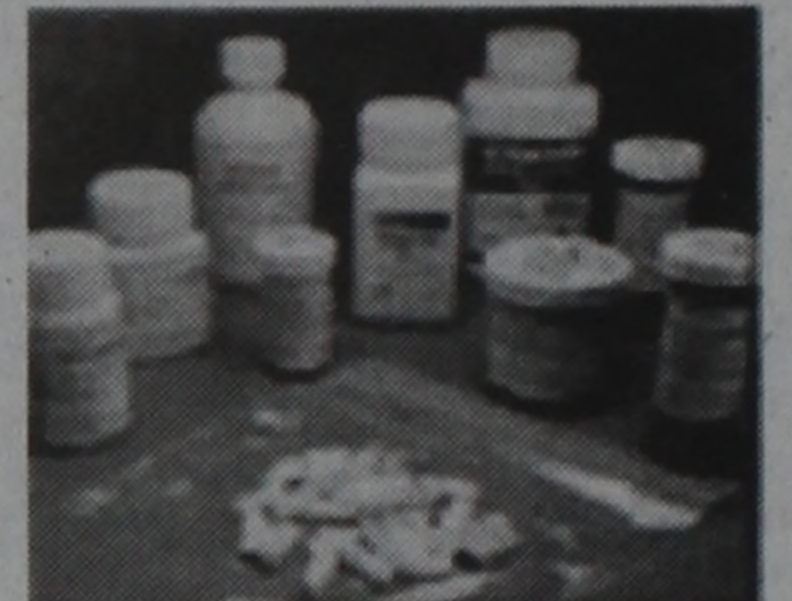
Since December 2005, Consumers Union has used the Medicare.gov Web site to track plan costs for five widely used drugs offered by Part D insurance plans in five zip codes in New York, Florida, Texas, Illinois and California. The monitoring has found dramatic fluctuations in plans throughout the year.

More than three-fourths (78 percent) of the plans changed their costs for the selected drugs three or more times during 2006. Thirty percent of the plans changed their costs at least six out of the 12 months. For the one-month period of January to February 2007, only three of the surveyed plans listed the same cost.

Costs for some plans also jumped around wildly on the Medicare.gov site. For example, in November 2006, the SilverScript Plus plan offered in California was priced at \$2,859 annually for the sampled drugs. On Jan. 5, 2007, the same plan was listed at \$5,418. Five days later, on Jan. 10, the price changed again, to \$3,313.

CU supports a price-negotiated, Medicare-administered drug plan that will offer stable, consistent drug costs and coverage to seniors. In the meantime, Consumers Union is urging CMS to warn consumers that some plans increase prices significantly during the year, and said the agency should make public the names of plans that frequently change the cost of commonly used drugs.

Beneficiaries who select a plan based on the Web site information, and have proof of that listing, also should be able to change plans anytime during the following year when the plan has increased drug costs by more than 5 percent.



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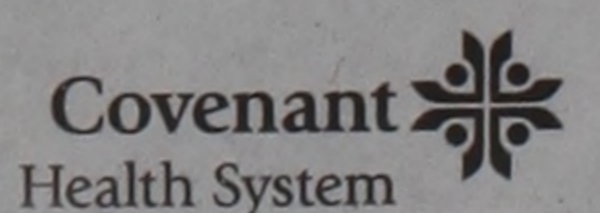
"BOYS WILL BE BOYS" - Steve Talbert, LISD School Counselor

"SELF-ESTEEM AND ENCOURAGEMENT" - Matt Miller, Former standout pitcher for the Texas Tech Red Raiders and Detroit Tigers of the American League

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BOY TALK is a free service of Covenant Health System and Lubbock ISD, and a community health education offering of Covenant Women's Hospital and Community Resource Center.



## Economy and Poverty

(from Front Page)

"Sometimes it makes you want to do the wrong thing, you know," Trece said, referring to crime. "But I ain't a kid no more. I can't do no time. At this point, I ain't got a lotta years left."

Trece remains positive and humble despite his circumstances.

"I don't ask for nothing," he said. "I just thank the Lord for this day and ask that tomorrow be just as blessed."

Like Trece, many who did physical labor during their peak earning years have watched their job prospects dim as their bodies gave out.

David Jones, the president of the Community Service Society of New York City, an advocacy group for the poor, testified before the House Ways and Means Committee last month that he was shocked to discover how pervasive the problem was.

"You have this whole cohort of, particularly African-Americans of limited skills, men, who can't participate in the workforce because they don't have skills to do anything but heavy labor," he said.

### A PERMANENT UNDERCLASS

Severe poverty is worst near the Mexican border and in some areas of the South, where 6.5 million severely poor residents are struggling to find work as manufacturing jobs in the textile, apparel and furniture-making industries disappear. The Midwestern Rust Belt and areas of the Northeast also have been hard hit as economic restructuring and foreign competition have forced numerous plant closings.

At the same time, low-skilled immigrants with impoverished family members are increasingly drawn to the South and Midwest to work in the meatpacking, food processing and agricultural industries.

These and other factors such as increased fluctuations in family incomes and illegal immigration have helped push 43 percent of the nation's 37 million poor people into deep poverty - the highest rate in at least 32 years.

"What appears to be taking place is that, over the long term, you have a significant permanent underclass that is not being impacted by anti-poverty policies," said Michael Tanner, the director of Health and Welfare Studies at the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank.

Arlow Sherman, a senior researcher at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal think tank, disagreed. "It doesn't look like a growing permanent underclass," said Sherman, whose organization has chronicled the growth of deep poverty. "What you see in the data are more and more single moms with children who lose their jobs and who aren't being caught by a safety net anymore."

About 1.1 million such families account for roughly 2.1 million deeply poor children, Sherman said.

After fleeing an abusive marriage in 2002, 42-year-old Marjorie Sant moved with her three children from Arkansas to a seedy boarding house in Raleigh, N.C., where the four shared one bedroom. For most of 2005, they lived off food stamps and the \$300 a month in Social Security Disability Income for her son with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Teachers offered clothes to Sant's children. Saturdays meant lunch at the Salvation Army.

"To depend on other people to feed and clothe your kids is horrible," Sant said. "I found myself in a hole and didn't know how to get out."

In the summer of 2005, social workers warned that she'd lose her children if her home situation didn't change. Sant then brought her two youngest children to a temporary housing program at the Raleigh Rescue Mission while her oldest son moved to California to live with an adult daughter from a previous marriage.

So for 10 months, Sant learned basic office skills. She now lives in a rented house, works two jobs and earns about \$20,400 a year.

Sant is proud of where she is, but she knows that "if something went wrong, I could well be back to where I was."

### I'M GETTING NOWHERE FAST

As more poor Americans sink into severe poverty, more individuals and families living within \$8,000 above or below the poverty line also have seen their incomes decline. Steven Woolf of Virginia Commonwealth University attributes this to what he calls a "sinkhole effect" on income.

"Just as a sinkhole causes everything above it to collapse downward, families and individuals in the middle and upper classes appear to be migrating to lower-income tiers that bring them closer to the poverty threshold," Woolf wrote in the study.

Before Hurricane Katrina, Rene Winn of Biloxi, Miss., earned \$28,000 a year as an administrator for the Boys and Girls Club. But for 11 months in 2006, she couldn't find steady work and wouldn't take a fast-food job. As her opportunities dwindled, Winn's frustration grew.

"Some days I feel like the world is mine and I can create my own destiny," she said. "Other days I feel a desperate feeling. Like I gotta hurry up. Like my career is at a stop. Like I'm getting nowhere fast. And that's not me because I've always been a positive person."

After relocating to New Jersey for 10 months after the storm, Winn returned to Biloxi in September because of medical and emotional problems with her son. She and her two youngest children moved into her sister's home along with her mother, who has Alzheimer's. With her sister, brother-in-law and their two children, eight people now share a three-bedroom home.

Winn said she recently took a job as a technician at the state health department. The hourly pay brings her \$16,120 a year. That's enough to bring her out of severe poverty and just \$122 shy of the \$16,242 needed for a single mother with two children to escape poverty altogether under current federal guidelines.

Winn eventually wants to transfer to a

higher-paying job, but she's thankful for her current position.

"I'm very independent and used to taking care of my own, so I don't like the fact that I have to depend on the state. I want to be able to do it myself."

The Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation shows that, in a



given month, only 10 percent of severely poor Americans received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families in 2003 - the latest year available - and that only 36 percent received food stamps.

Many could have exhausted their eligibility for welfare or decided that the new program requirements were too onerous. But the low participation rates are troubling because the worst byproducts of poverty, such as higher crime and violence rates and poor health, nutrition and educational outcomes, are worse for those in deep poverty.

Over the last two decades, America has had the highest or near-highest poverty rates for children, individual adults and families among 31 developed countries, according to the Luxembourg Income Study, a 23-year project that compares poverty and income data from 31 industrial nations.

"It's shameful," said Timothy Smeeding, the former director of the study and the current head of the Center for Policy Research at Syracuse University. "We've been the worst performer every year since we've been doing this study."

With the exception of Mexico and Russia, the U.S. devotes the smallest portion of its gross domestic product to federal anti-poverty programs, and those programs are among the least effective at reducing poverty, the study found. Again, only Russia and Mexico do worse jobs.

One in three Americans will experience a full year of extreme poverty at some point in his or her adult life, according to long-term research by Mark Rank, a professor of social welfare at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

An estimated 58 percent of Americans between the ages of 20 and 75 will spend at least a year in poverty, Rank said. Two of three will use a public assistance program between ages 20 and 65, and 40 percent will do so for five years or more.

These estimates apply only to non-immigrants. If illegal immigrants were factored in, the numbers would be worse, Rank said.

"It would appear that for most Americans the question is no longer if, but rather when, they will experience poverty. In short, poverty has become a routine and unfortunate part of the American life course," Rank wrote in a recent study. "Whether these patterns will continue throughout the first decade of 2000 and beyond is difficult to say ... but there is little reason to think that this trend will reverse itself any time soon."

### SOMETHING REAL AND TROUBLING

Most researchers and economists say federal poverty estimates are a poor tool to gauge the complexity of poverty. The numbers don't factor in assistance from government anti-poverty programs, such as food stamps, housing subsidies and the Earned Income Tax Credit, all of which increase incomes and help pull people out of poverty.

But federal poverty measures also exclude work-related expenses and necessities such as day care, transportation, housing and health care costs, which eat up large portions of disposable income, particularly for low-income families.

Alternative poverty measures that account for these shortcomings typically inflate or deflate official poverty statistics. But many of those alternative measures show the same kind of long-term trends as the official poverty data.

Robert Rector, a senior researcher with the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, questioned the growth of severe poverty, saying that census data become less accurate farther down the income ladder. He said many poor people, particularly single mothers with boyfriends, underreport their income by not including cash gifts and loans. Rector said he's seen no data that suggest increasing deprivation among the very poor.

Arlow Sherman of the liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities argues that the growing number of severely poor is an indisputable fact.

"When we check against more complete government survey data and administrative records from the benefit programs themselves, they confirm that this trend is real," Sherman said. He added that even among the poor, severely poor people have a much tougher time paying their bills. "That's another sign to me that we're seeing something real and troubling," Sherman said.

McClatchy correspondent Barbara Barrett contributed to this report.

## U.S., Mexico to probe border intrusion

U.S. and Mexican officials will review reports of an intrusion on Mexican soil by workers erecting U.S. border fences between Douglas, Ariz., and the Mexican border city of Agua Prieta, U.S. Ambassador Tony Garza said.

Garza, in a news statement released, stressed that the United States respects Mexican sovereignty and works to avoid intruding on its territory.

Mexican legislators said they had photos and video showing U.S. workers and equipment crossing about 10 yards into Mexico.

Garza said U.S. and Mexican officials would visit the site to ascertain what happened.

"The U.S. is sensitive to Mexican concerns," the statement said, and "has the deepest respect for the integrity of the sovereignty of Mexican soil."

Most Mexicans consider the border fences an insult, and

their anger was heightened by photographs of U.S. Secretary for Homeland Security Michael Chertoff welding a section of border fence at another site on the Arizona border, just after he had visited Mexico.

Garza stressed that Chertoff had been photographed far from the site where the intrusion was said to have occurred, and that all of his activities occurred on the U.S. side of the border.

During an appearance before congressmen, Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Patricia Espinosa was berated by some legislators over the issue, local media reported.

"I ask you, is the Mexican government now complacent, negligent, apathetic, unaware or does it not watch over our nation's territory?" said congressman Samuel Aguilar during the hearing.

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## Viva Aztlan Festival

(from page 1)

The festival is a competition and groups come to win. This year 16 groups will compete from categories ranging from Best Costumes to Best Overall Dance Troupe. Each year the Best Overall Dance Troupe from the previous year is invited to return to present a showcase at the awards ceremony. But this year, the committee decided to bring in a professional company for the "Showcase" for the groups and public to enjoy. The Roy Lozano Ballet Folklorico from Austin Texas was chosen to make the special presentation for the delight of the audience. The festival is open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the door. Ticket for the Mariachi concert and Showcase will be \$5 and tickets

for the competition will be \$3 each day. "We are here to host a competition, but the greatest award is the pride each group has in our heritage." Said



Aguero "Que Viva Aztlan!"

Viva Aztlan Dance Festival is funded in part by grants from Civic Lubbock Inc, the Sybil B. Harrington Endowment for the Arts of the Lubbock Area Foundation, and the Texas Commission for the Arts. Additional and help is also given by, Excel Energy, Magic 93.7, Coca Cola and El Editor Newspapers.

# Festival Viva Aztlan

Presentado Por Lubbock Centro Aztlan

Featuring Folklorico Groups from Juarez, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas in Competition

Sabado - Saturday March 10 Starting at 3 pm and continuing to the Showcase at 7:30 pm  
tambien 18 Grupos Folklorico Presentando lo Mejor en Danzas de Mexico

Roy Lozano Ballet  
Folklorico Showcase de Austin  
7:30 pm  
March 10  
Danzas desde los Aztecas a Nortona

March 9 - 10  
Lubbock Civic Center

Children's Groups  
March 9 Starting at 3 pm  
Star Dance Academy - Hobbs  
Ballet Folklorico Aztlan - Lubbock  
Corazon Mexicano - Carlsbad  
Grupo de Danza Raramuri - El Paso  
Ballet Nuestra Herencia - Lubbock  
Back of the Yards Ballet Folklorico - Chicago  
Folklorico de Guadalupe - Snyder



Internacionalmente Reconocidos

**Adult Groups - In Competition**  
March 10 All Day Starting at 1 pm

Folklorico de Guadalupe, Snyder - Ballet Folklorico Semblanzas, Albuquerque - Grupo Folklorico Jaguar, Edinburg, Muleshoe Ballet Folklorico - Ballet Folklorico Aztlan, Lubbock - Alma Folklorica, Guymon, OK, Ballet Folklorico Nuestra Herencia, Lubbock, - Grupo de Danza Raramuri, El Paso, Ahue Tosacame - Colegio de Bachilleres #6, Juarez, Mx, Back of the Yards Ballet Folklorico, Chicago

The Festival will also offer Folklorico and Mariachi Workshops starting Friday and Saturday Mornings

Viernes - Friday - Marzo 9 Presentando

# Viva El Mariachi

Los Mejores Mariachi del Oeste de Tejas



**Civic Center Theatre**  
**Admission - \$5 Seniors \$3**  
Child under 5 Free

**Entrada - Admission for All Day Friday and Saturday Competition - Solo \$4, Seniors - \$2**  
**Mariachi Concert and Folklorico Showcase Friday and Saturday Nights - \$5 each**  
March 9 and 10 featuring mariachi and folklorico workshops at the Civic Center. For more information call 806-252-2828  
Viva Aztlan Dance Festival is funded in part by grants from Civic Lubbock Inc, the Sybil B. Harrington Endowment for the Arts of the Lubbock Area Foundation, and the Texas Commission for the Arts. Additional support given by Xcel Energy, Magic 93.7, Latino Lubbock, Coca Cola, LISD and El Editor Newspapers.

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