

Casualties of
War in Iraq
3,809
as of October
4, 2007

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Committee Commits to Set Schedule for Work on Hispanic Cultural Center

by Bidal Agüero

The chatter and laughter of students as they worked on a Texas Tech homecoming float would normally be the customary sounds that might be heard from a functional cultural center. A Center that would give the opportunity for organizations to do their projects that benefit the community. That type of center has been long awaited here in Lubbock and many thought it

editorials by this newspaper in an effort to "get something started" said editors of El Editor.

Questions about grant money given to the Fiestas committee specifically for the Center had also existed and Committee members explained that all of the money granted by the City of Lubbock required matching money.

"We were just not able to raise that amount of matching money all at one time," explained Robert Narvaiz, chairman of Fiestas. According to Dr. Juan Muñoz, another member of the Committee, the City grant required all work to be turn-key and done through the City bid process. "For that reason we couldn't just do a portion of the building with the little money we had, the work had to be done all at the same time and on the City's terms. We couldn't trim any requirements"

Although the Fiesta Committee committed to start work, they all expressed a need for help from the community. "We still have very little money and it is going to take a community effort to bring the building up to being a functional Center," said the members. "We will have to be

asking organizations, individuals and the community in general to help us by providing the time and hands to work on the Center." Muñoz said that foremost in help needed would be people willing to clean and paint the Center, Next would be to ask for help from professionals to provide help with electrical and plumbing work that is greatly needed.

"Within the next week or two, we will provide a schedule of work that will be published and advertised so that the community can volunteer," promised Narvaiz. Persons wishing to volunteer can call Narvaiz at 781-6277.



hopefully might had been available after the City of Lubbock donated a building to the Fiestas del Llano committee for the purpose of providing a Hispanic Cultural Center.

According to committee members the Center located at 3rd Street and University Avenue was to have been specifically for the goal of providing a space for local civic organizations to have cultural and educational activities.

That goal came one step closer to realization this past Wednesday as members of the Fiestas del Llano committee made the commitment to begin a schedule of work toward making the Hispanic Cultural Center a certainty for Lubbock. Lack of a definite commitment had been the target of

Neighborhood Association Proposes Clean-up of "Arroyo"

To many it had just been a dumping ground for many years and the results of trash that has built up throughout the years have now brought the Guadalupe Neighborhood As-

sociation to its feet to try and "clean-up" one of their most beautiful parts of the neighborhood.



sociation to its feet to try and "clean-up" one of their most beautiful parts of the neighborhood.

Carlos Quirino, President of the Association has organized a "Clean-Up the Arroyo Campaign" and is now asking persons interested in helping to come and lend a hand.

"We have been looking at doing this for some time and believe that the weather is now perfect for us to get down there and begin the process," said Quirino. He has said that the Lubbock Park and Recreation Department has promised to lend a hand by providing not only containers for the trash in but also some manpower.

The clean-up campaign proposes for Saturday October 13

long as it takes."

Formal plans to clean up the area had been drafted by the City in a plan to develop the small stream into what was to be called "Vaquero Lake" The plans were changed because of the finding of architectural items in the area prohibiting drilling in the area. Quirino said that monies for the project were then transferred to build a softball park in Southwest Lubbock and the project has now gone by the wayside.

Quirino said that he knew that the "Arroyo could provide an excellent recreational area for the entire City with proper maintenance and care.

Persons wishing to volunteer for the project can call Quirino at 806-765-7940.

El Titanic Venidero de los Comicios Presidenciales

Así halló un informe reciente, titulado "Border Wars: The Impact of Immigration on the Latino Vote", por Richard Nadler, de la fundación conservadora, Americas Majority Foundation. El estudio cubrió 145 distritos y 175.000 electores.

El mismo informe mostró que los candidatos republicanos que abogaron por reforma migratoria comprensiva (cierta combinación de programas de trabajadores temporales, legalización ganada, y medidas de seguridad) perdieron sólo 4 puntos porcentuales de su apoyo.

Advierte Nadler, "Cuando un político se dirige al territorio tenebroso de deportaciones masivas, o rechazo de programas de trabajadores temporales, o hacer criminales de las infracciones civiles del trabajo indocumentado, la pena política que paga entre los latinos es dura y rápida".

Esto tiene importancia porque el partido republicano puede haber empezado a definirse, mediante sus candidatos a la presidencia, como desinteresado en cultivar a latinos para el partido, lo cual erosiona aún más lo avanzado desde la década de los setenta. Agregado a esto la política de Bush en Irak y mayor disparidad de ingresos durante su administración, y se establece el escenario para enajenar a los latinos durante una generación entera.

Una herida más que se dieron ocurrió el mes pasado en los Foros Presidenciales que auspició Univisión, la cadena de

televisión en español.

Llamándolo un "Foro" (singular) es mejor representación de lo que ocurrió. Sólo el senador por Arizona se mostró dispuesto a presentarse. Se canceló el evento republicano. El debate de los demócratas, mientras tanto, con ocho candidatos, ocurrió el 9 de septiembre y atrajo a 4,6 millones de televidentes, más que el promedio de 4,3 millones de videntes de los debates en inglés en las cadenas ABC, CNN, Fox News Channel, y MSNBC.

El mismo desaire perpetuado sobre los latinos visitó también a Travis Smiley, el moderador del foro PBS All-American Presidential Forum, en la cadena pública de televisión. Los candidatos más importantes republicanos no asistieron al evento, en el que las preguntas que les hicieran vendrían de periodistas de color. Allí, los llamados candidatos de "segunda fila" sí se presentaron.

En su libro, "Los Republicanos: Why Hispanics and Republicans Need Each Other", Leslie Sánchez advierte que un partido de puertas cerradas e intolerante, como se expresa con los temas de la inmigración, podría destruir al partido para los latinos. Hay que escuchar lo que Sánchez dice. En realidad, el fulcro está ladeado, y ahora son los republicanos quienes necesitan a un electorado hispano para mantenerse como partido nacional. Y la inmigración es su crisol.

Hace mucho que los republicanos han luchado por formar mayorías electorales para ganar elecciones. Entre los acercamientos de mayor éxito que han tenido fueron la "Estrategia del Sur" y la "mayoría silenciosa" de Richard Nixon, los llamamientos religiosos de Ronald Reagan y de George W. Bush el más genérico "conservadurismo compasivo".

Rara vez, si nunca, se menciona en este contexto la iniciativa de los comicios presidenciales

de 1972 que puso a los latinos como electorado republicano. Pero en las tres décadas y media desde entonces, el progreso se hizo con enfrentarse, no esquivar, la misma gente que buscaban, y al dar acento a lo positivo.

Es extraño que justo cuando los latinos del partido republicano (con senador por Florida, Mel Martínez de co-director del partido) tendrían que llevar la batuta, no se dejan ver. Y puede que el partido no tenga más la capacidad de ganar. Los candidatos a la presidencia más importantes no parecen entenderlo — cómo relacionar la política con la gente, que si quieres sumar, no restes.

Los demócratas, en lo que va, podrían capturar Nuevo México, Nevada, Colorado, La Florida y Iowa en noviembre del 2008, según Richard Nadler. Esto implica que cualquier ventaja que pudieran tener los republicanos en una elección a nivel nacional habría desaparecido.

Si los candidatos republicanos no se hacen con una política migratoria amplia y comprensiva, y a menos que dejen de enajenar más a la gente que necesitan para una coalición ganadora, se le puede decir adiós al partido.

Como el Titanic, el partido republicano podría hundirse lentamente como un partido de mayoría para el futuro predecible. Y lo que quedará serán los legisladores demócratas — y promotores de alto precio — claro está.

[José de la Isla, autor de "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books, 2003), redacta un comentario semanal para Hispanic Link News Service. Comuníquese con él a: joseisla@yahoo.com © 2007]

Abel Cruz, editor of "News Briefs" that normally appears on this page is on vacation

The Coming Titanic of Presidential Elections

By José de la Isla
Along the U.S.-Mexico border, congressional candidates who advocated enforcement-only, and not comprehensive immigration reform, found support dropping by more than 21 percent in precincts with significant Latino constituents, costing them the election.

That was the finding in a recent report, titled, "Border Wars" The Impact of Immigration on the Latino Vote," by Richard Nadler of the conservative Americas Majority Foundation. The study involved 145 precincts and 175,000 voters.

The same report showed



ing comprehensive immigration reform (some combination of guest-worker programs, earned legalization, and security measures) lost only four percent of their support.

Nadler warns, "When a politician heads into the murky territory of mass deportations, or rejection of guest-worker programs, or criminalization of the civil infractions of undocumented work, the political penalty he pays among Latinos is harsh and prompt."

This matters because the Republican Party may have begun defining itself, through its presidential candidates as uninterested in cultivating Latinos for the party, further eroding any gains made since the 1970s. Add to that the Bush policy on Iraq and greater income disparity during his administration and the scenario is set to alienate Latinos for a generation.

One more self-inflicted wound occurred last month at the Presidential Forums sponsored by Univisión, the Spanish-language television network.

Calling it a "forum" (singular) better represents what actually happened. Only Arizona's U.S. Senator John McCain was willing to show up. The Republican event was cancelled. The Democratic debate, meanwhile, with eight candidates, took place Sept. 9. It drew 4.6 million viewers, more than the average 4.3 million viewers of the English-language debates on ABC, CNN, Fox News Channel, and MSNBC.

The same kind of snub shown Latinos visited Tavis Smiley, who moderated the All-American Presidential Forum on PBS. The top Republican frontrunners failed to attend the event, where questions would have come from journalists of color. There, the so-called "second tier" candidates did appear.

Lesley Sánchez in her book, "Los Republicanos: Why Hispanics and Republicans Need Each Other," warns that an unwelcoming party and intolerance, as expressed on immigration issues, could wreck the party for Latinos. This is a voice to listen to. The fact is, the fulcrum has tilted and it is now the Republicans who need a Hispanic constituency to remain a national party. And immigration is their crucible.

Republicans have long struggled to form voter majorities in order to win elections. Among their most successful approaches were Richard Nixon's "Southern Strategy" and "silent majority," Ronald Reagan's faith-based appeals and George W. Bush's more generic "compassionate conservatism."

Rarely, if ever, mentioned in this context was the 1972 presidential election outreach that first put Latinos on the map as a Republican constituency. But in the three and a half decades since, gains were made by addressing, not dodging, the very people they sought, and by accenting the positive.

Strangely, just when Latinos in the Republican Party (with Florida U.S. Senator Mel Martínez as the GOP's co-chair) should drive the agenda, there's little sign of that. And the party might not have the capacity any longer to win. The presidential frontrunners don't seem to get it—how to connect people to policy, that if you want to add, don't subtract.

Democrats, as it stands, could capture New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, Florida, and Iowa in November 2008, according to Richard Nadler. That means any edge Republicans might have had in a national election will have disappeared.

If the Republican candidates don't come up with some new, broad, comprehensive immigration policy and unless they stop further alienating the people they need for a winning coalition, then you can kiss the party good-bye.

Like the Titanic, the Republican Party could slowly sink as a majority part for the foreseeable future. All that's left will be Democratic officeholders — and high-dollar lobbyists, of course.

[José de la Isla, author of "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books, 2003) writes a weekly commentary for Hispanic Link News Service. E-mail

Léa El Editor en
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LETTERS TO THE Editor

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It's Easy To Be Brave When You're Anonymous, Isn't It?

Re: HONEY, WHERE'S THE PEROXIDE?)

I guess it's easy to be brave if the standards aren't the same as the Lubbock A-J (letter to editor writers must leave full names and towns).

I don't understand how the letter writer can call it a "poll tax" for the Hispanic Chamber to say that only paid members can vote on any matter pertaining to the chamber. Does the writer think the chamber is some form of government? It's an association, just like the Sierra Club or the Audubon Society or the AFLCIO. Only members get to vote in those associations' elections.

Why is the letter writer more concerned with "preserving identity" than with "integrating"?

Isn't "integration" what my Abuelita and Abuelito wanted most? It was what mine wanted for me! They didn't want me to be segregated in a separate restaurant or a separate beauty shop or a separate business league. Back then, it was the non-hispanics trying to segregate us. Now, it's us? The Asians haven't done it. The Jews haven't done it. The Irish didn't do it. Why do we continue to try to segregate ourselves?

Maybe the braver ones are the ones who are putting their names on the line to fully "integrate" us. Maybe Velma Medina is more brave than "RMS"whoever that is.

MGutierrez via email

Goodbye South Plains UnFair

Dear Editor

Another year and another South Plains Fair has come and gone. Well, I say good riddance and don't come back until you clean up your act. According to their website, almost 200,000 people visited "The Panhandle-South Plains Fair" last year and I suspect as many visited this year. But who goes to the fair and what does the fair do for the Hispanic community? According to Steve Lewis, former fair general manager, approximately 65-70% of those spending big bucks at the Carnival Midway are Hispanics. We're the ones paying parking fees, gate admission fees, buying carnival ride tickets, and spending money on food and drinks. We're the ones who get behind on rent and/or car payments come October because we spent \$300 - \$400 - \$500 on our kids at the fair. Should we be satisfied with the idea that some of those hard earned dollars go to the local high school selling lemonade or the Lions Club who's selling corn dogs? Should we be satisfied that Emilio played on Tuesday night, that the fair board has the token Marciano Morales on it? What happens to the millions of dollars raised? Herbert F. Higgs, Jr., current fair general manager, recently was quoted as saying that it takes \$1 million dollars to put on the fair. So, you know very well that the fair is raising well over a million dollars a year in order to survive. My understanding is that The Panhandle-South Plains Fair gives out scholarships as well. Scholarships to who? And how many of those scholarships are to Hispanics? None, you say? As a mother of two, I say we need to start planning a massive boycott of next year's fair. Can the fair survive without the Hispanic communities' support? I don't think so. And yet, can our Hispanic families survive without being dragged by their kids to the fair?

RMS via email

Dear Editor,

This morning, President Bush vetoed legislation to renew the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which would provide health care coverage for more than 10 million children. The Associated Press reported he did so "behind closed doors without any fanfare or news coverage."

It's no wonder he wanted to keep his veto quiet—he must know it wasn't the right thing to do.

The president ignored the 4 million more children who would gain health care coverage under the reauthorization bill—joining the 6.6 million already enrolled.

He refused to listen to many leading Republican lawmakers who joined nearly every Democrat in the House and Senate in voting to reauthorize the program.

Bush disregarded the 81 percent of Democrats, 69 percent of independents and 61 percent of Republicans who told an ABC News-Washington Post poll they support the \$35 billion increase in the bill so more children get health coverage.

But he won't be able to ignore a congressional override of his unhealthy veto. Go to this web site to tell the House to stand up to Bush and vote to override his veto: http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/schip_bush_veto_override

In solidarity,

Working Families e-Activist Network

"El Que Pica con la Cola"
El Hijo Del Alacrán
(The Son of the Scorpion.)

Back in the 70's and 80's "El Alacrán"; "the scorpion that stings with his tail" was a regular guest on the pages of this newspaper. Many years have passed, "El Alacrán" has now retired his poisonous pen; but now along comes his son...and as they say; "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree".

Primero dice que sí y luego dicen que no! Este Hijo del Alacrán no entiende. Se eschúcho en la tele la semana pasada que la Linda y la Christy quizás estaban listas pa' hacer un compromiso con todos los que no quieren que se nombre del callejon nombrado "Canyon Lakes Drive" a Cesar Chavez Drive. Y ahora se escucho en la radio Magic que la Linda dijo que ella no va aceptar ningun compromiso. Por eso digo que no se entiende. Y nos cuenta el Abel Cruz que el mentado compromiso solo nombrara un pedacito de una calle en honor el mentado Cesar Chavez. Dice Abel que solo 1.8 millas del camino sera nombrado en honor de Chavez. Pues si va hacer haci mejor que se nombre un corral de vacas. Para este Hijo del Alacrán seria una verguenza no nomas para Lubbock pero para toda la Raza quien verdaderamente quiere que se honre a Chavez.

Queque todo se va discutir en la siguiente junta del Consejo de la Ciudad el día jueves. Tengan por seguro que este hijo del Alacrán estara alli poniendo oreja! Y se lo reportare la semana proxima.

Y aca por este otro lado los miembros de la mesa directiva de las Fiestas del Ya No dice que al fin estan listos pa' empear a trabajar con la gente pa' hacer realidad el Centro Cultural de los Hispanos aqui en Lubbock. Pues se me hace que al fin les pico bastante los piquetes que les estaban dando Bidal y Abel en sus editoriales. Pues ojala que sea verdad que van a trabajar. Si no tenganol por seguro que este jijo del..... sera el primero que empearas a picarles!

Hey no deje de escuchar a Armando y Naida Gonzalez en la radio 580 AM todos los días de la 1:30 a la 3 de la tarde. Las platicas se ponen bastante interesantes. Y hasta haveces que tambien invitan a Ysidro que sea uno de los "habladores!" HaHa

Y por fin solo me queda decirles que me dio bastante tristesa ver que dos de nuestros soldados de la area de Lubbock murieron en esa maldita guerra del Presidente Bush.

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COMMENTARY

The Elusive; or Obscure or Semi-Existent Canyon Lakes Drive

By Abel Cruz

The controversy and public debate surrounding the renaming of Canyon Lakes Dr to Cesar Chavez Dr escalated this past week and became a public war of words with the principal organizer of the renaming effort taking exception to comments made by Precinct 3 County Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez in a story in last week's El Editor.

Last week, we reported that Commissioner Gutierrez supported the idea of renaming a street after Chavez; just not the street selected by organizers.

By Friday afternoon, we received a copy of an email sent by Christy Martinez Garcia, who has been leading the renaming effort, to Ysidro Gutierrez in which she also copied other recipients. In the email, she takes the commissioner to task and asks him to "please be accountable".

The gist of the Friday afternoon email from Martinez Garcia reminds Gutierrez that when she had asked him if he supported the name change during a Hispanic Agenda meeting; his answer was that he wouldn't have spoken publicly in front of the city council and signed the petition if he didn't. Martinez reminded Gutierrez of his public comments and in essence questions his integrity and veracity; and his honesty.

Within a short period of time, Gutierrez responds and disputes Martinez Garcia's claim that he has endorsed the street selected. He says that he has video proof of the comments he made and what he said during an appearance at a city council meeting; although he does not reference the Hispanic Agenda meeting Martinez Garcia referred to. He then challenges her to show him the petition she says he has signed.

We use this email exchange between an elected official and principal organizer to illustrate just how contentious this issue has become and to what point it has come to on the eve of the city council vote on whether to rename a park road in this case, in honor of Chavez.

Part of the problem stems, we believe from the confusion of just where Canyon Lakes Dr is; where its boundaries are, what it bypasses; and if in fact it bypasses historical sites as organizers say it does.

In an effort to clear up the confusion, Bidal and I took a ride out to the Canyon Lakes this past Monday. This was not the first time we had done this; as we took the same ride a few months back in anticipation of the council vote; this time we took care to try and find the road which had seemed to elude us the first time.

We began our road trip at North Loop 289 and drove on Canyon Lakes Dr toward North University. The length of the first leg; 8/10th of a mile. The road continues across North University and winds east on the north side of the lake until it intersects Ave U.

When we get to Ave U we notice that Canyon Lakes Dr is not a continuous road, but rather one that is interrupted by natural boundaries and other streets.

At that point; Canyon Lakes Dr ends; there is no signage indicating otherwise.

To those unfamiliar with the area, especially the potential visitors organizers anticipate would be drawn to the area if the road is renamed; they would not be able to find the continuation of the road, unless they had some kind of directional map or visual instructions; and even then it would be rather difficult. For others, what they would surmise is that the road simply ends at that T- intersection.

But it doesn't.

Since organizers have said that the road goes by the migrant labor camp at Aztlan Park, we decide to head to that area by heading east from Ave U on Erskine street. Both of us, having spent part of our youth in the Barrio Viejo, decide to cut through there to make sure the road does not border the north side of the neighborhood. We are both familiar with the area and find what we already suspected; that Baylor street is still the northernmost street in the Barrio.

So we head on over to what is now Aztlan Park and the former site of the infamous Labor Camp known by many of us from our era and prior generations; although the camp was there long before either one of us came along.

Bidal comments that he and his family once lived at the camp and remembers how they were made of sheet metal; or as we say in Tex-Mex "ojelata". For a moment, we both relive the early sixties and I envision how I remember the row of faded and rusted metal buildings, which all looked exactly alike; commenting on how incredibly hot they must have been in the summer and cold in the winter; surrounded by nothing but caliche and dirt rock fronts.

We both comment on how the organizers have made it a point to highlight the fact that if Canyon Lakes Rd is renamed; then Cesar Chavez Dr will pass by the aforementioned labor camp. Until we realize that if it does; then someone better be planning to change Ave J and First Place as well.

You see, Canyon Lakes Dr, according to street signage and all other visible signs and information does not border Aztlan Park.

The street on the south side; separating the row of houses and the park is clearly marked as First Place. The street to the west of the park is clearly marked Ave J. Consequently the southwest intersection of the park is First Place at Ave J; with no street sign for Canyon Lakes Dr to be seen anywhere.

So we drive north of First Place on Ave J. The street winds around the north side of the park and then curves around back toward the mural. As we continue around the street, there are no street or road signs designating what street or road we are on; although there is at least one sign that says "Canyon Lakes Bike Trail". But we conclude that we started out on Ave J; and there is nothing to indicate that there is a name change as we continue on that road; so we must still be on Ave J; unless someone at the city has failed to properly designate the street with a sign; which could very easily be the case.

At this point we are a little confused since in an email Q&A, Martinez Garcia has made it clear that "This Street is on the course of those migrant labor camps located in Aztlan Park and Mackenzie Park, not too mention the area where many Hispanic families of Lubbock first evolved and began their history.

But we are unable to find any street sign which says that we are on Canyon Lakes Dr; all we see is signage for Ave J and First Place.

The road we're on crosses underneath what is the old Ave H and eventually intersects with the main road in Mackenzie Park. At that intersection; we look for a street sign to see what road we're on and find none. So we take a right and head towards the Joyland amusement park. At this point we have not seen any signs except for a couple of roadside markers which say "Canyon Lakes Bike Route".

Later on I check the internet map service www.mapquest.com; it shows a road labeled Canyon Lakes Dr; but the map location is well into the park area. It does not show any labels at or near Aztlan Park.

As we continue, again we reminisce about our younger days and remember the Sunday afternoons at the park. We fondly recall the days of \$.35 cents a gallon gas and the way "la Raza" used to cruise the park on Sunday afternoons.

People; and we're talking a lot of people here; used to frequent this place every Sunday afternoon; kind of like this was the place to be for "la Raza" or Chicano youth back then. Cars would cruise from the park entrance at the swimming pool and head towards Broadway where they (we) would turn around and cruise in the opposite direction. All the while the radio or 8-track players would be blaring with the latest Tejano hit or some new Little Joe or Augustine Ramirez love song.

People would park in the 2 lots west of Joyland and mingle with friends and girlfriends; and you occasionally could see the bottom side of "un quarto"; a quart of one's favorite beverage being enjoyed by someone; which for many people back then "Schlitz" was.

Of course all this was even before the golf course interrupted the landscape. But this was definitely the place to be on Sunday afternoons; for us back in the late 60's and early 70's; this

was where a lot of "Raza" fell in and out of love; some folks experiencing both emotions on the same day...

The next time we see a sign that says Canyon Lakes Dr is about 200 to 300 hundred feet north of the Broadway entrance. The road, which runs east and is directly across from the boondoggle known as the Lubbock Amphitheater is designated as Canyon Lakes Dr. So we turn left and it winds around for about 2/10th of a mile until it intersects Broadway.

We went no further South this time, since we had heard that a compromise is in the works which will result in Cesar Chavez Dr end at Broadway; if in fact the proposed compromise is voted on and passes. But on our previous ride, we had noted that the road continues across Broadway and winds towards east 19th passing the Windmill Park on the left until it intersects with East 19th street.

The road continues southeast of Broadway until it intersects with MLK and continues around the lake system; ending once again in the south side of the lake at MLK. At this point, the lakes are on the north side and the City of Lubbock Cemetery is on the south; with that expensive new entrance which was built in Councilman's Price "backyard" and which to us is a testament to "a waste of taxpayer dollars"; but then what else is new?

So where are we on this renaming controversy? In a story posted last week on the NewsRadio 1420 web site www.newsradio1420.com; it alludes to a compromise in the works or under discussion which will rename sections of the road after Cesar Chavez; ending at the intersection of Canyon Lakes Dr and east Broadway. It is our understanding that the sections will include the one which borders the lakes off of North University and ends at Ave U; it will then pick up again at the road in Mackenzie Park; although we are still not clear where the road begins. Again, this is something both of us read and neither one of us is clear what areas the renaming compromise will impact.

But if it's true that a compromise will be reached, then we have to believe that it is being offered as a way to avoid the territorial fight that has been publicly waged by several African American neighborhood organizations. Their main argument has been that things should remain the same in "their" section of the Canyon Lakes and presumably they see no value in having a street named after Chavez intersecting one named for Martin Luther King; the African American civil rights icon.

For organizer Martinez Garcia, the two streets intersecting has been one of the focal points; and she has pointed out several times that this would be the first time and Lubbock would be the first city to have two streets; respectively named after these two men that would intersect.

Although both Bidal and I have searched our collective memory we both agree that in life there was not very much "intersecting" between the two men; and in fact they never personally met each other. And we disagree that a street named after each man would be a big attraction for someone say living in Oklahoma or anywhere else to come to Lubbock. Will it motivate people to follow in these men's footsteps and continue the never ending fight for civil rights and workers rights as Martinez Garcia has alluded to in some of her printed material and public comments?

Well we would answer that question this way: If nothing else has motivated people to this point; it is our guess that an intersection probably won't either. In fact; it seems to have had the opposite effect and has created a division between some people in the black community and some in the Hispanic community.

But we respect the organizer's right to make their case; we just happen to disagree on this point.

But back to our ride; here's some of what we concluded:

First of all, unless someone knows something we didn't see, Canyon Lakes Dr does not bypass the only labor camp we are both familiar with. The two streets there are Ave J and First Place. Second, Canyon Lakes Drive is not a continuous street but rather a fractured street which starts at North Loop 289 and runs east until it ends at Ave U. It then picks up again about say 300 feet north of east Broadway across from the new overpriced amphitheater. Now this is all based on the street signs we saw; and didn't see.

All along the way, there is absolutely no street signage, the road is just like any road; with the exception of an occasional plaque alongside it; detailing some tidbit of information.

For example, between the North Loop and North University, there are at least 3 plaques detailing certain events. One can also see the Buddy Holly recreation area; with the party house on the south side of the lake. There is also a tree grove dedicated to a person by the last name of Quest; a plaque informing the reader that underneath the lake area, is a huge landfill filled with the debris from the "hundreds" of homes damaged from the civic center area which were all damaged in the 1970 tornado; a plaque informing the reader of a gentleman by the name of Albert Pike; it designates him as one of the first Anglo Americans to explore Yellowhouse Canyon 1832. And of course we saw the Fiesta Plaza; which no one knows exists and if they do have never used the facility.

I suggest that the Plaza be renamed for Chavez, but that doesn't seem to inspire my passenger. But, I point out that at least it's a suggestion; which is more than I can say for some people; who by the way shall remain nameless...

Finally, on the east side of the lake right before North University is a sign that calls the lakes the Jim Bertram Lake System. We conclude that the whole thing is confusing and wonder just how the name of Cesar Chavez will stand out from the rest of the names associated with the lakes?

For now, we'll just have to wait until the city council votes and see what they vote on; whether the original idea or the compromise. We would have liked to bring you some comments directly from City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon; but the email we sent her concerning this issue last week went unanswered; so we figured she wouldn't answer us even if we tried again.

I suppose she doesn't think it's necessary to comment to this newspaper; which documents and covers issues such as this one which impact the Hispanic community or the Hispanic population which she represents a large part of. We cannot help but notice that she readily comments to the mainstream press though; if that means anything.

But that's a story for another day.

For now, we'll just have to wait for the drama to unfold at the October 11 Lubbock City Council meeting. But we both agree that after our ride, we both have more questions than answers and are still bewildered by this whole effort. We respectfully applaud the efforts of those who have been proponents of this change. We applaud them for taking an active part in the political process.

But at this point, all we can conclude is if after all this time; the street name change effort results in a fractured street name being changed in a way to appease the black community and proponents of the change; then why bother?

As Bidal said as we drove away from the park; "if they are going to honor the man; then why not an honor him in a way befitting his contributions; and not just as a compromise to silence the critics?"

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Gutierrez: Immigration Reform Vital for Economy

U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez said the economy will suffer if Congress doesn't pass comprehensive immigration reform.

Gutierrez said during a visit to the University of South

Carolina Monday that the United States doesn't have enough workers to keep the economy growing with the nation's working age population expected to grow just 0.3 percent annually over the next decade.

"If we don't have enough homegrown workers and executives and scientists, where are we going to get them?" Gutierrez asked.

The native of Cuba told business students the nation must either come together on an immigration policy or face a declining economy.

"For me, this is about numbers. It's about arithmetic. It's about reality. I'm trying to stay away from the emotions of immigration," said Gutierrez, who came to the United States with his family in 1960.

Countries around the world are struggling with a declining work force. If lawmakers succeed on immigration reform, the competitive advantages will last for the rest of this century, he said.

Gutierrez came to the college with Republican U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham. The two became friends while crafting immigration legislation that failed in Congress.

Graham has been criticized by Republicans in the state for backing the immigration

bill. Gutierrez praised Graham as someone willing to tackle tough issues.

Graham said the country



desperately needs a temporary worker program "to bring workers into this country on our terms" who understand English and can fill jobs Americans won't.

"Americans have hopes and dreams for their children up the economic ladder, not down," he said. "If we do not deal with this labor shortage in time, it will hurt us in agriculture and spread throughout the country."

On other issues, Gutierrez said the economy will get through the housing crunch.

"Our economy is so big, so diverse and so flexible, it's able to adjust and offset when parts of it are hit," he said.

"The economy is now experiencing nearly six years of uninterrupted growth," despite the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, corporate scandals, Hurricane Katrina and an increasing energy crisis, Gutierrez said.

Freedom and the entrepreneur spirit are the core of the economy's strength, he said. He believes a strong economy needs low taxes and regulations friendly to innovation. Companies less than five years old account for half of all new jobs created annually, he said.

"Give everybody an equal opportunity. Give everybody a shot and get out of the way," said Gutierrez, who in 1999 became Kellogg's youngest ever chief executive.

The practice of insurers basing auto insurance premiums on a customer's credit rating was questioned at a House hearing Tuesday, with critics asking whether it disproportionately hurts young people and minorities.

"If I got my credit score up, would that make me a better driver?" asked Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., chairman of the House Financial Services oversight subcommittee.

Watt's panel heard testimony on a Federal Trade Commission report last summer finding that credit rating scores are effective predictors of the number of claims consumers file and the costs of those claims.

The report concluded that credit-based insurance scores may benefit consumers because they allow insurers to more accurately evaluate risks. But it also acknowledged that a higher

percentage of blacks and Hispanics have low credit ratings that could lead to their paying higher premiums for auto insurance.

Blacks and Hispanics are more likely on average to have lower scores, FTC Commissioner J. Thomas Rosch told the hearing. It "serves as a reminder of the fact that some things even today in our society may adversely affect racial and ethnic minorities."

The FTC said that in models with credit-based insurance scores, blacks were projected to have average predicted risk 10 percent higher, and Hispanics 4.2 percent higher, than if the scores were not used.

The report noted insurance companies began to use credit-based insurance scores in the mid-1990s, and that now all major auto insurers use those scores to some capacity.

"Most Americans probably would be surprised that a late

payment on their credit cards can dramatically increase the premiums they pay on automobile insurance," said Watt, citing examples of people who saw their rates go up because they had no credit history or a woman whose insurance premium jumped after her husband declared bankruptcy.

Many states have either banned or limited the use of credit ratings in determining premiums.

J.P. Schmidt, commissioner of insurance for Hawaii, said his state banned the link 20 years ago after deciding that it could result in discriminatory practices and that the benefits were "outweighed by the potential for harm to a greater number of the state's citizens."

Many immigrants and young people have no credit history, resulting in higher risk designations, said Eric Rodriguez of the National Council of La Raza. Washington state's insurance

commissioner, Mike Kreidler, said his state five years ago passed limitations such as barring insurers from canceling or refusing to renew policies because of credit ratings. But he said it "make me very nervous" that other factors, such as education and occupation, are starting to creep into insurers' calculations in determining rates.

But Rep. Gary Miller of California, the top Republican on the panel, said it would be "irresponsible for insurance companies to ignore" the fact that people with bad credit histories are more likely to have accidents. He said he would hate to see the practice banned with the result that people with bad records are subsidized.

Watt also cautioned against federal intervention, noting that states have traditionally regulated insurance and "should continue to do so."

Arremeten contra timo con cheques falsos por correo en EEUU

Mensajes electrónicos aparecieron de repente, de Nigeria y otros países lejanos. Estos hablaban sobre herencias, problemas políticos y otras razones por las que alguien necesitaba sacar dinero del aquel país. Si el receptor del mensaje ayudaba, el emisor prometía compartir el dinero.

Desafortunadamente, miles de personas cayeron en la estafa, perdiendo entre 3.000 a 4.000 dólares cada una.

En el transcurso del año, más de 800 personas han presentado quejas sobre tal engaño.

Esperando detener las pérdidas, el Servicio de Inspección Postal de Estados Unidos anunció el miércoles un operativo internacional en el cual se han decomisado más de 540.000 cheques falsos con un valor nominal de un total de 2.100 millones de dólares.

Se han realizado 60 arrestos en Holanda; 16 en Nigeria y uno

en Canadá, señaló el Servicio de Inspección Postal, y el esfuerzo continúa.

"No hay cabida en el correo para ninguno de estos engaños fraudulentos", dijo el administrador general de correos John Potter.

La mayoría de las estafas comenzaron con correos electrónicos narrando

una herencia o premio de lotería, y pidiendo a la víctima ayuda para traer el dinero a Estados Unidos.

A la víctima se le pedía que cambiara un cheque que le era enviado por correo,

y que enviara parte del dinero de regreso a la persona que lo había remitido, explicó Greg Campbell, inspector encargado de seguridad global e investigaciones del servicio de inspección.

Luego la persona emisora desaparece con el dinero y el cheque original rebota, dejando a

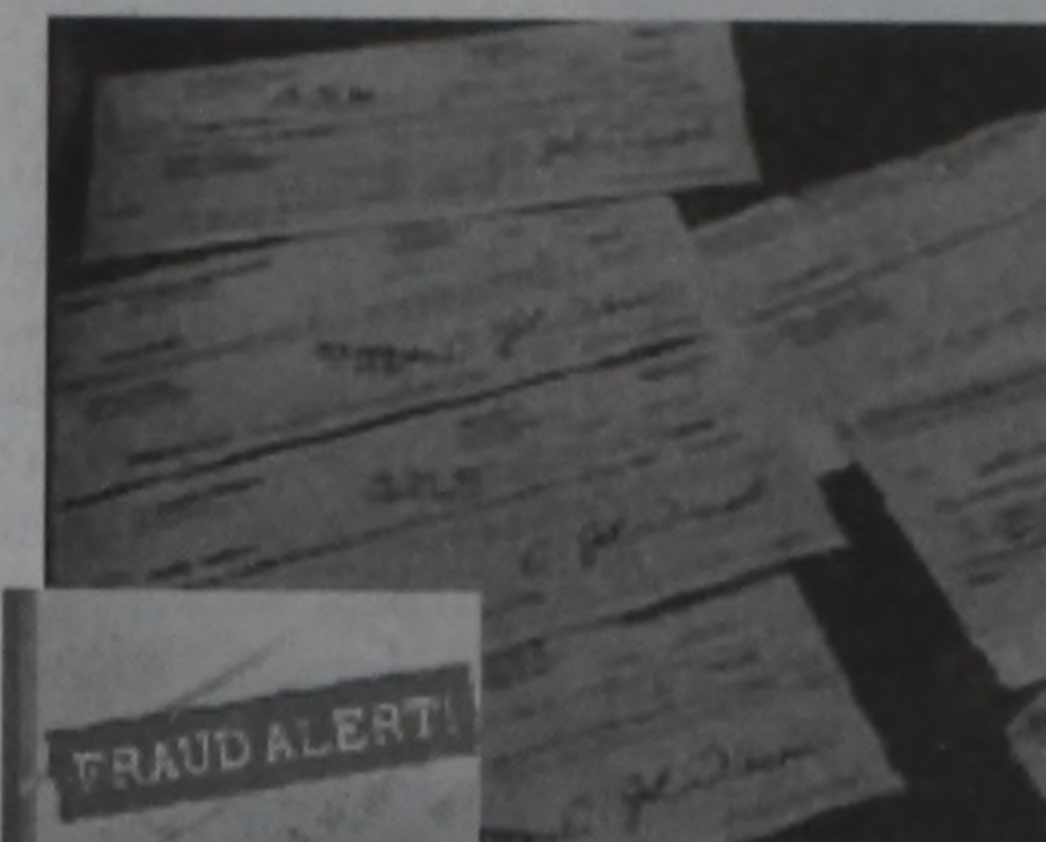
la víctima con una pérdida.

Personas jubiladas han perdido sus ahorros y familias jóvenes han sido estafadas con sus ahorros para una casa, señaló Potter.

Muchos de los casos se originaron en Holanda, donde estafadores del occidente de África operan desde cafeterías con servicio de Internet, dijo Johan Van Hartskamp, comisionado de la policía de Amsterdam.

Ibrahim Lamorde, director de la Comisión de Delitos Financieros y Económicos de Nigeria, señaló que el problema es monumental y "sólo será superado a través de esfuerzos globales".

La fiscal federal asistente de Estados Unidos Alice Fisher dijo: "No hay lotería. No hay herencia. Los cheques no son reales. Pero hay víctimas son reales. El crimen no conoce fronteras, y nuestra coordinada aplicación de la ley no conoce fronteras".



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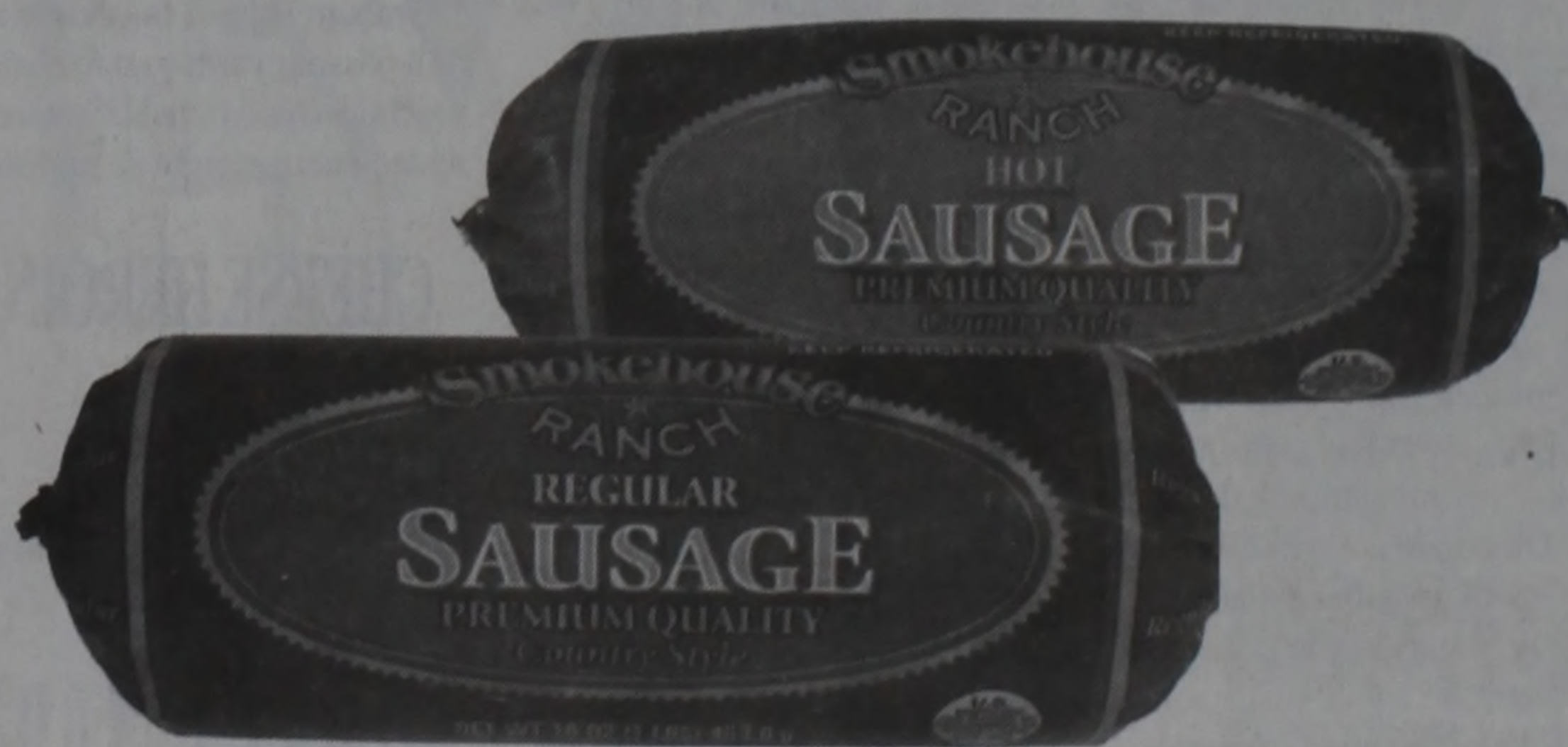
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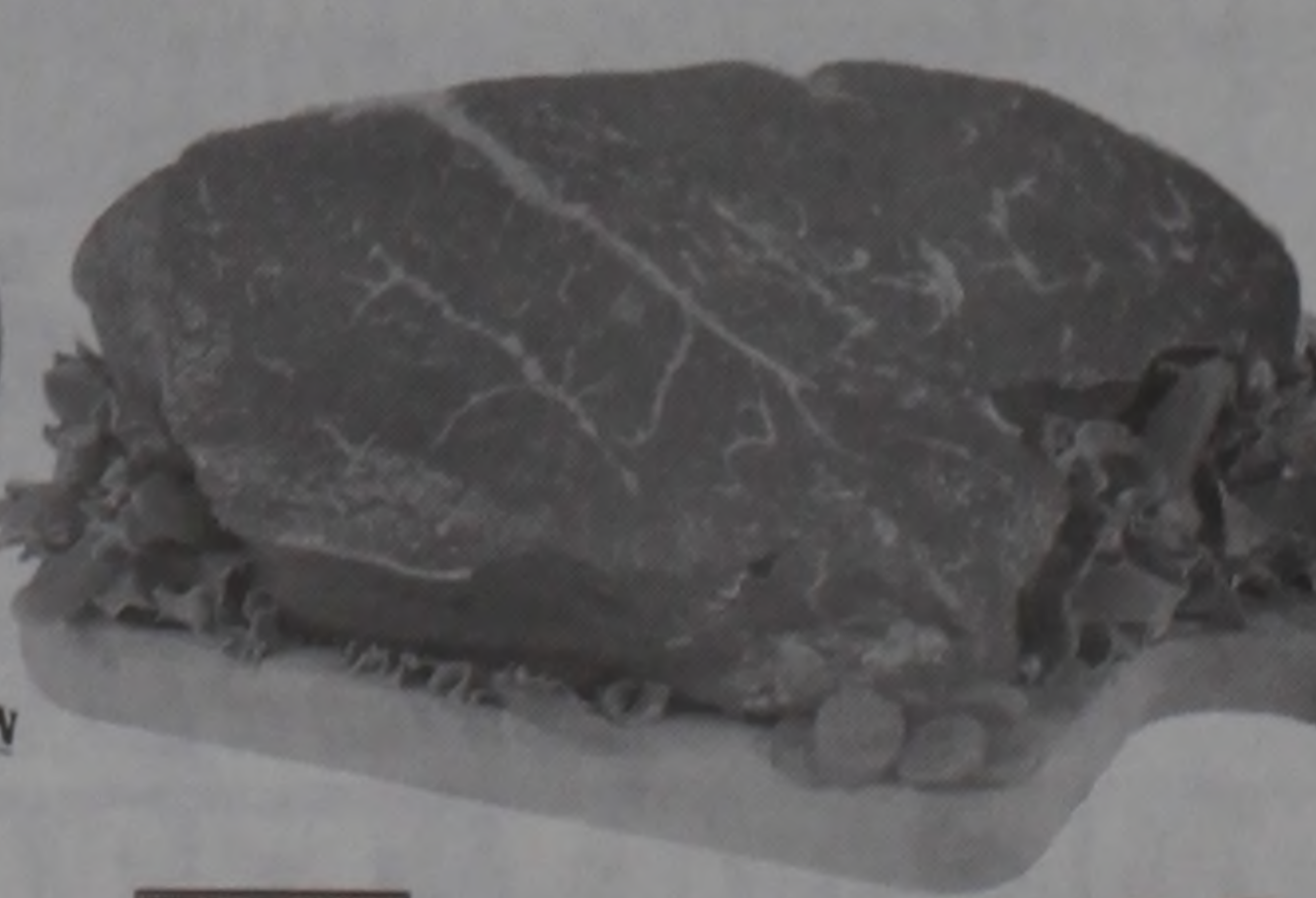
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Buffalo vs. Dallas: 5-0?

Wade Phillips couldn't lead the Buffalo Bills back to the Super Bowl, but he at least got them to the playoffs. Now, Phillips finally seems to have a team capable of making a serious title run.

Phillips' Dallas Cowboys have a chance to go 5-0 for the first time in 24 years when they visit the Bills on Monday night.

Buffalo fired Phillips following the 2000 season, when he failed to lead it to the postseason for the first time in his three years there. Since then, the Bills (1-3) have not made the playoffs and have had just one winning season.

Phillips went 29-19 with the Bills after taking over for Marv Levy, but he was never able to live up to the standards set by his predecessor. Buffalo made four Super Bowl appearances - including two losses to the Cowboys - under Levy.

Dallas chose Phillips to replace Bill Parcells this season, and it is now being touted as an early favorite to represent the NFC in the Super Bowl.

The Cowboys are 4-0 for the first time since their last Super Bowl season a dozen years ago. A win Monday would give them their first 5-0 start since 1983, when Tom Landry was still the coach.

"We have a good team right now. We're playing well overall, and certainly have some talented players that have made plays for us," Phillips said.

Tony Romo and Dallas' offense is scoring at a record pace. The Cowboys' 151 points are 22 more than the NFL record-holding 1998 Minnesota Vikings had at the same point.

Romo has an NFL-high 11 TD passes, and has already matched the team season record with three 300-yard games, giving him six in 12 career contests. Only Troy Aikman (13), Danny White (10) and Don Meredith have more 300-yard games.

"Anytime your quarterback is playing like our quarterback's playing, that's a key factor," Phillips said. "Our defense is solid. ... We've done what we can do, and probably a little better than that."

Dallas' defense has been getting better every game, giving up fewer touchdowns each week.

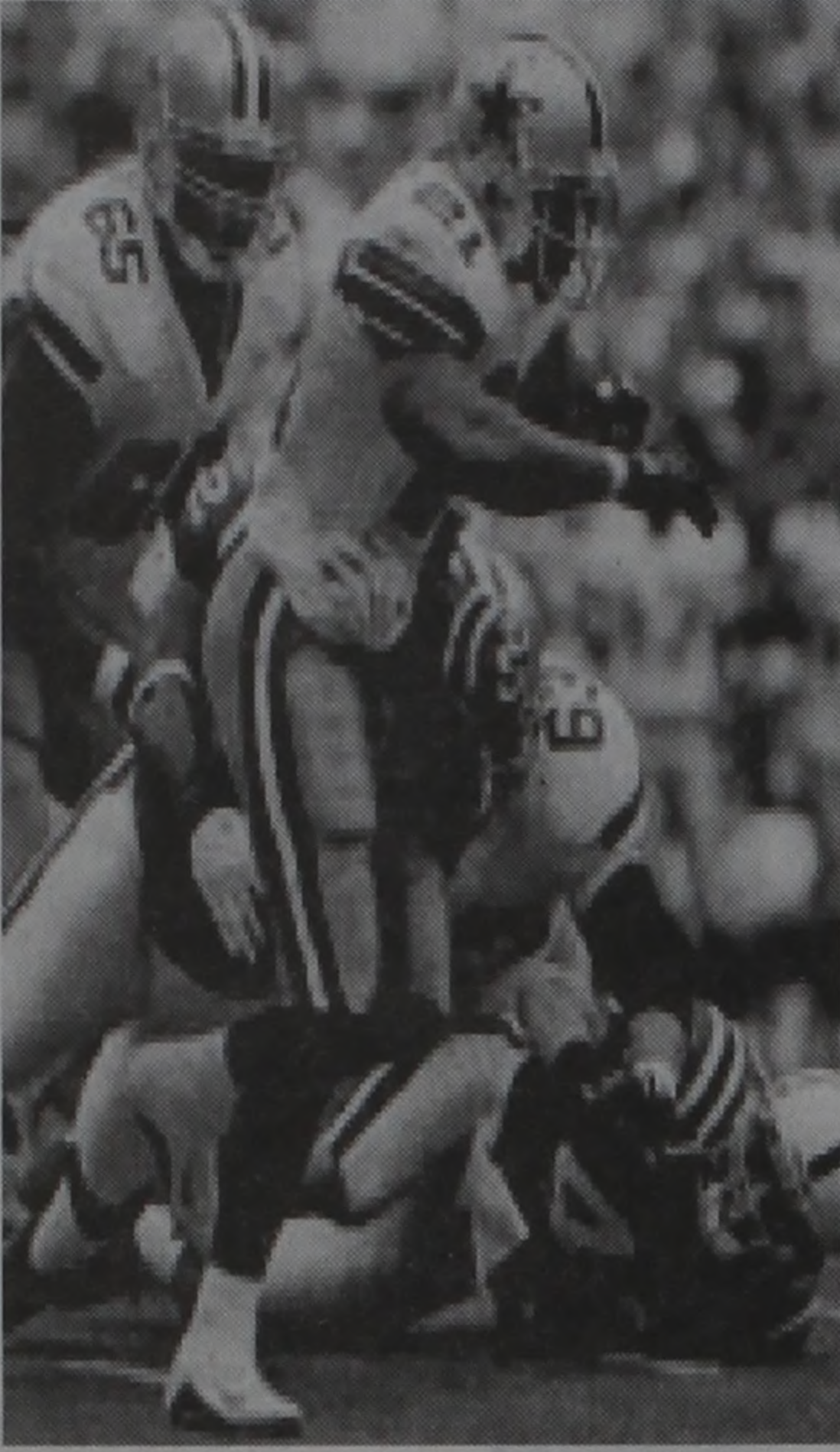
Phillips, who had stints as defensive coordinator in Atlanta and San Diego after leaving Buffalo, has drawn up game plans that have held the Cowboys' last two opponents to a total of 17 points. Dallas gave up just 187 yards in a 35-7 win over St. Louis on Sunday.

The Cowboys' defense has been bolstered by the return of cornerback Terence Newman and linebacker Greg Ellis.

Newman, who missed the first two games because of a heel injury, will be counted on even

more with NFL interception leader Anthony Henry (four) questionable because of a right high ankle sprain sustained last week.

Ellis played last week for the first time since tearing his left Achilles' tendon in November. He recorded 1 1/2 sacks while



playing only 15 snaps.

Ellis will be trying to chase down Bills rookie quarterback Trent Edwards, who made his first start last Sunday and helped Buffalo snap its five-game losing streak dating to last season with a 17-14 win over the New York Jets.

Edwards took the place of J.P. Losman (sprained left knee), and coach Dick Jauron said the 23-year-old signal caller from Stanford will start again Sunday with Losman still limping.

"It's definitely been a fun experience so far. I never thought it would happen this quickly for me. But that's the way the pieces fall sometimes," Edwards said. "I am going to just try and keep doing my job. I know I still have a lot to learn."

Edwards completed 78 percent (22 of 28) of his passes for 234 yards against the Jets, including a key touchdown pass in the fourth quarter on fourth-and-goal from the 1.

"All I know is that he is good," Jauron said. "He's smart, and he was really accurate when he had to be. He did a real nice job."

Buffalo's defense, which finished last week's game playing with two third-stringers in the secondary, also showed improvement, holding New York to just 60 yards rushing. The Bills allowed an average of 177.3 yards on the ground in their previous three games.

"Our roster has gotten shuffled around a lot this year, but it was 11 guys on the same page playing the same game plan," Buffalo linebacker John DiGiorgio said. "I think (the run defense) improved tremendously."

This will be the first meeting between the Bills and Cowboys since Nov. 9, 2003, when Dallas won 10-6 at home. The Cowboys are 4-3 against the Bills in the regular season.

Houston Texans looking for a comeback

The Houston Texans have been unable to generate much of a ground game in their last two losses. Good thing the Miami Dolphins are coming to town.

The Texans look to become the latest team to exploit the Dolphins porous run defense as the teams meet at Reliant Stadium in Houston on Sunday.

Houston's rushing offense ranks 23rd in the NFL, averaging 89 yards, and the team has totaled just 129 yards in back-to-back losses to Indianapolis and

Atlanta. The Texans (2-2) have been without starting running back Ahman Green since Week 1, when he injured a knee.

Green is listed as day-to-day again this week, but it may not matter who lines up in the backfield, whether it be Green or backup Ron Dayne. That's because Miami has been brutal on run defense, a major reason the Dolphins are 0-4 for just the third time in franchise history.

Miami (0-4) is allowing a league-worst 199 yards rushing per game, and last week, allowed Oakland to rush for 299 yards - its highest total in 20 years - in a 35-17 loss to the Raiders.

Former Dolphin quarterback Daunte Culpepper rushed for three touchdowns and backup running back Justin Fargas had a career-high 179 yards.

"The truth is, we're not a good team right now," said outspoken Miami linebacker Joey Porter, who had guaranteed a win. "This is something I'm not accustomed to. This is a run-stopping defense, and we haven't done that yet."

"It's pretty pathetic when the backup running back gets in the game, and he has his best day against you."

The Dolphins have lost seven straight dating to last season, the NFL's longest skid. It's also the second-longest streak in team history, trailing an 8-game run of futility in 1967, and the main reason has been the baffling change on defense. Miami ranked eighth in the league in rush defense and fifth in scoring defense, allowing only 17.7 points per game last season. The Dolphins have allowed more than 30 points in their last three defeats.

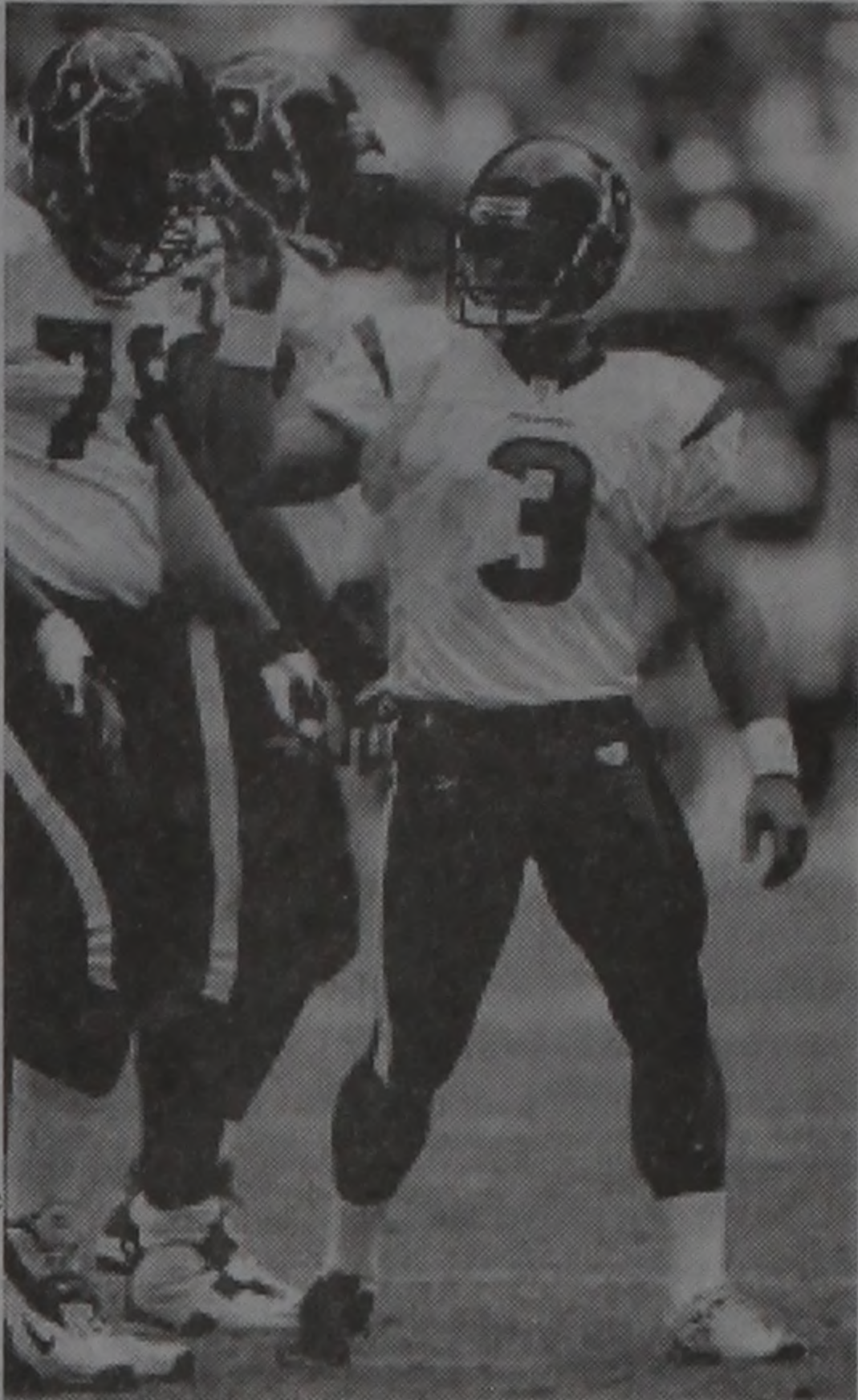
"As good as we were in the past stopping it, we're that bad now," said Miami's Jason Taylor, last season's NFL defensive player of the year. "The way we play has changed. We used to dictate to people. You have to get people throwing the football."

About the only positive for the Dolphins lately has been the resurgence of running back Ronnie Brown. The No. 2 overall pick in the 2005 draft, Brown nearly lost his starting job before the season, but he has responded with a great start and leads the NFL with 559 yards from scrimmage. He had 207 total yards against the Raiders and is trying to become just the second running back in NFL history to total 200 yards from scrimmage in three straight games. Walter Payton did it for Chicago in 1977.

"I think his play speaks for itself," first-year Dolphins coach Cam Cameron said. "He's growing as a football player and he's doing everything he can to help us win. We're going to continue to get more and more guys like that. That's how you build, that's how you continue to grow in this business."

While Houston hasn't had

great success running the ball, new starting quarterback Matt Schaub has been steady despite consecutive losses after the Texans started 2-0.



Even without star receiver Andre Johnson, Schaub threw for a career-high 317 yards in a 26-16 loss to Atlanta last week. He has posted a passer rating of 100 or better in three of his first four games with the team.

Johnson, who's missed the past two games with a sprained knee, had fluid removed from it last week, but still is doubtful for this game. Schaub, who sustained a deep thigh bruise against the Falcons should be ready to go on Sunday.

The key for the Texans, though, will be to get something from their running backs this Sunday. Twice against the Falcons last week, Houston failed to get into the end zone from the 1-yard line.

"It's very frustrating when you can't convert two yards," Schaub said. "I think as a whole, we just need to improve as a team. Offensively, we like to run the ball and obviously we want to score touchdowns rather than settling for field goals. That's something we have to get together as an offensive unit to correct."

The Texans also need the defense to step up. Houston hasn't forced a turnover in two games while the offense has committed four.

"It's something you emphasize for sure, but it's obvious, we talked about that as a team today, when our defense gets turnovers, we have a much better chance of winning," Texans coach Gary Kubiak said.

Houston has won its only two meetings with Miami, a one-point victory in 2003 and a two-point victory last season at home, Kubiak's first NFL win.

Questions?

Comments?

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TTU Homecoming Preview

While most defensive coaches would be happy with allowing just one touchdown in a game, Texas Tech really doesn't have a good barometer to measure following what amounted to a glorified exhibition game in the Red Raiders' non-conference finale.

After losing its Big 12 Conference opener two weeks ago at Oklahoma State, which prompted the resignation of defensive coordinator Lyle Setencich, Texas Tech took care of an outmatched, outsized Northwestern State Demons team 75-7-- a win that can't show much since it came against a Football Championship Subdivision team.

"We got a start," said interim defensive coordinator Ruffin McNeill. "[On Sept. 23], we talked about starting at ground zero, and we wanted to take everything in stages, both in practice and in the games. We talked to them about playing the next play. We wanted to establish our personality, building a team

145 yards and three scores.

The starting offense was out of the game midway through the third quarter after the Red Raiders opened the second half with back-to-back touchdowns.

The Demons were held to 118 total yards. They were sacked twice and threw one interception.

AME BALL GOES TO

WR Michael Crabtree -- The redshirt freshman continues to perform week after week.

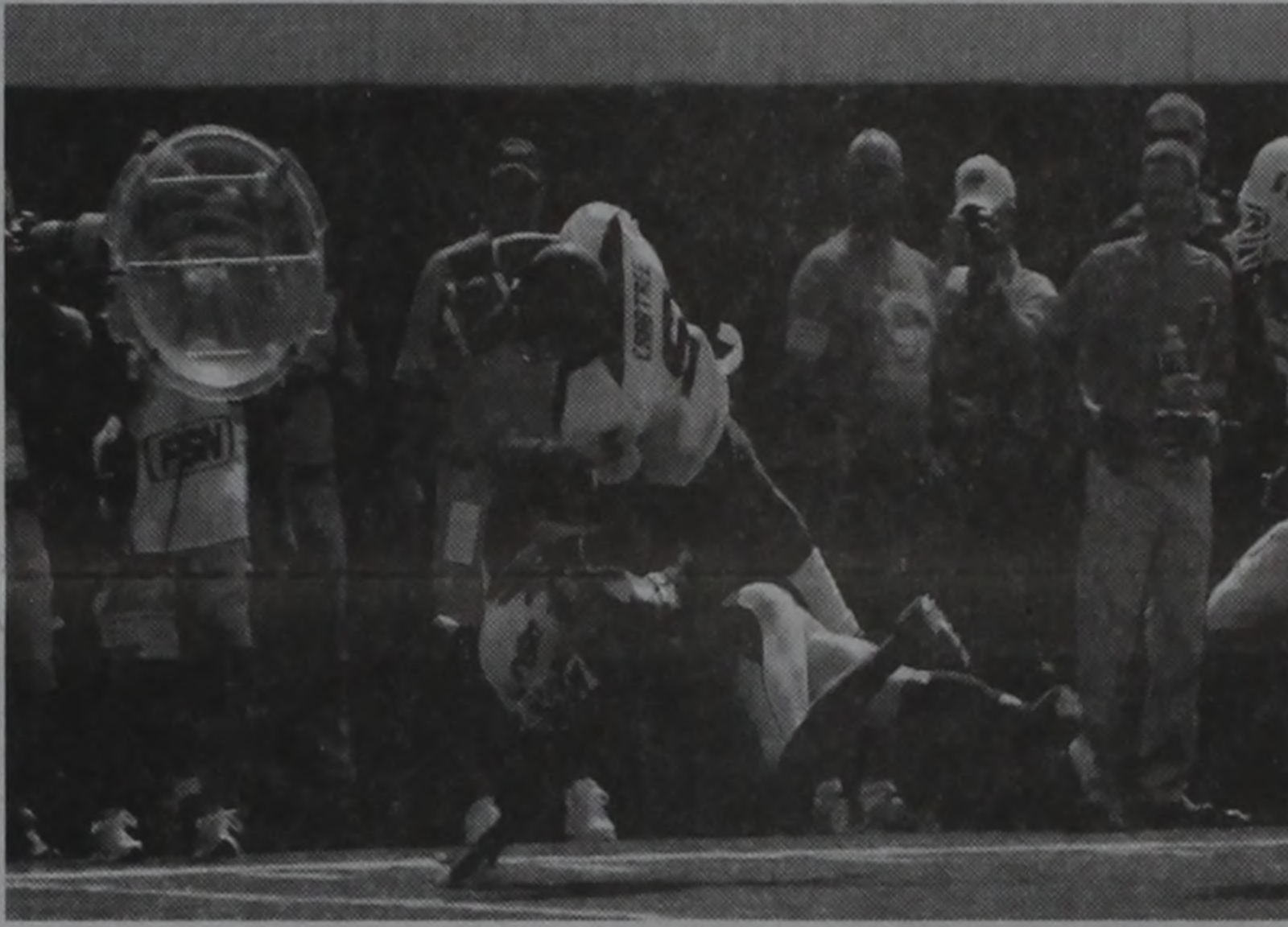
Against an inferior Northwestern State team, Crabtree tied the freshman record for touchdowns in a season by catching three more to give him 14 in five games.

KEEP AN EYE ON

WR Detron Lewis -- Though he played in just his first game of the season, Lewis caught two passes, both for touchdowns. His scores covered 50 and 13 yards.

QUOTE TO NOTE

"I really didn't know until



that would swarm the football, play aggressive and make and finish plays."

With the focus on the defense, the Red Raiders' offense was able to give its usual performance.

Graham Harrell finished with 338 passing yards and five more touchdowns, Michael Crabtree added another eight receptions for

close to the end of the game when coaches started coming up to me and telling me. I was like, 'freshman record?' I didn't know anything about it. I was kind of shocked at the end." -- WR Michael Crabtree, a redshirt freshman, talking about tying the freshman record with 14 TD receptions.

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CUALQUIER (BOX)	3	6	2	4	Gana al acertar los 4 números en cualquier orden.
PARES (EN FRENTE)	4	6	X	X	Gana al acertar los 2 primeros números.
PARES (EN MEDIO)	X	6	3	X	Gana al acertar los 2 números de en medio.
PARES (ATRÁS)	X	X	3	2	Gana al acertar los 2 últimos números.

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Felicidades Sra. Mojica!



Cumple Cien Años: The Parishioners at Our Lady of Grace Church joyfully sing "Las Mananitas" to Lubbock's latest centenarian Aurelia Mojica, during the celebration of Holy Mass on September 30, 2007. Mrs Mojica was surrounded by family and friends along with hundreds of Parishioners who joined in the birthday celebration. The flowers pictured were presented by Father Rene Perez. (Photo by: Ysidro Gutierrez)

Hispanos mejoran resultados educativos

Los resultados de las pruebas de Evaluación Nacional de Progreso Educativo (NAEP) 2007 muestran un avance de los estudiantes hispanos tanto en matemáticas como en lectura, pero sigue la brecha académica con los estudiantes anglosajones.

Las pruebas evaluaron a los alumnos de cuarto y octavo grado de todo el país, mediante la aplicación de exámenes estandarizados que permiten comparar resultados y avances periódicamente.

Los exámenes -cuyos resultados fueron comunicados el martes- miden los conocimientos y dominios de los estudiantes en las áreas de matemáticas e inglés.

Con respecto a 2005, los resultados de todos los estudiantes en ambas áreas mejoraron, aunque en menor proporción que en períodos anteriores.

La puntuación obtenida por alumnos clasificados como hispanos también mejoraron con respecto a años anteriores.

La puntuación de matemática en cuarto grado aumentó de 238 a 240 puntos entre 2005 y 2007. Los resultados de los alumnos de octavo grado subieron de 279 a 281 puntos, sobre un total posible de 500 puntos.

"Esto muestra que la atención del público hacia la enseñanza de las matemáticas y el desarrollo profesional de los profesores están teniendo un impacto positivo", afirmó James Rubillo director ejecutivo del Consejo Nacional de Profesores de Matemáticas, al asegurar que el interés por mejorar los resultados académicos, "ha

puesto la atención sobre matemática y lectura en primera fila".

los alumnos hispanos -aunque aumentaron 2 puntos su promedio-



En lectura, una materia que ha sido uno de los principales objetivos de los gobiernos federales y estatales en los últimos años, los estudiantes de cuarto grado aumentaron de 219 a 221 puntos, mientras que los de octavo subieron de 262 a 263.

"Está muy claro que cuando ponemos los recursos en un mismo lugar, obtenemos resultados", comentó Richard Long, director de relaciones con el gobierno de la Asociación Internacional de Lectura.

"Hemos estado poniendo los recursos en los primeros grados y ahora necesitamos poner recursos en las escuelas intermedias y preparatorias", afirmó Long.

Los alumnos hispanos han aumentado su participación en el proceso académico y representan actualmente un 20 por ciento de los estudiantes que participaron en las pruebas, un aumento importante con respecto a 1990 cuando constituían el 6 por ciento.

No obstante, los resultados de las pruebas muestran que la brecha académica entre alumnos anglosajones e hispanos sigue presente.

Mientras los alumnos anglosajones de cuarto grado obtuvieron 231 puntos en su examen de lectura,

obtuvieron 205, mientras que los asiáticos lograron 232.

"Las pruebas siguen mostrando las dificultades que la falta de dominio del inglés trae para los alumnos hispanos. En nuestras escuelas seguimos viendo cómo un alto número de alumnos de educación básica necesitan clases especiales de inglés porque no manejan bien el idioma", señaló Brown.

Clinton aims to cut Hispanic dropout rate by 50 percent

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) set a goal Wednesday to cut the high school dropout rate for Hispanics in half if she is elected president, calling the lack of high-school-educated Hispanics a "crisis."

Speaking at a sparsely attended Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) forum, Clinton focused on education issues and advocated a \$100 million investment in a public-private summer internship program that would help minority students network for potential future jobs.

Pointing to her campaign manager, first-generation Mexican-American Patti Solis Doyle, Clinton said Doyle's experience with undereducated parents fighting to get their child educated is all too common.

"If we had time, every one of you could stand up and tell that story," Clinton said. "That's what we have to keep alive. That is what is at stake in this election. I feel that the American dream is receding for too many Americans."

Clinton appeared after three other Democratic presidential contenders — Sen. Joseph Biden (Del.), Rep. Dennis Kucinich (Ohio) and former Sen. Mike Gravel (Alaska) — spoke at the CHCI forum. Six Hispanic members of Congress presented one question each to the candidates, who then had 15 minutes to speak and address the questions.

While Clinton emphasized education, Biden spent much of his time challenging conventional wisdom about the Hispanic community.

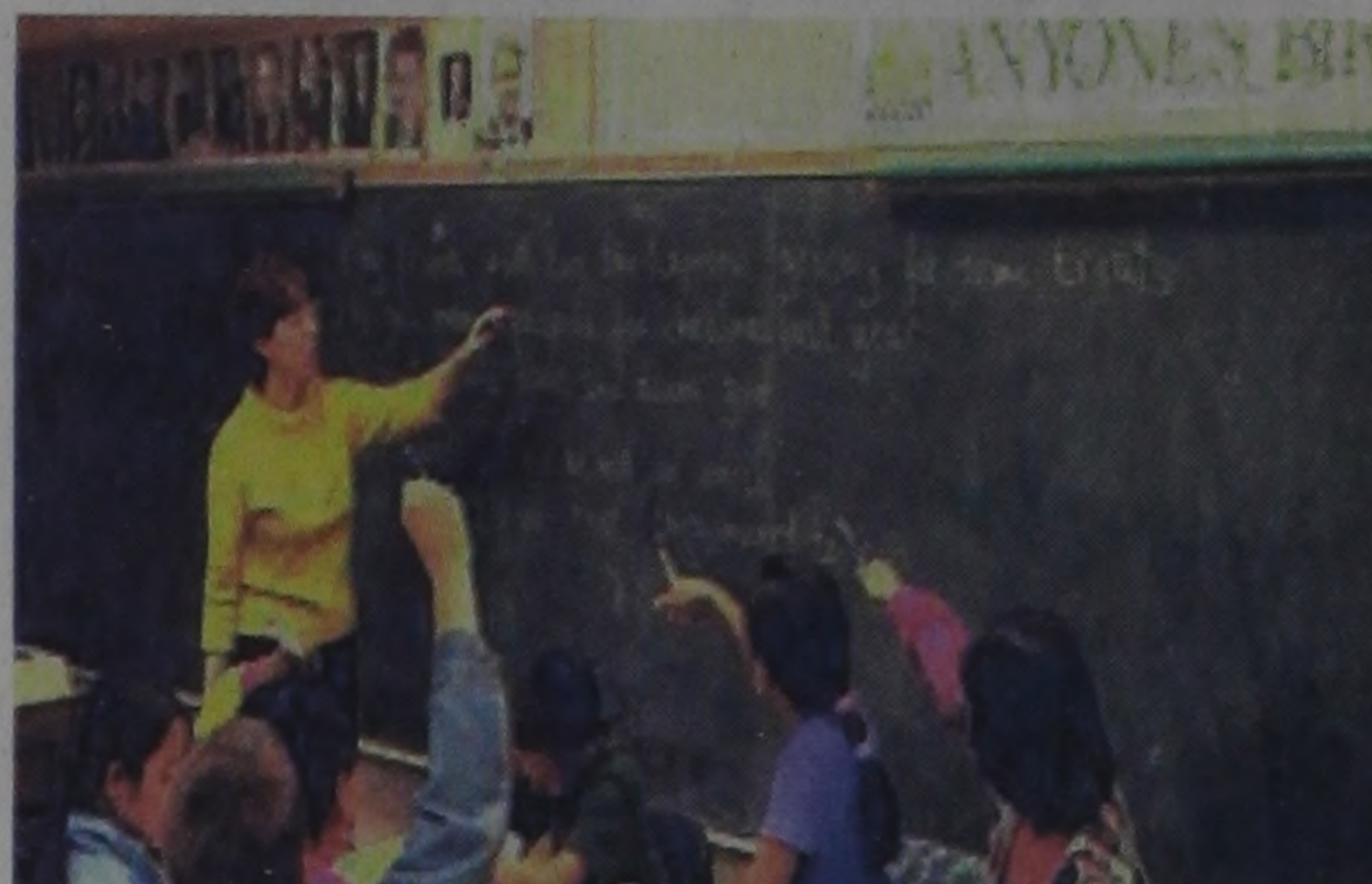
He emphasized that a majority of United States immigrants

are not Hispanic and said he doesn't consider it a minority anymore, given that the community is growing so rapidly, comprising about one in five American children.

"We keep talking about it

immigration policy, which was the subject of one of the questions.

Biden and Kucinich expressed sympathy for the plight of immigrant families trying to make better lives for their families, while Gravel promised to provide illegal



in terms, as if it's divorced, as if we're talking about a sliver of America's population and America's interest," Biden said. "It's becoming the mainstream of America."

He also said Hispanics are severely under-represented in the federal government and in the American economy, and he pledged that the community would be well-represented in his administration and his appointments, including to the federal courts.

Kucinich said he would change the education system to teach every child to speak Spanish.

"We need all of the children in this country to learn Spanish at an early age, not English only," Kucinich said.

The candidates spent relatively little time discussing illegal

immigrants with green cards immediately.

Clinton briefly reaffirmed her support for a path to legalization and emphasized the need for increased border security. Discussing the struggles of the Hispanic community, she at several points segued to foreign policy, saying that "America's standing worldwide is as low as it's ever been."

Following the forum, Clinton officially released her Hispanic agenda, which expands on the ways in which many of her current proposals would affect that community.

Of the six Hispanic Democrats who posed questions to the candidates, five of them have endorsed Clinton's candidacy: Reps. Nydia Velázquez (N.Y.), Lucille Roybal-Allard (Calif.), Grace Napolitano (Calif.), Henry Cuellar (Texas) and Rubén Hinojosa (Texas). The sixth, Rep. Loretta Sanchez (Calif.), has yet to endorse a candidate.

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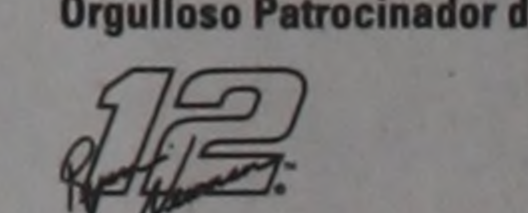
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12

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QUALITY



The Guadalupe
Neighborhood
Association

will kick-off its effort to
remove trash and debris

from the
"Arroyo"

located just north of

Aztlan Park in
El Barrio de Guadalupe.

Residents of the Guadalupe area and volunteers will gather
behind Aztlan Park on

October 13, 2007 at 8:30 am.

Randy Triesdel, Lubbock Parks and Recreation
Director, has offered to help in this endeavor.
Everyone is invited to join in on this community effort.

Anyone wishing to volunteer is urged to call
Carlos Quirino Jr. at (806) 765-7940
for more information.