Hispanics, Blacks See Congratulations Public School as Tough

By BEN FELLER

Hispanic and Black students see school as a more rowdy, disrespectful and dangerous place than their white classmates do, a poll says.

The findings suggest that many minority kids are struggling in the equivalent of a hostile work environment, according to Public Agenda, a nonpartisan opinion research group that tracks education trends.

Minority children in public middle and high schools are more likely than white children to describe profanity, truancy, fighting, weapons and drug abuse as "very serious" problems.

The black and Hispanic children — under pressure to close their test-score gaps with whites also see more pervasive academic woes, such as lower standards, higher dropout rates and kids who advance even if they don't learn.

"There is so much discussion about the achievement gap, and we talk about teachers and curriculum and testing and money," said Jean Johnson, Public Agenda's executive vice president and an author of the report.

"We need to add something to that list - school climate. For these kids, it has become such a distracting atmosphere," Johnson said.

Thirty percent of black students - three in every 10 - said teachers spend more time trying to keep order in class than teaching; 14 percent of white students said the

More than half of black students said kids who lack respect for teachers and use bad language is a very serious problem, compared to less than one-third of white students.

Hispanic students also reported worse social and academic conditions in school than white children, although the gaps were not as large as they were between blacks and whites.

On the plus side, the poll found positive results that cut across race and ethnicity.

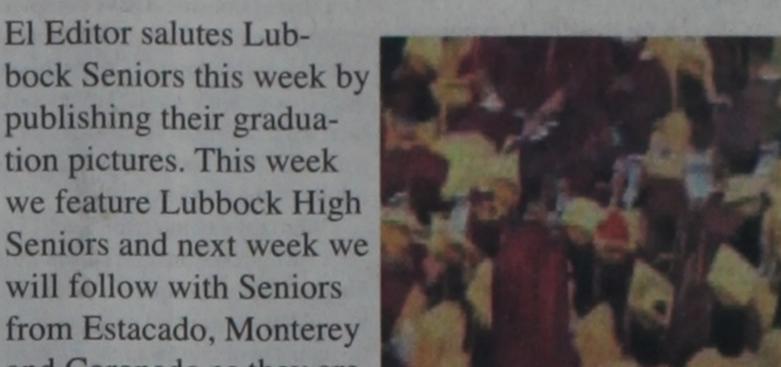
Majorities of children said they are learning a lot in reading, writing and math classes. Most students said at least one teacher who has

enough money.

"Students of color are correct in their understanding that their schools get less in the way of resources, and offer less in the way of high standards," said Ross Wiener, policy director of The Education Trust, an advocacy group for poor and minority children. "It is a

white parents to call weapons and fighting a very serious problem. They reported bigger concerns about crowded classes and low standards.

Most teachers, meanwhile, said academic expectations for students were high regardless of the racial makeup of the school. Teachers in



and Coronado as they are available. Prictures were provided by the Yearbook staff of each of the schools. We congratulate all the parents and students for a job well done and wish them sucess Folicidades y Exite! in the future.

gotten them interested in a subject

they usually hate. The students agreed on matters

of work ethic, too. About eight in 10 said it is good for school districts to require higher standards, even if that means kids must go to summer school. Almost 60 percent of black students acknowledged they could try a little harder, compared to 53 percent of Hispanics and 46 percent of whites.

In perspective, most students said schools were meeting expectations on most measures.

Yet the minority children were more likely to see students struggling to get by in class, to see unfair enforcement of discipline rules, to say schools aren't getting

shame that a country dedicated to equal opportunity tolerates these inequities."

Among students in public schools, 59 percent are white, 19 percent are Hispanic and 17 percent are black, according to Education Department numbers from the 2003-04 school year.

In the poll, students in wealthier schools reported fewer serious problems than students in poor schools, but results were not available for racial groups of different income levels.

Minority parents were more likely to see problems in schools, just as their kids did.

Black and Hispanic parents were more than twice as likely as

mostry minority schools reported less parental involvement, lower support from their superintendent and poorer grammar among their students.

The findings are based on phone interviews with a random

sample of 1,379 parents of children now in public school, 1,342 public school students in grades six through 12, and 721 public school teachers. The interviews were conducted between Oct. 30, 2005 and March 7.

The margin of error for the sample was plus or minus 4 percentage points for the parents and teachers and 3 percentage points for the students. The poll was paid for by the GE Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation and the Wallace Foundation

COMMUNITY VOICES

This past weekend over 2000 area young men and women achieved a milestone in their educational career; graduation from High School. Ideally, we would like to think that each one of the graduates has a plan for the future which involves stepping into college life; preparing themselves to join a global economy; a world with rapidly disappearing borders: a world where communication is instantaneous and immediate; a world more competitive than any one has seen so far.

But reality tells us that many of those graduating are not well prepared for the future. They could be called the marginal ones; those that have not looked beyond the margins of high school except maybe to wonder what happens next?

As a community, one of our priorities has been the attainment of an education at the highest levels. But in reality, most of the talk gets lost in the shuffle, and year after year, we watch bright but ill prepared high school graduates have to settle for minimum wage jobs because college is seen as out of their reach. Budget and educational funding cuts by a Republican Congress more intent in giving tax cuts to the wealthiest of Americans,

This week, two readers weigh in on the state of education in Lubbock.

sadly, some of these kids don't stand a chance of getting that col-

Who's Really at Fault?

lege degree.

Why would it be the educational system's fault that such a high percentage of Hispanic students are not graduating? Why do Hispanics have the largest percentage of drop-outs from school? Maybe the Hispanic family culture is not serving the Hispanic students as well as it should. This is a parent and family issue, not an educational system issue. Patricia Smithee, Lubbock via Email

I do feel that the educational system is serving the Lubbock's Hispanic youth and college population. The problem is not the educational system. The problem is that there are no jobs that appeal to the graduates here in Lubbock to keep these young people here. So the students have to look elsewhere for jobs that they have studied for. You hear complaints of why graduates don't stay here to work. Is there a diverse marketplace here in Lubbock to keep graduates here? There doesn't seem to be.

An example is my oldest daughter. She graduated from Texas Tech with her teaching degree. When she graduated, the school district needed teachers, especially bilingual teachers. When she went to apply, she was told that there were no positions opened. Why advertise if they weren't hiring? Of course, she moved to another town to look for a job. What does this tell us, Employers?

Minerva Alaniz, Lubbock via Email

The Real Question

The real question is whether Hispanic families are fully-serving their children well, and the answer is by-and-large, yes. However, for those children not graduating at the same rate as their "white" peers there is most definitely a problem.

At-risk children (those through no fault of their own are born into troubled-families) simply need more attention from society (which is often lacking in terms of resources and deployment of resources) and much more effective attention from family.

There is no escaping it, there is a culture of dysfunction that permeates such situations, and there is no overcoming it until that is recognized and focused on.

At-risk children deserve our utmost attention, compassion, and determination. We may not be able to ensure the best of circumstances for every child in America, but America can do better by our children-government, you and me, and the families who bring these children into the world.

We need accountability from schools but also from families, and though they are often victims of misfortune they must be challenged to do better by their children.

Appreciation for the importance of education, high-standards, responsibility for ones actions, character-based curriculum, civics, and acceptance of the healthy norms and values of successful families is critical to changing the gap between "white" and so-called Hispanic students.

These children deserve better and until they receive the attention needed we will continue to fail them. Let's begin to focus not on ethnicity, "color" but culture and character. Together let's fulfill Dr. King's dream.

"Community Voices" would like to hear from you, the readers. You may remain anonymous, but El Editor reserves the right to edit all comments for offensive language, offensive or distasteful content, or personal attacks, and for space. Mail your comments to Community Voices, 1502 Ave M, Lubbock, 79401, or email your comments to acruztsc@aol.com All comments in the Community Voices section are strictly the opinion of the writer and do not represent the opinions or views of this newspaper or its advertisers. "Community Voices" is offered as a public service by El Editor to provide an alternative forum to mainstream media; so readers wishing to express their opinions and comments may do so. Todd Klien - Via e-mail, Lubbock

First Hispanic high school gratuate in Lubbock traced to 1939 Sucess in Life Determined by Education

Editor's notes - The following story was written in 2000, although the statistics quoted have probably changed, may of the facts remain the same. We provide this for the reader's enjoyment. by Bidal Aguero

"Graduating from High School is not enough anymore within the Hispanic community" These were the thoughts of former School Board member Linda DeLeon as she reflected on how the attitude toward education has changed through the years in the Hispanic community.

"I can see that parents are now starting to attend their children's graduation from elementary school as much as they have always attended High School graduation.

"Our community now has a definite mindset and realizes that education is a must to succeed," said DeLeon.

Graduation has always been an important date within the Hispanic community. Well, maybe it can't be said that always, but at least in the last 15 years. Before that, this writer would gather that importance of the event was the same as now but seemed to be less significant. Maybe the reason was because there were fewer graduates.

I can reflect back on my graduation in 1967 and really say that all sixty of us that were Hispanics in my senior class were proud. Proud mainly because unlike over 90% of those that had started the first grade with us had been pushed out of school, we had made it.

According to Linda DeLeon, Hispanic total enrollment has grown from 34% to 39% in the past 10 years. Enrollment for Anglos has remained steady and Black enrollment has grown slightly to about 15%. This past year LISD lost some 500 students to outlying districts.

"We can probably blame this on the developers because all the houses re being built outside the

school district lines in Southwest Lubbock," said DeLeon

Hispanic enrollment is spread throughout the District with the majority concentrated in the North and Central parts of Lubbock and Black enrollment in the East part of Lubbock according to a study done by Harner and Associates in 1997.

Harner stated that, "At the elementary level, most of the schools zones in southwest Lubbock should decline in enrollment. The zones in the central part of the District which have higher percentages of Hispanic students would grow." The study said that there would be little change in enrollment in the

zones in east Lubbock Harner said that at the junior high level, all zones except Slaton Junior High in the central part of the District would experience decline. At the high school level, the southwest zones should decline while the zones in the center and east should increase slightly."

The figures reflected concerning the Hispanic enrollment in LISD have not always been as favorable.

Records show that during the early years of LISD in 1922, 13 years after the official establishment of LISD in 1909, a "Mexican School" was established in what is now the Guadalupe Neighborhood.

"This happened although Mexican Americans had lived in Lubbock since 1880 when the Lubbock census showed Andres Gonzalez to be a resident in Lubbock County," according to Dr. Andres Tijerina.

Tijerina wrote in his book, "The History of Mexican American's in Lubbock County" that the "Mexican School" housed "children that attended the one room box building were taught by only one teacher, Mrs. Duvall. Later she obtained the help of other teachers -- none of them Mexican Americans."

After the establishment of the "Mexican School", it took until 1939 for a Hispanic to graduate from the LISD.

Adelina Lopez, the first Hispanic to appear in the Lubbock High Annual, was a member of the Girl Reserves, a service organization in 1937 and a typist for publications in 1938 and 39. She did not attend the "Mexican School" but had migrated from Victoria or San Antonio. This according the Lubbock's first "Mexican School"

graduate, Pristinia Chavez. Chavez, now Pristinia Chavez-Granados from Albuquerque, N.M., remembers starting school in Lubbock's "Mexican School" around 1930 and graduating from Lubbock High in 1941. Chavez-Granados' parents, George and Anita Chavez, migrated to West Texas in 1924. Chavez was born on January 1st, 1924 in Garza County. They moved to Lubbock shortly after she was born.

"There were perhaps some 200 children in the school. There were about 20 in my first grade class, said Mrs. Chavez-Granados"

According to Tijerina. 1924 school reports show a total of 31 students. It was not until 1930 that Mexican American students obtained a brick building,

Lubbock High had by then been built in its present location after starting in an 8 room wood frame house in 1909, moving to the old Thompson Junior High in 1924 and then monies were appropriated to build the present Lubbock High in 1930.

In East Lubbock, Blacks attended Dunbar School, which was established in 1923.

Chavez-Granados is pictured in the 1941 school album as a senior with fellow resident of the Guadalupe barrio Ross Ancira. Both students are listed as living at 106 Ave. N but Mrs. Chavez-Granados stated that Ancira actually lived on Ave. O.

"I'm not sure that Ross graduated. He became sick during his senior year. We both had been together through school from the

first grade."

The lack of Hispanic graduates has principally be attributed to economic reasons and to discrimination encountered by students. "You know we always talk about discrimination but I never experienced the type of discrimination that we now talk about when I was going to school," said Chavez-Granados. "I guess the only way we can explain it is that we were very few."

Chavez-Granados was a member of the National Honor Society in 1941 and vice president of the Spanish Club in 1939. She continued her education into Texas Tech from 1941 until 1943. She later obtained her degree in business administration for the university of New Mexico. She has 4 girls and 2 boys, all graduate of U.N.M. She is related to Richard and Rachel Lopez who still live in the Guadalupe Barrio in Lubbock.

This year Hispanic and Afro-American students make up 54% of Lubbock schools. The majority of whom were in elementary.

"A few years ago, I told the graduating 6th grade from Guadalupe Elementary that it was beautiful to see their family, including everyone from parents to abuelitos, to be with them to encourage their education. I stressed to the parents that it doesn't end here but should continue through junior high, high school and college.

During here interview, Chavez-Granados spoke about the very few Hispanics that went to school with her. In Lubbock, we can now see that 'the few' have now grown to be the many.

Read El Editor on the Internet

Bracero Program Enforcer Weighs in On Guest Worker Debate

By Edward Barrios Acevedo

You would think that Dionicio Morales, at age 87, would be ready to hang up his hat and go fishing.

Not yet.

Chances are that the founder of the largest Hispanic non-profit community organization in the nation, the California-based Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, will visit his MAOF office at least a few hours each day or be giving a speech somewhere. His regimen for the past five years also includes three-timesweekly trips to the hospital for dialysis treatments.

Morales spent the majority of his life advocating for the Latino community in a career that includes a stint as a federal enforcement officer for the first-ever guest worker - a.k.a. bracero - program between the United States and Mexico. That was in 1942.

His job for the U.S. Department of Agriculture was to ensure compliance with the binational agreement that included basic labor protection and living-standard requirements

In a series of interviews at his Pico Rivera home, Morales shared his views relating to the current congressional debate on immigration reform and President Bush's proposed guest worker pact. The graft and corruption Morales recalls witnessing puts him at odds with Bush and many of today's Latino leaders.

The following summarizes some of his key concerns:

What do you think of today's immigration reform discussions?

We have failed to work together, to work out a dialogue that is good for both Mexico and the United States. If there ever was need for collaboration and fostering better relations, this is the time.

Do you think a guest worker program can work today?

No, I don't. One concern is the ramifications it will have on the people who are already here doing the job - for example, one Mexican pitted against another Mexican, or a Mexican American.

What did you encounter in enforcing bracero program regulations?

I saw agribusiness have complete control over workers' lives, almost creating psychological slavery based on, "If you don't work hard enough, then we're going to send you back to Mexico." This was a real fear in the minds of the workers.

Were they being exploited?

I saw abuses on both sides of the border. For example, a Mexican would have to pay off a mayor in his town just to obtain an application and

then pay more to others at the border to submit their application - a lot of

And on this side of the border? Rackets run in individual camps regularly ripped the workers off. Coyotes would come to the camps in the middle of the night, bringing in prostitutes. The camp would deduct money from every worker, even if they didn't sleep with prostitutes, and the camp would get a cut.

Some camps would bring in basic essentials for the workers and charge high prices because the workers had nowhere else to go.

Did you run into trouble?

Oh, sure. I had to put a few growers out of business for not complying with the standards. I was often asked, "Whose side are you on, the Mexicans or ours?"

If there is a new guest worker program, should unions be allowed to get involved?

Absolutely. Unions can offer a voice to the workers and protections

from a variety of abuses. Unions like the United Farm Workers should have input into the bill, because they are going to be affected by this guest worker program.

What other concerns do you have?

The health of guest workers should be the number one priority. They are doing hard work in the fields and they need adequate health care by doctors who understand them.

We still need to talk about enforcement. Millions not included in any program may remain undocumented. Nobody penalizes the grower for hiring people without proper credentials. Would that really change?

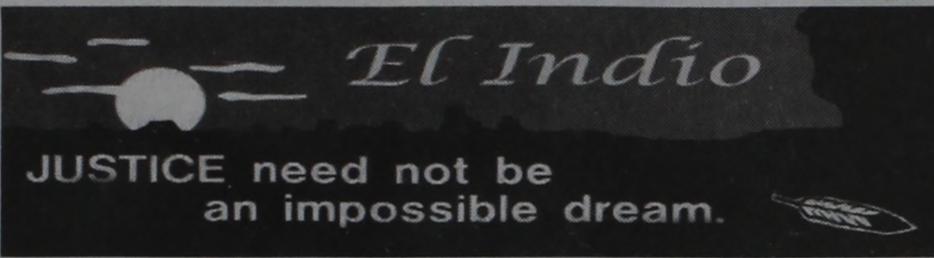
Critics charge that Mexicans are taking jobs from Americans. But let's make it clear - they're actually taking jobs from other Mexicans and Mexican Americans who are already here.

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Editor Newspaper

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Editor Publisher - Bidal Aguero



Editor's note 0 This column was originally written and published last week but because of computer error is being printed again this week.

McDougal and Martin's Parting Shot.... and Linda De Leon's Continuing Story....

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

TOM MARTIN's candles on the dais of the grand City Council chamber mocking limits were put on immigration from Mexico, and any people Lubbocks Fire Chief? Former Mayor MARC McDOUGAL not recusing himself? On the above that limit were illegal. last day and last hour of McDougal/Martins tenure on the City Council, the McDougal Companies, through Mayor McDougal, wished to exempt "certain" apartments from Fire Sprin- European Catholic countries [except Ireland] in the 1920's. And kler requirements. Gad....aren't we glad these two shameless apologists for the apartment it is true immigration went way down after that. industry and developer community are gone...and we have the integrity of MAYOR DAVID MILLER in their place.

What a lack of class for MAD MARC and TALIBAN TOM to go out this way: 1) Former Mayor Marc placing such an controversial item on the agenda of his final meeting...at 7 am, just two hours before the new council was to be sworn in...at a time when most people about immigration today. ††† couldn't attend...2) Actually discussing an item which should be the purview of the new council... 3) Failing to recuse himself from an issue which constituted a BLATANT conflict Mexicans out, but you can't move the US to the other side of the of interest, possibly illegal...4) attacking a fine public servant like the Fire Chief, who nor- world. People in the US have to come to grips with the fact we mally would be a non-controversial figure...5) Placing the financial interests of the Mayor's are not in Europe, and never will be. family and the Homebuilders ahead of public safety, after making such a dither about supporting public safety in general....6) Merely tabling the issue instead of rejecting it, indicat- our country. The name of our country is The United States of ing that the special interest issue is still alive...and 7) Trying so hard to protect his family's America. The last word in the name means our whole country is interests by abusing the public and the taxpayers, with the dogged support of defeated May- only PART of America. Right next door to us, with a two oral candidate Tom Martin.

REMEMBER this day, FIREFIGHTERS...you backed TALIBAN TOM, who insulted you mightily right after you campaigned for him...hours of campaigning out in the hot Satur- them does not know that 17 of every 20 Mexicans in the US live day sun...and this is the way you were rewarded...with a relentless grilling of your Fire Chief...and the mockery of the candles...and remember MAD MARC if he runs for office military force. again...DON'T SUPPORT THESE SPECIAL INTEREST CLOWNS...they are a disgrace to

Lubbock. FLOYD PRICE acquitted himself well...I did not know of his personal tragedy...the loss countries, and it always will be. The problem in North America of his brother and sister in a fire...and this fact makes the agenda item all the more insulting. If they knew, and went ahead anyway...what a lack of class! Floyd deserves better than this. other, not making enemies out of each other.

Of course, JOHN LEONARD started his career with a self-serving interview saying he would support the Homebuilders [of course...he is an apartment owner]...but he didn't have with two new enemies, not weird countries on the other side of a vote yet...two hours would go by before he was sworn in. Let's see if he resurrects the fire the earth, but two huge, important countries, right next door to sprinkler item...let's see how LINDA DeLEON votes on this issue...not to forget PHYLLIS us. †† JONES and JIM GILBREATH...GARY BOREN had announced his opposition to the proposal and his support of the Fire Chief earlier. Shall Linda vote with her constituents, who coming here. Let's sit down and quietly and calmly work out a are particularly vulnerable to fires in aging buildings, or with the McDougal family and the Homebuilders, who place money ahead of public safety. Let us hope that newly elected enemies." And let's remember, we're ALL AMERICANS. †† Mayor DAVID MILLER leads the City into a new era... a new era without special interest votes and conflicts of interest.

Normally I agree with Abel Cruz, El Editor's distinguished columnist...but I respectfully disagree when he writes: "Congratulations to Councilwoman LINDA DeLEON on her re- solutions. †Debates abound on economic issues, environmental election efforts...I wish her well..." I do not join in the move to support Linda now that she is elected.....too many people are suffering from overly zealous police officers and ridiculously oppressive Codes Enforcement. These are the two issues she campaigns for relentlessly...more police and placing Codes Enforcement with the Police Department.

When minority voters say that "Linda stands up for us"....they must remember that the filled my prayers lately is the kingdom of heaven. †It is SYMBOLISM of Linda standing up to Tom Martin's insults is unfortunately balanced with fundamental to Christ Jesus' teachings. Linda's standing up for the police department's plans for expansion, and the Codes nightmare.

When I read the heartfelt advertisement in last week's El Editor by the family of the kingdom of God is within you." In Science and Health with key lateJuan Manuel Nuñez III, just 27 years old, killed by a police taser... I think of the calls for to the Scriptures Mary Baker Eddy defines kingdom of heaven in more and more police...WITHOUT proper police oversight. Lubbock desperately needs a POLICE REVIEW BOARD...to put police misconduct on the table for proper public discus- and omnipotent Mind; the atmosphere of SpiritÖ." sion and appropriate action, something that is sorely lacking in the current system. Naturally...I hear a deafening SILENCE from Lubbock's elected "leaders" on this issue...not enough law welcome. †We each have a divinely appointed place in this and order, apparently...

"and my words like silent raindrops fell...and echoed in the well of SILENCE..."

[Paul Simon, Simon and Garfunkel] Whenever we hear that Overton North was "cleaned up", let us remember the hundreds of families who were displaced by the McDougal's elitist gentrification...the misguided "visions" to remake Lubbock into something it is not. Remember the old saying about a "silk purse" and a "sow's ear"?

Now we must say, with one voice, "Never again!" We must not allow Arnett-Benson...and Texas. She can be reached at martha@corkysarvis.com Jackson...and Guadalupe...and Overton South...to follow Overton North into the dustbin of history. When we read in the Avalanche-Journal...on Election Day, no less...that Marc McDougal plans to open an office on North University...we have to wonder what is next. All of the condemnations...and possible demolitions...that are about to -sweep North Lubbock like the Victorian days.† How amusing this is. I am a fifth are unnecessary...and must not happen.

I am certain that by writing this, as I have written similar articles during the recent election campaign, I shall personally suffer...we were cited after my 2004 race for Mayor against Marc, and I wonder if history will repeat itself in 2006, with more Codes oppression coming my way...

But I shall not let this deter me. I plan to attend Linda's Town Hall meetings, and remind the participants that not all community members support hiring more and more and more police, until we have police cruisers patroling every block of North Lubbock. I plan to attend City Council meetings and remind the members, new and old, of how many people are being allowed me to be born in America. Lucky for me I never had to ousted from their homes periodically...yes, I shall continue to hold Linda DeLeon's feet to the fire, until she wakes up and realizes that predatory developers and unrestrained police over a fence to find work. Lucky for me I will never know what are NOT the friends of the minority communities in North Lubbock, and she returns to the it is like to go hungry. old Linda that the voters remembered and supported Election Day...not the new Linda who has forgotten her roots.

"Con los pobres de la tierra, Quiero yo mi suerte echar, Con los pobres de la tierra

Quiero yo mi suerte echar, El arroyo de la sierra, Me complace mas que el mar." "It is with the poor people of this earth with whom I am want to cast my fate...the streams

of the mountains please me more than the sea." -"Guantanamera", Original music by José Fernández Díaz, Music adaptation by Pete Seeger & Julian Orbon, Lyric adaptation by Julian Orbon, based on a poem, by José Marti

Cartas al Editor

We're all Americans

Make no mistake about it: there is a monster anti-Hispanic tide flowing among right-wing Americans today. The tide is flowing strong because anti-Hispanic people focus on Mexicans coming here illegally.

But consider this: When Europeans were pouring into the US around 1900, they weren't illegal.

NOT ILLEGAL? Why not? There was no such thing as an illegal alien in those days because there were no limits at all on immigration from Europe.

Anti-Hispanic right-wingers say, "My great grandparents came legally, so why don't Mexicans?" Because after 1968, low

It is true that there were strict limits put on immigration from

But you have to consider why: you couldn't just swim across the Atlantic and come here illegally. Geography matters.

Mexico is right next door. Racists in the US who are beside themselves over Mexican immigration don't see what is different

Today you can rebuild the Berlin Wall in El Paso to keep

America is the side of the world we live on, not the name of thousand mile border, lies another part of America, Mexico.

It is inhabited by 110 million people, and not a single one of in land taken away from their ancestors - not legally; but by

So the word "illegal" loses a little bit of its sting.

Immigration has always been a big problem for neighboring can be solved only by the three countries co-operating with each

If racists in the US don't watch out, our country will end up

So, I say, "chill y'all, Mexicans aren't going harm you by solution to our problems as friends and neighbors, not as race

Sincerely,

Chico James, via Email Border Trouble or God's Kingdom?

Illegal immigration is a multifaceted problem with no easy impacts, property damage, and hospital closings. †My heart goes out to each individual.

What can one person do?

I've found prayer provides solutions and the concept that has

Sometimes we believe the song, "God is watching us from a distanceÖ." Jesus' teachings state the opposite: "behold, the part, as, "The reign of harmonyÖthe realm of unerring, eternal,

There are no borders in God's kingdom. †Everyone is kingdom. †It's a present spiritual state of thought. †

Greater consciousness of God's reign harmonizes our actions. †With each God-directed action more of His kingdom is revealed, leading to activity that blesses us and our neighbor. †This coordinated, God-directed activity will lead each individual to a solution to border issues that blesses all mankind.

Martha Sarvis lives with her husband and son in Boerne,

Immigration: How Evil and Ugly the Face of Humankind People ramble on how bad it is to allow illegal immigrants into this country. Many people think they are the chosen ones, just generation American, on my grandmother's side and a second generation on my father side and I married a "Legal immigrant". Lucky for me my mother in-law married an American!

Yippee! I was the lucky one. I was fortunate enough to be born on "this side". Unfortunately, newcomers of this land who were born on "the wrong side" and "the wrong time" are facing unprecedented opposition from many Americans.

Where do I stand on immigration? I say lucky for me fate live a life of an immigrant. Lucky for me I never had to jump

How evil and ugly the face of humankind can be. We saw it with The Trail of Tears. We saw it with Indentured Servitude. † We saw it with African Slavery. We saw it with the Scalawags.

We see it today. Margaret Ceja, Lubbock via Email

Letters to the Editor are welcome. All letters must include name and address, but the writer's name may be held upon request. Letters to the Editor are strictly the opinion of the writer and do not represent the opinions or views of this newspaper or its advertisers.

What Really Happened in Haditha?

By Abel Cruz

Last November, United States Marines, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was on patrol in the Iraqi city of Haditha, a city in western Iraq; it was November 19.

Suddenly out of nowhere, a roadside bomb exploded, killing 20 year old, Marine Corporal Miguel Terrazas, and injuring 2 other fellow Marines.

What happened after that is likely to evoke comparisons to the My Lai Massacre during the Vietnam War, in which U.S. soldiers murdered hundreds of unarmed Vietnamese civilians, mostly women and children, on March 16, 1968, in the village of My Lai.

Originally, the Marines reported that 15 Iraqi civilians had also been the victims of the bombing that claimed Terrazas's life. They later would say that the civilian deaths were a result of a gun battle between Marines and Iraqi insurgents. It's what they didn't report that now has the military investigating what really happened.

Five months later, national media is reporting that the Iraqi civilians, which now total 24, were killed by angry Marines who were retaliating for the death of their fallen comrade.

Once again, don't think for one minute that this revelation was a result of the military's openness or procedure of investigating itself. Rather, it was the result of an Iraqi journalist who took some photos of the dead bodies that day which proved inconsistencies in the story; the photos were turned over to Time Magazine which started asking questions. The questions in turn, prompted the military to initiate an investigation which is being led by US Army Colonel Gregory Watt.

What the photographs showed were that children as young as 2 years, and a 76 year old Iraqi man, had been shot in the head at close range.

Next time you hear people blaming the media for all that's wrong in this world, just think about situations like this and think what we would have never known if Time Magazine had not followed up on this story?

According to different eyewitness accounts; the situation in Haditha paints a gruesome picture of what took place. Here is an excerpt from a web edition of The Times Newspaper, of London:

"About a quarter of an hour after the attack on Iman's house, Mohammed Basit, 23, an engineering student, said that he watched as Marines entered the home of his neighbor, Salim Rasif, He peered from a window as the family, including Salim's wife, sister-in-law and their five children, rushed into a bedroom.

"I saw them all gathering in their parents' room, then we heard a bang which was most likely a hand grenade, then we heard shooting," he

Fearing for his life, he moved away from the window.

Throughout the next day the Americans cordoned off Salim and Iman's homes, which are located about 20 meters apart. The next night Basit and his father slipped inside Salim's house.

"The blood was everywhere in Salim's bedroom," Basit said. "I saw organs and flesh on the ground and a liver on the bed. Blood splattered the ceiling. The bullet holes were in the walls and in different parts of the house.

"We found an unexploded grenade in the bathroom, which had been set on fire. There was shrapnel and a crater on the floor and the wall of the bathroom."

Later Basit joined relatives and friends who went to al-Haditha mortuary to pick up the bodies of those whom the Marines had killed. The corpses were zipped in plastic bags. "They were all shot, even the kids. They were shot more than one time, mostly in the chest and the head," he claimed.

Salim's daughters - A'isha, 3, Zainab, 2, Noora, 15, and Saba'a, 11 — and his eight-year-old son, Mohammed, were among the dead.

In a separate development, a resident of al-Haditha came forward with an account corroborating the story told by 10-year-old Iman about the murder of her family.

Abdul Basit, 45, Iman's neighbor and cousin, gave details that matched the girl's description of watching her uncle being shot dead. About 15 minutes after hearing an explosion in Iman's home just 30 meters away, Abdul Basit said that the girl's aunt, Hiba, raced outside crying "they slaughtered them, they slaughtered them" and rushed into Abdul's home.

At this point in the investigation, it is hard not to think that there was an attempt by the Marines involved to cover up the killing of the 24 civilians. All one has to do is read the news accounts and look at the length of time that has passed for even this information to come out.

Consequently innocent Iraqi civilians, the very people that Bush and Co. went in to Iraq to liberate and democratize have themselves become victims; although some would argue that they have been since the beginning of this war.

Unfortunately, these Marines may also be victims of war. Those victims that are forced to serve 2 to 3 tours of duty in Iraq, living day in and day out under threat of life or death; fighting a war that seems to have no end in sight.

Email: acruztsc@aol.com

HEALTH CARE MORALITY

by Jim Hightower Contrary to the "contrived wisdom" of the Powers That Be, providing health care for everyone is not an economic or even a health issue it's a moral issue.

Notice that corporate chieftains and the the political elites all have the Rolls Royce of health care - while most Americans are trying to make do with a sputtering Yugo, and while millions of our people are walking barefoot. This crass inequality on such a basic human need is a moral abomination. How is it that the richest country with the most democratic ideals of any country in the history of the world has 45 million people with no health coverage and millions more with pathetic coverage? And how is it that We The People pay \$1.2 trillion a year to a corporate health care complex (more than any other people pay) and rank only 37th in the world in the quality of health care we receive? The Powers That Be just shrug their shoulders and say, well, sadly,

America can't afford a system of

wealthiest people in our land. He says America can afford the \$300 billion in direct costs already shelled out for his war of lies in Iraq. He says America can afford the hundreds-of-billions of tax dollars being pocketed by drug companies and insurance giants through his boondoggle prescription drug program. Of course, our so-called political leaders don't feel the pain of America's corporatized and exclusive health system. The very politicos who say America can't afford universal coverage receive full platinum coverage for their families - courtesy of you and me. This is Jim Hightower saying... No public official should have even a dime's worth of coverage until every man, woman, and child in America has full coverage. For morality's sake, the president and congress ought to be last in line, not first!

good quality coverage for all. Can't

afford it? George W says America

can afford the \$1.2 trillion in tax

giveaways he's bestowed on the



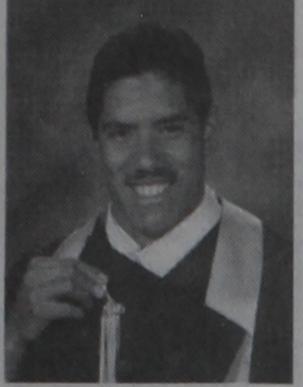
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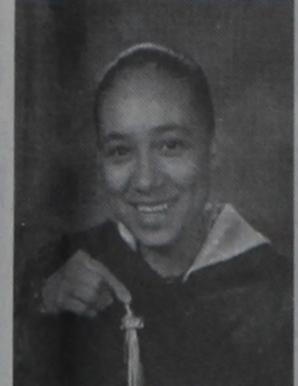
Gerardo Aguilar



Michelle Alegria



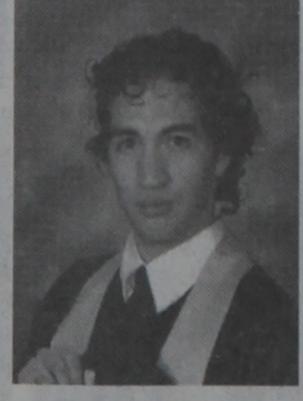
MaryJane Alfaro



April Arcos



Moiseis Arellano



Miguel Arroyos



Crystal Arteaga



Alysia Ayala

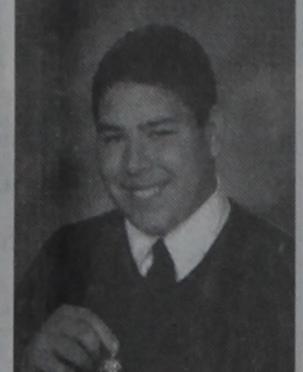




Jennifer Barron



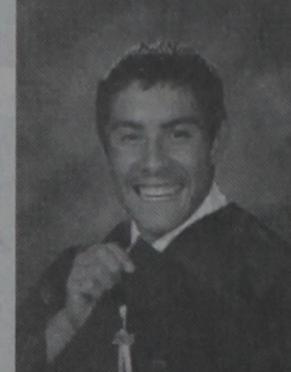
Jessi Benavidez



Michael Boggio

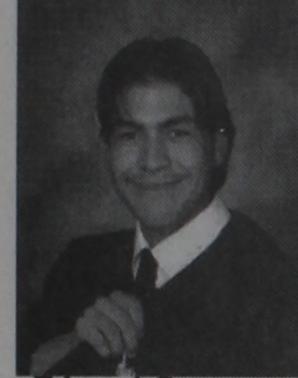


Norma Borjas



Eric Briceno





Edward Camargo



Francisco Camargo



Juan Camargo



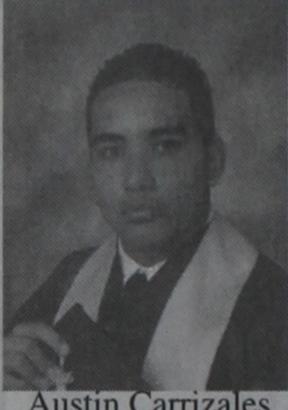
Tory Canales



Cecil Cantu



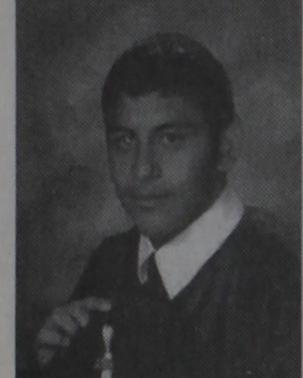
Stephen Carabajal



Austin Carrizales



Monica Carrisales



Manuel Castro



Melinda Cavazos



Eva Ceja



Selena Cervantes



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Alejandra Chadis



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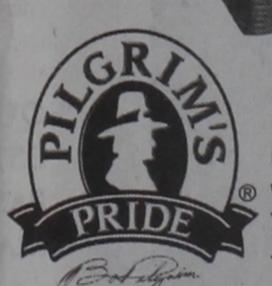
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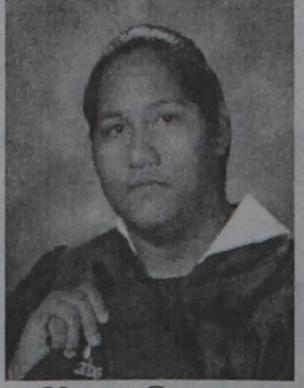
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Christi Diaz



Gina Duran



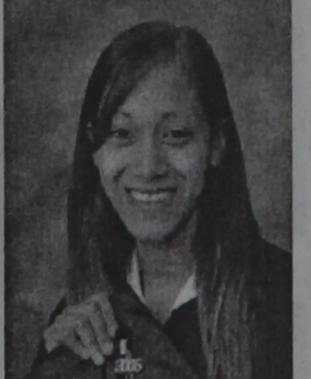
Jessica Espinoza



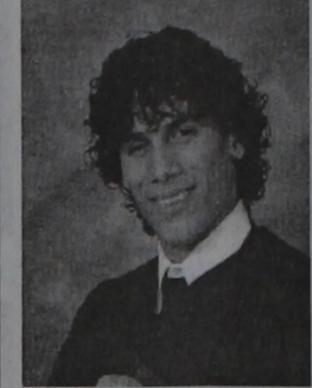
Ruth Espinoza



Isidra Estrada



Sierra Estrada



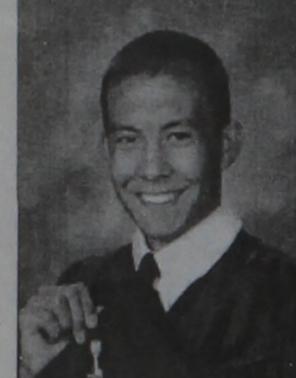
Xavier Estrada



Rodolfo Fernandez



Alexis Flores



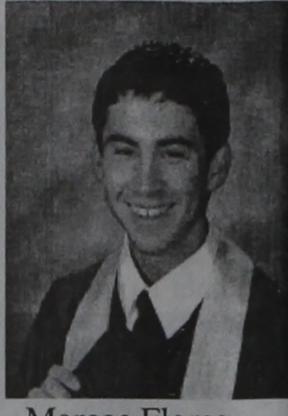
Christopher Flores



Erica Flores



Hiram Flores



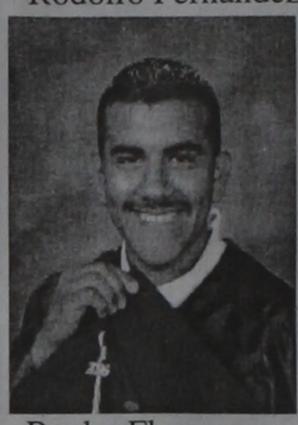
Marcos Flores



Raquel Flores



Rebecca Flores



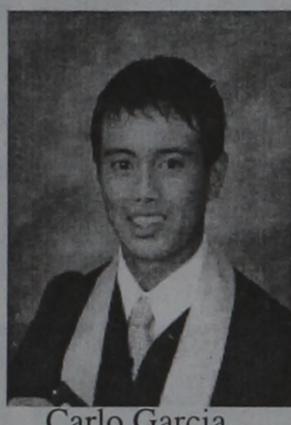
Rocky Flores



Katrina Florez



Gabrielle Florez



Carlo Garcia



Eva Garcia



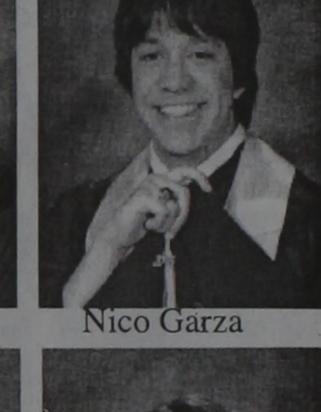
Jose Garcia



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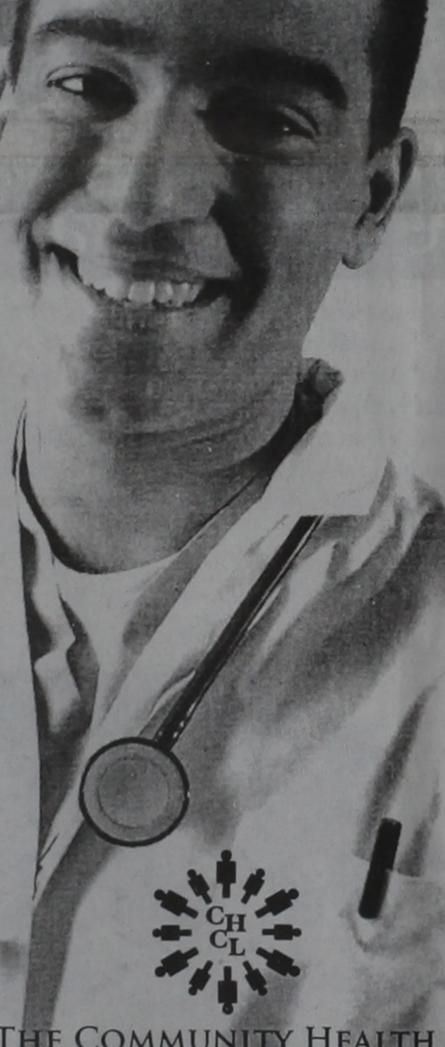
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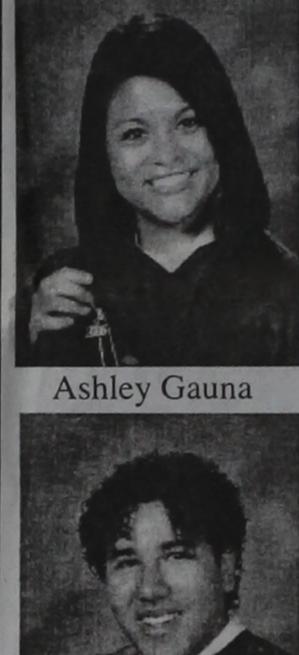
PARKWAY CLINIC

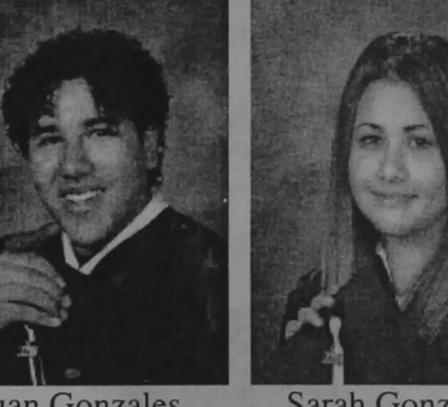
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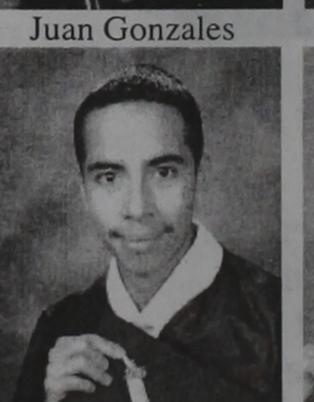
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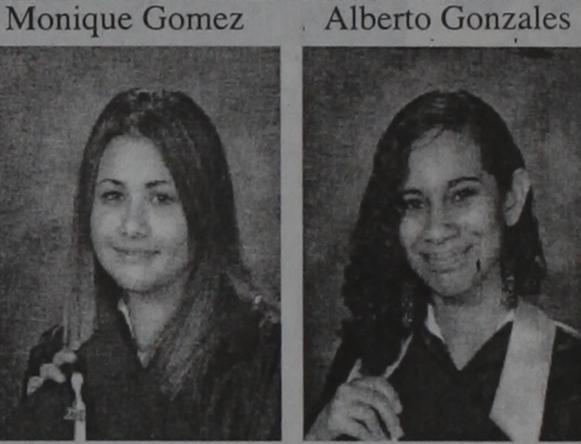


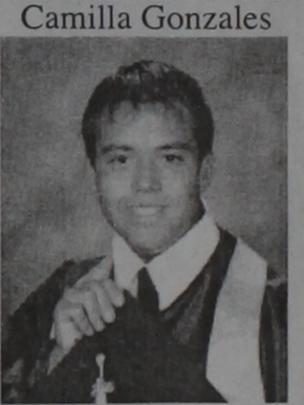
Johnny Guerrero





Lindsey Gutierrez

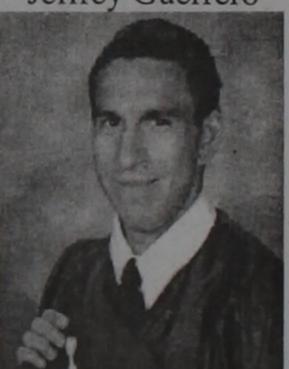




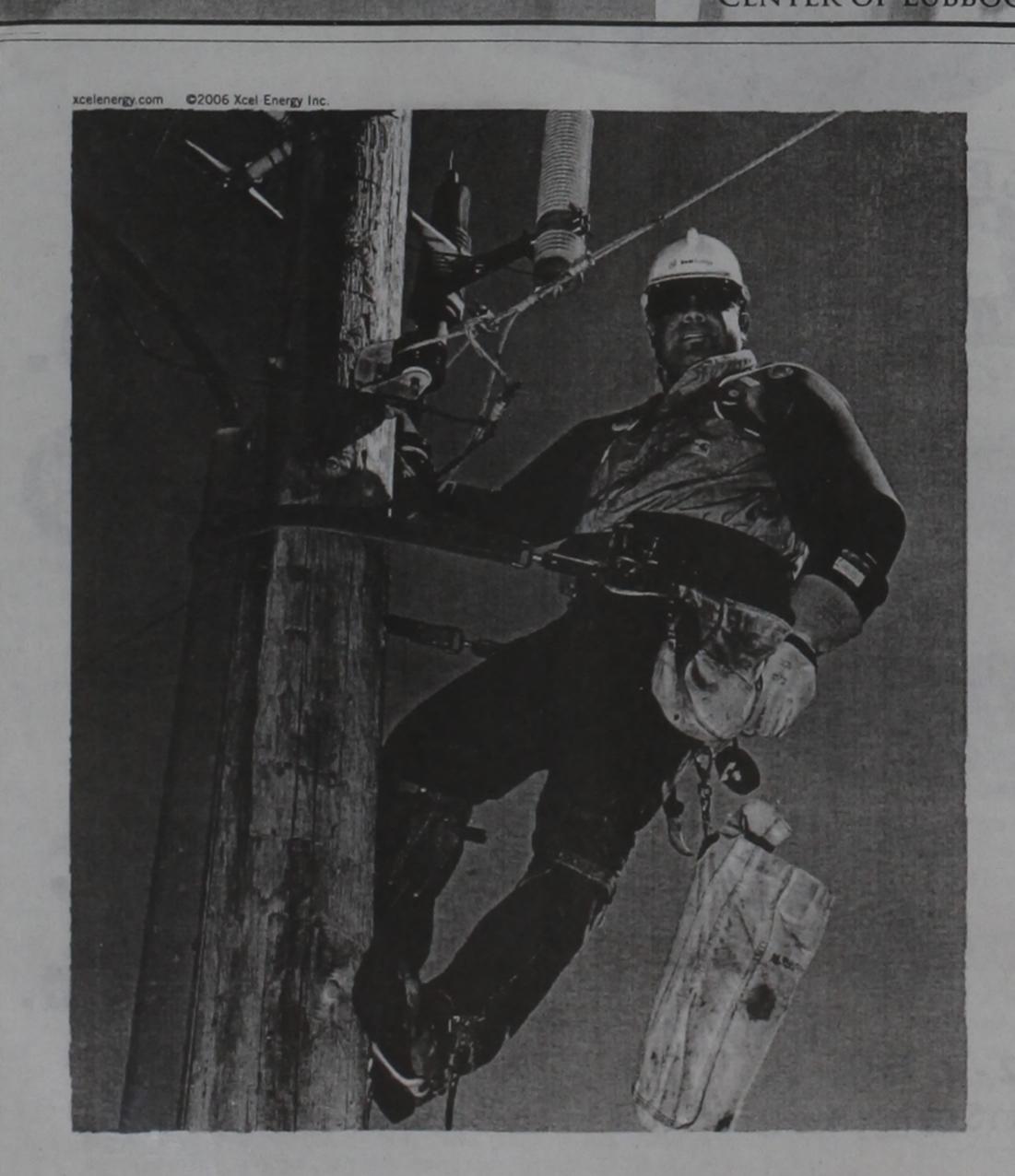
Zachary Gutierrez



Josefina Gonzales



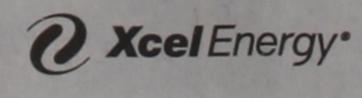
Adam Gutierrez

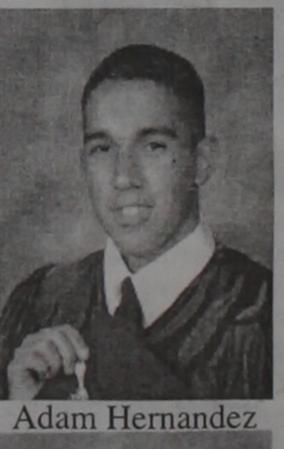


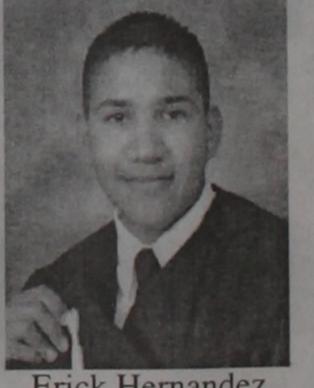
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Erick Hernandez



Giovanna Hernandez



Isaac Hernandez

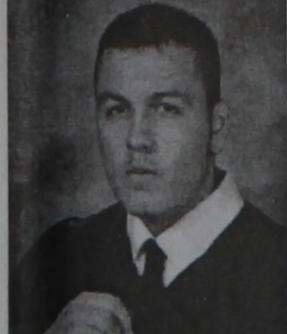


Max Hernandez



Maegan Hernandez Amanda Hernandez Oscar Hernandez







Mandy Herrera



Rolando Herrera



Rolanda Hererra



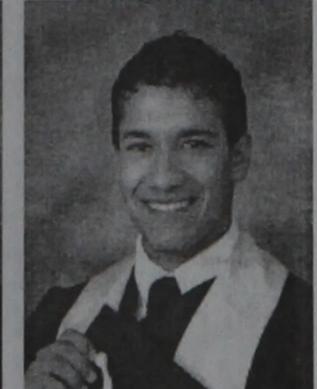
Evangeline Jimenez



Maegan Jimenez



Christian Jimenez



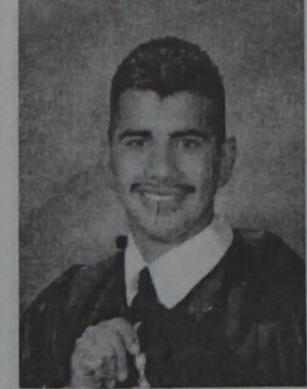
Richard Landin



Alyssa Ledesma



Sandy Ledesma



Alfredo Lomas



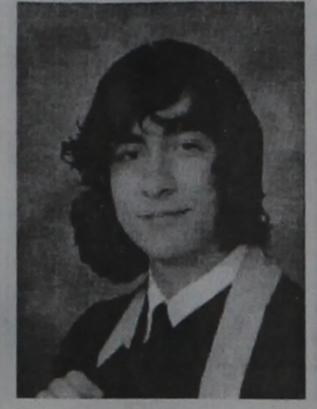
Daniel Lopez



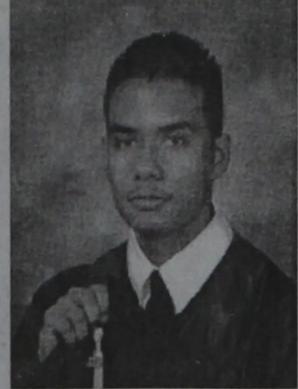
Geraldo Lopez



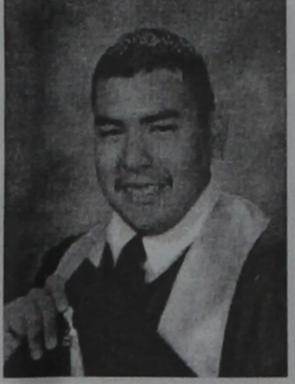
Katy Lopez



Michael Lopez



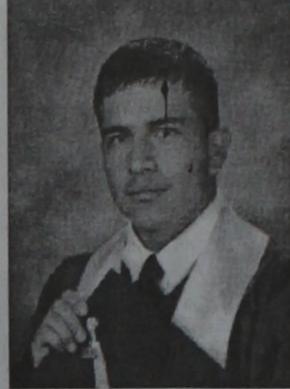
Mark Luebano



Alex Luna



Patricia Madrid



Brian Maldonado



Erica Marmolejo



Veronica Marquez



Efren Marrufo



Amanda Martinez

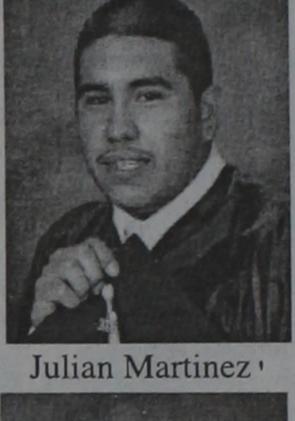


Christoper Martinez



Ginger Martinez







Nicole Martinez



Janie Martinez



Meaghan Medina



Yvonne Medina

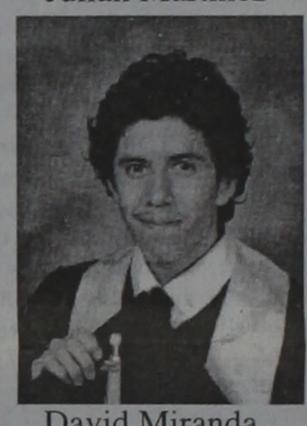


Erica Mejia





Gabriel Meza



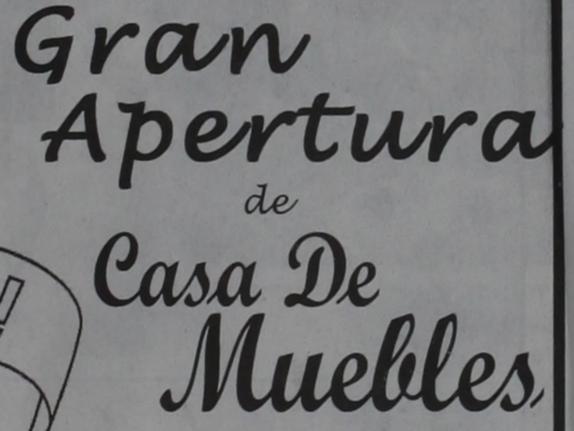
David Miranda



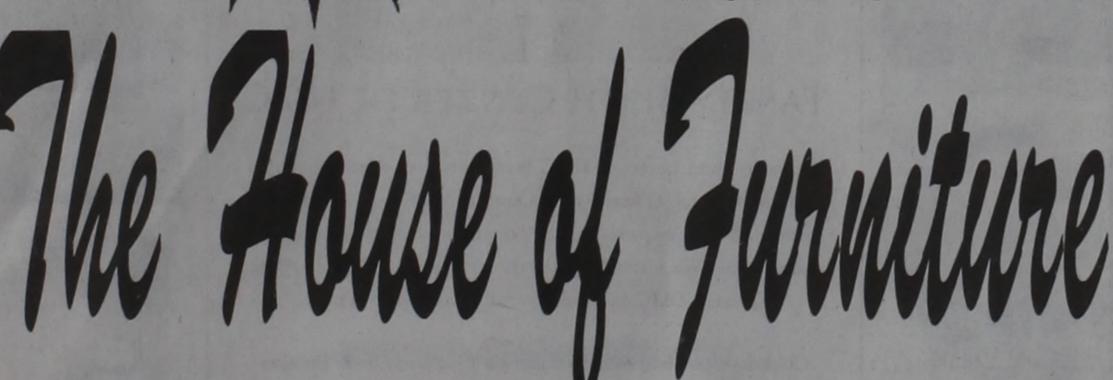
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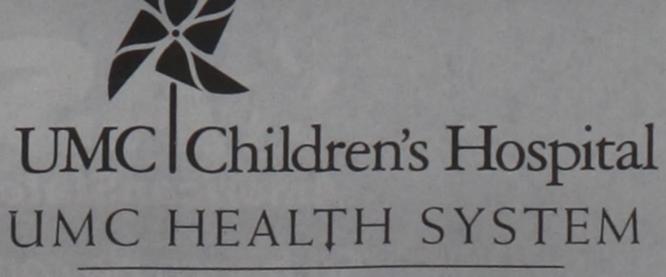
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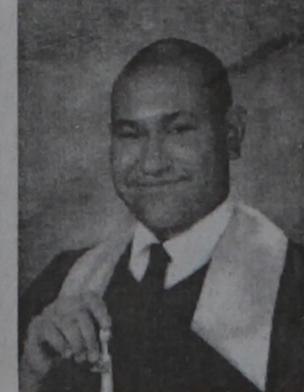
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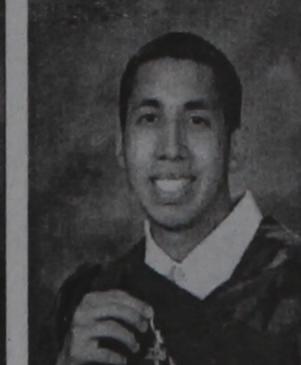
Joe Morales



Monique Morales



Maria Morales



John Moreno



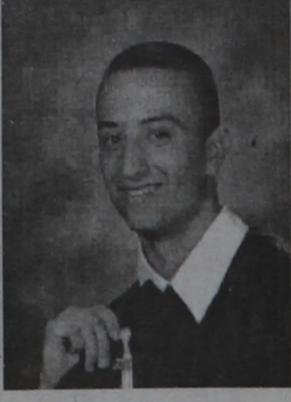
Ashley Morin



Joel Narbaez



Nataly Olivares



John Olivarez



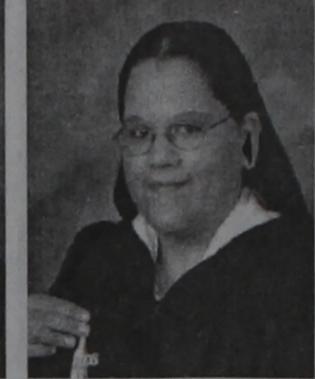
Jacob Olivas



Ariel Orozco



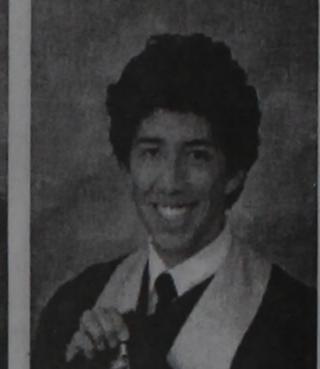
George Orta



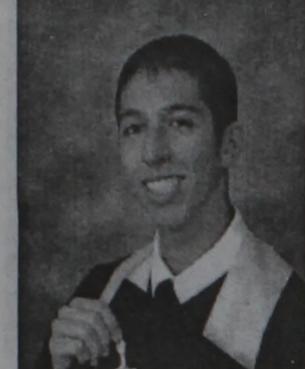
Jeannette Ortega



Keren Ortiz



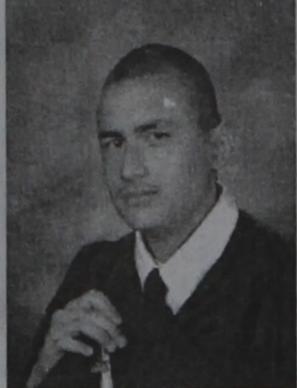
John Paul Ortiz



Michael Padilla



Perla Palacio



Rudy Parras



Sebastian Patino



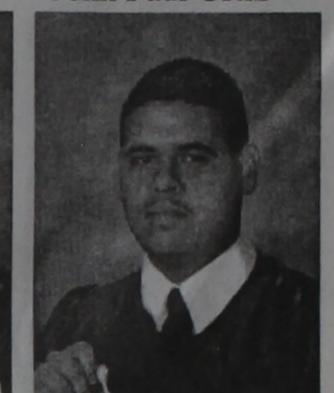
Erica Pauda



Jamie Pena



Melissa Perez



Michael Perez

American State Bank Bridges Its Services to Hispanic Market

- American State Bank (ASB) is a understand the benefits of using a brate the Hispanic culture. financial institution that has en- checking and savings account, can State Bank is expanding its ASB. outreach to more effectively serve According to Salazar, ASB per- to support our commitment to the Hispanic community.

that we will go beyond opening language preference is Spanish or services for new banking customaccounts and approving loans. English. "Our exceptional service ers, American State Bank has de- homes or schools as needed in an with mothers that have been re- parents sometimes have to hunt We are dedicated to assuring that includes our commitment to edu- veloped television and radio individuals who are new to bank- cate our customers so that they spots, print ads, out-of-home ading and have limited banking ex- can take advantage of the many vertising and other collateral maperience realize the benefits asso- benefits offered by our bank," said terials designed to emphasize ciated with using our banking Salazar, who explains that the ASB's commitment to the Hisproducts. In fact, we've recently bank focuses on community in- panic community and to provide

sonnel are experienced and trained serving our communities." "We want our customers to know to help all customers whether their To raise visibility of its many developed an educational series of volvement by supporting organi- financial education.

LUBBOCK, TX - (May 30, 2006) TV banking tips to help people zations and activities that cele-

"At ASB, we recognize the sigjoyed a long history and leader- how to develop good credit, and nificance of the Hispanic commuship presence in the Lubbock area. how to best use a range of banking nity. We are providing more per-In recognition of the contribu- services," said Victor Salazar, vice sonalized attention that is respontions and growth of the Hispanic president of multicultural sive to the needs of this growing population in West Texas, Ameri- marketing/business development, population," said Salazar. "And we have the key personnel in place

Program Brings Therapy to Families in Effort to Cut Delinquency

LUBBOCK - Police can only do the zip codes with the highest seling teams are mobile, they can down to parenting.

Texas Tech's Parent Empowerment delinquent behaviors. Project provide a unique service The Parent Empowerment Project lengthy waits to speak with counto families in these neighbor- partners university marriage and selors who are often overwhelmed hoods, bringing free therapy into family therapy graduate students with cases. In these instances, the effort to discourage delinquent cruited from the targeted commu- down transportation or take time behavior and equip parents with nities and trained to work with off of work to make the trip. effective discipline strategies for families. These Parent Educators, However, Wampler has been raising their children.

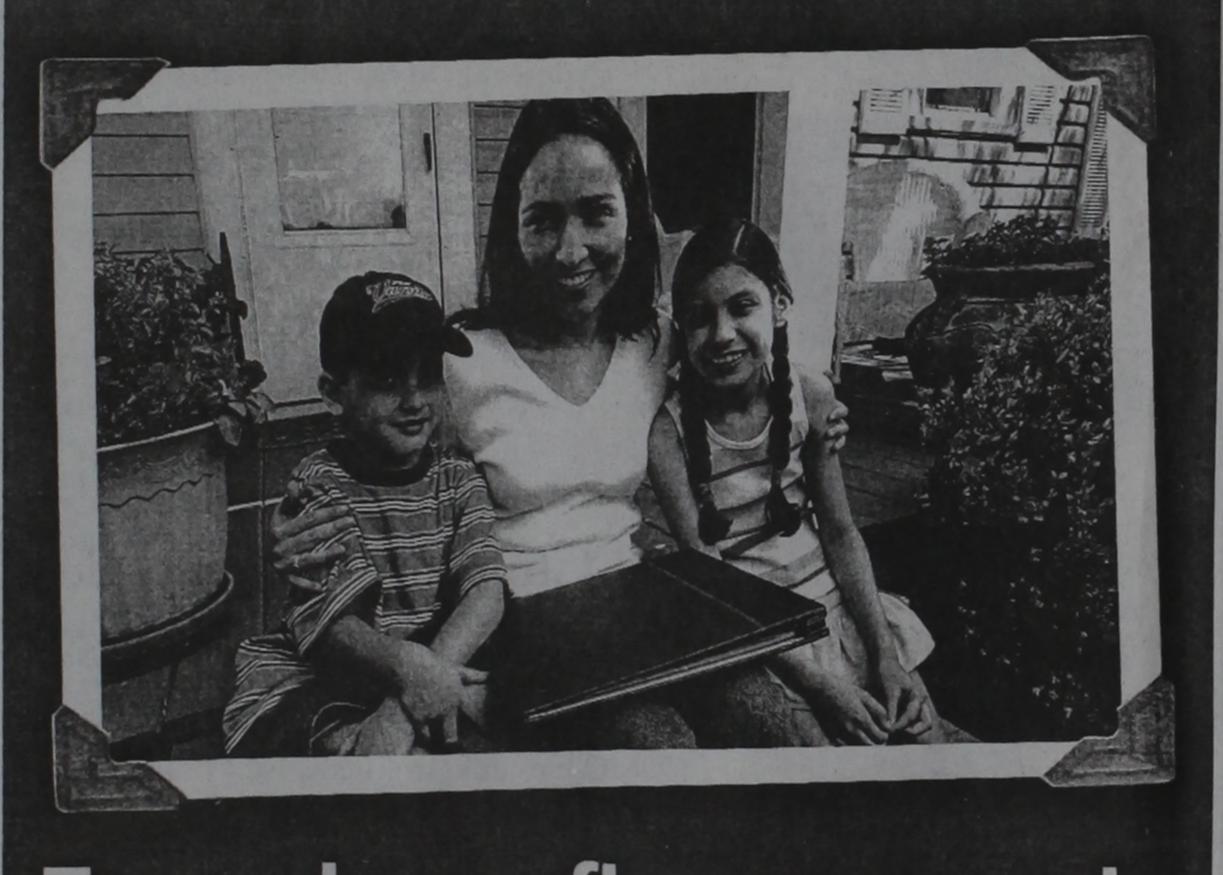
sor of marriage and family therapy, says there is a need for such services. The neighborhoods his counselors work in are located in

so much. Same with teachers. In crime rates in Lubbock. Some par- tailor their sessions to meet the the end, reducing juvenile delin- ents, grappling with depression or needs of their clients. They visit quency in Lubbock's most crime- anxiety that they are unlikely to homes or schools as necessary and riddled neighborhoods comes seek help for, turn to drugs and al- even make weekend visits if cohol. Neglect and family hostili- needed. Therapists and volunteers in ties may drive children to adopt This differs from many counsel-

be forged in a clinic.

ing services, which can involve

as the women are called, use their fighting a funding battle as grant knowledge of the neighborhood money shifts and he has to find Richard Wampler, the program's to bridge the gap between the cli- new sources. The program was founder and a Texas Tech profes- ents and counselors. Their pres- forced into a year-long hiatus at ence quickly establishes a trust, one point as Wampler sought new the counselors say, that couldn't financial support. Current support from the Hogg Foundation for Another benefit: Since the coun- Mental Health expires this month.



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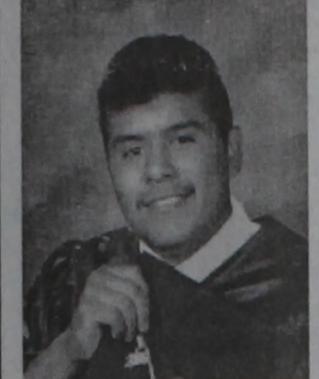
Amber Perez



Monica Picon



Tiffany Posada



Ruben Prieto



Liza Palacios



Socorro Puente



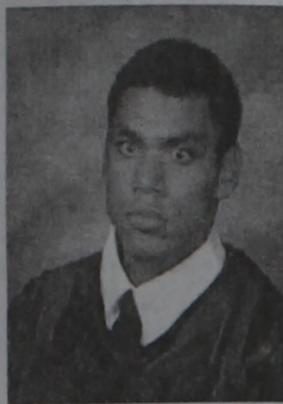
Ramiro Quevedo



Rosa Ramirez



Rocio Ramirez



Mark Reyes



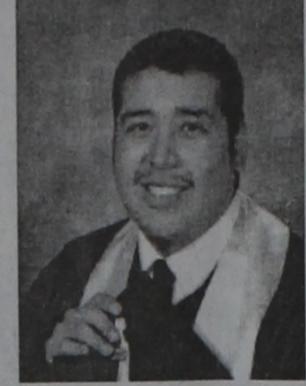
Jacinia Reyes



Esequiel Reyna



Adrian Riojas



Christopher Rivera



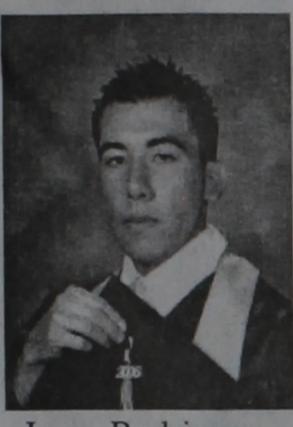
Jessica Rivera

Patty Rosales





Job Well Done!



Josue Rodriguez



Juanita Rodriguez



Laurie Rodriguez

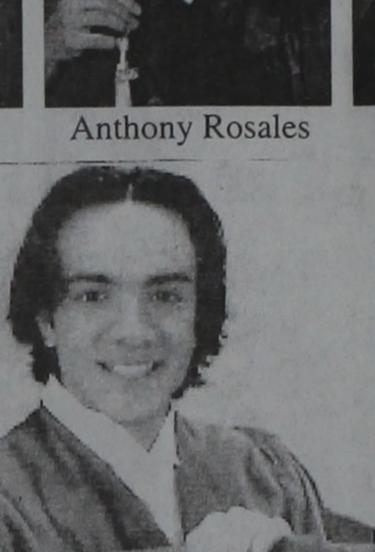


Sarah DeLeon graduate of Lubbock High-

Congratulations from your Mom & Dad



Andrea Romo



Robert Luera Urrutia, Jr. graduated from Estacado High. High honors graduate. National Honor Society graduated from Pre-Medical magnet program. The Urrutia family is very



Crystal Raquel Cervantes graduate of Lubbock High. Crystal is the daughter of Ester & Martin Cervantes

Vanessa Yvonne Arrambide graduate from Frenship High. Congratulations from grandparents Joe & Tina Hernandez and your parents Richard & Connie Arrambide.

Marc Anthony hará una nueva gira con El Buki y Laura Pausini

asoció con Alejandro Fernández entre los 11.75 y 176 dólares en y Chayanne en Juntos los tres Irvine, según ti-cketmaster.com, y de Estados Unidos - este año el según la página oficial del anfitecantante de Valió la pena se acom- atro, hob.com. pañará de Marco Antonio Solís y norteamericanas.

citas inexcusables de los aficionados a la música latina e interna- a una entidad benéfica. cional.

co del sur de California será el bum Vocal Pop, se une así a dos próximo 15 de julio, en Irvine. La segunda tendrá lugar tres días después, el 18 de julio, en el Anfiteatro Gibson, en el City Walk ertos, una combinación inusual de de Universal City.

dio a conocer el mismo Marco grupero y pop. Antonio Solís, "El Buki", después de una actuación en Monterrey, México.

tizada con el nombre de Juntos en concierto Los precios de los bo-

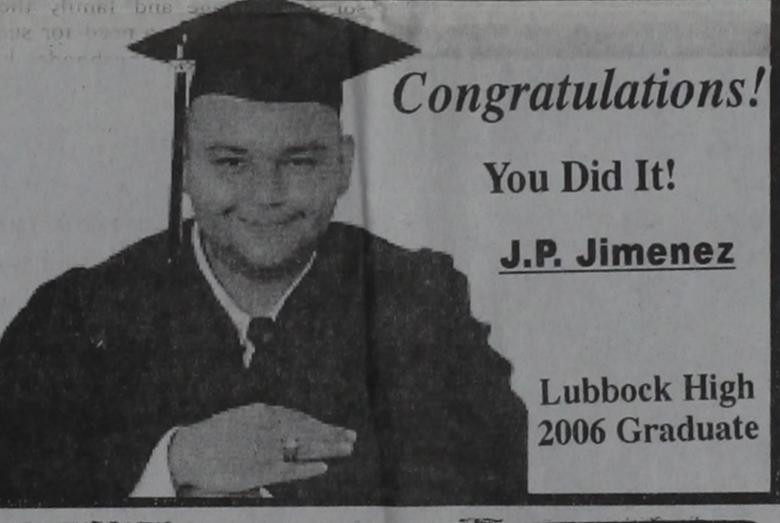
Si en 2005 Marc Anthony se letos - ya a la venta- basculan - una aventura musical a través los 80 y 155 dólares en el Gibson,

En la rueda de prensa de hoy, en Laura Pausini en una gira que les la que Solís, Anthony y Pausini Ilevará a una veintena de ciudades estarán acompañados de las estrellas radiofónicas Taly Taly y Hoy se darán a conocer en Los Carlos Álvarez, los tres ganadores Ángeles los pormenores de este del premio Grammy darán a conevento musical que, sin lugar a ocer los detalles acerca de esta dudas, se convertirá en una de las nueva apuesta musical, que también incluye el anuncio de apoyo

Pausini, que recientemente ganó La primera cita para el públi- un Grammy Latino al Mejor Álde los representantes más destacados de la música latina.

El resultado será, en los conciritmos y estilos - de la balada a La confirmación de la gira la la salsa, pasando por el ranchero,

Sólo unos días después de su cita en Universal City, el 28 de julio, Marco Antonio Solís repe-Allí aseguró que la gira, bau- tirá actuación en dicho escenario, aunque en solitario.Un récord para J-Lo: dos años con Marc





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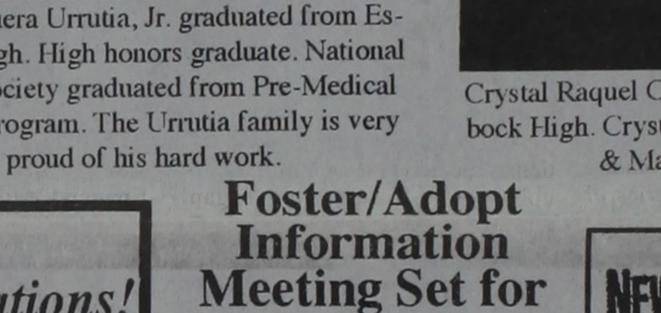
1502 Avenue M - Lubbock, Tx

ontelongo's Restaurant

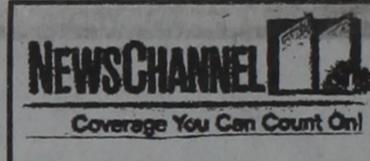


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June 13 Texas Department of Family and Protective Services invites all persons interested in fostering or adopting to attend an information meeting being held on June 13 at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at Central Plains Rainbow Room, 113 E. 6th Street, in Plainview. Participants will learn the process of fostering and adopting children that are removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. There is a great need for more foster homes in Hale County. If you have ever considered being a foster parent or would like to learn more about fostering, you are invited to come and hear how you can help.



New Assistant Producer/ Photographer. Edits video for newscasts and performs photographer functions if assigned. Apply at KCBD TV, 5600 Avenue A, Lubbock 79404. E.O.E.

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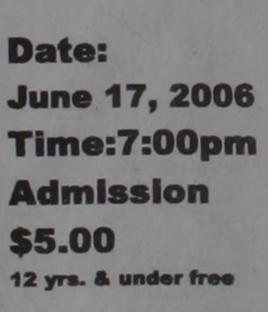
Student Leisure Pool The project will construct an outdoor pool for recreational and instructional programs and construct a permanent roof and install HVAC for the existing pool.

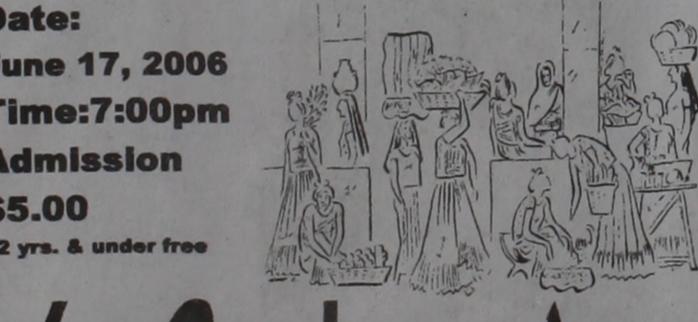
> The Texas Tech University System Lubbock, Texas Project No. 06-02

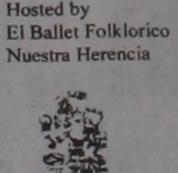
The RFQ and further information can be obtained by accessing the Texas Marketplace www.marketplace.state.tx.us GSC Class Item No. 925 Agency Code 768

For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager, Debbie Cox. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail: debbie.cox@ttu.edu.

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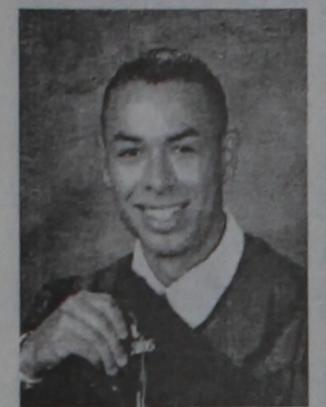




EBF Nuestra Herencia PO Box 54282 Lubbock, Texas 79453

For more information contact: Debbie A Rodriguez Phone: 806-765-5827 Cell: 806-789-9979 Email: darodriguez@nts-online.net

Come see La Guelaguetza, a traditional harvest festival observed in the Mexican state of Oaxaca. Enjoy traditional Oaxacan dances in a festival setting performed by Ballet Folkloricos Nuestra Herencia, Paso Del Norte, and Aztlan. Location of event will be at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theater. 1501 Mac Davis Lane



Robert Ruiz



Tabitha Ruiz



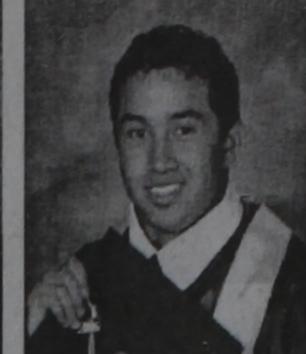
Veronica Salas



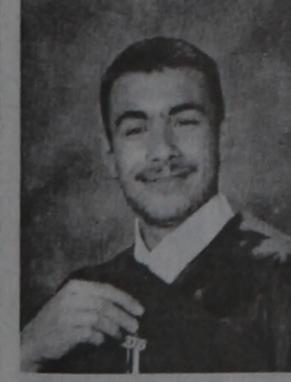
Jaquelyn Salazar



Joshua Salazar



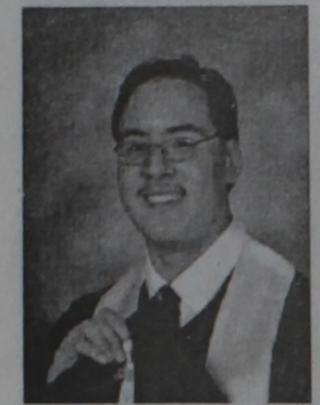
Raymond Salinas



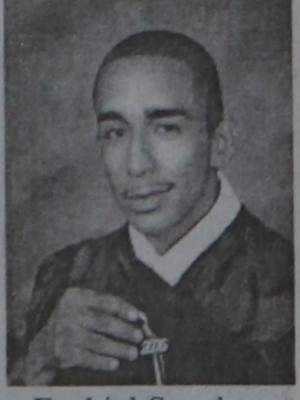
Jonathan Salsman



Amanda Sanchez



Bryant Sanchez



Ezekiel Sanchez



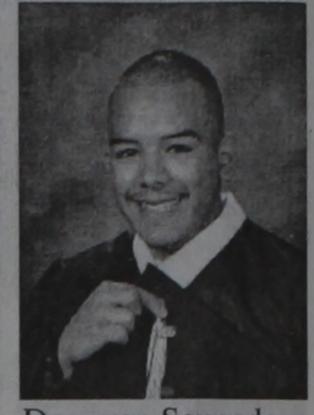
Georgia Sanchez



Leticia Sanchez



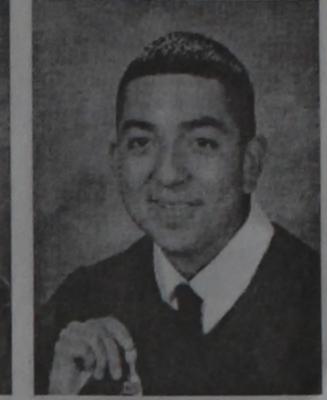
Kristal Santiago



Donovan Sauceda



Isaac Sauceda

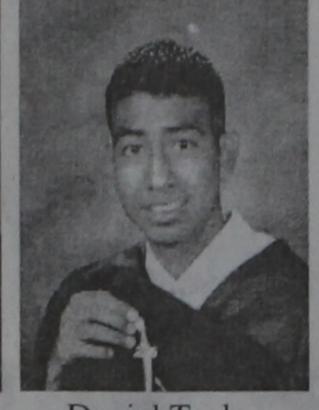


Fermin Sifuentez



Stephanie Sifuentes





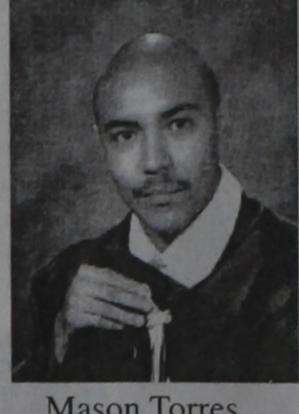
Daniel Tagle



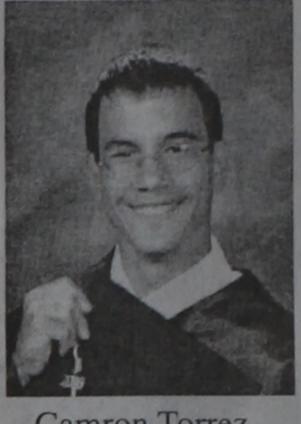
Ruben Tarango



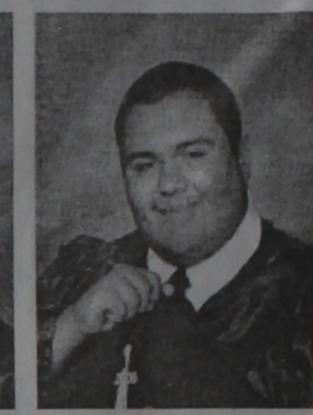
Maria Torres



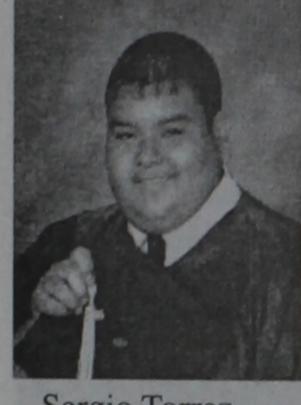
Mason Torres



Camron Torrez



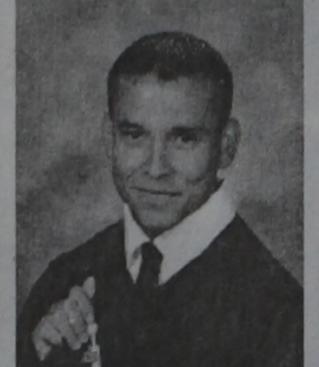
Johnny Torrez



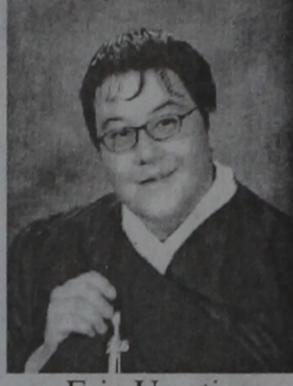
Sergio Torrez



Lori Trevino



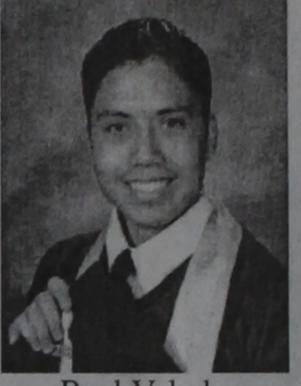
Mark Trevino



Eric Urrutia



Derek Urrutia

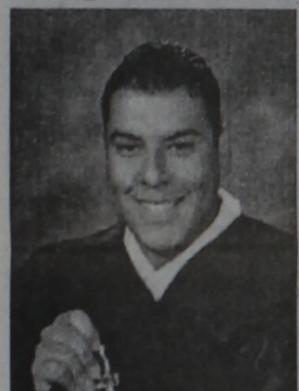


Paul Valadez





Veronica Valles



Christopher Vargas

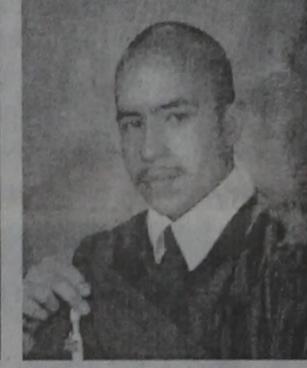
Amber Vidaurre

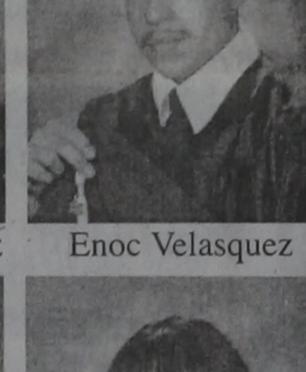


Maritza Vasquez



Solomon Vasquez







Joshua Vigil



Mercedes Villanueva



Rocio Villegas

www.CovenantHeartInstitute.org

Como la mayoría de las mujeres, Julia no tenía la menor idea de que muchas más mujeres mueren de enfermedades cardiovasculares que por las próximas 16 causas combinadas—inclusive el cáncer de mama. Julia pensó que era demasiado joven para tener un ataque al corazón. Hasta que tuvo uno. La detección temprana a esta enfermedad es esencial para garantizar que vivas una vida larga y sana. Por eso Covenant Heart Institute ahora te ofrece exámenes gratuitos del corazón. Covenant Heart Institute es el centro más avanzado de nuestra región para el tratamiento de enfermedades cardiovasculares, con cuidado continuo y los últimos procedimientos quirúrgicos más modernos. Además, también es el primer programa en la región dedicado exclusivamente a la mujer. Llámanos hoy mismo y haz una cita para solicitar tu examen gratuito del corazón.

Congratulations to all Lubbock

and South Plains area

graduating seniors!

Para hacer un cita y obtener tu examen del corazón GRATUITO, llama al 1.866.4COVENANT (1.866.426.8362). También te mandaremos absolutamente GRATIS nuestro Kit de Información para Mantener un Corazón Saludable.

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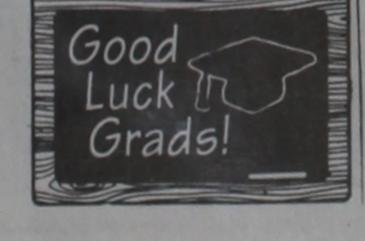
Brandon Ximenez



Elena Zavala



Francisco Zavala



AVISO LEGAL

Estos juegos de raspar de la Comisión de la Lotería de Texas terminan el 30 de junio de 2006. Tienes hasta el 27 de diciembre de 2006 para canjear cualquier boleto de estos juegos:

Juego #442, \$2 **Break The Bank** Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.94

Juego #558, \$1 9's On A Line Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.68

Juego #578, \$1 Fun 1's Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.65

Juego #592, \$1 **Bonus Numbers** Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.79

Juego #598, \$7 Lucky 7's Bingo Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.31

Juego #601, \$2 **Deuces Wild** Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.31

Juego #618, \$5 Casino Cash Out Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.59

Juego #628, \$1 **Lucky Cherry Slots** Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.81

Juego #642, \$2

Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.73 Juego #695, \$5 Superball Doubler

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\$25,000 Money Machine



hoy mismo.

Las probabilidades mostradas aquí son probabilidades generales de ganar cualquier premio, incluyendo los premios iguales al valor del boleto. Los expendedores de la Lotería están autorizados para canjear premios de hasta, e incluyendo, \$599. Premios de \$600 o más tienen que ser cobrados en persona en un Centro de Reclamo de la Lotería o por correo con un formulario de cobro de la Lotería completado; sin embargo, premios anuales o premios de más de \$999,999 tienen que ser cobrados en persona en la oficina central de la Comisión de la Lotería de Texas en Austin, Llama a la Línea de Servicio al Cliente 1-800-37LOTTO o visita la página de internet de la Lotería en www.txlottery.org para más información y la dirección del Centro de Reclamo más cercano. La Lotería de Texas no es responsable por el robo o la pérdida de boletos, o por boletos extraviados en el correo. Boletos, transacciones, jugadores y ganadores son sujetos, y jugadores y ganadores están de acuerdo con cumplir con todas las leyes que le corresponden al caso, las reglas de la Comisión, regulaciones, normas, directivas, instrucciones, condiciones, procedimientos y decisiones finales del director ejecutivo. Un juego de raspar puede seguir vendiêndose aun cuando todos los premios mayores han sido cobrados. Tienes que tener 18 años de edad o más para poder comprar un boléto de la Lotería de Texas. Juega responsablemente. La Lotería de Texas apoya a la educación en Texas. © 2006 Texas Lottery Commission. Todos los Derechos Reservados.