

Casualties of
War in Iraq
2819
as of Nov. 2
2006

El Editor

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

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Comentarios de Bidal Agüero



Our guess is that Hispanic leaders really got mad at Randy Negerbauer. It's not really that often that they agree enough on one topic that Hispanic leaders in Lubbock actually sign a document saying in essence that "Randy stinks". We can only point to the many issues that are outlined on page 2 to prove Mr. Negerbauer's unwillingness to discuss the issues and the reasons why his service is being questioned.

In our opinion our community leaders are correct. "No, Mr. Negerbauer we cannot recommend that our readers and community vote for you when you have given us an endless list of reasons not to.

Election day is from NOW until next Tuesday and we urge our readers to take advantage of the opportunity to voice your opinion by way of their ballot. And hopefully our readers will not forget all the rest of the good people on the ballot this year. People like Chris Bell who might finally be the person who will replace Rick Perry in the Governor's mansion. This year can be one of the few years when we can recommend to our readers to select the Democrat button, push red button and vote for all the candidates on their ballot.

The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the First Annual Women and Diversity Conference this Friday during lunch. Special guest for the event will be Arcilia Acosta President and CEO of CARCON Industries and Construction of Dallas. Ms. Acosta is TAMACC's 2006 Business Woman of the year.

The event promises to be one of the most outstanding events that the Chamber has hosted this year and we encourage everyone to attend. For more information call the LHCC office at 806-763-5059.



Ms. Acosta will be the keynote speaker at our First Annual Women's Diversity Conference to be held on Friday, November 3rd, 2006, 8:00am - 1:00pm at the Clarion Hotel 505 Avenue Q. A reception will be held on Thursday from 5 pm until 7 pm at the Clarion Hotel.

Oralé Raza No se les olvide votar!
Send us your comments to
eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Local Hispanic Leaders Endorse Ricketts, Blast Negerbauer

An estimated 5.6 million Latinos could vote in this year's midterm elections and help Hispanics make gains in state and federal political office, according to a nonpartisan Latino group.

The expected number of Latino votes is an increase from the approximately 4.7 million who turned out in 2002, the last year of elections that didn't include a presidential contest, according to a study by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. The association works to increase civic participation by Latinos and raise their numbers in public office.

Latinos also are expected to cast a slightly larger share of the overall votes, 6 percent this year, up from 5 percent four years ago.

In Texas, the Latino share of the vote is expected to be 22 percent, up from 19 percent.

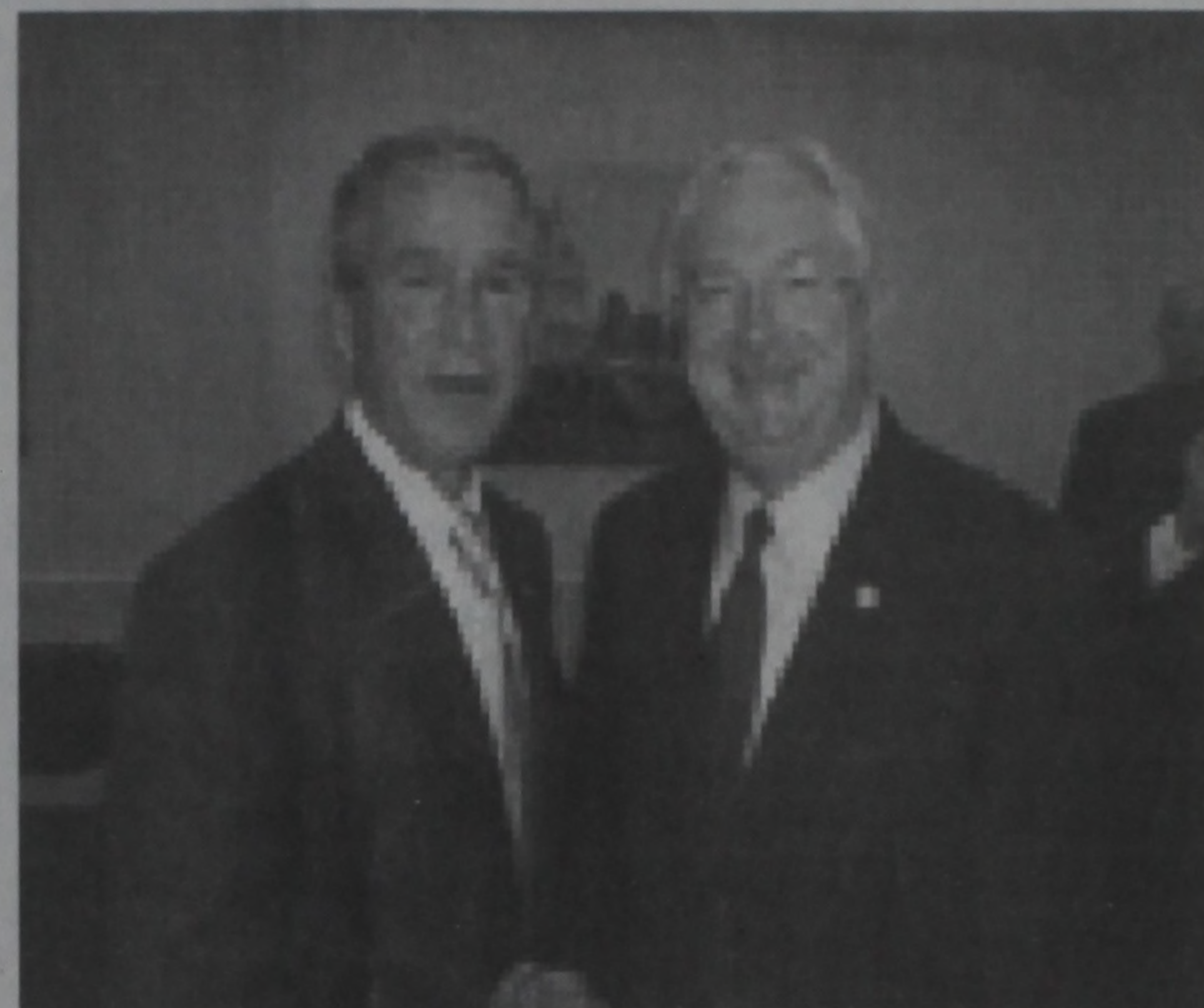
Incumbent Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio, is on the ballot with seven challengers, five of whom also are Latino. About 48 percent of eligible voters in that district are Latino, NALEO said.

In Congressional District 22, a Houston area district that was represented by former Majority Leader Tom DeLay, 17.1 percent of the eligible voters are Latino. In that race, Democrat Nick Lampson shares the ballot with Libertarian Bob Smither. Republicans are waging a write-in campaign for Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, who is considered the underdog to Lampson.

Interest in the local Congressional District 19 has spurred interest among Hispanics when a letter written by columnist Abel Cruz brought attention to the shortcoming of Congressman Randy Negerbauer. The letter asked the Negerbauer a series of questions about his refusal to debate or even attend forum where he could be asked questions about his campaign for re-election.

"What are we to make when all we

see on the local television stations is a re-run of the TV ad you ran 2 years ago? Don't you have anything new to say to us? Shouldn't you at least talk about the war in Iraq in which we have lost over 2,800 of our young men and women?" ask Cruz. The letter is available for reading on eleditor.com.



Lideres Hispanos de Lubbock dijeron que ya basta con las acciones de Randy Negerbauer y su compañarismo con George Bush. "No Sr. Negerbauer no merece nuestro voto," dijeron los lideres.

The letter also prompted local Hispanic leaders to sign an endorsement letter in support of opponent Robert Ricketts. Signing the letter were Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez, City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon, School Board member Mario Ybarra, Janie Ramirez, Armando Gonzalez, Christy Martinez, Victor Gonzalez, Joe Davila, Dario Rendon, Jr., Manuel Aguilar, Lillie Aguilar, Ms. E. Omega Cantu, Armando Rodriguez, and publishers Bidal Agüero and Olga Agüero.

According to Agüero the national trend of voting against President Bush is finally catching up in Lubbock.

"We saw Negerbauer voting 99% with President's failed policies including everything from budget cuts which saw the possible elimination of local programs such as LEARN and Upward Bound and his failed strategies in Iraq.

"No, Mr. Negerbauer we cannot

becoming increasingly engaged in the electoral process. Latino voters want to make their voices heard on issues important to the community," said Rosalind Gold, a senior director at NALEO and one of the study's researchers. She said the estimates are considered conservative.

The increase is a result of demographic change, population growth and increased outreach by both political parties to Latinos, she said.

The increases are showing up in states with some of the more competitive races for U.S. House and Senate seats.

Latinos are expected to make up at least 7 percent of the vote in New Jersey, where incumbent U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat, faces a tough challenge from state Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr.

They should comprise 13 percent of voters in Arizona, where Democratic real estate developer Jim Pederson is challenging Republican incumbent Jon Kyl in the Senate race, NALEO said.

In this year's election, Latinos are running for top federal and state offices in 38 of 50 states, compared to 35 they hold now. Many of the candidates are running in nontraditional Latino communities.

"In those communities, Latino candidates are starting to be able to raise money, get top endorsements and build political networking," Gold said.

Latinos are expected to see a net gain of four seats in Statehouses, Assemblies or Delegates, mostly due to Latino Republicans winning in nontraditional states or communities.

In congressional races, Democrat Patricia Madrid is in a tight race against incumbent Republican Heather Wilson for New Mexico's District 1 House seat. Albio Sires, a Democrat, is considered to have locked up the race to fill Menendez's seat, which has been vacant since January.

Currently, there are 18 Latino Democrats and four Latino Republicans in the U.S. House. Should Madrid and Sires win and all Republicans be re-elected, the number would increase to 24.

BELL FILES ETHICS COMPLAINT AGAINST HAWKINS Says:

"Corruption Has Real Consequences for Texas Children and Families"

AUSTIN— Today Chris Bell filed an ethics complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission against Albert Hawkins, Executive Commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services. The complaint charges Hawkins with violating legal prohibitions against conflicts of interest by simultaneously sitting as a commissioner of Health and Human Services and a trustee of an organization that does business with his agency. Texas State Code prohibits a state officer from business and activities that skew their ability to act with objective judgment. Hawkins also failed to disclose his involvement with the organization on his personal financial disclosure statements filed with the Ethics Commission. Rick Perry appointed Hawkins to his position in January 2003. Around the same period of time, Hawkins joined the Texas Health Institute, formerly named the Texas Institute of Health Policy Research. In discussing his ethics complaint Chris Bell said: "This is just one more example of Rick Perry taking ethics lessons from Tom DeLay. We can't afford four more years of Rick Perry; he's sold the governor's office to his cronies. And Carole Strayhorn should not be forgiven for blessing Perry's push to take health insurance away from Texas children. I am the only candidate in this race that can be trusted with bringing good government to Texas." The Texas Health Institute holds a contract with the State of Texas to implement Perry's mental health plan. As part of this plan, he created the Transformation Workforce Group, which includes the Texas Health Institute, Perry's office, and Health and Human Services. This partnership means that Albert Hawkins has influence on legislative and policy decisions from both public and private positions. Last week when questioned by the Austin American-Statesman on his failure to disclose his involvement with

Texas Health Institute on his personal financial disclosure statements, Hawkins claimed he would amend his documents on Monday, October 30. No such filings have been made, and in response Chris Bell said: "This isn't a minor matter of a clerical oversight - this corruption has real consequences for Texas families." Furthermore, the complaint cited that Hawkins is violating prohibitions against legislative lobbying by state officials. Texas law prohibits a state agency from using appropriated money to influence legislative measures. The Texas Health Institute has received several grants and contracts from the Department of Health and Human Services. Texas Health Institute has used these grants to push legislation and rule-making procedures relating to health privatization and restructuring. Legislation lobbied by the Texas Health Institute includes HB 470, which called for restructuring mental health services. The Texas Health Institute is also in charge of implementing of the notorious HB 2292 of 2003, which targeted CHIP and led to 200,000 children losing their health insurance. Chris Bell also questioned Rick Perry's statement earlier this week in which he denied knowledge of the conflict of interest. Bell said: "It's hard to imagine that Perry is so disconnected to his own administration's business that he would be unaware of a relationship between his top HHS appointee and the corporation he has charged with a big, new initiative. Didn't he sit in meetings in the same room with these people?"

Minority enrollment in college still lagging

By Mary Beth Marklein
Despite significant gains in minority undergraduate and graduate enrollments at the nation's colleges and universities, the rate at which black and Hispanic students attend college continues to trail that of white students, a report says.

Minority enrollments rose by 50.7% to 4.7 million between 1993 and 2003, while the number of white students increased 3.4%, to 10.5 million, the report says.

White high school graduates are more likely than black or Hispanic peers to enroll in college. The report says 47.3% of white high school graduates ages 18 to 24 attend college, vs. 41.1% of black and 35.2% of Hispanic high school graduates.

Among students who entered college in 1995-96, 36.4% of blacks and 42% of Hispanics earned a bachelor's degree within six years, vs. 58% of whites and 62.3% of Asian-Americans.

The overall minority increases are encouraging, "but we are also concerned by what still seems to be slow growth," says Beverly Daniel Tatum, president of Spelman College, a historically black college for women in Atlanta, and chair of a commission that produces the annual report. "While we see forward movement, it is incremental and not transformational."

That, she says, would require better preparation and encouragement in elementary and high schools. "Students of color often have limited access to the courses they need ... (and) college guidance," Tatum says. And a key reason some minority college students don't persist is because "they're simply running out of money."

The report, released today by the American Council on Education, is based on Education Department and Census Bureau data.

Among other findings:
•Hispanic enrollment increased 70%, the most of all racial and ethnic groups, to 1.6 million. However, participation rates of Hispanic students remained nearly flat because the size of that population has increased dramatically.

•Black enrollment rose 42.7%, to more than 1.9 million.

•Asian-American enrollment grew 43.5%, to more than 987,000.

•American Indian enrollment increased 38.7%, to nearly 163,000. A 50% increase in their enrollment at four-year institutions signals "a major shift."

The Census Bureau kept only limited data for Asian-Americans and Americans Indians during the 10-year span covered by the report, so some numbers for those groups are not available.

The number of students whose race or ethnicity is unknown increased 114%, to slightly more than 1 million students.

"As we move to a more multiracial society, fewer people are comfortable checking one race," says co-author Bryan Cook. Future federal surveys will allow for more flexible definitions of race, he says.

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EDITORIAL



No, the Editorial Board of El Editor cannot support Congressman Randy Neugebauer for Re-election! No, Mr. Negerbauer we cannot recommend that our readers and community vote for you when you have given us an endless list of reasons not to. These are the reason why:

This is HOW NEUGEBAUER RESPONDS TO HIGH ENERGY PRICES

- Rep. Neugebauer voted against cracking down on the oil and gas industries **price gouging**.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted for the GOP energy bill that gave **billions to oil, gas and nuclear industries**.
- Big oil and gas industries have given Rep. Neugebauer **\$249,372**. Any surprise?

This is HOW REP. NEUGEBAUER PUTS BIG BUSINESS AHEAD OF AMERICAN WORKERS

- Rep. Neugebauer voted to **strip overtime protection** from millions of workers.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted to allow federal loans to American companies that have **escaped paying U.S. taxes by moving offshore**.

This is NEUGEBAUER & the GOP "HEALTH CARE"

- Big drug interests have given **\$9,186** to Neugebauer over the Representative's career. They know who their friends are.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted for the GOP Medicare Prescription Drug Bill that will give **billions to businesses and the health care industry**, while forcing seniors to accept **annual increases** in premiums and deductibles and a growing **gap in coverage** for the prescription drugs they buy.

These are NEUGEBAUER TIES WITH THE GOP LEADERSHIP

- Neugebauer received **\$10,000** from House Majority Leader John Boehner's "Freedom Project" PAC.
- Neugebauer received **\$10,000** from GOP Whip Roy Blunt's "Rely on Your Beliefs" PAC.
- Neugebauer voted with President Bush **90% of the time**.
- Neugebauer voted the GOP party line **98% of the time**.

These are NEUGEBAUER TIES WITH TOM DELAY AND JACK ABRAMOFF

Neugebauer has taken:

- **\$15,000** from Tom DeLay's ARMPAC.
- **\$5,000** from Bob Ney, the first congressman to plead guilty in the Jack Abramoff investigation.
- **\$1,000** from former Tom DeLay chief of staff Ed Buckham, whose consulting firm closed down after Abramoff's guilty plea.

With all of these ties to the DeLay/Abramoff mess, is it any surprise that Neugebauer has:

- Voted to weaken House ethics rules when DeLay proposed doing so as GOP Majority Leader.
- Voted with Tom DeLay 94% of the time (through 3/31/2006)

NEUGEBAUER TIES TO DISGRACED FORMER CONGRESSMAN RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

Neugebauer has taken:

- **\$3,000** from "Duke's" PAC.

This is HOW NEUGEBAUER SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS

- Rep. Neugebauer voted to continue awarding contracts to **Halliburton** even if the Pentagon's own audit processes found that more than \$100 million of their contractor's costs in Iraq were unreasonable. No surprise that **Halliburton gave Neugebauer \$1,000**.
- Rep. Neugebauer **opposed** expanding access to the military's TRICARE health insurance program to **thousands of Reservist and National Guard members**, even though 20 percent of all Reservists do not have health insurance, and 40 percent of Reservists aged 19 to 35 **lack health coverage**.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted **against granting a bonus to grant a \$1,500 bonus to every American service member serving in Iraq and Afghanistan**, including National Guard and Reserve forces.

This is HOW NEUGEBAUER RESPONDS TO THE ENVIRONMENT

- 1,861 water systems in 29 states have been contaminated with MTBE, **exposing as many as 45 million Americans to this potential carcinogen**, but Rep. Neugebauer voted to **protect the companies responsible** from lawsuits by communities that need their help to clean up these systems.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted **against bipartisan reform** of the Endangered Species Act.
- Rep. Neugebauer voted for a massive **sell off of public lands to mining interests**.

This is HOW NEUGEBAUER RESPONDS TO... HIGHER EDUCATION?

- While tuition costs are rising for ordinary Americans, Rep. Neugebauer voted to **cut Federal student aid by \$12.7 billion** — the biggest such cuts in history.

This is HOW NEUGEBAUER RESPONDS TO STEM CELL RESEARCH?

- Rep. Neugebauer sided with social conservatives **against patients with debilitating diseases** and voted against expanding Federal funding of stem cell research.

"The Watershed Election"

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

"There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life Is bound in shallows and in miseries."

- William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

Over the course of U.S. history, very few elections have qualified as "watershed" or pivotal events...the election of 1800, in which Thomas Jefferson ousted the Federalists...1828, when populist Andrew Jackson changed the nature of the Presidency...1860, which helped cause the Civil War...1896 and 1900, when the candidacies of William Jennings Bryan and Theodore Roosevelt began the campaigns to rein in corporate power for a century...1932, the birth of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal...1960, the coming of the Kennedy-Johnson era...1980, the Reagan Revolution. Few midterm elections qualify for this august title...1938, the death of the New Deal...1974, the aftermath of Watergate...and 1994, the "Contract with America" which swept conservatives into power.

This midterm election could well be such an event. Polls indicate that the Democrats may well take control of Congress...the Democrats only need 15 seats to take control...this writer predicts that the Democrats will definitely win the House of Representatives...the current lineup is 228 Republicans to 206 Democrats and one Independent, and I believe that the final tally shall be 221 Democrats to 214 Republicans, and possibly even higher than that.

The Senate is likely to fall as well...the Democrats need to win six seats

for control, and I think that 50-50, or 51-49, with Democrats in the lead, is the probable result.

The Democratic gains in 2006 won't equal the 50+ that Republicans gained in 1994, but both elections will share one phenomenon...the defeat of the current Speaker. O, it is unlikely that DENNIS HASTERT shall lose his House seat, but he most certainly will be swept out of the Speaker's office.

The bought-and-paid-for corruption and cronyism of the current Congressional leadership is the root cause of this brewing rebellion, and justly so. The only way the GOP can cleanse itself of these scandals is by defeating the margin which allows the likes of DeLay, Abramoff and Company to remain in power. NANCY PELOSI will bring a new day of fairness and cooperation to the Congress, and the days of KARL ROVE's iron rule shall have come to a fitting end. 2008 will bring the era of JOHN McCain, RUDY GIULIANI, BARACK OBAMA, JOHN EDWARDS and many others who will free us from this dark period.

Here in Texas, the corrupt leadership of Governor RICK PERRY and Speaker TOM CRADDICK is facing its toughest challenge...whoever you vote for, remember that ANYBODY or ANYTHING is better than the regime of RICK PERRY...and the shift of just a few seats is going to spell doom for TOM CRADDICK's brand of corruption...even if the Democrats fail to take control of the Legislature, a rebellion against CRADDICK is going to develop if just a few seats change hands.

Whether you vote for KINKY FRIEDMAN, CAROLE KEETON

STRAYHORN, or CHRIS BELL, any vote against PERRY is a good one. KINKY is a breath of fresh air...STRAYHORN is fighting the Trans-Texas Corridor, and BELL fought TOM DeLay when it counted.

DAVID VAN OS, the populist candidate for Attorney General, puts up signs saying: "Notice to Big Oil: I'm Coming After You!" His candidacy is refreshing and original, and reminds me of the RALPH YARBOROUGH campaigns of the 1950s and 1960s. His opponent, GREG ABBOTT, is a hard-right opportunist who never should have been elected to such an office. His candidacy, like KINKY's, is a breath of fresh air in the stale Texas political scene.

FRED HEAD, running for Comptroller, was a member of the original "Dirty Thirty", the group of reformers which helped clean up Texas government in the 1970s...he has long been a personal favourite of mine. HANK GILBERT is a great candidate for Agriculture Commissioner, and also deserves your vote, as does J.R. MOLINA, who is running for Presiding Judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

MOLINA's opponent, SHARON KELLER, is a fanatical law and order Justice who even voted NOT to pardon the Tulia defendants. BILL MOODY has walked across Texas in his bid for the Supreme Court, and Land Office Commissioner JERRY PATTERSON is a solid GOP choice.

DALE HENRY is an unusually well-qualified candidate for Railroad Commissioner, the agency which regulates many utility rates for the State of Texas, and thereby impacts the life of most Texans. His opponent represents the worst of crony government...a daughter of an oilman put in charge of regulating oil and gas in Texas.

(Continued on Page 4)

Birds of a Feather Flock Together

By Abel Cruz

In this election year, most of my attention has been focused on the many Congressional, both House and Senate races, around the country. After all, as the former Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neil used to say, "All politics is local".

Most of the serious problems and issues that we and future generations will face have been either created or perpetuated by an inept Republican Congress which has sold its very soul to the highest bidder or special interest group.

Iraq, immigration reform, tax breaks for the wealthy, a refusal to raise the minimum wage to provide a more livable wage for the working class, and record deficits; these are just a few of the issues where this Congress has failed in its role as a legislative body.

They have also abdicated or neglected their constitutional duty to act as an oversight body of the executive branch. This Congress has not even tried to pretend that it takes that duty seriously; and in the process has let the administration do whatever they please.

As you might recall, the reconfigured or gerrymandered 19th District seat has been held by Randy Neugebauer ever since former Congressman Tom DeLay engineered one of the greatest "gerrymandered robberies" in the political history of this country. He manipulated Governor Rick Perry and this state's Republican Party to make sure that the GOP would increase the Republican numbers in the House. And thereby would increase DeLay's power.

To be sure, there are other important races we will vote in; the Governor's race and one of Texas' Senate seats come to mind. In addition, there are state legislature and Lubbock County races. All are equally significant; all will impact our lives; but none more so than the race for the 19th Congressional seat.

As for this congress:

Iraq is a disaster, over 102 of our soldiers died in October alone, we have lost over 2,800 American soldiers in Iraq since March 2003, and all we get is "stay the course" and a miraculous "benchmark strategy" two weeks before the election. Empty rhetoric; yet no Congressional oversight of the administration's failed policy in Iraq.

Immigration reform; all we have gotten is a law which would have us build a 700 mile wall but no funding to build it with. That my friends, is what you call an election ploy designed to fool people into thinking that this piece of legislation is meaningful.

Our local Congressman totally ignored his large Hispanic constituency when presented with a proclamation by the organizers of the Immigration March held in Lubbock in May, did not even have the common courtesy to respond and discuss the organizer's and march participants concerns. And then for added effect, in an August speech to a group of citizens in Olney, a real hotbed of illegal immigration, he cites the situation that was occurring in Lebanon around the time of his speech, and tries to tie it in to the illegal immigration issue. That is nothing but a scare tactic; used to scare people into believing that unless they are re-elected, this country will face the same situation as Lebanon. How absurd is that?

I can just hear "Ma and Pa Citizen" leaving that speech and thinking that they had better get the guns ready to fight the Alamo all over again!

I would suggest that Mr. Neugebauer take a tour of the 19th District during cotton harvest season or even grape harvesting. Look at who's picking the grapes, look who's working in the cotton gins and co-ops. Take a look into the kitchens of the restaurants, the hotels, who and what do you see?

And while he's at it, perhaps our Congressman will take a real close look at the employers who turn a blind eye to whether a person is here legally or not, because the less they have to pay the more they increase their profit margins. Where is the "meaningful" legislation designed to punish them?

Tax breaks? Please! If you're a middle class wage earner; how much have these tax breaks meant to you? And if you are a small business person, like Congressman, Randy Neugebauer claims to be; I would ask him this; "how many jobs have you been able to create with your tax break", as we were told would happen in this "wonderful" economy that we nauseatingly hear about? It's only wonderful if you are already wealthy enough to benefit from it.

In the area of wages; how can a sitting Congressman like Mr. Neugebauer, or any Congressman who voted against raising the minimum wage justify voting to increase his/her salary which is already over \$165,000 per year. When compared to someone earning minimum wage, or \$10,712 per year, their salary is almost 15 times as much. How in the world do these people sleep at night?

When, in the history of this country have you witnessed 3 sitting Republican Representatives, soon to be 4, resign either under a cloud of suspicion as in the case of indicted ex-congressman Tom DeLay; or guilty of accepting bribes as in the case of former Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham and Bob Ney; or under a dark cloud of sexual scandal as in the case of Mark Foley from Florida who resigned in disgrace after getting caught with his hands in the "page's cookie jar"; or better yet, the "page's pant pockets"?

And one of the common denominators in this pathetic Congress is our very own Congressman Randy Neugebauer. He's our representative in Washington, to the very Congress that hatched the likes of DeLay and his corrupt breed.

In the case of Tom DeLay, it's been about money. Neugebauer has accepted money from DeLay's PAC which was found guilty of violating Federal election laws and in return donated \$5,000 to DeLay's defense fund. How do you defend corruption?

The same money connections occur in the cases of Bob Ney and Randy "Duke" Cunningham. Why would one want to support, or even vote, for someone who keeps such "corrupt company"? Were our parents wrong when they taught us that we would be known by the friends or company we keep; and told us not to hang around with the wrong crowd?

Or here's another one for you; birds of a feather flock together. Or how about the old saying in Spanish which goes; "Dime con quien andas y te dire quien eres"; which translates into: "tell me who you're with, or who your friends are, and I'll tell you who you are".

What is true in life is even truer in politics.

In politics, a person can either choose to maintain the high ideals and standards which drove them to run for office in the first place, or they can allow themselves to be seduced by the power of money and the power itself; and put their ideals up for sale to the highest bidder. That is what happened to people like Ney and Cunningham, and although not yet convicted, Tom DeLay.

Yet what I cannot understand is why Mr. Neugebauer has not even made an attempt to distance himself from the friends he has made during his time in Congress.

As far as I'm concerned, it's time we did it for him.

Email: acruzts@aol.com

The 2006 19th District Congressional Election - Following the Money Trail

As we first told you last week, the power of the dollar, in this case, campaign dollars, are the driving force in most all elections; national and local. In the race for Texas' 19th District Congressional seat a search of different web resources including the Federal Election Commission has resulted in an eye opening trip down the money trail.

We were also struck by a comment we read in the Abilene Reporter News in which a spokesperson for Congressman Randy Neugebauer, Chanda Wilson, used the word "frugal" to explain why the incumbent Randy Neugebauer did not produce new television ads during this election campaign. "Neugebauer didn't produce any new television ads this election season because the campaign is being frugal with contributions and because issues from the 2004 election are pertinent today, said Allen.

So just to be sure someone had not changed the definition of the word "frugal", we checked our trusty dictionary and no, the term still applies to being very careful with money; some people would say it's a nice way to describe someone who is rather cheap.

So not being able to resist, we did a little research and concluded that in the case of spending campaign contributions, the Neugebauer Campaign has been anything but frugal.

Once again we went to www.opensecrets.org and went through the campaign expenditures section to see just how "frugal" the Neugebauer Campaign has been in 2005 and through 6/30/2006, and picked out a few expenditures that caught our eye.

BUSH PROPOSES MAKING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS 'GUEST VOTERS'

Andy Borowitz

(A satirical commentary) In his boldest stroke to date to break the logjam over illegal immigration, President George W. Bush today proposed a "guest voter" program for illegal immigrants that would make them eligible to vote in the midterm elections on Nov. 7.

Speaking at a press conference at the White House this morning, Mr. Bush said that his "guest voter" proposal would allow illegal immigrants to attain full citizenship status for one day only.

"Illegal immigrants are important to this country, because they do many of the things that other Americans are unwilling to do," the president said. "Like voting." According to the president's plan, undocumented immigrants would be bused to special "naturalization/voting booths" on Nov. 7, where they could become citizens for the day simply by pulling a lever. "Then, when their work is done, we'll make sure they're back on the other side of the border by Nov. 8," Mr. Bush said. "Everyone wins." But Mr. Bush's guest voter program received mixed reviews from

You follow the money trail; and you be the judge...

Expenditure	Amount	Description
Randy Neugebauer	\$205,000	Repay Loan Made by Candidate
Randy Neugebauer	\$153,903	Repayment of Loan/Interest
Bellwether Consulting	\$69,057	Fundraising Consulting
National Republican	\$12,000	Political Contribution
Hay Adams Hotel	\$3,271	Lodging
Cagle Steaks	\$2,381	Fundraising
Galileo Ristorante	\$1,540	Meal Expense
Texas GOP Lunch	\$600	Lucheon
Oceanaire Restaurant	\$240	Meal
Tom DeLay	\$5,000	Legal Defense Fund
Inn of the Mountain Gods	\$487	Hotel Expense
Bob Beauprez	\$1,000	St. Patrick's Day ROMP

And finally, the campaign has given over \$30,000 to several Republican candidates and political campaigns around the country. One of the most peculiar expenses was for something called ROMP. At first we thought it stood for Retain Our Money Program. But when we checked we found out that ROMP is an acronym for Retain Our Majority Program.

Same difference; don't you think? Source: www.opensecrets.org All expenditures listed were reported in 2005 and through June of 2006. Expenditures listed are from reports filed with the Federal Election Commission and are a matter of public record.

congressional Democrats, many of whom believe that glitches in the so-called naturalization/voting booths could lead to invalid election results.

In particular, critics have complained that in an early prototype of the booth, the translation of the phrase "I want to be a U.S. citizen" appeared as "Vote for all Republican candidates with this lever."

Unfazed by the critics, Mr. Bush said he would move forward with this and other immigration proposals, including building a 700-foot fence around Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.).



**CHE GUEVARA
BIO-PICS
READY TO ROLL**

Oscar-winning director Steven Soderbergh is ready to begin work on his long-planned biopics of revolutionary icon Ernesto "Che" Guevara, it was reported Tuesday.

Soderbergh, who won an Academy Award in 2000 for "Traffic," is planning to immortalize Guevara in back-to-back films chronicling the Argentine-born Cuban revolutionary hero's turbulent life and times, Variety reported.

Puerto Rico-born Benicio Del Toro, an Oscar winner alongside Soderbergh for his role in "Traffic," is set to play Guevara.

Production for the two films will get under way next May in Mexico and other Latin American locations, Variety reported. Variety reported that the films will chart Guevara's life from the mid-1950s.

The first film, "The Argentine," centers on Guevara's passage to Cuba from Mexico in 1956, where he helped to topple the pro-U.S. regime of Fulgencio Batista. The second film, "Guerrilla," begins with Guevara's trip to New York, where he spoke at the United Nations in 1964.

Guevara was executed in 1967 after his capture in Bolivia.

**BOB BARKER
TO RETIRE
AFTER 50 YEARS**

Veteran TV host Bob Barker plans to retire from "The Price Is Right" in June after 35 years as emcee of America's longest-running game show and five decades on network television, CBS said on Tuesday.

Barker, 82, who launched his national television career in December 1956 as host of another long-running game show, NBC's popular "Truth or Consequences," said he was ready to take a break from the hectic pace of taping five shows a week.

"One of the reasons for my retirement is it is really a demanding schedule for me at my age," Barker told Reuters, adding that he wanted to devote more time to charitable work.

The tall, lanky entertainer, who grew up on a South Dakota Indian reservation where his mother taught school, got his start in radio and also emceed the Miss USA and Miss Universe Pageants for 21 years.

An avid animal rights activist, Barker resigned from the national pageant circuit in 1988 because producers of those shows refused to remove fur coats from the prize packages.

But the Emmy-winning star is most closely associated with "The Price Is Right," which he has hosted since the program began its current run on CBS in 1972. He is estimated to have awarded more than \$200 million during

its 35th five-sea-Price Is long ago "What's which years, as running on U.S. television.

The show currently airs two half-hour editions weekdays and ranks as the second- and third-most watched broadcasts on daytime television. The later edition averages more than 5.5 million viewers a day, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Show contestants, beckoned to the stage when the announcer calls "Come on down!," compete for prizes by coming as close as they can to guessing the actual value of those prizes without going over.

Barker said his affable, easy-going style in handling players whose exuberance at times borders on hysteria was a skill that came naturally to him but improved with experience. He credited the contestants with keeping the show fresh.

"That game is different with each contestant's personality, and that is what has made it interesting for me," he said. "Working with unrehearsed contestants, creating spontaneous entertainment, that's what I've done for all these years, and I've enjoyed it."

He said the most memorable moment on the show was when a young female contestant's tube top slipped when she jumped up and down with excitement, exposing both breasts.

Barker, one of TV's first game show hosts to let his hair turn naturally gray-white, broke the late Johnny Carson's record for continuous performances on the same network show in April 2002. Carson retired in 1992 after more than 29 years as host of NBC's "The Tonight Show."

CBS spokesman Chris Ender said "The Price Is Right" will continue after Barker leaves, "but it's premature to discuss any transition plans right now. Our focus now will be giving Bob a proper send-off."

**SHAKIRA LEADS BMI'S 2006
LATIN GRAMMY NOMINEES**

BMI songwriter/artist Shakira leads the list of BMI nominees for the 7th Annual Latin Grammy Awards, announced recently from Manhattan's famed Madison Square Garden where the ceremony will take place on Nov. 2. This is the first time the Latin Grammys will be held in New York City.

The Colombian pop sensation collected five nominations in all, including Record of the Year, Best Short Form Music Video and Song of the Year -- a songwriting award -- for "La Tortura," as well as Album of the Year and Best Female Pop Vocal Album for Fijacion Oral Vol. 1. The mega-selling Spanish-language CD, which took home a Grammy for Best Latin Rock/Alternative Album earlier this year, also earned a Best Engineered Album nod for Gustavo Celis, who is himself up for three Latin Grammys.

Mexican singer/songwriter Julieta Venegas (SGAE) came away with a total of four nominations and will compete against Shakira in the Record of the Year and Best Short Form Music Video categories with her song "Me Voy," and for Album of the Year with Sal y Limon, which is also up for Best Alternative Album.

Puerto Rican reggaeton duo Calle 13, made up of half-brothers Eduardo Jose Cabra and Rene Perez, won nominations for Best New Artist and Best Urban Music Album for their self-titled CD; they picked up a third nomination for Best Short



Form Music Video for their song "Atrévete te te."

Taking home two nominations apiece were Inés Gaviña, Mauricio Guerrero, Luis F. Ochoa and Café Tacuba, who joins Venegas in the fight for the Best Alternative Album crown.

Other BMI songwriters and artists who made the Latin Grammy nominees list include Paquito D'Rivera, Pepe Aguilar, Humberto Gatica, Los Horóscopos De Durango, Gustavo Santaolalla, Wisin y Yandel, Don Omar, A.B. Quintanilla III y Los Kumbia Kings, Graciela Beltrán and Kike Santander, to name a few.

Latin pop singer Ricky Martin will be honored the night before the Latin Grammy ceremony (on Nov. 1) as the Latin Recording Academy's Person of the Year during a special star-studded tribute dinner and concert at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers. A portion of the evening's proceeds will benefit Martin's charitable efforts.

Also in the spotlight are Cesar Camargo Mariano and Richie Ray & Bobbie Cruz, who will each receive the 2006 Latin Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award at a special ceremony to be held Nov. 1 at New York's historical Rainbow Room.

The 7th Annual Latin Grammy Awards will be broadcast live on the Spanish-language Univision Network from 8-11 p.m. ET/PT.

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El Editor
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**Pitbull Releases Much-
Anticipated Release
"El Mariel" Oct. 31st**

Best-selling Cuban American MC Pitbull is joined by a star-studded crew of artists and producers on the much-anticipated October 31st release of his highly-anticipated second studio album El Mariel (Diaz Bros./TVT Records). Pharrell (Neptunes, N.E.R.D.) joins Pitbull on Jealouso, while Wyclef Jean guests with Pit on Jungle Fever. Other highlights include Bojangles (with Lil Jon & Ying Yang Twins), Que Tu Sabes d'Eso (featuring Fat Joe), and Dime (where the bilingual Pitbull trades rhymes with popular reggaeton artist Ken-Y on the Lil Jon-produced remix track). Following the popular single Bojangles, Pitbull is gearing up for the release of the album's second single/video, Ay Chico (Lengua Afuera), a steamy call-and-response club anthem.

With the sophomore album, El Mariel, named after the infamous Cuban boatlift that relocated almost 125,000 cubanos to Florida, Pitbull will make the biggest impact a Latino has made in hip-hop since Big Pun. After the success of his gold-selling debut M.I.A.M.I. the music community was having a difficult time placing a label on Pit. "They have this misconception," says the 25-year-old MC. "They'll say, 'He's just this Latin rapper, he's a reggaeton act, he's crunk.' They don't know what to say about me. [After El Mariel] a lot of folks are gonna start saying, 'You gotta watch out for that boy Pit.'"

Last year, Pitbull surpassed gold status for more than 500,000 copies sold of his debut album M.I.A.M.I.: Money Is A Major Issue in the United States. The feat gave Pitbull the biggest-selling bilingual hip-hop debut since Cypress Hill's 1991 self-titled debut, and put him in the rare category of Latino rappers who have achieved major success at English-language radio.



Ingredientes

- 2 libras de espinazo de cerdo cortado en trozos y cocido
- 20 chiles guajillos asados, desvenados, sin semillas y remojados en agua con sal
- 8 chiles mulatos asados, sin semillas, desvenados y remojados en agua con sal
- 1 raja de canela
- 61/2 onzas de manteca de cerdo
- 2 cucharadas de pasas sin semillas
- 1 tortilla cortada en tiras
- 2 cucharadas de ajonjolí tostado
- 2 1/2 onzas de almendras
- 2 onzas de nueces
- 1 hoja de aguacate
- 1 onza de cacahuates (mani)
- 1 rodaja de pan blanco (cuadrado)
- 2 tablillas de chocolate
- 6 clavos de olor
- 11/2 libra de tomates asados, pelados y molidos
- 5 granos de pimienta entera
- 1 cucharada de orégano
- 6 tazas del caldo en que cocinó el pavo
- 1 pavo entero cortado en piezas y cocido

Preparación
Ase en un comal bien caliente ase las semillas de los chiles con las tiras de tortilla hasta que ambos se pongan negros, pero con cuidado de no quemarlos.

Luego, en una sartén derrita la manteca de cerdo y fría las almendras, las nueces, los cacahuates, la tortilla y las semillas; agregue el pan y las especias. Muela estos ingredientes junto con las pasas, el ajonjolí, los chiles y la hoja de aguacate. Fría por unos minutos más y retire la grasa con un papel absorbente. Agregue el tomate, el chocolate, las piezas de pavo, los trozos de espinazo, el orégano y seis tazas del caldo en que cocinó el pavo. Deje hervir el mole y sazone con sal y pimienta. Da para ocho a 10 personas

**Mole negro de
Oaxaca**

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Se Vinculan los Hispanos con Wall Street

Hispanics, Wall Street Shaping a Personal Bond

José de la Isla

La fama que tiene Robert D. Putnam deriva de los estudios académicos que realiza sobre la incidencia cada vez menor de participación en grupos y organizaciones de voluntarios; la participación ahora es la más baja desde comienzos del siglo pasado. La mayor participación a nivel nacional se dio en los años sesenta. Desde entonces las cifras han ido en declive, llegando a los niveles históricamente bajos de la época actual.

El libro de Putnam lleva el título (en inglés) Bowling Alone. (Jugando solo a los bolos).

El problema radica en que ni los grupos de servicio juveniles - Cub Scouts - ni los clubes de voluntarios adultos - Lyons - han dejado de tener el mismo propósito hoy que el que tuvieron en antaño.

Putnam, profesor de la universidad

de ejercer influencia sobre importantes inversores de institución y privados y banqueros de inversión de alto rango y administradores de fondos mutuales, entre los cuales se encuentran fundaciones, para infundir de capital el desarrollo comunitario.

El grupo se estableció en 1999, cuando anterior secretario de vivienda (HUD) Henry Cisneros y entonces presidente y funcionario principal del Concilio Nacional de La Raza, Raúl Yzaguirre, convocaron a unos treinta dirigentes empresariales para idear un nuevo enfoque en cuanto a la vinculación de empresas con la comunidad hispana, para fines de fomento comunitario.

Hoy el grupo cuenta con casi cien miembros que invierten en la NAA y sus programas de becas. Los participantes institucionales mayores

By José de la Isla
Robert D. Putnam is famous for his academic studies about how people are joining volunteer groups and organizations less and less than any time since the turn of the last century. The nation had the most joiners by the 1960s. The numbers have steadily declined ever since, until current historical low levels.

Putnam's book on non-joiners was entitled, Bowling Alone.

The problem is the Cub Scouts and Lyons Clubs don't seem to serve the same purpose now as they did before.

In his lectures, the Harvard professor takes his insights a step further. Concerned about a nation of non-participants, Putnam is still optimistic about the long run. Last summer, expounding for a Houston audience, he differentiated between two types of associations. He said there are those that "bond," he said. They create solidarity and group identity. And there are those that "bridge," helping people cross over into new associations and relationships.

Knowing that, you would think that a business conference on Wall Street would be the last place in the world where the search for these warm and fuzzy relationships would seem pertinent. But, in fact, that's what's going on. It might be a signpost to the future.

Last week, the New America Alliance held its sixth annual Wall Street summit meeting. The Latino business group was formed to influence major institutional and private equity investors and high-level investment bankers and fund managers, including foundations, to capitalize community development.

The group was formed in 1999 when former HUD secretary Henry Cisneros and Raúl Yzaguirre, National Council of La Raza president and CEO at the time, called together some 30 business leaders to form a new approach to helping businesses reach out to the Hispanic community.

Today, the group numbers nearly a hundred members who invest in NAA and its scholarship programs. The largest institutional participants pay upwards of \$25,000 to join.

Among the 13 corporate partners are some of the nation's largest financial firms - including Goldman Sachs, Citigroup, UBS, Washington Mutual, Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch - and pharmaceutical giant Pfizer.

The California State Teachers Retirement System, representing about \$88.1 billion, and the New York City fund, with a \$95 billion portfolio, are the newest NAA members.

The intense interest in Latino businesses stems from their number, expected to grow to nearly 3.2 million by 2010. Alone, Latino businesses represent about \$500 billion in revenues.

In announcing the pension-fund memberships, Christopher J. Ailman, CalSTRS's chief investment officer, and New York City Comptroller William Thompson emphasized how important having "personal" relationships goes with identifying the long-term investment opportunity.

It matters to institutional funds "how they look at Latinos and how they (Latinos) can broaden our opportunities," said Fred R. Buenrostro, CalPERS's CEO.

José H. Villarreal, a partner with law firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer

and Feld and NAA's incoming chairman of the board, told me his group's agenda "is a work in progress." However, outside the deal-making language of business, the organization is concordant in having both a civic purpose to give back to the community and educating Wall Street on how to help Latino businesses reach new plateaus.

Villarreal referred to NAA as having "a unique platform." It is clearly that in the business world. Its differentness comes from bonding Latino business leaders and bridging them to relations with the world's capital centers.

Likewise, the New America Al-



liance also pumps new knowledge into the old-boy network like a transfusion. Deals for the new economy are coming about through this Latino networking approach, including a new Los Angeles-area bank, community movie theaters and, of course, fast-food franchises, tech and financial services.

Put another way, bonding and bridging, when it's called "social capital," is actually greasing the skids for money capital formation.

It's comforting to know that deals are done among the business players when they get the warm fuzzies about each other and the opportunity.

Put another way, bonding and bridging, when it's called "social capital," is actually greasing the skids for money capital formation.

It's comforting to know that deals are done among the business players when they get the warm fuzzies about each other and the opportunity.

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de Harvard, en sus discursos lleva aún más allá su percepción del problema.

Al expresarse preocupado sobre una nación de personas que no participan en grupos de voluntarios, Putnam no deja de tener optimismo sobre lo que puede darse a largo plazo. En un discurso en Houston el verano pasado, hizo diferencia entre dos tipos de asociaciones. Dijo que había las que "vinculan"; que crean lazos de solidaridad y de identificación de grupo. También hay las que "hacen puente", facilitando el incremento de miembros de nuevas asociaciones y relaciones.

Sabiendo esto, se pensaría que una conferencia de negocios en Wall Street sería el lugar menos pensado en el que la búsqueda de estas relaciones acogedoras y cálidas fuera pertinente. Sin embargo, en efecto, es lo que ocurre. Tal vez marque un hito para el futuro.

La semana pasada, la New America Alliance (NAA por sus siglas en inglés) llevó a cabo su sexta cumbre anual de Wall Street. El grupo de empresa latino se formó con el fin

pagan más de \$25,000 para hacerse miembros de la alianza.

Entre los trece socios corporativos se encuentran algunas de las empresas financieras más grandes de la nación - entre ellas Goldman Sachs, Citigroup, UBS, Washington Mutual, Bloomberg y Merrill Lynch - y la empresa gigante de farmacéuticos, Pfizer.

Los miembros más recientes son dos fondos de pensiones -- el California State Teachers Retirement System, que representa unos \$88,1 mil millones, y el New York City Fund, con una carpeta de valor de \$95 mil millones.

El interés intenso en empresas latinas nace del número que hay, que se anticipa aumentará a unos 3,2 millones para el 2010. Como grupo, las empresas latinas representan ingresos de \$500 mil millones.

Al anunciar los nuevos miembros, Christopher J. Ailman, encargado principal de inversiones del sistema de jubilación de maestros de California, y administrador de la ciudad de Nueva York, William Thompson,

Villarreal explicó que la NAA tiene una posición especial, lo cual se ve con claridad en el mundo de los negocios. Su diferencia de otros grupos radica en la vinculación de dirigentes empresariales latinos y en servir de puente para relacionarlos con los centros de capital globales.

De igual manera, la New America Alliance también lleva nuevos conocimientos a la argolla cerrada de empresarios, así como funciona una transfusión de sangre. De esta red de latinos salen negocios para la nueva economía, entre los cuales están un banco en el área de Los Angeles, salas de cine comunitarias, y claro, concesiones de comida rápida, al igual que servicios de tecnología y de finanzas.

En otras palabras, el vincular y relacionar, cuando se denomina "capital social", en realidad facilita la formación de capitales monetarios.

Da tranquilidad saber que se realizan transacciones entre participantes empresariales cuando se sienten acogidos el uno por el otro y por la oportunidad de hacer dinero.

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Los sitios de votación para **TODOS** los zonas para el día de elección se han movido de su localización anterior a **CUALESQUIERA** de los sitios enumerados abajo para la Elección General y Especial.

Las horas de votación serán de las 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., martes, 7 de noviembre, 2006.

Para preguntas, por favor llame a la Oficina de Elecciones, 775-1969.

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Dallas Cowboy Preview

Bill Parcells won't tell you he expected Tony Romo to play this well in his first start since a 2002 Division I-AA playoff game at Eastern Illinois.

And he doesn't know yet if this was the beginning of the Romo era or just one lucky game.

But he will tell you he is not surprised by Romo's success, passing for 270 yards and leading the Cowboys to a 35-14 victory over the Panthers.

"You don't know what to expect exactly," Parcells said. "You just hope the course of action you decided to take is for the good of the team, and you hope it turns out that way. I told you all along, I'm hopeful the path we chose to get him ready for pro football was correct. I'm hoping that turns out to be the right one, too. I still don't know for us other than the fact if we had done it a lot sooner I don't think it would have worked. And I don't think he thinks it would have worked now. He may have thought then, that it might have, but I don't think so now."

Parcells carefully groomed Romo for this moment.

He watched him mature from practice squad player in 2003 to third-string quarterback in 2004 to backup in 2005 and to now being ready to be the starter.

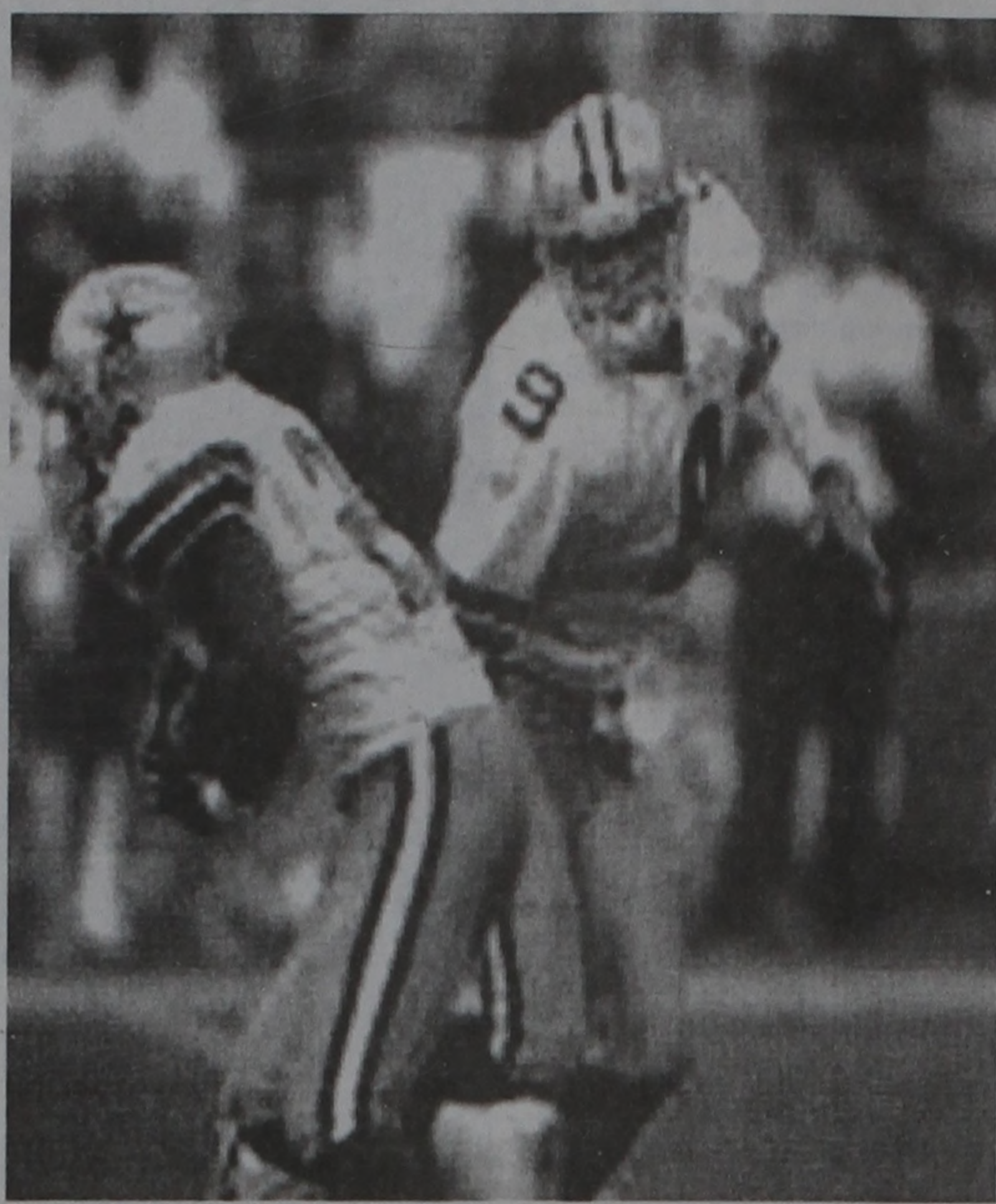
Sure, Romo has more mobility than the benched Drew Bledsoe. He also has a quicker release. Both of those characteristics showed against the Panthers and played a role in the Cowboys' victory.

But mostly Romo was prepared for this. He had put in the work. And although he had his ill-advised moments and will continue have moments because of his inexperience, he proved that the game is not too big for him.

"Look, Tony is like any young kid," Parcells said. "He's been around here, he knows what this process has been better than anyone. He knows he's been waiting in the wings. He knows that opportunity won't stay forever either. I think he's mature enough guy and a smart enough guy to realize that."

Redskins report:

With starting quarterback Mark Brunell missing a third consecutive practice due to pulled rib muscles and with young quarterback Tony Romo having been so impressive in his first start for Dallas on Sunday night, Jason Campbell was the focus



of a lot of attention as the Redskins returned to work Monday after a four-day break that ended their bye week.

"I'm getting more and more comfortable," said Campbell, who split the first-team snaps with veteran backup Todd Collins after taking the bulk of that work in the previous two practices, Oct. 24-25. "Doing it last week, I was able to carry over things to this week. It made me feel like I wasn't an outsider looking in, that I was actually in the group. You can know everything you need to know, but you have to build that chemistry."

Campbell, for whom Washington traded three picks to move up and draft in 2005, was impressed with Romo, who waited more than three seasons for the chance to start for Dallas.

"(Romo) played with a lot of poise," said Campbell, who has yet to play a snap in his 23 career games. "That's something you have to do when your first time comes. No matter how many starts you've had, you have to play aggressive ... You've just got to stay patient, stay confident, stay positive until your number is called. You go through different trials in life. Hopefully (I'm a backup) for a reason and it will pay off one day. I've seen guys thrown in there who weren't ready. I've seen guys who've had to wait ... (San Diego's) Philip Rivers is having a good year (after sitting for two seasons). I support Mark every way. Until my time comes, I will always support

him."

Brunell said that he expects "to be back strong" for Tuesday's practice and that he'll start against Dallas. Coach Joe Gibbs said that there has been no change in the order of his quarterbacks in which Collins would play if Brunell were hurt during a game while Campbell would start if Brunell is out long term. Gibbs added that he talks to Campbell "a lot about patience," but said, "Anytime Jason gets to work, it's good for him and good for us."

Defensive end Renaldo Wynn said that changing quarterbacks can be good.

"Sometimes you just need something new, a changeup, a little bit of a spark," Wynn said. "Romo brings some new energy, gives them a better chance to be successful. His first time certainly worked out well for him, and it will continue to build confidence in him and his team. He's still learning, but he does get out of the pocket. He made four first downs with his legs (against the Panthers). It was a risk, but it looks good for them right now."

Asked if the Redskins might get a similar lift by benching the inconsistent Brunell for Campbell, receiver Santana Moss remained fully supportive of the 36-year-old veteran.

"I have 150 percent confidence in the guy throwing the ball," Moss said. "It's not something we need to get riled about."

Inside Slant

After spending some time belittling his team following disappointing defeats earlier in the season, Texas Tech coach Mike Leach has rushed to the Red Raiders' defense.

He first made thinly veiled comments about the officiating in Tech's 35-31 loss to Texas after the Oct. 28 game. Then he acknowledged he would send the Big 12 office a tape of the calls he considered questionable.

The entire time, Leach made an admirable effort not to rip the officials, a move that could draw a fine since the league prohibits coaches from publicly criticizing referees.

"Those that have a copy of the game or recorded it and things like that, they're going to arrive at various opinions that they can express accordingly," Leach said. "This, after all, is America, and I'd encourage them to do so."

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported that Texas Tech prepared a tape containing 18 calls, no-calls or rulings that the Red Raiders coaches disputed from the game against Texas. Leach said he rarely sends tapes to the league office and said the only other time this season was after an overtime win over UTEP.



Never did Leach hint at a conspiracy theory, which was part of a tirade that provoked the Big 12 to fine Kansas coach Mark Mangino \$5,000 after he complained his team was jobbed in a 2004 loss to Texas because of BCS implications for the Longhorns.

Fact is, Leach was careful not to say anything inflammatory. It was obvious, however, that he was disturbed by several reviews, as well as 14 penalties (12 were accepted) assessed on the Red Raiders, who built a 21-0 lead over the Longhorns before failing to score in the second half.

While the league probably will do little to validate the protest, the fact Leach is sticking up for his team following an impressive per-

formance could give the Red Raiders (5-4, 2-3) some spark for their stretch run.

SCOUTING THE OFFENSE

During a red-hot first half in which he threw for 364 yards against Texas while helping Texas Tech build a 31-21 lead, QB Graham Harrell may have been sharper than any quarterback that coach Mike Leach has inserted into his spread attack. Leach even said as much. The rapid throws that kept the Longhorns off-balance prove Harrell has the talent to run the attack to its full potential.

SCOUTING THE DEFENSE

The inability of the Texas Tech defense to preserve a 21-0 start against Texas, which even included an interception return for a touchdown by LB Fletcher Session, was a wicked blow. The Red Raiders had few solutions once Texas QB Colt McCoy got rolling, as the freshman threw touchdowns to four receivers.

QUOTE TO NOTE

"We had some costly mistakes on some of our drives and some costly penalties that put us in bad situations. We had too many third-and-longs, and those are tough situations to convert against a team like Texas." - Texas Tech QB Graham Harrell.



Adam Lara makes presentation on Immigration Reform at LHCC luncheon that was held on Fri., Oct. 27, that was attended by civic leaders and representatives of elected officials from Lubbock and the area.

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- Conservative Democrat
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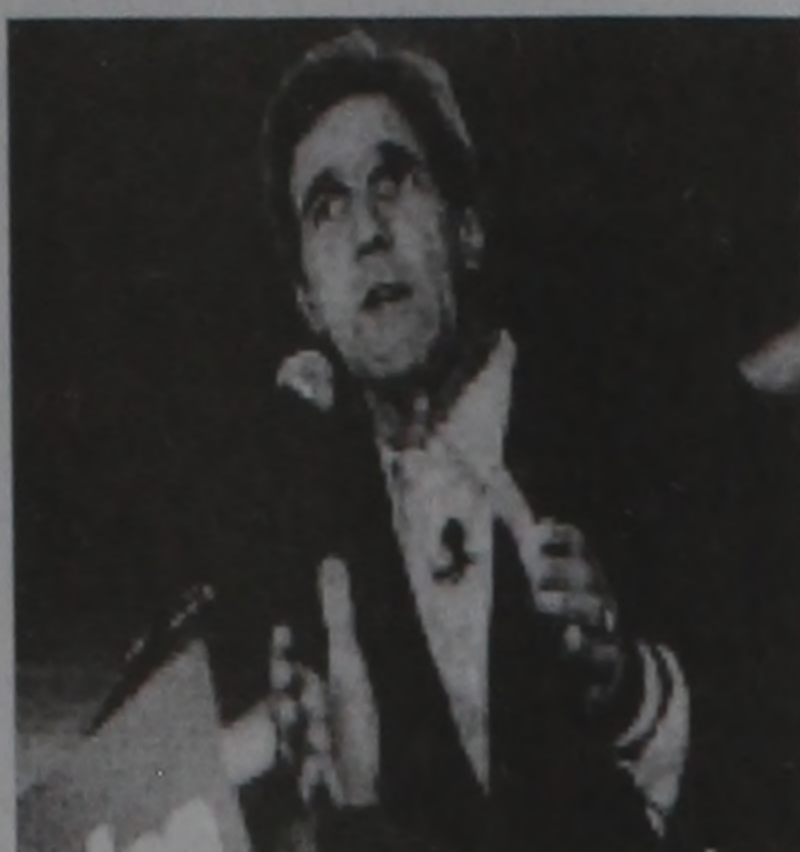
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White House-and Dems Look for Kerry Apology

A few Democratic candidates joined Republicans Wednesday in pressing John Kerry to apologize for a comment critics said appeared disrespectful of U.S. troops as several Kerry campaign appearances were canceled.



GOP activists and state party officials, called "Apologize."

"Whatever the intent, Senator Kerry was wrong to say what he said," said Democratic Rep. Harold Ford Jr., running for Senate in Tennessee.

"Sen. Kerry's remarks were poorly worded and just plain stupid," said Montana Senate President Jon Tester, a Democrat trying to unseat GOP Sen. Conrad Burns. "He owes our troops and their families an apology."

"I'm sorry he did what he did. But I think the issue ... we want to make sure it doesn't confuse the subject of the war in Iraq," Democratic Rep. Ben Cardin, running for Senate in Maryland, said on CNN.

The White House didn't back down from its call for a Kerry apology. White House press secretary Tony Snow said Kerry "put gasoline on the fire" of an already sizzling midterm election campaign. And the Republican National Committee released a Web ad, to be e-mailed to

2004 race for the White House, and injected last-minute fireworks into a taut midterm election fight between Republicans trying to cling to control of Congress and Democrats striving to win it back.

With each party looking for any advantage in a race expected to turn in large measure on the unpopular war in Iraq, Kerry campaign appearances in Iowa, Minnesota and Pennsylvania were canceled.

A spokesman for Democratic congressional candidate Braley in Iowa said Braley had decided independently to cancel an event with Kerry scheduled for Thursday. Braley, who is running against Republican Mike Whalen, said in a statement that the White House and Kerry should stop bickering and focus on how to change course in Iraq.

Meredith Salsbery, a spokeswoman for congressional candidate Tim Walz, said Kerry made the final decision but acknowledged campaign officials were worried that the controversy would distract from his effort to unseat incumbent Republican Rep. Gil Gutknecht.

Kerry spokesman David

Wade confirmed he no longer would appear at a Philadelphia rally on Wednesday for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bob Casey.

"We made a decision not to allow the Republican hate machine to use Democratic candidates as proxies in their distorted spin war," Wade said.

Kerry, meanwhile, sought frantically to contain the damage — to his party in next week's elections and his own potential repeat run for the White House in 2008. He and some Democrats viewed the fracas as a key test of a lesson learned in the 2004 race — that he responded too slowly when hit with unsubstantiated allegations about his Vietnam war record from a group called Swift Boat Veterans for Truth.

Kerry's office released a supportive statement from retired Lt. Gen. Claudia J. Kennedy, the first female three-star general in the Army and a supporter of his 2004 bid against Bush. "When it comes to Iraq, he's right to stand up against baseless attacks, and right to keep fighting for a better course for our troops and our country," she said.

Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York, head of the Democratic campaign effort, called the White House attacks on Kerry an effort by Bush "to divert attention from his failed Iraq policy."

"Instead of going on television attacking John Kerry and everyone else under the sun, the president ought to be sitting at his desk coming up with a plan for Iraq," Schumer said.

The head of the Democratic party also downplayed Kerry's remarks. "Kerry made a blooper. Bloopers happen."

Howard Dean told reporters in Burlington, Vt. Snow said Kerry — not the White House — was the one who "whipped this up into a big issue."

Bush, campaigning in Georgia Tuesday night, said Kerry's statement was "insulting and it is shameful" hours after Snow unleashed a harsh attack on the Massachusetts senator.

Kerry told a hastily arranged news conference in Seattle: "I apologize to no one for my criticism of the president and of his broken policy."

But he also said the comment was "a botched joke about the president and the president's people, not about

the troops ... and they know that's what I was talking about."

What Kerry said Monday at a campaign rally was this: "You know, education, if you make the most of it, you study hard, you do your homework and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. If you don't, you get stuck in Iraq."

A Kerry spokeswoman, Amy Brundage, said later that the senator's prepared text had called for him to say: "Do you know where you end up if you don't study, if you aren't smart, if you're intellectually lazy? You end up getting us stuck in a war in Iraq. Just ask President Bush."

Sen. John McCain said Wednesday he wasn't sure "how you could construe" Kerry's comment as a joke. Calling Kerry "my friend," the Arizona Republican said, "I've found that if it is just a botched joke then apologize and move on."

"As it stands, he owes an apology to the men and women who are serving in Iraq out of patriotism and love of country, not because of any academic deficiencies," McCain said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

On Coming Out: the Courageous & the Cowards

By Bessy Reyna

Oct. 11, 1987, when half a million people marched on Washington for lesbian and gay rights, has become synonymous with the struggle for gay rights in the United States. After the success of that march, activists Jean O'Leary and Rob Eichberg got together with members of several gay civil rights groups in Manassas, Va., to encourage gay people to "come out of the closet." National Coming Out Day, founded in 1988, is now celebrated all over the nation and in other countries.

I spent part of National Coming Out Day this year attending a lecture at the Rainbow Center at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. The speaker was Puerto Rican native Pedro Julio Serrano, communications coordinator of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in New York.

Serrano spoke movingly of being 19 and telling his parents that he was gay. He was ordered to leave their house immediately.

Coming out can be one of the most difficult events in a gay person's life. Most of us remember the exact moment when we took the step that would change our lives forever and the anxiety as we waited for a positive or negative response from our parents, siblings and friends.

It took Serrano's parents' reversal of fortune a year later, and his willingness to give them the support they had denied him, for them to reunite. His parents are now very involved with the gay rights movement in Puerto Rico.

In 1998 Serrano was the first openly gay political candidate to run for a seat in Puerto Rico's House of Representatives. Despite a campaign against him of threats that made him fear for his life, he did not drop out of the race. Instead, the experience motivated him to

create the pro-gay organization "Puerto Rico Para Todos."

Serrano's courage contrasts with the hypocrisy of U.S. Rep. Mark Foley, who resigned from Congress Sept. 29 after the ABC news disclosure of sexually charged e-mails he sent to congressional male pages. His attorney, David Roth, made outrageous excuses to explain his behavior, stating that Foley was an alcoholic and that he had been molested by a clergyman as a teenager.

The day after his resignation, Foley publicly acknowledged that he is gay. It took a national scandal for him to admit a "secret" known in political circles for more than 10 years.

When asked on Oct. 11 about House Speaker Dennis Hastert's knowledge of Foley's behavior and belated investigation of the matter, President Bush replied, "I appreciated Speaker Hastert's strong declaration of his desire to get to the bottom of it. You know, we want to make sure that we

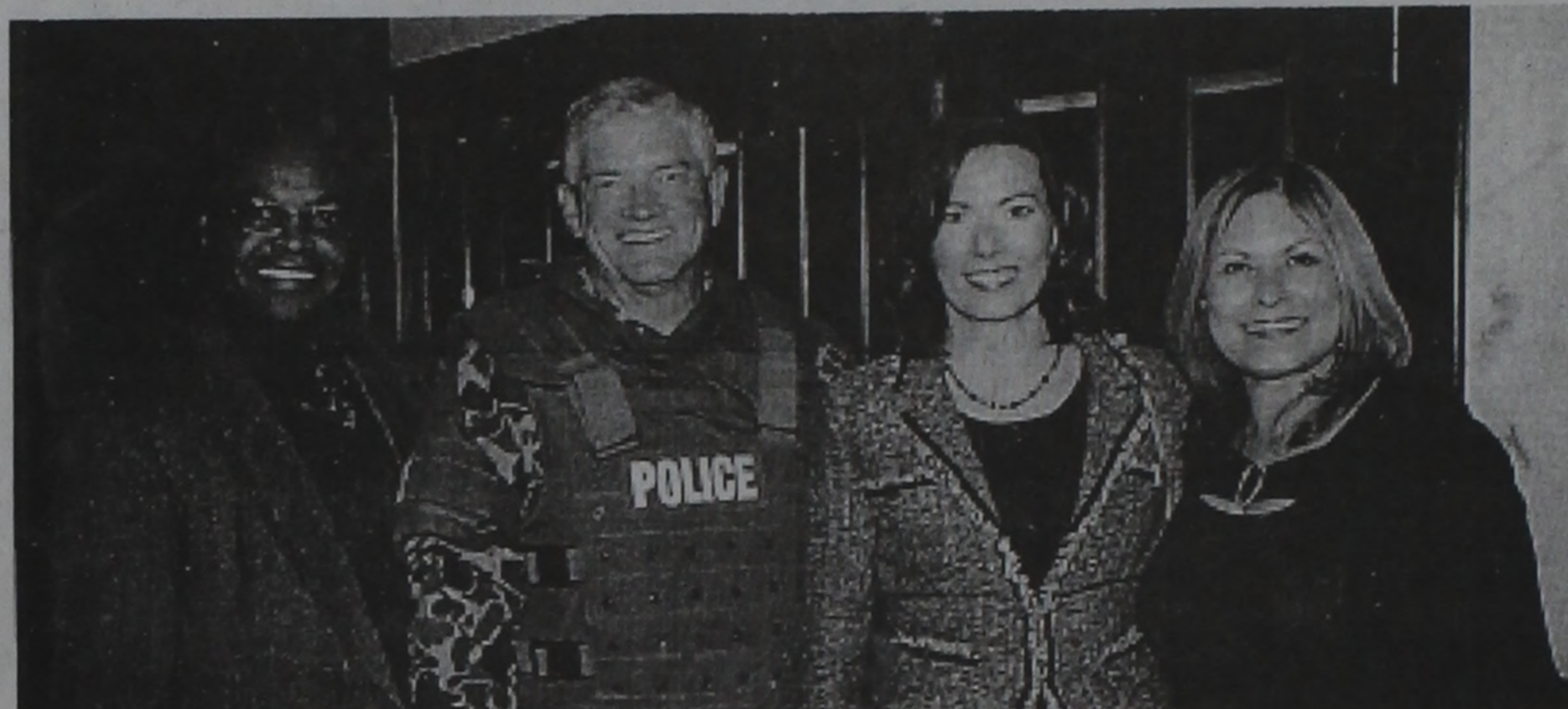
understand what Republicans knew and what Democrats knew in order to find the facts."

It is ironic that President Bush held his press conference on National Coming Out Day. It is even more ironic for a man who has spent so much energy and so many taxpayers' dollars trying to get a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, to be so flip as to say that "this Foley issue bothers a lot of people, including me."

"Bothers" doesn't even begin to express how most of us, gay and straight, feel about Foley's conduct and the unmasking of the hypocritical actions of those involved with an administration that has demonized gays to obtain votes.

Those who knew about Foley's immoral behavior and didn't act in a decisive, timely manner should not be allowed to continue pretending they have a monopoly on family values.

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The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce celebrated its Fifth Annual Celebrity Roast on Thursday, Oct. 27, at the Lubbock County Club. Our friend and Mayor David Miller was our Roast Honoree. Attorney Jason Medina with the Law Firm of Kevin Glasheen did such a wonderful job as Master of Ceremonies that the Mayor offered him a job for his next campaign, but he didn't say what he was running for or from. Shown here with Jason is David Miller in his Military Police uniform, Dr. Gary Schwartz, former friend of the Mayor and Mr. Matt Miller who is placing an ad in the Thrifty Nickel for adoptive parents! Other Roasters were Jim Douglass, Albert Hernandez and Steve Verett.



Mayor David Miller, Roast Honoree during the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Celebrity Roast in picture with Councilwoman Phyllis Jones and Councilman Floyd Price. Price congratulating or giving condolences as our Mayor demonstrates his wonderful sportsmanship, also in photo is Velma Medina LHCC Chair. Our most sincere thanks to David and Jayne Ann as well as to the Roasters: Mr. Steve Verett, Mr. Albert Hernandez, Mr. Gary Schwartz, Mr. Jim Douglass and Mr. Matt Miller. A special thanks to Mr. Jason Medina, Law Office of Kevin Glasheen, for a great job as Master of Ceremonies.

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Bell Promises to End College Tuition Deregulation

Democratic governor candidate Chris Bell pledged today to halt tuition deregulation that he said is causing college costs to soar out of reach.

Bell visited the heavily Democratic and Hispanic Rio Grande Valley as the final week of campaigning in the five-way governor's race began. Bell's appearance in the Valley was limited to a news conference in the law offices of state Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa's law office.

The other three major candidates fanned out across the state and country, with Gov. Rick Perry making three stops in the Panhandle and independent Carole Keeton Strayhorn visiting West

Texas. Independent Kinky Friedman traveled to New York to tape an appearance on CBS's "Late Night with David Letterman" that is scheduled to air Friday.

"Texas has fallen off track in bringing more Hispanics into organizations of higher education," Bell said, flanked by Hinojosa, two students, and Cindy Gonzalez, a Valley native who was Gov. Rick Perry's former higher education director. She said she had flipped loyalties after seeing tuition skyrocket and student scholarship programs such as TEXAS Grant suffer cuts.

"It was supposed to be done at a slow rate," she said. "Deregulation for these

students was at hurricane force wind increases."

Hinojosa, a Democrat, said he planned to propose a three-year moratorium on tuition increases, followed by an annual increase that would be capped at 5 percent.

Bell said that as governor he would support the bill and make up costs through casino gambling and other revenue sources.

Perry campaign spokesman Robert Black said Gonzalez was a "formal disgruntled staffer." He said state-controlled tuition would require a tax increase.

"College tuition at Texas public universities is about the national average, which

means it is a bargain nationally," he said. "The fact is to provide a good college education it costs money."

He called casino gambling a "red herring."

"Casino gambling will never pass in the state of Texas," he said.

In other developments, an anti-toll road political action committee launched an ad Monday encouraging voters to elect independent Strayhorn because she's "the only candidate with a no land-grab alternative" to Perry's Trans-Texas Corridor.

The cartoon created by People for Efficient Transportation will appear on Central Texas cable channels until Election Day. Strayhorn gave

the group \$15,000, but the group's founder, Sal Costello, said small donors are responsible for the \$12,000 he used to buy the ad.

Strayhorn also stuck to an education theme in Amarillo, Midland and Odessa, proposing to send all Texas high school graduates to technical or community college for two years for free.

Strayhorn, the state comptroller who ran for that office as a Republican but decided to run as an independent for governor, doesn't have the benefit of a major party's machinery to turn out crowds for large political rallies. So she was holding news conferences on college campuses Monday.

The students at Bell's news conference said tuition costs were threatening their educations.

semester because I was working up north in Minnesota to save money to buy textbooks," said Micheel Prado, a 22-year-old senior studying accounting at the University of Texas-Brownsville.

Prado said her tuition had gone up about \$500 in the past year, from \$1,500 for the semester to more than \$2,000. She said she was not able to foot that bill and pay \$600 for textbook



Subscribase Hoy A El Editor

Hispanic Candidates Vie for Top Offices in 38 States



Hispanic candidates are competing in 38 states for the nation's top federal and state offices in Election 2006, according to the 2006 Election Profile released today by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund. The Profile presents the results of an analysis of all candidates running for Congress, statewide office, and state legislative seats in the November general election.

"Latinos have mounted campaigns in every region of the nation - from the Southwest, to the Northeast, to the Deep South, to New England, to the Midwest and America's 'heartland,'" said Arturo Vargas, NALEO Educational Fund executive director. This widespread competitiveness reveals the growing Latino political maturity," Vargas added. "Latinos are demonstrating that they can raise campaign money, form political networks, organize their voting communities, and obtain key endorsements."

According to the NALEO Educational Fund's analysis, in 1998, Hispanics were running for federal and state office in just over half of the nation's states (26). In Election 2006, that number has grown to 38, an increase of 46 percent.

(D), who served in Congress from 1983 - 1997.

New Mexico will see some of the most interesting races for statewide office, as candidates in five of the seven state executive seat contests are Hispanic. Governor Bill Richardson (D) has excellent prospects for re-election. In the Secretary of State race, Bernalillo County Clerk Mary Herrera (D) faces former Albuquerque City Council President Vickie Perea (R); State Representative and Special Prosecutor Hector Balderas (D) is in a competitive contest against CPA Lorenzo Garcia (R) for State Auditor; CPA and business owner Demesia Padilla (R) faces a tough battle against James B. Lewis (D) for State Treasurer; and Jim Baca (D) is challenging incumbent Patrick Lyons (R) for State Public Lands Commissioner.

Minnesota will gain its first female Hispanic State Senator, as Patricia Torres-Ray (D) is running in a competitive contest for an

open seat in South Minneapolis' District 62.

The total number of Hispanics in lower State Houses will increase by four, from 178 to 182. The net gain will stem from victories by Hispanic Republicans, including Peter Lopez (R) in District 127, west and south of Albany in New York. If elected, Lopez would become the first Hispanic Republican in that state's Assembly.

Analysis of the potential lower State House gains also reveals the political progress of Hispanic candidates in states with emerging Hispanic communities. In the nine states with traditional Hispanic population concentrations (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, and Texas), the Profile projects a net loss of two seats. However, in the other states, the Profile's data indicate a net gain of six seats. "Latinos in states with emerging communities have laid an important foundation for their continued efforts to achieve full political empowerment," said Vargas.

"The Watershed Election"

I could write long and hard about how RANDY NEUGEBAUER has enriched himself in office, like DENNIS HASTERT and so many others, using public office for personal gain. ROBERT RICKETTS is a much better choice...and if you vote for CARL ISETT or JIM LANDTROOP, you might as well be voting for TOM CRADDICK. PEARLIE MAYFIELD and JOE HEFLIN are people-oriented candidates who would definitely vote against CRADDICK for Speaker.

I have been very impressed with the candidacy of JOHN MILLER, who is running against DELWIN JONES...he is highly qualified, and would also be a breath of fresh air.

County Judge TOM HEAD has always been fair and even-handed, and straight ticket Democrats will miss voting for him. It is a shame that PATTI JONES, the incumbent County Commissioner for Precinct Four, is likely to win against SMITTY SMITH, a good and sincere candidate...she has consistently voted to expand government and raise taxes and fees. In the race for County Commissioner, Precinct Two, very little is known about MARK HEINRICH, the Republican, and JUSTIN MARTIN, the Democrat, but I believe that both are good men...you can't go wrong with either one. Young BRIAN THORNTON, who is running for Justice of the Peace, deserves credit for running for office in his youth...but VICTOR HERNANDEZ's wife AURORA deserves support.

This may surprise folks after my long advocacy of package liquor in North Lubbock, but I believe that the passage of the liquor proposal in Wolfthor will NOT be good for North, East and Central Lubbock...it would create another Strip on the South side, and the money would continue to flow to those areas out of our communities. I hope that it is defeated for that reason.

I have long opposed voting a straight party ticket...for example, if a voter choose the Democratic Party line, he is in effect voting for the Republican judges and justices who are only opposed by Libertarians...I always vote for the Libertarians against an incumbent Republican or Democrat who is not opposed by another major party nominee. Look for these folks in the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals races. Unfortunately, our local judges and DA are totally unopposed...not a healthy sign for the Republic...it is not good for a healthy democracy.

Whatever your persuasions, VOTE...even if you think that your vote might be HACKED to pieces by the new electronic voting machines, to disappear in cyberspace...or even if you are disgusted with the "Super Precincts", the latest assault on neighborhood representation. Believe me...HAND-COUNTED PAPER BALLOTS are coming...and some day, neighborhoods are going to assert themselves and end this horrid "Super Precinct" experiment. The day after November 7 is going to be intriguing...STAY TUNED!!!

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Family Promise Volunteer
Married 30 years, two sons
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