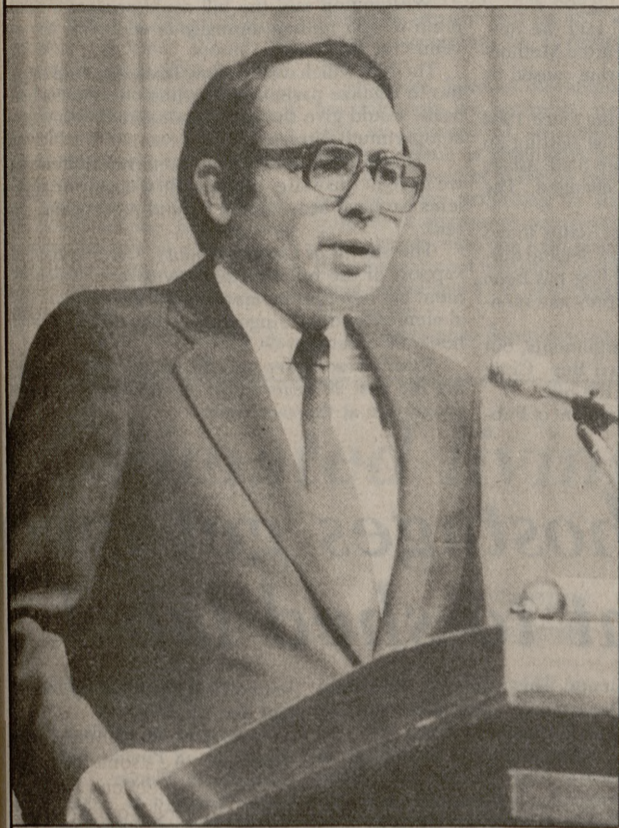


Local

U.S. — Mexican border is 'a great strategic frontier'



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

By FRANK L. CHRISTLIEB
Battalion Staff

The United States must recognize that the U.S.-Mexican border presents "great opportunities for mutual cooperation between the two nations and the rest of the Western Hemisphere," a former White House chief of protocol said Monday night.

Ambassador Abelardo Valdez, who has held several important government positions and is now a visiting professor at Texas A&M University, told about 300 people in the MSC Ballroom that the border is "one of the great strategic frontiers of the world" and that it links the two countries in a "seamless web of economic, political and people-to-people relationships."

Valdez said Texas plays an important role in trade and investment between countries in the western hemisphere. The fact that 50 percent of last year's \$27.7 billion in U.S.-Mexico trade passed through the state shows Texas' economic importance in the hemisphere, he said.

Valdez said the United States and Mexico have common economic, political and social problems and that the border itself presents problems which must be solved through joint efforts of both countries.

As a partial solution to some of these problems, Valdez prop-

osed the creation of a free trade zone along the border which would increase free trade and economic cooperation with Mexico and other Latin American countries. He said this plan, which he has already presented to the U.S. Trade Advisory Committee, would create a zone extending 200 miles into each country and running from Brownsville to San Diego.

Any product manufactured in this zone, Valdez said, would be able to travel duty-free throughout the area. He said the zone would be a "mutually beneficial step" which would stimulate and attract industry, create new jobs and provide "new opportunities for U.S.-Mexico joint ventures ... using the best U.S. and Mexican skills, resources and technologies to attack traditional economic stagnation."

Valdez said the trade zone could be the first step toward an "inter-American equivalent of the European common market" with its potential for stimulation of this hemisphere's economies.

"This proposal is not a definitive blueprint for the establishment of a free trade zone between the United States and Mexico," Valdez said, "nor is it a definitive analysis of its potential for both countries. It is ... a call for action to meet critical economic needs in the United States and Mexico in an effective manner."

A 200 mile free-trade zone would benefit Texas and Mexico by removing restrictions on imports and exports within the zone, said Ambassador and former chief of protocol Abelardo Valdez in the MSC Ballroom Monday night.

Pre-law society to give mock admission exam

By CARLA SUTTER
Battalion Reporter

The Texas A&M Pre-law Society is giving a mock Law School Admissions Test Saturday for students trying to get into law school. The test will be given in 103 Zachry at 8 a.m.

"We're hoping for a large turnout, but we won't know until registration closes how many are taking the test," said Marilyn Mungerson, a Pre-law Society officer. This is the first time the test has been given at Texas A&M University.

The exam is the same one that was used last October by the LSAT. The Law School Data Assembly Service provides a copy of the test and the correct answers for anyone who requests it after the exam has been given.

The LSDAS is an information gathering service that compiles the students' test scores and information sheets and sends them to

the different law schools upon request of the student.

"By giving the mock exam the student is able to see what the test will be like, it's not unethical," Mungerson said.

"The directions are the hardest to follow," Mungerson said. "If the student is able to familiarize himself with the test beforehand, then he won't have to spend so much time figuring out what the directions mean when it's the real thing."

The answers will be called out at the end of the test. "We're asking the students to bring their calculators so we can show them how to compute their scores," Mungerson said.

The test is based on the same format as the Scholastic Aptitude Test, only it's much harder, she said. There is a math section that covers basic geometry and algebra and a section on logical reasoning. A situation is given, and the student has to find the major problem

to be solved and minor problems that surround it, she said.

Registration is in 100 Harrington and costs \$5. The deadline for registering is Wednesday.

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Oilers to meet Ag stars tonight

The Houston Oilers basketball team will meet the Aggieland All-stars in G. Rollie White Coliseum tonight at 7:30.

Scheduled to play for the Oilers are: Mike Reinfeldt, Greg Stemrick, Ronnie Coleman, Carl Mauck, Mike Barber, Robert Brazile, Tim Wilson and Gifford Neilsen. The Oiler players will be signing autographs during half-time, and photographs can be taken during the game.

The Aggieland All-stars team includes University and community personalities.

The basketball game is sponsored by the first-year class of the

College of Veterinary Medicine. Proceeds will pay for the annual fall barbeque given in honor of the

new vet students. Tickets are available in Rudder Box Office.

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