



Muhammad Yunus. Barack Obama. The victims of Darfur: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The American military. Immigrants.

Even Mark Foley or Borat, in the tasteless category.

Any one of these choices, and countless others, would have made more sense as Time Magazine's 2006 Person of the Year.

You could *even* make an argument for Tara Conner, the still-crowned boozy Miss USA, as Time's (Clueless) Person of the Year.

But You, We, Us, Me? Please.

Time exhibited the most flaccid judgment in its 79-year history of

of the global media, for founding and framing the new digital democracy, for working for nothing and beating the pros at their own game."

How do We do all this? By using MySpace, YouTube, blogs and Wikipedia, of course!

"It's a chance for people to look at a computer screen and really, genuinely wonder who's out there looking back at them," writes Lev Grossman, the unfortunate Time writer tasked with making chicken salad out of something decidedly less appetizing.

Perhaps the editors will use better judgment next year when selecting the 2007 Person of the Year. Let's hope so, because it doesn't get much worse than this.

## Lawyers' gift will save lives

Recent fire fatalities are a reminder of just how important it is to have working smoke detectors.

Local attorney Wayne Wright and the lawyers in his office should be commended for seeing a public need and stepping up to address it.

The law firm has purchased 25,000 dual-ionization First Alert smoke detectors to give away to anyone who asks for one. The lawyers are working with the San Antonio Fire Department to have

them installed if needed, Express-News staff writer Vianna Davila reported.

The recent rash of fatal house fires, including one during Thanksgiving that killed former state Sen. Frank Madla, who was Wright's friend, has focused attention on the necessity of having working smoke alarms in our homes.

The San Antonio Fire Department was supplying free smoke detectors, but it had run out of its limited supply and had been seeking donations for more.

The benefit of having an additional 25,000 smoke detectors installed in homes across the city is priceless.

good education to low income chil-

## FOCUS: 'ST

### Put faces on statistics

Wow.

I just read Karisa King's article "Local nuns struggle to save African babies" (Dec. 17) for the second time. I found it hard to put down.

**> MYSA.COM**

**Keyword: Multimedia**  
Watch a presentation about the program in Zambia run by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word

The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word are a well-kept San Antonio secret. But now with this article and hopefully more to come, their mission to help the world's neediest

people will be well-documented and hopefully well-supported by the public.

Thank you for bringing this story to life and putting faces and names to statistics.

— Pascual Gonzalez

### A true Christmas story

It is with sincere appreciation that I have reread your front-page article covering one part of the great ministry our sisters and associates are doing to help save the

## Beef up invest

BY RICARDO ROMO

In the past few decades, Texas has shifted from a primarily industrial economy to one focused more on knowledge and technology. As a result, the workforce demands more highly skilled and educated workers.

Unfortunately, Texas has experienced a decline in the number of skilled workers as well as those enrolling in higher education.

The need for change is urgent. On its current path, Texas will see its economy shift from a diverse and strong economy to one leading to increased poverty rates, decreased household incomes, losses in tax revenue and increases in the demand for health, criminal and social services.

In addition, the educational gap continues to grow. Ethnic minority groups continue to graduate from high school and college at lower rates. We must ensure all children



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