

Mr. Sanchez. Average age of the team? Well, that's a good question. Probably about thirty.

The President. Management team. Thirty?

Mr. Sanchez. Forty.

The President. Forty? Old guys.

Mr. Sanchez. Of the management team, or the team?

The President. Management team.

Mr. Sanchez. Management team, it's probably closer to 50.

The President. Really?

Mr. Sanchez. Yes.

The President. So you're bringing down the average.

Mr. Sanchez. Bringing down the average. [Laughter]

The President. We want Justin Sanchez's of the country to dream big dreams and to think big. Look at the product they're thinking about. I mean, this is a big idea. And there's people willing to risk capital on the idea, and you're willing to risk time in it.

Mr. Sanchez. Absolutely.

The President. And it's going to happen, isn't it?

Mr. Sanchez. It will happen.

The President. Yes, and America will be better off for it. This is a good way to end, for our people to understand there's a direct connection between research and development, technology, and quality of life. This country has a chance—in other words, it needs to make a choice: Are we going to lead, or are we going to fear the future? I hope after this discussion, people sitting around here and listening ought to realize we ought not to fear the future but shape the future and continue to be the leader. And by leading, our people will realize a more peaceful world and a more prosperous world and a chance to realize dreams. And that's what America has been all about in the past and it should be about in the future.

Listen, thank you all for the panel. It's been a great discussion. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:10 a.m. at Intel New Mexico. In his remarks, he referred to Charles M. Vest, president, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Norman R. Augustine, chair, National Academies' Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century; and Mayor Jim Owen of Rio Rancho, NM.

Remarks Following a Visit to the School of Science and Engineering in Dallas, Texas

February 3, 2006

Let me say a few things, and then we want to get our picture with you, if that's all right. First of all, it's such an honor to be here at this school. Thank you all for coming. Every good school requires a couple of things: one, a good principal—thank you for doing that—and great teachers and good support. Mr. Superintendent, thanks for being here.

Laura and I are here because we believe it's important to spread AP classes all around the country. This is a unique place.

The students here are really impressive people. They have decided to focus on the sciences and math and engineering. And this school helps lift their sights; and one way it does so is to encourage them to take AP.

We want more AP students because we want more engineers and scientists that are able to compete with other students around the world. And so one thing the Government can do is help train 70,000 teachers

all around the country so that they can teach students Advanced Placement.

We also want to encourage scientists and chemists and physicists to come into the classrooms all around the country to excite students about the possibilities of science and engineering. And the reason why is, in order for America to be a competitive nation in the years to come, we have got to have a workforce that is strong in engineering and science and physics. You know, some would hope that the competition around the world will go away; it's not going to. And so we have a choice to make: Do we want to retreat, become protectionist, or do we want to seize the moment and shape our future?

And so the American Competitiveness Initiative I've outlined says that America will continue to lead. We'll shape our fu-

ture, and we'll make sure our kids are well-versed in science and math and engineering.

Again, I want to thank you all for letting us come to your school. It's a fantastic school. It really does brighten my hopes about the future of the country to see you all and see your enthusiasm for the subjects and to listen to your very articulate explanations of the different courses you're studying. Thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:13 p.m. at Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Magnet Center. In his remarks, he referred to Richard White, principal, the School of Science and Engineering; and Michael Hinojosa, general superintendent, Dallas Independent School District.

The President's Radio Address *February 4, 2006*

Good morning. This week in the State of the Union Address, I set forth my American Competitiveness Initiative. This plan will help our Nation to compete with confidence, raise the standard of living for our families, and generate new jobs for our citizens.

Generations of risk takers, inventors, and visionaries have made America the world's most prosperous and innovative nation. Just 25 years ago, most Americans used typewriters instead of computers, rotary phones instead of cell phones, and bank tellers instead of ATMs. Today, America is at the doorstep of even more technological advances. But we cannot afford to be complacent. We're seeing the rise of new competitors like China and India, who are making great strides in technology. In response, some people want to wall off our economy from the world. That is called protectionism. The American people should not

fear our economic future because we intend to shape our economic future.

To keep America the world's most competitive and innovative nation, we must continue to lead the world in human talent and creativity. My American Competitiveness Initiative will encourage innovation throughout our economy and give American children a firm grounding in math and science.

This initiative has three key elements. The first element is to double the Federal commitment to the most critical basic research programs in the physical sciences over the next decade. Most of the technological advances we enjoy today are the fruits of research investments made years ago, and many of these advances benefited from Government support. The increased