

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

MAIN ENTRY: Otero, Salo
DATE OF INTERVIEW: February 15, 2002
LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Laredo, Texas
INTERVIEWER: Jorge Iber
FORMAT: Server on file, Audio Cassette
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 51 minutes
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Salo Otero talks about his experiences working as a sports editor for the Laredo Times. He also sheds light on the growth of football in Laredo, Texas.

ABSTRACT:

| TAPE ONE | TIME STAMP |
|---|-------------------|
| Background Sportswriter for Laredo Times Born at Valencia, New Mexico Talks about his parents and their occupation, his siblings | :00 |
| Education Rio Grande High School University of New Mexico | |
| Chicano Movement Not actively involved Worked for Albuquerque Journal Known as 'Yellow Journalist' Covered a Reies Lopez Tijerina Meeting Covered sports events mostly | |
| Graduation Did not graduate - 20 Hours short of Graduation | |

Reason to come to Laredo
 Drive to be a sports editor
 Considered moving to California
 Job interview at Laredo Times

Joining Laredo Times :10
 Disapproval by family about move
 Talks about New Mexican's prejudice towards Texas

Sports Scene at Laredo
 Good coverage of local sports
 Local athletes were Hispanic and so there was no mistreatment
 1960's Laredo had three public schools
 Football is very popular amongst high school students
 Football is played only if the students love playing it

Perception of Mexican Americans as athletes :20
 Evolution, nutrition and coaching has improved perception
 Laredo is not a powerhouse of football due to built of athletes
 Good at athletics, baseball
 Television coverage of sports has increased competitiveness
 Better economic conditions has led to better athletes
 Permission to attend camps (basketball, soccer) given to high school students
 Talks about growth of soccer
 Run and shoot football games for Hispanics

Talks about success of Mexican coaches :31
 Successful at basketball as compared to football
 Comments on Spanish speaking abilities of Anglo-Americans
 Talks about David Sanchez

Talks about change in perception of Mexican athletes :44
 No longer 'graveyard of coaches'
 Not possible to win state championships
 Talks about sporting events at his alma mater

Interview ends

DATE OF BIRTH OF INFORMANT: 1946

GENDER OF INFORMANT: Male

ETHNICITY OF INFORMANT: Hispanic