

**Remarks: Student Recreational Center Groundbreaking  
11 a.m., Friday, October 10, 2008**

**Good morning, and thank you for joining us today. I especially want to thank any of our alumni who have joined us this week for Homecoming 2008.**

**As most of you know, I have been privileged to serve as president of Texas A&M University-Kingsville for just ten days. But already, everyone has made me feel like the theme of this year's Homecoming: "We are all Javelinas!"**

**I am a Javelina now, and that's why I'm so pleased to join with you in celebrating this wonderful new facility. The twelve-million-dollar Student Recreational Center is being built with student input and student support. Students, let me be clear: The building we break ground for today is for you. We hope this center becomes a gathering place for you to meet friends,**

**enjoy fun and fitness, and in general, take a break from your studies. It will be a place where you can become re-energized and renewed. And all of us at Texas A&M-Kingsville are thrilled that it is being provided to you.**

**Again, welcome, everyone. This is a day that we all have waited for. When we turn that first shovel-full of ground, it will mark the beginning of the realization of a long-awaited goal. I am ecstatic that I am with you for this celebration. Thank you.**