

SPORTS

BEST OF THE BEST

United South's Martinez wins MVP award after hitting .394, going 9-0 on mound.

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LOCAL

NATIVE FOOD IN SPOTLIGHT

Free Laredo workshops teach about mezquite flour, Indigenous traditions.

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NATION

MAN SHOT DEAD NEAR WHITE HOUSE

A man who opened fire Saturday died after officers returned fire.

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LISD honors veterans, fallen service members



Photos by Maria Ruiz/Laredo Morning Times

Local veterans attend a Memorial Day ceremony hosted by Laredo ISD on Tuesday at Martin High School ahead of the national holiday honoring fallen service members.

'A SOLEMN REMINDER'

By Maria Ruiz STAFF WRITER

Students and staff from across the Laredo Independent School District gathered at Martin High School this week to honor local veterans and fallen service members ahead of Memorial Day.

The ceremony, held inside the school gymnasium, brought together veterans, district leaders, students and community members for a morning of remembrance centered on military service and sacrifice.

LISD Board of Trustees members, Superintendent Guillermo Pro and keynote speaker Bill Green — publisher of the Laredo Morning Times and a U.S. Army veteran — sat facing rows of veterans in attendance. Soldiers, Marines, airmen and sailors filled the audience, many wearing military uniforms and honors.

LISD Board President Goyo M. Lopez reminded attendees that Memorial Day serves as more than



Military branch hats sit atop a memorial table during Laredo ISD's Memorial Day ceremony at Martin High School.

a holiday weekend.

"All too often we think of Memorial Day weekend as a wonderful time to travel and go out of town, go to the beach and make carne asada, hamburgers and hot dogs, but we

often forget the reason for Memorial Day," Lopez said. "Today's ceremony serves as a solemn reminder to remember the sacrifice ... of those Laredoans and soldiers" Memorial continues on A4

Laredo PD seeks crisis support

Official warns current mental health response system is unsustainable

By Jose De La Rosa STAFF WRITER

As mental health crises continue rising in Laredo, police officers are increasingly filling roles traditionally handled by psychiatric facilities, clinicians and social workers — exposing what officials describe as major gaps in the local behavioral health system.

"Our city currently does not have the capabilities to fully treat a lot of these cases. There are a lot of gaps," Assistant Chief Ricardo Gonzalez said during a Laredo Rotary Club meeting. "It's unfair that for a city our size — where we're really good at what we do but still have certain needs — we're not getting that support."

The system now leaves the police department handling situations that extend beyond traditional law enforcement, particularly once a mental health crisis escalates to the point of an emergency detention. While LPD works alongside agencies such as Border Region Behavioral Health Center and the 988 crisis line, officers often become the primary responders once a crisis can no longer be managed voluntarily.

LPD continues on A4

Lozano still unbeaten, advances to Copa final

By Jason Mack STAFF WRITER

Laredo's first Olympian Jennifer Lozano is one win away from earning her second international gold medal with USA Boxing as she attempts Monday to complete an unbeaten run through the 2026 Copa America in Girardot, Colombia.

With a 6-0 record across a week of competition, Lozano has already secured at least a silver medal. It is her first international medal since finishing in third place at the World Boxing Cup in Brazil in April 2025. It is her highest finish since taking second place at the 2023 Santiago Pan American Games, the performance that secured her spot in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

If Lozano wins Monday, it would be her second international gold medal with Team USA. She won the 2022 AMBC Elite Champi-

Lozano continues on A4

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REMEMBER AND HONOR

MEMORIAL DAY



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