

CHEESE HEROIN

Documenting a Crisis in Dallas' Hispanic Community



National Association of Hispanic Journalists – June 2007

CHEESE HEROIN

What is “cheese” heroin?

- “Cheese” heroin is a deadly mixture of black tar heroin and Tylenol PM, other cold medicines or even “T-Bars” (Xanax/Alprazolam).
- The drug is ground in a powder, packaged in notebook paper and sold for \$2 a hit.



- It is the most popular drug among Hispanic students in northwest and North Dallas but its use has spread throughout the city and county.
- Although “cheese” heroin is only found in Dallas, it is part of a nationwide trend of drug dealers using marketing new and “cute sounding drugs to target children.

CHEESE HEROIN

Cheese By The Numbers

21 children killed in Dallas County by “cheese” since January 2005.

235 children arrested for the drug since August 2005.

225 children in publicly-funded rehab since September 2005.

\$445,439 public cost of rehabilitation.

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Timeline for a Silent Killer

- **August 15, 2005** – DISD police catch their first student with “cheese” heroin at Thomas Jefferson High School.
- **April 24, 2006** – Karla Becerra, an 18-year-old Pinkston High School student, died from an overdose on “cheese” heroin getting the attention of law enforcement officials but almost none from the media.
- **May 1, 2006** – Officials from the Dallas Independent School District published a special intelligence brief about “cheese” heroin in the Drug Enforcement Administration’s publication *Microgram*.
- Back then, officials reported 54 felony arrests and 24 found property cases. They noted the drug was “popular among Hispanic juveniles,” while the drug continued to kill and hook more young addicts.

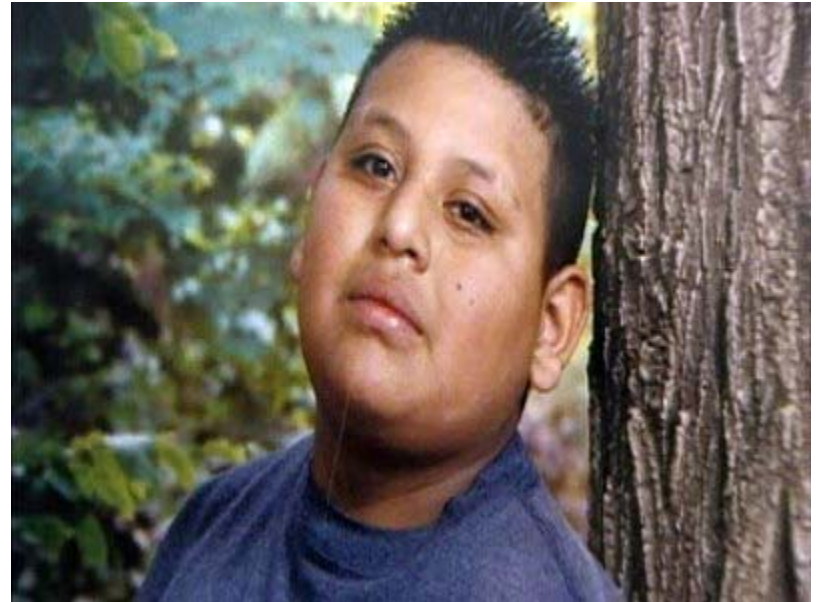


Photo by: Jeremy Liebbe, Crime Scene/Forensics
Dallas ISD Police Department

CHEESE HEROIN

February 18, 2007

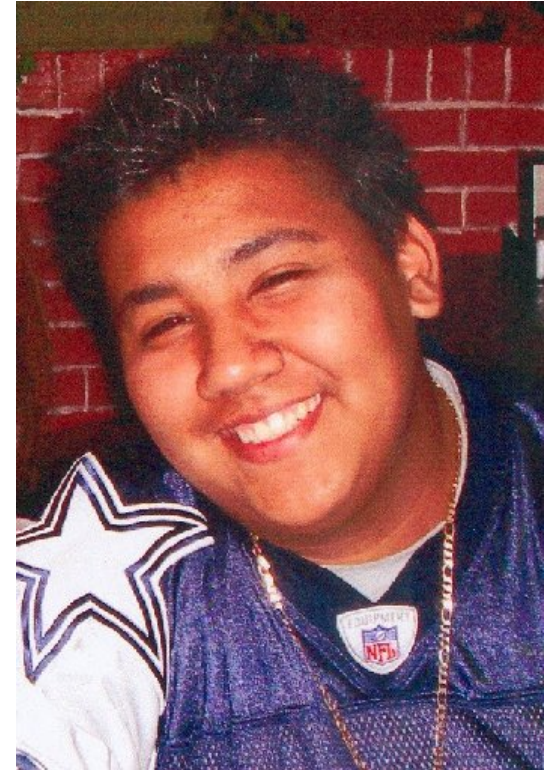
- Oscar Gutierrez, a 15-year-old Marsh Middle School, was the 18th person to die from “cheese” heroin.
- It was not his first overdose on the deadly drug.
- His death received media attention and became a crucible for the city’s Hispanic community.
- A series of “anti-cheese” and “anti-drug” rallies spearheaded by concerned parents and activists were held throughout the city.
- Authorities created an “anti-cheese” task force prompting the arrests of area heroin traffickers and local street dealers...but not before three more children died from overdoses.



CHEESE HEROIN

Murder

- Fernando Cortez Jr., a 15-year-old freshman from Molina High School, was the 19th person to die from “cheese” heroin on March 31, 2007.
- Police arrested his sister’s 19-year-old boyfriend, Deleon Vanegas Jr., on a **first-degree murder charge** after an investigation revealed that Vanegas bought heroin, mixed it up as “cheese” and taught Cortez how to inhale it.
- The case remains pending in court.



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Body Dumped in Balch Springs

- Keridma Godina, an 18-year-old senior from Spruce High School, was the 20th person to die from “cheese” heroin on April 18, 2007.
- Her body was left on the porch of one her friends. Autopsy results confirmed she was killed by of “cheese” heroin.
- She was good and studious girl with a part-time job and dreams of becoming a beautician until she made the wrong friends during the last week of her life.
- Nicolas Rivas, 17, and Ramiro Herrera, 18 were arrested on **abuse of a corpse charges** after an investigation revealed they were the ones who dumped her body on the porch.



Cheese Heroin in Print

CHEESE HEROIN

Cheese Heroin in Print



Tornado left mark in area but spared many

Robinson's leg broken as twister tore through area

By [Name] Staff Writer

It was a close call for Robinson as a powerful tornado tore through the area, leaving a path of destruction. The twister, which was about 100 yards wide, struck the area just as Robinson was walking. He was thrown into the air and his leg was broken. The tornado caused significant damage to the area, including the destruction of several homes and businesses. Robinson was the only person injured in the area. The tornado was the first of its kind in the area in many years.

Inconsistency in TYC

Youth prices not fair, say some

By [Name] Staff Writer

The Texas Youth Council (TYC) has been criticized for its inconsistency in pricing. Some people feel that the prices are not fair, especially for low-income families. The TYC has responded by saying that the prices are based on the cost of the services provided. They also say that the prices are the same for everyone. However, some people feel that the prices are too high and that the TYC should be more flexible in its pricing. They say that the TYC should offer more discounts and financial aid to help low-income families afford the services.

'Cheese' crisis run

But food is not the only problem

By [Name] Staff Writer

The 'cheese' crisis has run its course, but food is not the only problem. The crisis was caused by a shortage of cheese, which led to a shortage of food. This was because cheese is a key ingredient in many foods. The shortage of cheese led to a shortage of food, which led to a shortage of food. This was a major problem for many people, especially those who rely on food banks for their food. The crisis was caused by a shortage of cheese, which led to a shortage of food. This was a major problem for many people, especially those who rely on food banks for their food.

Nuclear interest rising in Mideast

States eyeing use of atomic energy

By [Name] Staff Writer

Nuclear interest is rising in the Mideast as states eye the use of atomic energy. Several countries in the region are looking at nuclear power as a way to meet their energy needs. This is because nuclear power is a clean and efficient source of energy. However, there are also concerns about the safety of nuclear power. Some people are worried that nuclear power could be used for weapons. They also worry about the potential for nuclear accidents. The Mideast is a region with a long history of conflict, and nuclear power could make things worse. It is important to have a careful discussion about the pros and cons of nuclear power before making any decisions.

Grab a st

When you're looking for a new car, you want to make sure you're getting the best deal. This means looking at all the options and comparing them to the prices of other cars. You also want to make sure you're getting a car that's reliable and has a good safety record. This means looking at the car's history and making sure it's been well-maintained. You also want to make sure you're getting a car that's easy to drive and has a good fuel economy. This means looking at the car's features and making sure they meet your needs. Finally, you want to make sure you're getting a car that's a good value for the money. This means looking at the car's price and making sure it's a good deal for the features and quality you're getting.

Lives

Robinson's leg broken as twister tore through area

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Heroin and Tylenol PM: a recipe for disaster

The deadly combination of heroin and Tylenol PM has been a major cause of death in recent years. The combination of the two drugs is extremely dangerous and can lead to a fatal overdose. The Texas Department of Health has issued a warning about the combination of the two drugs. They say that the combination of the two drugs is extremely dangerous and can lead to a fatal overdose. They also say that the combination of the two drugs is a major cause of death in recent years. The Texas Department of Health has issued a warning about the combination of the two drugs. They say that the combination of the two drugs is extremely dangerous and can lead to a fatal overdose. They also say that the combination of the two drugs is a major cause of death in recent years.

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Dr. [Name] is a leading expert in hip surgery. He has performed thousands of hip arthroscopy and hip resurfacing procedures. He is a member of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons. He is also a member of the International Hip Arthroscopy Society. He is a leader in the field of hip surgery and has made many contributions to the field. He is a great doctor and a great person. He is always willing to help his patients and to answer their questions. He is a true professional and a true leader in the field of hip surgery.



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Cheese Heroin on Television

Rebecca Lopez / WFAA.com - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Rebecca Lopez

Mom speaks out after 'cheese' claims son's life

12:52 PM CST on Wednesday, February 21, 2007

By **REBECCA LOPEZ** / WFAA-TV

DALLAS - As the drug known as "cheese" claimed another young life Monday night, fears that were already planted have begun to grow.

Cheese is a combination of heroin and crushed over-the-counter cold medication that has become a threat at many school campuses across Dallas.

The family of Oscar Gutierrez, a 15-year-old Dallas teen who died Sunday after a long struggle with the drug, described the young boy's last days as difficult.

Albert Gutierrez, the boy's brother who he shared a room with, was the last to see the boy alive before he fell


Oscar Gutierrez

Also Online

Rebecca Lopez reports

4/28/06: New drug craze hits DISD

Information about 'cheese'

- Office of National Drug Control Policy

17 mayo 2007
Concientizan en Dallas sobre el cheese

9 mayo 2007
Alarmante cifras de muertes por cheese

30 abril 2007
Inicia campaña contra el cheese

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Exestudiante y vendedor de cheese

26 abril 2007
Exagente de la DEA habla sobre el cheese

24 abril 2007
¿Otra victima del cheese?

22 febrero 2007
Todos contra la droga llamada "cheese"

Enlaces Patrocinados - [Vea su anuncio aquí](#)

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CHEESE HEROIN

Cheese Heroin Receives National Attention

Una moda mortal : Protege a tus hijos del «cheese» - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Cheese (recreational drug)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Cheese or **Cheez** is a recreational drug that surfaced in the United States. Cheese is formed by combining heroin with crushed tablets of the active ingredient in Tylenol, and the antihistamine diphenhydramine in some cases, enough to start an addiction in a user of Cheese. dollars [4] on the black market. One quarter gram costs \$5 [1] The addicted, withdrawal symptoms may appear from 6 to 24 hours a sociological, and thus varies from person to person (and culture 1

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Emergence of the drug

The drug made many news headlines when it appeared in several Independent School District dubbed the mixture "starter heroin." [1] at eleven schools. [7] On February 24, 2007, United Press International According to authorities, Hispanic teenagers are the demographic 13-year old. By February 1, 2007, usage of Cheese was reported young as nine years of age had abused Cheese. [10]

Drug dealers, prior to the marketing of Cheese, had used the name "cheese" [22] In addition, the name "Cheese" was used at one time Dallas-area treatment centers have noted that the drug's growing one Dallas-area center observed a shift to 11, 12, and 13-year-old facility for teenagers, stated that individuals as young as 11 have

Creation of Cheese



Con 17 años la atrapó el 'cheese'

La vida de Ana empezó a ir de mal en peor desde que tenía 13 años. A esa edad tuvo su primer contacto con la marihuana en la casa de un compañero. Le gustó tanto que siguió fumándola durante todo un año, hasta que encontró una adicción más potente con medicamentos que sólo pueden ser adquiridos con receta. A los 16 años entró en contacto con drogas aún más poderosas, como la cocaína, que conseguía con facilidad en su preparatoria.

Lea la nota



ROBERTO M. SÁNCHEZ/AL DÍA
Esta adolescente cayó en las garras del 'Cheese'. Ahora está en proceso de rehabilitación, pero en las escuelas puede haber niños incluso menores con el mismo drama.

Piden a escuelas de Dallas fortalecer medidas para combatir drogas

Padres de familia pidieron a funcionarios del distrito escolar de Dallas (DISD) que fortalezcan las medidas de seguridad en las escuelas para evitar el ingreso y consumo de droga en los planteles. En una reunión efectuada ayer, los padres de familia presentaron una serie de peticiones a las autoridades, entre ellas comprar un aparato para examinar la droga, así como perros entrenados para detectarla. Sugirieron agregar por lo menos tres oficiales de seguridad en los planteles, comprar e instalar videocámaras en las escuelas y apoyar el programa Eye Spy, diseñado para denunciar a personas que vendan "cheese", una mezcla de heroína y Tylenol PM.



ROBERTO M. SÁNCHEZ/AL DÍA
El 'cheese' es un fuerte desafío para la gestión de Michael Hinojosa al frente del DISD.

CHEESE HEROIN

Summer Break? Not in the Dallas County Juvenile Drug Court ...

Milka pierde el control
La piloto mexicana sale después de su polémica vuelo de la capital
por el día

Fracasa ley migratoria
También se venía, el proyecto fue aprobado por el Senado de la Unión Mexicana. El día de hoy, el Senado de la Unión Mexicana aprobó la ley migratoria, pero el proyecto fue rechazado por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos.

Senado cerca de aprobar ley migratoria
El Senado de la Unión Mexicana aprobó la ley migratoria, pero el proyecto fue rechazado por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos.

EL TRI al miedo
Miles de personas se reunieron en la capital mexicana para protestar contra el gobierno de Felipe Calderón.

Redimidos por tribunal juvenil
DEJAN ATRÁS LAS DROGAS

El clima boy



CHEESE HEROIN

Lawmakers Did Not Approve More Funds While Addiction Continues



Photo: Dallas Morning News

The family of Diego Martinez continues to struggle with “cheese” heroin almost a year after his overdose death. Diego’s little brother George Martinez, age 14, (left) was rushed to the hospital last week for a “cheese” heroin overdose when a truancy court judge admonished him for not being able to stay awake for the hearing.

