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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 26, 2006

Q) What do some of the biggest stars in Texas, including: Lance Armstrong, Eryka Badu, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Los Lonely Boys, Matthew McConaughey, Chuck Norris and Lee Ann Womack have in common with some Cal Farley's Girlstown U.S.A. residents?
A) They are all volunteering their time to make the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Trash-Off a success!\*

Who: Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A.

What: 20<sup>th</sup> annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off When: Saturday, April 1, 2006 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Where: FM Road 1780 (8 miles south of Whiteface, TX), beginning at the Girlstown, U.S.A-

entrance, continuing 1-mile north and south

**Girlstown U.S.A.**- Students living at Cal Farley's Girlstown U.S.A. will participate in the state's single largest one-day cleanup, where 200,000 volunteers will offer their time to keep Texas highways clean. The 20<sup>th</sup> annual "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off," a partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation, will take place on April 1, 2006. Since 1994, Trash-Off volunteers have picked up more than 14 million tons of trash, which equals 1,417 pounds of litter for every man, woman and child in Texas.

At Cal Farley's Girlstown U.S.A., more than 60 of the students that live on the campus will join houseparents and other staff to help clean the portion of their adopted highway on FM 1780, which extends a mile north and south of the campus entrance. The Trash-Off will be followed by a campus wide pig roast.

During past Trash-Offs, some of the more unusual items collected have included winning lottery tickets, a microwave and an envelope of cash. According to a study by the Texas Department of Transportation, 55% of Texans admit to littering even though they know its illegal and 20% of all roadside trash is fast food litter. The Texas Trash-Off is one of the largest cleanup events of its kind in the nation.

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Last year, volunteers picked up an estimated 575 tons of litter, as more than 1,700 Adopt-a-Highway groups and over 150 communities across the state took part in this Texas-size event. For more information on the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Trash-Off day, you can visit this website:

## http://www.dontmesswithtexas.org

The Cal Farley organization cares for approximately 310 boys and girls at its two campuses – Cal Farley's Boys Ranch and Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A. Children from pre-school through high school are accepted with no charge to their families. The Cal Farley programs provide a variety of academic, vocational, spiritual and extra-curricular activities for the children in care.

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\*= the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary "Don't Mess with Texas" campaign features Texas stars in a PSA which was launched during the Cotton Bowl on January 2, 2006. Studies show that 95% of Texans are familiar with the "Don't Mess with Texas" slogan. Source: TXDot.