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Lawmakers Flood State Chamber with Over 100 Bills Attacking Indocumented Immigrants

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

State legislatures have seen a surge of proposals this year that negatively target undocumented immigrants, while the number of new bills addressing the needs of our immigrant and Hispanic populations has paled in comparison.

This has occurred as more than half of the nation's state legislatures have adjourned for the year, with eight others ending their sessions this month.

Common issues across the states focused on limiting health and social services to undocumented immigrants, denying them driver's licenses, and deputizing state and local police to enforce immigration law. Some bills banned children of undocumented immigrants from paying in-state college tuition rates, even if they grew up in that state.

Gabriela Lemus, director of policy and legislation for the League of United Latin American Citizens, expresses a concern shared by Hispanic advocates. "With all the strides we have made in civil rights today, to have this happen is very alarming," she says.

In 13 states whose legislative actions were profiled by Hispanic Link Weekly Report this year, a total of 55 bills were introduced. All but six penalized undocumented immigrants.

Most of the other 37 states had at least one or two bills introduced. Georgia had seven, South Carolina four. Altogether, the total exceeds 100.

Raúl Yzaguirre, founder and immediate past president of the National Council of



La Raza, says that so long as there are people like CNN TV personality Lou Dobbs spilling out anti-immigrant rhetoric and as long as Hispanics fall short of state-level political clout, such legislative actions will likely continue.

In Arizona, which entertained 30 bills targeting immigrants this session, Hispanic legislators, who once occupied majority leadership positions in both chambers, are now not even consulted when anti-immigrant legislation is pursued, he adds.

Of the 7,382 seats in state legislatures, less than 650 are occupied by Hispanics.

Of all the bills that were introduced, only seven have become law so far.

In March, Virginia approved cutting Medicaid and other health and welfare benefits to undocumented immigrants.

A West Virginia legislative resolution declaring English its official language became law last month.

In Arizona, Democratic Gov. Janet Napolitano signed three immigration-related bills into law, including one that prohibits the construction of centers for day laborers to assemble and look for work. However, she did veto four other bills that would have imposed additional restrictions on undocumented immigrants.

Among the two beneficial bills, New Mexico Democratic Gov. Bill Richardson signed one in April allowing undocumented

residents to qualify for in-state college tuition status. New Mexico became the ninth state to pass such a law since 2002.

Kansas approved a similar bill, which is now the subject of a lawsuit to block its implementation.

Additionally, in February Colorado passed a bill that restores Medicaid benefits for legal immigrants after having withdrawn such rights in 2003.

The California legislature was able to pass a bill allowing some individuals to apply for driver's licenses without firm proof of citizenship, but it's a near certainty that it will be rejected by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Ann Morse, immigrant policy project director for the National Conference of State Legislatures, says that although the majority of bills usually do not pass, "It's one way to draw attention to (the issue) and say to Congress, 'You need to act,' with the expectation that there wouldn't be a state result but there would be a federal result."

University of California at Irvine Latino studies professor Louis DeSipio adds that such bills have a symbolic impact that "demonstrates the magnitude of the unauthorized migration issue in the United States."

The growth of undocumented immigrant populations in states that have traditionally not had high concentrations of them has definitely contributed to this surge of state legislation, they concur.

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Legisladores Inundan Camaras Estatales Con Proyectos de Ley Contra Inmigrantes Indocumentados

Alex Meneses Miyashita

Este año las legislaturas estatales han visto un auge en las propuestas que enfocan negativamente a los inmigrantes indocumentados, mientras que el número de nuevos proyectos de ley que se dirigen a las necesidades de nuestras poblaciones inmigrante e hispana han disminuido en comparación.

Esto ocurre en tanto que más de la mitad de las legislaturas estatales por toda la nación ya han cerrado sus sesiones para el año; este mes cerraran sus sesiones ocho legislaturas más.

El enfoque de la temática que hilan todos los estados es limitar los servicios sociales y de salud para los inmigrantes indocumentados, negarles licencias de

conducir, y la autorización de la policía local y estatal para hacer cumplir la ley de inmigración. Algunos proyectos prohíben que los hijos de inmigrantes indocumentados paguen matrícula de residentes de estado en las universidades estatales, así se hubieran criado en tal estado.

Gabriela Lemus, directora de políticas y legislación para la Liga de Ciudadanos Latino Americanos Unidos, expresa su preocupación, una que comparte con muchos que luchan por los derechos de los hispanos. "Con todo lo que hemos avanzado en términos de los derechos civiles hoy, que esto ocurra es muy alarmante", dice.

En cuanto a las acciones legislativas de los trece estados sobre los que reportó Hispanic Link este año, se presentó un total de 55 proyectos de ley. Todos menos cinco penalizan a los inmigrantes indocumentados.

En la mayoría de los demás 37 estados, se presentó uno o dos proyectos de ley. Georgia tuvo siete, Carolina del Sur, cuatro. En conjunto, el total excede los cien proyectos de ley.

Raúl Yzaguirre, fundador y reciente presidente del Concilio Nacional de La Raza, dice que en tanto existan personas como el locutor de CNN Lou Dobbs, que desparraman retórica en contra del inmigrante, y en tanto que los hispanos no alcancen posiciones políticas de influencia a nivel estatal, lo probable es que continúen las acciones legislativas negativas.

En Arizona, que consideró 30 proyectos de ley con la mira en los inmigrantes esta sesión, a los legisladores hispanos, quienes alguna vez ocuparon posiciones de liderazgo mayoritarias en ambas cámaras, ya ni se les consulta a la hora de ir en pos de legislación anti-inmigrante, agrega.

De los 7,382 escaños en las legislaturas estatales, menos de 650 los ocupan hispanos.

De todos los proyectos de ley que se presentaron, sólo siete han sido aprobados como ley hasta ahora.

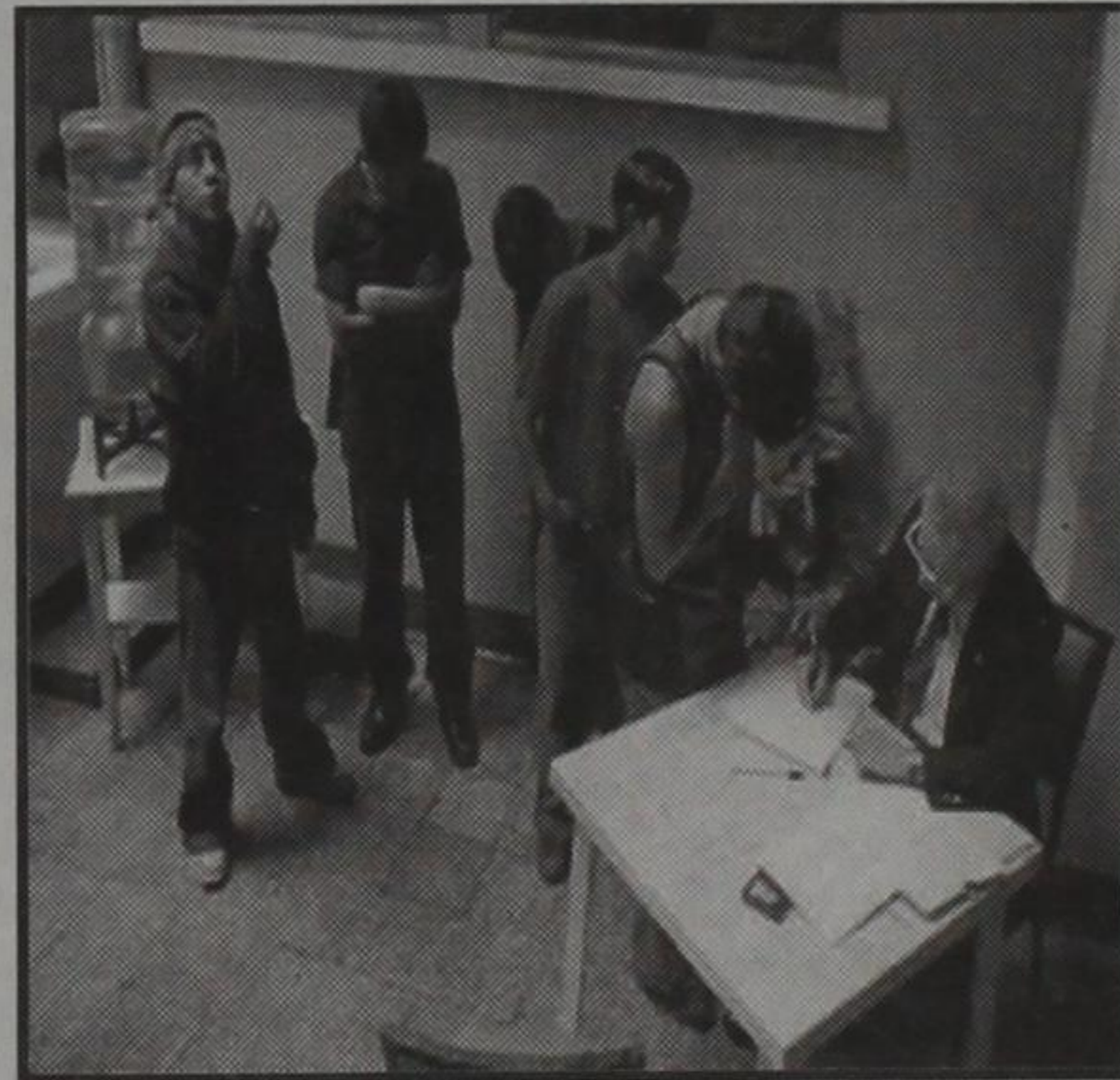
En marzo, Virginia aprobó recortes de Medicaid y otros beneficios médicos y de bienestar para los inmigrantes indocumentados.

Una resolución legislativa de Virginia del Oeste que declara el inglés idioma oficial del estado, se hizo ley el mes pasado.

En Arizona, gobernadora demócrata Janet Napolitano, aprobó tres proyectos de ley anti-inmigrante, incluyendo uno que prohíbe la construcción de centros de reunión para los jornaleros que buscan trabajo. No obstante, sí utilizó su poder de veto en contra de cuatro proyectos de ley más que habrían impuesto mayores restricciones sobre los inmigrantes

indocumentados.

Entre dos de los proyectos positivos, en abril el gobernador demócrata de Nuevo México aprobó uno que permite que los



residentes indocumentados del estado paguen la universidad a nivel de residente estatal. Con esta aprobación, Nuevo México se convierte en el noveno estado en aprobar tal legislación desde 2002.

En Kansas se aprobó un proyecto de ley similar, ahora sujeto a una demanda judicial cuyo fin es obstaculizar su implementación.

Además, en febrero se aprobó una ley en Colorado que restaura los beneficios de Medicaid para inmigrantes legales, tras haber retirado tales derechos en 2003.

El Senado de California pudo aprobar una ley que permite que algunos individuos soliciten licencias de conducir sin presentar pruebas firmes de ciudadanía, aunque es casi seguro que la rechazará el gobernador Arnold Schwarzenegger si ésta pasa la Asamblea.

Dice Ann Morse, directora de proyectos de políticas migratorias de la National Conference of State Legislatures, que aunque la mayoría de los proyectos de ley nunca llegan a ser aprobados, "Es una forma de atraer la atención (al tema) y decirle al Congreso, 'Hay que tomar acción', con la expectativa no de un resultado a nivel estatal, sino a nivel federal".

Profesor de estudios latinos de la Universidad de California en Irvine, Louis DeSipio, añade que dichos proyectos tienen un impacto simbólico que "demuestra la magnitud del tema de migración sin autorización para los Estados Unidos".

El aumento de poblaciones de inmigrantes indocumentados en los estados que tradicionalmente no han tenido concentraciones altas de tales poblaciones, en definitiva ha contribuido al auge en legislación estatal, concuerdan.

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Comentarios

de Bidal Agüero



I keep saying that things that happen in Lubbock surprises me, but more and more it seems that nothing really surprises me. The many years of living here makes me start to accept that it is normal for our side of town to get the worst part of the deal.

First the Guadalupe Center was demolished and after driving around town this past week, I got the opportunity to see some of the progress made in building the Fiesta Plaza. It turns out the Fiesta Plaza is just one little gazebo type structure surrounded by weeds and cement sidewalks. As they explained it to me when the bond election was proposed and passed, the Plaza was supposed to be a nice place for our community to have fiestas and celebrations. Well the gazebo will have enough room for Juan y los Favoritos to set up, but that about all. The Plaza can probably accommodate ten or eleven cars. I guess whoever was doing the planning don't realize that our fiestas need a whole lot more room. But what can we expect in Lubbock.

A second item that was discussed this past week was the building of new softball parks. The item was discussed at the Parks and Recreation board and a recommendation of a sub-committee composed of some four or five people made the recommendation that the field be built in far southwest Lubbock on Milwaukee and 1585 outside the City limits.

This site was picked over a site on East 19th Street. We are surprised that the East Lubbock Economic Development Commission accepted this. Are they not supposed to be working toward improvements in East Lubbock and would this not work good toward their efforts? Or maybe the Economic Development Commission knew nothing about the proposal.

Of course the item that is getting the most attention in Lubbock now days is the fact that property owners are going to pay more taxes. Wouldn't it be interesting to see how the lowering of property taxes is affecting our Mayor and who really profited from raising our sales tax and lowering property taxes.

And such was another day in the never-ending story of "Our side of Town Getting the Short End of the Stick". Of course this is just another normal day for Lubbock.

Write to Bidal at eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Perry busca sesión especial

Austin – El gobernador republicano Rick Perry se moría por cambiar la manera en que las escuelas de Texas son financiadas y reducir los impuestos a propiedades de los dueños.

Su futuro político quizás dependa de ello. Pese a los deseos y persuasión de



Perry, los legisladores se marcharon de la ciudad sin lograrlo. Su sesión regular de 140 días culminó el lunes sin un plan establecido, pese a algunas negociaciones prometedoras de última hora. Perry lo calificó de una "decepción".

Él reiteró el martes que si los líderes de la Cámara y el Senado siguen colaborando hacia un acuerdo, él podría convocar una sesión especial. Dijo que seguirá intentando llegar a un acuerdo. "No me parece que hemos acabado", dijo. "No me parece que el capítulo final de este libro se ha escrito".

La Suprema Corte de Texas ha programado sus argumentos orales para el 6 de julio en una apelación a la demanda de finanza escolar, y los asesores de Perry no han ocultado que les gustaría llegar a una solución con los legisladores antes de eso.

El año pasado, un juez de distrito estatal dictaminó que el sistema de financiamiento escolar era inconstitucional y le dio al estado hasta octubre de 2005 para hacer cambios o dejar de financiar la educación pública.

Pese a que Perry enumeró varios logros que los legisladores entregaron – incluyendo una reforma a Servicio de Protección al Menor, una reforma de compensación al trabajador y un proyecto de ley de consentimiento de los padres para menores que busquen abortos– dijo que no ocultaba su decepción por el fracaso de financiamiento escolar y reducción tributaria a propiedades.

Hay mucho en juego para que Perry presida sobre una solución de financiamiento escolar. Él podría ser criticado por el asunto si atraer a un opositor a la primaria republicana en 2006. La senadora federal Kay Bailey Hutchison y la contralora Carole Keefon Strayhorn podrían entrar a la contienda republicana. Perry dijo que los legisladores podrían sentir cierta presión del electorado este verano, a pesar que parecía referirse inadvertidamente a su propio dilema. "Si hay voluntad, podemos encontrar una solución", dijo Perry.

White House Has Tall New Neighbor, The Raul Yzaguirre Building

Sonia Meléndez

The National Council of La Raza cemented a new chapter of its existence with the June 1 inauguration of the Raúl Yzaguirre Building, named after its civil rights leader of three decades who retired at the first of the year. The seven-story edifice stands in the heart of the lobbying corridor in Washington's northwest quadrant. "This is more than just a building. It is a symbol of our permanence and presence in the nation's capital," Yzaguirre declared at the dedication ceremony. He flew in for the event from Tempe, Ariz., where he recently accepted a post at Arizona State University to build its capacity to engage with the burgeoning Hispanic community in that state.

During the ceremony, he emphasized that housing La Raza's headquarters a mere four blocks from the White House was a matter of making a statement as a community. "Aquí estamos y no

nos vamos," he told a crowd of some 300 well-wishers. We're here and we're not going away.

Among the many dignitaries who joined him at events that day was Sandy Butler Whyte, vice-president of the Business Women's Network, who recounted to Hispanic Link earlier how a youthful Yzaguirre "shook things up" when he arrived on the Washington scene.

"I remember when he came to a meeting as a brash, assertive Hispanic man who said there would be a place for him at the table. Serape and all, he was there. Anything that is in the vanguard of change always requires assertive leaders who are willing to create discomfort so that we might have discourse," she said.

While the festivity symbolized a culmination of Yzaguirre's political acumen, it also celebrated the Latino advances he has helped energize, such as the May 17 Los Angeles mayoral campaign triumph of Antonio Villaraigosa.

The mayor-elect also flew from Los Angeles to join in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. During his speech, Villaraigosa, who assumes office July 1, credited his own success to pioneers like Yzaguirre.

"Make no mistake. I stand here today on the threshold being mayor on the shoulders of Raúl Yzaguirre and people like him," he said.

Raúl returned the praise, crediting Villaraigosa's victorious campaign "for not just talking about obtaining power" but also talking about taking on the serious responsibility of serving every community in California's polyglot City of the Angels.

NCLR president Janet Murguía commented on La Raza's move to a new stage: "The National Council of La Raza has transformed from a Hispanic organization into an American institution."

NCLR board chair Mónica Lozano praised both Yzaguirre and Villaraigosa for their dedication to the Latino community. Lozano is

CEO of the nation's largest Spanish-language daily, La Opinión. She, as well as L.A. City Council chairman Alex Padilla also traveled from Los Angeles to share in Raúl's moment.

The new headquarters, located at 1126 16th Street NW, cost \$13.9 million plus \$21.9 million on renovations.

In addition to housing the organization's more than 80-member staff, it leased out some of its space.

Its building campaign involved dozens of corporate and community contributors.

The second phase of construction, to be completed next year, will include La Plaza de los Afiliados dedicated to the work of affiliates around the country. Its lobby will be designated La Galería del Movimiento. It will highlight the organization's milestones with pictures and cultural artifacts.

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Jim Hightower

"SAVING THE DAY FOR CORPORATE POWER"

Thank God we have Republicans in charge of several state governments, as well as our national government, because we can always count on them to take care of our country's big problems—such as making sure that the wages of America's workaday majority stay low.

Of course, George W and the congressional GOP have done their part on this score, rejecting an effort earlier this year to hike the national minimum wage, which has been stuck since 1997 at a paltry \$5.15 an hour. That's \$10,500 a year gross for full-time work—a poverty wage that mocks moral decency.

But I was particularly impressed by the extraordinary move recently made by Republican leaders in Georgia to enforce this low-wage ethic on their state's people. Governor Sonny Perdue has now signed HB59, barring any city in the Peach State from requiring that corporations that get city contracts have to pay higher wages than the poverty pay set by the federal government.

How peachy of him! This means that the state's so-called conservative leaders have come out flat-footed against local control, forcing Georgia's duly-elected local officials to comply with a federal, low-wage standard.

Of course, the governor and his gang are corporatists, not conservatives. They were acting at the behest of contractors that were apoplectic that the city of Atlanta has been considering a living-wage ordinance that would set a \$10.15-an-hour wage floor to be paid by corporations that profit from government contracts. That's hardly lavish pay—about \$21,000 a year—but it would allow working families a middle-class possibility, and would restore some integrity to the promise of America's work ethic.

Luckily for the corporate powers, they've got stalwarts like Sonny Perdue ready and willing to abandon any pretense of conservatism, usurp local authority, stiff his state's working families, and save corporations from having to mess with matters of basic economic fairness.

Edificio La Raza se Convierte en Vecino de La Casa Blanca

Sonia Meléndez

El Concilio Nacional de La Raza cimentó un nuevo capítulo de su existencia con la inauguración el 1 de Junio del Edificio Raúl Yzaguirre, en honor a su dirigente de derechos civiles de tres décadas quien se jubiló a comienzos del año. De siete pisos, el edificio está ubicado en el corazón del pasaje de cabildo del cuarto noroeste de Washington, D.C.

"Es más que simplemente un edificio. Es símbolo de nuestra permanencia y nuestra presencia en la capital de la nación", declaró Yzaguirre durante la ceremonia conmemorando la dedicación del edificio. Llegó desde Tempe, Arizona, donde aceptó recientemente un puesto con la Universidad Estatal de Arizona para aumentar su capacidad de enlace con la comunidad hispana en auge en aquel estado.

Durante la ceremonia enfatizó que ubicar la sede de La Raza a sólo cuatro cuadras de la Casa Blanca es cuestión de sentar una declaración como comunidad. "Aquí estamos y no nos vamos", le dijo a una

multitud de unas 300 personas que le festejaban.

Entre los muchos dignatarios presentes en eventos durante el día se encontraba Sandy Butler Whyte, vice-presidenta de Business Women's Network, quien anteriormente le contó a Hispanic Link cómo un joven Yzaguirre "revolucionó las cosas" cuando llegó al escenario político de Washington.

"Recuerdo cuando llegó a una reunión como hombre hispano temerario, de armas tomar, que aseveró que habría un puesto para él en la mesa. Con sarape y todo, allí estaba. Cualquier asunto a la vanguardia del cambio siempre requiere de líderes temerarios, dispuestos a crear la incomodidad para poder discursar", dijo.

Si bien la festividad simbolizó la culminación de la perspicacia política de Yzaguirre, también celebraba los avances de los latinos que él ayudó a fomentar, tales como el triunfo electoral para la alcaldía de Los Angeles del 17 de mayo de Antonio Villaraigosa.

El alcalde-electo también viajó desde Los Angeles para

unirse a la ceremonia de apertura. Durante su discurso, Villaraigosa, quien asume la alcaldía el primero de julio, atribuyó su propio éxito a los pioneros como Yzaguirre.

"Sin duda alguna, estoy yo aquí hoy frente a ustedes, en el umbral de ser alcalde, sólo gracias a la labor de Raúl Yzaguirre y personas como él", afirmó.

Raúl le devolvió el cumplido, reconociendo la campaña victoriosa de Villaraigosa, "por no sólo hablar de hacerse con el poder", sino también por asumir la responsabilidad sería de servir a cada una de las comunidades de la ciudad políglota de Los Angeles.

Actual presidenta de La Raza, Janet Murguía, comentó sobre el paso de la organización a un nuevo escenario: "El Concilio Nacional de La Raza se ha transformado de una organización hispana a una institución estadounidense".

Directora de la junta directiva de La Raza, Mónica Lozano, elogió tanto a Yzaguirre como a Villaraigosa por su dedicación a la comunidad latina. Lozano es Directora de Operaciones del

mayor diario en español de la nación, La Opinión. Ella, así como el director del Consejo Municipal de Los Angeles, Alex Padilla, también llegó desde Los Angeles para compartir el momento con Raúl.

La nueva sede, en el número 1126 de la calle 16, NW, costó \$13.9 millones además de \$21.9 millones en renovaciones.

Además de albergar los más de 80 empleados de la organización, también alquila parte de su espacio.

En la campaña de recaudación de fondos para la compra y renovación del edificio participaron miembros del mundo empresarial y de la comunidad con sus contribuciones.

La segunda fase de la construcción, a completarse el año entrante, incluirá La Plaza de los Afiliados, dedicada al trabajo de los afiliados de todo el país. La entrada se designará La Galería del Movimiento.

Enfatizará los hitos de la organización con imágenes y artefactos culturales.

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What are you? Tejano, Mexican or Mexican-American?

By Rudy "Tejano" Pena

That is the question. How many times have we identified our selves being Mexican only to turn around and explain we were not from México? After graciously and politely explaining in perfect English, actually we are Mexican-American it's very frustrating to hear, "when did you become a United States citizen?" It is a good question that applies to Mexican citizens, who gained United States citizenship not United States born Tejanos.

Tejas (Texas) was settled and ruled by the Spanish for more than three hundred years (1500-1821). Settlements of Spanish speaking communities flourished during those early Tejas days along with the development of a very unique group of people called Los Tejanos. Today in the United States Tejanos and Tejanas continue being part of the original Texas fabric. The areas presently known as Texas and México were settled and ruled by the Spanish. The colonization of these two areas in the North American continent led to the birth and evolution of two similar but distinct people. The Spanish, who settled in Mexico City and the surrounding areas mixed with the local indigenous inhabitants, and gave birth to the first "mestizos". Today in México there are different varieties and levels of mestizos identified as Mexican. Tejanos and Tejanas must learn to discontinue the affiliation of the following terms, Mexican, Mexican-American, Mexican Texan, Latino, Hispanic or Chicano because these do not apply.

Who Tejanos are... The Spanish came and established La Provincia De Tejas. Presently in Texas large numbers of Tejanos are descendants of the Spanish and local indigenous people, who settled the territory named Tejas. (Texas) Most Spanish speaking Tejanos, born in Texas are not aware of their Tejano ancestry. It's clear by the lack of usage of the Tejano or Tejana term. The distinction is applicable to individuals of Spanish, Spanish/Indigene and other ancestry born in Texas. Why? Tejanos and Tejanas emerged, evolved and developed, during the original Tejas Spanish Province era. Since the early 1600's Tejanos actively contributed to the development of cities such as Goliad, Gonzales, Refugio, San Fernando (San Antonio) and others. Many of the original inhabitants of The Republic of Texas were Tejanos. They were Tejanos long before becoming Mexican citizens in 1824.

Current government, educational and other United States institutions consider most individuals of Spanish and other ancestry, living in Texas and other southwestern states Mexican or Mexican American. This is false, misleading and has cause grave identity consequences to United States born citizens with similar lineage. With the exception of sporadic minor mention of the word Tejano or Tejanos, duly referencing the early settlers of Tejas, the Tejano term is seldom if ever used today in our society. Moreover the Tejano term is erroneously used and associated to mean Mexican and Tejano are one and the same. Most individuals in the United States, especially in Texas, believe Tejanos and Tejanas are Mexican, came from México and are of Mexican decent. This view is embarrassingly, terribly flawed.

Why you should care... I strongly support the view that Tejanos born in Texas, especially those who are descendants of the original Tejanos, deserve to be properly identified as Tejanos, not Mexican Texan, Mexican, Hispanic, Mexican-American, Latino or Chicano. Tejanos did not come to Texas, they evolved here. Awareness and information of Tejano culture and history is of vital importance to United States born Tejanos and people in general. Most everyone knows who or what a Latino or Hispanic is. It's clear, or should be, these foreign Spanish speaking individuals are not representative of the basic Spanish speaking United States born citizens. They have their own foreign agendas, which include the welfare and assistance of their newly formed communities. They have introduced their foreign culture and established non-traditional United States communities. Unfortunately, the misguided consensus is they are part of the over all basic Spanish speaking United States born citizenry. Simply put this is not the case. Our language, customs, values and traditions are very different from these people. Please understand Tejanos are a bicultural entity with Texas and United States values and traditions. Most Tejanos strive for high goals. My goal is the over due recognition, acknowledgement, acceptance and inclusion of the Tejano identity, culture and distinguished heritage.

May God bless Texas Viván Los Tejanos

A Nation that Should Know Better

By Roger Mahony

(Cardinal Roger Mahony is the archbishop of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Los Angeles) Los Angeles Times - Opinion Page

It appears fashionable these days, and almost politically correct, to blame hard-working immigrants, especially those from Mexico and Central America, for the social and economic ills of our state and nation. Anti-immigrant fervor on TV and radio talk shows, citizens attempting to enforce immigration laws and the enactment of restrictive laws, such as the Real ID Act, are evidence of this trend. Some of our elected officials are joining the parade, going so far as to call for the closing of our southern border.

This growing hysteria is nothing new: Similar scapegoating has occurred at other troubled times in our nation's history, most prominently against Asian and European immigrants during the late 19th century and during the two world wars of the

20th century. By and large the United States has been able to resist the temptation to close its doors to the world, but not without unjust victimization of "foreigners."

Now we find ourselves in another period of national self-doubt. The war on terrorism has made national security a legitimate concern, and a rising deficit, changes brought on by globalization and even the price of oil have thrown the nation's economic health into question. But as Congress prepares to engage in a debate on immigration reform, we must again resist punishing immigrants for problems that are not of their creation.

Despite the assertions of some, immigrants — including those who are here illegally — are a benefit to this country. They work hard at difficult jobs in important industries. Most analysts would agree that if all the undocumented immigrants in California were deported in one day, our state would experience a severe

economic downturn. This does not even consider the many cultural and spiritual gifts these immigrants bring to our state and nation.

To be clear, the church recognizes the right of our country to control its borders, and it does not condone undocumented migration, which serves neither the interest of the migrant nor the respective countries. Immigration should be enforced in a proportional and humane manner.

But the church also does not condone a broken immigration system in the U.S., one that too easily can lead to the exploitation, abuse and even death of immigrants. In this land of opportunity, it is unacceptable that immigrant workers labor in unsafe conditions for wages insufficient to support their families. It is unacceptable that immigrants, including children, are shackled and detained in deplorable conditions. And it is unacceptable that already this year immigrants have died by the dozens in the California desert or in other parts of the Southwest.

Rather than accept an immoral status quo, our elected officials in Congress should reform, in a comprehensive manner, our legal immigration system. Such reforms should include an opportunity for long-term illegal residents to come out of the shadows — not to be handed amnesty but to work toward permanent residency. They also should feature a temporary-worker program with worker protections that would deal with the many undocumented workers who cross and recross the border. Finally, it should reform the back-

logged family reunification system.

Providing a clear route to legal status for longtime residents and providing legal entry to migrants would not only help cure the excesses of a flawed system but ensure that our nation benefits from the contributions of immigrants participating as full members of their communities. Although some in the public square consider any such rule changes a reward for lawbreakers, we should look at the issue historically and realistically, and understand that the current law is unjust and must be changed.

Legislation recently introduced by Sens. John McCain of Arizona and Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts offers a blueprint to make these necessary changes. President Bush, who should be commended for placing immigration reform on the national agenda, should work with the bill's sponsors and members of both parties to enact a comprehensive remedy to our broken immigration system.

Our country stands at a critical point in its history. Our heritage as a nation of immigrants is at stake. We should not attack undocumented workers for our broader problems at the same time we accept their talent, toil and taxes. We should not block-ade our border at the same time that we depend upon the labor of the immigrant nanny, janitor, busboy and agricultural worker.

As we have in the past, we should embrace our immigrant roots and recognize that newcomers to our land are not part of the problem, they are part of the solution.

EL EDITOR

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Publisher - Bidal Aguero



Auge de la Prensa 'étnica': estudio

El 87% de los hispanos que residen en Estados Unidos prefieren la televisión, la radio y los periódicos en español, revela un estudio sobre hábitos de consumo de medios de comunicación difundido ayer por la organización New California Media (NCM).

La prensa étnica llega a 51 millones de personas, de ellos 29 como consumidores primarios y 22 millones como consumidores secundarios, que prefieren la prensa general.

Consumen medios étnicos como fuente principal o secundaria

- 24% del total de la población del país
- 80% de la población étnica.
- 87% de los Latinos en Estados Unidos
- 74% de los afroamericanos
- 74% de los árabes americanos
- Entre los hispanos, consumidores primarios
- 67% de los cubanos
- 59% de los centroamericanos
- 54% de los sudamericanos
- 53% de los mexicanos
- 51% de los puertorriqueños

El 82% de los latinos confían en los medios étnicos para darles información sobre su país de origen o su propia comunidad; el 64%, para datos sobre el gobierno y la política.

El informe, que analiza los hábitos de diferentes grupos étnicos, resalta que los medios en español tienen una difusión "casi universal" en el país. Junto al éxito de canales de televisión en español, la radio y los periódicos en lengua hispana están irrumpiendo de manera "muy rápida" en el mercado estadounidense. Muchos recurren a periódicos y transmisiones en idiomas extranjeros porque el inglés no es su lengua nativa. Además, reconocen, con frecuencia los medios dirigidos a las etnias cubren mejor lo ocurrido en la patria y la comunidad.

Además de los consumidores hispanos, el informe se ocupa también de la comunidad asiática, africana, árabe y nativoamericana de Estados Unidos.

La investigación arroja que casi uno de cada cuatro adultos de origen extranjero que viven en EU —51 millones de personas—

prefiere medios étnicos y que 29 millones (el 13% del total de la población) acuden a estos mismos medios como primera fuente de información.

Sandy Close, directora ejecutiva de NCM, afirmó que esta encuesta "es el primer paso para trazar el mapa de un vasto panorama periodístico, que ha sido invisible hasta ahora porque no es en inglés o porque hace referencia a diferentes culturas".

"La prensa étnica", agregó Close, "está surgiendo a la vista de todos como un gigante oculto".

Agregó que el sondeo "es una llamada de atención tanto para los anunciantes, que dirigen a los medios étnicos una mínima parte de los 145 mil millones de dólares que invierten cada año en publicidad, como para las agencias gubernamentales y de publicidad social".

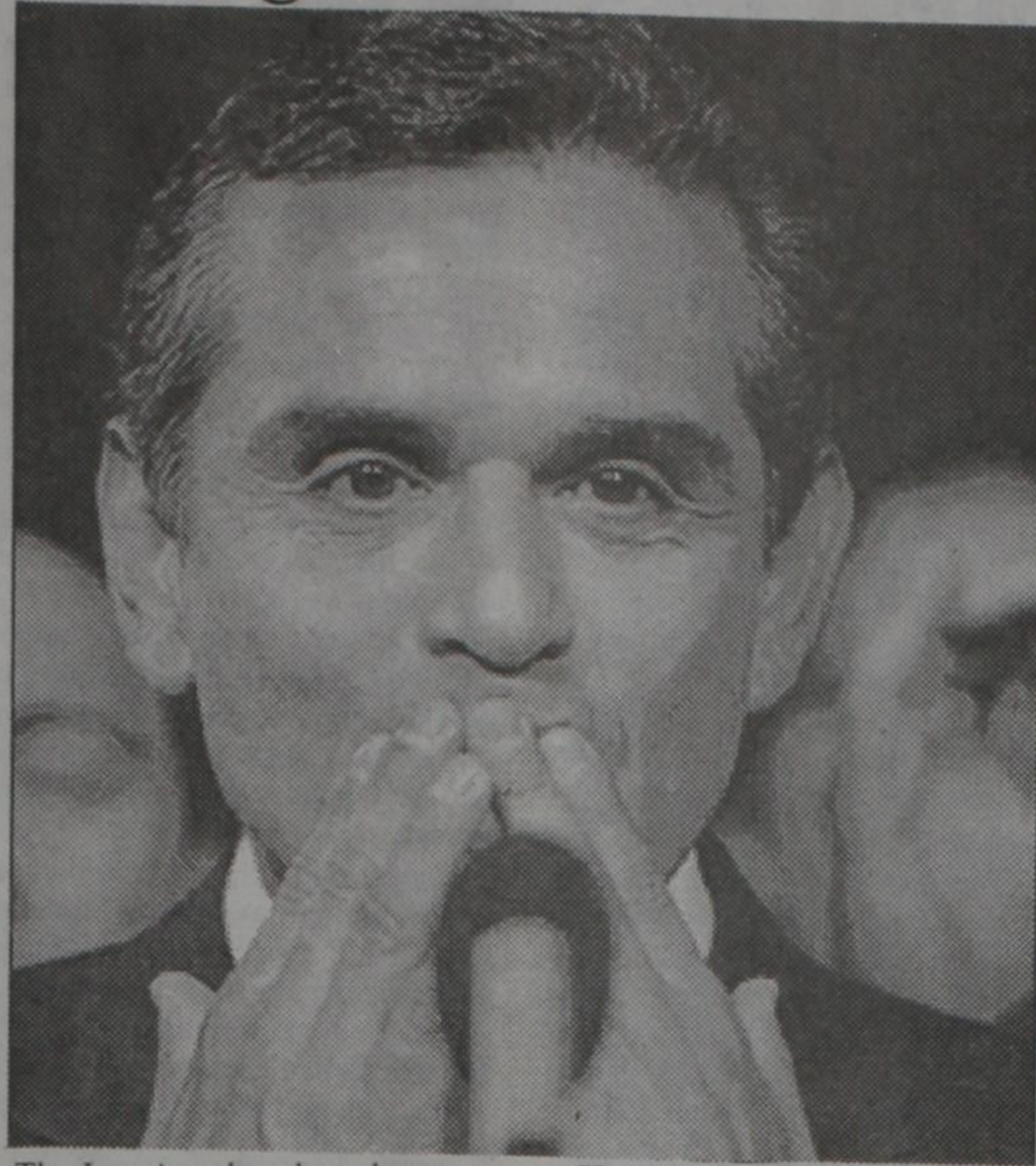
"Tenemos una sociedad multicultural con opciones multimedia, por lo que la gente presta atención a los medios de comunicación que le prestan atención a ellos", dijo Félix Gutiérrez, profesor de periodismo en la Facultad Annenberg de Comunicación en la Universidad del Sur de la Florida.

La encuesta halló que más de la mitad de todos los adultos hispanos preferían los medios de comunicación dirigidos a las etnias. Aproximadamente el 60% de los negros y de los árabes, y un cuarto de los asiáticos y los indígenas nativos optaban por ese tipo de prensa.

El encuestador Sergio Bendixen, cuya empresa realizó la encuesta, explicó que ésta confirma "el impacto destacado que los medios de comunicación étnicos están haciendo en los Estados Unidos. La televisión en español y árabe, la radio afroamericana, los periódicos asiáticos y indígenas claramente llegan a una gran mayoría de sus mercados."

El estudio fue comisionado por NCM junto con el Centro para el Progreso Americano (CAP) y el Fondo para el Consejo de Educación sobre Derechos Civiles (LCCR). Se entrevistó, en 10 idiomas, a 1,850 adultos hispanos, afroamericanos, asiáticos, árabes y nativoamericanos, que representan a 64 millones de personas.

Villaraigosa demands a more intelligent immigration policy



The Los Angeles elected mayor, Antonio Villaraigosa, demanded a "more intelligent" immigration policy allowing the legalization of millions of undocumented people instead of "punishing" them with more restrictions.

"We need a more realistic immigration policy that reflects the reality of the United States", Villaraigosa said during the opening of the National La Raza Council new facilities in Washington which is named after its founder and president for many years, Raúl Yzaguirre.

He stated that US conservative sectors that want to "punish" immigrants "must be educated" since they want anti-immigrant laws passed including the "Real ID" one which bans the issuing of driving licenses to undocumented people and boosts the building of a new border wall.

L.A.'s elected mayor stated, however, that the United States "is a country of law", a country we have to respect just like Mexico has a migration policy which not includes the possibility of opening its borders to Guatemalan or

El Salvador immigrants.

Villaraigosa, 52, the first Latin mayor of Los Angeles since 1872, expressed his support to initiatives "leading to the regularization" or millions of undocumented workers in this country.

In order for this to be achieved, it is necessary for a coalition in favor of the immigration reform to be created including not only Mexico but other countries like El Salvador, which has a great number of immigrants in the United States, Villaraigosa, former president of the State Assembly, affirmed.

Villaraigosa was part of the "Campaign for America's Future" conference yesterday searching to boost progress forces in the US against what he considers "the right wing's failure".

The opening ceremony of the

new La Raza facilities was attended by Yzaguirre, his predecessor, Janet Murguía; the president of the Los Angeles paper "La Opinion" Mónica Lozano and Latin community leaders of Washington.

Murguía said the new facilities of La Raza Council represents Yzaguirre's sacrifice and vision.

"There are initiatives like the ones brought forward by McCain and Kennedy which are supported by Hispanics", Murguía told Notimex in reference to the immigration reform proposed by the Republican senator Edward Kennedy, paving the way for millions of immigrants to get legalized.

"It is very important to advocate for this sort of immigration proposals", he said.

¿Que Pasa?

FREE CPR Training

If more people knew how to administer CPR, many more lives could be saved in an emergency. Covenant Health System, with assistance from our region's American Heart Association Training Centers, will offer a free CPR training class.

The class will be held Sat., June 11 from 9 to 11 am and noon to 2 pm at the Knipling Education Conference Center, located on the sixth floor of the West Parking Garage at 21st Street and Louisville Avenue.

Instructors and equipment will be provided and space is limited. For more information call 725-0476 to register.

8th Annual Golf for Diabetes

The 8th Annual Golf for Diabetes Golf for Diabetes Golf Tournament benefiting the Covenant Center for Outpatient Diabetes Education will be held Sat., July 9, at Meadowbrook Golf Course in Mackenzie Park. Sign in begins at 7:30 am followed by an 8 am shotgun start.

Prizes will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd places, closest to the pin and longest drive.

For more information call 725-5460. Registration ends July 1st.

5th Annual Can-Can Fun in the Sun Food Drive

Covenant Health System & KLBK are joining together for the 5th annual Can-Can Fun in the Sun Food Drive benefiting the South Plains Food Bank. Canned foods may be placed in the collection bins from 11am to 4 pm, Tues., June 21 through Sat., June 25 at: United Supermarket 4th & Slide; United 82nd & Frankford Ave.; Lowe's Supermarket 82nd & Slide Rd; K-Mart Supercenter 66th & University and Albertson's Supermarket Slide & Loop 289.

For more information call 725-6919.

Ronald McDonald House Annual Rummage Sale

The Ronald McDonald House Annual Rummage Sale will held this Saturday, June 11th 8 am to 2 pm.

New and used items at bargain prices. Furniture, toys, clothes for children and adults, electronics, books, kitchen items and much more.

The event will be held at the old Yates Carpet Store on Brownfield Hwy & Slide Rd.

Money raised will benefit the home-away-from-home for families of critically ill children who are receiving treatment in local hospitals. The Ronald McDonald House serves more than 500 families each year.

Parks Hosts 2nd Annual Photography Competition

Do you have that one in a million photograph taken in one of Lubbock's parks ... a photograph of your child hitting a home run or one of our incredible sunsets reflected in a park play area or your family celebrating the 4th of July! Then Parks and Recreation is looking for you!

In July 2005, the Parks & Recreation Department and www.LubbockFunClub.com will host the 2nd Annual Parks & Recreation Photography Competition & Exhibit.

The exhibit will be at the Garden & Arts Center at 4215 University. The competition open to public, no entry fees. There are requirements that need to be met. For dates and more information as for drop off days of material or etc. call 767-3724.

U.S. Migrants Ask Mexico to Help Families

Mexican migrants from the Chicago area asked the Mexican government Monday to help them reunite families separated by deportations, arguing that new U.S. immigration and terrorism laws are applied unfairly to hardworking people.

The group met with a representative of President Vicente Fox's administration and Mexico City Mayor Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador and asked both to send President Bush letters requesting pardons for some 60 people who have been deported recently, often separating husbands from wives and children from their parents.

The group said Lopez Obrador told them he would give them a letter. It wasn't immediately clear if the administration would also

produce a letter.

The group of about a dozen deported migrants and activists said new U.S. immigration and anti-terrorism policies were being used to deport people seeking citizenship.

Romina Perea described being deported to Mexico more than two months ago - even though her husband and children were all U.S. citizens. She said she was forced to sneak into the United States more than five years ago after the U.S. government denied her a visa to be with her husband.

"They make you go to extremes," she said, accompanied by her two children, who came to live with her in Mexico. "There are thousands, thousands of families affected."

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Poll: Minority Groups Favor Ethnic Media

Nearly half the country's Hispanics, Asian Americans and other minorities prefer ethnic newspapers, television and radio to mainstream media, according to a poll released Tuesday.

Outlets from Korean-language dailies to Spanish-broadcasting powerhouse Univision Communications Inc. attract 45 percent of adults in major minority groups, or about 29 million people nationwide, at least several times a week over their mainstream counterparts, a poll commissioned by the nonprofit New California Media shows.

Overall, ethnic media reach approximately 80 percent the groups studied — about 51 million people, or a quarter of the U.S. adult population.

"This is something that is growing like a giant hidden in plain sight," said Sandy Close, executive director for NCM, a nationwide association of more than 700 ethnic media groups.

Many turn to foreign language newspapers and broadcasts because English isn't their native language. Additionally, minority media often do a better job covering news from the homeland and other issues the community cares about.

"We have a multicultural society with multimedia choices, so people pay attention to media that pay attention to them. That's the bottom line," said Felix Gutiérrez, professor of journalism at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California.

Anabel Delgado, 29, a Mexican immigrant who responded to the poll, watches up to two hours a day of Hispanic soap operas, or telenovelas, and music videos on Spanish language stations. She favors the news shows in particular because they focus on topics affecting Hispanics like immigration and diabetes.

"The Spanish news seems to let Latinos know more about what interests us, things English channels don't talk much about," said Delgado, a customer service representative who lives in El Monte, east of Los Angeles.

The survey found that more than half of all Hispanic adults preferred ethnic media. About 60 percent of blacks and Arab Americans, and a fourth of Asian Americans and Native Americans, opted for such outlets.

Gutiérrez said the poll was further evidence that the news media are fracturing into segments, a trend fueled in part by advertisers looking to tailor their messages to individual consumers.

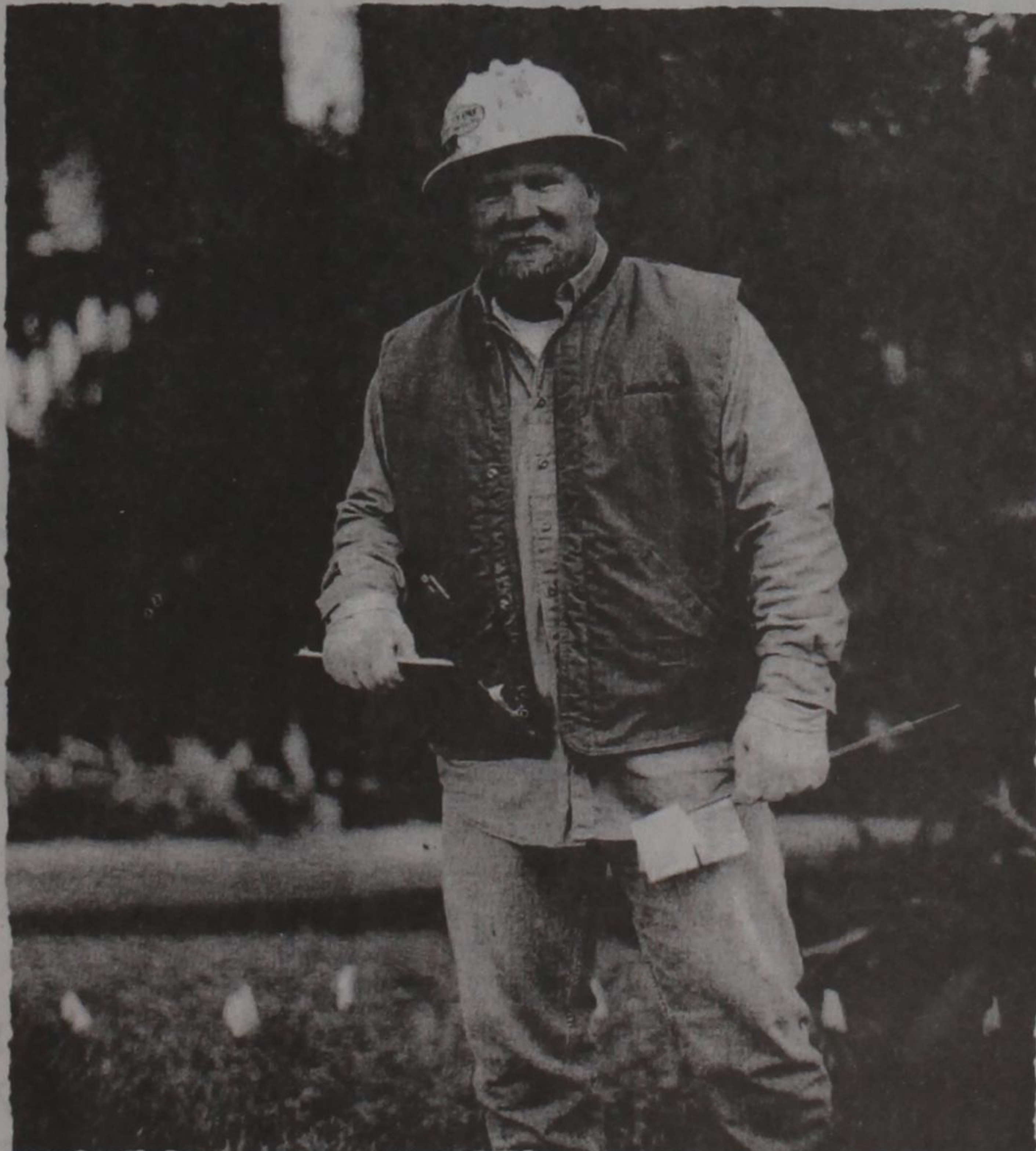
Some companies see minorities — many of whom are immigrants whose tastes and buying habits are still being shaped — as an untapped market.

Advertising and marketing in mainstream media, about \$140 billion a year, is growing about 3 percent annually, according to NCM estimates. In Asian American media, marketing dollars hover around \$100 million a year, but are expanding about 10 percent. For Hispanic outlets, ad spending is about \$3 billion and increasing at a staggering 15 percent.

"They're ripe for the picking," Gutiérrez said of minority groups. "Individually they may not have much buying power, but collectively they do."

The poll was conducted through telephone interviews with 1,895 black, Hispanic, Asian American, Arab American and Native American adults across the country from April to May. It has a margin of error between 3.5 and 10 percentage points, depending on the sample.

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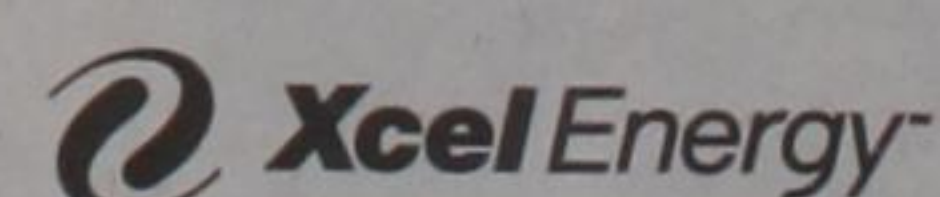


SI QUIERE HACER HOYOS EN SU JARDIN PIENSELO DOS VECES ¡SU VIDA PUEDE ESTAR EN PELIGRO!

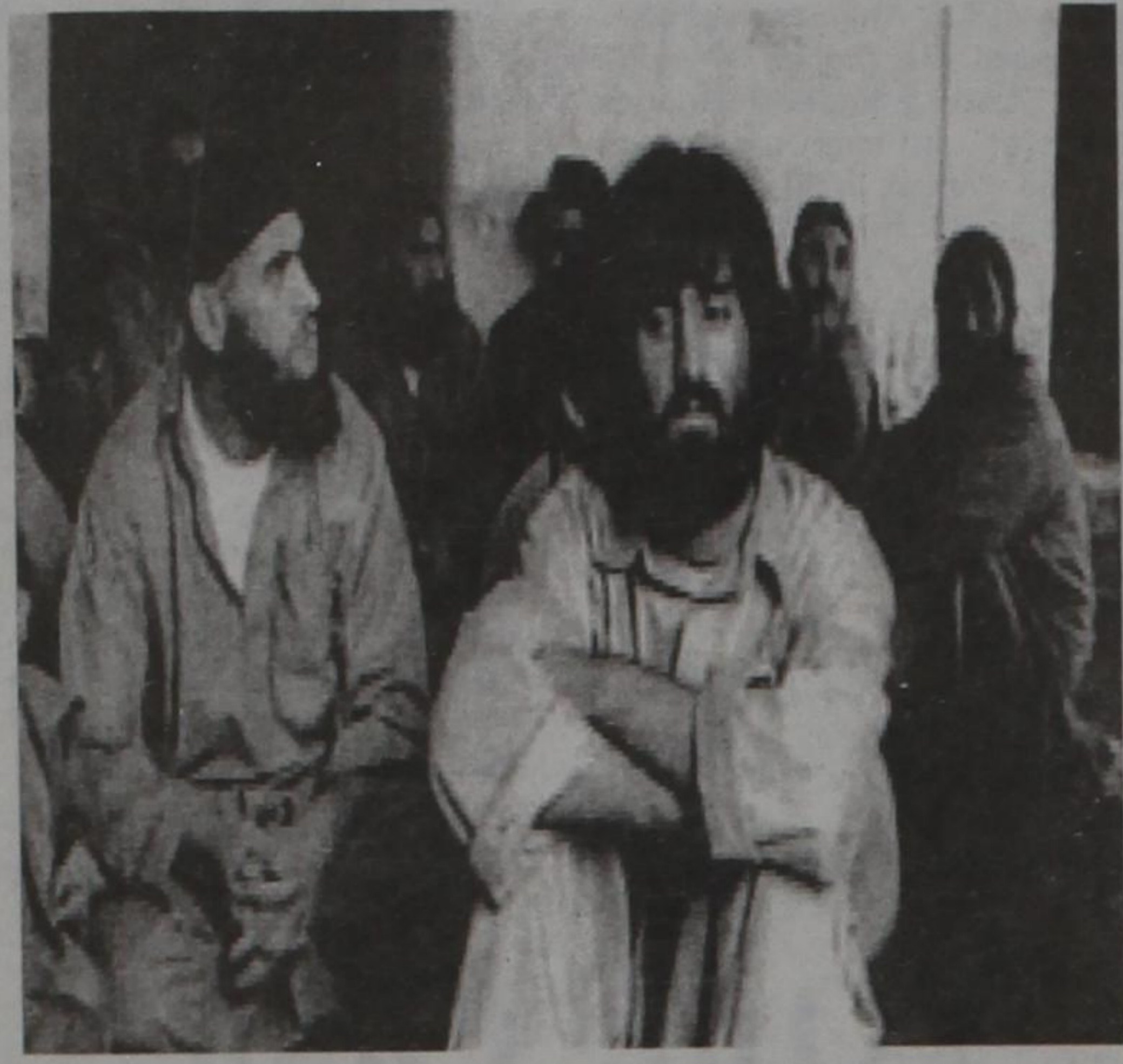
Cuando trabaja en su jardín puede descubrir todo tipo de cosas, pero lo que no quiere encontrar es un cable eléctrico o un tubo de gas natural subterráneo. Si les toca con una pala o excavadora, puede morir. Nuestro personal entierra los cables eléctricos y tubos de gas de Xcel Energy a una profundidad segura. Pero la erosión, los trabajos de jardinería y las construcciones los acercan a la superficie. Siempre que trabaje en el jardín, debe comunicarse con el DIG TESS (Texas Excavation Safety System) al 1-800-344-8377, dos días hábiles antes de hacer hoyos en su jardín. Nosotros enviaremos a nuestro técnico a marcar los lugares en los que hay cables eléctricos o tubos de gas. Espere los días requeridos y podrá empezar a trabajar con cuidado alrededor de las marcas. Esto lo hacemos por su seguridad y por que así lo exige la ley. Tome este consejo de alguien que sabe muy bien los peligros de los cables eléctricos y tubos de gas subterráneos. Estamos seguros que usted no desea encontrarse con este tipo de sorpresas. Recuerde, ¡aléjese! Cuide su vida. Xcel Energy. Usted recibe toda nuestra energía.

Jack, Especialista

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Jimmy Carter urges closing of Guantanamo prison



Former US president and Nobel Peace Prize winner Jimmy Carter called for the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to be closed, "to demonstrate clearly our nation's historic commitment to protect human rights."

"Our government needs to close down Guantanamo and the two dozen secret detention facilities run by the United States as soon as possible," Carter said Tuesday in Atlanta at a conference organized by the Carter Center.

He also called for an end to the policy of transferring prisoners to countries where there have been reports of torture, and pressed for an independent commission to investigate the US detention facilities.

Senator Joseph Biden, the top

Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations committee, on Sunday also called for Guantanamo to be closed, saying it represented a danger for the American people.

The detention facility at Guantanamo was opened on January 11, 2002 to house suspected members of Afghanistan's ousted Taliban regime and the Al-Qaeda network.

The Pentagon revealed last week, after wrapping up an investigation, that US military personnel at Guantanamo Bay once kicked the Koran and that a copy of the Islamic holy book was sprayed with urine in another incident, but that overall US soldiers at the camp handled the book with respect.

Empeoran términos de asistencia financiera a estudiantes

Las familias estadounidenses tendrán que invertir más dinero para enviar a sus hijos a la Universidad debido a cambios del gobierno federal en la asistencia financiera a estudiantes.

Las modificaciones afectan los parámetros de selección para recibir ayuda económica de parte de las autoridades federales, por lo que hará más difícil a los estudiantes clasificar para recibir becas o préstamos de parte del gobierno en el próximo año escolar.

Los cambios tendrán un impacto devastador en los alumnos de bajos ingresos y de clase media ya que, según las nuevas reglas, deberán aportar más dinero de sus bolsillos para costear sus estudios universitarios.

Los ajustes a la complicada fórmula del Departamento de Educación, la que muchos desconocen y pocos comprenden, señalan que las familias tendrán que destinar mayores aportes de sus ingresos o activos (ahorros, propiedades e

inversiones) a los gastos universitarios antes de calificar para asistencia monetaria. Como resultado, miles de estudiantes ya no serán elegibles para becas federales, según el The New York Times.

El diario verificó el impacto de la nueva fórmula estudiantil federal en familias que viven en más de 12 estados del país.

Reducción del Congreso Para millones de estudiantes, la ayuda financiera llega a través de diferentes caminos.

Muchos dependen de las becas del gobierno (Pell, Perkins, etc.) o de préstamos con bajos intereses que ofrecen las autoridades federales, estatales o las mismas universidades.

La cantidad del préstamo o beca la determina la fórmula federal estudiantil que establece guías específicas para ser seleccionado.

Toma en consideración una serie de particularidades de la familia, entre ellas, el ingreso

anual, tasa impositiva, inversiones, número de miembros, e incluso la edad de los padres.

La fórmula de ayuda financiera estudiantil permite a las familias deducir un porcentaje de lo que pagan en impuestos estatales y esto a su vez determina cuánto les sobra para costear la Universidad. Este año el Congreso aprobó una reducción significativa (en algunos casos hasta la mitad) en los porcentajes en casi todos los 50 estados.

Aunque los efectos de los cambios de la fórmula estudiantil varían en cada estado, el diario neoyorquino señala que, en general, familias con los mismos ingresos y activos en 2000 tendrían que pagar 1,749 dólares adicionales antes de cumplir con las reglas de elegibilidad para recibir ayuda federal en el año escolar 2005.

Específicamente, en la Universidad de Washington & Jefferson, en Pennsylvania, los padres de

familia tendrían que pagar 1,947 dólares más (comparado con 2004) antes de poder calificar para ayuda federal en 2005, lo que significa un aumento del 17%.

Igual ocurre en la Universidad Emory, de Atlanta (Georgia), en la que las autoridades descubrieron que los ingresos de las familias de sus estudiantes no habían aumentado, pero que tendrían que pagar cuatro mil dólares adicionales antes de recibir ayuda del gobierno.

Mientras tanto, el Departamento de Educación reiteró que la fórmula está legalmente comprometida a reflejar la realidad económica del momento y también lo que pueden costear las familias.

Sin embargo, anticipó que se volverá a revisar y que de ser necesario se harán ajustes que se pondrán en práctica en el año escolar 2006-2007.

SALSA GRINGO

By John Glass

Mexican salsa used to scare me. Just the slightest hint that salsa was nearby would be enough to move my plate to a safe location. This became especially necessary with my ornery father-in-law Charlie close by. Having shelved his Norwegian heritage while living in Mexico for a number of years, he became notorious for the salsa-sabotaged chip. He would hand me one and watch my face turn from eggshell white to burning-building red. Then he'd laugh hysterically as I ran to find

my drink. I grew up in the suburbs of Sacramento. My parents, a few generations distant from their European familial roots, moved us to California from Nebraska when I was young. My father was strictly a meat and potatoes man. Monday was meatloaf and mashed potatoes, Tuesday, roast and boiled potatoes, etc., etc. We rarely ate out, and if we did, it was at Tasty Freeze or Sizzler. No Mexican or Chinese food. No Italian food, either. I thought all

Italian spaghetti tasted like Spaghettios. My first taco came from Taco Bell. I rarely ate pizza. Too spicy. I definitely suffered from white-bread taste buds. Things changed when I began dating Elena Teresa Mendoza Ericksen, who eventually became my wife. Her mother Sebastiana's cooking, with unwritten recipes brought from her native Oaxaca in southern Mexico, opened my eyes and taste buds to a whole new world.

At first I ate her meals to ingratiate myself with Elena's family, I tried Spanish rice, taquitos, carnitas, chorizo (just reading the ingredients label is enough to frighten any child born on the Midwestern plains), and gallina en mole, pieces of chicken swimming in an incredibly delicious dark brown sauce. With Sebastiana's amazing culinary touch, it all started tasting very, very good. I regularly elbowed away Elena's sister and three brothers to heap my plate with seconds.

However, I remained resistant to salsa. Only when goaded by Sebastiana's concerned frowns or her children's pejorative like "Pan crudo" - literally "Raw bread" - did I begin hesitantly to try the very, very mild supermarket jar salsa. I would put a tiny bit on my plate and then barely dip my flour tortilla into it. Occasionally I'd risk a dab of their homemade salsa.

And then one day a fantastic opportunity presented itself. My wife, her sister Elsa and cousins all went shopping, leaving me home with Elena's Tia Alicia, also from Oaxaca. We needed salsa for dinner, so she took me with her to the store to buy the necessary ingredients. Roma tomatoes, tomatillos, onions, garlic, cilantro, jalapeño and serrano peppers were some of them. Over cervezas, I watched her blend them, taking mental notes. Then and there I vowed, with Tia Alicia's encouragement, to make my own salsa some day.

I was a quick learner. Most of my initial batches were good, but not hot enough to satisfy my in-laws. Elena would rate my salsa a six or seven on a scale of ten. Once, with desperation written on her face, she lowered my grade to a two. When we next went shopping for salsa ingredients, I realized why. I had put parsley, not cilantro, into my salsa. Well, they certainly look a lot alike.

I've been cooking up my own salsa for eight years. The more the years go by, the hotter I like it. Now it's hard for me to eat eggs, potato chips, sandwiches - just about everything - without salsa. I like salsa on hot dogs. I even add it to Campbell's chicken-noodle soup.

My salsa has been climbing higher and higher on my wife's scale, and even my brother-in-law Carlos grudgingly acknowledges that it's "OK." A big compliment coming from him.

But the biggest compliment came from Elena's eggshell-white-complexioned friend Lisa the other day. She tried my salsa, yelped and ran into the kitchen for a glass of water. Now, I laugh hysterically.

(c) 2005, Hispanic Link News

Have a Nice Day & Enjoy

SALSA A LO GRINGO

La salsa mexicana antes me daba pavor. La menor indicación de que hubiera cerca salsa era todo lo necesario para que moviera mi plato a otro lugar más seguro. Esto se volvió particularmente necesario al tener al terco de mi suegro, Charlie, al lado. Charlie había puesto en reserva su herencia noruega al vivir unos años en México, volviéndose notorio por sabotear con salsa las tortillas. Me pasaría una para verme el rostro pasar del color de cal blanco al rojo de un edificio en llamas. Después se reiría con ganas mientras corría yo en busca de una bebida para aplacar el quemazón. Yo me crié en los suburbios de Sacramento, California. Mis padres, a varias generaciones distantes de sus raíces europeas, nos

habían trasladado a California desde Nebraska cuando yo era pequeño. Mi padre degustaba estrictamente carne con papas. El lunes se servía carne molida en molde con puré de papas, el martes, asado con papa hervida, etc., etc. Rara vez salíamos a un restaurante a comer, y si lo hacíamos, íbamos a sucursales de cadenas nacionales como Tasty Freeze o Sizzler. No comíamos comida mexicana o china; tampoco italiana. Para mí toda la pasta italiana debía saber a Spaghettios, que viene en lata. El primer taco que me comí fue de Taco Bell. Rara vez comía pizza; me resultaba demasiado picante. En definitiva tenía gusto para poco más que el pan blanco

de molde. Las cosas comenzaron a cambiar cuando empecé a salir con Elena Teresa Ericksen Mendoza, quien al tiempo se convirtió en mi esposa. La cocina de su madre, Sebastiana, de recetas memorizadas de su Oaxaca natal, me abrieron los ojos y el gusto a todo un mundo nuevo. Al principio comía lo que me servía para quedar bien con la familia. Probé el arroz mexicano, los taquitos, carnitas, chorizo (el solo leer los ingredientes basta para asustar a cualquier hijo de la planicie de los Estados Unidos), y gallina en mole, pedazos de pollo sumergidos en una salsa de color marrón oscuro, increíblemente deliciosa.

Con la experta mano culinaria de Sebastiana, todo comenzó a tener un sabor muy, muy rico. No perdía la oportunidad de dar de codazos para sacar a la hermana y los tres hermanos de Elena y amontonar en mi plato las delicias - por segunda vez. No obstante, seguía resistente a los encantos de la salsa. Sólo cuando me instaban el ceño fruncido de Sebastiana o los apodosos peyorativos de sus hijos, como "pan crudo", de manera vacilante comenzaba yo a probar la muy, muy suave salsa de tarro de supermercado. Pondría una cantidad minúscula sobre el plato y apenas rozaría allí mi tortilla. De vez en cuando me arriesgaba a un toquesito de la salsa casera. Pero entonces, un día se me presentó una oportunidad fantástica. Mi esposa, su hermana y las primas se fueron todas de compras, dejándome solo en casa con la tía Alicia, también de Oaxaca. Nos hacía falta salsa para la cena, entonces me llevó a la tienda a comprar los ingredientes necesarios - tomates roma, tomatillos, cebollas, ajo, cilantro, jalapeño y chiles serrano. Con unas cervecitas, me puse a ver que los mezclara, haciendo notas menta-

les. En ese momento prometí, con el apoyo de la tía Alicia, hacer algún día mi propia salsa. Aprendí rápido. La mayoría de mis primeros intentos salieron bien, pero no picaban lo suficiente para mi familia política. Elena le daría a mi salsa un seis o un siete sobre una escala de diez. Una vez, con el rostro reflejando su desesperación, me bajó el puntaje a dos. Cuando volvimos a ir en busca de los ingredientes para la salsa, me di cuenta por qué. Le había echado perejil y no cilantro a mi salsa. Bueno, es que se parecen mucho. Hace ocho años que preparo mi propia salsa. Mientras más pasan los años, más picante me gusta. Ahora me cuesta comer huevos, papitas, sándwiches - prácticamente todo - sin salsa. Me gusta ponerle salsa a las salchichas, hasta le echo un poco a mi sopa de pollo con fideos de Campbell. Ha ido subiendo más y más mi salsa en la escala de mi esposa, y hasta mi cuñado Carlos, resistiéndose, reconoce que "está bien"; un tremendo cumplido que lo diga él. Pero el mayor cumplido me lo dio nuestra amiga, Lisa, tez color de cal, el otro día. Probó mi salsa, dio un grito, y corrió a la cocina a buscar un vaso de agua. Ahora, el que se ríe con ganas soy yo. (c) 2005, Hispanic Link News

"My daughter's high school graduation is a special occasion, so I think it's okay if I allow her and her friends to drink alcohol."

THINK AGAIN.

Parents have the power to help prevent underage drinking. Regardless of whether you're buying teens alcohol or hosting a drinking party for minors, it's irresponsible and illegal. Do your part to prevent. Don't provide alcohol to minors.

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Detroit y San Antonio Ofecerán un Básquetbol Tradicional

La Serie por el Campeonato de la NBA tendrá como protagonistas a dos equipos que no necesariamente impresionan por su forma de jugar.

Para el público latinoamericano, habrá un interés especial. La serie enfrentará al argentino Manu Ginóbili, de San Antonio, y al puertorriqueño Carlos Arroyo, de los Pistons. Ginóbili llega a la serie en el mejor momento de su carrera, tras conquistar la medalla de oro en Atenas y luego de una temporada en la que ha sido una pieza fundamental de las Espuelas.

Pero ni los Pistons de Detroit ni Espuelas de San Antonio son tan espectaculares en la cancha. Con todo, ambos equipos representarán un deleite para los tradicionalistas del basquetbol.

Los Pistons son los defensores del título. Las Espuelas se coronaron un año atrás.

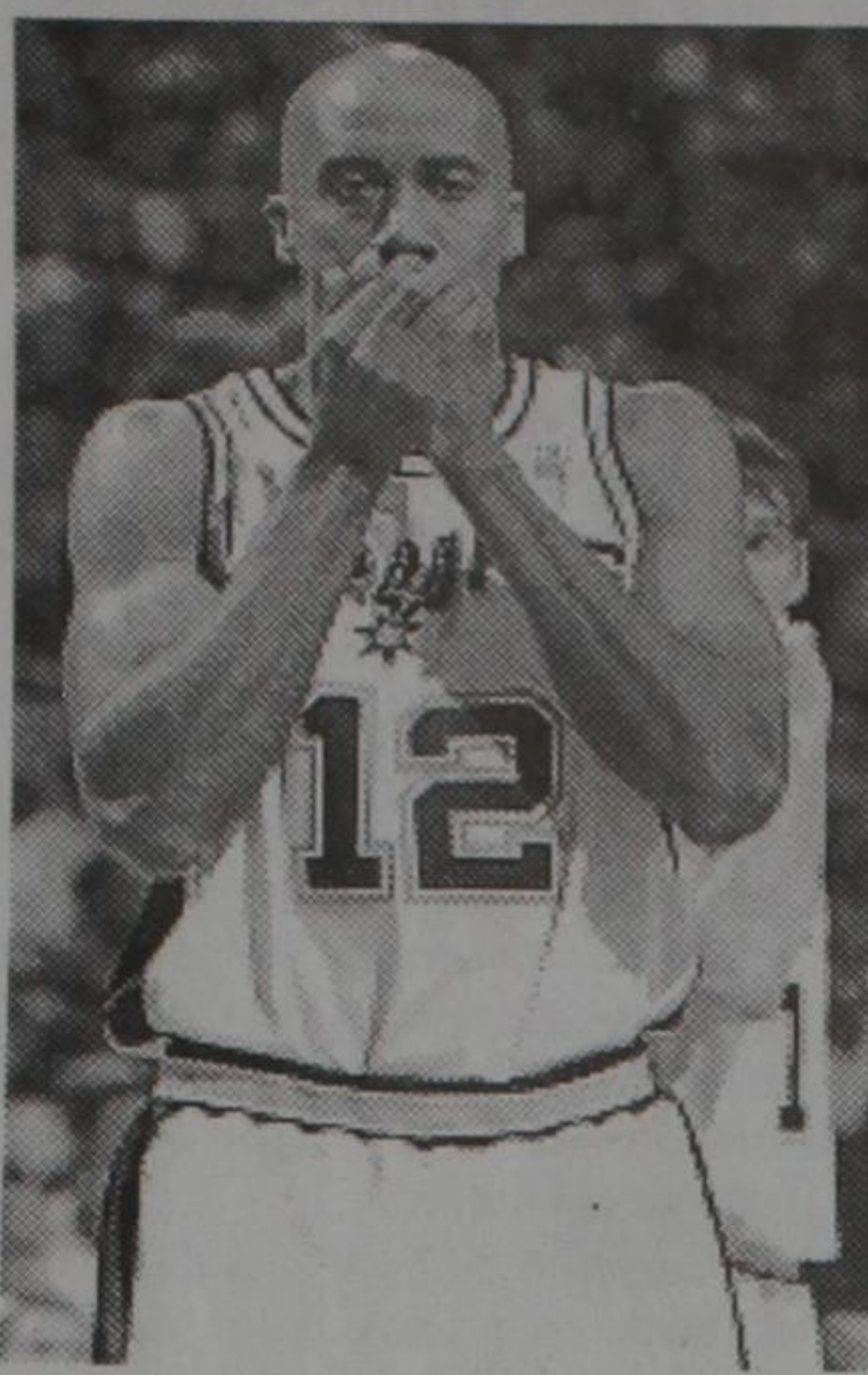
El único superastro en la serie, Tim Duncan, parece aburrido, pero en realidad es muy carismático. Los técnicos, Larry Brown de Detroit y Gregg Popovich de San Antonio, son tan buenos amigos que el segundo fue padrino de bodas del primero.

Los dos equipos han hecho de la defensiva y el juego de conjunto sus mejores armas.

Además, ahí estará el extrovertido Rasheed Wallace, de Detroit, con sus declaraciones controvertidas y el cinturón de campeón, semejante al que usan los boxeadores, que se mandó hacer para esta temporada.

El primer duelo está previsto para mañana, y el segundo para el domingo. La serie viajará luego al norte, para los encuentros 3, 4 y 5.

El enfrentamiento luce parejo —quizá se trata del tipo de serie que se prolongará a siete encuentros, algo que no ocurre en la fi-



Carlos Arroyo will be a key coming off the bench to spell Chauncey Billups.

nal de la NBA desde 1994.

San Antonio ha tenido oportunidad de descansar desde la noche del miércoles, cuando eliminó a los Soles de Phoenix. El martes, Espuelas pudieron por fin entrenar sabiendo quién será el rival ante el que buscarán su tercer título en siete años.

Ese rival, Detroit, es simplemente temible.

No se puede destacar a una sola figura de los Pistons, ni siquiera al eficiente Ben Wallace. Detroit es un cuadro construido bajo el concepto del juego de conjunto.

Los apostadores consideran a San Antonio ligeramente favorito para ganar la serie, un factor que los Pistons seguramente interpretarán como la señal más reciente de que la gente cuestiona aún su calidad, pese a ser los campeones.

Spurs, Pistons Championship to Go Distance

This year's NBA Finals might have the No. 2 seeds from the East and West, but it's a series that's second to none. The belly-aching over the lack of a superstar of the magnitude of a Shaquille O'Neal will be replaced by a series in which you will never know what to expect.

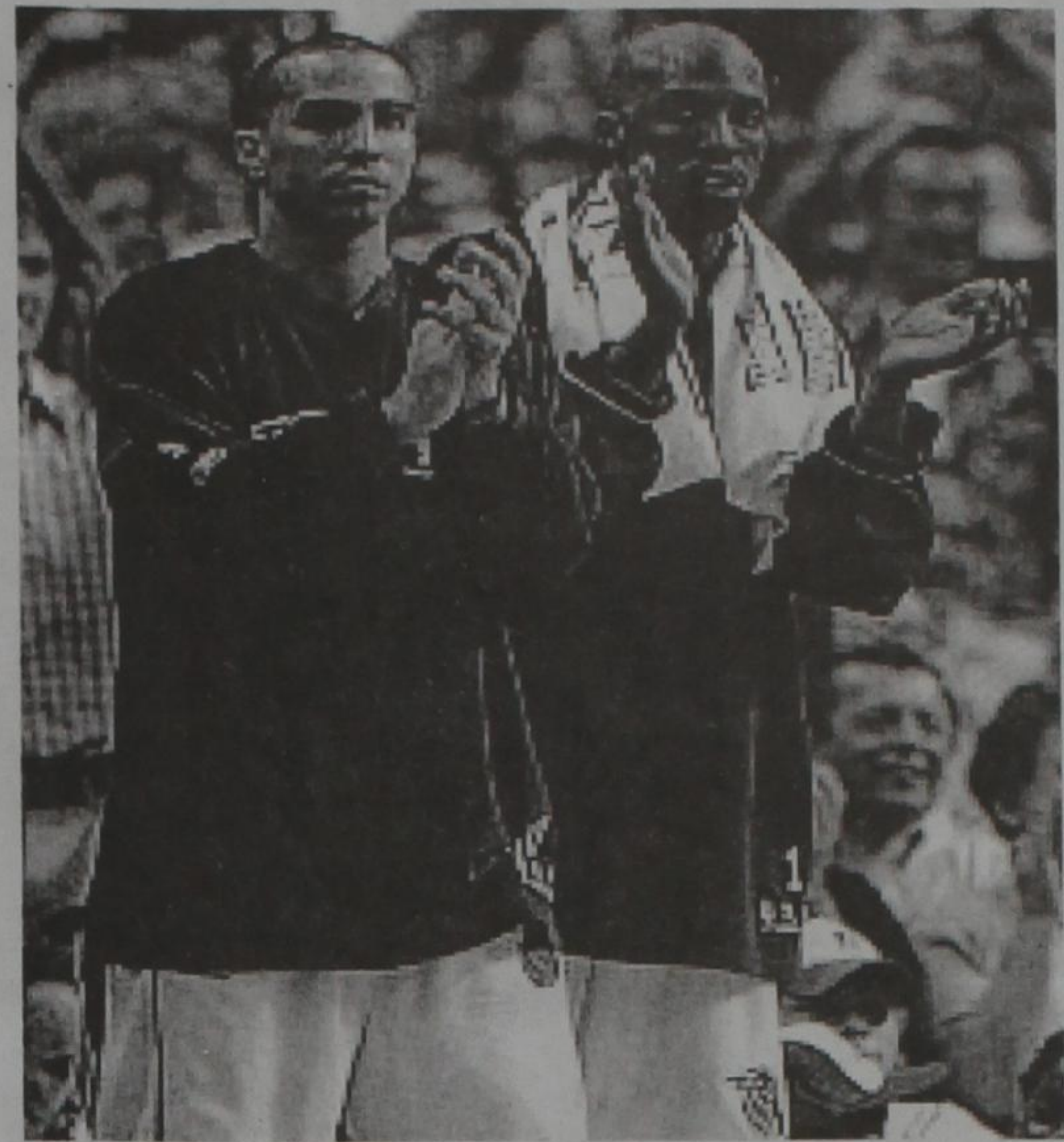
The Spurs count on Bruce Bowen to lock up Richard Hamilton. (Getty Images)

Forget the thunderous dunks or eye-opening acrobatics; this series seems likely to go the distance, providing drama nightly. Sturdy defenses and veteran teams that make the extra pass -- what basketball fan wouldn't want to see that? The San Antonio Spurs and Detroit Pistons haven't reached the Finals for nothing.

Here are five central themes to watch in this series, a true purist's paradise:

1. The Wallace Boys and the 'Dyess man ganging up on Timmy: Much like they did against Miami's O'Neal, the Pistons' three main big men will take turns tangling with Tim Duncan, and it will be interesting to see how often Larry Brown varies his strategies. Ben Wallace is the bruiser of the bunch, and will look to get as physical with Duncan as possible. One way Duncan can combat Big Ben is to pop out for jumpers on the pick and roll instead of rolling toward the basket, forcing Detroit's top rebounder out from under the basket. That would leave Nazr Mohammed, who flourished on the offensive boards against Seattle and Phoenix, available to crash more easily.

The length and versatility of Rasheed Wallace and Antonio McDyess will also be used against Duncan, but Sheed's propensity for picking up touch fouls could make for a dangerous proposition against a player as adept at generating contact with his footwork, pump fakes and genius around the basket. Rasheed Wallace, called the Pistons' best player by teammate



The Spurs count on Bruce Bowen to lock up Richard Hamilton

Chauncey Billups, must stay on the floor.

2. Rip vs. the Ripper: Upon helping eliminate the Pacers, Richard Hamilton was told by Reggie Miller that it's on him to carry on the legacy as the game's best shooter. It looks like he has taken that burden to heart. Hamilton was incredibly clutch against Miami and will now have good buddy Bruce Bowen to pester him.

Bowen has drawn criticism for his physical play and what some have labeled as dirty tactics. It has already cost him one friendship in Ray Allen. Will it cost him another former UConn standout's affection? With the big prize at stake, emotions are bound to be high. Bowen runs through screens with reckless abandon, and it's inevitable a few hard fouls are in Hamilton's future. Hamilton shot just 8-for-26 in the two meetings with the

Parker already has 60 playoff notches in his belt, but he's often inconsistent and tends to disappear for stretches.

Billups hasn't shot the ball well these playoffs, but is always there when needed. President Joe Dumars was gushing about him after Monday night's Game 7, telling a small group of reporters that Billups might be the best clutch shooter in franchise history, and "that includes myself, Isiah. We've done some great things here, but Chauncey has done it down the stretch, time and time again, more than anybody else."

5. Bench play: Brown went deeper into his bench against Miami than he had in the first two series, dusting off Elden Campbell and relying more on Carlos Arroyo. While Campbell probably won't see as much action without a Shaq to push around, Arroyo could play a major role, given his familiarity with the Spurs. The first man off the bench will obviously be McDyess, who has been a difference-maker all playoffs. Lindsey Hunter is the only other Piston who should see action, providing his pesky energy for 8-10 minutes a night.

Spurs this season.

3. Detroit is in trouble if ... The Manu Ginobili legend continues to grow. He's already being called the most exciting player in this series, and he has been spectacular thus far.

Ginobili keys San Antonio's offensive proficiency with his fearless penetration, and if his jumper is falling, forget about it, he's practically unguardable. It doesn't seem like an appealing proposition to have Rip chasing Manu around on defense and trying to run away from Bowen on the other end.

If Ginobili continues to shine as he has to date, the Spurs are going to win the series and the league will have its first true Latin superstar.

4. San Antonio is in trouble if ... The unflappable Billups consistently gets the better of 23-year-old "veteran" Tony Parker. Despite their difference in age,

Gregg Popovich is far more reliant on his reserves than his mentor, with Robert Horry and Brent Barry likely to log significant action depending on the combination Detroit puts out there.

Horry, as he always does around this time, has taken his game up three notches, doing all the little things from rebounding to setting screens to nailing clutch shots. He'll play a major role in his search for a sixth ring. When Barry is knocking down shots, San Antonio is as dangerous offensively as it gets. Pop will also find minutes for Glenn Robinson, Beno Udrih and Devin Brown.

And so ... This series could be decided by surprise heroes, and San Antonio appears to have more options.

Mejia's selection: Spurs in 7.

Lena refuses to be using Sanz as a catapult to stardom



Cuban singer Lena, who is currently producing here her homonymous debut album, refused today being called a "plastic" artists who is just trying to make it in the music industry thanks to her friendship with Spanish singer Alejandro Sanz.

"Friendships in showbiz can make this things happen, but then you need talent, studies, that is, the necessary foundations, you won't make it unless you have that", she assured.

Lena told Notimex she knew success was temporary and more when you rely on your image, not your talent.

"I have studied to become a star. Celia Cruz used to say that "what really counts is not how you reach the top, but how you stay there", and that is what I want, the 27-year-old artists said.

"I can sing, dance and I am a pianist and write my own songs. I think that sets me apart from many singers who just play other people's music, I give my 100% on stage", Lena, the daughter of Malena Burke and grand-daughter of the legendary Elena Burke, stated.

"My songs deal with love, hate, passion and betrayal. Most of my lyrics are related to my personal life and other experiences", she said.

A music lover of Joan Manuel Serrat, Fito Páez, Joaquín Sabina, Aleks Syntec and Sin Bandera, among others, she said she would love to make a duet with other personalities, just like she did with Alejandro Sanz.

Lena, who thinks of herself as a very shy girl, worked as a backup singer for Gloria Estefan, Julio Iglesias, Enrique Iglesias, Alexandre Pires, Chayanne, Thalía, Jennifer López y Plácido Domingo, and Sanz, just to mention some.

"I hope people will open their hearts to me and enjoy my music", Lena concluded. She will stay in Mexico to later on visit Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Spain and the United States.

Some of Lena's tracks are

Hillary Clinton Ataca con Todo

La senadora Hillary Rodham Clinton criticó al gobierno del presidente George W. Bush por el desempleo, las restricciones a los derechos de las mujeres y el medio ambiente. Afirmó además que su intención es "consolidar y abusar del poder".

"Vivimos en una época en que la otra parte no quiere que veamos los hechos. Para ellos los hechos son inconvenientes", tales como "el calentamiento global de la atmósfera, el mercurio en la atmósfera" o que "la gente está desempleada más tiempo que antes", señaló Clinton.

La ex primera dama habló el lunes en el curso de un acto en que se recaudaron 250.000 dólares para su campaña de reelección en el Senado.

"Creo que nunca antes en nuestra historia ha existido un gobierno con más (claras) intenciones de consolidarse en el poder y

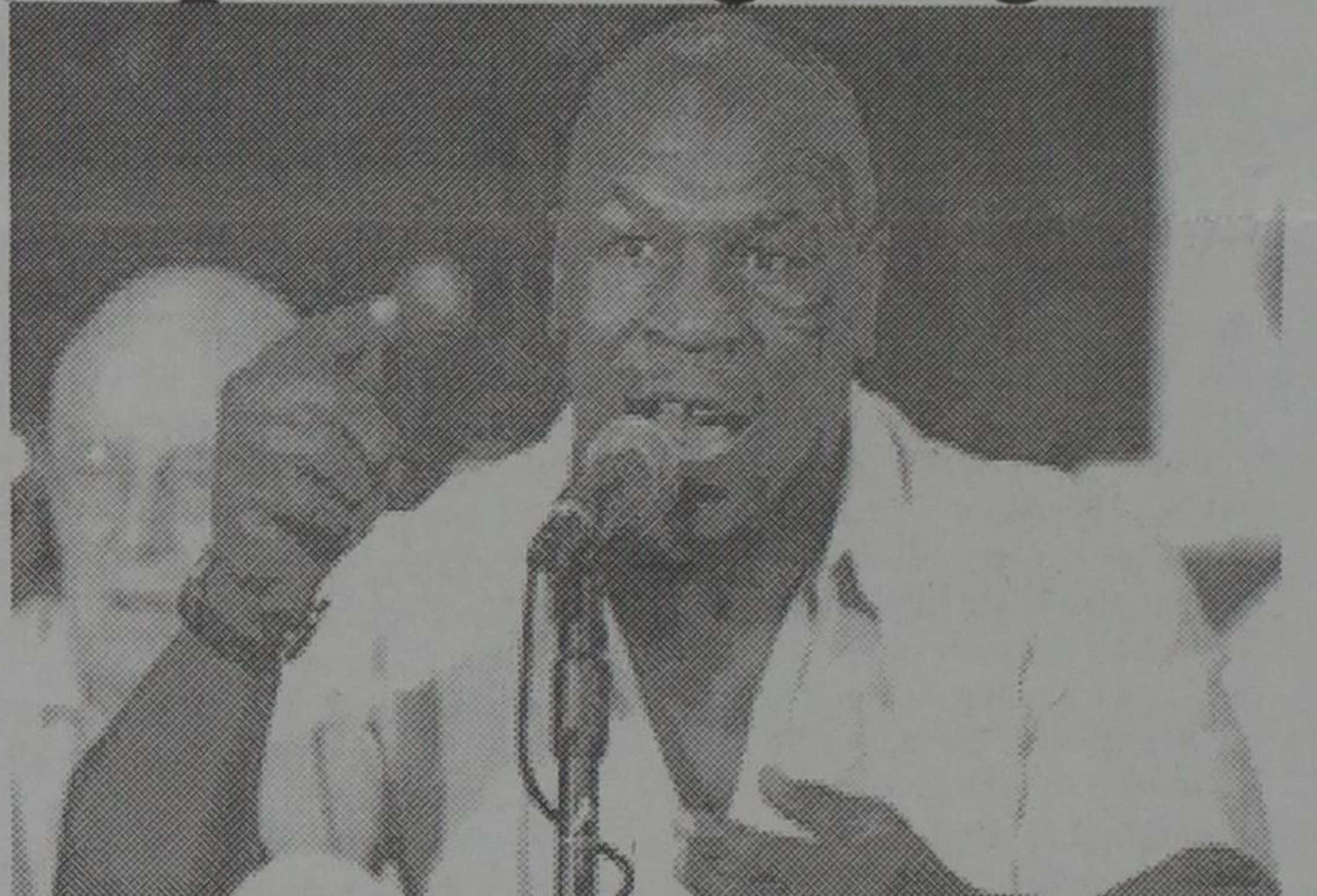
abusar de él para adelantar su propia agenda", dijo en relación al gobierno de Bush.

Clinton acusó a la administración republicana de "querer dar marcha atrás" en relación al movimiento sindical, a los derechos de la mujer, y a la protección del medio ambiente.

Una vocera del Comité Nacional Republicano comparó los comentarios de Clinton con recientes críticas formuladas por el presidente del Comité Nacional Demócrata Howard Dean, quien fue uno de los precandidatos presidenciales demócratas en la anterior campaña electoral.

"Es malo que la senadora por Nueva York repita (comentarios) de alguien que piensa que los ataques personales pueden reemplazar a una agenda" política, dijo la secretaria de prensa del CNR, Tracey Schmitt.

Tyson Promotes Upcoming Fight



Former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson gestures during a news conference to promote his upcoming fight with Kevin McBride on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 in Washington. Tyson will fight McBride on June 11.

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Another Fun Tournament

Tras la muerte de dos niñas, el calmor aumenta

En su muerte, las niñas Airis Estrella Enriquez Pando, de 7 años, y Anahí Orozco, de 10, se convirtieron en las hijas de todo el mundo.

Ambas fueron asesinadas salvajemente el mes pasado. Airis Estrella fue violada, golpeada en la cabeza y luego metida un barril de plástico que fue cubierto en cemento. Anahí fue violada, estrangulada y quemada dentro de su propia casa.

Gabriela Lorenzo, madre de Anahí Orozco, de 10 años, estrangulada y parcialmente quemada hace unas semanas, es auxiliada por amigos y vecinos cuando estuvo a punto de desfallecer al llegar a su casa el pasado 18 de mayo en Ciudad Juárez, México.

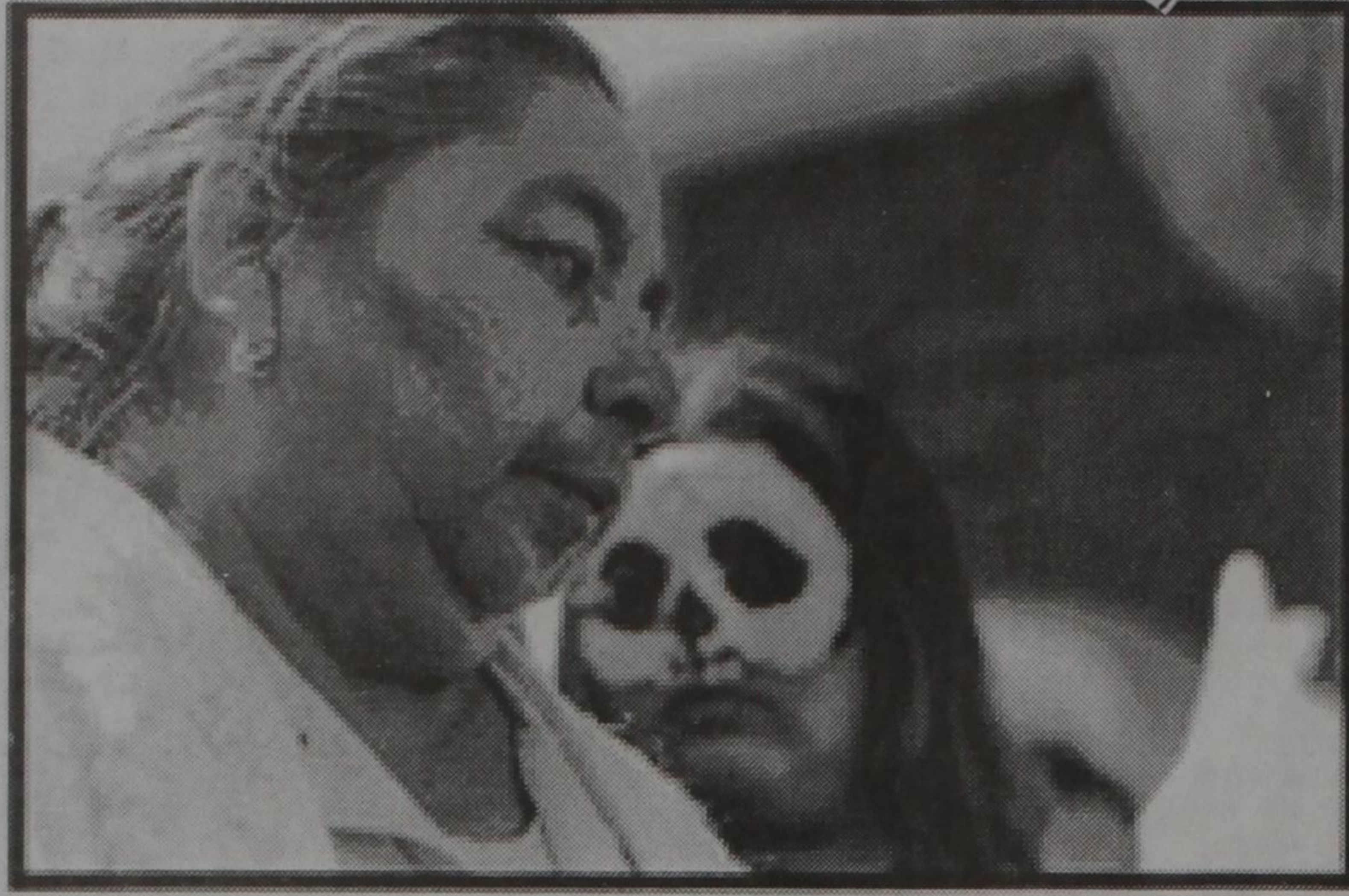
La pérdida de dos niñas pequeñas en una ciudad donde más de 350 mujeres han muerto a lo largo de la última década despierta a una población que se ha entumecido a raíz de tanta violencia.

"Eran niñas inocentes que podrían haber sido las hijas de cualquiera", dijo Norma Andrade, organizadora de Nuestras Hijas de Regreso a Casa, un grupo de apoyo para madres de víctimas, "y es por eso que estamos enojadas, enardecidas".

En Ciudad Juárez, una ciudad arenosa de 1.5 millones de habitantes, esa molestia se ha expresado por medio de protestas casi diarias —incluyendo una de 20,000 personas el 27 de mayo— encabezada por líderes empresariales y padres que han tomado las calles principales de Juárez para denunciar los crímenes y lo que califican es una respuesta ineficaz de parte de la policía.

Los niños se paran en las esquinas de las calles con pancartas que denuncian los ataques. Un rótulo dice: "Protégeme. Sólo soy un niño".

"Hay demasiada inseguridad, demasiado temor que alguien puede arrebatarte a tu hijo de los



brazos a plena luz del día", dijo Sylvia Peña, de 24 años, ama de casa que toma a su recién nacido mientras su esposo empujaba la carreta de su hija de 2 años.

Esta semana, entre creciente presión, el gobierno del presidente Vicente Fox reemplazó a un procurador especial para Juárez, María López Urbina, con Mireille Roccatti, profesora de derecho, quien como presidenta de la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos de México de 1997 a 1999 examinó los homicidios de Ciudad Juárez.

(Sigue a la página 6)

En mayo, el gobierno lanzó su propia versión de la Alerta Amber, conocida como Operación Alba. El sistema está diseñado para desatar una búsqueda policial multiagencias inmediata y de inundar a las emisoras de radio y televisión con anuncios públicos en caso del secuestro de una mujer o un niño.

Sin embargo, abunda el escepticismo. Esta ciudad fronteriza control emigración flow toward the United States.

"They know first hand about the hundreds of immigrants who die each year trying to cross the desert from Mexico and about a high number of Americans worried about being invaded by this tragic human stampede", the paper emphasized.

The McCain-Kennedy proposal called "A secure United States and an organized immigration" offers ways to regularize the situation of immigrants already in the country.

Besides shortening the time in granting family visas, it promotes the possibility of permanent residency to some 11 million people and proposes the creation of new visa categories for undocumented immigrants, as well as for those who want to legally enter the US.

The initiative also raises the current family union levels and suggests the signing of agreements with other countries to

industrial ha bregado con estos homicidios desde 1993, y x más de 100 de éstos encajan en un patrón de mujeres jóvenes y delgadas que fueron agredidas sexualmente, mutiladas y asesinadas, sus cuerpos tirados en zanjas, lotes baldíos y el desierto aledaño.

Pese a condenas mundiales, los homicidios han continuado, y hay poca confianza en que la policía implementará Operación Alba eficazmente.

"No confío en nuestro gobierno, en nuestra policía", dijo la madre de Airis, Rubi Pando. "No tienen credibilidad. Demasiadas mujeres desaparecidas, muy poca justicia".

Y no ayuda, dicen los críticos, que el mismo Fox pareció minimizar el asunto esta semana. Fox, mencionando el reporte de un procurador, dijo que la mayoría de los homicidios habían sido resueltos e indicó que los medios de comunicación habían sensacionalizado los casos.

Sus comentarios desataron pro-

testas de grupos de derechos humanos y familiares de las víctimas, algunos de quienes demandan la liberación de parientes encarcelados, diciendo que fueron chivos expiatorios los que fueron torturados hasta que confesaran crímenes que no cometieron.

Se espera que las autoridades del estado de Chihuahua pronto anuncien los hallazgos de su evaluación en los casos de dos sospechosos encarcelados, David Meza Argueta y Víctor García Uribe, quienes dicen haber sido torturados hasta confesar.

Durante el funeral de Airis, el gobernador de Chihuahua José Reyes Baeza Terrazas, prometió capturar a su asesino, diciendo: "No queremos sólo capturar a algún chivo expiatorio".

Airis, quien cursaba por el segundo grado, fue vista por última vez el 2 de mayo cuando un vecino de 9 años reportó que la vio entrando al vehículo de un extraño cerca de su casa en la periferia de la ciudad.

En cuestión de horas, había una búsqueda en ambos lados de la frontera. Equipos de búsqueda llenaron las ciudades con volantes. Los investigadores estatales teorizaron que el asesino o asesinos podrían provenir de El Paso, ciudad de 560,000 con unos 800 ofensores sexuales registrados.

La procuradora estatal de Chihuahua Patricia González contactó al Departamento de Policía de El Paso y al FBI en busca de

asistencia. El vocero del FBI Arturo Werge minimizó el papel de la agencia, diciendo que sólo ofrecería asistencia forense y no tendría un papel activo en la investigación, a menos que ambos gobiernos se lo pidieran.

Dos semanas después de su desaparición, los restos de Airis fueron hallados dentro de un barril.

Un día después, el cuerpo parcialmente quemado de Anahí Orozco de 10 años fue descubierto dentro de su casa. Un vecino, Antonio Ibáñez Durán, de 22 años, fue arrestado y acusado del homicidio de Anahí. La policía dijo que Ibáñez fue identificado por su hija de 3 años, quien, al preguntarle quién estaba en la casa con Anahí, dijo el nombre de su padre, "Toño". Ibáñez dijo haber sido torturado hasta que confesó el homicidio.

Para Pando, de 30 años, quien tiene siete meses de embarazo, el despertar de Juárez no le es de mucho consuelo al tratar con preguntas como la que le hizo su hija Abril, de 9 años: "Mamá, ¿por qué nació niña, si sólo me iban a matar y violar?".

The 12 Steps of Immigration Anonymous

By Bill Dahl/ Steps 1-3

The immigration reform debate in the U.S. has become so discombobulating I had to check into a treatment center. I hope you might find the following useful, should you decide that you too may be a problem thinker, suffering from the disease of immigrationism.

Immigration Anonymous (IA) is a fellowship of U.S. residents who share their experience,

strength and hope with one another that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from immigrationism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop stinking thinking.

There are no dues or fees for IA membership: we are self-supporting through our own contributions. IA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to think soberly about U.S. immigration policy reform and help other problem thinkers to achieve sobriety.

The following are the first three steps of recovery:

Step One: We admit that we are powerless over illegal immigration and our borders have become unmanageable.

Playing the blame game just maintained my stinkin thinkin. Recovery is a process, not an event. It starts with me and it's one step at a time, one day at a time. I've stopped blaming them. I am the problem thinker who is sick, not those who are crossing our borders. I am comforted by the truth expressed by Henri Nouwen: "Our brokenness is truly ours. Nobody else's." [i]11

This step required me to begin to get real. The IA program specifically states: "Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with themselves." [ii]2

I had to admit that I suffered

from multiple delusions. I realized that my stinking thinking contained

"shortsighted and perverse notions of charity." [iii]3 I figured that we were doing undocumented

immigrants a favor by allowing them to be in this country to get along the best they could, as long as they didn't become a burden and contributed something to our society. Then, I was confronted with the following: "This kind of charity has no real effect in helping the poor: all it does is tacitly condone social injustice and to help keep conditions as they are - to help keep poor people poor." [iv]4

The poverty of my own thinking became apparent. Maybe that's what the folks in Alcoholics Anonymous figured out when they wrote in 1939, "Therefore, the main problem of the alcoholic centers in his mind, rather than his body." [v]5

Those of us in Immigration Anonymous know this to be the nucleus of our malady. My life became unmanageable because of the powerlessness that my own thinking produced.

Step Two: Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves can restore us to sanity. [vi]6

Don't expect your elected officials to do anything whatsoever to resolve this issue anytime soon. In case you're wondering, a "guest worker permit program" will be about as effective as an aspirin for colon cancer. It is during my work in Step Two that I have come to appreciate the reality of the phrase, "Half measures availed us nothing. We stood at the turning point." [vii]7

I have tried every method I can imagine to restrain, control or abstain from my stinking thinking. Nothing has worked. I had to surrender.

This step really put the disease of immigrationism in perspective for me: "Whatever our protestations, are not most of us concerned with ourselves, our resentments, or our self pity? Selfishness - self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles. Driven by a hundred forms of fear, self delusion, self-seeking and self-pity, we have made decisions based

upon self interest that have placed us in a position to be hurt. So, our troubles are basically of our own making. Above everything, we must get rid of this selfishness." [viii]8

Remember, the first thing a nut has to do to begin recovery is to become aware that "I'm nuts!" Thank God I'm not alone! I am so grateful that there are those who have recovered from this insidious disease who can share the path of recovery they've followed successfully with me.

I certainly hope the U.S. government refrains from any further reform of immigration policy guided by fear, resentment, delusion, selfishness and self-pity. The IA program has taught me that this is not the way to go in terms of thinking about the resolution of the immigration matter.

Step Three: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, as we understand him. [ix]9

I have come to believe that there is a God and neither I, nor the United States "is it." To "reduce other people to things, whose value resides only in their usefulness, not in what they are in themselves" [x]10 is just plain wrong. When we became problem thinkers regarding immigration, "crushed by a self-imposed crisis we could not postpone or evade, we had to fearlessly face the proposition that God is either everything or else He is nothing. God either is, or He isn't. What will our choice be?" [xi]11

We need help. The solution must come from a power greater than ourselves, rather than relying upon Tom Ridge, Bernard Kerik, or whoever they finally appointed to replace Ridge, who has not employed an undocumented housekeeper or subcontractor, dined knowingly at an eatery that employed undocumented workers, has stock in Wal-Mart or any association whatsoever with companies that have been/might be alleged to benefit from the economic usefulness of undocumented labor. We are all sinners in need of salvation here. Heaven help us all!

I like what Thomas Merton has to say about God's will, as it pertains to the current state of the immigration debate in the U.S.: "If you can never make up your mind what God wills for you, but are always veering from one opinion to another, from one practice to another, from one method to another, it may be an indication that you are trying to get around God's will and do your own will with a quiet conscience." [xii]12

Tune in next week as we continue walking the path of recovery from immigrationism with Steps 4 through 6. Keep coming back! It works!

Bill Dahl, a contributing columnist to Los Angeles based HispanicVista.com (http://www.hispanicvista.com/) is a freelance writer and social justice advocate. Contact Bill at: wsdahl@pacbell.net or see his website at http://www.justjesus.us/ He tackles social issues from a Christian perspective. For the past fifteen years, Bill and his wife have been called to work with the poor, the oppressed and the marginalized as volunteer community youth workers. Bill is published in numerous professional publications, magazines, websites, newspapers and newsletters. He has been an on-air radio guest, and has appeared

New York Times urges Bush to join immigration initiative

The New York Times paper has urged today the President of the United States, George W. Bush, to join the general back up given to the bi-party immigration reform proposal taken to the Congress last week.

In an editorial, the newspaper remarked the initiative of senators John McCain (Republican) and Ted Kennedy (Democrat) will lay the foundations for a "general surgery" of the county's immigration system and it highlighted the fact that several fronts have started to support the initiative.

Both Republicans and Democrats, Hispanic organizations, business leaders and unions have all showed their interest for such proposal to start a controversy and consequently become a law.

"President Bush, who has promised to take action regarding immigration matters for years, must join them soon", the paper stated after expressing McCain and several other supporters of the initiative are from border

states.

"They know first hand about the hundreds of immigrants who die each year trying to cross the desert from Mexico and about a high number of Americans worried about being invaded by this tragic human stampede", the paper emphasized.

The McCain-Kennedy proposal called "A secure United States and an organized immigration" offers ways to regularize the situation of immigrants already in the country.

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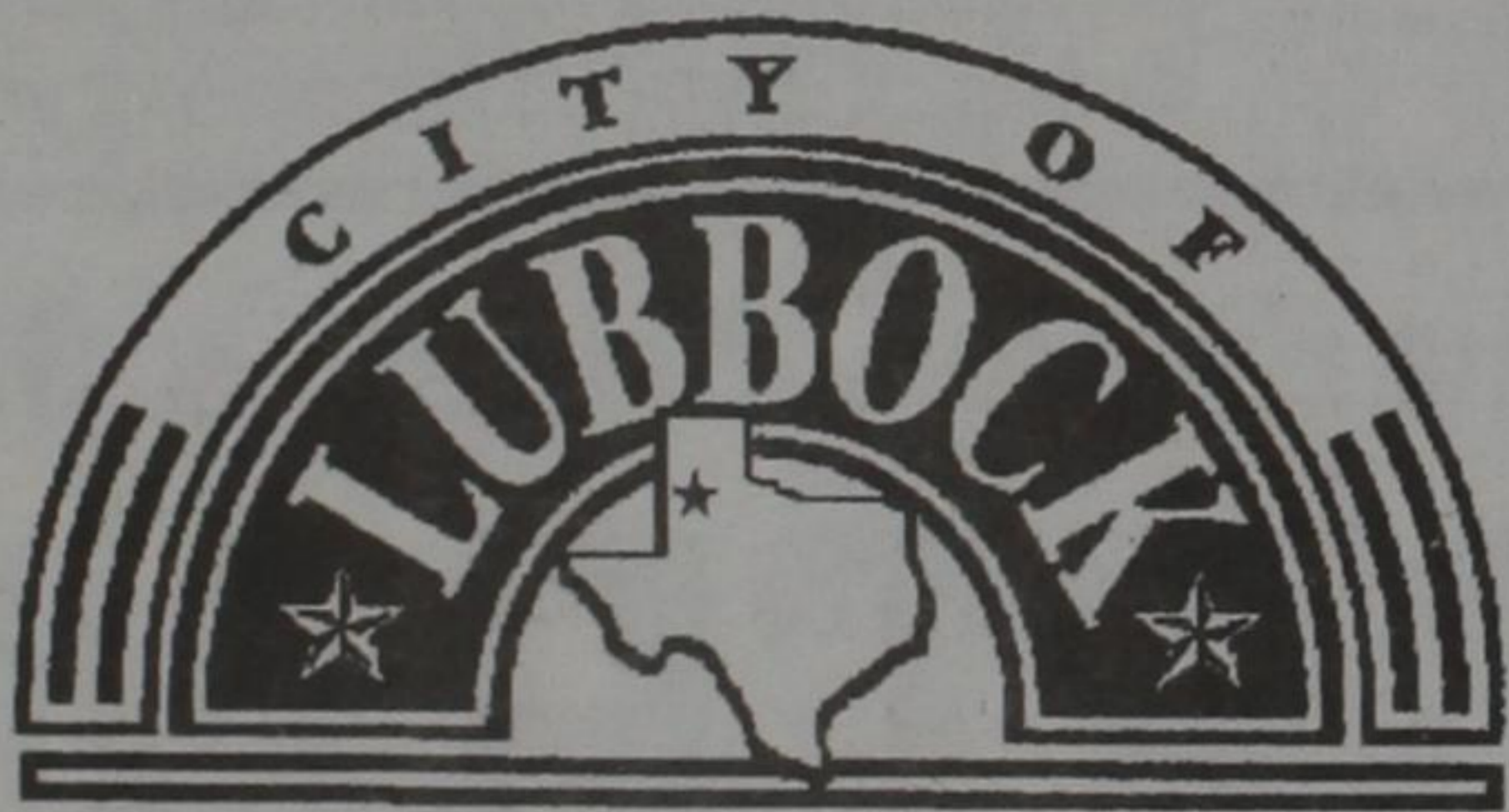
control emigración flow toward the United States.

It deals with sanctions to undocumented immigrants already in this nation who would be forced to pay a two-thousand-dollar fine to access a six-year temporary-job program.

McCain and Kennedy are supported by legislators from both parties; as co-sponsors of the initiative, they support the president's proposal to connect workers and employers, only their proposal goes beyond that.

Bush has only brought forward a general outline, not a law initiative and, reportedly, the McCain-Kennedy proposal would put pressure on the White House.

The presentation of the McCain-Kennedy initiative was made just days after Bush promulgated an immigration amendment (Real ID Act) which, among other things, discards state driver licenses to undocumented immigrants and restricts asylum granting.



Probationary Fire Fighter

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

The City of Lubbock, TX (population 201,212) will be accepting applications for Probationary Fire Fighter positions on June 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Applications may be picked up at the Human Resources Department at 1625 13th Street, in Room 104, Monday-Friday. Applicants must be at least nineteen (19) years old at the time of the written examination; and not have reached his/her thirty-six (36) birthday at the time of entrance to the Fire Academy. **MUST CURRENTLY POSSESS AN EMT-BASIC CERTIFICATE OR HIGHER, issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services. (WE WILL ACCEPT EMT -1 OR EMT - P CERTIFICATIONS). MUST POSSESS A FIRE FIGHTER BASIC CERTIFICATE issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.** The Fire Entrance Exam will be given on Friday, August 19, 2005 at the City of Lubbock Fire Academy at 1515 E. Ursuline. The doors will be closed promptly at 8:00 A.M. and no one will be admitted after that time. All applicants should plan to arrive at 7:30 A.M. A Fire Fighter Eligibility list will be compiled from the scores of applicants passing the written examination and will be ranked, highest final score first. The final competitive score includes veteran's preference points. Individuals with the top scores on the written eligibility test will be scheduled for the Candidate Physical Ability Test, (CPAT). The CPAT test will be held in Lubbock at the Fire Academy which is located 1515 E. Ursuline on a designated date and time. For more information please call 775-2311 or 1-800-621-0793.

The City of Lubbock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SALARY RANGE: CSP - \$ 15.93 Hourly
\$ 33,134.40 Annually
CLOSING DATE: June 30, 2005
REPORTS TO: Fire Department

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