

Casualties of
War in Iraq
3,683
as of August
9, 2007

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Obama Seeks to Make the Sale to Hispanics

Despite Ability to Draw Crowds and Donations, Senator Is Still Largely Unknown to Crucial Group

By MIRIAM JORDAN

Before 2,000 people at the convention of a powerful Hispanic advocacy group recently, Sen. Barack Obama made a pitch for unity between African Americans and Hispanics. "Our separate struggles are really one," the Illinois Democrat declared, quoting a telegram Martin Luther King Jr. sent in 1968 to farm-worker activist Cesar Chávez.

Mr. Obama compared last year's massive immigration rallies led by Hispanics to the civil-rights marches of African-Americans in the 1960s, and called for the two groups to stay the course in a common fight for equality. To rousing applause at the convention of the National Council of La Raza, he alluded to "one dream" for blacks and Latinos. Later, he cited his Kenyan-born father as an example of an immigrant who came here in pursuit of the American dream.

Despite becoming this presidential race's phenomenon, with the power to draw huge crowds and raise millions of dollars, Mr. Obama remains relatively unknown among the



country's fastest-growing electorate: Nearly half of Latino voters have never heard of him, according to a June Gallup poll.

As he gains awareness among Hispanics, he may find wooing them to his campaign a challenge. Across the U.S., tensions simmer between Hispanics and blacks who regard each other as rivals for jobs, educational resources, housing and political power. In Los

Angeles, Hispanics have become the majority in traditionally black enclaves and clashes have erupted between the groups in schools and on the streets.

For Mr. Obama, this has created a tricky situation. The fiery debate over immigration in Congress alienated many Hispanics, pushing conservatives among them into the Democratic camp and encouraging others to

register to vote. But to tap into that, Mr. Obama must navigate past Democratic primary opponents who are better positioned to capitalize on those voters.

"If Obama were the Democratic presidential nominee, he would do well in the Hispanic community," says Mark Mellman, a Democratic pollster. But "he will have to fight for their support in the primaries."

Hillary Clinton already boasts name recognition and endorsements from prominent Latino leaders, while Bill Richardson, the New Mexico governor, is Hispanic and speaks fluent Spanish. Mr. Obama's message of a shared black-Latino struggle may strike a chord with political activists, but could ring hollow with core Latino voters.

"The Hispanic and black elites may be singing 'Kumbaya' together. But at the neighborhood level, they're duking it out," says Paula McClain, a Duke University political scientist who studies black-Latino relations. "Obama needs to understand the nuance and not assume a broad-brush coalition" between them.

Ms. McClain and other academics say Hispanics have negative stereotypical views of blacks. Generally, Hispanics feel they share more in common with whites than blacks, says Ms. McClain. "In a primary contest, one has to wonder how a Latino electorate will feel about voting for a black person."

There is precedent for African-Americans and Hispanics combining electoral power. In the 2005 Los Angeles mayoral race, many black leaders disenchanted with white incumbent James Hahn threw support to Antonio Villaraigosa. The Mexican-American candidate won on the promise of bridging the city's racial divide — with support from the African-American electorate. But, "it wasn't a black-brown unity election," says Jaime Regalado, executive director of the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at California State University, Los Angeles. "It was a sign of displeasure with the incumbent."

In Miami, Mr. Obama introduced a jingle to woo Latinos, a percussion-infused "reggaeton" tune in Spanish with a refrain to pump up his recognition: "How do you say it? What do you call him? Obama, Obama."

"The community really hasn't been introduced to Obama," says Larry Gonzalez, a political consultant who formed "Latinos for Obama," which includes high-profile Hispanics, many of them lawyers and entrepreneurs.

As the first primary state with a significant Hispanic electorate, Nevada is expected to offer a hint of how Latinos vote in other Hispanic-heavy states such as Arizona and New Mexico. In Las Vegas, Mr. Obama has met on three occasions with Hispanic hotel and casino workers, who make up a large portion of the influential culinary-workers union, as well as with local Hispanic political figures.

In a sign of the challenges Mr. Obama faces, a recent independent poll by a group called Latino Decisions says that in Nevada, Mrs. Clinton currently is favored by 55% of Democratic or Democratic-leaning Latinos, while Mr. Richardson has 14% and Mr. Obama 6%. But a new national Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll shows better results for the Illinois senator. It found Mrs. Clinton is favored by 58% of Hispanics, followed by Messrs. Obama and Edwards with 10% each and Mr. Richardson with 9%.

The Obama campaign has begun distributing campaign literature in Nevada in Spanish and says it is putting more than 30 staffers on the ground with offices in Las Vegas, Reno and other cities. The campaign says it is also mobilizing thousands of volunteers to go door to door.

Spanish-language television is likely to play an important role in the primaries as it amps up campaign coverage. To Mr. Obama's disadvantage, "they are going to have direct sound bites in Spanish from Bill Richardson," notes Federico Subervi, professor of mass media at Texas State University in San Marcos. On the other hand, he says, Latinos more politically attuned — and more likely to vote in the primary — get their news both in English and Spanish.

Mr. Obama has secured the support of some prominent Latino politicians, such as Illinois Rep. Luis Guterrez, and California Senate Majority leader Gloria Romero. "He understands civil rights and poverty," says Ms. Romero, who supported Rev. Jesse Jackson when he ran for president. Mrs. Clinton has won endorsements from heavyweights such as L.A. Mayor Villaraigosa, New Jersey Sen. Robert Menendez and Dolores Huerta, who co-founded the United Farm Workers of America with Cesar Chávez.

Source: The Wall Street Journal

Mayor Miller Responds to Moralez's Non Reappointment to Board

By Abel Cruz

In an email to El Editor, Mayor David Miller finally responded to our questions over the non reappointment of Chevo Moralez to the Civic Lubbock Inc Board.

Readers may recall that over the past 2 weeks, El Editor has been reporting on this story; in an effort to find out why after 13 years of service on the board; and despite a recommendation to be reappointed Moralez was not. According to Miller, Moralez's name was resubmitted and "serious consideration was given to his reappointment". Miller says that "In light of the outstanding contributions that Mr. Moralez has made over the years, it was a difficult decision to not reappoint him".

Miller says that there was not an issue or problem with Moralez's service on the board. Miller also tells us that 4 people were up for reappointment, Moralez, Gertie Jeter, Dan Burns, and Kay Sanford. Burns and Sanford were both reappointed.

According to Miller, "Because we have many, many citizens who are on waiting lists for each board and commission and wish to serve their city, the council made the unanimous decision (7-0) to replace these two fine public servants with others who have the interest and qualifications to serve. I am sure that their fresh perspectives will be helpful and beneficial. However, the services of Mr. Moralez and Mrs. Jeter will be missed as board members. Knowing their civic spirit, I am sure they will continue to serve in other volunteer capacities."



But the Mayor's statement that "many, many citizens are on waiting lists" seems to contradict the recent stories in local media about the inability of the city to recruit

minority volunteers to serve on city boards and commissions.

For example, last year, before his resignation from the council, Councilman Gary Boren met with members from at least 2 local civic organizations in an effort to try and deal with the issue of how more minority residents could be recruited to serve. Boren met with members of the Hispanic Agenda, and the Latino staff and faculty association at Texas Tech. From those meetings and other efforts, it was announced in April that Texas Tech University Professor Dr. Juan Munoz and some colleagues would partner with the city in order to try and set up some sort of training classes for those persons wanting to serve but felt that they were not quite prepared to volunteer.

In a story in the April 22, 2007 Avalanche Journal, the newspaper reported that "today, demographics on the committees are almost identical to where they were 15 years ago, with Hispanics and women still under-represented, and few willing applicants available from those segments of the population. Now the council is preparing to work with Texas Tech to train future committee members from under-represented groups".

In addition to that effort, at least one local organization, Hispanic Agenda, has taken up the challenge and made the issue of recruiting citizens to serve, one of their priorities. In 2005, Alice Chavez Lozada, an active HA member "was appointed to the Appointments Advisory Board, which focuses on finding people to serve on other city boards", according to an October 2005 AJ story.

And while the Mayor may be right in terms of the total number on waiting lists, the number of Hispanics waiting to serve on boards is not that great a number; additionally the number of Hispanics serving on boards does not reflect the overall percentage of the city's Hispanic population. In fact, Lubbock's Hispanic population is at near 30% and only about 12% of board members are Hispanic. A fact which has many in the community puzzled as to why a qualified Hispanic individual and one according to the Mayor whose "services" on the board "will be missed" was not reappointed.

In the April 2007 story, former District 1 Councilwoman Maggie Trejo was quoted as saying, "Usually what happens on the boards and commissions is as long as you have one person who is Hispanic, one person who is black, you are doing alright; it really shouldn't be that way."

The April 2007 AJ story also points out that "the advisory board (the board which recommends people to serve) has had a list of more than 300 people wishing to serve on city boards. In 2006", the story continues, "the list dropped to 223. Of those 35.4% were women and about 20% were minorities". City Secretary Becky Garza was also quoted in the story as saying that "the city is not receiving enough applications from women and Hispanics". Which makes the situation with Moralez and Jeter all the more difficult to understand.

In addition, the story pointed out that females, were also underrepresented; saying that "More than half of the city's residents who are at least 25 years old - 53 percent - are women. But they made up just more than 29 percent of board members in 2006, according to a study presented to the Appointment Advisory Committee this month (April)." Gertie Jeter was female and had several years of experience on the CLI board. Moralez is Hispanic; so the appointment of both Mittmeyer and Moreno does not increase the diversity on the CLI board; but rather has a neutral effect; a female and a Hispanic were replaced by a Hispanic and a female appointee.

Another question which has received scrutiny is who was responsible for the appointment of 2 new board members Eddie Moreno; a District 1 resident; and Mary Beth Mittmeyer, a next door neighbor of City Manager Lee Ann Dumbauld; both who live in District 5 in Southwest Lubbock. El Editor has received inquiries with the implication that "yet again another Hispanic has been dismissed without any consideration by the only Hispanic member on the council".

According to people who have spoken to El Editor on condition of anonymity, the new appointments were made in an effort by some council members to be able to exert more control over the board and the substantial amount of revenue which is controlled by the board. In a normal year, the board oversees hundreds of thousands in revenue and grant awards to different local arts, entertainment and cultural organizations.

According to a transcript of the July 12, 2007 City Council minutes sent by city personnel to El Editor in response to our inquiries, the motion to reappoint Burns and Sanford and appoint new members Moreno and Mittmeyer was made by Councilwoman Linda DeLeon and seconded by Councilman Floyd Price; the only 2 minority members on the council.

Moralez and Jeter had been recommended for reappointment and El Editor has since learned that prior to the reappointment coming before the council, Moralez had been asked by City Secretary Becky Garza whether he wanted to be reappointed to the board or not; creating the expectation that he would be. But something happened along the way and it ended with 2 of the 4 individuals recommended for reappointment not being reappointed.

The minutes also note that the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; contrary to Miller's statement that the council had voted unanimously, 7-0. The discrepancy could be due to one council member being away from the dais during the vote. Previously, Councilman John Leonard had told El Editor that he had in fact supported Moralez's and Jeter's reappointment; but we were also told by another source that Leonard was not able to gather support from other council members for Moralez and Jeter.

Further review of the minutes from the July 12 meeting shows that DeLeon made all motions concerning all board appointments that day. The record shows that there were 24 appointments made that day to various boards. Out of the 24, 4 have Hispanic surnames; meaning that only 14% of the appointments went to a citizen of Hispanic descent. This percentage seems to mirror the historical data presented in the April 2007 AJ story.

But some people will argue that this is precisely why they are upset at Moralez's non reappointment. They will argue that the council members responsible for replacing Moralez have failed in the council's attempt to increase the diversity on city boards.

To date, El Editor has twice sent questions to District 1 Councilwoman Linda DeLeon; she had not responded to our questions as we went to press.
Email: acruzsc@aol.com

News Briefs

Congressman Randy Neugebauer Has Business Investments in "Terror Sponsor States"

This news item courtesy of Cyberspace News Service; local Congressman Randy Neugebauer is listed along with other Republican and Democrat Congressman and Senators as having business investments in countries that have been designated as states which sponsor terrorist activities.

According to the web site, Neugebauer has investments in 10 individual companies which are presently doing business in countries like Iran, North Korea, Cuba, and Sudan.

Neugebauer spokesman a Josh Noland told Cyberspace News that "Because he's a Congressman, he no longer controls the funds that are invested; the funds are in a blind trust. The decisions are not made by him." But that doesn't answer the question of why Congressman and Senator's, from both political parties, are comfortable with investments held in their name in companies which do business with countries judged by the state department and Bush administration as having ties to terrorists. The investments are still providing revenue to these countries and by extension perhaps certain terrorists groups.

The companies in which Neugebauer has invested are listed on the Cybercast News Service web site and total 10 individual investments. The amounts range anywhere from \$1,000,000 to \$15,000,000 dollars per investment; making it a potential total investment between \$10,000,000 dollars up to \$150,000,000.

The report goes on to detail that "more than 30 members of Congress or their spouses" invest in these companies which do business in countries which the United States has determined sponsor terrorists or terrorist's activities.

Email:eleditor@sbeglobal.net

Last Night at South Beach; a Police Show of Force?

By Abel Cruz

It was supposed to be a celebration of the last night of operation at a Depot District nightclub. And for the most part it was; until the very end when Lubbock police decided to stage a "police show of force" during the last hour of business at South Beach Club and Lounge last Saturday night.

At least that was the version of events given to El Editor by a person who was in attendance last Saturday, August 4th. They told El Editor that they would only reveal the information under the condition that their name not be revealed; El Editor agreed.

According to our source, patrons had been told the club would be open one hour past the usual closing time of 2:00 AM and that a special permit had been secured. About 2:30 or so, about 5 LPD officers came into the club and started yelling at the patrons to leave, saying, "There's no more South Beach; there's no more South Beach; get out; go home".

The source also says that they began accusing people of being intoxicated and threatened to call the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. They say there were no arrests made and people started to leave "peacefully" when the officers showed up.

Outside, there were at least 5 cop cars and a paddy wagon with a police dog in it", according to the source. "People were definitely intimidated, so if that is what they (LPD) were trying to accomplish, they succeeded", said the source. Police continued telling people to leave even after they had exited the nightclub.

According to the source, there is a video available which was taken during the events, although El Editor could not confirm its existence.

The nightclub has been caught in the middle of a controversy involving the building of a new Visitor's Center on the site where South Beach owners previously leased a building. South Beach also has the distinction of being the only Hispanic owned business in Lubbock's Depot District and owners have been quoted in the local media as saying that they will reopen the club in a location in the district soon.

If you have any information or were at South Beach during these events, contact El Editor at Email:eleditor@sbeglobal.net

A "Mordida" Bites Back

Most of us have heard of "la mordida" or "a bite" in English; a description for a certain amount of money, or sometimes bribe, some people have been asked to pay in order to get a "wink and a nod" to cross over into Mexico or money paid to say a government official for certain favors.

Well now, a La Salle County sheriff's deputy has been accused of taking a bite out of Mexican driver's wallets and extorting money from them; by threatening to put them in jail if they didn't.

Cotulla which is south of San Antonio and is the county seat for La Salle County, is where Henry James, a 45 year old sheriff's deputy, was recently arrested and charged with extortion "under the color of official right".

According to Sheriff Victor Villareal, "James were able to document 'several cases in which James stopped vehicles but didn't call dispatchers'. Instead he would ask motorists to pay a fine immediately or risk being taken to jail.

It wasn't until a passing motorist who was stopped by James complained to the sheriff's office that they began to investigate. Between June 30 and July 22 of this year, 4 individuals claimed to have been stopped and forced to pay fines between \$120.00 and \$300.00 dollars each.

An undercover FBI operation was set up and 2 FBI agents posing as motorists were stopped by James and the agents recorded James telling them that "because they were Mexican", unless they paid him a fine of \$150.00 they would have to be detained "until a judge could see them".

Looks like the next "mordida" or bite will be coming out of sheriff deputy James' wallet as he now faces jail time and a fine.
Email: Email:eleditor@sbeglobal.net

Plainview Resident Shot by Sheriff's Deputy

When a Plainview resident's family called 911 to report that Jose Vasquez was acting strange and suffering from schizophrenia; and that they were afraid he might hurt somebody or himself; the last thing they expected was that they would be making funeral arrangements for their brother this week.

Jose Vasquez, whose family told police he was suffering from mental illness, had been observed "talking to himself" and had threatened to kill himself by "setting himself on fire".

The argument apparently started between Jose Vasquez and his brother Juan who also lives in the home at 1308 E. 34th Street in Plainview, TX. When police arrived, they found Jose Vasquez holding a hoe and threatening to hurt his brother Juan. According to police reports, the Hale County Sheriff's deputy felt threatened when Jose "charged" the officer and shot him with his service revolver.

The shooting is being investigated by the Texas Rangers and a determination is not expected any time soon. For now, the Vasquez family is busy making arrangements to bury their brother Jose; funeral services will be held this Friday in O'Donnell, TX.
Email: scruzsc@aol.com Democratic Party Holding

School Supply Drive

Last year, according to information supplied by Democratic Precinct 4 Chair, Leo Flores, the local Democratic Party was able to supply 1,000 students with school supplies; which they otherwise might not have had. This year, expectations are higher and organizers hope to surpass that amount.

Last years recipients came not only from Lubbock, but from the surrounding communities as well. This year's goal has been set at between \$2,500.00 and \$3,000.00 in order to reach as many students as possible. The distribution of the supplies will take place about a week before the start of the school year.

Those interested in helping out with a monetary donation are asked to contact Leo Flores at 806-283-4179, or email him at Lflr60@aol.com or donate on line at www.actblue.com/page/dpshopolssupplies

Send your News Briefs to eleditor@sbeglobal.net

Editorial

The People's Business

As citizens who choose to volunteer of their time and effort to serve, elected officials have many responsibilities and obligations; one of those responsibilities is to answer questions which are relevant to how elected officials govern as they relate to the "people's business".

Elected officials know this before filing to run for office and they especially know it at the time they take their oath of office. One elected official who should know it is a person who has been in public office for over 20 years.

That is why it has been so disappointing to not hear from District 1 Councilwoman Linda DeLeon concerning questions being asked about the non reappointment of Lubbock resident Chevo Moralez to the Civic Lubbock Inc. Board.

The rewards are few and at times the job of an elected official is a thankless one. But candidates and those who win elections are well aware of the demands and responsibilities placed upon them when they decide to run. And just because the rewards are minimal, that alone does not absolve them from answering questions important to the community; from being accountable for their actions.

As Lubbock's oldest and continuously published, Hispanic owned newspaper, we see it as our responsibility to follow up on issues involving people who share common ethnic and cultural heritage ties with Lubbock's Hispanic community.

This is what we have tried to do

in reporting the Civic Lubbock Inc. Board story. We found it implausible that a person of Mr. Moralez stature and good standing in the Hispanic community, with 13 years of service on the board, could be treated as dismissively as he appears to have been. In our effort to "report the story" it is only natural and customary to send inquiries to our elected officials and expect to get a response.

To their credit, both Councilman John Leonard and Mayor Miller have responded to our requests. Additionally, when we sent an inquiry to City Secretary Becky Garza, we also received a reply from a city staff person.

That is why we are at a loss to understand why the Councilwoman who represents the mostly Hispanic District 1; where this newspaper is published and whose Publisher is one of her constituents has failed to reply to our questions.

Whether one agrees with our editorial content or not, the public still has a right to know. And especially if there is information that needs to be published in order to complete the story.

In the end, the public will only be served well if stories and information involving the "people's business" are made public so that the public may decide on the merits of the story alone.

It is not good enough for city officials to say that they believe in open government; they must also live up to that standard.

It is not enough, to say that those who serve do so "with humility"; words must be accompanied with action in order for people to believe them.

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LETTERS TO THE Editor

Send Mail to:
eleditor@sbcglobal.net



More Insanity from City Council

Concerning the proposed multi-million bond Election...especially monies being proposed for entertainment venues; every taxpayer will be forced to pay for these venues; and less than 10% will ever set foot in either of them. This is just more insanity from a city council that is "tax...tax...tax" crazy.

These people are supposedly elected to represent the citizens of this area. They are there to use our tax money as frugally as possible to maintain the needs of the people that live here. It is absolutely criminal as far as I'm concerned to make election promises that the elected officials have NO intention of honoring. If they don't start truly "representing" the taxpayers, then remove them from office. Immediately!

Get someone in those positions that will spend our taxpayer money to handle the needs of ALL of the people that live here. Not just the privileged few. I would like to live somewhere, where I won't have to boil my water (assuming I will have any to boil).

I would like to drive my car without tearing up its suspension. I would love to live in a city that can handle (take care of) the city that has the states highest child abuse and neglect problems. And I would love to live in a city that doesn't have the highest tax base in the world. Which is what it is going to be if these money mad officials continue to get their way?

I'm a retired taxpayer. I have and will continue to have a limited income. If our elected officials don't get reined in, I will be forced at some time to perhaps find me a box to live in. And then they will just come and find a way to tax boxes. This note has rambled around a bit. BUT...I think the message has been sent correctly.

Jerry Rooker, Lubbock via Email

Reader asks: Where is Linda DeLeon?

I wanted to write you and compliment you on the reporting on what the City Council is doing with appointments. Also to say thank you for being the only ones to have the guts to stand up and confront the issues affecting the Hispanic community.

It is very interesting that one of the members of the council says that in the history of Civic Lubbock no one has been refused reappointment but now they find it fitting to not reappoint Chevo Moralez.

AND WHERE IS LINDA DELEON?? It seems she has got lost and not willing to answer for her actions. First, for not supporting Mr. Moralez who has done a great job for our community and then appointing a person who has no history of working in any organizations or efforts for the Hispanic community and has no experience in dealing with the politics necessary to function on this board.

It is ironic that many people are now saying that Mr. Moralez has done more to help the Hispanic community and bring them into being part of our city than DeLeon has done sitting on the city council. And since Civic Lubbock has no term limits as you reported it was not necessary to remove Mr. Moralez but DeLeon had no problems serving on the school board for 18 years. And also the city council seats have no term limits either. Hypocrites!! (It) Seems like DeLeon has now formed an alliance with Gilbreath and Miller, whose intent is to keep the Hispanic community in its place and not to move forward. And she is joined by the do nothing Price. IT IS TIME FOR CHANGE! Maybe those asking for a recall do have a reason for their efforts.

And where are our Hispanic leaders? How come there has been no outcry on issues like this that impacts the community? Where are Hispanic Agenda, LULAC, G.I. Forum, and HAW who are supposed to be the leadership in the community? It seems these once proud organizations are contented with just having meetings instead of standing up when our community has been done wrong with unjust actions.

And what about the boards or members of the groups that were given help by Civic Lubbock, like Fiestas who benefited immensely by the efforts of Mr. Moralez? We don't hear anything from them! Our community seems to be moving backward instead of coming of age and we cannot afford to lose real leaders. Maybe it is time to just clean house and get new leaders.

Again thank you for your outstanding work. Maybe some others will wake up and confront our issues.

R. G. Sandoval, Lubbock via Email

Put Free Market to Work

It seems to me that the A.J. is derelict in its duty by not clarifying the options on the immigration issue. We hear that there are upward of 12 million illegals in the United States with more arriving daily. We promptly buy into the propaganda that we can't identify, locate and deport 12 million criminals in our midst. Pistoch! Just enforce the laws that make it a crime to hire an undocumented person. Our president, who took an oath to faithfully enforce the laws of this country, simply fails in this endeavor (as in so many others) and our Congress doesn't have the will to start impeachment proceedings.

If the laws were enforced and a few of the Wal-Mart/construction/company/meat packing plant crowds were force to do the perp (perpetrator) walk, jobs for illegals would dry up and the hungry illegals would head toward home.

I personally love, respect and admire the hardworking Latinos but some of whom seem to want to inflict the Mexican culture of bribery and political corruption upon our country. They march, demanding freedom, equality and the rights of U.S. citizens while waving a foreign flag in my face. I say to the illegals who want to come join us as United States citizens, accept our values and customs and be one of U.S. welcome. If you won't subvert the mores, customs and ethics of my country I will not attempt to do the same to yours.

The utter rubbish that the illegals perform only those jobs that citizens refuse to do is sickening. American citizens will perform any work for which they are paid a living wage. Put the so-called "free market" to work.

For the edification of those readers who want to take me to task for my views, let the record reflect that I am a retired attorney, 100% disabled combat veteran, a second generation American, a voluntary participant in four of my country's wars, the sole surviving son of migrant workers and a lifelong Democrat without a prefix. I will stack my record of love for and love of my country up against that of any two of my critics combined.

Yours very truly, Pat N. Walker, Lubbock via Email

Smokey Said it Best

By Abel Cruz

With the price of gas down below \$2.80; this week we can afford about \$10.00 dollars worth as we take a spin around the old block...

A wise man once said, "The way to stop digging yourself into a hole is to stop digging". Well ok, he wasn't that wise...it doesn't take a whole lot of wisdom to figure that one out.

But the word on the street is that the present city manager would do well to heed that advice; why you ask? Because when it comes to digging a hole and getting in deeper, one could easily argue that she has become a "bureaucratic hole digging expert".

Case in point: The following is from a story in the local paper: "When asked about the office environment described in the (Dixon Platt) hearings and how the city would avoid such problems in the future, Dumbauld said: "The chief of staff now reports to the city manager, in their hearts and minds and on paper."

That statement could easily qualify as arrogance in anybody's book; but more than that it qualifies as an honest, albeit unintended, admission that part of the problem with former Chief of Staff Dixon Platt was that his "heart and mind" was not at the beck and call of the city manager.

If so, it would tend to lend credence to Platt's argument; that he was fired for political reasons and not for the statements he is accused of having made.

Without making a judgment on the merits of the case; Dumbauld's comments are an indication that if you report to her; you had better do so in your heart, mind and every other which way. To me that statement means to blindly follow; to loyally serve as a "yes man" or "yes woman" and to show absolute loyalty to the "boss"; even though the boss may sometimes be wrong. Otherwise be prepared to pay the consequences; pay the piper so to speak.

Ok, so maybe Dumbauld could care less what we think; maybe she relishes in these type of situations and thumbs her nose because she has job security as long as this council is in office and enjoys the support of the emperor and his gang of 4 and possibly others; maybe she thinks she's right? Who knows what thoughts lurk in the minds of men and women in city government?

But hear this; sooner or later one has to care; especially when called to testify in the case that in all probability Platt's lawyer will file in the federal courts. And a Platt victory may not come cheap to this city's taxpayers who will have to foot the bill for the actions of whoever is found responsible if Platt wins his case.

What the heck, its only taxpayer's money.

The bridge collapse in Minnesota should give us all pause. In this unfortunate tragedy, we see what neglecting this country's infrastructure can result in.

Part of the problem is that we are becoming a country with elected leaders who would much rather build grandiose buildings and structures so they can name them after themselves rather than taking care of existing problems.

Remind you of anybody you know in this city?

Will there or won't there; be a bond election in November; based on reports in the media, in particular NewsChannel 11, there "might not be".

If the decision is no; the question becomes, did the council actually listen to this city's voters; or did they see the writing on the wall and decide to punt?

According to the last report I saw Wednesday night, Councilwoman Linda DeLeon has said that she will vote no; which is a change from when she was quoted in the local paper a few weeks ago, saying that "boosting infrastructure and cultural centers is important to attracting businesses to Lubbock...a lot of people need to see Lubbock, Texas take a step and see it as a progressive city".

The local paper's web site was reporting that Councilman Jim Gilbreath had said; "I hear what the citizens are saying loud and clear, and I think if we go forward with a bond election in November it will not be about the bond projects but a referendum on the City Council".

I could swear I read that very same thing somewhere...

Who knows which side Mayor Miller and the rest of the council will come down on? For now, the only consistent and genuine voices have been that of Councilman John Leonard and new member Todd Klein; who from the very beginning raised the caution flag when discussing these huge projects. I will also credit the Listen Lubbock group for their honesty in their report to the city council; they could have very well sugar coated the results and tip toed around what this city's residents are saying; but they didn't; especially the part about the lack of confidence in the Mayor.

That was the best part...

Here we are with burning issues before us. Umpteen million dollar bond elections, red light camera problems when it comes to right turns on red, increased crime, murders, possible county tax increases so that County Commissioners can enjoy a 13% pay raise; and who knows what else lurks around the proverbial corner. And what do we get from our "California transplant" editor of the local AJ?

A column which could have been called; "What I did on my Summer Vacation". If you missed it and have no idea what I'm talking about, don't worry; you didn't miss anything...


Quick, what's the best Smokey Robinson song that you've ever heard? Cruisin'... of course!

Email: acruzts@aol.com

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"El Que Pica con la Cola"
El Hijo Del Alacrán
(The Son of the Scorpion)



Back in the 70's and 80's "El Alacrán"; "the scorpion that stings with his tail" was a regular guest on the pages of this newspaper. Many years have passed. "El Alacrán" has now retired his poisonous pen; but now along comes his son...and as they say; "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree".

Pues el hijo del Alacrán fue con Bidal a el "ground breaking" del Northwest Little League. Allí andaban todos los Latinos de Lubbock, levantándose el cuello que ellos esto y que ellos el otro. Este hijo del Alacrán no entiende como esa gente quiere nada más que crédito por lo que otros hicieron...

Pues parece que ya cerraron el lugar favorito de este hijo del Alacrán. La policía le dio la despedida a el Club South Beach con un "raid" donde corrieron a toda la gente como se vio hace muchos años en el Fair Park Coliseum en uno de los bailes de Little Joe.

Dicen que estrujaban a la gente quien se encontraba en el South Beach como si fueran criminales. Parece que entre más tiempo pasa menos cambian las cosas.

Hasta la otra...y mucho cuidado con el hijo...



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GRISTO KOMAR

OP-ED - Opinions - Discussions - Viewpoints - OP-ED

SEND IN THE CLOWNS QUE VENGAN LOS PAYASOS

By José de la Isla

HOUSTON--It's too bad the current political climate distorts the U.S. population. It's as if we were standing in front of one of those full-length fun-house mirrors that makes us look like a cartoon. That's how the current crop of presidential aspirants distort the national portrait.

The candidates seem to know the issues. But do they know the public, especially when it comes to the changing demographics and Latinos?

Since the 1990s, a convincingly large portion of 44 million Latinos entered the middle-income ranks.

What happened is that economic change came when Bill Clinton, as president, led the fight to form earned-income tax credits. Low-income workers, with wages below the poverty line, were pushed up a notch. Fifteen million families in the U.S. earning less than \$27,000 a year gained \$21 billion in just five years. That approach expanded the ranks of the middle-income and it shrank those at the low end.

The expanding economy made room for growth by those already in the middle-class and entrepreneurial ranks.

Between 1998 and 1999, the average Hispanic family income rose \$1,779. Al Gore, in that year's presidential campaign, advocated expanding tax credits and George W. Bush called for lowering taxes in the upper brackets.

During the last seven years, declares Harry. Pachón, president of the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, "There is a growing Latino middle class and an increasing number of Latino families who are investors, professionals," he says, who "represent a dynamic segment of the current and future economy."

Hispanic households earning more than \$100,000 annually grew 126 percent from 1991-2000, while 77 percent for the general population did so. The number of Hispanics earning \$100,000 and who have at least \$500,000 in assets is growing eight times faster than the non-Latino market.

By no means are all Latinos getting all the breaks. But income growth for those who get it helps expand the consumer economy. Acquiring education capital by accumulating more years of schooling also helps with income security. Yet, the evening news and a lot of other reporting go for the easy story portraying victims and victimizers.

They aid the long-held notions by those who believe middle-class jobs fled the country when low-income people from Mexico or Central America arrived one day to take a sub-prime job. All this adds to a distorted imagery.

Less attention is given to the accounts about the two million Hispanic-owned businesses generating \$350 billion annually. Not only that but Hispanic women-owned businesses grew dramatically between 1997 and 2006 by 121 percent.

According to the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 3.2 million Latino businesses will be generating \$465 billion annually by 2010.

After a new president is elected in 2008, gets inaugurated in 2009 and the first mid-term election is held in 2010, the Latino consumer market will have reached \$1 trillion, if not sooner.

All this gives plenty of room to reflect on how people and capital help expand the economy and job opportunities for others. More so, it is fair warning to politicians seeking the Latino vote they should address this segment as it is, not as it is stereotyped by single issues.

The National Council of La Raza's recent poll of 1,000 Hispanic Latino voters disclosed 89 percent plan to vote in the 2008 presidential election for the candidate who best advocates public education.

That's why gone are the days when Latinos don't take offense that politicians define them as a single-interest group and condescendingly sputter a few mispronounced words in Spanish. Instead, economics, income, education and immigration are not problems to solve but opportunities to capture.

When the presidential candidates, in their many debates and forums, open their mouths and say "immigration" as the encapsulating "issue" to define all Latino concerns, shut them out in your mind. They don't know the country they purport to want to lead.

Whether it is Hillary, Obama, John, Bill, Mitt, Rudy or any of the others, you have to ask: Do they know the country they want to lead?

[José de la Isla, author of "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books, 2003) writes a weekly commentary for Hispanic Link News Service. E-mail joseisla@yahoo.com © 2007

José de la Isla
Qué pena que el actual clima político distorsione la población de los Estados Unidos. Es como si estuviéramos frente a uno de esos espejos a cuerpo entero en casa de los espejos que nos hace ver como una caricatura. Así es como el actual grupo de aspirantes a la presidencia distorsionan el retrato nacional.

Los candidatos parecen saber cuáles son los temas de importancia. Pero la pregunta es si conocen al público, en particular cuando tiene que hacer con el cambio demográfico y los latinos.

Desde la década de los noventa, una proporción convincentemente grande de los 44 millones de latinos entró en el rango de la clase media.

Lo que ocurrió fue que el cambio económico llegó cuando Bill Clinton, como presidente, dirigió la lucha por formar el crédito por el ingreso del trabajo (EITC por sus siglas en inglés). Los trabajadores de bajos ingresos, con el salario por debajo del índice de la pobreza, pudieron subir un tanto. Quince millones de familias en los EE.UU., cuyo ingreso fuera menos de \$27.000 anuales, ganaron \$21 mil millones en sólo cinco años. Aquel enfoque expandió la población del ingreso de clase media y disminuyó la del ingreso más bajo.

La economía en expansión permitió mayor crecimiento por parte de los que ya se encontraban en el rango de la clase media y empresarial.

Entre los años 1998 y 1999, el ingreso promedio de la familia hispana subió \$1,779. Al Gore, durante la campaña presidencial de ese año, abogó por aumentar el crédito y George W. Bush apoyaba bajar los impuestos de los de ingreso más alto.

Durante los últimos siete años, asevera Harry Pachón, presidente del Instituto de Políticas Tomás Rivera, "Hay una clase media latina en auge y un número creciente de familias latinas que son inversionistas, profesionales", dice, que "representan un segmento dinámico de la economía actual y futura".

Los hogares hispanos que ganan más de \$100,000 al año crecieron un 126 por ciento entre 1991 y el 2000, mientras que el 77 por ciento lo hizo en la población en general. El número de hispanos que ganan \$100,000 y que cuentan con un mínimo de \$500,000 en bienes crece ocho veces más rápido que el mercado no latino.

Pero de ninguna manera es que los latinos sean los que lo reciben todo. Sin

embargo, el crecimiento en términos del ingreso para los que lo entienden ayuda la expansión de la economía de consumo. La adquisición de capital educativo al acumular más años de instrucción académica también apoya la seguridad del ingreso. Con todo esto, todavía las noticias de la tarde y mucho más reportaje va sólo hacia la narrativa fácil de víctimas y atacantes.

Ayudan las nociones largamente establecidas por los que creen que los empleos de clase media huyeron del país cuando un día llegaron personas de bajos ingresos de México o América Central para trabajar un empleo menos que preferencial. Todo esto agrega más a la imagen distorsionada.

Se presta menos atención a la narrativa de los dos millones de empresas hispanas que generan \$350 mil millones al año. Esto no es todo - que las empresas de mujeres hispanas crecieron dramáticamente entre 1997 y 2001 - por 121 por ciento.

Según la Cámara de Comercio Hispano de los EE.UU., 3,2 millones de empresas latinas generarán \$465 mil millones por año para el 2010.

Después de la elección de un nuevo presidente en el 2008, y la inauguración del 2009, y pase la primera elección de medio-término en el 2010, el mercado de consumo latino habrá alcanzado un billón, si no lo alcanza antes.

Todo esto permite reflexionar sobre cómo la gente y el capital ayudan con la expansión de la economía y con las oportunidades de trabajo para otras personas.

Más que esto, vale advertir a los políticos que buscan el voto latino que deben atender a este segmento por lo que es, no por los temas particulares de estereotipo.

La encuesta reciente de 1.000 electores latinos realizada por el Consejo Nacional de La Raza, reveló que el 89 por ciento piensa votar en los comicios presidenciales del 2008 por el candidato que mejor abogue por la educación pública.

Es por eso que han desaparecido los días en que los latinos no se ofenden que los políticos los definan como un grupo de un solo interés y que condesciendientemente balbuceen unas cuantas palabras mal pronunciadas en español. De lo contrario, la economía, el ingreso, la educación y la inmigración no son problemas

que resolver, sino oportunidades que capturar.

Cuando los candidatos a la presidencia, en sus muchos debates y foros, abren la boca y dicen "inmigración" como el tema que encapsula y define todas las inquietudes de los latinos, no hay que hacerles caso alguno. No conocen el país que pretenden querer dirigir.

Sea Hillary, Obama, John, Bill, Mitt, Rudy, o cualquier otro, hay que preguntar, ¿Conocen al país que quieren dirigir?

[José de la Isla, autor de "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books, 2003), redacta un comentario semanal para Hispanic Link News Service. Comuníquese con él a: joseisla3@yahoo.com. © 2007

LULAC Awards Scholarships to Deserving Students



The 15th Annual LULAC Scholarship Award Ceremony was held this past week where student recipients were honored and given their scholarship to help them continue their education.

Students who were awarded scholarships this year included Fabian Franco, Jose Gallegos, Adriana Garcia, Bovanna Hernandez, Cynthia Lopez, Gilberto Martinez, Jazmin Ortega, Linda Perez Nicolas Ra.orez, Asjeu Qioromp. Be;inda Elizondo, Steven Dominguez, Nathaniel Gloria, Faith Moreno, Mrcos ZPeña, Jonathan Parks, Carlos Madrid and Sierra Gonzalez.

Sponsors for the event were: American State Bank, Standard Sales, LULAC, Anthony Canchola, Angelo Blanco, Associated Business Services, Calvillo Funeral Home, Eddie Silva - Triple E, El Conquistador Plumbing, Efrain Ruiz, Flores Tire Service, Garcia Complete Lawn Care, Guajardo Funeral Chapels, John P. Cervantes, Lee Rangel Construction, Lugo Insurance, Mediation & Consulting Services, P & R Surge Systems Inc., Policarpo Trevino Construction, Ramirez Concrete, Rose Family Medicine, Robert Rodriguez, Rodriguez Trucking, Simón Lozada, Treviño Construction, Torres Misc., Uriel Vega Construction.

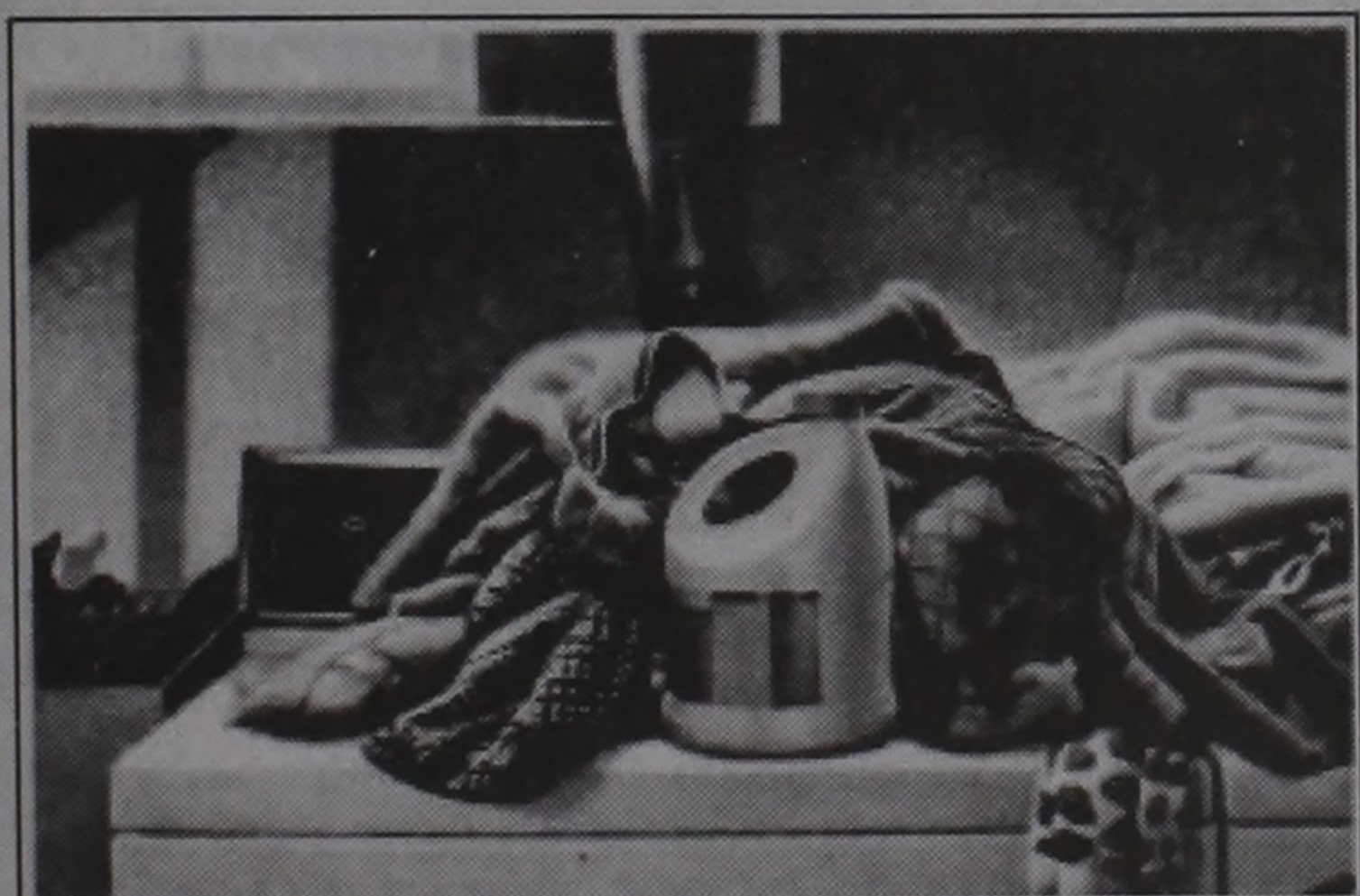
In photos top: Student recipients, bottom: LULAC members. Photos by John P. Cervantez

El Editor-First in News

Send in your news, community events, sporting events or whatever you want published to el editor@sbcglobal or to P.O. Box 11250, Lubbock, TX 79401.



Habia una vez una montaña de ropa lavada.



En la montaña, había ropa de distintos colores. Al verla, a la mamá se le ocurrió jugar un juego. ¡Rojo! Le dijo a su hijo mientras le mostraba una camisa roja. ¡Rojo! Dijo el niño. La mamá puso la camisa en la pila de ropa de color. La ropa blanca estaba en otra pila. ¡Verde como la rana! ¡Blanco como el helado! Y así siguió diciendo los colores. Ropa de color, ropa blanca. Ropa de color, ropa blanca. Hasta que lo último que había era un babero color azul. Cuando lo vió, el niño señaló la pila de ropa de color. ¡Si vieran la sonrisa en la cara de mamá!

Un momento cotidiano puede convertirse en un momento de enseñanza. Porque el aprendizaje comienza mucho antes que la escuela. Aprovecha un momento cotidiano, como cuando lavas la ropa o haces tus quehaceres domésticos, y transformalo en uno de enseñanza. Visita a www.homeschooling.org para más información.

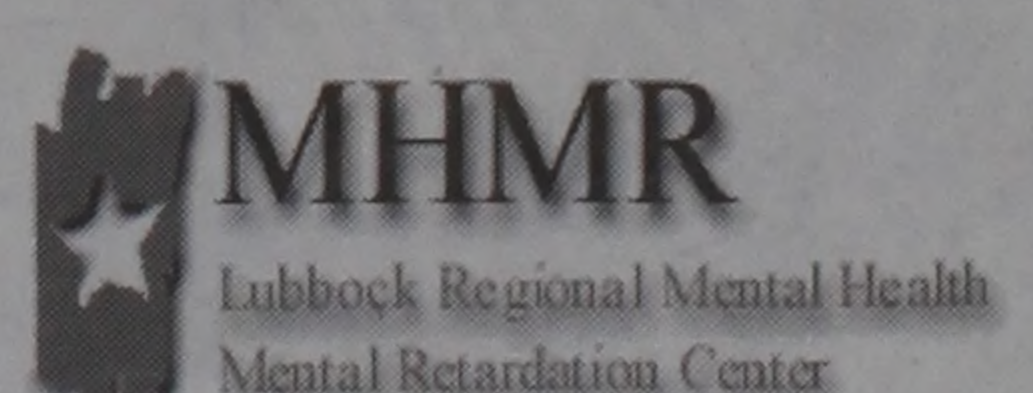
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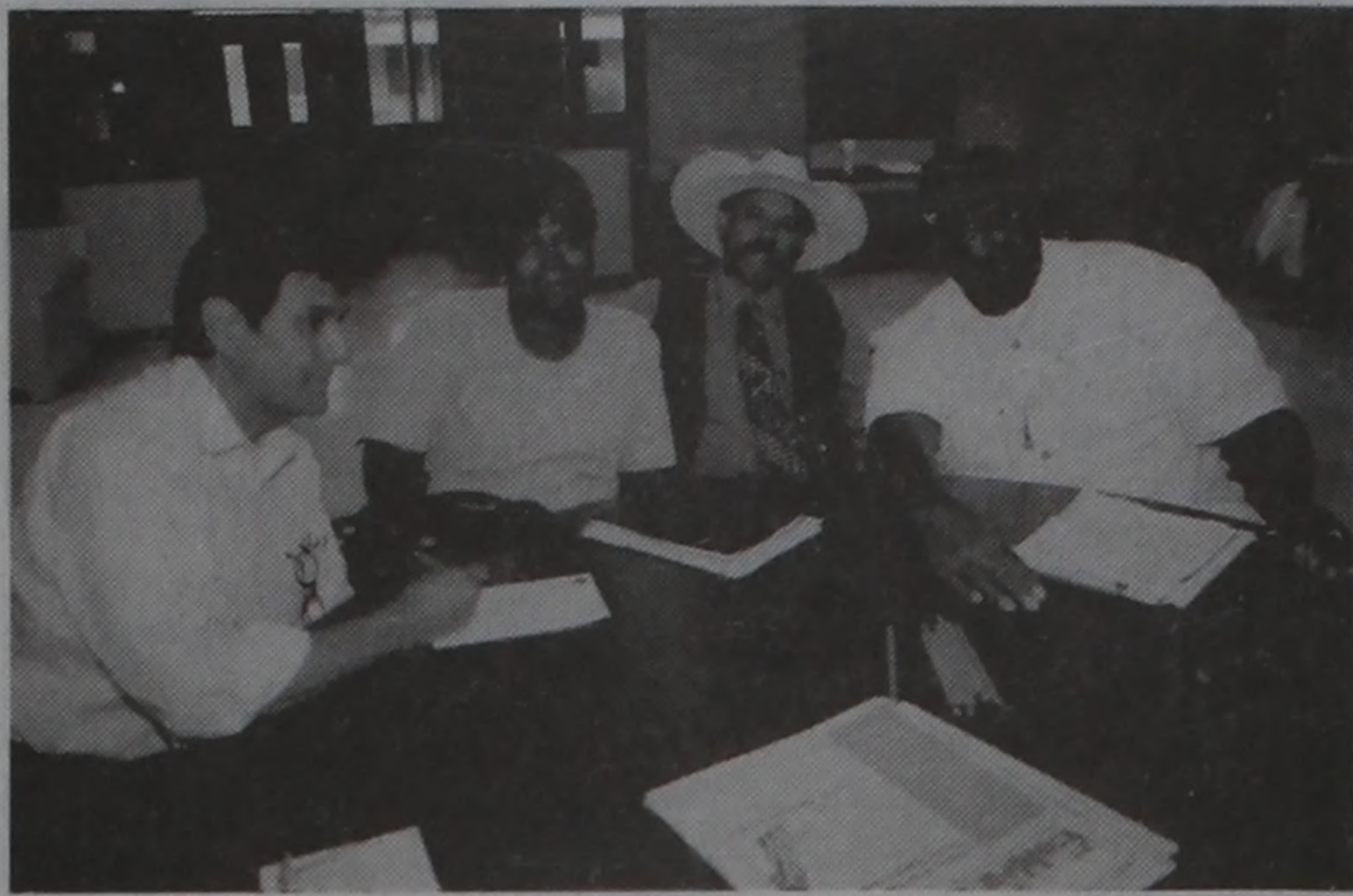
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Call Monday-Friday, 8:00AM-5:00PM. Other times available upon request.

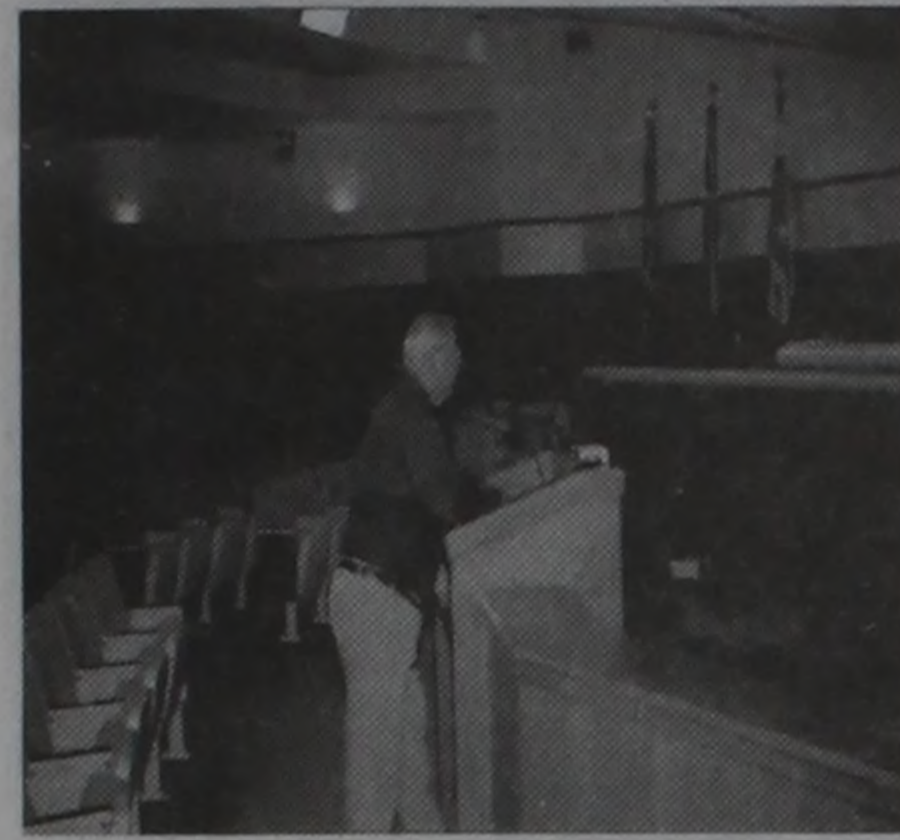
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Lubbock County Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez writes down the comments about the proposed \$300 million Bond Election at a public hearing held at Estacado High School. The meeting was held by Listen Lubbock, a Special Purpose Committee organized to promote the Bond proposal. Citizen's views were posted on the Listen Lubbock website for review by the City Council. City Council must decide to hold the election by the Texas deadline of Aug 13, 2007 if the Bond proposal is to be placed on the November Ballot. City Council may approve the proposal as recommended by the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) or add to it, or remove from it, or change it in any way they desire. Lubbock voters will approve or reject the final version. If voters approve the Bond as recommended by the CAC, an addition tax of over \$200 per year will be added to the City tax. (Pictured L-R: Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez, and East Lubbock residents Billie Russell, Gilbert Salinas, Quonzell Ivory. Photo by: J.P. Cervantez)



John P. Cervantez addresses City Council at the July 26, 2007 citizens comments portion of the regular meeting. Mr. Cervantez asked the City Council for money for East Lubbock. "You spent millions on Milwaukee Street but East Lubbock hasn't received any infrastructure money in decades. Please do not abandon East Lubbock." John reminded City Council of the \$100 million spent to build a new jail. "If only half

that amount was used for parks and swimming pools for our children, we wouldn't need such a large jail" he said, "We could save our youth." He reminded the City Council of the letter he wrote asking for the improvement of East 16th Street. "Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council, as a business owner, resident, and leader in East Lubbock, I deserve an answer to my letter." (Photo by: Ysidro Gutierrez)



Lubbock Parks & Recreation-Board members, Mayor and council members held a ground ceremony on Monday for the Northwest Little League Baseball Fields which are on North University next to the Lubbock Westerner Fields. According to Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez, the fields were first approved to be built in a bond election held in 2004. Gutierrez served on that Citizen's Advisory Committee that year. In picture, left to right: Mr. Trevino-President of Northwest Little League, Todd Klein Councilman Dist. 3, Olga Riojas-Aguero Parks Board member, Linda DeLeon Councilwoman Dist. 1, Lala Chavez board member of Northwest Little League and her son, Mayor David Miller, Gilbert Flores member of Northwest and Grey Lewis Chairman of Parks Board.



Sra. Basilia Marquez who is holding a certificate that was given to her and a crown by Lubbock Mayor David Miller. She was recognized as the oldest Guadalupe resident, her age is 98 and is proud of it. Also in photo are her daughters. This event was held at Guadalupe Park.

Getting Educated Matters: New Miss "GEM" Pageant to be held in Conjunction with Miss Hispanic Lubbock

When it comes to education; we all agree that it matters. This year, the committee which organizes the yearly Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant; in an effort to raise scholarship funds to help deserving college students, have organized a new pageant called "Getting Educated Matters" or GEM for short; which will be held in conjunction with the annual Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant. According to a press release received from Miss Hispanic Lubbock and Miss GEM Pageant Chairperson, Rosa G. Salazar, the competition will be open to young girls between the ages of 5 and 13. The 3 categories are as follows:

Tiny Miss GEM - Ages: 5-7;
Little Miss GEM - Ages: 8-10;
and Young Miss GEM - Ages: 11-13.
"The winners in each category will be awarded a crown and a sash and will have the opportunity to participate in the Miss Hispanic Lubbock pageant production which will take place on Friday September 14, 2007 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center". The Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant is held each year in conjunction with the 16th of September celebrations.

The GEM Scholarship Fund was "established by a group of local women who believe that education is the key to the future of Hispanic women"; according to Salazar's press release. Contestants can request an application from Ms. Salazar by calling 806-793-0300 or emailing her at rosa.g.salazar@ttu.edu. All applications must be submitted along with a \$50.00 entry fee and all contestants will need to attend a "mandatory contest orientation" meeting which will be scheduled by appointment with the pageant director no later than August 14; with the pageant competition scheduled to be held on August 18.

The competition will include 3 separate activities; a personal introduction and dress modeling; answering personal interview questions from a panel of judges for girls ranging in age from 8-13 only; and a talent performance in full costume within a 3 minute maximum time limit. The 3 GEM pageant winners will also participate in several of the activities held during the Fiestas.

Applications for young ladies wanting to participate in the annual Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant are also available and can be downloaded at www.fiestas-dellano.org. The submission date for that application is also August 14, 2007.

Those persons, parents or legal guardians of those wanting to participate in either pageant competition are encouraged to contact Rosa G. Salazar by phone at 793-0300 or by email at rosa.g.salazar@ttu.edu. Email: eleditor@sbcglobal.net

¿Que Pasa?

SPC sets fall 2007 registration

LEVELLAND - South Plains College will host registration on its Levelland, Plainview and Byron Martin Advance Technology Center campus locations on Aug. 22. Fall classes begin Aug. 27. The Levelland campus will offer registration for orientation students from 1:30 to 2 p.m. Normal registration will be from 2 to 5:30 p.m. New and returning students (excluding orientation students) can contact the Admissions and Records Office to obtain a registration time permit. These permits indicate the time students should report for registration. SPC Plainview Center, located at 1920 W. 24th St., will offer fall registration from 5 to 7 p.m. No permit is required. Registration for SPC at the Byron Martin ATC, 3201 Ave. Q, is set for 5 to 7 p.m. Students must have been admitted to SPC with transcripts on file to be eligible to register. Late registration is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 27-28. On the Levelland campus, students should report to the Counseling Center in the Student Services Building. On the Plainview campus, students must report to the Main Office. At the Reese and SPC at Byron Martin campuses, students should report to the Counseling Center. Current or new students who have been accepted for admission may register through the Campus Connect link at www.southplainscollege.edu as long as they have a pin number. Students must bring the following items to registration: time permit, pen or pencil, valid driver's license, vehicle registration information and form of payment for tuition and fees. For more information for the Levelland campus, contact the Admissions and Records Office at 806-894-9611, ext. 2578 or 2572. For registration permits at the Reese Center, contact 806-885-3048, ext. 2902 or 4660.

Sabor Hispano 2007 Tradiciones y Memorias de Nuestros Países "Traditions and Memories from our Homelands"

The Texas Tech University/Texas Tech University Health Science Center's Latino(a)/Hispanic Faculty and Staff Association is seeking artists and poets to participate in the association's Sabor Hispano 2007. The theme for this year's poetry reading and art exhibit is "Tradiciones y Memorias de Nuestros Países" (Traditions and Memories from our Homelands.) The exhibit, located in the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library (TTU campus at the corner of 15th and Detroit,) will run for three weeks, commencing with an opening reception on Friday, October 12th, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm and concluding on Friday, November 2nd, 2007.

Sabor Hispano embraces the region's rich Hispanic culture, as such; the artwork and poetry should be reflective of the diverse tapestry of our Latino community. Interested artists and poets are encouraged to submit samples of their original works (poetry may be in English or Spanish) to Daniel U. Sánchez at the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Texas Tech University, from August 9-September 7, 2007, for possible selection. All events are free and open to the public.

The official "Sabor Hispano 2007 Rules" and additional information may be found on the LHFA website at www.orgs.ttu.edu/lhfa. If you have any questions, please call Daniel at (806) 742-3749 ext. 258.

National Neighborhood Night Out a Success

Tuesday night, August 7th, many neighborhood organizations and just friendly neighbors came together in support of their desire to keep their neighborhoods safe. Throughout the city, different neighborhood associations and groups organized everything from cookouts to even a Mariachi presentation. Neighborhood residents of the South Overton area were treated to Mariachi music. At least 75 Overton neighborhood residents came together on the National Neighbor's Night Out to join in song and enjoy the singing and presentations by residents. The neighborhood was also treated to the music of the "Mariachi Nueva Generación." Those attending especially enjoyed the singing of teenagers Jose Casas and Jasmine Jacquez. In Lubbock's Guadalupe neighborhood, known as Lubbock's oldest Mexican American "barrio", the Guadalupe Neighborhood Association celebrated the event by recognizing the neighborhoods oldest living resident. The event was attended by Lubbock Mayor David Miller according to association President Lile Quirino. The national event known as National Night Out is celebrating its 24th year in existence. The yearly event was created to allow neighbors to meet their next door neighbors and to symbolize a neighborhood's efforts to fight crime and in a sense take back their neighborhoods.

Recently, Lubbock residents in all neighborhoods have become more and more alarmed at the crime increase in Lubbock neighborhoods and an increase in major crimes which includes 9 murders since the beginning of the year.

Email: eleditor@sbcglobal.net



Grace Quirino Garza who resides in South Overton sang a song of Cesar Chavez at the event.



Approximately over 100 people turn out for the South Overton Neighborhood Night Out enjoying all the different entertainment, food, prizes during the event on Tuesday night.

LEARN Educational Talent Search is now accepting applications for an entry level Educational Advisor. Bachelors degree in education, sociology, or human services required. Knowledge of college admissions, testing and financial aid preferred. Computer skills and ability to work with youth/diverse populations a plus. Position requires weekly travel, some evenings and weekend hours. Resume, references, college transcript, and job application required. Apply in person at 2161 50th Street, Lubbock, Tx. E.O.E.

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Familia' relishing Romo's success

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones had just finished an interview with a reporter after practice Tuesday when he took a second to shake hands with a couple under the eastside stands at the Alamodome.

In a hurry to get to a meeting, Jones smiled and exchanged pleasantries before it dawned on him that he had just met the paternal grandparents of his starting quarterback.

"Did you say Romo?" Jones said, stopping in his tracks. "Are you Tony Romo's grandparents?"

Although Jones never had met Ramiro and Felicita Romo, who lived in San Antonio for three years in the 1980s, he

warmed up to them immediately and treated them like longtime friends during a conversation that lasted nearly 10 minutes.

"I have read and heard so much about you that it's a pleasure to finally meet you," Jones said. "Your grandson is a joy to be around. He's the kind of young man I hoped I would be working with when I bought the Cowboys."

Ramiro and Felicita thanked Jones for having confidence in Tony, who practiced before a crowd that included nearly 200 members of his extended family.

"Tony wanted them to be here," Ramiro said. "La familia (the family) is very important to him."

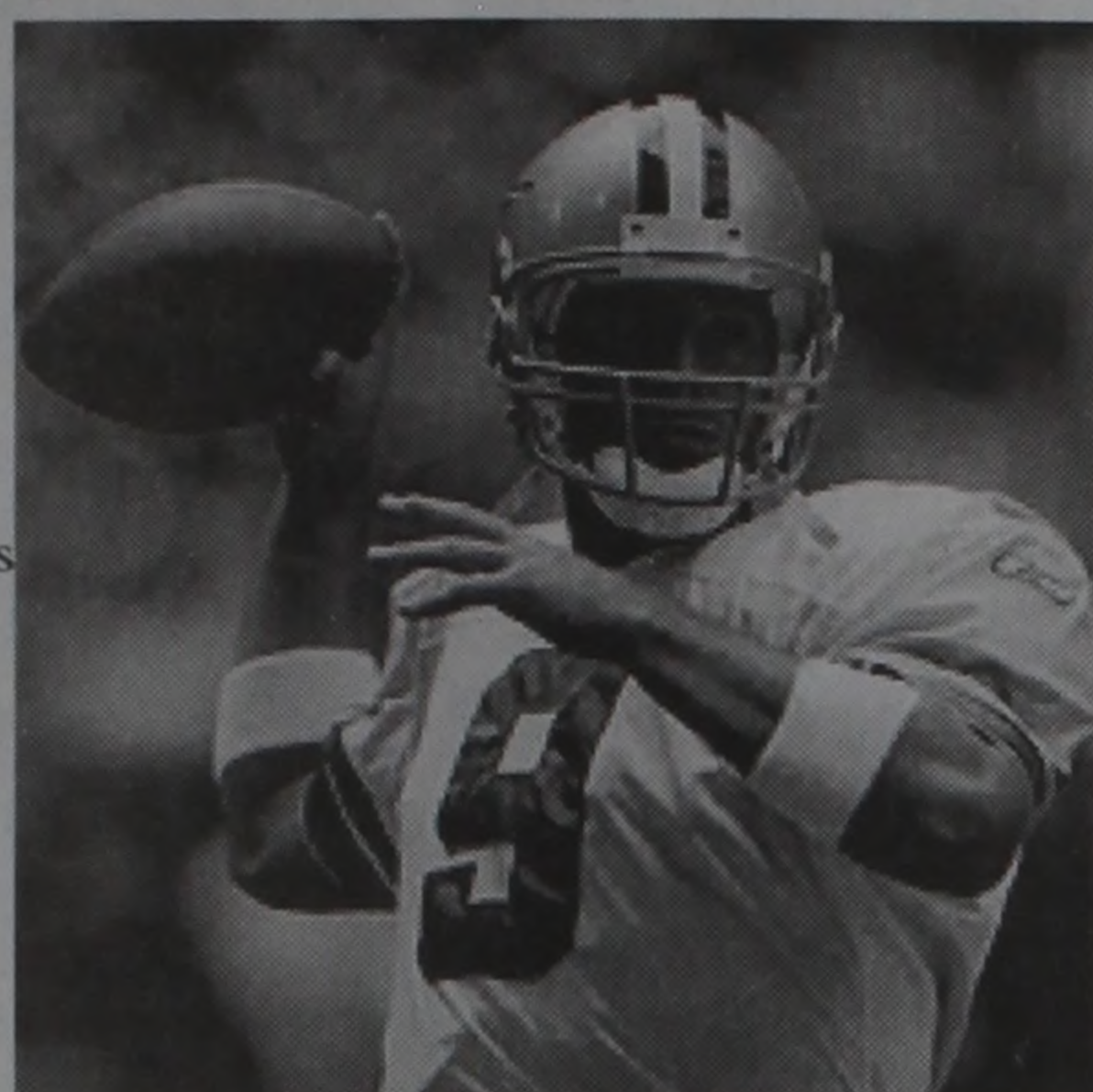
Tony Romo's parents, Ramiro Jr. and Joan, who live in Burlington, Wis., plan to come next week, Ramiro said.

The chance meeting with Jones culminated an emotional, memorable day for Romo's

grandparents, who lived in San Antonio from 1986-89 before moving to Crockett.

"I think it's something I will remember for a long time," said Felicita, 73. "I think Mr. Jones got the message that Tony has a lot of family support."

Ushered by Ramiro and Felicita, the family sat together during the workout and provided



Romo with his own cheering section. Ramiro's only surviving sibling, sister Socorro Valdez, who lives in San Antonio, was among those in the crowd.

"I am so happy for Ramiro, Felicita and all the family," said Valdez, 83.

When relatives weren't chanting "To-ny, To-ny, To-ny," they yelled "Ro-mo, Ro-mo, Ro-mo."

Some of the clan started arriving at the Alamodome more than an hour before the doors opened for the afternoon workout. Most wore Cowboys No. 9 jerseys and carried memorabilia for Romo to autograph.

Above all, they talked about their pride in being related to a Hispanic who is the starting quarterback for the Cowboys.

"I've never seen that kind of family support for one player in the years I've been with the Cowboys," Jones said later.

"Tony represents all the good

things we want the Cowboys to represent. He's fought the odds. And fans, especially our loyal Hispanic fans in San Antonio, appreciate and admire him for that. I do, too."

Tony Romo signed a few autographs after practice and spoke briefly with his grandparents before going to the locker room. He was unable to meet with other relatives because he had to rush for a meeting, but he waved to them as he was hustled away in a golf cart.

"It makes you feel special that so many people care about you," Romo said before leaving the field. "It's awesome."

Maria Romo, who lives in McLean, Va., said she had to make the trip to watch her second cousin in training camp.

"I'm so proud of Tony," she said. "It means a lot to our family to see him playing for the Cowboys."

Expressing pride in their Hispanic heritage, Ramiro and Felicita Romo, who are bilingual, said their grandson embodies the American dream.

Ramiro was born in Musquis, Coahuila, Mexico, in 1933, but moved to San Antonio when he was a teenager. He spent about five years in the city before going to live with a half-brother, Ramon Medina, in Racine, Wis.

"You can dream about these things, but you never know what will happen," Ramiro, 73, said in Spanish. "Tony has proven that if you work hard and have faith, you can be successful in this country."

Felicita was born in Robstown in 1934 and moved to Racine with her family when she was 12. She met Ramiro in Racine, and they married in 1955.

"When you think of how far this family has come, you think that this happens only in America," Felicita said. "I'm certain that we're just blessed."

Many would agree with her.

Bonds destrona a Aaron con batazo de 435 pies

BARRY BONDS disparó anoche el cuadrangular 756 de su carrera que lo acredita como líder indiscutible en el departamento de jonrones de las Grandes Ligas. El jardinero de los Gigantes agradeció al público en el estadio todo el apoyo que le brindaron.

Barry Bonds, de los Gigantes de San Francisco, impulsó anoche un récord en el béisbol de Grandes Ligas al conectar su jonrón número 756 en el segundo encuentro de la serie de cuatro juegos contra los Nacionales de Washington.

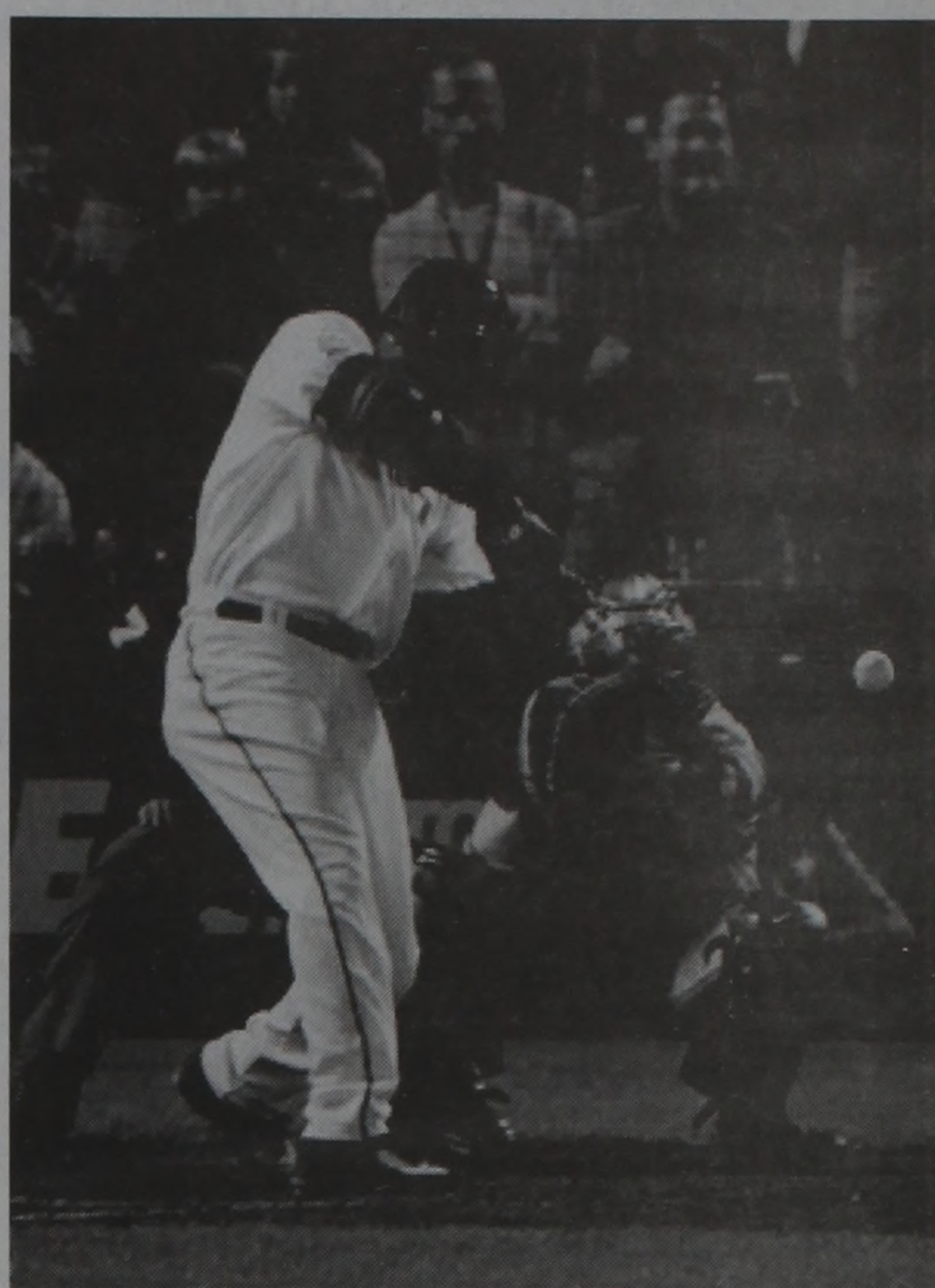
El toletero de los Gigantes rompió la marca anterior en poder de Hank Aaron frente al abridor de los Nacionales, Mike Bacsik, en el quinto episodio y en presencia de su padrino Willie Mays.

Bonds había igualado el récord anterior el sábado al disparar su cuadrangular número 755 contra el lanzador Clay Hensley, de los Padres de San Diego.

El jardinero izquierdo de San Francisco desapareció la pelota por el jardín central y después de pisar el home escuchó emocionado un mensaje grabado de Aaron en la pizarra del AT&T Park.

Con su batazo de anoche, Bonds ha bateado 297 bambinazos en San Francisco y acumula 157 de ellos en el estadio de los Gigantes desde que éste se inauguró en el 2000.

Además, el toletero ahora ha sacado del parque en 64 ocasiones contra Washington, la misma cifra que contra los Dodgers de Los Angeles y los Filis de Filadelfia, y sólo superada con la



que tiene ante los Padres de San Diego (87).

El juego de anoche fue televisado nacionalmente por décima ocasión seguida por la cadena deportiva ESPN, algo sin precedentes.

"Esto es lo más difícil que he tenido que hacer en toda mi carrera", expresó Bonds la semana pasada sobre la persecución y el establecimiento del récord.

"Tengo picazón en la cabeza,

hay momentos en que me siento enfermo y no pudo dormir con tranquilidad".

El pelotero, quien hizo su debut en las Mayores en mayo de 1986 y desde 1993 juega con los Gigantes, ha recibido siete premios al Jugador Más Valioso.

Durante su trayectoria en las Mayores, el toletero es el líder de todos los tiempos en bases por bolas con 2,517 y en boletos intencionales con 675.

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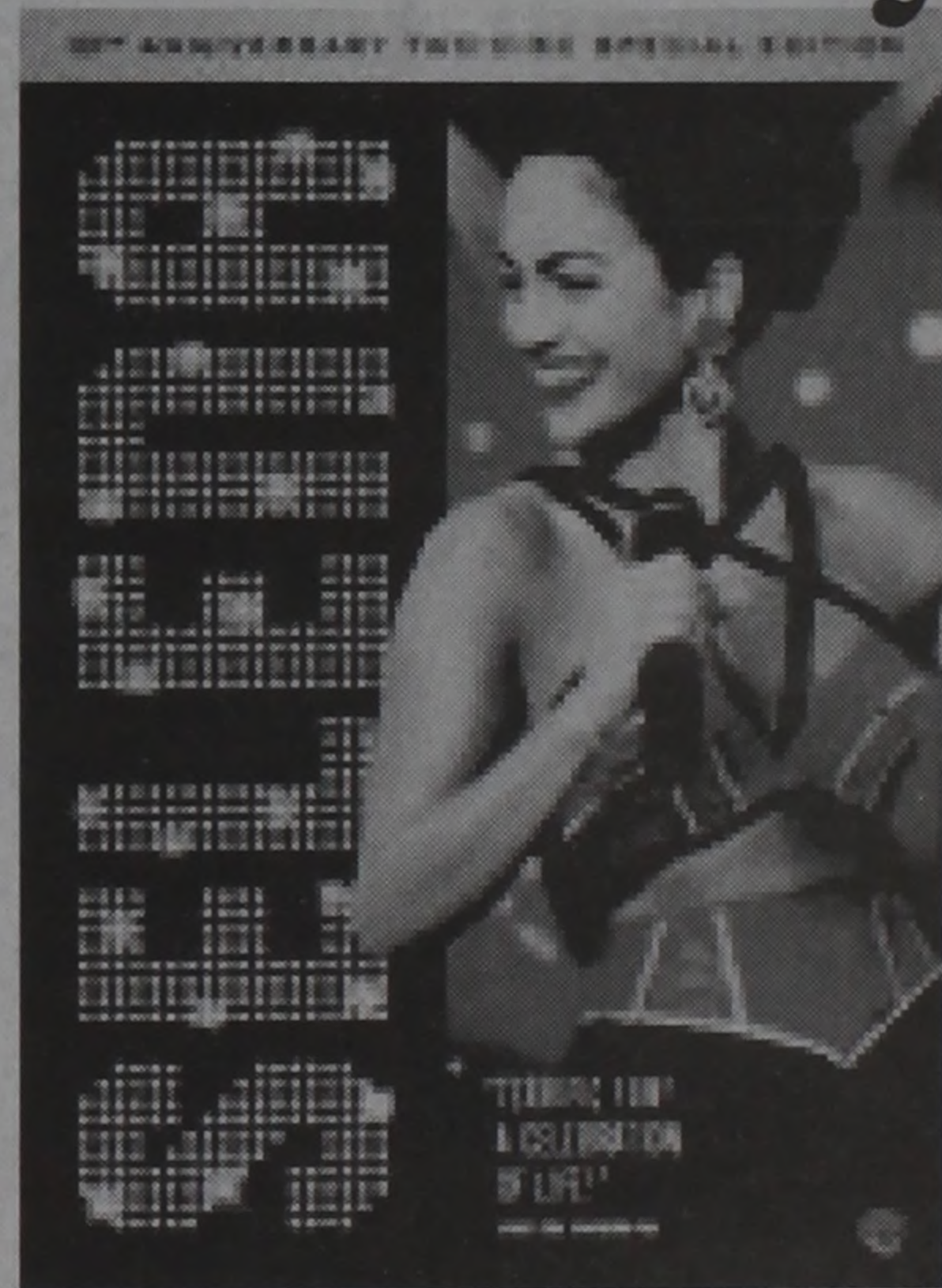
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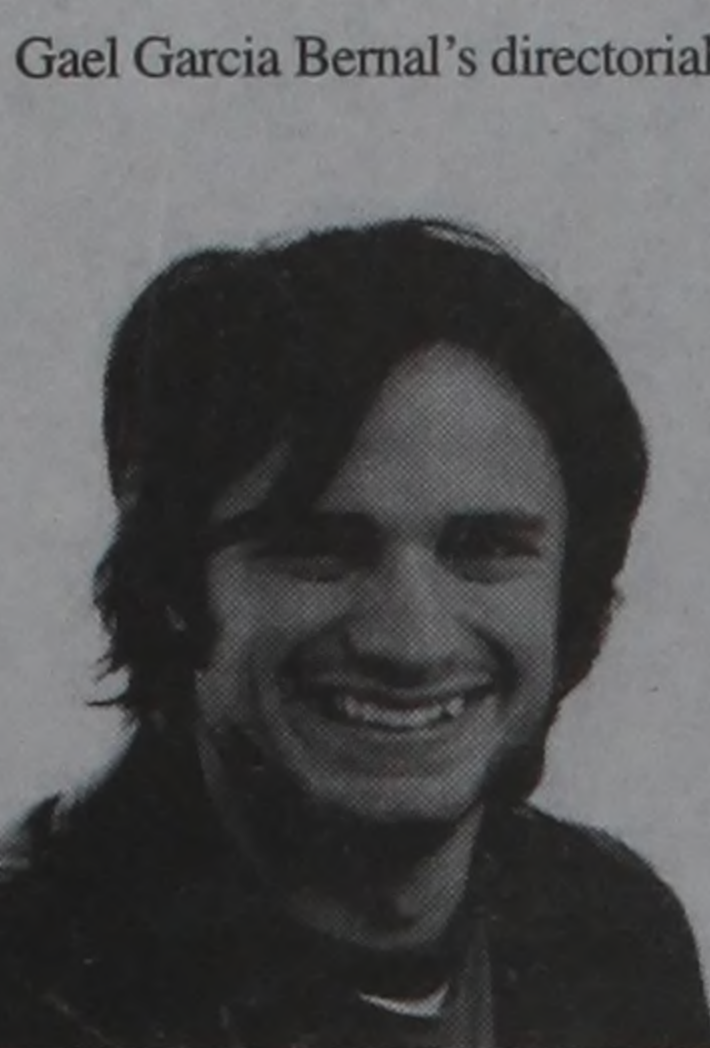


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Gael Garcia to debut as director at Toronto festival



Gael Garcia Bernal's directorial debut will be screened at this year's edition of the Toronto Film Festival, to be held from Sept. 6-15, spokespersons for the acclaimed Mexican actor said Saturday.

"Deficit," which tells of the adventures of a group of young people from wealthy families and how their perspective on life changes as the result of a trip, stars Garcia Bernal and compatriots Ana Serradilla, Camila Sodi, Giovanna Zacarias and Dagoberto Gama.

Garcia Bernal is currently working on a film titled "Rudo y Cursi," the directorial debut of Mexican

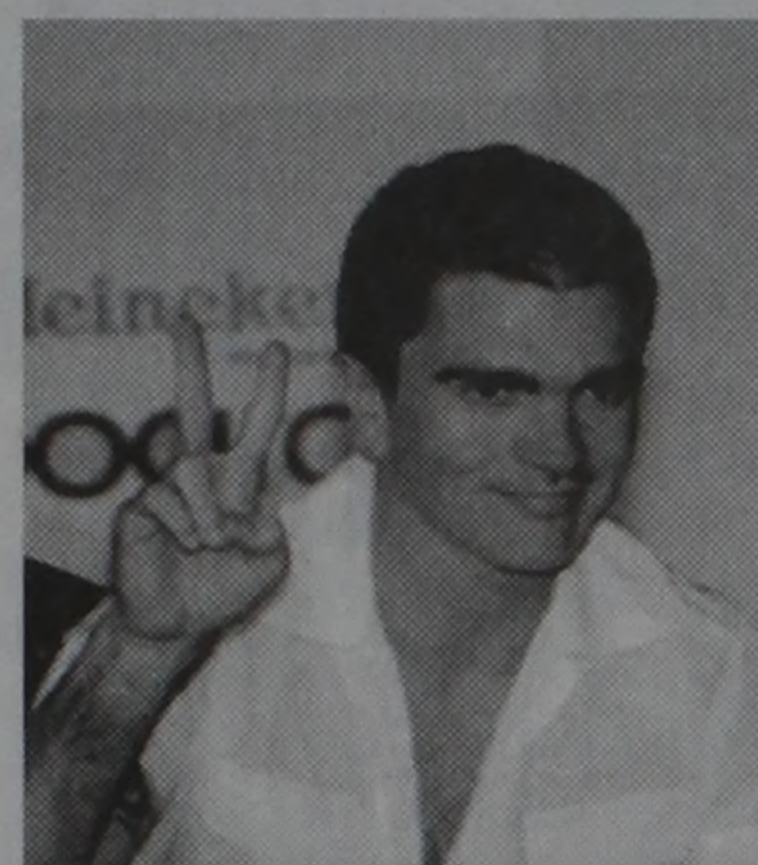
Carlos Cuaron - acclaimed director Alfonso Cuaron's brother - about two siblings who rival each other in the world of professional soccer.

He is also slated to star in film adaptations of the novels "Pedro Paramo" and "Blindness," written by Mexico's Juan Rulfo and Portugal's Jose Saramago, respectively.

The Mexican actor has received widespread critical acclaim for his performances in "Y Tu Mama Tambien" (And Your Mother Too), "El Crimen del Padre Amaro" (The Crime of Father Amaro), "Diarios de Motocicleta" (The Motorcycle Diaries), "La Mala Educacion" (Bad Education) and "Babel."

La vida es un raton de Juanes sale en septiembre

El cantautor colombiano Juanes regresa con un nuevo álbum,



"La vida es un raton", que presentará el próximo 4 de septiembre en las emisoras de radio de 77 países con un primer tema que ha titulado "Me enamora", informó su discográfica.

Este cuarto disco del artista incluirá dúos con el músico argentino Andrés Calamaro y con Campino, el líder de la banda alemana Die Toten Hosen.

Después del éxito de su anterior disco "Mi sangre",

el cantante y compositor vuelve a hablar del amor en "Me enamora", un tema que representa el alma de un disco, donde las guitarras, teclados rockeros de influencias de los años 70 y ritmos colombianos se entremezclan.

Juanes ha sido el productor de su nuevo trabajo, junto a Gustavo Santaolalla, el compositor, músico y productor musical argentino, ganador de dos Oscar y múltiples Grammys, según adelantó su discográfica Universal.

Este nuevo proyecto, en el cual el artista lleva trabajando durante los dos últimos años, recoge canciones que hablan de relaciones de amor, personales y también temas sociales como "Minas piedras", que cantará a dúo con Calamaro.

Juanes se encuentra trabajando actualmente en los últimos detalles de la producción del álbum en los estudios "The Hit Factory Criteria" en Miami.

Farewell to Señor Telenovela, Ernesto Alonso

Prolific Mexican actor and film producer Ernesto Alonso died Tuesday in this capital, theater producer and close friend



Tina Galindo told the press. He was 91.

Alonso, who on Monday left the hospital where he had been receiving treatment, died of pneumonia at 3:30 a.m. in his home in Mexico City apparently in the company of relatives and friends.

The man better known as "Señor Telenovela" (Mr. Soap Opera) had a 70-year career in movies and television, and it was only a short while ago that he left the

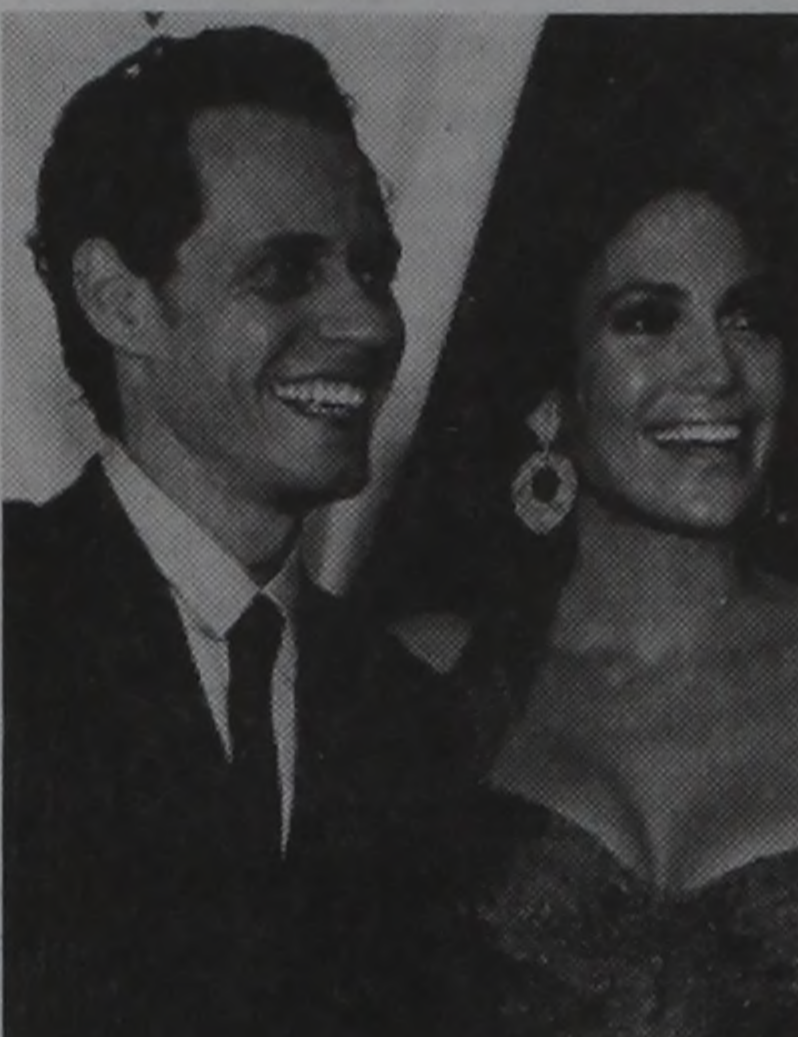
entertainment world, partly due to health problems.

Born in Aguascalientes on Feb. 28, 1917, Alonso acted in films along with iconic stars such as Andrea Palma, Maria Felix, Jorge Negrete, Dolores del Rio and Miroslava, among others.

He also worked closely with Spanish director Luis Buñuel as a narrator in "Los Olvidados" (1950) and "Abismos de Pasion" (1954).

In 1959, he made his television debut with "Cuidado con el Angel" and he went on - on the small screen - to enjoy a long career as a producer, almost always working with Televisa.

J.Lo and Marc Anthony set concert tour dates



Talk about togetherness. Jennifer Lopez and husband Marc Anthony, who co-star in the new movie "El Cantante," will go on a concert tour together starting next month.

The 14-date tour will open Sept. 29 in Atlantic City, N.J., and wrap up Nov. 2 in Miami. It will be Lopez's first concert tour. She will perform songs from her Spanish-language album, "Como Ama una Mujer (How a Woman Loves)," which

was mainly produced by Anthony.

Lopez, 39, is set to release her new CD, "Brave," on Oct. 9.

Anthony just released the soundtrack to "El Cantante," a biopic of salsa legend Hector Lavoe, which opened in theaters last Friday. Anthony, 37, plays Lavoe, a talented but troubled Puerto Rican singer, and Lopez portrays Lavoe's long-suffering wife, Puchi. Lopez produced the movie.

The couple wed in 2004. Other stops on the tour, produced by Live Nation, include Uncasville, Conn.; Washington; New York; Toronto; Chicago; San Jose, Calif.; Los Angeles; Anaheim, Calif.; San Diego; Las Vegas; Dallas; and Houston.

Anuncia nuevos proyectos compañía de Salma Hayek

Entre los planes destaca la comedia Bones Family, que estaría a cargo del hispano George López; la historia se centra en un padre que trata de aunar a su familia en un viaje a Las Vegas

La diversidad delante y detrás de las cámaras es la meta de la actriz mexicana Salma Hayek con su productora "Ventanazul" con la que hoy anunció algunos de sus próximos proyectos.

Entre los planes de la compañía, "Ventanazul" confirmó en la revista Variety que está en conversaciones con el también hispano George López para que se encargue de protagonizar una comedia familiar bajo el sello de Hayek, además de ser el coguionista y productor.

Con el título de "Bones Family", la comedia se centra en un padre que trata de aunar a su familia en un viaje a Las Vegas (Nevada).

Los hermanos Gabriel y Rodolfo Rivapalacio, nacidos en México y creadores de la popular comedia mexicana "Una película de huevos", se encargarán de la dirección.

El proyecto cumple los deseos de "Ventanazul" de potenciar nuevo talento hispano capaz de desarrollar y producir películas con un presupuesto que esté entre los 2 y los 25 millones de dólares.

"Ventanazul" indicó con anterioridad que quiere poner en marcha o adquirir unos 12 filmes en un plazo de cinco años, dando la oportunidad a hispanos y latinoamericanos a ambos lados de la cámara.

Entre otros de los proyectos confirmados está la película

"Diego Ascending", nueva versión de la cinta israelí "Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi" centrada en un joven dividido entre desarrollar todo su potencial personal y laboral o cuidar de su familia.

La película tiene como director a Rodrigo García, el hijo del escritor Gabriel García Márquez que también tiene un proyecto en marcha con los otros mexicanos de oro de Hollywood, los llamados "tres amigos" Alfonso Cuarón, Guillermo del Toro y Alejandro González Iñárritu, y su productora "Cha, cha, cha".

El tercer proyecto confirmado hasta el momento y con fecha de



comienzo de rodaje para principios de 2008 es la cinta sin título que dirigirá el chileno Nicolás López.

Se trata también de una comedia pero de ciencia ficción donde una joven es enviada del futuro al presente para evitar la Tercera Guerra Mundial.

Ninguna de las películas contará con Hayek como actriz. La actriz, productora y también directora figura esta semana en la cuarta posición de los hispanos más poderosos en la industria del cine según la revista The Hollywood Reporter.

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