

Casualties of
War in Iraq
3,352
as of April
26, 2007

El Editor

**Celebrating 30
Years of
Publishing**

**"El Respeto al Derecho
Ajeno es la Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez**

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Celebremos el 5 de Mayo



Why Do We Celebrate Cinco de Mayo

By José Antonio Burciaga
Hispanic Link News Service
Had Mexico not defeated the French in Puebla on May 5, 1862, France would have gone to the aid of the South in the U.S. Civil War and our destiny could have been very different. Justo Sierra (1848-1912), a great Mexican writer who lived that period and wrote "The Political Evolution of the Mexican People," made this observation at the turn of the century.

In 1861 Mexico was bankrupt, owing staggering sums to Britain, Spain, France and the United States. Years earlier the United States had offered to assume Mexico's debt in exchange for a mortgage on part of its territory. Mexico flatly rejected the offer, having already lost half its territory to this country. What kept the European powers from direct intervention in Mexico were the United States and the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 that warned Europe to stay away from interfering in this hemisphere.

But in the summer of 1861 the United States Civil War broke out. In October of that same year, France, Spain and England convened to sign the Covenant of London in which these nations agreed to send troops to Mexico in sufficient numbers to secure payments. They solemnly added that this use of force was not for territorial gain or interfering in Mexico.

Spain and England sent the first bill-collecting expedition, met no resistance at Vera Cruz but was unable to collect, though an agreement was reached.

Meanwhile, France had landed a sizeable force in Mexico and the European intervention became exclusively French.

On May 5, 1862, the French attacked Puebla and the Mexican Army, under General Ignacio Zaragoza, defeated the militarily superior French forces. This victory gave Mexico an electric current of patriotism and inspiration. It gave Mexico a soul of her own and national unity. This is why *Cinco de Mayo* is almost as important as their own Sept. 16th Independence Day.

Meanwhile Robert E. Lee was winning battles for the South. Had France won at Puebla, it would have joined forces with the South and easily convinced England to help free the Southern ports of the Union blockade. Louisiana had at the time been French. France and England also wanted to paralyze U.S. expansionism into Latin America. Napoleon III also dreamt of binding stronger ties between France and Mexico, because both were Latin.

The victory at Puebla not only protected the integrity of Mexico but also that of the United States — "an involuntary service...of inestimable value," wrote Justo Sierra.

A year later, the French won several victories, paving the way for Napoleon III to send Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, and his wife Carlota to set up a monarchy in Mexico. But the Mexican resistance continued, and Washington continued to recognize the Benito Juárez government as the only legitimate one. At times, the Juárez government was situated in *El Paso* (now named *Ciudad Juárez*) and at times the Juárez government did have to go into temporary exile on this side of the *Río Grande*.

Maximilian and Carlota set up their court, wrote a book on court etiquette and reintroduced Mexico City to the royal grandeur it had known earlier through Spain. There were many upper class Mexicans who supported the monarchy.

In 1865 the U.S. Civil War ended and Maximilian is supposed to have exclaimed, "This is the end of the empire!"

By 1866 the armed resistance against the French occupation was growing and the victorious U.S. Union Army clamored for war against France. It had already been to Mexico as part of the U.S. invasion in 1847. For Mexico, the possibility of American involvement was more frightening than the French presence. At U.S. urging, the French, also facing problems in Europe, departed.

Thus the United States repaid Mexico for its resistance to the French, which prevented the French from becoming allies of the confederates and indefinitely prolonging or changing the course of the Civil War.

By 1867 Maximilian would not abdicate his throne, declaring he was 100 percent Mexican, heart and soul. Besides, Napoleon III had promised to stand by him. Carlota had already returned to France to hold Napoleon to his word. Napoleon III reneged.

Maximilian remained in Mexico and courageously met his execution on June 19, 1867. Carlota became despondent and eventually insane. She died in Belgium in 1922.

Mexico's second war of independence came to an end with a cost of 300,000 casualties.

What did France leave in Mexico? Mexican law is based on the Napoleonic code. Mexico's architecture was greatly influenced. Popular dances such as "La Varsoviana" are of French origin. Mexico's bread and pastries were greatly influenced. In Cuernavaca they still call the police "Gendarmes." In Mexico City, *El Paseo de la Reforma* was Maximilian's idea of a direct route to his palace from city's center. It was modeled after the Champs-Élysées.

There still exist isolated pockets of French-speaking descendants the way they do in Louisiana.

If you travel through the small towns in the state of Jalisco you will see many blonde blue-eyed 100% Mexicans of French descent.

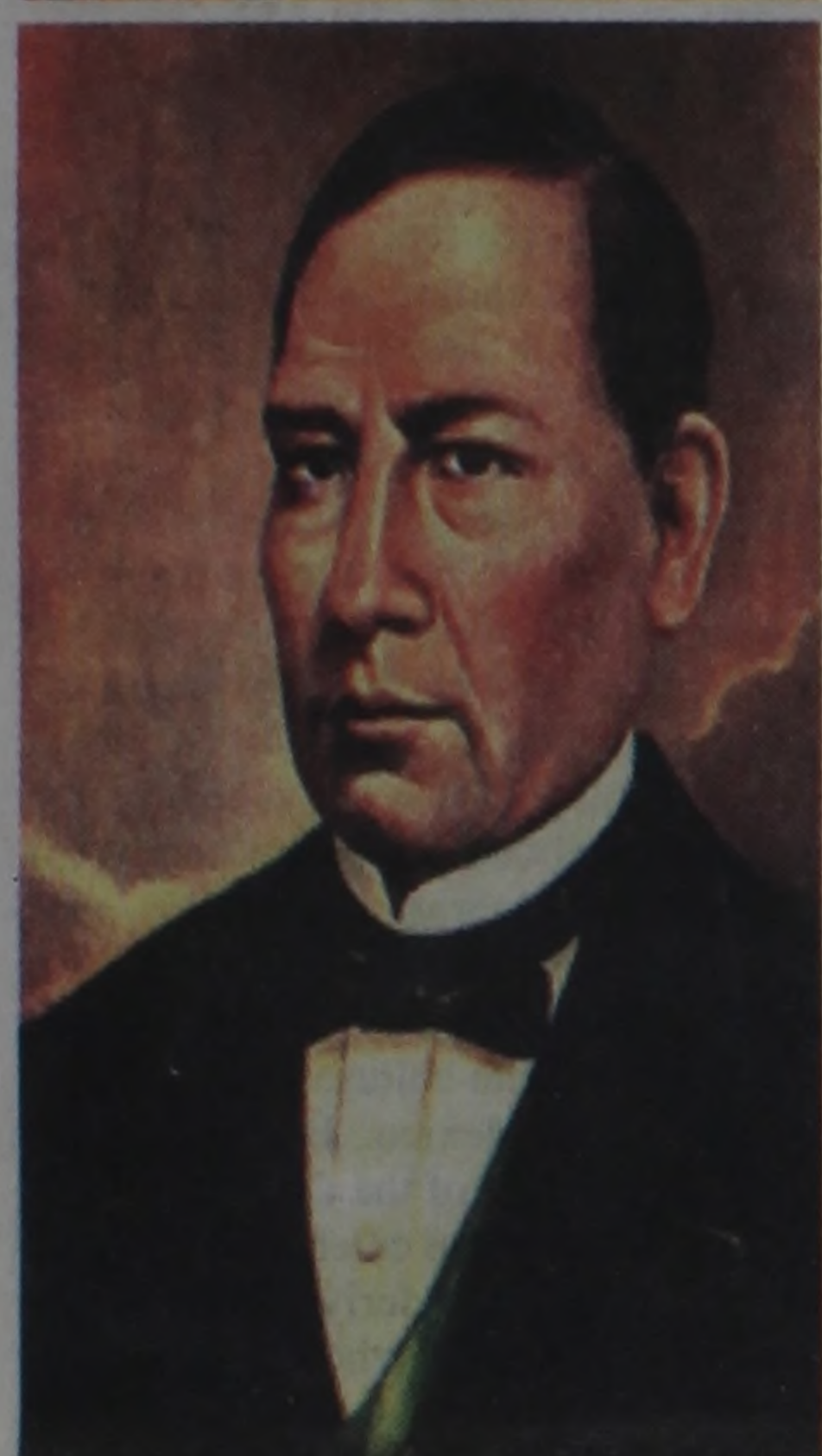
Maximilian and Carlota loved to entertain. Mexican folk orchestras frequently played at French weddings (*mariages*). Out of this French word evolved the name of Mexico's *mariachis*. What would Mexico be without *mariachis*? Inconceivable!

¡Viva el Cinco de Mayo!

¡Viva México!

(Muralist/artist/poet José Antonio Burciaga wrote this essay for Hispanic Link News Service in 1981. Hailed as the Chicano Renaissance Man, he died of cancer as age 56 in 1996.)

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Benito Juárez is considered one of Mexico's greatest and most beloved leaders. During his political career he helped to institute a series of liberal reforms that were embodied into the new constitution of 1857. During the French occupation of Mexico, Juárez refused to accept the rule of the Monarchy or any other foreign nation, and helped to establish Mexico as a constitutional democracy. He also promoted equal rights for the Indian population, better access to health care and education, lessening the political and financial power of the Roman Catholic church, and championed the raising of the living standards for the rural poor.

Contralora Susan Combs ofrece a los contribuyentes morosos un "Nuevo Comienzo"

(AUSTIN) — La Contralora Susan Combs ofrecerá una amnistía tributaria durante 60 días para los negocios que deben impuestos estatales y para aquellos que pudieran estar operando sin los permisos tributarios requeridos.

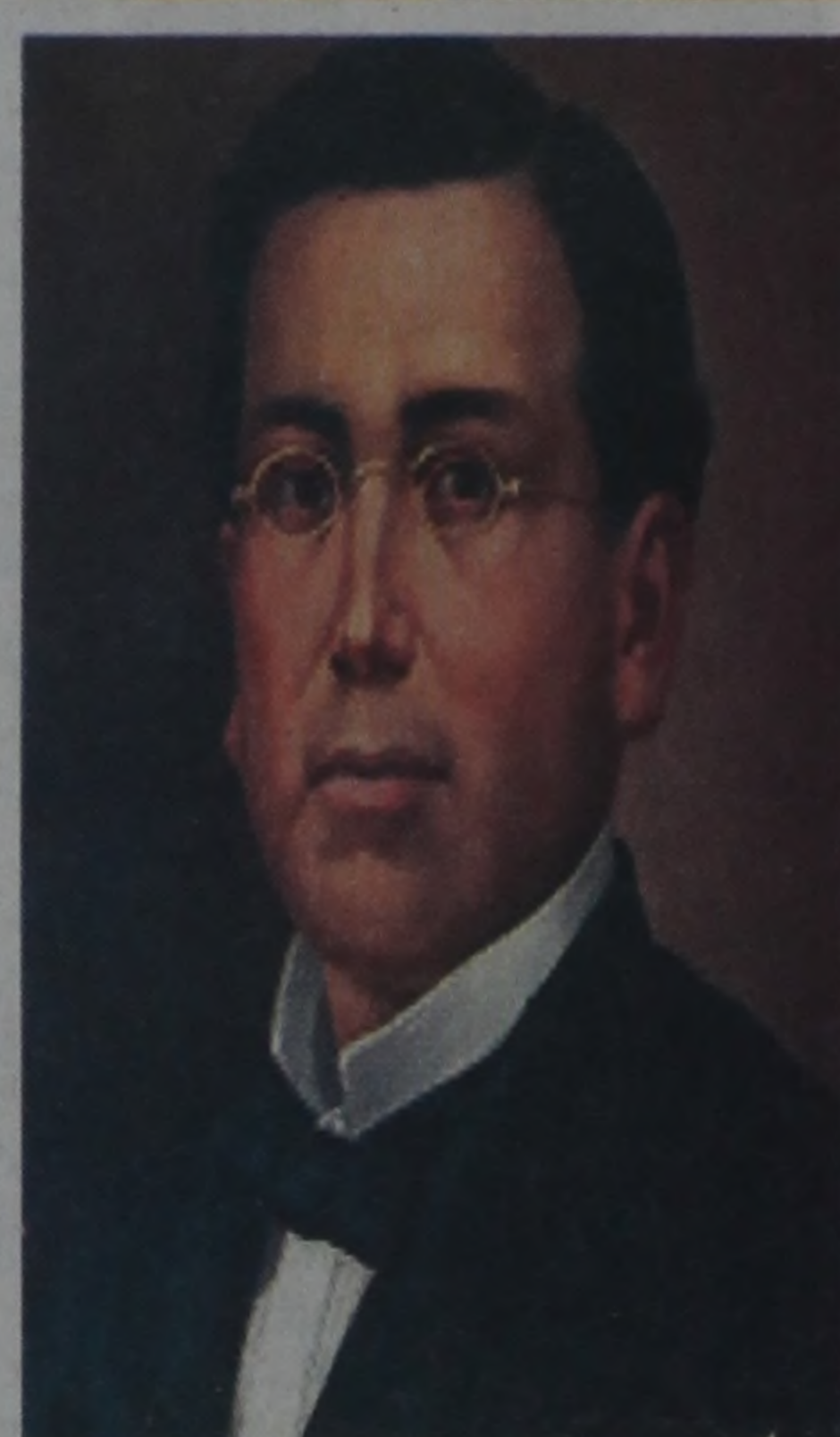
Del 15 de junio al 15 de agosto de 2007, los contribuyentes pueden presentar sus declaraciones de impuestos pasadas y pagar sus impuestos por completo, y la Contralora exentará las multas y los intereses que normalmente se agregan a los impuestos morosos. La amnistía tributaria es para los impuestos y declaraciones de impuestos pagaderas antes del 1 de abril de 2007.

"Llamamos al periodo de amnistía Proyecto Nuevo Comienzo porque los contribuyentes tienen una oportunidad única y de tiempo limitado para aclarar impuestos no pagados, no reportados, o atrasados sin el miedo de las multas y los intereses y tener un nuevo comienzo con el Estado," dijo Combs.

El periodo de amnistía del Proyecto Nuevo Comienzo es aplicable para los impuestos sobre las ventas, impuestos de franquicia y todos los otros impuestos estatales y cualquier impuesto a cuota local administrada por la Contraloría del Estado, excepto propiedad no reclamada y la evaluación de recibos brutos de la Comisión de Utilidades Públicas. Los contribuyentes que cumplen con los requisitos incluyen aquellos que no presentaron una declaración o informe de impuestos requerida; tergiversaron, subestimaron u omitieron cualquier responsabilidad fiscal en una declaración pasada; o erróneamente reclamaron créditos o deducciones.

La amnistía no es aplicable para las evaluaciones ya identificadas por la Contraloría, contribuyentes que actualmente se encuentran bajo auditoría o revisión y contribuyentes que la Contraloría ya ha contactado sobre una auditoría o posible deficiencia tributaria.

"El Proyecto Nuevo Comienzo es una oportunidad emocionante para nuestra agencia, así como para los contribuyentes," dijo Combs. "Es un nuevo día en la oficina de la Contraloría, y ésta es nuestra oportunidad para darle la bienvenida a los nuevos contribuyentes y resolver asuntos pasados con otros contribuyentes. Se lo debe a usted mismo, porque se lo debe a Texas."



Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin (March 24, 1829 – September 8, 1862) was a general in the Mexican Army, best known for his 1862 victory against the French invading forces in the Battle of Puebla on May 5 (the Cinco de Mayo).

Zaragoza was born in the town of Presidio de la Bahía del Espíritu Santo in what was then the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas, now the city of Goliad, Texas, in the United States. The Zaragoza family moved to Matamoros in 1834 and then to Monterrey in 1844, where young Ignacio entered the seminary.

During Mexico's political unrest of the 1850s, Zaragoza joined the army supporting the cause of Mexico's Liberal Party, opposing dictator Antonio López de Santa Anna. He led an army of volunteers in 1855 that defeated Santa Anna and led to the reestablishment of a constitutional democratic government in Mexico.

Three More Lubbock Police Officers Facing Taser Related Lawsuit

Officer to UMC nurse: "If you can maybe inflict some pain; that would be great".

By Abel Cruz

Late Wednesday night, local broadcast media is reporting about yet another lawsuit involving Lubbock police, the use of Tasers and possibly excessive force.

According to the reports, Lubbock resident, Bacilio "Ben" Martinez alleges that 3 LPD officers tackled him and tased him; hurting him to the point that he required medical attention. To make matters worse, one of the officers is heard telling a nurse at the University Medical Center: "if you can maybe inflict some pain; that would be great".

According to Martinez's attorney, Matthew Hawkins, Martinez was walking down 53rd street off of Slide Rd. when Officer Jamison Ward "pulled his pistol on him". Apparently, Martinez matched the description of someone who had been involved in some kind of domestic disturbance earlier. When Ward and another officer, Jonathan Tutino, approached Martinez, Martinez raised his hands. That's when Martinez alleges that Tutino tackled him to the ground causing his head to strike the pavement.

As Martinez was being escorted to another officer's vehicle, Officer Kody Nesbitt allegedly tased him and continued tasing him even after Martinez was in the police vehicle. Martinez claims that he was wearing handcuffs at the time.

Eventually the officers agreed to take Martinez to UMC to seek medical treatment for his head injury. It was there that the conversations with hospital personnel and a LPD Lieutenant took place. Unbeknownst to the officers was the fact that officer Nesbitt's chest microphone had been left on.

The LPD Lieutenant whose identity was not disclosed in the reports is heard asking, "I'm going to assume that you all whipped his ass for his conduct"? "Yes" responds Nesbitt.

Martinez's attorney, Hawkins, is quoted as saying, "You have to wonder what's going on with the Lubbock Police Department; what has given the

police, I guess what they believe to have, the right to use those Tasers without provocation". If the news reports are correct, this event took place last April 16, 2006. If that's the case, it took place on the same day as the Tasing incident involving Juan Manuel Nunez. In that incident, Nunez died after being Tased by LPD officer Matt Doherty. The Nunez family has also filed a lawsuit against the city and Taser manufacturer; the case has not yet gone to trial. In another story involving another LPD officer, Kimberly Diaz was indicted by a Grand Jury on Tuesday and is facing 3 counts of injury to a child. The abuse allegedly started in 2005 and includes Diaz striking her daughter, throwing liquid on her, and biting her. She also faces one count of witness tampering; apparently telling a teen age witness to keep quiet about the abuse.

Since April 2006, LPD officers have been named in 3 separate lawsuits. Aside from the Nunez and Martinez cases, Lubbock resident L.J. McCallan has also filed a lawsuit against the city; alleging that he was wrongfully tased during a routine traffic stop.

What the public may surely notice, especially after this latest revelation, is that in all 3 cases, the men who were tased are ethnic minorities. Nunez and Martinez are of Hispanic descent while McCallan is African American; a fact which may or may not become an issue as these cases move through the legal system. The officers involved in the Martinez case, have asked that the case be moved from county court to a federal court. That decision rests with federal Judge Sam Cummins who has been assigned the case.

El Editor will continue to follow this story and bring you more information as it becomes available. For the latest on this and other news, visit www.eleditor.com email: acruzts@aol.com.

Commentary

“4” UNKNOWN REASONS

What Ever Happened to Lubbock’s Hispanic Cultural Center?

By Abel Cruz and Bidal Agüero

The story in the March 14, 2003 AJ pointed out that then, Fiestas del Llano (FDL) Chairwoman, Christy Martinez Garcia, (who is currently heading an effort to rename a city street in honor of Cesar Chavez) had decided to keep the number 4 on the side of the old fire station building because the number would tell passersby that the center’s (Hispanic Culture Center) efforts are “4” the community”. Here’s an excerpt from the AJ article:

“The non-profit organization, best known as the sponsor of the annual Fiestas Patrias celebration, plans to re-open the building in August as the Hispanic Cultural Center of Lubbock, Martinez said. The center will sponsor art and theater programs, serve as a dance studio for folkloric dance groups, provide office space for non-profit groups and offer health screening and services to the community, according to Martinez.”

Fast forward to May 2007, and the number 4 can clearly still be seen by passersby from North University. But if the number 4 is symbolic of anything at all these days; it probably more appropriately stands for; “4-get about it”. Or as Tony Soprano might say; “fugheddaboutit” it ain’t gonna happen”!

For the past 4 years, some people from Lubbock’s Hispanic community, including us, have been patiently waiting for the Fiestas Del Llano organization to turn talk into reality; to accomplish what they once talked about and envisioned. But the patience is wearing thin; and has turned into questions about why this project was never completed.

At the time it was heralded as the “milestone that (would) showcase” Hispanic’s contributions to the Lubbock community”. With much fanfare and celebration, an old fire station located at 3rd and University, in the Arnett Benson and Jackson neighborhoods, was given to the local organization and with high hopes, Fiestas Del Llano, Inc. proceeded to go nowhere fast.

As we approach Cinco de Mayo “numero cinco”, since the organization’s plans were announced; instead of the building being at the center of the celebrations, as the place to showcase the historical Mexican event; the building sits closed and empty.

Yet still today, if you look up the Fiestas Del Llano web site, www.fiestasdelllano.com you will read the following words: (the center) “will provide surrounding neighborhood organizations and group(s) access to the facility, as well as draw tourist(s) and those interested in the arts and history”.

At this point about the only thing the building has drawn is a lot of questions and a perception among the community that those words ring as empty as the building itself.

Aside from the initial work done on the outside of the building and the additions of a few decorative columns; which no one seems to know the meaning of, we have seen absolutely no evidence that the original vision and ideas organizers sold to the community are anywhere close to becoming reality. Or whether they remain a few people’s “delusions of grandeur” as some have suggested.

Why hasn’t there been any more progress made on this project; why was it never completed? How much money was raised from private and public sources? How much tax payer money has been invested in this project; including the value of the building? Why hasn’t there been a public accounting as to the where the funding has gone and what stage is the project in? Who or whom is responsible for the failure to complete this project?

All legitimate questions; all which to date remain unanswered. And unanswered questions bring closer public scrutiny.

While we don’t know much, here are just a few of the things we do know.

Initially, the plan was that the city would turn the old fire station over to Fiestas Del Llano, a non-profit organization formed in the mid 1980’s. The understanding was that the organization would develop the building into a cultural center; a place which would serve as a central art and historical point and highlight this city’s Hispanic culture.

Soon after the agreement was reached an asbestos problem was discovered in the building. The city took care of

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Fiestas Del Llano Board

According to the Fiestas Del Llano web site, the following persons serve on the board of directors: Robert Narvaiz, Chair; Suzie Juarez, Co-Chair; Johnny Torres, Treasurer; Dolores Harper, Secretary; Frank Gutierrez, Parliamentarian; Sam Harper, Historian; Mary Jane Gutierrez; and Margie Olivarez.

this problem at taxpayer’s expense; although the amount of city funds spent on this effort is unknown. At this point in 2003, the investment by the city includes the costs associated with the asbestos removal and the property value of the building.

Shortly thereafter, the Arnett Benson and Jackson-Mahon neighborhood associations sent letters to city officials in charge of community development grants, asking the city to let them transfer neighborhood beautification funds (which had been awarded to both groups) to Fiestas Del Llano to be used to repair the building’s roof. It appears that both community groups had reached an agreement with FDL which would allow them to use the cultural center for meetings and events once it was completed.

We suspect that both the Arnett Benson and Jackson-Mahon neighborhood members are still waiting to hold their first meeting at the center.

And again, just how much money was involved here is unknown.

What is known is that the city awarded the organization \$40,000 in Community Development Block Grants in 2002-03 which were to be used to repair the parking lot, and another \$75,000 in 2003-04 for improvements to the building itself. According to information obtained by El Editor, no funds were actually given to FDL, since all funds are awarded on a reimbursement basis. In this case, FDL would have had to have the work done, present proper documentation to city officials and then the city would have reimbursed FDL for the costs.

What is disturbing here is that even though the funds were awarded to the organization; for unknown reasons, they did not take full advantage of the opportunity. Why this did not happen is anybody’s guess?

Just how much money was actually raised by Fiestas el Llano from outside grants and contributions remains a mystery to most people in this community. For now all we have is unsubstantiated information, and much speculation, about how much money was actually raised and how much of it was actually spent.

For instance, one speculation is that the outside improvements which include a fountain which is never on and the decorative columns which do not inspire much excitement were constructed at a cost of \$500,000.

It is hard for us to believe that the work amounted to \$500,000; but failure to make this type of information public is what leads to these types of speculations. If an organization wants to continue enjoying community support, then its activities relating to a project such as this must be open and transparent.

Anytime an organization which has been the recipient of city funds, and in this case a tax payer owned building, fails to lay their cards on the table and be forthcoming and open with the public, then it opens itself up and invites public scrutiny.

The building was a tax payer owned building. The funds the neighborhoods contributed were tax payer funds. The CDBG funds awarded were tax payer funds. That is why we, the tax paying public deserve an explanation from the Fiestas Del Llano Board.

It would not surprise us if the funds have been rescinded; taken back by the city; although we cannot be certain of that. In these types of situations, regulations state that monies must be spent in a timely manner. And there is nothing timely about the way this whole project has been handled.

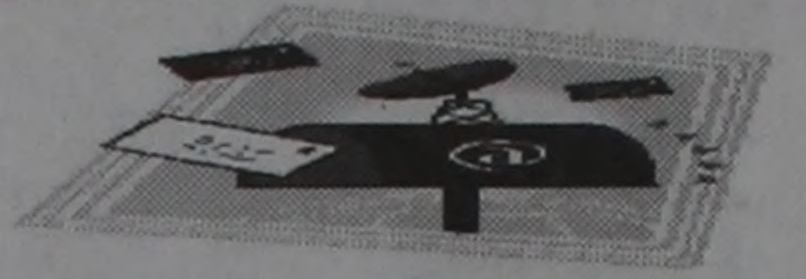
We also are of the opinion that the board should seriously consider returning the building to the city and letting another community organization take over. If that does not suit the FDL Board, perhaps it’s time city officials in charge of these types of things asked the board to provide a detailed explanation concerning the delay; or to simply give the building back to the city so that another organization can be found to complete the project.

Otherwise the number 4 may as well take on the following meaning:

“Here, but “4” unknown reasons, stands the building that never became Lubbock’s Hispanic Cultural Center”.

LETTERS TO THE Editor

send mail to eleditor@sbcglobal.net



What’s up with the disagreements over our Council representative?

This is what I think: a few years ago, the only Hispanics that could hope to be in public office were people who did what the power brokers in Southwest Lubbock wanted done.

Then we elected Eliseo, Linda, Victor, Ysidro, Gilbert, Aurora, and Marina. Now the community’s representatives are taken seriously in the City and County government.

To me that means that nowadays community representatives are part of real decision making in Lubbock. That means a give and take.

There will be, and there is, disagreement about details of a whole host of things in our community. Not everyone will agree with our representatives on all issues.

But this is the important part: we must not let disagreements about details divide our people and destroy the influence they have in city and county affairs.

It boils down to this: there is nothing that would make Southwest Lubbock moneybags happier than to see our community fight among itself so much that our representatives would be overthrown between elections or made completely powerless.

Lubbock is at a crossroads. Hispanic leaders and the Hispanic press now have real influence in this city. Debates over policy among the community now matter in Lubbock. Let’s not let those debates tear us up and destroy the influence everyone has worked so hard to get over the last thirty years.

Disagreement is good, and debate too. But remember all the things that our representatives have done since 1980: Cavazos, the beautification of North University, the salvaging of South Overton, the bringing of CDBG funds to our areas, the respect gained in the power groups for our representatives.

Everyone should go talk to Linda DeLeón about all the issues facing the community. I think if they would do that, people would see that there is no need to try to replace our representative on the council. And maybe by working with Linda everyone might be able to come to an agreement about what needs to be done about things like naming a street for César Chávez.

Chico James

The True Meaning of Cinco de Mayo

By: Ysidro Gutierrez
Lubbock County Commissioner

There are events in history which transcend time and endure in the hearts of men. These are the accounts of people who struggle for freedom and liberty and prevail against insurmountable odds. The celebration of Cinco de Mayo which commemorates the 1862 Battle of Puebla is such an event.

When recounting the story of Cinco de Mayo, the writer is at once challenged to find words worthy of a story of heroes. Cinco de Mayo is a story of triumph, and of the sacrifice and courage of ordinary people who took up arms in defense of their country. In the end the writer must describe, with clarity, how freedom was won and liberty preserved by the actions of patriots.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla, but it is less a celebration of victory in battle and more a celebration of the patriot’s courage. When its true meaning is understood, its spirit is embraced and the celebration joined.

Cinco de Mayo celebrations are becoming increasingly popular in the U.S. especially in areas with a high population of people of Mexican heritage including Lubbock. The day is usually a celebration of Mexican culture and tradition featuring food, music, beverage and customs unique to Mexico. But food, music, and dance alone convey neither the meaning nor the spirit of the day.

History records the events but it is the people who give the celebration its flavor. The celebration’s true meaning is found in the honor derived from the people who find inspiration in the heroic actions of the brave who fought and died for freedom. A famous author once wrote, “The fame of heroes owes little to the extent of their conquests and all to the tributes paid to them.” The acts of husbands and wives fighting side-by-side along with their sons and daughters joined in bitter battle against a stronger, better equipped and highly trained army are memorialized in the stories and songs of the people who pay them tribute.

History recounts how the French came to Mexico not to settle but to conquer and plunder. The French as others before them came thinking it would be an easy victory. There would be no one to stop them. A civil war raged in the United States. It was obvious that America could not oppose them and neither would the other powers of the time, Great Britain and Spain. For the opportunistic French, it was an opportune time for conquest. That is as it has always been with the French. They came for gold, to exploit the people, and to rape the land. It was the perfect time for France to realize its long held colonial ambitions in the Americas.

The French plan was cleverly crafted, except for one important omission. They failed to consider the determination of Mexican farmers and peasants who, under the leadership of Benito Juarez, stood firmly against the invaders with a resounding, “No! you will not take our gold. You will not ravage our land. You will not abuse our people.”

The battle was fought on May 5, 1862 in Puebla about 100 miles southeast of Mexico City. It was about 12 noon when the French with a force of about 6000 well trained and disciplined soldiers equipped with modern rifles and artillery engaged the rag-tag Mexican Army of 2000 comprised mainly of peasant men and women, young and old motivated solely by a yearning to live free.

History records how the Mexicans drove back the attackers and then took the fight to the invaders. The French who had regroup from the first trouncing and were ensconced behind a hastily constructed defensive line must have scoffed at the audacity of the attackers who charged at them armed with antiquated rifles and farm implements as weapons. In the face of withering artillery and rifle fire, the undeterred Mexicans killed over 1,000 French and at about 4:30 in the afternoon, secured the victory that we celebrate today. The words of Winston Churchill following the “Battle of Britain” aptly fit the Mexican fighters: “Never had so many owed so much to so few.”

The least that can be said of the heroes of the Battle of Puebla is that Cinco de Mayo does not celebrate victory in a single battle, but the bravery of the ordinary people who fought the fight. It is a celebration of the willingness to sacrifice, the willingness to give their lives, the willingness to fight against impossible odds, the willingness to stand before death grip for the justness of the cause. American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote: “The truest heroism is to resist the doubt; and the profoundest wisdom.” Owing to the bravery and determination of the citizen soldiers, had the battle been lost, it would have been no less a victory of the human spirit. Had the battle been fought last week or a thousand years ago, it would be no less a sacrifice, the act of courage no greater.

There are those who say that Puebla was only one battle. Others say that the war continued long after the battle. Such arguments fail to grasp how this victory inspired the masses to continue the struggle until final victory was achieved. The victory at Puebla made victory possible in the end. Winning the battle was winning the war. Had the French prevailed at Puebla, Mexicans would be speaking French instead of Spanish.

The story of the Battle of Puebla cannot be told without telling of the man who rallied the people.

Great men make history, not events. The events come to be because of the leadership and vision of great men who at great personal sacrifice and the willingness to give their lives, lead the people to victory. The American Revolution had George Washington. Great Britain had Winston Churchill. Cinco de Mayo had Benito Juarez.

Benito Juarez pledged his life, fortune, and sacred honor. For Benito Juarez, it was not his life nor his fortune that were sacred but his honor. This is yet another lesson of the Battle of Puebla; that virtue is greater than fortune, more dear than life.

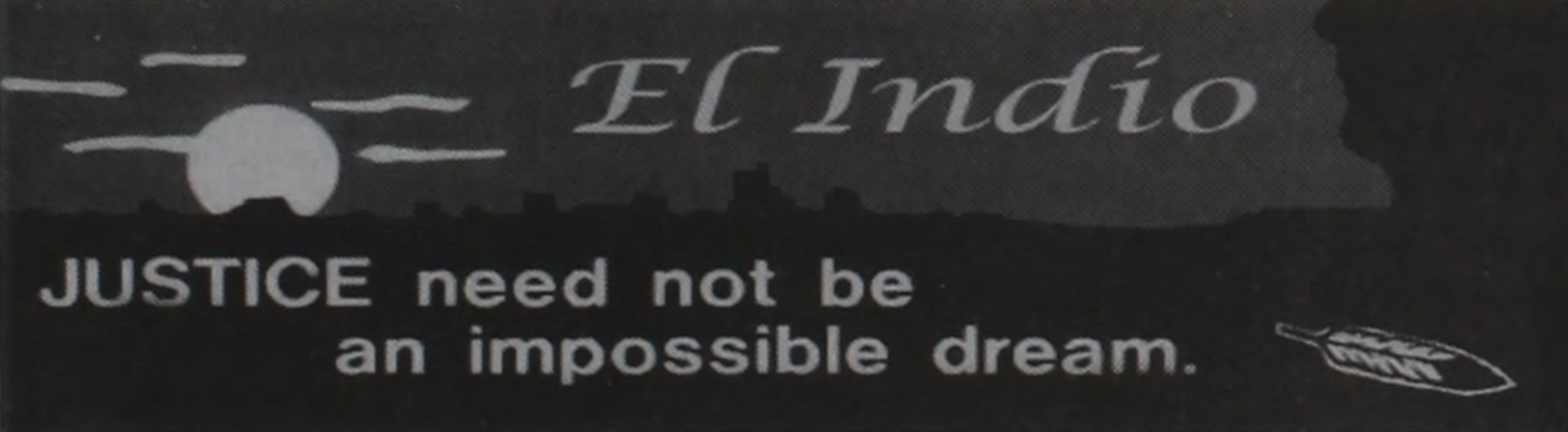
The brave who fought and died at Puebla fought and died for all men. In all times, the struggle to cast off the yoke of tyranny transcends history and is the subject of stories and the theme of songs. In all times and places the struggle is no less noble.

Este Cinco de Mayo La Raza de Lubbock will gather for the annual celebration. All are invited to join in the commemoration of the human deeds which are as inspiring today as they were in 1862.

“QUE VIVA EL CINCO DE MAYO!” “QUE VIVA!”

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Now Is The Time! Save South Beach! Sign the Recall Petitions!

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio
“There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat. And we must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures.” - William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
SAVE SOUTH BEACH!! This slogan represents more, much more, than just one business. It represents the callous indifference of our present and past City Councils to the interests of individual businesses, and their determination to tear down everything in sight in a MISGUIDED and MISBEGOTTEN attempt to somehow rebuild Lubbock into another Austin or Dallas or Santa Fe. Check it out, developers.....it’s just like the old saying, “you can’t make a silk purse out of a sow’s ear”. Lubbock has its good points, but let’s get serious here.....it isn’t, and NEVER will be, Austin, Dallas or Santa Fe. Our scenery cannot compare, we don’t have lakes and rivers and trees and mountains, and our tax base is stretched to the limit.
Destroying one business after another is NOT the way to achieve this pipe dream of “Major City” status. Texas Tech is NOT going to have a gain of 12,000 students if you continue to raise tuition, and Lubbock is NOT going to be a vibrant city if you continue to destroy business after business after

bars and strip clubs and other interesting things to do.
The SOUTH BEACH is a vibrant business which is the center of Chicano social activities in the Depot District. It has long been rumored that City leaders don’t want Chicanos in the District, and this rush job to purchase the South Beach literally SMELLS of racism and bad business. Everyone this writer has talked to, without exception, opposes the further destruction of small businesses by the overzealous City bureaucrats.....now is the time to speak up, and SIGN THE PETITIONS.....save the SOUTH BEACH, and SEND A MESSAGE to the City crowd that ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!!

Now is the time to stand up and be counted.....the Recall Petition against LINDA DeLEON, being circulated by RECALL 2007, is in full swing. Some of the organizers of the recall against FLOYD PRICE met with him, and he indicated a willingness to change.....the jury is still out on that one. But it is QUITE a contrast.....FLOYD contacts RECALL 2007 through intermediaries, and tries to reconcile with his constituents.....LINDA, on the other hand, threatens to have the Recall organizers arrested.....can you believe it? This deplorable tactic has been tried before.....most recently by ROBERT PRATT and MARC McDUGAL.....and now LINDA.....self-serving individuals who try to corrupt the legal system to achieve their nefarious ends. What has happened to FREE SPEECH? The concept of FREEDOM OF SPEECH and FREEDOM OF THE PRESS means NOTHING if it is subverted by unfair and unreasonable arrests for nothing.
I’ll bet that the “Buddy Holly Museum” doesn’t have more than five visitors a day.....yet there is “no room” for a “Visitor’s Center”, hence the hasty purchase of the South Beach property.
Face it, guys.....visitors to the Giant Side of Texas don’t want 100 foot guitars and weird streets and empty visitor’s centers and museums.....they want

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Hillary Rodham Clinton y el voto de las mujeres

Por primera vez, una mujer tiene la visibilidad, la reputación y los fondos necesarios como para aspirar seriamente a la presidencia de Estados Unidos. Y el voto de las mujeres podría marcar la diferencia y así dar la victoria a Hillary Rodham Clinton en las elecciones de 2008.

La ex primera dama, sin embargo, no puede dar por asegurado ese voto, ya que enfrenta el dilema de toda mujer que se lanza a la política: las votantes les exigen mucho a las candidatas de su género y no siempre votan por ellas.

Ello se debe en parte a que esperan que la primera presidenta sea una versión mejorada de ellas mismas, según Marie Wilson, quien encabeza el Proyecto Casa Blanca (White House Project), una agrupación que promueve la participación de las mujeres en los negocios y la política.

"Queremos que sean perfectas. Les exigimos más porque nos representan", expresó. "La mayoría de los candidatos [hombres] no se postularían si fuesen mujeres. Una mujer de la edad de John McCain tendría muchos problemas, lo mismo que una mujer

con la experiencia de Barack Obama".

McCain, aspirante republicano a la presidencia, tiene 70 años, mientras que Obama, principal rival de Clinton entre los demócratas, se postuló con tan sólo dos años de experiencia en el Senado.

Las candidatas son examinadas más a fondo por las mismas mujeres.

"Es como si las mujeres estuviesen compitiendo eternamente para ser la reina de la fiesta, o la esposa perfecta, y las demás son competidoras, de modo que si otra gana, una pierde, en lugar de sentir su triunfo como la victoria de las mujeres en general", comentó la psicóloga Phyllis Chesler, autora de libro Women's Inhumanity to Women (La inhumanidad de las mujeres hacia

las mujeres). Las mujeres no se oponen



necesariamente a las candidatas.

Un análisis de AP del estudio American National Election Study Pilot Test, de 2006, reveló que a la hora de seleccionar un candidato a la presidencia, el género es más importante para las mujeres que para los hombres. Pero es una vía de doble sentido: las mujeres probablemente se sientan inclinadas a votar por una candidata de su género, pero al mismo tiempo tienden a descartarla precisamente por su género, según el estudio.

Si bien las mujeres han logrado grandes progresos en la política en tiempos recientes, tienen tan sólo el 16% de las bancas en el Congreso y aproximadamente el mismo porcentaje en las legislaturas estatales.

Por otro lado, no obstante, hay varias mujeres promin-

tes en la política, como Nancy Pelosi, la primera mujer que preside la Cámara de Representantes, y la secretaria de Estado Condoleezza Rice.

Geraldine Ferraro, candidata a la vicepresidencia por el partido Demócrata en 1984, dijo que "el entusiasmo entre las mujeres fue fenomenal" cuando ella fue compañera de fórmula de Walter Mondale en 1984.

"Mucha gente criticó [la presencia de una mujer en la fórmula], pero hubo muchas mujeres que pensaron, 'si ella lo puede hacer, yo también'", agregó.

Las mujeres constituyen en la actualidad el sector electoral más grande y hay varias teorías acerca del impacto que puede tener el género en los comicios.

Ellie Smeal, presidenta de la organización Mayoría Feminista (Feminist Majority), dijo que su condición de mujer es una de las razones por las que Clinton está arriba en las encuestas.

"Las mujeres quieren un cambio, quieren más mujeres postuladas" a cargos electivos, manifestó. "Las mujeres reciben cada vez más apoyo del electorado femenino. Ser mujer es una gran ventaja" respecto de un candidato.

Una asesora de Clinton, Ann Lewis, dice que las mujeres tienden a generar una relación más personal con muchos votantes. "Eso puede ser frustrante para la candidata, especialmente cuando quieren que el votante preste atención a sus propuestas", declaró.

Mexican Children are Migrating Alone to the USA

A heartrending and worrisome story, regardless as to which side of the U.S.-Mexico border one resides — or jingoism if not bigotry people in one nation or the other express towards one another, was published in the Mexico City newspaper El Financiero on April 26.

In a piece titled "Migration to the United States is taking on a child's face," journalist Roxana González García describes a poignant situation as told to her during an interview with Karla Gallo, a consultant with UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund.

The following is an edited translation of what Gallo had to say.

"Today the phenomenon of migration to the United States has a new face, invisible to authorities, one of thousands of children, boys and girls, who long for the American dream and leave their communities alone in order to seek a better way of life, or to be reunited with their parents who have already gone to the 'other side.'

"According to Gallo, a reality is that undocumented child migration along Mexico's northern border causes the systematic violation of children's human rights insofar as the United States does not have centers for under-aged detainees, who continue to be repatriated at risky hours and separated from their families during the transfers.

"Meanwhile, in Mexico the trend to criminalize migrant children is increasing. 'They are branded as maras [gang members], delinquents, prostitute street children who assault or steal, and there is a growing tendency to penalize them for emigrating, putting them under arrest or behind bars.'

"According to data from DIF [National System for Integral Family Development] and private shelters, where the young [deportees] detained by the U.S. Border Patrol are taken, last year more than 20,000 children, 2,000 more than in 2005 and almost twice as many as in 2004, traveled on their own to the border in order to cross illegally into the United States, which represents 15 percent of the

total registered migration movement.

"Already this year the number of those [in shelters] who are waiting to be sent back to their places of origin — often times alone, or picked up by a relative, has risen by 2,000.

"Of those, 80 percent are between the ages of 13 and 17, mostly males who traveled alone, whereas 13 percent are boys and girls between the ages of six and 12, who also traveled unaccompanied. Four percent are under five years of age, who traveled with a family member or older sibling.

"This new child's face, that migration has developed, is attributed mainly to the stiffening of immigration policies in the United States, that have characteristically separated families, [leaving] children far from their parents on both sides of the border.

"Workplace raids against undocumented persons have intensified this situation, as now there are hundreds of underage U.S. citizens, who are the children of illegal migrants, who are left behind in the care of relatives or institutions because their parents were deported.

"This phenomenon, that was practically nonexistent a decade ago, causes concern in international organizations such as UNICEF that warn migrant children have become commodities for the illegal enrichment of people smugglers; sexual exploitation, prostitution and pornography networks; and even for authorities who extort them.

"More and more children are used by people smugglers as guides for the undocumented [in crossing] the desert or the Rio Grande, or by narcotics traffickers to transport drugs into the United States.

"Furthermore, according to Gallo, in most cases there is no effective verification that the children are actually handed over to their families. Nor is there follow-up during the time they are returning to their places of origin.

Viva Mexico! Viva Cinco de Mayo!



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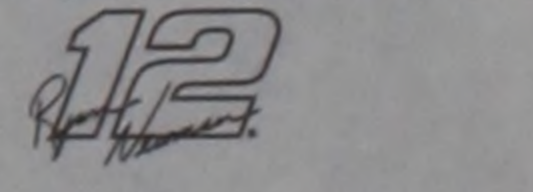
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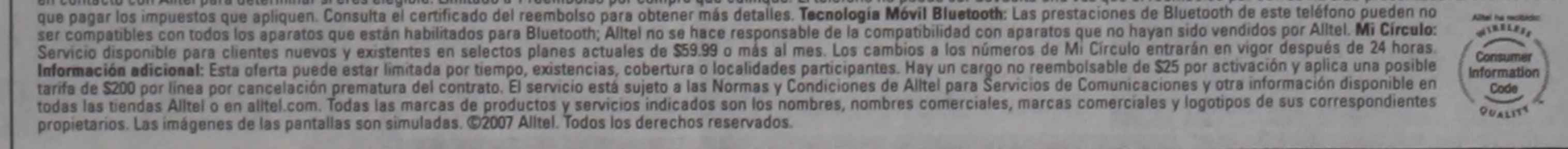
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Mexico's cowboy Mariano Barba dominates the Billboard Latin Music Awards



The brawny, cowboy hat-sporting Mexican singer Mariano Barba dominated the 2007 Billboard Latin Music Awards on Thursday. In an unusual turn, he took top song of the year - a prize usually given to pop stars like Shakira.

Barba won three awards in the Mexican regional music category and "Hot Latin Song" for his ballad "Aliado del tiempo," or "Ally of Time," also the title of his album.

The awards honor the most popular albums, songs and performers in Latin music as determined by sales and radio airplay data published on Billboard's weekly charts.

Mexican artists did well overall. Teen pop phenomenon RBD took

home three awards, including best tour, while fellow Mexican pop singer Paulina Rubio opened the show and picked up two awards for her album, "Ananda." Mexican rockers Mana also won twice.

Colombia's Shakira and Haitian-American rapper and producer Wyclef Jean won best duet for their smash hit, "Hips Don't Lie."

Puerto Rican Toby Love won in both hip-hop and tropical categories, a nod to the popularity of both genres among fans. But in an upset, the most nominated group, Puerto Rican reggaeton duo Rakim y Ken-Y, took home only one of seven nominations, for their song "Down."

Singer, songwriter and actor Miguel Bose received the Billboard Lifetime Achievement award for his roughly 30-year career. Bose has made nearly two dozen albums and starred in numerous films in Europe and Mexico. His latest album, "Papito," is a compilation of his classic songs performed as duets with artists such as Ricky Martin.

Venezuelan singer Ricardo Montaner was also honored for his work with disabled children and those living in poverty across Latin America.

Spanish-language soap star Marlene Favela and singer-actor Carlos Ponce hosted the event in Coral Gables, just south of downtown Miami. NBC subsidiary Telemundo aired the show.

Ears panic over 'Manic Hispanic' album

Comedy music has a short shelf life with me. Whether it's Weird Al, Ray Stevens or a typical punk band, once I pick up on the joke I've probably heard enough of the song. Although they are good musicians and a very clever bunch of guys, Manic Hispanic is no different.

Basically, these guys take a bunch of punk songs and record parodies that tie in with their Latino heritage. Think Carlos Mencia meets Me First and the Gimme Gimmes.

On a Menudo Incident the band has a good laugh at the expense of several punk classics from both sides of the globe.

Wasted doesn't sound much different to this non-fan of Rollins era Black Flag, while their ransacking of Los Angeles is a more obvious attempt at being clever.

12XU is a catchy tune no matter who is playing it, and it is easily the best song on the whole album.

Barrio Land is a decent Clash parody, and musically it is on par with the original if you can get past the stereotype saturated lyrics.

A bad cover of God Save the Queen makes my mixed opinions of this group turn sour fast.

Their take on New Rose starts out sounding like a tape for someone who is trying to learn Spanish as a second language, because there is an awkward, forced conversation that introduces the song. The cover itself is decent as the band avoids too many quirky cultural references.

American Society is rechristened Mexican Society in a song that has good lyrics even though the music plods along slowly.

Hyperactive novelty hits have been around for a while, and Manic Hispanic pays tribute to Captain Sensible in Jet Muchacho, a take on Jet Boy, Jet Girl.

Following another song and a medley is the obnoxious Before the Next Teardrop Falls. This song is okay once it takes off, but it doesn't really get off the ground until past the one-minute mark.

Once that one is mercifully over, Orgasm Addict becomes the surprisingly catchy and fun Manic Hispanic.

An over four minute long snore fest called Poem caps off the album, and seems very out of place.

All in all, this is a fun album, but like I said from the get-go, this music has a short shelf life.

The band is very talented, but then again who isn't? The days of bands not knowing how to play and having to get someone to tune their guitars for them on stage are over. Everyone from the worst street punk band on up can be called proficient, so a punk bands worth should be based on their lyrics.

These lyrics are a good laugh the first time around. After that, I suggest listening to the original versions of these songs.



Simple, fresh ideas for Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo proudly honors the day in 1862 when Mexico's outnumbered forces triumphed over French invaders at the Battle of Puebla.

It also marks the fifth day of the fifth month of the year. So what better way to celebrate that country's rich cultural heritage on Saturday than to enjoy - what else - five dishes that showcase Mexico's bold and zesty culinary flavors.

These simple dishes are perfect

for a casual cocktail party. Chipotle and goat cheese tostadas with piconcillo and roasted peanuts is a more high-brow version of nachos, and only a little more work to put together. Jicama fiesta slaw, with its lively orange-lime-chile-cilantro dressing, is both fresh and refreshing.

Garlicky mushrooms come together in a flash in a skillet. Hot dogs served in the style of Mexican street vendors are just

plain fun - a sort-of twist on a taco that's popular all around Mexico. Finish with brandied mangoes, a light, sweet, easy-as-can-be finale.

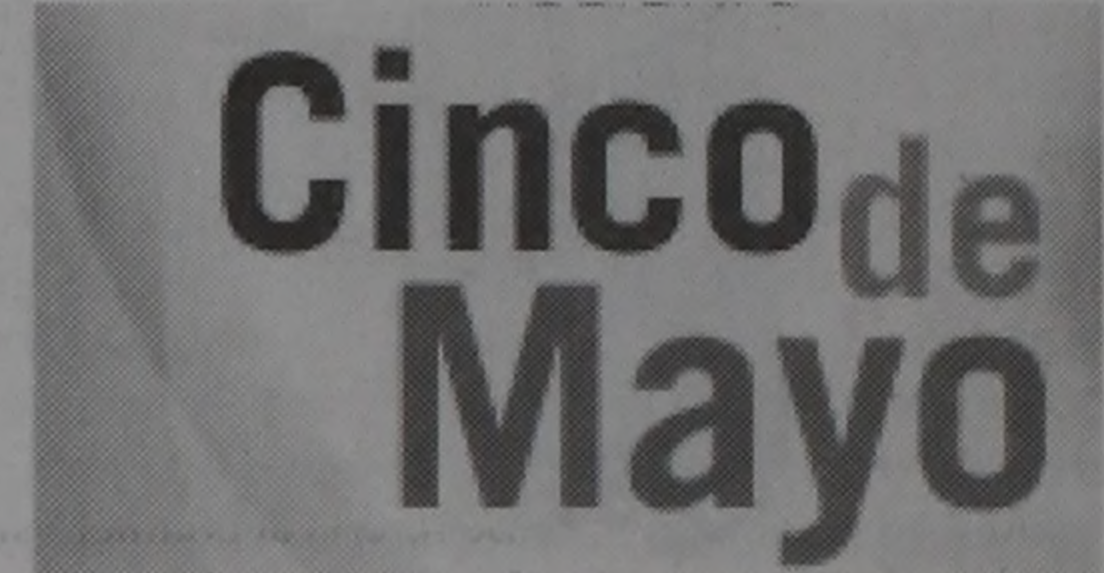
The recipes come from three new Mexican-Latin cookbooks: "Fiesta on the Grill" by Daniel Hoyer, a former chef who now leads gastronomic tours in Mexico; "Baja, Cooking on the Edge" by Deborah M. Schneider, a chef who has explored Baja extensively; and "Mexican Light, Healthy Cuisine for Today's Cook" by Kris Rudolph,

owner of El Buen Cafe in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Rudolph's book also is novel because each recipe is printed in both Spanish and English.

Add your own guacamole and salsas (homemade or purchased) to round out the feast. And cool off with a pitcher of margaritas or tall glasses of limeade filled with curls of lime zest and wisps of fresh mint.

It's a great way to take five on

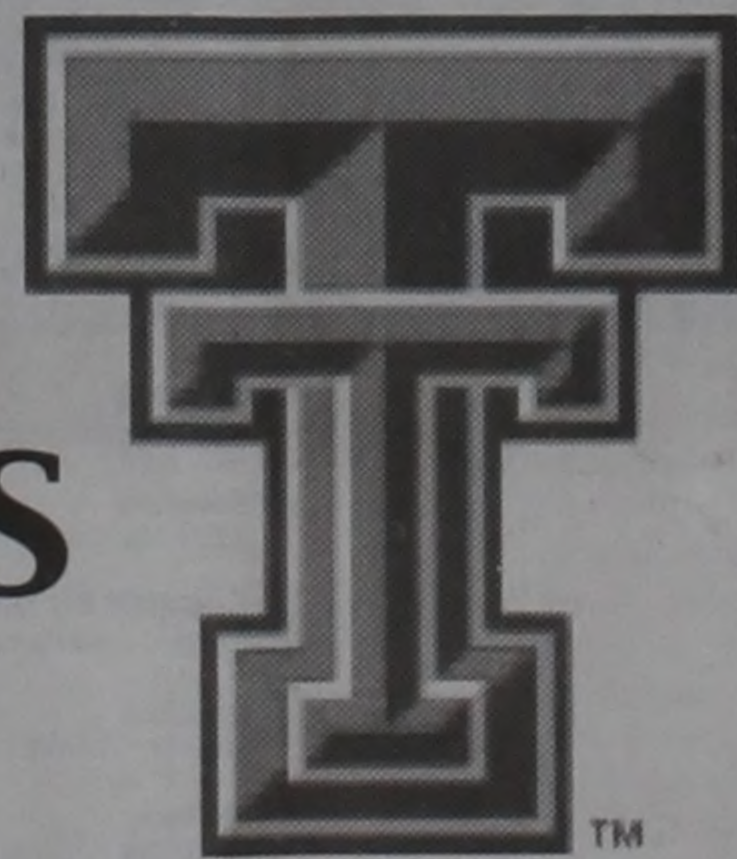
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Lila Downs presenta un DVD tan diverso como su música

Lila Downs no sigue fórmulas preestablecidas ni en su modo de vestir ni en su música, como tampoco en el nuevo trabajo que acaba de lanzar en formato de DVD "Lotería cantada", donde presenta sus canciones de denuncia, amor y desamor grabadas durante dos conciertos y tratadas por artistas y cineastas que le agregaron su interpretación visual para convertirlas en videoclips eclécticos o pequeñas obras de arte gráfico.

"Quisimos traer la visión fresca de las cosas y más libre no tanto didáctica, ni de que hay ciertas reglas sobre cómo abordar el concierto", declaró Downs en una rueda de prensa en la que se presentaron extractos del DVD.

"Teníamos este material y estábamos buscando un tema en el que pudiéramos juntar todas estas partes, como vieron... de artistas muy diferentes", dijo por su parte la cineasta Elena Pardo, encargada de conjugar el proyecto.

"Queríamos hacer que tuviera una lógica y nos encontramos con este juego que no necesita ser lineal, principalmente es para jugar".

Cada tema inicia con una de las cartas de la lotería antigua, que se proclamaban en las ferias junto con un verso pícaro. De ahí se desemboca a los pequeños manjares de música e imagen en los que se utilizaron diferentes técnicas, desde dibujos a mano hasta complicados tratamientos por computadora.

Además se incluyen cinco cortometrajes, en especial uno filmado en 1974 por el padre de la artista, Allen Downs.

Como antropóloga de profesión que es, Lila Downs recoge también conversaciones con pintores de Oaxaca, un estado con alrededor de 250.000 habitantes a unos 350 kilómetros al sureste de la capital mexicana donde pasó la mitad de su vida. Con ellos explora los temas de las cantinas, la tierra y la inspiración.

"La parte social es el entorno

que uno vive y respira, quisimos un poco exponer (eso)", señaló la ganadora del Oscar por la banda sonora de la película "Frida", y de un Grammy al mejor álbum folklórico por "One Blood, Una Sangre".

Dos pequeños documentales completan la ensalada visual, uno titulado "Viki" sobre

una niña del mismo estado que no estudiaba y que para ganar dinero tocaba el acordeón en la calle con su familia y cómo su vida fue cambiando al ser becada por el Fondo Guadalupe Musalem, organización sin fines de lucro de la que Downs es voluntaria.

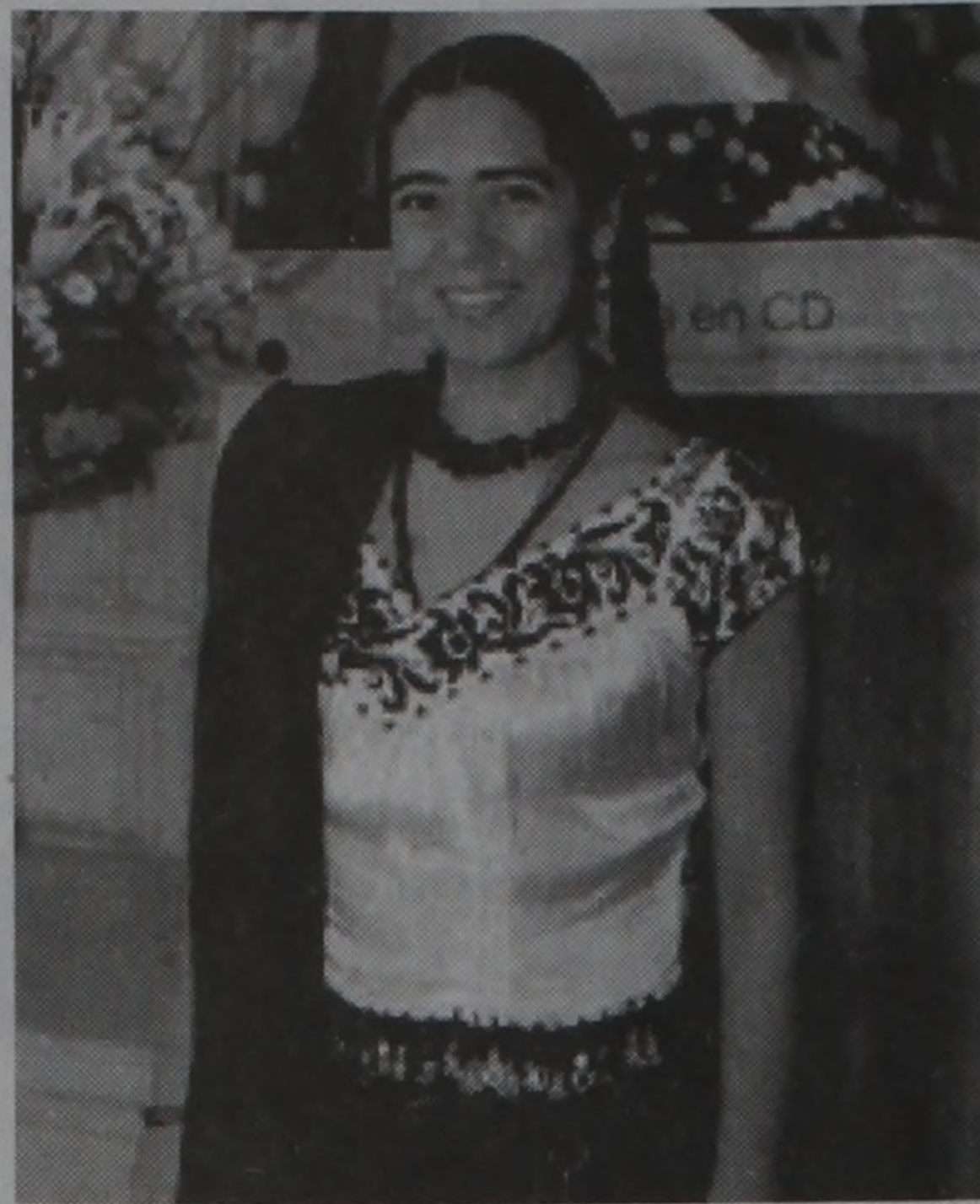
El otro documental sigue a la artista por varias ciudades de México, España, Alemania, el Reino Unido y Hong Kong, que visitó entre 2002 y 2005.

"Fue una búsqueda para cada quien y también una colaboración con cada quien", expresó.

Simultáneamente con el lanzamiento del DVD, Downs trabaja en su próximo disco que será bilingüe, con temas de blues y rock, mezclados con elementos de bandas tradicionales oaxaqueñas, sobre asuntos "que me preocupan".

"Tenemos una riqueza basta de la que hay que aprender todos los días", indicó sobre la particular mezcla de ritmos que la distinguen. "Las canciones obviamente tratan sobre lo que nos ha pasado en Oaxaca y también sobre la fe y la curandería para limpiar el mal y la tristeza".

Se refería al conflicto sindical que comenzó en mayo del



año pasado con una huelga de maestros exigiendo aumentos salariales y que desembocó en una lucha de otros gremios exigiendo la renuncia del gobernador del estado Ulises Ruiz.

El conflicto se extendió por más de seis meses y dejó unos 20 muertos, cientos de arrestados, así como daños y pérdidas económicas millonarias.

Se espera que disco salga a la venta entre abril y mayo del próximo año.

Joan Baez banned at Walter Reed hospital

Folk singer and anti-war activist Joan Baez says she doesn't know why she was not allowed to perform for recovering soldiers recently at Walter Reed Army Medical Center as she planned.

In a letter to The Washington Post published Wednesday, she said rocker

John Mellencamp had asked her to perform with him last Friday and that she accepted his invitation.

"I have always been an advocate for nonviolence and I have stood as firmly against the

Iraq war as I did the Vietnam War 40 years ago," she wrote. "I realize now that I might have contributed to a better welcome home for those soldiers fresh from Vietnam. Maybe that's why I didn't hesitate to accept the invitation to sing for those returning from Iraq and

Afghanistan. In the end, four days before the concert, I was not 'approved' by the Army to take part. Strange irony."

Baez, 66, told the Post in a telephone interview Tuesday that she was not told why she was left off the program by the Army. "There

might have been one, there might have been 50 (soldiers) that thought I was a traitor," she told the paper.

The Post reported that Walter Reed officials did not respond to

received the request for participation by Baez just two days before the concert.

"These additional requirements were not in the agreement/contract and would have required a modification," Sanderson told the magazine's Web site.

Baez's manager, Mark Spector, told the Post that Mellencamp's management invited Baez to perform in March and handled all the arrangements. The Post said Mellencamp's manager, Randy Hoffman, did not return calls requesting comment and that Mellencamp's publicist said the singer was ill Tuesday and unavailable.

But Mellencamp earlier told RollingStone.com: "They didn't give me a reason why she couldn't come. We asked why and they said, 'She can't fit here, period.'"



requests for comment Tuesday, but that in an e-mailed statement published Monday on RollingStone.com, spokesman Steve Sanderson said the medical center

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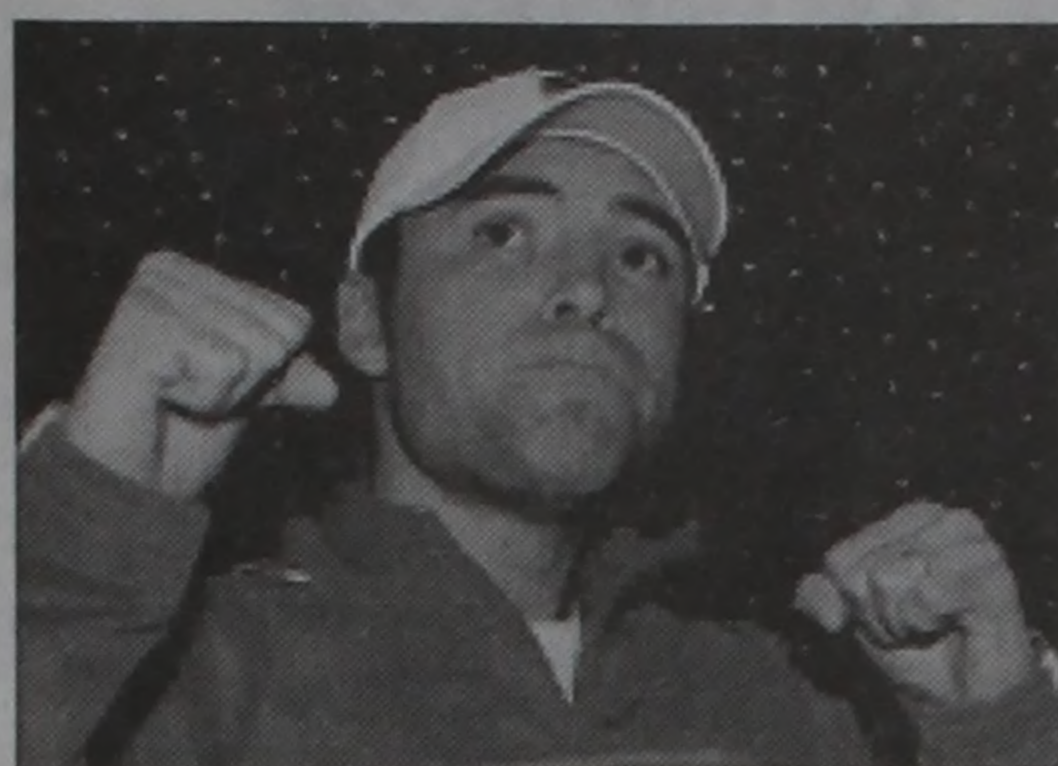
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Buzz for De La Hoya-Mayweather



There's a buzz in this gambling town, where the events of this week are making some remember boxing's better times. The city is sold out, the beautiful people are on their way, and Oscar De La Hoya and Floyd Mayweather Jr. are acting as if it's 1985 all over again.

The conventional wisdom is that the sport is dead, killed by greed and mismanagement and scorned by a younger generation that would rather watch fighters try to choke and kick each other. But you would never know it by Super Bowl-like ticket resale prices that start at \$1,000 for nosebleed seats and go to \$20,000 for ringside Saturday at the MGM Grand hotel-casino.

The fight is a perfect storm for boxing, at a time it desperately needs it. If you believe the hype, and there's no lacking of hype when it comes to this fight, it could be the richest ever when all the various sources of income are finally added up.

The bout is so big it not only

has its own beer can, but its own reality show. Tecate is peddling the beer, and HBO is peddling the fight with a half-hour reality series starring the wacky Mayweathers in their role as the oh-so-dysfunctional first family of boxing.

Tune in Sunday night and you'll see Floyd's father walk out of camp because his brother, who trains Mayweather, is disrespecting him. If you're lucky, maybe the grizzled and dreadlocked Floyd Sr., who used to train De La Hoya, will recite one of his fractured poems about their fractured relationship.

De La Hoya, meanwhile, will concentrate on doing what he does best: look good. That's his role in this fight, while Mayweather has undertaken the chore of being the villain to boxing's only remaining superstar.

Mayweather has done his job well, so well that this figures to be the biggest of all the big fights De La Hoya has been in. That includes a lot of fights, since De La Hoya has basically been the only fighter other than Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield who has consistently been able to sell the pay-per-view buys that are the linchpin of every boxing promotion.

De La Hoya has generated an astonishing \$492 million in pay-

per-view revenue alone in his career, and this fight will move him past Tyson and Holyfield to become the biggest grossing boxing attraction.

He's doing it even while fighting sparingly in recent years, and losing two of his last four fights. Despite that, De La Hoya remains the only true box office attraction in a sport that used to have them in bunches.

And that is where the real problem lies.

One huge fight is one thing, but it's an aberration. Boxing has been losing fans in such numbers that even a megafight like the ones that seemed to happen almost every year during the 1980s isn't likely to bring them back into the fold again.

I've chronicled boxing's woes before, but here's a brief recap:

There are so many titles the average fan doesn't know who the champions are, you have to reach into your pocket to watch the best fights on TV and there is no network television coverage at all. The best athletes go into basketball and football these days, the U.S. national amateur system is a joke and promoters don't reinvest a dime in anything that won't sell their next promotion.

Tyson and Lennox Lewis are retired, Holyfield should be and the heavyweight division is ruled by Russians and a Ukrainian.

Younger fans who grew up following the theatrics of pro wrestling now cheer mixed martial fighters because they saw them on television in a reality series and can relate to them better.

Even more troubling is this: If De La Hoya loses to Mayweather _ and oddsmakers make Floyd Jr. a 2-1 favorite _ boxing may have lost its last megastar. Mayweather may be regarded as the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, but he doesn't come close to selling tickets like De La Hoya.

For one night, though, those problems will be forgotten. The fight has already set a record for the biggest live gate at \$19 million, celebrities are jockeying for ringside seats, and \$50 tickets to watch on closed circuit at other Las Vegas hotels already are being sold for three times that amount.

Promoters are being coy, but it's clear they think they have a chance to come close to the record 2 million pay-per-view sales set in the second fight between Tyson and Holyfield. There's little doubt the fight will be the richest nonheavyweight fight and could be the richest fight of any kind.

It won't revitalize boxing overnight. It might, however, get some people paying attention again.

Now all De La Hoya and Mayweather have to do is deliver. Because boxing doesn't just need a big fight. It needs a great fight.

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- June 1-3* - 18th Annual Hub City Youth NIT (Girls & Boys - all ages)
- June 9-11 - 5th Annual South Plains Men's D NIT (World Series Qualifier)
- 5th Annual South Plains Women's B/C/D NIT

*June 16-17

- 14th Annual Hub City Men's C NIT (World Series Qualifier)
- * 14th Annual Hub City Men's E NIT (World Series Qualifier)
- * 14th Annual Hub City Mixed B/C/D NIT (World Series Qualifier)
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para que no parezca estar en los 60. "Pero el 'Pretty Boy' se ve sexy, se parece a Wesley Snipes, se me antoja, así brusco, mandadote", responde su compañera de martinis y de repeticiones hasta el cansancio de la serie Esposas Desesperadas, mientras juega en la boca con los huesos de las aceitunas... del martini. Como sea, con los apostadores tomando la temperatura para predecir lo impredecible y poner a jugar la codicia de quienes apuestan, en esta ciudad del pecado, con sus constelaciones lúdicas y lujuriosas apostadas en cada esquina han colocado a De La Hoya ya a Mayweather como dos dioses paganos. Quedó más en evidencia en el desfile triunfal de ayer en el lobby del hotel.

Los dioses del box en Las Vegas

Esta ciudad, donde el pecado es no pecar, donde la virtud es un pecado, está dividida en dos ecos por la pelea que tendrá lugar el próximo sábado.

Si alguien grita en Las Vegas "De la Hoya", a la distancia, distorsionado, el eco responde "Mayweather".

Y viceversa. Esta ciudad, más mundana que ninguna y más elitista que ninguna, tiene trepados en espectaculares, en pantallas gigantes, en los postes, en las paredes, en los deodorizantes de los retretes, en las camisetas, en los cielos, en los suelos, un solo mensaje: "El mundo espera"... y de tanta espera, ya desespera.

A esta ciudad le tiembla el pulso. Y es precisamente el pulso que hace temblar a esta ciudad: el de los apostadores.

Las apuestas siguen 2-1 a favor de Floyd Mayweather, pero los

que apuestan siguen apostando por Oscar de la Hoya.

La cita es el 5 de mayo. Fecha histórica de la Batalla de Puebla para los mexicanos, pero esta vez la batalla será por la batalla del hijo adoptivo del pueblo mexicano.

Y como todo terremoto, el combate del sábado tiene su propio epicentro.

El MGM de Las Vegas se ha convertido en una ciudad dentro de esta ciudad, en un universo dentro de este universo.

Y no sólo por el constante, inagotable y despilfarrador turista. Sino porque entre la prensa acreditada, la diversidad es sorprendente.

Medios de China, Australia, Japón, Filipinas, Puerto Rico, Canadá, Uruguay, Argentina, España, Alemania, Polonia, Rusia, México se han acreditado para relatar su perspectiva del combate a la universalidad que hace del boxeo una

forma de pelear con la vida sin pasársela peleando por la vida.

Inicialmente se acreditaron 1,025 medios informativos. El penoso proceso de selección dejó a sólo 675 propietarios de un salvoconducto para ingresar al combate en la arena del MGM.

El resto recibió un boleto para situarse en una lujosa sala especial, situada en el "patio trasero" del lujoso coliseo asignado para el combate.

Ayer, simplemente, en la parafernalia de la alfombra roja para que Óscar de la Hoya y Floyd Mayweather hicieran su entrada triunfal al MGM, unos 70 medios de comunicación enloquecían ante la escasez de espacio, de tiempo y de momentos para poder recopilar material y mostrarle al mundo la histeria por esta pelea que pretende hacer historia.

Queda claro: todos saben más de boxeo que los contrincantes y sus respectivos entrenadores.

Freddie Roach no sabe tanto de Mayweather como para saber guiar a De la Hoya.

Y Roger Mayweather no sabe tanto de Óscar como para saber guiar a Floyd este sábado.

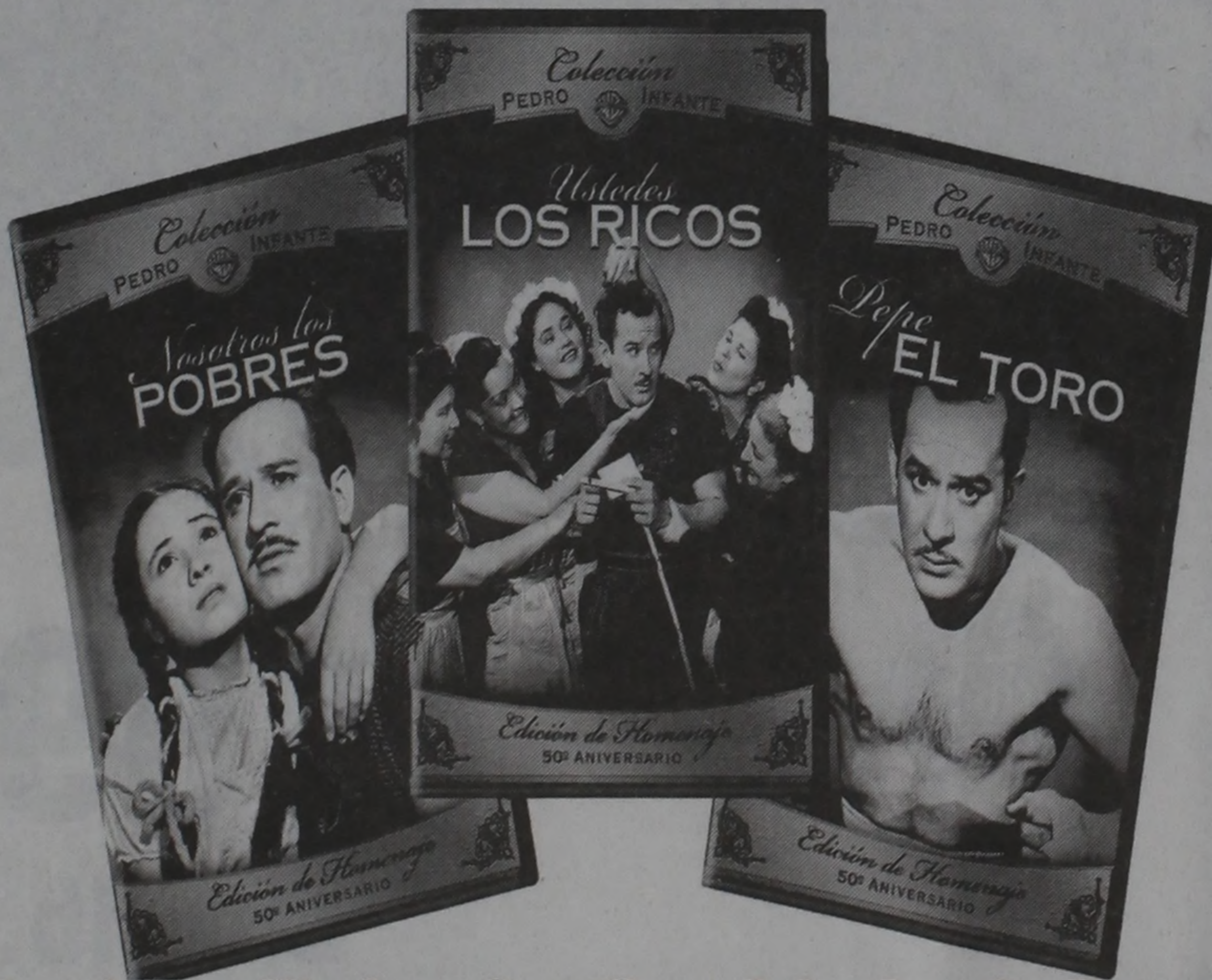
Ante las máquinas tragamonedas, frente a las mesas de blackjack, mientras coquetea con los giros sospechosos de la insospechada Diosa Fortuna de la ruleta, en el caso del hotel, los augurios parecen venir de sabios.

"Es que Óscar nunca va a alcanzar a Mayweather. Ya no tiene esa velocidad. Nomás le va a ver la sombra y a sentir el jab de Floyd", explica uno.

Y el eco inconforme del tipo de enfrente riposta de inmediato. "¿Qué no acabas de ver a Óscar? Está mejor que nunca, seguro lo acaba antes de los 12, todo depende de que se mueva bien hacia los costados, que lo arrincone".

Hasta ellas, golpeadas por la vida o no, por el marido o no, se atreven a pronósticos, aunque con más fundamentos de progesterona que de boxeo.

"Es que de los dos, Óscar está más guapo", dice una mujer que parece haber rebasado los 50 y que hace acopio de maquillaje



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Vaya Por La Pirámide Al Comer Platos Latinos

Si quiere comerse esa ropa vieja que tanto le gusta o unos taquitos mexicanos, ahora tiene disponible una nueva guía para comer más saludable que antes solo estaba diseñada para la dieta norteamericana.

La pirámide de nutrición ha sido la guía que han usado los norteamericanos por décadas para alimentarse más adecuada y saludablemente, pero con la revelación de que más hispanos están sufriendo de obesidad, un grupo comunitario en Boston ha creado un folleto que se llama "Camino Mágico". Como el nombre implica, la pirámide nutricional ordena las comidas más saludables y de más importancia en la base, y las comidas más dañinas, como la grasa, en la cima.

El grupo The Latino Nutrition Coalition (La Coalición De Nutrición Hispana) creó su propia pirámide que incorpora los alimentos latinos.

Esto es buena noticia para amantes de la comida latina, como Migdalia Soto, quien se preocupa que si dieta cubana sea dañina para su salud.

"Las comidas fritas, casi todo es frito prácticamente," dijo Soto.

La nutricionista Isabel Blandino, del hospital Baptist de Miami dice que se puede disfrutar de la comida Latina sin consumir tanta grasa.

"No tiene que ser tan dañina," dijo Soto.



New Food Pyramid Caters To Hispanic Men & Women

Concerned about the growing number of obese Hispanic men and women in this country, a Boston group is urging them to follow the magic road to better health.

Launched in Texas, the Latino Nutrition Coalition has introduced a new food pyramid which features many foods popular in Hispanic diets including grains, corn, plantains and tropical fruits like papayas and mangos.

The basic message of their 16-page pamphlet, the "Camino Magico" or the Magic Road, is that the old ways are the best ways when it comes to nutrition. The booklet also offers some meal ideas that contain healthier versions of traditional dishes like bean tortilla melt and chicken and rice.

More than a fifth of Hispanic men are obese while more than a quarter of Hispanic women are.

Camino Magico is now available in many Houston supermarkets. The Latino Nutrition Coalition hopes to have them in supermarkets in Miami, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles by the end of the year.

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¿Que Pasa?

Cinco "5" de Mayo Celebration Viva Lubbock 2007 "A City Wide Event".

LHCC has partnered with Entravision Communications and will begin the celebration with a festive luncheon on Friday, May 4th at 11:30 am. The celebration will go on Saturday at the Lone Star Amphitheatre 602 East 19th Street with lots of great music, booths of food, games, etc., May 5th featuring AB Quintanilla and the Kumbia Allstarz, and the DeLaHoya fight on Giant screen. Sunday May 6th the Escamilla Brothers will headline with their world famous Mexican Rodeo and will feature Mariachis and traditional Mexican bands. The 5 de Mayo is a celebration of "La Batalla de Puebla" in 1862 between Mexico and France. This event honors our culture and heritage. Hispanics comprise over one third of our community's population with purchasing power of over 2.5 billion, so we deserve to be recognized for the many contributions to Lubbock and surrounding area.

Please be present for the Luncheon and also at 1:00 pm where the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce will officially do a Ribbon Cutting Celebration so please join us for both events!

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
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ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED BY GUADALUPE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Guadalupe Neighborhood Association, Inc. will be recruiting 30 teenagers to form a team with the purpose of conducting a preliminary ecological and environmental survey of the "Arroyo" behind Aztlán Park. The initial task will be to determine any ecological concerns that might currently exist in and around the "Arroyo". Young people between the age of 13 and 19 years old who may be interested in any profession or career are invited to participate. Participant interest is not limited to professions directly related to the environment. Those young people interested in law, medicine, urban planning, photography, landscaping, etc. are urged to sign-up.

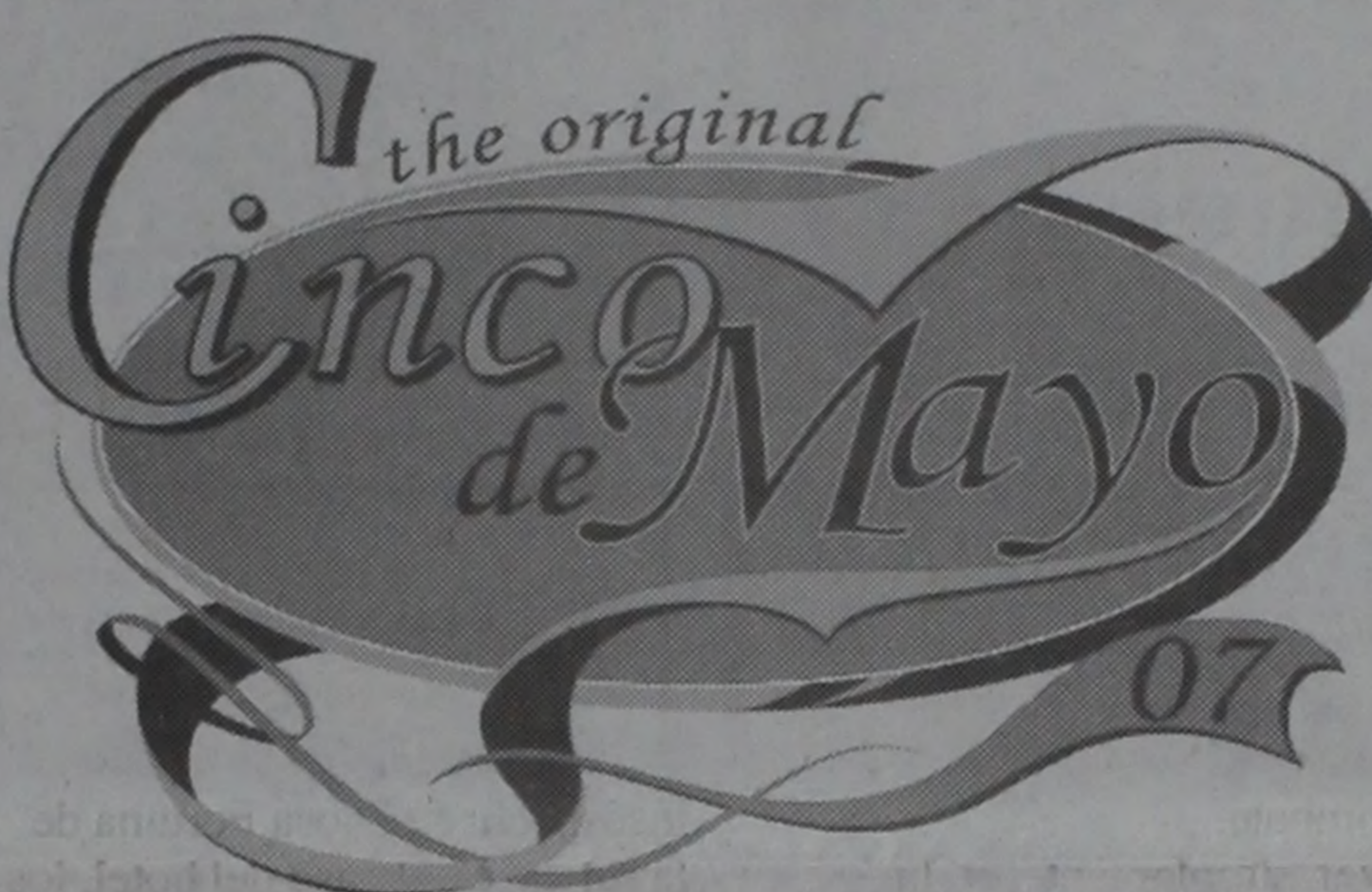
Those interested teenagers who would like to become a part of this task force should mail the following form to: Guadalupe Neighborhood Association, Inc. c/o Carlos Quirino, Jr. 107 Avenue M, Lubbock, TX 79401

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY Please include the following: NAME, AGE, PHONE NO., BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INTEREST IN PROJECT, Your SIGNATURE, and your PARENT APPROVAL SIGNATURE.

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PHOTOS BY JOHN P. CERVANTEZ



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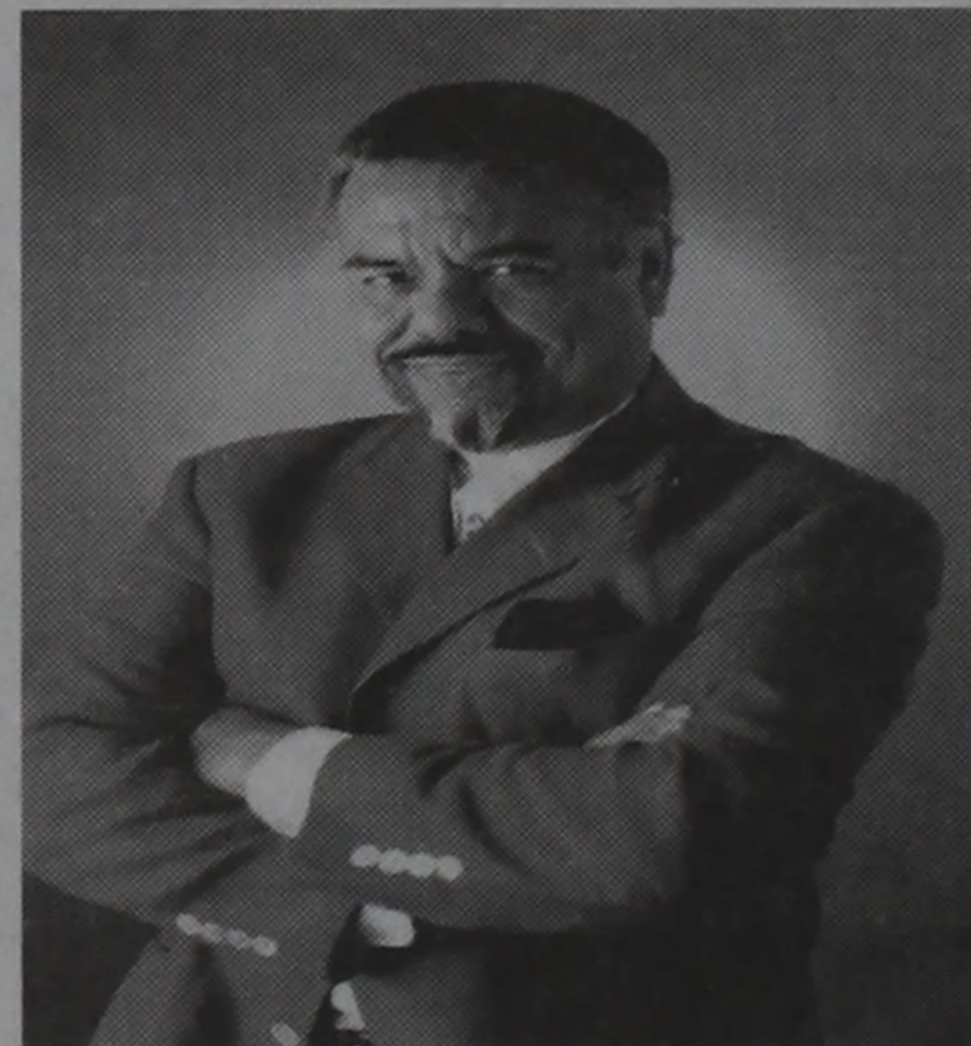
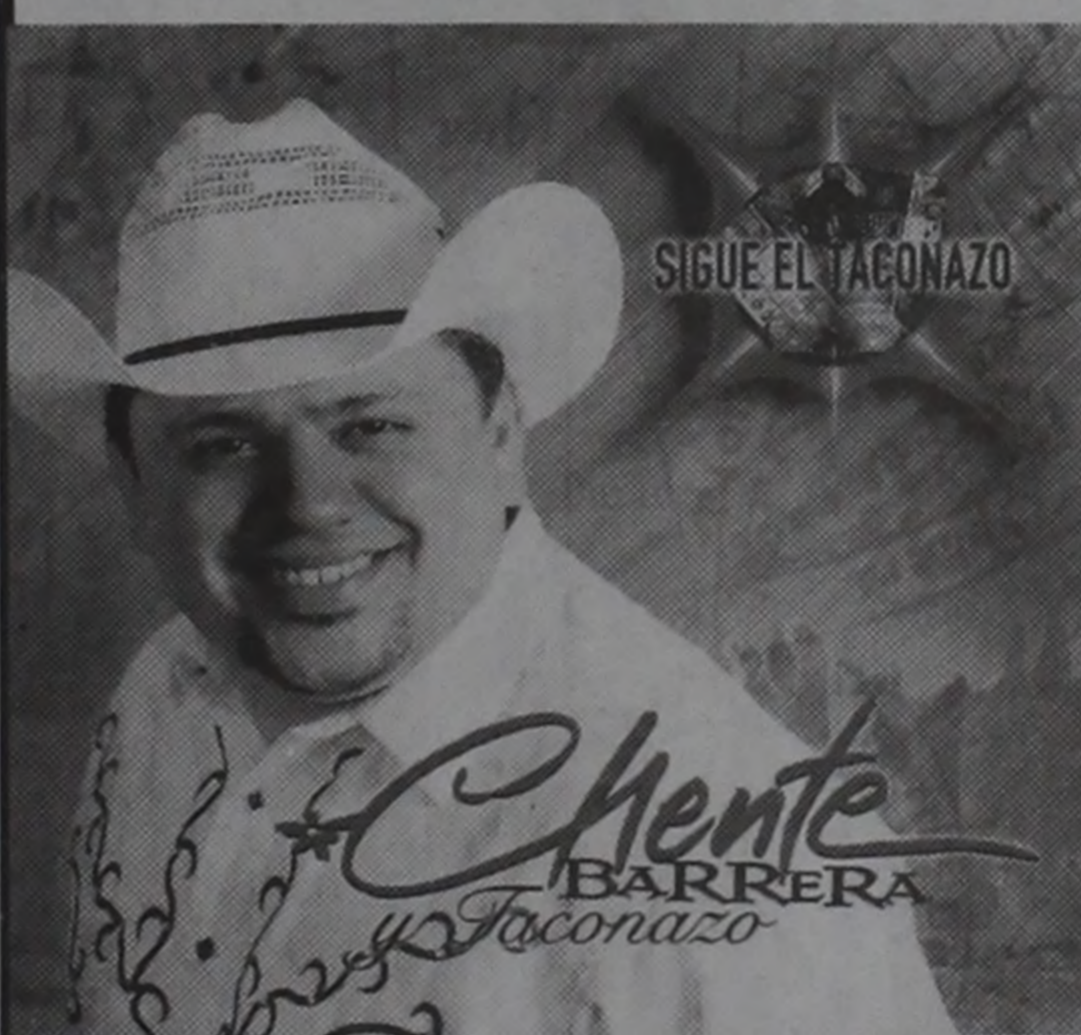
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Mexico City stages mass 'quinceanera' party

Almost 200 poor teenagers posed in donated ball gowns and danced traditional waltzes Saturday as Mexico City's government threw a mass "quinceanera" coming-out party for disadvantaged girls.

The keynote speaker was a 16-year-old who said she missed having her own quinceanera, the traditional right of passage for girls near their 15th birthday, because she was busy caring for the baby she had at 14. She urged the other girls to make informed choices.

Many of the participants were juvenile offenders, shelter residents or girls from poor families.

"I'm very happy, because this is a tradition which we should all continue," said Rosa Nayeli Lagunes, 14, who showed up in a red taffeta dress with an embroidered white bodice. Fourteen-year-olds who will turn 15 this year were also allowed to participate.

The quinceanera parties in

Mexican society often rival weddings in expense and fanfare. But girls from poor families often miss out on the tradition. The parties have become increasingly popular in the U.S. as the country's Hispanic population grows.

A truck brought 180 bouquets of roses and lilies and huge sacks of rose petals for the event in Mexico City's main plaza. Instead of traditional carriages, open-top

largest quinceanera, but it was unclear if any Guinness representative were on hand to certify the event.

The city's Youth Institute, which organized the event, said about 180 girls participated, including some older than 15 who had never had a coming-out party.

The city government also showcased sexual education information at the event. Some of the girls were given sashes to wear, each

bearing the name of an area in which young people have rights: education, recreation, and a clean environment.

Many of the girls spent the day at a city building, doing their hair and applying donated makeup.

"They are excited, with their dreams and their dresses," said

Deyanira Moran, an outreach officer for the city's Youth Institute.

The only thing in short supply at Saturday's ball were tuxedo-wearing boys — usually relatives — known as "chambelanes," who traditionally serve as escorts at such events.

"Not everyone" has an escort, Lagunes said. "We've been sharing them."

Since taking office in December, leftist Mayor Marcelo Ebrard has become known for offering free cultural events, including free "urban beaches" at local parks



tour buses were sent to ferry the girls to the ball.

Mexico City authorities said they contacted officials at the Guinness Book of World Records to see if they had set a record for

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Cinco de Mayo
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La Familia
Aguero*

Photo by John P. Cervantez



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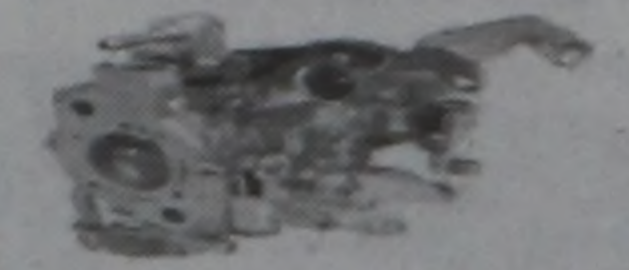
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