

el Saltillo

Vol. XXVI No. 40

Week of July 3 thru July 9, 2003

Lubbock, TX USA

Latinos se declaran en contra de penas carcelarias por delitos leves de drogas

Un sondeo revela que la 'guerra contra las drogas' y su impacto en la comunidad latina ha generado actitud compasiva en la comunidad
Por Pilar Marrero

La primera encuesta en consultar a la población votante latina de California acerca de la "guerra contra las drogas" descubrió que la gran mayoría favorece alternativas y castigos tales como el tratamiento contra la adicción, servicio comunitario o multas en vez de encarcelamiento por delitos de drogas tales como posesión o uso e incluso venta de cantidades pequeñas de marihuana.

Un 65% de los latinos prefirió otras alternativas al encarcelamiento de un joven menor de 25 años que sea convicto por primera vez de vender una pequeña cantidad de marihuana a una persona adulta y sólo un 28% favoreció la cárcel. En el caso de posesión o uso de marihuana por parte de un adulto, sólo el 9% favoreció la aplicación de una pena carcelaria como castigo, el 25% favoreció el tratamiento obligatorio, el 21% una multa, el 29% servicio comunitario y el 10% dijo que no debería conllevar ningún castigo.

La organización Drug Policy



Alliance y el Instituto Willie Velásquez coordinaron la realización de la encuesta cuyos resultados presentaron ayer en Sacramento a miembros del grupo latino de la Legislatura, con la intención de cambiar la percepción de que la población latina es más conservadora que otros grupos en el tema de la droga.

"La realidad es que los latinos han demostrado su compasión y su conocimiento del problema que significa el arruinar la vida de un joven con una pena carcelaria grave por un delito relativamente menor de drogas", afirmó Glenn Backes, representante de Drug Policy Alliance.

Estos grupos afirman que la llamada "guerra contra las drogas" que se ha llevado a cabo durante más de 20 años no ha reducido la disponibilidad de drogas en este país ni los niveles de uso y adicción, pero sí ha contribuido a aumentar la población carcelaria y, en particular, la cantidad de latinos y afroamericanos que están encerrados por delitos de drogas.

Los latinos también favorecen el uso terapéutico de la marihuana en pacientes gravemente enfermos. Incluso en el caso de uso de drogas "duras" como la heroína, cocaína o metanfetaminas, hay más encuestados que prefieren la imposición del tratamiento obligatorio (48%) que una pena carcelaria (38%).

Por otra parte, los latinos están divididos (el 48% a favor y el 48% en contra) en cuanto a la conveniencia de vender agujas hipodérmicas esterilizadas a los usuarios de drogas intravenosas para la prevención de enfermedades transmisibles por ese medio como el sida y la hepatitis.

Anthony Romero, director ejecutivo nacional de la Unión Americana para las Libertades Civiles (ACLU) dijo que los resultados del sondeo "confirman lo que siempre hemos sabido, que encarcelar a nuestros familiares y amigos no es la

mejor manera de proteger a la comunidad latina del azote de las drogas", dijo Romero. "Es obvio que debemos

invertir en educación y prevención y no en más prisiones".

Las propias cifras del gobierno confirman que los afroamericanos y latinos están desproporcionadamente afectados por la guerra contra las drogas, aun cuando la población de raza blanca es mayor en cantidad y tiene índices similares de uso y venta de estupefacientes.

A pesar de ser sólo el 12.5% de la población total de EU, los latinos fueron, en 1999, el 46% de los acusados por un delito federal de drogas. Los afroamericanos son el 74% de los presos por posesión de drogas a nivel nacional.

En California, los latinos son el 36.6% de los convictos por delitos graves de drogas. En los últimos 20 años, la población carcelaria del estado ha aumentado 25 veces.

El Departamento de Justicia reportó en 1997 que un latino tiene cuatro veces más posibilidades de ir a la cárcel que un hombre blanco. El equivalente para un afroamericano es seis veces más que un blanco. Esto se

atribuye principalmente a la guerra contra las drogas.

Jim González, quien en 2000 dirigió la exitosa campaña en favor de la Proposición 36, aprobada por el 61% de los votantes para ofrecer la alternativa del tratamiento antidrogas para algunos delitos de drogas en el estado, dijo que el uso de la retórica de "cero tolerancia" contra las drogas se ha convertido desde hace años en una "forma fácil de ganar elecciones".

De hecho, sólo ocho legisladores de los 120 senadores y asambleístas ofrecieron su apoyo a dicha proposición en su momento, entre los cuales se encontraban el ex senador Richard Polanco y el asambleísta Marco Antonio Firebaugh. También recibió el apoyo de la ahora congresista Hilda Solís.

Pero, en general, ha habido poca iniciativa de legisladores para cambiar el problema, dijo González. La actual inclinación de la opinión pública significa, dijo, que "el público se ha dado cuenta de que gastar en prisiones solamente no resuelve el problema".

'Tejano' Voices Collection Offers Insite into Chicano Movement

The Tejano Voices Project focuses on seventy-seven oral history interviews with Tejano and Tejana leaders from across the state conducted by Dr. José Ángel Gutiérrez, associate professor of political science at the University of Texas at Arlington. These interviews were conducted in 1992-1999, and emphasize the personal stories and struggles of the interviewees, many of whom are the first individuals of Mexican descent in their communities elected or appointed to government office.

The interviews were videotaped, transcribed, bound, and placed in the UTA Libraries' Special Collections Division, where they are made accessible to students, scholars, and the general public. All of the interviewees have signed deeds of gift/interview agreements, transferring all of their proprietary and copyrights for the interviews to the university. The interviews are unique, and reflect the history of the Tejano community as it pressed for an end to racial segregation in the state and access to political power in the post-WWII period.

Scholars agree that Tejanos and Tejanas in 20th century Texas have been under-documented and generally ignored in textbooks and general studies about Texas history and politics. This project makes available the personal recollections of seventy-seven

Tejano and Tejana leaders from across the state, revealing their sometimes sad, other times poignant and triumphant, stories of struggle against racism, discrimination, and exclusion. These interviews are, in a word, inspirational.

Take for example Alicia Chacón, the first Tejana elected county judge of a major urban county, El Paso, in 1990. Her interview traces her political career from the early 1970s, when she began attending Democratic local, regional and national conventions, to her election as county judge ten years ago. Or the story of Alberto Luera of Laredo who, in 1971, chaired the Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO) and founded Centro Aztlán, a social agency, two years later to help the indigent. Or consider Severita Lara's interview, where she recalls leading the 1969 student walk-out of Crystal City schools. This act of courage helped to foster a shift in power in the town from an Anglo-controlled school board to a board with Tejano for the first time. The political battle in Crystal --or as Tejanos call it "Cristal"--was a turning point Mexican American activism in the state.

Indeed, these interviews full of such stories.

The project includes fifty-six interviews with men and twenty-one with women. The interviewees are from

around the state, giving broad coverage to regional and local issues in communities like Houston, Laredo, Dallas, Eagle Pass, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Brownsville, and Robstown, to mention a few.

The interviewer for the project was Dr. Gutiérrez, the founding director of UTA's Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) and a scholar of the Tejana experience in the state during the 20th century. Dr. Gutiérrez maintained an objectivity during the interview process and in his selection of interviewees. Working with a professional transcriber, he also audited and edited the transcripts for accuracy and precision.

The interviews have been heavily used by both college and high school students as well as a handful of scholars. As the social and ethnic composition of Texas continues its shift toward people of color, these interviews, documenting as they do the integration of Tejanos into the political process and social fabric of the state, will become even more important and in demand. To understand Texas, one must understand all of its people. The widespread availability of these seventy-seven oral history interviews helps students and others from across the state do just that for the largest minority group in Texas.



Comentarios de Bidal Agüero

Texas' redistricting fight has been making national news. Following is an article in the NY Times that sums it all up.

The unslakable thirst of the House majority leader, Tom DeLay, for partisan dominance is of Faulknerian proportions: he keeps coming at the Democrats with a gunslinger's bead that summons images of his early career as a pest exterminator as much as his Capitol nickname of the Hammer. In his tooth-and-claw resolve, the Texas Legislature has been summoned into special session tomorrow by Gov. Rick Perry, a DeLay ally, to once more take up Mr. DeLay's hubristic plan to remap Texas' Democratic Congressional majority out of existence.

The brazenness of the initiative - overreaching from Washington to manipulate the state's right to draw Congressional lines - was underlined last month when Democratic legislators literally fled Texas. They denied their opponents a quorum and foiled approval of the customized gerrymandering Mr. DeLay wanted from the G.O.P.-led Legislature. He sent his operatives to work the back rooms in Austin and visited the Statehouse himself in seeking to shape the place to his will. A new sort of political bossism was upon the land.

In persisting, Mr. DeLay obviously feels entitled. He is one of the nation's most assiduous fund-raisers, regularly squeezing Washington's K Street lobbyists for campaign tribute. The House majority leader helped funnel \$1.5 million into the Texas campaign coffers last year when the Republicans swept the Statehouse for the first time in over a century. The party did not have as much success with the Texas Congressional delegation, however, and Mr. DeLay remains determined to try to defeat a half-dozen Democrats by squeezing them into new districts - some of them shaped like a Salvador Dalí nightmare - that include more Republican voters. "I'm the majority leader, and we want more seats," he declares with intimations of l'état c'est Tom.

The Texas districts were remapped by court order after the 2000 census, and the national tradition of once-a-decade redistricting is being violated by Mr. DeLay's stratagem. He is gerrymandering out of season and mischievously opening a new arena for D.C. power brokering. He has the blessing of Karl Rove, President Bush's political guru, who lately sounds like Karl von Clausewitz in envisioning fresh ramparts for Republican hegemony.

Texas legislators should stay in Austin this time and directly rebuff the majority leader who would be king.

Last week I commented that "El 16" ould not be observed. We got aclarification from Board Chair Christy Martinez. See Page 3 "Letters to the Editor"

Democrats unable to capitalize on Bush's Latino gap - Demo Latino outreach strategy in shambles

As recent news of growing Latino disenchantment with President Bush galvanized Democrats hoping for regime change in America next year, their party is not in position to take full advantage of it. At this most inopportune time, the Democratic National Committee finds its Latino outreach strategy in shambles and its smorgasbord of nine presidential hopefuls desperately trying to get some traction among party loyalists.

The results of the latest poll of Latino voters, conducted by Bendixen and Associates for the New Democrat Network, has caught the DNC squarely on its heels and baffled Republicans trying to attract more Latino voters in 2004. While Latino voters continue to be primarily concerned about education and the economy, 69 percent feel that Bush has not "kept his word" with regard to Latin America. As a candidate in 2000, Bush said, "Our future cannot be separated from the future of Latin America. Should I become the president, I will look south not as an afterthought, but as a fundamental commitment." To many Latinos, that was probably the last time Bush thought about it.

Latino voters have also been disillusioned by Bush's failure to work closer with

Mexico President Vicente Fox on immigration issues and by his failure to seek adequate funding for the numerous mandates contained in the "No Child Left Behind" Act.

If the presidential election were held today, a mere 34 percent of Latino voters surveyed said they would vote for Bush--less than the 35 percent that voted for him in 2000! Bad news for Bush's re-election team when the president's approval rating is dropping and Republican congressmen, like Mark Kirk, a real fighter pilot from Illinois, are starting to question Bush's exit strategy in Iraq. And bad news for Republican strategists who were riding high after the 2002 elections in which, according to other polls, 44 percent of Latinos supported Republican candidates.

Bush has problems across the board among Latino voters, including those who were born here or naturalized before 1995, English-dominant voters, and senior citizens. His positive personal image rating has dropped 16 percentage points, and his negative rating has shot up 14 points. Furthermore, 48 percent blame the Republican Party, and only 21 percent blame Democrats, for blocking Latino appointments to positions in government.

The poll, conducted between May 27 and June 3, included 800 interviews and had a margin of error of 3.5 percent. Nearly half of the respondents were born in the United States. Among naturalized citizens, 21 percent were born in Mexico, 11 percent in South and Central America and 7 percent in Cuba. Puerto Ricans, who are citizens by birth, and immigrants from the Dominican Republic comprised 11 percent.

Meanwhile, incredibly, the DNC is laying off or losing its Latino employees and tabling a \$1.5 million Latino outreach plan, which has outraged Latino Democrats. Alvaro Cifuentes, chairman of the DNC's Hispanic Caucus, has called a three-day summit for Hispanic Democrats to discuss the wrong-headed decisions of party leaders. Reportedly, only four of 100 DNC employees were Latino. When you stop and look at this mess, the best thing the DNC has going for it right now, in terms of holding on to its Latino base vote, is that George W. Bush is president.

Meanwhile, the not-so-magnificent nine Democratic presidential hopefuls spent part of last week in Chicagocourting the Rev. Jesse Jackson and black voters attending the annual conference of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. Black voters, the most

loyal Democratic bloc, will cast potentially decisive votes in some of the first 11 caucuses and primaries next year, especially in South Carolina, where they comprise 30 percent of the population.

This weekend, Democratic presidential wannabes will be in Phoenixcourting Latino leaders at the annual conference of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials. Moderating the forum will be the governor of New Mexico, Bill Richardson, the top elected Latino Democrat in the nation, who sits at the very top of everyone's short list for running mate. Latino voters, the second most loyal Democratic bloc, also will cast potentially decisive votes in the same 11 caucuses and primaries, especially in New Mexico and Arizona, where they comprise 42 percent and 25 percent of the population, respectively.

While Latinos and African Americans are clamoring for regime change in America, they can only hope that the Democratic Party gets its house in order and that Democrats, independents and progressive Republicans coalesce around a viable challenger to Bush real soon.

Redistricting Hearings in Lubbock and San Angelo and Statement by Neale Pearson

I hope you will oppose the placement of a redistricting bill on the agenda of the Senate in this special session. If one is to be discussed, I urge you modify Congressional District 22 of Tom DeLay which on the Chris Harris map we saw at the Lubbock hearings looks like a "smoking bomb." As you can see from the report below which I sent to Reps. Dunnam, Mabry, Delwin Jones, Ruth Jones-McClendon, Molly Beth Malcolm and others, West Texans were overwhelmingly in favor of keeping the lines the way they are. Support for Congressman Stenholm was overwhelming even among some of the Republicans who testified, other than the Presidents of the Midland and Odessa Chambers of Commerce, Lubbock County Chair Dan (brother of Carl) Issett and the Republican State Committeeman from Teel Bivins district. When asked by Sen. Bob Duncan (R-Lubbock), Robert Rogers of Lubbock, a moderate Republican who liked Stenholm's work if he would vote for Stenholm in the reconfigured 7th District presented by Sen. Harris (SB 9-Plan 01180C), Rogers said he would vote for a Republican because of Stenholm's position on estate taxes. [I assume Stenholm did not support Bush's proposal in the recent tax cut bill].

Several hundred West Texans attending hearings on Congressional Redistricting in Texas in Lubbock on June 26 and San Angelo on June 30 were highly critical of the process as well as changing the boundaries of two West Texas Congressmen. Over 100 attended a House Sub-Committee chaired by Rep. Ken Marchant with Reps. Kent Grusendorf (R-Arlington) and Carl Issett (R-Lubbock) in attendance. More than 150 persons attended the meeting at Angelo state University of a panel of the Senate Jurisprudence Committee-plus several other Senators-in San Angelo on Monday June 30. Senators present were Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock), Jeff Wentworth (R-San Antonio), Royce West (D-Dallas), Kim Arenitt (R) Staples, Estes (R-Wichita Falls), Harris (R) and Janek (Houston). In Lubbock, some 65 persons spoke against the proposed redistricting and map (Plan 01180C) prepared by Rep. Phil King (R-Weatherford) and Senator

Chris Harris. Twelve (12) persons, mostly from Midland and Odessa, spoke in favor of a re-drawn Congressional District 19 which would seek to oust long-term Democratic Congressman Charles Stenholm of Abilene by pitting him against newly-elected Republican Randy Neugebauer of Lubbock in a redrawn District 19 that runs from the New Mexico border on the west to Jacksboro and Eastland on the East, just west of Ft. Worth. Stenholm's existing district 17 would be abolished in favor of a newly-created District 11 whose principal population center would be the Midland-Odessa Metro area and goe east to Brownwood and Mason. The new 17th District would reach southward from affluent and Republican-Ft. Worth Suburbs south through Waco to Temple and would be aimed at eliminating Democrat Chet Edwards.

Senator Duncan announced that 150 persons had filled out cards to speak at the San Angelo meeting that started at 3:00 p.m. By 7:00 p.m., when I left to return to Lubbock, only five persons had spoken in favor of redistricting, 49 spoke out against redistricting, and three were neutral, saying "go do the right thing." By that time, Duncan had announced a total of sixteen persons against redistricting but who would not speak (because they were leaving such as a former Mayor of Odessa). Four persons were announced as being in favor but not speaking (because they were leaving for other commitments such as Odessa City Manager Rick Menchaca). Nearly everyone speaking said they were satisfied with Stenholm, they said they were Independent although a few said they were Republican, but voted a split ticket or "voted for the man and not the party." Those speaking against redistricting came from ten counties while those in favor came from only Midland and Ector (Odessa) Counties.

At one early point when Senator Royce West asked those who were against redistricting to stand up, over 120 stood up, when he asked for those who favored redistricting to stand up, only about seven stood up.

Many persons at both the Lubbock and San Angelo meetings were critical of the estimated expense of the Special

Session which is estimated to cost 1.7 million dollars, saying the Legislature could spend its time better dealing with the problems of Children's Health care, the problems of prescription drugs for the aging, and public education. Both Howard County (Big Spring) Commissioner W. R. (Bill) Crooker, a Republican, and Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen told the House and Senate panels they liked working with Congressman Stenholm; both were opposed to redistricting. McEwen said "we lost our state representative [in the last redistricting], we lost our state senator and we lost our congressman [Stenholm]...If this goes through, we will have the distinction of having four different congressmen in the past two years." Seven persons were neutral, basically asking the House to "go do the right thing for Texas." Many Republicans and Independents pointed out that while voters in the districts represented by Stenholm, Ralph Hall and Chet Edwards had voted for Bush in 2000, they had voted for the Democrats because they were the better candidates. If the Republicans would run better congressional candidates, they might win approval from the voters.

Imma Guerrero, Lubbock Party Chair, was extremely critical of Issett and U. S. Rep. Tom DeLay (R-Sugarland), who has been the driving force behind redistricting. "The truth is, Republicans need to stop being so greedy. After noting that DeLay had said Congressional representation should reflect the 58% (sic, not 59%) voting for President Bush, Guerrero said that this type of logic would mean "32 percent of the population is Hispanic, so 32 percent of the representatives should be Hispanic. And 12 percent of the population is African-American, so 12 percent should be African-American. And 50 percent of the population are women, so 50 percent...in Congress should be women. The only problem is I thought Republicans were against quotas."

There was support from four persons for Sen. Wentworth's bill, introduced at each session since 1992, that a Bi-partisan commission composed equally of Republicans and Democrats, be set up to draft a districting map that would be presented to the Legislature

for an up or down vote, with no amendments. Carolie Mullan of Lubbock, President of the League of Women Voters of Texas, said the League favors the current districts as drawn by the Federal Court of the Eastern District of Texas after the Legislature failed to agree on a plan in 2001. This plan has "withstood legal challenges...To attempt to change them at this point would be a misuse of resources that should be focused on the serious issues currently facing the state." No one spoke on behalf of the League of Women Voters or Common Cause at San Angelo as had happened at Lubbock.

Few Hispanics and even fewer Blacks attended the two hearings. In Lubbock, County Commissioner Gilbert Flores noted how federal tax cuts and spending on top of tax cuts and reduced spending at the state level had posed a greater burden on county and local governments while noting his opposition to redistricting. School-teachers Ernestine Omega Cantu and retired Viet Nam Army veteran Ysidro Gutierrez spoke about wasting money on a special session while failing to provide sufficient funds for public education and research at Texas Tech.

Three Black men attended the Lubbock meeting who were opposed to redistricting; one (Eddie Richardson, co-publisher of the Southwest Digest) spoke against redistricting. Another left before the hearing adjourned while another arrived after the session was adjourned around 6:00 p.m. Two Black women from San Angelo who sat next to me did not speak at the Angelo State hearing although they filled out cards indicating their opposition.

I delivered a brief summary of the attached statement that noted how the work of the Legislative Redistricting Board--created by a Constitutional Amendment in 1948--had been ignored, that adopting a Proportional representation plan of congressional representation based on presidential voting, undercut the checks and balances involved in the Constitution by which voters elected representatives to represent their districts and not to act as rubber stamps for any president.

El Editor

Un Enigma Fronterizo

Por Marisa Treviño

¿Cómo evitamos que los inmigrantes arriesguen sus vidas cruzando ilegalmente nuestra frontera al sur?

Esta pregunta se ha vuelto nuestra versión del enigma del esfinge. Como la bestia legendaria que acumulaba los cadáveres de los que no contestaban correctamente su enigma, nuestra frontera sureña reclama hasta más cuerpos porque aún no hemos podido resolver el enigma.

Y no es que no lo intente de resolver nuestro gobierno.

En su más reciente intento por dar sentido a lo que no lo tiene, el subcomité de inmigración, seguridad fronteriza y reclamos de la Cámara realizó una audiencia con el título: "The Deadly Consequences of Illegal Alien Smuggling" (las consecuencias mortales del contrabando de extranjeros ilegales). Aquí los legisladores oyeron testimonios a favor de una gama de soluciones -- desde mayor fuerza en hacer cumplir la ley hasta facilitar el procesamiento de la inmigración legal.

Varios legisladores propusieron sus propios planes para redactar legislación que repartiría mayores penas a los

contrabandistas o de establecer un programa bracero con México.

Alguien que escuchara de casualidad la audiencia diría que de hecho estas medidas resolverán este problema tan complejo.

¿Pero lo harían? Ya hemos visto que a pesar de contar con más agentes fronterizos y más juguetes de alta tecnología, continuando cruzando los hombres, mujeres y niños sólo para acabar muertos dentro de camiones y vagones sin ventilación, en los desiertos ardientes o en ríos profundos. Su presencia es causa de una reacción anti-inmigrante que va desde la California hasta las Carolinas.

Algunos rancheros y tribus de indígenas que tienen tierras en Arizona y Texas que colindan con la frontera, frustrados con los esfuerzos ineficaces de la patrulla fronteriza por parar la procesión de inmigrantes que les invaden las propiedades dejando basura y cayéndose muertos, han optado por tomar el toro por las astas. Están contratando con compañías privadas de "seguridad fronteriza" cuyas tácticas al detener y retener a los inmigrantes son cuestionables.

En el pasado un buen número

de los inmigrantes indocumentados se quedaría aquí sólo hasta recaudar los fondos que necesitaba. Ahora se quedan toda una vida, temiendo que no podrían volver a cruzar la frontera si el hambre volviera a acosar a sus familias.

Las agencias de servicio social del suroeste informan que dada esta presión por quedarse aquí y ocultos, más están cerrando las cuentas bancarias y menos reportan la violencia que les acae. En la medida en que más jurisdicciones permiten que la policía local haga de agentes de inmigración, los indocumentados se sienten menos seguros de las agencias del orden de la comunidad.

Es claro que el esfinge sigue sin oír la respuesta correcta.

Quizás sea porque nuestra perspectiva sobre el problema está torcida. Creemos que los inmigrantes indocumentados quieren venir.

La realidad es que necesitan venir.

Un señor que recogía las mesas en un restaurante donde almorzaba me describió el dolor que le causaba estar separado de su familia. Estaba aquí porque no había trabajo donde vivía. Me habló de su esposa y sus hijos en Guatemala, del dinero

para la sobrevivencia que les enviaba.

¿Qué habría que hacer para que no deje su familia?

¿Cómo puede un programa bracero que obliga a los hombres a dejar a sus familias por largo tiempo resolver el misterio?

Durante años algunos expertos han venido sugiriendo que todo lo que se necesita es un programa que dé a estas personas -- tan ávidos de trabajo -- las destrezas y oportunidades para desarrollar sus propias comunidades.

Varias mujeres empresarias de Texas se han unido al Proyecto Chiapas, un programa de micro-créditos que asiste a mujeres pobres en el sur de México. Las mujeres solicitan y reciben créditos de unos \$50 para sus negocios que van desde la siembra de papas hasta la compra de materiales para tejer. Un 97 por ciento de los préstamos lo recupera el proyecto, reporta.

Los críticos contestan que no nos toca a nosotros invertir en estas personas. Que es la responsabilidad de sus gobiernos.

Es verdad. Sin embargo, con

continúa en la página 3

Across U.S., Redistricting as a Never-Ending Battle

By DAVID M. HALBFINGER

AUSTIN, Tex., June 30 - For most of the past century, redistricting has been a fairly predictable though often contentious ritual. Every 10 years, state legislators would use the new census data to redraw Congressional district lines, and the party in power would usually manage to draw maps that gave it an advantage. Now, thanks to a determined effort by United States Representative Tom DeLay, the House majority leader, with the quiet support of the White House, that tradition may be crumbling, as legislatures draw new districts whenever they have a partisan advantage.

Today, the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature opened an extraordinary special session devoted solely to redrawing the state's 32 Congressional districts. If Republicans succeed in doing so, they could remove five or more Democratic congressmen and help their party consolidate its hold on power in Washington.

Republicans did much the same thing last month in Denver, pushing a new map through the Colorado Legislature specifically to shore up the seat of a freshman congressman who won office with a 121-vote margin. And Democrats are threatening retaliation in New Mexico and Oklahoma, while dropping hints about taking the redistricting battle to big-game territory: Illinois and California, where far more seats are at stake.

This amped-up partisanship on the state level could soon make redistricting battles a recurring feature of the political landscape, experts say, reviving the 19th-century practice of redrawing political maps every time a legislature changed hands.

Democrats warn of an even more corrosive effect if local governments, too, begin to treat redistricting as simply another arrow in the quiver of political tactics.

State Representative Garnet F. Coleman, Democrat of Houston, said, "This would be like on any city council, if they said, 'We're going to redistrict because nobody likes Joe - the majority of us just don't like him,' and guess what, Joe's constituents can't even stop it."

Mr. DeLay, a former Texas legislator himself, has been candid about his reasons for pushing for a new Congressional map, telling reporters at one point, "I'm the majority leader, and we want more seats."

In Colorado, the last three days of the state legislative session were roiled in May when, with Karl Rove, the president's top strategist, lobbying lawmakers by telephone, Republicans pushed through a new Congressional map. It gave Bob Beauprez, a Republican who narrowly won election to Congress last fall, a district with a 29,000-vote Republican edge in registration, and excluded from it the home of Mike Feeley, the Democrat he had narrowly defeated.

The Democratic attorney general, Ken Salazar, has challenged the redistricting with a lawsuit.

While the turmoil in Colorado received little notice, the battle in Texas captured national attention last month, when 51 Democratic members of the state House fled in chartered buses to Ardmore, Okla., holding up in a Holiday Inn for four days until a crucial procedural deadline passed. By denying Republicans a quorum, they killed a redistricting bill for the moment, but the play came at a price in scorn from late-night comedians and seemed to alienate many Texans.

The special session called by Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican, could last 30 days, making a similar run for the border impractical. Democrats are saying that they will make their stand in Austin, come what may.

But public opinion in Texas could shift in their favor as the special session - and its \$1.7 billion cost, weeks after lawmakers closed a \$10 billion budget deficit - focuses greater attention on redistricting.

Since Thursday, a series of hastily arranged hearings across the state has drawn large, boisterous crowds. In Brownsville, near the Mexican border, hundreds of protesters wearing "Deny DeLay" stickers shouted one session to an abrupt close.

Democrats also attacked an e-mail notice about the hearings, sent out by Republicans in Houston, with a photo of Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee, a Democrat who is black. "She'll be there to express her views," it said, without identifying her. "Will you be there to express yours?"

The battle over redistricting has rendered the bipartisan comity in Austin made famous by former Gov. George W. Bush a distant memory. But to Republican strategists, that is not necessarily a bad thing.

"Bipartisanship is where both parties gang up against the people," said Grover G. Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, a conservative group, who said that split legislatures were more likely to raise taxes. "I want to take the partisanship in Washington and drive it into the 50 states," added Mr. Norquist, who is closely watching the redistricting fights.

Some Texas Republicans - including Governor Perry and Tom Craddick, who became speaker of the state House in January when the party took control for the first time in 130 years - argue that the state's Congressional delegation, with 17 Democrats and 15 Republicans, does not reflect Texas voting patterns, in which nearly 60 percent of the votes cast for Congress last year were for Republicans.

They say the current Congressional map is just an old Democratic gerrymander. And they say that although the Constitution requires the legislature to draw district boundaries, the current map was drawn by a panel of federal judges.

Others note that Republicans chose at the time to let the judges redraw the Congressional districts rather than compromise with Democrats who still held the majority in the state House.

John R. Alford, a professor at Rice University who was an expert witness for Governor Perry in the 2001 redistricting litigation, said the Republican Party knew at the time that the state Legislature, with its own new district map, was about to swing to Republican control in 2002.

"Republicans used the court-drawn plan as a place to park redistricting until they could address the issue when they were in control of the House and obviously better off in the Senate," Professor Alford said. "You give it to the courts knowing that, after 2002, you'll take it back."

He also disputed that the current Congressional map was a Democratic gerrymander, noting that voters in several districts, who choose Republicans for virtually every other office, have split their tickets to re-elect moderate Democrats.

"You can't have a gerrymander where six of the Democratic seats have Republican majorities," Professor Alford said.

Once Republicans took control of the state House in January, Mr. DeLay began pressing for a new Congressional map, spending several days in Austin and dispatching the head of his political action committee, Jim Ellis, here to help draw a new map. Mr. DeLay's office referred calls to Mr. Ellis, who did not return several telephone messages.

The map that emerged last month would have carved up the districts of United States Representatives Martin Frost and Lloyd Doggett, two Democrats in otherwise safe seats in Austin and Houston. But it also endangered the districts of moderate Democrats like Charles W. Stenholm, a longtime leader of the centrist Blue Dog coalition in the House; Jim Turner, a ranking member of the Homeland Security Committee; and Max Sandlin, a member of the Ways and Means Committee and chief deputy minority whip.

Mr. Norquist said the point of the exercise was to help remove centrist Democrats from Congress, leaving only the most liberal behind.

"Sheila Jackson-Lee will be the spokesman for the Democratic Party, and ought to be," he said. "She accurately reflects what the Democratic Party is about."

Indeed, Richard Murray, a professor of political science at the University of Houston, who has studied the Republican map, said it could eventually leave Texas without a single non-Hispanic-majority district represented by a Democrat.

"His plan basically envisions all Democrats elected to Congress being either from Hispanic-majority or African-American-majority districts," Professor Murray said.

Once adopted, any map would still face scrutiny by the Justice Department and, most likely, a new round of litigation before being implemented. Republicans in the state House today said that they would unveil a somewhat modified map on Tuesday morning. The outcome of the special session, however, is likely to be decided in the state Senate, where Republicans hold a 19-to-12 edge. By longstanding Senate tradition, a two-thirds vote is necessary for any bill to be brought to the floor for a vote, meaning Republicans must first win over two Democrats.

Those said to be considering such a vote are Ken Armbrister of Victoria, Frank Madla of San Antonio, and Eddie Lucio Jr. of Brownsville. In return, Republicans are said to be dangling support for medical schools for the border region and El Paso to entice Mr. Madla and Mr. Lucio, and more federal money for Texas to satisfy Mr. Armbrister.

The Republican lieutenant governor, David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate and is considered the most powerful official in the state, has signaled his intention to honor the two-thirds vote requirement, and says he fully expects to obtain the 21 needed votes for redistricting.

But Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst, who has cultivated a reputation for consensus-building, has not flatly rejected the idea of bypassing the two-thirds requirement in favor of a simple majority.

From Washington, at least, Republican partisans say they are confident that Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst, if pressured, will do the right thing for his party if it falls short of 21 votes. "The whole world is watching," said Mr. Norquist. "He can't possibly screw up."



Léa El Editor - Lo Mejor En Noticias

Eating Disorders Among Hispanic Women Up

Melissa Roman's skin was yellow, her nails were chipping off, her hair was falling out. She had migraines and was frequently fainting.

But the 25-year-old Miami woman didn't think anything was wrong.

"I hit rock bottom," Roman said. "I never thought I was sick, and I was completely in denial."

Roman, a recovering anorexic, is among a growing number of Hispanic women who are developing eating disorders which, until recently, had been typically thought of as a white, suburban problem.

Some health officials say eating disorders started affecting an increasing number of Hispanic women as Latin culture began surging in popularity in recent years. The women are feeling pressure to be thin as they strive to mirror stars who appear to be shrinking as their reputations grow, experts say.

"The dominant culture believes that thinness is beauty and gets you success," said Catherine Shisslak, a professor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Roman, who is trying not to be pressured by such beliefs, is learning to love her body. She



posts affirmation notes around her house, sees a nutritionist and a therapist and avoids magazines with unrealistic images of women.

But many Hispanic women seem to be critical of their own bodies.

A study presented at the 2002 International Conference on Eating Disorders in Boston,

shows that women of color have many of the same abnormal eating patterns as white females, said Shisslak, the study's principal investigator.

The study involving 173

Hispanic, black and white teenagers found that in seventh

grade, Hispanic girls were more likely to report the most frequent weight loss attempts

over the previous year. Frequent binge eating in the seventh grade was highest among Hispanic girls, according to the study, which was part of a larger 10-year study involving 2,000 girls.

Hispanic women were once thought to be immune to these disorders because they had better body images and different cultural expectations than white women, Shisslak said. But with the high visibility of Hispanic celebrities like Penelope Cruz and Jennifer Lopez, their cultural expectations are changing, she said.

"The more you see Hispanic role models, whether on TV or in movies or from music, emulating a thin body weight, the more you are going to see young girls trying to achieve that," Shisslak said.

Driving the desire to be thin are peer pressure and low self-esteem — often the top factors in developing eating disorders, which, besides anorexia nervosa, include bulimia and compulsive overeating, according to health officials.

Anorexia is characterized by fear of weight gain, starvation dieting, excessive exercising and below-normal weight. Bulimia manifests itself in epi-

sodes of dieting, bingeing and vomiting.

Shisslak said the university expects to submit another study to the New England Journal of Medicine that looks at 2,000 girls in fourth through 12th grades.

"The thing that is very disturbing is that, regardless of age, we see this pattern of unhealthy weight loss cutting across all ethnicities," Shisslak said.

Lisa Rubin, a doctoral student in clinical psychology at Arizona State University, said she has found similar rates of eating disorders among Hispanic and white adolescents. Recent research reflecting an increase in the prevalence of eating disorders among Hispanic women doesn't necessarily reflect a new trend, she said.

It may not be so much that more Hispanic women are developing eating disorders now, but that researchers and the media have just started focusing on them, Rubin said.

Also, the number of eating disorders among Hispanic women is unclear because many of them don't seek treatment because of the associated stigma, said Jennifer Nardozi,

a psychologist at the Renfrew Center, a national, nonprofit treatment center where Roman received care.

The reasons behind why Hispanic women are contracting these disorders are also disputed.

Rullina Acra, a nutritionist at the center's Miami facility, said she believes the media are causing more Hispanic women to have eating disorders, but the complex disorders go beyond just wanting to look like a celebrity.

"They don't come in saying I want to look like Jennifer Lopez," Acra said. "It is more complex than that."

The center works to teach patients like Roman that personality factors, the environment and families can also contribute to their developing the disorders.

Roman said she knows now that if she is focusing too much on food, something else is bothering her. But knowing what's going on is only half the battle.

"I still think that I am huge," she said Roman, who is 5-foot-7 and wears size 2. "My mind plays so many tricks."

"I know I have a long way to go, but I do have hope."

Prestamos de Rapia Amenazan a Propietarios

Por Maria Polanco

Algunos bancos norteamericanos y prestamistas todavía ganan su dinero ayudando a familias a comprar sus casas. Otros se benefician de préstamos que regularmente les quitan las casas a las familias. En años recientes, tales prestamistas han estado impulsando agresivamente a grandes números de dueños de casa en nuestros vecindarios hacia préstamos de refinanciamiento de alto costo que les despojan de su patrimonio y frecuentemente terminan en una venta judicial.

Si bien algunos funcionarios elegidos han comenzado a reconocer el daño a hogares causado por préstamos de rapiña, la mayor parte de los peores abusos se mantienen completamente legales, y algunos de los mayores prestamistas de hipotecas continúan haciendo préstamos de rapiña.

Es cuestión de preguntarle a Jessie y William Navarro, que han vivido en su casa en Phoenix por 30 años. William trabaja para la diócesis católica local mientras que Jessie recientemente se jubiló. Hace unos pocos años, ellos refinanciaron su hipoteca con Norwest Financiera para poder hacer unas pocas mejoras, como añadir un patio. Pero el préstamo, un préstamo de segundo orden, incluía intereses escandalosamente altos y cargos altísimos que les costaron más de \$7,000 del patrimonio de su hogar.

Cuando Wells Fargo, un banco muy conocido y el más grande prestamista hipotecario del país, compró Norwest, se esperaba que las cosas mejoraran para los Navarro.

Al contrario, se pusieron peor.

Wells Fargo Financiera, un afiliado de Wells Fargo con préstamos de alto costo, repetidamente llamó a los Navarro por teléfono induciéndoles a consolidar otras pequeñas deudas con el préstamo de su casa, lo que hicieron en julio del 2001. El préstamo de Wells Fargo por \$65,000 despojó casi \$10,000 del patrimonio de su hogar entre los costos de préstamo (les cobraron 10% del monto del préstamo, cuando los bancos cobran alrededor del

1%) y una abusiva póliza de seguro.

El préstamo de Wells Fargo llevaba un interés de 13.6 por ciento -- en una época en la que los niveles de interés de primer orden están alrededor del 7 por ciento. El préstamo aumentó sus cuotas mensuales a \$915, forzando que hicieran reducciones en otros gastos; en comparación, un interés de 7 por ciento hubiera resultado en pagos mensuales de \$668, ahorrándoles casi \$250 por mes.

Desgraciadamente, la situación de los Navarro no es única -- nosotros vemos prestatarios como ellos durante los esfuerzos de organización de comunidad de ACORN por todo el país: dueños de casa a los que les ofrecen refinanciamiento en un momento particularmente vulnerable, algunas personas que querían pagar sus tarjetas de crédito y fueron engañadas mientras añadían esas deudas a su hipoteca, y otros que incorrectamente creían que el oficial de préstamos realmente se interesaba ellos.

Los préstamos de alto costo están perjudicando tremendamente nuestros vecindarios, frecuentemente atrapando a dueños de casa en excesivos niveles de interés y altos gastos que no pueden enfrentar. En lugar de ayudar a que las familias desarrollen su riqueza con préstamos de casa de costos moderados, los préstamos de rapiña les agotan la riqueza.

Lo que es peor, los prestamistas como Wells Fargo saben cómo hacer buenas hipotecas con precios razonables. Wells Fargo tiene divisiones de préstamos donde una persona con buen crédito puede adquirir un préstamo de casa con un 5.5

por ciento de interés prácticamente sin cargos. Pero ellos también manejan unidades de segundo orden como Wells Fargo Financiera, donde los préstamos incluyen costos mucho más altos, muchas veces con muy poca relación a los verdaderos riesgos de crédito.

Para los prestatarios, la diferencia entre un préstamo de primer orden y otro de segundo orden es enorme: un préstamo de segundo orden puede fácilmente costar \$200,000 en pagos adicionales durante treinta años.

Fuentes dentro de la industria calculan que hasta la mitad de los millones de dueños de casa con préstamos de segundo orden tenían suficientemente buen crédito para calificar para un préstamo de primer orden, que hubiera reducido cada una de sus cuotas de hipoteca por cientos de dólares.

Más y más el aumento de préstamos de segundo orden se está pareciendo menos a un buen negocio y más a un frenesí tras las ganancias. El número de préstamos de segundo orden que se da mayormente en comunidades latinas ha saltado de menos de 3,500 en 1995 a más de 34,000 en 2001 -- un aumento increíble de 88 por ciento.

Mientras que las comunidades de ingresos más bajos son afectadas mayormente, los latinos con ingresos más altos también pagan un alto precio. En el 2001, de 10 a 15 por ciento de los préstamos de refinanciamiento hechos a prestatarios latinos de ingresos medianos y altos fueron de segundo orden, comparados con solamente el 5 a 7 por ciento de los blancos con ingresos similares.

Como respuesta, por todo el país los propietarios de casas con préstamos de Wells Fargo de alto costo y otros prestamistas están reaccionando y luchando. Muchos de ellos están obteniendo ayuda para refinar sus préstamos con niveles de interés más razonables, ahorrando cientos de dólares cada mes. Otros están llamando

a Wells Fargo para que reformen la manera en que hacen sus negocios y corrijan los problemas con préstamos que ya han sido hechos.

Solamente cuando los dueños de casa que han sufrido daños se manifiestan y se unan podremos detener a los prestamistas abusadores que están mal-

tratando a nuestros vecindarios.

Si Ud. cree que ha recibido un préstamo de rapiña, o para participar en la lucha contra préstamos de rapiña, póngase en contacto con ACORN gratis al 1-877-55-ACORN.

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Foundation to host "Meet the Hispanic Press"

Washington D.C.-On Wednesday, July 9th, the National Hispanic Press Foundation will launch a "Meet the Hispanic Press" program and dinner, with Congressman George Miller (D-CA).

Congressman Miller is the ranking Democrat on the House Education and Workforce Committee and will speak about the state of education in the United States. Foundation Chairman Eddie Escobedo states "we are determined to have Hispanic voices heard on the issue of education for our children. Congressman Miller's participation is an honor and an opportunity for all of us to learn more about our public policies."

The "Meet the Hispanic Press" program is designed to highlight key civic leaders and issues of concern to Hispanic Americans. Following the speaker's remarks a knowledgeable panel of writers and publishers drawn from the ranks of Hispanic owned media, will field a series of questions for the speaker. The program is sponsored by Univision and the Verizon Foundation.

The event will take place in conjunction with the 5th Annual Media Summit of the Na-

tional Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP) from July 9-11, 2003.

About the National Hispanic Press Foundation

The National Hispanic Press Foundation is the 501-c-3 educational sister organization of NAHP and its Hispanic publishers. Its mission is to build communities through excellence in publishing. The

Foundation's programs include an annual publication of the nation's largest and most comprehensive Hispanic scholarship directory, a national circulation audit campaign to enhance the viability of Hispanic publications, media research, scholarships, voter registration and educational programs, among others.

Letter to the Editor

I read your remarks in the Comentario section, which I look forward to weekly. You mentioned that Fiestas del Llano is not observing "el 16". This is not the case originally we had decided to increase the number of days of our festival, however, due to such a tough economy many of our corporate sponsors our cutting out extracurricular dollars. And unfortunately, the first activities to go are sponsorships of the "ethnic organizational events".

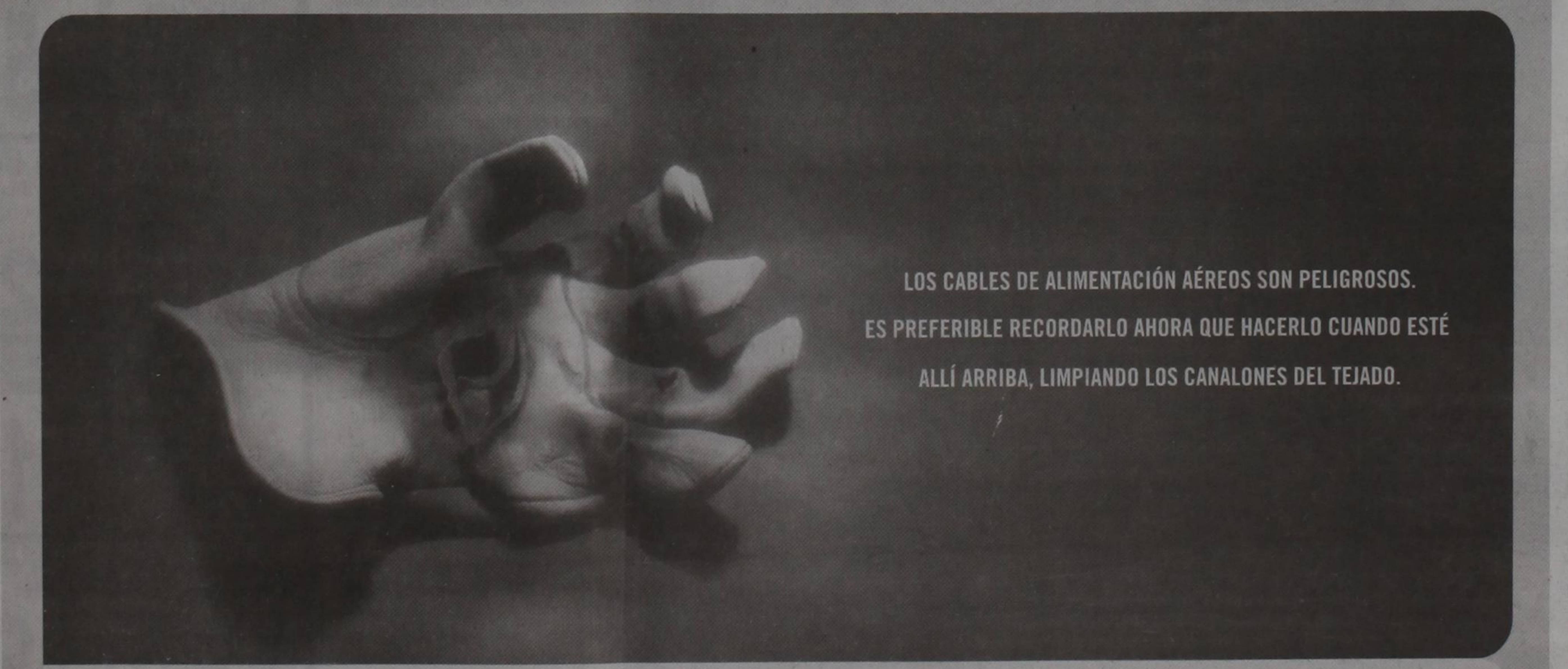
Regardless of the fact we are still working tenaciously to provide a festival, a "Grito de Dolores", and we are working with other groups to have an observance on "el 16". As you know this event has been in existence for over 50 years, and we will persevere regardless of the lack of financial support.

Last year you commented that Fiestas del Llano should spearhead organizing Hispanic Heritage Month. On your advice we are working to do just that. Plans are now being made to organize a variety of activities and work with all Hispanic organizations, including schools so that collectively we can provide a month of events and activities showcasing the Hispanic Heritage. As you well know, this is long overdue, and Fiestas del Llano is committed to providing year round programs recognizing the legacy of Hispanics, and showcasing the contributions we make every day. One event that I think you will be interested in is "Día de la Pisca", otherwise known as "Cotton Picking Day". Many people are unfamiliar with the experience of going to hoe cotton, especially youth. AS such we are working on a project that will allow an opportunity to hear stories and go out to the fields and get a feel of the work first hand.

On that note, with the new Hispanic Cultural Center, a dream that you and a few others inspired, we are working to observe many other Hispanic holidays and celebrations so that our children and the community at large can embrace.

As such I appreciate the opportunity to display all of the pride that the Fiestas board and volunteers want to share. As you know we are all volunteers and want to do as much as we can. If only we could get more corporations to take note of our efforts of being a part of the solution, as well as recognize how much of our hard earned dollars channel into this community daily.

Thank you for your inspiration. Sincerely, Christy Martínez, Board Chair



LOS CABLES DE ALIMENTACIÓN AÉREOS SON PELIGROSOS.

ES PREFERIBLE RECORDARLO AHORA QUE HACERLO CUANDO ESTÉ

ALLÍ ARRIBA, LIMPIANDO LOS CANALONES DEL TEJADO.

El mayor peligro de los cables de alimentación aéreos radica el creer que no le pueden lastimar. Pero las tareas simples, como limpiar canalones, pintar su casa o instalar luces para las fiestas, pueden causarles lesiones graves o hasta fatales cuando hay cables de alimentación cerca. Para prevenir accidentes, aléjese y mantenga escaleras, cañerías de irrigación y cualquier objeto que esté sujetando a más de 3 metros (10 pies) de distancia. Enseñe a los niños el peligro de la electricidad. En caso de una emergencia con electricidad, por favor llame al 1-800-895-1999. En Xcel Energy, cuidamos su seguridad. Manténgase alejado. Manténgase vivo.



De la pagina 2

economías débiles e infraestructura educativa que históricamente ha hecho caso omiso del sector más pobre de estas sociedades, los países todavía no están en condiciones de ayudar a las mismísimas personas que arriesgan sus vidas por tomar nuestras trabajos más serviles. Lo cual nos deja con dos opciones.

Crear un programa "Home Bound" (quedarse en casa) que abarque un agenda que ayude a los inmigrantes indocumentados a desarrollar sus comunidades natales, o podemos no hacer nada y ver que engorde cada vez más nuestro esfinge.

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Woods Says He Knows a Player Using 'hot' driver

Don't tell Tiger Woods there aren't players on tour using "hot" drivers. He knows better.

The PGA Tour's decision to start testing for illegal equipment is a good first step, Woods said Wednesday. But he wishes more could be done.

"The PGA Tour has taken a step in the right direction and I'm happy about that," Woods said Wednesday after playing a pro-am at the Western Open. "It's just a matter of making sure that the game is preserved, it's policed."

"It's the greatest game in the world, and I want to see it stay that way."

Tour commissioner Tim Finchem announced Tuesday that beginning in January, a portable device will be available at all tour stops so players can measure the springlike effect of their drivers, letting them know for sure if they're "hot" or not.

Thanks to technological advances, golf has seen monstrous leaps in distance in recent years. But some golfers -- Woods included -- are worried that technology is crossing the legal line.

At issue is a physics term called the "coefficient of restitution" (COR), which measures how quickly a golf ball springs off the face of a club at impact. When the face is ultra thin, it allows for more of a trampoline effect.

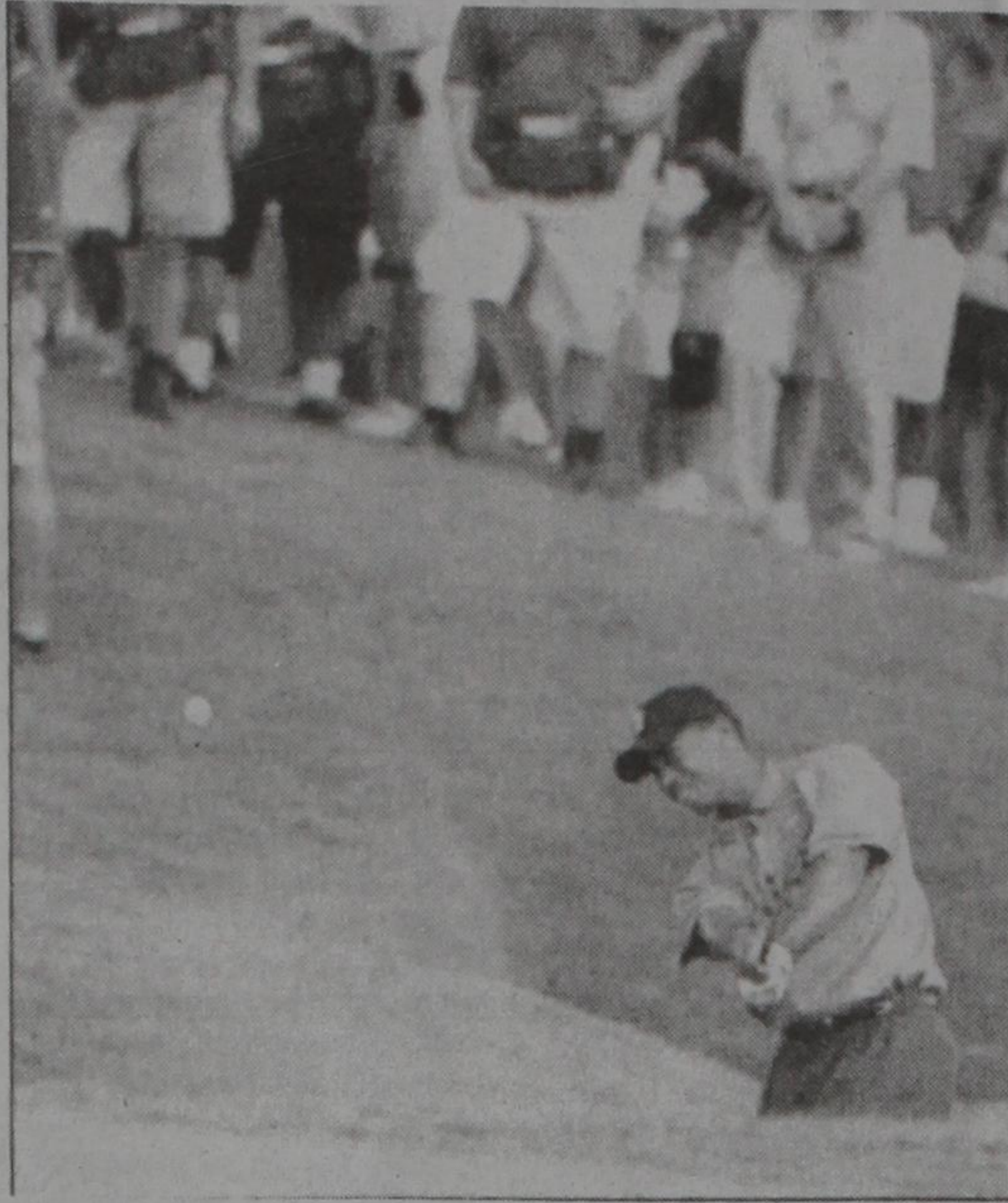
Golf's ruling bodies last year set the limit at 0.83 for professional tours.

"You'll see a difference in how the ball flies," Woods said of non-conforming drivers. "And you'll see the difference in how the guy is able to shape the golf ball. You can tell in the first 100 yards how the ball is taking off and how it's flying."

Tiger Woods says he has confronted the player about using an illegal club.

But right now, the only way to tell for certain if a driver is "hot" is to send the club to the USGA Research and Test Center, where it's taken apart and analyzed. The new portable test uses a pendulum and a small weight, so players could conveniently check their drivers on the range if they wanted.

"I don't think any player



would willingly use an illegal club, I honestly don't," U.S. Open champion Jim Furyk said. "But if they are and that gets found out, their career is done, it's over, from a respect issue. I don't think players would do that. Maybe that's the case, I don't know."

Woods said he does know. The No. 1 player in the world has been the most vocal on the question of "hot" drivers, saying he thought there were illegal clubs on the tour. On Wednesday, he went a step further, saying he personally knows one player who uses an illegal club.

"Just watching his ball come off the face, you can just tell," Woods said.

Woods hasn't reported the player, but he has talked to him about it.

"(He said) he's just playing golf. He's playing the equipment that the manufacturer has given him," Woods said.

Therein lies part of the problem with voluntary testing.

"Say you hand me a driver and I hit it 20 yards further," Woods said. "Hey, I'm happy I hit it 20 yards further. I'm not going to ask you why I'm hitting it 20 yards further, because it worked for me."

"I know they're trying to pro-

tect the integrity of the game by not forcing us to have to do it, which I completely understand. But I wish they could do a little more."

Furyk isn't sure how big a problem "hot" drivers are. But if the tour is going to offer a test, it may as well be mandatory.

"I think it's a pretty easy situation," Furyk said. "If people think there's a problem then let's test. Get it out of the way and we won't have to answer these questions a year from now."

**BE SMART
don't pop
fireworks
in city!
Have a Happy &
Safe
4th of July
God Bless America!**

Friend said missing player feared threats to him, teammate

Carlton Dotson turned to friend Patrick Dennehy several weeks ago after he lost his basketball scholarship to Baylor, his brief marriage fell apart and he needed a place to live, family members said.

"They were friendly teammates and recently had become closer as friends," Dennehy's girlfriend, Jessica De La Rosa, said Wednesday.

That's what makes the news of the past few days so inconceivable to those who knew the young men.

Dennehy, 21, was reported missing by his family June 19. His car was found last week in a mall parking lot in Virginia Beach, Va., where he had no apparent connections.

Police classify Dotson, believed to be 21, as "a person of interest" in Dennehy's disappearance.

According to court documents, an unnamed informant in Delaware told police that Dotson told a relative he shot Dennehy in the head after the two argued while shooting guns on a farm outside Waco.

No body has been found and no one has been arrested.

De La Rosa, of Albuquerque, N.M., said to her knowledge the two friends had not had a falling out. She last talked to Dennehy on June 11, and she called Dotson a few days later when she hadn't heard from Dennehy to see if Dotson knew his whereabouts.

"It's very confusing. I'm just going to try to not speculate anymore. I'm going to try to be patient and let these detectives and investigators do their work," she said. "I could drive myself crazy with everything that's flying around."

Authorities said Wednesday they were investigating hundreds of leads received over the past few days.

"Somebody out there knows what happened to him or they know where he is," Waco police spokesman Steve Anderson said. "We're hoping that person or persons will call in and give us that good tip."

Anderson said police still don't know how Dennehy's 1996 Chevrolet Tahoe ended up in Virginia with its license plate missing.

A friend, Daniel Okopnyi, said Dennehy was worried about threats to Dotson by two of their teammates. He said when he last talked to Dennehy on June 14, he "sounded ex-

tremely paranoid." He said the pair had armed themselves for protection.

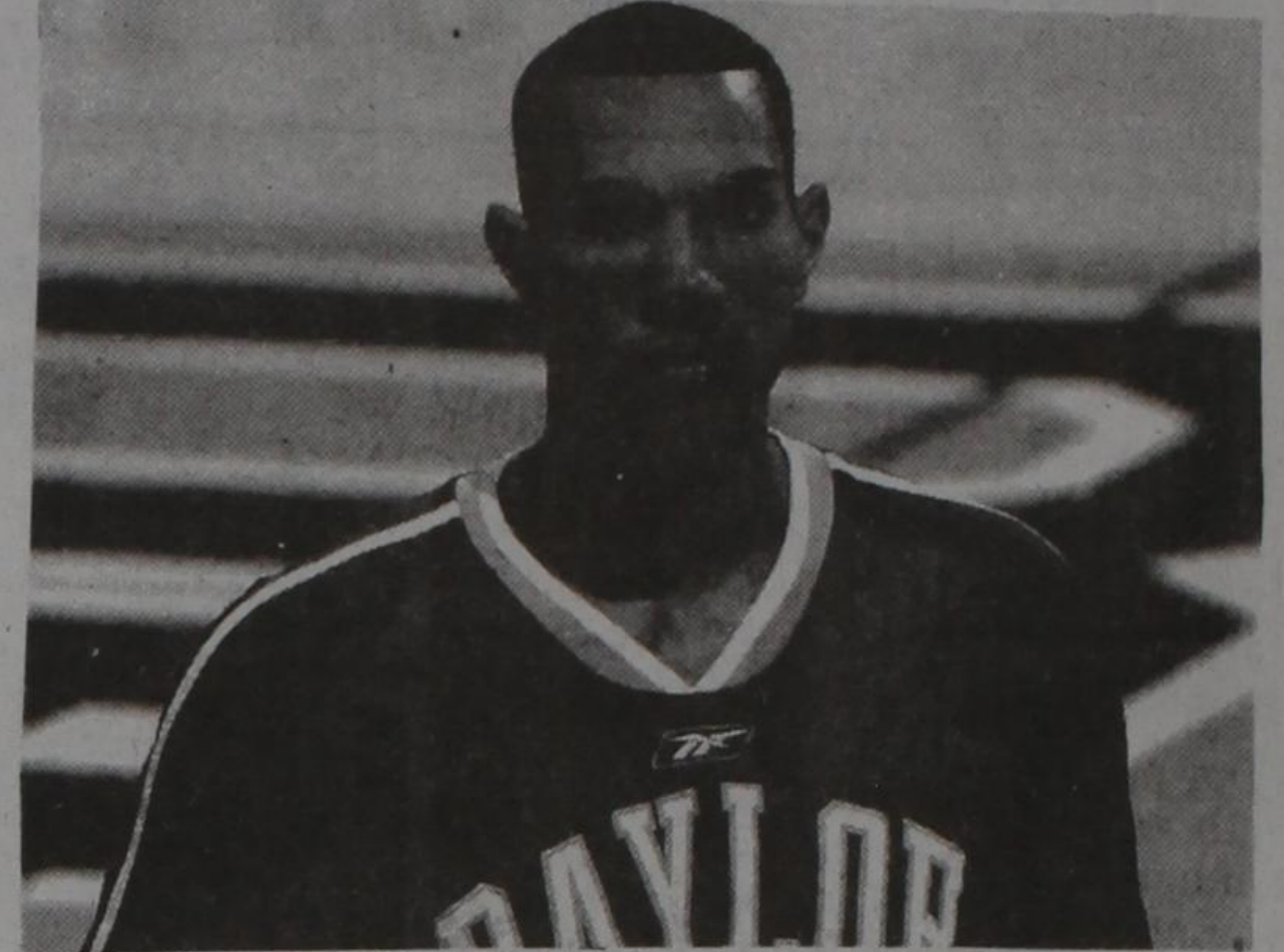
Patrick Dennehy's mother and stepfather reported him missing June 19.

Worried, Okopnyi said he urged Dennehy to stay with him in Fort Worth but he refused, saying he had to protect Dotson. "He said, 'I've got Dotty's back,'" Okopnyi told ABC's Good Morning America on Wednesday.

nehy never reported to his staff "anything about safety concerns or personal threats."

Kethley, 21, told the Waco Tribune-Herald on Wednesday that she last spoke with Dotson on Tuesday, and he told her he had nothing to do with Dennehy's disappearance.

"They were friends. I don't see any reason why he would kill him," Kethley said from the Sulphur Springs home of



Dennehy then changed his mind, saying June 14 he would come to Fort Worth and bring Dotson, Okopnyi said. He said Dotson had a shotgun for protection, but the two were "trying to trade it in for two handguns," he said.

That was the last contact anyone has publicly reported having with Dennehy.

According to school records, Dotson and Dennehy arrived in Waco last summer on basketball scholarships. Dotson married his longtime girlfriend, Melissa Kethley, and the two moved into an apartment near campus.

By the time the basketball season came to a close, Dotson's playing time had steadily decreased, and he and Baylor coach Dave Bliss agreed that Dotson should play elsewhere and his scholarship was dropped.

About the same time, Dotson's wife sought a divorce after eight months of marriage.

On Wednesday, Bliss released a statement saying Den-

her parents. "They were together every single day. They lived together."

Chris Waters, a cousin, said Dotson is in his hometown of Hurlock, Md., and hasn't been contacted by investigators since last week.

He said the media attention, not questions from police, caused the family to hire Grady Irvin Jr., a Florida attorney who represents athletes.

"I know how I would feel, looking at all this around," Waters said, gesturing toward the throng of reporters camped outside the family's modest frame home in the small coastal town. "I would get a lawyer. Wouldn't you?"

Irvin said the Dotson family called him Monday and he flew to Baltimore to meet with them. He wouldn't discuss what Dotson told him.

"This is a difficult time for the Dennehy family, the Dotson family and everyone who cares for Patrick and Carlton," Irvin said.

Have a Happy & Safe 4th of July - 2003

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"Tallboys" Keystone Light Busch Reg or Light Bud Dry Natural Light or Ice Milwaukee's Best 14 ⁹⁵ Reg or Light 24-16oz. cans	"30-Pack" Coors 18 ⁴⁵ Reg or Light Bud Reg or Light Miller Lite MGD 30-12oz. cans	"18-Pack" Keystone Light Schaefer Reg or Light Natural Light or Ice Milwaukee's Best Reg or Light Busch Reg or Light 10 ⁹⁵
Bacardi Rum Light or Dark 20 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Chivas Regal Scotch Whiskey 57 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Lord Calvert Canadian Whiskey 15 ⁴⁵ 1.75L 80°
Seagram's Gin 18 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Jim Beam "Black" Bourbon-Whiskey 25 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Skyy Vodka 23 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°
Highland Mist Scotch Whiskey 14 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	James Foxe Canadian Whiskey 11 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Kentucky Tavern Bourbon Whiskey 13 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°
McCormick Vodka 8 ⁹⁵ 1.75L 80°	Inglonook Wines 8 ⁹⁵ 4.0L Btl All Types	Cuervo Gold Tequila 17 ⁹⁵ 750ml 80°
Sutterhome Chardonnay Cabernet, Merlot 9 ⁹⁵ White Zinfand 6 ⁹⁵ 1.5L	Bolla "Italian" 11 ⁹⁵ 1.5L All Types	Yellowtail Australian Wines 7 ⁹⁵ 750ml

Head Start Program advocates house bill does not adequately provide for Texas's Hispanic Children

House to Vote After 4th on Bill That Fails to Aid 88 Percent of Unserved Latino Children, Key House Members in Texas Cong. Delegation Can. Ensure Adequate Funding.

Hispanic children in Texas would be seriously short-changed under a controversial bill that will be voted on in the U.S. House of Representatives shortly after July 4th, according to a warning that will be issued by Texas and regional Head Start advocates on July 2, 2003, during a live, two-way telephone-based news event (including full Q&A).

Fortunately, the members of Texas's Congressional delegation are in key positions of influence to ensure that the necessary funding is provided to extend Head Start services to the estimated 1,339,000 Latino children who are currently eligible, but remain unserved today. A total of 47,288 children in the Texas Head Start system are Hispanic, however it is estimated that 88 percent of the eligible 389,329 Hispanic children in the state are not in the federal early childhood education program for at-risk children.

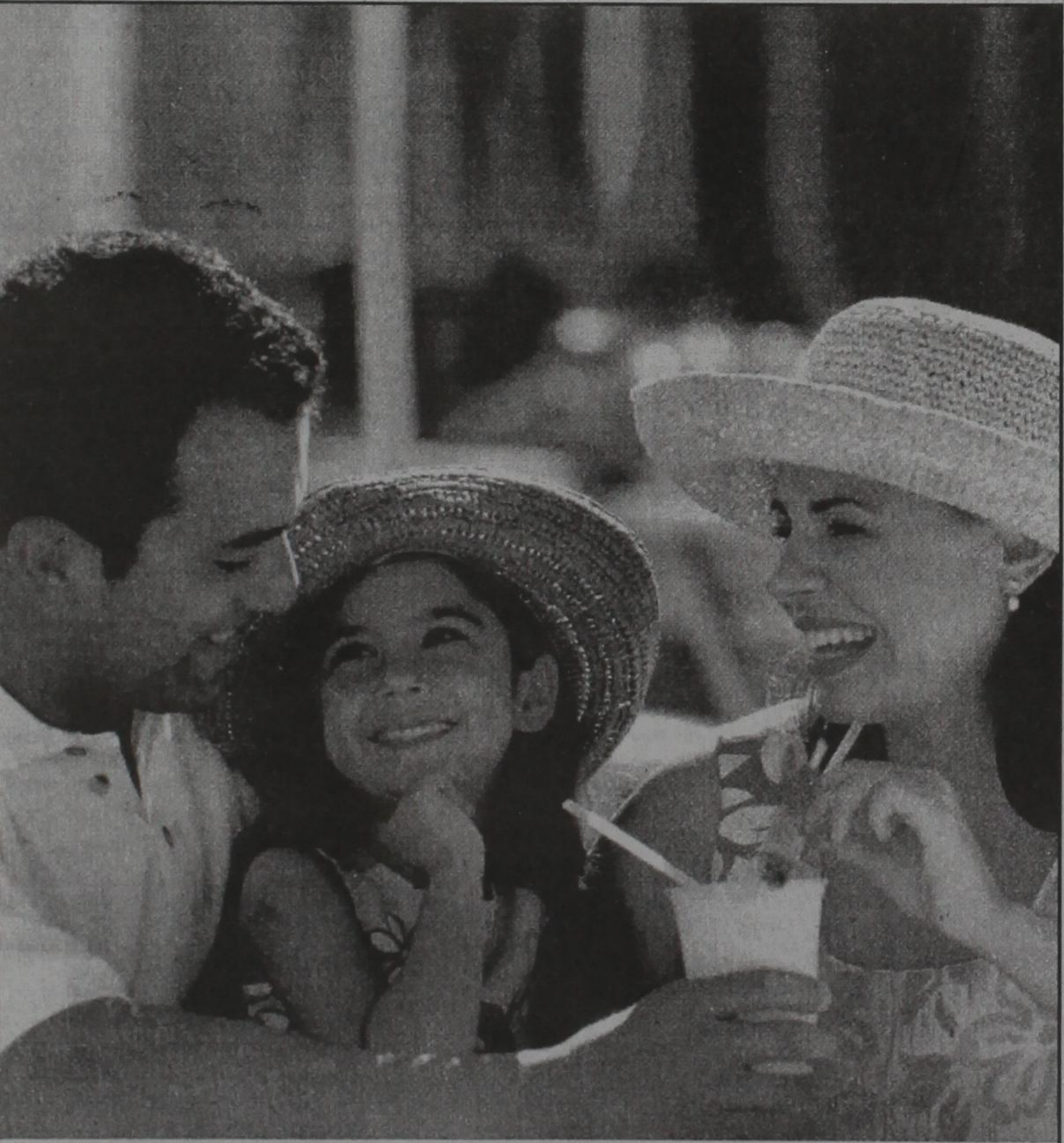
News event speakers will be:
* Lusila Ortega, a Head Start assistant director in San Benito, TX;

* Manda Lopez, Executive Director of the National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Association;

* Lucia Palacios, Executive Director of the USC School for Early Childhood Education in Los Angeles; and

* Allison McKinnon, a Head Start teacher in Phoenix, AZ.

Arrangements also can be made for reporters to speak with Head Start educators and parent/volunteers in other parts of Texas.



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Un Terminator más humano que antes

"Es muy bueno estar otra vez aquí", dice Arnold Schwarzenegger con la cordialidad que lo caracteriza. "Espero que el público disfrute nuestra película de la misma forma que nosotros disfrutamos haciéndola. Creo que nadie va a quedar defraudado después de verla".

Expresadas con el acento que todo mundo reconoce, las palabras de Arnold Schwarzenegger reflejan la confianza que él tiene de volver a recuperar el primer sitio entre los artistas más populares del cine contemporáneo. La mayor parte de sus expectativas está puesta en el tercer y último

capítulo de la trilogía Terminator. "No pienso que habrá necesidad de filmar una cuarta película de esta serie", explica tranquilamente Schwarzenegger. "El ciclo de tiempo que tenía Terminator dentro del cine se ha cumplido a la perfección. Sería necio de mi parte no entenderlo así. Estoy pasando por la etapa más importante de mi carrera y entiendo muy bien que T3 tendrá un efecto muy benéfico en todo lo que haré a partir de ahora".

La noche anterior a la entrevista que tuvo con La Opinión, Schwarzenegger comprobó durante la proyección de Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines que su magnífico personaje sigue provocando entre el público la misma admiración y entusiasmo de hace 20 años.

"Fue muy agradable confirmar que [el personaje] Terminator no ha pasado de moda", dice Schwarzenegger. "Esa era una de las preocupaciones más grandes que tenían los productores de T3. Aunque estaban muy comprometidos con la realización de este filme, más de una vez se reunieron conmigo para preguntarme si estaba seguro de que Terminator seguía teniendo la misma vigencia de antes".

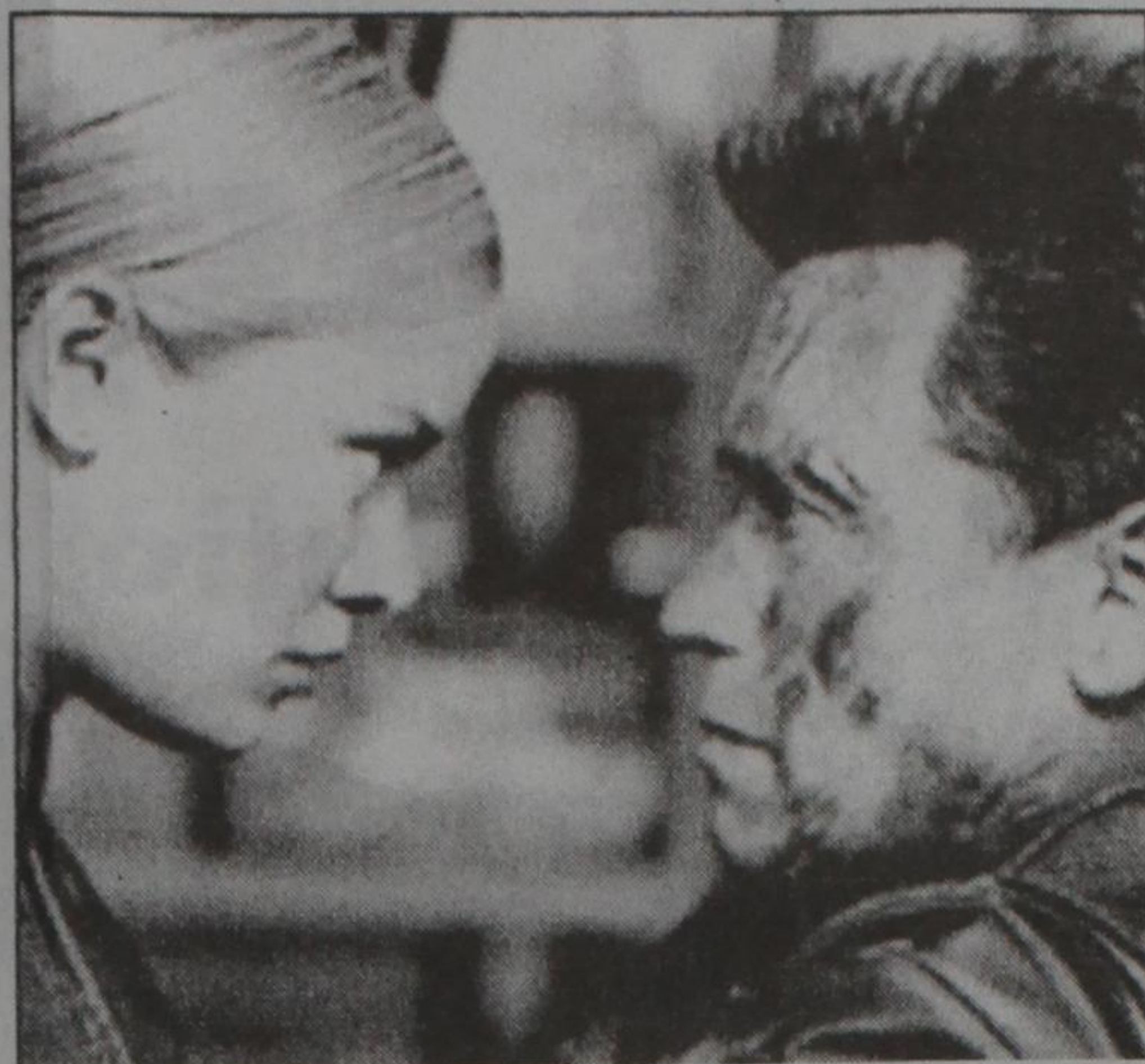
"Yo siempre les dije que sí, porque hay una nueva generación de espectadores a los que les interesa ver en la pantalla grande a alguien como él. Se trata de chicos que conocen a Terminator solamente por la televisión, los videos y los DVD, que nunca tuvieron la experiencia de mirar The Terminator y T2: Judgment Day en un teatro de verdad".

Alejado por más de siete años de toda actividad relacionada con las películas que cimentaron su fama como estrella de cine en nuestro planeta, Arnold Schwarzenegger nunca perdió la esperanza de filmar "algún día" la cinta que hoy se estrena en todo el país.

"No hubiera podido esperar más tiempo", explica con actitud pensativa Schwarzenegger.

"Yo siempre he sido una persona muy realista. Por eso mismo entiendo que no voy a ser joven eternamente. La única posibilidad que yo tenía de participar en T3 era si ésta se filmaba ahora. Creo que Mario F. Cassar y Andrew G. Vajna sabían muy bien eso, fue por ello que decidieron poner todos sus recursos financieros y experiencia como productores para lograr que nuestra película pudiera filmarse entre 2001 y 2003".

Uno de los principales dilemas que tuvieron Schwar-



James Cameron estaba fuera de nuestro alcance", añade Schwarzenegger. "Durante varias semanas, mientras revisábamos la lista de cineastas que podían ser adecuados para dirigir T3, llegué a pensar que a lo mejor no podríamos resolver ese problema. Todo cambió después de ver dos filmes dirigidos por Jonathan Mostow [Breakdown y U-571], sobre los que me llamó la atención Gayle Anne-Hurd [otro de los productores que tuvo T3]".

"Gracias a las imágenes de esas películas pude darme cuenta que nuestra búsqueda finalmente había terminado. Durante la primera reunión que tuvimos con él, Jonathan dijo que estaba muy entusiasmado por la oportunidad que le estábamos ofreciendo. El siempre fue un gran admirador de algunas de mis películas y recordaba claramente el día que vio por primera vez The Terminator. Todo esto influyó para que se diera una interesante relación creativa entre nosotros dos".

Absolutamente convencido de tener una sincronía mental y psicológica con el robot que ha interpretado en tres ocasiones, Arnold Schwarzenegger comprende qué tan importante es el papel que juegan el sentido del humor y la ironía en cada uno de los diálogos y comentarios que él sostiene, en diferentes momentos y circunstancias, a lo largo del tiempo que dura T3.

"Me gusta la actitud con la que se conduce Terminator", afirma Schwarzenegger. "Pienso que el público se identifica más con esa parte de él que con la violencia por la que siempre debe estar pasando".

"En T3 Jonathan Mostow quiso poner más énfasis en la actitud de Terminator que en los poderes cibernéticos de los que está dotado. En cierto sentido, puede decirse que entre el Terminator de esta cinta y los otros dos que el público vio en los anteriores filmes hay una diferencia muy grande: éste es, sencillamente, un robot que entiende mejor todo lo que sucede en el corazón de los seres humanos".

zenegger y sus socios fue el de encontrar al director que fuera capaz de llevar a cabo un proyecto tan grande y complejo como el de Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines. Al principio pensaban que tal vez, con un poco de suerte, podrían con-

vencer a James Cameron de que volviera a trabajar con ellos; pero éste dijo que no amablemente, argumentando que se encontraba desarrollando algunos proyectos muy personales e interesantes.

"Fue algo frustrante saber que

FCC Resumes Clock on Univision, Hispanic Deal

U.S. communications regulators have restarted a formal review of Univision Communications Inc.'s \$2.95 billion plan to acquire Hispanic Broadcasting Corp. though a final decision is likely a couple more weeks away.

The Federal Communications Commission restarted its 180-day clock on Tuesday and while the agency is on Day 178 of the review, sources familiar with the matter said on Wednesday the expected approval is not imminent.

"Although the commission seeks to meet the 180-day benchmark, its statutory obligation to determine whether an assignment or transfer serves the public interest takes precedence over the informal timeline," Kenneth Ferree, head of the FCC media bureau, said in a letter released on Wednesday.

The agency stopped the clock in January pending a review of documents submitted to anti-trust enforcers and consultations with them.

The U.S. Justice Department (news - web sites)'s antitrust division cleared the deal in March after Univision agreed to cut its stake in Entravision Communications Corp.

The FCC's review of the transaction has been delayed in part by the agency staff's work on new rules relaxing media ownership limits. Those rules were narrowly approved June 2.

Network and cable TV broadcaster Univision, based in Los Angeles, reaches 97 percent of the Hispanic population in the United States with its soap operas, variety shows and sports programs.

Hispanic Broadcasting, based in Dallas, owns and operates 63 radio stations in 15 of the top 20 Hispanic markets in the United States.

Univision's stock rose \$1.31, or 4.3 percent, to \$32, while Hispanic Broadcasting's shares advanced \$1.13, or 4.4 percent, to \$26.85 on the New York Stock Exchange



SúperOnda Magazine: Chooses Young Hispanics as CoverModels

Hispanic Business Inc., publisher of SúperOnda® magazine, today announced the winners of its first-ever SúperOnda SuperModel Search(TM), the ultimate summer experience! Anthony Aguirre of San Diego State University and Vanessa Flores of the University of Southern California were chosen by their peers and a panel of judges to move on to the next phase - an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City.

Getting to this phase of the contest was no easy feat. Anthony and Vanessa faced some serious competition in Baja, where sixteen contestants participated in a three-phase event. Contestants squared off in round one with a swimsuit competition and "the couples' clothes swap." The number was then cut down to five men and five women, who then went on to compete in the final dance competition. With the audience's help, the judges crowned Anthony and Vanessa the winners! Photos of the Baja event can be found online at http://www.superonda.com/features/supermodel_contest/update.s.asp

On July 7, the two SúperOnda SuperModels will travel first-class to New York City for their SúperOnda NYC Experience. This four-day whirlwind tour will include a complete make-over, a back-to-school wardrobe, and a fashion shoot with professional fashion photographer Frederico Mastroanni. The two models will stay at the W Hotel, dine at trendy eateries, and dance at the hottest clubs. To view their whirlwind adventure agenda and follow them as they travel, log on to http://www.superonda.com/features/supermodel_contest/nyc.asp

The three-month-long SúperOnda SuperModel Search(TM) will culminate with the cover shot for SúperOnda magazine's September issue, which will also feature a profile of the SúperOnda SuperModels and an article on their unique summer adventure.

About the Winners: Vanessa Flores, 20, currently attends USC and is majoring in public relations with a minor in business. She is a member of Nuestra Alma Latina and has served on the executive board as public relations officer. In her spare time, Vanessa loves to dance and do crafts and has been a mentor at the Hope Street Youth Center for almost four years.

"I never imagined my weekend in Rosarito would amount to everything that it has. I thought the competition was enough of a reward on its own, and I was overjoyed to have my friends there cheering for me," says Vanessa. "I was very surprised and thrilled to have won and am looking forward to New York and all the exciting events that SúperOnda has planned for me."

Anthony Aguirre, 20, is a

junior at SDSU and a member of Gamma Zeta Alpha Fraternity, where he's held the positions of Social Chair and Rush and has also served on the executive board as historian. Anthony is majoring in public administration and urban planning and expects to graduate in 2005.

"When I entered the contest online in June, it was mostly at the urging of friends," Anthony says. "Advancing to the finals in Rosarito and actually taking the prize home was a total shocker! I'm super-excited about going to New York because it's not every day you get to be treated like a superstar!"

For the latest information on the SúperOnda SuperModel search and to follow Anthony and Vanessa's NYC adventure, log on to <http://www.superonda.com>

About Hispanic Business Inc. Now in its 24th year, Hispanic Business Inc., based in Santa Barbara, California, is an award-winning publishing and information services company. Hispanic Business magazine, the nation's leading source of information for and about Hispanic professionals and entrepreneurs, is the company's flagship publication.

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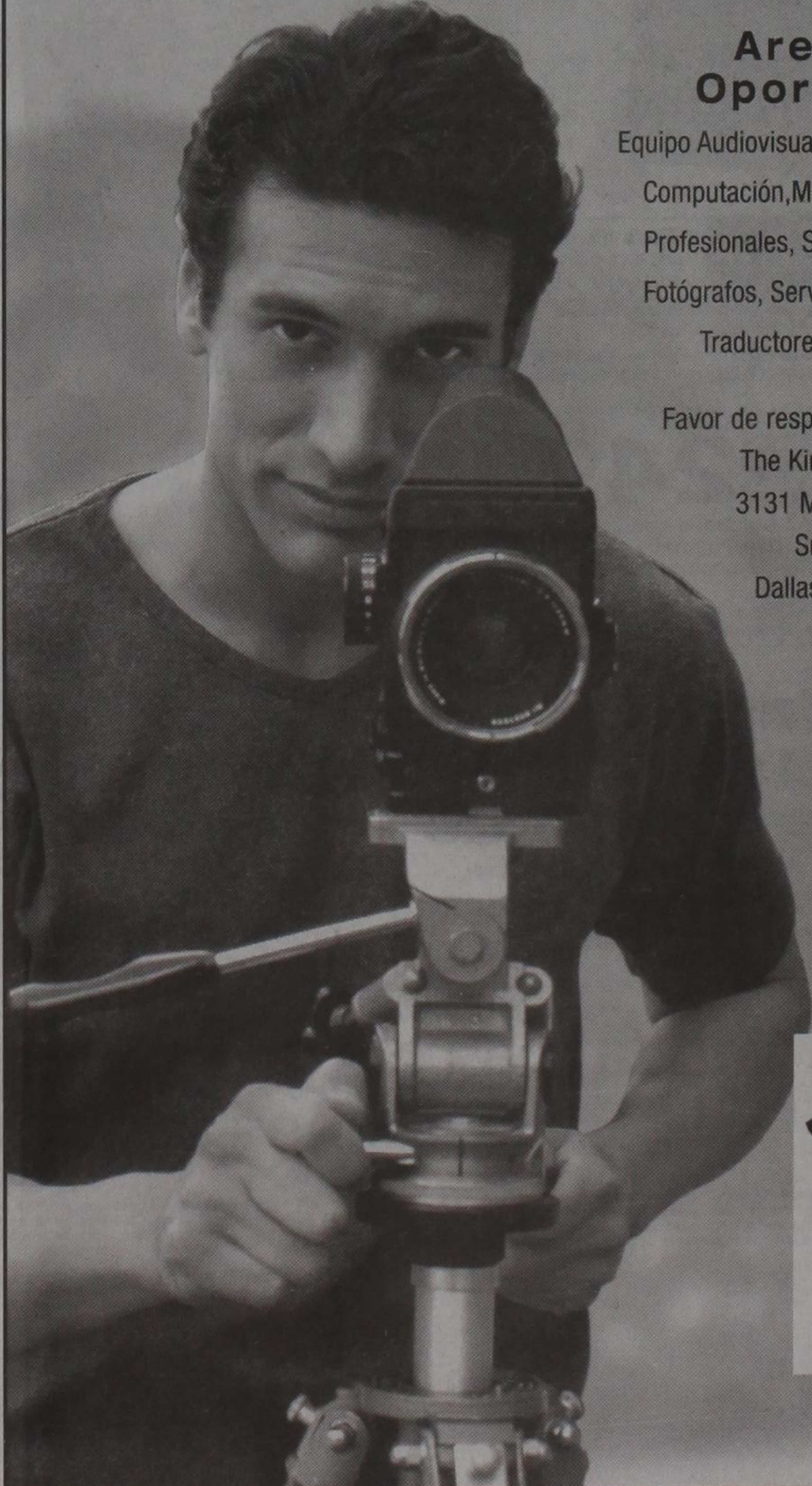
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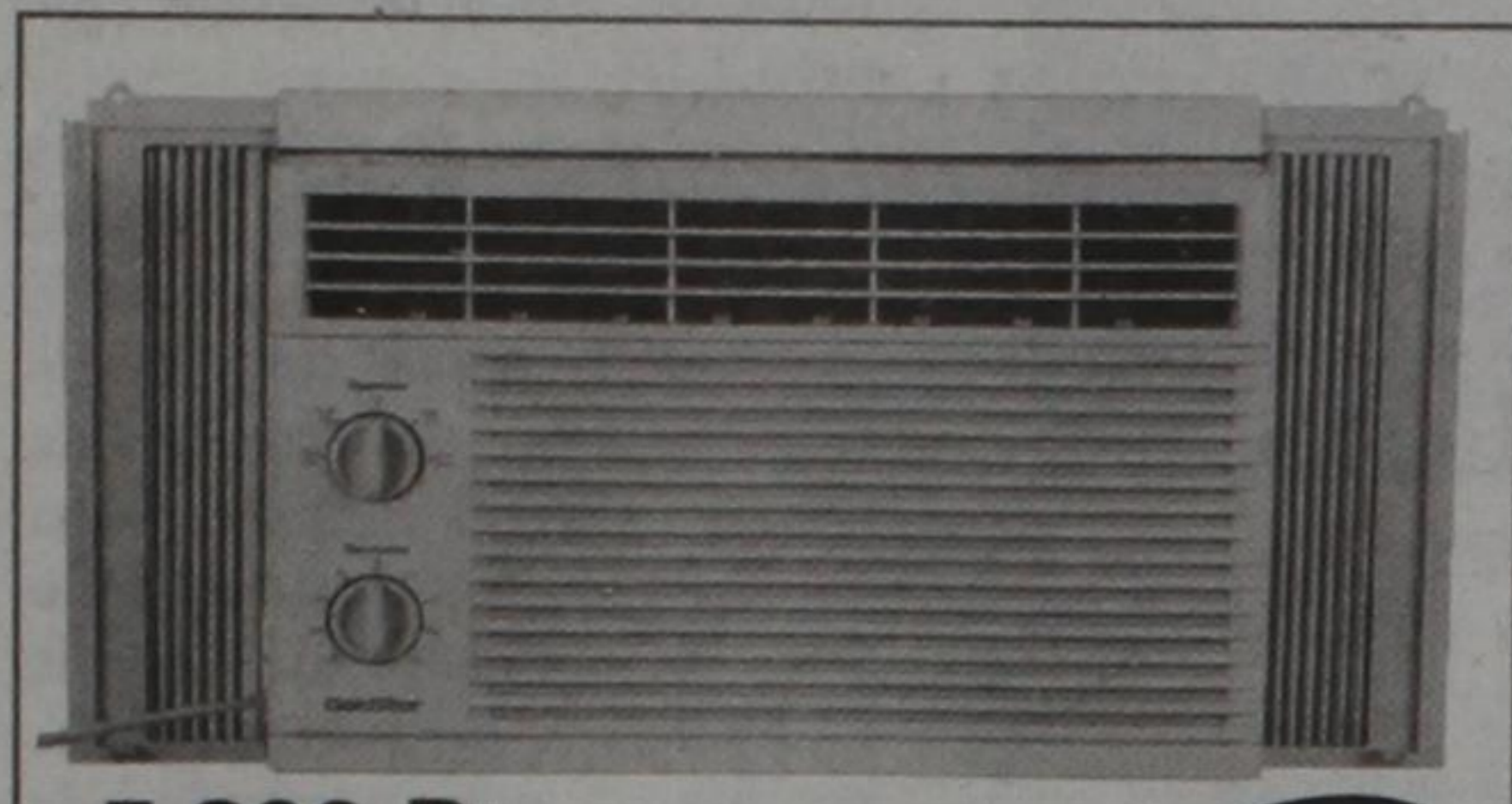
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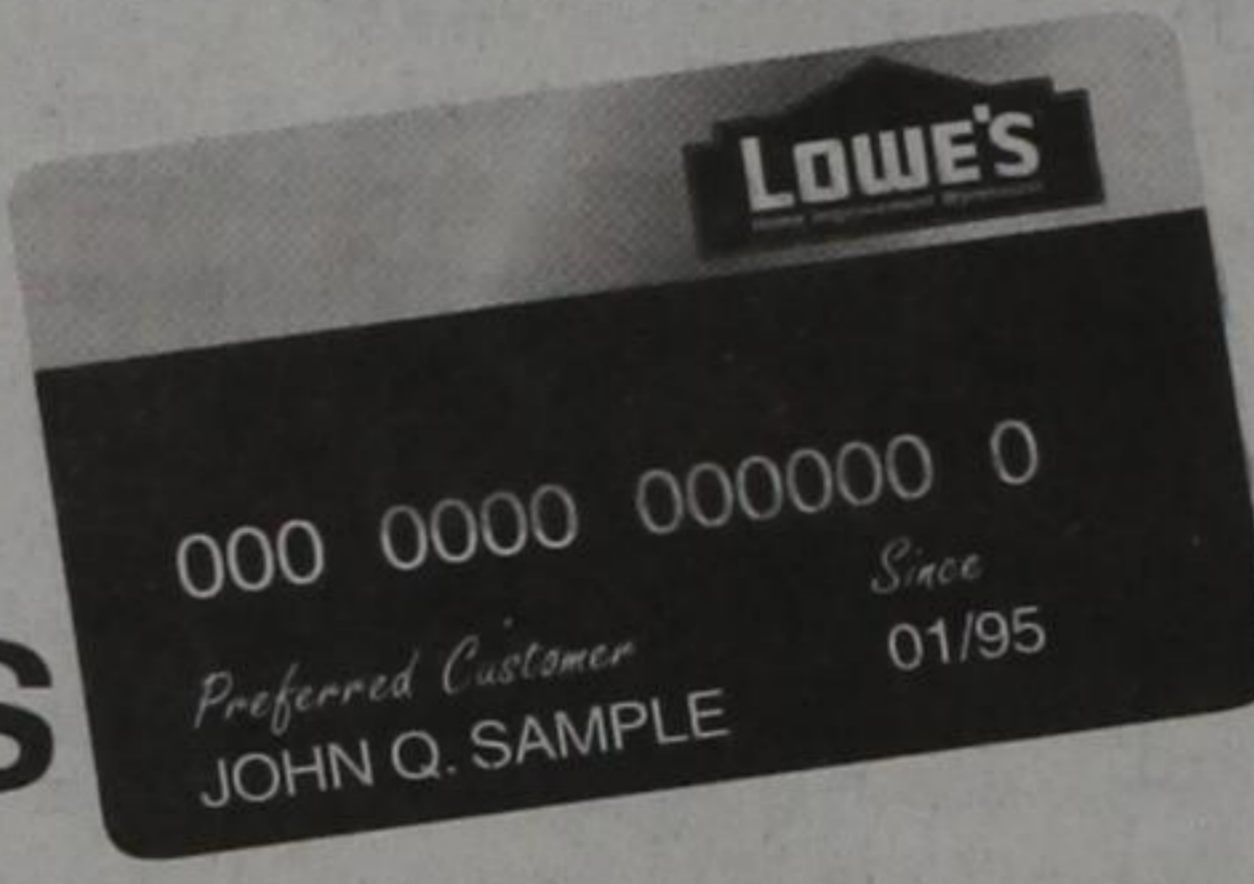
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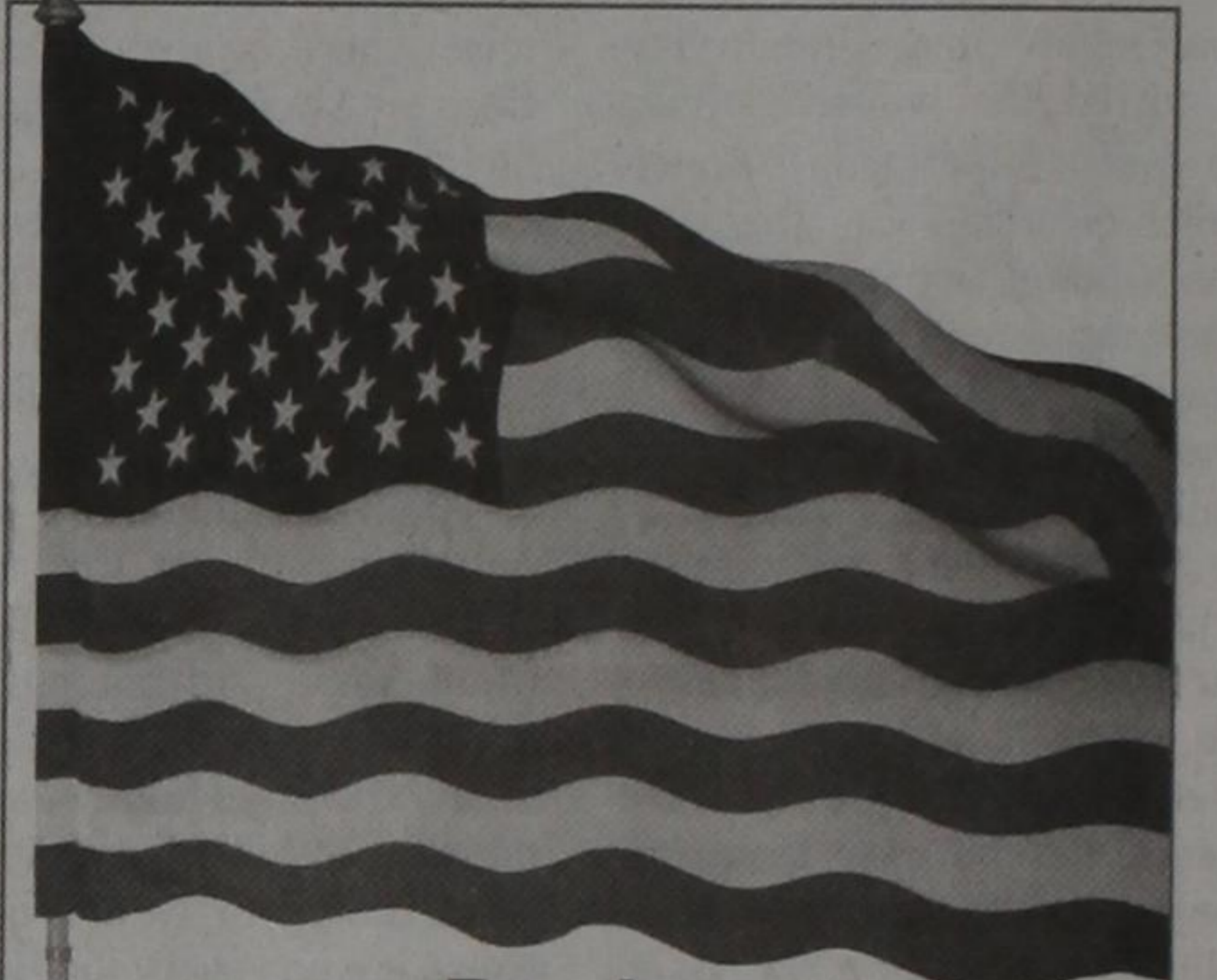
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