

# Special Nominees Wait Up To Four

## Years For Senate Confirmation

By Marisa J. Demeo

It's too bad that the recent mainstream media hype about how "trendy" the Latino culture is doesn't cover what is vitally important to its people. Like how we've been kept always playing the role of criminal defendant, but rarely the judge.

Simply put, Latino judges haven't fared well in selection processes for high-ranking federal judicial positions. There are currently fewer than 40 Latino federal judges out of a total 843 federal bench seats (4.5 percent). The scarcity of Latino representation, and that of non-whites in general, is striking -- as are the rates and waiting times they face for judicial confirmation.

Federal courts have an incredible impact on our community. The courts interpret all federal laws, including immigration and civil rights laws to determine, for example, whether a Latino plaintiff has a right to stay in this country or whether he or she is being deported unfairly. It happens. The need for fair representation in federal courts is indisputable, since they interpret our Constitution and how it applies to us all -- by providing equal

protection under the law, free speech and freedom of religion, among other rights.

How the process works is fairly simple: Federal judges are nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate. But even after answering Senate committee questions, each nominee faces a full Senate vote -- which can be indefinitely delayed by a single senator. As the current administration's term ends, many in the Senate have tried to slow the confirmation process enough so that a new president can nominate altogether new candidates. A victim of this strategy is federal Central District Court of California Judge Richard Páez.

Judge Páez is certainly qualified to sit on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals (which covers California and eight other Western states) to which he's been nominated. He has received glowing praise from his peers and "well-qualified" ratings from associations. He has served effectively as a municipal and a district court judge for many years. Yet Judge Páez has been waiting for a Senate confirmation vote for an outrageous four years.

Delayed confirmations are not

an issue that affects only Latinos or other ethnic groups who are directly penalized by the tactic. Delays create problems for everyone. They create case backlogs, overworked litigants and too few judges. As of Jan. 1, 2000, the federal judiciary has 76 vacancies. Of those, 27 have been declared judicial emergencies. Eleven are at the circuit court level. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, to which Páez is waiting to be confirmed, has been designated a judicial emergency.

Hopefully, a resolution to Judge Páez's wait is imminent. To gain leverage against the Republican majority, Sen. Barbara Boxer, (D-Calif.) detained a Senate vote last October on the nomination of a friend of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) to the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority. The deal: Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota) and Lott agreed to let the Senate vote on Páez by or before March 15, and Boxer agreed to let the Senate vote on Lott's friend.

Latino leaders applauded the breakthrough. Yet it's a sad day when these kinds of tactics have to be used. Outstanding Latino

nominees are being unduly scrutinized, and potential Latino nominees are reconside-dering seeking federal judgeships. As Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist said, "The Senate is surely under no obligation to confirm any particular nominee, but after the necessary time for inquiry, it should vote him up or vote him down."

Lott's most recent decision to move ahead with votes on two "noncontroversial" judges -- perhaps to avoid the appearance of playing politics with worthy judicial nominations -- despite some strong protests from members of his own party, shouldn't appease anyone.

Members of the Latino community must let their senators know that we need an inclusive judicial system, one that understands and represents our diverse and growing communities, too. We must create the pressure to move the nominations of Judge Páez and other Latino nominees -- like Julio M. Fuentes to the 3rd Circuit (Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania) and Enrique Moreno to the 5th Circuit (Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas) -- through this unjust

political bottleneck. All three have been waiting for unecessarily long periods of time.

Latino nominees must be appointed in greater numbers at all levels, especially to the appellate courts, where most of the decisions interpreting the Constitution and the federal laws are ultimately made.

Without sufficient representation at every level, equal justice for Latinos -- or even the perception of justice -- will not exist.

(Marisa J. Demeo, based in Washington, D.C., is regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF).)

## News Briefs

### Denver to Launch New Program Tailored to Hispanic Students

Denver's public school system will have a new program of study, called "Soul of the Race," designed by Hispanic teachers and tailored to the educational needs of Latino students in the city.

After an "incubation" period of 30 years and three years of development, the program seeks to restore cultural identity and enhance the self-esteem of Hispanic students in the public school system.

"When we went to school, in the 60s and 70s, you couldn't speak Spanish, and Hispanic culture was barely ever mentioned. Now, our Hispanic students, especially those who are Mexican, are the ones who are giving us back our cultural identity and our self-esteem," Jose Perea, executive director of the English-language study program in the Denver school system (DPS), said.

Perea says globalization carries the risk of causing us to lose our culture as well as personal identity, and that the present challenge is to use technology -- such as the Internet -- to strengthen the cultural ties of minorities.

Students used to speak Spanish in restrooms or eat Latin foods when no one was watching, Perea said, but now, "more than half of the students in DPS are Hispanic and are ashamed of speaking Spanish."

Perea said now is the time to begin "restoring academic knowledge of Hispanic culture," since Hispanic culture has gained recognition in so many sectors.

Of the approximately 70,000 DPS students, 51 percent are of Hispanic origin, and of these, more than 13,000 only speak Spanish.

The idea for the "Soul of the Race" project dates back to 1997 when a group of Hispanic teachers decided to do something about the poor Hispanic content of the school system's curriculum.

After a careful analysis, authorities reached the conclusion that with the exception of second-grade social studies, there was not one course related to Latin culture in any other grade level or in any courses being taught.

"Seeing examples of their culture in school is indispensable to students' development of self-esteem and a better image. Otherwise, they will feel left out," Perea said. "That happened to us Chicanos for more than 30 years, and we don't want the same thing to happen to the new generation of Mexican immigrants."

In "Soul of the Race," the same teachers write the course material that will be used in the classroom.

The instructors will not make much money from the publication of these materials, but the Internet will help them promote their work.

"Seventy-five teachers have collaborated so far," Loyola Martinez, project director, said. "We have 75 books of the highest academic quality that we didn't have three years ago."

"The topics are quite varied, from Andean music to Maya legends to the problems of farm migrants," she said.

### Espionage Charge Sparks New Tension in U.S.-Cuban Relations

By Elena Moreno

Washington, - Already tense relations between the United States and Cuba over the Elian Gonzalez case have grown even more strained following an expulsion order by the U.S. government against a Cuban diplomat on spying charges.

The U.S. State Department has given the unidentified diplomat seven days to pack his bags and return to Havana for "activities incompatible with his status," the usual diplomatic phrase for espionage.

The order came after the Federal Bureau of Investigation linked the diplomat who works in the Cuban Interests Section in Washington to a senior Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) official accused of spying for the government of Fidel Castro.

A spokesman for the Cuban Interests Section denied the charge.

"The accusations by the State Department are false and are aimed at harming relations between the United States and Cuba," spokesman Luis Fernandez told EFE.

He complained that the expulsion order came at what he called a "critical moment, when we're awaiting the return of the little boy, Elian Gonzalez, to Cuba as demanded by his father, family members and the government."

Rescuers plucked the six-year-old from the Atlantic Ocean last November after his mother, stepfather and other Cubans drowned while trying to reach the United States in a flimsy boat.

Elian is now living with a grand uncle in Florida and his U.S. family and the anti-Castro Cuban exile community are challenging U.S. government efforts to return him to his father.

A U.S. federal judge is to rule this week on whether his court has jurisdiction to hear a request for political asylum filed by the youngster's U.S. relatives.

Washington and Havana broke full diplomatic relations in 1961 and both countries are represented by interests sections in the Swiss embassies in each others' capitals.

### Santana Joins Campaign to Recruit More Hispanic Teachers

Washington, - Rock star Carlos Santana has joined a national publicity campaign sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA) to attract more Hispanic and minority teachers.

Santana taped several public service announcements to be broadcast by several television stations in the coming weeks.

The Mexican singer, whose latest album "Supernatural" has sold more than 10 million copies worldwide, was selected because he is a widely known and respected artist whose appeal bridges across age and cultural differences, the NEA said in a release.

Praising Santana for his participation in the project, NEA President said that as U.S. classrooms become more diverse, more minority educators will be needed.

"Classrooms everywhere are starved for good teachers of color, particularly black and Hispanic men."

U.S. Department of Education data show that 90 percent of public school teachers are non-Hispanic white, while 8 percent are black and 3 percent are Hispanic.

The numbers show a teacher population vastly different from the nation's population, and indeed, the student bodies across the nation. According to the department, while 70 percent of students are non-Hispanic white, 30 percent belong to minority ethnic groups.

Chase said that over the next 10 years, growing student populations and teacher retirements will create the need to add more than 2 million teachers to America's workforce.

"Becoming a teacher sends a strong message into one's home community about the value of public education, and can inspire children to stay in school and perhaps go to college when they graduate. Our hope is that this public service announcement will help kindle the excitement of potential teacher and turn them on to teaching," Chase said.

"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz."  
"Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace"  
Lic. Benito Juarez

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# EL EDITOR

## Los Nominados Judiciales Latinos Esperan Hasta Cuatro Años Por La Confirmacion Del Senado

Por Marisa J. Demeo

Es demasiado malo que el reciente alboroto de los medios informativos acerca de cuán "elegante" es la cultura latina, no informe lo que es vitalmente importante para su gente. Es igual que el modo en que se nos ha mantenido siempre desempeñando el papel de acusado criminal, pero rara vez el de juez.

Dicho sencillamente, a los jueces latinos no les ha ido bien en los trámites de selección para plazas judiciales de alta jerarquía. Hay actualmente menos de 40 jueces federales latinos de un total de 843 plazas federales (el 4.5 por ciento). La escasez de representación latina, y la de aquellos que no son blancos en general, es intolerable -- como lo son las tasas y los períodos de espera a que se enfrentan ellos para la confirmación judicial.

Los tribunales federales tienen un efecto increíble sobre nuestra comunidad. Estos tribunales interpretan todas las leyes federales, incluyendo las de inmigración y derechos civiles, a fin de determinar, por ejemplo, si un demandante latino tiene derecho a permanecer en este país o si está siendo deportado injustamente. Así sucede. La necesidad de representación equitativa en los tribunales federales es indispensable, ya que ellos interpretan nuestra Constitución y el modo de que la misma se aplica a todos nosotros -- proporcionando una protección igual bajo la ley, la libertad de expresión y de religión, entre otros derechos.

El modo en que funciona el proceso es bastante sencillo: Los jueces federales son postulados por el presidente y confirmados por el Senado. Pero aún después de responder a las preguntas de un comité del Senado, cada postulado se enfrenta a una votación del pleno del Senado -- que puede ser demorada indefinidamente por un sólo senador. A medida que termina el período del gobierno actual, muchos miembros del Senado han tratado de desacelerar el trámite de confirmación lo suficiente como para que un nuevo presidente pueda postular nuevos candidatos por completo. Una víctima de esta estrategia es el juez federal del Tribunal de Distrito Central de California, Richard Páez.

El juez Páez está calificado para ocupar un lugar en el Tribunal de Apelaciones del Noveno Circuito (que comprende a California y otros ocho estados occidentales) para lo cual él ha sido postulado. Ha recibido elogios brillantes por sus colegas y evaluaciones de "bien capacitado" por las asociaciones de abogados. Ha prestado servicios eficazmente como juez municipal y de tribunales de distrito durante muchos años.

Empero, el juez Páez ha estado esperando una votación de confirmación del Senado durante ocho años afrentosos.

La demora de las confirmaciones no es un asunto que afecte sólo a los latinos u otros grupos étnicos que son penalizados directamente por esta táctica. Las demoras crean problemas para todos. Crean retrasos en la tramitación de los casos, litigantes con demasiado trabajo y muy pocos jueces. Al 1 de enero del 2000, la judicatura federal tenía 76 plazas vacantes. De esas, 27 han sido declaradas emergencias judiciales. Once se hallan al nivel de los tribunales de circuito. El Tribunal de Apelaciones del Noveno Circuito, para el cual Páez está esperando ser confirmado, ha sido designado una emergencia judicial.

Se espera que una resolución de la espera del juez Páez sea inminente. Para ganar influencia contra la mayoría republicana, la senadora Barbara Boxer (demócrata por California) detuvo una votación senatorial en octubre último sobre la postulación de un amigo del dirigente de la mayoría senatorial, Trent Lott (republicano por Mississippi) para el consejo de directores de la Autoridad del Valle de Tennessee. El trato es éste: El dirigente de la minoría, Tom Daschle (demócrata por Dakota del Sur) y Lott, acordaron permitir que el Senado vote

sobre Páez el 15 de marzo o antes, y la Senadora Boxer acordó permitir que el Senado vote sobre el amigo de Lott.

Los dirigentes latinos aplaudieron esa solución. Sin embargo, es un día triste cuando hay que usar esta clase de tácticas. Los nominados latinos sobresalientes están siendo escurridinos indebidamente y los posibles postulados latinos están reconsiderando el aspirar a las plazas federales de magistrados. Como dijo el magistrado presidente de la Suprema Corte de Justicia, William H. Rehnquist: "Ciertamente el Senado no está obligado a confirmar a ningún postulado en particular, pero después del tiempo necesario para la investigación, debería votar a favor o en contra del postulado."

La decisión más reciente de Lott, de continuar adelante con las votaciones sobre dos jueces "no controvertidos" -- quizá para evitar parecer que juega a la política con valiosas postulaciones judiciales -- a pesar de las protestas enérgicas de los miembros de su propio partido, no debería apaciguar a nadie.

Los miembros de la comunidad latina deben hacer saber a sus senadores que necesitamos un sistema judicial inclusivo, que comprenda y represente igualmente a nuestras comunidades diversas y cada vez mayores.

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## Gobierno de Texas Aporta Fondos Para Educacion De Migrantes

Austin, - El Departamento de Trabajo de EEUU ha concedido 2.5 millones de dólares para la creación de un centro de datos interestatal que ayude a los hijos de trabajadores migrantes a completar sus estudios de secundaria.

El objetivo es que estos adolescentes, que viajan y trabajan con sus padres en estados como Minnesota, Dakota del Norte, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska y Ohio, puedan obtener asistencia económica para sus estudios.

El centro de datos mantendrá información detallada sobre la situación educativa de los adolescentes entre 14 y 19 años que participen en el programa. De esta manera, los estados participantes podrán compartir información sobre el estudiante.

El legislador republicano de Texas, Henry Bonilla, elogió el programa porque los migrantes "ya no tendrán que comenzar de cero cada vez que se mudan".

"Esta es una iniciativa de seguimiento al niño migrante y de esta forma se le ayudará a

mejorar su futuro en Estados Unidos", expuso.

La organización no lucrativa MET ("Motivation, Education and Training") estará a cargo del proyecto, que beneficiará a unos 2.200 adolescentes.

Según el director de MET, Greg Flory, "la gran movilidad de un estado a otro de los migrantes, hace difícil que este grupo obtenga ayuda constante o información de programas de apoyo cuando cambian su residencia". Con esta iniciativa, dijo Flory, podrán superarse esos problemas porque, por ejemplo, "si un niño migrante requiere ayuda extra para aprender inglés, o servicios de consejería debido a problemas familiares, especialistas en cada estado al que viaje estarán al tanto de sus necesidades".

MET, con sede en New Caney, en el sur de Texas, provee servicios sociales a los trabajadores migrantes y a sus hijos desde hace 32 años, en más de 30 oficinas en Texas, Minnesota, Dakota del Norte y Louisiana.

### Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

I've been asked several times during the past three weeks why I haven't written this column. I've given excuses including the most legitimate one of vision problems to the more occasionally used by the late Charles Schutz that my dog ate my column. All my friends know that Pinta seems to always be hungry.

Although many issues and stories have been printed in this column's stead during the weeks it was missing, I am always told that they miss my writing and the issues brought forth in the column. I can only feel honored to be continually asked and remember that the obligation always exists to provide information on important issues.

In the next few weeks my obligation of writing will become more important in that an election is forthcoming. This because this newspaper is one of the only place where issues are discussed as to how they specifically affect OUR community.

Along with questions about this column have come continual inquiries as to who I am endorsing for political office -- specifically who we are going to support for the county commission position in Pct. 3. I haven't answered anyone as to who, but I have said that and endorse-ment is eminent.

This writer knows that this position is very important post within our community and realize that this year this position is one of the only nominations in which our community is solely responsible for selecting.

This is certainly true now but could be changed if community leaders would work more diligently to register voters to the point of making our community the balance of power on election days.

Well, back to our endorsement for the county commissioner's post. I am certainly not prepared to make the decision this week but promise to make it next week and base the decision on a forum that will be staged on Tuesday.

The forum is being hosted by the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and will be held at the Lubbock Housing Authority building located at 1708 Avenue G starting at 5:30 PM.

Three journalist will ask the questions but time is also being allowed for the public to ask questions. I hope that people will take a little time to attend.

Our endorsements will dominate this column next week. Look for it.



SANTANA



# Las Limitaciones Idiomaticas Confronta a Los Latinos En La Internet

Por Enrique J. Gonzales

Un estudio publicado en enero del 2000 encontró que solamente el 8 por ciento de los latinos estadounidenses con acceso a la Internet prefieren usar sitios en español. En otras palabras, 92 de los 100 latinos conectados que fueron entrevistados -- la mayoría de los cuales nacieron en el extranjero -- navegaban bien en inglés.

Otro informe, publicado en febrero de 1999, afirma que "muy pocos hispanos que sólo hablan español usan computadoras personales en sus casas (el 3 por ciento). Los hispanos que dominan el inglés o que hablan solamente inglés son los usuarios más frecuentes (el 38 por ciento)."

Un tercer estudio, publicado en abril de 1998, reveló que tres de cada cuatro hispanos estadounidenses con acceso a la Internet prefieren "navegar" en inglés. En el grupo "conectado," sólo uno de cada diez mencionó una falta de contenido en español. El estudio estima que entre los latinos estadounidenses conectados, el 41 por ciento gana más de \$50,000 al año y el 77 por ciento cuenta por lo menos con licenciatura.

Pero entre los latinos estadounidenses que nunca habían usado una computadora, tres de cada cuatro dijeron que preferían navegar en español.

En este mismo grupo, el 71 por ciento ganaba menos de \$25,000 al año y el 58 por ciento no había terminado la preparatoria.

Estos estudios, efectuados por tres organizaciones independientes, trazaron un cuadro de la línea divisoria digital -- el cisma entre los conectados y los no conectados. El cuadro revela en parte a dos grupos distintos: Los latinos estadounidenses asimilados que han tenido éxito en la economía de Estados Unidos y aquéllos que se esfuerzan por tenerlo.

Haciendo los estudios a un lado, una porción distinta de la población latina estadounidense que domina el español tiene los medios económicos, la educación y el conocimiento técnico para explotar la Internet.

Pero, ¿por qué no están navegando en español los que dominan este idioma? ¿Por qué ha persistido esta línea divisoria

entre los latinos conectados y los no conectados durante los tres últimos años -- una eternidad en términos de la Internet? Los precios de las computadoras familiares han ido en picada en ese mismo periodo de tiempo.

Y ¿por qué la línea divisoria digital ha exagerado la diferencia entre los latinos estadounidenses que se sienten cómodos con el inglés y aquéllos que se sienten más cómodos con el español?

Una razón por la que los latinos estadounidenses no están usando los sitios en español puede ser el contenido. Aproximadamente 85% de todo el contenido de la Internet llega en inglés solamente.

Empero, durante los dos años más recientes, dos compañías estadounidenses han ido al mercado público en parte debido a sus esfuerzos para enfocarse sobre los latinos estadounidenses en español. Otras, incluyendo a empresas de tan lejos como Argentina, han atraído inversiones de varios millones para enfocarse sobre este auditorio estadounidense.

Hasta hoy, los sitios mayores -- ElSitio, QuePasa, Starmedia y Yupi -- continúan ofreciendo contenido que en su mayor parte se puede encontrar en inglés en los sitios de principales. Estos sitios en español acumulan el contenido existente, tomándolo de los servicios de noticias por cable y de otras fuentes. Algunos han empezado a experimentar con un contenido original, pero ninguno ha construido una reputación sobre noticias o diversiones singulares, algo que lleva hasta a los latinos que dominan el inglés a los medios informativos en español.

Por ejemplo, el año pasado un estudio de los hábitos latinos de ver televisión concluyó en que los latinos que dominan el inglés ven noticias televisadas en español, en parte debido a su información a profundidad y sensitiva a los asuntos latinos. Al mismo tiempo, las latinas bilingües gustan de las novelas latinoamericanas en las horas estelares. El contenido importa verdaderamente, sin importar en qué idioma esté.

Sin embargo, alguna otra cosa

debe estar impulsando la brecha digital entre los latinos asimilados y los inmigrantes más recientes. De modo que eché un vistazo a las computadoras mismas.

Todas las computadoras que yo haya usado alguna vez venían sólo en un idioma -- el inglés. En verdad, los residentes de Estados Unidos deben superar grandes obstáculos para comprar una computadora nueva con el sistema de funcionamiento Windows o Macintosh -- el cerebro básico de la computadora -- en español.

Los residentes pueden comprar fácilmente programas en español que funcionen por sobre el sistema de funcionamiento en inglés. Pero para los que dominan el español, eso es como comprar un automóvil con el tablero de instrumentos en español y el manual del propietario -- la guía para el mantenimiento -- y las reparaciones básicas -- en un idioma incomprensible. Desgraciadamente, se necesita consultar el manual del propietario de una computadora más a menudo que el de un automóvil.

Las tiendas "en línea" de cuatro fabricantes principales de computadoras para uso doméstico -- Apple, Compaq, Dell y Gateway -- no tienen una alternativa para comprar máquinas que tengan el sistema de funcionamiento en español. (De las cuatro, Gateway, que en octubre último empezó una importante campaña de mercadeo enfocada en los latinos, se destacó como el único sitio de la Internet que permitía a los compradores "en la línea" adquirir aplicaciones -- programas auxiliares para oficinas tales como procesamiento básico de palabras, hojas analíticas para cuentas y estadísticas y otros programas para negocios -- en español.)

Llamadas telefónicas a los cuatro fabricantes revelaron la misma cosa. La persona que atendía las ventas en Apple explicó que se necesitaba comprar programas auxiliares de una tercera compañía, no hechos por Apple, a fin de convertir el sistema operativo (OS, sus siglas en inglés) al español.

En Gateway, hablé con alguien en una oficina de ventas especial en español. Ella dijo: "Hay software en español, pero no Windows."

En Dell, la persona encargada de las ventas explicó que yo debía comunicarme con la división latinoamericana a fin de comprar una computadora que tuviera el OS en español. La oficina latinoamericana explicó que yo podría comprar un sistema en español únicamente si fuera para entregarse en alguna parte de Latinoamérica.

"No puedo venderlo en Estados Unidos," dijo el hombre. "No puedo importar a Estados Unidos."

Parece que yo tenía pocas alternativas. Podría comprar un sistema en Latinoamérica y traerlo de regreso a Estados Unidos. En segundo lugar, podría comprar una nueva versión completa de Windows Latinoamérica por \$150, traerla a Estados Unidos, borrar el programa Windows existente en mi computadora (algo que exige algún conocimiento técnico) y por último instalar la versión en español.

Una vocera de Microsoft, Laura Dana, reveló la razón: "No se venden versiones en español en Estados Unidos." Al preguntársele por qué no, ella dijo: "Ellos no los han vendido en español (en Estados Unidos)."

Una persona encargada de ventas en Compaq fue bastante franca sobre el asunto: "Las unidades aquí en Estados Unidos se venden en inglés solamente, el idioma nativo de este país. Para comprarlas en español, hay que ir a donde el español sea el idioma nativo. No las vendemos en español aquí."

Para todos los intentos y propósitos, los estadounidenses que hablan español no pueden conseguir una máquina con el OS en español. En Estados Unidos, Windows aparentemente no habla español.

(Enrique J. Gonzales, consultor de Internet y periodista de nuevos medios informativos en el ciberespacio, puede ser localizado en la dirección: [enrique\(AT\)SIGNalumni.utexas.net](mailto:enrique(AT)SIGNalumni.utexas.net) de la Internet.)

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## Clinton's Missed Stop

# No Oil, No Nukes, No Money for Missiles = No Visit to Nepal

BY MIKE MCPHATE, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

KATHMANDU -- President Clinton's plan to visit South Asia in March has stirred up quite a fuss over here.

- China is anxious that Clinton may make hasty compromises with India for the sake of a successful trip.

- India has reacted nervously to the prospect of the United States meddling in its affairs in Kashmir.

- Desperate to charm the president into Pakistan, headman General Musharraf sent a letter to a U.S. Senator promising to wage an "unequivocal" battle against terrorism and hold elections by the end of the year.

- The visit to Bangladesh, the first ever by a U.S. president, will be a huge morale-booster for one of world's least developed countries. Those absent from the itinerary, which currently includes only India and Bangladesh, feel left out. Nepal, a faithful ally of the United States, takes the snub especially hard.

As Clinton gives priority to Nepal's massive nuclear-armed neighbor, India, and says he will "probably" visit Pakistan, a military regime, Nepalese suspicions that the United States responds only to military muscle and economic opportunity gather more weight.

Reporters in the capital city, Kathmandu, describe Clinton's neglect as "a major diplomatic setback," "unfair," "degrading" and "a hard reality."

One fired-up letter writer in the Kathmandu Post explains why Clinton might not be interested in visiting. "[We have] no oil, no billions of people to drive Fords or eat McDonald's, no ethnic war, no money to buy Boeing, no need for Patriot missiles, no religious conflict and above all, no nuclear bomb. All we are is a small peaceful 'third world' underdeveloped country!"

Nepal may take the issue a little harder than others. Clinton is seen as a hero of sorts in this part of the world. Since John F. Kennedy initiated the Peace Corps in the 1960s, Nepalese have particularly favored Democrats -- indeed, Abe Lincoln, a popular hero, is often mistakenly recognized as a Democrat.

In addition, Nepalese view the Lewinsky affair as amplifying the man's mystique. One friend described Lewinsky as a "fairy -- the most beautiful woman in the world. It is only natural for a man of such power to fall for her." After all, U.S. movies in India and Nepal have made it quite clear that all westerners cheat on their spouses.

Most important, Nepal feels it deserves a nod of approval from the super power for its dedicated efforts to strengthen its democracy according to the U.S. model.

In April, 1990, after 18 years of absolutism under King Birendra, the current parliamentary government seized control. Following that moment of revolutionary bliss, the country prepared to usher in an era of U.S.-style prosperity and freedom.

The freedom has come, slowly, but 81 percent of Nepal's 24 million people survive on subsistence farming, continuing to scrape by with a per capita income of less than \$300 a year.

By offering the services of its fierce Gurkha soldiers in Desert Storm campaigns, as well as in UN peacekeeping missions in Kosovo and East Timor, Nepal has consistently made sacrifices towards U.S. interests.

Still, no top-level U.S. State Department official has ever visited Nepal. Hillary and Chelsea did come a couple of years ago and were met by massive enthusiasm. Spiro Agnew came once as Vice President and Jimmy Carter came with his wife as ex-president, but no sitting U.S. president has ever set foot in the kingdom.

If he is not willing to extend a diplomatic handshake to Nepalis, Clinton should at least stop off to catch a glimpse of the world's most spectacular mountain range. Certainly his hosts will offer him a cup of their famous dud chia, the traditional Nepali tea they have been graciously serving hordes of tourists and expatriates from the United States for more than 40 years.

# Language Limits Confront Latinos on Internet

By Enrique J. Gonzales

A study released in January 2000 found that only about 8 percent of U.S. Latinos with Internet access preferred to use Spanish-language sites. In other words, 92 out of the 100 wired Latinos who were polled -- most of whom were foreign-born -- surfed in English just fine.

Another report, released February 1999, found "very few Hispanics who speak just Spanish use personal computers at home (3 percent). Hispanics who are English-dominant or speak English only are the most frequent users (38 percent)."

Yet another study, released in April 1998, found three out of four U.S. Hispanics with online access preferred to surf in English. In the wired group, only one out of 10 mentioned a lack of Spanish-language content. The study estimated that among wired U.S. Latinos, 41 percent earned more than \$50,000 a year and 77 percent had achieved at least a bachelor's degree.

But among U.S. Latinos who had never used a computer, three out of four said they would prefer to surf in Spanish. In this same group, about 71 percent earned less than \$25,000 a year, and 58 percent

had not completed high school.

These studies, conducted by three independent organizations, draw a picture of the digital divide -- the chasm between the wired and the not-wired. The picture in part reveals two distinct groups: acculturated U.S. Latinos who have succeeded in the U.S. economy, and those striving to do so.

Studies aside, a distinct portion of the Spanish-dominant part of the U.S. Latino population has the economic wherewithal, the educational background and the technical savvy to exploit the Internet.

But why aren't Spanish-dominant surfing in Spanish? Why has this divide between wired and not-wired Latinos persisted over the past three years -- an eternity in Internet terms? Home computer prices have plummeted in that same time frame.

And why has the digital divide magnified the difference between U.S. Latinos comfortable in English and those more comfortable in Spanish?

One reason U.S. Latinos are forgoing Spanish-language sites may be content. An estimated 85 percent of all Internet content

comes in English only.

Still over the past two years, two U.S. companies have gone public in part over efforts to target U.S. Latinos in Spanish. Others, including companies from as far away as Argentina, have drawn millions in investments to target this U.S. audience.

So far the largest sites -- ElSitio, QuePasa, Starmedia and Yupi -- continue to offer content that for the most part can be found in English on mainstream sites. These Spanish-language sites aggregate existing content, pulling from the news wire services and other sources. Some have begun to experiment with original content, but none have built a reputation on unique news or entertainment, something that drives even English-dominant Latinos to Spanish language media.

For example, a study of Latino television viewing habits last year found that English-dominant Latinos watch Spanish-language news, in part because of its in-depth and sensitive coverage of Latino issues. At the same time, bilingual Latinas watch Latin American soap operas in prime time. Content truly matters, no

ciberespacio que ya habían adquirido.

Los latinos no fueron los únicos en tomar nota. Los gigantes de los medios en inglés y de la Internet empezaron a explorar también. A fines de 1998, America Online (AOL) se unió a la Organización Cisneros, los poderosos dueños de medios informativos desde Venezuela hasta Chile, partiendo a la mitad un trato de \$100 millones para abrir Latinoamérica para AOL. Hasta ahora, la asociación ha comenzado gestiones en Brasil y planes para dar servicio en México.

El poderoso "sitio de búsqueda" [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) empezó pronto a ofrecer contenido en español, mientras que su rival [www.lycos.com](http://www.lycos.com) lanzó el mismo servicio a fines del año pasado. También a fines de 1999, Microsoft Corp. unió sus fuerzas con Televisa, la poderosa empresa mexicana de los medios de comunicación, y con Telmex, la empresa telefónica de México y principal suministradora de internet, en *continua pagina 5*

matter what the language.

However, something else must be driving the digital gap between acculturated Latinos and more recent immigrants. So I took a look at the computers themselves.

Every computer I've used came in only one language -- English. In fact, U.S. residents must overcome great hurdles to buy a new computer with the Windows or Macintosh operating system -- the basic brains of the computer -- in Spanish.

Residents can easily buy programs in Spanish that run on top of the English-language operating system. But for Spanish dominants, that's like buying a car with the instrument panels in Spanish and the owner's manual -- the guide to basic maintenance and repair -- in an unintelligible language. Unfortunately, you need to consult the owner's manual of a computer more often than that of a car.

The online stores of four leading home computer manufacturers -- Apple, Compaq, Dell and Gateway -- do not have an option to buy machines with the operating systems in Spanish. (Of the four, Gateway, which

last October began a major marketing campaign targeting Latinos, stood out as the only Web site that allowed online shoppers to buy applications -- office software, such as basic word processing, spreadsheet and other business programs -- in Spanish.)

Calls to all four manufacturers revealed the same thing. The sales person at Apple explained I needed to buy third-party software not made by Apple in order to convert the operating system to Spanish. However, an Apple spokesperson said Macintosh OS is available in Spanish from distributors in Latin America.

At Gateway, I spoke to someone in a dedicated Spanish-language sales office. She said, "Hay software en español, pero no Windows."

At Dell, the salesperson explained I must contact the Latin American division in order to buy a computer with the OS in Spanish. The Latin American office explained I could buy a system in Spanish only if it was to be delivered to a destination in Latin America. "I cannot sell it to the U.S.," the man said. "I cannot import to the U.S."

It seems I had few choices. I

could buy a system in Latin America and bring it back to the United States. Or I could buy a new full version on Windows in Latin America at about \$150, bring it back to the United States, erase the existing Windows on my computer (something that requires some technical knowledge) and finally install the Spanish-language version. A Microsoft spokesperson, Laura Dana, uncovered the reason: "No Spanish-language versions are sold in the United States." Asked why, she said, "They just haven't sold them in Spanish (in the U.S.)."

A Compaq salesperson was quite frank about it. "Units here in the United States are sold in English only, the native language of this country." To buy it in Spanish, you must go "where Spanish is the native language. We will not sell them in Spanish here."

For all intents and purposes, U.S. Spanish-dominants cannot get a machine with the OS in Spanish. In the United States, Windows apparently "no habla español."

(Enrique J. Gonzales, an Internet consultant and new media journalist, can be reached at [enrique\(AT\)SIGNalumni.utexas.net](mailto:enrique(AT)SIGNalumni.utexas.net)

owners of media from Venezuela to Chile, going 50-50 in a \$100 million deal to open up Latin America to AOL. So far, the partnership has resulted in efforts in Brazil and plans for service in Mexico.

Powerhouse search site [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) early on began offering content in Spanish, while rival [www.lycos.com](http://www.lycos.com) launched efforts late last year. Also at the end of 1999, Microsoft Corp. joined forces with Televisa, the Mexican media powerhouse, and Telmex, Mexico's telephone company and leading Internet service provider, in another \$100 million deal. As if that weren't enough, Spain's phone company Telefónica, launched its own portal, Terra networks, at [www.terra.com](http://www.terra.com).

In the past year, Terra and Argentina's El Sitio have gone public, while Yupi and Universo Online have plans to do so.

Other sites have sprouted up offering specialty content, commerce and functionality. Meanwhile, [www.espansione.com](http://www.espansione.com)

*continua pagina 4*

## Internet Gold Rush Strikes Latino Vein

By Enrique J. Gonzales

In the gold-rush frenzy of the Internet, Latinos in the United States, Latin America and Europe have become the latest hot vein of ore to mine.

The Latino mania began in late 1998, when Latin American portal Starmedia.com received \$80 million in private placement financing -- at the time, the largest ever made in an Internet company.

Starmedia's subsequent initial public stock offering in March 1999 wowed Wall Street, sending a wake-up call to every investor who could find Latin America on the map.

Almost simultaneously, U.S.-focused QuePasa.com Inc. filed to go public with little more than a good domain name and a few icons on a Web site. QuePasa.com's subsequent IPO, in June 1999, fared well, igniting a fury over Latinos in

the United States.

The IPOs did more than excite investors. They tossed a bucket of cold water into the collective face of traditional Latino media. Latino media from Los Angeles and Miami to Buenos Aires to Madrid could no longer rest assured that they could retain the audience they desired without at least trying to stake a claim on the Internet.

Early Latino Internet pioneers, such as LatinoLink, HISPANIC Online, ElSitio.com, Yupi.com and Universo Online, had to scurry to protect the stakes they already had claimed.

Latinos were not the only ones to take notice. The giants of English-language media and Internet began to start prospecting, as well. At the close of 1998, America Online teamed up with the Cisneros Organization, the powerful



Census 2000:

How You Can Help Make It a Success

Census 2000, the largest peace-time mobilization in U.S. history, is about to begin. About 860,000 workers will be needed to reach an anticipated 275 million people across the United States. And you are needed to make it a success.

Census 2000 will be the information cornerstone for the next century. Billions of dollars of federal, state and local funds will be spent on thousands of projects across our nation. How and where that money is spent depends on the census numbers. For example, decisions about education, health care, job training and business are based on information about children, the elderly, the unemployed or underemployed. Moreover, the development of public transportation systems and traffic control are based on where people work and live. Census 2000 is your chance to make sure that the new century begins with an accurate and complete picture of your community.

Your contacts, your knowledge, your concern about the community are the keys to an accurate census. Start by spreading the word about the importance of the census. Set

the record straight by helping to dispel myths about the confidentiality and uses of the census. Reassure others about census confidentiality and that the information collected in the census is protected by law. Emphasize why the information collected in the census is important to your community. Write articles, speak before co-workers, post Census 2000 flyers in strategic locations or include them in mailings or newsletters. Remember that you and your organization's support can lead to a more accurate count in your community.

Be creative! For example, in 1990, the City of Milwaukee secured private sector sponsors for a kickoff event that featured local entertainers, created a census mascot that appeared at schools, malls and elder care centers; Baltimore created a census rap song and the state of Maryland sponsored a census parade.

The Census Bureau also needs your help to recruit candidates for census taker positions in every neighborhood across the nation. Spread the word about census jobs to your family, friends and associates. The Census Bureau needs to

hire a large number of workers who are conversant with the many languages spoken in the United States.

Visit the Census Bureau's Internet site to get partnership ideas.

Post messages on your site to tell others what you are doing to support the census and create links to the Census home page.

Think of other new and exciting ways to get the word out about Census 2000, the opportunities are limitless. Thank you for your help - from promoting the census to providing space or volunteers - whatever you can do to make the Census 2000 picture complete.

For further information about how you can help your community by making Census 2000 the best census ever, contact one of our regional centers: Atlanta (404) 331-0573; Boston (617) 424-4977; Charlotte (704) 344-6621; Chicago (312) 353-9697; Dallas (214) 655-3060; (303) 231-5029; Detroit (248) 967-9524; Kansas City (816) 801-2020; Los Angeles (818) 904-6522; New York City (212) 620-7702/3; Philadelphia (215) 597-8313; and Seattle (206) 553-5882.

Todd Klein Seeks Lubbock County Democratic Party Chair

Todd Klein, lifelong Lubbock resident filed for the position of Lubbock County Democratic Party Chair. Klein has served as precinct chairman, executive committee member as well as regional coordinator for several democratic campaigns. In addition he presided as campaign manager for state representative and congressional races.

After more than 12 years of party activism, he has vowed to continue his commitment to the Party. As such, he has set forth an agenda which includes; assembling a winning coalition, involving voters in the electoral process, and improving the Party's image.

Klein feels that it is important that the Democratic Party emphasize reform values. "I am proud of our party's principles and the fact that we have the winning issues on our side. We are a party that stands for the pocketbook, economic issues that affect working families and civic tolerance for differing views," said Klein.

Klein firmly believes that the Democratic Party is the party on the side of the public. In order to improve the Party's Image, Klein has pledged to take the Party's message directly to the public. Klein is confident that if campaigns are about issues and ideas, Democrats can win.

de Internet para comunicar a otros lo que está haciendo para apoyar el censo y cree enlaces a la página principal del Censo.

Piense en otras maneras nuevas e interesantes de esparcir el mensaje acerca del Censo 2000. Las oportunidades no tienen límite. Gracias por su ayuda, desde promocionar el censo hasta proporcionar espacio o voluntarios, lo que usted pueda hacer para completar la imagen que presenta el Censo 2000. Para obtener más información acerca de cómo puede ayudar a su comunidad haciendo del Censo 2000 el mejor censo de la historia, comuníquese con uno de nuestros centros regionales:

Atlanta (404) 331-0573; Boston (617) 424-4977; Charlotte (704) 344-6621; Chicago (312) 353-9697; Dallas (214) 655-3060; Denver (303) 231-5029; Detroit (248) 967-9524; Kansas City (816) 801-2020; Los Angeles (818) 904-6522; Nueva York (212) 620-7702/3; Philadelphia (215) 597-8313; y Seattle (206) 553-5882.

De La Pagina 1

Debemos crear la presión para adelantar las postulaciones del juez Páez y otros postulados latinos - como Julio M. Fuentes, al Tercer Circuito (Delaware, Nueva Jersey y Pennsylvania) y de Enrique Moreno al Quinto Circuito (Louisiana, Mississippi y Texas) - a través de este embotellamiento político injusto. Los tres han esperado durante espacios de tiempo innecesariamente largos.

Los latinos deben ser nombrados en cantidades mayores a todos los niveles,

especialmente a los tribunales de apelaciones, donde se adopta en última instancia la mayoría de las decisiones que interpretan la Constitución y las leyes federales. Sin una representación suficiente a todos los niveles, la justicia igualitaria para los latinos - o hasta la percepción de la justicia - no existirán.

(Marisa J. Demeo, radicada en Washington, D.C., es asesora legal regional del Fondo Méxicoamericano para la Defensa Legal y la Educación (MALDEF en inglés))

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en el año 2000. Distribuido por Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

LULAC Council 263 "Bring Out Your Best" Award Winners. LULAC Member of the Year: Alice Chavez - Supervisor - Children's Protective Agency. Community Leader of the Year: Rafael Madrid - Personnel Director - LISD. Honor Roll Member: Armando Garcia - City of Lubbock & Volunteer for CONTACT. President Special Awards: Janie Hernandez - Communities in School; Ruth Martinez - Southwestern Bell. Sponsors Award: Joe Nemith - Standard Sales. Table Sponsors: Lubbock Power & Light, American State Bank, Norwest Bank - Lubbock, State National Bank, LISD, Covenant Health Systems, University Medical Center, LEARN, Inc., LULAC Council #281, Lubbock Hispanic Chamber, Texas Tech University Professional Night Sponsors: David Martinez, Attorney at Law; Marcian Morales, Candidate for City Council; Gilbert Flores, County Commissioner Precinct #3; GI Forum; Dr. Alfonso Sanchez, Texas Tech; Lubbock Beverage Association (Miller Light). Membership Night Sponsor: Plains Distributor (COORS).

Censo 2000:

Cómo Usted Puede Ayudar a Hacer De El Un Exito

El Censo 2000, la mayor movilización en tiempos de paz en la historia de los EE.UU., está por empezar. Se necesitarán cerca de 860,000 trabajadores para llegar a un número esperado de 275 millones de personas a través de los Estados Unidos, y se necesita de usted para hacer del censo un éxito.

El Censo 2000 será la piedra angular de información para el siguiente siglo. Miles de millones de dólares en fondos federales, estatales y locales se emplearán en miles de proyectos en todo nuestro país. Cómo y dónde se gaste ese dinero depende de las cifras del censo. Por ejemplo, las decisiones acerca de la educación, el cuidado de la salud, la capacitación laboral y el comercio se basan en la información acerca de los niños, los ancianos, los desempleados o los subempleados. Además, el desarrollo de los sistemas de transporte público y de control de tráfico se basa en dónde las personas trabajan y viven. El Censo 2000 es su oportunidad

para cerciorarse de que el nuevo siglo comience con una imagen completa y acertada de su comunidad.

Sus conocidos, su conocimiento y su interés en lo que respecta a la comunidad son la clave de un censo acertado. Comience comunicando a todos la importancia del censo. Aclare dudas ayudando a disipar los mitos acerca de la confidencialidad y los usos del censo. Tranquilice a los demás con respecto a la confidencialidad del censo y a que la ley protege la información que se reúne en el censo. Haga énfasis en por qué la información que se reúne en el censo es importante para su comunidad. Escriba artículos, diríjase a sus compañeros de trabajo, coloque volantes del Censo 2000 en ubicaciones estratégicas o inclúyalas en envíos por correo o en boletines. Recuerde que su apoyo y el apoyo de su organización pueden conducir a un conteo más acertado en su comunidad.

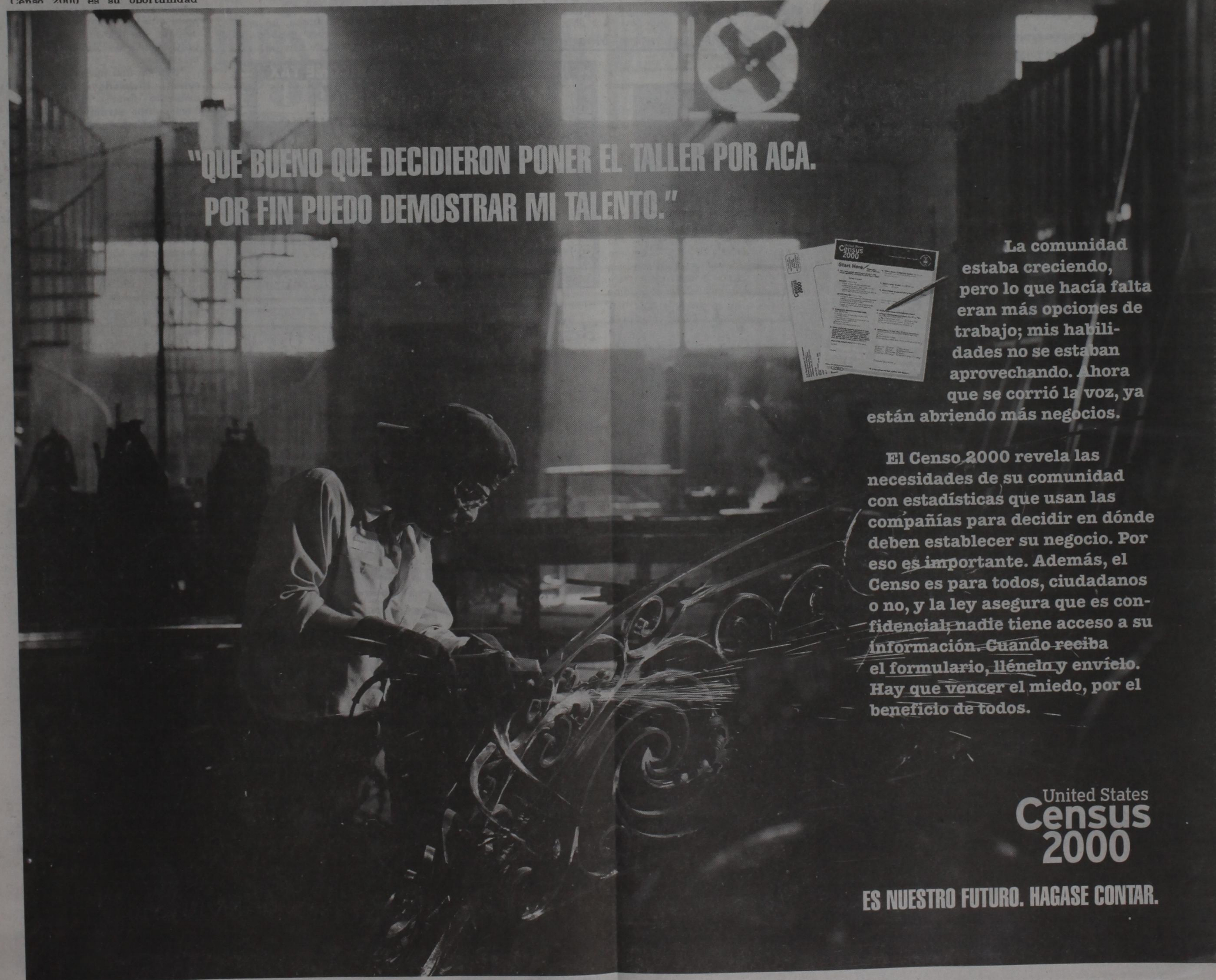
¡Sea creativo! Por ejemplo, en 1990, la ciudad de Milwaukee consiguió patrocinadores del sector privado para un evento de inauguración que presentó artistas locales, creó una mascota para el censo que se presentaba en las escuelas, los centros comerciales y los centros de cuidado de los ancianos; Baltimore creó una canción de música "rap" para el censo y el estado de Maryland patrocinó un desfile del censo.

La Oficina del Censo también necesita su ayuda para reclutar candidatos para posiciones de enumeradores del censo en cada vecindad en toda la nación. Anuncie los trabajos del censo a su familia, amigos y asociados. La Oficina del Censo necesita contratar un gran número de trabajadores que dominen los muchos idiomas que se hablan en los Estados Unidos.

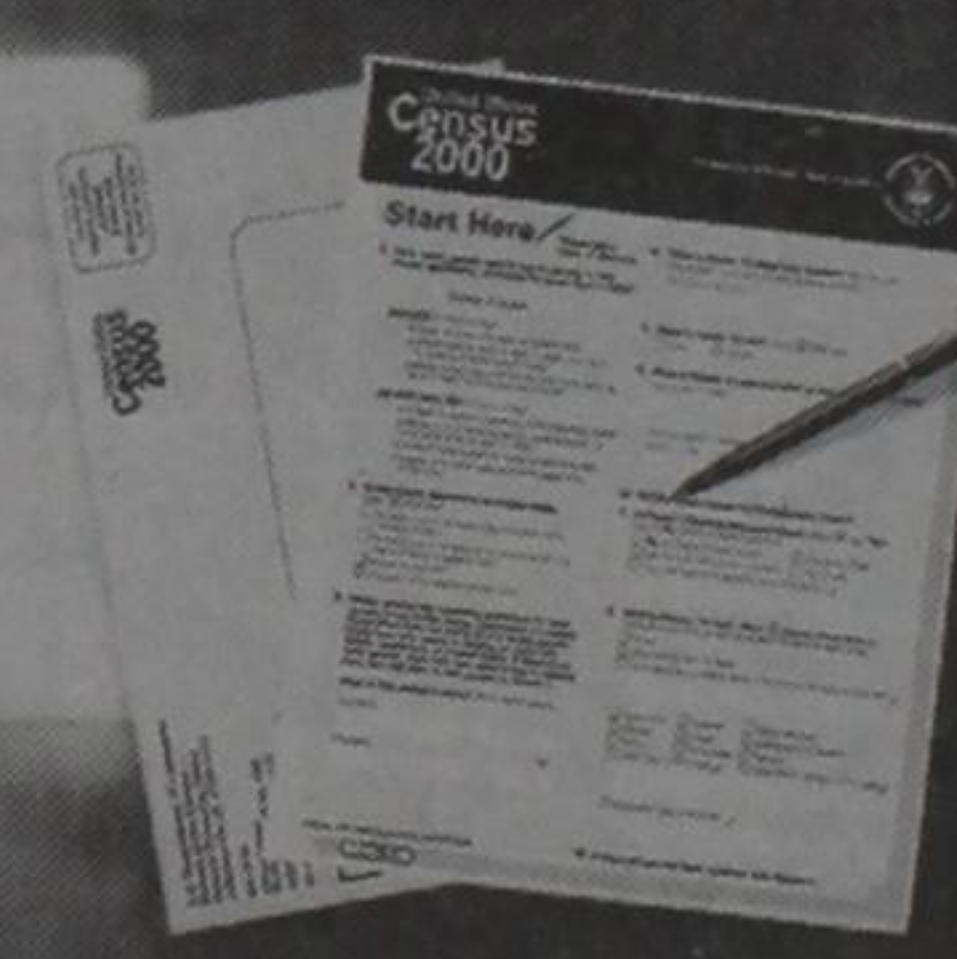
Visite el sitio de Internet de la Oficina del Censo para obtener ideas acerca de cómo lograr participación.

Coloque mensajes en su sitio

ANGELA HIGHTOWER INCOME TAX SERVICE. 1805 34th Street 762-2460. BIENVENIDOS/WELCOME TAX CLIENTS. ARREGAMOS IMPUESTOS DEL GOBIERNO \$\$\$ DINERO PRONTO \$\$\$.



"QUE BUENO QUE DECIDIERON PONER EL TALLER POR ACA. POR FIN PUEDO DEMOSTRAR MI TALENTO."



La comunidad estaba creciendo, pero lo que hacía falta eran más opciones de trabajo; mis habilidades no se estaban aprovechando. Ahora que se corrió la voz, ya están abriendo más negocios.

El Censo 2000 revela las necesidades de su comunidad con estadísticas que usan las compañías para decidir en dónde deben establecer su negocio. Por eso es importante. Además, el Censo es para todos, ciudadanos o no, y la ley asegura que es confidencial; nadie tiene acceso a su información. Cuando reciba el formulario, llénelo y envíelo. Hay que vencer el miedo, por el beneficio de todos.

United States Census 2000

ES NUESTRO FUTURO. HAGASE CONTAR.



**PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR**  
 Por Pastor: Frank García  
 P.O.Box 207 Lubbock, TX 79408  
 (806)763-4044



**JESUS Y LOS ENDEMONIADOS**  
 Y COMO EL LLEGO A LA OTRA PARTE  
 EN EL TERRITORIO DE LOS GERGESENOS,  
 LE VINIERON AL ENCUENTRO DOS ENDEMONIADOS.  
 MATEO 8:28.

Debemos de convencernos de que el Diablo existe. Esta es una verdad terrible. Pero qué verdad es que a menudo se pasa por alto. Pues hay constantemente cerca de nosotros un espíritu invisible, de inmenso poder y lleno de odio contra nuestras almas. Y que desde el principio de la creación se ha empeñado en hacerle males al hombre, y esto lo hará hasta que el Señor venga por segunda vez y lo ate, pero mientras esto no suceda, no dejará de tentar y ejecutar iniquidades. Pero es bien claro que en los días que el Señor estuvo en el mundo ejercía un influjo especial sobre los cuerpos y almas de algunos individuos. Pues esto se puede ver claramente en la Escritura. Y que aún en nuestros días puede ser que exista más de ese mal de lo que comunmente se supone, aunque no de una manera tan grave como en los tiempos de Jesús. Pero que el Diablo se halla cerca de nosotros en el espíritu y que a todas horas procura seducirnos con tentaciones, es una verdad bíblica y un hecho que no debe olvidarse. Pero sabemos que el poder del demonio es limitado, porque poderoso como es, o se cree, hay un Ser que es más poderoso que él. Y que aunque está empeñado en causar males al mundo, no puede obrar sin permiso. Porque estos mismos versículos Mt. 28:34 están probando que los espíritus malignos saben que solo pueden ir de un lugar a otro devastando la tierra en tanto que se lo permite el Señor de señores. "¿Has venido?" dijeron, "¿a molestarnos antes de tiempo?" Y la siguiente súplica deja conocer que no podían hacer nada a los cerdos, si Jesús el Hijo de Dios no los dejaba. Nuestro Señor es quien libra al hombre de los demonios. Pues desde días muy remotos se había profetizado que EL quebrantaría la cabeza de la serpiente. Y empezó a cumplir esa profecía cuando nació de la Virgen María, y que triunfó sobre la serpiente cuando murió en la cruz del Calvario. Y sanando a todos los endemoniados manifestó su completo dominio sobre el Satanás. ¡Gloria a Dios! Porque aunque Satanás se guarde en nuestra cercanía, no podrá dañar al pueblo de Dios que se guarde en Cristo, Heb.7:25 nos dice: "Por lo cual puede salvar eternamente a los que por él (Cristo) se allegan a Dios, viviendo siempre para interceder por ellos." Los gergesenos, habitantes del país donde se obró este milagro, suplicaron a nuestro Señor que se fuera de sus términos. Parece que lo único que pudieron sentir fue la pérdida de los cerdos. Y no se percibieron siquiera de que dos de sus semegantes fueron salvos. Y no se daban cuenta que delante de ellos estaba uno más grande que el Satanás. Y considerando a Jesús como un obtáculo le rogaron que se fuera de sus medios. Muchos son los que se parecen a los gergesenos hoy día. Por lo tanto guardémonos de no amar al mundo más, Pero si se ama al mundo más que a Cristo, ¡cuidado!

**De La Pagina 2**

InternetMercado.com and the now-dormant pioneer Mercado.com launched e-commerce operations. Still others, such as www.subasta.com and www.orbisonline.com plan auction operations, emulating the success of E-bay. Also, lamusica.com and eritmo.com have developed music-oriented sites. Still others have begun to experiment with content focused on women, businesses and other niches of the Latino market.

The miners show no signs of tiring. Since launching, Starmedia and QuePasa have undergone monthly redesigns, with the former now aiming to go after the more lucrative business market.

The rush, rush, high stakes of the industry is taking its toll on the players. QuePasa founder Jeffrey Peterson resigned in July, shortly after its IPO; Terra CEO Juan Perea left in January 2000; and Starmedia CEO Fernando Espuelas has given up the reins of day-to-day operations but retains his leadership role.

At this point in the gold rush, the prospectors have collected most of the easy pickings in Latin America. Still, only about 1 percent of Latin Americans now have access.

As a result, only a fraction of the potential audience has an inkling of an idea about what all the fuss is about. While most analysts predict quick growth in the next few years, it remains to be seen whether early players will have the same success with later users as they did with Internet innovators.

In the United States, pioneers are struggling to create content and services unique enough to sway the Latino

audience away from mainstream services. So far, most have tried to play the linguistic card, offering content in Spanish as the key to differentiate them from mainstream sites.

However, a series of studies show that the Latino audience that now has online access prefers English-language sites. The most recent study found only 8 percent preferred Spanish sites. At the same time, everyone from President Clinton to Latino community leaders is making much of the "Digital Divide," the have-nots of the information. Clinton went so far as to designate part of a \$4 billion initiative to help disadvantage Latinos and African-Americans get on-line.

In both the United States and Latin America, the most well-known sites have yet to make a profit, but most are making aggressive moves to find sources of revenue. At the same time, the Internet's gold rush miners continue to announce new and ever more creative ways to go after the Latino audience online, from San Francisco and Miami to Tijuana to Tierra del Fuego.

(Enrique J. Gonzales, an Internet consultant and new media journalist, can be reached at enrique(AT)SIGN)alumni.utexas.net

**McCain Recobro La Credibilidad En Un Momento Decisivo**

por José A. Delgado

Washington, - Con sus victorias en Michigan y Arizona, John McCain ha vuelto a darle credibilidad a su candidatura presidencial y ha trazado el camino para que el "supermartes" del próximo 7 de marzo defina las primarias republicanas del 2000.

McCain llevará hoy la satisfacción de su doble victoria del martes al estado de California, el premio mayor del 7 de marzo, cuando habrá primarias republicanas en una docena de estados, incluidos Nueva York y Ohio.

California enviará 162 delegados a la convención republicana y junto a Nueva York (101) atraerán la atención principal de McCain y su rival George W. Bush, en una fecha en la que en total se

Antes del "supermartes", McCain y Bush se volverán a enfrentar el próximo día 29 en las primarias de Virginia y el estado de Washington, donde estarán en disputa 55 y 37 delegados, respectivamente. Ese mismo día habrá "caucus" (asambleas informales) en Dakota del Norte.

"Nuestro partido quiere una reforma verdadera de parte del verdadero reformista. Somos republicanos reformistas. Mis colegas republicanos, no temen a esta campaña, únense a ella", manifestó McCain, que tras sus victorias en Michigan y Arizona estrenó una nueva consigna: "un conservador reformista".

Con ese mensaje, McCain pretende convencer a los tradicionales electores del Partido Republicano de que su mensaje reformista, centrado en eliminar las contribuciones electorales de las grandes corporaciones, no es una amenaza para la formación política.

"Estamos creando una nueva mayoría, mis amigos, la mayoría McCain", afirmó el senador republicano, que ha complicado la candidatura de Bush a pesar del poder económico y el respaldo de la maquinaria del partido al gobernador de Texas.

Los analistas consideran que McCain deberá ampliar su apoyo en la base republicana, que hasta el momento ha favorecido a Bush, si quiere tener éxito en Virginia, un estado conservador en el que las encuestas favorecen al gobernador de Texas.

Pero el apoyo de la maquinaria republicana a Bush no pudo impedir el triunfo de McCain en Michigan y Arizona.

McCain sacó a votar a un histórico número de electores en Michigan, un 51 por ciento de ellos independientes y demócratas que le garantizaron finalmente la victoria por un margen de 50 a 44 por ciento.

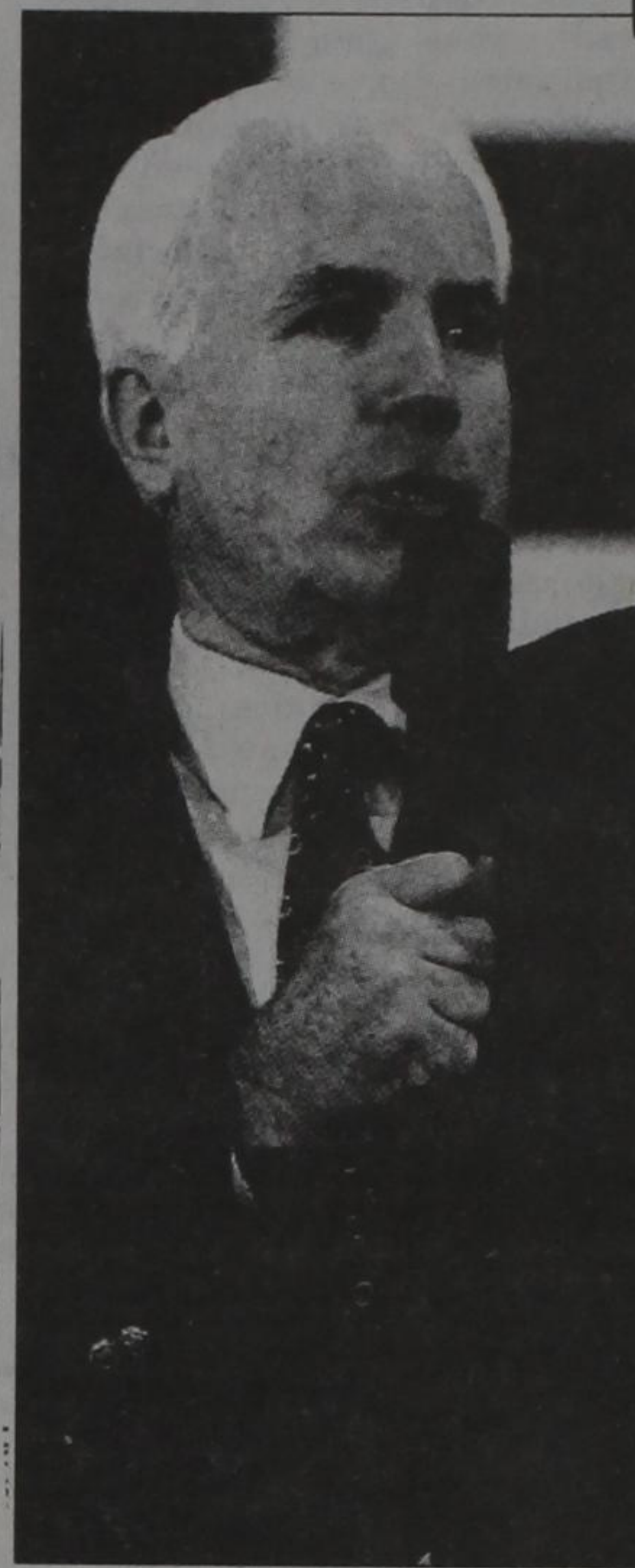
Su triunfo en Arizona nunca estuvo en disputa, pues ha representado a ese estado en la Cámara de Representantes y el Senado estadounidense. Allí ganó claramente, con cerca del 60 por ciento de los votos, frente al 36 de Bush y el dos por ciento de Alan Keyes.

Al terminar el escrutinio oficial, McCain habrá obtenido 52 de los 58 delegados de Michigan a la convención presidencial republicana, al igual que los 30 que estaban en disputa en Arizona, según las proyecciones de las cadenas de televisión.

"Esto es una maratón y voy a estar luchando hasta el momento final", indicó Bush, cuyo equipo atribuyó el triunfo de McCain a electores demócratas que "secuestraron" la primaria de Michigan, pero que en la elección general retornarán a su partido.

Las primarias presidenciales republicanas continuarán durante el próximo fin de semana en los territorios estadounidenses de Samoa, Guam, islas Vírgenes y Puerto Rico, donde se disputarán un total de 26 delegados que parece tener en sus manos el gobernador de Texas.

Bush también estará hoy en campaña en California en busca de nuevas fuerzas, en unos momentos en los que las encuestas señalan que a pesar de que es el favorito entre los republicanos, McCain sería la mejor carta de triunfo de su partido frente al demócrata Albert Gore.



seleccionarán a casi 600 de los 2.066 delegados del partido.

"Nuestra misión no ha terminado, tenemos que llevar el mensaje del triunfo a nuestros amigos en California", dijo McCain, entusiasmado por su victoria en Michigan, un estado que de no haber ganado pudo haberle sacado de carrera.

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St. Theresa Catholic Church will host a Brisket Plate Lunch fundraiser. The event will be held on March 5, 2000 starting at 11:00 am until all is sold. Money will be used to defray expenses not covered by insurance, when the church burned in October 1999. Mark your calendar. Come one come all. Help us out!

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FEBRUARY 28-APRIL 1

mondays	tuesdays	wednesdays	thursdays	fridays
Feb. 28 & Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27 (7:00-8:30 pm)	Feb. 29 & Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28 (7:00-8:30 pm)	Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (10:00-11:30 am)	Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (7:00-8:30 pm)	Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (10:00-11:30 am)
* Lubbock First Baptist Church 2201 Broadway Ave. 747-0281	Lubbock Vandella Church of Christ 3002 60th St. 744-8439	Lubbock St. Christopher's Episcopal Church 2807 42nd St. 799-8208	* Lubbock Indiana Ave. Baptist Church South Campus 9507 Indiana Ave. 797-9704	Lubbock Iglesia Bautista Temple 4810 Ave. P 744-9986 (7:00-8:30 pm)
Lubbock Trinity Church 7002 Canton Ave. 792-3363	* Lubbock Southcrest Baptist 3801 S. Loop 289 797-9000	Lubbock St. John Baptist Church 2712 E. 29th St. 762-3543	Lubbock LakeRidge UMC 4701 82nd St. 794-4015	Lubbock St. Luke's UMC 3727 44th St. 797-4393
Slaton Mt. Olive Baptist Church 87 S. Flint St. 828-3708	Lubbock Agape COGIC 4510 Avenue Q 763-8462	Lubbock Christian Renewal Center 4620 4th St. 792-1185	Lubbock Westminster Presbyterian 3321 33rd St. 799-3621	saturdays Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25 & Apr. 1 (10:00-11:30 am)
Lamesa First UMC 409 N. 3rd St. 872-5409	Plainview First Assembly of God 1300 N. Interstate 27 293-1637	Brownfield First Baptist Church 219 W. Main St. 637-3575	Lubbock First Church of the Nazarene 6110 Chicago Ave. 794-1675	

Deaf/Hearing Impaired Locations: Southcrest Baptist, Lubbock & Christian Renewal Center, Lubbock  
 \* Student Emphasis Locations: Music and drama will begin at 6:30 pm. Classes begin at 7:00 pm.

Classes en Español: Sábado, 4 de Marzo, 9:00 am-12:00 pm, Sábado, 11 de Marzo, 10:00 am-12:00 pm Ministerios Nueva Vida  
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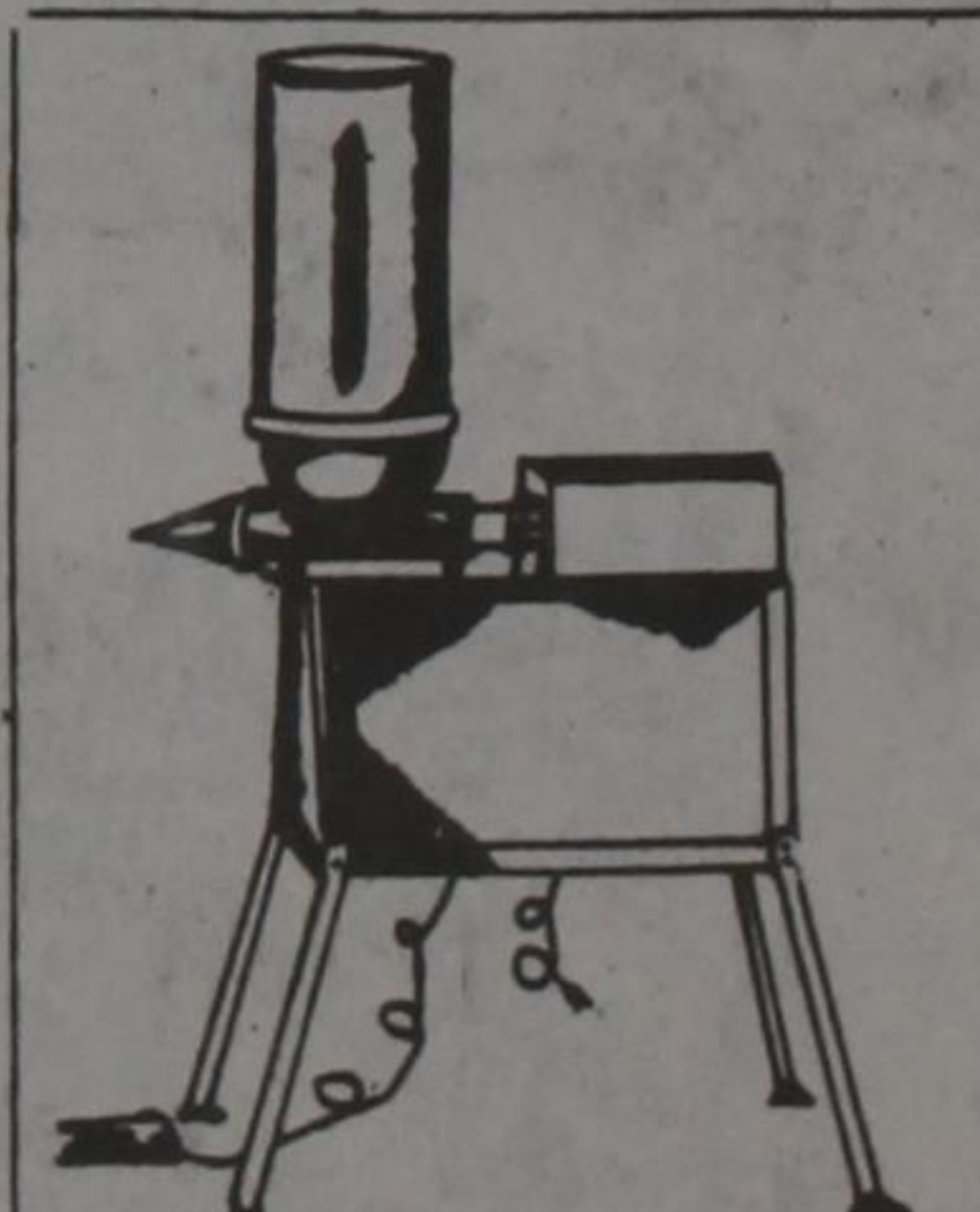
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**What Exactly is Oscar's Style?**

By MICHAEL ROSENTHAL

Oscar De La Hoya's goals this year: Knock out each of four opponents and settle into a style.

The former welterweight champion - who faces Derrell Coley on Feb. 26 in New York - recently turned 27 but had yet to decide what type of fighter he wants to be. Depending on the fight, he's been a defensive specialist, a boxer and a puncher.

As a result, many believe, he's been an underachiever.

In his last fight, his controversial loss to Felix Trinidad in September, De La Hoya decided for some reason to box and run and he paid the price: Believing he was well ahead in the scoring, he gave away the final three rounds and lost.

He was criticized for both his nonengaging tactics and the stupid decision to stop fighting after nine rounds. Now, he says such days are over.

"For this year, what I'm going to do is settle into one style," he said. "I trained a certain way (to box, not brawl) for certain fights. That's what other people wanted me to train like. It wasn't my style."

"I'm going back to my style. I'm going to try to go for the knockout."

What exactly happened against Trinidad?

Well, De La Hoya has finally gotten around to blaming himself.

Oh, he still believes he won, as do many others. He even said that it was an "easy fight."

However, he also said he wasn't prepared to take out Trinidad in the late rounds even though it appeared the Puerto Rican was vulnerable because he (De La Hoya) trained to box 12 rounds with limited sparring.

"My father said the same thing, that I should've knocked him out around the eighth round," De La Hoya said. "I trained three months to box the guy. I wasn't confident with my conditioning. If I'd gone for the knockout, I was worried I'd get tired. I had no choice but to go 12 rounds."

Now, I'm making sure I (spar) 12, 13, 14 rounds in the gym. That'll make a huge difference."

De La Hoya said he has recovered from the psychological trauma of his first loss. "Things happen," he said.

However, the setback seems to have left him with a sense of reality.

Until Trinidad, he admitted, he was overconfident. He would train just enough to win and spend the rest of his time playing golf and staying up - or should that be "out?" - late at night.

He insists his mind is back in boxing. As evidence, his training camp for the Coley fight has been closed to the public and media, an indication he's not fooling around even against a marginal opponent like Coley.

"In '99, I was on top of the world," he said. "I'd train just enough to get by a fight. Now, it's a whole different mentality."

I'm focusing more on working harder.

"I've been sparring 12 rounds almost every other day. I feel great. No distractions. It's all about getting hard work in."

... If I get in the best shape of my life, no one can stop me. That's the way I feel." -- Trinidad's side: Trinidad has been resoundingly criticized after the De La Hoya fight, in which he couldn't catch De La Hoya to hit him and took a lot of punishment.

Some even believe Trinidad was exposed as a limited fighter. He's favored to beat relatively inexperienced David Reid on March 3, but a poll of boxing writers and broadcasters favors Reid 26-21-2.

Trinidad's reaction? "De La Hoya ran a great deal in that fight," he said through an interpreter. "It wasn't about boxing, it was really about running. As a result, I couldn't fight my fight."

The writers who participated in the poll certainly know I'm a good champion, an excellent welterweight champion. I have 15 title defenses.

"I'd like to ask (members of the media) to observe me closely. I work very hard. I want them to see this fight on March 3. I'll demonstrate the kind of champion I've always been."

Trinidad-De La Hoya II: The way Trinidad and De La Hoya talk, the rematch might not take place for some time. Trinidad said De La Hoya had his chance for a rematch - on Trinidad's terms - and blew it.

"Oscar is running from me," he said. "We sat down to negotiate the fight, at welterweight, and it appears that (promoter) Bob Arum is taking Oscar down the wrong path, giving him the wrong advice."

"He doesn't want to fight me, so I'm moving along."

Said De La Hoya, who was as stubborn as Trinidad when it came to negotiations:

"In the near future, it's not important at all (that I fight him again). I have my schedule set for 2000, four fights. If he doesn't want to be included in my schedule, he won't be. If he's stubborn, he won't fight me."

"What can I do? Go on with my career."

De La Hoya's handlers are negotiating with Shane Mosley for a fight in June, possibly at Staples Center.

Weighty issue: Trinidad said he will decide after the Reid fight - at 154 pounds - whether he'll go back down to 147 but added that it isn't likely.

Typical De La Hoya: De La Hoya has dismissed advising trainer Gil Clancy to preserve peace in his camp, which fits a pattern.

The fighter has made a habit of making decisions to placate those around him instead of using sound reasoning. Apparently, Clancy was voted out of camp by De La Hoya's father, brother and trainer Robert Alcazar.

Even if Clancy was to blame for De La Hoya's late-fight strategy against Trinidad, he's recognized as a knowledgeable boxing man who could be an asset in anyone's camp. Now, De La Hoya is left only with Alcazar, who lacks universal respect.

Stay tuned: The first of three consecutive big weekends begins this week.

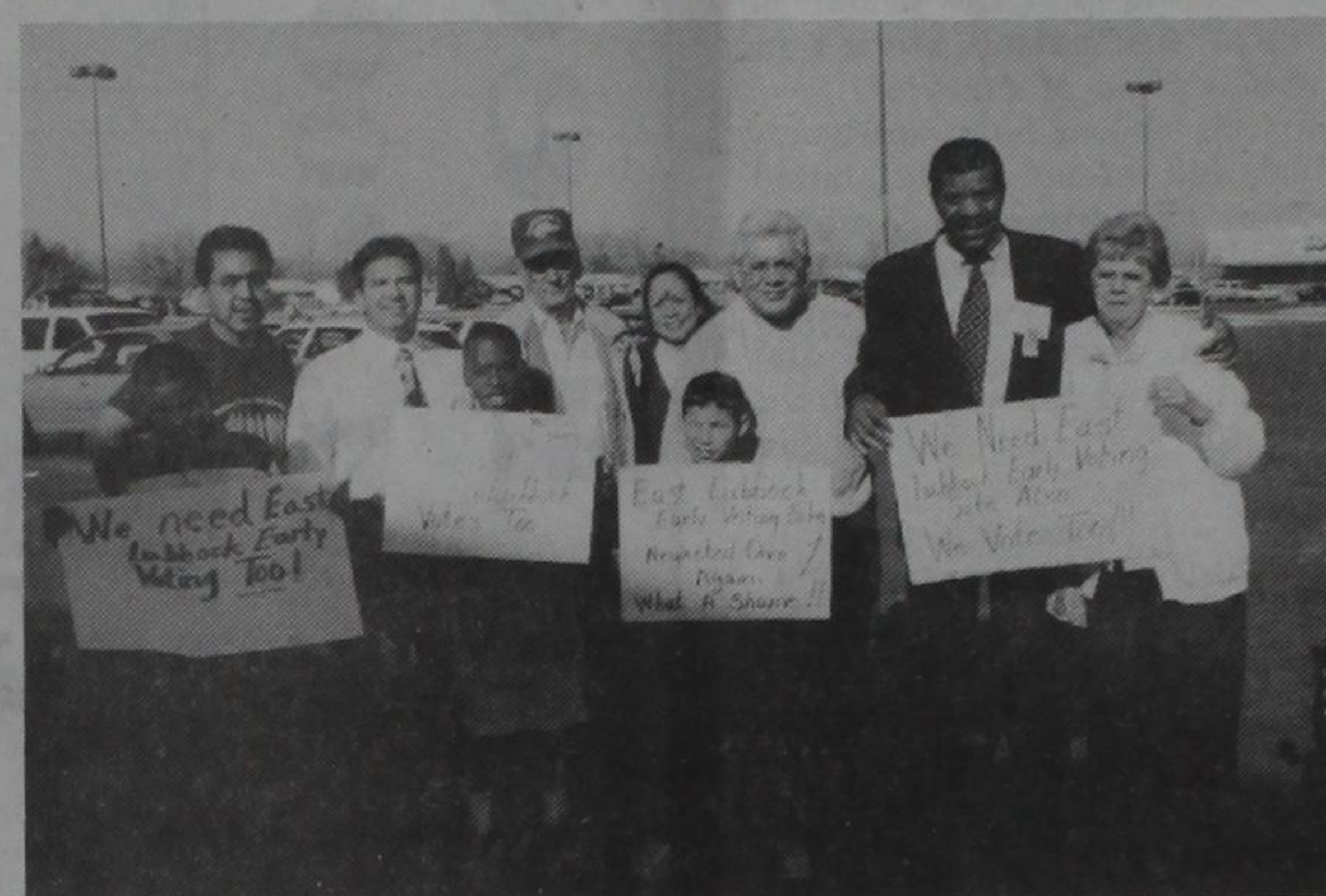
On Friday, popular Angel Manfredy takes on Sean Fletcher in a 10-round

lightweight bout in New Jersey on ESPN2.

On Saturday, Erik Morales defends his WBC super bantamweight title against fellow Mexican Marco Antonio Barrera in Las Vegas on HBO. That matchup is intriguing. Morales and Barrera are both fearless boxer-punchers who typically engage in thrilling bouts. Morales is better and should win, but it should be interesting while it lasts.

De La Hoya-Cole is the following weekend, Trinidad-Reid and Paulie Ayala-Johnny Bredahl the weekend after that. Julio Cesar Chavez, hoping to get one more title shot, faces journeyman Bobby Sholins on the Trinidad-Reid card.

**Photos of the Week by John Cervantez**  
Members of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce joined the Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs to hold a grand opening of the Black Chamber's new offices.



Citizens protested last week for the lack of having early voting box in East Lubbock

**De La Pagina 2**

otro negocio por \$100 millones. Y por si no fuera suficiente, la empresa española de teléfonos, Telefónica, lanzó su propio "portal," la red Terra, en www.terra.com

En el año pasado, Terra y El Sitio de la Argentina, fueron al mercado público, mientras que Yupi y Universo Online tienen planes para hacerlo pronto.

Otros sitios han surgido ofreciendo contenido, comercio y funcionalidad especializados. Espanol.com, Internet Mercado .com y el pionero ahora durmiente Mercado.com lanzaron operaciones de comercio electrónico. Aún otros, tales como www.subasta.com y www.orbis online.com planean operaciones de subasta, imitando el éxito de E-bay.com. Lamúsica.com y elrtno.com han desarrollado lugares orientados hacia la música. Otros más han empezado a experimentar con un contenido enfocado hacia las mujeres, los negocios y otros lugares peculiares del mercado latino.

Los mineros no dan señales de cansancio.

Desde sus lanzamientos, Starmedia y QuePasa han sufrido rediseños mensuales, y el primero se encamina ahora tras el lucrativo mercado de los negocios.

Los altos riesgos de la prisa en la industria están surtiendo efectos sobre los jugadores. El fundador de QuePasa, Jeffrey Peterson, renunció en julio último, poco después de su IPO; el director ejecutivo (CEO, en inglés) de Terra, Juan Perea, se fue en enero de este año y el CEO de Starmedia, Fernando Espuelas, entregó las riendas de las operaciones diarias, pero mantuvo su título.

En este punto de la fiebre del oro, los exploradores han cobrado la mayoría de las ganancias fáciles en Latinoamérica. Empero, sólo el 1 por ciento de los latinoamericanos cuenta hoy con acceso.

Como resultado, sólo una fracción del auditorio en potencia tiene apenas una idea sobre el motivo de todo este alboroto. Aunque la mayoría de los analistas pronostica un crecimiento rápido en los próximos años, queda por ver si los jugadores pioneros tendrán el mismo éxito con los usuarios tardíos que tuvieron con los innovadores de la Internet.

En Estados Unidos, los pioneros están luchando para crear contenido y servicios lo suficientemente únicos como para alejar al auditorio latino de los servicios principales. Hasta ahora, la mayoría ha tratado de jugar la carta idiomática, ofreciendo contenido en español como la clave para diferenciarlos de los lugares de la corriente principal.

Sin embargo, varios estudios muestran que el auditorio latino que ahora tiene acceso a la Internet prefiere los sitios en inglés. Al mismo tiempo, todo el mundo, desde el presidente Clinton hasta los dirigentes de la comunidad latina, están exagerando la "división digital", los desposeídos de la información. Clinton fue tan lejos como hasta designar una parte de una iniciativa por valor de \$4,000 millones para ayudar a los latinos y afroamericanos en desventaja a entrar "en línea."

Tanto en Estados Unidos como en la América Latina, los lugares mejor conocidos tienen todavía que obtener una ganancia, pero la mayoría está tomando medidas agresivas para encontrar fuentes de ingresos. Al mismo tiempo, los mineros de la fiebre del oro de la Internet continúan anunciando modos nuevos y cada vez más creativos para ir tras el auditorio latino "en línea" desde San Francisco y Miami hasta Tijuana y Tierra del Fuego.

(Enrique J. Gonzales es un consultor sobre la Internet y periodista de nuevos medios informativos en el ciberespacio)

**Citibus Holds Public Meetings For Route Planning**

Citibus will hold two public meetings in the City of Lubbock Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 1625 13th, Monday, February 28, 2000, 7:00 pm, and Wednesday, March 1, 2000, 8:30 am. Citibus is reviewing the Fixed Route System for possible revisions to provide even more effective and cost efficient service. Citibus wants ideas and suggestions because public input is critical to the success of this planning process.

For more information, contact Merideth Hildreth Fody, AICP, Planning Coordinator at 767-2380 ext. 225.

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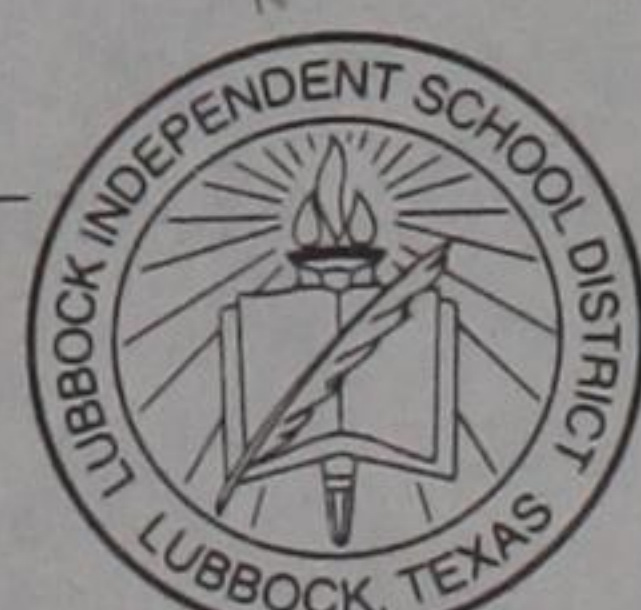
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**March 1, 2000, is the deadline for LISD Transfers!**

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# Noticias Breves

## Monja Niega Ahora Hberse

### Entrevistado a Solas con Abuelas

Miami - La monja que fue anfitriona de la entrevista del niño naufragio cubano Elián González con sus dos abuelas niega ahora haberse entrevistado a solas con estas, donde, según "The Miami Herald", una de estas le dijo que quería desertar.

Una portavoz de la hermana Jeanne O'Laughlin desmintió anoche que la presidenta de la Universidad Católica de Barry se hubiera reunido a solas con las abuelas después de la entrevista que estas tuvieron en su casa de Miami Beach el mes pasado.

Según el "The Miami Herald" del domingo, la monja dijo al diario, en una larga entrevista, que pudo hablar a solas cinco minutos con ambas y por breve tiempo con la abuela materna, Raquel Rodríguez.

En esta conversación, una de las abuelas le dijo a la monja, según el diario, que quería quedarse en Estados Unidos y que había un vídeo secreto donde había grabado sus intenciones y que algún día se haría público.

"Mientras algunas cosas específicas que se publican han contribuido a mi cambio de parecer para que el niño se quede en Estados Unidos, no es verdad que yo lo haya escuchado por parte de las abuelas. Otras informaciones atribuidas a ellas proceden de otras fuentes", dice el comunicado leído por su portavoz, Michelle Morris.

El Director Ejecutivo del diario, Martin Barón, dijo hoy que "The Miami Herald" mantiene como cierta la versión publicada el domingo: "Podemos decir sin ninguna duda que lo publicado se ajusta a lo que la hermana O'Laughlin nos dijo".

En esa entrevista, la monja también contó, según el diario, que los familiares de Elián en Cárdenas (Cuba) habían advertido a los de Miami que el niño y su madre, Elizabeth Brotons, intentarían llegar clandestinamente a Estados Unidos y que el padre, Juan Miguel González, maltrataba físicamente a esta última.

Elián, entonces de cinco años, fue uno de tres sobrevivientes de un naufragio donde murieron su madre y otros diez inmigrantes cubanos.

## El Acoso a Una Familiar de Elián fue "Denigrante", dice un Diario

Miami - La imagen de exiliados "repudiando" y "ofendiendo" a un tío abuelo del niño Elián González que apoya su repatriación recuerda los mítines de repudio en Cuba contra los "traidores" que dejaban la isla, afirma hoy "El Nuevo Herald".

Al salir con su esposa de una vista oral sobre el caso del menor el martes, Manolo González fue acosado por una veintena de manifestantes que le gritaban: "tío traidor", "comunista sinvergüenza", "descarado" y "regresa a Cuba con los que te dan órdenes".

"El hecho, denigrante, fue incluso criticado por los familiares que tienen la custodia temporal" del niño, asegura el rotativo en un comentario.

Ante ese acoso, el tío abuelo de Elián, quien ha pedido la custodia provisional del niño en cumplimiento de un petición del padre, Juan Miguel González, tuvo que regresar al edificio del tribunal y buscar protección de las autoridades.

"No nos equivoquemos: la dictadura contra el pensamiento amenaza a Cuba, pero no puede tener cabida en Miami. Ningún grupo étnico o político puede acosar a una persona o suprimir, en aras de la defensa de su causa, por muy justa que ésta sea, el derecho de un individuo de expresarse", afirma el matutino.

El diario advierte que "este es un país de libertad donde, discrepemos o no de nuestros conciudadanos, estamos en la obligación de respetar su opinión y acaso rechazarla de forma civilizada".

"La idea de que el niño debe ser devuelto a Cuba -aunque sea considerada errónea por la mayoría de la comunidad- no convierte a quien así piensa en un comunista", añade el rotativo en español.

En Miami "hay que repudiar, de una vez y por todas, los mítines de repudio", asevera "El Nuevo Herald" en relación con la manifestación organizada por el grupo Vigilia Mamisa.

La custodia de Elián es el centro de una disputa entre unos parientes del niño en Miami, respaldados por la mayoría de los exiliados cubanos, y el padre, con el apoyo de los gobiernos de Cuba y Estados Unidos.

El niño, quien fue rescatado en el mar el pasado 25 de noviembre, es uno de los tres sobrevivientes de un naufragio en el que murieron su madre y otros diez inmigrantes cubanos.

## El Editor Newspapers

is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841.

# Remembering Estevanico, America's First African Explorer

By Jeff Biggers. P.N.S.

When I was growing up in Arizona, we celebrated Rodeo Week, not Black History Month, in February.

In fourth grade, I was paraded into a local TV studio with two other kids for a very early morning talk show. The interviewer waved an Arizona flag to prod some life out of us as we spoke about our respective races in Arizona history.

"First came the Indians." "Then came the Spanish and Mexicans."

"Then came the Anglos," I mumbled.

On our way home, we passed Estevan Park, renamed during World War II after the first explorer in the Southwest.

Estevanico was a black slave from Morocco, who served as a scout for the Spanish expeditions. During the war, the park's swimming pool was the first available to African Americans - but they could use the pool only once a week, and the city would drain the water after "Negro day." When I was a kid, Arizona history didn't include Blacks - or pioneering Jews, Serbian copper miners, Scottish Highlander cowboys, Japanese farmers - and we didn't dwell on the fact that our neighborhood had been inhabited by indigenous communities for 6,000 years.

And Estevanico's story was overshadowed by the many accounts of the Spanish conquistadors. Yet his is one of the most fascinating stories in the exploration of America.

He was one of four survivors, out of 600 men, of the failed Narvaez expedition to conquer Florida in 1527. They sludged through Florida's malarial swamps in search of gold, and then reboarded rafts that would eventually wreck along the eastern coasts of Texas.

For nearly a decade, the four men endured slavery, hunger, torture and deprivation among indigenous tribes in Texas. They were the first men from the Old World to see buffalo. The details of their journey were penned in a spell-binding narrative by one of the survivors, Cabeza de Vaca, the first ethnography on North American cultures.

In 1535, the four men escaped and headed west, walking to Mexico. Gathering followers along the way, playing the role of healers - they even claimed to have raised the dead - the four were led from tribe to tribe, across the Rio Grande and Chihuahuan and Sonoran deserts, until they stumbled onto Spanish slave-raiders in northern Mexico. The Spaniards didn't recognize their long-forgotten Spanish mates in rattles and loin-clothes.

Estevanico's owner, Andres de Dorantes, was also one of the survivors. The men had

journeyed a decade together, traveling over 6,000 miles under the most extreme circumstances. Cabeza de Vaca noted that Estevanico did not play the servant's role, but took the lead as main interpreter and scout. The African, according to Cabeza de Vaca, determined the routes, learned the languages and dealt first with native tribes.

In Mexico City, Dorantes sold (or, in some documents, loaned) Estevanico back into slavery, to serve as a guide on an expedition the other survivors refused to lead. Dorantes turned down the Viceroy's offer of 500 pesos for the slave, though he did receive significant land grants and the Viceroy presided over Dorantes' wedding to a wealthy conquistador's widow.

Estevanico led the first expedition into the American Southwest. Coronado, the famed

conquistador, was at that moment putting down a rebellion of African slave miners in Mexico.

Going days ahead of a Franciscan friar, who would be given historical credit for the journey, Estevanico was the first non-native to enter the territory now known as Arizona and New Mexico. The friar and the slave made an agreement - Estevanico was to send back a cross the size of a hand if he made any discoveries. Estevanico sent back a cross the size of a man.

The symbol was providential. When he entered the Zuni pueblos, Estevanico was killed as a warning to the Spanish.

The friar fled back to Mexico City. To console himself, he described the pueblos, in one of the most ridiculous fables of the Spanish conquest, as the seven cities of gold, launching

Coronado's great expedition, another colossal failure that only managed to introduce horses to the Great Plains.

Until recently, Estevanico has been overlooked, except for a sort of "black legend" - based on hearsay among Coronado's force - as "a lusty Arab" who consumed women. His role, and the possibility of his being a Muslim, have never received any in-depth scholarly treatment. In fact, the most accurate portraits are on the shelves of juvenile literature. An Estevanico Society, founded by a Texas photographer a few years ago, encourages research.

Near Estevan Park the other day, I stopped and asked an older woman, across the street from the boarded-up school for Blacks, about the park's name. She smiled. "I've lived here for 30 years, son, and I always wonder about that," she said. "Estevan," she went on. "Must have been one of those Spanish pioneers."

The park is the only monument to Estevanico in the country.

Primary Election

March 14, 2000


Re-Elect:

Gilbert A. Flores

Lubbock County Commissioner

Precinct #3

Primary Election



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- Accountability
- Dignity
- Honesty
- Integrity

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February 28-March 10, 2000

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# Viva Aztlan Dance Festival

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