

el Editor

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Lubbock, TX USA

The Complex U.S. Latino Voter

By Nonna Gorilovskaya

Latinos, with a population of nearly 40 million, are the nation's largest minority. They're also perhaps some of its most misunderstood voters.

The conventional wisdom is that Latinos are social conservatives and that U.S. immigration policy is one of the most important issues – if not the issue – upon which the Latino votes are lost or gained. Latinos – 7 million of whom are expected to vote in this year's election – are traditionally a Democratic constituency, and indeed John Kerry has a 2-1 advantage among Latinos over George Bush, according to polls. But the Latino vote is far from monolithic, and Latinos' values and voting behavior aren't as predictable as many think.

Democrats and Republicans – who between them are spending an unprecedented \$17 million on Spanish language ads – would do well to take a look at recent polls by Pew Hispanic Center/Kaiser Family Foundation and the Washington Post/Univision/Tomas Rivera Policy Institute (TRPI), which debunk some of the common wisdom. As it turns out, Latino voters are not

staunch social conservatives, and their presidential pick won't be determined by the candidates' stances on immigration.

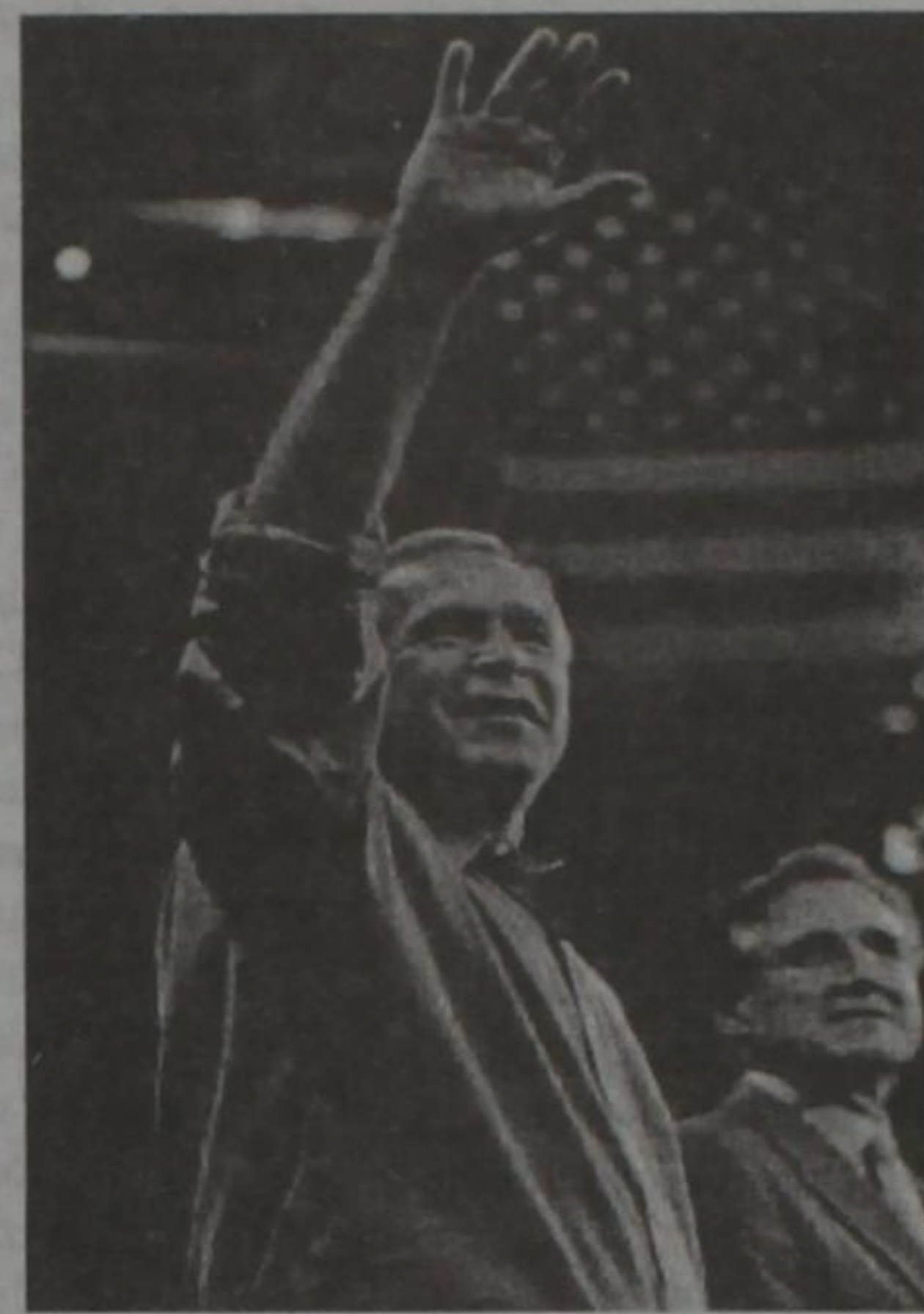
Both Bush and Kerry have neglected voters – Latino or otherwise – in California, New York, and Texas, the former two expected to be won safely by Kerry, the latter falling securely into the Bush column. Since most Latinos reside in those three states, it is safe to say that this election year, they will be feeling especially ignored. Not so for the Latino communities in the purple states of New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Florida, Wisconsin and Colorado. While Wisconsin and Colorado may not be the first names that come to mind when thinking about the Latino vote, the growing Latino populations there may just decide the election. For example, Latinos make up 4 percent of the population of Wisconsin, a state that Bush lost to Gore in 2000 by just 5,700 votes.

The majority of Latinos – 62 percent – disapprove of the way Bush is handling the war in Iraq, but it is a less salient issue than the economy and education. According to the Washington Post/Univision/TRPI poll, 33 percent of registered Latino voters named the economy as the "single most important issue" on which they would base their vote, 18 percent

education, 15 percent terrorism, and 13 percent the war in Iraq. By contrast, 20 percent of all registered voters named the war in Iraq as the "single most important" issue.

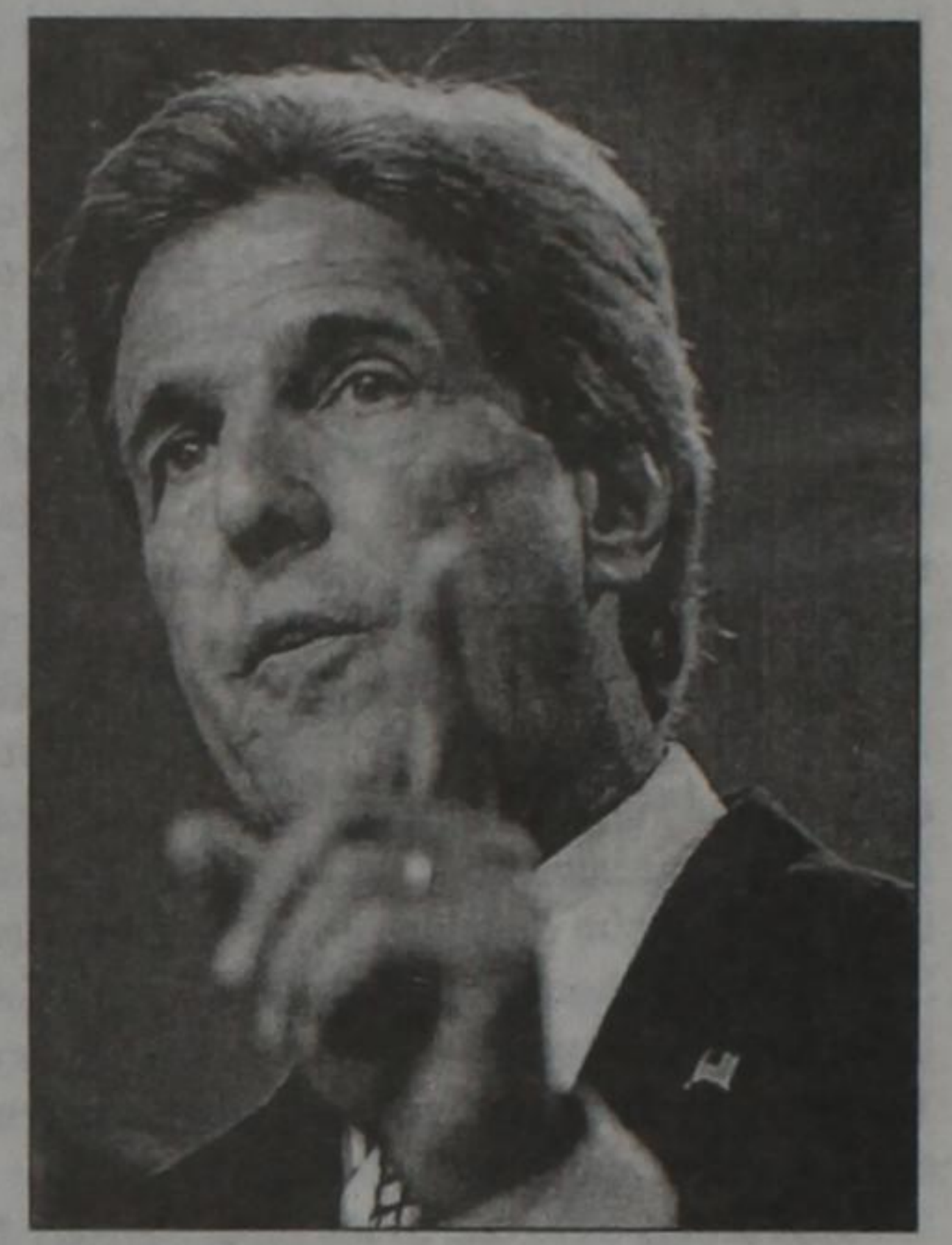
The Washington Post/Univision/TRPI poll did not offer immigration as one of the choices (a puzzling omission), but the earlier Pew Hispanic Center/Kaiser Family Foundation poll echoed its findings. When asked to name those issues that were "extremely important" in determining their vote, 54 percent of registered Latinos named education, 51 percent economy and jobs, another 51 percent health care, 45 percent terrorism, and 40 percent the war in Iraq. Immigration trailed behind these and several other issues with 27 percent. There was a wide consensus across party lines among Latinos on healthcare: 61 percent of both Democrats and Republicans said that they would be willing to pay higher taxes and insurance premiums for government to provide health insurance for the uninsured.

The Pew Hispanic Center/Kaiser Family Foundation poll also showed that Latinos were deeply divided on abortion and gay marriage, defying the stereotype that they are socially conservative and hence, a natural constituency for the Republicans. When asked if they supported the



proposed federal amendment banning gay marriage, 45 percent favored it, while 48 percent opposed it. 49 percent said that abortion should be legal either in all or most cases, while 44 percent said that it should be illegal in all or most cases.

Latinos lack high-ranking positions on either campaign, and Kerry in particular has come under criticism for failing to represent this traditionally Democratic constituency, especially given that Bush appointed Latinos to positions of power as president. Bush of course has success-



fully cultivated the Latino vote since his days as Governor of Texas and it does not hurt the president that he speaks a little bit of Spanish (same goes for the Democratic camp with Teresa Heinz Kerry being a fluent-Spanish speaker). The president's brother Jeb has done well among Latinos as Governor of Florida, which will once again be one of the mostly closely watched states this presidential election. Some excitement was generated by Kerry's consideration of New

(Continued on page 2)

A task force against immigrant smugglers created in Texas

Houston - Federal and state authorities announced today the creation of a joint task force to combat bands of smugglers in Texas.

The task force, the first of its kind in Texas, will be known as "Alliance for the Rescue of Trafficked Humans" and will coordinate the investigation and persecution of immigrant smugglers in the south of Texas and along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

It will be based in Houston and it will group agents from the FBI, Texas' Public Security Department and other area authorities.

Southern Texas' Federal Attorney, Michael Shelby, said no coordination of this sort had ever existed before with the purpose of fighting undocumented people traffic and helping those who are the victims of this activity.

This task force is the first of 12 more the U.S. Department of Justice plans to create within the next months in several areas of the country

Crean en Texas fuerza de tarea contra traficantes de personas

Houston - Autoridades federales, estatales y locales anunciaron la conformación de una fuerza de tarea conjunta para combatir a las bandas de traficantes de inmigrantes en Texas.

La fuerza de tarea, la primera de su tipo en la entidad, será conocida como "Alianza para el Rescate de Humanos Traficados" y coordinará la investigación y persecución de traficantes de personas en el sur de Texas y a lo largo de la costa del Golfo de México.

Tendrá su sede en Houston, agrupará a agentes de la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI), del Departamento de Seguridad Pública de Texas y de autoridades de los condados de la zona.

El procurador federal para el sureste de Texas, Michael Shelby, dijo que nunca antes había existido una coordinación de todas estas corporaciones de seguridad para combatir el tráfico de indocumentados y ayudar a quienes son víctimas de los traficantes.

La fuerza de tarea es la primera de 12 que el Departamento de Justicia de Estados Unidos planea conformar en los próximos meses en distintas áreas del país.

By Charlie Erickson

To twist an old phrase, what goes around hangs around. Twenty years ago this fall, there were 25 million fewer Hispanics in the United States.

Community advocates were organizing, registering record numbers of voters, and pressing for greater political say within the Democratic and Republican parties.

Los Angeles was the host city for the summer Olympic Games that year, and medal chances of several Latinos, stirred unparalleled interest in the nation's barrios.

Social and political activists were unified in pursuit of immigration reform in Congress – a perennial cause -- and in fighting a nativist movement to make English the nation's official language.

Sound familiar? Immigration reform died in Congress in '84, as it appears destined to do this year. And English-only fanatics now, as then, continue to lose their battles to rid the United States of foreign words and phrases.

With the Hispanic population now at 40 million, there are many differences in shade and degree in community interests and concerns then and now.

Twenty years ago Hispanic Link Weekly Report carried such headlines as "Slayings, Harassment Haunt Georgia Latinos" and "Fall TV Season: 22 New Shows, 1 Latino Star." Now hate crimes against Hispanic immigrants are being recorded throughout the whole South, as well as in several other states such as California.

The fall TV season? The tally for new Hispanic stars appearing on CBS, NBC and ABC prime time shows has dropped from one to zero.

Two decades ago, President Ronald Reagan proclaiming Sept. 10-16 as Hispanic Heritage Week, another item still high on the community's agenda... The Congressional Hispanic Caucus proclaiming it, too, but for different dates: Sept. 15-21.

Now the official celebration stretches a full month and President George W. Bush and the caucus are in accord. The dates of Sept. 15-Oct. 15 were formally established by Congress and affirmed by President Reagan in 1989.

Hispanic voter registration grew by a million in 1984 over 1980, from 3.4 million to 4.4 million. This year the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials projects that 7 million Hispanics will actually go to the polls in November, a million more than went in 2000.

Latinos made up 6.4 percent of the delegates attending the Democratic convention in '84 and 4.0 percent of those present at the GOP convention. This year's numbers for all "minority delegates" are Democrats, 40 percent, and Republicans, 17 percent. Neither party provided Hispanic Link with specific Latino

statistics.

Before the November election in '84, nine Latinos held congressional seats. That election raised the total by just one. All ten were males and Democrats. Today there are still no Hispanics in the U.S. Senate, but 23 serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. Seven are female and four are Republican.

Ironically, both members of New Mexico's House delegation were Hispanic in '84 (one of them was its present governor, Bill Richardson). Today the state, which has the highest percentage of Hispanics of any state in the union – 42 percent, but no Latino representatives at all on Capitol Hill.

There were no Hispanics in President Reagan's Cabinet 20 years ago. There are none in President Bush's Cabinet today.

One difference of note: running against Walter Mondale, GOP candidate Reagan drew a record 45 percent of the Hispanic vote. Current polls show George W. Bush will be fortunate to attract 35 percent.

The year 1984 also marked the birth of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, which played a key role in the

UNITY: Journalists of Color convention in Washington, D.C., this month. NAHJ's membership has grown from a couple hundred to more than 2,000 in two decades. A few dozen owners of Spanish-language newspapers formed the National Association of Hispanic Publications in '84, too. Now more than publications belong.

The Olympics? Sixteen Hispanic athletes competed for the United States 20 years ago. Led by swimming sensation Pablo Morales of Santa Clara, Calif., who captured a gold and two silver medals, together they won five golds, six silvers and a bronze. Latinas collected two of those golds and two of the silvers.

It was a banner year for Hispanic Olympians, one unlikely to be approached by this year's 18 Latino participants. But island Puerto Ricans and most all Latinos on the mainland roared with delight as the supposedly outclassed commonwealth team smothered the U.S. Olympic pros this month in the men's basketball competition.

In a decade or two more, their cheers could well be for the inauguration of the nation's first Hispanic president.

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La Presencia Hispana en el 2004, Medida con numeros, Politica y Medallones Olimpicos

Por Charlie Erickson

Para torcer un antiguo refrán, lo que sube se queda.

Hace veinte años este otoño había 25 millones menos de hispanos en los Estados Unidos.

Los abogados comunitarios organizaban, registrando a números nunca antes vistos de electores, y presionando en pro de mayor voz en los partidos demócrata y republicano.

Los Angeles fue la ciudad anfitriona de los juegos olímpicos de verano ese año, y las posibilidades de hacerse con un medallón de varios latinos removió interés sin paralelo en los barrios latinos de la nación.

Los activistas sociales y políticos se unían en busca de reformas de leyes de inmigración en el Congreso – causa perenne – y en contra de un movimiento nativista por hacer del inglés la lengua oficial de los Estados Unidos.

¿Le suena familiar?

Murió la reforma a las leyes de inmigración en el Congreso en el 84, como parece hará de nuevo este año. Y los fanáticos del English-only hoy, como entonces, continúan perdiendo las batallas por prohibir las palabras y frases foráneas en los Estados Unidos.

Con la población hispana a 40 millones ahora, existen muchas diferencias de temple y grado en cuanto a los intereses y las inquietudes de la comunidad de entonces y de hoy.

Hace veinte años los titulares de Hispanic Link Weekly Report rezaban así como "Asesinatos, acoso persiguen a los latinos en Georgia" y "Temporada de otoño en la televisión: 22 nuevos programas, un estrella latino". Hoy crímenes de odio contra los inmigrantes hispanos se registran por todo el sur, así como en varios estados más como California.

¿Y la temporada de otoño de televisión? El conteo de nuevas estrellas hispanas en los canales de CBS, NBC y ABC en horas de mayor sintonización ha caído de uno a cero.

Hace dos décadas, el presidente Reagan proclamaba del 10 al 16 de septiembre la semana de la hispanidad, otro apartado prioritario de la agenda de la comunidad. El Caucus de Congresistas Hispanos también lo proclamaba, pero para otras fechas, del 15 al 21 de septiembre.

(sigue a la pagina 4)



Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

"Abuelita, ¿qué es un demócrata?" asks a small child to his grandmother in one of many Spanish language political ads recently being aired for John Kerry.

To the child's question of what is a democrat the grandmother answers: "Ay, m'hijo, los demócratas luchan por nosotros, ya sea para más trabajos, mejores escuelas, acceso al seguro médico. ¡Lo que prometen cumplen!"

Her answer is aimed to tell the listener that democrats fight for our people, through jobs, more jobs, better school, better access to health insurance. She finishes by saying that Democrats fulfill their promises.

The ad is being placed in swing states by the Democratic National Committee because they are convinced that the Hispanic vote in Arizona, Florida, New Mexico, Nevada and Colorado could very well decide who will be the next President.

It is no surprise that Texas is being passed over for any of these types of ads but it is still amazing that democrats would not even try to at least encourage the millions of votes available from Hispanics in Texas. To me it would seem that the DNC would especially try and persuade the Hispanic votes in those congressional races in which it is obvious that a large Hispanic turnout could make a difference.

One of those races is here in Lubbock between Congressmen Neugebauer and Stenholm. According to Dr. Neil Pierson (see article on page 2), rallying a mere 5,000 new democratic Hispanic votes in West Texas could make a difference. I would think that the KNC would jump at the chance to upset one of Tom DeLay's premier efforts to change the political map in Texas. We definitely see countless ads on TV for the Democratic candidate but none directly aimed at the Hispanic vote. Perhaps that effort by the DNC or by someone in West Texas is yet to come.

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Charlie Stenholm is the Winner

By Alberto Pena

As of the date of this commentary, there are only 70 days left to Election Day.

In a Presidential Election, pundits and novices alike would not dare to hazard a prediction this early. Most political commentators consider 70 days an eternity. But I'm the type that relishes in the obvious especially when the obvious is so easy and so clear.

The political winds have whispered in my ear, "Democrat Charlie Stenholm is the Winner." Lubbock voters, as do national voters, have always voted their pocket book. It's the smart thing to do. This year will be no exception. Charlie Stenholm is the smart choice for the pocket book.

Let us examine the differences between the two candidates. The obvious starting point is each Congressman's voting record. Republican Randy Neugebauer votes according to the dictates of the National Republican leadership 98 percent of the time. It is obvious even to the casual observer that the wants of the National Republican leadership and the needs of Lubbock and West Texas are vastly different. For example, Neugebauer voted against "Headstart" This vote hurts Lubbock especially hispanics and other minorities. The Republican leadership knows nothing nor does it care about West Texas, yet Neugebauer's loyalty to what he calls "The Team" is unwavering. Therefore Republican Neugebauer does not speak nor does he vote for Lubbock and West Texas. The fact is Congressman Neugebauer is totally devoted to his bosses in Washington. It is also obvious that Mr. Neugebauer owes a big favor to the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, and to Senator Kay Bailey Hutinson. Congressman Neugebauer's loyalty to Washington insiders is solid. West Texas voters know this. They know that a vote for Republican Neugebauer is a vote for Tom Delay.

Democrat Charlie Stenholm's voting record is glaringly different. Mr. Stenholm votes with the President when it is good for West Texas and with the Party when it is also good for West Texas. But when a bill is bad for our region he votes against it. It is clear to this commentator that Mr. Stenholm definitely favors Lubbock and West Texas. Charlie Stenholm is without a doubt the best choice for Farmers. He is also the best choice for anyone who knows how the Seniority system works in Washington. The smart vote will go to the Senior Congressman. Voting the Party Line is bad for Lubbock.

This brings us to one of the most obvious differences in Mr. Stenholm's voting record; He is an "Independent." West Texans like independent representatives. They always have. They lament the straight party voter because the party needs and wants seldom reflect the deeply held core values of the people of West Texas. Charlie Stenholm's voting record has earned him the well deserved "Blue Dog" moniker. He is staunchly Pro-Life. He values hard work, family, education, and health care. Mr. Stenholm core values are definitely West Texan. Mr. Stenholm is a graduate of Texas Tech. He is a home town boy who knows what we value and what we need.

Congressman Stenholm's voting record shows that he is willing to reach across the political aisle in the House of Representatives to vote in the best interests of West Texas. This means he is willing to negotiate and compromise. In politics, people who negotiate and compromise get things done. West Texas voters know this and they like it.

It is obvious to me that Charlie Stenholm is the Winner. Lubbock voters know this too. They will vote for the "Best Man" with the best voting record who can get things done for the people of Lubbock and West Texas. Lubbock voters have never voted for the "Party Loyalist." If West Texans vote smart, and this writer believes they will, they will vote for Charlie Stenholm.

Why No Hispanic on a National Ticket?

By Carlos D. Conde

Hispanic community leaders have been talking up the potential of the Latino vote in this year's presidential election as one to be reckoned with. With this much perceived strength and the growing visibility, you'd think by now it would have created at least some speculation about a Latino on a national ticket.

The Democratic convention is over and the Republicans meet in a few weeks but nothing is going to happen this time around. Latinos may be flexing their voting muscle but they are still not at the juncture where they can broker a candidacy for national office.

A reason is that there are no viable Latino prospects as running mates. Put another way, candidacies are very much about appeal, and a Latino on a national ticket just doesn't politically compute at this particular time.

It was easy for President Bush. He'll stick with Dick Cheney. Even if he dumped Cheney, and wanted to consider a Latino, there are no Latino Republicans with sufficient political credentials to give the national ticket a boost.

What about former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel Martinez, now running for the U.S. Senate from Florida. There's White House counsel Al Gonzales.

Both have limited experience or recognition on a national level. Most people have never heard of them.

After that, it gets down to the level of the Republican congressional delegation like the Cubans, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, the Diaz-Balart brothers, Lincoln and Mario, and San Antonio's Henry Bonilla. Winning the lottery is a better bet.

The Democrats had more to work with. Before their national convention, speculation was that New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson was on John F. Kerry's short list. Richardson magnanimously bowed out before he got the word, but all bets were that he would have said yes if asked despite his professed love for the New Mexico governor-

ship. Pickings are just as slim after you get past Richardson. Henry Cisneros looks like he might want to rehabilitate his political career, but he's long way from the political heights he reached before he got involved in a philandering scandal.

There are currently no Latino political stars in Washington. Few of the 20 Latino Democrats in Congress that make up the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have any name recognition beyond their districts.

As chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, an office with clout, Cuban-American Bob Menéndez of New Jersey is the highest ranking Hispanic in Congress, but he seldom ventures outside his New Jersey base and has show little interest in building a national name.

The Latino private sector and non-government organizations boast a growing number of successful executives but few ever run for national or even statewide office. Therefore, they never build a political track record that would give them national visibility or appeal.

Political apprenticeship in a big city or state is usually a prerequisite and proving ground for national office but other than Richardson, the Latino political farm system has not done well lately at developing the profile that Washington requires.

Latinos also don't have the chutzpah of such former presidential hopefuls such as Ross Perot, Ralph Nader, Pat Buchanan, The Rev. Jesse Jackson and or the Rev. Al Sharpton, who know they have no chance of winning but want to make a statement and they like the temporary idolatry.

The exception is Peter Miguel Camejo, 65, a Latino of Venezuelan descent who is running for vice president as an independent on the Ralph Nader ticket. Camejo, who was born in New York and lives in Folsom, Calif., has a long history (continued on page 4)

Five years and Still Waiting to Go, In Two Weeks They Get Relief!

By Abel Cruz

I've been keeping up with the city council's discussions concerning the spending of more than 1 million tax payer dollars to build potty houses at Lake Alan Henry. That's all fine and good; if you happen to be able to afford to live out there. I mean, everybody's gotta go sometime, right?

But wait! What about the po' folks that live right here inside the city limits? Where do we go and, well, just go? If we happen to be waiting for the hole to be dug at the so called Fiesta Plaza, at the used to be known Canyon Lakes, now known as the Jim Bertram Lake System, looks like we better just hold it!(does anybody know who in the world Jim Bertram is?)

In 1999, five long years ago, soon to be 6, the citizens of this city, not Kent or Garza County, approved a bond election that earmarked funds, along with State funds, to build a plaza at the entrance to the lake site off University Ave. To hear all the commotion at the groundbreaking ceremonies back in May, this was the second coming for all lake lovers.

And now in August, 3 months later, what do we have? We have zilch, nada, squadooch, zero! Oh, we do have a sign that says that the plaza is coming. At least that's what I saw, while there a couple of weeks ago.

"Dear Mayor and city council, can we get a potty break? (Mrs. DeLeon, where are you, still looking for typos?)"

Here's the deal: The city has scalping rights to the water, and the water only, and that's about it. The property owners own the land for the most part. Yet because the high society muckity mucks that live at the lake want to have the newest facilities to entertain their friends on a Saturday night, the city feels obliged to build a million bucks worth of amenities. So here we are ready to spend more than a million buckaroos so that Mr. and Mrs., "I have so much money I own a big house at the lake, and I sued the city so I could build a boat dock at the lake, and want the best and nothing but the best so I can show off that I have money", Jones, don't have to strain themselves when they have to go!

To G. Boren's credit, the better half of the "not over my dead tax dollar" Boren and Martin tag team (and I'm glad somebody's looking out for the little guy Mrs. DeLeon, Mrs. Jones, and Mr. Price), he recognized that the whole deal smelled fishy and managed to put a lid on it for a couple of weeks!

But, don't worry Mr. and Mrs. "my boat is bigger than your boat" Jones, you'll get your potty houses, and boat docks, and whatever else you want.

And why? Because, the city invited bids that will expire in September and heaven forbid that we let those deadlines pass and upset those wealthy bidders!

What a crock of dead fish! The people of this city deserve better. They deserve to know that their hard earned tax dollars which the city takes in are being well spent. Why is it that we have to rely on bonds to build much needed facilities at the recreation spots that we use, and the high society muckity mucks at the lake get a free ride? How is that fair?

It's not! But that's what happens when you have people on the council that keep quiet and go along to get along. My advice to those whose foot fits nicely in the proverbial shoe is this: look around your districts, look at the tall weeds growing in the median between the East loop and Idalou highway on 19th street that haven't been cut in more than a few years, look at the weeds growing around the Cherry Point sign at MLK and 4th, look at the people who work day after day to feed their families and sacrifice to pay taxes! Look at the deterioration of the neighborhoods in East and North Lubbock in Arnett Benson; look at the efforts being made by volunteer's at the Hispanic Cultural Center so that it may be something that the community can be proud of, I bet they could use some funding help!

Oh, sorry, gotta go! Hope I can find a can!

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The Mexican American Vote in Lubbock County - An Unrealized Potential

Neale J. Pearson, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Texas Tech University
Mexican American Voter Turnout is Low Compared to Anglo and Overall County Turnout

One of the more important elections of recent U. S. history faces us November 2, 2004, in terms of Mexican voters determining whether to support George Bush's War on Iraq, Tax cuts for the very wealthy, Medical Care for the poor and the elderly, privatization of the public schools through vouchers and charter schools whose academic achievements are less than those of the public schools and a host of other measures. In all of these policy areas, Hispanic voters—principally Mexican Americans—have an important stake in Lubbock County. Unfortunately, even if Mexican Americans form 35% of the citizens of Lubbock County, at best no more than 15-20% of them are registered to vote. If we add up the number of registered voters in eleven precincts in North Lubbock and East of University Avenue where there is a significant Mexican American population, from Arnett-Benson to Guadalupe to O. L. Slaton, Brown and Harwell, the total number of registered voters in November 2002 was 20,564 (13.5% of those 152,633 registered. As of August 3, 2004, despite the efforts of various groups such as LULAC Council 263, the West Texas Organization Strategy (WTOS) and the Democratic Party, there are

22,237 registered, 1,673 more or only 14.7% voters of the 151,340 voters registered at the beginning of this month.

If we take eleven Anglo precincts where Democratic candidates such as Tony Sanchez, John Sharp, Linda Yanez or Aurora Chaides Hernandez received 30% or more of the votes in 2002—such as Rush, Roscoe Wilson, Haynes, Honey and Evans Jr. High, the number of registered voters was 29,426 voters or 19.3% of the total registered November 1, 20002. At the present time, 34,521 persons (22.8%) are registered or 5,095 more in those primarily Anglo precincts. That is a much more substantial increase in number of registered voters and it did not come about as the result of activity by LULAC, WTOS and the Democratic Party.

In the November 2002 election, 5,069 citizens voted of those 21,013 registered in those eleven primarily Mexican American precincts or 24.1% Guadalupe and O. L. Slaton Jr. High were the only precincts with substantial numbers of Hispanic voters that had over 30% of those registered voting. In our primarily Anglo sample, 2,942 persons (44%) voted. Three (Parsons, Rush and Roscoe Wilson) had 45-46% of their voters going to the polls. County-wide, 36.9% of those registered voted. That's the bad news.

Now the Good News—for Democrats

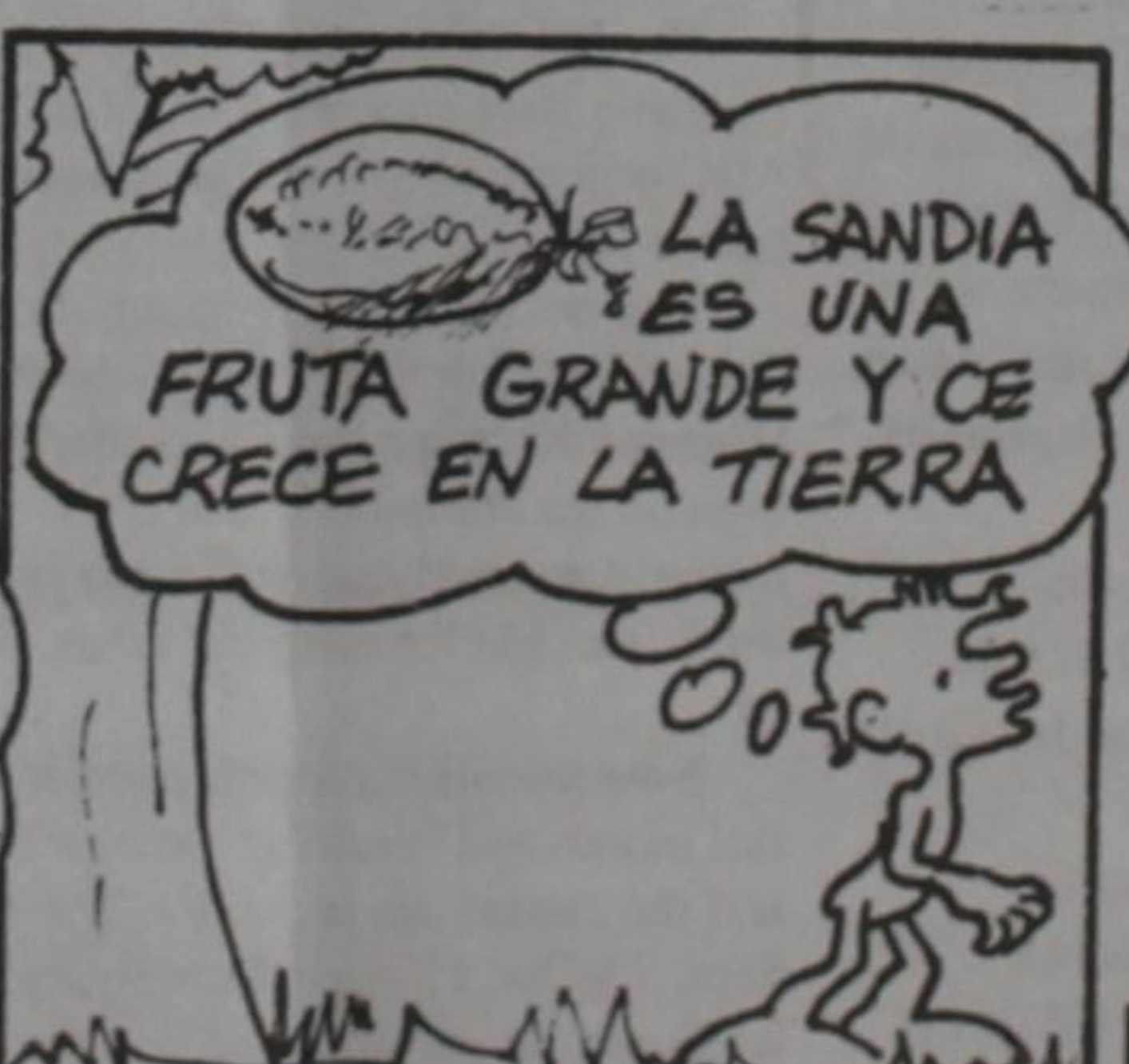
In November 2002, Floyd Holders—running for Chief Justice of the

Court of Appeals in Amarillo—received 20,154 votes (37%) in the county, the highest of any Democratic candidate. The next highest vote getter was John Sharp at 20,017 votes (35.9%). Tony Sanchez received 15,932 (28.6%) in his race for Governor. Linda Yanez, running for Place 1 on the Texas Supreme Court, received 14,448 votes or 26.7%.

John Sharp received 3,103 votes or 15.5% of his votes in the set of eleven primarily Mexican American precincts. He received 67.4% of the vote at Wolfarth Elementary, 74% at McWhorter, 83.5% in Guadalupe but only 44.6% at O. L. Slaton, thus showing the appeal of David Dewhurst to many Mexican Americans as well as Anglos in that precinct. Sharp received 3,940 votes or 19.7% of his total in the eleven Anglo precincts that supported one or more Democratic candidates by 30% or more—a much higher total number of votes than from the Mexican American precincts. Assuming Sharp's support is a good indicator of how well Charlie Stenholm might do, if 30% of the primarily Mexican American precincts turned out to vote, and if 60% of them supported Stenholm—much less John Kerry—that would mean 6,671 votes or 3,568 more votes for a Democratic candidate. Given no change in the number of votes received by Sharp (Stenholm) in the rest of the County—not very likely—that would mean a total of 23,585 votes for Sharp-Stenholm or 41.8% of the total of 56,392 cast in 2002. If we increase the total number of votes in the county by

5,000 more Mexican Americans in the county—an additional 1,432 in other precincts—for a total of 25,017 for Sharp-Stenholm out of a new total of 61,392 votes cast in the county—with no increase in the Anglo and Black totals—that would mean a total of 40.7% voters for Sharp-Stenholm. With 60% totals for Stenholm in Abilene and Big Spring and possibly 70% in the other rural counties of the district, a win for Stenholm is a strong possibility. And a 40% plus vote in Lubbock County and the High Plains—combined with a high turnout of Mexican Americans in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio could protect four other Democratic incumbent Congressmen whom Tom Delay and Tom Craddick are trying to remove through the 2003 gerrymandering.

The eleven Mexican American precincts are 1 (Wolfarth), 2 (Arnett) 3, McWhorter, (4) Jackson, (5) Guadalupe, (8) Ramirez which is now decimated by the McDougall project, 17 (Dupre), 18 (O. L. Slaton), 19 (Bean), 25 (Brown), and 26 (Harwell). If we replace Ramirez with Precinct 38 (Stephen F. Austin School in Slaton) which gave 56.1% of 523 voters to Sharp compared to 57.9% of 132 voters at Ramirez (8% turnout in November 2002), that is a welcome increase for Sharp-Stenholm



Latino Vote (from Page 1)

Mexico's Latino Governor Bill Richardson for the veep spot, but Richardson withdrew his name from the running. Richardson of course chaired last month's Democratic National Convention (he closed the proceedings in Spanish) and made New Mexico quite popular among delegates by handing out 6,000 jars of his signature salsa.

Washington Post columnist Marcela Sanchez has criticized both parties for paying too much attention to immigration and Cuba when presenting their case to Latinos, given that those are not the most important issues to these voters. Arguing that a more "nuanced courtship" of the Latino voter is needed, Sanchez has also blamed stereotyping for the record amount of money spent on Spanish-language ads this year, pointing out that 80 percent of registered Latinos are primarily English-speakers. However, according to the Washington Post/ Univision/TRPI poll, 65 percent of these voters say that the candidate's ability to address them in Spanish is either "very important" or "somewhat important." Ironically, Spanish-language advertising maybe more critical for the Republican Party—usually not known for its support of bilingualism—because immigrants are seen as more likely to vote Republican than the U.S.-born Latinos. Republican Party Chairman Ed Gillespie, noting that "a slight shift among Hispanic voters" in states like New Mexico and Florida "can tip the Electoral College," said that Republicans "do better in households where Spanish is the principal language." In short, the parties are playing their cards right in terms of the language of the message, but as the recent polls suggest, it is the message itself that needs fine-tuning.

El Editor Newspaper

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Extreme poverty and poverty down in Mexico - is there reason to brag?

By Patrick Osio

Big news - Mexico proudly announced amid pomp and congratulations from the World Bank along with self back patting that from 2000 through 2002 the number of Mexican citizens living in extreme poverty had decreased from 24.2 to 20.3 million citizens or down to 19 percent of the total population. Extreme poverty is defined as those who don't even have or earn enough to feed themselves adequately. The second bit of good news is that those living in poverty, but not extreme, decreased from 69.6 to 51.7 million or 49 percent of the population. So that between the extremely poor and poor there are a total of 72 million Mexicans (68 percent of the population) living in such conditions. So that out of a population of 105 million only 33 million do not live in some form of poverty - and this is something to be brag about?

But progress is progress and I shouldn't knock it. But is it real progress and is it due to Mexico improving economic opportunities for the poor? Is it due to massive industrial and commercial infrastructure improvement projects? Is it due to large infusions of capital investment by both Mexicans and foreign investors? Well, no.

Within the report, the national population council reported that at least 2.3 million from the extreme poverty sector migrated to the US and it has been their remittances that have elevated those from extreme poverty into the "just" poverty sector. Further research indicates that once the immediate needs are met from remittances, then families begin to invest in "micro" family businesses further elevating them into the upper crest of the less poor.

So that the progress Mexico has made reducing extreme poverty and poverty has been on the back and risk of those who flee such conditions to improve their family's lot, not due to do-

Campaign to Promote Hispanic Vote Quickens

A group of celebrities and civilian leaders joined forces only more than two months before presidential elections, to try to raise the number of Hispanic voters, which are still low.

The National Bureau of Census states within its 2004 report that with more than 39.9 million people, Latins have become the most important ethnic minority in the U.S. Out of this number, only 8.9 million are registered to vote.

This means more than six million Spanish-speakers are not enabled to vote, and this campaign is focused in reaching them.

"Our mission is to stimulate this base, involving them in the political process and by doing so, to generate favorable changes for them" Phill Colon, founder of the "Voto Latino" organization, said.

The sector this campaign wants to address is that of young people, that is why some ways of reaching them are music and television so they can get conscious about the importance of being registered to vote.

Among the celebrities helping this program we can find actress Rosario Dawson, her colleague Nina Sky as well as "Fat Joe" and Tego Calderón.

"The ability of choosing our leaders, that is power", reads one of the TV commercials aired on TV network "MTV", which is also mounting a campaign to encourage young people to go to the ballots regardless of their ethnic origin or race.

mestic economic policies or programs initiated by Mexico's leaders.

President Fox who can be credited for acknowledging that in fact Mexicans leave Mexico in search of a better life due to their government's failure, contrary to the decades of PRI governments, has now seemingly become reliant on the remittances sent by those "heroes" as he first described them when he took office on December 1, 2000, stating that the \$14 plus-billion in remittances in 2003 proves that "Mexicans themselves have decided to invest in their own country."

What hogwash! What it proves is that for seventy-one years the corruption and mismanagement under the 11 PRI six-year administrations, and inability under the Fox PAN administration thus far, Mexicans are still forced out of their own country if they don't want their children to starve; if they want their family to live in a home not made of cardboard. It speaks of people whose love of family and desire to improve their lot is far stronger than their fear of human predators and of trekking across deadly deserts. And it speaks of a people that once in the US will take any job, endure abuse, insults, exploitation and mistreatment while living in conditions oftentimes as bad as those they left behind just for the chance to earn money allowing them to get by while here and be able to send a portion home.

With pride the Mexican economic ministry predicts that remittances, which have been growing each year going over the \$14 billion mark in 2003, will increase for 2004 to possibly \$16 billion - as though this is a challenge like the Jerry Lewis marathon attempting to beat the previous year's pledges. Already they point out, remittance dollars have surpassed dollar income from tourism, and foreign investment with the potential to surpass even oil export revenues.

Fox, and indeed all those in office from whatever political party should hang their heads in shame instead of the audacity they display in this human tragedy they call success. Instead of coming to Bush asking for a program for amnesty and guest worker program, he should be here with a program of economic development and build up of the necessary infrastructure to create more and better paying jobs for his people.

He may find that such a program coupled with a guest worker program for those industries truly needing Mexican labor would sit far better not only with the US political sector but also with the general population that is tired of the ever increasing flow of illegal immigration.

Las Telenovelas son Mi Propio Salon de Clase

Por Marisa Treviño

A estas alturas toda mi familia y la mayoría de mis amigos más cercanos saben que si quieren conectarse conmigo por la noche durante la semana, me tienen que llamar después de las siete.

No es que no esté en casa, sino que entre las 6.00 y las 7.00 pm

me dedico a lo que me gusta llamar un ejercicio de desarrollo personal. Mis hijos lo llaman ver mis telenovelas en español.

Es exactamente lo mismo.

Según mis mejores cálculos, voy por la telenovela número catorce. Antes no admitía ser afi-

cionada de las novelas. Sin embargo ahora, si grupos de personas con títulos universitarios pueden compartir cervezas y papitas mientras apuestan por programas como "El soltero" o "Sobreviviente", sé que puedo confesarme tranquilamente.

El ver telenovelas nada tiene que ver con la morbosidad de los programas de realidad que tienen tanta popularidad hoy. La verdad es que es un ejercicio en desarrollarse a sí mismo. Nos permite aprender de otra cultura - o en mi caso - volver a conocer a una cultura a la vez familiar y extraña.

De varios años a esta parte, la impresión generalizada en los Estados Unidos sobre las telenovelas, gracias a una sátira originada por una propaganda de moda, es la de un espectáculo lleno de emoción con poca sustancia. En un momento esta impresión acertaba. No obstante, con el tiempo llega la madurez que ha permitido que la telenovela evolucione no sólo hacia un género de los medios digno de una segunda reflexión, sino también que se hiciera un prisma vital de los sentimientos, más profundos y de las pasiones de una sociedad con frecuencia malentendida de este lado de la frontera.

El caso que más me agrada es de cuando muchos en los Estados Unidos acusaron a México de no condenar con suficiente rapidez los ataques terroristas del 11 de septiembre. Se suponía que por lo que se demoró el presidente Vicente Fox, todo México era indiferente.

Este concepto queda invalidado con ver una sola vez el escenario de una telenovela popular en esa época. Trata de un grupo de jóvenes y los vaivenes típicos de sus vidas. Después de los ataques del 11 de septiembre, de repente apareció la bandera estadounidense en el trasfondo de uno de los escenarios. Los personajes sollozaban al hablar, del ataque contra las Torres Gemelas. Pronto algunos llevaban camisetas decoradas flamantemente de "I love New York" o con una imagen de la bandera.

Si me hubiera perdido esa novela, habría sido fácil convencerme que me una a las criti-

Telenovelas Are My Personal Classroom

By Marisa Treviño

By now, all my family and most of my close friends know that if they want to reach me on a weeknight, they have to call after 7 p.m.

It's not that I'm not home. But between 6 and 7, I am doing what I like to refer to as an exercise in self-improvement. My children refer to it as watching my Spanish soaps.

It's one and the same.

As best as I can figure out, I am now on my fourteenth telenovela. I never used to admit to being a novella-watcher. But if groups of the college-educated can share beer and pretzels while placing bets on shows like "The Bachelor" or "Survivor," I know it's safe to make my confession.

Watching novelas, is unlike the voyeuristic viewing of today's popular reality programs. It's really an exercise in self-improvement. It allows us to learn about another culture - or in my case, to reacquaint myself with a culture that is at the same time familiar, yet foreign.

For several years now, the U.S. mainstream impression of telenovelas, courtesy of a popular commercial spoofing them, is that of a melodramatic show high on emotion and low on substance. And at one time that was an accurate assessment. Yet with time comes a maturity that has allowed the telenovela to evolve not only into a media genre worthy of a second look, but as a vital window into the deeper feelings and passions of a society too often misunderstood on this side of the border.

My favorite example of this is when many in the U.S. accused Mexico of not condemning the terrorist acts of Sept. 11 quickly enough. It was assumed that because Mexico's President Vicente Fox took his time that all of Mexico felt indifferent.

One look at the set of a popular telenovela at the time proves that assumption wrong. It was a story about a group of young people and the typical ups-and-downs in their lives. After the Sept. 11 attacks, a U.S. flag suddenly appeared on the back wall of one of the sets. The characters spoke tearfully about the World Trade Center attack. Soon, some of the characters were wearing t-shirts emblazoned with I Love New York or a picture of Old Glory.

Had I not seen that novela, I would easily have been swayed to join in the criticism.

Luckily, I knew better. So since then, I sit and watch

storylines that would surprise many people who think the average Mexican or Central American spends all of his or her waking hours scheming ways to break our immigration laws and steal our low-paying jobs.

I see the growing pains of a society coming into its own being played out on the small screen: a family's struggle over the question of abortion in a country where traditionally the Church has been more influential than the government; the efforts to overcome corruption that is as engrained within the fabric of the justice system as tortillas are in the daily diet; the daily battles against drug lords, illegal loggers and a gulf that still divides the haves from the have-nots.

But at the same time, I am connecting to a country that is my ancestral homeland. I am improving my comprehension of a language that when I was a child was as natural to me as English.

I am seeing a country through the eyes of its people today and not through long-held memories of what it was like yesterday. And, in a small way, I am reinforcing the family heritage with my children.

Thanks to efforts like those of the Spanish television network Telemundo which close-captions its programming in English, it's easier for my children and their generation who are not fluent in Spanish to gather these same insights and make these necessary connections.

In these times when being egocentric and ignorant of what happens outside this country is no longer acceptable, the more we can know about other cultures, even if it's through a soap opera, is better than being taken by surprise.

Sometimes all it takes to learn about others is to just tune in.

cas contra México.

Felizmente yo contaba con otra perspectiva.

Por ende, desde entonces, me siento y veo desarrollarse dramas que sorprenderían a muchas personas quienes creen que el mexicano o centroamericano promedio se pasa todas las horas tramando cómo violar nuestras leyes de inmigración y cómo robarnos los trabajos de bajos ingresos.

Lo que yo veo en la pantalla chica son los dolores que ocasiona el desarrollo de una sociedad haciéndose suya: la lucha de una familia con la cuestión del aborto en un país en el que la iglesia ha tenido más influencia tradicionalmente que el gobierno; los esfuerzos por sobreponerse a la corrupción tan arraigada en el tejido del sistema judicial como las tortillas en la dieta diaria; la pelea diaria contra los traficantes de drogas, de madera, y el golfo que todavía separa a los que tienen de los que no tienen nada.

Al mismo tiempo me estoy conectando con una tierra ancestral. Voy mejorando mi comprensión de un idioma que de niña me era tan natural como lo es ahora el inglés.

Veo a un país por los ojos de su gente actual, y no por la nostalgia de cómo era antaño. Y, aunque sea mínimamente, refuerzo la herencia familiar con mis hijos.

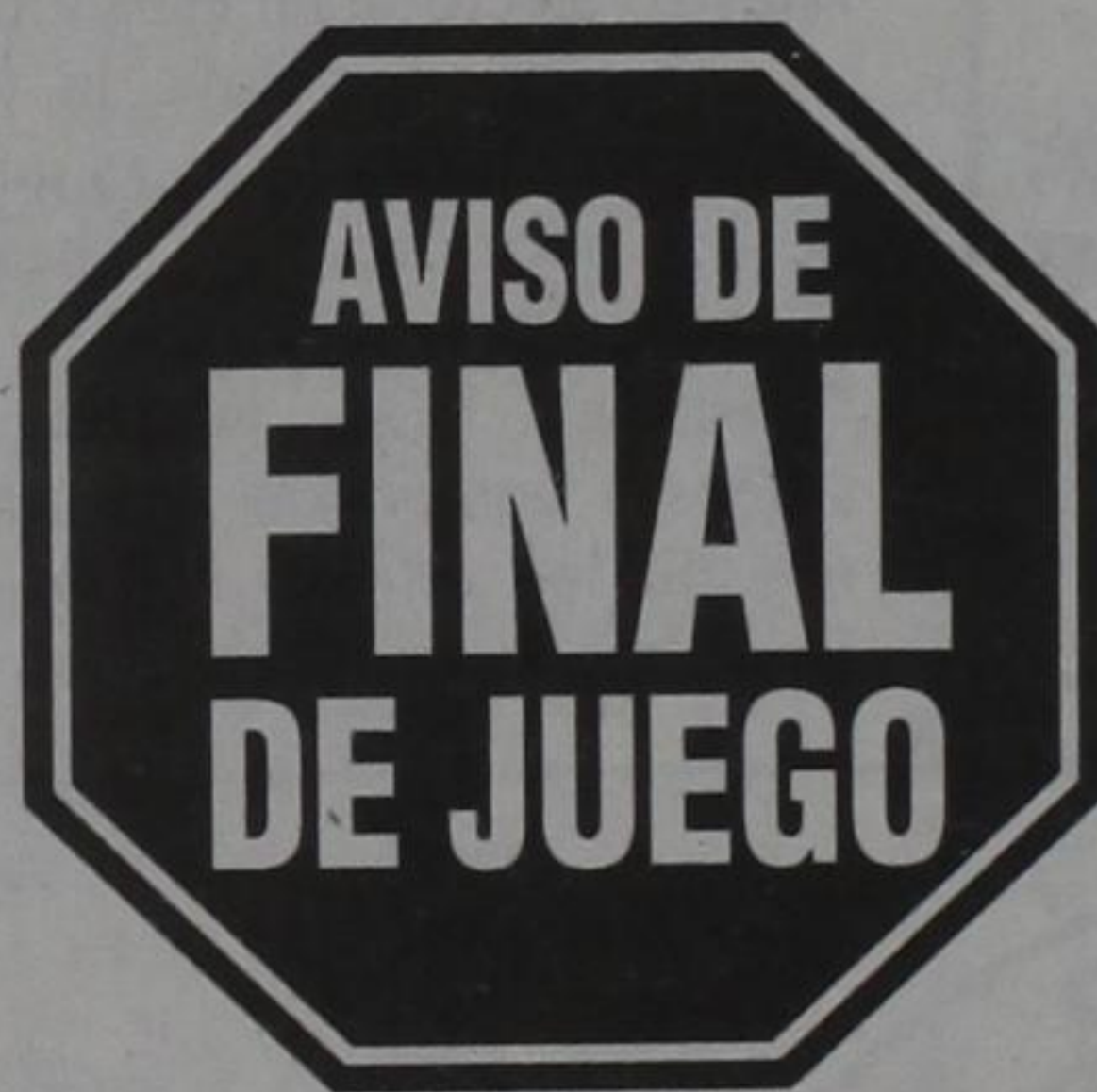
Gracias a los esfuerzos de, por ejemplo, la cadena en español, Telemundo, que ofrece subtítulos con sus programas originalmente rodados en inglés, se les hace más fácil a mis hijos y a los de su generación que no tienen fluidez en español oír la misma comprensión y hacer las mismas conexiones necesarias.

Hoy, que ya no se acepta ser ignorante ni egocéntrico en referencia a lo que ocurre afuera de las fronteras de este país, mientras más sabemos de otras culturas, aunque la información nos llegue mediante telenovelas, menos nos agarrarán de sorpresa.

A veces es necesario simplemente sintonizarse para aprender de otros.

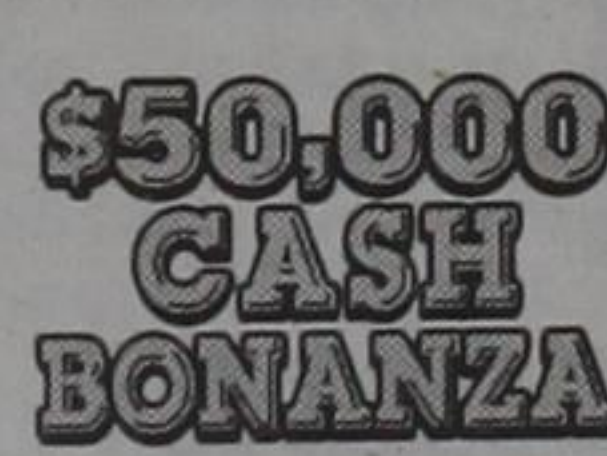
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*Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.39



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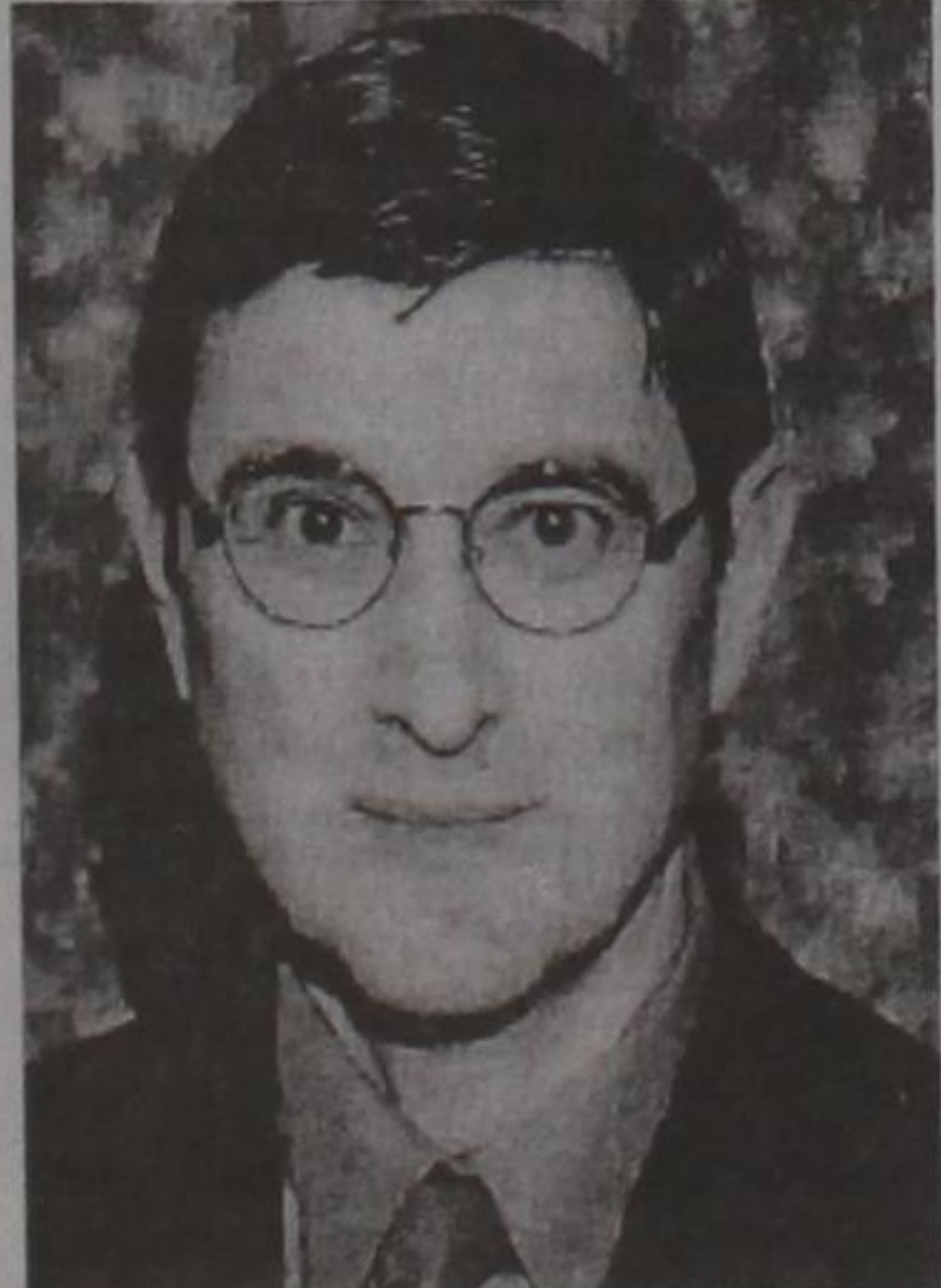
El número de premios en un juego se basa aproximadamente en el número de boletos ordenados. La cantidad de premios disponibles depende en la cantidad de boletos impresos, pruebas, distribución, venta y cantidad de premios cobrados. *Las probabilidades listadas son las posibilidades de ganar cualquier premio en estos juegos, incluyendo los premios del mismo precio del boleto. AVISO: Un juego de raspar puede seguir vendiéndose aun cuando todos los premios mayores han sido cobrados. Si tienes preguntas o para más información sobre los premios que quedan en los juegos de raspar, por favor llama a la Línea de Servicio al Cliente de la Lotería de Texas al 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886). Debes de tener 18 años de edad o más para poder comprar boletos de la Lotería. © 2004 Texas Lottery Commission. Todos los Derechos Reservados.

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Team USA remains unbeaten, unscored upon in Softball



have three "mercy rule" wins in the tourney; they've won 75 consecutive games; four of the five American victories have been one-hitters; and Canada (2-3) was just the second team to get a runner to third base.

After taking her pregame warm-ups, Finch threw her first pitch at precisely 5 p.m. local time. At 5:05, she was back in the dugout after striking out the side. Moments later, the rout was on.

With Olympic basketball team members Richard Jefferson and Emeka Okafor watching from the stands behind home plate, the closest thing the U.S. has to a Dream Team anymore made it business as usual.

Speed, power, defense and pitching. The Americans have it all.

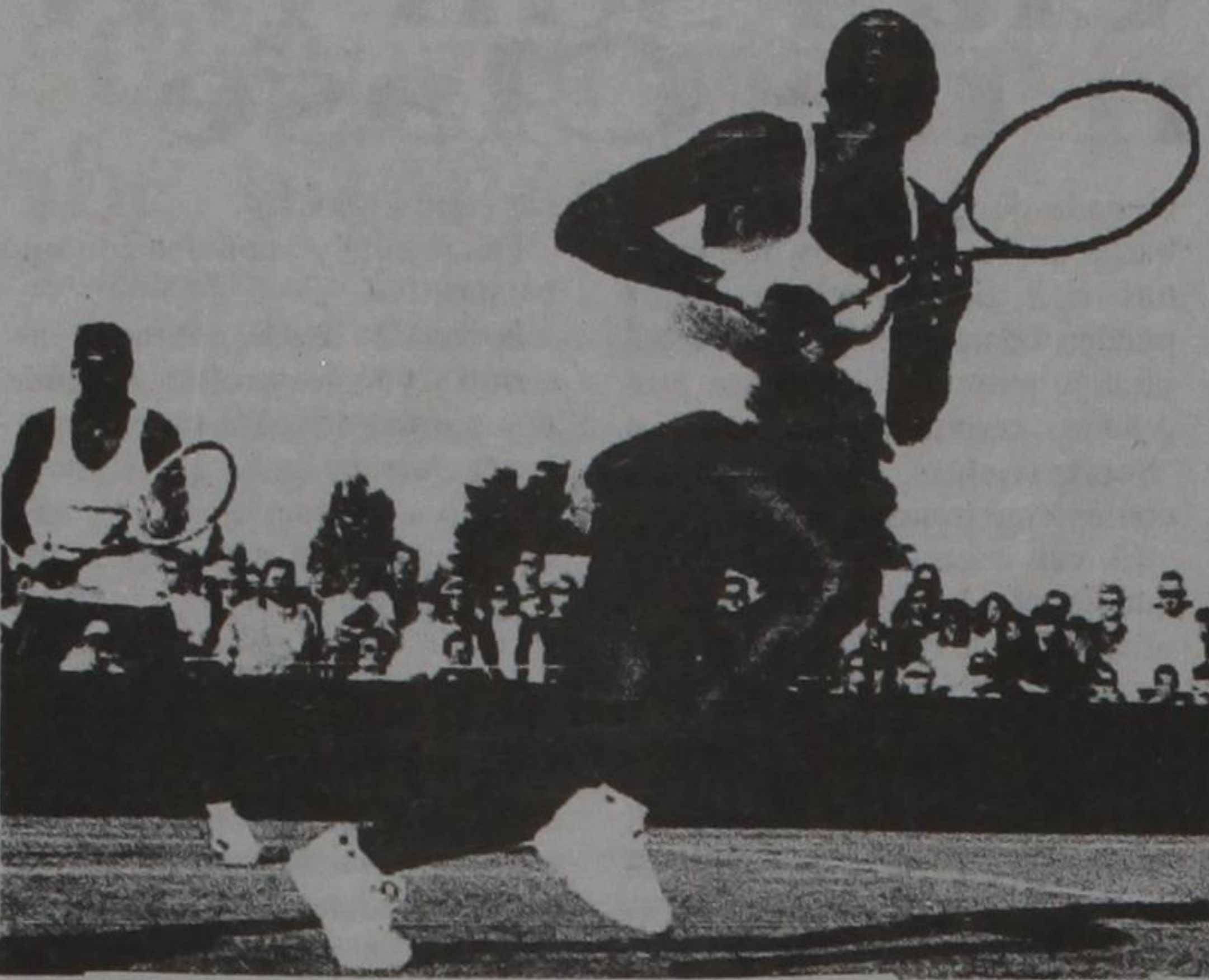
Watley, whose wheels kickstart the U.S. engine, turned infield

grounders into base hits in the first and second, setting the tone. Bustos and Fernandez hit back-to-back homers to center in the fourth, after second baseman Lovianne Jung and catcher Stacey Nuvevan combined to keep the field scoreless against the U.S.

And then there was Finch, the glamour girl with serious game, who ran the U.S. pitching staff's scoreless streak to 30 innings. She overpowered the Canadians, who could manage only an infield single.

With the U.S. up by six, Fernandez's RBI single in the fifth scored Bustos to make it 7-0, ending the game per international rules that state any team leading by seven after five innings is declared the winner.

The Americans didn't waste any time.



Venus, flustered Roddick ousted in Olympic tournament

Andy Roddick hit one last errant shot into the net and hung his head, his medal hopes over. A short while later, Venus Williams was gone, too.

In back-to-back stunners at the Olympic tennis tournament, Roddick was upset by No. 16 Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-4, 6-4, and defending gold medalist Williams lost to Mary Pierce of France 6-4, 6-4.

Frustrated by a call and his hard-hitting opponent, the second-seeded Roddick was upset by No. 16 Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-4, 6-4 in the third round Wednesday.

Roddick had a chance to extend the match in the final game, getting four break points, but he failed to convert any. That was a pattern throughout the match: Roddick wasted his chances, and Gonzalez converted his.

It was bad day for Roddick's U.S. teammates, too: No. 16 Chanda Rubin lost to No. 2 Amelie Mauresmo of France 6-3, 6-1, and Lisa Raymond was eliminated by Alicia Molik of Australia 6-4, 6-4. Of Americans in early action, only Taylor Dent won, beating Ivan Ljubicic of

Croatia 6-4, 6-4.

The hardest server in the world, Roddick did compile 12 aces against Gonzalez. But he was broken once in each set, including at love to fall behind 5-4 in the second. By then, though, he appeared distracted by an extended argument with the chair umpire that began late in the first set and dragged into the second.

The Roddick stunner came a day after No. 1 Roger Federer lost to 18-year-old Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic, leaving the men's tournament without its two biggest stars.

It was a striking change of fortunes for players who met in the Wimbledon final last month, when Federer won his second straight title there. Now both need to regroup quickly before heading to New York for the U.S. Open, which starts Aug. 30 and is played on the same hard courts used for these Olympics.

Roddick will be defending his only Grand Slam title there, and he'll have to play better than he did in Athens. He barely escaped the second round Tuesday night, saving three match points before

beating Tommy Haas 9-7 in the third set.

Maybe that drained Roddick, because he quickly found himself in trouble Wednesday, broken in the third game of the match. He missed a forehand, then double-faulted twice, and Gonzalez smacked a backhand down the line to go up 2-1. Gonzalez raised a fist in Roddick's

direction and yelled "Vamos!" Still, Roddick had an opening when Gonzalez served for the first set at 5-4.

Unable to do much against the Chilean's serve all match, Roddick was at 15-30 when he got a good read on a second serve and smacked a deep forehand return. It landed right at the baseline near Gonzalez's feet.

Consider this: the Americans beating Canada 7-0 on Thursday in five innings to clinch a spot in this weekend's semifinals. Crystl Bustos and Lisa Fernandez homered for the two-time defending gold medal-winning U.S. squad, which has outscored its opponents 31-0 and appears to be in a class by themselves in the eight-team field.

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Rock the Vote refuerza su iniciativa dirigida al elector latino

Nueva York - En un año en que el voto latino podría ser decisivo en el resultado de las elecciones presidenciales, la organización Rock the Vote, dedicada a informar y atraer electores jóvenes, refuerza su iniciativa dirigida al votante hispano de EEUU.

Esta organización independiente y sin fines de lucro llegará al votante latino a través de una alianza con la emisora de radio en Internet Batanga.com, que ofrecerá información sobre las elecciones y formularios de registro electoral en español.

La iniciativa incluye la traducción al español de las guías de información básica "Essentials to Voting" y "Elections 101", además de videos y entrevistas con algunos de los artistas latinos de Rock the Vote, entre ellos las

bandas Molotov, Kinky y Ozomatli.

A través del portal de Batanga.com, los potenciales electores hispanos también podrán unirse a los "equipos de calle" (Street Teams) de Rock the Vote, suscribirse al boletín de la organización y realizar donaciones para los programas dirigidos a los hispanos.

Estos servicios y la información ofrecidos en el sitio web de Batanga.com también aparecerán posteriormente en rockthevote.com, indicaron las organizaciones en un comunicado.

"Llegar a los jóvenes electores latinos es clave para alcanzar nuestra meta de registrar un millón de nuevos electores y movilizar a 20 millones de personas entre los 18 y 30 años de edad para el día de las elecciones", dijo Jehmu Greene, presidente de Rock the Vote.

Fundada en 1990 por miembros de la industria discográfica, Rock the Vote protege la libertad de expresión e informa a los jóvenes de sus derechos como electores, así como sobre su papel crucial en

continúa en la página 6

La presencia Hispana en el 2004, Medida con numeros, política y medallones olímpicos

Hace dos décadas, el presidente Reagan proclamaba del 10 al 16 de septiembre la semana de la hispanidad, otro apartado prioritario de la agenda de la comunidad. El Caucus de Congresistas Hispanos también lo proclamaba, pero para otras fechas, del 15 al 21 de septiembre.

Ahora la celebración oficial se extiende un mes entero y el presidente Bush y el Caucus están de acuerdo. Las fechas del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre las estableció formalmente el Congreso, con la firma del presidente Reagan, en 1989.

De 1980 a 1984 el registro de electores hispanos creció por un millón de personas, de 3.4 millones a 4.4 millones. La proyección para el presente año de la National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials es que irán a las urnas en noviembre 7 millones de latinos, un millón más que los que fueron en el 2000...

Los latinos eran el 6.4 por ciento de los delegados que asistieron a la convención demócrata en el 84 y 4.0 por ciento de los que fueron a la convención republicana. Este año, las cifras para delegados minoritarios son 40 por ciento de los demócratas y 17 por ciento de los republicanos. Ninguno proveyó a Hispanic Link cifras específicas de latinos. Antes de los comicios de 1984, nueve latinos ocupaban escaños en el Congreso. Los comicios de aquel año aumentaron el número por uno. Los diez miembros del Congreso eran hombres y demócratas. Hoy aun faltan hispanos en el Senado de los Estados Unidos, pero hay 23 en la Cámara de Representantes. Siete son mujeres y cuatro son republicanos.

Es irónico que ambos miembros de la delegación de la Cámara de Nuevo México eran hispanos en 1984 (uno era el actual gobernador, Bill Richardson). Hoy el estado, con el mayor porcentaje de hispanos de todos los estados de la nación - 42 por ciento, sin ningún representante en el Capitolio.

No hubo ningún hispano entre los miembros del gabinete del

presidente Reagan hace veinte años. Tampoco hay entre los miembros del gabinete del presidente Bush hoy.

Hay que notar una diferencia: En campaña contra Walter Mondale, el candidato republicano Reagan atrajo un insólito 45 por ciento del voto hispano. Los sondeos actuales muestran que con suerte George W. Bush atraerá un 35 por ciento.

El año 84 también marcó el nacimiento de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispanos, que jugó un papel clave en la convención de UNITY: Periodistas de Color llevado a cabo en Washington este mes. El registro de miembros de la NAHJ ha aumentado de unos doscientos a más de 2,000 miembros en dos décadas. Unas cuantas docenas de propietarios de periódicos en español formaban la Asociación Nacional de Publicaciones Hispanas también en el 84. Hoy cuenta mas que 200 publicaciones.

¿Las olimpiadas? Dieciséis hispanos compitieron por los Estados Unidos hace 20 años. Líder entre ellos era el nadador sensación Pablo Morales, de Santa Clara, California, quien capturó el medallón dorado y dos de plata, y entre todos ganaron cinco medallones dorados, seis de plata y uno de bronce. Las latinas recogieron dos de los de oro y dos de los de plata.

Fue un año espectacular para los deportistas hispanos de las olimpiadas, año que difícilmente alcanzarán los 18 competidores latinos de hoy. Sin embargo los puertorriqueños y otros latinos, tanto del continente como de la isla, rugieron de alegría al ver que el equipo isleño sin clasificación ganó a los profesionales del equipo olímpico de los Estados Unidos en una competencia de baloncesto masculino.

Dentro de una o dos décadas más, el rugido bien podrá ser por la inauguración del primer presidente hispano de la nación.

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Hispanic Candidate (from page 2)

of political activism on the West Coast and is considered somewhat of a political flake.

He is a co-founder of the California Green Party that advocates environmental protection, social justice, peace and nonviolence. He has run in almost every recent California gubernatorial race where he usually gets about three percent of the vote. He also ran for President in 1976 on the Socialist ticket

Educated at MIT and now the chief executive officer of a financial investment firm, Camejo's latest political effort is the "Avocado Declaration," a part of his "Avocado Education Project" that says Democrats and Republics have a jointed conspiracy that benefits a small wealthy constituency.

The only Latino to run for president was the late Ben Fernández, a California multimillionaire and former Nixon administration official.

Like Camejo, he was well educated and wealthy and had a maverick personality that didn't sit well with the GOP political establishment. His platform called for immigration reform, affirmative action, revamped social program and a balanced budget.

Fernández ran in the 1980 Republican primary, campaigning tirelessly and making the ballot in 16 states. He got 23,423 votes, about 7.6 million fewer than Ronald Reagan, but 17,457 more than Bob Dole.

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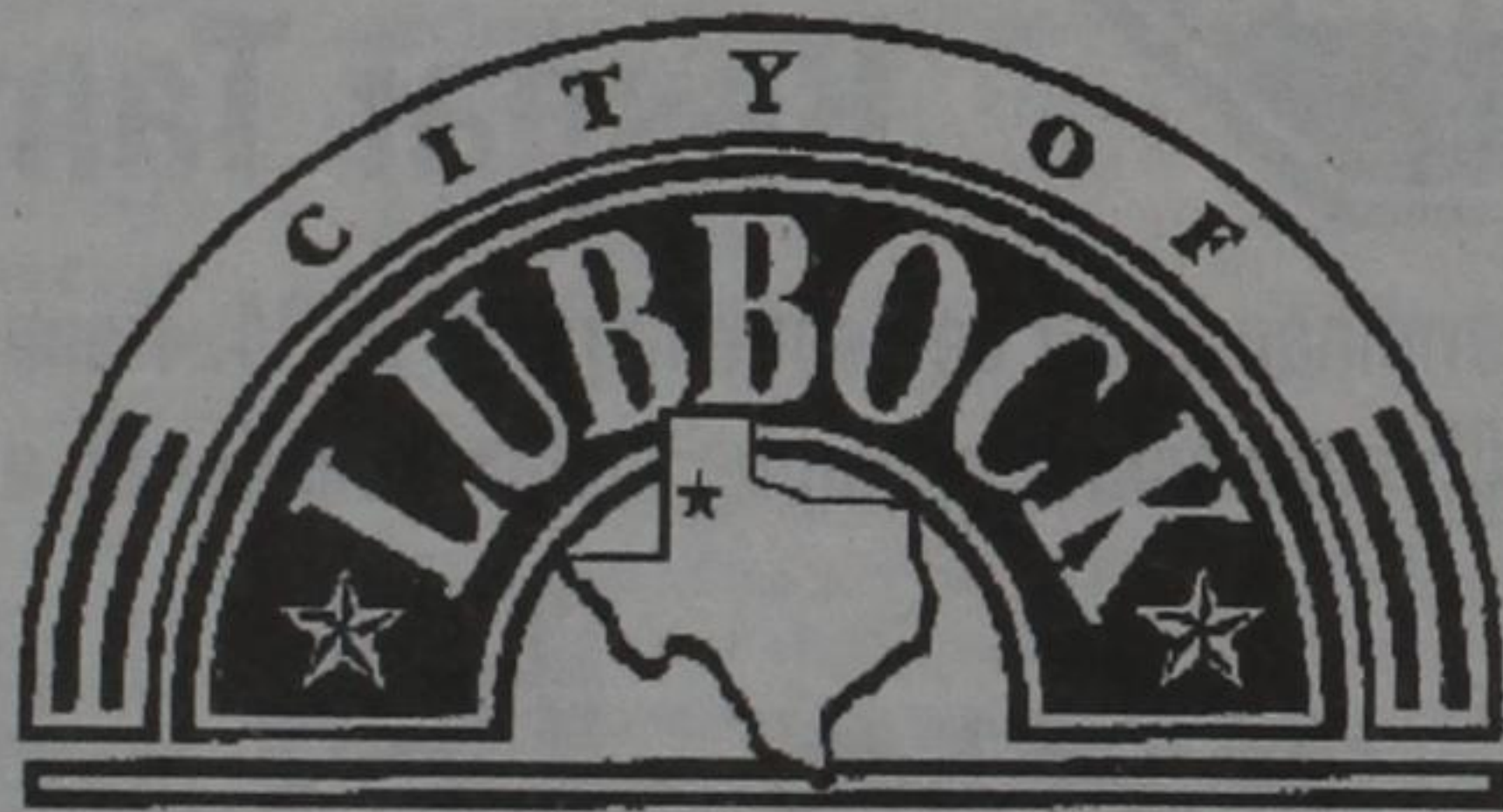
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Siempre Léa El Editor Primero

Nominan a autor Victor Villaseñor para el Premio Pulitzer



Julieta Venegas to play in tribute to Santana

Mexican pop-rock singer Julieta Venegas, who is nominated for three Grammy Latino Awards for her most recent album, "Si", was invited by Carlos Santana to sing during the tribute for him as "Person of the year" being held upcoming August 30 in Los Angeles.

The interpreter of "Andar conmigo" is very excited about the invitation, which comes as the final jewel in the crown of a great year, stated BMG, the singer's recording firm, in a communiqué dated in that U.S. city.

Venegas is nominated for the Grammy Latino in the categories for Record of the Year, Song of the Year, "Andar conmigo", and Best Vocal Solo Album, "Si".

The album was recorded in Madrid and Buenos Aires and produced by Coti Sorokin, Cachoro López, and Julieta herself, since she composed, interpreted, and co-produced the material in addition to playing the acoustic guitar, the accordion, and the keyboards.

Julieta, whose distinct style derives from having grown up in the bi-cultural, bilingual environment of the U.S.-Mexico border, was on tour in the United States when she learned that Santana had personally asked that she be one of the guests at

the event.

As part of this tour, Venegas had performed at the VIC Theater in Chicago; the Latino Cultural Festival at the Queens Theater in the Park in New York; where she delighted audiences with her music about which the media said, "it ranges from bossa nova to funk and from reggae to bolero."

Last July 30 Julieta appeared at New York's legendary SOB'S, and although currently she is on tour in Spain with Alejandro Sánz, she will return to the United States for appearances at several events such as "The Person of the Year" (Agust 30).

On the previous day, the 29, she will attend the Grammy Latino party, the 31 she has a presentation at the Club Avalon, and September 5, at the "6th Annual Latin Pride", her intensive work schedule includes presentations in Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, and Guatemala.

For the industry media, Julieta is the first female voice of the Latina Alternative music genre to break the mold with successful sales and hits on the radio, where she has not only placed one song but two, "Andar conmigo" and "Lento" both sounding great in several countries, one of which is the United States.

Por Jorge A. Arizmendi-Peña-loza

El escritor Victor Villaseñor fue nominado el lunes 9 para recibir el premio Pulitzer por su más reciente publicación "Burro Genio".

Villaseñor es el segundo autor de origen hispano en competir por el galardón más grande que se le otorga cada año a escritores y periodistas.

El libro que originalmente fue publicado en inglés estará disponible en español en 11 meses. Burro Genio, que llevará por título en la lengua de Cervantes es una autobiografía del autor de Lluvia de Oro, Pasos Locos al Cielo, Trece Sentidos, entre otros libros que en corto tiempo se convirtieron en los más vendidos.

En "Burro Genio" Villaseñor critica a los profesores que hacen sentir a los niños hispanos como tontos (burros) y que por llamarlos así todo el tiempo inhiben al genio que todos llevan dentro.

Pero el éxito de Villaseñor se ha empañado con la dislexia, una enfermedad que al principio le causó llanto y ahora es el reflejo de su triunfo.

Villaseñor fue diagnosticado con dislexia severa a los 44 años, cuando llevó a sus hijos al doctor para que les hicieran exámenes de la enfermedad. Durante el examen la doctora que lo atendió en una clínica de Long Beach le dijo que nunca había visto un caso de dislexia tan severo en toda su carrera.

"La doctora salió al pasillo llorando. Al verla yo también empecé a llorar", dijo Villaseñor. "En ese momento entendí porque tuve tantos problemas en el segundo, tercer año y el resto de mi carrera con la lectura y la escritura".

Villaseñor dijo que siempre empieza sus libros en inglés, ya que se le hace más fácil, porque su instrucción académica la ad-



quirió en el lenguaje de Shakespeare.

"Cuando escribo en español me dicen que tengo pésima ortografía", dijo Villaseñor y soltó una carcajada. "Siempre les contesto y en inglés también, porque soy disléxico".

Villaseñor dijo que cuando le diagnosticaron la dislexia de escritura, también notaron que tenía problemas para diferenciar sonidos. "Me dijeron que era afortunado al poder diferenciar los sonidos de los pájaros".

El escritor atribuye su éxito a los ruegos a Dios; siempre le pedía, que si era para su bien que le iluminara el camino. "Dios me ha concedido el Don de escribir a pesar de ser disléxico, por ese milagro yo me moriré escribiendo".

Burro Genio iba a ser la primera obra escrita de Villaseñor, pero estaba muy enojada

con el sistema educativo de los Estados Unidos que se tuvo que retrasarlo y su primera obra fue Macho.

Villaseñor dijo que Burro Genio lo empezó a escribir cuando tenía 22 años, pero por la forma en que lo escribía las editoriales se lo rechazaron 265 veces, creó por lo menos 50 versiones del libro, que guarda en su cochera y finalmente a los 63 años de edad pudo iniciar el proceso de la publicación de su autobiografía.

"La perseverancia es muy importante", dijo Villaseñor. "La publicación de Burro Genio me llevó 41 años, pero nunca me di por vencido".

En Burro Genio Villaseñor describe sus años en el kinder y la primaria, que fue durante el tiempo de represión que los maestros no permitían que se

hablara español. Siempre le molestaba que en la escuela no les permitieran hablar español.

En el libro describe a Ramón, un niño rebelde que no le permitía a la maestra que le exigiera que no hablara español. "El era fuerte no se dejaba y le decía no me grite. Una ocasión la maestra lo dejó bañado en sangre por rebelde", dijo Villaseñor.

El sólo pensar en lo sucedido con Ramón le daba más coraje y el libro era el medio para descargar su coraje por de la impotencia de no haber podido hacer nada por defenderlo.

También describe a algunos maestros que le decía que por ser latino solo podía sacar Cs en todas sus clases y siempre lo hicieron sentir burro, y por el hecho de no ser blanco no podía ser un genio.

No fue sino hasta que un día no llegó uno sus maestros y mandaron a un sustituto por 3 días. Ese fue el inicio de su carrera de escritor, porque ese profesor suplente hizo que despertara el genio que llevaba adentro.

Burro Genio es el primer libro de una serie de tres, el segundo libro tendrá como título "Loco, Crazy Love" y el tercero se llamará tal vez "Suerte".

Villaseñor presentó su libro al público de Riverside en días pasados y sus palabras inspiraron a los espectadores. Todos se sorprendieron cuando escucharon que padecía de dislexia.

Linda Acosta, trabajadora de admisiones en el Departamento de Urgencias del hospital Parkview se inspiró cuando Villaseñor dijo que todos eran burros, pero también todos llevaban el espíritu de genio.

"Las palabras del autor me llenaron de positivismo", dijo Acosta. "Sus consejos los voy a practicar con mis nietos. Los haré sentir que son genios y no burros".

New Study:

Hispanics at Risk for Strokes

SAN ANTONIO -- Hispanics suffer more strokes than Anglos, but diabetes -- a major risk factor for stroke -- doesn't explain why, according to the latest findings from a study that tracked stroke victims in Corpus Christi, Texas, over a three-year period.

Scientists had believed they would find that most strokes suffered by Hispanics would be a less-severe kind that can be caused by elevated blood sugar levels. Hispanics suffer higher rates of diabetes, which leaves them with elevated blood sugar.

But when researchers from the University of Michigan and the University of Texas Health

Science Center at Houston looked at the types of strokes suffered by Mexican-American patients, they found them just as likely to suffer more serious strokes -- and they were stricken at younger ages.

"What we found is that they do have more strokes, but they are of the same severity as non-Hispanic whites," said Dr. Lewis Morgenstern, director of the University of Michigan Stroke Program and lead author of the study. "They have more strokes and they have more bad strokes." The researchers collected data on every stroke that occurred in Nueces County between January 2000 and December 2002. The effort involved private doctors, hospi-

tals, nursing homes and the county medical examiner.

Most of the county population resides in Corpus Christi, and the majority of area medical facilities are there, making what doctors described as "a great natural laboratory" for a population-based study.

The first findings, announced in April, showed Hispanics had a 15 percent to 110 percent higher risk of stroke, depending on age. The highest risk was in people younger than 60.

The latest analysis is included in reports published this

week in the journal Neurology and in the American Journal of Epidemiology. It is drawn from a closer study of 402 strokes that were caused by blocked blood vessels in the brain, either because of clots that originated in the heart or because of narrowed arteries. Researchers found no significant difference in the type of stroke that Hispanics in Nueces County were likely to suffer.

"What it tells us is that diabetes is not the entire explanation for this health disparity," Morgenstern said.



Fahrenheit 9/11 released on DVD a month before US Election

The box office smashing success, "Fahrenheit 9/11", will be released on DVD next October 5 as a new offensive from Michael Moore to undermine George W. Bush's image one month before presidential elections.

The tape, which premiered last June in more than one thousand screens all over American theaters and raising more than 115 million dollars, unveils the business ties between the Bushes and Al-Qaeda's leader, Osama Bin Laden.

For Scott Hettrick, editor of the monthly magazine "DVD Exclusive", the good reception of the film in the DVD format is a sure one, breaking records as it did in theaters. "This will be the most successful documentary turned into the video format", he stated.

Moore, who has openly supported Democrat presidential candidate John Kerry, intends his message reaches a broader

audience, who will be able to see an extended version of the film, with the purpose of mobilizing those who are still undecided not to give their vote to Bush.

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Relleno: Mezcle las migas, todo el queso, el comino, sal y pimienta al gusto. Llène los chiles con la mezcla.

Masa: Caliente el aceite de Crisco, por lo menos ¾ de una pulgada, en un calderón grande hasta que llegue a 350°. Bata las claras de los huevos, añada las yemas, incorporando una a una.

Procedimiento: Cubra los chiles con un poco de la harina, y páselos por la masa. Deje freír los chiles hasta que estén dorados y escúrrelos en una toalla. Coloque todo en una cacerola, cubra con mas queso y hornéelos por unos 2-3 minutos. Sirve inmediatamente.

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"La Maquina Musical"

¿Por Que Falta Un Hispano en la Papeleta?

Por Carlos D. Conde

Los dirigentes de la comunidad hispana se han esmerado en realzar el potencial del voto latino en los comicios presidenciales de este año. Con tanta fuerza percibida y una visibilidad creciente, se pensaría que para hoy se hubiera creado aunque sea un poco de especulación sobre la aparición de un latino en la papeleta nacional.

Ya se acabó la convención de los demócratas y se acerca la de los republicanos, pero nada va a ocurrir esta vez. Los latinos puede que estén posando como electores fuertes, pero no han llegado a la coyuntura de poder agenciar una candidatura a nivel nacional.

Una razón es que no hay prospectos viables de latinos como candidatos a vice-presidente. Dicho de otra forma, la candidatura se trata mucho de carisma, y un latino en la papeleta nacional no computa políticamente a estas alturas.

Para el presidente Bush fue sencillo. Se quedará con Dick Cheney. Así dejara a Cheney, y

quisiera considerar a un latino, no existen latinos republicanos con suficientes credenciales políticas como para impulsar una papeleta nacional.

Pero, ¿qué del antiguo secretario de vivienda y desarrollo urbano, Mel Martínez, en pos del escaño en el Senado de Florida? También tenemos al asesor jurídico de la Casa Blanca, Al Gonzales.

A ambos les falta experiencia y reconocimiento a nivel nacional. La mayoría de la población ni ha oído hablar de ellos nunca.

Después de esto, se remite al nivel de la delegación republicana del Congreso como los cubanos, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, los hermanos Díaz-Balart, Lincoln y Mario, y Henry Bonilla de San Antonio. Es mejor apostar a la lotería.

Los demócratas tenían mejores perspectivas. Antes de su convención nacional, se especulaba que el gobernador de Nuevo México, Bill Richardson, estaba entre los candidatos que escogería John F. Kerry. Magnánimo, Richardson se retiró de la conti-

enda antes de recibir ninguna invitación, aunque todos apostaban a que aceptaría si le ofrecieran la vice-presidencia, muy a pesar de su amor profesado por el gobierno de Nuevo México.

Se disminuyen igual las opciones una vez descartado Richardson. Pareciera que Henry Cisneros quisiera rehabilitar su carrera política, pero está muy distante de las alturas a las que llegó antes del escándalo de faldas.

Actualmente Washington carece de estrellas políticas latinas. Muy pocos de los 20 demócratas latinos del Congreso miembros del Caucus de Congresistas Hispánicos, son reconocidos más allá de sus propios distritos.

Como jefe del Caucus demócrata de la Cámara de Representantes, un puesto que lleva influencia, Bob Menéndez, cubano americano, es el miembro de mayor categoría hispano del Congreso, pero poco se aventura más allá de su base en Nueva Jersey, y ha mostrado poco interés en hacerse un nombre a nivel nacional.

En el sector privado de los latinos y organizaciones no-gubernamentales, se jactan de un número creciente de ejecutivos exitosos, aunque pocos se lanzan a candidaturas nacionales, ni estatales. Así, nunca fomentarán una carrera política que les otorgue visibilidad o carisma a nivel nacional.

Ser aprendiz en la política en una gran ciudad o en un estado normalmente es el requisito y campo de batalla para llegar a un puesto nacional. Sin embargo, con la excepción de Richardson, el sistema de proliferación de políticos latinos no ha rendido mucho últimamente en cuanto a desarrollar el perfil que requiere Washington.

Tampoco cuentan los latinos con las agallas de otros que en el pasado se han lanzado a la presidencia, como Ross Perot, Ralph Nader, Pat Buchanan, el reverendo Jesse Jackson y el reverendo Al Sharpton, quienes saben muy bien que no tienen posibilidades de ganar pero que quieren hacerse oír y disfrutar de la idolatría temporal.

La excepción es Peter Miguel Camejo, de 65 años, descendiente de venezolanos, que se lanza a la vice-presidencia como independiente en la misma papeleta que Ralph Nader. Camejo, nacido en Nueva York, residente de Folsom, California, tiene una larga historia de activismo político en la costa oeste y se le considera un poco superficial, políticamente.

Camejo es co-fundador del partido de los verdes en California, que aboga por la protección del medio ambiente, la justicia social, la paz y contra la violencia. Ha sido candidato en casi toda contienda reciente por gobernador de California en la que obtiene normalmente un tres por ciento del voto. También hizo campaña como candidato a presidente por el partido socialista en 1976.

Con un título del Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT por sus siglas en inglés) y ahora ejecutivo principal de una empresa de inversiones financieras, el último esfuerzo político de Camejo ha sido la

"Declaración Aguacate", parte de su "Proyecto de Educación Aguacate" que alega que los demócratas y los republicanos comparten un complot que beneficia a un grupo pequeño de electores con mucho dinero.

El único latino en lanzarse a la candidatura presidencial fue el difunto Ben Hernández, un multimillonario de California y anterior funcionario de la administración de Nixon.

Así como Camejo, tenía dinero y una buena educación y era rebelde de personalidad, lo cual no agradaba al establecimiento político republicano. Su plataforma se basaba en la reforma de la inmigración, acción afirmativa, un programa social reformulado y el presupuesto balanceado.

Fernández hizo campaña durante las elecciones republicanas de 1980, haciendo campaña sin tregua y alcanzando ser nombrado en la papeleta de 16 estados. Consiguió 23,423 votos, unos 7.6 millones menos que Ronald Reagan, pero 17,457 más que Bob Dole.

Refuerza Su Iniciativa dirigida al elector latino viene de la pagina 4

la generación de cambios sociales y políticos significativos.

Entre sus logros, se apunta el haber registrado a tres millones de electores jóvenes a través de sus diferentes iniciativas, entre ellas sus equipos de calle, que promueven el activismo cívico en conciertos, festivales comunitarios, universidades y cafeterías.

Su estrategia es simple: involucrar a los jóvenes en la política incorporando la industria del entretenimiento y la cultura popular juvenil en sus actividades.

De esta manera, los jóvenes ven la participación política como algo divertido y que está a la moda.

Entre los artistas de Rock the Vote se encuentran Aerosmith, Drew Barrymore, Beastie Boys, Sean "Puffy" Combs, Tom Cruise, Michael Douglas, Nelly Furtado, Whoopi Goldberg, Lenny Kravitz, Los Lobos, Rob Lowe, Madonna, Alanis Morissette, Red Hot Chili Peppers, REM, Santana, Sting y U2.

La iniciativa dirigida a los electores jóvenes hispanos se creó en el 2002 con un evento en Los Angeles para recaudar fondos en el que se presentó la banda chilena La Ley, la mexicana Lila Downs y el grupo Kinky.

Ese mismo año, patrocinó dos anuncios de televisión bilingües con la banda Molotov y realizó 100.000 llamadas telefónicas a electores registrados entre los 18 y 24 años de edad con un mensaje grabado del comediante de origen colombiano John Leguizamo.

Rock the Vote señala que el 2004 "representará un año crucial para EEUU, ya que los candidatos presidenciales deberán enfrentar los desafíos de un mercado laboral restringido, la guerra, el diseño de una nueva política de salud y el matrimonio entre homosexuales".

Para cumplir con su misión, la organización lanzó el mes pasado el tour "Get on the Bus", con un autobús que recorrerá las 50 principales ciudades de EEUU en los próximos cinco meses.

El autobús realizará paradas estratégicas en Boston para la Convención Nacional Demócrata (26 al 29 de julio), en Nueva York para la Convención Nacional Republicana (30 de agosto al 2 de septiembre) y en Miami para el primer debate presidencial.

Rock the Vote dice que existen varios malentendidos respecto al poder de los jóvenes en los procesos políticos, y apunta que en las elecciones presidenciales del 2000 votaron 18 millones de jóvenes, o el 16 por ciento de la población total con derecho a voto.

La organización cita además un sondeo reciente que mostró que el 83 por ciento de los estudiantes de pre-grado de la Universidad de Harvard "definitivamente" o "probablemente" votará en el 2004 EFE

Bush: 70,000 troops to be with drawn from Europe, Asia

The United States will withdraw up to 70,000 troops from Europe and Asia over the next decade in a move to meet the new threats facing the world, President George W. Bush said Monday.

Germany will bear the brunt of the biggest US military reorganization in 50 years with two army heavy divisions -- numbering about 30,000 troops -- to be brought home and replaced with a brigade of about 3,600, defense officials said.

The United States has already announced plans to withdraw some 12,500 troops from its 37,000-strong contingent in South Korea.

Bush said the United States wanted "a more agile and flexible force" and that between 60,000 and 70,000 troops would return to the United States along with about 100,000 civilian employees and families of soldiers.

An administration official said the changes will take seven-to-10 years to carry out.

"For decades America's armed forces abroad have essentially remained where the wars of the

last century ended in Europe and in Asia," Bush told a convention of US veterans in Cincinnati as he presses his campaign for the November 2 presidential election.

He said the current US force posture was designed to counter Soviet aggression but added: "The threat no longer exists."

"We'll move some of our troops and capabilities to new locations so they can surge quickly to deal with unexpected threats. We'll take advantage of 21st-century military technol-



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gies to rapidly deploy increased combat power."

Bush promised the United States would retain "a significant presence overseas," but also that the changes "will reduce the stress on our troops and our military families."

Military campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq have stretched the US military, but Bush reaffirmed the US commitment to finish the campaigns.

He said there would be savings from base closures but officials were unable to give figures.

The United States has been



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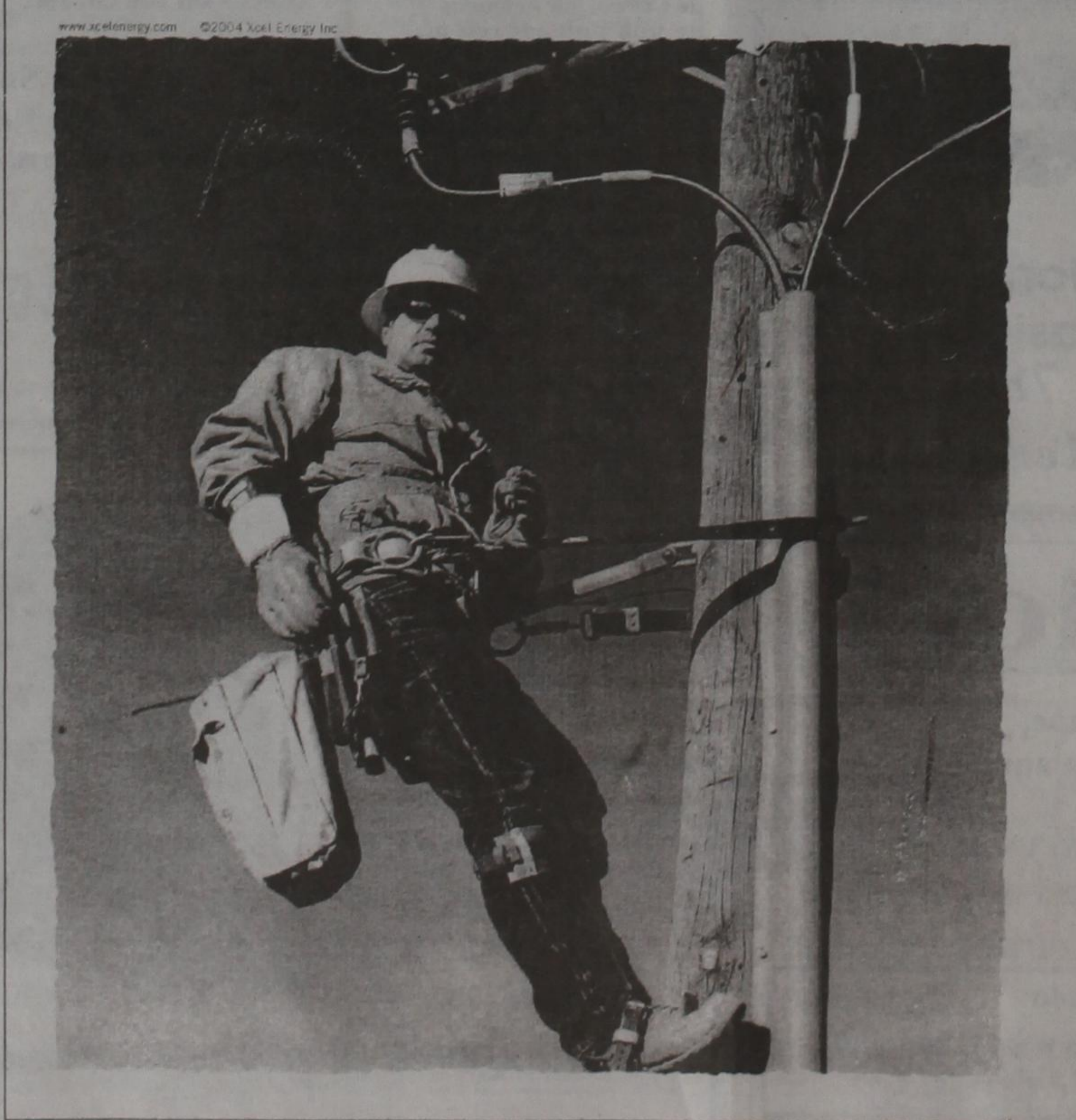
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Llame 762-3068 Lubbock, TX



HACER CONTACTO CON CABLES DE ALTA TENSION PUEDE CAUSARLE LA MUERTE. EVITE TOCAR CON PALOS, ESCALERAS, CAÑAS DE PESCAR O PODADORAS QUE TENGAN UNA LONGITUD DE MAS DE 10 PIES (3 METROS).

"Evite hacer contacto a través de herramientas, cuerdas, cometas o cualquier otro objeto con los cables de alta tensión por que puede causarle la muerte. Igualmente, es un riesgo un cable derribado por vientos huracanados o tormentas por que pueden entrar en contacto con tierra u otros objetos. Cuando usted observe un cable caído, aléjese del lugar inmediatamente y comuníquese con la línea de emergencia número 1-800-895-1999. En caso de haberse producido incendio o haber sufrido lesiones, llame inmediatamente al 911. Señor padre de familia permítame un consejo -- si sus hijos intentan trepar a un árbol, los menos indicados son los que están cerca a los cables de alta tensión. No se arriesgue, manténgase alejado como mínimo 10 pies (3 metros) de distancia de los cables ya sea estando en su casa o en su jardín. Recuerde: El hecho de mantenerse alejado del peligro, es mantenerse con vida."

Xcel Energy. Usted recibe toda nuestra energía.

Tom, Lineman

Para más consejos de seguridad, visite nuestro sitio web www.xcelenergy.com.

