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Spanish Conquistador's Statue Sparks Protests in Texas

The arrival of an equestrian statue of Juan de Oñate in El Paso has sparked a heated debate, as local Indians recall that the Spanish conquistador tortured and cut off the feet of hundreds of their ancestors.

Part of the giant statue, which was made in Mexico City by sculptor John Houser, was shipped in pieces by truck last week.

A group of Tigua Indians holding posters that read "Oñate: An Insult to the Indian Community" were on hand to protest the arrival of the first sections of the monument.

The Mexican-born conquistador, who married a descendant of Hernan Cortes, also colonized lands in what is today the state of New Mexico.

Oñate was eventually removed as Spanish colonial governor of New Mexico, in part because of his notoriously cruel treatment of the Indians in the region.

"The city of El Paso is paying a huge sum of money for the statue of a man who was a murderer and outlaw, and who came to the region to pillage already established communities in Texas and New Mexico," said Saul Tibor, a Tigua Indian living

Oñate, who died in Spain in 1626, headed a group of conquistadors who undertook the Spanish colonization of present-day Texas

Comentarios

By Bidal Agüero

It was interesting to hear the reaction from our readers to last week's *Comentario*. It's surprising to see that many of our readers or at least those who took a little time to express their views simply want to "nuke Iraq."

I guess I shouldn't be surprised since I have lived in West Texas all my life and I

should be used to the indoctrinated standard of living that people experience day by day. People actually believe that Saddam Hussein is threatening our way of life. One reader actually insisted that Saddam was behind the sniper killings in Washington. "We ought to go ahead and bomb Iraq. I bet that will stop that sniper."

As Gonzales and Rodriguez say in one of today's columns on the editorial page people have more of a chance of being stung by a killer bee than being even bothered by Saddam. Unfortunately, the opposite is true if one asks what the likelihood is that the lives of Iraqi people will be interrupted by the U.S. To date 250,000 bombs have been dropped on Iraq. President Bush wants to drop more. Can we even imagine how many people are suffering because of this. Not knowing where one sniper bullet will hit is managing to strike terror in the lives of all of Washington's population. Iraqi people are probably struck with terror with the thought of a bomb hitting their home.

Texas Tech's homecoming is this week. One story sent to us by Tech bragged that Tech now has a 12 percent increase in Hispanic students. The university overall has 2,800 Hispanic students, a 12 percent increase.

Is this good? Tech's total enrollment is 27,569. Not having a calculator handy. I can only figure that 2,800 Hispanic student is fall below the total percentage of Hispanics in West Texas. This is especially sad when we consider that almost 50% of the students in public schools are Hispanic.

We offer a wholehearted welcome to all those Hispanic alumni that will be coming home this weekend but offer a sympathetic sorry saying that not more Hispanic students are enrolled at Tech.

Write to Bidal at cl editor@llano.net

and New Mexico.

The statue in his honor was built despite protests from local Indians and is to be placed in a shopping and tourist area of downtown El Paso.

The truck that arrived last week was carrying 157 pieces of the massive statue, valued at \$1.5 million, which is to be covered in bronze by a foundry on the outskirts of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Once reassembled, the statue will be the largest bronze, equestrian figure in the country, with the head alone measuring nine feet in height.

The statue is expected to be installed at its permanent site by December 2003, at which time the city will again hire the sculptor to create another 11 figures, all of them of Spanish conquistadors.

The region's Indian community is expected to be on hand to protest the unveiling of the statue.

Education Group Counts lots of Latino Children "Left Behind"



By Arlene Martinez

There are one million Latinos in middle schools and high schools who are reading well below grade level, placing them in an at-risk group of 6 million students nationwide who are likely not to achieve a high school diploma. These students stand little to gain from President Bush's "No Child Left Behind" reform package that targets early years of schooling.

That's the assessment in a study released Sept. 24 by the Washington-based Alliance for Excellent Education, a relatively nonpartisan policy and research organization.

The "No Child Left Behind" bill finished winding its way through Congress in January with bipartisan support. It calls for mandatory testing and exit exams before high school students can attain a diploma.

Based on an analysis by Jay Greene of the Manhattan Institute, a conservative organization, 54 percent of Latinos who enter eighth grade graduate within five years. That figure is significantly lower than the Department of Education's dropout figures, which include GED completions and degrees achieved by the age of 24.

Based on data compiled by the National Assessment of Educational Progress and analyzed by AEE, English-language learners score on average five years behind in reading by their senior year.

"The needs of English-language learners are not well integrated into the act," says AEE executive director Susan Frost, echoing the argument several Hispanic advocacy groups, including the National Council of La Raza, made during debate of the bill.

Scott Jofus, AEE policy director, describes what his group sees as a disturbing new trend in New York City, home to a large Latino population: students are being "counseled out of school" and into GED programs by advisors, on the recommendation that passing the exit exams is unlikely.

"With these new high-stakes assessment tests, the GED is going

About four months ago somewhere along a stretch of railroad tracks in Texas, perhaps, or Mexico, 11 people took a death-defying gamble.

They climbed into an empty grain hopper, a rail car that can be tightly sealed to keep its contents clean and dry. The hatch was shut and locked from the outside, leaving the stowaways, presumably immigrants being smuggled from Mexico or Central America, trapped in stifling darkness.

Then they died. Whether they suffocated, starved or succumbed to the heat, the authorities do not know, only that they died horribly, and unnoticed.

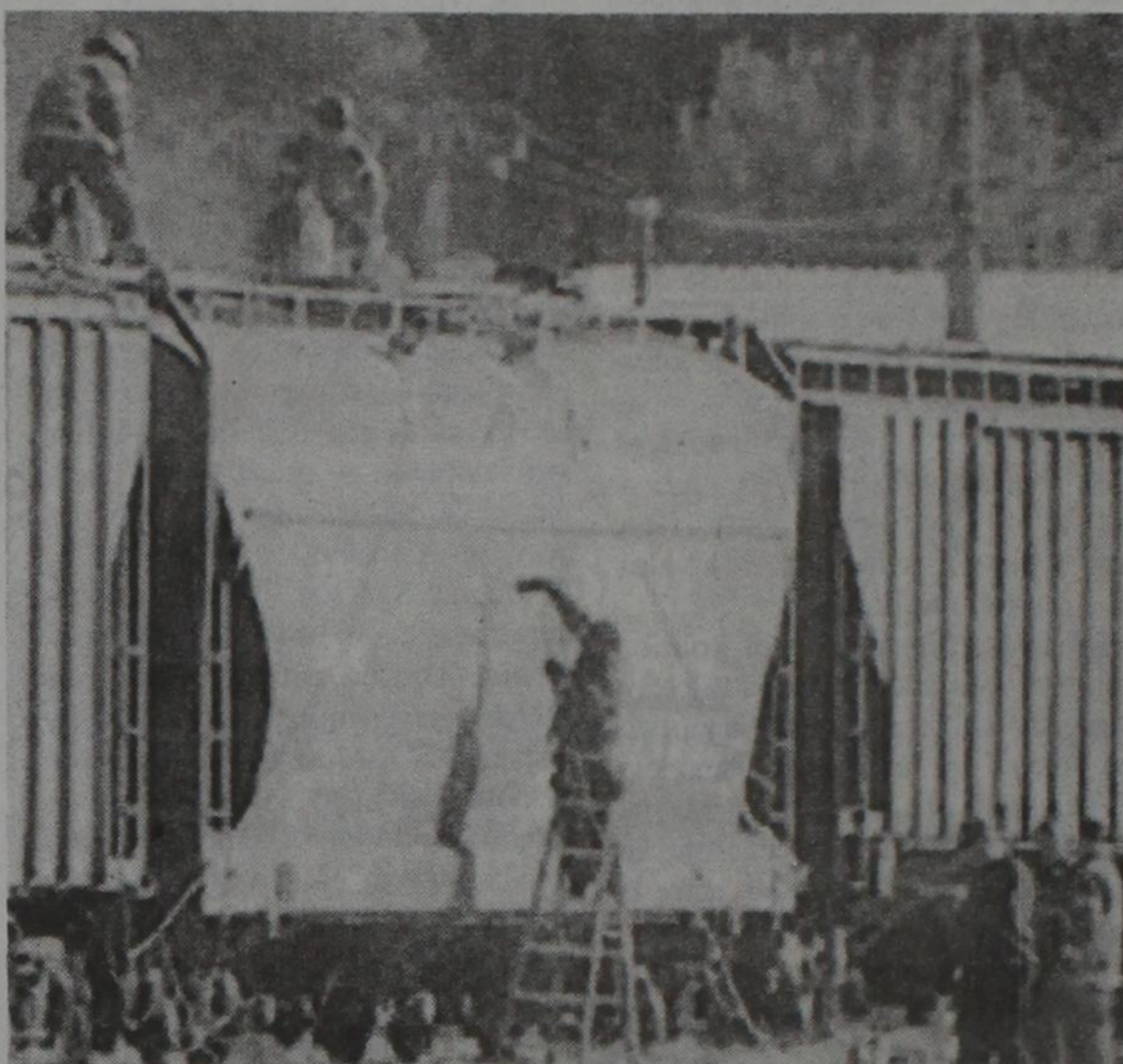
The Union Pacific hopper ended up in Oklahoma, where it sat unopened in long-term storage all summer and into the fall. On Sunday, it traveled to this small farm town 60 miles northeast of Omaha,

where a worker at a grain elevator opening grain hoppers for routine inspection found the near-skeletal remains, Sheriff Tom Hogan of Crawford County said at a news conference here this morning.

Sheriff Hogan described the sight as heartbreaking. "Our thoughts go to those people that found themselves for whatever reason trapped inside that rail car," he said. "It had to be frightening."

Hours after the discovery, the hopper was taken to Des Moines, where the bodies were removed and police investigators began trying to determine their identities.

Sheriff Hogan said the authorities had not determined the immigrants' sex, age or nationality. He said he did not know how long the corpses had been trapped, but suggested that because of the state of decomposition, it was at least "weeks ago, as opposed to days ago."



Jerry Heinauer, director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service for the Omaha District, which includes Nebraska and Iowa, said the hopper left Matamoros, Mexico, four months ago and had been parked in Oklahoma from mid-June until Oct. 10, before arriving here.

José Luis Cuevas, the Mexican consul for Nebraska, Iowa and South and North Dakota, said he was working under the assumption that the immigrants were Mexicans.

John Bromley, a spokesman for Union Pacific in Omaha, said the dead had been found in a grain hopper at the Farm Service Co-op and Archer Daniels Midland elevators in Denison, but declined further comment.

A spokeswoman for Archer Daniels Midland, Karla Miller, said the hopper had been in long-term storage until the company recently ordered a group of hoppers to transport grain.

Sheriff Hogan said the hatch of the hopper could be opened only from outside. He said that the immigrants wore "warm weather" clothing and that there was no grain in the hopper.

The authorities said this morning that they had received telephone calls from as far as New York from people trying to find out whether the immigrants were their relatives.

Many residents were stunned in this farming town of 7,339 with a growing Hispanic population.

Mayor Ken Livingston of Deni-

son said he had spoken with religious and community leaders to help with managing grief if the immigrants had family members here.

"If what's alleged is that this is a smuggling operation," Mr. Livingston asked, "who's going to come forward?"

Along the Texas-Mexico border, where the Union Pacific freight crossed from Matamoros to Brownsville, Tex., Border Patrol officials doubted that the immigrants had boarded in Mexico.

The Border Patrol, the Customs Service and the private security force of the railroad routinely inspect trains at crossings with dogs that can sniff out drugs and people.

Typically, officials said, illegal immigrants cross the Rio Grande alone or in small groups led by a smuggler known as a coyote.

Harry Beall, an assistant chief of the Border Patrol in the McAllen, Tex., sector, said several organized smuggling rings in that region specialized in placing illegal immigrants in northbound boxcars.

Chief Beall added that his office kept a database of names and telephone numbers of smugglers. He said his office had contacted officials in Iowa to determine whether any telephone numbers or names had been found in the pockets of the immigrants.

Chief Beall said trains were typically inspected first at crossings and again at railyards and border patrol checkpoints in Texas as far north as Corpus Christi, 125 miles north of Brownsville.

"We walk the train, and we have canines that are trained to alert to human cargo or contraband," he said. "If it's a grain hopper, we bang the side with our fist. The empty ones sound like a big drum. The empty ones we look in."

The McAllen office caught 2,095 illegal immigrants in freight cars in the 2002 fiscal year, including 26 people found on a train in June. In that case, the immigrants were found by a trained dog in a grain hopper filled with soda ash, the same sort of hopper with the bodies in Iowa.

In 1987, border agents found 18 dead illegal immigrants in a freight train that had stopped in Sierra Blanca, Tex., on a boiling summer day. One man survived by using a railroad spike to cut an air hole in the freight car.

Often, officials say, immigrants are locked in a car by the coyote. Sometimes the car is accidentally locked. Many times, immigrants, realizing that they are trapped, bang against the sides of freight cars, desperately trying to call the attention of someone outside.

Chief Beall assumed that the dead immigrants in Iowa had most likely tried at some point to call attention.

LULAC Tailgate Party

Tech fans and Alumni are invited to a tailgate party sponsored by LULAC 263 on Saturday starting at 2 pm on 6th Street and University in front of Jimenez Burritos. Alumni are also invited to Homecoming party at LULAC Hall 13th and Ave. O after the game co-sponsored by El Editor. Todos Bienvenidos

Las Autoridades Creen Que Los Presuntos Indocumentados Salieron de Matamoros Hace Más de Cuatro Meses

Es muy probable que las 11 personas cuyos cadáveres aparecieron en un vagón de ferrocarril cerrado murieran asfixiadas lentamente sufriendo dolores espantosos, según un informe dado a conocer este martes.

La policía de Iowa está investigando las circunstancias que llevaron a la muerte a esas 11 personas, presuntamente inmigrantes procedentes de México, cuyos cadáveres se encontraron en avanzado estado de descomposición.

Un grupo de trabajadores halló los cuerpos cuando abrían vagones de carga junto a un elevador de cereales en la localidad de Denison, Iowa.

El director del Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización para Nebraska y Iowa, Jerry Heinauer, indicó que aparentemente todas las víctimas habían subido al vagón en México hace unos cuatro meses y es posible que entraran de contrabando en Estados Unidos.

"Todavía no se ha determinado si los ocupantes del vagón fueron traídos de contrabando, pero las circunstancias son similares a otras operaciones de tráfico de inmigrantes", dijo el funcionario, que no confirmó la nacionalidad de los muertos.

"Desafortunadamente ocurre, a veces, que los contrabandistas traen a los inmigrantes a Estados Unidos y luego los encierran bajo candado en los vagones para que las autori-

dades no inspeccionen esos vagones", agregó Heinauer.

A veces, añadió el funcionario, cuando han pasado varias horas encerrados los inmigrantes hacen ruido dentro de los vagones donde están atrapados y las autoridades los encuentran, salvándoles la vida.

"En este caso parece que no ocurrió eso, y sus muertes fueron horribles", dijo Heinauer, quien agregó que el consulado mexicano había informado de que ese vagón salió de Matamoros, México, en junio.

Hallazgo macabro
Igual que su nacionalidad, tampoco se sabe si los asfixiados eran hombres, mujeres o niños.

El vagón estaba cerrado por fuera y no había rastros de que hubieran tenido agua o alimentos, declaró el sheriff del condado de Crawford, Tom Hogan. Agregó que también resultaba difícil estar seguro de la cifra de muertos, por eso se dijo que eran al menos 11.

El vagón estuvo estacionado en Oklahoma desde el mes de junio y luego fue llevado a Denison, a unos 97 kilómetros al nordeste de Omaha, Nebraska, donde los cadáveres fueron descubiertos el lunes de esta semana. A consecuencia del macabro hallazgo, las autoridades sellaron el vagón y lo trasladaron a Des Moines, donde las autoridades tratarán de saber todo lo posible acerca de la suerte corrida por los difuntos.

Orinne Stern, jefe forense del

condado de El Paso, Texas, afirmó que las víctimas debieron sufrir delirios y alucinaciones, fuertes calambres, dolores de cabeza y vómitos antes de sucumbir al calor o a la falta de oxígeno.

"Seguramente debieron experimentar temperaturas como la del interior de un auto en pleno verano", declaró Stern, que no está involucrada en las investigaciones.

Julio Salinas, supervisor de la Patrulla Fronteriza de McAllen, Texas, dijo que no es raro que los inmigrantes crucen la frontera en vagones de ferrocarril y explicó que, con frecuencia, los vagones son revisados por agentes de inmigración o aduanas durante el trayecto.

"Hará un par de meses que encontramos a 26 en un vagón donde llevaban unas dos horas y varios ya estaban deshidratados", pero afortunadamente no hubo muertos, dijo Salinas. "Nos encontramos a menudo con situaciones como éstas", explicó el supervisor.

"Los inmigrantes corren enormes riesgos cuando se suben a un vagón de grano impulsados por la promesa de libertad hecha por un contrabandista de personas", dijo Salinas.

"Hay vagones de granos que sólo se pueden abrir por fuera. Una vez cerrados, ponen la vida en manos de un contrabandista", explicó el supervisor de la Patrulla Fronteriza de McAllen.

Tony Sanchez de Texas No Es Un Candidato Latino Común y Corriente

Por Carlos Conde

Si el dinero resulta ser el factor decisivo, Tony Sánchez será el gobernador electo de Texas en noviembre.

Hace dos años, sabios políticos dijeron que un candidato demócrata necesitaría gastar al menos \$50 millones para derrocar al gobernador republicano Rick Perry. Para junio de este año, informes de los gastos de campaña mostraron que Sánchez había aportado \$25 millones de su dinero. Este sobrepasaba en gastos a Perry 5-1.

Un informe reciente realizado por The New York Times sobre los gastos de las campañas para gobernador alrededor de la nación señaló que para cuando la campaña termine, Sánchez habrá gastado casi \$70 millones de su fortuna personal para tener la oportunidad de servir como gobernador de Texas.

Esto es una gran cantidad de dinero en los libros de cualquiera, pero quizás no tan grande para el adinerado mexicano-americano de Laredo cuyas empresas familiares relacionadas con petróleo, gas y banca lo han hecho muy rico. Según dicen, su fortuna está valorada en \$600 millones.

Sin duda, Sánchez es el político hispano más rico de los alrededores, pero según una encuesta periódica del Hispanic Business Magazine sobre los latinos más ricos de la nación, Sánchez sólo se encuentra en séptimo lugar entre la clase adinerada latina con apenas \$358 millones. Primero está la cubana Olga Goizueta, viuda del ex

presidente ejecutivo de Coca-Cola Roberto Goizueta. Supuestamente, su fortuna está valorada en \$980 millones gracias a los 16 millones en acciones de la Coca-Cola que le legó su fallecido esposo.

¿Qué es lo que obliga a un político latino neófito a gastar esta cantidad de dinero en lo que parece ser a lo sumo un inflación de ego de dos años?

Es una situación similar a la de un californiano súper rico en una campaña a nivel estatal hace unos años en la cual invirtió tanto dinero que inspiró a su oponente a imprimir unas pegatinas para el para-choque que decían, "Haz que lo gaste todo".

Sánchez no lo hará, por supuesto. Pero parece como si la campaña fuera una lección cívica muy costosa.

En gran parte, él se financia su campaña debido a que el Partido Demócrata no tiene suficientes recursos económicos para apoyar a una posibilidad remota como él, y no ha cultivado una base política que estimule a grupos y a individuos a aportar billetes grandes por interés propio.

Aunque Sánchez intenta restarle importancia a lo obvio, se está postulando porque tanto él como sus asesores creen que la ola actual de hispanismo que arrasa a la nación es contagiosa, en particular, en un estado donde los votantes negros e hispanos están comenzando a tener un impacto definitivo en el ámbito político.

Sánchez promociona asuntos im-

portantes para los votantes, como la educación, la ley y el orden, la reforma de seguros y un sistema de cuidado de la salud mejorado, pero lo mismo hace Perry, a su manera. Elimine el llamado del partido y la lealtad étnica y el gobernador podría ser cualquiera.

Al parecer, el contralor del estado John Sharp, quien quiere ser vice-gobernador, convenció a Sánchez para postularse. ¿Cómo podría hablar una coalición multicolor entre Sharp, Sánchez y el africano-americano Ron Kirk, que está postulado para senador?

Puede si se hacen demasiadas suposiciones sobre la habilidad de los latinos para ganar una elección en estos días. En Texas la suposición más común es que los latinos votan sin vacilación por los demócratas y por cualquier candidato latino.

La verdad es que cada vez más latinos se están volviendo votantes mixtos, saltando de un lado al otro; a mayor educación y movilidad social ascendente, mayor la tendencia a votar por las mentes independientes, si es que llegan a las urnas. Los expertos en votación señalan que sólo una tercera parte de los hispanos elegibles en el estado votan en elecciones no presidenciales.

También la lealtad de Sánchez hacia el partido es sospechosa. Le gusta pensar que sus cuestionables credenciales demócratas datan desde John Kennedy y más allá. Lo que muchas personas no saben es que Sánchez también es un pionero republicano.

Para ser un pionero del Comité

Nacional Republicano (GOP por sus siglas en inglés), hay que conseguir \$100,000 para una campaña nacional. Sánchez envió \$320,000 para la campaña política de George W. Bush, convirtiéndose en uno de los donantes más grandes de todos los tiempos. Me imagino que se podría llamar a esto cubrir todas las bases si tienes el dinero para hacerlo.

En cuanto a la experiencia política, Sánchez nunca ha asumido un puesto electivo, pero ha trabajado en juntas directivas estatales y en comisiones del GOP donde algunos observadores dicen bromeando que su mente independiente es como un "cañonazo suelto". A comienzos de su servicio público, trabajó para el otrora prodigio del Partido Demócrata Ben Barnes, donde uno de sus colegas lo describió como "un Chablis liviano de dos dólares".

Cualesquiera que sean las descripciones políticas, es difícil criticar a alguien cuya visión para los negocios construyó una fortuna valorada sobre los \$500 millones. Su preocupación por la comunidad y su participación financiera están muy establecidas y hay que creerle cuando dice que la educación es mi pasión.

Amo a Texas y amo a la tradición latina que él transmite. Si pudiera, votaría por Sánchez. No obstante, parece que él va a necesitar más que dinero y de mí para ganar.

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IRAQ DOESN'T MAKE TOP 10 LIST

By Patrisia Gonzales and Roberto Rodriguez

Opposition to the president's proposed war against Iraq and the forces of evil continues to grow daily. The basis for that opposition is not that Saddam Hussein is a good guy, but rather that an "Iraqi threat" is virtually on par with the United States being invaded by African killer bees.

Here's a simple test that illustrates the president's credibility gap regarding the imminence of an Iraqi threat. In the next few weeks/months/years, which is most likely to occur?

- A: The United States will be attacked by Iraq.
- B: Earth will be struck by a giant meteor.
- C: Dinosaurs will again roam the planet.
- D: Atlantis will rise from the ocean.
- E: Bigfoot will be found alive in our forests.
- F: Aliens will invade Earth.
- G: Elvis will make a White House appearance.
- H: CEOs will henceforth accept the minimum wage.
- I: Congress will rediscover its check-and-balance function.
- J: The president will continue to use Iraq as a fund-raising device.

The correct answer should be I, but instead it is J. Most of the world seems to believe that the notion of an Iraqi threat is pure poppycock.

The war's support is weak even at home. The misperception that the president enjoys solid support here is based on media misreporting of polling data that clearly show that three-fourths of U.S. respondents oppose the president's unilateral policies. The media instead twist the numbers and report that the majority of respondents support the war, but that support drops significantly unless an attack is sanctioned by the United Nations.

That's a pretty fancy (deceptive) way of reporting that opposition to the president's policies is overwhelming.

Part of the reason for such widespread opposition, we suspect, is that the president operates in the realm of "secret government," carrying on as though only he and his posse really know what's going on in his battle against the guys in the black hats. (No such secrecy was required to oppose Hitler.) The rest of us are simply supposed to trust him, this while he attempts to consolidate all power at home by creating a "Homeland Security" department answerable only to him.

Additionally, his contempt for the United Nations is akin to the contempt many conservatives also show for the ACLU. The reality is that opposition to the war comes not from an organization called the U.N., but from the world's community of nations. Simply wrangling three votes from the five permanent members of the U.N.'s 15-member Security Council does not a consensus make.

The president seems quite oblivious to the message he's sending out. He now quotes himself and invokes "our heritage" (manifest destiny) as a reason (or right) for war, and thinks his calling and legacy are to preside over a permanent worldwide war. Coupled with his insistence on exempting U.S. soldiers from the International Criminal Court, his "pre-emptive war" policy is seen by many people worldwide as the single greatest threat to world stability. The exemption gives the U.S. military carte blanche to act with impunity worldwide. Worse, it also opens the floodgates for other militaries to do the same.

The actual reason people are opposed to his war, we surmise, is because Iraq doesn't even register on the list of the world's most urgent threats. Aside from the "pre-emptive war" doctrine, there indeed are other grave dangers.

The Middle East conflict is No. 1 on everyone's list, as it's always a trigger away from a nuclear holocaust. India-Pakistan is a close second. Nowadays, the "war on terror" itself is causing nervousness around the world as civilian populations fear governments will use it as a ruse for naked aggression and as an opportunity to viciously clamp down on human rights. Seething with resentment, particularly if pre-emptive wars become the norm, extreme radicals worldwide may indeed make anti-American terrorism, abroad and at home, the No. 1 danger to Americans.

Other grave worldwide dangers are: extreme poverty, out-of-control diseases, hunger, exploitation by global pirate corporations, lack of human rights for most of the world's population, and the continuing extreme degradation of the environment.

Precisely because we have the most lethal military the world has ever known, chances are greater of being stung by a killer bee in the United States than of us being attacked by Hussein's puny little weapons.

Tony Sanchez of Texas Isn't Your Everyday Latino Candidate

By Carlos Conde

If money is the decisive factor, Tony Sánchez will be elected governor of Texas in November.

Two years ago, political wisdom had it that a Democratic candidate would need to spend at least \$50 million to oust Republican Gov. Rick Perry. By June of this year, campaign disclosure reports showed that Sánchez had put up \$25 million of his own money. He was outspending Perry 5-1.

A recent report by The New York Times on record-setting campaign spending in governors races across the nation stated that by the time it's over, Sánchez will have spent almost \$70 million from his personal fortune for the opportunity to serve as governor of Texas.

That's a chunk of money in anyone's book, but perhaps not all that big for the wealthy Mexican American from Laredo whose family enterprises in oil and gas exploration and banking have made him very rich. By one account, he is worth \$600 million.

Sánchez is no doubt the richest Hispanic politician around, but according to Hispanic Business Magazine's periodic survey of the nation's wealthiest Latinos, he ranks only seventh among the Latino moneyed class with a mere \$358 million.

First is Cuban Olga Goizueta,

widow of Coca-Cola CEO Roberto Goizueta. She supposedly is worth \$980 million thanks to 16 million shares in Coke stock bequeathed by her late husband.

What is it that compels a neophyte Latino politician to spend that kind of money on what seems at most a two-year ego binge?

It's reminiscent of a super-rich Californian in a statewide race a few years ago who tossed so much money at his campaign that it inspired his opponent to print a bumper sticker that read, "Make Him Spend It All."

Sánchez won't, of course. But it looks as if it's going to a very expensive civics lesson.

His campaign is largely self-financed because the Democratic Party doesn't have deep enough pockets to support a long shot like him, and he does not have the nurtured political base that encourages self-interest groups and individuals to pony up big dollars.

Although SaGnchez tries to downplay what is the obvious, he is running because he, and his advisors, believe that the current wave of hispanismo sweeping the nation is infectious, particularly in a state where black and Hispanic voters are beginning to have a defining impact on the political landscape.

Sánchez touts issues dear to voters, such as education, law and or-

der, insurance reform and improved health care, but so does Perry, with his own spin. Take out the party appeal and the ethnic loyalty, and it could be Tweedledee or Tweedledum for governor.

Sánchez apparently was talked into running by State Comptroller John Sharp, who wants to be lieutenant governor. How could a rainbow coalition of Sharp, Sánchez and African-American Ron Kirk, who's running for senator, miss?

It can, if you make too many assumptions about Latinos' ability to deliver an election nowadays. The main assumption in Texas is that they unhesitatingly vote Democrat and for whatever Latino candidates.

The truth is that more and more are becoming vote splitters, jumping from side to side; the greater their education and upward mobility, the greater the tendency to vote their independent minds -- if they get to the polls at all. Voting experts claim that only about one-third of eligible Hispanics in the state vote in non-presidential elections.

Sánchez's party loyalty is also suspect. He'd like to think his Democratic credentials are unassailable, dating to John F. Kennedy. What many people don't know is that he is also a Republican "Pioneer."

To be a GOP Pioneer, you must

raise \$100,000 for a national campaign. Sánchez chipped in \$320,000 for George W. Bush's political races, making him one of the all-time biggest donors. I guess you could call it covering all bases if you can afford it.

As for political experience, Sánchez has never held elective office, but he has served on GOP-appointed state boards and commissions, with some observers deriding his independent mind as a "loose cannon." Early in his public service, he worked for one-time Democratic Party prodigy Ben Barnes, where one of his colleagues described him as "light as a two-dollar Chablis."

Whatever the political portrayals, it's hard to find great fault with someone whose business acumen built a fortune worth half a billion dollars. His community concerns and financial involvement are well placed, and you have to believe him when he says that "education is my passion."

I love Texas, and I love the Latino tradition he expresses. If I could, I would vote for Sánchez. However, it looks like he's going to need more than money and me to win.

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Una Propuesta Para Celebrar El Dia Nacional de la Tia

Por Raúl A. Reyes

Creo que deberíamos tener un día feriado nacional que se llame el Día de la Tía. Quizás sólo soy yo, pero sospecho que muchos otros latinos secundarían mi moción. Las tías ocupan una posición especial en las familias hispanas, en algún lugar entre las abuelas y las madres, no tan dulces como las primeras pero no tan estrictas como las segundas.

Las cuatro hermanas de mi mamá se criaron juntas en Texas, y hoy día todas viven en California. Aunque sus personalidades son distintas, desde que recuerdo, todas mis

tias han sido parte de mi vida.

Tía Lela, la mayor, siempre ha sido la rebelde. Mientras yo crecía, disfrutaba de sus payasadas, las cuales tendían a molestar a los demás familiares. Lela se pavoneaba alrededor en una camisilla, retumbaba la casa con la banda sonora de "Hair," y en voz alta anunciaba que Dios era mujer. En unas navidades, me regaló un fez. En principio enfermera, Lela trabajó como institutriz en Uganda y fundó un orfanato en México antes de recibir su título universitario en 1985 a la edad de 57.

La próxima en la lista es la tía

Lola, el cerebro de la familia. Asistió a la universidad de Tulane con un beca antes de convertirse en trabajadora social. De niño, disfrutaba pasar los fines de semana en su casa, donde conocí a las pasadas danesas, el Smithsonian Magazine, y el programa de "Mary Tyler Moore Show". En cuarto grado, trabajé en una acuarela para Lola en la clase de arte, sólo para arruinarla al final al dejar que los colores se mezclaran. Me sentía alicaído, pero Lola me dijo que le encantaba de todas maneras y la pegó en la

puerta del refrigerador, donde aún permanece.

Tía Emma era la fuerte de carácter y tengo una relación mas compleja con ella. A sus espaldas la llamaba Em-zilla. Ella tampoco estaba loca por mí; oficialmente me sacó de su testamento cuando yo tenía siete años. Pero Emma no es nada si no perdona. Aprendí a nadar en su piscina. Me encantaba pasear a su lado en su Thunderbird convertible de 1956. Me enseñó a leer las páginas sobre la Bolsa. Incluso he llegado a apreciar su naturaleza de asumir el control, con la cual mantuvo unida a la familia durante las crisis. Hoy día, como educadora en el sistema de educación en Los Angeles, Emma trata con líderes de pandillas y miembros de la junta con el mismo aplomo.

A la tía Pichona se le conoce como la silenciosa. Mientras yo crecía, sentía una afinidad con ella porque apoyaba mis intereses. No se rio cuando tomé clases de tap. Pensó que fue estupendo cuando traté de aprender chino. Aunque mis hermanos y primos se reían de mí porque siempre tenía la nariz en los libros, Pichona alentaba mi lectura. Pichona siempre ha sido la campeona de la creatividad. Un año me mostró la técnica de decoupage, y desde entonces le pongo barniz a todo lo que esté a la vista.

Su casa era asimilada, pero mis hermanos, mis primos y yo, aprendimos mucho sobre nuestro patrimonio bajo su techo. Pichona nos introdujo a las tradiciones mexicanas

A Proposal to Celebrate National Tia's Day

By Raúl A. Reyes

I think we should have a national holiday called Aunt's Day. Maybe that's just me, but I suspect many other Latinos would second my motion. Tias occupy a special position in Hispanic families, somewhere between grandmas and moms, not as sweet as the former, but not as strict as the latter.

My mom's four sisters were raised together in Texas, and today they all live in California. Though their personalities are distinct, for as long as I can remember, all of my aunts have been a part of my life.

Aunt Lela, the oldest, has always been the rebel. When I was growing up, I enjoyed her antics, which tended to annoy the rest of my relatives. Lela strutted around in a tank top, blared the soundtrack from "Hair" and loudly announced that God was a "she." One Christmas, she gave me a fez. Originally a nurse, Lela served as a governess in Uganda and founded an orphanage in Mexico before earning her college degree in 1985 at age 57.

Next-in-line Aunt Lola is the brains of the family. She attended Tulane on a scholarship before becoming a social worker. As a kid, I enjoyed spending weekends at her house, where I became acquainted with prune danish, Smithsonian Magazine and "The Mary Tyler Moore Show." In fourth grade, I worked on a watercolor for Lola in art class, only to ruin it at the last moment by letting the colors run together. I was crestfallen, but Lola told me she loved my painting anyway and taped it on her refrigerator door. It's still there.

Strong-willed Aunt Emma and I have a more complex relationship. Behind her back, I used to call her Em-zilla. She wasn't crazy about me, either, she officially cut me out of her will when I was 7. But Emma is nothing if not forgiving. I learned to swim in her pool. I loved riding beside her in her 1956 Thunderbird convertible. She taught me how to read the stock pages. I've even come to appreciate her take-charge nature, for she's held the family together during crisis. Today, as an educator in the Los Angeles school system, Emma deals with gang leaders and board members with equal aplomb.

Aunt Pichona is known as the quiet one. Growing up, I felt an affinity with her because she supported my interests. She didn't laugh when I took up tap dancing. She thought it was great when I tried to learn Chinese. Though my brothers and cousins made fun of me because I "always had my nose in a book," Pichona encouraged my reading. Pichona has long been a champion of creativity. One year she showed me how to decoupage, and thereafter I shellacked everything in sight.

Pichona's household was assimilated, but my brothers, cousins and I learned a lot about our heritage under her roof. Pichona introduced us to Mexican traditions like luminarias, Christmas lanterns made by placing a candle into a small paper bag filled with sand, and cascarrones, eggshells filled with confetti which we cracked over people's heads at Easter. She also explained El día de los muertos (the Day of the Dead, Nov. 1), a traditional celebration of both life and death, and El día de los reyes (Kings Day, Jan. 6), which commemorates the arrival of the three kings in Bethlehem.

Over the years my aunts have taken good care of my mother, their youngest sister, as well. Lela reminds my mom not to take herself too seriously. Lola is her closest confidante. Emma was there when my mom's first grandchild was born. And since Pichona and my mom went through their parenting years together, they are simultaneously experiencing the joys of being grandmas.

Tias form an important link in Latin culture -- between communities, between generations, between relatives. They contribute to our greatest strength -- the bond of nuestra familia.

I didn't always realize how lucky I was to grow up surrounded by my aunts. I used to think I had too many tias. Now I value their personalities and accomplishments, as well as their years of love and guidance. I truly believe they deserve recognition, or at least a day off. In the meantime, my suggestion is: Take a tia to lunch!

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Nuevas Esperanzas Para Los Agricultores

Por Dick Meister

Finalmente parece posible, aunque no seguro, que a los agricultores de California al fin se les garantizará los derechos sindicales prometidos en aquel entonces por la ley de 1975 como resultado de una década de huelgas y boicots apoyados a nivel nacional.

Si todo continúa como el Sindicato de Trabajadores Agrícolas espera (UFW por sus siglas en inglés), una medida convertida en ley por el gobernador de California Gray Davis el 30 de septiembre obligará a los cultivadores a abandonar las tácticas que han mantenido a la mayoría de los trabajadores sin lograr contratos sindicales.

Sin contratos, la fuerza laboral latina en gran parte ha seguido trabajando y viviendo bajo condiciones verdaderamente deplorables, con una paga promedio de menos de \$10,000 anuales, unos cuantos beneficios tales como cuidado médico, unos cuantos derechos y poca protección contra los actos arbitrarios de los patronos.

Hasta ahora, cultivadores cuyos trabajadores han votado por tener representación en el UFW bajo la

Agricultural Labor Relations Act (la ley sobre relaciones laborales agrícolas) (ALRA por sus siglas en inglés), de hace 27 años, han podido estancar o atrasar las negociaciones de contratos por meses, años, y hasta por décadas.

Como resultado, sólo se han firmado contratos a 185 de las 428 fincas donde los trabajadores han votado por la sindicalización. Menos de 50 contratos todavía están vigentes, lo que comprende sólo cerca de 27,000 de los 70,000 agricultores en California.

Bajo la enmienda a la ALRA firmada por Davis, se traerá a un mediador si las negociaciones no llegan a un acuerdo de contrato en un periodo de seis meses. Si aún no se consiguiera un acuerdo en un mes, el mediador redactaría un borrador del contrato para obtener la aprobación de la junta que administra la ley. Representantes del sindicato o de los cultivadores que objetan los términos podrían apelar en el tribunal.

La medida se aleja de lo que buscaba el UFW, porque solicita a un mediador en vez de arbitraje, estará en efecto durante sólo 5 años, se puede utilizar en sólo 75 casos al

año y excluye a los cultivadores que empleen menos de 25 trabajadores.

Según se aprobó en la Asamblea Legislativa Estatal, la medida no contenía tales restricciones. Pero el gobernador demócrata Davis, que camina por la cuerda floja entre los aliados laborales y latinos, necesita hacer campaña activamente para su reelección este otoño, y los intereses de los cultivadores que han contribuido con más de \$500,000 a la campaña, dejaron claro que Davis habría vetado la medida sin las restricciones.

Como dice Marc Grossman, miembro del UFW, la esperanza es que de todas maneras la nueva ley "alentará a los cultivadores a llegar a acuerdos de buena fe durante el proceso de negociación regular, a evitar la mediación y a revisarlo todo en conjunto".

Si en realidad esto ocurre, de seguro el UFW se habrá anotado una gran victoria.

Algunos cultivadores están amenazando con buscar acción judicial sobre los aspectos de la ley en los cuales la interferencia del gobierno con las empresas privadas es institucional. Pero es seguro, en todo

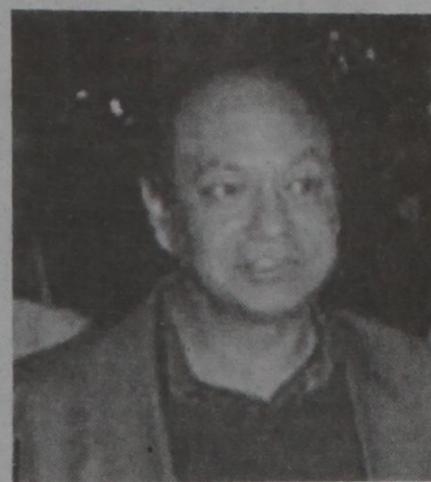
caso, que el poder de la industria agropecuaria en California, la más grande del estado, ha sufrido una gran derrota poco común.

No fue fácil. El UFW y otros sindicatos, la comunidad latina, políticos demócratas y otros, incluidos líderes religiosos, estrellas de Hollywood y trabajadores comunes llevaron a cabo una campaña masiva en apoyo a la nueva ley que se parecía mucho a aquellas realizadas en el pasado por el fundador del UFW César Chávez.

Una marcha durante diez días, de 150 millas desde las comunidades agrícolas del fértil Valle Central hasta la capital de California, Sacramento, una demostración de 5,000 personas al finalizar la marcha, una vigilia de oración continua durante siete semanas en las escalinatas del capitolio estatal, esto y mucho más formó parte de la campaña.

El apoyo de la Asamblea Legislativa era firme, en parte gracias a la influencia cada vez más difícil, al creciente grupo de activistas latinos y al líder del Senado, John Burton de San Francisco. No obstante, había que convencer al gobernador Davis de que podía ganar más

Chicano Exhibit Shows Off 'Turbo' Mexican-Americans



The 56-year-old Marin is perhaps best known for his hazy movie cult classics like the 1978 comedy "Up in Smoke" with his partner, the Chinese Canadian actor and comedian Tommy Chong. Their schtick celebrated the joys of smoking marijuana and thwarting authority figures like cops and nuns.

What is not so widely known is Marin's other side: He owns one of the world's largest private collections of Chicano art.

That passion, and a desire to create greater exposure for Chicanos, is the force behind "Chicano Now: American Expressions," an interactive (news - external web site) exhibit designed to run in conjunction with "Chicano Visions: American Painters on the Verge," a display of paintings that draw in part from Marin's personal collection.

The two exhibits are on a 15-city tour across the country, with stops in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and San Francisco over the next five years. The exhibit, which began in San Antonio, Texas, will be on display at the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building in Washington through Jan. 5.

For Cheech Marin, being a Chicano is like being a "turbo Mexican-American."

If so, a dual exhibit on Chicano art and cultural expression that opened in Washington, D.C., in early October is just as intense -- complete with that staple of machismo Chicano culture, an air-painted low-rider car with velvet accents -- and aliens called "the brown men," who lead visitors through an exploration of Chicano culture.

More than anything, being Chicano is "an attitude," the actor and comedian most famous for his attitude said.

Supreme Court Asked to Review College Affirmative Action

The Supreme Court has been asked for the second time this month to take a broad look at college affirmative action - without waiting for a lower court's ruling.

Ordinarily, the Supreme Court considers a case only after lower court appeals are final.

Lawyers for black and Hispanic students at the University of Michigan told the Supreme Court in a filing Tuesday that a case over the school's admissions policy was important enough to make an exception.

White students rejected for admission to the college also asked the Supreme Court this month to consider the undergraduate case along with another that tests the race-conscious admissions policy at Michigan's law school.

"It is hardly an exaggeration to

say that the court's decision in these cases will directly affect the lives not only of this generation of students but of generations of students to follow," Theodore Shaw, counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, told justices in Tuesday's filing.

An appeals court upheld the law school admission policy, and an appeal in that case is pending at the Supreme Court.

The controversy involves the companion case addressing the school's undergraduate policy. The case was argued before the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on the same day as the law school case, but the appeals courts has not ruled.

The minority students are parties to the lawsuit. A spokesman for the University of Michigan said college lawyers would file responses at the Supreme Court late this month.



New Hope for Farmworkers

By Dick Meister

It finally seems possible -- though not certain -- that California's farm workers will be guaranteed the union rights promised them by the 1975 state law that resulted from a decade of nationally supported strikes and boycotts.

If all goes as the United Farm Workers union hopes, a measure signed into law by California Gov. Gray Davis on Sept. 30 will force growers to abandon the tactics that have kept most workers from winning union contracts.

Without contracts, the largely Latino work force has continued to work and live under truly wretched conditions, with pay averaging less than \$10,000 a year, few benefits such as medical care, few rights and little protection from the arbitrary acts of employers.

Until now, growers whose workers have voted for UFW representation under the 27-year-old Agricultural Labor Relations Act (ALRA) have been able to stall or delay contract negotiations for months, years, even decades.

As a result, contracts have been signed on only 185 of the 428 farms where workers have voted for unionization. Fewer than 50 of the contracts are still in effect, covering only about 27,000 of California's 700,000 farm workers.

Under the amendment to the ALRA signed by Davis, a mediator would be called in if negotiators didn't reach a contract agreement within six months. If agreement still couldn't be reached within another month, the mediator would draft a contract for approval by the board that administers the law. Union or grower representatives objecting to the terms could appeal to the courts.

The measure is far less than the UFW sought, because it calls for mediation rather than arbitration, is to be in effect for just five years, can be used only in 75 cases a year and exempts growers with fewer than 25 workers.

As passed by the State Legislature, the first version of the measure didn't have those restrictions. But Democratic Governor Davis, walking a tightrope between the labor and Latino allies he needs to campaign actively for his reelection next month, and the grower interests who have contributed more than \$500,000 to the campaign, made it clear he would have vetoed the measure without the restrictions.

As the UFW's Marc Grossman says, the hope is that the new law nevertheless "will spur growers to bargain in good faith during normal

negotiations and avoid mediation and review all together."

If that indeed occurs, the UFW surely will have scored a major victory. Some growers are threatening to seek court action on grounds that the law is unconstitutional government interference with private business. But it's certain, in any case, that California's powerful agribusiness industry -- the state's largest -- has suffered a rare major defeat.

It wasn't easy. The UFW and other unions, the Latino community, Democratic politicians and others, including religious leaders, Hollywood stars and ordinary working people waged a massive drive in support of the new law that was much like those led in the past by UFW founder César Chávez.

A 10-day, 150-mile march through the farm communities of the fertile Central Valley to the State Capitol, a demonstration at

the march's conclusion by some 5,000 people, a continuous seven-week prayer vigil on the capitol steps by others -- all that and more went into the drive.

The Legislature's support was firm, thanks in part to its increasingly influential and growing Latino caucus and Senate leader John Burton of San Francisco. But Governor Davis had to be convinced that there was more to gain politically by backing farm workers and their allies than his big-buck contributors in agribusiness.

The farm workers' success in gaining Davis' support, tepid and calculating though it was, has given them greater hope for winning the decent treatment that they've been denied for far too many years.

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políticamente apoyando a los agricultores y a sus aliados que a las grandes sumas de dinero de los contribuyentes de la industria agropecuaria.

El éxito de los agricultores de ganar el apoyo de Davis, a pesar de lo poco entusiasta y calculador que fue, les ha dado la gran esperanza de ganar el trato justo que habían logrado hace demasiados años.

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Los Angeles Se Preparan Para Su Primera Cita Con La Historia

De buen humor, con una alegría colectiva y contagiosa, los Angels iniciaron ayer sus prácticas con miras a la Serie Mundial que arranca este sábado en el Edison Field de Anaheim.

"Oye... esta gorra ya está obsoleta. No tiene el sello de la World Series", bromeó el catcher suplente boricua, José Molina, con el instructor de receptores, su coterráneo Orlando Mercado.

Ese era el ambiente que reinaba en los vestidores de los nuevos campeones de la Liga Americana, que medirán sus fuerzas con los Gigantes de San Francisco en el clásico octubreño, conformado de siete partidos, cuatro a ganar.

Mientras sus pupilos se cambiaban de ropa entre gritos, risas y bromas para comenzar los entrenamientos, Mike Scioscia era acosado por una jauría de periodistas, cuyas indagaciones revoloteaban alrededor de Barry Bonds.

"Estamos pensando en todo el equipo no sólo en Barry Bonds", subrayó el manager de los Serafines, en relación a la estrategia que utilizará frente a los monarcas de la Liga Nacional.

"Todo mundo piensa en Bonds, pero detrás de él y después de él hay hombres con un bate en la mano que pueden hacer daño al menor descuido", agregó Scioscia.

Se le comentó al piloto aureolado que el nuevo bombardero de las Grandes Ligas parece haber encontrado la fórmula para hacer desaparecer los fantasmas malignos que se burlaron de él en los juegos de postemporada.

Bonds abrirá la Serie Mundial con cuatro jonrones, 10 carreras impulsadas e igual número de anotadas y promedio de bateo de .286. Y lo más importante, sólo se ha ponchado tres veces y ha recibido 14 bases por bolas en esta postemporada.

"Ya veremos cómo se desarrollan las cosas. Dependerá de cómo se presente la situación cuando él acuda a la caja de bateo", anticipó el timonel de Anaheim.

"Si hay necesidad de darle la base por bolas lo haremos. Es parte de este juego, no sólo se hace con Bonds. Se trata de preservar una ventaja o de evitar más carreras al otro equipo. Eso es fundamental aquí y en cualquier parte del mundo", subrayó Scioscia, quien tendrá en la otra trinchera a su ex compañero en los Dodgers y viejo



amigo, Dusty Baker.

En ese sentido, Scioscia hizo una pausa y con una sonrisa, externó:

"Será algo muy especial para mí. Un sentimiento muy grande. Jamás imaginé que me iba a encontrar con

Dusty dirigiendo al otro lado en un evento de tal magnitud como lo es una Serie Mundial. Creo que tanto él como yo lo vamos a disfrutar", dijo Scioscia.

"Esta es una fiesta beisbolera que

ahora nos tocó a nosotros. Desde que ganamos a Minnesota les dije a los muchachos que se diviertan y disfruten de esto. Es una recompensa por todo lo que hicimos en la temporada y que lo seguiremos ha-

ciendo: jugar duro, con una mente ganadora. Hemos ido de reto en reto y hemos salido airosos", agregó.

Los Gigantes y Angels son novenas con características un tanto similares, por eso Scioscia comentó que "ustedes han sido testigos que hemos jugado un beisbol agresivo como el de la Liga Nacional. Entonces no creo que habrán cambios significativos, con excepción de los lanzadores que tendrán que batear en San Francisco".

Washburn al primero

Aunque el manager de los querubines, por razones estratégicas o por no alertar al enemigo, optó por no revelar el nombre de su lanzador abridor para el primer juego de la serie, pero es evidente que será el zurdo Jarrod Washburn, su mejor hombre en la rotación angelical que completan los derechos Kevin Appier, el dominicano Ramón Ortiz y John Lackey.

Washburn y Ortiz corrieron ayer juntos del jardín izquierdo al central. "Es sólo para estirar las piernas. Aún no sé nada", afirmó Washburn.

En medio de las prácticas trascendió que a Ortiz le tocaría la responsabilidad del segundo encuentro a

celebrarse el domingo, pero Scioscia ni lo confirmó ni lo negó. "Vamos a reunirnos para determinar cómo trabajaremos con los abridores. Lo llevaremos día a día. No hay prisa", señaló.

Entre tanto, el pitcher derecho quisqueyano manifestó que "estoy listo y muy entusiasmado para entrar en acción cuando él lo disponga. He esperado por mucho tiempo esta oportunidad. Me parece un sueño".

Por cierto, a Ortiz le agobia un problema familiar. Su padre se encuentra en estado delicado de salud en su pueblo natal, Cotuí, República Dominicana.

"Estoy hablando allá (a Cotuí) todos los días. Mi papá está muy enfermo y no puede respirar. No sé si es asma o es porque ha fumado mucho en su vida. Estamos rezando porque se mejore", informó el "Monchi".

¿No te afectará esa situación? "No. Lo que hago es encomendarlo a Dios. Cuando cruzo la línea de cal trato de concentrarme totalmente para hacer mi trabajo", manifestó Ortiz, quien ganó a los Mellizos el segundo juego de la Serie de Campeonatos.

All-California, But Two Different States of Mind

Two years ago, it was the Subway Series in New York.

Beginning Saturday night in Anaheim, we have... the California Dreamin' World Series?

Cue Mama Cass and the rest of the Mamas and the Papas...

All the leaves are brown and the sky is gray

I've been for a walk on a winter's day

I'd be safe and warm if I was in L.A.

California dreamin' on such a winter's day.

First baseman J.T. Snow began his career with the Angels and was traded to the Giants before the 1997 season.

"These people up here don't like the people in Southern California much, I'll tell you that," says San Francisco first baseman J.T. Snow, whose Giants meet the Angels in Game 1 at Edison International Field on Saturday night. "You can

tell that when we play the Dodgers. "I think they feel they take a backseat to Southern California."

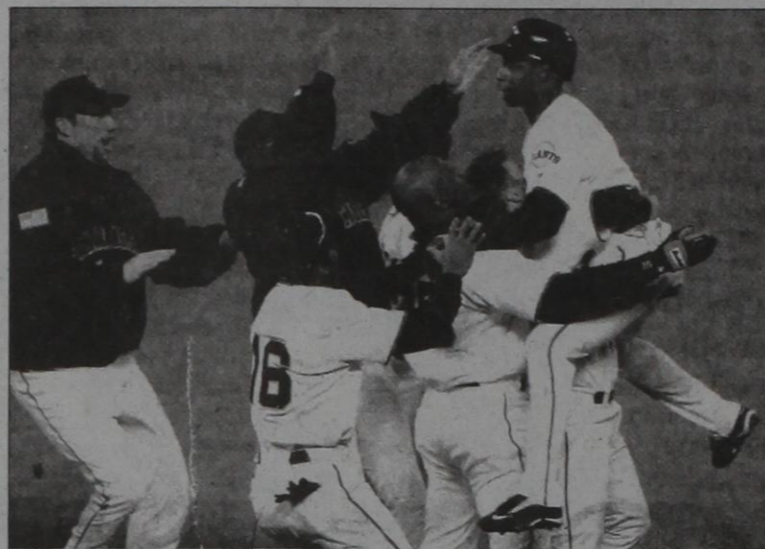
That's the first thing to know when cracking open only the fourth-ever all-California World Series. You shouldn't color it all with the same ray of sun, because Northern and Southern California are as different as Seattle and Honolulu.

Southern California is Hollywood, beaches and smog.

Northern California is Alcatraz, Redwoods and fog.

"It really is like two different states," Snow says. "Northern California and Southern California, there is such a big difference."

Snow, who batted 300 during the season's final 13 games to give the Giants a boost they needed, is something of an expert. The son of former Los Angeles Rams receiver Jack Snow, J.T. was born in Long Beach and spent the first 18 years of his life growing up in Southern



California. He was a rookie with the Angels in 1993 before they traded him to the Giants before the 1997 season.

He has been with the Giants ever since.

"We moved up here last year for good," Snow said. "When you have a family, kids, you've got to settle down. It's been great."

"I was attached immediately. They're more like football fans up here. Like the East Coast. They're diehards. All you see is Giants and 49ers stuff up here."

Until the past several weeks, Anaheim was just like the East Coast, too. Whenever the New York Yankees or Boston would pass through, East Coast expatriates in the Edison International Field crowd would holler louder for the visitors than the natives would for the Angels. The Yankees always felt right at home.

That changed during the last six weeks or so of the season, when the Angels began to take flight. And during the clinching games against the Yankees in the divisional series and Minnesota in the AL Champi-

onship Series, it was positively ear-splitting (and good thing everybody in Southern California owns at least two pairs of sunglasses, because you needed those to cut the glare of the bright red all 40,000-plus fans now wear to every game.)

"I've never seen it any louder here, and it's as loud as any stadium I've been in in a long time," says Bud Black, who is in his third season as Anaheim's pitching coach. "The clinching games against the Yankees and Twins, it was unbelievable."

Black, a Bay Area native who grew up loving the Giants and then pitched for them from 1991-1994, agrees with Snow about San Francisco's East Coast mentality.

"If you were to say which one is more like the East Coast, it's definitely the Bay Area," says Black. "But I've noticed during the last month of the season and during the playoffs, the fans here have been more rabid."

"They're as much behind a team as fans can get. They're just not as hard on the opponents as East Coast fans can get."



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Texas Tech University Celebrates Homecoming 2002

A series of events will take place in celebration of Texas Tech University's Homecoming 2002. A activities for the event will continue through Saturday, Oct. 19.

"This is going to be a great year for homecoming," said Jana Vise, advisor of the Homecoming Coordinator Committee at Texas Tech. "We are really excited about this year's events."

The theme for homecoming is "Reflections of Our Heritage." Vise said the Homecoming Coordinating Committee chose the event's theme in an effort to reflect the traditions and history of the university.

Events follow: Pep Rally 6 am, Friday at the Texas Tech Seal; The Techsan Memorial 7:30 am, Friday at the Pfluger Fountain; Rowdy Raider Rally, 12 pm, Friday at the Student Union Building; Parade 6:30 pm, Friday from Broadway and Avenue V to Urbanovsky Park; Concert 8 pm, Friday at the Urbanovsky Park Amphitheatre; Pep Rally 9 pm, Friday, at the Urbanovsky Park Amphitheatre; Bonfire, 10 pm, Friday at the Texas Tech Bonfire Site; RaiderGate, 2 pm, Saturday, at the R-1 parking lot on campus; Tech vs. Missouri Football Game 6pm, Saturday at Jones SBC Stadium. Everyone Welcome.

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Census Ruling May Redirect Billions of Dollars to Minorities & Poor

Billions of government dollars could potentially be redirected to poor and minority communities after a federal appeals court ruled the Census Bureau must release figures that show how many people may have been missed in the 2000 population count.

In a unanimous decision, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the public is entitled under federal open-government law to see the adjusted figures for every state, county and neighborhood in the nation.

Democrats, big-city politicians and civil rights groups have charged that the 2000 census missed 3.2 million people -- most

HUD Plan Aims to Encourage Minorities to Buy Homes

If the Bush administration's goal of expanding minority homeownership by 5.5 million families were to succeed, that would pump some \$256 billion into the U.S. economy, according to a report to be released today by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

That impact would come as a combination of consumer spending, job creation and building of home equity, according to the report.

The HUD report will be released at a White House-sponsored conference on increasing minority homeownership to be held today at George Washington University.

Less than half of black and Hispanic families -- 47.1 percent and 47.2 percent, respectively -- own their own homes, while 74.3 percent of non-Hispanic white households are homeowners. In June, President Bush announced a goal of increasing minority homeownership by 5.5 million families by the end of the decade.

"When people own their own homes, they not only build their own futures, they transform entire communities in ways that have enormous social and economic benefits to all Americans," said HUD Secretary Mel R. Martinez.

At the conference, the administration will highlight its homeownership plan, which has been endorsed by real estate trade groups and lenders. It outlines four ways to close the homeownership gap between minorities and non-Hispanic whites:

- Educate more people in the home-buying process.
- Increase the supply of affordable homes.
- Provide more assistance with down payments and closing costs.
- Provide more home financing for lower-income people.

The report points out that homeownership adds significantly to personal wealth. According to the Census Bureau, 21 percent of the nation's wealth is held in the form of home equity. Among owners with incomes below \$20,000, home equity accounts for about 72 percent of household wealth, the report said.

Besides the benefit that homeownership provides for the individual household, there's the benefit to businesses too, such as the construction trades and firms that sell home-improvement and other housing-related goods.

Studies have shown that homeowners spend significantly in the first year after they buy. The report said that the average buyer of a new house spends an additional \$4,192

De la pagina 2

nas como las luminarias, linternas de navidad hechas con una bolsa pequeña de papel llena de arena donde se colocaba un vela, y los cascarnes de huevo llenos de confeti los cuales rompíamos sobre las cabezas de la gente en Pascua. También nos explicó el Día de los muertos (1 de noviembre), una celebración tradicional de la vida y de la muerte, y el Día de los reyes (6 de enero), que conmemora la llegada de los tres reyes a Belén.

Con el pasar de los años, mis tías han cuidado de mi madre, la hermana menor. Lela le recuerda a mi mamá que no se tome muy en serio. Lola es su confidente más íntima. Emma estuvo allí cuando nació el primer nieto de mi madre. Y ya que Pichona y mi mamá pasaron los años de criar a los hijos juntas, están experimentando a la vez la alegría de ser abuelas.

Las tías forman una conexión importante en la cultura latina, entre comunidades, entre generaciones, entre familiares. Contribuyen a nuestra mayor fortaleza -- el vínculo de nuestra familia.

No siempre me di cuenta de lo afortunado que fui de crecer rodeado de mis tías. Solía pensar que tenía demasiadas. Ahora valoro sus personalidades y sus logros, al igual que los años de amor y de orientación que me han dado. Verdaderamente, creo que merecen reconocimiento, o por lo menos un día libre. Mientras tanto, mi sugerencia es: Lleva a una tía a almorzar.

of them minorities and the poor -- and that many communities are being shortchanged government funding that is distributed by population.

The ruling mandates only that the Census Bureau release the adjusted figures. It does not actually force the bureau to use those numbers in place of the unadjusted figures that were issued for political redistricting and the distribution of billions in federal funding.

A 1999 U.S. Supreme Court ruling bars the use of adjusted numbers for reapportioning congressional seats.

However, the Census Bureau has left open the possibility of using in the first year, and those who move into an existing home spend \$3,706.

The agency also estimates that the new homeowners would add more than \$3 billion to state and local governments in the form of taxes.

The report says that building 1,000 single-family houses creates 2,448 full-time jobs. Approximately 40 percent of those jobs are in construction and 27 percent are in transportation, trade and other locally based services, the report says. Additional jobs, it says, are created to meet the increase in demand for household goods and services.

Adjusted data for federal funding in the future. And state and local governments would be free to use the adjusted numbers for redistricting and for distributing tax dollars, unless the laws there say otherwise.

Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-New York, welcomed Tuesday's ruling. "There are many people who have doubts about the Census Bureau's decision and the way the Bush administration made the decision," she said. "This information would help scientists and the public better judge for themselves whether they made the right decision or not."

The court rejected Census Bureau arguments that releasing the data would expose sensitive internal debates and have a "chilling effect" on future policy discussions at the agency.

Census Bureau officials declined to comment and referred calls to the Justice Department, where spokesman Charles Miller said no decision has been made on whether to appeal to the Supreme Court.

He would not comment on the ruling itself.

After census takers and census questionnaires were sent out in 2000, the Census Bureau used mathematical formulas to estimate how many minorities, renters and others might have been missed in inner cities, rural areas and other places. Those figures are often called the "undercount."

But the Census Bureau refused to release the undercount, contending

the adjusted figures are unreliable and would cause political battles over federal funding. The bureau has instead been releasing only the unadjusted population counts arrived at through census takers and questionnaires.

The case went to court after Oregon state Sens. Susan Castillo and Margaret Carter, both Democrats, filed a Freedom of Information Act request to see the adjusted population figures. The Census Bureau asked for an exception to the law.

U.S. District Judge James A. Redden of Portland ordered the government last November to release the undercount. But the government appealed.

Volunteers will be trained in Tax Law and in the use of Tax-Wise, an IRS electronic filing software program. Training is provided FREE by the Internal Revenue Service.

To Volunteer: call Ysidro Gutierrez at 549-0109. Leave a voice message.

Benefits to you: You will become a Qualified Tax Preparer.

Benefits to Families: You will help eligible families save preparation fees and electronic filing fees. Families will get their refunds quickly. Two goals of the VITA Program are to help families become financially self-sufficient and buy their own homes.

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Texas Migrant Council- Panhandle Region

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Cancer Screenings

In observance of October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month

for Women

Lubbock area healthcare providers with the assistance of women's health advocacy agencies would like to invite you to learn more about breast cancer. Events and screenings have been planned to help you learn more about your risks for breast cancer and the importance of clinical breast exams and mammography in the early detection of cancer. Just call the number listed with each event for more information. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE AND SOME SCREENINGS ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

All Month

Lubbock Area Affiliate Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
Educational information and Pink Ribbon Campaign at South Plains Mall
Call for information: 698-1900

Arrington Comprehensive Breast Center
10% off Screenings during the month of October
Call for appointment: 725-7908

American Cancer Society Guidelines: Age 40 & Over:
• Monthly Breast Self Exam
• Annual Clinical Breast Exam by physician
• Annual Mammogram

Under Age 40:
• Monthly Breast Self Exam
• Clinical Breast Exam by physician every 3 years

Tuesday

American Cancer Society
Mayoral Proclamation to kickoff Breast Cancer Awareness Month
11:30 a.m.
Lubbock City Hall
1625 13th Street
Call for information: 792-7126

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
Raintree Christian Church
3601 82nd Street
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

Saturday

UMC Dimensions
Mammography Screenings
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
802 Knoxville Avenue
Call for appointment: 743-4377
Financial assistance available.

Southwest Cancer Center
Presenting an educational play: "Before Time Runs Out"
1:00 p.m.
New Hope Baptist Church
2002 Birch Avenue
Call for information: 743-1900

Monday

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
South Plains Mall
(next to Firestone Tires)
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

UMC Dimensions
Mammography Screenings
4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
802 Knoxville Avenue
Call for appointment: 743-4377
Financial assistance available.

Joe Arrington Cancer Center
Educational event: "Determining your Risk for Breast Cancer"
Featuring Dr. Catherine Ronaghan
5:30 p.m., 4101 22nd Place
No cost.
Call for information: 725-7991

Tuesday

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
Maggie Trejo Community Center
3200 Amherst
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial Assistance Available

Southwest Cancer Center
Clinical Breast Exams
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
602 Indiana Avenue
Call for appointment: 743-1900
Financial assistance available.

Joe Arrington Cancer Center
Clinical Breast Exams
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
4101 22nd Place
No Cost.
Call for appointment: 725-7982

Covenant Community Services
Exercise Class for Breast Cancer Survivors
Instructor: Suzanne Aker
9:30 a.m.
Raintree Christian Church
Gymnasium
3601 82nd Street
No cost. Call for information: 725-6579

Wednesday

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
Parkway Neighborhood Center
405 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

Southwest Cancer Center
Clinical Breast Exams
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
602 Indiana Avenue
Call for appointment: 743-1900
Financial assistance available.

Arrington Comprehensive Breast Center
We're Celebrating Mammography Day
10% off mammography screenings
4101 22nd Place
Call for appointment: 725-7098

Thursday

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
Community Health Center of Lubbock - Presbyterian Women's Clinic
1318 Broadway
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

Covenant Community Services & Presbyterian Women's Clinic
Clinical Breast Exams for women over 40
Community Health Center of Lubbock - Presbyterian Women's Clinic
1318 Broadway
Community Health Center of Lubbock
No cost.
Call for appointment: 725-6579

West Texas Coalition of 100 Black Women - Dr. Ronnelle Burley & Dr. Christina Belle-Henry
Clinical Breast Exams
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Phea Branch Lubbock Boys & Girls Club
1801 E. 21st Street
No cost. Walk-ins welcome!

Tuesday

Joe Arrington Cancer Center
Clinical Breast Exams
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
4101 22nd Place
No cost.
Call for information: 725-8074

Joe Arrington Cancer Research & Treatment Center
Educational class covering prevention & diagnosis of breast cancer.
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Cochran County Activity Building
West Taylor Street, Morton, Texas
No Cost.
Call for reservations: 725-7969

Odds of getting breast cancer in your lifetime:
1 in 9 women

Wednesday

Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
Freedom Square Shopping Center
1301 5th Street
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

Saturday

Joe Arrington Cancer Center
Style Show
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Knippling Education/Conference Center
6th floor of parking garage at 21st Street & Louisville Avenue
Call for tickets: 725-7977

Covenant Health System
Women's Health Fair
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lubbock Civic Center
1501 6th Street
No Cost. Call for information: 725-0476

Tuesday

Joe Arrington Cancer Research & Treatment Center
Educational class covering prevention & diagnosis of breast cancer.
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Lakeridge Baptist Church
4601 82nd Street
No Cost.
Call for reservations: 725-7969

Tuesday

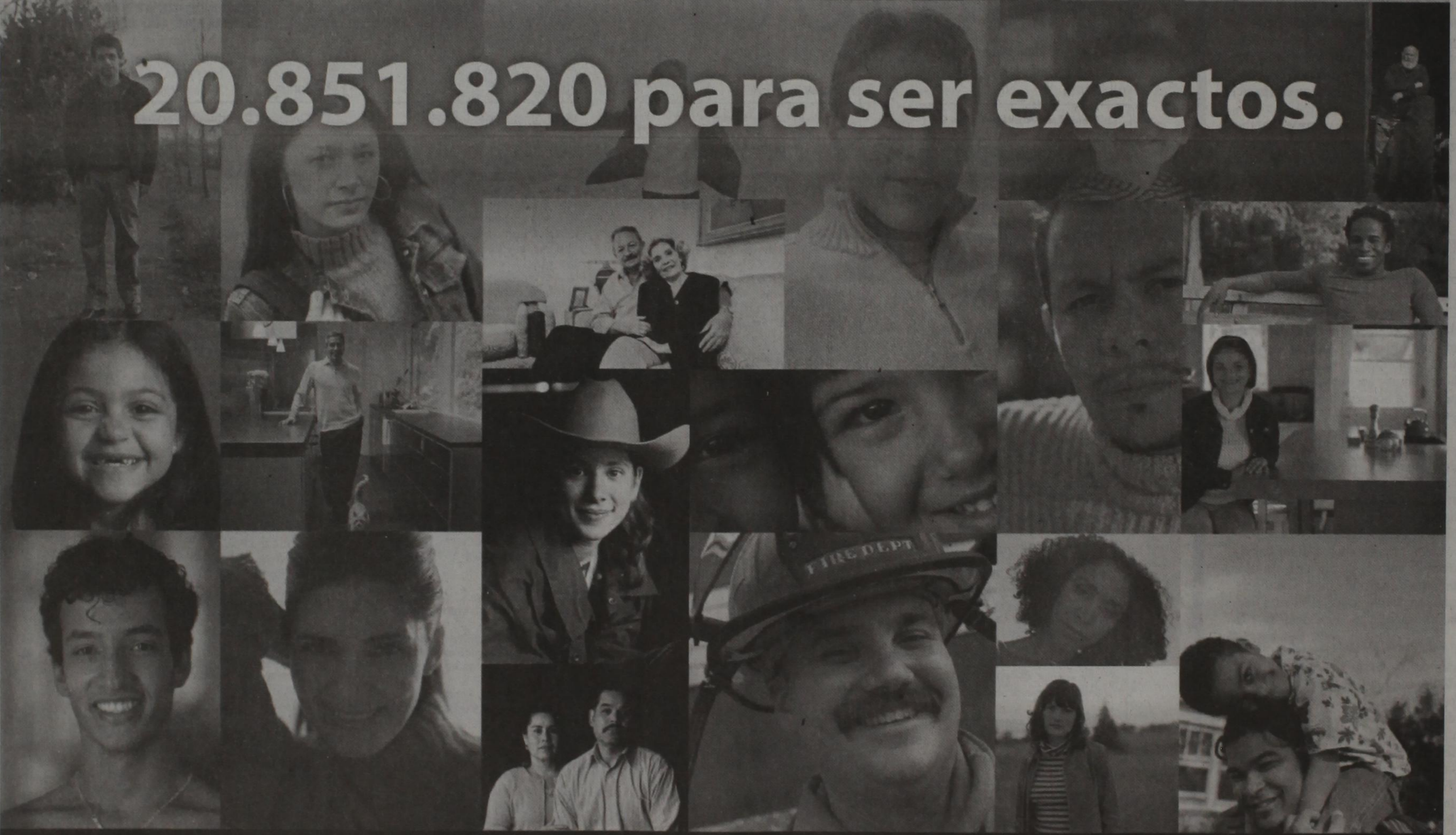
Covenant Community Services - Mobile Mammography
Mammography Screenings
SAM'S Club
4303 W. Loop 289
Call for appointment: 725-6579
Financial assistance available.

Participants: American Cancer Society, Community Health Center of Lubbock, Covenant Health System - Mobile Mammography, Mobile Clinic, Arrington Comprehensive Breast Center, Joe Arrington Cancer Center, Covenant Medical Group, Lubbock Area Affiliate - Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Presbyterian Women's Clinic, Texas Tech University System Office of Community & Multicultural Affairs, UMC - Dimensions, Southwest Cancer Center, West Texas Coalition of 100 Black Women, YWCA Breast & Cervical Program.

Hay muchas razones por que Tony Sanchez quiere ser Gobernador.



20.851.820 para ser exactos.



Porque Tony Sanchez quiere servir a toda la gente de Tejas.



Tony Sanchez tiene un profundo amor por la gente de Tejas. El sabe que el gobierno está paralizado por la falta de acción. Pero no entiende porqué. Y va a hacer algo para remediarlo. El quiere ayudar a los millones de niños que no tienen seguro médico. El quiere ayudar a los miles de propietarios que no pueden pagar las nuevas tarifas del seguro de su vivienda. El quiere cambiar la educación pública para que Tejas se sienta orgullosa una vez más.

Este 5 de noviembre vote por Tony Sanchez para Gobernador.