

el Esalador

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

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Increasing Hispanic Participation in Higher Education: A Desirable Public Investment

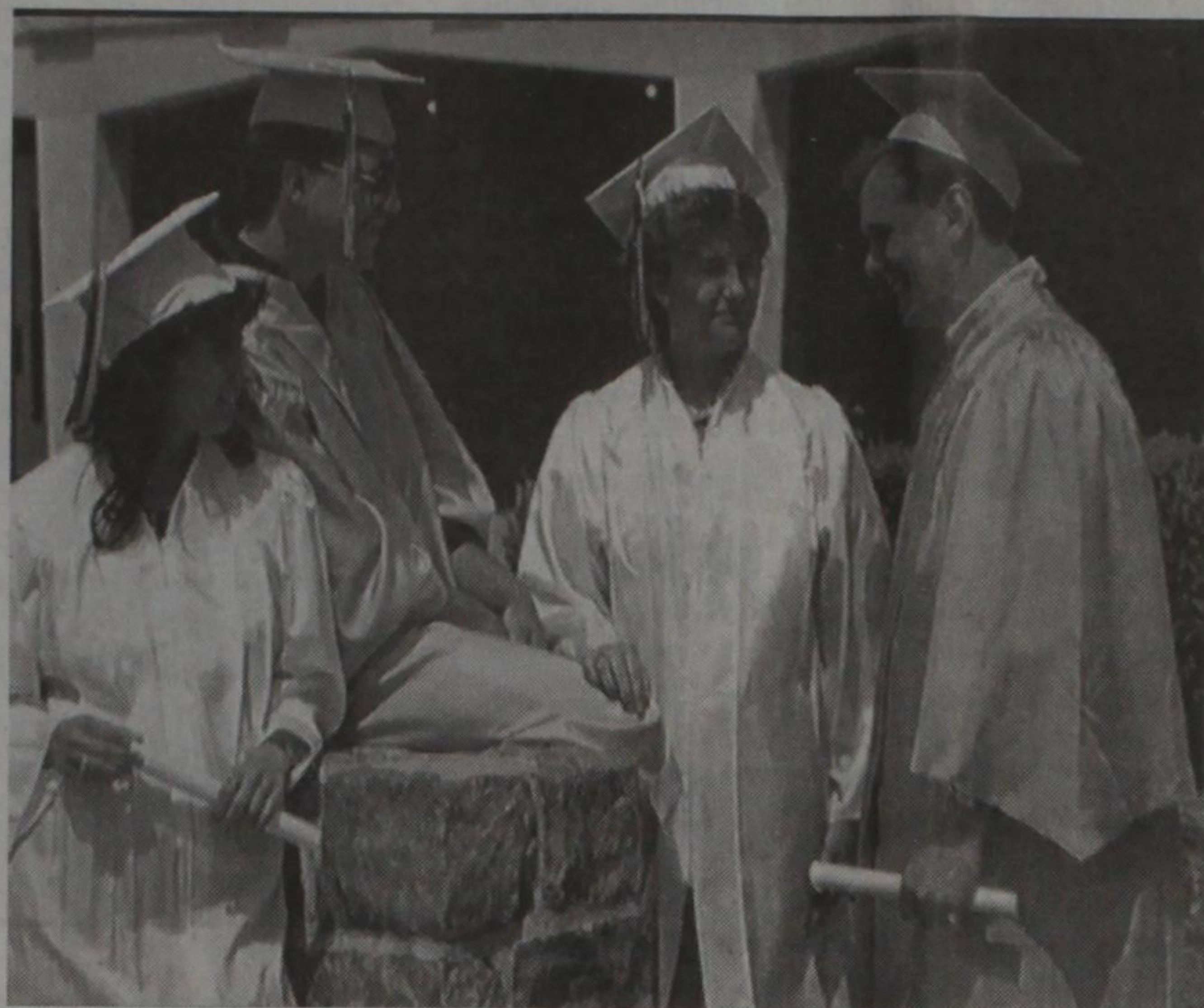
Stephen Sorensen, Dominic J. Brewer, Stephen J. Carroll, and Eugene Bryton

Hispanic youth represents the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population, and Hispanics now account for more than a quarter of all new entrants into the labor force. Education has historically been the path for upward occupational, economic, and social mobility in this country, but Hispanics complete college at much lower rates than other ethnic groups do and are much more likely to drop out of high school. What will it mean for the nation to have a growing, significant proportion of the population competing for low-skill jobs and locked in the lowest socioeconomic brackets?

The answers to this question will require a great deal more research than has yet been done on Hispanic education and its socioeconomic effects. There are surely benefits to society of closing the educational gap between Hispanics and other ethnic groups in terms of equity and social stability, though these benefits might be difficult to quantify. However, it is possible to estimate roughly what increasing Hispanic participation in higher education would mean for individuals' income and, thus, for the U.S. tax base and funding of social programs. In this paper, we present our estimates and conclude that, given the effects, increasing Hispanic education levels seems very much in the best economic interests of the country.

A Growing Population with Low Educational Attainment

The Hispanic population in the United States has grown remarkably. At more than 9 percent of the population in 1990 and with projected growth of about 3.5 percent



every five years, Hispanics could account for 20 percent of the U.S. population by 2020 (see Figure 1). In addition, the age structure among Hispanics is pyramid-like, with nearly 40 percent below the age of 19, compared with 29 percent for the total population. Given this structure, the Hispanic share of the labor force is likely to increase even more.

The educational achievement of Hispanics has not kept pace with their increasing share of the population and the labor force. According to the 1990 U.S. Census, high school completion for Hispanics aged 22-24 was only 64 percent, compared with 91 and 84 percent for

whites and blacks, respectively. Although this figure for all Hispanics partly reflects the entry into the United States of young adult immigrants with low levels of education, the high school completion rate of native-born Hispanics (78 percent) still remains significantly lower than for other groups. Even more alarming, the growth rate for Hispanic high school completion lags that for blacks and has been only slightly higher than that for whites.

Low high school graduation rates have obvious repercussions for Hispanic higher education. Since there is a much smaller pool of college-eligible students, one would expect Hispanic college participation to be lower than other groups' participation. In fact, Hispanics are among the most severely underrepresented groups in higher education.

Using data from the National Center for Education Statistics' High School and Beyond database, Pelavin and Kane report that over 58 percent of white students attend some college within four years of high school graduation, compared with 45 percent of Hispanics (and 47 percent of blacks). [1] Moreover, Hispanic degree attainment is much lower than that of whites, with only 12 percent of Hispanic 22 year olds earning bachelor's degrees (see Figure 2). This rate is four-fifths of the rate for blacks and less than half of the rate for whites.

The effect of low academic attainment cascades through all levels of higher education. Figure 3 shows that the Hispanic share of the educated population dwindles

as education levels increase. The disproportionately small percentage of Hispanics with bachelor's degrees necessarily means underrepresentation in professional and graduate schools, as well.

What Do Hispanics Lose from Low Participation in Higher Education?

A bumper sticker glibly asserts that "if you think education is expensive, you should try ignorance." This assertion is strongly supported by income statistics in the United States. Those with a bachelor's degree earn significantly more than those with only a high school diploma. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates the premium for a bachelor's degree (over a high school degree) at about \$600,000, or 75 percent more in lifetime earnings.

Using the Census methodology, we estimated the lifetime premiums for higher education for the current cohort of Hispanic males and females. (We calculated lifetime income for an individual under a 40-year earning horizon. We then used the current mean earnings for four age groups--25-34, 35-44, 45-54, and 55-64--as estimates of the individual's income.) Reported earnings do not reflect discounting or inflation. For further explanation, see U.S. Bureau of the Census Statistical Brief, S/94-25, Washington, D.C., 1994.

As Figure 4 shows, the premium for a bachelor's degree over a high school diploma is about \$500,000 for Hispanic men and \$400,000 for Hispanic women. More striking, the premium for a Hispanic with a professional degree is about \$1.7 million, over 200 percent more in lifetime earnings.

What Does Society Lose?

Education pays off for individuals, but there are also payoffs to society. Over a lifetime, people who have college degrees (and concomitant higher earnings) pay significantly more in taxes than people who have only high school diplomas. Figure 5 shows estimated lifetime income tax payments based on the current tax schedule for Hispanic individuals with various educational levels. Hispanics with a bachelor's degree will pay more than twice as much in taxes as those with only a high school diploma, and Hispanics with a professional degree will pay an estimated three times as much as those with a bachelor's degree. These estimates were generated under the conservative assumptions that the wage gap between Hispanics and non-Hispanics would not be closed.

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Filibuster Compromise 'Not Good News' for Hispanics

By Patricia Guadalupe

After weeks of intense negotiations, the U.S. Senate has ended, at least for the present, what threatened to be a showdown over a fundamental change to the way the legislative body operates.

But the compromise that was reached May 23 is not necessarily good news for the Hispanic community, Latino legislators and community groups say.

The back-and-forth that took place focused on the use of the filibuster, which is employed to block or delay Senate action on the floor. In this case, Democrats had used it to stop discussion on several federal judicial nominees they considered too conservative.

The compromise, which Senate leaders called a victory for bipartisanship, allows for certain nominations to be voted on by the Senate without a filibuster. Those include some of the most conservative nominees ever under consideration, such as Janice Rogers Brown, an African-American California judge who ruled that racial epithets in the workplace are protected by the First Amendment and who supported California's Proposition 209, saying that she considers affirmative action a form of segregation. The Proposition, which passed easily in 1996, eliminated state and local government affirmative action programs in area of public employment.

Other nominees share similar views and that does not bode well for Latinos, says

Democratic Senator Ken Salazar, who served as Colorado Attorney General from 1999 until he joined the U.S. Senate last year.

"I have looked at the judges that the Republicans have put up for consideration, and I can tell you without a doubt what is going to happen is that these judges are going to take away the rights that have been fought for and won (over) so many years in the civil rights struggle," he told Hispanic Link.

A letter circulated by the Congressional Progressive Caucus - a 55-member group of legislators that includes Reps. José Serrano (D-N.Y.), Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) and Hilda Solís (D-Calif.) - expressed similar views.

"Clearly, the American people want us to work out our differences in Congress whenever possible, but they don't want political deals brokered at the expense of our fundamental rights. Federal judges are appointed for life terms and their rulings shape our daily lives," it declared in a statement.

To compound the problem, too few Latinos are paying attention to the issue, even though the courts play a prominent role in the community, said Gabriela Lemus, director of policy and legislation at the League of United Latin American Citizens.

"Latinos should care about this issue because in the long term this is about the courts. This is about civil rights, and this is about ensuring that minority rights stay in place," she said. "We know all too well that many times we are discriminated against in the courts. We need to ensure that we have people who at least will be open to our community's concerns."

Latino groups and Hispanic members of Congress say they fear that the judicial issue could be only the beginning of the Latino community's problems.

The Senate compromise on filibusters, they say, does not preclude the possibility that the Republican majority will bring up the issue again on legislation such as Social Security that could impact the community negatively.

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Comentarios

de Bidal Agüero



My congrats first to all our kids that were in school, Amalia, Marisol, Eliana, Azelia and Nicholas for another successful year in school and to all the other kids from Lubbock and the area who made it through another year of school. Keep it up! Sigante!

No word yet on who will be named to the School Board. Victor Hernandez remains the sole applicant for the job. It surprises me - or maybe it really doesn't - that since Victor is the only applicant, he hasn't already been named. The Hispanic community has had ample time to submit candidates and perhaps the School Board should realize that maybe they are happy with who has applied.

As we stated last week, there are currently many pressing issues concerning school funding, college admissions and others that need to be addressed. It is vital that our community be represented when these issues are being discussed.

We extend our apologies to this year's seniors for not printing all the pictures in this week's edition. The long tradition of printing their pictures was not possible this year because of copyright laws. Although we extended an invitation for seniors to bring in their photos, apparently very few opted to do so or were too busy. Whatever the case, we congratulate all of the graduates from throughout the area.

Our friend Miguel Torres from the State Employees Union writes to us and explains that although it was reported that a new Senate Bill-1691 would be favorable for teachers, according to Miguel, this is a very unpopular bill with the teachers. "Texas State teachers associations and the Texas State Employees Union! All parties have a reason to be upset, the state again wants to renege on its promises to the state employees, and to the retirees, not to mention the problems it just created for some of the school districts who rely on retirees assistance at times.

The state wants the employees to put more than they (state) are willing to match, toward the employee's retirement. The state could easily solve the whole problem by just upping their share of retirement money into the employees retirement fund, but as usual, and like everything else, they want the employees to pay for it."

Why does this not surprise us. Especially when we have representatives like Carl Isett and Robert Duncan "working" for us.

After 5 months of living in Austin, State legislators have gone home. Many Texans have been left scratching their heads asking what did they do? This because once again legislators have ignored the needs of school children and refused to pass legislation that would bring equality to school funding.

Their failure is once again linked to the fact that our legislators are determined not to raise property taxes because of the fear of the taxpayer's wrath and concurrently...votes.

This makes one ask, what are we willing to sacrifice in order for all children to get a good education. Apparently our legislators are not willing to answer that question and apparently neither are a lot of voters and residents of West Texas who continue to ask for tax cuts.

Write to Bidal eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Felicidades
a todos
los Padres
de Familia
de los
Graduantes
del 2005

Acuerdo Sobre Obstruccionismo 'Mala Noticia' Para Hispanos

Patricia Guadalupe

Tras semanas de intensas negociaciones, por el momento el Senado estadounidense ha terminado con lo que amenazaba ser una confrontación sobre cambios fundamentales a su funcionamiento legislativo.

Sin embargo, el acuerdo al que se llegó el 23 de mayo podrá ser mala noticia par la comunidad hispana, según legisladores latinos y grupos comunitarios.

El vaivén entre los partidos que ocurrió puntualizó el uso del obstruccionismo, que se emplea para obstaculizar o retrasar acciones del Senado en cámara. En este caso los demócratas lo habían utilizado para detener la discusión sobre varios nominados judiciales federales que consideraba demasiado conservadores.

El acuerdo, el cual los dirigentes del Senado llamaron una victoria para el bipartidismo, permite que ciertas nominaciones las vote el Senado sin incurrir en el obstruccionismo. Aquellas incluyen algunas de las nominaciones más conservadoras nunca consideradas, tales como la de Janice Rogers Brown, una juez afro-americana de California que pronunció un fallo en el que los epítetos raciales en el lugar de trabajo los protege la Primera Enmienda y quien apoyó la Propuesta 209 de California, con la explicación de que considera la acción afirmativa una especie de segregación. La Propuesta, que fue aprobada fácilmente en 1996, eliminó programas de acción afirmativa del gobierno estatal y local en el ámbito de empleos públicos.

Otros nominados comparten perspectivas similares, lo cual es mal agüero para los latinos, dice el senador demócrata Ken Salazar, quien sirvió de fiscal en Colorado de 1999 hasta sumarse al Senado estadounidense el año pasado.

"He considerado a los jueces que los republicanos han propuesto para consideración, y le puedo decir sin una duda que lo que ocurrirá es que estos jueces eliminarán los derechos por los que se ha luchado y los que se han ganado durante tantos años en la lucha por los derechos civiles", le comentó a Hispanic Link.

Una carta que circuló el Caucus Progresista del Congreso - un grupo de 55 legisladores que incluye a los representantes José Serrano (D-N.Y.), Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) e Hilda Solís (D-Calif.) - expresó una perspectiva similar.

"Claramente, el pueblo estadounidense quiere que llegamos a acuerdos referente a nuestras diferencias en el Congreso cuando sea posible, pero no quiere que se haga arreglos políticos a expensa de nuestros derechos fundamentales. Los jueces federales son nombrados a términos vitalicios y sus pronunciamientos dan forma a nuestra vida diaria", declaró.

(Continued on page 6)

MY CHILDREN'S FUTURE

By Victor Landa

When I began writing columns many years ago, my children were toddlers. My daughter was three years old, my son was one. My worries for them were, at the time, immediate, and my writing reflected that fact. The overwhelming weight of sudden responsibility leaves little room for hand-wringing. The wonderful chaos that comes with a new family seems to blur far-sight. One's concern is focused on the needs of the moment.

Like all new fathers, I dreamed, and I imagined a better world for my children, and I wrote with zeal about my personal stake in the future. But the midnight runs to the grocery store for diapers and the bottomless well of energy of scampering feet were a welcomed reality check. There were practical things that needed tending right there and then, so I wrote as well about walking my daughter to her first day of school and tossing a football with my son in the warm summer rain.

My grounding has been the extraordinary moments hidden among the mundane passage of time. And I've relied on my children to show me the way.

Two nights ago my children and my wife and I sat together for dinner at a local burger place. The conversation clipped along with its usual exuberant pace, jumping from basketball games to history tests, from movies and riddles, to the ever-present hair-trigger teenage giggle. Somehow we ended up talking about the future.

My daughter is now completing the 10th grade, my son the eighth. They are, by all estimates, light-years ahead of where my wife and I were at their age. They are children of another age, with different challenges and different opportunities. They have a more sophisticated world-view than we did, and they navigate the world of technology and communications with unbelievable ease.

I remember the admonitions, when I was a younger father, to cherish my time with them and to try not to blink. "That's how fast time goes by," experienced parents told me.

Well, I blinked, and I suddenly found myself discussing college with two very bright teenagers. Our family is blessed with high expectations. My children's generation will be the third, going back

to my mother, in which college is a given, not an option. It's not a matter of "if" but of "where."

There is precedent, legacy, and I was comforted in the fact that the two giggling and engaging teenagers who sat before me were up to the challenge.

I realize now that my job has shifted. My charge at this time is to prepare my teens for the things that will come their way, things that will be out of my and their control. I have, at best, a blurry idea of what their world will be like. But I must trust them with it. What preoccupies me is the state of the world I'll eventually leave behind.

I read in the newspaper where Congress has given President Bush another \$82 billion for the war effort in Iraq and Afghanistan. This brings the total spent on the war to \$300 billion. That same newspaper article estimated that the federal deficit, not counting the war and not counting the needed funds to revamp Social Security and Medicaid, is projected to be \$855 billion. The 10-year deficit estimate was \$2.3 trillion. That includes projected war costs as well as other expenses.

Every generation that has ever gone to war has made great sacrifices for the cause of their time. Every generation except this one that has gone to war has been asked by their president to pitch in. This time, our sacrifice, the burden of our war, will be placed on our elderly and will be passed along to our children.

Whether we were justified in going into a pre-emptive war is a subject for another column, and my hope is that that discussion continues with vigor. The fear of challenging the status-quo, the fearful acquiescence to our present wave of nationalism, will be confronted, no doubt.

For now, though, I go back to my grounding. And I wonder at the state of the world we're leaving behind.

Hasn't it always been the responsibility of a generation to pay for the safety of its children?

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Jim Hightower

"LEGISLATIVE SLIME"

Whatever else you think of our lawmakers, you have to be impressed with the amazing ingenuity, exuberant energy, and sheer determination they put into serving their favorite constituency: Themselves!

We've seen it in congress, where lawmakers recently rejected a long-overdue increase in America's wage floor, but did have the gumption to raise their own pay for the fifth time in the past six years. That's an impressive record of self-aggrandizement—but, come on, I live in Texas, where our legislators make congress critters seem like selfless statesmen.

The Republican leadership in our legislature has hung a new slogan on our state capitol building: "Texas—Third World and Proud of It!" They have been so inadequate, so miserly in developing a budget that we rank down at the bottom of the 50 states in terms of providing even the most basic needs of our people, from public education to environmental protection.

But these stalwarts have now stepped forward to deal creatively with a pressing issue for all Texans: How to increase the pensions of legislators. Cleverly, they didn't even have to take a direct vote on their pension raise, for the legislature has based its retirement on a percentage of the annual pay of state judges. Thus, they simply hiked the pay of judges by 22 percent, automatically jacking up their own pensions by this ricochet shot. As one clever legislator put it: "I am very strongly in favor of raises for judges."

Even with such a deceptive maneuver, however, the leadership felt the need to add another layer of deception. It made sure that the pay hike for judges was done with no debate and no recorded vote—meaning that We the People can't know which members voted to fatten their own pay at a time they're cutting state services for people. As a Republican leader explained: "I'm not a supporter of record votes. I think they just gum up the works."

In many cases, gumming the works would be a good thing. Pond scum isn't as slimy as these legislators.

El Futuro de Mis Hijos

Víctor Landa

Cuando hace muchos años comencé a escribir columnas, mis hijos eran pequeños. Mi hija tenía tres años, y mi hijo uno. Mis preocupaciones para ellos eran, en aquel entonces, inmediatas, lo cual se veía reflejado en mis escritos. El peso abrumador de la responsabilidad repentina deja poco espacio para lamentarse. El caos maravilloso que llega con la familia nueva parece ofuscar la perspectiva a largo plazo. La preocupación de uno se remite a las necesidades del momento.

Como todo padre nuevo, yo soñaba, y me imaginaba un mundo mejor para mis hijos. Escribía con fervor sobre mi interés personal en el futuro. Sin embargo agradecía la vuelta abrupta a la realidad que traían los trayectos a medianoche al supermercado en busca de pañales y el pozo sin fondo de energía de los picesitos que correteaban. Había que atender a las cosas prácticas allí mismo, por ende escribía también de llevar de la mano a mi hija a su primer día de escuela y de jugar a la pelota con mi hijo bajo una cálida lluvia de verano.

Mi fundamento han sido los momentos extraordinarios ocultos

entre el paso mundano del tiempo. Y me he fiado de mis hijos para mostrar me el camino.

Hace dos noches estábamos sentados mis hijos, mi esposa y yo, cenando en una hamburguesería local. La conversación fluía a su acostumbrado ritmo exuberante, de los partidos de baloncesto a las pruebas de historia, de películas a adivinanzas, al siempre presente risotada a flor de piel. En todo el barullo, acabamos hablando del futuro.

Mi hija acaba el décimo grado de secundaria, y mi hijo el octavo. Están a años luz de donde estábamos mi esposa y yo a su edad. Son niños de otra era, con diferentes desafíos y oportunidades. Tienen una perspectiva del mundo más sofisticado de lo que fue la nuestra, y saben navegar el mundo de la tecnología y las comunicaciones con una facilidad incomparable.

Recuerdo las advertencias, cuando era padre joven, de abrigar el tiempo con ellos sin siquiera pestañar. "Pasa así de rápido", me decían los padres con experiencia.

Pero bueno, pestañé, y de repente me encontré conversando de la universidad con dos adolescentes muy inteligentes. Por

bendición nuestra familia vive de las expectativas desafiantes. La generación de mis hijos será la tercera, empezando con la de mi madre, en la que ni se discute el ir o no a la universidad. No es cuestión de "si", sino de "dónde".

Existe tal precedente, tal legado, y me consolaba el hecho que ambos adolescentes encantadores y risueños frente a mí no se disminuían ante el reto.

Me doy cuenta ahora que mi labor ha tomado otro rumbo.

Ahora debo preparar a mis hijos para lo que les tocará, sobre lo que ni yo ni ellos tendremos control. Tengo, como mucho, una idea borrosa de cómo será su mundo. Pero debo confiar que ellos sabrán navegarlo. Lo que me preocupa es el estado del mundo que eventualmente dejaré yo atrás.

Leí en el periódico donde el Congreso le ha otorgado al presidente Bush otros \$82 mil millones para la guerra en Irak y los esfuerzos en Afganistán. Con esto el total gastado en temas de guerra llega a \$300 mil millones. El mismo artículo calculó que el déficit federal, sin contar la guerra y sin contar los fondos necesarios para restaurar el Seguro Social y Medicaid, se proyecta en \$855 mil

millones. El cálculo del déficit a 10 años es de \$2.3 billones. Esta cifra incluye costos proyectados de guerra así como otros gastos.

Toda generación en ir a la guerra se ha sacrificado mucho por la causa de su época. A Cada generación, menos la presente, que ha ido a la guerra el presidente le ha pedido poner de su parte. Esta vez, nuestro sacrificio, la carga de nuestra guerra, la llevarán nuestros ancianos y pasará a manos de nuestros hijos.

Si se nos justifica por entrar en una guerra como medida preventiva es tema de otra columna, y yo espero que se continúe la discusión con vigor. El temor a desafiar lo establecido, la conformidad temerosa con la presente oleada de nacionalismo, se confrontará, sin duda.

Por el momento, no obstante, vuelvo a mi fundamento. Y me pregunto sobre el estado en el que dejamos el mundo.

¿No ha sido siempre la

responsabilidad de una generación pagar la seguridad de sus hijos?

(Victor Landa, de San Antonio, Texas, es columnista de Hispanic Link News Service. Comuníquese con él por correo electrónico a: victorlanda@sbcglobal.net.) (c) 2005, Hispanic Link News Service

Hispanic Cultural Values #1: Family

Rebecca Cuevas de Caissie

I have recently been asked, "What the values are within the Hispanic community?" This gave me quite a bit to think about. Is there a common thread and belief that identifies Hispanics or that all Hispanics can identify with? Is there a certain thinking that permeates the Hispanic community? Can you almost classify what it means to be Hispanic? Is that a stereotypical way of thinking of a certain group of people? One simple question gave birth to a deluge of other questions that probed deeply into the real reason I actually write these articles. What is it about Hispanics that makes us feel that bond amongst ourselves and that pride in our race that we carry like a flag for the whole world to see. Why is it that our nations are more brotherly towards each other for the most part and our citizens embrace each other and fill in as family when we are separated from our carnales? Yes, I think there are a certain set of values in the Hispanic community that sets us apart. Almost like a recipe, you take a little of this and a little of that and you combine it in the right setting and you have the perfect ingredients for what I would call the values of the Hispanic Culture.

Before I outline exactly what I believe some of those Hispanic values are, let me add to this a precursor. Not everyone is the same. Within each race there are individuals who hold values that are theirs alone and apart from the mainstream thought and value system of those who surround them, share their lives and even of those who have reared them. That is what makes Human's so unique, that we are able to grow up within a certain set and still choose to change or adopt a differing approach or value system than that which was taught us. To be sure we

do have instinct, yet we are not ruled by it. So as I write this please bare in mind that what I am writing about is the values that the Hispanic Community holds as important in general, leaving room for the individual the freedom to disagree these guidelines as it were. If you were to sit amongst a grouping of Hispanics, no matter the country of origin, I think they would all find these values to be a common ground for conversation and most could agree upon.

Family by far is the most valued part of any Hispanic's life I have ever met. When I say this I mean that in a very different way than anyone outside the Hispanic family would understand it. To this end I will explain what I mean by the statement of family being most valued. Beginning with growing up, as a young Hispanic, we do not look forward to the life ahead of us with thoughts of ourselves outside the family. We are not independent of the family unit. To the contrary, what are you without your family? To another race you are yourself, to the Hispanic, you are nothing. Everything you go through as you are growing up is shared with some member of the family. Children grow up hanging out with their brothers, sisters, and cousins as friends. There is no need to go out by yourself and leave the younger ones at home as if they are a burden. Of course there are the times when you spend alone, but most of the time you spend it enjoying company of your family. The love and treasuring that takes place in the Hispanic family I have never seen in any other family setting. The way in which your mother and father relate to you is different also. There is a respect that is demanded from children towards their elders. Your parents care for you, provide for you and protect you. Growing up you know that nothing is more important in

their lives than you. No matter how busy the parents are, their is always time for the children. No matter what happens in life, one thing most children of Hispanic families grow up with, it is the essential knowledge that your parents and all the other adults in the family as well have always put you first.

In return for this type of acceptance and love, an individual who grows up in this type of family always feels the reciprocal toward their parents as well as other children in the family. I do not know of too many Hispanic families where the children feel animosity towards their younger siblings. Even when a new baby is brought into the family, the older children are very much a part of the family every step of the way. Many are the times that I see children in other families with the "mine" disease as I like to call it. Boundaries for this that and the other thing permeate the non-Hispanic family. Personal boundaries covering your personal desires that is. The boundaries do not seem to be lined out to cover protecting those in the family or does it go towards including them. It always puzzles me as to why a couple would have children, and I suppose I think more of women as I am a woman myself, if they are always complaining about the children and always looking to find a babysitter, time for themselves and seem to be constantly thinking of how much better it was and will be without the kids around. The lives of some people seems too busy to allow time for family. Time is scheduled so tightly and no flexibility is there.

There is a career, gym, sports, friends, church, shopping, movies, family gatherings and the list just goes on and on. Then there are the toys: boats, motorbikes, race cars, classic cars, sporting goods, hiking, traveling, skiing... I tell you it boggles the mind. Even the day of rest is scheduled. I used to live in an area that was predominantly non-Hispanic and I tell you I was tired just listening to the parents go on and on about their schedule, and non of that even included the kids. Is it any wonder why people have to ask me what the value system of Hispanics are? Why we aren't at too many of those multiple functions as we are too busy relaxing after work with our family and friends enjoying the peace and comfort of family and home. I think for the most part we are absent from the scene by choice. Yes the very first Value a Hispanic has I would have to say is family. They are you hopes, dreams, support, strength, cheerleaders. Family loves you when no one else will. When all has failed you, as a Hispanic Family will never fail you. They give you roots, identity, acceptance, devotion, promise, passion, drive and life. Yes Family is life. The very seed of each of us does not rest in who we receive ourselves to be but from the seed of generations known as genetics that gifts, curses, equips and carves out who we are and who we will be. After all, if you are not Hispanic by birth you can never change that. And if you are Hispanic by birth, you can never change that. Then again, who would want to be anywhere but in a Hispanic family?

EL EDITOR

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Cartas al Editor

To Whom It May Concern:

After the fiasco that happened in Tulia, Tx, you would think that law enforcement would never again take the word of just one individual deemed to be credible by law enforcement to build cases against suspected criminals that resulted in the incarceration of these people only to be later released due to the creditability of the informant and the expense put on the taxpayers for the settlement that was awarded to these people after their releases from either probation or prison sentences. Well I'm sorry to say that the Lynn County Sheriff's Office and the Tahoka Police Department are not worried about it because they too are using the word of a credible informant to dictate the direction of their police work. Between the last six or seven months based on information supplied by a credible informant officers with the Lynn County Sheriff's office, Taholka Police Department, troopers from the Texas Department of Public Safety and other officers from Gaines and Dawson county, have led raids on eight people on drug related charges, of these eight people, two had their homes searched and no drugs were found and had no indication of selling drugs, the other six were found to possess small amounts of illegal drugs which they accordingly were arrested and had their bails set between ten thousand and five hundred thousand dollars, the higher amount was later reduced (the bail amounts are a little high compared to other bails that were set for people charged with Murder and Child molestation in Lynn county). Now don't get me wrong I don't agree with people who are involved with drugs, but law enforcement is using the word of a credible informant to do their police work, if this informant's information is so reliable why don't they use this informant to actually purchase drugs from suspected drug dealers and build a good strong case, then have them convicted and sentenced. But in my eyes that would involve real police work and I really don't believe that law enforcement in Lynn County want that, because why waste all their time doing police work when you have a credible informant to provide information on people. Another thing is the credible informant the police are using what is his motive, does this person themselves have pending charges that will be dropped for cooperating with the police or is it for their own financial gain, whatever the motive is, I don't believe the police got there moneys worth. In the past whenever law enforcement came upon drugs that were seized the officers would be on the front page of the Lynn County paper with the cache of drugs displayed for the people of Lynn county to see they were doing their job, but in the last few raids that were conducted by law enforcement I never saw officers in the paper or the drugs that were seized maybe because the amounts that were found didn't add up to all the hype they hoped for, the only picture in the paper of police was at the raid of a business in the southeast part of Tahoka, which looked more of a trophy picture than anything else. Can you imagine what these officers from DPS and the other counties that assisted in these raids thought when they see the amounts that were seized, or what they said then they went back to there counties about law enforcement practices conducted in Lynn County, or what about the judge who signed for the arrest warrants does that judge feel misled by police officers and their credible informant, and what about the Grand Jury that indicts these people, are they given the whole truth or just a fraction, does law enforcement reveal their reliable source, speaking of the Grand Jury, how many on that panel were Caucasian probably most of them I would say and the District Attorney that will try these cases, he'll probably get them all convicted because it's happened a lot in the past.

Law enforcement in Lynn County like to profile minorities. If a person was to come to Lynn county and review all public records of people that have been issued citations or gone to jail they would see that the majority of people are minorities and by looking at these records one would assume that all the crimes and traffic violations in Lynn County are caused by minorities, I beg to differ, it's because they target minorities, you don't see police patrolling around the Golf course or stopping Caucasians because if they did they probably wouldn't have a job the next day. They always say if there's a problem with law enforcement go to the elected representatives that govern law enforcement (County Commissioners and City Council), but it seems to fall on deaf earts, it seems to me that some of these elected officials let their personal prejudices cloud their judgement as long as law enforcement are targeting minorities, I guess these elected officials feel that as long as police are intimidating minorities they can get by with it, but one of these days actions like that will soon back fire on them when someone will start looking into these allegations that I'm writing about and let the truth be said, it won't be someone locally due to the fact that in the past every thing has been swept under the rug and because even if someone tried to tell the truth they will be harassed for letting out the dirty laundry, it's almost shameful.

I guess people have had their civil rights violated so long it just another way of life for them. Let's hope that one day the truth will let be out and people will finally get some real justice just like the people did in Tulia. I will not put my name on this letter due to the repercussions that would fall back on myself and family, it's really bad when you can't write your name on a piece of paper to let other people know how you feel, I also know that I'm not the only person that feels this way but I guess that's what fear instills. Thanks for letting me speak my mind. P.S. A copy will be sent to every type of media outlet in the area and nationally including the NAACP, ACLU, and LULAC. Alejandro Rodriguez

Lubbock High

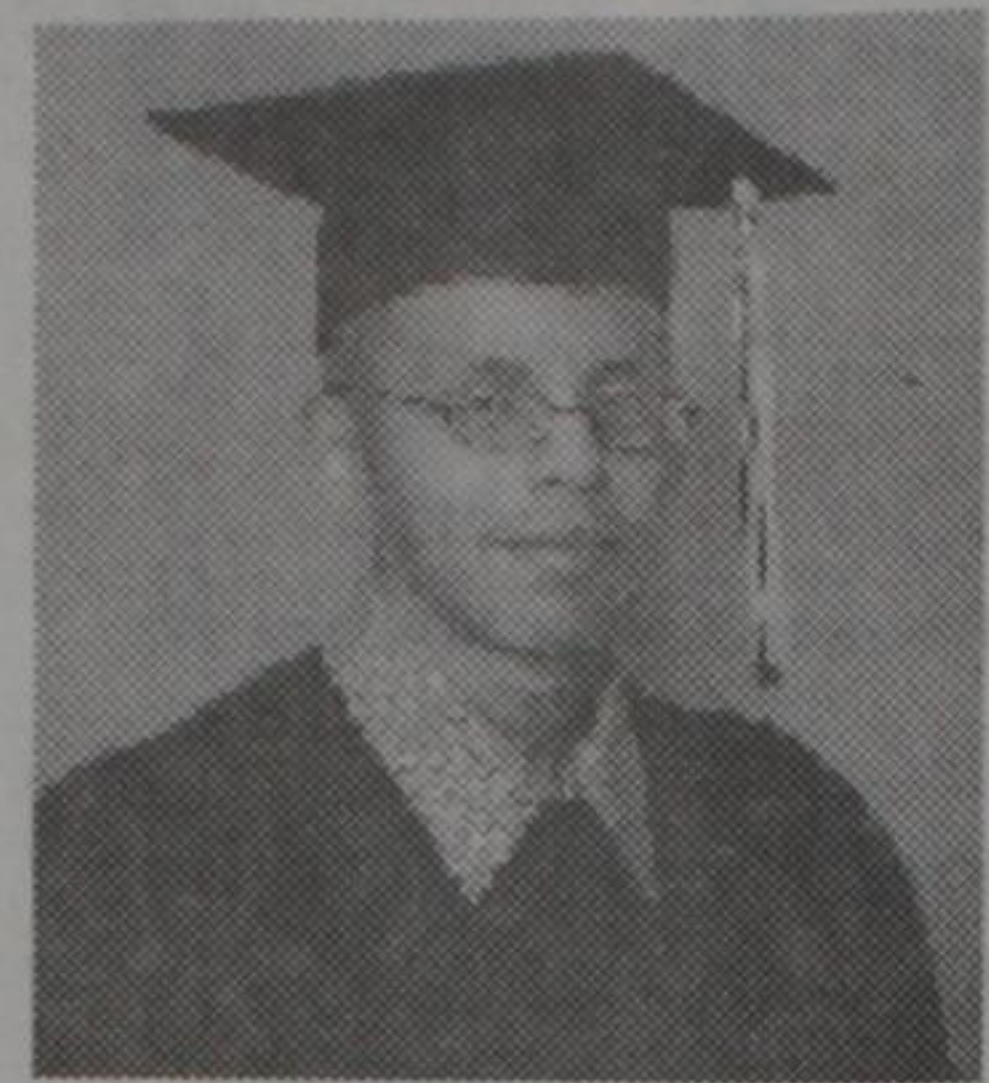
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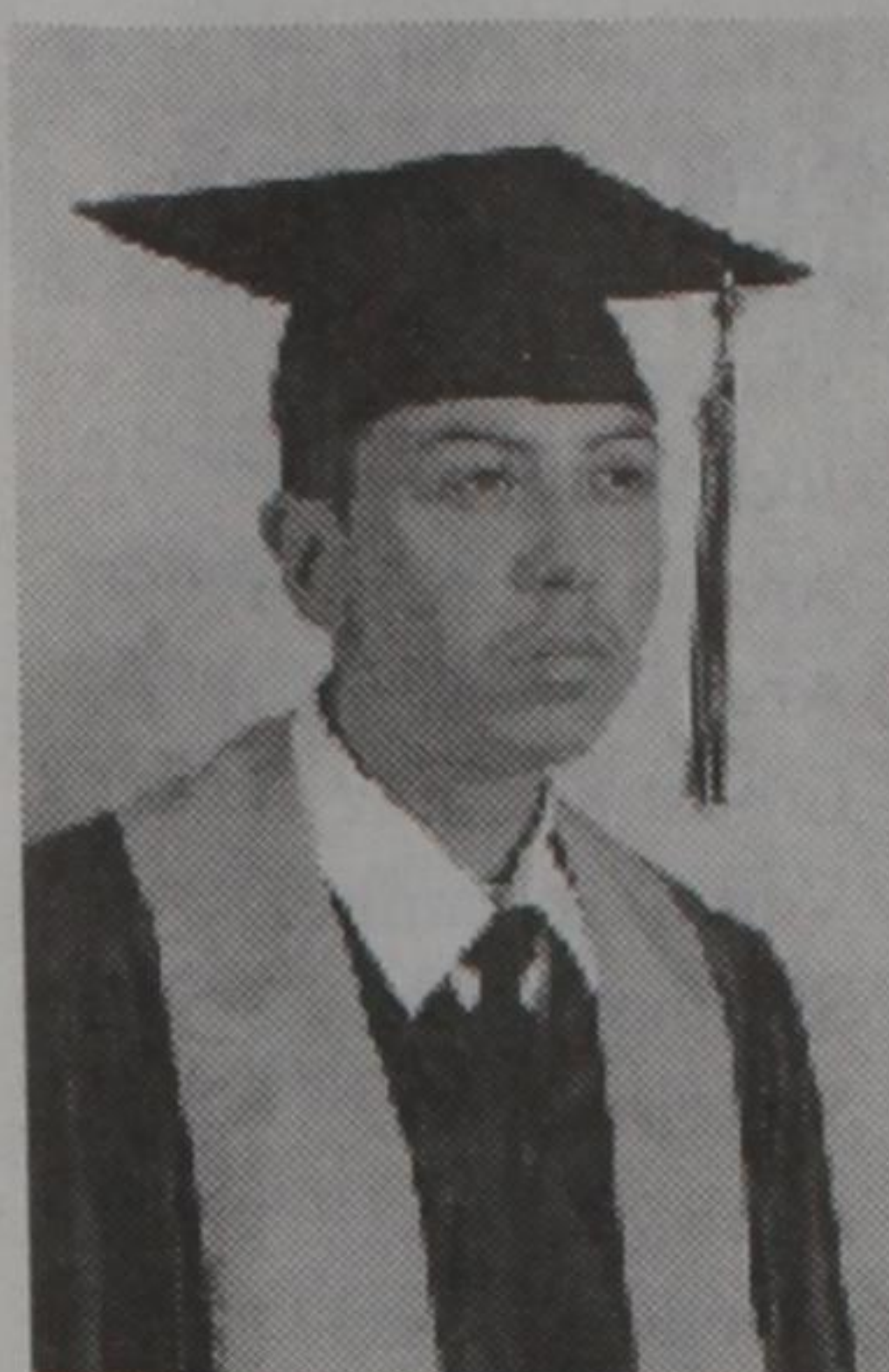
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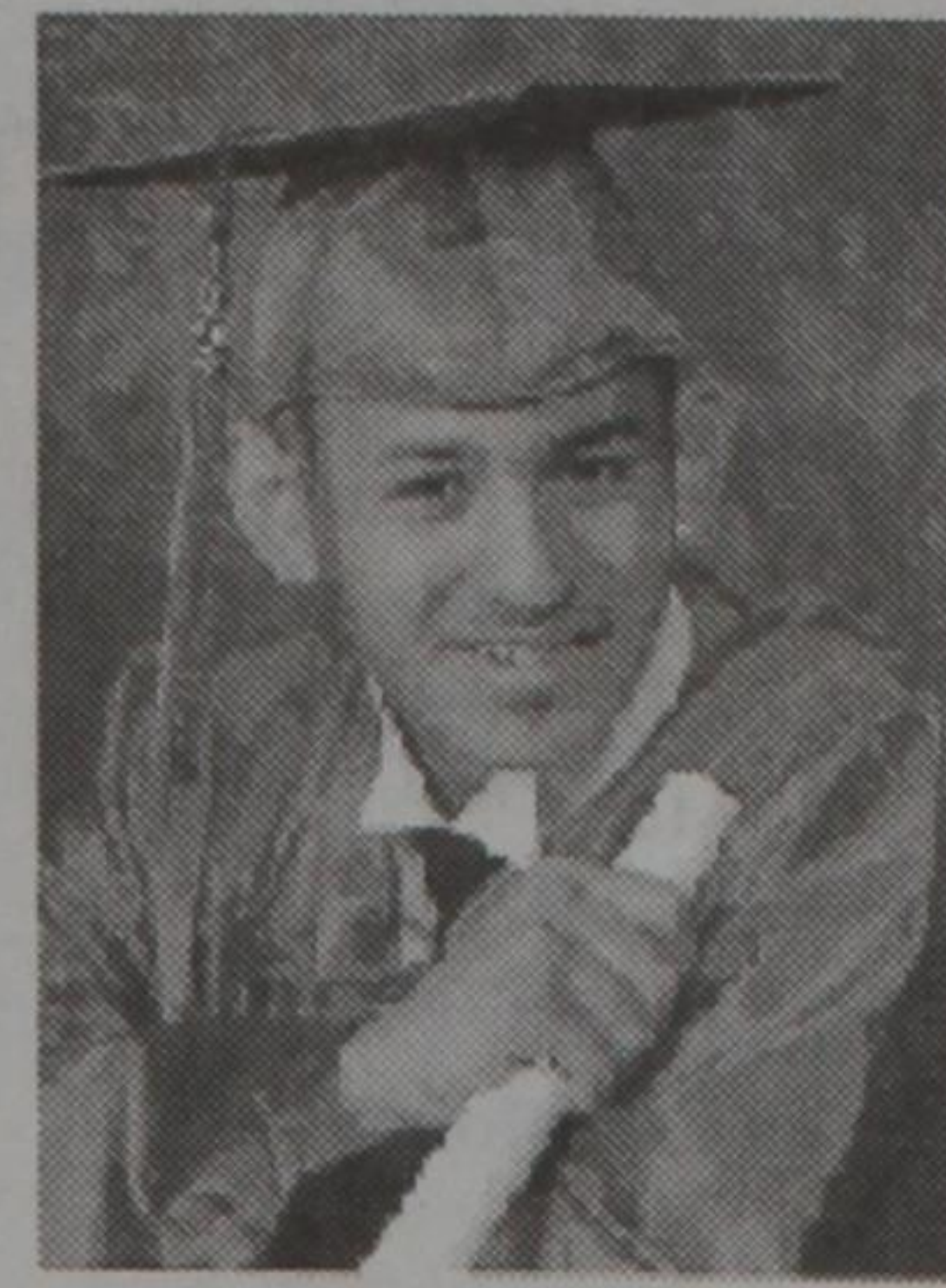
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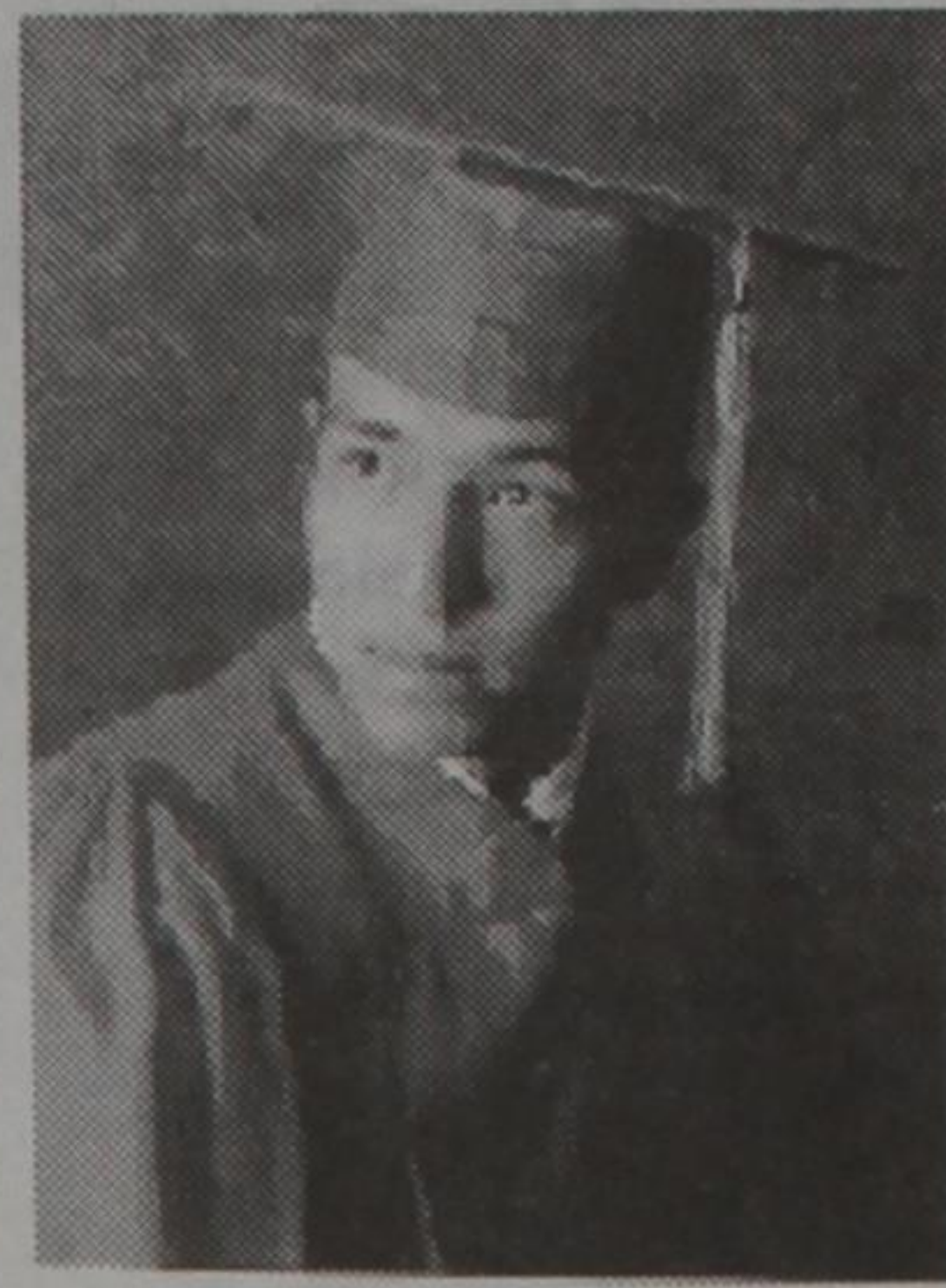
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 MEX-TEX FIESTA

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12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Demonstration of Tortilla Making - Presented by the Ladies of Casa de Amigos (Plaza)	11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Washer Tournament (inside Midland Center)
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Demonstration of Paper Flower Making - Presented by the Ladies of Casa de Amigos (Plaza)	3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Boxing Competition
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Ballet Grupo Aguilera	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Menudo, Chili, Fajita & Salsa competition
	7:15 p.m. - Jalapeno eating contest

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 *Christopher Rae Beatty (R)
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 Tiffany Benavides
 Alejandra Anjelica Bermea
 *Azian Seth Bermea (D)
 *Amanda Jo Biram (R)
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 *Crystal Leann Bleeker (D)
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 *Jordan Ashley Harris (R)
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 *Jerrel Ryan Hill (D, H, N)
 *Hudson Hart Hlavaty (R)
 Noel Infante
 Susanne Joergensen
 Carl Edmond Johns
 *Dustin Quinn Jones (R)
 *Matthew Aaron Kane (R, T)
 Zachery Douglas Kidd
 *Amanda Leigh Kitten (D, N, T)
 Nattapom Kosoltrakul
 *Tanner Paul Langdon (R)
 *Stefani Nichole Langford (R)
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 *Allen Eugene Lappe (R)
 *Cathleen Alyse Lasater (R)
 Matthew Lott
 *Larry Lovato (R)
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 Adam Dominiguez Martinez
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*Alan Micheal McCann (D, H, N)
 *Brandi Ni'Cole McClellan (R)
 *Stephanie Nicole McPhaul (R)
 *Cullen David McQuhae (R)
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 Georgia Rayanne Melot (T)
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 *Anthony John Salazar (R)
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 *Cody Lynn Seay (D, H, N)
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*Audra Noel Server (R, T)
 *Melissa Ann Shropshire (R)
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 Celine Stevens
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On: Sat, June 11th From: 2:00 PM - ?
 We are meeting at Roger's Park Gazebo
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 Bring Food to cook out on grills, bring drinks, bring your family,
 old class photos, and come to have a great time together!
 Please spread this information to classmates you see around
 town so that we have a good turn out.
 For more information call Eddie Gamez at 765-8716



It Will Also Be Our 30th Lubbock High School Reunion!

For Information Call Stuart Hilde 806 797-5334
 Friday, June 3rd at 7:00 PM
 5101 Ave Q (Danny's Fens & Hens)
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 Soft drinks & Ice Provided (Food will not be Served)
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 Monica Chairez
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 Roderick Garcia
 Rosalie Garcia
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 Crystal Hernandez
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 Christopher
 Marin Joshua Martinez
 Victoria Martinez
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Sylvia Garcia
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Las Espuelas de San Antonio ya esperan al Heat o a los Pistones

PHOENIX - Las Espuelas de San Antonio ya no tienen de qué preocuparse por estar en el lado equivocado en la historia de las series de campeonato o tratar de enfrentar a Amare Stoudemire.

Ahora, en lo único que tienen que concentrarse es ganar otro campeonato de la NBA.

Tim Duncan anotó 31 puntos y tuvo 15 rebotes y la defensiva de las Espuelas nuevamente tuvieron una ofensiva de 18-4 en el tercer periodo, lo que les dio suficiente ventaja para vencer anoche por 101-95 a Stoudemire y a los Soles de Phoenix.

El triunfo le dio a San Antonio el campeonato de la Conferencia Oeste, que conquistó en cinco partidos en una serie al máximo de siete.

Las Espuelas, que estarán animadas y complacidas de haber avanzado a la final de la NBA por segunda ocasión en tres años, y su tercera en siete años, también estarán aliviadas por haber acabado con la serie final y con Stoudemire.

San Antonio tomó ventaja de 3-0 en la serie antes de perder el cuarto como local, y ciertamente no quería irse a casa para el sexto partido y con la posibilidad de que los Soles remontaran una desventaja que hasta el momento no tiene precedente en la historia de la NBA.

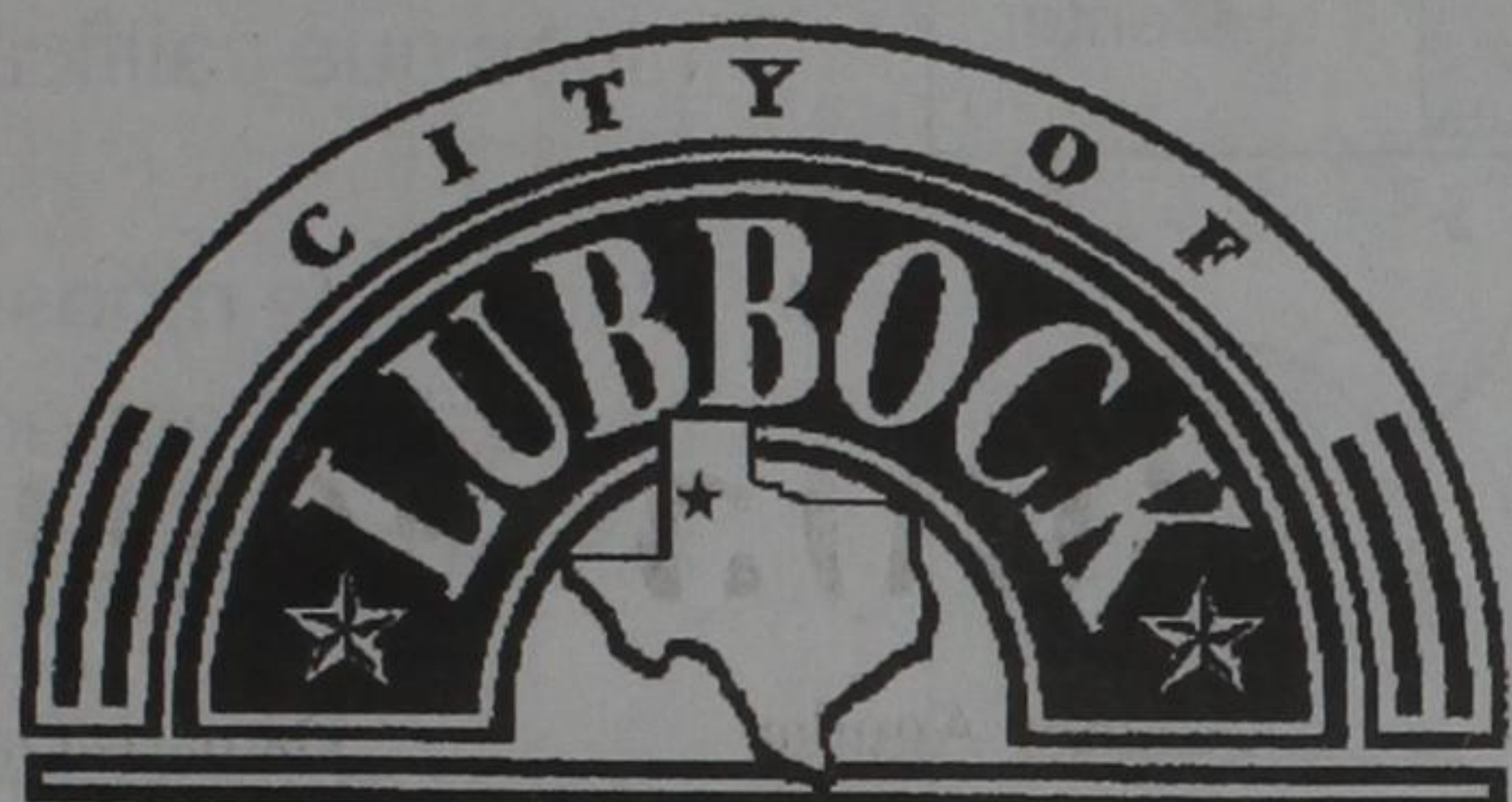
El triunfo dará a los adoloridos tobillos de Duncan y a los moretones del argentino Manu Ginóbili un merecido descanso y suficiente tiempo para sanar antes de enterarse si enfrentarán al Heat de Miami o a los Pistones de Detroit, que están empatados 2-2 en la serie y el quinto partido será hoy por la noche en Miami.

La serie de campeonato iniciará el 9 de junio y las Espuelas, que ganaron el campeonato en 1999 y 2003, será el equipo local sin importar al rival.

Stoudemire casi mantuvo viva la maravillosa temporada de los Soles al anotar 17 de sus 42 puntos en el periodo final, varios de ellos con poderosas volcadas que se han convertido en su tarjeta de presentación.

Phoenix ni siquiera tuvo un solo jugador fuera de él que anotara 30 puntos en cinco partidos consecutivos de temporada regular desde que lo hiciera Charles Barkley en marzo de 1993.

El argentino Ginóbili jugó 35 minutos, en los que encestró seis de 15 tiros a la canasta, dos de seis oportunidades de tres unidades para un total de 19 puntos, recuperó ocho rebotes y dio seis asistencias.



Probationary Fire Fighter

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

The City of Lubbock, TX (population 201,212) will be accepting applications for Probationary Fire Fighter positions on June 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Applications may be picked up at the Human Resources Department at 1625 13th Street, in Room 104, Monday-Friday. Applicants must be at least nineteen (19) years old at the time of the written examination; and not have reached his/her thirty-six (36) birthday at the time of entrance to the Fire Academy. **MUST CURRENTLY POSSESS AN EMT-BASIC CERTIFICATE OR HIGHER, issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services. (WE WILL ACCEPT EMT -1 OR EMT - P CERTIFICATIONS).** MUST POSSESS A FIRE FIGHTER BASIC CERTIFICATE issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. The Fire Entrance Exam will be given on Friday, August 19, 2005 at the City of Lubbock Fire Academy at 1515 E. Ursuline. The doors will be closed promptly at 8:00 A.M. and no one will be admitted after that time. All applicants should plan to arrive at 7:30 A.M. A Fire Fighter Eligibility list will be compiled from the scores of applicants passing the written examination and will be ranked, highest final score first. The final competitive score includes veteran's preference points. Individuals with the top scores on the written eligibility test will be scheduled for the Candidate Physical Ability Test, (CPAT). The CPAT test will be held in Lubbock at the Fire Academy which is located 1515 E. Ursuline on a designated date and time. For more information please call 775-2311 or 1-800-621-0793.

The City of Lubbock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SALARY RANGE: CSP - \$ 15.93 Hourly
\$ 33,134.40 Annually
CLOSING DATE: June 30, 2005
REPORTS TO: Fire Department

Precision Body Works, Inc.

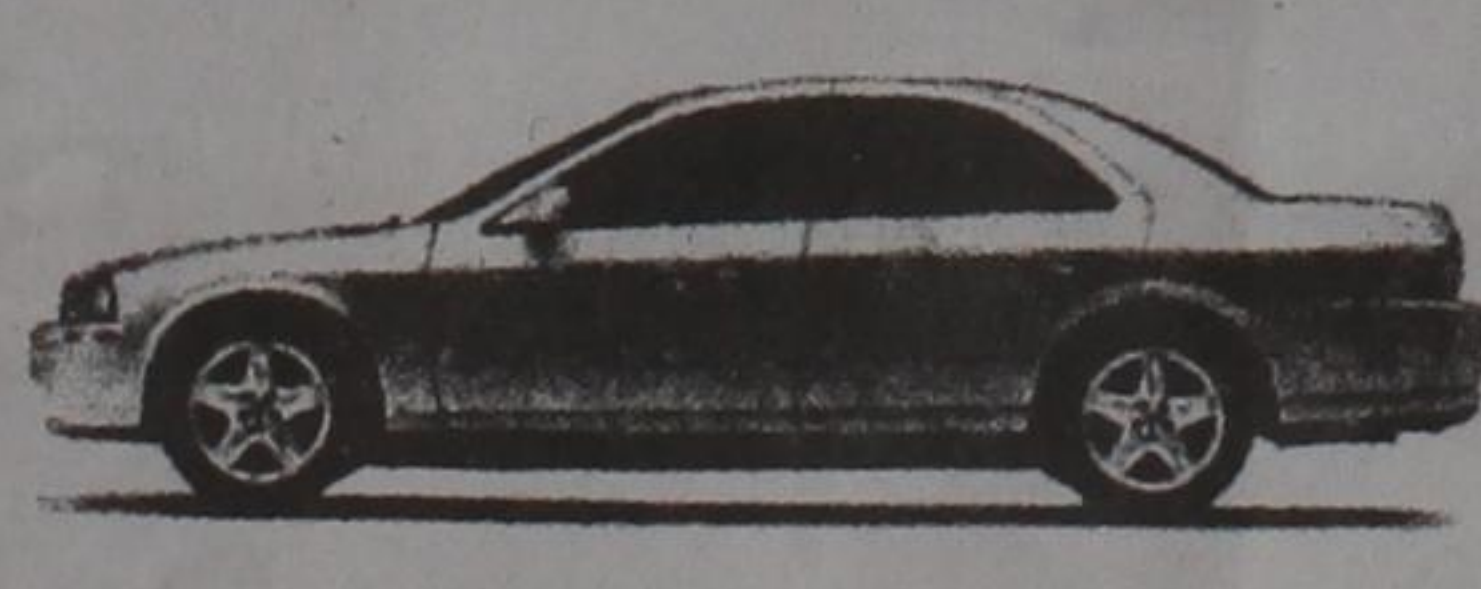
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It Comes In
Looking Like This

AFTER



But It Leaves
Looking Like This

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Increasing Hispanic Participation

continued from front page

With the caveats noted above in mind, we considered how raising Hispanic educational levels would affect tax revenues. The completion rate for bachelor's degrees is 12 percent for today's cohort of 18-year-old Hispanics. We estimated the effect of increasing Hispanic participation in higher education to either the current rate for blacks (15 percent) or the rate for whites (30 percent). Further, we assumed that the high school graduation rate for this cohort of Hispanics remained the same but that more went on to complete a bachelor's degree.

'Mala Noticia' para Hispanos

Lo que es más, son muy pocos los latinos que prestan atención al problema, aunque los tribunales juegan un rol prominente en la comunidad, dijo Gabriela Lemus, directora de políticas y legislación en la Liga de Ciudadanos Latino Americanos.

"A los latinos les tendría que importar este tema por lo que a plazo largo, trata de los tribunales. Trata de derechos civiles, y es para asegurar que no se desplacen los derechos de la minoría", explicó. "No nos cabe duda que se nos discrimina muchas veces en los tribunales. Debemos asegurar que nos queden personas que por lo menos tengan la mente abierta referente a las inquietudes de nuestra comunidad".

Los grupos latinos y miembros hispanos del Congreso dicen que temen que el tema de las nominaciones judiciales sólo sean el comienzo de los problemas que tendrá la comunidad latina.

El acuerdo del Senado sobre el obstruccionismo, alegan, no excluye la posibilidad que la mayoría republicana vuelva a traer a colación el tema con legislación como el Seguro Social que podría resultar en un impacto negativo para la comunidad.

(Patricia Guadalupe, con base en Washington, D.C., es editora del Capitolio para Hispanic Link News Service. Redacta notas para varios medios hispanos en Puerto Rico y por los Estados Unidos. Comuníquese con ella por correo electrónico a borcuawriter@aol.com.)

levels. Boosting the college completion rate of that cohort to 15 percent would produce an estimated \$1 billion in federal tax payments, while raising the rate to 30 percent would generate about \$15 billion. In addition, the increased income levels would result in estimated increases in contributions to social insurance programs--Social Security and Medicare--of about \$600 million and \$6.6 billion at the rates for blacks and whites, respectively.

These numbers may seem small compared with the federal debt. However, these increases reflect the gross effects of increasing the college participation rate of only the current 18-year-old cohort of the Hispanic population. If we considered an entire generation, e.g., the cohort from birth to age 18, the increase in federal revenues from increasing Hispanics' college participation rates to those of whites would be on the order of \$10 billion in additional tax revenues each year.

Increased Tax Revenues: Scenario Two

Under Scenario One, we held high school completion rates for the cohort constant at the current rate. However, raising the level of Hispanic participation at the bachelor's level is likely to have positive effects at other educational levels: An increased rate of Hispanics completing college would increase motivation for Hispanic high school students to take academic subjects and complete high school. Raising the high school graduation rate would increase the pool of Hispanics eligible for college.

We tested the possible effects of increasing that pool by also raising the Hispanic rate of high school graduation to the levels of either blacks or whites (see Figure 7). With the rate for blacks (84 percent for high school

graduation, 15 percent for college participation), the additional income tax revenue from Hispanics would be about \$6 billion. With the rate for whites (91 percent for high school graduation, 30 percent for college participation), the additional tax revenue would be about \$19 billion. These increases were for the 18-year-old cohort alone. Compounding such gains over multiple generations would generate increases exceeding \$13 billion each year.

Conclusions

Although these estimates suggest that increasing Hispanic participation in higher education would be a sound public investment, they should not be taken as predictive: A definitive conclusion about the magnitude of this increase for Hispanics is not possible given the present lack of research on how higher education affects their earnings specifically. Nevertheless, our calculations indicate that the effect is considerable enough that the continued undereducation of Hispanics will exact a high economic toll for individuals and for society. Given the experience of other undereducated groups, there are certainly concomitant human, social, and political costs. These estimates thus may serve as a lower bound of the benefits of increasing the bachelor degree attainment of Hispanics.

[1]Sol H. Pelavin and Michael B. Kane, *Minority Participation in Higher Education*, Washington, D.C.: Pelavin Associates, 1990.

Results of specific studies are documented in other RAND publications and in professional journal articles and books. To obtain information about RAND studies or to order documents, contact Distribution Services (Telephone: 310-451-7002; FAX: 310-451-6915; or Internet: order@rand.org). Abstracts of all RAND documents may be viewed on the World Wide Web (). Publications are distributed to the trade by National Book Network.

Chavez, son take different paths to victory

LOS ANGELES -- Julio Cesar Chavez had to go the distance. Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. needed only 42 seconds to win his fight.

In a bout billed as the 42-year-old Chavez's "Adios" to Los Angeles, he outclassed Ivan Robinson to take an unanimous decision in their 10-round super lightweight bout Saturday night.

A couple of hours earlier, Chavez's 19-year-old son knocked out Adam Wynant in less than a minute of the opening round.

The evening of boxing at Staples Center was marred by a serious injury in an early bout on the undercard.

Mexican flyweight Ruben Contreras underwent surgery Saturday night to relieve pressure from bleeding on his brain. Contreras suffered a seizure shortly after he quit during his bout, ringside physician Dr. Paul Wallace said.

The 32-year-old Contreras was taken to California Hospital Medical Center after he stopped

fighting in the sixth round of a scheduled eight-round bout against Brian Vitoria.

The elder Chavez, fighting for the 114th time and winding down his storied career, ran his record to 107-5-2 with 88 knockouts. Chavez, from Culiacan, Mexico, weighed 143 pounds, as did Robinson.

Chavez dominated all the way. "They told me it was going to be an easy fight, but it wasn't," Chavez said. "I give Robinson a lot of credit. He's got a lot of heart and a good left jab."

Chavez still won by scores of 99-89 on two judges' cards and 100-88 on the other.

The 34-year-old Robinson, from Philadelphia, has won only three of his last 12 fights and is 32-10-2.

With an announced crowd of 17,692 chanting "Chavez! Chavez!" and waving Mexican flags, the younger Chavez staggered Wynant with a left hook soon after the opening bell of their scheduled six-round light-

weight bout. Chavez landed another looping left a few seconds later, then connected with several quick combinations.

The dazed Wynant staggered across the ring and fell, and referee Jack Reiss stopped it.

The knockout was the 14th for the baby-faced Chavez, who is 5-foot-11 and weighed 141 pounds. Wynant, who also weighed 141, is from Indianapolis and dropped to 9-4-1.

"I couldn't be happier," Chavez said through a translator. "I'm happy I did it in Los Angeles and did it on my father's card."

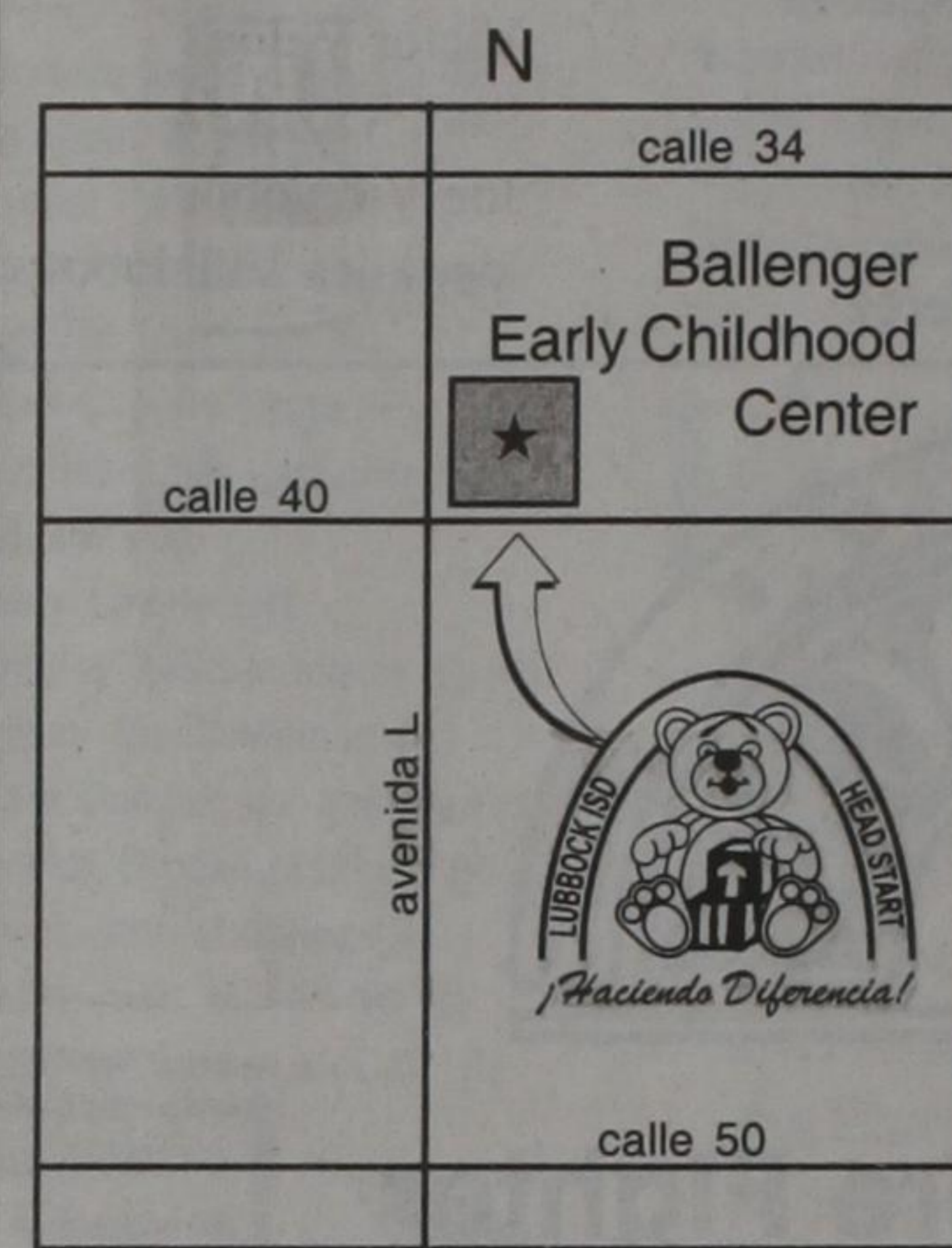
His father obviously was pleased.

"I'm very proud of my son. I hope the people give him the love they gave him tonight throughout his career," Chavez said.

In a title bout on the card, IBF bantamweight champion Rafael Marquez of Mexico City successfully defended his title with a hard-fought, unanimous 12-round decision over Ricardo Vargas.

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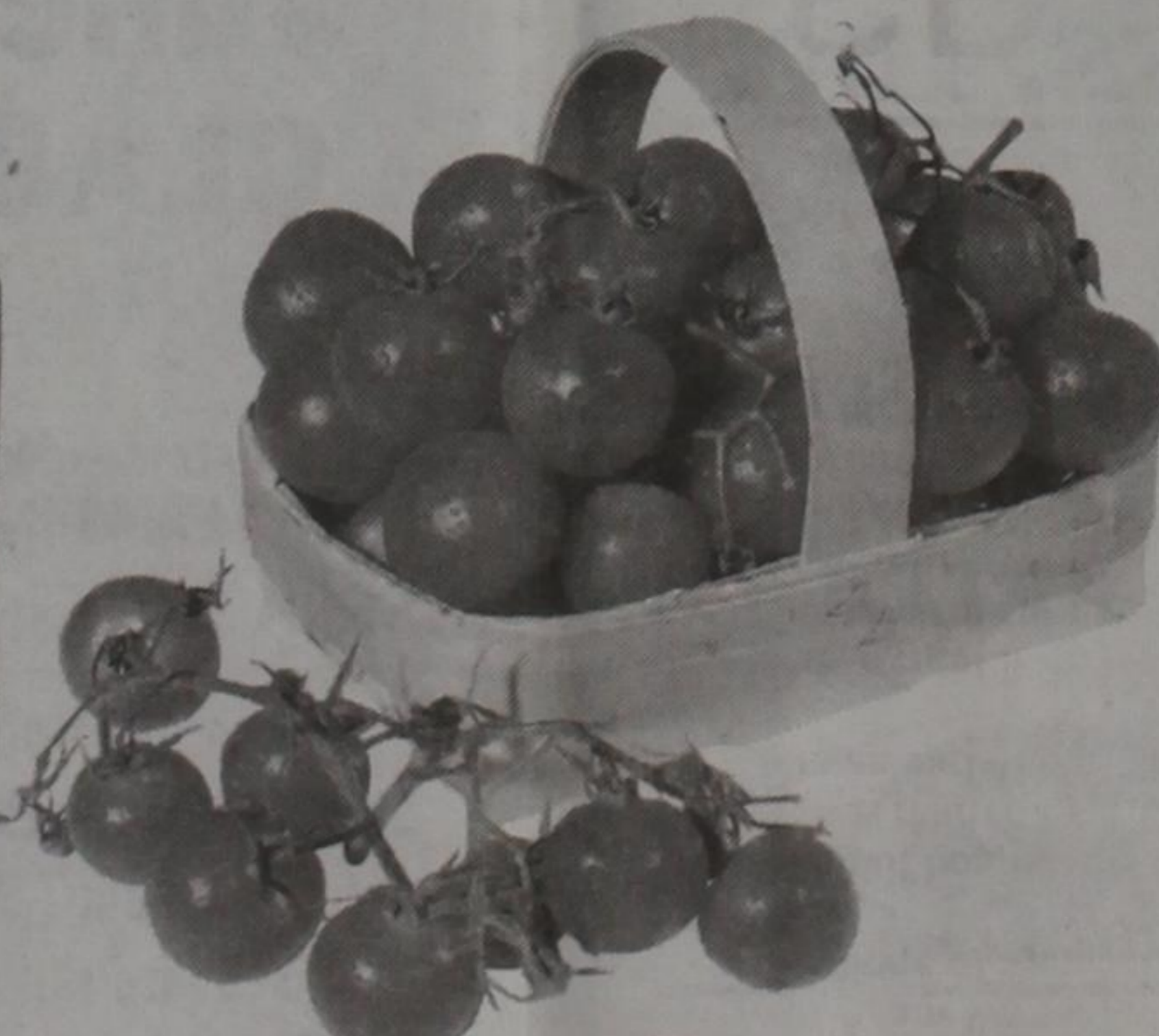
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