

Sampling Use In Redistricting

By Vanessa Colon

The U.S. Census Bureau is moving ahead to develop a plan that follows the Supreme Court's recent ruling against the use of sampling in next year's census but which nonetheless takes advantage of the high court's allowance for sampling in redistricting. The 2000 Census will be conducted beginning April 1, 2000.

This Clinton administration strategy would give states the option of using traditional counting methods -- door-to-door efforts -- or an adjusted version based on statistical sampling to apportion state legislatures and to draw congressional district lines within each state.

Sampling is a statistical method that adjusts for counting errors of a population. Hispanic analysts predict that the 1990 Latino undercount of 5 percent could double in next year's census without sampling.

An undercount in states like California, with large populations of those historically missed by the census -- the poor, people of color and children -- could cost those states seats in Congress.

The census implementation options could significantly affect the number of Hispanic legislators elected on the state and local levels, depending on which

political party is in control of the governorship and state legislatures.

Arturo Vargas, president of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, explains, "For instance, if you have a sampling-friendly governor and legislature, as in California now, the numbers of Latino elected officials could increase. But if you have a situation where the state government would not necessarily support sampling, like Texas, there could be an entirely different outcome."

The census plan calls for additional funding for bureau enumerators and more monies for advertising and promotional materials. It also calls for expanding the time frame to contact households and complete questionnaires, while increasing bureau offices around the country from 476 to more than 520.

More than a quarter of a million extra enumerators will be needed to visit households that did not respond to the questionnaires.

"Right now (my district on the Lower East Side of New York City) is underserved by the Census Bureau. A greater presence is necessary," says U.S. Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-N.Y.). Velazquez represents a largely Latino district created after the 1990

Census. "I want to make sure the bureau is allocating the resources and conducting the outreach in our communities to make sure the count is accurate and fair."

While most Democrats -- including all the Hispanic Democrats in Congress -- support the Census Bureau's plans, and President Clinton has requested additional funding for the bureau in his FY 2000 budget proposal, Republicans are vehemently opposed. They threaten to block further appropriations for the bureau, which is funded only through next June. "We are expecting a real big fight on this issue," White House Deputy Chief of Staff Maria Echaveste said during a recent conference call with Spanish-language media.

President Clinton has said he would veto any legislation that does not allow the bureau to use sampling for non-apportionment purposes. Clinton's budget proposal for FY 2000 includes \$2.7 billion for the Census Bureau. Officials estimate sampling costs at \$4.8 billion, with an additional \$600 million to \$800 million needed to use the traditional head-count to track down the hard-to-find.

The court's decision also leaves open the possibility of using sam-

pling for the distribution of more than \$180 billion in federal funds. A heated partisan battle is expected on that.

Rep. Henry Bonilla (R-Texas) insists that sampling is illegal, calling it "guess work that allows for too many opportunities to abuse the system." He adds, "Federal funds should be distributed on a head count and not used for politicizing."

Bonilla says that a delay in passing the June funding bill to complete fiscal '99 funding "could occur, depending on whether an agreement can be reached regarding the second set of counts."

The other two Hispanic Republicans in the House, Florida's Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Lincoln Diaz-Balart, also oppose sampling.

The U.S. House of Representatives' 435 seats are apportioned to states based on their percentage of the total population. With a U.S. population of 275 million people, for example, each district would include approximately 632,000 people.

(Vanessa Colon is a reporter with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Washington, D.C. Patricia Guadalupe contributed to this story.)

(c) 1999, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Chiapas Indians Demand Compliance with San Andres Accords

Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico, Feb 16 (EFE).- Hundreds of Indians marched through the city of Tuxtla Gutierrez, the capital of the state of Chiapas, on Tuesday demanding compliance with the San Andres Larrainzar accords on the third anniversary of their signing.

On Feb. 16, 1996, the Mexican government and Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) rebels signed agreements on Indian Rights and Culture, the first in a series of accords aimed at ending the conflict which started on Jan. 1, 1994, with the Zapatista guerrilla uprising.

Groups of Indians from various communities in Chiapas also demanded the release of more than 100 political prisoners being held in Chiapas penitentiaries on "trumped-up" charges.

Chole, Tzeltal, Tojolabal and Tzotzil Indians supporting the EZLN met in front of the local Congress building, calling on legislators to mediate for a fast release of Indian prisoners.

"We are ready to support talks, but we also ask the government to release the prisoners. This is the condition for the resumption of talks with the EZLN," said a spokesman for the Indians.

The leader of the prisoners at the Cerro Hueco prison, Abelardo Mendez, said that three years after the government of President Ernesto Zedillo signed the San Andres accords they remained unfulfilled, and that this stood in the way of the resumption of talks.

Moreover, legislators who are members of the Commission for Peace and Concordance, which is mediating between the government and the Zapatistas, called on Tuesday for the resumption of discussions on the San Andres accords during the next Congressional session to ease tension in Chiapas.

Democratic Revolutionary Party Congressman Gilberto Lopez y Rivas maintained that the government's noncompliance with the accords had escalated tension in the conflict area.



Poverty Along Border Greater Than in Rest of Country

By Patricia Giovine

El Paso, Texas.- While less than 20 percent of children in the country live in poverty, the figures for border cities, like El Paso, Texas, and Doña Ana, New Mexico, are twice as high, a census report states.

According to current census figures, 39.1 percent of children in El Paso live in poverty, and Doña Ana county reports 40.2 percent. In contrast, the national levels are at 18.7 percent.

The federal government adjusts the definition of poverty each year according to inflation rates. Presently, a four-person household, for example, is considered poor when the yearly income for the family falls below 30,433 dollars.

In 1996, that figure was 26,693 dollars. According to the report, the number of children living in poverty surged 63 percent in Doña Ana county and 19 percent in the city of El Paso between 1989 and 1995.

Statistics show that between 1995 and 1997, almost half of all children in the four U.S. states bordering with Mexico lived in homes where earnings fell 200 percent below the federal poverty index.

During that same time period, 53.7 percent of children in Arizona, 59.3 percent in New Mexico and 49.8 percent in Texas lived in conditions of extreme poverty.

"Families along the border are getting poorer each time," James Williams, a sociologist from New Mexico State University, said.

According to experts, the causes of poverty are many, including low wages, high incidence of teenage pregnancy, poor education and a high influx of new immigrants coming from Mexico, and Central and South America.

There are 10 Million Potential Mexican Voters in the U.S.

Los Angeles - Potential Mexican voters living in the United States could be a force to reckon with if they are allowed to vote in next year's presidential election, a Mexican organization in Los Angeles said on Monday.

Based on information from the Federal Electoral Institute of Mexico, the 2000 Pro-vote Committee said Monday that Mexicans of voting age living in the United States as naturalized citizens, legal aliens or those who were born in this country add up to 10 million potential voters.

Most of these Mexican-Americans live in the Los Angeles area and could significantly influence the next Mexican election if they are allowed to participate, a committee volunteer, Armando Moreno, said.

The Mexican consul in Los Angeles, Jose Angel Pescador, said that while legislators in his country are studying the possibility of allowing their citizens to vote abroad, the political campaigns could create friction with other U.S. citizens.

The diplomat explains that political demonstrations, meetings and propaganda of Mexican elections in the United States could cause anti-immigration sentiments to flare up, especially in the state of California.

There have been a number of proposals to empower Mexicans abroad, but there are some which only extend the right to vote to legal U.S. residents who have not yet become citizens.

Meanwhile, the committee explained that because Mexicans in the United States contribute to Mexico's economy, they should also have the right to participate in the elections in their country of origin.

Death Penalty Human Rights Groups Ask for Moratorium on Death Penalty

Chicago - Human rights groups are requesting a one-year moratorium on executions in Illinois as a result of the recent release of an innocent man who had spent 16 years on death row.

"The state of Illinois has committed 10 mistakes in 12 years which almost cost the lives of 10 innocent men," said Ed McManus, chairman of the Committee on the Death Penalty of the Chicago Council of Lawyers.

The case of Anthony Porter, who was sentenced to death in 1982 on two counts of murder, shocked public opinion. Thanks to a project by a group of Northwestern University students, another man, Alstory Simon, confessed to the murders, and Porter was released.

As a result, the Council has pushed for a bill that would put a stop to executions for one year until the state of Illinois determines how to reform the capital punishment system.

State and city officials said they favored reviewing all the cases of death row inmates.

The death penalty is currently in effect in 38 states, out of which Texas, Virginia and Florida have the highest number of executions.

Half of all death row inmates belong to minority groups, who make up about 20 percent of the overall U.S. population, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

Since 1976, when the death penalty was restored in the United States, 36 percent of all inmates executed have been African Americans, 7 percent have been Hispanics and 56 percent have been white.

As of Jan. 1998, there were also 74 foreigners - nearly half of them Mexicans - awaiting their execution in the United States.

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

EL EDITOR

Vol XXII No. 21

Week of February 18 thru February 24, 1999

Lubbock, Texas

Established 1977 - Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspapers

Comentarios de Bidal

Plan Del Departamento Del Censo: Dispone Uso Del Muestreo

by Bidal Agüero
"The Pulse of America"? or the pulse of a hick West Texas town that refuses to acknowledge that we will soon enter the next millennium?



I really can't imagine how so many people in Lubbock think they way they are described in the newly revealed poll. Most of the answers are completely opposite of what the rest of the nation thinks.

I would rather think that the pollsters asking questions found that the only ones that would answer their questions were persons of their own persuasion.

I can imagine the pollster calling a person in the Arnett Benson or in East Lubbock.

"Hidi... My nam is John White and I'ma callin you'all to askin you'all a few ques...ti...ons. Do you'all hap a lit'l time?"
Click!

Or being asked about the actions of the police while a cruiser passes in front of their home.

Of course people in North and East Lubbock would say that they agree with vouchers if it meant that they could go to a good school instead of having to put up with cracked ceilings, overcrowded schools and teachers that don't really care.

I'm to the opinion that the people who conducted the "Pulse of America" poll had better think twice about providing the results to the general national media...unless they really want to be recognized as a City out of grip from the rest of the nation.

***Pico de Gallo**

We at El Editor are asking for persons interested in writing editorials about current events in the City to submit their thoughts for publication. We ask our reader to send in their comments to El Editor, P.O. Box 11250, Lubbock, TX 79408.

Bidal can be reached by e-mail at elleditor@aol.com

to Advertise
806-763-3841

Por Vanessa Colón
El departamento del Censo está desarrollando un plan que sigue las directrices del reciente fallo de la Corte Suprema estadounidense contra el uso del muestreo estadístico en el censo del año próximo, pero que aprovecha la concesión del alto tribunal para el uso del muestreo en la redistribución de distritos. El Censo del Año 2000 será efectuado comenzando el 1x de Abril de ese año.

Esta estrategia de la administración Clinton daría a los estados la alternativa de emplear los métodos tradicionales de conteo -- la enumeración de puerta en puerta -- o una versión ajustada basada en el muestreo estadístico para distribuir las legislaturas estatales y trazar los límites de los distritos congresionales dentro de cada estado.

El muestreo estadístico es un método que hace ajustes para compensar los errores de conteo de una población. Los analistas hispanos pronostican que, sin el uso del muestreo, el conteo incompleto del 5 por ciento para los latinos en el Censo de 1990 podría duplicarse en el Censo del año que viene. Un conteo incompleto en estados tales como California, que tiene grandes concentraciones de poblaciones históricamente pasadas por alto por el censo -- los pobres, grupos minoritarios y los niños -- podría costar a esos estados varios escaños en la Cámara de Representantes.

Las alternativas para la efectuar el censo podrían afectar considerablemente la cantidad de legisladores hispanos electos a los niveles estatal y local, dependiendo de qué partido político tenga el control de cada gobierno y legislatura estatal.

Arturo Vargas, presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Funcionarios Latinos Electos y Designados (NALEO en inglés), explica: "Por ejemplo, si hay un gobernador y una legislatura estatal que estén a favor del muestreo estadístico, como ocurre ahora en California, la cantidad de funcionarios hispanos electos podría aumentar. Pero si existe una situación en la que el gobierno estatal no apoyaría necesariamente al muestreo, como en Texas, podría haber un resultado completamente distinto."

El plan del Censo dispone la asignación adicional de fondos para los enumeradores de la Oficina del Censo y más fondos para publicidad y materiales de promoción. También dispone ampliar el espacio de tiempo asignado para comunicarse con las familias y llenar los cuestionarios, además de aumentar las oficinas regionales del Censo alrededor del país, de 476 a más de 520.

Se necesitará de más de 250,000 enumeradores adicionales para visitar a las familias que no hayan contestado los cuestionarios.

"Ahora mismo (mi distrito en el bajo de Manhattan en la ciudad de New York) no está suficientemente atendido por la Oficina del Censo. Se necesita una presencia mayor", dice la congresista Nydia Velázquez (demócrata por Nueva York). Ella representa un distrito mayormente latino, creado después del Censo de 1990. "Quiero asegurarme de que la Oficina del Censo esté asignando los recursos y comunicándose adecuadamente con nuestras comunidades para cerciorarse de que el conteo sea exacto y equitativo."

Aunque la mayoría de los demócratas -- incluyendo todos los demócratas hispanos en el Congreso Federal -- apoyan a los planes de la Oficina del Censo, y el Presidente Clinton ha solicitado fondos adicionales para dicha oficina en su propuesta de presupuesto para el Año Fiscal 2000, los republicanos se oponen rotundamente.

Ellos amenazan con bloquear la asignación de mayores fondos para el departamento del Censo, que dispone de fondos solamente hasta el próximo junio. "Estamos esperando una lucha verdaderamente grande sobre este asunto", comentó María Echaveste, sub-jefe de personal en la Casa Blanca, durante una reciente conferencia de prensa con los medios en español.

El Presidente Clinton ha dicho que vetará cualquier legislación que no permita al departamento del Censo emplear el método del muestreo estadístico para fines que no sean de redistribución. La propuesta presupuestaria de Clinton para el Año Fiscal 2000 incluye \$2,700 millones para el departamento del Censo. Los funcionarios estiman los costos

U.S. Border Policy With Mexico Draws Complaint From Rights Groups

By Sam Dillon

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 11, 1999 -- An international human rights complaint filed Wednesday asserts that U.S. border policies have brought about hundreds of deaths of illegal immigrants who cross the border in the desert mountains of California, where they freeze or die of thirst.

The complaint argues that newly erected fences as well as more vigorous enforcement by the border patrol have led illegal immigrants to take dangerous routes through treacherous mountain passes and sizzling deserts, away from border cities.

A result has been a surge in immigrants' deaths, the complaint says. Mexican diplomats have documented the deaths of 360 immigrants along the California border since 1994, when the United States started a crackdown, says the complaint by the American Civil Liberties Union and other U.S. and Mexi-

can rights groups. "The United States has abused its right to guard its borders with a strategy that puts migrants in mortal danger by forcing them into mountains and deserts," Claudia Smith, a lawyer with California Rural Legal Assistance, a co-signer of the complaint, said in a news session here Wednesday.

The complaint was lodged in Washington before the Organization of American States, which will seek a response from the United States and issue recommendations this year. OAS rights recommendations are nonbinding, but carry moral weight.

U.S. border tactics adopted since 1994 have aimed to prevent illegal immigrants from crossing the frontier near cities like San Diego, where they have annoyed suburban Americans by running through backyards and hiding from border agents in shopping centers.

Los otros dos representantes republicanos hispanos en la Cámara, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen y Lincoln Díaz-Balart, ambos por la Florida, se oponen igualmente al muestreo estadístico.

Los 435 escaños de la Cámara Federal de Representantes se distribuyen a los estados basándose sobre sus porcentajes de la población total. Con una población total en los Estados Unidos de 275 millones de personas, por ejemplo, cada distrito incluiría aproximadamente 632,000 habitantes.

See No Evil -- Clinton's Visit to Mexico an Exercise of Looking the Other Way

By Andrew Reding, Pacific News Service

On his first foreign excursion since his acquittal by the Senate, President Bill Clinton has turned a blind eye to fresh evidence of corruption and electoral fraud in Mexico.

With the president about to certify to Congress that Mexico is cooperating in the war on drugs, word came that Mexican authorities had recently released the country's most prominent money launderer, Humberto Garcia Abrego -- brother of former Gulf cartel kingpin Juan Garcia Abrego, who is now serving eleven life sentences in the United States.

Meanwhile, in the impoverished state of Guerrero, in the south of Mexico, it appears that the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) has again resorted to electoral chicanery. Official returns from the PRI-dominated state electoral commission show Rene Juarez Cisneros, an ally of Mexican president Ernesto Zedillo, winning the governor's race by a paper thin margin over federal senator Felix Salgado Macedonio of the center-left Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) -- a margin, the opposition says, that can be attributed to irregularities in the vote count, and the fact that the PRI distributed food, money, and other material incentives to the poor in return for votes. Unless the election is annulled, the PRD is calling for mass civil disobedience.

Zedillo, who has promised to bequeath his

successor a more democratic Mexico, has done nothing to rectify a potentially explosive situation in Guerrero, already the site of a guerrilla insurgency. Clinton, usually quick to counsel other foreign leaders on the need for greater democracy, has likewise been silent.

Instead, the two presidents were the guests of the authoritarian governor of the Yucatan, Victor Cervera Pacheco, who is battling impeachment on charges of corruption and electoral fraud. They were also entertained at the hacienda of Roberto Hernandez, a banker who helped arrange a US\$2.5 million-a-plate fundraiser for the PRI in an earlier presidential election.

Compounding the political damage is the fact that this was a big step backward for Clinton. On his last visit, two years ago, he met with opposition leaders. This time, he did not -- despite the fact that the opposition is fast gathering strength. Together, the PRD and the center-right National Action Party (PAN) now hold 10 of 32 governorships, including four of the five most important -- the Federal District (Mexico City), Jalisco, Nuevo Leon, and Baja California Norte -- and run the country's most populous cities, including Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey, Tijuana, Juarez, and Puebla. The governor of Guanajuato, Vicente Fox, a PAN member, leads early opinion polls for next year's presidential election, with the PRD governor of the

Federal District, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, in second place.

There is therefore a good chance the PRI will lose control of the presidency next year, ending seventy years of one-party hegemony. Yet the Clinton Administration is not even hedging its bets. A few weeks ago, U.S. officials showered praise on Secretary of Government Francisco Labastida Ochoa, the second most powerful man in Mexico, and Zedillo's (who cannot run for reelection under the constitution) apparent choice to succeed him to the presidency.

The message is not lost on the Mexican public, nor on the opposition politicians who are most likely to take over the helm in the new millennium. As far as Washington is concerned, the PRI -- which most Mexicans now associate with corruption, drug cartels, falling real wages and lower prices for agricultural commodities, torture and other police abuses, and electoral fraud -- can do no wrong.

Turning a blind eye to Mexico has several predictable consequences. The narcotics cartels will thrive. The security forces will become more repressive in an attempt to contain dissatisfaction over poverty, corruption, and electoral fraud. And, when the forces of democracy finally prevail, don't be surprised if they are a lot more nationalistic and skeptical of Washington's motives.

But then again, that won't be Bill Clinton's problem, will it?

RAUL YZAGUIRRE PRESIDENT, NCLR

Hispanic Americans Feel Budget Pains

Right now Congress and the White House are locked in a battle to determine the nation's priorities. Each side is digging in for a contentious budget fight which is likely to occur in the fall. The fate of investments crucial to the future well-being of the Hispanic American community hangs in the balance.

Over the last few years Hispanic Americans, other minorities, and low-income families in general have absorbed the bulk of federal budget cuts. It was largely on the backs of these groups that the budget was finally brought into balance this year. Lawmakers argued then that spending cuts were necessary to balance the books and bring the federal budget into order. As a consequence, federal programs that serve low-income Americans, many of whom are Latino, were substantially cut. In some cases Latinos and others were simply denied access to important services.

Now the budget is not only balanced but is projected to produce a surplus this year. Meanwhile, as suspected, with services and access to services scaled back, low-income hard-working Hispanic Americans continue to face serious obstacles to improving their educational and economic status. For example, Hispanics continue to have the nation's highest drop-out rates, low levels of high school completion, high poverty rates, and high levels of discrimination in employment and housing.

Hispanics represent a growing number of the nation's citizens, workers, voters, and taxpayers. As such, the educational and economic status of Hispanic Americans should be a major public policy and budgetary priority -- especially considering the healthy condition of both the economy and the budget. President Clinton thought so.

In his budget package he included proposals to increase investments in education, job training, and civil rights enforcement; three critical policy areas for Hispanics. Yet current negotiations between Congress and the White House seem likely to produce no increased investments. In fact, if the House leadership has its way, negotiations will actually result in deeper cuts in services to low-income Hispanic Americans and a tax cut only for upper-income Americans.

It is unconscionable to cut programs for vulnerable low-income, working poor Hispanic families to pay for these tax cuts. Moreover, the nation's future economic security depends increasingly on maximizing the potential of the growing Hispanic population.

Therefore, during these budget and appropriations discussions I urge you to contact your Congressional lawmakers and tell them to do the following:

Oppose policies and laws that threaten the economic stability of low-income Hispanic families. The House budget resolution requests deep cuts in areas that fund low-income programs. Programs such as Medicaid, Food Stamps, the Earned Income Tax Credit, job training, health, and others face deep cuts.

Support funding to provide Hispanic students equal educational opportunities. President Clinton's 1999 budget requests funds for a Hispanic Education Initiative. The initiative increases funds for programs serving Hispanic and other low-income children. Programs such as Migrant Education, TRIO higher education preparation assistance (Talent Search, Upward Bound, etc.), High School Equivalency (HEP), College Assistance Migrant Programs (CAMP), Title I, and the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) need additional funds to serve Latinos effectively.

Support increased funding for enforcement of federal civil rights laws. President Clinton's 1999 budget provides for a 17% increase in civil rights enforcement, or \$86 million in additional resources. Key agencies such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at HUD, are severely in need of additional resources to enforce the laws effectively.

Hispanic Americans are becoming a political force to be reckoned with. Increasing naturalization, voter registration, and voter participation by Latinos has made our community a critical political force -- and both major parties are taking notice. If we all raise our voices together to insist that our civil rights be respected, and that our children be afforded the same educational and economic opportunities as other Americans, we can strengthen not only our community, but the nation as a whole.

Sincerely,
Raul Yzaguirre
President

[ADDRESSES] Please write to:

The Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington DC 20500
[name of Senator] U.S. Senate Washington DC 20510
[name of Rep.] U.S. House of Rep. Wash. DC 20515

El Editor Newspapers

is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841. Subscribing \$40 per year payable in advance. Opinions and commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers.

Editor/Publisher: BidalAgüero -- Manager: Olga Rijoas Agüero
Subscription: Bob Craig -- Distribution: Joe Shelby

Failure Of Drug War Has Deep & Intricate Roots

By Jesus Martinez, Pacific News Service

MEXICO CITY -- The loudly trumpeted U.S.-Mexico bilateral war on drugs is not convincing to average Mexicans -- and much less to informed observers. As Arnaldo Cordova, one of Mexico's most astute political analysts, has written, "Every time the government announces a new plan of operations against drug trafficking, we cannot avoid feeling inundated by a profound sense of skepticism."

Cordova suggests this is attributable to the poor results achieved by government efforts in contrast to the widely evident rise in power and influence of drug barons. Their power is due

simply to their "enormous impunity" and the "official protection" that drug traffickers and other organized criminals enjoy.

Indeed, it is fair to say that people in general believe that the best organized and most dangerous of all criminals are the authorities themselves.

This rise of organized crime and the corruption of legal institutions in Mexico cannot be explained in terms of genetics or national character -- Mexicans are no less corrupt or honest than other peoples.

One important factor is political in nature, and closely tied to the anti-communism so fundamental in 20th century U.S. foreign policy.

A study by the Mexican Institute on the Study of Organized Crime found that Mexicans enjoyed relative public safety three decades ago. However, the extension of the Cold War to Mexican territory transformed the role and character of the police and armed forces.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the government followed the examples of right wing military dictatorships and initiated a dirty war against rural and urban groups labeled as communist and regarded as subversive. Washington looked favorably on all this.

On October 2, 1968 army and security forces fired upon a peaceful student rally at Tlatelolco Plaza, killing many civilians (estimates range in the hundreds) and injuring many more. This initiated an era of state terrorism that featured the persecution, incarceration, and even physical disappearance of thousands of civilians from all walks of life. With the pretext of fighting urban or rural guerrillas, security forces ignored constitutional and civil rights.

Participating agents enjoyed a prime additional benefit -- "war booty," the illegal acquisition of the material possessions of those detained.

The security forces continued to operate with impunity until the 1980s when some were abolished, but many of their members rose through police or military ranks, where their ambition resulted in the institutionalization of corrupt practices.

A well known example was Arturo Durazo, who used his lifelong friendship with then president Jose Lopez Portillo (1976-82) to become chief of police in Mexico City. Despite his modest salary, Durazo became wealthy and built immense mansions from the daily tribute he required of all his subordinates -- who, in turn, extorted innocent civilians in order to keep their jobs and please their boss. Uncooperative criminals and drug traffickers un-

der arrest were often killed and their confiscated goods delivered to chief Durazo.

Mexican officials involved in drug trafficking expanded their activities to include kidnappings, bank robberies, smuggling of stolen vehicles, as well as extortion and robbery. Today crime rates continue to escalate even though there is an alarming militarization of everyday life in Mexico.

Moreover, there is ample evidence that organized crime has infiltrated the highest levels of government. The accounts of illicit activities during the Carlos Salinas de Gortari presidency (1988-1994) make Durazo look like a church choirboy. Yet presidents Bush and Clinton continuously "certified" the Salinas government as cooperating in the "war on drugs."

Drug trafficking continues to grow in Mexico, Colombia and the United States, irrespective of Washington's certification decisions. The drug barons' power and influence rises in direct proportion to the insatiability of the American appetite for cocaine and other drugs.

What are the causes of this -- what makes Silicon Valley executives, inner city teenagers, and the suburban middle classes want to use cocaine, crack, or other substances?

The U.S. government's failure to convince its citizens to stop consuming drugs has led Congress and the White House to perpetually look elsewhere for scapegoats while ignoring the underlying social problems of the American drug crisis.

The annual process of certification of nations as partners in the war against drugs has become as meaningless and ineffective as Ronald Reagan's "just say no" campaign.

More than ever, the United States and Mexico share a drug problem. Clearly, there is a need for a better approach and more effective solutions.

Clinton Pedira a Congreso 956 Millones Para Ayuda A CentroAmerica

Por Rosendo Majano.

Washington, 16 feb - El presidente estadounidense, Bill Clinton, pedirá al Congreso "la rápida aprobación" de 956 millones de dólares para los países de Centroamérica devastados por el huracán "Mitch" anunció hoy su esposa, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

La primera dama estadounidense dijo que esta cantidad que se suma a los 300 ya concedidos y hará un total de 1.200 millones de dólares de asistencia de este país a los centroamericanos, incluye 50 millones de dólares para las víctimas del huracán "Georges", en República Dominicana.

Además, 10 millones de dólares para los damnificados del seísmo ocurrido en la región cafetalera de Colombia, el 25 de enero pasado.

Por su parte, el subsecretario interino de Estado para Asuntos Iteamericanos, Peter Romero, dijo a EFE que la nueva ayuda que solicitará Clinton, "podría ser aprobada por el Congreso entre esta fecha y finales de marzo próximo".

"Estamos comprometidos con el futuro de nuestros vecinos de Centroamérica, y en este sentido, la asistencia por parte de Es-

tados Unidos para la reconstrucción y el desarrollo se mantendrá siempre" resaltó la esposa del presidente de Estados Unidos.

Hillary Clinton, quien visitó los países devastados por el huracán "Mitch" y República Dominicana en diciembre de 1998, desveló que la nueva ayuda de la Casa Blanca por 956 millones de dólares se usará en programa de reconstrucción a largo plazo.

"El huracán Mitch ha sido el desastre natural más grande que jamás haya afectado al hemisferio occidental", señaló Hillary Clinton durante una ceremonia en la que estuvieron presentes Tipper Gore, esposa del vicepresidente estadounidense, Albert Gore, la secretaria de Estado, Madeleine Albright, y otros funcionarios de alto nivel.

Agregó que los fondos que solicitará el presidente Clinton al Congreso ayudarán a 17 millones de personas y que, entre otros beneficios, facilitará vivienda temporal a 20.000 centroamericanos, permitirá establecer 6.000 escuelas temporales y la reparación de 1.700 centros educativos.

"Estados Unidos ayudará decididamente a los países centroamericanos a reconstruir sus sueños y esperanzas", subrayó la pri-

mera dama de Estados Unidos.

"Quiero enviar un mensaje contundente a los centroamericanos, y es que continuaremos siempre juntos desarrollando el futuro y fortaleciendo nuestra tradicional amistad", reiteró.

Por su parte, el director de la Agencia Internacional para el Desarrollo de Estados Unidos, Brian Atwood, describió la tragedia centroamericana como la peor registrada en el continente.

Destacó que "todo Estados Unidos ha permanecido atento y ayudando a las víctimas de esta tragedia. Creo que ahora los centroamericanos ven un futuro más optimista gracias a esta ayuda", expresó Atwood.

Mientras, la secretaria de Estado, Madeleine Albright, puso énfasis en "la generosidad de Estados Unidos que ayuda no sólo en Centroamérica sino en el resto del mundo".

Afirmó que la ayuda por 956 millones de dólares que solicitará el presidente Clinton "demuestra la atención que Estados Unidos presta a sus vecinos para que superen la tragedia. Esta es la cosa correcta que debe hacer Estados Unidos", precisó Albright.

Asimismo, Tipper Gore, que visitó la región centroamericana

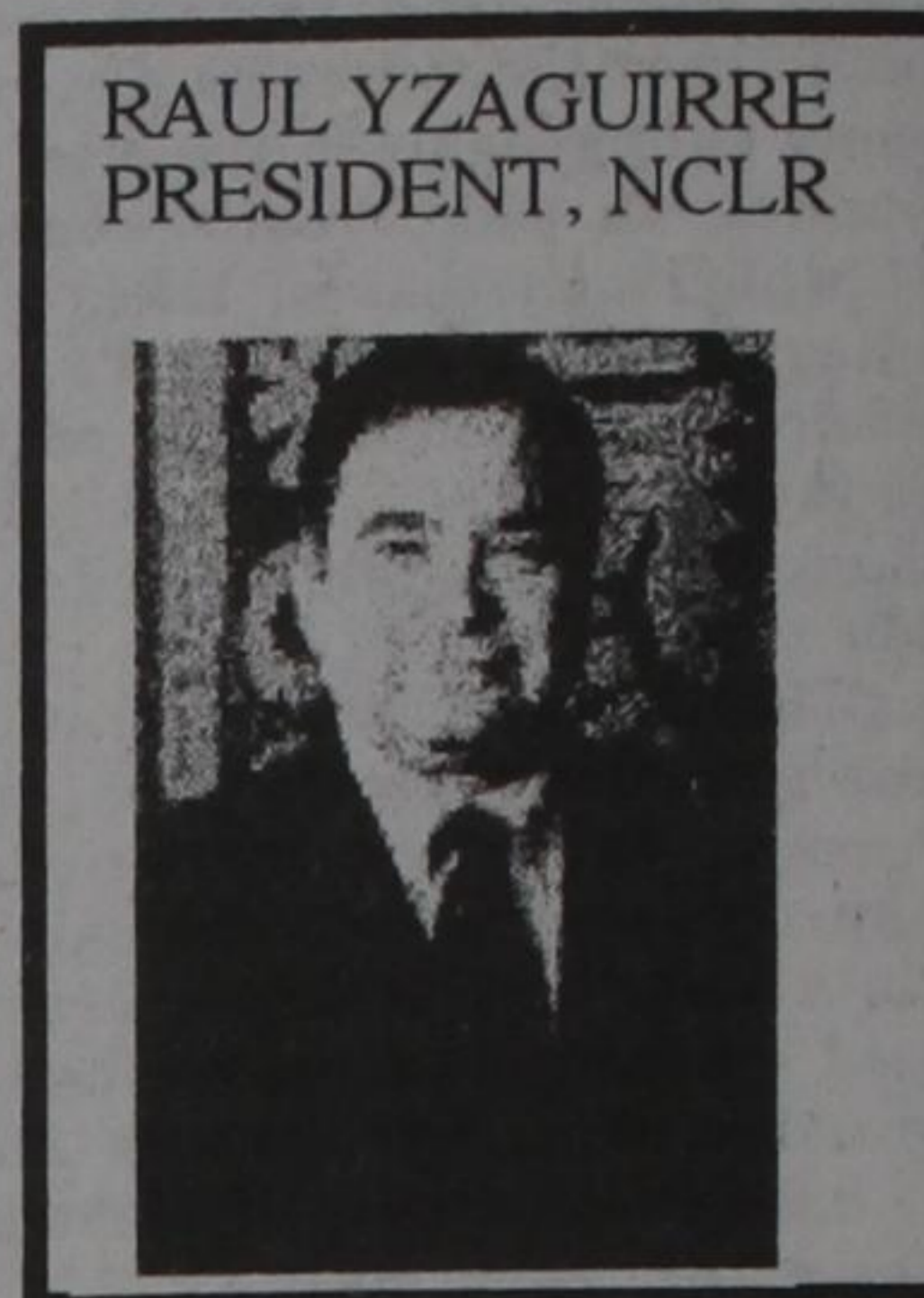
devastada, informó de que Clinton puso en práctica muchas de las recomendaciones que ella le hizo al regresar de su gira en noviembre de 1998.

Entre esas recomendaciones figuran algunas medidas de inmigración que benefician a refugiados de aquellos países que viven en Estados Unidos, según dijo.

El huracán "Mitch" causó, al menos, 9.000 muertes en Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador y Guatemala; tres millones de damnificados y pérdidas superiores a 8.500 millones de dólares, según las cifras facilitadas hoy por la Casa Blanca.

Sobre la nueva ayuda estadounidense anunciada, la Oficina de Washington para América Latina (WOLA), dijo que la Casa Blanca debe enfocar su programa de asistencia en la disminución de la pobreza y en el desarrollo rural sostenible.

La entidad privada WOLA, que promueve la democracia y el respeto a los derechos humanos, lamenta que no se haya incluido en esta proposición un proyecto de ley que extienda el Tratado de Libre Comercio (TLC, firmado entre Estados Unidos, México y Canadá, a los países de Centroamérica y el Caribe.



RAUL YZAGUIRRE
PRESIDENT, NCLR

Noticias Breves

Grupos Republicanos Advierten Que Partido Va Hacia Fracaso

Por José A. Delgado.

Washington - El Partido Republicano de EEUU tiene que distanciarse de la intolerancia si quiere dejar atrás la crisis generada por su respaldo a la destitución del presidente Bill Clinton, coincidieron hoy portavoces de grupos minoritarios.

Para republicanos de organizaciones afroamericanas, pro aborto y "gays", su partido debe volver a centrarse en sus valores tradicionales: derechos individuales, un gobierno pequeño y el libre mercado.

Los que respalden esos principios deben ser bienvenidos en el GOP (Grand Old Party) y su militancia no debe ser condicionada a otros valores individuales, indicaron.

Durante y después del proceso de destitución contra Clinton, que concluyó el pasado viernes con la absolución del presidente estadounidense, las encuestas han coincidido en que el "impeachment" ha desvinculado a los republicanos del pueblo.

"Los republicanos se han marginado en este proceso porque la gente no quiere al Gobierno metido dentro de su cama" y ellos han hecho eso en el escándalo Lewinsky, dijo Ann Stone, presidenta del grupo feminista "Republicanos Pro Opción" (Pro-Choice).

Stone sostuvo que a raíz del proceso de destitución recibe decenas de llamadas diarias de mujeres que le anuncian su baja del Partido Republicano para unirse a los demócratas o declararse independiente.

Richard Tafel, director ejecutivo del grupo gay "Log Cabin Republicans", sostuvo que "el partido de Abraham Lincoln ha sido secuestrado por la derecha extrema, desvinculado del resto del pueblo estadounidense".

La afroamericana Faye Anderson, presidenta del Instituto Douglass de Política Pública, indicó que el Partido Republicano debe comenzar por reconocer "que está en problemas" y "quemar su actual imagen" antiminorías.

"Lo debe hacer ya, no esperar los 18 meses en que selecciona su candidato a la presidencia", pues van camino a una clara derrota electoral, indicó Anderson.

Según los tres analistas, el debate en favor de la destitución de Clinton centró la atención en dirigentes identificados con la derecha republicana, como el líder de la mayoría del Senado, Trent Lott, y los congresistas Robert Barr y Henry Hyde.

Lott y Barr, uno de los fiscales que acusaron a Clinton ante el Senado, admitieron recientemente que han hablado ante el "Concilio de Ciudadanos Conservadores" (CCC), un grupo que defiende la "supremacía" de la raza blanca.

Cuando habló ante el CCC en 1992, Lott dijo: "Ustedes defienden los principios y la filosofía correctas", sostuvo Tafel, al recordar que en 1998 el líder del Senado sostuvo que la homosexualidad era una enfermedad, como el alcoholismo y la cleptomanía.

Hyde es un reconocido opositor al aborto, asunto que suele controlar como presidente del Comité Judicial de la Cámara de Representantes, puesto desde el cual dirigió el grupo de fiscales que acusaron a Clinton de perjurio y obstrucción de justicia.

Bajo el liderazgo de Lott, los republicanos dieron inicio en Michigan el lunes a una serie de 150 reuniones de pueblo, dedicadas a comunicar a los ciudadanos sus propuestas gubernamentales y dejar atrás "la etapa del impeachment".

Tafel, sin embargo, sostuvo que los asistentes a esos encuentros de pueblo suelen ser preseleccionados por los propios dirigentes republicanos. "Lo que hace falta es una comunicación real con los representantes de los grupos minoritarios", dijo.

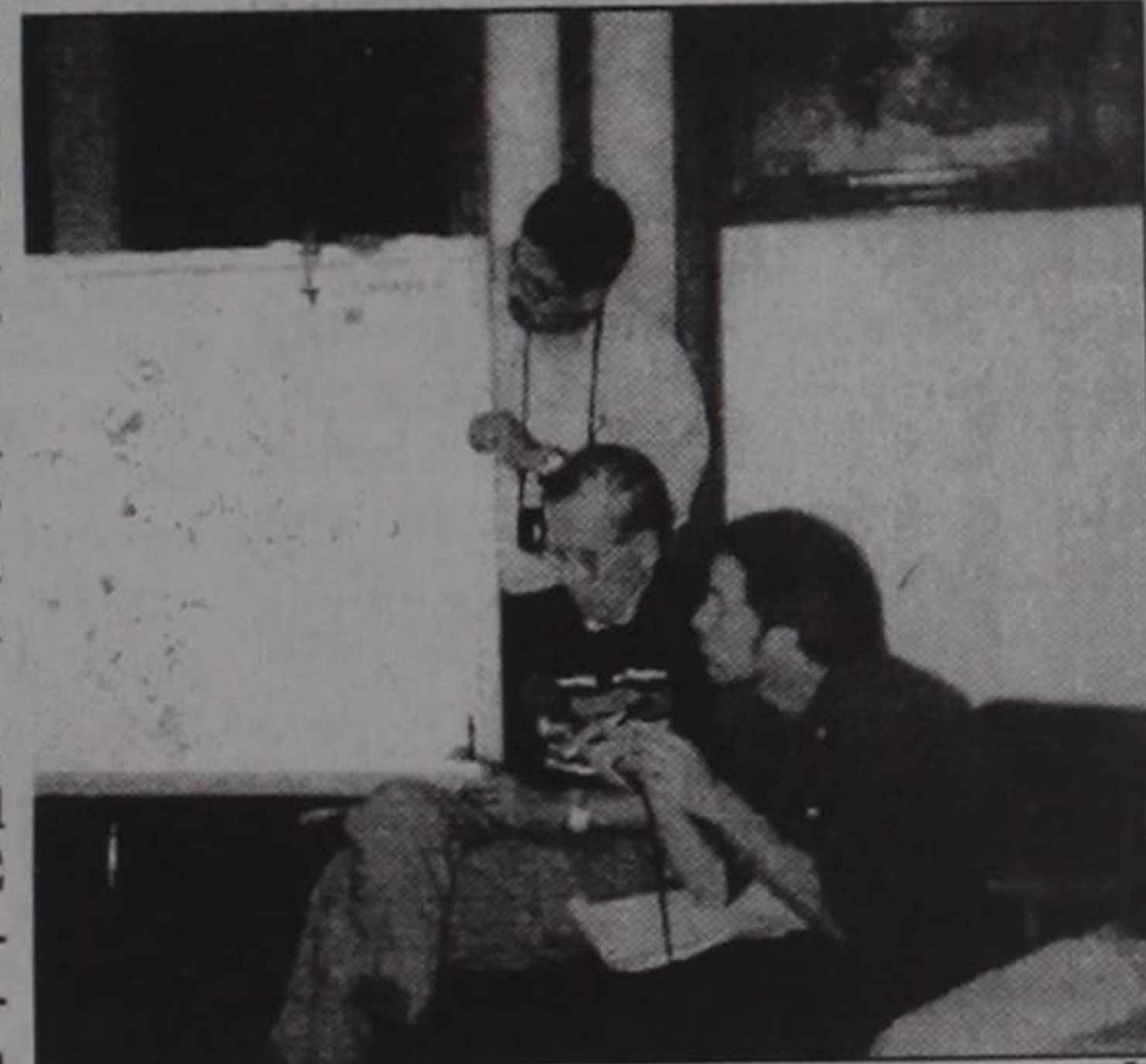
El gobernador de Texas, George W. Bush, y la ex presidenta de la Cruz Roja Elizabeth Dole, favoritos para obtener la candidatura presidencial republicana, son políticos que pueden llevar un mensaje en favor de la inclusión y no de la exclusión, sostuvo.

El portavoz del grupo "Log Cabin Republicans" dijo que Bush sería la principal carta republicana para atraer el voto de los hispanos, que se identifican marcadamente con los demócratas.

Esperan Comision OEA Condene Política Migratoria en Frontera

San Diego - Organismos legales de California manifestaron hoy su esperanza de que la Comisión Interamericana de los Derechos Humanos (CIDH) condene la "Operación Guardián" a la que atribuyen las muertes de unos 360 indocumentados en la frontera y violaciones a acuerdos internacionales.

En una denuncia de 50 páginas, la Unión de Libertades Civiles Americanas y la Fundación de Asistencia Legal Rural de California denunciaron a la CIDH que la Operación Guardián "deliberadamente conduce a quienes cruzan ilegalmente la frontera a situaciones mortales".



Un portavoz de los grupos legales, Paul Hoffman, dijo hoy a EFE que espera que la condena de la CIDH, perteneciente a la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA), "lleve a reconsiderar esa estrategia que se vuelve cada vez más mortífera" en la frontera entre California y México.

Según un conteo de los organismos demandantes, la "Operación Guardian" habría causado la muerte de unos 23 inmigrantes en 1994, cuando fue fundada, y las fatalidades han ido en aumento desde entonces.

En 1998 perecieron 145 personas. Hasta este mediodía, la CIDH se mantenía sin responder a esa demanda, confirmó Hoffman.

La operación incluye cerca de 2.300 agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza, helicópteros, sistemas de vigilancia nocturna y asesoría de ingenieros de la Guardia Nacional de California, así como cámaras de filmación y programas de computación para llevar registros.

Un portavoz de la patrulla en el sector de San Diego, Mario Villareal, negó por su parte que las muertes de los inmigrantes sean producto de las medidas contra la inmigración ilegal.

"Las muertes no son por la estrategia; se deben a los contrabandistas de indocumentados que los guían por esas zonas de peligro, sin respeto por la vida humana y con el único interés de hacer dinero con el sufrimiento ajeno", opinó Villareal.

Dijo que la Patrulla Fronteriza comprende que la inmigración ilegal obedece a necesidades económicas, pero descartó que las autoridades puedan suspender la vigilancia por la protesta de los grupos legales ante la CIDH.

Del total de indocumentados muertos en los cuatro años que se ha mantenido el operativo, todos excepto 16 son de nacionalidad mexicana.

Basándose en informes forenses, los números más altos de inmigrantes muertos se deben, según los organismos de derechos humanos, a accidentes viales, ahogamientos al cruzar ríos y canales, insolación en los desiertos e hipotermia durante las épocas de frío en las montañas.

La entrega de la demanda ante la CIDH también fue anunciada el miércoles en la Ciudad de México, donde otros grupos realizaron una manifestación en contra de la operación.

El Comité de religiosos Servicios Amigos de las Américas (AFSC, en inglés) y el Taller de Arte de la ciudad mexicana de Tijuana --vecina de San Diego-- colocaron en la céntrica plaza Zócalo de la capital mexicana 360 cruces de madera que representan las muertes de los inmigrantes, atribuidas todas a la Operación Guardián.

Tanto la denuncia ante la Comisión de la OEA como la protesta en México se han llevado a cabo en los mismos días en que funcionarios de México y Estados Unidos informaron en Washington que definían un acuerdo bilateral para evitar que murieran más indocumentados en su frontera común.

Sobre Su Salud

Las jaquecas

Por Dr. Hector Pablo Oliva

Se dice que existe la posibilidad de sufrir jaquecas en un 25% si los antecedentes son lejanos, un 50% si el enfermo fue el padre o la madre, y un 75% si fueron ambos progenitores.

El "dolor de cabeza" es un síntoma muy común en el ser humano, y casi nadie puede decir que nunca haya sufrido de un dolor de cabeza. Pero hay distintos dolores de cabeza. Uno sería la "cefalea", que es un dolor interno, global, provocado por lesión en las partes blandas, tegumentos, huesos craneanos, meninges y vasos encefálicos.

La otra entidad es la "cefalalgia", una neuralgia superficial de los nervios de la cabeza, y por último, la jaqueca hemisférica o migraña, que constituye una entidad con ubicación y trastornos característicos.

El dolor de cabeza puede responder a otra enfermedad prestada pero cuyo origen sea diferente. Muchos personajes famosos sufrieron jaquecas: Pascal, Calvino, Wagner, Freud, Kant, Edgar Allan Poe, etc. Pero realmente...

...¿Por qué duele la cabeza?

En realidad el cerebro, así como gran parte de las meninges (membranas que recubren el cerebro), son insensibles al dolor. Las estructuras más importantes que registran el dolor son los vasos sanguíneos, arterias durales y cerebrales, las grandes venas y los senos venosos. Todas estas estructuras acusan, con un dolor tipo pulsátil, la vasodilatación, originando el dolor de cabeza. En otras palabras, la "dilatación de los vasos sanguíneos craneanos que están en una caja ósea inextensible son los causantes del dolor".

Entre las teorías que tratan de explicar el origen del dolor están: la eléctrica, la química, y la vascular. La primera habla de una perturbación eléctrica cerebral, la segunda de la liberación de distintas sustancias como "histamina, tironina, acetilcolina, y últimamente, serotonina, que actuarían disminuyendo el umbral del dolor a través de las plasmakininas y provocando vasodilatación arterial. Y la vascular, atribuye puramente a la dilatación de las arterias el origen del dolor.

En realidad, se da una combinación de las tres teorías en la práctica. La jaqueca se caracteriza por tener dos fases: la primera es la de vasoconstricción con síntomas de irritabilidad, cambios de humor, agotamiento, vértigo, zumbidos, alteraciones de la visión. Luego viene la segunda fase, realmente dolorosa, con fortísimos sufrimientos, algias localizadas en una mitad de la cabeza, más frecuentemente la izquierda. Abarca la zona frontal, ocular y temporal. Es un dolor pulsátil, sincrónico con el ritmo cardíaco, acompañado de náuseas, inapetencia y vómitos. Dura unas doce horas. Las pupilas están dilatadas y las extremidades frías.

Durante la crisis, el enfermo huye del ruido y de la luz refugiándose en la penumbra y el silencio. Muchas son las causas que pueden desencadenarlo: frío, calor, problemas psicológicos, afectivos, alcohol, tabaco, comidas indigestas, sustancias alergizantes, problemas hormonales, el descanso después de un intenso trabajo. Afecta más a mujeres que a hombres, por influencias hormonales. Comienza en la juventud, disminuye hacia los 50 años, y es raro después de los 65. Hay otro dolor de cabeza: El dolor de cabeza vascular, muy cercano a la jaqueca, es muy violento. Se llama migraña roja, afecta a hombres, es nocturna y siempre del mismo lado. Se produce por brusca dilatación de las arterias de la cabeza, debido a un exceso de sustancias químicas en la sangre.

Otro tipo es la llamada neuralgia facial. Es la neuralgia del trigémino, nervio que tiene tres ramas: mandíbulas inferior y superior y zona oftálmica. Es un dolor como descarga eléctrica, con piel sensible, a veces la presencia de

dolores premenstruales), diente de león (es diurético, laxante, duplica la producción de bilis, corrige las digestiones), genciana (útil en la cefalea por mareos, problemas digestivos y biliares), lavanda (sedante y carminativa, elimina gases, antiséptica, tónico nervioso), pasionaria (dolores de cabeza de origen nervioso), ruda (dolores por forzar la vista, nerviosismos e indigestiones), romero (tónico del corazón, combate la presión alta).

La acupuntura balanceando la energía del cerebro y de las arterias, así como equilibrando la circulación de la sangre y el sistema nervioso central, es una fuerte aliada de la medicina moderna, totalmente natural y sin contraindicaciones.

Los químicos no son buenos, por un lado ayudan y por el otro intoxican el hígado y el organismo. Las hierbas naturales quizás lleven un poquito más de tiempo en la cura, pero ésta es más efectiva, natural y duradera.

El primer consejo es consultar con el médico, por cuanto detrás de un dolor de cabeza podría esconderse otra enfermedad grave. Con la medicina natural, la de las plantas, y con la acupuntura hemos podido ayudar a un sinnúmero de personas.

La auriculopuntura y la digitopuntura son otros de los métodos altamente efectivos. Entre las hierbas más recomendadas: Anemone (sedante nervioso y analgésico), manzanilla (sedante, expulsa gases, excelente para dolores menstruales y biliares), gramílla (actúa muy bien en los dolores de cabeza de origen renal, dolores de nuca, espalda y

Algunos antibióticos reducen el riesgo de infartos

El estudio fue realizado por la Universidad de Boston (Massachusetts) entre 16,454 pacientes británicos, revelando que el riesgo de infarto se reducía en un 30% entre quienes recibieron tratamiento médico a base de antibióticos.

Quienes toman antibióticos, tienen, al parecer, menos riesgos que otras personas de ser víctimas de un infarto del miocardio, indican varios investigadores estadounidenses en la Revista de la Asociación Médica Estadounidense.

El estudio fue realizado por la Universidad de Boston (Massachusetts) entre 16,454 pacientes británicos, revelando que el riesgo de infarto se reducía en un 30% entre quienes recibieron tratamiento médico a base de antibióticos de la familia de las tetraciclinas y en un 50% entre quienes se trataron con quinolona.

"Los resultados de este amplio estudio confirman indirectamente la idea de que algunas infecciones bacterianas podrían desempeñar un papel en las enfermedades cardíacas y que la utilización de tetraciclinas y de quinolonas podría reducir el riesgo de infartos", escriben los autores del estudio.

Sin embargo, ese lazo no demuestra la existencia de una relación causa-efecto entre algunas bacterias y las enfermedades cardíacas, destacan los investigadores.

"Por ahora, los antibióticos no son recomendados para la prevención o el tratamiento de infartos del miocardio", aclaró por su parte el doctor Aaron Folsom, de la Universidad de Minnesota. "Los médicos deben seguir privilegiando la reducción de grasas, el control de la hipertensión y la interrupción del tabaco, como medios para prevenir los infartos", continuó.

Numerosos trabajos de investigación ya han sugerido que algunas bacterias, como la Chlamydia neumonía o el helicobacter pylori, aumentaban el riesgo de infartos o de congestión cerebral.

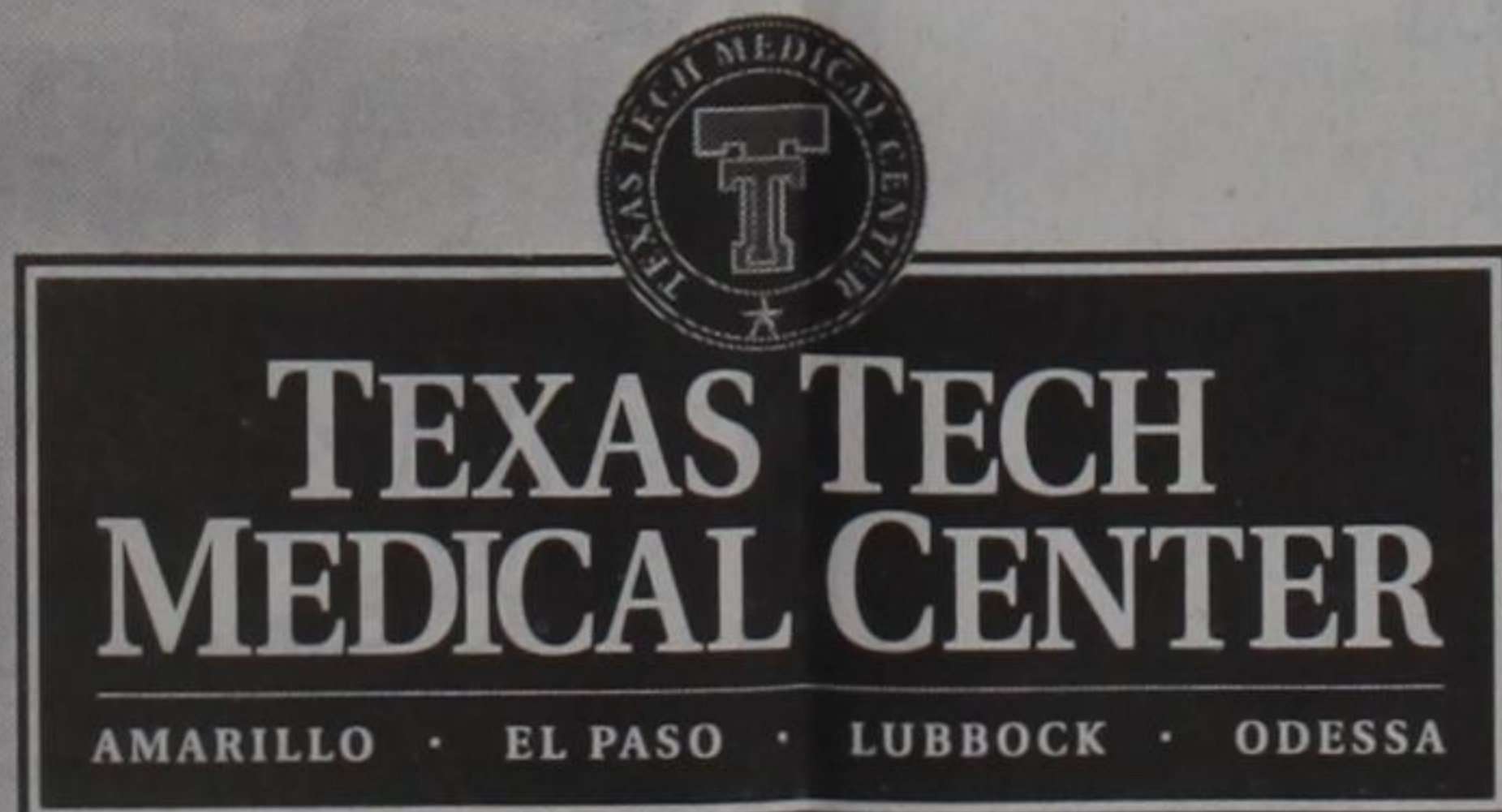


"...she's back home, all in ten days"

Many of today's senior citizens enjoy leading active lifestyles. Sometimes these activities can be limited by knee or hip problems which occur as we age. If this happens to you, Orthopaedic Surgery Associates at the Texas Tech Medical Center are here to help. Our expert physicians, nurses and staff are dedicated to providing you with quality medical care, including joint replacements, to assist you in staying active and continuing your independent lifestyle.



"When you fall and break your hip, life can really change. I know. It happened to me. My husband and I knew I should go to the doctors at the Texas Tech Medical Center. The healing process for a broken hip needed to start immediately...from the emergency room on to intensive care. Next came surgery, rehab, and finally home - all in ten days! At the Texas Tech Medical Center a doctor is always there. They got me home fast - as good as new! For a quick recovery and return to normal life, I place my bet on the doctors at the Texas Tech Medical Center. They're some of the world's best doctors and they can be your doctor too."



Teaching. Caring. Healing. 743-1998

Los Heroes - A Cada Cual Lo Suyo ¿Quién Soy Yo? Bueno, Es Asi...

Por José Armas

El contacto excesivo marchita a todos los héroes. Un sabio dijo eso hace mucho tiempo. De modo que ¿debería sorprendernos el que nuestra época haya producido una abundancia tal de cínicos que aleguen que no hay héroes nacionales?

¿Quiénes que estén en la política, especialmente en Washington, podrían obtener actualmente un apoyo de consenso como que merezcan esa designación?

Y, ¿qué hay de los deportes? ¿Cuántos ugrían a Mark McGwire, que se relleno del controvertido androstenedione, una droga que ayuda en el crecimiento de músculos, o a Sammy Sosa, quien vino de otras tierras, sólo porque batearon muchas pelotas de béisbol por encima de muchas cercas?

Y, ¿qué hay del baloncesto? ¿Acercas de Michael Jordan? Algunos se burlan de calificar como héroe a un jugador de baloncesto; no podría importarnos menos que Michael Jordan se haya jubilado.

“Todavía tengo que levantarme por la mañana e ir a trabajar para pagar la hipoteca. Puedo vivir sin Jordan,” me dice una voz sardónica.

“Sí. Pero otro sabio dice: “Desde luego que se puede vivir sin la poesía, pero la vida puede ser mejor con ella.”

Michael era poesía. El realizó hazañas extraordinarias que podrían inspirarle a uno y hacer que se quedara boquiabierto de

asombro. Jordan no falsificó sus talentos naturales; se impulsó a sí mismo y mostró una ética de trabajo que no se encuentra entre la mayoría de las “estrellas”.

En verdad, continuaremos sin él, pero nuestras vidas mundanales fueron más dulces debido a su talento, su gracia y su forma de actuar.

No hay que ser amante del baloncesto para apreciar lo que él logró. Un muchachito discapacitado emocionado -- un niño blanco -- concuerda conmigo. El dijo en un programa de noticias por televisión: “Quiero crecer para ser como Michael Jordan.”

Mohammed Ali fue esta clase de héroe que trascendió a su ocupación.

Ahora la legislatura de Nuevo México promete más divisionismo para seguir las huellas del desafío del año pasado a fin de reconocer al fundador de aquel estado, Juan de Oñate, como héroe porque no era un santo.

Y el senador Rod Adair no cree que el dirigente Popé, de los indígenas Pueblos, haya sido un héroe. Adair ha prometido que combatirá a la idea de situar una estatua en honor de Popé en Washington, DC., que represente a nuestro estado. Adair dice que Popé “no es sencillamente digno de eso.”

Popé unió a las tribus. El dirigió la Revuelta de los Pueblos en 1680 que sacó a los españoles de Nuevo México debido a sus malos tratos. A Popé se le podría considerar como el George Washington de los indígenas Pueblos.

¿Era él un santo? No. Con el tiempo, él fue quitado de la dirigencia debido a su propio tratamiento despótico de los indígenas Pueblos. Pero esto no cambia el hecho de que su dirigencia para liberar a su pueblo surte efecto actualmente sobre nuestro estado. Para mí, Popé el libertador es un héroe digno.

Popé y Oñate pueden ser héroes para mí, mis hijos y mis nietos.

Si rechazamos a Popé y a Oñate, debemos empezar a tumbar las estatuas de George Washington, el padre de nuestro país -- y propietario de esclavos. Y la de Thomas Jefferson, por sus indiscreciones.

Hay otras clases de héroes. Los Veteranos de Bataan de Albuquerque acaban de lanzar su Fundación Conmemorativa de Bataan-Corregidor. El Comandante Agapito Silva dice: “La fundación creará una conmemoración perpetua para recordar al pueblo sobre los sacrificios tremendos de nuestros soldados por su país.”

Silva, de 79 años de edad, fue hecho prisionero por los japoneses durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial y obligado a participar en la infame “Marcha de la Muerte de Bataan.” El nos recuerda que: “De los 2,000 sobrevivientes originales de la experiencia de Bataan que procedían de Nuevo México, sobreviven menos de 90, y están muriendo rápidamente.”

Aquellos cínicos que dicen que no hay héroes podrían mirar a

estos hombres y hallar nueva inspiración. Estos eran jóvenes, algunos acabados de salir de la escuela secundaria, que se alistaron en la Guardia Nacional. Se convirtieron en guerreros de la noche a la mañana.

Después de batallas feroces y sangrientas que incluyeron el combate cuerpo a cuerpo, fueron capturados por el enemigo. Resistieron tres y medio años de brutalidades inconcebibles que hicieron morir a la mitad de los 80,000 prisioneros de guerra estadounidenses y filipinos.

Estos fueron individuos comunes impulsados hacia circunstancias extraordinarias, y produjeron hechos de heroísmo extraordinarios. Los que sobrevivieron regresaron a sus casas y construyeron sus vidas.

Todo hombre, toda mujer y todo niño -- así como todos los cínicos -- deberían tener la oportunidad de escuchar sus relatos. Ellos desaparecerán pronto, y todavía no hemos conservado todos sus relatos y todo su legado. “Hay mucho más por hacer,” dice el Comandante Silva, que no ha cesado nunca de servir a su país.

No puedo escuchar sus relatos sin saber que estoy en la compañía de héroes.

¿Quién es un héroe nacional? A cada cual lo suyo.

(José Armas, de Albuquerque, Nuevo México, es autor y crítico social de largo tiempo.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1999. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Por Joe Rodríguez

Soy chicano, méxicoamericano, latino, estadounidense, mexicano e hispano. La mayor parte de los días, en ese orden.

Pero algunos días soy totalmente puertorriqueño. Después que viví y trabajé entre ellos durante varios años en el Noreste de Estados Unidos, algunos amigos puertorriqueños me concedieron la ciudadanía honorífica. Tengo un botón de solapa de Puerto Rico para probarlo.

Sé lo que están pensando: Este tipo debe tener una profunda crisis de identidad.

Cuando estaba en la escuela superior, la tenía. Pero ahora realmente he llegado a sentirme cómodo en mi cambalache cultural y nacional. Es algo latino. El problema verdadero es que los Estados Unidos no han captado plenamente la complejidad de la identidad latina.

Me recordó esto un lector aquí en San José, California. “Su columna es informativa y me ha dado perspectiva de las muchas razas y culturas que hay en el Condado de Santa Clara. Pero me gustaría que usted aclarara el significado de estas palabras: Latino, hispano-americano, méxicoamericano, hispano y chicano. Estoy confundido y quiero comprender.”

Es una orden difícil, pero he aquí un compendio rápido sobre la identidad latina, seguido por la significación de todo ello.

Comencemos por méxicoamericano. No es complicado. Desde el final de la guerra entre los Estados Unidos y México en 1848, cualquier residente de los Estados Unidos con ancestro mexicano puede alegar esa clasificación.

Por comparación, chicano es extremadamente complicado. El finado periodista Rubén Salazar lo dijo sucintamente hace 30 años: “Un chicano es un méxicoamericano con una imagen no angloamericana de sí mismo.”

adelantemos rápidamente ahora. Miren a los colores de los muchos recién llegados: Mexicanos morenos, cubanos blancos, dominicanos negros, salvadoreños mixtos. Escuchen los sonidos: Rock en español de Colombia, salsa de Puerto Rico, hip-hop de la Ciudad de México.

Con el tiempo, dos “términos de sombrilla” surgieron para todos estos grupos: Hispano y después latino.

Pero, ¿existe en realidad una identidad latina o hispana?

Esa es una pregunta que el Profesor Michael Jones-Correa, especialista en política latina de la Universidad de Harvard, ha formulado y contestado.

No, por lo menos no todavía, dice él.

“Cualquier evidencia que haya sugiere que la mayoría de los latinos, la mayor parte del tiempo, se identifican a ellos mismos primordialmente a través de clasificaciones nacionales”, dice él.

Los eruditos consideran que los términos “latino” e “hispano” son secundarios, pan-étnicos. Y cuando se trata de usarlos, el ingreso, la ideología y la política no desempeñan ningún papel. Lo que sí importa es la instrucción.

Mientras más instruido sea un méxicoamericano o cubano-americano, mayores probabilidades tendrá de usar los términos “latino” o “hispano” como un identificador secundario.

Es interesante, según halla Jones-Correa, que los latinos empleen el término “americano” como otro identificador pan-étnico secundario.

Bueno. ¿Significa eso que los latinos sean ingratos anti-estadounidenses? Desde luego que no. Todos los apellidos hispanos en las tumbas de los veteranos estadounidenses deberían disipar esa insensatez.

O bien se podría preguntar: ¿Condena la conciencia de grupo a los latinos a la vida en los márgenes?

El jurado no ha dado aún su veredicto sobre eso, pero creo que el ascenso continuo de los cubano-americanos preparados y capitalizados, y de algunos méxicoamericanos, sugiere que la raza, la enseñanza y la herencia importan más que la auto-identidad latina.

Lo que hallo más interesante es si estos grupos están fundiéndose en una cultura latina distinta en los Estados Unidos y desarrollando una voz política coherente.

“Es todavía demasiado pronto para decir,” me dice Jones-Correa.

Alguna evidencia sugiere tanto así, tal como la defensa que hacen los latinos de la educación bilingüe, que atraviesa las líneas nacionales. Pero el hecho dominante de que estos grupos prefieren a las clasificaciones nacionales por sobre las pan-étnicas significa que una identidad nacional latino/hispana está todavía muy lejos, si es que se desarrolla del todo.

En cuanto a mí, encuentro fascinante a ese pensamiento, especialmente mientras masticó algunos pedacitos de tortilla mexicana hecha en California y escucho un disco compacto puertorriqueño grabado en Nueva York.

(Joe Rodríguez es columnista del San José Mercury News, de San José, California.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1999. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Heroes -- To Each His Own

By Jose Armas

Too much contact withers all heroes. A sage said that long ago. So should it surprise us that our times have spawned cynics claiming there are no national heroes?

Who in politics, particularly in Washington today, could gain support as deserving of that appellation?

What about in sports? How many would anoint Mark McGwire, who bulked up with the controversial muscle-building drug androstenedione, or Sammy Sosa, who came from another land, because they hit many baseballs over many fences?

What about basketball?

Michael Jordan? Some scoff at calling a basketball player a hero; they couldn't care less that Michael Jordan has retired.

“I still have to get up in the morning and go to work and pay the mortgage. I can live without Jordan,” a sardonic voice tells me. Yes. But another sage says, “Of course you can live without poetry, but your life can be better with it.”

Michael was poetry. He performed extraordinary feats that could inspire you and make you gasp in wonder. Jordan didn't cheat on his natural talents; he pushed himself and exhibited a work ethic not found among most

stars.

Certainly, we'll go on without him, but our mundane lives were sweeter because of his talent, his grace and his class act.

You don't have to love basketball to appreciate what he accomplished. An excited, handicapped little boy -- a white boy -- agrees with me. He said on a television news show, “I want to grow up to be Michael Jordan.”

Mohammed Ali was this kind of hero who transcended his profession.

Now New Mexico's legislature promises more divisiveness to follow on the heels of last year's challenge to recognize the state's

founder, Juan de Oate, as a hero because he wasn't a saint.

And Sen. Rod Adair doesn't think Pueblo leader Pope is a hero. Adair has promised to fight placing a statue honoring Pope in Washington, D.C., to represent our state. Adair says Pope “is just not worthy.” Pope united the tribes. He led the 1680 Pueblo Revolt that drove the Spanish out of New Mexico for their heavy-handed treatment. Pope could be considered the George Washington of the Pueblos.

Was he a saint? No. Eventually he was forced from leadership because of his own heavy-handed treatment of the Pueblos. But this doesn't change the fact his leadership to liberate his people impacts our state today. To me, Pope the liberator is a worthy hero. Pope and Oate can be heroes for me and my children and grandchildren. If we reject Pope and Oate, we must start toppling the statues of George Washington, father of our country -- and slave owner. And Thomas Jefferson, for his indiscretions.

There are other kinds of heroes. The Bataan Veterans of Albuquerque have just launched the Bataan-Corregidor Memorial Foundation. Commander Agapito Silva says, “The foundation will create a perpetual memorial to remind people of the tremendous sacrifices of our soldiers for their country.”

The 79-year-old Silva was taken prisoner by the Japanese during World War II and forced onto the infamous Bataan Death

March. He reminds us, “Of the original 2,000 New Mexican survivors of the Bataan-Corregidor experience, fewer than 90 survive, and they are dying quickly.”

These cynics who say there are no heroes might look at these men and find new inspiration. These were young kids, some just out of high school, who joined the National Guard. They became warriors overnight.

After ferocious, bloody battles that included hand-to-hand combat, they were captured by the enemy. They endured three and a half years of unspeakable brutalities that killed off half of the nearly 80,000 U.S. and Filipino prisoners.

These were ordinary individuals driven into extraordinary circumstances, and they produced extraordinary deeds of heroism. Those who survived came home and built their lives.

Every man, woman and child -- every cynic -- should have an opportunity to hear their stories. Soon they will be gone, and we still haven't preserved all their histories and their legacy.

“There is so much more to be done,” says Commander Silva, who has never stopped serving his country.

I can't listen to their stories without knowing I am in the company of heroes.

Who's a national hero? To each his own.

(José Armas, of Albuquerque, N.M., is an author and long-time social critic.)

© 1999, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Time Syndicate

Tus Angeles de la guarda.



Angeles

Patricia Manterola, Magaly Caicedo, S. y Sandra Vidal

son los Angeles más explosivos que hayas visto.

Más te vale que te portes bien.

Lunes 7pm



INCOME TAX INCOME TAX INCOME TAX

INCOME TAX RETURNS FAST REFUNDS

Call For Price On Your Returns

Very Competitive Rates

797-0506 GARRETT & CO.

2321 50TH SUITE J

INCOME TAX INCOME TAX INCOME TAX

Lo Mejor En Comida Mexicana

MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT

3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068



THE JOYS

OF LIFE . . .

A shared success.

A new sense of self-confidence.

Fresh hope.

WORKING MIRACLES EVERY DAY



Saturday nights are all right for fighting

By Joe Skrec

Who'll be the next welterweight king? We may find out soon.

The opening bell to a dynamic doubleheader between four of the best 147-pound pugilists in the world rang last Saturday night in Las Vegas.

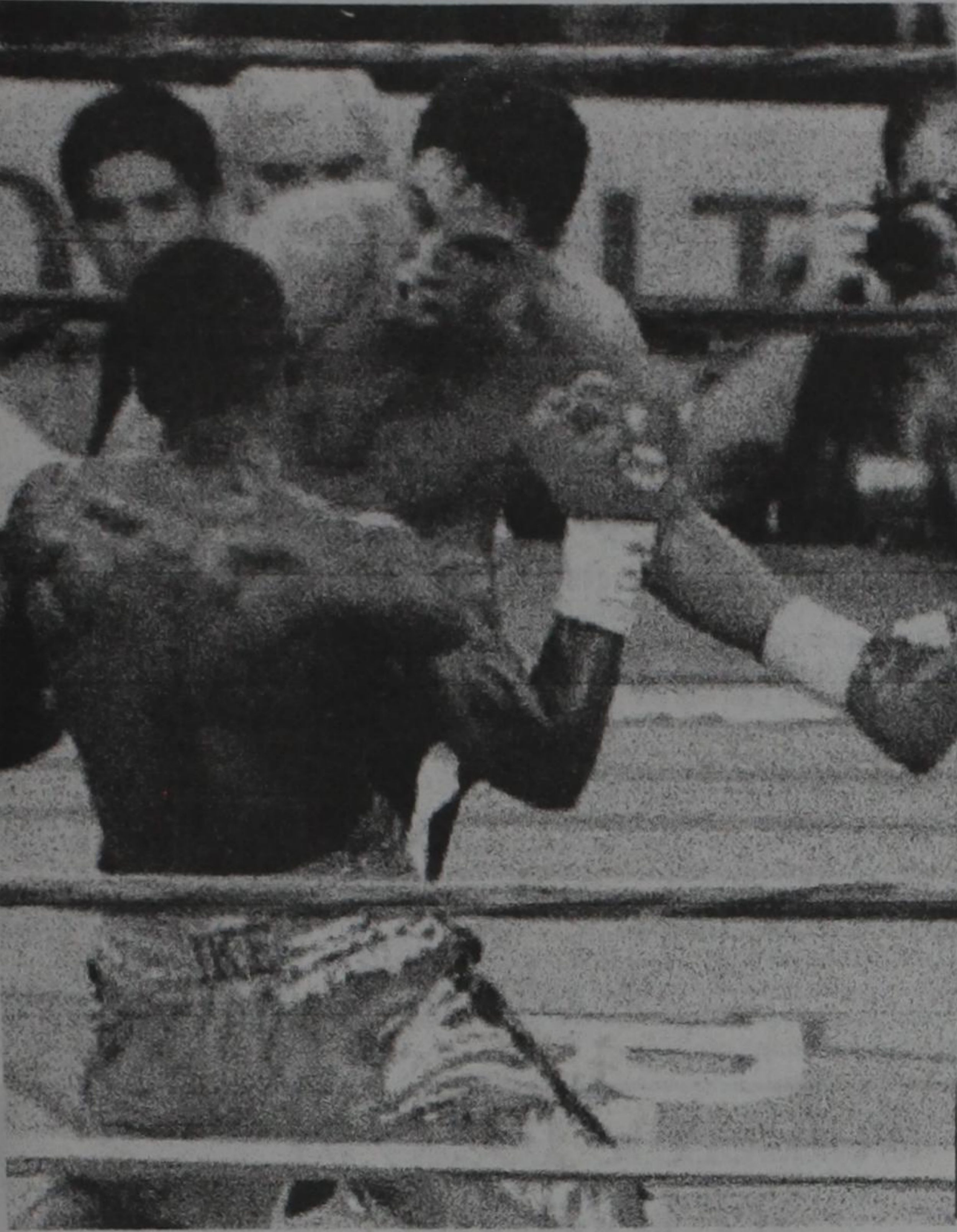
In that fight, "The Golden Boy," World Boxing Council welterweight champion Oscar De La Hoya, survived the toughest test of his career from former champion Ike "Bazooka" Quartey, winning a 12-round split decision. Neither De La

battle between De La Hoya and Quartey at UNLV's Thomas & Mack Center.

"It's hard to top the magnitude of what Ray and myself had," said Hearn, who, in one of the division's greatest title bouts, suffered a 14th-round knockout loss to Leonard on Sept. 16, 1981.

"We generated far more intrigue," Leonard said during Wednesday's news conference at the Las Vegas Hilton. "Everybody knew the power Thomas Hearn had and everyone knew what a ring technician I was."

By the end of February, fight fans around the world should be a lot more familiar with the relatively unknown Quartey — who hails from Ghana



like former world champion Azumah Nelson — and Trinidad, out of Puerto Rico. Since October 1997, Quartey, the former World Boxing Association champ, and Trinidad have made one combined ring appearance.

Here's a look ahead to the Trinidad vs. Whitaker fight this Saturday night.

IN HIS FIRST FIGHT IN nearly 16 months, Pernell Whitaker, who failed two drug tests and spent about a month in a drug clinic since his last outing against Andrei Pestriev on Oct. 17, 1997, didn't want a walkover.

"It wouldn't do Pernell Whitaker any good to step in the ring against just anybody," the slick and defensive-minded Whitaker said. "I would rather go out and get the best. If you want to be the best you have to fight the best ... All I know how to do is fight the big fights."

"To me, to just get in the ring with a person who I'm supposed to win against wouldn't prove anything to the fans."

So Whitaker (42-2-1, 17 KOs), who's only stopped two of his last 12 opponents, will challenge the unbeaten Trinidad, a hard-hitter with a suspect chin. Promoted by Don

Hoya nor Quartey had lost a prizefight before their encounter.

The nightcap takes place this Saturday with Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker, who reigned as boxing's mythical pound-for-pound champion for most of the decade, attempting to dethrone undefeated International Boxing Federation welterweight king Felix Trinidad.

These back-to-back weekend specials are boxing's version of college basketball's March Madness. De La Hoya could fight the winner of this Saturday's bout later this year, especially if it is Trinidad, in what would be one of the biggest non-heavyweight bouts of the decade.

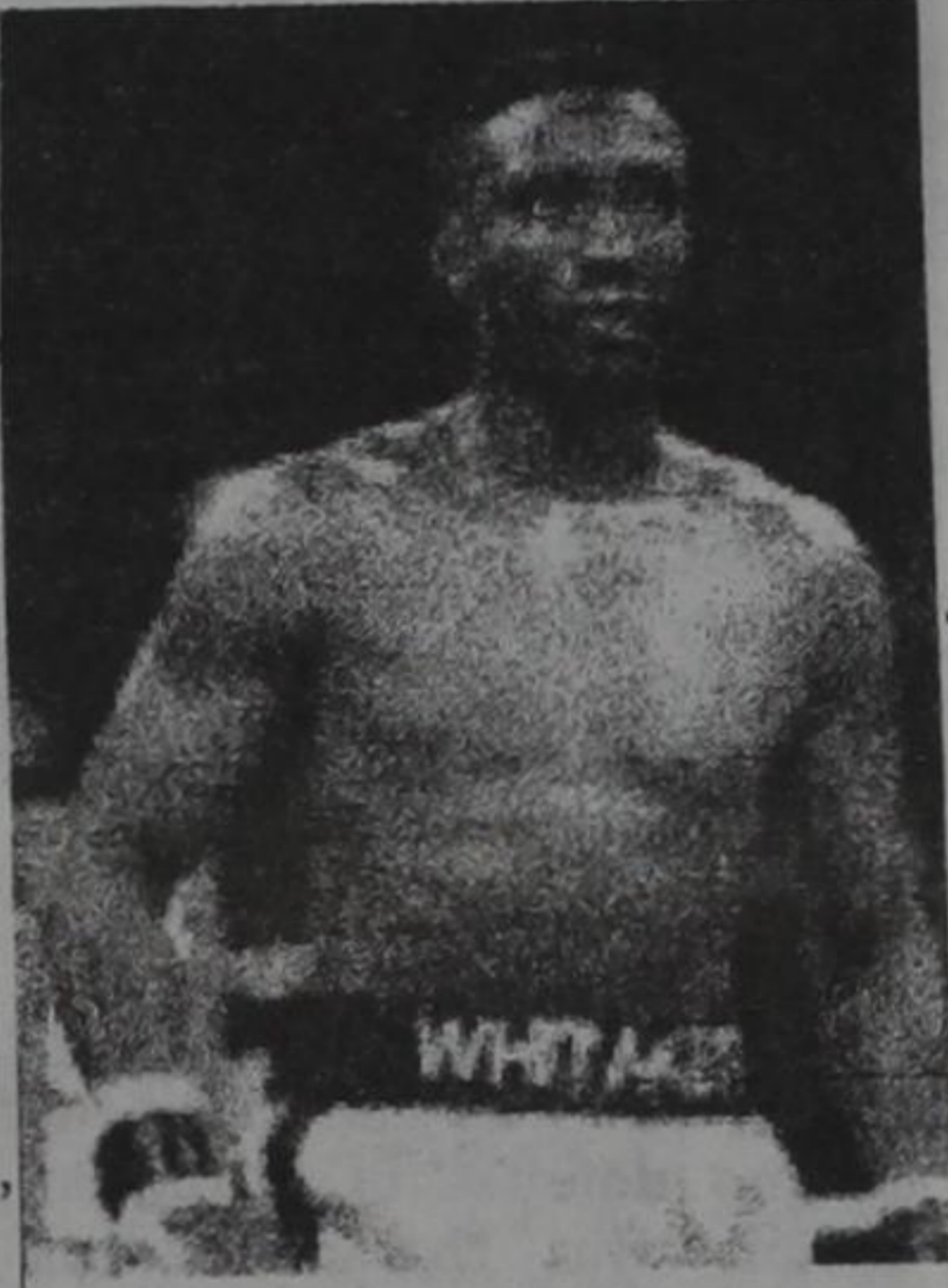
THE 147-POUND RANKS have been full of hard-hitting and talented boxers most of the 1990s. Unfortunately, few of them have faced each other before now. Still, De La Hoya, Quartey, Whitaker and Trinidad have evoked some memories of the great welterweight battles between Sugar Ray Leonard, Thomas Hearn and Roberto Duran during the 1970s and 1980s.

Leonard and Hearn, in fact, were brought in by promoter Bob Arum, president of Top Rank Inc., to help generate interest in Saturday night's

King Productions after reportedly inking a deal with Main Events, Trinidad is probably the best fighter you've seen and heard the least of in the past few years.

"Those who don't know about my qualities should watch and they will know that I am the best," Trinidad said of the HBO-televized bout from Madison Square Garden on Feb. 20.

Prediction: Whitaker, who's been on top of his game for so long, has scored a significant victory just by making it back to the spotlight. Whitaker will frustrate Trinidad for some rounds, but the tall and lean Puerto Rican will eventually catch Whitaker and stop "Sweet Pea" before the final bell to secure a bout with De La Hoya — we hope — and determine the No. 1 147-pounder later this year.



Exilio Se Opone A Juego Beisbol Entre Cuba Y Orioles Baltimore

Por Marcelo Wheelock

Miami, 21 ene (EFE).- Organizaciones del exilio cubano en Miami aseguran que en Cuba no existen las "condiciones democráticas" para un acercamiento entre la isla y Estados Unidos y menos para realizar partidos de béisbol entre la selección nacional de ese país y los Orioles de Baltimore.

"Es una especie de recompensa para alguien que no se lo merece", dijo a EFE la portavoz de la influyente Fundación Nacional Cubanoamericana, Ninosa Pérez, refiriéndose al gobernante cubano, Fidel Castro.

Según Pérez, "los juegos de pelota no tiene sentido mientras en Cuba la cárceles están todavía llenas de presos, no se celebran elecciones y donde la población tiene otras necesidades".

"El juego no tiene beneficios para el pueblo cubano y más aún cuando Fidel Castro insiste en que las ganancias de estos juegos tiene que ir a las víctimas del huracán "Mitch" en Centroamerica, mientras hay tantas personas necesitadas en Cuba", aseguró.

El gobierno del presidente Bill Clinton, que anunció hace dos semanas una serie de medidas de "acercamiento al pueblo cubano", autorizó los partidos con la condición de que los fondos recaudados fueran canalizados mediante la organización caritativa CARI-TAS.

Cuba insiste en que los fondos se destinen a medicinas para las víctimas del huracán Mitch que reciben asistencia de médicos cubanos en Centroamérica.

El presidente de la organización Hermanos Al Rescate, José Basulto dijo a EFE que los juegos "son una forma más de ir abriéndole un espacio a Fidel Castro, erosionado todas las medidas que se han tomado en contra del gobierno de Cuba".

"Nos parece que es otra burla más de la administración del presidente Bill Clinton", manifestó.

Los dos desafíos entre el equipo Orioles de las Grandes Ligas estadounidenses y la selección nacional de Cuba está programados, en principio, para el 28 de marzo en La Habana y el 3 de abril en Baltimore, Maryland.

Entre tanto el presidente de

la Unidad Cubana, Luis Figueroa sostiene que los juegos no cumplirán "el pretexto engañoso" de un acercamiento con el pueblo cubano, y más bien producirán "un resultado negativo".

En una carta dirigida a los Orioles, Figueroa advierte que se jugará "en un país cuyo gobierno ha suprimido el deporte profesional alegando que el profesionalismo corrompe el deporte, convirtiéndolo en un vil negocio".

Afirmó que jugar en Cuba "oculta al cruel realidad, dando al mundo una falsa impresión de lo que ocurre".

El miércoles, un grupo de nueve congresistas, incluyendo los cubanoamericanos Lincoln Díaz Balart, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen y Robert Menendez, pidió en una carta al sindicato de peloteros de Grandes Ligas que "no se dejen utilizar en la anunciada maniobra para acercar a Estados Unidos a la tiranía de Castro a través de juegos de béisbol".

La misiva también está firmada por los legisladores Peter Deutsch, Patrick Kennedy, Benjamin Gilman, Peter King, Rick Lazio y William Thomas.

ATTENTION SOFTBALL TEAMS

Let Us Do Your Softball Uniforms at 1/2 the Price Others Do! FREE NUMBERS Custom Designs 2 colors for the Price of One

Delivered in 5 Days CALL: (806) 763-3841 TEXAS SOFTBALL SUPERCUP

Watch for a Texas SuperCup Softball Tournament Coming to Your Town Soon!



Budweiser
KING OF BEERS

**Softball Tournament
Lubbock, Texas**

**March 13-14
McKenzie Parks
Class D/E
Call Robert at
792-5037**

**SPC SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

SPECIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT
Lubbock Campus full-time position: Request application materials and submit resume, SPC employment application and transcripts to: Jaunez Cheek, South Plains College, Lubbock, TX 79401, (806) 747-0576, ext. 4647. Applications will be accepted until February 25, 1999.

GAME ROOM SUPERVISOR
Levelland Campus part-time position: Request position description and application packet from South Plains College, Human Resources Office, Maria Chapa, 1401 S. College Ave., Levelland, TX, 79336, (806) 894-9611, ext. 2177. Applications will be accepted until February 25, 1999. Complete employment listings and descriptions are available at our web site www.spc.cc.tx.us under "JOBS".
South Plains College reserves the right to extend the search or not offer position advertised. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Educational Institution.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Catholic Family Service, Inc. will receive sealed bids until February 26, 1999, 4:00 p.m., at the City of Lubbock, Community Development, Room 107, P.O. Box 2000, 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas, 79457, for the following project: the asphalt resurfacing of the parking lot shared by Catholic Family Services and The Guadalupe Learning Center located at 102 Ave. J.

After the expiration of the time and at the place as noted, all bids will be opened privately. Bidders will be notified of the results of the bidding process on March 5, 1999 before 5:00 p.m.

This project will be paid in part by funding from the Community Development Block Grant received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The project must comply with all applicable Federal Laws and Regulations including the payment of Federal minimum wages under the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act, equal opportunity and under Section 3, Affirmative Action and Executive Order 11246.

The agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Beginning Tuesday, February 16, 1999, plans and specifications may be obtained at the offices of the City of Lubbock, Community Development, Room, 107, at 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas, 79401, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

FIRST OF SEASON SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT MARCH 6 & 7 MCKENZIE PARK LOW AND MEDIUM CLASSES ENTRY FEE \$125 CALL MIKE ALLEN AT 797-0073

**Marketing Manager
Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau**

Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Public Relations or Communications preferred, with at least five years work experience. Send resume to Linda Fort, Executive Director, Lubbock CVB, 1301 Broadway, Suite 200, Lubbock, Texas 79401 Fax 806-747-1419

TAX REFUND TAX REFUND TAX REFUND

TAX DEPOT
Sue Johnson's Business Services
Bring This Ad For **\$5 OFF**
Ask About Our Cash Bonus
Se Habla Espanol
4th & Ave. Q (West of Taco Bell)
806-745-8335
REFUND LOANS IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY
Friendliest Service In Town
3 Other Locations:
1 - South University & 115th St.
2 - 50th & Ave. L at Huber's Pawn Shop
3 - 19th & Ave. L at Alderson Motor Co.

TAX REFUND TAX REFUND TAX REFUND

The Community Development Department of the City of Lubbock

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)
from all non-profit and for-profit agencies & City Departments within city limits of Lubbock

FY 1999-2000 GRANTS
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Emergency Shelter Grant Funds (ESG)
HOME Investment Partnership Program

Release of Applications Registration 9:00-9:30 AM
Technical Assistance Workshop
9:30 AM - 12:00 NOON
February 23, 1999

LOCATION City of Lubbock Municipal Building
1625 13th Street, City Council Chambers, Rm 101
Lubbock, Tx. 79401

for more information call 806-775-2301 or come by Community Development Rm 107

More Blank Spaces in Black History

By Jorge Antonio Renaud

This is the way it was.
 I was a migrant niño, a veteran campesino at 13, proud owner of three hoes -- one for thinning, one for chopping, and one held in reserve. I detested Anglos, who I knew only as owners of the campos, as well-dressed townies who beat up the transient Chicanos who picked their vegetables and sullied their schools with foreign Spanish and greasy lunch sacks.
 There were "Negroes" who worked with me, and I saw them as little different, so when I heard someone speaking of a new arrival to Beeville as a "nigger lover," I was shocked at the contempt until I realized they spoke of my sister. I reacted violently.
 I lost friends in Beeville, "amigos" who ate at our table, slept in our house; Chicanitos who sneered at my sister for dating blacks and thus earned vilification by La Raza. Mi Raza.
 This is how it is.
 I sit here in prison, in a dayroom with two television sets. One is commandeered by U.S. blacks and features programming aimed at them. The other is shared among sports aficionados, soap opera freaks and,

when they can muster enough votes, Univisión buffs.
 I watch the black Hispanics, whose frustration is palpable. While the Spanish on Univisión gives succor, the lack of black faces must be painful. In the years I've watched, not one telenovela, not one variety show, not one talk show, has featured a black on a consistent basis.
 It is also like this.
 I read in Hispanic Link Weekly Report a diatribe over the non-election of Tony Pérez, a dark Cuba native, to baseball's Hall of Fame. The writer laments that a "blond, blue-eyed" player with Pérez's statistics would surely be enshrined.
 I thumb through a stack of Hispanic Link Weekly Report newsletters that I was given -- 90 assorted issues dating from 1987 to 1998. These 90 issues feature 98 columns, each graced by a photo of its author.
 Of those 98, 89 are brown or white Hispanics. Five are Anglo. Two are clearly black. Two are possibly black.
 These same 90 issues have 85 other photos, of politicians and educators and scholars whose opinions were solicited to support or rebut a given topic. Of those, 81 are light-skinned

Hispanics, four are Anglo. None are black.
 One hundred and eighth-three photos in a publication dedicated to pursuing equality for Hispanics, to shining a light on disparities of opportunity for Latinos. Of 183 men and women whose voice was deemed worthy, four may have black skin.
 I will grant the possibility that the Univisión programs I witness are anomalies; that its programs otherwise offer black Hispanics leading roles in proportions commensurate with their numbers in Latin America.
 I will grant the possibility that Hispanic Link mailed me 90 issues that were grossly unrepresentative of its avowed colorblind commitment to Hispanics.
 I grant those possibilities because the alternative is too despairing to contemplate -- that for all our pretended enlightenment, we sneer like my friends did in 1971. We damn the prietos, the black ones, still -- and ourselves as well.
 (Jorge Antonio Renaud is serving a 60-year sentence as a three-time offender in Texas state prison in Huntsville.)
 Copyright 1999, Hispanic Link News Service.
 Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

MAS ESPACIOS EN BLANCO EN LA HISTORIA NEGRA

Por Jorge Antonio Renaud

Esta es la forma de que sucedió. Yo era un niño migrante, un campesino veterano a los 13 años, propietario orgulloso de tres azadones -- uno para entresacar, otro para rebanar y uno de reserva. Yo detestaba a "los anglos", a quienes conocía solamente como propietarios de los campos, como bien vestidos habitantes de la ciudad que golpeaban a los chicanos transeúntes que recogían sus vegetales y ensuciaban sus escuelas con el español extranjero y las bolsas de almuerzo grasientas.
 Había "negros" que trabajaban conmigo, y yo los veía como poco distintos, de modo que cuando yo escuchaba que alguien hablaba de un recién llegado a Beeville como "amante de los negros", me estremecía por el desprecio hasta que me di cuenta de que estaban hablando de mi hermana. Y reaccioné violentamente.
 Perdí amigos en Beeville, "amigos" que comían en nuestra mesa y dormían en nuestra casa; chicanitos que escarneaban a mi hermana por reunirse con negros y ganarse así la difamación por parte de La Raza. Mi Raza.
 Así es como sucede ahora.
 Me siento ahora en la prisión, en una sala de estar con dos receptores de televisión. De uno se han apoderado los negros estadounidenses y presenta una programación dirigida a ellos. El otro lo comparten aficionados a los deportes, excéntricos a quienes les gustan las novelas y, cuando pueden reunir votos suficientes, los partidarios de Univisión.
 Observo a los hispanos negros, cuya desilusión es palpable. Aunque el español de Univisión les da consuelo, la falta de caras negras debe ser dolorosa. En los años que la he observado, ni una telenovela, ni un programa de variedades, ni un programa de charlas con los televidentes ha destacado a algún negro constantemente.
 Es también así:
 Leo en el Hispanic Link Weekly Report una diatriba acerca de la no elección de Tony Pérez, un negro oriundo de Cuba, al Salón de la Fama del beisbol. El redactor se lamenta de que un jugador "rubio y de ojos azules" con las estadísticas de Pérez habría sido incluido con seguridad.
 Hojeo a través de un montón de boletines de Hispanic Link Weekly Report que me dieron -- 90 ediciones surtidas que datan desde 1987 hasta 1998. Estas 90 ediciones destacan 98 columnas, cada una de ellas adornada por una fotografía de su autor(a).
 De esos 98, 89 son hispanos pardos o blancos. Cinco son anglos. Dos son claramente negros. Dos son posiblemente negros.
 Esas mismas 90 ediciones tienen otras 85 fotografías, de políticos, educadores e intelectuales cuyas opiniones fueron solicitadas para apoyar o refutar un tema dado. De esas, 81 son de hispanos de piel clara y cuatro de anglos. Ninguna es de un negro. Ciento ochenta y tres fotografías en una publicación dedicada a obtener la igualdad para los hispanos, a enfocar una luz sobre las desigualdades en las oportunidades para los latinos. De 183 hombres y mujeres cuyas voces fueron estimadas como valiosas, cuatro puede que tengan la piel negra.
 Concederé la posibilidad de que los programas de Univisión que yo veo sean anomalías; de que sus programas ofrecen de otro modo a los hispanos negros papeles principales en proporción con sus cifras en la América Latina.
 Aceptaré la posibilidad de que Hispanic Link me haya enviado por correo 90 ediciones que eran excesivamente no representativas de su compromiso manifestado como acromatósico hacia los hispanos.
 Concedo esas posibilidades porque la alternativa es demasiado desesperante como para contemplarla -- que por toda nuestra pretensa iluminación, escarneamos como mis amigos lo hicieron en 1971. Maldecimos a los prietos, los negros, todavía -- y nos maldecimos a nosotros mismos también.

20/20 to Discuss Hampton Incident

Rose Wilson, President of the Lubbock Branch of the NAACP met with a crew from the television news magazine 20/20 on Friday, Feb. 5th. Ms. Wilson along with other local citizens of Lubbock were interviewed in reference to the arrest of the Hampton coaches on November 16th in Lubbock.

The interview is scheduled to air sometime around the first of March on Channel 28/Cox Cable 8.



Who Am I? Well, It's Like This ...

By Joe Rodriguez

I'm Chicano, Mexican-American, Latino, American, Mexican and Hispanic. Most days, in that order. But some days I'm totally Puerto Rican. After I lived and worked among them for several years in the Northeast, some Puerto Rican friends granted me honorary citizenship. I have a Puerto Rico lapel pin to prove it.
 I know what you're thinking: This guy must have a profound identity crisis.
 Back in college, I did. But now I've actually become comfortable in my cultural and national shape-shifting. It's a Latino thing. The real problem is that the United States hasn't fully grasped the complexity of Latino identity.
 I was reminded of this by a letter writer here in San Jose, Calif. "Your column is informative and has given me insight to the many races and cultures in Santa Clara County. But I would like you to clarify the meaning of these words: Latino, Spanish-American, Mexican-American, Hispanic and Chicano. I'm confused and do want to

understand."
 It's a tall order, but here's a quick primer on Latino identity, followed by the meaning of it all.
 Let's start with Mexican-American. It's not complicated. Since the end of the U.S.-Mexico war in 1848, any U.S. resident of Mexican ancestry can claim the hyphen.
 By comparison, Chicano is extremely complicated. The late journalist Ruben Salazar put it succinctly 30 years ago: "A Chicano is a Mexican-American with a non-Anglo image of himself."
 Now let's fast-forward. Look at the colors of the many newcomers: Mexican copper, Cuban white, Dominican black, Salvadoran brown. Hear the sounds: "Rock en Espanol" from Colombia, salsa from Puerto Rico, hip-hop from Mexico City. Eventually, two umbrella terms popped up for all these groups: Hispanic, then Latino.
 But does a Latino or Hispanic identity really exist?
 That's a question Professor Michael Jones-Correa, a specialist in Latino politics at Harvard University, has asked and an-

swered.
 No, at least not yet, he says.
 "Whatever evidence there is suggests that most Latinos, most the time, self-identify primarily through national labels," he says.
 Scholars consider "Latino" and "Hispanic" to be secondary, pan-ethnic terms. And when it comes to using them, income, ideology and politics don't play a part. What does education. The more educated a Mexican-American or Cuban-American is, the more likely he or she will use "Latino" or "Hispanic" as a secondary identifier.
 Interestingly, Jones-Correa finds, Latinos use the term "American" as another secondary and pan-ethnic identifier.
 Well.
 Does that mean Latinos are un-American ingrates? Of course not. All those Spanish surnames on U.S. veterans' gravestones should put that nonsense to rest.
 Or one could ask, does group consciousness doom Latinos to life on the margins? The jury's still out on that one, but I think the steady climb of educated, capitalized Cuban-Americans and some Mexican-Americans suggests that race, schooling and in-

heritance matter more than Latino self-identity.
 What I find more interesting is whether these groups are melting into a distinct U.S. Latino culture and developing a cohesive political voice.
 "It's too soon to tell," Jones-Correa tells me.
 Some evidence suggests as much, such as the cross-national Latino defense of bilingual education. But the overriding fact that these groups prefer national labels over pan-ethnic ones means a national Latino/Hispanic identity is a long way off, if it develops at all.
 As for me, I find the thought fascinating, especially as I munch on some Mexican tortilla chips made in California and listen to a Puerto Rican compact disc recorded in New York.
 (Joe Rodriguez is a columnist with the San Jose Mercury News in San Jose, Calif.)
 (c) 1999, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate Column

Subscribe Today to El Editor
Call Bob - 806-763-3841
 Subscribe Today to Lubbock's **BEST**

ANGELA HIGHTOWER INCOME TAX SERVICE
 1805 34th Street 762-2460
BIENVENIDOS / WELCOME TAX CLIENTS
 ARREGLAMOS IMPUESTOS DEL GOBIERNO \$\$\$ DINERO PRONTO \$\$\$
 • **TAX PREPARATION**
 • **ELECTRONIC FILING**
 • **FAST REFUNDS \$\$\$\$**
Open 7 Days a Week
Open Late til 9:00

iSe Habla Español!
 762-2460

EL EDITOR

This month people of all colors come together to honor and pay tribute and remember the many contributions of African Americans. We at El Editor want to take a little time to reflect on the many contributions made by persons throughout history. Persons like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who was called home to a very special place that was probably reserved for him and for all the other special people who fought and died so that disenfranchised citizens would not be denied their unalienable rights to be part of our society.
 But you know, we think that if it were up to them....those special people in history like Dr. King, Benito Juarez, Abraham Lincoln, Emiliano Zapata, Mohatma Ghandi, John and Bobby Kennedy, Malcom X, Torgud Marshall and most recently Cesar Chavez, they would not ask to have a special place to be reserved for them, but rather would ask that they be treated as any other people would be. They would ask that their goodness be spread among others in order for everyone to share in the happiness of being called home. They would ask that everyone be treated as an equal because that was what their lives were all about.
 And it is equality that we must work toward in celebrating Black History Month and it is equality that we must work toward in order to continue the legacy of Dr. King and all these special people now and forever.
 We as people of color have come a long way since those times in which our brothers fought and died for our civil rights. We as people of color now have only one limit to our participation in everything that can be ours.
 And we all know what that limit is, don't we....It is lack of concern, apathy. If we as people of color are not concerned about a good education for our children, they will never achieve it....If we as people of color are not concerned about stopping the violence in our neighborhoods, it will never stop....If we as people of color are not concerned about registering to vote in order to have good representation, we will never have it....If we as people of color continue not being concerned year after year, we will never achieve Dr. King's dream and we will never be able to totally celebrate Black History month....a month dedicated to all our friends in the African American community.

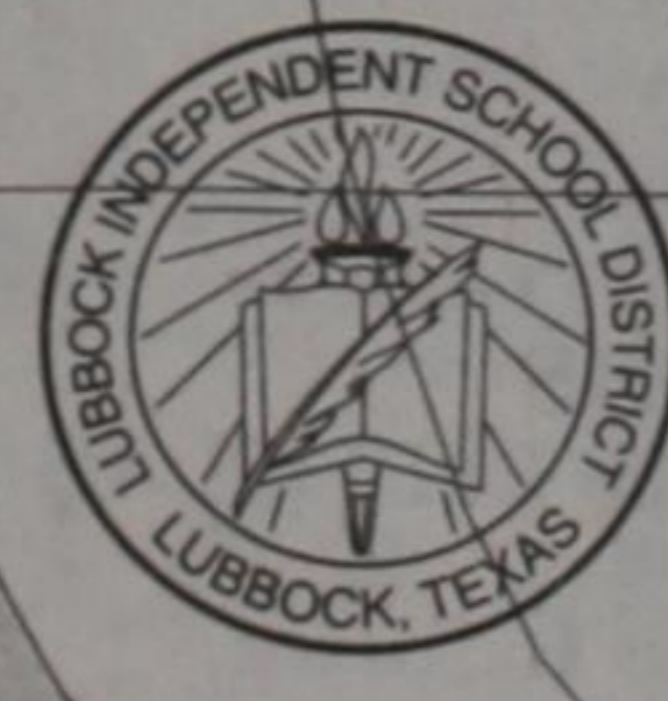
Our Best Wishes to All As We Celebrate Black History Month From Your Friends at El Editor

March, 1999

The Lubbock Independent School District

Sun. Monday Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.

1st IS THE DEADLINE FOR LISD TRANSFERS



This is for ALL LISD school transfer requests and magnet school assignments.

Applications for transfer or magnet assignments may be picked up in the principal's office of your neighborhood LISD school.