

el Espectador

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Lubbock, TX USA

All Democrat Nominees Respond

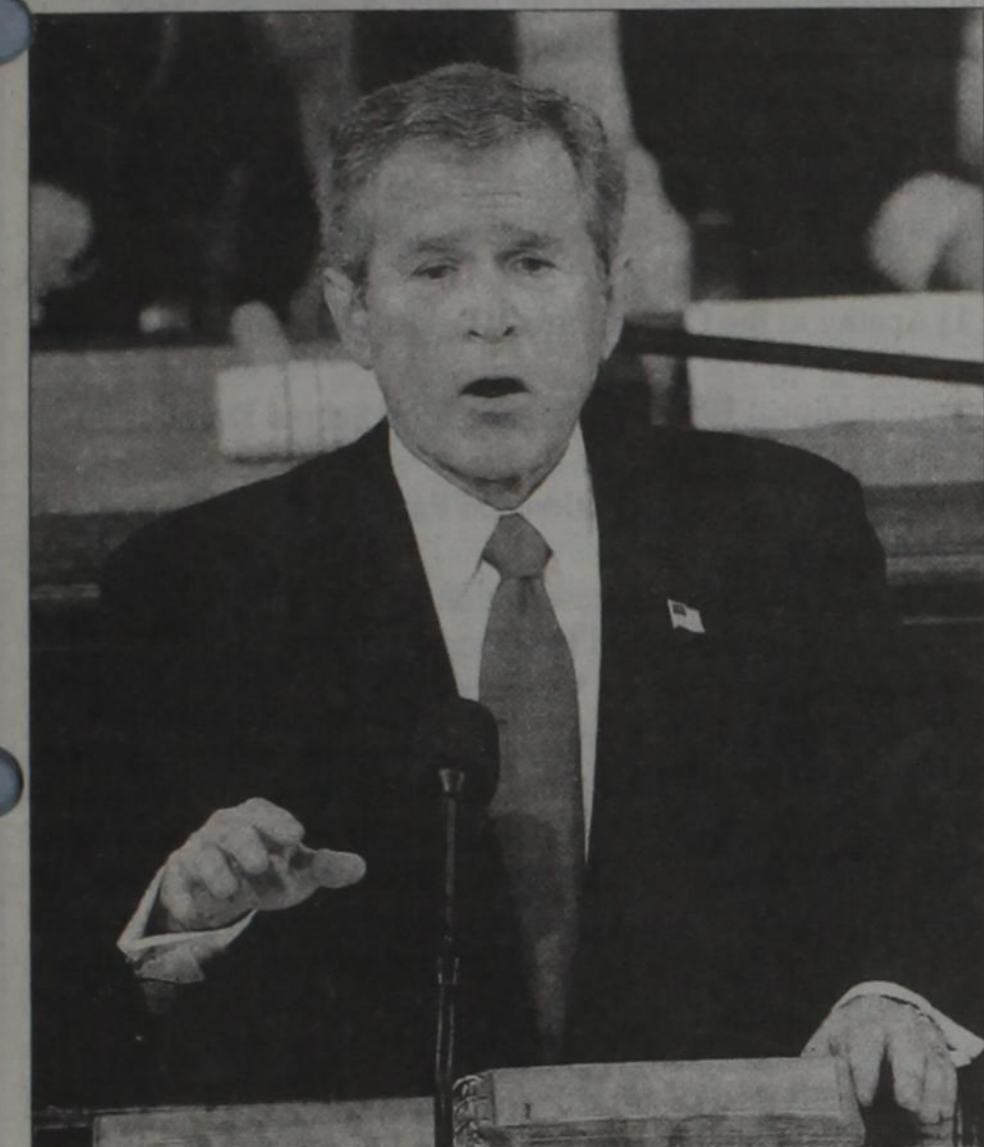
By Matthew Konjoian

The seven remaining Democratic presidential candidates are generally supportive of Hispanic positions on issues of special concern to the Latino community.

This is the key assessment of the candidates' answers to a Hispanic Link News Service survey released this week. All nine of the original candidates

for the Democratic nomination responded. Two, Richard Gephardt and Carol Moseley Braun, have since dropped out. President George W. Bush's campaign staff declined to participate in the survey but left the door open to do so later.

The survey, conducted over several weeks, covered a wide range of concerns ranging from affirmative action, bilingual



Bush Se Lanza a La Reeleccion

Al iniciarse oficialmente la campaña electoral del 2004, el presidente George W. Bush utilizó ayer en su mensaje anual sobre el Estado de la Nación proponer modestas ampliaciones del presupuesto de salud pública y de programas de adiestramiento en empleos, en tanto pidió a sus compatriotas que lo respalden en su guerra contra el terrorismo.

Bush aprovechó el discurso para destacar su agenda electoral, un día después que los demócratas iniciaron su proceso de selección del próximo candidato presidencial con las asambleas locales del partido en Iowa.

En su discurso al país Bush habló sobre temas de seguridad nacional y luego aludirá a las prioridades del país, dijeron asesores. Pediría a los estadounidenses que lo respalden en el combate al terrorismo, y señaló que el camino que ha elegido, incluido la invasión de Irak, es el correcto.

Trascendió que el presidente cambió el orden de su discurso, y que concluyó hablando de temas locales, a raíz de un cambio en las prioridades de los estadounidenses según indican las últimas encuestas.

Una encuesta de la cadena de televisión ABC y del diario The Washington Post publicada ayer indicó que la cifra de aquellos que desean que dedique la mayor parte del discurso a temas locales ha pasado del 31% en enero del 2002 a un 40% en la actualidad.

Hace un año, Bush estaba preparando al país para la guerra en Irak, que se inició unos dos meses después de su discurso ante el Congreso. Este año Bush necesita mantener el respaldo popular a las operaciones de posguerra en la nación árabe.

Batalla contra el terrorismo El presidente subrayó que EE.UU. y el mundo están más seguros sin Saddam en el poder, y obviaría las referencias a los supuestos arsenales de armas no convencionales que tenía Bagdad, y que no han sido encontrados tras 10 meses de ocupación.

El 29 de enero de 2003, a menos de dos meses de la operación militar para derrocar a Saddam Husein, Bush ap-

rovechó el discurso más importante en el año político en EE.UU. para afirmar que Bagdad tenía armas químicas y biológicas, y que era un peligro inminente.

Ese día, Bush dijo ante una sesión conjunta del Congreso que "Sadam Husein buscó recientemente cantidades significativas de uranio en Africa" y que Bagdad "ha intentado hacerse con tubos de aluminio altamente reforzados para producir armas nucleares".

Tan sólo una semana después, el secretario de Estado Colin Powell, afirmó ante el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas que "no puede haber duda de que Saddam Husein tiene armas biológicas y la capacidad de producir muchas más".

Pasado un año, la Casa Blanca ha reconocido que esas afirmaciones se basaron en informaciones inexactas, lo que no se ha traducido en la asunción de responsabilidades políticas o en una rectificación.

Preocupado por la economía

La segunda parte del discurso presidencial, que tuvo una duración aproximada de una hora, estuvo dedicada a los asuntos nacionales, con especial énfasis en la economía y en los datos que, según la Casa Blanca, apuntan a una clara recuperación.

Con el desempleo y el déficit público en los niveles más altos de la última década, este es el principal flanco débil del presidente, quien anunciará algunas propuestas para ayudar a los desempleados a encontrar trabajo y para mejorar los ingresos de los jubilados.

Incluso, abordó posibles medidas para mejorar el sistema de seguridad social, asunto que tradicionalmente ha defendido el partido Demócrata, inmerso en el inicio de la carrera para designar al candidato que tratará de derrotarle en noviembre.

No por casualidad la Casa Blanca eligió el día de ayer para el discurso sobre el Estado de la Unión, que Bush pronunciará sólo 24 horas después de los "caucus" de Iowa, con el objetivo de recuperar la iniciativa política y mostrar su perfil de "comandante en jefe".

education and immigration to labor and workplace practices.

In response to the recent Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action, the candidates all agreed that race should or could be a factor in determining admission to colleges. It helps bring about more racial diversity to educational institutions and gives non-white students greater opportunity for success, they reasoned.

All of the candidates except Wesley Clark said that using the military to protect our borders against illegal immigration is not the right way to fight this problem. They argued that civilian authorities should be left in charge of immigration and that the military should be used at the borders only if there is a threat to homeland security.

Clark, commander of Allied Forces in the Balkans from 1997 to 2000, felt that deploying military forces at the borders would ensure that those entering were doing so legally and did not pose a threat to security.

The candidates also came out in strong support of earned legalization programs and bilingual education. They said they want to strengthen protections against employment discrimination, stressing that the Department of Homeland Security has to be able to keep our nation secure and still protect the rights of citizens.

The one issue that candidates were divided on was that of punishing employers who hire undocumented immigrants. Some felt that more enforcement of current law would suffice, while others called for expanding civil rights protections.

Following several phone contacts made by Hispanic Link to the Bush-Cheney 2004 campaign, spokeswoman Sharon Castillo responded that the campaign will not begin its re-

Conclusion:

Explosion of U.S. Latino Hemispheric Influence Imminent

By Fresia Rodri-guez Cadavid.

Fed steadily by immigration, every U.S. population group with origins in Latin America is forming its own visible and increasingly thriving network of communities in the United States. Individually, their U.S. numbers range from 25 million Mexicans to 18,800 Uruguayans and 8,800 Paraguayans, according to the 2000 U.S. Census. Blend in the 3.9 million inhabitants on the U.S. commonwealth island of Puerto Rico and another 3.4 million U.S. citizens of Puerto Rican descent residing on the mainland and Hispanics in this nation total more than 40 million - greater than the entire population of our northern neighbor Canada.

In the Western Hemisphere, the United States trails only Mexico (100.3 million) in Hispanic population.

This and factors such as globalization and expanding influence in the U.S. business sector cause Hispanic visionaries in politics, academia and international trade to forecast with certainty a dramatic boom in Latino involvement in hemispheric affairs.

"Having strong and cohesive Hispanic communities can only translate positively into our broader influence at all levels - locally, hemispherically and globally." Anne Alonzo, senior vice president of the National Foreign Trade Council, projects.

view of surveys and candidate questionnaires until a later date.

She added, "We recognize that Hispanic Link News Service provides an important service to the Latino community, and we look forward to providing information relevant to issues of concern to Hispanics during the course of the campaign."

Here is a summary of the Democratic candidates' responses, along with specific proposals some presented:

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: All candidates agreed with the Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action. Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean emphasized that racial diversity provides benefits for the community and society as a whole.

U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich and Sens. Joe Lieberman and John Edwards emphasized that affirmative action will be needed to bring the United States closer to its goal of equality for all.

MILITARY AT THE BORDER: Of all the candidates, Gen. Wesley Clark was the only one who would support using military force to secure U.S. borders. Dean and Rev. Al Sharpton alluded to the use of military for specific national security threats but not to stop undocumented immigration. Dean felt that further humanitarian reforms would deter illegal immigration.

Edwards and Kucinich stressed that only civilian agencies should be responsible for border control.

Sen. John Kerry felt that the military should be used for some border control, but only in the war on terrorism and the war on drugs, and should not be involved in immigration and naturalization duties.

IMMIGRATION LAW REFORM: All remaining candidates supported some type of

"earned legalization" program as a way of giving undocumented immigrants legal status after living and working in the United States and obeying U.S. laws for a certain period of time.

Edwards called for a clear "road map" or system that immigrants could follow to achieve legal status. Kerry supported having a background check as part of this program in order to allow immigrants to enter and still protect homeland security. Kucinich wanted to revoke laws that would deport immigrants to their home nations for minor crimes.

BILINGUAL EDUCATION: All candidates supported bilingual education. Dean and Kerry saw it as a way to help those who have difficulty understanding English receive equal educational opportunities without falling behind. Both Dean and Sharpton mentioned that the ability to speak more than one language is critical and that bilingual education must be part of this. Edwards said he would support federal funding but believed the framework of a bilingual education system should be set up by each local school system.

CHILDREN'S IMMIGRATION RELIEF: All candidates backed tuition and immigration relief for children of undocumented immigrants. Dean, Edwards, Kerry and Lieberman supported the DREAM Act, which would allow some children of undocumented immigrants to pay in-state college tuition and obtain immigration relief after finishing college. Sharpton felt that the costs associated with sending undocumented children to college should come from federal funds, and not become a local tax expense. In addition to this, he said, any immigrants or their children who enlist in the military should automati-

cally be given citizenship.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION: All candidates believed that workplace discrimination is a problem and must be addressed. However, all were not in agreement as to whether discrimination protection should be expanded or kept as is, with better enforcement. Clark, Dean, Edwards, Kerry and Sharpton all felt that the way to end discrimination in workplaces is for stronger measures and greater enforcement.

Lieberman supported current laws. Kucinich felt that support of current laws would preserve equality and justice in the workplace but that if they are found to be insufficient, they must be expanded to ensure compliance.

HOMELAND SECURITY: All candidates believed the Department of Homeland Security can and must do its job of protecting the nation from terrorism and still protect the rights of citizens and that compromising basic rights in the name of national security is not acceptable. Lieberman urged that undocumented immigrants who are put in detention receive bond and fair treatment.

EMPLOYER PENALTIES: While the candidates felt that illegally hiring undocumented immigrants is an important issue, they had very different responses as to how this should be handled. Clark, Kerry and Sharpton supported stronger enforcement of current laws. Dean felt that the current law has failed and must be changed. Edwards felt that if other problems in the immigration system, which he did not refer to specifically, were addressed, we wouldn't have this problem.

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cern over the general Latin America situation, and as economic ties increase, Latinos will become more desirable for international businesses that want to continue to penetrate that market," he says.

With the Free Trade Area of Americas scheduled to become a reality in 2005 and the creation of a hemispheric common market, "the opportunities for increased hemispheric trade, investment and exchange are un-fathomable," Frank Gomez, a former State Department official who founded the Hispanic Council on International Relations, states.

The growing number of Hispanics in politics also offers a gateway to heightened influence in diplomatic as well as commercial leadership. "With the growth of Hispanic elected officials, particularly in the Congress, and the natural inclination of Hispanic members of Congress towards foreign affairs in general and Latin American in particular, we can only foresee a heightened profile for Hispanics in inter-American affairs," Gomez maintains.

There are now 24 Hispanics seated in Congress. Twenty of them, all Democrats, belong to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. In 2002, the CHC created two taskforces to address global affairs.

National Council of La Raza President Rau-I Yzaguirre offers

this projection: "I see greater political and economic integration, particularly economic, starting with Mexico, which is already enormous and extending farther and farther into the hemisphere.

"That's going to bring about a new focus," he adds, shifting Washington's attention sharply to the South. The United States has been Eurocentric in its viewpoints and priorities for far too long, he says.

Looking at the linguistic and cultural attributes Hispanics can bring to the U.S. foreign policy table, Juan Walte, former foreign editor and editorial board member with USA TODAY, says that Latinos possess an understanding of the political and social nuances and history of the region that is bound to benefit the United States significantly.

He asks the question: "Who better to influence U.S. policy toward Latin America -- especially on economic issues -- than Latinos?" He stresses the important dimension: "Latinos -- whether they're born in the United States or immigrants from Latin America."

Who better? U.S. Latinos see the answer as self-evident. And they are becoming more confident that it won't be long before the federal establishment, including the State Department, sees the wave, too.

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Los Congresos Fomentan El Programa Hispano Para El 2004

Por Marisella Veiga y Charlie Ericksen

Los congresos auspiciados por grupos hispanos pro derechos y profesionales siempre han sido una vertiente fértil para muchas otras organizaciones, y los que se realizarán este año albergan aún mayor promesa para esta comunidad en vías de crecimiento explosivo.

Cientos de miles de latinos se reunirán en ciudades por todo el país tanto como miembros de organizaciones con alcance nacional como de grupos pro derechos a nivel local y estatal durante el año 2004, el mismo en el que se llevarán a cabo los comicios presidenciales.

Con sus sesiones plenarias y talleres, los congresos atraen a expertos y promotores de todo tipo. Juntos los participantes definen temas claves, oportunidades y estrategias que responden a las necesidades de la comunidad, comenta Manuel Mirabal, director de la National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA por sus siglas en inglés), que abarca unas 40 organizaciones hispanas importantes y que cuenta con renombrados líderes como Henry Cisneros.

Las organizaciones políticas, empresariales y de acción social cortejarán como nunca a los conferenciantes latinos en el 2004, por su gran interés en los votos, dólares y el compromiso que tiene la comunidad hispana con sus propios intereses y causas.

Tanto George W. Bush como los nueve demócratas en pos de reemplazarlo como presidente están recibiendo muchas invita-

ciones para exponer sus plataformas en los congresos latinos. Todos aceptarán algunas invitaciones, seleccionando entre los eventos que perciben son más ventajosos para sus campañas electorales.

Mirabal, también presidente de la Coalición Nacional Puertorriqueña, sugiere que los participantes en los congresos, incluyendo a los trabajadores de base y sus dirigentes locales, sirven para refinar y unir la proyección hispana. Ayudan a formar consenso, lo cual resulta en acciones sociales y políticas eficaces a todos los niveles.

Los congresos latinos aumentan en número y tamaño todos los años, en la medida en que se constituyen nuevos grupos que atraen nuevos miembros. La asistencia a los congresos va de menos de cien a varios miles, como con los grupos tales como el Concilio Nacional de La Raza, y la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos.

"Fomentan el entusiasmo y crean un sentido de fuerza", explica Gil Chávez, funcionario federal jubilado, experto en temas de educación y trabajo. Chávez calcula que ha asistido a unos 175 congresos hispanos en los últimos 35 años.

"En los congresos se entablan relaciones, se desarrollan fuentes de financiación, y crean visibilidad", comenta Chávez, quien participa aun con la National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives (NAHFE por sus siglas en inglés). "Si no fuera por los congresos, algunas de las mayores organizaciones reconocidas hoy no existirían".

Tales eventos, para organizaciones como el Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI por sus siglas en inglés), que incluyen banquetes con el fin de recaudar fondos para financiar la planilla anual y costos de programas, son una gran ayuda para los grupos que los auspician.

Según Juan González, presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispánicos, esta organización recaudó casi \$300,000 destinado a un proyecto especial de paridad en la sala de redacción, además de los fondos que recaudó con su congreso anual que tuvo lugar en junio del 2003 en Nueva York.

Más de 20,000 personas asistieron al congreso del Concilio Nacional de La Raza en el 2003, realizado en Austin, Texas, dice Lisa Navarrete, vocera de la organización. Observa que en años recientes, "he visto aumentar significativamente la asistencia de personas que no son de la comunidad hispana".

Tanto Brent Wilkes, director ejecutivo de la Liga de Ciudadanos como Navarrete señalan un aumento en la presencia militar en sus eventos desde los ataques del 11 de septiembre.

En el pasado, las mesas principales de los banquetes se llenaban de funcionarios elegidos que no eran hispanos. Hoy la comunidad cuenta con un buen número de sus propios líderes.

No obstante, comenta Wilkes, sigue siendo importante que las personas influyentes que no son hispanas "se enfoquen en los temas que nos interesan y oigan nuestras pre-

ocupaciones directamente de nuestros miembros".

Cristina Caballero, fundadora del Diálogo sobre la Diversidad hace 12 años, percibe que los congresos ofrecen una oportunidad crítica a los hispanos para compartir su experiencia. Añade que si bien hoy los grupos más antiguos y establecidos cumplen mejor con el sector femenino, todavía tienen largo camino que recorrer en colaborar con organizaciones más pequeñas.

Eduardo Peña, ex-presidente de la Liga de Ciudadanos recuerda que hace unas décadas, mientras los hombres se reunían alrededor de las mesas de los congresos, las mujeres se reunían en la cocina para prepararles la comida. Ahora la Liga cuenta con más mujeres que hombres entre su junta directiva, comenta.

Samuel Betances, popular motivador con base en Chicago, y quien se dirige mayormente a grupos que no son hispanos por todo el mundo, notó el crecimiento de las asociaciones de profesionales hispanos. "Me sorprendió que tuviéramos tanta gente en el campo legal", dice.

Si bien Washington, D.C. continúa siendo el lugar más cotizado para los congresos, Cid Wilson, presidente de la junta de la Mesa Redonda Nacional Dominicana Americana, señala que cuando el año pasado esta organización cambió la ubicación de su congreso de la capital a Atlantic City, Nueva Jersey, se dobló la asistencia.

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"Bienvenido", Mr. Fox

By Abel Cruz

Only 21 days into 2004 and we already have a new city manager in place. Go figure, what \$28,000, a search committee and a Washington State search firm couldn't accomplish in 7 to 9 months, the mayor and the Willis Group, the consultant firm hired by the city, do so in a blink of an eye. And now we can all hug, make up, go home and wait for one of our neighbors to over water their lawn so that we can report them to the water police! Life in Lubbock is good again!

Ok, so I'm being a little facetious, but can you really blame me. Here we've just been put through a charade called a city manager search. We've been led to believe that the process used to disqualify the final two candidates was based on their not being qualified, and lo and behold, out of the distant south comes a knight in shining armor! How convenient that Mr. Fox was ready to get back into the city manager arena just when this city needed a savior. We should all feel as lucky as a fox in a henhouse!

"Bienvenido", Mr. Fox. "Bienvenido" means welcome in Spanish. But I guess you know that, having worked with all those Hispanics in San Antonio...

As I noted earlier, we are now into the 3rd week of 2004. If nothing else, "city-manager-gate" has shown that the Hispanic community is years away from where it should be based on the percentage of the total population that it represents. By that I mean that although Hispanics represent 37.5% of both the city and county population, we are underrepresented in the political, economic and intellectual decisions that affect our community. Our challenge is to figure out how to change that and become full participating citizens that are treated equally and fairly.

To that end, I've developed a top 10 list, ala David Letterman, of issues that I will explore in the next few weeks in hopes of providing some positive input and contribute some suggestions on how to address these issues. There are a lot more than 10 and I'm sure they could be added to this list, but here's my top 10 in no particular order:

- 1) Apathy in the Community - Greater Community Awareness
- 2) Educational Issues - Decrease High School Dropout Rate-Increase College Enrollment
- 3) Greater Voter Registration and Participation - Increased Political Power
- 4) Greater Political Representation
- 5) Health Awareness and Healthcare Issues
- 6) Domestic and Family Violence Issues
- 7) Crime in the Community
- 8) Immigration and Documentation Issues
- 9) Economic Advancement
- 10) The Formation of a Hispanic Issues Advisory Committee or Diversity Relations Advisory Group, or Diversity Relations Commission to establish an open and honest dialogue with city, county, state and federal government.

Let's hope that 2004 gives us the opportunity to face whatever challenges come our way. That we may become an example of how a community that is still referred to as the "minority community" can emerge from their minority status and become contributing and participating members of this city.

May whatever source you get your strength from, allow you to face the challenges that come with being a person of Hispanic descent with a true sense of pride and a determination to succeed.

And that we do this so that our children and the generations to follow will all be better off because of our effort and sacrifices.

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Conventions Fuel Hispanic Agenda for 2004

By Marisella Veiga and Charlie Ericksen

Long the lifeblood for many organizations, conventions staged by Hispanic advocacy and professional groups this year hold unprecedented promise for the exploding community of 48.8 million.

Hundreds of thousands of Latinos will gather in cities all over the country as members of nationally affiliated bodies, as well as local and state advocacy groups, during the presidential election year 2004.

With their plenary sessions and workshops, the conventions draw experts and movers and shakers of all stripes. Planning together, participants identify key issues, opportunities and strategies that respond to community needs, says Manuel Mirabal, who chairs the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda. NHLA encompasses some 50 major Hispanic organizations and visionary leaders such as Henry Cisneros.

This year Latino conventioners will be courted as never before by political, corporate and social action organizations interested in their votes, dollars and commitment to their own differing interests and causes.

George W. Bush and the nine Democrats campaigning to replace him as president are receiving a flood of invitations to speak. They, and others running for office, will be

highly visible, choosing event-advantageous to their campaigns.

Suggests Mirabal, president of the National Puerto Rican Coalition (NPRC), convention participants -- including grassroots workers and their local leaders -- serve to refine and unify Hispanic thought. They help shape consensus that translates into effective social and political action.

Latino conventions have been growing every year, both in number and size, as new groups form and build their own membership. Attendance ranges from less than a hundred to several thousand with groups such as the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

"Conventions enthrall and empower us," says retired federal education and labor official Gil Chávez of San Antonio. He estimates he has attended as many as 175 Hispanic ones over the past 35 years.

"They establish essential relationships, develop funding sources, and create visibility," says Chávez, who remains active with the National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives (NAHFE). "If it wasn't for conventions, some of the major organizations we know today would never have been around."

For organizations such as the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI), such

events, including featured banquets, raise substantial moneys to help cover year-round staffing and program costs.

According to National Association of Hispanic Journalists President Juan González, in addition to its regular profit margin at its June convention in New York City this past summer, NAHJ raised nearly \$300,000 on site through pledges for a special newsroom parity project. Some 1,800 journalists attended.

More than 20,000 persons attended the National Council of La Raza's 2003 convention in Austin, Texas, says spokesperson Lisa Navarrete. In recent years, she observes, "I've seen attendance by persons outside the Hispanic community grow substantially." LULAC executive director Brent Wilkes and Navarrete both acknowledge the increased military presence at their events since the Sept. 11 attacks.

In years past, non-Hispanic elected officials frequently filled the gatherings' head tables. Now the community has a plentiful supply of its own popular leaders.

But, Wilkes says, it's still important to have influential non-Hispanics "address our issues and for them to hear about our concerns directly from our members." Cristina Caballero, who founded Washington, D.C.-based Dialogue on Diversity 12 years ago, sees conventions as offering a critical op-

portunity for Hispanics to share expertise. She adds that while older, established Hispanic groups have a much better record now of involving Latinas, they still have a way to go in collaborating with smaller organizations.

Former LULAC president Eduardo Peña recalls conventions a few decades back, where the men met at conference tables while the women were directed to the kitchens to prepare their meals. Now LULAC has more women than men on its board, he says.

And, points out Juan Andrade, president of the Chicago-based Latino Leadership Institute, some years his youth-focused group has more female speakers than male ones. Fewer than 700 persons attended LL's first convention 21 years ago. Last year's attracted more than 8,000.

Another Chicagoan, Harvard-educated Dr. Samuel Betances, is one of the nation's foremost motivational speakers, using often-outrageous humor in framing diversity themes. He makes about 150 presentations a year, mostly to business organizations all over the globe, but still carves time to talk to some 20 Latino youth and professional groups.

Of Puerto Rican descent, the one-time high school dropout was raised in New Jersey by a single mother. Of convention changes, he comments in mock

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A DISHONEST WAR

By Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Of the many issues competing for attention in this new and defining year, one is of a unique order of magnitude: President Bush's decision to go to war in Iraq.

The facts demonstrate how dishonest that decision was. As former Treasury secretary Paul H. O'Neill recently confirmed, the debate over military action began as soon as President Bush took office. Some felt Saddam Hussein could be contained without war. A month after the inauguration, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell said: "We have kept him contained, kept him in his box." The next day, he said tellingly that Hussein "has not developed any significant capability with respect to weapons of mass destruction."

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, gave advocates of war the opening they needed.

They tried immediately to tie Hussein to al Qaeda and the terrorist attacks.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld created an Office of Special Plans in the Pentagon to analyze the intelligence for war and bypass the traditional screening process. Vice President Cheney relied on intelligence from Iraqi exiles and put pressure on intelligence agencies to produce the desired result.

The war in Afghanistan began in October with overwhelming support in Congress and the country. But the focus on Iraq continued behind the scenes, and President Bush went along. In the Rose Garden on Nov. 26, he said:

"Afghanistan is still just the beginning." Three days later, Cheney publicly began to send signals about attacking Iraq. On Nov. 29 he said: "I don't think it takes a genius to figure out that this guy [Hussein] is clearly a significant potential problem for the region, for the United States, for everybody with interests in the area." On Dec. 12 he raised the temperature: "If I were Saddam Hussein, I'd be thinking very carefully about the future, and I'd be looking very closely to see what happened to the Taliban in Afghanistan."

Next, Karl Rove, in a rare public stumble, made his own role clear, telling the Republican National Committee on Jan. 19, 2002, that the war on terrorism could be used politically. Republicans could "go to the country on this issue," he said.

Ten days later, in his State of the Union address, President Bush invoked the "axis of evil" -- Iraq, Iran and North Korea -- and we lost our clear focus on al Qaeda. The address contained 12 paragraphs on Afghanistan and 29 on the war on terrorism, but only one fleeting mention of al Qaeda. It said nothing about the Taliban or Osama bin Laden.

In the following months, although bin Laden was still at large, the drumbeat on Iraq gradually drowned out those who felt Hussein was no imminent threat.

On Sept. 12 the president told the United Nations: "Iraq likely maintains stockpiles of VX, mustard and other chemical agents and has made several attempts to buy high-strength aluminum tubes used to enrich uranium for a nuclear weapon." He said Iraq could build a nuclear weapon "within a year" if Hussein obtained such material.

War on Iraq was clearly coming, but why make this statement in September? As White House Chief of Staff Andrew H. Card Jr. said, "From a marketing point of view, you don't introduce new products in August." The 2002 election campaigns were then entering the home stretch. Election politics prevailed over foreign policy and national security. The administration insisted on a vote in Congress to authorize the war before Congress adjourned for the elections. Why? Because the debate would distract attention from the troubled economy and the failed effort to capture bin Laden. The shift in focus to Iraq could help Republicans and divide Democrats.

The tactic worked. Republicans voted almost unanimously for war and kept control of the House in the elections. Democrats were deeply divided and lost their majority in the Senate. The White House could use its control of Congress to get its way on key domestic priorities.

The final step in the march to war was a feat to the United Nations. But Cheney, Rumsfeld and Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz had convinced the president that war would be a cakewalk, with or without the United Nations, and that our forces would be welcomed as liberators. In March the war began.

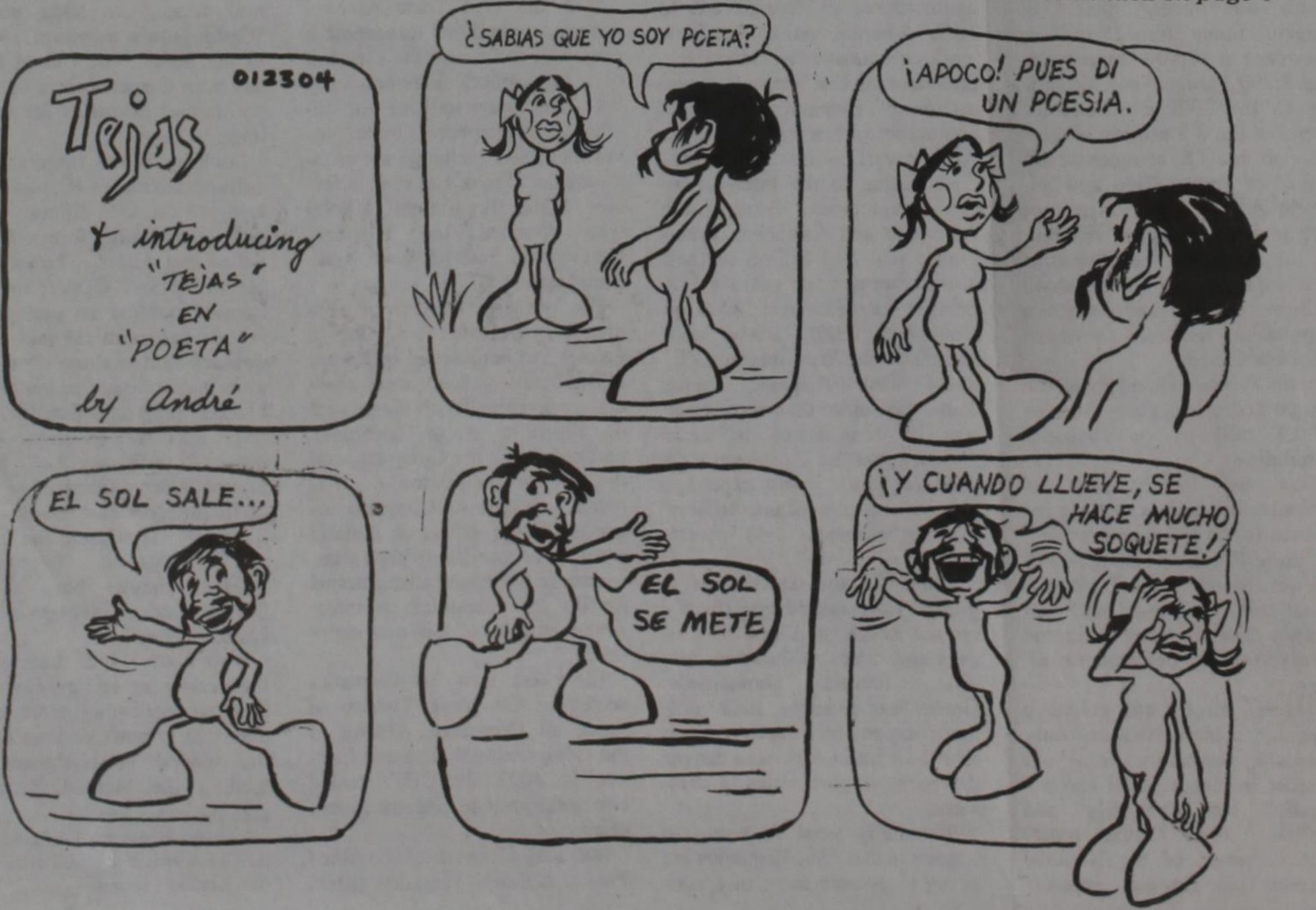
Hussein's brutal regime was not an adequate justification for war, and the administration did not seriously try to make it one until long after the war began and all the false justifications began to fall apart. There was no imminent threat. Hussein had no nuclear weapons, no arsenals of chemical or biological weapons, no connection to Sept. 11 and no plausible link to al Qaeda. We never should have gone to war for ideological reasons driven by politics and based on manipulated intelligence.

Vast resources have been spent on the war that should have been spent on priorities at home. Our forces are stretched thin. Precious lives have been lost. The war has made America more hated in the world and made the war on terrorism harder to win. As Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said in announcing the latest higher alert: "Al Qaeda's continued desire to carry out attacks against our homeland is perhaps greater now than at any point since September 11th."

The most fundamental decision a president ever makes is the decision to go to war. President Bush violated the trust that must exist between government and the people. If Congress and the American people had known the truth, America would never have gone to war in Iraq.

No president who does that to our country deserves to be re-elected.

Léa El Editor Primero
Lo mejor en Noticias que Importan



U.S. Registers 500 Undocumented Immigrants for Military Service

Nearly 500 undocumented immigrants, most of them Mexicans serving time in Maricopa, Arizona county jails, registered voluntarily in the roster for selective military service, police sources informed today.

A spokesperson for the Maricopa Sheriff's Department, James Tuttle, told Notimex that the immigrants registration had been held last week after the corporation's chief, Sheriff Joe Arpaio, announced that he would promote compliance with that proceeding.

"A hundred per cent (of the almost 500 immigrants) registered voluntarily for the military service selective roster. The majority of them are Mexican," and eventually they could be called to lend their services in the United States Army.

However, he admitted that the fact that they are registered in the aforementioned roster does not necessarily mean that

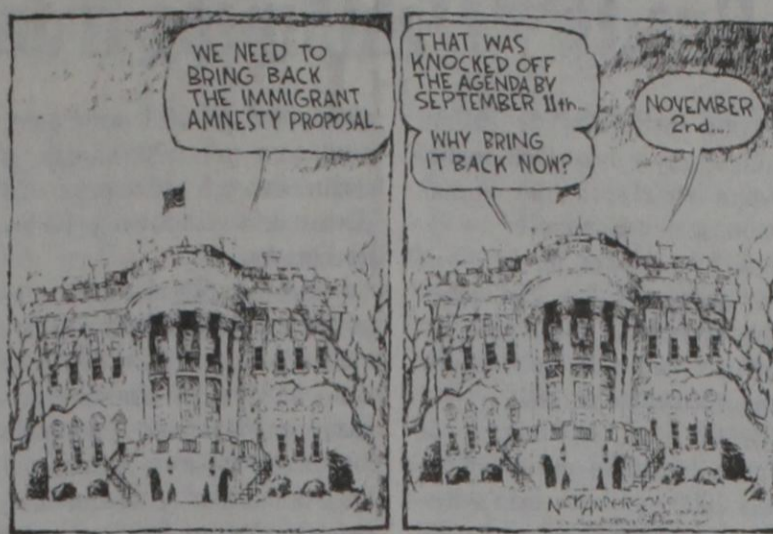
they will actually be called to active duty in the American armed forces.

The 1980 reinstatement of a federal law dictating the sanction of citizens and foreigners, independently of their migratory status, who reside within the United States and who have not registered in the military service selective roster.

This inscription process, which allows for recruiting civilian personnel into the army in extreme cases, has not been put into effect since its reinstatement and United States authorities assure that it will not be needed in spite of the war the country is fighting against international terrorism.

Tuttle explained that those nearly 500 undocumented immigrants in Maricopa jails who registered on the roster are being held for minor crimes sanctioned with jail terms that do not exceed one year.

"A large per cent of these for-



eigners (in custody) are accused of driving under the influence of alcohol, others for domestic violence, theft, damage to private property, as well as for violating their parole," he explained.

He assured that these immigrants had been previously informed about the need for registering for selective military duty, as well as about the possible benefits they could obtain in case of being recruited by the army once they obtain their freedom.

"They are aware they could eventually be benefited and obtain their U.S. citizenship", if

they served in the armed forces, he added.

Arpaio announced last week that he would promote registration for selective military service of undocumented immigrants in his jail in order to insure respect for existing laws at a time when his country has an ongoing fight against world terrorism.

Maricopa county Sheriff is also well known as the country's toughest sheriff, due to drastic measures to which he submits his prisoners, such as a forced labor, cold food, and wearing pastel-colored underwear.

got Edward Kennedy to support his education bill, but again he came up short. The Leave No Child Behind Act

Conventions from page 2

amazement: "I never knew we had so many people in the legal field."

While Washington, D.C., remains the most popular site for Latino gatherings to debate critical issues, Las Vegas gets substantial play, too. Notes Dominican American National Roundtable board president Cid Wilson, when DANR switched its venue from Washington, D.C., to Las Vegas's eastern counterpart, Atlantic City, N.J., last year, attendance doubled.

All work and no play makes Juan a dull boy, too.

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had a number of problems, given its focus on testing. It set restrictive standards which all students in all the different groups must meet. Inevitably, 100% of the students in any given year are not going to measure up and the schools will be punished. In spite of its restrictions, Kennedy sup-

continued on page 4

N.M. Gov. Responds to Bush in Spanish

Gov. Bill Richardson, in a nationally televised Spanish-language speech, said Tuesday that President Bush (news - web sites)'s policies have failed to help Hispanics.

In a Democratic National Committee (news - web sites)-sponsored response to the president's State of the Union speech, Richardson said nearly 300,000 Hispanics have lost jobs since Bush took office.

The governor's speech was broadcast by the Univision television network immediately after the president's address.

Richardson said Bush used "very optimistic and positive words to describe" many of the nation's problems.

"But unfortunately, he has failed to give us solutions, and he has lost numerous opportunities to present a plan that attacks our most serious problems," Richardson said in a translation of the speech released by his office.

The governor said Bush had "taken a small step forward"

with an immigration proposal, but the temporary worker program "does not help immigrant workers to obtain the golden dream: legalization and residency without impunity."

"Instead of being a way to a better life, the Bush plan represents a dead-end for immigrants, who after three years don't have a guarantee they'll be able to stay," he said. "The only thing they have to look forward to is the threat of deportation."

Richardson's speech comes as Democrats and Republicans are courting Hispanics, now the nation's largest minority group.

"If we do not register and vote, the two parties will not continue to pay attention to us. This presidential election is more important than ever before," Richardson said.

Richardson, who served as energy secretary and U.N. ambassador in the Clinton administration, is the nation's only Hispanic governor.

Bush's Immigration Plan:

Spinning as Usual?

By Domenico Maceri

After more than three years in office, Bush finally got down to business and began to deal with the question of immigration. Although details of his plan will have to go through Congress, Bush's proposal would allow immigrants to cross the border legally if jobs are awaiting them and at the same time would provide undocumented workers already in the US a way to regularize their immigration status.

Some Mexican officials, upon hearing of Bush's plan, were initially happy but were worried that it might be a campaign tactic to win the Latino vote in this year's presidential election.

Do Mexican officials have reason to mistrust Bush?

A review of the major events in his presidency suggests that there is indeed reason for skepticism. Take a look at Bush's pattern of spin and even outright deception.

Bush sold the war with Iraq

to the American public because of the threat of terrorism and the famous weapons of mass destruction which Saddam Hussein was said to possess. Since no weapons were found, the original rationale for the war switched and became a conflict to depose an evil dictator and establish democracy in Iraq.

Eliminating the Saddam Hussein regime turned out to be an extremely expensive proposition which the country can ill afford. Bush inherited a budget surplus and turned it into very serious budget deficits with his trillion dollar tax cuts. Although middle class people did receive small refunds, the vast majority of the benefits went to the top 1%. Yet, Bush managed to spin the tax cuts as a way of stimulating the economy, thus attempting to justify enriching the already rich.

A similar spin occurred with Bush's education plan. Bush

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Conclusion: Explosion Iminente de Influencia del Latino Estadounidense

Por Fresia Rodri+guez Cadavid

Con una contribución constante de la inmigración, cada población estadounidense con orígenes en América Latina forma su propia red visible y cada vez más fuerte de comunidades en los Estados Unidos. Tomados por separado, las cifras corren la gama entre 25 millones de mexicanos a 18,800 uruguayos y 8,800 paraguayos, según el Censo 2000 de los Estados Unidos. An-ada a eso números los 3.9 habitantes de la isla libre asociada de Puerto Rico y otros 3.4 millones de ciudadanos estadounidenses de as-

cendencia puertorriquen-a que viven en el continente, y los hispanos de esta nación llegan a un total de más de 40 millones - un número mayor que la población entera de nuestro vecino norteno, Canadá+.

En el hemisferio occidental, los Estados Unidos sigue so+lo a Me+xico (100.3 millones) en población hispana.

Por esta razón y por otros factores tales como la globalización y mayor influencia en el sector de comercio estadounidense, los visionarios hispanos de la política, el mundo

continúa en la página 6

Brady y Deholmme frente a frente en supertazón

Los mariscales de campo Tom Brady y Jake Delhomme, rivales en el próximo Supertazón, se ubicaron entre

los 15 mejores de la NFL, sin embargo, las cualidades más apreciadas de ambos no son sus números sino su liderazgo en el emparrillado.

Brady llegó a Patriotas de Nueva Inglaterra en la temporada 2000 como su sexta selección en el draft colegial, 199 global, procedente de la Universidad de Michigan donde cursó la carrera de Estudios Organizacionales.

Nacido el 3 de agosto de 1977 en San Mateo, California, Brady pasó su primera temporada detrás del emblemático pasador Drew

Bledsoe, quien resultó lesionado en los primeros juegos de la siguiente, la de 2001, con lo que cedió su puesto a su novel suplente.

Pese a que apenas contaba con experiencia como profesional, Brady cumplió con solvencia las órdenes del entrenador en jefe Bill

Belichick, junto con quien llevó a Nueva Inglaterra a ganar el primer Super Tazón de su historia.

El pasador egresado de la Universidad de Michigan completó 28 pases de 44 intentos para ganar 365 yardas, con uno de anotación y dos interceptados, para llevar a los "Pats" a un improbable triunfo por 20-17 sobre Careros de San Luis.

Esta campaña, Brady fue el número 10 en la clasificación por rating, con 85.9 puntos provenientes de 317 pases completos de 527 intentos, con

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efectividad del 60.1 por ciento, para tres mil 620 yardas, a razón de 6.8 por pase, 23 envíos de touchdown y 12 interceptados.

Asimismo, fue el cuarto mejor de la postemporada con rating de 74.6 gracias a que acumuló 438 yardas con 43 completos en 78 intentos, media de 5.6 yd por envío y eficacia del 55.1 por ciento, y aunque sólo conectó dos en las diagonales fue interceptado apenas una vez.

De por vida, Brady tiene un acumulado de 10 mil 233 yardas con 955 completos de mil 544 intentos, ha completado 69 en la "zona prometida" y le han interceptado 69 para un rating de 85.9 unidades.

La historia de Delhomme, por otra parte, es diametralmente distinta; seleccionado por Santos de Nueva Orleans en el draft de 1998, apenas pasó un año en la Liga Nacional de Fútbol Americano (NFL) antes que la franquicia decidiera enviarlo a la NFL Europa.

Por aquel entonces, un frustrado Delhomme fungió como suplente de Kurt Warner, a la postre campeón del Super Tazón con Careros de San Luis, con Almirantes de Amsterdam.

Nueva Orleans "repatrió" al pasador, egresado de la Universidad de Louisiana-Lafayette en 2002, pero al año siguiente firmó contrato como agente libre con su actual equipo, Panteras de Carolina, donde empezó como suplente de Rodney Peete, aunque ya en la segunda semana se convirtió

en el titular.

Con la escuadra "felina", Delhomme comenzó la campaña con una impresionante marca de cinco victorias al hilo, sin embargo, en la segunda parte de la temporada, el equipo fue dando tumbos y se coló a postemporada como líder de la mediocre División Sur de la Conferencia Nacional (NFC).

Al término de la campaña, el quarterback originario de Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, fue el número 15 en la clasificación por rating con 80.6 puntos con acumulado de tres mil

219 yardas, gracias a 266 peses completos en 449 intentos, 19 de ellos para anotación y 16 interceptados.

No obstante, ha tenido una drástica mejoría, al grado que fue el segundo mejor de la postemporada, al completar 43 de 69 envíos con

ganancia de 664 yd, con tres de anotación y uno interceptado, lo que significa rating de 102.6.

De por vida, Delhomme acumula tres mil 853 yd tras haber completado 316 de 535 envíos 22 a las diagonales pero 21 interceptados.

Bush's Immigration Plan

from page 3

ported the bill because of the funding which would have been welcome particularly in poor schools. Unfortunately, after the bill was passed, Bush eliminated the funding to the dismay of Kennedy.

The new Medicare drug benefit bill passed by Congress and signed by Bush also came up short of expectations of solving the senior citizens' predicament. Polls showed that a majority of Americans did not support it. The plan has serious restrictions and it is costly. Only seniors who need very expensive drugs and pharmaceutical companies will benefit. To qualify for 95% coverage, seniors will have to spend \$5,100 out of pocket. That is certainly a lot of money and many seniors on fixed incomes will not be able to afford it. Yet, Bush will spin it as having passed a drug plan for seniors.

In another related healthcare issues, Bush also promised a lot and delivered very little. His promise of fifteen billion dollars to deal with the AIDS epidemic in Africa and the Caribbean left much to be desired. Instead of making the funds available at once when the money would be of most benefit, it will be staggered. In addition, instead of channeling the funds through The Global

Fund, a UN sponsored agency created to fight AIDS and other diseases around the world, Bush created a US agency which will disperse the funds. In so doing, a new American bureaucracy maintains control, which will in all likelihood not provide funds to countries that might use the money to educate people about condom usage — an important tool in eradicating AIDS. Again, although AIDS activists were initially enthusiastic about the amount of the funds, the reality has been a disappointment.

Bush's plan to solve the immigration issue is not all bad nor all good. It could be a first step and he deserves credit for putting the matter on the front burner. It may be that Bush will get some immigration legislation through Congress. However, just like with his "other" accomplishments, benefits to society will end up being minimal at best.

Mexican officials are right to be skeptical that the President's plan is a political ploy particularly in light of the fact that its chief architect is Karl Rove, the president's political strategist. Just like Bush's other "accomplishments," real immigration reform will have to wait until a new president lives in the White House.

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-A Word-

"BLOOD"

Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, relatives and others are found daily mourning the deaths of countless that had lost their lives while serving in the arm forces of this great nation. Some here in the home land, as Fire Fighters, Police Officers, Medical Personal or our local citizens who selflessly got involved. The ones who lived were in need of blood while many others ended not as lucky; about four million of them who die annually because of the shortage of blood supply.

There is no excuse for not donating blood unless one is turned down. The numbers of deaths because of the shortage should be enough reason for anyone to want to donate. The big picture here is that blood gives life and that without it death is inevitable; so the logic thing should automatically be to give!

Symbolic as it may seem to some, the death, where the Lord Jesus Christ gave his blood for the lives of the world should teach us something; a small portion of us, together giving a

with a taco for one of us, a taco which in time became a prize.

At first, Dad would give his lunch box to anyone of us whether if it had a taco left or not. This got Mother to add more tacos to his lunch box so that he would have a taco to bring back home. To keep us from fighting over the lunch box, the taco was given to the one who had less given Mom a hard day.

Our Father's lunch became even larger because more of us were becoming better behaved kids and more tacos were then expected to be brought home as awards. The evening wait would start to end as we all silently stood and listen for our name to be called out, to reach into the opened lunch box for the reward, a "taco pasiado."

*A "taco pasiado" term comes to many in different stories, but is in all a taco that has been taken from one place to another to be eaten there but survived and ends else where or at it's former origin.

little brings life to many. Since the beginning of time the shading of blood was life for man. In the actions of the historical covenants to the opposite results which lead to death by not doing what was right not able to master what was wrong, (Genesis 4:10).

(Hebrews 11:4); "By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commanded as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead." A death that could had been avoided by doing what was right and mastering what was wrong.

(Genesis:7), The lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." By knowing that one can save a life, but chooses not to take part is wrong and believe it or not one will be found accountable for such deaths. If the words asked "when I was hungry you did not give me any to eat; are words for eternal judgment, how much more such words if asked; when I needed blood to live you did not give me any to live."

So give blood by faith; it is but a small sacrifice and I am sure that God himself will speak good of you. If there is anything wrong or worse in not giving blood, it is giving it with bad intentions or not in good faith, even God would not care for it. How we treat others in love is what is right and in that it surpasses all the law and the prophets. "For greater love has no man than he who lays down his life for his friends, (the New Testament, the last blood Covenant for life). Give in faith it will be credited as righteousness.

a friend

**Note: any comments are welcome to 1502 Avenue M-Lubbock, To. 79401 attn: A Word

Pope Warns World Leaders Against "Peace by Force"

Pope John Paul II cautioned world leaders on Wednesday against obtaining peace through the use of military force, a day after US President George W. Bush resolutely defended his decision to wage war in Iraq.

"The world ardently aspires towards peace, needs peace, today as yesterday, but often searches for it by improper means, sometimes even through recourse to violence."

"In such conditions, man lives with a heart troubled by fear and uncertainty," the pontiff said during his weekly general audience at the Vatican. Bush used his annual State of the Union address on Tuesday to defend robustly his decision to invade Iraq and said the United States would never seek permission to wage war in self-defense.

"America will never seek a permission slip to defend the security of our country," said the pope.

John Paul II had waged a lengthy diplomatic campaign to avert the US-led war in Iraq.

The pope will get an opportunity to restate his steadfast opposition to the conflict in talks with US Vice President Dick Cheney slated for next Tuesday during a visit by Cheney to Italy and the Vatican.

El Papa no cree en una paz obtenida con la fuerza

El Papa Juan Pablo II advirtió este miércoles a los líderes del mundo que no cree en una paz obtenida con la fuerza, en el curso de la audiencia general celebrada en el Vaticano.

"El mundo aspira ardentemente a la paz, necesita la paz, tanto ayer como hoy, pero a menudo la busca por medios impropios, recorriendo a la fuerza o con el equilibrio entre potencias opuestas", afirmó en su discurso.

"En esas condiciones el hombre vive con el corazón afligido por el miedo y la incertidumbre", agregó.

El Papa pidió a todos los católicos que "contribuyan todos juntos y en forma decisiva para que la humanidad pueda superar las razones de sus divisiones y conflictos".

"Seamos auténticos obreros de la paz en medio de aquellos con los que vivimos", clamó.

Juan Pablo II apeló a los católicos a no "perder la esperanza ante las viejas y nuevas dificultades" y a enfrentarlas "con paciencia y comprensión".

El mensaje del Papa fue interpretado por algunos como una respuesta al discurso del presidente estadounidense George W. Bush, quien el martes aseguró que la guerra en Irak forzó a Libia a anunciar el abandono de su programa de armas de destrucción masiva, e instó a Corea del Norte a hacer lo mismo con su programa nuclear y a Irán a responder a los reclamos de la comunidad internacional.

El Pontífice se opuso con toda su poder moral a la guerra en Irak y ha criticado en numerosas ocasiones el uso de la fuerza para resolver los conflictos.

El Papa, de 83 años, que sufre la enfermedad de Parkinson y que apareció en relativa buena forma, rezó al término de la audiencia para que los responsables de las naciones y las organizaciones internacionales trabajen eficazmente a favor de la paz y "por aquellos que sufren las consecuencias de la guerra, las injusticias y la opresión".

Ante unos 5.000 peregrinos reunidos en el aula Pablo VI, el Papa bendijo también a las ovejas que darán la lana para las sagradas estolas episcopales.

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During his audience on Wednesday, John Paul II called on all Christians "to together make a decisive contribution so that humanity can overcome the reasons for division and conflicts."

"Be authentic workers for peace among those with whom we live."

He said for that it was necessary to promote Christian unity. He invited Christians "not to be discouraged when faced with old and new difficulties" on the path to reunification, "but to tackle them with patience and understanding."

The pope, who is 83 and suffers from Parkinson's disease, appeared in relatively good form during the audience which was attended by some five thousand pilgrims.

At its conclusion, he prayed for leaders and officials from international organisations working for peace as well as for those "who suffer because of war, injustice and oppression".

In keeping with a Vatican tradition on the feast day of Saint Agnes, he blessed several lambs whose wool will be used to make the "pallium", the stole worn by Catholic archbishops as a sign of their communion with the pope.

Papa evita hablar sobre "La Pasión de Cristo" de Mel Gibson

Uno de los colaboradores del papa Juan Pablo II desmintió que el pontífice haya elogiado el nuevo filme del actor y director australiano Mel Gibson, "La Pasión de Cristo", según informó la agencia católica de noticias Catholic news service (CNS).

Cindy Wooden, corresponsal de CNS, órgano de la conferencia episcopal americana, indicó este martes a la AFP que el secretario personal del papa, monseñor Stanislaw Dziwisz, le aseguró que Juan Pablo II

Más de la mitad de los adultos diabéticos en el país son obesos y muchos padecen de hipertensión y de colesterol alto, además de presentar los elevados niveles de glucosa en la sangre que ocasiona su enfermedad, señaló un estudio gubernamental.

"Es preciso divulgar la noción de que los médicos y los pacientes necesitan hacer mayores esfuerzos", dijo Catherine Cowie, investigadora del Instituto Nacional de Diabetes y Enfermedades Digestivas y Renales, que dirigió el estudio.

En la diabetes, el organismo no produce o no utiliza adecuadamente la hormona llamada insulina, que regula los niveles de azúcar en la sangre. Muchos casos pueden ser controlados con medicinas, dieta y ejercicios, y los pacientes deben vigilar meticulosamente

Pope Did Not Approve Mel Gibson's Christ Film

An archbishop close to Pope John Paul II has denied reports that the pope gave his approval to a film by US actor/director Mel Gibson depicting the last hours of Jesus of Nazareth, the Catholic News Service (CNS) said on Tuesday.

Quoting the pope's personal secretary Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, a CNS correspondent told AFP that John Paul II had not endorsed the film. The Vatican has declined to comment on the matter.

The archbishop confirmed reports that John Paul II was given an advance viewing of the film, entitled "The Passion of Christ" and set to become one of the most controversial films of 2004, but denied that he had expressed an opinion about the work.

The pope "has made no declaration to anyone. He does not emit judgments about this type of art," CNS correspon-

dent Cindy Wooden quoted the archbishop as saying.

Britain's Daily Telegraph newspaper reported last week that the pope had declared: "It is as it was", following the viewing.

According to the paper, Vatican officials said the verdict showed the pope considered the film to be a faithful depiction of the suffering and death of Christ as described in the New Testament.

"The Passion of Christ" is scheduled for general release on February 24, which is Ash Wednesday or the start of the Easter commemoration in the western Christian Churches.

In the United States, the Jewish Anti-Defamation League, has stated that by its portrayal of the Jews as the killers of Jesus, the movie could fuel "hatred, bigotry and anti-Semitism"

como escribieron varios medios de prensa.

Mel Gibson narra en "La Pasión de Cristo", rodada en Italia, las últimas 12 horas de la vida de Jesús de Nazaret.

Mel Gibson dirige con ésta su segunda película, después de la oscarizada "Braveheart" (1995).

El segundo filme del Gibson da que hablar ya antes de ser estrenado, dado que algunas organizaciones judías denunciaron que atribuye a los judíos la responsabilidad de la muerte de Cristo.

"no se había pronunciado sobre el filme" de Gibson.

Dziwisz le confirmó a la periodista que el pontífice había asistido a comienzos de diciembre a una proyección privada de la película de Gibson, "pero no hizo ninguna declaración al respecto ante nadie", dijo, agregando que el papa "no se pronuncia sobre ese género de arte", dijo.

El prelado polaco, que trabaja con el papa desde hace 25 años, desmintió que Juan Pablo II haya apreciado la película,

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WHAT EXACTLY IS HOME CARE?

Home care includes a broad range of health and social services which are provided in the home to individuals who are chronically ill, disabled or recovering from an illness or injury. The agency which coordinates and provides the various services is usually known as a "home health agency".

A home health agency provides "skilled services". These include nursing, social services, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech/swallowing therapy. Respiratory therapy may also be available.

Non skilled services are provided to help you enjoy life at home as much as possible. These services include help with bathing, dressing and eating, as well as light housekeeping.

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to provide comprehensive home health care which focuses on rehabilitation and education for the patient, caregiver and family.

We would appreciate being invited to your home to be your home care agency.



Diabetes y Descuido Hace Pareja

colecsterol. No obstante, casi un 52 por ciento de los diabéticos en la encuesta del 2000 tenía niveles de colesterol superiores a los 200, un descenso respecto al 66 por ciento del sondeo anterior.

El número de participantes obesos aumentó del 42 al 55 por ciento.

El estudio aparece en la edición de hoy de la revista Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

En todo el país, unos 13 millones de adultos y niños padecen de diabetes --una cifra que duplica el total de 1990-- y probablemente unos cinco millones más presentan casos no diagnosticados del mal, según datos del gobierno.

Hispanic Teens Face High Chances of Heart Disease, Diabetes

An alarming number of Hispanic pre-teens have at least one risk factor for cardiovascular disease or type 2 diabetes.

That's what two University of Southern California (USC) studies say in the January issue of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism.

One study found three in 10 Hispanic pre-teens have metabolic syndrome, which comprises numerous risk factors for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. The risk factors associated with metabolic syndrome include: high blood pressure; low levels of HDL ("good") cholesterol; central obesity; elevated triglycerides (a fat linked to heart disease); and impaired glucose tolerance (abnormally high blood sugar levels, also called pre-diabetes).

This high rate of metabolic syndrome may be due to the fact that obesity is particularly common among Hispanics, the researchers suggest. They note

that 35 percent of young Hispanics are overweight, about twice as many as a decade ago. Obesity is linked with insulin resistance, which is linked to metabolic changes and increased risk of disease.

The second study found that nearly three of 10 Hispanic pre-teens (28 percent) already have impaired glucose tolerance (pre-diabetes), putting them at a heightened risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

"Obesity is now a critical, common nutritional problem in children," researcher Michael I. Goran, a professor of preventive medicine and physiology and biophysics at USC's Keck School of Medicine, says in a prepared statement.

"These studies show that the likely common pathway linking obesity to increased risk for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease is insulin resistance. Our results show that this link is established early in life," Goran says.



Teaching, Caring, Healing...for Life
Today, a father teaches his children to paint.

It takes a steady hand and can be a very delicate process. The same is true of his work, where Texas Tech Medical Center is on the leading edge of minimally invasive vascular surgery; a new way to repair blood vessels that lead to the heart. In fact, the program is one of four in the nation in which other surgeons come to learn these advanced techniques. But that will all continue tomorrow, right now he's just being dad. The physicians at Texas Tech Medical CenterTeaching, Caring, Healing for Life.

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WHAT ARE THE MEDICARE HOME CARE REQUIREMENTS?

In order to be eligible for home care:

- <> Patient must be homebound (See below)
- <> Care is medically necessary
- <> Care is part-time or intermittent (Usually less than 35 hours per week)
- <> The patient requires at least one skilled professional service (nurse, physical therapist, speech therapist, etc.)
- <> Care is provided by a Medicare certified home care agency
- <> Care is provided under a physician's plan of care
- <> Services are delivered in the patient's primary place of residence.

MEDICARE HOMEBOUND STATUS CRITERIA

- <> Leaving the home would require "considerable and taxing effort".
- <> Patient can leave home only for infrequent, short absences. (For example, medical or hairdresser appointments, attendance at Medical model adult day care)
- <> A person may be temporarily homebound while recovering from surgery, serious illness or trauma.

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Panthers & Patriots Face-Off at the Super Bowl - 38th

Quarterbacks Tom Brady and Jake Delhomme, rivals at the upcoming Super Bowl, are counted among the top 15 in the NFL, however, their most outstanding qualities are not their numbers but their ability to lead on the field.

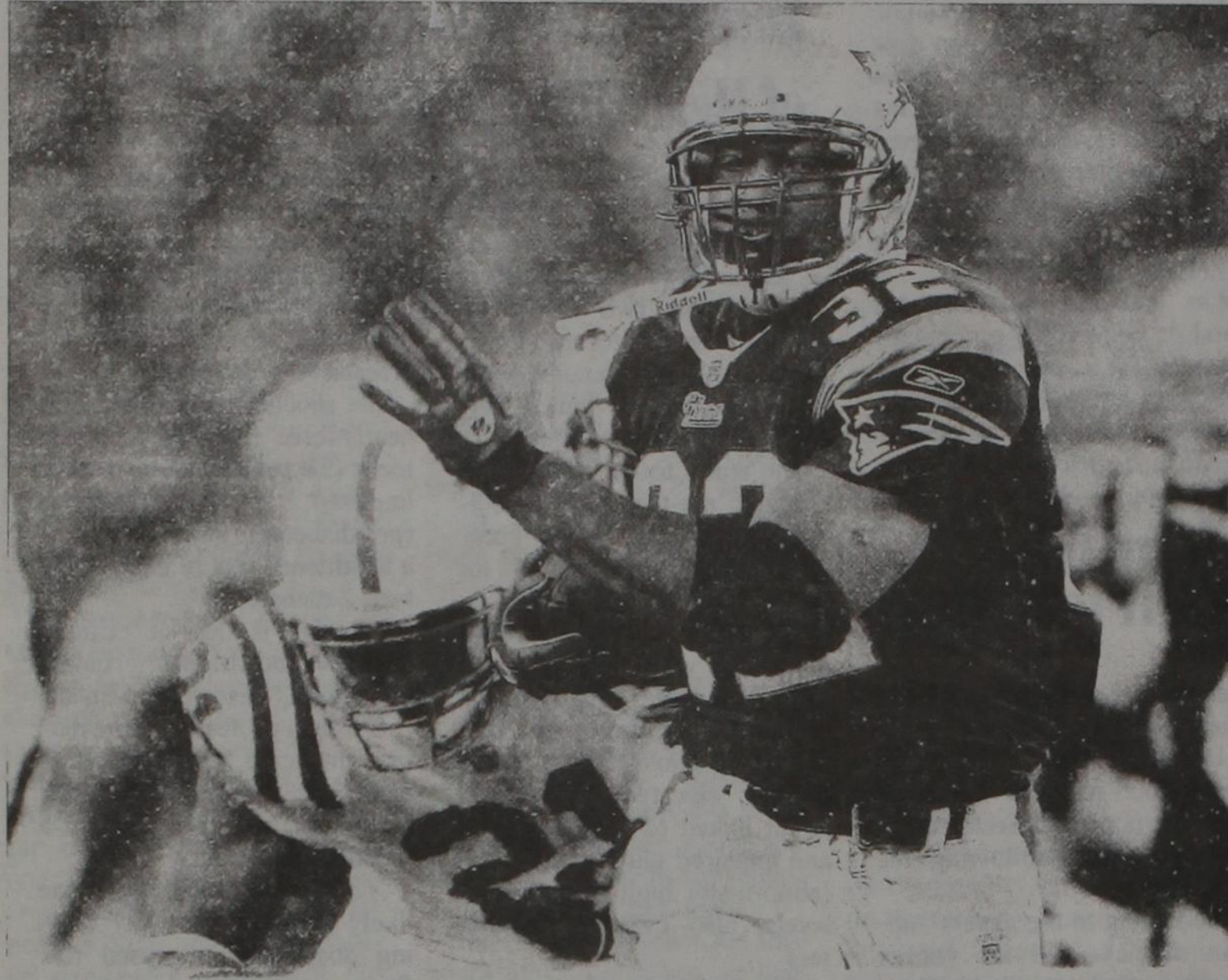
Brady arrived to the New England Patriots in the 2000 season as their sixth college

attempts, a 60.1 per cent effectiveness, for three thousand 620 yards, at a rate of 6.8 per pass, 23 touchdown passes and 12 interceptions.

Likewise, he was the fourth best in post-season rating 74.6 thanks to accumulating 438 yards with 43 completions against 78 attempts, an average

he signed as a free agent with his current team, Carolina Panthers, where he started off as replacement for Rodney Peete, although by the second week he had already become the starter.

In the "feline" squad, Delhomme started off the campaign with an astounding re-



draft selection, 199 global, from the University of Michigan where he majored in Organizational Studies.

Born August 3, 1977 in San Mateo, California, Brady spent his first season behind emblematic passer Drew Bledsoe, who was injured in the first

of 5.6 yards per pass and 55.1 per cent effectiveness, and although he only connected twice on the diagonal he was only intercepted once.

In his lifetime stats, Brady has accumulated 10 thousand 233 yards with 955 completions against one thousand 544

cord of five consecutive wins, nevertheless, in the second season, the team stumbled barely making it into the post-season as leader of the mediocre Southern Division of the National Conference (NFC).

By the end of the campaign, the quarterback, originally from Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, was classified number 15 for rating 80.6 points having accumulated three thousand 219 yards, thanks to 266 completed passes out of 449 attempts, 19 of them to score and 16 interceptions.

Notwithstanding, he has had a major improvement, to the degree that he ranked second over -all in the post-season, completing 43 of his 60 passes, gaining 664 yards, scoring three touchdowns and one interception, which means a rating of 102.6.

In his lifetime stats, Delhomme boasts three thousand 853 yards with 316 completions out of 535 attempts, 22 on the diagonal but 21 interceptions.



games of the following season (2001), having to surrender his post to his novel substitute.

In spite of his almost null professional experience, Brady measured up to the orders of his coach, Bill Belichick, with whom he took New England all the way to its first ever Super Bowl.

The quarterback, University of Michigan graduate, completed 28 passes out of 44 attempts to gain 365 yards, scoring one touchdown, and two interceptions, leading the "Pats" to an improbable 20-17 win over the Saint Louis Rams.

During this campaign Brady was ranked number 10 over-all, scoring 85.9 points for completing 317 passes out of 527

attempts, he has completed 69 in the "promised zone" and he has been intercepted 69 for a rating of 85.9 units.

Delhomme's story, on the other hand, is completely different; selected by the New Orleans Saints in the 1998 draft, he barely spent a year in the National Football League (NFL) before the club decided to send him to the NFL Europe.

In those days, a frustrated Delhomme served as substitute for Kurt Warner, later Super Bowl champ with the Saint Louis Rams, with the Amsterdam Admirals.

New Orleans "repatriated" its passer, a University of Louisiana-Lafayette graduate, in 2002, but the following year

Conclusion: viene de la pagina 4

academico y el comercio internacional pronostican con certeza una explosión dramática en la participación de latinos en los asuntos hemisféricos.

"El tener comunidades hispanas fuertes y unidas tiene un resultado positivo que es mayor influencia nuestra a todo nivel - localmente, en el hemisferio y globalmente", proyecta Anne Alonzo, vice presidenta principal del National Foreign Trade Council.

Una forma de especificar como los latinos ya tienen un control directo en sus países de origen es mediante los millones de dólares que envían "a casa" cada año. Los parientes en los Estados Unidos, casi todos inmigrantes, son ahora la fuente principal de asistencia extranjera en América Latina, indica Juan González, columnista en Nueva York, presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispanos y autor de Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America.

Según cifras del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, los inmigrantes latinoamericanos y caribeños enviaron \$32 mil millones a sus países de origen el año pasado - un aumento de 17.6 por ciento del 2001. Un estudio realizado en noviembre del 2002 por el Pew Hispanic Center en Washington, D.C., encontró que más de tres cuartos de las remesas a América Latina y el Caribe se utilizaron en gastos de vivienda diarios. Lo restante fue destinado al desarrollo comunitario y la inversión.

Si bien los grupos de origen nacional se han dirigido en particular a temas sociales y políticos y a crisis en términos de los países específicos de origen, González proyecta que abarcarán dramáticamente actividades de un panorama más amplio gracias al impulso de oportunidades comerciales en Latinoamérica.

"Poco a poco lo que va a ocurrir es que los hispanos de los Estados Unidos van a preocuparse más por la situación en general en América Latina, y en cuanto los vínculos económicos aumenten, los latinos se volverán más cotizados por las empresas internacionales que quieren continuar incursionando en ese mercado", opina.

Con el Tratado de Libre Comercio de las Américas próximo a hacerse realidad en el 2005 y con la creación de un mercado común del hemisferio, "son incalculables las oportunidades de mayor comercio, inversión e intercambio hemisféricos", declara Frank Gómez, anterior

funcionario del Departamento de Estado, fundador del Hispanic Council on Foreign Relations.

El número creciente de hispanos que participan en la política es también una puerta a mayor influencia en términos de liderazgo diplomático y comercial. "Con el crecimiento del número de funcionarios elegidos hispanos, en particular en el Congreso, y con la inclinación natural de miembros hispanos del Congreso hacia los asuntos extranjeros en general, y hacia América Latina en particular, proyectamos simplemente que los hispanos tendrán un perfil más acentuado en los asuntos interamericanos", mantiene Gómez.

Veinte y cuatro escanos del Congreso los ocupan hispanos ahora. De ellos, 20 son miembros del Caucus Hispano Congresional, todos demócratas. En el 2002, el Caucus creó dos grupos de trabajo de enfoque en los asuntos globales.

Presidente del Concilio Nacional de La Raza, Raúl Yzaguirre, ofrece la siguiente proyección: "Yo vislumbro mayor integración política y económica, en particular económica, empezando con México, la cual ya es enorme y que se extenderá más y más dentro del hemisferio."

"[La mayor integración] llevará a un nuevo enfoque", agrega, cambiando la atención de Washington agudamente hacia el sur. Los Estados Unidos ha sido eurocéntrico en cuanto a perspectivas y prioridades hace ya demasiado tiempo, indica.

Con vistas a los atributos lingüísticos y culturales que los hispanos pueden traer a colación en la política extranjera, Juan Walte, anterior editor extranjero y miembro de la junta editorial del periódico USA TODAY, señala que los latinos tienen una comprensión de los matices políticos y sociales además de la historia de la región que sin duda será de beneficio importante a los Estados Unidos.

Hace la siguiente pregunta: "¿Qué mejor para influenciar la política estadounidense hacia América Latina - en particular en cuanto a los temas económicos - que los latinos?" Enfatiza una dimensión importante: "Los latinos - los nacidos en los Estados Unidos o los inmigrantes de América Latina".

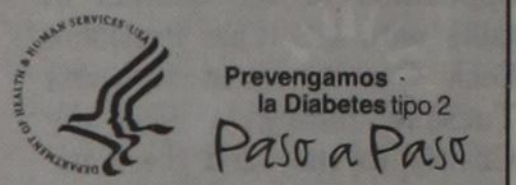
¿Qué mejor? Los latinos estadounidenses encuentran evidente la respuesta. Y se vuelven más confiados que tardará poco el establecimiento federal, incluyendo el Departamento de Estado, en darse cuenta también.

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Un mensaje del Programa Nacional de Educación en Diabetes, un programa conjunto de los Institutos Nacionales de la Salud y los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades.

EL EDITOR

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EL ANUNCIO de la REUNIÓN VISTA PÚBLICA con la JUNTA DIRECTIVA EL DEPARTAMENTO DE TEJAS del TRANSPORTE Y LA CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK

EL MEJOR PROPUESTO (inclusive el ensanchamiento) DE LA CARENTERA 50TH DE LOOP AL OESTE 289 ESTE al CARENTERA de SLIDE EN LA CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK, TEJAS

EL JUEVES, el 19 de febrero de 2004 la Escuela Primaria WESTER en 4602 Avenida de Chicago en Lubbock

La Casa Abierta Empezará en 6:30 de la tarde. La Reunion Pública Empezará en 7:00 de la tarde. Ultimo Dia para Someterse los Comentarios: el lunes, el 1 de marzo de 2004, a las 5:00 de la tarde.

El Departamento de Tejas del Transporte y la Ciudad de Lubbock recibirá una Casa Abierta que empieza en 6:30 de la tarde y conduce una reunión pública a las 7:00 de la tarde, el jueves, el 19 de febrero de 2004. La Casa Abierta y la Reunión Pública se reunirá en cafetería en la Primaria Wester localizado en la 4602 Avenida de Chicago en Lubbock, Tejas. El propósito de esta reunión pública deberá presentar los planes del Departamento de Tejas del Transporte y la ciudad de Lubbock para la mejora propuesta de la Calle 50th y para recibir el comentario público en estos planes. Los límites del proyecto propuesto extienden de Loop al oeste 289 en el Camino de Slide en Lubbock.

El propósito del proyecto propuesto en la Calle 50th deberá mejorar la movilidad urbana en polos de desarrollo occidentales de Lubbock, mejorar las condiciones de la calle, y mejorar la seguridad convirtiendo el diseño existente de la calle de que de un local, dos calle de senda a un diseño arterial principal de la calle con anchura suficiente para acomodar cuatro sendas del viaje y un centro, senda continua de vuelta de izquierda. El diseño propuesto de la calle es un diseño típico para calles arteriales principales en Lubbock. El derecho existente típico de anchura de manera es aproximadamente 60 pies (95 pies máximo). La ciudad de Lubbock comprará suficiente derecho de la manera de proporcionar una anchura típica propuesta del derecho de la manera de 90 pies (102.5 pies máximo).

Los mapas y los dibujos que muestran la ubicación de proyecto y diseño, un horario tentativo para la construcción de carretera, proyecta los estudios ambientales, y otra información acerca del proyecto propuesto se demostrará en la vista. Esta información está en el archivo y disponible para la inspección y copiando (en el costo impuesto sobre las ventas positivas) en la oficina de Sr. Keith Craig, P. E. El Administrador del Contrato, el Departamento de Tejas del Transporte, localizado en la 135 Carentera de Slaton en Lubbock (806-748-4574). Las copias de un mapa y los dibujos que muestran la ubicación de proyecto y diseño y una copia del documento ambiental de la evaluación para este proyecto están también disponibles para la inspección en la ciudad edificio municipal en 1625 13th Street en Lubbock.

La información acerca del Estado Programa de Ayuda de Recolocación des, los beneficios y los servicios para desplaza y la información con respecto a la oficina de ayuda de recolocación se discutirá. Esta información así como información en el horario tentativo para la adquisición del derecho de la manera que se pueden obtener de Sr. Ed Bucy, Agente de Derecho de Manera para la ciudad de Lubbock en 806-775-2352 (1625 13th Street, Lubbock Edificio Municipal).

Las personas interesadas en asistir esta reunión que tiene las necesidades especiales de comunicaciones o satisfacción se alento a contactar Joslyn Tomlinson, Especialista Ambiental, 806-748-4377, por lo menos siete días antes de la vista de público. Desde que la reunión pública se conducirá en inglés, los pedidos para intérpretes de idioma u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación se deben hacer por lo menos siete días antes de la vista de público. El Departamento de Tejas del Transporte hará cada esfuerzo razonable para acomodar estas necesidades. El dirección de envío es: Ms. Joslyn Tomlinson, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, 135 Slaton Road, Lubbock, Texas 79404-5201.

Los comentarios verbales y escritos se pueden presentar en la Casa Abierta, Reunión Vista de Público, o sometidos dentro de diez días—por el lunes, el 1 de marzo de 2004, a las 5:00 de la tarde. -Después de la Reunión del Pública a Sr. Keith Craig, P. E. El Administrador del contrato, el Departamento de Tejas del Transporte localizado en 135 Caretera de Slaton en Lubbock o por el correo a Mr. Keith Craig, P. E., Contract Administrator, Texas Department of Transportation, 135 Slaton Road, Lubbock, Texas 79404-5201.



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