

Teacher Bids To Unseat Gramm

AUSTIN, Texas - Victor Morales has \$9,000 in the bank in his bid to unseat Phil Gramm. The Republican senator has \$3.5 million.

But help is on the way for the underdog Morales, a Dallas-area high school government teacher who took a leave of absence from his job to campaign for the Senate.

"We will help him in every way we can beat Phil Gramm," Bill White, state Democratic chairman, said after Morales won the Democratic nomination in a runoff Tuesday.

Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey, chairman of the national Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, arrived in Texas on Wednesday to spend three days on Morales' behalf.

"Victor Morales is living the American dream," Kerrey said. "He taught his students to believe in the United States' system of government, and now he is living and leading those lessons by example."

Morales, 46, defeated Rep. John Bryant despite Bryant's support from such Democratic heavyweights as former Gov. Ann Richards.

In another upset, Republican Rep. Greg Laughlin was defeated in a congressional



Victor Morales logro ganar la nominacion del Partido Democraata este pasado Martes. Morales logro ganar la nominacion con poco dinero y con un gran espiritu. Ahora llegar a la carrera para enfrentar a el poderoso Phil Gramm. Con solo \$9,000 en el banco y encontra Gramm quien tiene \$3.5 millones. Morales dice que el siguera trabajando duro hasta la victoria

primary after switching parties last summer.

He lost to another party switcher: Ron Paul, a former Republican congressman who ran for president on the 1988 Libertarian ticket.

Paul faces lawyer Charles "Lefty" Morris in November in the largely rural district, which stretches from Austin to the Gulf of Mexico.

In the Senate race, Morales is eager for party support after

starting his campaign with \$8,000 in his own savings. He estimates he has \$9,000 in the bank, compared to Gramm's \$3.5 million.

"I don't know how long it's

Continued on Page 5

News Brief

Beatings Fuel Immigration Furor

A deadly truck crash and a chase leading to a nationally televised billy-clubbing within one week have raised concerns that illegal immigrants are using more risky methods to cross the border in California, reports the Chicago Tribune.

Immigrants-rights advocates argue that the nation's get-tough climate has led more illegal immigrants to try back-road dashes and other dangerous methods to enter the country, while critics contend only tougher policies will prevent the kind of tragedy and confrontation seen along the border last week.

"Had our immigration laws been enforced, these incidents would never have happened," Barbara Coe, founder and chairwoman of the California Coalition for Immigration Reform, said Sunday.

While a debate rages over the deputies' behavior, the two cases also have focused attention on the activities of immigrant smugglers, the "coyotes" who guide illegal immigrants clandestinely into the country with little regard for the safety of their customers or others.

"You can't get through the mountains without a guide, and these guides are ruthless," said Ron Henley, a Border Patrol supervisor. "There was no reason for that truck driver on Saturday to do what he did. This was callous disregard for human life."

More than 6,000 people marched near Los Angeles City Hall Saturday to show support for the two illegal immigrants beaten by the deputies. Politicians and immigrants-rights advocates addressing the crowd said such dangerous incidents are inevitable as long as foreigners have an economic incentive to get into the country.

Some labeled as hypocritical and inhumane the nation's unfriendly climate toward illegal immigrants.

"As long as our California economy is built on sweatshop labor and the exploitation of farm labor in the field, we will continue to see the kind of human desperation that makes people leave their homelands and risk their lives to work for little pay and less dignity," said Democratic state Sen. Tom Hayden, addressing the crowd.

Across town, a smaller group of anti-immigration activists marched near the Federal Building. They called for stricter enforcement, including the construction of a border fence and more official deportations.

HUD Settles MD Segregation Suit

Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros said Monday the government has agreed to settle a lawsuit alleging a decades-long pattern of racial segregation in Baltimore's public housing by helping more than 1,300 poor, mostly black families move to the suburbs, reports Associated Press.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development also will create a program to help an additional 814 families become homeowners, he said.

HUD has embarked upon an ambitious program to knock down high-rise buildings containing 30,000 units in scores of cities across the country and replace them with a mix of public and market-rate housing.

The settlement ends a lawsuit the American Civil Liberties Union filed in January 1995 against HUD and Baltimore on behalf of tenants of the city's public housing high-rises, which are slowly being torn down.

The ACLU charged that plans to rebuild on the sites of the demolished buildings would continue a 60-year pattern of packing Baltimore's public housing residents into the inner city.

The settlement, which requires federal court approval, also would clear the way for Baltimore to become the first city nationwide to tear down all of its public housing high-rises.

The proposed agreement calls for 781 units to be rebuilt on the site of the demolitions. Federal housing certificates will be issued to help 1,342 families who volunteer to move to Baltimore's suburbs. An additional 814 families also will receive certificates for the new program to help them become homeowners, Cisneros said.

The certificate program is modeled on similar programs in Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas and Hartford, Conn.

In US, Gunfire Kills a Child Every 92 Minutes

The Children's Defense Fund said Monday a bullet cuts down an American child every 92 minutes, and almost twice as many children died from gunfire in 1993 as a decade before, reports Scripps Howard News Service.

The 5,751 children under age 20 who died from gunfire in 1993 represent the highest annual total since the National Center for Health Statistics began collecting numbers on child gun deaths in 1984.

The grim total includes 3,661 homicides, 1,460 suicides and 526 accidents, as well as 104 deaths which authorities were unable to classify. Guns killed more than 40,000 Americans of all ages in 1993.

Although more than half (2,935) the child gun victims were white and 2,622 were black, black youths ages 15-19 suffered the greatest proportional toll per 100,000. Young black men were five times as likely as white youths the same age to be gun victims and 10 times as likely to be murdered by a gun.

The gun victims also included 116 children under age 5, 85 of whom were murdered. More preschoolers died from gun violence in 1993 than police officers or U.S. soldiers killed in the line of duty, the children's advocacy group said.

"The morally unthinkable killing of children has not only become routine but is increasing in the world's leading democracy," said Marian Wright Edelman, CDF president.

"What will it take for parents and religious, community and political leaders to stand up and say 'enough'?"

The 1993 toll represented a 94 percent increase in gunfire deaths among children since 1983, and the 372 additional deaths from 1992 was a 7 percent increase.

A study of child death statistics from 1986-1992 by researchers at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, released earlier this year, noted that guns have become second only to motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death among children. Gun homicide alone claims more young victims than drowning each year.

Edelman called for a number of steps to keep children safe.

Continued on Page 3

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West Texas' Oldest Weekly Spanish Newspaper

"El Respeto Al Derecho Ajeno Es La Paz"

Lic Benito Juarez ESTABLECIDO 1977 ESTABLISHED 1977

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La Busqueda De Dos Millones De Maestros deberia Empezar En Las Aulas de Clases

Por Fernando Trulin IV

Dentro de los diez años próximos, los Estados Unidos necesitarán dos millones de nuevos maestros en las aulas de clases de sus escuelas públicas.

La tercera parte de los maestros de hoy está llegando a sus años de jubilación. Y un eco estridente en el decenio de 1990 de la explosión demográfica de los decenios de 1950 y 1960 está impulsando las matrículas de estudiantes para la vuelta del siglo.

De modo que, ¿estamos haciendo algo acerca de esto?

"Reclutamiento de Nuevos Maestros" (RNT en Inglés), un grupo no lucrativo de acción e investigación que tiene su sede en Belmont, Massachusetts, propuso una recomendación fascinante en este mes: que consideremos como recurso a los 450,000 auxiliares de maestros que están empleados actualmente en las escuelas públicas.

¿Por qué? Porque según razona RNT, la mayoría de estos educadores residen en las comunidades predominantemente urbanas donde trabajan.

Estos trabajadores de la enseñanza son modelos de comportamiento que conocen las necesidades de sus comunidades y de sus escuelas. Una vez adiestrados y acreditados, ellos aportarían a sus trabajos años de experiencia y dedicación que demasiados maestros recién graduados no tienen actualmente.

El presidente de RNT, David Haselkorn, dice que mientras casi la mitad de los nuevos maestros urbanos se van de sus plazas en el espacio de cinco años, los programas que adiestran a los para-maestros a fin de llegar a ser maestros, tienen una tasa de deserción baja, del 7%.

El estudio de RNT suministra algunos hechos y estadísticas de interés particularmente crítico para la comunidad latina.

El mismo recalca que, aún cuando los hispanos forman menos del 4% de los maestros del país, comprenden más del 12% de los estudiantes. La información federal sobre inmigración y tasa de nacimientos muestra que, para el año 2,050, los estudiantes hispanos podrían llegar a ser el 45% de nuestra población escolar.

Actualmente, nuestras escuelas normales tradicionales no se hallan logrando casi nada para cerrar esa brecha.

RNT ha identificado a 152 programas que involucran a 9,000 auxiliares de maestros que ayudan a éstos a proseguir sus estudios para obtener las credenciales de la enseñanza. Un tercio completo de esos ayudantes son hispanos; el 40% de los programas destacan la enseñanza bilingüe, donde existe la mayor escasez de maestros capacitados.

Además de los 450,000 auxiliares en los grados del kindergarten al 12, otros 400,000 trabajan en programas pre-escolares.

La posibilidad de crear una fuerza de trabajo de la enseñanza competente y dedicada a enseñar al grupo étnico más deficientemente instruido es enorme. Los resultados podrían producir un éxito asombroso.

Los maestros bilingües y biculturales sirven como puente con los mejores maestros a que los niños latinos (o cualesquiera niños) tienen acceso -- sus propios padres y madres. Los padres de habla hispana serían capaces realmente de hablar a los maestros de sus hijos en un idioma común. Los padres y las madres se sentirían bien recibidos en nuestras escuelas, y aquéllos que tienen una instrucción incompleta podrían ser alentados a proseguir su propia instrucción, incluyendo el aprendizaje del inglés.

Los maestros ven a demasiados estudiantes latinos,

cuya cultura no comprenden, como que carecen de posibilidades o deseo. Jaime Escalante e incontables otros "Jaimes Escalantes" a quienes no se menciona en las aulas de clase actuales, nos han mostrado lo que la comprensión cultural puede superar. Los maestros que han crecido o que viven en el barrio-- sean latinos o no -- comprenden las presiones de la pobreza, la delincuencia y la discriminación a que se enfrentan sus alumnos.

Jonás Calderón, graduado del Proyecto para Maestros Latinos de la Universidad del Sur de California (USC en inglés), que ahora enseña y vive en la parte sur-central de Los Angeles, me lo describió así:

"Yo camino a la escuela por las mismas calles y callejones que mis alumnos. Veo los mismos problemas y peligros que ellos ven. Me veo a mí mismo en ellos".

Calderón, cuya madre lo sacó de El Salvador rasgado por la guerra hace 10 años, cuando él era adolescente, rechazó una oportunidad para estudiar derecho, "porque enseñar es lo que me gusta y el proyecto de USC hizo que una carrera en la enseñanza fuera posible para mí".

Irónicamente, en una época en que tales programas se necesitan con tanta urgencia, están enfrentándose a un gran peligro. Los grupos filantrópicos, tales como el Fondo DeWitt Wallace del Reader's Digest y la Fundación Ford han sido sus mayores apoyos, seguidos por el gobierno federal. Las inversiones estatales y locales en ellos han sido mínimas, y los poderosos sindicatos de maestros, según el informe, "han prestado escasa atención al reclutamiento de paraprofesionales en sus filas profesionales".

El financiamiento federal para tales programas de acreditación tiene posibi-

Continued on Page 5

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

I went to elementary school at a group of army barracks located on North Avenue U which was named after the street.

"North Ave. U Elementary". I remember the school as a place where my friends and I grew up not particularly enjoying or taking advantage of the education provided but for the many hours that we spent playing on the school grounds since the closest park was located in the Barrio Viejo - now referred to as Guadalupe - and none of us dared to venture into a neighborhood then controlled by "La ganga del Pelon".

I can remember one time that we decided to break the record as to how many innings a baseball game took. The Yankees had just play 20 inning. We were going to play 21. I think we got to 15 before we just gave out. We had two teams, each was made up of 5 members. We each had to play two position - second played second and shortstop, the pitcher played pitcher and catcher - of course the batter had to throw the ball back to the pitcher if he didn't hit it. There were only two fielders. One of the players on my team - well it wasn't really my team because when we chose side, I was always the last to be chosen - anyway...he would hit the ball so hard that it would bounce off the buildings and almost back to the infield.... well maybe not that hard. We would always have contests to see who could do the most push ups. There was a push up bar located in the far north eastern part of the playground.....right above the path toward the cañon where a waste water line emptied into the canyon. We would venture into the water line every now and then the rumor was that la llorona lived there plus some of my friend even said that he had seen martians inside el tonel.

North U Elementary might be closed soon. It's now called Mahon. My memories will remain. Let's hope that the school will continue to make memories for others.



United or Defeated: The Latino Vote In '96

By Barbara Renaud González

I always tell my mother how to vote. Democrat, I say. Democrat. It's only when I'm home and she's complaining about her check that I discover she's voted for Reagan or Bush. But then my father voted for Nixon, so it runs in the family.

This is the year we elect a president, again. And this time Latinos can determine who the next president will be and if he will pay attention to us -- if we are united.

Here in Texas, Latinos make up a substantial 25 percent of the population, but only 28 percent of those eligible actually vote, according to the Tomás Rivera Center. Aunque somos pequeños, juntos somos un volcán. (Although we are small, together we are a volcano.)

Even this low percentage can vulcanize the election. That's because most of us, roughly 70 percent, vote Democratic. The rest vote Republican, like my mother. And while we constitute only 12 percent of the national population, we live in the states that matter to win -- California, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Florida and our querido Texas.

Democrat, my late father-in-law, Juan González, would say. The way it sounds in Spanish, like democracy. Yes, that's what we want, he insisted. Those Republicans are for los ricos, the rich don't care about us Mexicanos.

His experience with govern-

ment had been a contract of compassion that began when his brother Gualberto died in World War II. For him, the Democratic administration of a John F. Kennedy and those that followed meant a college education for his children. Jobs when they graduate via affirmative action. A subsidized apartment and SSI for his ex-wife. The government was good to him because he deserved it.

My mother says she voted for Reagan because he believed in the family, her favorite theme. And she hates abortions. When I pointed out to her that Reagan was divorced and that his children were nothing to brag about, she talked about former President Bush. His son married a Mexican, remember. Now we're family.

A lo mejor, maybe we have been Democrats and as radical as can be only because we have been so poor and oppressed. My mother has certainly used welfare and food stamps when she couldn't work and still had to support her five kids.

But she has voted for Republicans because of their family honor. And she is shocked when I explained that their agenda includes an English-only, anti-immigrant rhetoric, and tampering with my brother's Medicaid. It is not her family that is valued, after all.

But we are uncomfortable

with these discussions. Democracy is a labyrinth with too many people in it. Mexican writer Ilan Stavans contends that Latinos are uninvolved, anti-social, even apolitical because of our inexperience with the concept of democracy.

It is a long journey, he says, from regions of upheaval and corruption to a land of civil liberty and respect. Jesse Trevino, a former columnist from Austin, Texas, has put it more bluntly. We shouldn't be surprised that we are so conservative, he once told me. Because Latinos are really fascist... we are anti-black, anti-gay, anti-everything, he told me years ago. "It's because of the Church...we're so hopelessly (sic) Catholic."

Blame it on the Church. Perhaps we are more like (Newt) Gingrich than the Zapata we profess to worship. After all, the Mexicans, while mesmerized by the Chiapas revolution, still voted for the powerful PRI that has taken them to the brink of tragedy.

We are a people of conflicting ideologies. Our votes, or lack of them, reflect a shared past of political betrayal in the midst of religious conquest. We hate our poverty, but fear that this is our destiny. We love our families so much that we have died in revolutions for them. This is what we know. It is freedom that we don't understand. And while a true democracy is in our hands, we have forgotten what

it means.

The Democrats are asking us to imagine la raza as the family we all belong to. Even if we are too proud to beg. The Republicans assure us that the family is a virtue in itself, but this means that we must risk the future of our people. It seems that we must choose whether we want to secure the middle class for all, or find wealth at the expense of our mother's poverty. America is beautiful, but ugly too.

"They say we don't vote, but neither party asks us to vote," State representative and MAD (Mexican-American Democrats) Chairman Roberto Alonzo speculates on the fate of the pueblo. "Clinton lost Texas four years ago because he didn't invest in us. This state counts for 32 electoral votes, and Latinos represent 734,000 voters."

He continues: "Even 70 percent of Latinos voting as Democrats can swing an election, because we have the potential to outweigh the conservative impact -- with our poquito (small) 13.8 percent of the statewide vote. He pauses. We don't have to be defeated; we just have to vote, he emphasizes. "If you win Texas, you win the Presidency." God is on our side. But in a democracy, even the devil has a vote.

Barbara Renaud González, of Dallas, Texas, is a free-lance writer who is a regular contributor to the Dallas Morning News and public radio station KERA.

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New Study Finds Weak Planning Puts School Reform At Risk

FROM THE CENTER FOR LAW AND EDUCATION
Contact: Linda Bennett (202) 986-3000 April 8, 1996
Billions in Federal Aid and Children's Education Hang in the Balance

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Billions of federal dollars intended to improve the education of disadvantaged and other children are being spent this school year with no real plan, according to a study released today by the Center for Law and Education (CLE). The report also found that inadequate federal guidance blocked attention to equal educational opportunity and stymied meaningful participation by parents and the public in their States' plans. Newly approved federal criteria will hold States more accountable beginning next year, but CLE says that some of the major problems uncovered this year still will not be addressed. The nonprofit group reached these conclusions after analyzing the plans of 48 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico and interviewing selected State officials.

The planning process for this year also previews the likely impact of block grants in education, according to CLE. "Giving States a single cash award to spend without adequate planning provisions will undermine school reform efforts focused on raising children's achievement, warned CLE co-director Paul Weckstein. This study puts Congress and States on notice while there is still time to reconsider."

For the 1995-96 school year, all but two States opted to use a new provision of federal law permitting consolidated planning. It permits States to develop a unified plan covering a variety of separate elementary and secondary education programs, while still meeting the requirements for each program. Congress intended that the single plan would integrate and coordinate these programs into a coherent whole. CLE supports this approach, but found that inadequate Department of Education guidance has prevented coherent planning.

In this, the first year of the option, the Department told States they could submit a preliminary consolidated plan. This document does not contain a program plan at all for this school year, concludes the CLE report, Consolidated State Planning: School Reform At Risk. This is despite the fact that billions of dollars in federal aid, intended to help children, were released under it. Instead, the Department asked a few fiscal questions, requested a general description of how the small portion of funds retained at the State level would be used, and posed questions about how the State intended to go about planning for the next year. CLE's study found that, in effect, these billions of dollars were treated as if they were simply planning grants for the future, with no real attention to how millions of children would be served this year.

The report highlights the damage done to the school reform effort, particularly for Title I, the largest federal education program at \$7.2 billion for this school year. This is the first implementation year under a dramatically rewritten law, aimed at promoting much higher academic outcomes for disadvantaged children. Because the stripped-down preliminary plan became a substitute for a State plan to help implement the sweeping local program changes called for by the new law, Title I is often still being run under the old, inadequate framework. "The key federal provisions designed to promote school reform -- focused on program quality, equity, and participatory planning -- are being ignored," noted Weckstein. "Flexibility has been distorted into a license to maintain the status quo rather than make the changes needed to provide children with the education they need and deserve."

According to the report, the Department's new guidelines for submitting final plans for next school year are a significant improvement, but do not remedy some of the major inadequacies revealed in this year's State plans:

- * A failure to help States in understanding the various program requirements and how they might be woven together into a coherent plan;
 - * Little to curb the tendency to write vague plans that simply regurgitate federal language, instead of developing concrete plans;
 - * Contrary to federal law, no provision to spell out how the State will ensure equitable access and participation in local programs -- for which the State has oversight responsibility -- or to develop a process for determining barriers to participation and for following through on correcting them;
 - * A lack of specifics in the plan that effectively exclude parents and the public in meaningful involvement in developing the plan, using it to inform themselves, and holding State and local authorities accountable.
- While the report is critical of ED's handling of consolidated planning, its findings provide little support to proposals for further weakening the federal role, through unregulated block grants or other means. The study concluded that without adequate planning and program structure:
- * Reforming the schools so that they enable all children to meet high standards, a challenging task for States and localities under the best of circumstances, instead becomes impossible.
 - * The continuing march to fulfill the national commitment to equal educational opportunity retreats behind a veil of vague statements and uncertainty.
 - * Parent involvement and public accountability evaporate when the steps for involvement are not well laid out and when the plan is stated so generally that there is little basis for informed comment at the planning stage or accountability during implementation.

CLE provided the Department with a draft for review prior to publication, and the Department's comments are addressed in the final report.

The Center for Law and Education seeks to make sure that the nation's education laws work to provide all students, and low-income students in particular, with a high-quality education. For a copy of the full report (including the executive summary) send \$25.00 to the address below, or you may receive a free copy of just the executive summary. Provided by: Center for Law and Education, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20009, (202) 986-3000

¿Unidos O Derrotados?

- El Voto Latino En 1996

Por Bárbara Renaud González

Siempre le digo a mi madre como votar. Demócrata, le digo. Demócrata. Es sólo cuando estoy en casa y ella está quejándose sobre su cheque, que descubro que ha votado por Reagan o Bush. Pero mi padre votó por Nixon, de modo que eso es un rasgo de la familia.

Este es el año en que volveremos a elegir a un presidente. Y esta vez los latinos pueden determinar quién será el próximo presidente y si nos prestará atención -- si estamos unidos.

Aquí, en Texas, los latinos forman un 25% importante de la población, pero sólo el 28% de los elegibles realmente votan, según el Centro Tomás Rivera. Aunque somos pequeños, juntos somos un volcán.

Aún este bajo porcentaje puede vulcanizar las elecciones. Eso es porque la mayoría de nosotros, aproximadamente el 70%, votamos por el Partido Demócrata. El resto votan por el Partido Republicano, como mi madre. Y aunque somos únicamente el 12% de la población nacional, vivimos en los estados que importan para ganar -- California, Illinois, Nueva York, Nueva Jersey, la Florida y nuestra querida Texas. Orale.

Demócrata, como diría mi difunto suegro, Juan González. Como suena en español, como democracia. Sí, eso es lo que queremos, insistía él. Esos republicanos son para los ricos; los ricos no se preocupan por nosotros, los mexicanos.

Su experiencia con el gobierno había sido un contrato de compasión que empezó cuando su hermano Gualberto murió en la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Para él, el gobierno

demócrata de un John F. Kennedy y los que le siguieron significaron una enseñanza universitaria para sus hijos. Empleos cuando se graduaran mediante la acción afirmativa. Un apartamento subvencionado e ingreso del Seguro Social para su esposa. El gobierno fue bueno para él porque él lo merecía.

Mi madre dice que ella votó por Reagan porque él creía en la familia, su tema favorito. Y ella odia a los abortos. Cuando le señalé que Reagan era divorciado y que sus hijos no eran nada como para jactarse, ella habló sobre el ex-Presidente Bush. Su hijo se casó con una mexicana, ¿recuerdan? Ahora somos de la familia.

A lo mejor hemos sido demócratas y tan radicales como podamos ser sólo porque hemos sido tan pobres y oprimidos. Mi madre ha usado en verdad de la asistencia económica pública y cupones para alimentos cuando ella no pudo trabajar y aún tenía que mantener a sus cinco hijos. Pero ella ha votado por los republicanos debido al honor de su familia. Y ella se estremece cuando le expliqué que su programa de trabajo incluye una retórica de inglés solamente y contra los inmigrantes, y que se meterán con el Medicaid de mi hermano. No es la familia de ella la que es valorada, después de todo.

Pero nos sentimos incómodos con estos debates. La democracia es un laberinto con demasiada gente en él. El escritor mexicano Ilan Stavans afirma que los latinos

no se involucran, que son anti-sociales, aún apolíticos debido a nuestra inexperiencia con el concepto de la democracia. Es un viaje largo, dice

él, desde las regiones de las revueltas y la corrupción hasta una tierra de libertades civiles y respeto.

Jesse Treviño, un ex-columnista de Austin, lo ha dicho más francamente. No deberíamos estar sorprendidos de ser tan conservadores, me dijo él una vez. Porque los latinos son en realidad fascistas ... somos anti-negros, anti-homosexuales, anti-de todo, me dijo él hace años. "Es debido a la Iglesia ... somos tan desesperadamente católicos".

Cúlpanse a la Iglesia. Quizás seamos más como Gingrich que como el Zapata que profesamos venerar. Después de todo, los mexicanos, aunque hipnotizados por la revolución de Chiapas, todavía votaron por el poderoso PRI que les ha llevado al borde de la tragedia.

Somos un pueblo de ideologías en conflicto. Nuestros votos, o la falta de ellos, reflejan un pasado compartido de traición política en medio de la conquista religiosa. Odiarnos a nuestra pobreza, pero tememos que éste sea nuestro destino. Amamos tanto a nuestras familias que hemos muerto en revoluciones por ellas. Esto es lo que sabemos. Es la libertad que no comprendemos. Y aunque una verdadera democracia esté en nuestras manos, hemos olvidado lo que significa.

Los demócratas están pidiéndonos que nos imaginemos a la raza como la familia a que todos pertenecemos. Aún cuando seamos demasiado orgullosos como

para mendigar. Los republicanos nos aseguran que la familia es una virtud en sí misma, pero esto significa que debemos arriesgar el futuro de nuestro pueblo. Parece que debemos escoger si queremos asegurar la clase media para todos, o encontrar riqueza a costa de la pobreza de nuestra madre. Los Estados Unidos son bellos, pero también feos.

"Ellos dicen que no votamos, pero ningún partido nos pide que votemos". El representante estatal y el presidente de MAD (demócratas mexicano-americanos) Roberto Alonzo, especula sobre el destino del pueblo. "Clinton perdió a Texas hace cuatro años porque no invirtió en nosotros. Este estado tiene 32 votos electorales, y los latinos tienen 734,000 electores". Y continúa diciendo: "Aún el 70% de los latinos votando como demócratas pueden inclinar unas elecciones, porque tenemos la posibilidad de sobrepasar al efecto de los conservadores -- con nuestro poquito 13.8% de los votos estatales. Hace una pausa. No tenemos que ser derrotados; sólo tenemos que votar, recalca él. "Si se gana Texas, se gana la presidencia".

Dios está de nuestro lado. Pero en una democracia, hasta el diablo tiene un voto.

Barbara Renaud González, de Dallas, Texas, es una escritora por cuenta propia que aporta comentarios periódicamente al "Dallas Morning News" y a la estación de la radio pública KERA.

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Earthquakes seem to move everyone closer together.

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News Briefs From Page 1

er, including:

-- "Stronger actions at all levels of government immediately to regulate guns as the dangerous products they are," and more education about the threat of guns in a household and on how to resolve disputes without resorting to violence.

-- An end to "the glorification of guns and violence in our culture and media" and a stop to "the marketing of guns to children."

U.S. Life Expectancy Down; Gap Between Races Grows

The March 29 issue of the Community Nutrition Institute newsletter reports that for the first time since 1980, life expectancy at birth declined, an indication that the health of the nation is worsening. Moreover, the gap between the life expectancy of blacks and whites increased; whites lived 7.1 years longer than blacks in 1993 than in 1992 when they lived 6.9 years longer.

White females continue to have the highest life expectancy at 79.5 years, followed by black females at 73.7 years, white males at 73.1 years and black males at 64.6 years.

The slight increase in the gap between the life span of blacks and whites can be attributed to lower socio-economic status among blacks as well as less access to medical care and greater risk behaviors. More than half (56 percent) of deaths are caused by heart disease and cancer.

Hunger & Homelessness Rises

The March issue of the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies newsletter reports the U.S. Conference of Mayors annual report shows hunger and homelessness in America's cities increased during 1995.

Twenty-nine cities were surveyed to compile the status report, containing information including demand for emergency services, the capacity of the cities to respond, unmet needs for services, and funding sources.

The report's findings include:

-Requests for emergency food assistance increased by an average of nine percent, with 72 percent of cities registering an increase.

-On average, 18 percent of the requests for emergency food assistance are estimated to have gone unmet during the past year.

-Sixty-three percent of those requesting emergency food assistance were members of families - children and their parents. One-third of the adults requesting food assistance were employed.

-Requests for emergency shelter increased by an average of 11 percent, with 63 percent of the cities registering an increase.

-An average of 19 percent of the requests for emergency shelter went unmet last year.

Officials predict the gap in services created by cuts in welfare, Medicaid, housing assistance, the Earned Income Tax Credit and other social services cannot be filled by private charitable organizations.

For a copy of the report, contact the U.S. Conference of Mayors at 202-293-7330.

Video Industry Moves to Fight Hunger

The April 5 issue of the Community Nutrition Institute Newsletter reports the End Hunger Network is joining the video industry in its "Fast Forward to End Hunger" campaign to fight hunger in the U.S. and Canada.

The aim is to tap into the charitable instincts of the 57 million North Americans who visit video stores each week, says EHN's president Jerry Michaud. Although the goal of the campaign is to direct money from local retailers to their community, state advocacy groups are encouraged to join since the national video industry will also be donating funds to non-local efforts.

The campaign will attempt to educate store patrons through public service announcements on rental videos urging consumers to donate or request information on fighting child hunger in their state.

EHN is mapping nonprofit organizations working to end child hunger by their nine-digit zip code. Send or call in the name of your organization, a contact person, your address, and a phone number by May. Contact Jerry Michaud, Optima Direct, 81 Boone Blvd, Vienna VA 22182 (703) 918-9000.

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Search For Two Million Teachers Should Start In The Classroom

By Fernando Trulin IV

Within the next 10 years, the United States will need two million new teachers in its public school classrooms. A third of today's teachers are moving into their retirement years. And a loud '90s echo of the baby boom of the '50s and '60s is stimulating record turn-of-the-century student enrollments.

So what are we going to do about it? Recruiting New Teachers, a nonprofit action/research group based in Belmont, Mass., came up with a fascinating suggestion this month. It proposed that we pursue as a resource the 450,000 teacher aides currently employed in public schools. Why?

Because most of these educators are residents in the predominantly urban communities where they work, RNT reasons. These education workers are role models who know the needs of their communities and their schools. Once trained and credentialed, they would bring to the job years of experience and commitment that too many newly graduated teachers don't possess today.

RNT president David Haselkorn says that while nearly half of new urban teachers leave within five years, programs that train para-educators to become teachers have a low 7 percent attrition rate. RNT's study provides some facts and statistics of especially critical interest to the Latino community.

It emphasizes that while Hispanics make up less than 4 percent of the country's teachers, they comprise more than 12 percent of its students. Federal immigration and birth-rate data show that by the year 2050, Hispanic students could constitute 45 percent of our student population.

At present, our traditional teachers' colleges are accomplishing next to nothing to close that gap.

RNT has identified 152 programs involving 9,000 teacher aides that help the aides pursue teaching credentials. A full third of those aides are Hispanic, and 40 percent of the programs stress bilingual education, where the greatest shortage of qualified teachers exists.

In addition to the 450,000 aides in kindergarten through grade 12 classrooms, another 400,000 work in pre-school programs. The potential to create an education work force competent and committed to teach one of the most poorly educated ethnic groups in the nation is enormous. The results could bring staggering success:

Bilingual, bicultural educators serve as a bridge to the best teachers Latino children (or any children) have access to -- their own parents. Spanish-speaking parents would actually be able to talk to their children's teachers in a common language.

Parents would feel welcome in our schools, and those with limited schooling could be encouraged to further their own education, including learning English themselves.

Too many Latino students are viewed by teachers who don't understand their culture as lacking potential or desire. Jaime Escalante and countless other unsung Jaime Escalantes in today's classrooms have shown us what cultural understanding can overcome. Teachers who have grown up or live in the barrio -- be they Latino or otherwise -- understand the pressures of poverty, crime and discrimination their students face.

Jonas Calderón, a graduate of the University of Southern California's Latino Teacher Project who now teaches and lives in South Central Los Angeles, described it to me:

"I walk to school and go

down the same streets and alleys that my students do. I get to see the same problems and dangers that they see. I see myself in them."

Calderón, whose mother led him out of war-torn El Salvador 10 years ago when he was a teenager, rejected a chance to study law "because teaching is what I love and the USC project made a teaching career possible for me."

Ironically, at a time when such programs are so badly needed, they are facing great danger themselves. Philanthropic groups such as the DeWitt Wallace Reader's Digest Fund and the Ford Foundation have been their

biggest backers, followed by the federal government.

State and local investment in them has been minimal, and the powerful teacher unions have, according to the report, "paid scant attention to recruiting paraprofessionals into their professional ranks."

Federal funding for such credentialing programs stands to be cut 17 percent by Congress this session, says the U.S. Department of Education. And the Connecticut legislature recently saw fit to defund what was perhaps the most successful pioneering state-supported program.

When, under our noses, there's a win-win answer to two national dilemmas -- the approaching teacher shortage and a failing generation of Hispanic students -- continued inaction on the part of our political and education leaders would be nothing short of criminal neglect.

Fernando Trulin IV is a reporter in Washington, D.C., with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.

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For a copy of "Breaking the Class Ceiling: Paraprofessional Pathways to Teaching," 296 pages, send \$34.95 to: Recruiting New Teachers, Inc., 385 Concord Ave., Suite 103, Belmont, MA 02178. (617) 489-6000.

Border Protest Decries Beating

SAN YSIDRO, Calif. - A human chain of protesters lined the Mexican entrance to the U.S. border Friday to protest the videotaped beating of several Mexican citizens by sheriff's deputies in California.

Chanting "Stop the Violence" in Spanish, the demonstrators said they wanted to make a point to both the U.S. and Mexican governments about the beatings and the conditions that forced the migrants to leave Mexico.

"They are working people, getting away from poverty and low wages," said Jose Luis Perez Canchola, vice president of the Mexican Academy of Human Rights. "Sometimes migration is the only thing to do to survive."

The Tijuana protesters, who represented about a dozen groups, remained peaceful throughout the two-hour demonstration. Their presence did not affect the usually snail-like pace of border traffic.

Smaller protests were held in the Los Angeles area. Hispanic and labor groups planned to stage a demonstration Saturday in downtown Los Angeles.

Lawyers are seeking \$10 million from Riverside County on behalf of the immigrants, who crammed into a pickup truck and were captured after a high-speed chase.

The claim, the first step toward a lawsuit, contends that an unresisting Enrique

Funes Flores was clubbed and Santiago Garcia Pedroza was thrown to the ground. Funes' companion, Alicia Sotero Vazquez, 32, also was beaten as TV news helicopters videotaped the arrest.

Deputies Tracy Watson and Kurtis Franklin were suspended with pay.

Authorities said the deputies chased the truck after it ran a border crossing and side-swiped vehicles, and that the truck's occupants threw beer containers and pieces of camper shell at pursuers, authorities said.

The immigrants said they threw nothing and the debris came from the disintegrating camper shell.

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AMBICIOSOS PLANES TIENE EL GOLDEN...

"John John Molina hizo que me superara": De la Hoya!

Chávez es honrado y nunca se vendería!

Tyson Accusation Doubted

CIUDAD DE MEXICO.- "Al auténtico Julio César Chávez no le gana nadie actualmente, no obstante su edad y los males físicos que lo han aquejado. Pero si para la pelea contra Oscar de la Hoya encontramos a un Chávez afectado por todas las presiones personales que ha tenido, entonces mi punto de vista no tiene validez".

En tales términos se expresó José Sulaimán Chagnón al hablar sobre el pleito que van a sostener el sonorense y el californiano el próximo 7 de junio, del cual mucha gente ha considerado que se tratará de un combate arreglado por tantos millones de dólares que van de por medio.

Sin poder ocultar su malestar, el presidente del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo enfatizó.

"Podrán decir lo que quieran de Julio César Chávez, pero nunca que él es un tramposo. Lo conozco y siempre ha sido un hombre honrado, un deportista a carta cabal que ha hecho historia gracias a sus portentosas facultades."

"Quien piense siquiera que Chávez se puede vender, es que no sabe nada del boxeo ni ha seguido la carrera deportiva de nuestro campeón."

"Pienso que no hay dinero que pudiera comprar el criterio de Julio César y creo que las personas que han manifestado esa inquietud, lo han hecho apoyadas en novelas o películas, en las cuales se presentan este tipo de grandes. Pero insisto: Julio no se prestaría a una cosa tan sucia como esa."

Luego agregó: "Puedo decir que actualmente en el boxeo, cuando menos el que sanciona el Consejo, no hay nada anormal y considero que esto es en todos los rangos."

"El boxeo es limpio aunque no faltan los detractores que siempre quieren ponerlo con manchas y por eso ahora utilizan el nombre de Chávez, ya que es una verdadera figura mundial y todo lo que se diga con relación a él repercute, pero no esto."

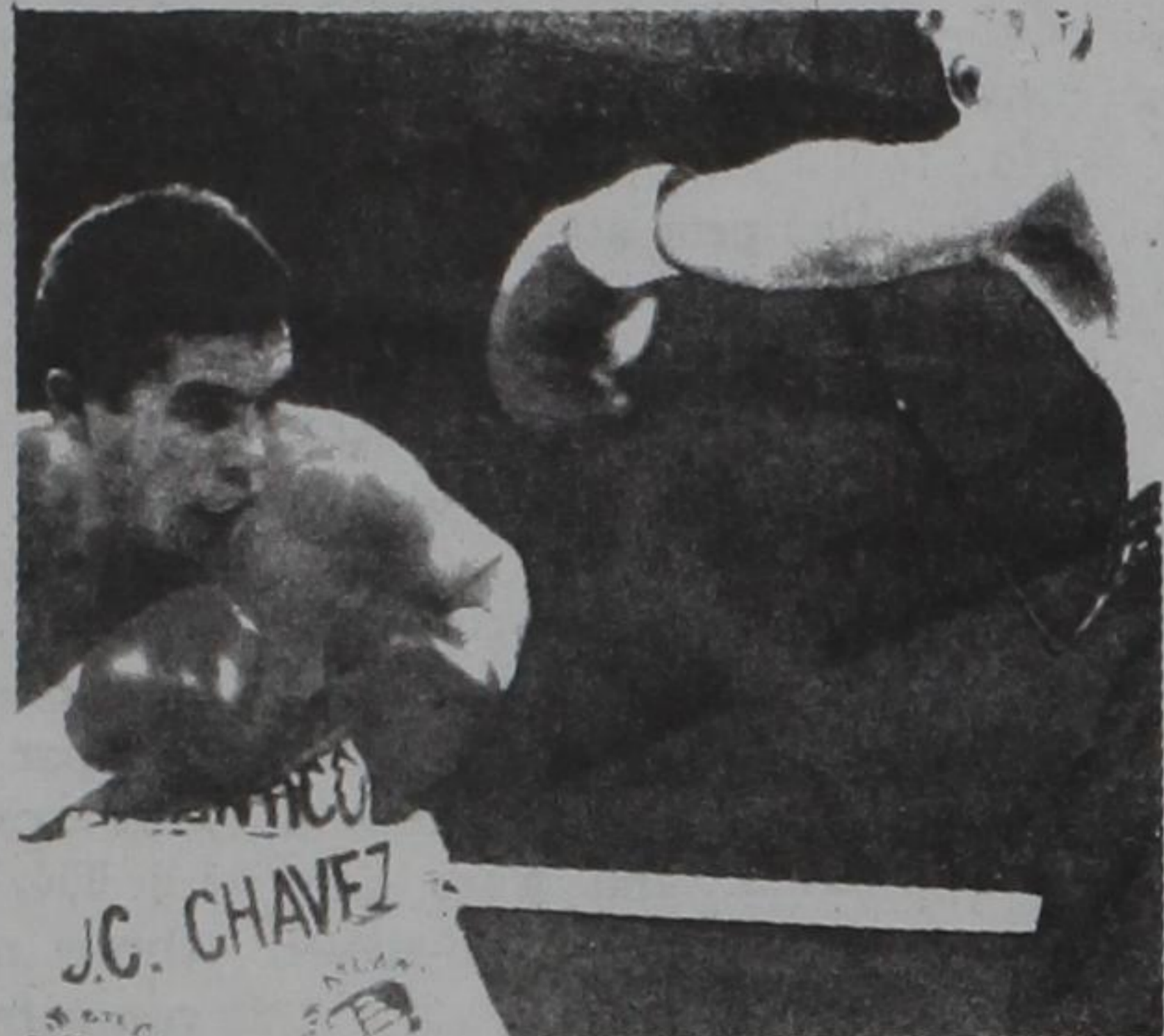
"Si yo me llegara a equivocar, si en realidad Chávez aceptara algo ilícito, sería lo peor que pudiera hacer porque con ello acabaría con su imagen y él tiene un nombre que honrar y una familia que proteger, especialmente a sus hijos, quienes cuando sean grandes hablarán con todo orgullo de la gran carrera que hizo su padre y por lo mismo él no puede

hacer nada que le manche", sostuvo Sulaimán. Abundando en el tema, añadió:

"Tampoco creo que a Oscar de la Hoya, un joven brillante que está escribiendo su propia historia, le podría beneficiar un triunfo fraudulento. Pienso que va a brindar una gran pelea porque ambos contendientes tienen gran calidad."

"Y sigo pensando que por ahora no hay nadie que pueda derrotar a Chávez. Sólo dependerá de que él haga el entrenamiento adecuado para llegar en las mejores condiciones. Lo demás lo dará su gran experiencia y esas facultades boxísticas que lo han hecho un fuera de serie", indicó.

Consideró que con eso y un buen estado anímico, Chávez dará otra demostración de su valentía y determinación ante Oscar de la Hoya.



La honestidad de Julio César Chávez fue avalada por el presidente del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo.

CHICAGO - A woman who accused Mike Tyson of sexually assaulting her claimed the boxer bit her on the face while kissing her at a nightclub, her friend said Wednesday.

But Tammie Batty, who works with the woman and brought her to the nightclub Sunday night, said she didn't see anything happen.

"I don't believe it happened," Batty said at a news conference outside the nightclub that was set up by the club's owners. "You don't mess with anybody's reputation like that."

Tyson, who has not been charged, is on probation for his 1992 rape conviction. Police said they are investigating the woman's complaint.

Batty said her co-worker at a beauty parlor in Merrillville, Ind., told her after leaving the club that Tyson had bitten her face while kissing her and had touched her.

The woman's attorney refused to describe what happened Sunday night in a private room at The Clique, a frequent stomping ground for professional athletes.

"She is distraught. She is angry and disturbed," said attorney Charles Graddick. He said the woman went to a Chicago-area hospital and called police after her release early Monday.

An owner of the club, who declined to be identified, said the club had assigned security to Tyson.

"All I know is the woman wanted to come up and talk with Mr. Tyson. ... He said, 'OK, come up,'" the man said.

Graddick said the woman tried to report what happened with Tyson to people at the club and was rebuffed. The owner denied that.

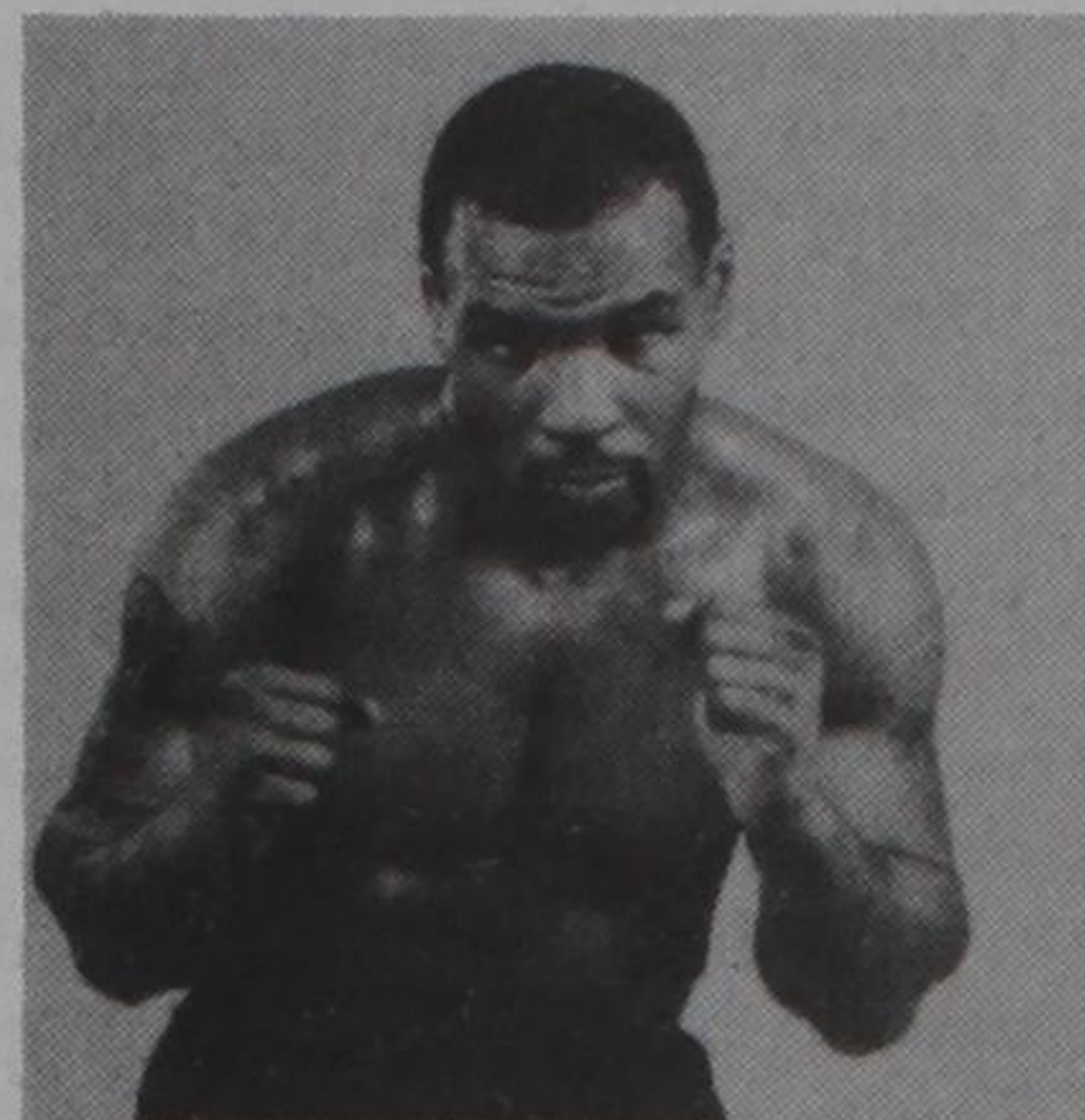
"She was one of the last people to leave," he said. "She never said anything. What's Tournament

Over 100 boxers will travel to Lubbock this weekend to participate in a boxing tournament hosted by the North Lubbock Boxing Team.

Seventeen bouts are scheduled and NLBC Coach Kiro Carrillo says that every bout will be good.

The club wants to thank Rick Benavidez for donation of the building to host the tournament, Sheriff Sonny Keesee for sponsoring the trophies, Police Officer Pete Lara for sucring fellow police officers for security and Guadalupe Economic Service - Corporate sponsor of the NLBC.

Pete Garza of the American GI Forum will act as the Official Host/ Greeter a the door, Emilio Abeyta-Attorney will be the announcer, Councilman Victor Hernandez will be timekeeper, Ramon Gailegos-attorney, Gilbert Herrera and Doris Rector will be in charge of ticket sales. Councilman T.j. Patterson will say the invocation and his daughter Shiela will sing the national anthem. Other sponsor include Norwest Bank, St. Mary's hospital, Calco Metal Works, PAGA of Lubbock, Ramon's Texaco, Price Repair, Sportsman Club, Dan's Appliance, Jesus Cavazos Tax service, Nimry's Autoplex and Carl Davis of Bolton Oil.



up with that? We had police walking around, security walking around and she has nothing to say and all of a sudden the complaint comes up. That's not very good credibility."

Mike Marley, a spokesman for Tyson's promoter Don King, said: "Mike has no comment at this time. We're just going to see what happens."

Friend and spiritual adviser Muhammad Siddeeq said Tyson had been with Siddeeq in Chicago for a three-day Islamic prayer service.

"He was invited," Siddeeq said. "He supports the Muslim community."

A spokesman for the Ohio prisons said, however, that Tyson had permission to go to Chicago to promote a fight.

Tyson was convicted in 1992 of raping Desiree Washington, a Coventry, R.I., college student who had been competing in the Miss Black America pageant in Indianapolis.

Tyson was released from prison in March 1995 after serving three years of a six-year sentence. He is now on a four-year probationary term.

In 1986, at 20, Tyson became the youngest heavyweight champion ever but lost his title as undisputed heavyweight champion to Buster Douglas in 1990.

Tyson regained the WBC title last month, stopping Frank Bruno in the third round.

LAS VEGAS, Nevada.- Oscar de la Hoya dijo que quizás el momento más difícil que ha pasado en el ring fue cuando peleó con John John Molina el 18 de febrero de 1995 en esta ciudad, pues fue la única vez que ha llegado a los doce rounds.

"Pensaba que nadie me podía ganar, que casi ni tenía que entrenar para salir victorioso. Esa pelea me cambió todo", indicó. "Gracias a esa pelea ahora si me dedico más a mi profesión. Me hizo saber que siempre debo estar en buena condición. La pelea contra Molina cambió mi vida", afirmó.

"¿Te sentías muy buen boxeador?" "Gané la pelea pero no hice nada antes. Lo pude noquear pero no entrené", señaló Oscar.

"¿Contra Chávez será la pelea más difícil de tu carrera?" "Hasta ahora sí, aunque antes se había dicho que mis otras peleas iban a ser difíciles. No se. Espero una pelea difícil y es lo que quiero para demostrarle a la gente que puedo contra cualquier boxeador. Mucha gente dice que no me he enfrentado con buenos peleadores porque los noqueo en uno o dos asaltos", agregó.

"Se mira fácil pero... ¿Qué tal si noqueo a Chávez en los primeros rounds? La gente va a decir: Ya estaba acabado, estaba viejito."

"Quiero una buena pelea que dure seis o siete rounds para que la gente crea que sí puede", apuntó.

"¿Qué sensación te dejan esas peleas rápidas, en las que llegas y noqueas?" "Me dejan frustrado porque mis rivales no aguantan el golpe. Yo entreno por dos meses en las montañas de Big Bear, todos los días y todo para una pelea de dos rounds. A veces me digo: No vale la pena entrenar tan duro. Quiero que el peleador aguante más para dar un buen espectáculo, pero les

pego y se caen. No aguantan", dijo.

"¿Te diviertes en el cuadrilátero?" "Lo más difícil es el entrenamiento, estar dos meses en las montañas. Eso es el trabajo. Pero estar en el ring es una diversión. Me encanta la atención de la gente, estar mostrando lo que puedo hacer, lo que he practicado en el gimnasio. Me divierto mucho", aseveró.

"¿Dices que quieres descansar un tiempo o retirarte del box. ¿Eso no va contra tu otra idea de lograr seis campeonatos del mundo?"

"Después de que descanse quiero regresar como peso welter y en mi primera pelea buscar el título mundial. Si todo va

bien, subo a la otra división. Eso puede durar dos o tres años. Luego si me retiraré", señaló.

"¿A quiénes tienes en la mira?" "A Pernell Whitaker, Félix Trinidad, Frankie Randall, Terry Norris. En el futuro me puedo enfrentar con ellos", aseguró Oscar de la Hoya.

"¿Pelear por un campeonato mundial deja buen dinero?"

"Sí, son peleas muy grandes. Cada vez que he peleado, ha sido una pelea grande", aceptó.

De la Hoya y el campeón Julio César Chávez ya han cumplido con el recorrido para promocionar su pelea del próximo 7 de junio, donde Las Vegas es la estación final.



Oscar de la Hoya indicó que le gustaría que su pelea contra Chávez dure mínimo 7 rounds "para demostrar a la gente mi verdadera valía como boxeador".

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May 11, 1970 - Tornado! Came Together
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COMING TOGETHER

April Fools Day En Una Carretera De California

Por Rick Martínez

Allí estaba, en todas las pantallas de televisión de todas las salas -- una cinta de video de dos diputados del Alguacil del Condado Riverside golpeando a un par de ciudadanos mexicanos pasivos junto a una carretera del sur de California, el 1 ro de Abril -- el día de los inocentes en este país.

Este incidente brutal no fue una broma. Ni tampoco el episodio sorprendió a muchos de la comunidad latina. Desde la golpiza de Rodney King en Los Angeles hace cinco años, los latinos han estado esperando que alguien grabara en cinta una secuela de una persecución policiaca que nos destacara a nosotros.

La golpiza a Enrique Fúnez Flores, de 26 años, y a Alicia Sotero Vázquez, de 32 años, proporciona un reflejo exacto del modo de que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos y muchos de nuestros ciudadanos ven el problema de los inmigrantes indocumentados -- como un asunto policiaco que se resuelve mejor con tácticas policiacas estrictas.

Mientras más estrictas, mejor.

De eso es que se trata con la acción junto a la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México -- más cumplimiento de la ley, más arrestos, más, más y más penalidades contra estas "hordas de extranjeros" que desesperadamente vadean ríos helados, caminan por desiertos calientes y saltan a los trenes, pagando a menudo a los coyotes cantidades excesivas para entregarlos a la Tierra Prometida.

Y, ¿adivinen qué? De costumbre ocultos de nuestra conciencia nacional, los indocumentados son cazados sin descanso y víctimas de la brutalidad todos los días.

La Comisión de los Derechos Humanos de México ha substanciado más de 400 casos de brutalidad fronteriza que involucran al personal estadounidense de la ejecución de la ley, sólo en los tres años más recientes.

Un estudio de la Universidad de Houston, publicado el mes pasado, contó a cerca de 330 latino americanos que resultaron muertos en el decenio anterior, sólo mientras trataban de atravesar la frontera entre México y Texas. Muchos, a quienes se halló

flotando en el Río Grande, nunca fueron siquiera identificados.

Estos soñadores indocumentados son golpeados por los coyotes si no pagan el transporte en los puntos de entrada fronterizos.

Los que evitan las trampas iniciales fijadas por el hombre y la naturaleza, a menudo resultan robados o muertos en los barrios pobres donde tratan de construir vidas nuevas, muchas veces por méxicoamericanos con quienes comparten una herencia común.

Otros que se estacionan en las esquinas de las calles esperando algún trabajo diario son engañados periódicamente por los patrones explotadores.

Son víctimas perpetuas porque no tienen nadie a quien quejarse, en realidad. Si la golpiza del 1x de abril hubiera ocurrido fuera de la vista del público, no habría asunto alguno que debatir.

El episodio comenzó cuando una camioneta cargada de trabajadores indocumentados fué avistado en Temecula, California, a 110 millas al sureste de Los Angeles, aparentemente tratando de recorrer los caminos poco frecuentados para evadir a la Patrulla Fronteriza en su punto de comprobación sobre la Interestatal 15.

Los agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza de los Estados Unidos empezaron la persecución, entregándola después al departamento del Alguacil. Después de recorrer 80 millas a alta velocidad, había gran cantidad de adrenalina corriendo cuando la camioneta fué orillada por fin. La cinta de video, grabada por una cuadrilla de noticias de televisión desde un helicóptero, muestra a la mayoría de los pasajeros de la camioneta tratando de huir. Diecinueve fueron capturados.

Mientras otros agentes perseguían a los sospechosos que huían, el Diputado Tracy Watson se les encimó a Flores y Vázquez, que no corrieron. El helicóptero de la KCAL-TV captó a Watson golpeando con su bastón a Flores seis veces, mientras el último se hallaba entre el riel de borde y el camión. Entonces golpeó a Vázquez. Tirándola al suelo agarrada por el cabello, volvió a gol-

pearla. En ese momento, el Diputado Curtis Franklin acertó a llegar a la escena y golpeó a Vásques dos veces.

Allí estaban en nuestras salas, envueltos en 15 segundos de cinta de violencia. Como la cinta de Rodney King, la golpiza del Día de los Inocentes fué transmitida internacionalmente.

Sirvió como una fuerza contraria momentánea a la propaganda distribuida en los periódicos y los programas de noticias por televisión, en los discursos de los políticos y en las conversaciones de los intermedios para el café de las oficinas, en el sentido de que todos los inmigrantes son sanguijuelas y sabandijas que vacían las arcas estatales y federales de sus fondos.

Cuando son golpeados con bastones, los indocumentados tienden a lucir menos como sabandijas y más como humanos, como víctimas. En la cinta, Flores y Vázquez aparecían sumisos y atemorizados.

Pero, ¿podemos realmente culpar a los dos agentes por la acción que un portavoz del Alguacil dijo que "abochochaba" a su departamento? Ellos hicieron lo que el Presidente, el Congreso y los gobernadores de nuestros estados fronterizos dicen que quieren -- tomar medidas enérgicas contra los inmigrantes ilegales. A cualquier costa.

Watson y Franklin sólo tomaron sus palabras demasiado literalmente.

Nuestros dólares de impuestos están siendo canalizados hacia un presupuesto sin precedentes en cualquier otra época para el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización. La política nacional no hablada continúa siendo

suave en cuanto al cumplimiento de la ley en las zonas agrícolas fértiles, donde los inmigrantes indocumentados son indispensables para la obtención de utilidades. Nadie quiere pagar \$3 por una lechuga.

Pero las zonas urbanas y suburbanas son otra cosa. Los agentes estaban haciendo lo que ellos pensaban probablemente que se esperaba de ellos. No se olviden, muchos nacionalistas quieren que las fuerzas militares de los Estados Unidos "defiendan" a nuestra frontera meridional.

Puesto que California es el territorio de la Proposición 187, estas golpizas son casi disculpables. Los electores creyeron al Gobernador Pete Wilson en 1994 cuando él le dijo que la erradicación de estas sabandijas era la panacea para una economía estatal enferma.

¿Qué viene ahora? ¿Son nueve golpes de bastón lo suficiente para enviar el mensaje a las familias que se mueren de hambre en las zonas rurales de México, en el sentido de que si se atraviesa ilegalmente la frontera de los Estados Unidos, los chichones les esperan a ellos también?

No es probable. Ellos continuarán llegando.

¿Continuará la retórica del odio?

Despierten a la realidad. Eso vende, y éste es un año de elecciones.

De modo que la próxima vez, cuando la cinta de video llegue a estar un poco sangrienta, sólo vuelvan la cabeza. Puede que algún día arreglen la "pieccecita V" para ayudarnos a desintonizar esas tácticas usadas contra los visitantes indocumentados, que son demasiado repulsivas para verlas durante la hora familiar.

Morales From Page One

going to take me to get a headquarters, but ... that's a priority," Morales said at a news conference in Austin. "I want that phone out of my house, I want the papers out of my house."

During the primary campaign, Morales drove himself tens of thousands of miles around Texas in his pickup. His wife was campaign treasurer and his kitchen was campaign central.

Chronically late with campaign finance reports, Morales says a volunteer has stepped in to handle the matter.

He also expects to be flying more, even though he is squeamish about the puddle-jumpers that candidates use to get around in the nation's second-largest state. "The thought of those small planes ... It's quite scary," he said.

Among other campaign events, Morales plans to attend a Democratic fundraiser Thursday at The Mansion, a posh Dallas restaurant.

But he insists that when party big shots want to take

him to lunch, he suggests going to Bennigan's or Chili's "because most people can afford that. We don't have to go to The Mansion."

Morales says he's looking forward to the fall campaign, which is sure to highlight differences between him and the conservative Gramm.

The grandson of Mexican immigrants, Morales supports affirmative action and notes that his family received welfare after his father abandoned them.

He believes the borders need to be controlled but doesn't want to see immigrants become scapegoats. And he supports abortion rights.

The Gramm campaign said it, too, was looking forward to an issues-based campaign.

"This is Mr. Morales' day to bask in the warmth and glow of his election victory yesterday," spokesman Larry Neal said. "We'll not intrude."

Morales also has short-term goals. He wants to attend his daughter's 11th birthday party on Saturday. "Then Sunday, Monday, I may just sit there and stare at the walls," he said.

From Page 1

lidades de ser rebajado en un 17% por el Congreso en esta sesión, dice el Departamento Federal de Enseñanza. Y la legislatura de Connecticut tuvo a bien hace poco eliminar los fondos para el que era quizás el programa precursor de más éxito apoyado por el estado.

Cuando, bajo nuestras narices, hay una respuesta que sólo puede ganar en dos dilemas nacionales -- la escasez de maestros que se aproxima y una generación de estu-

diantes hispanos que fracasa -- la inacción continuada por parte de nuestros dirigentes políticos y de la enseñanza no sería nada menos que negligencia criminal.

Fernando Trulin IV es reportero en Washington, DC., con el semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report.

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Jesucristo subió al cielo por su propio poder, en presencia de muchos de sus discípulos. Ese suceso lo celebramos los Católicos, cada año, el Jueves de la Asunción.

Antes de la Asunción, Jesucristo estaba en el cielo como Dios, pero no como hombre. Desde el "Día de la Asunción" está allá como Dios y como hombre. Nuestro Señor subió al cielo: Para tomar posesión de la

gloria que merecía. Y, para prepararnos un lugar. Y, para interceder por nosotros con Su Padre. Y, para enviarnos al Espíritu Santo.

Jesucristo se mostró después de Su Pasión y les dejó ver, con muchas pruebas, que estaba vivo, apareciéndoseles durante cuarenta días, hablándoles de ese reino de Dios y comiendo con ellos; les encargó a sus discípulos que no se fueran de Jerusalén, sino que esperaran allí la promesa del padre que habían oído de Su propia boca.

Porque Juan ha bautizado con agua, pero dentro de pocos días, ellos, serían bautizados en el Espíritu Santo. Así les prometió el Señor. Y, les dijo: "Recibirán la virtud del Espíritu Santo, que bajará sobre ustedes, para que den testimonio de mí en Jerusalén y en toda Judea y en Samaria y hasta el fin del mundo. (Hechos 1, 3-14).



PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR

POR PASTOR FRANK GARCÍA
Lubbock, Texas

CRISTO MUERTO Y RESUCITADO CONFORME A LAS ESCRITURAS

no se puede dudar que vivimos en los días peligrosos que menciona Pablo a Timoteo en 2Tim. Capítulo 3. Aunque no se puede también dudar que vivimos en un mundo de mucha religión, o muy religiosos: Y que eso es precisamente el peligro que menciona Pablo a Timoteo en 1Tim. 4:1, le dice: "Que habrá doctrinas con espíritu de error. A esto le llama Pablo "días peligrosos." Y Pedro dice que habrá "falsos doctores" y "que muchos seguirán sus disoluciones, por los cuales el camino de la verdad será blasfemado." 2Pd.2:1-2. Las Escrituras nos dicen que vendrán días malos, luego también mencionan días peligrosos; pero los días malos no representan un peligro para la fe cristiana. Porque los días malos, se refiere a lo natural o físico, y no abarca lo espiritual. Mientras que los días malos representan la guerras, hambres, enfermedades, pestilencias terremotos y demás. Y aún hasta a los días últimos o vejez, se le llaman días malos, en los cuales digas no tengo en ellos contentamiento;

Pero esos días malos no representan un peligro al cristiano, porque están en lo físico. pero los días peligrosos de que tanto habla Pablo y Pedro y Juan se refieren a lo espiritual, y ahí está el peligro. Se refiere a que habrá malos y falsos maestros y falsos enseñadores, respecto a la sana doctrina de Cristo y la fe cristiana. Y que como resultado de todo esto, se levantarán grupos por varias partes con diferentes conceptos, ideas y enseñanzas con estilos de vidas tan raros y curiosos que no darán de acuerdo con las Escrituras. Pablo cita: "Que Cristo fue muerto por nuestros pecados conforme a las Escrituras, y que fue sepultado, y que resucitó el tercer día, conforme a las Escrituras" 1Cor.15:1-4. Pablo cita claramente que Cristo es el Salvador del mundo, conforme a las Escrituras Isa.7:14. Y Mateo lo confirma en Cap.1:22. "Y parirá un hijo, y llamará su nombre Jesús, porque El salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados." José y María entendieron claramente que Jesús era el Salvador del mundo conforme a las Escrituras. Y Pedro dijo a los ancianos de Israel "En ningún otro hay salud; porque no hay otro nombre dado a los hombres debajo del cielo en que podamos ser salvos." Cristo mismo "Comenzando desde Moisés, y todos los profetas decrarábales en todas las Escrituras lo que de El decían. Y les dijo estas son las palabras que os hablé estando aún con vosotros; que era necesario que se cumpliesen todas las cosas que están escritas de mí en la ley de Moisés y en los profetas y en los Salmos. Entonces les abrió el entendimiento para que entendiesen las Escrituras." Luc.24:44-45

Pero Pablo dice que si nuestro evangelio está aún encubierto, (Esto es engañosamente ocultado), entre los que se pierden está encubierto." 2Cor.4:3. Por lo que existe la necesidad de seguir en oración, que más vengan al conocimiento del evangelio.

April Fool's Day On A California Highway

By Rick Martínez

There it was on everyone's living-room television screen -- a videotape of two Riverside County sheriff's deputies clubbing a pair of passive Mexican nationals alongside a Southern California freeway on April Fool's Day.

This brutal incident was no prank. Nor did the episode surprise many in the Latino community. Ever since the Rodney King beating in Los Angeles five years ago, Latinos have been waiting for someone to capture on tape a police-chase sequel that starred us.

The beating of Enrique Fúnez Flores, 26, and Alicia Sotero Vásquez, 32, provides an accurate reflection of the way the U.S. government and many of our citizens view the problem of undocumented immigrants -- as a police matter best addressed by heavy police tactics. The heavier, the better.

This is what the action along the U.S.-Mexico border is now all about -- more enforcement, more arrests, more, more, more penalties against these "hordes of aliens" who desperately wade frigid rivers, hike hot deserts, and hop trains, often paying coyotes outrageous sums to deliver them to the Promised Land.

Guess what? Usually hidden from our national conscience, the undocumented are relentlessly chased and brutalized every day.

Mexico's Commission on Human Rights has documented more than 400 border brutality cases involving U.S. law enforcement personnel in the past three years.

A University of Houston study released last month counted 330 Latin Americans who were killed in the past decade just while trying to cross the Texas-Mexico border. Many, found floating in the Río Grande, were never identified.

These undocumented dreamers are beaten by

coyotes if they don't pay the freight at border points of entry. Those who avoid the initial traps set by man and nature are often robbed or killed in the poor barrios where they try to build new lives, many times by Mexican Americans with whom they share a common heritage.

Others who stand on street corners waiting for day labor are regularly ripped off by exploitative employers.

They are perpetual victims because they have no one to complain to, really. If the April 1 clubbing had occurred out of public view, there would be no issue to debate.

The episode began when a pickup truck loaded with undocumented workers was spotted in Temecula, Calif., 110 miles southeast of Los Angeles, apparently trying to use back roads to evade the Border Patrol at its checkpoint on Interstate 15.

U.S. Border Patrol agents started the chase, then turned it over to the sheriff's department. After 80 high-speed miles, there was a lot of adrenaline pumping when the truck was finally pulled over. The video, shot by a TV news crew from a helicopter, shows most of the truck's passengers trying to flee. Nineteen were captured.

As other officers chased the fleeing suspects, Deputy Tracy Watson came upon Flores and Vásquez, who did not run. The KCAL-TV helicopter captured Watson clubbing Flores six times as he stood between a guardrail and the truck.

Then he clubbed Vásquez. Pulling her down to the ground by her hair, he clubbed her again. At that time Deputy Kurtis Franklin happened on the scene and clubbed Vásquez twice himself.

There they were in our living rooms, wrapped in 15 seconds of violent video. Like the Rodney King tape, the April Fool's Day clubbing was

broadcast internationally.

It served as a momentary counterforce to the propaganda spread in print and on television news magazine shows, in politicians' speeches, and in office coffee-break conversations that all undocumented immigrants are leeches and pests who drain state and federal coffers of funds.

When they are beaten with clubs, the undocumented tend to look less like pests, more human, more like victims. On camera, Flores and Vásquez appeared submissive and frightened.

But can we really blame the two deputies for the action that a sheriff's spokesman said "embarrassed" his department? They did what the President, the Congress, and our border-state governors say they want -- to crack down on illegal immigrants. Whatever it takes. Watson and Franklin just took their words a little too literally.

Our tax dollars are being funneled into an all-time record INS budget. The unspoken national policy remains to go soft on enforcement in fertile agricultural areas where undocumented immigrants are pivotal to profits. No one wants to pay \$3 a head for lettuce. But urban and sub-

urban areas are another story.

The deputies were doing what they probably thought was expected of them. Don't forget, many nativists want the U.S. military to "defend" our southern border.

Because California is Proposition 187 territory, these beatings are almost excusable. Voters believed Governor Pete Wilson in 1994 when he fed them the line that eradicating these pests was the panacea for an ailing state economy.

What next? Are nine blows by the club enough to send the message back to starving families in rural Mexico that if you cross the U.S. border illegally, lumps await you, too?

Not likely. They'll keep coming.

Will the hate rhetoric continue?

Get real. It sells, and this is an election year.

So next time when the video gets a little bloody, just turn your head. Maybe someday they'll rig the V-chip to help us tune out those tactics used on undocumented visitors that are too repulsive for viewing during the family hour.

Rick Martínez is an editorial writer for the Press-Enterprise in Riverside, Calif.

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