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Community Asks Why Gonzalez Rejected

By Bidal Agüero

One question dominated two meetings in two days in Lubbock's minority community this past week. "Why wasn't Tommy Gonzalez hired?"

In an effort to get a reply to the question representatives of several of the community's most active organizations met at the monthly meeting of the Hispanic Agenda. Organizations represented included the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, two LULAC councils, the American G.I. Forum, Lubbock Centro Aztlan and the Hispanic Association of Women. The meetings came after a final

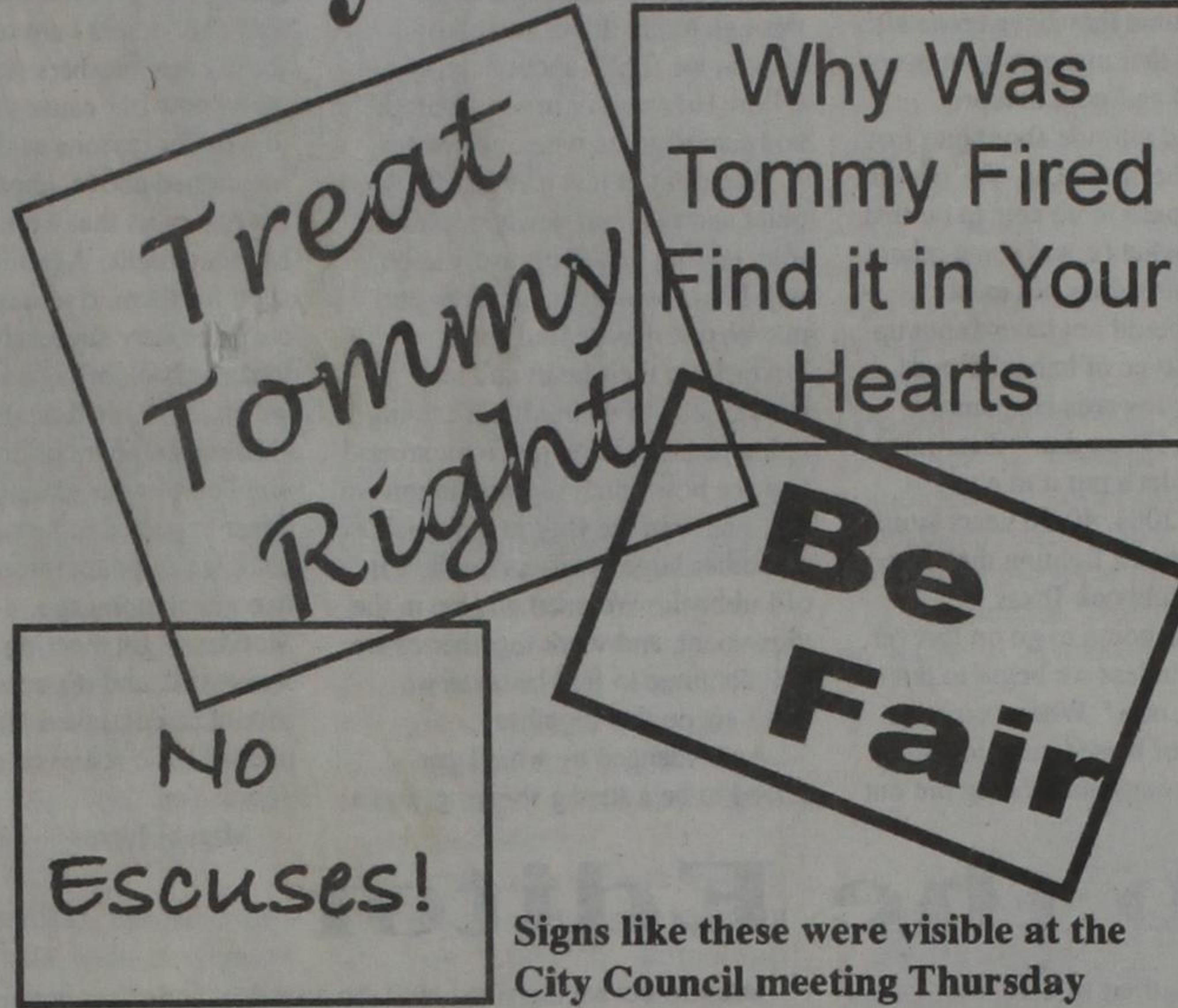
decision by the Lubbock City Council not to hire Gonzalez as City Manager to fill the void in the city's structure. The decision followed a nine-month search which attracted 67 candidates and that eventually was narrowed down to three finalists including Gonzalez, Ricky Childers, an African American, and William Pupo, an Anglo. Pupo dropped out because of another job offer and a subsequent final decision was made by City Fathers to re-establish the search.

The organizations claimed to reflect the cries of racism being shouted by the minority community. "How can we believe any different?" Asked one representative. "All of a sudden there were two minority applicants left and then they decided to start the process from scratch."

"I feel abandoned and the entire community should feel abandoned," said Councilman Victor Hernandez.

Talk shows and Letters to the editor had continually called for Gonzalez to be hired. His nine months on the job performance drew high applause from both the Council and the community as he guided the City out of a 20 million dollar deficit, and through an election that increased the City's sales tax and decreased the property tax. During the search for a City Manager, City Fathers had appointed Gonzalez as interim manager although he continued to be an applicant for the job.

A citizen advisory committee was charged with the responsibility of screening candidates. Member Esther Sepeda described the group as being composed of "a bunch of gray haired biased white men." One African American, two Anglos and Gonzalez exited as finalists for the job and were



Signs like these were visible at the City Council meeting Thursday

submitted to the City Council for consideration.

"I had to fight all the way for Tommy to be one of the finalist. It seemed that they just didn't want him," said Sepeda. She added that it seemed that Gonzalez main drawback was his lack of experience. The job description asked for 10 years of senior management experience. Another drawback has his alleged inauspicious relationship with some City officials and City workers. "Tommy expected everyone to work hard, as hard as he did," said Sepeda. "I guess they didn't like that."

According to Lubbock Mayor Mark MacDougal, it was only through the efforts of Council member Gary Boren that Gonzalez made it out of committee. Boren said that he had personally made calls in support of Gonzalez during the last week of considerations.

"If Gary had not made those calls, Tommy would not have been one of the finalist," said the Mayor.

During the Hispanic Agenda meeting, methods of protesting the actions of the Council were discussed and included boycotting City owned Lubbock Power and Light and asking all members of City boards and commissions to resign. A final decision was made to encourage some sort of action during the regular City meeting.

At a second meeting by concerned Hispanics including Councilman Hernandez, Commissioner Flores, several members of the Chamber and three prominent attorneys held at the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce offices, Mayor MacDougal revealed what he claimed was the main reason for not hiring Gonzalez.

The Mayor said, as he had told an

earlier press conference "with regard to 'Gonzalez' and with the advice from internal and external legal counsel, there was a consensus to not place the City of Lubbock in jeopardy due to the information that is contained in these two documents."

The Mayor referred to two documents issued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which concluded that Gonzalez had improperly laid off Sharlett Chowning. The Mayor claimed that if Gonzalez had been hired, Chowning would have had a bigger claim against the City.

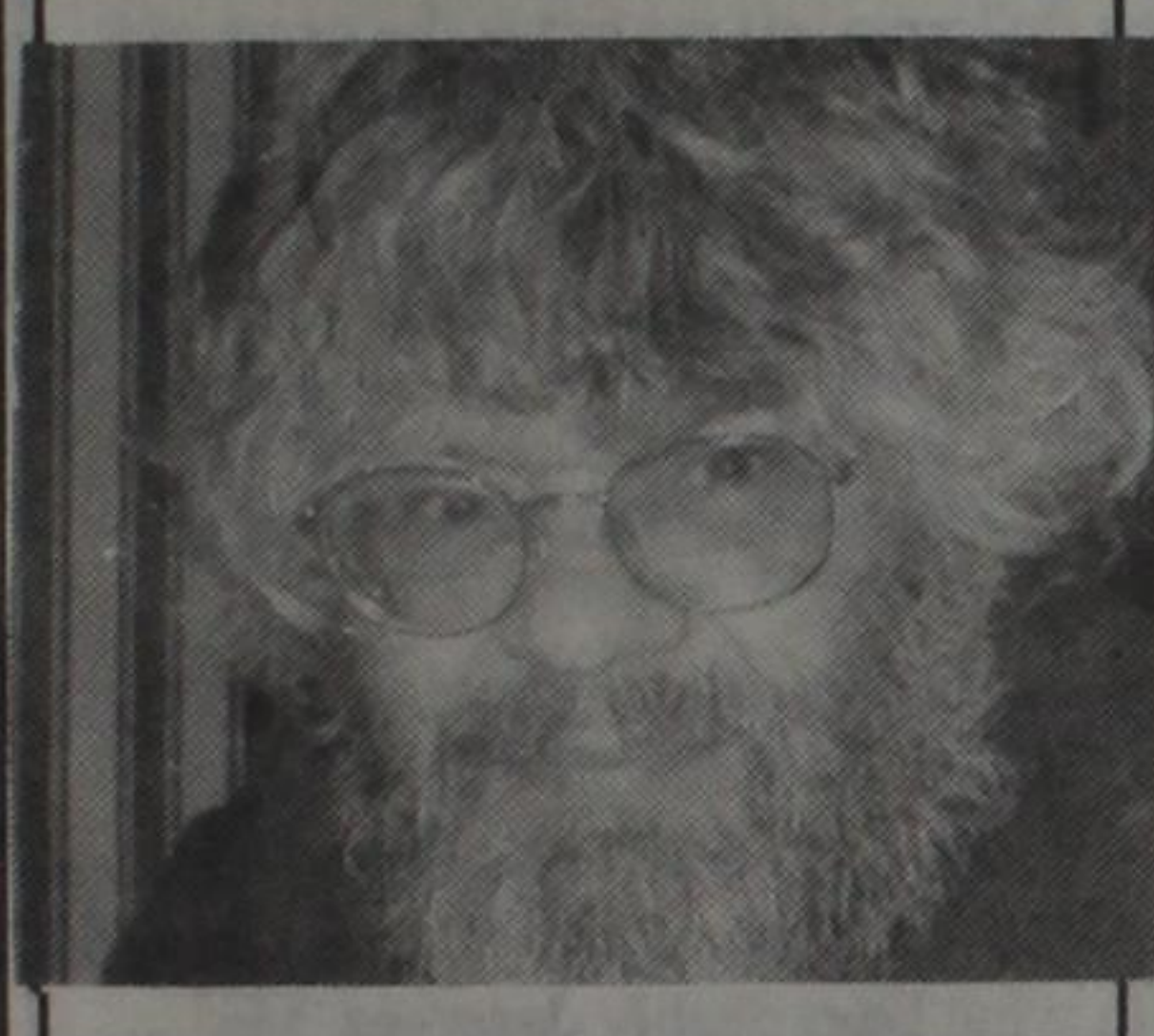
After questioning by those present, it was revealed that the City Council had known about the allegations made by Chowning since October. "In my mind the pre-determination letter by EEOC is nothing more than an excuse that the Council can use to hang their hats on," said Hernandez. Several attorneys attending the meeting agreed that pre-determination letters rarely mean that adequate grounds exist for a viable suit. It was revealed that a District Judge hired by the City had found no viable grounds for the suit.

"The truth is that this Council is trying to micro-manage the City and that not all information is being released to the public," said Hernandez.

Holding up and pointing to a copy of the EEOC complaint, this writer asked, "Now that Gonzalez was not hired, will the EEOC complaint go away?"

"No," the Mayor answered. "Then why wasn't Tommy hired?" There was no answer from the Mayor.

Comentarios by Bidal Agüero



Close to 100 persons got up early on Thursday to go tell the City Council they weren't happy with their actions relating to the hiring of a City Mnaager and with all the results of the recent efforts to hire a new City Manager.

"I'm mad!" said emilio Abeyta. "I'm mad because of the way you have treated this young man who has worked so hard for this City. I'm mad because of the lame excuses that you have been trying to put over our community. We do not believe you!" he told the City Council.

Isabel Luna pointed out countless of ways the City had discriminated. "You said you wanted a 'gray haired man for the job. Isn't that age and women discrimination?"

The citizen spoke and the respoonse from Frank Morrison was to insult their efforts by saying that he was "Ouraged for the people having the courage to come and accuse him of not giving Tommy a chance."

An't that the Pits!!

The citizens responded by leaving the Chamber.

Let's hope that we will respond at the Ballot Box.

Bush calls for immigration overhaul

Por Olivier Knox

Washington, D.C., January 7, 2004 (AFP) - U.S. President George W. Bush called Wednesday for a sweeping overhaul of immigration policy that could enable millions of undocumented persons to work legally in the United States for a limited time.

"We must make our immigration laws more rational and more humane. And I believe we can do so without jeopardizing the livelihoods of American citizens," he said in a speech from the White House East Room.

Even before the president spelled out the plan's principles, critics challenged his proposals as unworkable or as a cynical ploy to win more Latino voters, a rapidly

growing bloc, to his 2004 reelection bid.

"The president has finally come out and said something about immigrants during the election year, and he's clearly trying to court the Latino vote," said Michelle Waslin, of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), a leading Hispanic advocacy group.

While aides canvassed the U.S. Congress for support, Bush himself reached out by telephone to Mexican President Vicente Fox, with whom he was to discuss the plan on the sidelines of the January 12-13 Summit of the Americas in Mexico.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the two leaders had "a good conversation." Fox later told a press conference he found Bush's proposed immigration overhaul "very interesting."

"We're going to have to wait for the details," said Fox, whose government expressed frustration when the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks put border security ahead of immigration reforms on Washington's agenda.

(Continued Page 5)

LULAC to Appeal Texas Redistricting Decision

Austin, TX - The League of United Latin American Citizens is extremely disappointed by the split decision along party lines of a three judge federal panel to uphold the blatantly retrogressive and discriminatory Texas redistricting plan.

"The Voting Rights Act has effectively been eliminated by political ideologues in Texas," stated Margaret Moran, Texas State Director. "A clearly retrogressive and discriminatory redistricting plan has been upheld in order to further the divisive agenda of political operatives regardless of its impact on minority voters."

Texas LULAC is seeking an immediate stay of this decision and will be appealing to the United States Supreme Court. LULAC will not allow the trampling of minority voting rights in the name of partisan politics to become enshrined in the law.

"We plan to appeal this partisan decision to the highest court in the land," stated Margaret Moran, Texas State

Director. "It will be up to the Supreme Court to decide if minority voting interests will still be protected or if the Voting Rights Act is now meaningless."

"The National Office of LULAC will continue to support the efforts of our Texas membership to preserve minority voting rights in their state," said

Hector M. Flores, LULAC National President. "Our entire membership is keenly aware of the dangerous precedent that this decision will have on the Voting Rights Act if it is allowed to stand."

"We are disappointed that two of three judges on the Federal panel chose to put partisan considerations ahead of the rights of minority Americans," stated Luis Vera, LULAC General Counsel. "We intend to make sure that this decision is planted firmly in the minds of Latinos over the coming year. Politicians must learn that they cannot reach out to Latino voters with one hand and simultaneously undermine their votes with the other."



Bush propone legalizar trabajadores indocumentados en EE.UU.

Por Laura Bonilla

Washington, D.C., 7 de enero, 2004 (AFP) - El presidente George W. Bush anunció el miércoles una reforma migratoria que legalizaría la situación de cerca de ocho millones de indocumentados que ya trabajan en Estados Unidos, la mitad de ellos mexicanos, días antes de viajar a México para la Cumbre especial de las Américas.

"Por sentido común y justicia, nuestras leyes deben permitir a los trabajadores que deseen ingresar a nuestro país a llenar los empleos que los estadounidenses no están llenando", dijo Bush en un discurso en la Casa Blanca, donde llamó al Congreso a aprobar nuevas leyes de inmigración.

El programa "ofrecerá estatus legal como trabajadores temporales a millones de hombres y mujeres indocumentados actualmente empleados en Estados Unidos y a aquellos en países extranjeros que busquen participar en el programa", explicó.

La propuesta del presidente estadounidense, que requiere la aprobación del Congreso, otorgaría visas de trabajo de tres años, renovables por un periodo indeterminado, a quienes ya posean un trabajo en Estados Unidos o a extranjeros auspiciados por un empleador que no encuentre a un estadounidense para llenar ese empleo.

Los tres años "serán renovables, pero tendrán un fin", dijo Bush, que insistió en su oposición a una amnistía masiva para los cerca de ocho millones de indocumentados en este país.

Para retornar a sus países de origen, los extranjeros contarán con incentivos tales como el reconocimiento de los años trabajados en Estados Unidos para sus jubilaciones y la apertura aquí de cuentas de ahorro exentas de impuestos, que pueden ser abiertas una vez salgan del país, indicó.

(Continúa en la página 5)



México Acepta El Plan De Bush

El gobierno de México dio la bienvenida al plan migratorio del presidente George W. Bush, que otorga empleo temporal a los indocumentados pero, al declararse insatisfecho, anunció que insistirá en concretar un programa total e integral de regularización migratoria.

"Nunca se puede pedir al secretario de Relaciones Exteriores si estará satisfecho con esto, no", subrayó el canciller Luis Ernesto Derbez a los reporteros en una conferencia de prensa.

Por consiguiente, agregó, "seguiremos trabajando en el logro de lo que siempre ha planteado el presidente [Vicente] Fox, tenemos que analizar, por lo mismo, lo que serían las características del programa y seguiremos trabajando hasta que se obtenga lo que realmente hemos buscado, que es un programa total e integral".

El responsable de la política exterior refirió que este plan del gobierno de México consiste fundamentalmente en que "tanto a aquellos que busquen de manera temporal, como a aquellos que ya se encuentran en Estados Unidos se les respete y se les cumpla la ventaja de tener sus derechos laborales, derechos humanos totalmente protegidos".

Sin embargo, Derbez, a nombre del gobierno mexicano, dio la "bienvenida" a la propuesta del presidente Bush, de la que dijo "coincide verdaderamente con un reconocimiento a la contribución que hacen los migrantes a la vida económica y social de ese país".

Manifestó que México "valora asimismo la importancia de que se haya retomado el tema tan complejo como es el de la migración por la Admin-

istración del presidente Bush", que consideró es de la mayor importancia para el bienestar de millones de personas que viven en territorio estadounidense, entre los que la mayoría son ciudadanos de nacionalidad mexicana.

Derbez se mostró consciente de que la propuesta del mandatario norteamericano va a ser discutida en diversos círculos políticos, económicos y sociales de ambos países, y que en ese contexto muy particularmente será importante lo que haga como análisis, evaluación y decisión el Congreso de Estados Unidos.

"No obstante —aclaró— tendremos que reconocer todos que esto ha permitido que se abra una oportunidad clara para no sólo imprimir, sino mantener como prioridad", en la relación bilateral entre las dos naciones.

El titular de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE) adelantó que el gobierno del presidente Fox va a continuar trabajando para responder, con visión de Estado, a los retos que está planteando esta propuesta, entre ellos, la vecindad entre uno y otro país.

Recordó que, desde febrero de 2002, Fox y Bush, en el encuentro que tuvieron en Guajuato, coincidieron en la necesidad de establecer mecanismos para el proceso migratorio que permitieran que éste se diera bajo "bases legales, seguras, ordenadas y, sobre todo, respetuosas de los derechos humanos y laborales de los migrantes".

Paso a paso Derbez hizo hincapié en que, desde entonces, las autoridades mexicanas han sido incisivas en una propuesta en la que se tome en cuenta toda la situación migratoria, tanto de quie-



nes emigran en busca de empleo como de quienes ya se encuentran de manera indocumentada en suelo estadounidense, así como en la modernización y ampliación de los esquemas que permitan más trabajos temporales.

En este sentido, informó que el gobierno de México seguirá dando análisis y evaluación a la evolución de este plan original. Corroboró que la estrategia consiste en acudir a los canales diplomáticos para lograr lo que ha dado en llamar "el proceso paso a paso de una solución a esta situación migratoria".

Durante la sesión de preguntas, Derbez resumió el asunto

como "el fin del principio, y no el principio del fin" ya que, desde su punto de vista, "hoy tuvimos respuesta a lo que se ha planteado en materia migratoria de tener parámetros para cosas concretas".

Adelantó que en este sentido el próximo lunes, en la reunión de Fox con su homólogo norteamericano en Monterrey, Nuevo León, se propondrá formar un equipo de trabajo y agendas con el objeto de concretar el proyecto dado a conocer y poder aplicarlo a la particular circunstancia de México.

Agregó que la propuesta de Bush es una respuesta a la es-

trategia "paso a paso" que acordó el año pasado con el secretario norteamericano de Estado, Colin Powell, "para garantizar la seguridad, el empleo y el respeto a los derechos humanos y laborales" de los inmigrantes mexicanos.

No es electoral

Al plantearse el hecho de que la proposición del presidente Bush ocurre justo en un año de elecciones en Estados Unidos, y por ende lo que se buscaría de fondo es el voto latino, Derbez respondió:

"En el gobierno y en la Cancillería no trabajamos sobre la base de calendarios electorales, ni nuestros ni de ningún otro país, trabajamos sobre la base de la necesidad de proteger los derechos de nuestros ciudadanos y de lograr los beneficios máximos para ellos".

"La seguridad y la migración son temas propios y no hay relación entre ambos", manifestó Derbez.

Horas antes, el presidente Fox confirmó haberse comunicado por la mañana con su homólogo estadounidense, quien le adelantó que daría a conocer su proyecto migratorio.

El presidente Bush todavía no hacía su planteamiento for-

mal y el jefe del Estado mexicano ya calificaba de "muy interesante" la propuesta que ambas partes han venido diseñando desde hace mucho tiempo.

"Es un programa muy interesante, y vamos a esperar detalles, es un programa que venimos trabajando desde antes de que fuéramos presidentes", expuso Fox en la Escuela Primaria Participación Social No. 1 de la colonia Doctores del Distrito Federal.

Comentó que "él [Bush] tiene el deseo y va a hacer la propuesta de un plan migratorio para hacer un reconocimiento claro al valor de estas mexicanas y de estos mexicanos que se encuentran trabajando allá, en los Estados Unidos".

De acuerdo con el mandatario mexicano, su colega estadounidense "va a hacer un reconocimiento buscando que todas y todos aquellos que trabajan allá sean reconocidos legalmente. Que puedan entonces tener todos los derechos que tiene cualquier trabajador en aquel país, aunque no sean nacionales americanos o no tengan una documentación en este momento".



ASB sabe que son dos

Chapter 10: Two Latinos now serve U.S. as Ambassadors, Another on the Way

by Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

Of the 163 U.S. ambassadors presently serving the United States, two are Hispanic. One is Puerto Rican; the other is Mexican American. Still in their early 40s, both serve in the Western Hemisphere. Both are male and political appointees.

A Cuba-born veteran of the Foreign Service will soon join them as the third Hispanic ambassador.

The three are:
— Puerto Rico native Hans Hertell, 42, serves as U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. President Bush appointed him in November 2001.

An attorney with more than 20 years experience in government, public affairs and corporate and banking law, Hertell found his political activism rewarding. In 2000, he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention. The year before, then-Governor of Texas George W. Bush appointed him to co-chair his Presidential Exploratory Committee in Puerto Rico.

Additionally, Hertell has served as Puerto Rico state chairman of the Young Republican National Association and a member of the national steering committee for George H. W. Bush's 1988 presidential

campaign.

Hertell holds a B.A. degree from New York's Fordham University and a law degree from the University of Puerto Rico.

He is married and has three daughters.

— Ambassador Antonio O. Garza Jr., 44, was sworn in last November by President Bush as the third Mexican American to perform as our ambassador to Mexico.

Garza began his public service career in Texas as a Cameron County judge. First elected to that post in 1988, he was re-elected in 1990. Then in 1998 he was elected to the Texas Railroad Commission. Before that, he had served as Secretary of State and Senior Advisor to George W. Bush when Bush was governor of Texas. He also served as the state's lead liaison on border and Mexico affairs.

Garza says his public and private sector experiences combined to prepare him well for a diplomatic post. He adds, "Growing up along the Texas-Mexico border, you develop, nearly intuitively, an appreciation for the nature of the relationship."

He is not married.
— A career diplomat, Lino Gutierrez, 52, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in April to

head the U.S. Embassy in Argentina.

Born in Havana, Cuba, he has served as a Foreign Service Officer for more than 26 years. Before his most recent nomination, Gutierrez held the post of International Affairs Advisor at the National War College in Washington, D.C. He also did a stint as Acting Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs.

Prior to his current appoint-

ment, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua from 1996 to 1999.

He attended the University of Alabama, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Masters degree in Latin American Studies. He is married and has three daughters.

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Some Ups - George Lopez - & Downs - Other Sitcoms

By Antonio Mejias-Rentas

Here, in the second of four columns on U.S. Latinos' progress in the entertainment field in 2003, are some of their major ups and downs in the field of television:

In February NBC aired "Kingpin," a four-part miniseries about a family-run Mexican drug cartel that starred Yancey Arias and Angela Alvarado Rosa. The network aired it with a second Spanish-language soundtrack, and offered separate "directors' cut" and Spanish versions on affiliated networks Bravo and *Telemundo*. In spite of some complaints about its violent content and stereotypical portrayals, "Kingpin" earned strong enough ratings to be considered for a full-time series, but did not make the cut for the fall.

When the networks announced their prime-time programming for the 2003-2004 season in May, there were three new shows with Latino actors, characters and story lines, all on Fox.

The network did premiere the sitcom "Luis," starring Luis Guzmán and Diana-Maria Riva, and the drama "Skin," with (Rachel Ticotin and DJ Cotrona), but it quickly canceled them both due to poor ratings.

It also shelved the comedy "The Ortegas," which it had picked up from NBC, without airing a single episode.

Other canceled shows in 2003 included the WB comedy "Greetings From Tucson," a sitcom about a Mexican-Irish family that did not come back for a third season in the fall, and "LA Dragnet," which had added two Latina detectives played by Roselyn Sánchez and Eva Longoria to its story



line.

In contrast, the hit ABC sitcom "George Lopez" came back for a full second season, performing strongly as the lead-in for the network's revamped Friday-night comedy lineup.

It joined other returning network shows with Latino actors in lead roles, including ABC's "NYPD Blue" (Esai Morales and Jacqueline Obradors), Fox's "That '70s Show" (Wilmer Valderrama), WB's "Gilmore Girls" (Liz Torres) and NBC's "Third Watch" (Anthony Ruivivar).

In spite of the cancellations, two groups had reports showing increases in the number of Latinos working on network TV.

In October the National Latino Media Coalition gave the

four major networks straight A's in that year's report card for their efforts in improving diversity.

In December, the Writers Guild of America, West released a study that showed an increase in writers of color working on prime-time TV.

In July, PBS announced production of a new, 13-episode season of the drama "American Family" from filmmaker Gregory Nava.

Production began in the winter in Los Angeles and Mexico for the episodes expected to air in April. The program stars Edward James Olmos, Raquel Welch, Sonia Braga and Esai Morales.

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Los Latinos en las Películas 2003: Mucha Conmoción y Emoción

Por Antonio Mejias-Rentas

La defunción de la Reina de la Salsa, los triunfos de cineastas latinoamericanos en Hollywood y de artistas latinos en los EEUU en las tablas de Broadway, además de expectativas minimizadas para los hispanos en las pantallas de televisión, marcan los hitos del año que acaba de pasar.

A continuación se encuentran algunos de los puntos notables para los artistas de cine latinos de los EEUU en el año 2003: Fue nominado un número mayor que nunca de cineastas hispanos a los premios del Oscar. Tres cineastas recibieron el Oscar en la ceremonia que se llevó a cabo en marzo en Los Angeles: Pedro Almodóvar, redactor/director español (en la categoría del mejor guión original para "Hable con ella"); artista de maquillaje Beatrice del Alba (compartió un premio para "Frida") y músico Luis Restó (colaboró con la canción ganadora de la película "8 Mile").

La película "Frida" recibió seis nominaciones, incluyendo una en la categoría de mejor actriz para la artista mexicana Salma Hayek, quien produjo la película. ("Frida" ganó un segundo Oscar, en la categoría de mejor partitura, para el compositor Eliot Goldenthal).

Otros que recibieron nominaciones fueron los hermanos Alfonso y Carlos Cuarón, de

México, quienes escribieron el guión para la película "Y tu mamá también", y su compatriota Carlos Carrera, director de "El crimen del Padre Amaro", nominada en la categoría de mejor película en lengua extranjera.

Alfonso Cuarón, quien pasó gran parte del año en Inglaterra con la filmación de la tercera película de la serie Harry Potter, formó parte de un grupo de jóvenes mexicanos que han dejado su huella en Hollywood.

Otro fue Alejandro González Iñárritu, cuya primera película rodada en inglés, "21 Grams", debutó en el festival del cine internacional en Venecia en agosto, donde ganó en la categoría de mejor actor para Sean Penn, y cerró el festival de cine en Nueva York en octubre.

"21 Grams" alcanzó la lista de las mejores diez películas de varios críticos en el 2003, y sus estrellas, además de Penn, Benicio del Toro y Naomi Watts, recibieron consideración para la nominación del Oscar.

Tampoco se quedaron quietos los dos jóvenes estrellas de "Y tu mamá también". Gael García Bernal hizo de Ernesto "Che" Guevara en la adaptación cinematográfica de su obra autobiográfica "Notas de viaje" (en español, dirigida por Walter Salles de Brasil con el guión de José Rivera, de Puerto Rico), que debuta este

Page 4
mes en el festival Sundance, e hizo de protagonista principal en "La mala educación" de Almodóvar, que saldrá también este año. Diego Luna aparece en películas rodadas en México, "Nicotina"; en España, "Los soldados de Salamina"; en Puerto Rico, "Dirty Dancing 2" y en los Estados Unidos, "Open Range". Saldrá próximamente en una nueva película de Steven Spielberg, "Terminal".

Fox 2000 sacó "Chasing Papi" en abril, pero la película, dirigida a un público latino en los EEUU no tuvo la salida en taquilla que se esperaba.

Los actores principales de la comedia romántica fueron Roselyn Sánchez, actriz de Hollywood (quien más adelante sacaría su primer disco compacto), cantante popular mexicana-americana Jaci Velásquez, cantante y actor mexicano Eduardo Verástegui y modelo y personalidad de televisión colombiana Sofía Vergara.

La película menos exitosa del año fue "Gigli", con la estrella Jennifer López y su novio Ben Affleck - pareja de Hollywood cuya relación recibió tanta publicidad que la prensa comenzó a referirse a los dos con el sobrenombre "Bennifer". La película, que costó \$54 millones, y durante la cual se juntaron los actores, debutó abismalmente en agosto, con un total en taquilla de sólo \$3.8 millones. La pareja, quejándose de la excesiva atención de la prensa, canceló abruptamente sus nupcias, que iban a realizarse en septiembre.

López, quien no emitió un disco compacto original en el 2003, continuó apareciendo en los titulares, más por sus actividades personales que por su trabajo. La actriz completó sólo una película el año pasado, el drama "An Unfinished Life" frente a Robert Redford.

En junio López despidió a su administrador de cinco años, Benny Medina, y luego le abrió juicio, reclamándole todo el dinero que ganó como empleado de ella. Por la misma época llegó a un acuerdo financiero sin llevar a cabo un caso judicial con Adam Shankman, director de la película "Wedding Planner", quien le abrió juicio por el origen de una idea referente a una nueva versión de "Carmen".

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Univision to Sell Stock, Buy Out Clear Channel Stake

Spanish-language media company Univision Communications Inc. on Tuesday said it would offer 15.8 million shares to the public and use the proceeds to repurchase a stake held by Clear Channel Communications Inc.

Univision, whose stock fell 4 percent in morning trade, said it would use all proceeds from the sale to repurchase 15.8 million of its shares held by a

unit of U.S. radio station owner Clear Channel.

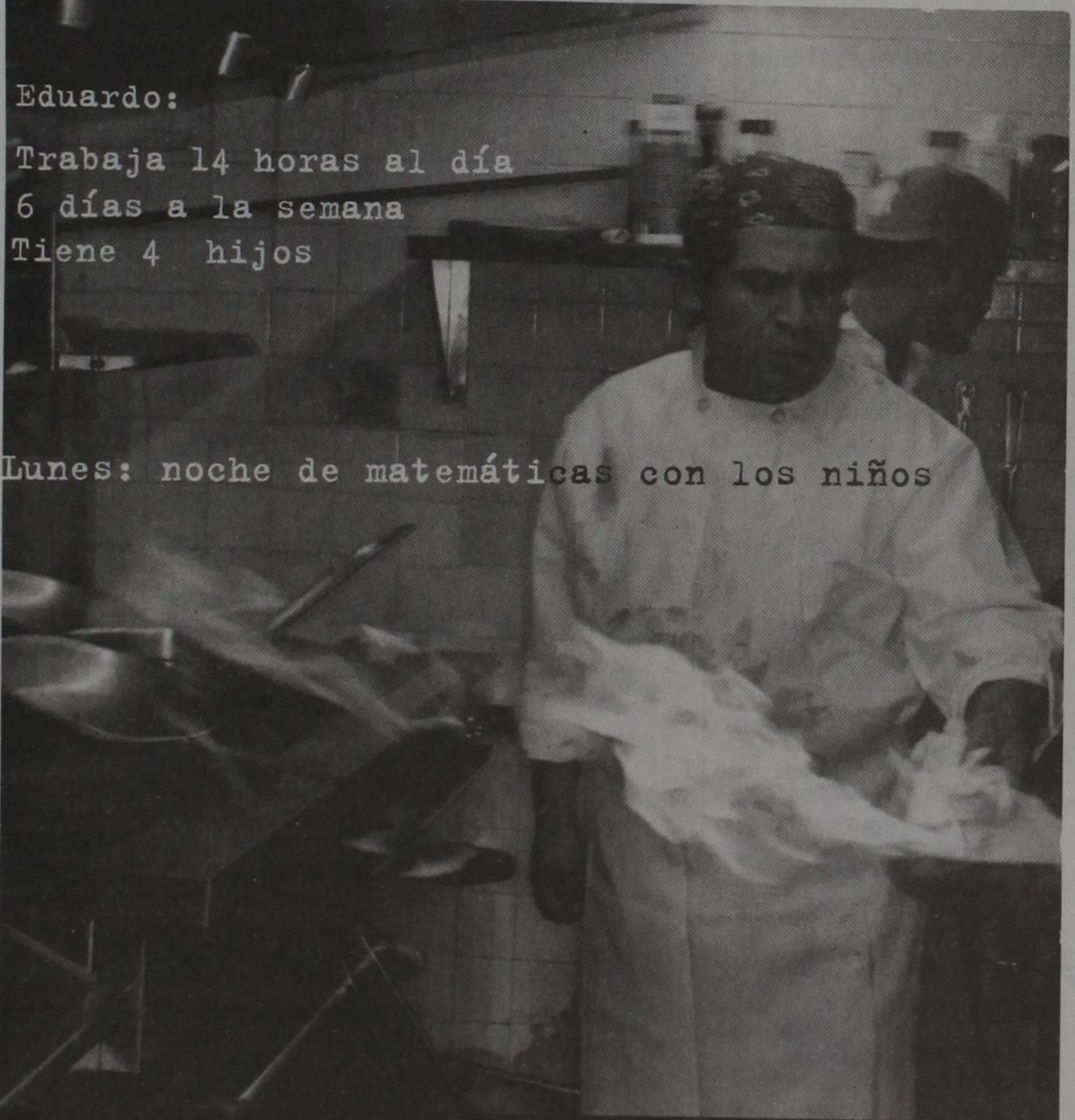
The repurchased shares would be canceled immediately and the transaction would not contribute to any dilution of earnings per share, the company said.

Clear Channel would no longer own any of Univision's common stock after the transaction is completed, expected to coincide with the closing of

the public offering, Univision said.

Media analysts had speculated that Clear Channel might try to cash in on its Univision shares after Univision closed its \$3.2 billion purchase of Spanish-language radio company Hispanic Broadcasting Corp. in September.

Univision shares fell \$1.63 to \$38.30 in midday trading on the New York Stock Exchange.



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Latinos on Film in 2003: Much Motion & Emotion

By Antonio Mejias-Rentas

The passing of the Queen of Salsa, the triumphs of Latin American filmmakers in Hollywood and of U.S. Latino artists on Broadway, plus deflated ex-

pectations for Hispanics on network television, marked the year that just ended.

Following are some of the major highlights for U.S. Latino artists in 2003 in film:



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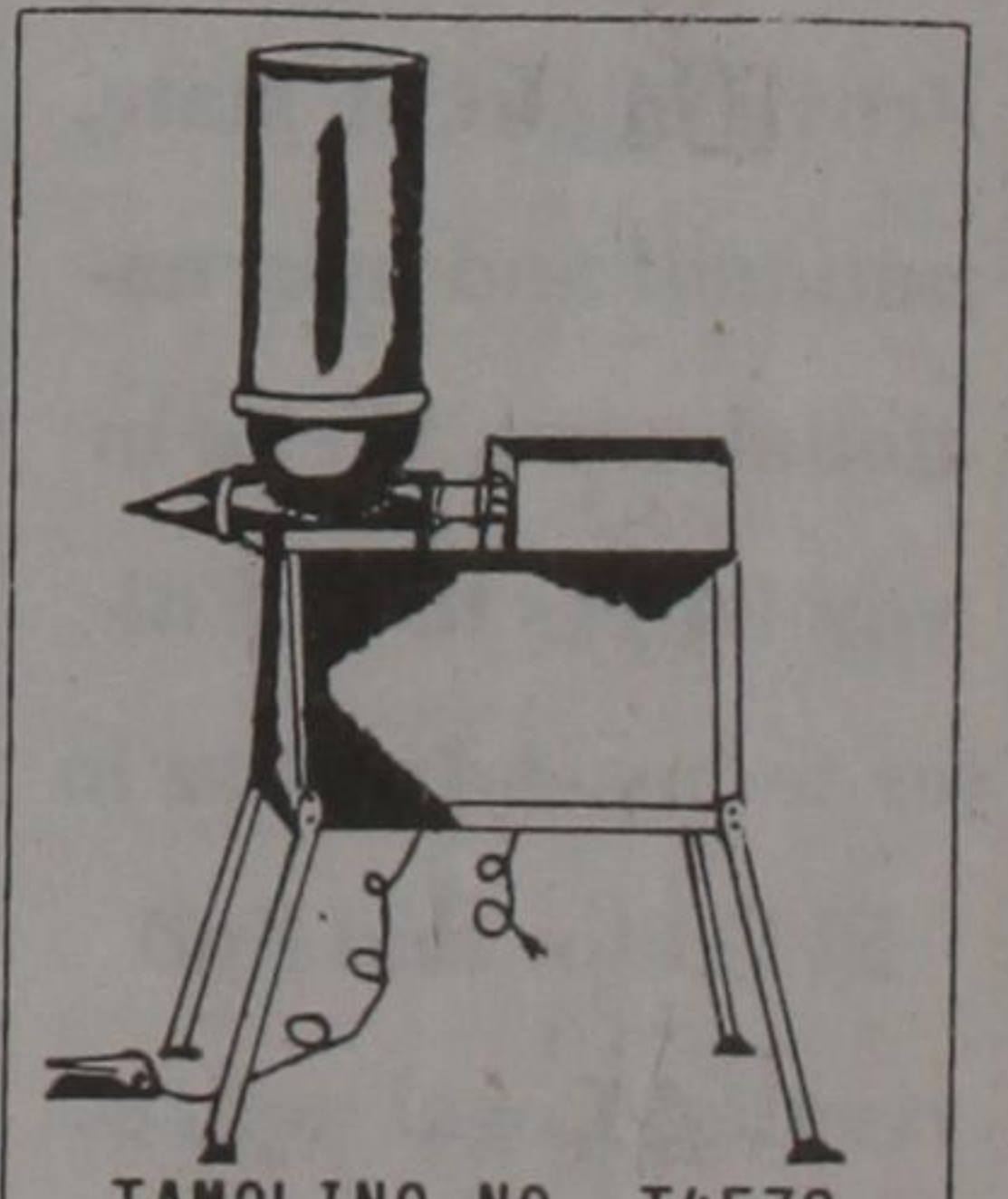
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Crackdown May Be Slowing Music Downloads

The recording industry's legal onslaught against Internet song-swappers appears to be having its desired effect. The percentage of Americans who download music online has been sliced in half, according to a report released Sunday.

Only 14 percent of Internet users surveyed from Nov. 18 to Dec. 14 said they sometimes download songs to their computers, according to the report by the Pew Internet & American Life Project and comScore Media Metrix, a Web tracking firm.

The downloading figure was 29 percent in a May survey on the subject, and also in February 2001.

The survey did not distinguish between use of free, "peer-to-peer" music-sharing sites such as Kazaa, and licensed, commercial downloading sites such as the new Napster, MusicMatch, Rhapsody and iTunes.

However, researchers believe the plunge largely affected peer-to-peer downloading, and attributed that to the Recording Industry Association of America's strategy of suing nearly



400 individual song-swappers for copyright violations since September. Moreover, most of the licensed commercial sites didn't exist when previous surveys were conducted and this study said they have attracted high numbers of users.

Most of the RIAA's cases have been settled; though the record labels can legally demand \$150,000 per song, people familiar with the cases have said most settlements have been for \$2,500 to \$7,500.

Usage of Kazaa fell 15 per-

cent from November 2002 to November 2003, according to comScore. Other peer-to-peer music-sharing sites also experienced usage declines. The drop at BearShare was 9 percent, while WinMX lost 25 percent of its audience and Grokster plunged 59 percent.

RIAA chief executive Mitch Bainwol was heartened by the Pew study but said the lawsuits against individual users

would continue in 2004.

"We would not look at any single measure and make a statement of victory," he said. "But what we do know is this: The lawsuits have had a profound impact on awareness and fewer people are downloading (illegally), and that's good news."

The music business suffered through another down year in 2003, with overall units sold dropping 0.8 percent, according to Nielsen SoundScan. CD sales fell 2 percent. But the fourth quarter saw an overall gain of 10.5 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The Pew survey found that music downloading remains far more common among Internet users between 18 and 29 years of age. Some 28 percent of people in that age group get songs online, compared with 13 percent of people in their 30s and 40s and 6 percent of Web surfers over 50.

Thirteen percent of white Internet users do it, compared with 25 percent of blacks and 20 percent of Hispanics.

The phone survey involved 1,358 people and had a margin of error of 3 percentage points.

From Page 4

good part of the year in England filming the third Harry Potter movie, was part of a group of young Mexican filmmakers leaving their mark in Hollywood.

Another was Alejandro González Iñárritu, whose first English-language film, "21 Grams," premiered at the Venice International Film Festival in August, where it won a Best Actor award for Sean Penn, and closed the New York Film Festival in October.

"21 Grams" made several critics' top-10 list of 2003 and its stars, besides Penn, Benicio del Toro and Naomi Watts, were considered contenders for Academy Award nominations.

And the two young stars of "Y tu mamá también" were kept busy. Gael García Bernal played Ernesto "Che" Guevara in the film adaptation of the autobiographical "The Motorcycle Diaries" (in Spanish, directed by Brazilian Walter Salles with a screenplay by Puerto Rican José Rivera), which premieres this month at the Sundance Festival, and starred in Almodovar's "La mala educación," also expected this year. Diego Luna made films in Mexico ("Nicotina"); Spain ("Los soldados de Salamina"); Puerto Rico ("Dirty Dancing 2") and the U.S. ("Open Range"). He is set to appear in Steven Spielberg's next film, "Terminal." Fox 2000 released "Chasing Papi" in April, but the film, aimed at the U.S. Latino market had less box-office appeal than expected. The romantic comedy starred up-and-coming Hollywood actress Roselyn Sánchez

(who later in the year released a debut album), Mexican-American pop singer Jaci Velásquez, Mexican singer and actor Eduardo Verástegui, and Colombian model and Spanish-TV personality Sofía Vergara.

But the year's biggest bomb was "Gigli," a film that starred Jennifer López and boyfriend Ben Affleck -- a Hollywood couple whose relationship was so publicized that the press began to refer to both as "Bennifer." The \$54 million movie -- during which filming the two actors became an item -- had a dismal opening weekend in August, with a gross box-office take of \$3.8 million. Complaining about excessive media attention, the couple abruptly canceled their September wedding.

López, who did not release a CD with all new material in 2003, continued to make headlines, more for her personal dealings than for her work. A second film with Affleck, "Jersey Girl," was shelved until 2004. The actress completed only one film last year, the drama "An Unfinished Life" opposite Robert Redford.

In June, López fired her five-year manager Benny Medina and later sued him for all the money he earned while working for her. About the same time, she settled out of court with "The Wedding Planner" director Adam Shankman, who sued her over the origin of an idea about an updated version of "Carmen."

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Immigration

(from Page 1)

Bush proposed a temporary guest worker program enabling undocumented aliens holding a job unwanted by U.S. citizens, as well as prospective workers abroad with a job lined up, to work in the United States for three years.

That term "will be renewable, but it will have an end," said Bush, who repeated his opposition to a blanket amnesty for the estimated eight to 12 million illegal immigrants thought to live in the United States.

The president, whose initiatives will require congressional approval, pledged to work with lawmakers to increase the number of permanent resident permits, widely known as "green cards," issued annually.

"America's a welcoming country, but citizenship must not be the automatic reward for violating the laws of America," he said. "The citizenship line, however, is too long, and our current limits on legal immigration are too low."

Senior administration officials said negotiations with the U.S. Congress would determine how many times and for how long a worker's permit could be renewed, as well as how many more green

cards would be offered.

Bush said his proposals recognized that illegals take jobs shunned by U.S. workers, and aimed to pull them out of "the shadows of American life," the vast U.S. underground economy where they are "fearful, often abused and exploited."

It was unclear how many undocumented immigrants in the United States meet the temporary worker program requirements -- but all of them might, acknowledged one senior administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

One official illustrated the plan by describing a hypothetical immigrant working illegally for a hotel chain: That person and his or her employer would come forward, declaring themselves a match; the U.S. government would take a fee; and, if approved, that person could work legally for three years.

The workers could also travel freely back and forth to their home country, would enjoy protections such as the U.S. minimum wage and due process rights and could apply an unspecified number of times to renew their status, the official said.

They would also pay taxes. AFP

Inmigración

(Viene de la Primera)

Bush también anunció que buscará un aumento de los permisos de residencia y trabajo permanentes ("green cards" o tarjetas verdes) otorgados cada año, que pueden conducir a la obtención de la ciudadanía tras varios años.

"La cola para alcanzar la ciudadanía es demasiado larga y nuestros actuales límites sobre la inmigración legal son demasiado bajos, añadió Bush, que aspira a conquistar el voto de los hispanos, la mayor minoría del país, para su reelección en las presidenciales de noviembre.

De ser aprobado, el programa ayudará a la economía de Estados Unidos y tornará al país más seguro, estimó.

"En vez de la situación actual, en la cual millones de personas son desconocidas por la ley, la policía enfrentará menos problemas con trabajadores indocumentados, y podremos concentrarnos más en las verdaderas amenazas a nuestra nación de criminales y terroristas", dijo Bush.

Los trabajadores temporarios podrán viajar desde y hacia Estados Unidos libremente, lo cual implicará "un manejo más eficiente de las fronteras", precisó.

Bush llamó el miércoles por teléfono al presidente de México, Vicente Fox, quien convirtió al tema migratorio en la prioridad de su política exterior cuando llegó al poder en 2000, pero que vio

desplomarse el interés de Washington en el asunto tras los ataques del 11 de septiembre del 2001.

El presidente estadounidense llegará el lunes próximo a Monterrey, México -donde participará en la Cumbre especial de las Américas- con la propuesta migratoria de regalo bajo el brazo.

El portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Scott McClellan, dijo que los mandatarios tuvieron una "buena conversación" telefónica. Fox, por su lado, calificó la propuesta de Bush de "muy interesante" en una conferencia de prensa en México.

Sin embargo, grupos de defensa de los hispanos expresaron su decepción con la propuesta migratoria de Bush, a la que consideran una estrategia electoral que no provee un camino para la legalización permanente de los indocumentados residentes en Estados Unidos.

"Estamos profundamente decepcionados porque esta no es una legalización, esta es la creación de un nuevo programa de trabajadores temporales", dijo a la AFP Michelle Waslin, del Consejo Nacional La Raza (NCLR), la mayor organización de defensa de los derechos de los hispanos en Washington.

"Tras dos años de silencio, el presidente finalmente salió a decir algo sobre los inmigrantes durante el año electoral. Claramente está tratando de cortejar el voto latino, pero no podrá hacerlo con esta propuesta", advirtió. AFP

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Nuggets, Denver don't greet Kobe, shorthanded Lakers warmly

The dejected looks to the floor, the grimaces and smirks after missed shots -- Kobe Bryant's face said it all.

This, like many other recent nights on the road, wasn't much fun.

Carmelo Anthony scored 20 points and helped harass Bryant into a poor shooting night, leading Denver to a 113-91 rout of the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday night in Bryant's first game in Colorado against the Nuggets since he was accused of sexual assault last summer.

Bryant was booed from the start and never found a rhythm offensively, finishing with 27 points on 8-of-23 shooting with five turnovers.

"I've been booed before," Bryant said. "I don't listen to that. I just go out there and play basketball."

A Nuggets-record crowd of 19,739 started booing Bryant during the introductions and continued every time he touched the ball. A chant of "Guilty! Guilty!" rang out midway through the third quarter, and several fans made sexual references throughout the game.

Bryant kept calm in the first half, but his frustration boiled over in the third quarter when he grabbed Anthony under the basket and both players were called for technical fouls.

Bryant regained his composure quickly, patting Anthony on the back of the head and asking if he was all right after the whistle.

"Every shot he took, you could tell he really wanted this game," said Anthony, who added eight rebounds and six assists.

Bryant didn't get much help with Shaquille O'Neal and Karl Malone sidelined with injuries.

The Lakers shot just 38 percent and allowed the Nuggets to repeatedly drive to the basket, leading to their sixth straight road loss and fourth straight overall.

"He (Bryant) was animated and feisty out there, and those are things that we wanted him to do," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "We just wish the rest of the players could have stepped it up to the same level."

Anthony had plenty of help.

De la pagina 5
tinos empleados en programas de televisión, según rezan los informes.

En octubre, la National Latino Media Coalition calificó de excelentes las cuatro mayores cadenas de televisión en su esfuerzo por mejorar la diversidad racial de su programación.

En diciembre, el Writers Guild of America, West, emitió un estudio que mostró un aumento en los redactores de color que trabajan en la programación de las horas más populares para la televisión.

Andre Miller chipped in to defend Bryant and finished with 20 points and nine assists. Earl Boykins had 22 points, and Nene and Voshon Lenard added 16 each for Denver, which shot 49 percent to avoid its first three-game losing streak this season.

"We played the way we needed to play for us to have a chance to win," Nuggets coach Jeff Bzdelik said. "We were aggressive, we were active, we were rebounding, running moving and sharing."

Bryant has been accused of attacking a 19-year-old employee at a resort near Vail and faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation.

Bryant responded well after his last trip to Colorado on Dec. 19, returning to Los Angeles after a hearing in Eagle to hit a game-winning jumper at the buzzer that night against the Nuggets.

He played with the same kind of determination this time, with plenty of grimaces and yells at teammates, but the shots just weren't falling.

Anthony and Miller took turns harassing Bryant, shutting down his drives and forcing him into difficult fadeaways. He didn't score until hitting an 18-foot jumper 5:16 into the game, and was 4-of-11 with three turnovers in the first half.

"This isn't anything. He's doing fine. He is getting through it," Lakers point guard Gary Payton said. "He knows he is going to get booed, so he takes it in a good way."

The Lakers were blown out by Minnesota on Tuesday night, and the Nuggets did the same.

Denver pushed the ball early to open the game with a 10-3 run, allowed Los Angeles to get close late in the first quarter, then pushed the lead to 63-48 by halftime.

Anthony led the way, scoring 16 points on 6-of-11 shooting in the first half.

"The Carmelo and Kobe matchup is going to be a good one," said Los Angeles' Horace Grant, who started at center with O'Neal out. "You have two great athletes and they are both competitive. It is something people have to look forward to."

En julio, la cadena PBS anunció una nueva producción, de trece episodios, del drama "America Family", por el cineasta Gregory Nava.

Se comenzó la producción en el invierno en Los Angeles y en México para los episodios que se emitirán en abril. Los actores principales del programa son Edward James Olmos, Raquel Welch, Sonia Braga y Esai Morales.

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Pete Rose

Defiant, belligerent and only occasionally apologetic, Pete Rose blames his accusers and his medical conditions for the problems that got him kicked out of baseball.

Rose spills his thoughts in a colorful autobiography, "Pete Rose: My Prison Without Bars," released Thursday by Rodale Inc. Rose, who is still banned 14 1/2 years later, also concedes for the first time that he bet on Cincinnati Reds games while he was manager.

The highly touted 322-page book, in which Rose admits he gambled on the Reds while managing the team in the late 1980s, contains no bombshells. It alternates between apologies for his wrongs and the aggressiveness Rose showed during a 24-season major league career.

Rose writes he has had Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Oppositional Defiant Behavior, which he says he got from his mother, and the book contains several quotes from a doctor about the effects. He repeats that he still loves to gamble legally at racetracks, and describes himself as "grumpy, short-tempered and cold-hearted."

He also talks about the emotional moment when he faced his family before going to prison and "humiliating body searches" in prison. He recounts anecdotes of his career such as taking an umpire to dinner after he was ejected from a game and makes a few puerile jokes.

He also compares his compulsive gambling to the behavior of former President Clinton, actors Robert Downey Jr. and Winona Ryder, and blames former Reds manager Jack McKeon and general manager Jim Bowden for not giving Pete Rose Jr. enough of a chance when he played for Cincinnati in 1997.

Pete Rose says in his book that going to prison was the lowest point in his life. Rose repeatedly challenges the report on his gambling by John Dowd and the accusations

Rose not willing to shoulder all blame for departure from baseball

made by his former associates before he accepted a lifetime ban in August 1989.

Rose said at the time of the investigation, he couldn't believe the way baseball treated him, calling baseball's evidence "flimsy."

"I spent 24 years building a baseball career that other players could only dream of," he wrote.

"And I put it all at risk over the thrill of 'risk' itself. I spent thousands of hours in the batting cage. I took hundreds of grounders and fly balls each day in an effort to master my craft. I was known for a diligent work ethic that was unequaled among my peers. Nobody worked harder or took the game more seriously than Pete Rose -- nobody. Yet after knowing (Paul) Janszen for only seven months, I trusted him to place bets on the game I loved. How could I be so disciplined in one aspect of my life and so reckless in the other? ...

"I was Pete Rose -- baseball's all-time Hit King. I had more records than anybody on the damn planet. Nothing could possibly be wrong with someone who achieved that much success -- nothing! ... I was Charlie Hustle -- baseball legend. I would not go down without a fight."

Rose writes about the day he went to federal prison in 1990 after pleading guilty to tax charges and talked to his son, Tyler, then 6.

"I had no answer for the betrayed look in Tyler's eyes," Rose wrote. "My dad never let me down on any level and failing my own son was too tough to handle. So hell, I started to cry, too -- rare for me because, like I said, I'm not a warm-and-fuzzy guy. ... As you can imagine, this was the lowest point in my life."

He says that in prison, he was given identification number 01832-061.

"I never thought I'd be wearing anything other than No. 14 on my back," Rose wrote, adding that guards "couldn't help but gawk at the sight of Charlie Hustle in lockdown."

Rose pleaded guilty to two counts of filing false income taxes by failing to report income and was sentenced to five months in prison, three months in a halfway house and 1,000 hours of community service.

"I'm probably the only person America to go to jail for underpaying his taxes by 4 percent," Rose wrote. Then he added, "The responsibility rested squarely on my shoulders. I just wasn't ready to accept it."

The book quotes Dr. David Comings of the City of Hope National Medical Center on ADHD and how it applies to Rose.

"ADHD kids are very strong-willed. They don't like anyone telling them what to do," Comings said. "Although they can't sit still or focus on subjects of little or no interest, their restless energy when focused can be dynamite. Pete Rose is not unlike Einstein, who flunked English but excelled in math."

Rose says he hopes commissioner Bud Selig will grant his application for reinstatement.

"My actions, which I thought were benign, call the integrity of the game into question," Rose wrote. "And there's no excuse for that, but there's also no reason to punish me forever."

Rose blames former commissioner Fay Vincent for the 1991 rule that bars him from the Hall of Fame and wants "to enjoy my Hall of Fame induction ceremony while I was still alive!"

¿Por qué engordamos las mujeres!

"No sé por qué estoy gorda, si casi no como"; repiten muchas de mis clientas cuando llegan a consulta, buscando desesperadas una solución para bajar de peso. Entonces les escucho y me doy cuenta de que efectivamente, el problema en su alimentación no radica en cuánto comen, sino en cómo lo hacen.

Tal vez le sonarán conocidas estas otras frases: "Yo no sé por qué ahora peso 180 libras, si de joven pesaba sólo 110"; "cuando estoy enojada como por los nervios"; "me deprimó fácil y me da por comer"; "soy cocinera y pruebo de todo"; "después de la cesárea ya no pude hacer ejercicio"; "estoy embarazada y tengo que comer por dos".

En mi carrera he visto cientos de mujeres, de todas las esferas económicas y sociales, que lo intentan por todos los medios: pasan horas en el gimnasio, hacen todo tipo de dietas, pero lamentablemente, con pobres resultados. ¿Cuál es entonces la raíz del problema? Analicemos.

Primero, el estresante ritmo de vida en la actualidad, ha hecho proliferar la fast food y restaurantes de comida rápida a un ritmo vertiginoso durante la última década. Productos que se caracterizan por su poca cantidad de nutrientes y muchas, muchísimas calorías. Un

"combo" regular por ejemplo, consistente en hamburguesa con queso, papas y refresco, oscila entre 1,700 a 2,000 calorías.

En segundo lugar, el interés de los restaurantes regulares por brindar alimentos de calidad es nulo. Con el afán comercial de darle más sabor a los alimentos y ahorrar en los costos de producción, utilizan mantecas de origen vegetal y grasas saturadas, cuya absorción es lenta y difícil para el organismo.

Tercero, no sabemos combinar los alimentos. Hay personas que no tienen ni idea de qué alimentos proporcionan carbohidratos, cuáles proporcionan proteínas y cuáles las calorías. De modo que aun comiendo poco, su sistema almacena una gran cantidad de grasa.

Y el cuarto, diría yo que es cultural. Creemos que un niño debe estar regordete y cachetón para estar sano y nos esforzamos en lograr que coma al mismo ritmo que el niño del vecino. Creemos que saltamos una o dos comidas en el día es "estar a dieta", cuando en realidad funciona al contrario: cuando el cerebro registra que no hubo uno o dos alimentos, lo interpreta como una severa sequía. Entonces envía la orden al organismo para que comience a acumular y almacenar grasas.

¡No señoras! Es hora de que dejemos de observar mitos y tomemos control de la salud y apariencia de nuestro cuerpo. Debemos entender que el "secreto" es obvio: tres comidas al día, en cantidad suficiente para sentirse satisfecho, no a reventar.

Debemos entender que no basta con preocuparse; hay que ocuparse. Si realmente quiere ayudarse y ayudar a sus hijos a que no engorden, entonces infórmese. Tome el tiempo para ir a una biblioteca, asistir a conferencias o bien, solicitar la consulta de un nutricionista que le oriente en cómo debe alimentar a la familia.

Debemos entender que no

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Sunday, February 29

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T46 *If it's Tejano, it's...* **Magic 93.7** **TELEMUNDO** **EXPO**

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"Are you at risk for glaucoma?"

M. Roy Wilson, M.D., President Texas Tech Medical Center

As a world renowned physician, specializing in the treatment of glaucoma, M. Roy Wilson, M.D., President of the Texas Tech Medical Center, has a personal concern and commitment for the prevention of glaucoma.

Glaucoma involves damage to the optic nerve of the eye. It may be caused by an increase in eye pressure and affects more than three million Americans.

You are at an increased risk of developing glaucoma if:

- An immediate family member has glaucoma
- You are African-American
- You are over 55

Remember... there are no symptoms of glaucoma until loss of sight is advanced.

Call us at Texas Tech Medical Center. We can help.

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