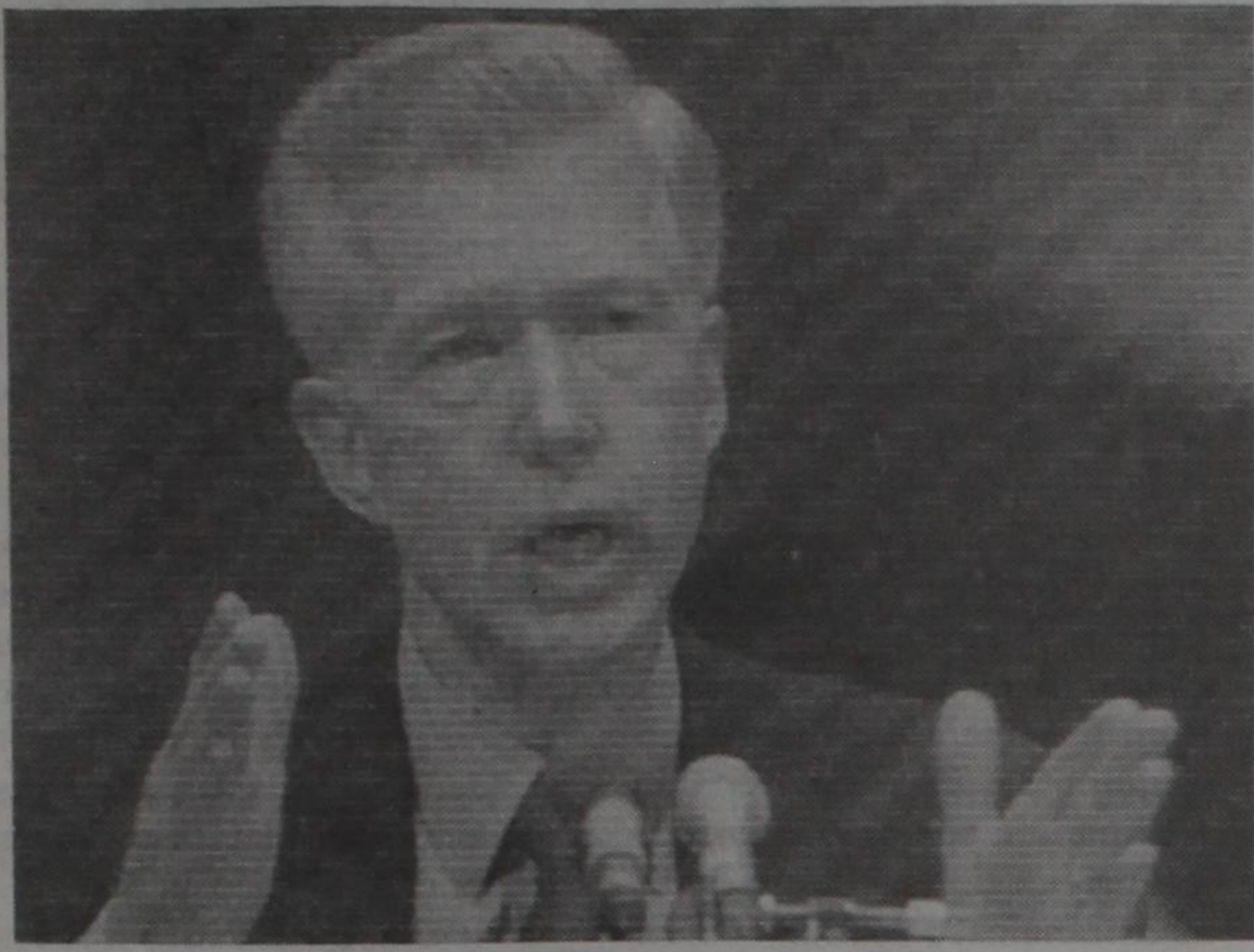


Davis Reclama Reembolsos Para Consumidores

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California Gov. Gray Davis Wednesday blamed a Republican-led energy regulatory agency for not doing enough to help his energy-starved state and demanded refunds of \$6.7 billion for alleged price-gouging by power generators. Davis, a Democrat whose political future has been linked to his state's electricity woes, testified at a Senate hearing with members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Maribel Hastings
Corresponsal de La Opinión
WASHINGTON, D.C.-- El gobernador de California, Gray Davis, demandó ayer que la Comisión Federal Reguladora de Energía (FERC) ordene a los abastecedores de electricidad reembolsarle a su estado hasta 9,000 millones de dólares que presuntamente cobraron de más, para compensar a los consumidores por los inflados costos de la energía.

La acción de FERC del lunes

Davis también urgió a FERC y al Congreso a supervisar la presunta manipulación de precios de parte de los productores de gas natural.

Pero los reembolsos acapararon la atención.

"Hasta ahora no se ha devuelto ni un solo centavo a los californianos. Ordenar los reembolsos no es asunto de discreción sino de ley. FERC tiene que ordenar a estas compañías que nos devuelvan nuestro dinero", declaró Davis.

Horas más tarde el presidente de FERC, Curt L. Hébert, respondió a Davis diciendo que "esta comisión está activamente persiguiendo esos reembolsos... Esta comisión no está evadiendo estos asuntos". Es más, dijo Hébert, la negociación de los reembolsos está abierta a otras compañías de servicios públicos del Oeste y no sólo de California.

Davis habló primero ante una audiencia del Comité de Asuntos Gubernamentales del Senado y después en una rueda de prensa junto a algunos integrantes de la bipartidista delegación californiana al Congreso.

Pugna política

Davis aseguró que vino a defender a los consumidores californianos, pero su visita evidenció en todo su esplendor el lado político del debate energético y Davis también defendió su administración y con ello su futuro político.

Los senadores demócratas, que ahora controlan el Senado, y congresistas demócratas se deshicieron en alabanzas para Davis por su manejo de una crisis "que heredó", y los republicanos presentaron fechas, datos y editoriales que según ellos prueban que Davis pudo evitar gran parte de la catástrofe que ahora enfrenta el estado.

"Quiero saber cómo fue que usted aparentemente permitió que las cosas se salieran de control", preguntó el senador republicano de Tennessee, Fred Thompson, quien añadió que las primeras señales del problema surgieron en octubre de 1998, meses antes que Davis asumiera la gubernatura. Por lo tanto, dijo, Davis pudo aumentar los precios a los consumidores desde mucho antes.

Davis respondió que tal acción habría creado una indignación pública "como nunca se ha visto". De todos modos los precios al consumidor aumentaron. El gobernador enumeró las acciones de su gobierno para incrementar la producción y la conservación de energía.

Pero el Comité Nacional Republicano repartió comunicados en los que enumeró las razones por las cuales supuestamente Davis es el único culpable y un grupo denominado La Oposición Leal repartió abanicos de mano que leían "La solución de Davis a los apagones del verano".

continúa en la página 3

El Presidente Mexicano Ha Gastado Más de un Millón en Acomodar Sus Cabañas

MEXICO, D.F.-- La presidencia mexicana ha gastado más de 17 millones de pesos (casi dos millones de dólares) para remodelar y equipar la residencia presidencial, monto que incluye la compra de toallas importadas a un precio de más de 400 dólares cada una, según cifras de la contraloría nacional recogidas este martes por el diario Milenio.

El presidente Vicente Fox, interrogado al respecto, confirmó lo revelado por Milenio al comentar que es bueno que la gente sepa lo que ha gastado la presidencia en la remodelación y equipamiento de la residencia y que es bueno que esa información se haga pública "porque nosotros somos un gobierno transparente".

Fox dijo que las compras, y el hecho de que sus precios sean divulgados por la Secretaría de la Contraloría en su página de la internet, en el apartado Compranet, son consecuentes con su empeño de encabezar un gobierno más abierto y honesto.

"Hoy, hasta el precio de las toallas que se adquieren para la casa de ustedes aquí es público, está en la internet", dijo Fox en un discurso ante funcionarios de salud.

El diario capitalino publicó el martes en su primera plana partes de la lista que totaliza, unos 400 mil dólares, bajo el encabezado: "Mensaje de casa por cuatro millones de pesos".

"Qué bueno que la prensa lo haga saber a todo mundo a qué precio compramos las toallas aquí en la casa de ustedes. Eso es transparencia", dijo Fox durante la presentación del informe anual de actividades del Instituto de Seguridad y Servicios Sociales de los Trabajadores del Estado.

Según el Presidente, que desde que llegó al gobierno ha insistido constantemente en la transparencia de su gestión y ha emprendido campañas contra la corrupción, el hecho de que la prensa publique los gastos de la casa presidencial obedece a "la nueva actitud de los funcionarios mexicanos".

"Nuestro compromiso debe ser la entrega total a los y las ciudadanas, a los que servimos poniendo por delante la honradez, la transparencia, el buen desempeño y la rendición de cuentas", dijo.

La portavoz presidencial, Martha Sahagún, declaró al diario La Voz de Michoacán que esos gastos en su momento serán comprobados por la Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (SHCP).

"Nosotros hemos dicho que somos un gobierno que rinde cuentas, un gobierno honesto, y no tenemos ningún reparo en decir en qué se gasta el dinero", comentó la funcionaria federal, originaria de Zamora, Michoacán.

Agregó que es la SHCP la que dará cuenta, en su momento, sobre los gastos que se hicieron recientemente en la remodelación de las cabañas y en la compra de mobiliario para la residencia presidencial de Los Pinos.

Cifras elevadas

De acuerdo con las cifras, en lo que va del nuevo gobierno la Presidencia ha hecho adquisiciones de mobiliario suntuario por alrededor de 7.8 millones de pesos (unos 856,593 dólares); para menaje de casa destinó 4.17 millones de pesos (unos 441,477 dólares) y gastó en remodelaciones poco más de 5.5 millones de pesos (unos 604,395 dólares).

Entre los artículos adquiridos se encuentran tres toallas importadas "con bordado especial" con un costo por unidad de 4,025 pesos (unos 442 dólares), cuatro manteles con un costo unitario de 7,475 pesos (unos 821 dólares); además, una cama con cabecera 55 mil pesos (unos 6,043 dólares) y unas cortinas eléctricas de "control remoto" de 173,836 pesos (unos 19,102 dólares).

Expectativas menores

Fox asumió el 1 de diciembre luego de 71 años de gobierno ininterrumpido del Partido Revolucionario Institucional, prometiendo el fin de la corrupción, transparencia gubernamental, fin del nepotismo y un boom económico acompañado de una mejor redistribución de la riqueza, en un país que es décima potencia exportadora mundial, pero también con 40 millones de pobres.

Hace un año, Fox había prometido durante la campaña que el Producto Interno Bruto crecería el 7% anual, pero progresivamente la expectativa fue reducida a entre 2.5% y 3%.

Al mismo tiempo el nuevo gobierno, acusando las deudas heredadas del anterior, busca que el Congreso apruebe una reforma fiscal para extender el Impuesto al Valor Agregado (15%) a alimentos, medicinas y estudios, hasta hoy exentos, y así disminuir el déficit.

Al tomar posesión de la Presidencia el 1 de diciembre de 2000, Fox decidió no vivir en la residencia oficial -- construida y bautizada como Los Pinos por el presidente Lázaro Cárdenas (1934-1940)- y ordenó remodelar dos "cabañas" adjuntas para él y su hija Ana Cristina. Fox está oficialmente separado de su esposa.

En Los Pinos, que aunque está en medio de la capital mexicana tiene más de 17 hectáreas de zona verde y boscosa, hay una residencia principal y algunas pequeñas casas, en los alrededores de la primera, denominadas oficialmente "cabañas".

Las dos "cabañas" elegidas por Fox fueron remodeladas a un costo de unos 611 mil dólares, pagados a la empresa Humberto Artigas y Asociados, y el resto del gasto, hasta el millón, corresponde al mobiliario y enseres menores.

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

EL EDITOR

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Hill Vows Hearings On Navy's Vieques Range

Senior Republican leaders in the House and Senate vowed to hold hearings on the Bush administration's surprise decision to skip a planned referendum in Vieques, Puerto Rico, and to abandon the controversial Navy bombing range by 2003.

Members of Congress said lives of American sailors and Marines are on the line and the decision could have far reaching implications for other controversial ranges.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., the ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Thursday he told the secretary of the Navy and the deputy defense secretary that if they intend to move ahead with the plan to abandon the practice range they need to ask Congress to overturn a law requiring the referendum scheduled for this November.

"I specifically asked the DOD if it is their intent to have the law modified that the secretary of defense should take the initiative to forward to the Congress a draft of the language desired," Warner said.

Notably absent from the meeting were Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz and Navy Secretary Gordon England, who met Wednesday at the White House with Karl Rove, President Bush's top political advisor.

Chairman of the Armed Services Committee Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., also did not attend Warner's news conference.

Levin told United Press International that prior to meeting Thursday with Wolfowitz and England, he had not talked about the issue with the Pentagon or White House and said the changes Bush wants to make would require "an act of Congress."

Warner confirmed this was the first time Levin had been consulted by the White House on the matter. Warner met with England Wednesday afternoon.

At issue is an agreement worked out early in 2000 and made law by Congress requiring the Navy to hold a referendum on the small island of Vieques to determine whether it could continue using the bombing range. If the vote is negative, the Navy would leave by 2003. If it was positive and the Navy was allowed to use live munitions rather than the inert bombs it has been limited to since an April 1999 accident killed a Puerto Rican civilian near the range, Vieques would get \$50 million in economic and



environmental aid on top of the \$40 million already promised.

Warner, Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., and House Armed Services Committee Chairman Bob Stump, R-Ariz., made it clear the White House will have an uphill battle on its hands convincing them Vieques is not necessary for the military.

A series of top officials from the Navy and Marine Corps have testified under oath that Vieques is not only vital to the readiness of battle groups deploying to the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean, but that there are no viable replacements for it anywhere in the western Atlantic Ocean.

"I see this as an issue that means American lives. On March 12 we had an accident ... involving an F-18 dropping three 500 pounders (bombs), killing five Americans and one other individual in the Gulf, and they were supposed to train with live ordnance on Vieques and they were not able to do that. I have a very serious concern about the recommendation that seems to be coming from the White House and its effect on all of the ranges around the world. We are going to lose other ranges if thus I range is lost," Inhofe said. "I am going to do everything in my power to keep them from changing the law and so we can go ahead with the November referendum and let the self determination on the island of Vieques take place."

Stump said feeling on his committee against the White House decision is very strong.

"I think it's a step in the wrong

direction. It's setting the wrong precedent. We have other areas even within this country where there have been numerous complaints about our training and on our bases and I think once you give in to this type of action down there at what the Puerto Ricans are doing then we are inviting trouble in many other places," he said.

Rep. Jim Hansen, R-Utah, also on the house Armed Services Committee, borrowed a phrase from Bush's father in expressing his opposition to the idea.

"To me it's a line in the sand. You give on this one where's the next one to come up? We'll be standing up in front you folks for the next 10 years talking about who's the next one to go," Hansen said.

Hansen said he also worries about a precedent, particularly at overseas bases such as Okinawa, Japan, where protests against the U.S. military presence there -- and several rapes and assaults that have been committed by U.S. personnel -- have drawn almost 100,000 people.

"Our Japanese friends aren't at all happy with what's happening at Okinawa. They've wanted us to leave for a long time and there have been a few mistakes made over there. What do we tell them? We won't bomb on ours but we'll bomb on yours? What do you tell the people in Korea? What do you tell the people in China Lake? What do you tell the people in Utah?"

The Pentagon has made no official comment on the proposal and Wolfowitz refused to take questions at an earlier news

conference Thursday.

A military official said the decision was made because the White House and new leadership in the Pentagon do not believe it is appropriate to make national security policy by referendum.

"They think it is worse to get voted out than leave on your own terms," the military official said.

He said England meant the announcement -- such as it is because no formal decision has been announced -- to have a calming effect in Vieques, where a Navy carrier battle group is preparing to use the range on Monday.

Stump offered another view. "I do know the governor of New York (Republican George Pataki) asked the president to cease operations because of complaints of Hispanics in New York," Stump said.

The military official said the White House initiative doesn't actually change much of what the Navy has already been doing. Facing the very real prospect it would fail to win the referendum, the Navy knows it needs to find another place or means of training for combat.

He said England was simply trying to refocus the Navy's effort on finding the alternative, rather than battling to hold on to Vieques, which is probably a losing proposition. Public polls show only one-third of the 6,500 registered voters on Vieques favor a continued Navy presence there.

By PAMELA HESS

El Editor



Juanita's Diary

Touching Migrant Story, "Juanita's Diary," to be Performed July 5th

Students of the Upward Bound Program at Texas Tech will be performing a play writ-

ten by Lubbock's own, Janie Landin Ramirez, on July 5, in the University Center Allen Theatre at 7:00 pm under the direction of Jimmie Jake Mor-

Cuando Quinn Era Un Nombre Mexicano

Por Rick Martinez

Cuando era niño, durante la década de los sesenta, pensaba que Quinn era un nombre mexicano. Después de todo, Anthony Quinn era un gran estrella de Hollywood y era mexicano y nosotros también.

Anthony Quinn creció en el este de Los Angeles y es allí donde pasábamos mucho tiempo con nuestros padrinos. Nos enorgullecíamos con nuestra conexión cultural a un verdadero personaje principal. En ese entonces, como ahora, no había muchos actores famosos mexicanos en la televisión o en el cine.

Claro, Tony Martinez actuaba en la serie "The Real McCoys". "Sí, Señor Grandpa." O González González, que aparecía como actor secundario por todas partes.

Pero Quinn estaba en una clase aparte. Era un estrella del cine. Salía en el programa "The Tonight Show," con Johnny Carson.

Aunque era joven, yo podía apreciar la diferencia, a pesar de la decrepitud de nuestro televisor blanco y negro Emerson, de 19 pulgadas. La muerte de Anthony Quinn este mes, a los 86 años, me llena de todos estos recuerdos. Supongo que se le podría llamar un hombre modelo, pero ese término me parece muy limitante.

Mi primera apreciación de Quinn estuvo bien ubicada. En los años cincuenta y sesenta estaba en la cima de la cadena alimenticia de Hollywood. He aquí un hombre que ganó dos galardones de la academia del cine. Desde entonces su carrera continuó siendo distinguida, mientras aceptó papeles secundarios y principales en películas más chicas. He admirado a Edward James Olmos desde que salió en "Zoot Suit". Pero Quinn era diez veces más que lo mejor de Olmos.

La trayectoria de Quinn a la fama fue meteórica. En entrevistas en la televisión le he oído contar la historia de cuando trabajaba en una fábrica de conservas en Baja California, su amigo sacó un periódico del montón para envolver pescado y le mostró al naciente actor un aviso sobre una convocatoria a una audición en Hollywood.

Según Quinn, se subió a un buque con el amigo y se ganó el papel, el que le abrió las puertas. He visto varias veces la entrevista y la historia siempre suena un tanto falsa, originada de una agencia publicitaria en Hollywood. Pero Quinn la contaba con tal brío, que nunca dejó de ser entretenida.

En 1968, éramos una familia que compraba el periódico del domingo, el Los Angeles Times, y

lo leíamos toda la semana. Ibamos al cine solamente a La Mirada, con pantalla grande para ver las películas desde el carro. Pero cuando "The Shoes of the Fisherman" se estrenó ese año, mis padres, mis hermanos y mis cuñadas se vistieron de domingo y fuimos a Hollywood, más allá de nuestras fronteras auto-impuestas, para ver a Quinn actuar en el teatro Cinerama Dome. Así de inmensa era su influencia sobre mi familia.

Más adelante lei que era un hombre que tuvo dificultades con lo que significaba ser mexicano. De su madre tenía rasgos mexicanos. Su padre era irlandés, y había muerto cuando Quinn era niño.

¿Cuántos de nosotros, los latinos en general o los mexicanos en particular, nos podemos identificar con su dilema?

Muchos de nosotros -- del mundo profesional y no -- nos enfrentamos con la inseguridad que surge de querer integrarnos a dos o más mundos culturales, sea cuando entramos a la primaria de la mano de mamá, sea cuando empezamos clases universitarias vestidos de ropa nueva y tiesa, o sea cuando nos sumamos al mundo formal del trabajo.

Yo antes pensaba que era hábil identificándome con una cultura o la otra. Pero no se vuelve nunca más fácil.

De niño me maravillaba con lo bien que Quinn se llevaba con tanto éxito incorporándose a una variedad de papeles, y cómo lo hacía con tanta dignidad y alegría. Me enseñó que cada uno de nosotros podemos tener éxito no sólo en los mundos que heredamos, sino en los que decidamos aventurarnos.

A los 17 años comencé trapeando baños y barriendo aulas en la escuela pública de mi barrio. Después, durante 20 años me dediqué al periodismo, como reportero y editor. Hace un par de años decidí optar por un nuevo papel. Ahora soy un maestro de sexto grado muy contento.

¿Tuvo Anthony Quinn algo que ver con mis transformaciones? No lo sé, pero en el fondo de mi alma, todavía pienso que Quinn es un nombre mexicano.

(Rick Martinez dicta en la escuela intermedia Mesa Linda en Victorville, California. Es miembro fundador de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispanos. Contáctese con él por correo electrónico a: rickmartinez(AT)SIGNearthlink.net)

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The Hard Truth Is That Blacks Turned Their Back On a Hispanic

By Tim Chávez

Our Hispanic brothers and sisters in Los Angeles have discovered what those of us in the South have known for more than a decade.

African-American leaders will sacrifice the cause of civil rights and fairness, and they'll even work to delay bringing more persons of color into elected office -- when it comes to us Hispanics. They want to remain the first group standing at the master's table waiting for scraps, instead of letting another disenfranchised group reach the table.

These are hard truths to write, particularly since blacks and Hispanics have long worked together on the Democratic and liberal side of issues. But the gross hypocrisy we have experienced in the South was shockingly duplicated in L.A.'s mayoral race, as African-American leaders like Congresswoman Maxine Waters sided with conservative Republicans to keep a white man with a history of privilege in the mayor's office, and keep a brown son of the barrio out.

Only months earlier, Waters had vilified these same Republicans for looking the other way when she was protesting the disenfranchisement of thousands of blacks in Florida voting for president. Now she is their friend and ally. The black vote for Jim Hahn can be seen as a tribute to his father, "but I think that's being Pollyannish," said Harry Pachón, president of the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, Calif., according to USA Today.

"I know he's a trusted name, but there is a feeling among some Latino leaders that there was an anti-Latino vote in the black community," Pachón said. "Look at the coalition that emerged. Conservative white voters and South Central (black) liberal voters? Come on."

Both mayoral candidates were Democrats and liberal. But one, Hahn, was considered by the privileged class less dangerous. And in keeping with that class's bigotry toward people of color, Hahn used a TV ad, chillingly reminiscent of Willie Horton in the 1988 presidential campaign, to paint former

State Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa as soft on crime. And African-American leaders said nothing.

It is this hypocrisy that Hispanic leaders and potential candidates across the country must begin to plan their futures around. Don't get mad. Get smarter. Form the same alliances. And if it means siding with the Republican Party nationally or statewide on some occasions, then let it be so, if it means more sons and daughters of the barrios can be elected.

"It's disappointing, but it's not crushing, because time is on our side," Pachón said.

Yes, time and census numbers are on our side, and that's why Latinos are now the political targets of those we once looked on as friends.

Exit polls in the mayor's race indicated that Latinos were 22 percent of voters, a large increase from 8 percent in 1993. And Latinos are the largest plurality in L.A., at 47 percent.

The same demographic trend is sweeping across California, as Latino population percentages rise and African-American percentages fall. That's scary to those who will not look on us as equals and friends.

For years in the South, I've been asking black leaders to invite Hispanics into their circles of power to build a strong political coalition. Instead, these leaders have ignored us to protect their share of the economic and political pie. We've been deemed not worthy to share in civil rights gains and other fruits of social progress. Our pleas that we're stronger together than apart have been ignored. Our reasoning that separate agendas just serve the entrenched status quo has been rejected.

Against that experience, what happened in Los Angeles is not surprising. It should serve as a wake-up call to Latinos across the country about political realities. Power is never ceded easily. We must be willing to take it, no matter the consequences or feelings that are hurt. It's time to fight for what is rightly ours.

(Tim Chávez is a columnist with The Tennessean in Nashville. He may be reached at tchaveztennessean.com)

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When Quinn Was a Mexican Name

By Rick Martinez

When I was a kid growing up in the 1960s, I thought Quinn was a Mexican name. After all, Anthony Quinn was a big Hollywood star and he was Mexican, and so were we.

Anthony Quinn was raised in East Los Angeles, and that's where we spent much time with our godparents, our padrinos. We took pride in our cultural connection to a real leading man. Then, like now, there were not many Mexican stars on TV or in the movies.

Sure, there was Tony Martinez on "The Real McCoys." "Sí, Señor Grandpa." Or the ubiquitous González González, who was a bit player all over TV.

But Quinn was in a different class. He was a movie star. He was on "The Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson.

Even as a boy, I appreciated the difference, no matter that our old Emerson 19-inch set was only a black-and-white model.

Anthony Quinn's death this month at 86 brings all this back to me. I guess one could call him a role model, but that seems too confining a term. My early appreciation of Quinn was well placed. In the 1950s and 1960s, he

was at the top of the Hollywood food chain. Here was a man who won two Academy Awards.

His career has remained distinguished ever since, as he moved into the supporting roles and leading roles in smaller movies. I have admired Edward James Olmos ever since "Zoot Suit." But whatever Olmos was at his zenith, Quinn was 10 times more.

Quinn's rise was meteoric. I've heard him tell the story in TV interviews about working in a cannery in Baja California when his amigo pulled a newspaper off a stack for wrappingfish and showed the budding actor a notice about a casting call in Hollywood.

Quinn claimed to have hopped a freight with his friend and landed the part, his big break. I've seen the interview a number of times and it always sounds like so much malarkey, straight from a Hollywood publicity desk. But Quinn related the story with such verve, it never failed to entertain.

Back in 1968, we were a family that bought the Sunday Los Angeles Times and read it all week. Our movie-going was strictly the La Mirada Drive-in. But when "The Shoes of the

Fisherman" debuted that year, my parents and my brothers and my sisters-in-law actually donned their Sunday best and we went to Hollywood, beyond our usual self-imposed borders, to see Quinn perform at the Cinerama Dome theater. His influence was that huge in my family.

Here was a man, I read later, who had a hard time coming to terms with what it meant to be Mexican. He looked like a Mexican (from his mother). His father was an Irishman who died when Anthony was just a boy.

How many of us Latinos in general, or Mexicans in particular, can relate to that dilemma?

So many of us -- in the white-collar world and elsewhere -- still deal with the insecurity that comes with trying to blend into two or more cultural worlds, be it when we enter grammar school holding our mother's hand, step onto a university campus in stiff new clothes or join the strange, formal work-a-day world.

I used to think I was fairly good at shifting cultural gears. But it really doesn't get any easier.

As a boy, I marveled at how Quinn carried himself so successfully in so many different

roles, how he did so with such joy and dignity. He conveyed to me that each of us could be successful not just in the worlds we inherited, but in other ones where we chose to venture.

Start in the cannery, as he did, but keep an eye on the horizon for bigger breaks down the line.

I started as a 17-year-old mopping Johns and sweeping classrooms in my neighborhood public school. Then, for 20 years, I worked as a newspaper reporter and editor. A couple of years ago, I decided to audition for a new role. Now I am a very satisfied sixth-grade teacher.

Did Anthony Quinn have anything to do with it? I don't know, but deep in my soul, I still believe that Quinn is a Mexican name.

(Rick Martinez teaches at Mesa Linda Middle School in Victorville, Calif. He is a founding member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. He may be reached by e-mail at rickmartinez(AT)SIGNearthlink.net)

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La Dura Realidad Es Que Los Negros Le Dieron La Espalda a Un Hispano

Por Tim Chávez

Nuestros hermanos latinos en Los Angeles han descubierto lo que sabemos hace más de una década los que estamos en el sur. Los líderes negros harán sacrificio de la causa de derechos civiles y la justicia, hasta se empenarán en retrasar la llegada de más personas de color a puestos elegidos -- cuando se trata de nosotros, los hispanos. Quieren que nos mantengamos en primera fila en la mesa del amo esperando que nos arroje las migajas, en vez de permitir que otro grupo desaventajado se sienta a la mesa.

Estas verdades son difíciles de escribir, en particular porque los negros y los latinos han colaborado del lado demócrata y liberal de los temas políticos. Pero con la campaña para alcalde de Los Angeles, se repitió la tremenda hipocresía que hemos presenciado en el sur, cuando se vio que líderes negros como la congresista Maxine Waters se pusieron del lado de los republicanos conservadores para que un hombre blanco con un historial de privilegios se quedara con la alcaldía, cerrándole el acceso al hijo del barrio.

Hace sólo unos meses Waters había denigrado a los mismos republicanos por hacer caso omiso cuando protestaba el voto perdido de miles de negros de Florida en las elecciones presidenciales. Ahora es amiga y aliada de los republicanos. El voto de los negros se puede ver como tributo a su padre, "pero me parece que eso es ser demasiado optimista", le dijo Harry Pachón, presidente del Instituto de Políticas Tomás Rivera de la Claremont Graduate University, en Claremont, California. a USA Today.

"Yo sé que su nombre da confianza, pero entre algunos líderes latinos se está diciendo que se votó contra los latinos en la comunidad negra", dijo Pachón. "Hay que ver la coalición que surgió. ¿Conservadores blancos y (negros) liberales del sector sur central? No me vengan".

Los dos candidatos a la alcaldía eran demócratas y liberales. Pero a Hahn, la clase privilegiada le consideraba menos peligroso. Y siguiendo la vertiente de intolerancia hacia personas de color, Hahn usó una propaganda de la televisión escalofriante en su parecido a Willie Horton en la campaña presidencial de 1988, en la que pinta al anterior vocero de la asamblea estatal, Antonio Villaraigosa, como un débil frente al crimen. Y no dijeron nada los líderes negros.

Es frente a este tipo de hipocresía que los líderes y potenciales candidatos hispanos en todo el país deben planificar su futuro. No deben enojarse. Deben ponerse más inteligentes. Deben formar las mismas alianzas. Y si significa aliarse de vez en cuando con el partido republicano a nivel nacional o estatal, así sea, si con eso se elige a más hijos e hijas del barrio.

"Es una decepción, pero no es aplastante, porque tenemos tiempo," dijo Pachón.

Es verdad, tenemos el tiempo y los números del censo, y por eso somos ahora los latinos el blanco político para los que antes pensábamos eran nuestros amigos.

Los sondeos al final del voto para la campaña para alcalde mostraron que los latinos eran 22 por ciento de los que votaron, un

gran aumento del 8 por ciento en 1993. Y los latinos son la mayor pluralidad en Los Angeles, el 47 por ciento. La misma tendencia demográfica está afectando a todo el estado de California, en la medida en que los porcentajes de la población latina suben mientras que los de la población africana americana bajan. Para los que no nos quieren ver como iguales y amigos, esta situación es de temer.

Durante años en el sur, les he pedido a los líderes negros que inviten a los hispanos a sus círculos de poder para formar una coalición política con fuerza. De lo contrario, los líderes no nos han escuchado para poder proteger su parte de la distribución económica y política. No se nos ha considerado dignos de compartir las victorias de derechos civiles y otros frutos del progreso social.

No han hecho caso cuando hemos insistido que somos más fuertes juntos que separados. Han rechazado nuestro razonamiento que los programas paralelos sólo sirven al arraigado estatus quo.

Contra esa experiencia, lo que pasó en Los Angeles no es sorprendente. Debería servir de clarín a los latinos en todo el país sobre la realidad política. El poder nunca se ha cedido fácilmente. Debemos estar dispuestos a hacernos con el poder, pese a las consecuencias o a quienes hiramos. Es hora de luchar por lo que nos pertenece.

(Tim Chávez es columnista con The Tennessean en Nashville. Contáctese con él a tchavez(AT)SIGNtennessean.com)

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Lo mejor en Noticias que Importan

Time's Borderline Journalism

By Victor Landa

I just finished reading about as much as I could of Time magazine's special issue, "Welcome to Amexica." (The word itself is printed on the cover in red, white and blue and the Mexican tricolor -- verde, blanco y colorado. I didn't suddenly stop reading the 30-page report with a two-page advertisement and color photos included. It was more like a gradual seepage of energy.

Time magazine, and at least two national television outlets, sent several platoons of journalists and photographers to the border between the United States and Mexico, from Tijuana to Brownsville. Their mission was to bring back a report from our country's southern frontier. It had been at least 10 years since the last one.

So I read the reconnaissance and slowly faded to sleep.

You see, I was raised on the border, lived on both sides, crossed the bridge every morning to go to high school. I'm supposed to have a public insight into the life and soul of the area. But it's like describing a very personal dream that has meaning only to me, in the context of my life.

If anything, I've come to realize that you never really leave the border. It follows you at every step. When you grow up living the daily, physical experience of a border you can't help but see the everyday boundaries of life as natural challenges. You don't see them as extraordinary limits. So the entire premise of the special report, from my point of view, is flawed.

La nueva frontera, the new frontier, as the border area is referred to in the collection of several reports, is not new. What is new, like so many Madison Avenue schemes, is the twist on an old story.

Trucks cross the border, many of them, too many for the capacity of a city the size of the typical border town. It's always been that way. I know because I remember the rumble, the gentle bounce and sway of the International Bridge when you stood on it as the endless stream of 18-wheelers went by.

People cross the border, in cars, on foot, on bicycles and motorcycles. I know because I crossed it, as well. Always with the windows of the car lowered, always staring at the passing people, waiting for the line to inch forward; always the vendors selling raspas, pepitas y fruta fresca; always the inevitable disabled car in the middle of traffic with the hood lifted and a geyser gushing from the overheated radiator.

People cross the river -- swimming, wading and floating. I know because on still nights I could hear them as they gathered under a huge tree close to my house. They prepared their crossing for the next morning, and before dawn they were gone, al norte.

There was a time when the customs agents at the border checkpoint would glance disinterestedly in the cars, ask "¿Qué lleva?" and wave you by with *continuad on page 6*

Hearings Urge the Continuation & Expansion Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative

Elbert Garcia

Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, and other officials from various federal health agencies testified Tuesday during a special hearing conducted by the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

The hearing focused on the activities carried out by the government to implement the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, which has provided an infusion of targeted and tailored funding to address and reduce the disparities in HIV-related morbidity, mortality and to improve health outcomes for people of color highly impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Passed in 1998, the Initiative is intended to build and expand the infrastructure and capacity of community-based organizations (CBOs) in order to provide quality HIV prevention interventions, and health care and supportive services.

"The trends in the HIV/AIDS epidemic among people of color in the U.S. underscore the need to sustain and expand the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative," testified Miguelina Ileana Leon, Director of Government Relations and Public Policy at the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) and a witness at the hearing.

Leon criticized the government's commitment to these programs, noting that President George W. Bush's 2002 budget request flat-funds the Initiative and the Ryan White CARE Act programs.

"This is unconscionable at the time when people of color represent the overwhelming

majority of new HIV and AIDS cases and people living with HIV/AIDS in this country," he said.

The hearing also looked at statistical data on the impact of HIV/AIDS in the African-American, Asian-Pacific American and Latino communities. According to the experts, more than 56% of the cumulative AIDS cases have been among people of color: 292,522 (38%) among Blacks/ African Americans, and 141,694 (18%) among Hispanics/Latinos compared to 330,160 (43%) cases among whites.

Cumulative deaths due to AIDS reported through December 31, 2000 amounted to 448,060, of which, 381,611 (85%) were among men and 66,448 (15%) among women. People of color account for 53% of the cumulative AIDS related deaths: 158,892 (35%) among Blacks/African Americans, and 77,698 (17%) among Hispanics/Latinos compared to 206,909 (46%) among whites.

"We appreciate the leadership and the on-going efforts of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Congressional Asian and Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) to increase resources to minority community based organizations to develop and implement tailored and culturally competent services for people of color affected by HIV/AIDS," concluded Leon.

Congresswoman Donna Christian-Christensen, the only female physician serving in the U.S. Congress and the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus's

Health Braintrust that it was important to keep these numbers in mind in the wake of this month's 20th anniversary of the first diagnoses of AIDS in the United States.

"For people of color, this epidemic is far from over," Christensen said last week in announcing the hearings. "I am proud to join my colleagues in the Black, Hispanic and Asian Pacific American Caucuses as we continue to demand that the dollars for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment follow the epidemic and reach those who are most affected."

In addition to Leon, NMAC Executive Director Paul Akio Kawata testified that there was a need for continued leadership on the part of the federal government in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Panels of persons living with HIV/AIDS and providers of prevention and

care/services programs to persons living with HIV/AIDS also provided specific perspectives on issues that arise when providing services to people of color.

The National Minority AIDS Council was created in 1987 to develop leadership in communities of color to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS. The organization's programs in the areas of technical assistance, conferences, communications, treatment education and advocacy and public policy provide information, resources and support to more than 3,000 community-based organizations serving minority communities around the country.

For more information on NMAC and its programs, please visit the NMAC website at <http://www.nmac.org> or call Carlos Velez, JD, Acting Director of Communications at 202-483-6622, ext. 306.

From Page One

gan. It is a heartwarming play about hope and inspiration that depicts the migrant lifestyle. It is sure to delight audiences of all ages. The students are participating in a theatre arts class as part of their summer component experience on the Texas Tech campus. According to the director of the Upward Bound program, Eric Strong, the students are not only exploring the arts, they will also utilize their talents to help build their scholarship program. All of the proceeds of the production will benefit the Upward Bound Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$10 for the general public. Tickets are available through Select a Seat and at the University Center ticket office. For more information call 742-3616.

GET IN THE SWIM

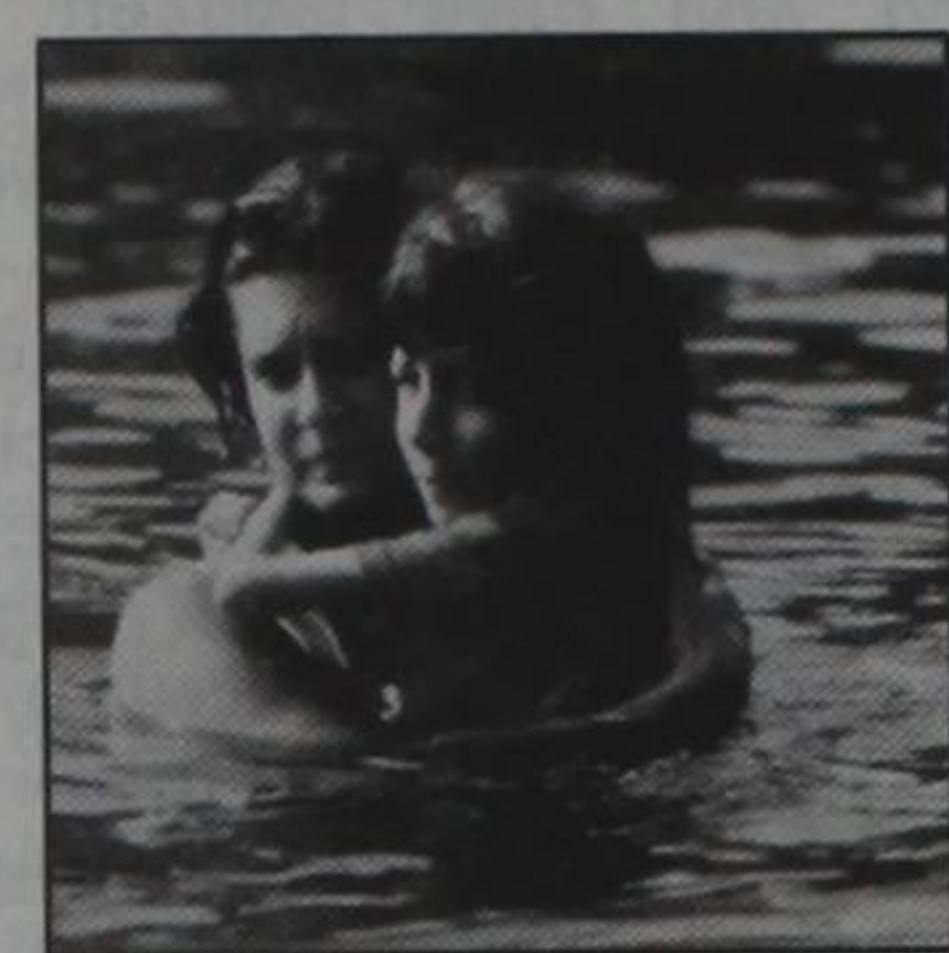


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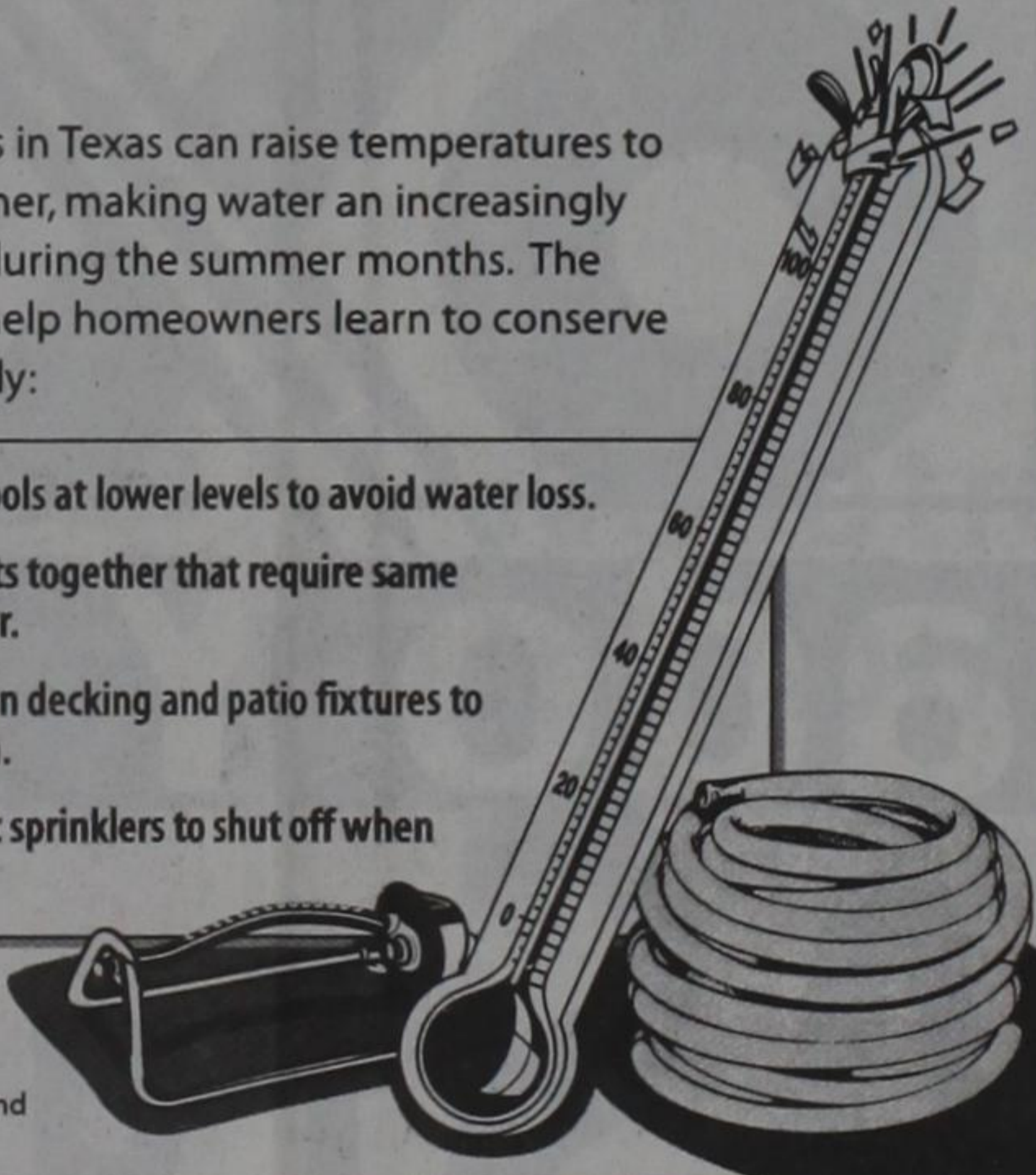
Keeping an Eye on Texas

Water-Wise

Drought conditions in Texas can raise temperatures to 106 degrees or higher, making water an increasingly valuable resource during the summer months. The following tips will help homeowners learn to conserve and use water wisely:

- Fill swimming pools at lower levels to avoid water loss.
- Group lawn plants together that require same amounts of water.
- Use rocks, wooden decking and patio fixtures to reduce lawn area.
- Adjust automatic sprinklers to shut off when it rains.

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us), and the City of Arlington.



Hispanic Advertising Community Attempts to Help Close Education Gap

June 2001 (LATNN) -- As Congress attempts to agree on a comprehensive education bill, Latino advocates are hoping to hold officials accountable for a statistic that have the nation's fastest growing ethnic group behind in high school graduation rates as well as enrollment in early childhood learning programs.

They also want to see more Latinos involved in passing down the lessons delivered in the nation's schools although Hispanic students comprise about 15% of public school students, available statistics say that Latino teachers account for only approximately 4 percent of the public school staffs.

In response to what many agree is part of a national educational crisis, the Association of Hispanic Advertising Agencies announced last month the launch of FuturaMente, a major advertising campaign designed to help advance education in America and help "close the achievement gap" between Hispanics and non-Hispanics.

"We must take care of our youth," said Daisy Expósito-Ulla, immediate past president and FuturaMente chair. "As marketers we know how to change and influence purchasing behavior, as Hispanic marketers we must help change the critical state of Hispanic education and decrease the educational divide between Hispanics and non-Hispanics."

The largest ever Hispanic business initiative for education will target parents of 3-4 year olds about the importance of early education and will teach them how to create a learning environment within the home. This effort will equip parents with "culturally actionable" tips on how they can help motivate their child and get them off to the right start.

The project, which has begun to air spots nationally, will also attempt to persuade high school seniors to pursue a career in teaching by stressing the need for professors who hat not only

understand the Spanish language but who also can culturally reach Hispanic youth.

According to the national umbrella organization for firms specializing in the Hispanic market, the country's 36 million Hispanic consumers together have an estimated buying power of \$458 billion.

The FuturaMente campaign concepts were developed by The Bravo Group, New York, BVK Meka, Miami, and Dieste & Partners Publicidad, Dallas, and were chosen by a group of creative directors from AHAA's member agencies. Pro-bono production, editing and music services for the television spots were provided by La Casa Films, Republica Films, Mamey Productions, BVL Musicwave, Wild Child and Face the Music through the AHAA member network. Focus group testing of the spots was conducted by Menendez International, Miami.

"As the Hispanic market continues to grow, now is the time for us to make sure that all the doors of opportunity are open to our Hispanic youth," said Horacio Gomes, president of AHAA. "We believe that by reaching specific Hispanic target audiences with this multifaceted campaign, we can help build a bridge to develop the 'Future Minds' of Hispanics in the 21st century and in turn help build a better America."

The pro-bono advertising and media campaign is already backed by more than \$50 million in media commitments from Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation, People en Español, Radio Unica, Telemundo, Univision, Yahoo! en Español, and many others. It will include 7 television spots plus radio, print, online and outdoor messages which will be advertised nationally in Spanish and English.

AHAA, the national organization of firms that specialize in marketing to Latinos, promotes the strength of the Hispanic marketing and advertising industry to the private and public sectors.

De la pagina una

Entretanto, Bárbara Boxer y Anna Eshoo, senadora y congresista demócratas de California, respectivamente, presentaron un proyecto de ley requiriendo que FERC ordene los reembolsos por pasadas compras de energía en aquellos casos donde los reguladores federales determinen que los precios cobrados al estado fueron "injustos e irrazonables". La medida incluye las ventas de energía entre el 1 de junio del 2000 y el 19 de junio del 2001.

Entretanto, el Departamento de Energía reveló un estudio que concluye que California enfrenta 113 horas de apagones controlados este verano, pero que la cifra se elevaría a 235 horas de haberse impuesto estrictos controles al precio de la venta de energía al por mayor.

"Los hallazgos de este reporte son una clara advertencia de que el control de precios no ayudaría sino que lastimaría la situación en California", indicó el secretario de Energía, Spencer Abraham.

La Administración Bush y la mayor parte de los republicanos se oponen a los estrictos controles de precios y favorecen la "mitigación" amplia ordenada por FERC de los precios de energía en los llamados mercados energéticos al contado, 24 horas al día, siete días a la semana y no sólo en casos de emergencia. La mitigación incluye a otros 10 estados del Oeste.

Pero el tema de ayer fue la controversia de los reembolsos. Según el Operador Independiente de Sistema (ISO) entre mayo de 2000 y mayo de 2001 las empresas cobraron a California casi 9,000 millones de dólares de más por la electricidad. La cifra incluye lo que cobraron las municipalidades y los abastecedores privados.

La orden emitida el lunes por FERC sólo fija un período de negociación de 15 días a partir del próximo lunes 25 de junio entre las compañías californianas de servicios públicos y las empresas abastecedoras de energía. Las negociaciones serán supervisadas por un juez de jurisprudencia administrativa y si no se logra un acuerdo a principios de julio, FERC intervendrá para solucionar el asunto, indicó Hébert al panel de Asuntos Gubernamentales del Senado.

Pero Davis insistió que aunque la orden del lunes es un "primer paso positivo". FERC "tiene que completar su trabajo" pues la orden del lunes no ordenó los reembolsos, como debería hacerlo por ley, pese a que en dos ocasiones determinó que los precios que cobraron los abastecedores no son "justos ni razonables".

"Si los precios no son justos ni razonables, por ley, la comisión tiene que ordenar los reembolsos", declaró Davis.

Sobre qué consideraría un arreglo justo de las negociaciones que comienzan el lunes, Davis

señaló que "los 9,000 millones de dólares que el ISO de California ha sugerido que se han cobrado de más sería un arreglo justo".

Sin embargo, FERC ha sugerido, aunque no ordenado, que la industria reembolse sólo 125 millones de dólares.

Davis añadió que asegurará que California esté bien representada en la mesa de negociaciones entre las compañías de servicio público y los abastecedores.

Lo único positivo de la orden de negociar por 15 días, dijo Davis, es que le otorga al asunto "un sentido de urgencia".

Si las negociaciones no son satisfactorias, la garantía de presión es la legislación Boxer-Eshoo. Después de todo, según Davis, todo lo conseguido hasta ahora, incluyendo la mitigación de precios de 24 horas al día se logró tras la presión sin cuartel sobre FERC no sólo de su Administración sino de la delegación californiana al Congreso y de los californianos.

"Va a ser una lucha cuesta arriba. Pero si no se logra nada en los 15 días, tenemos el proyecto de Eshoo como garantía. No vamos a quitar el dedo del renglón en el tema de los reembolsos", dijo la congresista demócrata de California, Hilda Solís.

Su colega, Xavier Becerra, exhortó a los californianos a estar "vigilantes y listos para pelear" por esos reembolsos porque se trata de recursos económicos con los que ahora el estado no cuenta "para nuestras escuelas, nuestros proyectos de transporte y nuestros beneficios de salud".



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Goosen Finds Sweet Redemption In Playoff

By Helen Ross

TULSA, Okla. -- Relief Goosen didn't want to be remembered for that 18-inch putt he missed Sunday on the 72nd hole in the final round of the U.S. Open.

So bent on redemption Monday, the soft-spoken South African made history when he beat Mark Brooks in an 18-hole playoff at Southern Hills. Goosen shot 70 to Brooks' struggling 72 to become only the fifth foreign-born winner of the U.S. Open since World War II.

The victory -- worth \$900,000 -- was a first for Goosen on the PGA TOUR and earned him a five-year exemption. He follows his good friend Ernie Els (1994 and '97) and Gary Player (1965) as U.S. Open champions from South Africa.

Goosen's gaffe on the 72nd hole late Sunday evening had followed three-putts by Brooks and Stewart Cink whose double bogey robbed him of a chance to join the two others in the playoff. Brooks missed a 6-footer to save par there while Cink's shocking miscue came from 24 inches.

Goosen, though, had only to two-putt from 15 feet to seal the biggest victory of his life. When he didn't, the 32-

year-old suddenly found his name mentioned with the Doug Sanders and Scott Hochs of the world -- who self-destructed similarly at other major championships.

"I know what Jean Van de Velde went through at Carnoustie," Goosen said, recalling the water-logged triple bogey that cost the Frenchman the 1999 British Open title. "You play so well and it all comes down to one shot at the end of the day."

"I think staying overnight might have helped. I think we were all a bit shaken up over what happened on the last hole. It gave me a chance to relax and reflect on what happened. I was able to tell myself I was playing well."

And he was. Although regarded as something of an underachiever until Monday, Goosen, who played on the International Team for the 2000 Presidents Cup, was steady throughout the week. He opened with a 66 that needed two days to complete, then added rounds of 70, 69 and the closing 71.

"Unfortunately what happened was tough," said Goosen, who received encouragement overnight in phone calls from Nick Faldo and Els. "If it had happened at the 17th it wouldn't have been

that bad. But I told myself that day was over. I was looking forward to today."

Brooks appeared to have the upper hand early, though. He made birdie on the third hole when he coaxed a 9-iron 4 feet from the pin. But the scrambling Goosen, who had 12 putts on the first 10 holes, countered with a birdie of his own at the sixth, and Brooks' game suddenly began to desert him.

There was that bogey from the right rough at the seventh hole and another at the 10th where Brooks found himself almost stymied by a tree. He hit it fat into more rough and made bogey while Goosen sank a 20-footer for birdie.

"I tried to make something from nothing," the 40-year-old Texan said. "It was deflating."

Goosen added insult to injury when both men found the rough at the next hole and he made birdie to a second straight Brooks bogey. The two holes produced a four-shot swing and gave Goosen a cushion of five that he maintained until the last two holes.

"I was in the rough too much," Brooks said simply. "And where I was it was thick. All that stuff about the rough being kinder, gentler -- well, I didn't see that because it probably hadn't been mowed in about 10 days. But I hit it there."

Goosen did flinch when he hit a wedge over the green at the 17th hole and failed to save par. Brooks made his second birdie there -- sinking a

12-footer that narrowed the gap to three.

The South African then made it a tad more exciting than he would have liked when he missed the green at the 18th hole, putted up about 75 of the 100 or so feet to the cup and then left himself a 6-footer for bogey. But this time Goosen, who needed just 27 putts, was dead-on.

"That was quite a relief after yesterday," Goosen said with a wry smile. "I was able to keep my wits together."

Brooks, who won the 1996 PGA Championship in a playoff over Kenny Perry, said he was probably more disappointed by the bogey at the 18th hole on Sunday that cost him a chance to win outright than Monday's turn of events. Brooks was looking for his first victory in his last 145 starts.

"J.L. Lewis said it the other day, and I agree," he said. "I've been in contention in a couple of these things. But it's just a golf tournament. It's important when you're out there. But my family and doing the right thing are the most important things to me."

As for Goosen, he hopes this Open championship will be a springboard to bigger things.

"It's been a great week for me," he said. "There's been pressure since day one and I have learned a lot about myself. I haven't always had enough self-confidence in the past. I am really looking forward to the big events

Sosa, Cubs End Losing Ways In St. Louis



Sammy Sosa (left) celebrates with Julian Tavarez during the 47th multihomer game of his career.

ST LOUIS -- Sammy Sosa hit two home runs, including a grand slam, as the Chicago Cubs snapped a 13-game losing streak at St. Louis with a 9-4 victory over the Cardinals on Wednesday night.

Julian Tavarez (5-4) allowed two runs, eight hits, walked three and struck out five in seven innings for the Cubs, who had not won at Busch Stadium since Oct. 2, 1999.

The loss snapped a five-game winning streak for the Cardinals, who had won eight straight at home and are 5-1 on their 12-game homestand. The Cubs have won six of their last 11.

After Ron Coomer and Julio Zuleta singled, Gary Matthews Jr. homered off Cardinals starter Mike Matthews (2-3) to give the Cubs a 3-1 lead in the second.

Chicago put it out of reach with four runs in the seventh.

Reliever Mark James walked Tavarez and Eric Young, and Ricky Gutierrez singled with one out to load the bases for Sosa.

Sosa hit a 2-1 pitch off Jason Christiansen for his 22nd home run and sixth career grand slam to make it 7-1. Sosa and been 0-for-8 in his career against Christiansen.

Sosa is 5-for-8 with the bases loaded this year -- with two grand slams and 19 RBI.

Ray Lankford drove in a run in the sixth with a single to make it 7-2 after Albert Pujols hit a leadoff triple. Sosa made a diving catch to rob pinch-hitter Stubby Clapp's bid for a hit to end the inning.

Sosa hit his second home run of the game with a man on in the ninth off Luther Hackman to make it 9-2. It was the 47th multihomer game of his career.

Craig Paquette hit a pinch-hit homer off Tom Gordon, and Jim Edmonds hit an RBI single to make it 9-4.

Mark McGwire's sacrifice fly gave the Cardinals a 1-0 lead in the first.

Mike Matthews, who allowed three runs on six hits and struck out four in four innings, has lost his last three decisions.

Dallas Building Costliest Sports Arena

DALLAS, June 20, 2001 (United Press International via COMTEX) -- Upgrades have driven the estimated final cost of Dallas' American Airlines Center to \$420 million, making it the nation's most expensive sports arena for professional basketball and hockey, The Dallas Morning News reported Wednesday.

Los Angeles' Staples Center had been the most expensive arena in the country at \$400 million, according to figures quoted from Inside the Ownership of Pro Sports 2001.

When Dallas voters approved the use of public funds for the project in 1998, the city capped its financial contribution at \$125 million, so the owners of the teams will have to absorb the added costs. The city funds come from hotel and rental car taxes.

Tom Hicks, the owner of the Dallas Stars hockey club, and Mark Cuban, the owner of the Dallas Mavericks basketball franchise, committed to a project of \$230 million originally, but "upgrades and enhancements" to

continued on page 6

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Ask the AG:

Stolen Car Recovery Services

By John Cornyn, Attorney General of Texas

Q: Several months ago, our family car was stolen. We reported the theft, but the car was never recovered. We did not carry comprehensive insurance to cover the loss. Recently, a stranger called and offered to recover our car, which he claimed is now in Mexico, for a fee. I declined the offer because it seemed suspicious.

A: It is certainly suspect, especially if the person who offered to "recover" your car had specific knowledge of its whereabouts but withheld that information until you paid him. The Texas Penal Code makes it a crime for a person to acquire property known to be stolen, and only restore it to the rightful owner upon the payment of a reward or other compensation.

You did the right thing by declining this offer. You should report it to the same police agency where you originally reported the car theft.

The Texas-Mexico border region ranks as one of the top areas for auto theft in the country, leading to a rise in illegal recovery services that cheat car theft victims a second time. While insurance companies, and even some individuals, do use private investigators to locate missing vehicles, there has been an increase in the number of illegally operated auto recovery services along the border. Consumers often pay several hundred dollars in the hope of having their cars returned, but often the cars are in such bad shape when they are found that the recovery fees cost more than the car is worth.

Unless you have specifically requested help from a recovery service, be wary if a recovery company approaches you immediately after your car is stolen. These operators generally solicit business anonymously by phone or approach desperate victims in parking lots and other public places. It is common for operators to demand payment up front and in cash before retrieving the vehicle, and they might even refuse to provide receipts or commit to anything in writing.

If someone unexpectedly offers to find your stolen vehicle for a fee, decline the offer. Write down any information that the person gives you, such as his or her name and the possible whereabouts of your car. Give this information to the police. NEVER try to investigate matters yourself. Remember, car thieves are criminals, and you might be placing yourself in danger if you attempt the recovery.

Q: What should we do to try to get our car back?

A: If your car was stolen while you were in Mexico, report the theft to Mexican authorities. You should also report it to your U.S.

insurance company, since many Texas vehicles are covered if they are stolen within a few miles south of the U.S.-Mexico Border. Check with your agent before crossing to make sure you have this type of coverage. If you are traveling to the interior of Mexico, you should consider purchasing additional coverage, from a reputable agent, that provides short-term insurance for those traveling further than the immediate Mexican border towns.

If the theft occurred on the Texas side of the border, report it to the police immediately. My office may be able to help, particularly if the car was taken into Mexico. The Attorney General's Auto Theft Prevention Task Force facilitates communication between Texas law enforcement and Mexican officials with regard to stolen vehicles.

In September 2000, my office helped the attorney general of the State of Chihuahua, the El Paso Police Department, and the Ciudad Juárez Police Department develop a program for the return of stolen vehicles found by law enforcement along the border. This recovery effort is offered to consumers on both sides of the border at no charge. In its first four months of operation, the program helped handle the return of almost 150 stolen vehicles. We are in the process of establishing similar reciprocal efforts between other Texas border cities and the Mexican states of Nuevo León, Tamaulipas and Coahuila.

For further information about the Attorney General's Auto Theft Prevention Task Force, contact Assistant Attorney General Virginia Hermosa at 1-800-252-8011 or by e-mail at virginia.hermosa@oag.state.tx.us.

Read El Editor

El Periodismo Fronterizo De Time

Por Victor Landa

Acabo de terminar cuanto pude de la edición especial de la revista Time: *Welcome to Amexica*. La palabra misma está impresa en la portada en rojo, blanco y azul y el tricolor mexicano -- verde, blanco y colorado. No dejé de repente de leer el informe de 30 páginas, con dos páginas de publicidad y fotos a color incluidas. Fue más bien como una gotera lenta de energía.

La revista Time, y por lo menos dos emisoras de televisión nacionales, enviaron a varios pelotones de periodistas y fotógrafos a la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México, desde Tijuana hasta Brownsville. Su misión consistía de regresar con un informe desde la frontera sur de nuestro país. Habían pasado por lo menos diez años desde el último informe.

Entonces, leí el reconocimiento y de a poquitos me dormía.

Es que yo me crié en la frontera, viví de ambos lados, y crucé el puente todas las mañanas para asistir a la escuela secundaria. Es de suponer que puedo tener una perspectiva pública de la vida y el alma del área. Pero es como si describiera un sueño muy personal que sólo tiene sentido para mí, dentro del contexto de mi vida.

Si algo he entendido, es que nunca dejas realmente la frontera. Te sigue a cada paso. Cuando creces viviendo la experiencia diaria y física de una frontera, siempre verás las fronteras cotidianas de la vida como retos naturales. No las consideras límites extraordinarios.

Entonces, para mí, la misma premisa del informe especial es fallida. La nueva frontera, como es llamada en la colección de varios informes, no es nueva. Lo que es nuevo, como tantas maquinaciones de Madison Avenue para aumentar las ventas, es el giro que se le da a una vieja historia. Los camiones cruzan la frontera, muchos cruzan, demasiados para la capacidad de una ciudad del tamaño de un pueblo fronterizo típico. Siempre ha sido así. Yo esto lo sé porque recuerdo estar parado sintiendo el temblor, el rebote y movimiento suave del puente Internacional al pasar el flujo interminable de camiones de dieciocho ruedas.

La gente cruza la frontera -- en carro, a pie, en bicicleta y

motocicleta. Yo sé porque la crucé yo también. Siempre con las lunas del carro bajas, siempre viendo perezosamente a los que pasaban, esperando que la fila adelantara un centímetro; siempre los vendedores ambulantes con raspas, pepitas y fruta fresca; siempre el inevitable carro descompuesto en medio del tráfico con el capó levantado y un géiser proyectándose del radiador recalentado.

La gente cruza el río: a nado, vadeando o a flote. Yo sé porque los oía las noches calladas reuniéndose bajo un árbol inmenso cerca de mi casa. Se preparaban para cruzar la mañana siguiente, y antes del alba desaparecían, al norte.

Había una época en la que los agentes de aduanas de los controles de la frontera darían un vistazo desinteresado al carro y preguntarian, ¿Qué lleva?, y con un gesto dearte pasar. Eso ha cambiado, se han vuelto más meticulosos con las inspecciones porque los narcóticos cruzan la frontera.

Pero ese siempre ha sido el caso. Los mandamases de los narcotraficantes han sabido por generaciones de la importancia de los cruces de la frontera. Han habido pleitos a muerte en las calles de pueblos fronterizos para determinar quién era dueño del territorio. Ha habido corrupción, y la frontera enseña que este es un producto natural del dinero fácil y la oportunidad tentadora.

El comercio cruza la frontera, pero no del tipo que se pensaría. Para muchas de las personas al sur de la frontera viendo hacia el norte, la línea política es una oportunidad. Con un poco de ingenio y un tanto más de agallas, se puede jugar un lado contra el otro y ganar. Eso ha venido ocurriendo desde que existe la frontera.

Y la humanidad cruza la frontera. Las familias se entrecruzan, los linajes se vuelven borrosos, las distinciones empiezan a desaparecer. Se vuelve realidad la dependencia cuando la periferia de la cultura y la política dista tanto del centro.

Lo que no vio el pelotón de periodistas, otra vez, es que la frontera es un caldero de cambio constante. Y que mientras más cambia, más se aferra a sus

tradiciones, a su propia identidad. Lo que es diferente es que con toda la atención, todo el dinero y toda la gente que se filtra, la frontera está influenciando a los dos países ahora de formas nunca imaginadas.

Pero supongo que tendremos que esperar la próxima oleada de informes desde la periferia del país para enterarnos de exactamente qué significa eso. Volveremos a

chequearlo en diez años más. (Victor Landa es director de noticias del afiliado de Telemundo KVDA-TV60 en San Antonio, Texas. Contáctese con él por correo electrónico a: vxlanda(AT)SIGN@telemundo.com) (c) 2001, Hispanic Link News Service. Distribuido por Los Angeles Times Syndicate International, una división de Tribune Media Services.

FREE Immunizations at United Supermarket

The City of Lubbock Health Department will provide free childhood immunizations. The free immunization clinic will be held at United Supermarket located at 112 North University on Tuesday, June 19th from noon-3pm.

This clinic is for all children ages 2 months through 18 years needing immunizations. "This is a great opportunity to get your child's shots updated and get a head start on needed immunizations for the upcoming school year. For every child we immunize we protect them as well as the community against a vaccine preventable disease," says Beckie Brawley, R.N., Preven-

tion Manager for the City of Lubbock Health Department.

"Due to a national shortage of tetanus/diphtheria (Td) vaccine, we will not have this available for your child's booster dose. All children who are requiring a booster dose of Td vaccine for the upcoming school year have been deferred and will not be excluded from school," says Brawley.

"Don't forget to bring your child's shot record or letter from their school to ensure the correct vaccine is administered," says Brawley.

For more information please contact Beckie Brawley or Diane Foard at 775-2939 or 775-2915.

Buddy Holly Center Currently Presenting SMART

(Summer Mission Art Reaching Texas)

The Buddy Holly Center is currently presenting SMART (Summer Mission Art Reaching Texas) through August 3rd. The program is designed to introduce Lubbock youth to contemporary art and music through hands-on activities and explorations. Workshops are designed for children age seven and up and are free of charge.

Workshops include guitar, jewelry making, painting, piano, drawing, sculpture, and much more. The SMART

Programs are offered various dates, times, and locations throughout the summer. SMART is a community outreach program designed to encourage learning in the arts, and is funded in part by a Community Development Block Grant through the City of Lubbock and administered by the Buddy Holly Center.

For more information or a listing of workshops, contact the Buddy Holly Center at 767-2686.

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Compañías impresoras con capacidad de imprimir sobre vinilo blanco de .010 con proceso de cuatro colores o de color directo. También se requiere capacidad para hacer suaje (die-cut). Favor de enviar ejemplos de su trabajo, un historial detallado de su compañía y una lista descriptiva de su equipo. Precios deberán ser competitivos.

IMPRESION DE LETREROS METALICOS
Compañías impresoras con capacidad de fabricar soportes de metal (metal brackets) y de imprimir en letreros de metal (wall signs and curb signs). Favor de enviar ejemplos de su trabajo, un historial detallado de su compañía y una lista descriptiva de su equipo. Precios deberán ser competitivos.

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EL EDITOR
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Tejano Chisme

Hola mi linda gente! I'm Jennifer "La Chismosa" from Magic 93.7 with your Tejano Chisme. If you missed out on the Chisme, then not to worry, I got it for you right here!!!

* Be on the look out for a special gift coming your way from Tejano Records, Elida y Avante and your numero uno Tejano hit station Magic 93.7!!!

* If you're going to be heading to Houston ... Here is a little something you might want to know ... Jimmy Gonzalez, Fama, Gary Hobbs, Texas Latino, Margarita, Los Magnificos, Stampede and other big names on the onda will all come together and perform a benefit dance on Sunday, June 24 at Hallabaloo's in Houston to help raise money for the flood victims in Houston.

* You've been asking about it ... well here is the information you need ... Island Jam 2001 will be held on Labor Day weekend!!!

Hasta la proxima have a Safe Tejano Day I'm Jennifer "La Chismosa" from Magic 93.7 with your Tejano Chisme!!!

* * * * *

MAGIC 93.7 TOP 10

TW	TITLE	ARTIST
1	No Eres Para Mi	Elida y Avante
2	Los Tres Amigos	Roberto Pulido
3	BOOM BOOM	Kumbia Kings
4	Soy Yo	Bobby Pulido
5	Infiel	Joe Lopez
6	El Guarare	Jimmy Gonzales
7	Cumbia De La Cobra	Fito Olivarez
8	Dime Porque	Kumbia Kings
9	Si Deveras Eres Hombre	Shelly Lares
10	La Que Me Hace Llorar	Fama



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Fed Arrest Drug Smugglers In 16 Cities

SAN ANTONIO, Jun 20, 2001 (United Press International via COMTEX) - Federal agents made 76 arrests in 16 cities Wednesday in a crackdown on the U.S. operations of a Mexican-based drug trafficking ring that they alleged shipped millions of dollars of cocaine and marijuana into the United States.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, FBI and U.S. Customs Service made the arrests in cooperation with local police in the culmination of an 18-month investigation of the trafficking ring based in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, just across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas.

The Marquis Organization allegedly moved large quantities of cocaine and marijuana through Nuevo Laredo into South Texas where it was warehoused in the Laredo area, and then smuggled throughout the United States, mostly in trucks loaded with produce.

"The Marquis Organization appears to be fairly typical of today's organizations operating from Mexico, smaller groups that rely on each other to capitalize on drug trafficking opportunities," said DEA Administrator Donnie

Marshall. "Nevertheless, these organizations remain as violent and dangerous as ever."

Three men were allegedly shot to death in San Antonio on orders from Hugo Villarreal-Solis, a 34-year-old Marquis associate. Villarreal-Solis, Jose "Joey" Rodriguez, 21, and the alleged gunman, Roberto Lopez Rivera, 30, have been indicted on drug and murder charges. If convicted of murder, each of them could face the federal death penalty or life in prison without parole.

Arrests were conducted Wednesday in Laredo, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, Houston, Little Rock, New York, Newark, Charlotte, Cleveland, St. Louis, San Diego, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Nashville and Memphis, the agents said.

Provisional arrests warrants naming 14 Marquis Organization members in Mexico will be submitted to Mexican authorities, and, once apprehended, U.S. prosecutors will formally request their extradition for trials in the United States.

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From Page 4

the sports arena have ballooned the cost, The News reported.

"We decided to build a world-class facility that would be the appropriate showcase for our two teams," Hicks told The News.

Sales of naming rights, luxury suites, club seats and sponsorships are running ahead of projections providing additional revenue for the project, The News reported.

Developer Ross Perot Jr., who sold the Mavericks to Cuban a

year ago, is still involved in the development of the arena with Hicks and Cuban.

The sports arena is the centerpiece of the 65-acre Victory development, which includes offices, homes, restaurants and shops, which was also an inducement for the developers to build a state-of-the-art, 19,200-seat facility, Hicks said.

Hicks and Perot are partners in the Victory project.

The sports arena is scheduled to open July 28 with a concert by the Eagles rock group.

From Page 2

a gesture. That has changed. They've gotten more meticulous in their inspections because drugs cross the border. But that's always been the case. Drug lords have known the importance of border crossings for generations. There have been all-out wars fought in the streets of border towns for ownership of the territory. There has been corruption, and the border teaches that this is a natural by-product of easy money and tempting opportunity.

Commerce crosses the border, but not the kind that you think. For many people south of the border looking north, the political line is an opportunity. With a little ingenuity and an equal amount of gumption, you can play one side against the other and come out ahead. That's been happening for as long as there has been a border.

And humanity crosses the border. Families mix, lines get fuzzy, distinctions fade. Dependence becomes the reality when the edge of culture and politics is so far from the middle.

What the platoon of journalists failed to see, again, is that the border is a constant caldron of change. And that the more it changes, the more it clings to its own ways, its own identity. What's different is that with all the attention, all the money and all the people filtering through, the border is now influencing both countries in ways never imagined.

But I guess we'll have to wait for the next reports from the edge of the country to find out exactly what that means. We'll check back in another 10 years.

(Victor Landa is news director of the Telemundo affiliate KVDA-TV60 in San Antonio, Texas. He may be reached by e-mail at vxlanda@AT&T.com)

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