

El Editor

"El Respeto al Derecho
Ajeno es la Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez

Casualties of
War in Iraq
3,229
as of Mar 21,
2007

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Hispanic Pulse

Priorities of City, Area Leaders Versus Concerns in Community

A recent trip by Lubbock leaders to Austin and Washington as reported by local media made Hispanic Pulse wonder why priority was given to items such as water, energy and transportation.

This past week, using the Hispanic Pulse survey, El Editor asked our readers their opinion on the Chamber's reported priorities. Our question asked whether Lubbock and West Texas's most dire needs should only these priorities as reported in the majority media.

Our concern was many other issues current confront our population. Issues including the facts that Texas currently has the worst teen age pregnancy rate in the nation; Texas currently has the 4th highest dropout rate; twenty two percent of Lubbock residents live in poverty; Lubbock currently has the worst STD rate in the State and children continue losing their health benefits with CHIP under current Texas law.

We asked our reader what they thought our City leaders should re-examine their priorities when lobbying our legislators.

Voicing one of LULAC's highest concern, past district director Ar-

mando Garcia stressed that "the dropout problem should be one of the top issues to be concerned about."

Jerry Garcia from Texas Tech wrote more specific ideas; "Our City Leaders should re-examine their priorities. Instead of attacking living Hispanic businesses and replacing them with a visitors center to honor some dead white guy, they should turn their attention toward using the money, \$1.3 million allocated to buy South Beach club property, to pay for STD awareness programs and more youth activity centers."

The other priority our City Leaders should examine is what they will do for employment after we vote them out for betraying the minority community. If you attack one of us, you attack all of us. We will remember the attack on Hispanic businesses come election time. I am sure most members of City Council will not miss their pay checks as many are making gobs of money with their own businesses or have retirement checks from the city police force. We the voters are sick of the "Uncle Toms" on the council who try to justify their abhorrent behavior with weak excuses and political side-dithering! We minority voters put all of you in your lofty positions and we can take you out! The only minority politician in the South Plains with enough integrity and decency to stand up for truth and justice was County Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez. Shame on anyone who thinks otherwise!

Linda Garcia expressed concerns about the City Council's actions;

"I think this is the worse City Council we have had in many years. I am deeply saddened that the opinions of the Lubbock Citizens gets swept under the table about the real issues that are affecting us all such as the increase in property taxes, the water increase, and monies spent on all of the third party surveys the city spends on city growth! We have many troubling issues but as far as the city council is concerned, "they will not speak for me."

Pointing out that government's foremost responsibility is to protect life and property, Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez said that the responsibilities of local Government included, police, fire, criminal and civil justice, public records, traffic control, public road construction and maintenance, water and sewer services, parks, libraries, health and safety, and public education.

"Government priorities should focus on these. This is called; Limited Government, ventures outside the legitimate role of Government tax the people need-

lessly and is an unfair burden to tax payers especially when Federal and State taxes are added to local taxes. When Government strays from its priorities, taxes inevitably increase. The tax payer is saddled with the burden of Government excessiveness. When excessive spending exceeds income, the political axiom of old applies, "It is a spending problem not a revenue shortage."

Gutierrez gave emphasis saying that the "way public money is used reflects the values of elected officials who decide how it is spent. Lubbock is a case in point."

But according to Eddie McBride, President of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, what was reported in the majority local media left much pertaining to the Chamber's work during their recent visit with legislators.

He explained that although the issues which are pertinent and vital to the Lubbock area economy and jobs include agriculture, water and natural resources, energy, transportation funding, workforce issues, small business concerns, a major part was health care.

"In fact, the Chamber's legislative policies includes support for strengthening CHIP, protecting and enhancing Medicaid funding (including DSH Federal funds) and opposing efforts to reduce Medicare hospital and physician payments. It is attention to health care related issues within our community that nine months ago prompted the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce to be the first in the State make possible affordable health care insurance for small and medium sized employers in our region who are members of the Chamber. Almost 25 percent of the almost 7,500 lives enrolled in this award winning program were previously without major medical coverage. This insurance covers both employees and their dependents."

McBride told El Editor that he agreed that the "issues you listed in your Question of the Week, teen pregnancy, STDs and health benefits are extremely pressing issues for our community. We are proud of the Chamber's efforts I previously mentioned and work hand in hand with the Lubbock Area United Way and Lubbock's health care and agri-business industries to address those issues. Additionally, we work to address poverty by taking action on issues that directly affect education, the Lubbock economy and job growth throughout the South Plains of Texas."

Editor's note: The Federal and State legislative priority as provided by the Chamber are posted on our web site [eleditor.com](http://www.leditor.com)

Mercado Concept Takes On New Meaning

By Carlos Quirino Jr.

The second meeting of Lubbock's Mercado Charrette, the city's attempt to develop the old Town and Country Shopping Center into a new Latino commercial and cultural district, came together at Cavazos Middle School to finalize proposed plans for the project.

Whereas, during the first meeting, participants worked in teams to brainstorm the logistics of situating family owned businesses, entertainment areas, fountains, and green spaces; the March 19th meeting focused on streamlining the plans from the previous session. During the work session community members and facilitators tried to create a Mercado which will assure the full consideration of the interests of the citizens living in the heavily Latino populated Arnett Bentsen and A.C. Jackson areas.

In face of the new construction of the Marsha Sharp Freeway, participants focused on the task of developing assuring the integration of the Texas Tech community, present and future business establishments, and the Chicano community. A mayor concern was voiced as to the need of assuring the commercial viability of Latino owned businesses which would attract the Texas Tech student community. A need to look at revitalizing the North University Avenue up to the Canyon Lakes area through the development of a major park or plaza was also voiced.

There were also some reservations from some participants as to the premature process of making projections on property that at this time still belongs to a private entity that has not committed itself to this endeavor. A second question concerned the inflexibility of keeping a 60 year old water plant which will undoubtedly become obsolete within the next 20 years. Based on these concerns, a proposal was also made that an alternate site be considered. Specifically, the site triangular site located west Buddy Holly Avenue, north of 4th Street, south of 3rd Street, and east of the Santa Fe railroad tracks. This, it was mentioned, was part of a plan developed during 1983.



Commentary

Iraq: Four Years and Over 3,217 American Soldier's Lives Later

By Abel Cruz

It was billed as shock and awe.

The Iraqi people would be in complete awe of our ferocious power; we would scare Saddam to death and shock him into complete submission. And for the most part, that part of the plan went as planned. We unleashed hundreds of our cruise missiles on Baghdad, knocking out primary targets, and essentially breaking the will of the Iraqi military. In a matter of days, a large part of Baghdad lay in ruins.

But as we now know, the awe morphed into fear; a feeling shared today by most Iraqis who live each day not knowing whether they will see tomorrow. And it is us, the American people that should be in shock that we are still in Iraq after 4 long years. Four years marked by mostly failed military strategies and unrealistic goals and expectations.

It is us that should be shocked that we have lost 3,217 (and counting) American military men and women and that over 40,000 of the best that this country has to offer have returned home either maimed and severely injured; or suffering from some kind of post traumatic stress disorder.

And we should be shocked, that when our soldiers do make it back home, some of them are forced to live in squalid conditions; such as the ones reported in the Walter Reed Army Hospital story by The Washington Post.

Is this how we should treat our returning wounded? It was supposed to be a walk in the park; no one expected that Saddam's Republican Guard would put up much of a fight. Vice-President Dick Cheney said: "My belief is we will, in fact, be greeted as liberators. . . I think it will go relatively quickly . . . weeks rather than months."

Nothing could have been more wrong. Four years later, we are caught in the crossfire of a civil war in which our military is forced to guess as to just who the enemy is. We remain in a country whose people see us as invaders and occupiers rather than liberators.

"They will see us as liberators" or something to that effect said Rumsfeld. Liberators? Not hardly. We may have liberated them from the rule of a tyrant, but have enslaved them to a world filled with fear and death.

Millions of Iraqis have been forced to leave Iraq out of fear for their safety. Syria alone has seen over 700,000 Iraqis come across their borders; causing more instability in that country. Jordan has seen countless numbers. By some estimates over 3.4 million Iraqis have fled their country and it is feared that this mass exodus will only add to the problems in the Middle Eastern countries where they have fled to.

As for us allowing the very people we were supposed to liberate to come to this country? Only 206 Iraqis were allowed in, in 2006. We were supposedly fighting to bring democracy to their country, but aren't willing to allow them to come in to ours to share in our democracy.

Thousands more innocent men, women, and children have been killed; some at the hands of our own military. The numbers range anywhere from 30,000 to 100,000 depending on whose figures you believe; and they are climbing daily despite the President's latest surge strategy; and his assertion that things there are getting better. Thirty eight died in a car bombing this past Monday; with the average number killed per day always in the double digits.

If things are getting better because of the latest troop surge, it's only because we have lowered the standard by which success is measured.

Most of Baghdad lies in ruins. Public utilities, electricity, water and other basic services, are almost non-existent; with most Iraqis lucky to get an average of 6 hours of electricity a day. Killings and suicide bombers are a daily occurrence and sadly, it seems that the scenes on the network evening news; which used to make us sit up and take notice have now become common place. We have become accustomed to the grisly scenes of mangled, legless, armless bodies lying in a pool of blood. We hardly pay attention anymore; we have become jaded.

As a country, we were led to believe that Saddam possessed weapons of mass destruction, or WMD's, and that he posed a "grave danger" to us. Bush, Cheney, Powell, Rumsfeld; all used the WMD line and the events of 9-11 as justification for invading a country we were told was at least partly responsible for that horrendous act.

And even though this administration knew this to be false, they repeatedly used it to sell the war to the American people.

Because the visions of over 3,000 of our fellow men and women disintegrating right before our eyes on our television sets were still vivid in our minds; we hardly noticed. Because the memories and wounds from the attacks of 9-11 were still fresh in our hearts; we didn't question much. We wanted revenge; and we listened and watched the President, as he blurred the line between the terrorists and the war.

"The battle of Iraq is one victory in a war on terror that began on September the 11, 2001 -- and still goes on" he said. "That terrible morning, 19 evil men -- the shock troops of a hateful ideology -- gave America and the civilized world a glimpse of their ambitions. They imagined, in the words of one terrorist, that September the 11th would be the 'beginning of the end of America.' By seeking to turn our cities into killing fields, terrorists and their allies believed that they could destroy this nation's resolve, and force our retreat from the world. They have failed." - President Bush, 5/1/2003

"War on terror!" "Fight them over there so we don't have to fight them here!" "We have to stay the course!" All hollow war slogans...

Four years later, the blurring of the lines continues and most Americans are probably no longer sure why we are still in Iraq. We went from removing a tyrant, to not finding WMD's, to watching the Iraqis hang a tyrant; to trying to bring democracy to a sectarian society whose hate for each other transcends their own mortality. Religious sects who have never gotten along and who probably never will.

We "broke it" like Colin Powell said and now we own it. And we are going to have to find a way to at least glue the pieces back together.

As we enter a fifth year some of the uglier episodes have been well documented; the Abu Ghraib prisoner torture, the massacre of innocent men, women and children in Haditha, prisoner torture at Guantanamo, secret prisons known as black sites, prisoner rendition; Walter Reed, 9 billion dollars of reconstruction money unaccounted for, etc. Although, I suspect that only time and history will truly reveal just how great a disaster this has been. After 4 years; we are all too familiar with the endless number of the things that have gone wrong in Iraq. Proponents of the war point to the elections in which Iraqis voted, as a victory for democracy. But democracy is much, much more than just voting. Democracy also demands civility from a society; rather than ruthless behavior.

The capture and hanging of Saddam; in a country whose people were supposed to embrace democratic and American values belie the notion that we can ever impose our system of democracy on a culturally different set of people. If they were truly ready to embrace democracy would we have witnessed the gruesome hanging scenes; and the subsequent jubilation or anger, depending on whether one was Sunni or Shia?

Beyond the loss of lives, the cost of this war is incalculable; and cannot be calculated in dollars alone. Of course, it is way over the 50 billion that some predicted it would cost to prosecute this war. On January 10, 2003, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld predicted the cost would be "something under 50 billion"; and suggested that other countries would contribute to the total cost.

The cost of the war is fast approaching 500 billion dollars and climbing higher every day. To this day, 9 billion dollars earmarked for reconstruction costs remains unaccounted for. Yet the man in charge at the time, Paul Bremmer, who led the Coalition Provisional Authority, was awarded a Medal of Freedom. And the supposed coalition, those countries who might have shared the cost, their contributions have dwindled down to a few thousand troops. And even the British, our strongest ally in this war withdrew 7,500 troops late last year. The coalition has dissolved.

And all we get from the President is "be patient". All we get from our local Congressman is denial and a re-recitation of the grand old party line.

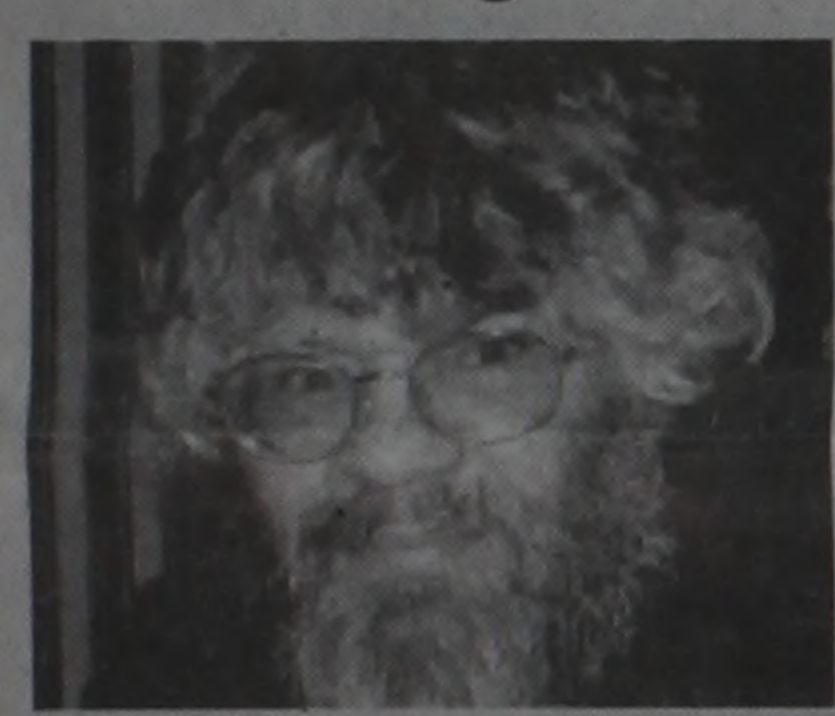
All we get is predictions that if we leave Iraq now, it will fall into chaos and the terrorists will celebrate our defeat. Predictions from the very same people who predicted that this war would be a "walk in the park".

We've lost one too many American lives; mothers, fathers, and families have cried one too many tears.

We were supposed to catch the real terrorists who attacked us on September 11. Yet Osama bin Laden remains free. What happened to we will "smoke them out of their holes"? What happened is that this administration took their eye off the real terrorists, invaded a country under false pretenses, and now can't figure out a way to fix what they broke and clean up the mess they created.

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Comentarios de Bidal Agüero



When we asked the question to our readers concerning our City leaders efforts in lobbying our legislators in Austin and Washington, we had only daily newspaper and other media reports about what they would strive to make them realize are our needs for this area.

Reported in our media were flying the Lubbock flag, attending barbaque dinners and providing our legislators with whatever favors might influence them to take a look at our priority.

Among those as reported in the media were transportation, energy, and or course agriculture.

There was no mention of some of the vital needs that confront our community on a daily basis and in our opinion need attention moreso than those mentioned.

Among those are poverty in West Texas, teenage pregnancy, education, STDs in Texas and countless other problem that our community confronts on a daily basis.

Fortunately one of our readers is the President of the Lubbock Chamber who was kind enough to write us and give us more information that that provided by the daily media.

Eddie McBride sent us a list of specific goals that were addressed by the visits to our capitols. The list contain many of our concerns.

In this week's Hispanic Pulse we provide many concerns by our readers but have also provided a statement by Mr. McBride about what was addressed by our City leaders.

We congratulate all those person who when to Austin and Washington to address our much neglected needs.

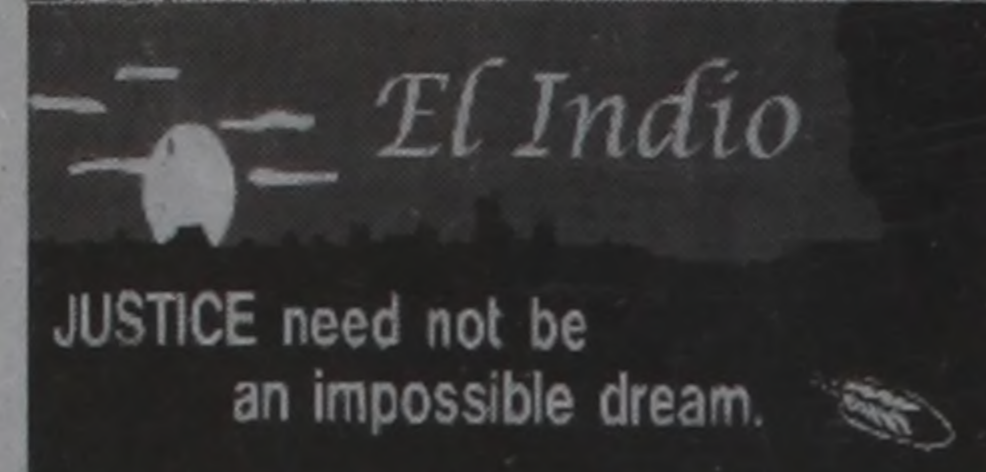
This week we have seen the need to publish a commentary on our first page concerning an issue which is affect our lives and the lives of million not only in the United States but throughout the World.

The are speaking about the Iraq War that this year reached the unfortunate anniversary of four years of fighting.

Since the beginning our opinion has been that his War in which we wholeheartedly support our troops, is an immoral War which was started only in the interest of a few and specifically the President. The lack of evidence to justify the war has in the past four year been presented and is now finally being realized.

It has been four years and can say only one thing in ending.

**Bring our Boys
Home Now!**



Davis House, Saved! South Beach: In Jeopardy

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

A great victory for the Overton South neighborhood took place early Tuesday morning...the Zoning Board of Adjustment, chaired by former City Councilwoman Maggie Trejo, approved the moving of the historic A.B. Davis house from the corner of Main Street and Avenue R to its new location in Overton South, at 16th and Avenue R. This historic home is going to be a splendid addition to the area. Attorney Ted Hogan presented the request to the commission for the Hogan family and Frank Potts, grandson of A.B. Davis. The house is to be listed with the National Register of Historic Places. Members of the new Overton Neighborhood Association and the Lubbock Heritage Society attended the meeting and spoke in favour of the proposal. This type of adaptive reuse is just what is needed in the Overton neighborhood.

The majestic home, currently located at the corner of Main Street and Avenue R, is to be relocated due to yet another McDougal development, this time a "strip mall". Ah yes, just what we need...another row of ugly modern buildings filled with transient businesses. Many of us decry and condemn yet another relocation of a historic house from a historic site, but it was the only way to save the house itself. The removal of the Davis house almost completes the total erasure of the Overton North neighborhood. Some day, Lubbock is going to look back and wonder why the City allowed a group of greedy developers to destroy dozens of blocks of affordable housing, businesses and churches with history going back to the turn of the last Century, to be replaced by thousands of expensive student-oriented housing units, crowded condominiums with narrow streets, New York style, and acres of vacant, weed-covered lots...and of course, that paragon of American business, Wal-Mart. That is the true McDougal Legacy...overpriced apartments and weed-covered lots!

Last Thursday witnessed the passing of the City's "hurry-up" deadline, 15 March, imposed on the South Beach entertainment venue to buy the property before the City snatched it up. This writer has condemned this removal of yet another vibrant Chicano-owned business by the City, to be replaced by a non-revenue generating "Visitor's Center". However, the rarely-used "Buddy Holly Museum" is just across the street, taking up the spacious Depot building.

A "Visitor's Center" would be a natural fit for the Depot, but the honchos of the Museum oppose this logical concept. One has to wonder at the megalomania of the city government and who is safe from the fantasies of a City Council gone crazy. In the meantime, it is the Gonzales family that must suffer...for the whims of a few City officials. Another sorry legacy, indeed.

- On eleditor.com today
- www.eleditor.com
- Did we really get the Mayor we voted for?
- A Change of Heart on Guest Workers
- Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez
- Address to City Council
- Why are there so few Hispanic Lawyers?
- Sex Scandals and Secrets at West Texas State School
- Community Voices: What are readers saying about the LPD?
- Editorial and Commentary on Mercado Project
- Do you believe in Wizards?

Texas Youth Commission Board Forced to Resign Former board member Munoz issues statement

Last week, El Editor reported on the sex scandal that has rocked the Texas Youth Commission; the state agency charged with oversight of Texas' detention centers and facilities for incarcerated youth. The agency has been accused of turning a blind eye to the sexual abuse of incarcerated inmates, all of which are youth and under 21 years of age, at the West Texas State School in Pyote; a small west Texas town. Since the initial investigation in 2005, which was conducted by the Texas Rangers, literally hundreds of reports of abuse and other improprieties have surfaced.

Texas Governor Rick Perry appointed a Special Master, Jay Kimbrough, to oversee the investigation into whether the TYC had covered up the allegations and why they had not acted on the Texas Ranger investigation.

As the scandal grew and more and more information filtered out, commission board members were getting more and more pressure from state legislators to resign. Last Friday, the entire board gave in to the pressure; came to an agreement with the Governor which allowed them to approve a

SHOULD ALBERTO GONZALES RESIGN? ONE LATINO'S ANSWER

By Jorge Mariscal

Latinos

African Americans and other groups in the United States that have pushed back against race- and class-based biases for over a century and a half often find themselves in a double bind.

To what extent can we celebrate the success of individuals from our community if the success of these individuals is inextricably tied to people in power whose policies have a demonstrably negative impact on the community as a whole?

And shouldn't our celebration of individual success be subdued if the society at large continues to have a foot on our necks in terms of educational and economic opportunity?

Mexican Americans, for example — even those who find reasons to be proud of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales because of his humble origins and his meteoric rise to power — face the inescapable irony that Gonzales is joined at the hip to George W. Bush.

As a friend of Gonzales told the Los Angeles Times, "He is completely loyal to the president. He believes the president made him what he is." Since 1994, Bush has orchestrated Gonzales' every professional achievement.

¿Tendria Que Dimitir Alberto Gonzalez? La Respuesta de Un Latino

Jorge Mariscal

Los latinos

afriicano-americanos y otros grupos de los Estados Unidos que se han resistido a los prejuicios raciales y de clase hace más de un siglo y medio se encuentran muchas veces en un nudo doble.

¿Hasta qué punto podemos celebrar el éxito de individuos de nuestra comunidad si su éxito se vincula inextricablemente a personas con poder cuyas políticas surten un impacto demostrablemente negativo sobre la comunidad en total?

Y, ¿no debería nuestra celebración del éxito individual ser callada si aún la sociedad en genera tiene una bota a nuestro

plan as to how the investigation would proceed, and resigned en mass.

One of those who resigned is Dr. Juan Munoz, Texas Tech University Special Assistant to the President for Institutional Diversity and Associate vice Provost for Academic Development. Munoz was appointed to the board by Governor Rick Perry in April of 2006.

Dr. Munoz emailed the following statement to El Editor concerning his resignation from the TYC board.

"I have every confidence in the new leadership at the Texas Youth Commission. I was appointed to the board of the TYC less than a year ago, long after the events transpired that have drawn so much recent attention. I find what transpired at the West Texas State School abhorrent and inconsistent with the policy set by the TYC board.

I had hoped to make a difference in the area of education, which is my specialization, but I recognize that my resignation and that of the other board members is necessary so that the agency can make a fresh start and move forward. I have every confidence in the new leadership at TYC and I believe that lawmakers acted in the best interest of the youth in the care of TYC.

My resignation from the TYC board has no impact on my duties at Texas Tech University, nor has it caused me to have any negative feelings toward public service. I look forward to being called on again to serve the State of Texas in some capacity."

For the complete story on the TYC scandal, see "Sex Scandals and Secrets at West Texas State School" on the internet at www.eleditor.com

To comment or report information about cases involving youth incarcerated at a TYC facility or other Texas juvenile facility; email: acruztsc@aol.com

Did Gonzales deserve these positions on his own? We'll never know because he consistently chose to place personal loyalty and submissiveness above ethics and independent judgment.

What we do know is that Gonzales acted as a primary link in the chain of command that led to the torture and abuse of prisoners in Iraq and Guantanamo. Ironically, another Mexican-American Horatio Alger story, Lt. General Ricardo Sánchez, was one more link in that chain.

When government officials requested information about Dick Cheney's secret Energy Task Force, Gonzales blocked their efforts. As attorney general, he defended the National Security Agency's massive and probably illegal wiretapping program.

Now we learn that Gonzales was in the middle of a concerted effort on the part of the Bush White House to remove eight U.S. attorneys who refused to politicize their offices. Either he was the submissive lackey of White House operatives or was unaware of what was taking place in his own department.

At this point, the evidence suggests that Gonzales was a willing tool of ruthless partisans such as Karl Rove.

Democrats in Congress are now calling for Gonzales to resign. Even Senator John Sununu, a Republican from New Hampshire, has called for his removal. "The attorney general failed to exercise effective supervi-

cuello en términos de oportunidades de educación y económicas?"

Los mexicano-americanos, por ejemplo — hasta los que encuentran razones por sentir orgullo por el Fiscal de la Nación, Alberto Gonzales, y su ascensión meteórica a la cúspula del poder — se enfrentan con la insistente ironía que Gonzales se encuentra estrechamente vinculado a George W. Bush.

Como le dijo un amigo de Gonzales al Los Angeles Times, "Le tiene completa lealtad al presidente. Cree que el presidente lo llevó a ser lo que es". Desde el 1994, Bush ha organizado todo logro profesional de Gonzales.

¿Se merecía Gonzales estas posiciones por sus propios méritos? Nunca lo sabremos porque optó consistentemente por anteponer la lealtad personal y la sumisión a la ética y el juicio independiente.

Lo que sí sabemos es que Gonzales sirvió de vínculo principal en la cadena de autoridad que llevó a la tortura y el abuso de prisioneros en Irak y en Guantánamo. Es irónico que otro mexicano-americano, lugarteniente general Richard Sánchez, fuera otro vínculo en la cadena.

Cuando autoridades del gobierno solicitaron información sobre el grupo secreto de Cheney, Energy Task Force, Gonzales le impidió el esfuerzo. Como fiscal general, defendió el programa masivo y probablemente ilegal de intervención de teléfonos de la Agencia de Seguridad Nacional.

Ahora nos enteramos que Gonzales se encontraba en el meollo de un esfuerzo comunal por parte de la Casa Blanca de Bush por eliminar a ocho fiscales de estado que se negaban a hacer políticos sus cargos. O era lacayo sumiso de funcionarios de la Casa Blanca, o no sabía lo que ocurría en su propio departamento.

Para este punto, la evidencia sugiere que Gonzales fue un instrumento voluntario de partidarios crueles como Karl Rove.

READ EL EDITOR Affects of Anti-Immigrant Legislation Already Being Felt

Even though the courts stopped the bill's activation for now and two civil rights agencies have filed lawsuits against the city of Farmer's Branch, over half of their original objective has already been met; and they have rallied other US cities to follow their lead!

These people aren't racist, they admit they just don't like Mexicans, and they want nothing but English spoken in their white town! So where was the Hispanic outcry against this at the onset? Where is it now? They are rightfully claiming, and bragging about a victory to have a white's only town!

As the target of their hatred, we are probably the only ones that can do anything about this, we must confront situations like this at the onset, or one disaster will follow another and the racism against ALL Hispanics/Latinos will continue to build as it has thus far! There are people today in parts of this country that have never lived next door

to an immigrant/Mexican/Chicano/Hispanic/Latino, but they are a part of this movement! They are now the new "Racists"! We, our children, or maybe our grandchildren, will have to confront them some day in the future, along with their children or grandchildren!

This thing is not going to go away or get better because the courts outlaw it! Just look back at the 60's! Over 40 years ago! We won most court battles back then, but look where we are today, and look at who is leading the charge against us! That's why I say we have got to be the ones to do something about this thing!

As most of you know, today some of our own (most of them younger) "Hispanics" or whatever they choose to call themselves have been mesmerized into renouncing their own culture and heritage, and most of it for money! We must do something now to counter all this or get ready for a return to the fifties! Notice also that our government officials, starting all the way from the top at DC, are doing almost nothing to stop this movement, when they could do something about it very easily if they wanted to.

Raza wake up! We are losing our rights to be who we are, and who we want to be! Pretty soon we'll all have to be what the white/Anglo power structure wants us to be, or be a slave again!

MT, via email
Editor's note: The city of Farmers Branch, north of Dallas, rescinded the anti immigrant legislation earlier this year after 2 civil rights organizations filed suit against the city. Instead, the ordinances which range from penalizing landlords who rent to individuals who are here illegally, to an English only provision, will come up for a vote in a city election in May.

El Editor on the Internet
www.eleditor.com

LETTERS TO THE Editor

send mail to eleditor@sbcglobal.net
Reader Comments on LEDA Economic Incentives

The article (last week) "Do you believe in Wizards?" (see: www.eleditor.com) is right on. I would like to make a few comments.

The Lubbock LEDA provides extremely lucrative inducements for business to locate here, rather in some other city, or if already here, to expand.

If LEDA made that same monetary inducement to a member of any legislative body for a vote a certain way on a bill, I think I would know the name for such inducement. If a bribe is made to a member of congress or the legislature, it is a criminal offense. But apparently just good if we out-bid the inducement of some other city.

Do we want to act as if we are Arlington, Texas, and have the taxpayers help build a stadium for Jerry Jones and the Cowboys, while he is paying one or more of his players up to \$6,000,000.00 per year? Then big business can buy a block of tickets and deduct that as a business expense, but the average homeowner, if he attends the game, cannot write it off as a business expense.

Only when the average citizen realizes that the powers that be operate for the benefit of their campaign contributors, and not for the benefit of the public generally, will a change be made.

Name withheld at writer's request but on file
Bill Richardson the Experienced Choice

When George Bush became President, many questioned his lack of experience in foreign policy. Now Iraq is destroyed and we can only hope conflict does not spread throughout the mid East. Now the reputation of our country is ruined and we can only hope to rebuild it someday under better leadership. There will be a new President elected soon. He or she must be a skilled negotiator with hands-on diplomatic experience like Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico. We can't afford to break in another beginner.

Susan Barrick
Expectations from the Mayor

Bidel, would you like for me to respond in your next edition to Mr. Cruz's editorial? I think I may be able to respond in such a way that would be helpful to your readers. Looking forward to hearing from you. DM

David A. Miller
Mayor, City of Lubbock Not Enough Time!

Bidal, I apologize for missing your deadline. I have been either traveling or in meetings non-stop since last Friday and have simply not had the time to write an article as discussed in our emails below. Forgive me, but I will need to pass on this opportunity to respond to Mr. Cruz's comments. My best regards to you.

DM
Mayor, City of Lubbock
FLOYD PRICE and LINDA DeLEON raised questions

A few weeks ago, this writer urged El Editor readers to watch the City Council votes carefully, and see how our minority representatives performed. I am happy to report that FLOYD PRICE and LINDA DeLEON raised questions about the new water rate system, and LINDA voted against the new water rates. Both raised the question of using the winter months as a billing base, which would increase costs for everyone. Excellent!

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Estudio denuncia pobreza educativa

Por años, el tema de educación ha acaparado la atención de políticos, organizaciones y especialistas en el tema. Sin embargo, estas discusiones no han sido suficientes como para lograr una clara mejoría en el nivel académico de los futuros profesionistas del país.

La Cámara de Comercio de Estados Unidos y el Centro para el Progreso de Estados Unidos concluyeron, luego de revisar diferentes estudios sobre el nivel de educación nacional, en su proyecto titulado Reporte sobre la eficacia de la educación, estado por estado,

que los estudiantes se gradúan con un bajo nivel de conocimientos. "Hemos visto que los estudiantes no se están graduando con lo necesario para ser competentes en el terreno laboral", según Elena Rocha, experta en educación del Centro para el Progreso, una organización no lucrativa que cuenta con un grupo de expertos dedicados a ofrecer ideas para el mejoramiento de la vida en Estados Unidos.

La intención de la Cámara de Comercio y del centro es que las autoridades, tanto educativas

como del propio gobierno, tomen acciones inmediatas en vez de esperar a que pase una década más. "Tenemos una crisis educativa", asegura Rocha. De acuerdo con los resultados de esa evaluación, los dos organismos aseguran que es urgente que se atienda esa crisis, de lo contrario existe el riesgo de poner en peligro la prosperidad económica de las generaciones futuras de esta nación.

En el reporte, los expertos analizaron el nivel educativo de cada estado y dieron una calificación

a cada uno de ellos, tomando en cuenta la eficacia educacional enfocada en los grupos étnicos de minoría y estudiantes con familias de bajos recursos. En el análisis se identifica a los estados que tienen una gran crisis y los que están realizando mejoras importantes en la educación. California se encuentra entre los reprobados, al igual que Nuevo México, Nevada y Washington, D.C., entre otros.

El ejemplo más claro que se expone en la evaluación, es que la mayoría de los alumnos de cuarto

o octavo grado no tienen suficiente nivel educativo en los niveles requeridos de lectura y matemáticas. Por primera vez la Cámara de Comercio se involucró a fondo en este tema por la preocupación de que no existen bases educativas sólidas y en el futuro puede llegarse a no contar con personal competente para ocupar los cargos más importantes que marcan el rumbo del país.

Rocha señala que la situación es preocupante. En los próximos 10 años, 77 millones de los llamados

baby boomers se jubilarán. "¿Quién ocupará su lugar? ¿Quién hará el trabajo que ellos estarán dejando? No tendremos el personal calificado para ocupar esos puestos", comenta la entrevistada. En escala nacional, aproximadamente una tercera parte de los estudiantes de cuarto a octavo grado y el 20% de los estudiantes de bajos ingresos y de minorías, tienen problemas con lectura y matemáticas. La calidad de los maestros es insuficiente. Los investigadores concluyen que, de continuar esa crisis educativa, la economía del país se verá afectada.

Over 5 millions living with Alzheimer

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease, a 10 percent increase since the last Alzheimer's Association estimate five years ago, and a count that supports the long-forecast dementia epidemic as the population grays.

Age is the biggest risk factor, and the report to be released shows the nation is on track for skyrocketing Alzheimer's once the baby boomers start turning 65 in 2011. Already, one in eight people 65 and older have the mind-destroying illness, and nearly one in two people over 85.

Unless scientists discover a way to delay Alzheimer's brain attack, some 7.7 million people are expected to have the disease by 2030, the report says. By 2050, that toll could reach 16 million.

Why? Ironically, in fighting heart disease, cancer and other diseases, "we're keeping people alive so they can live long enough to get Alzheimer's disease," explains association vice president Steve McConnell.

Indeed, government figures released last year that show small drops in deaths from most of the nation's leading killers between 2000 and 2004, even as deaths attributed to Alzheimer's disease increased 33 percent.

Yet the report also contains a startling finding: Between 200,000 and half a million people under

age 65 have either early-onset Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. Researchers have been hard-pressed to estimate of the number of young sufferers.

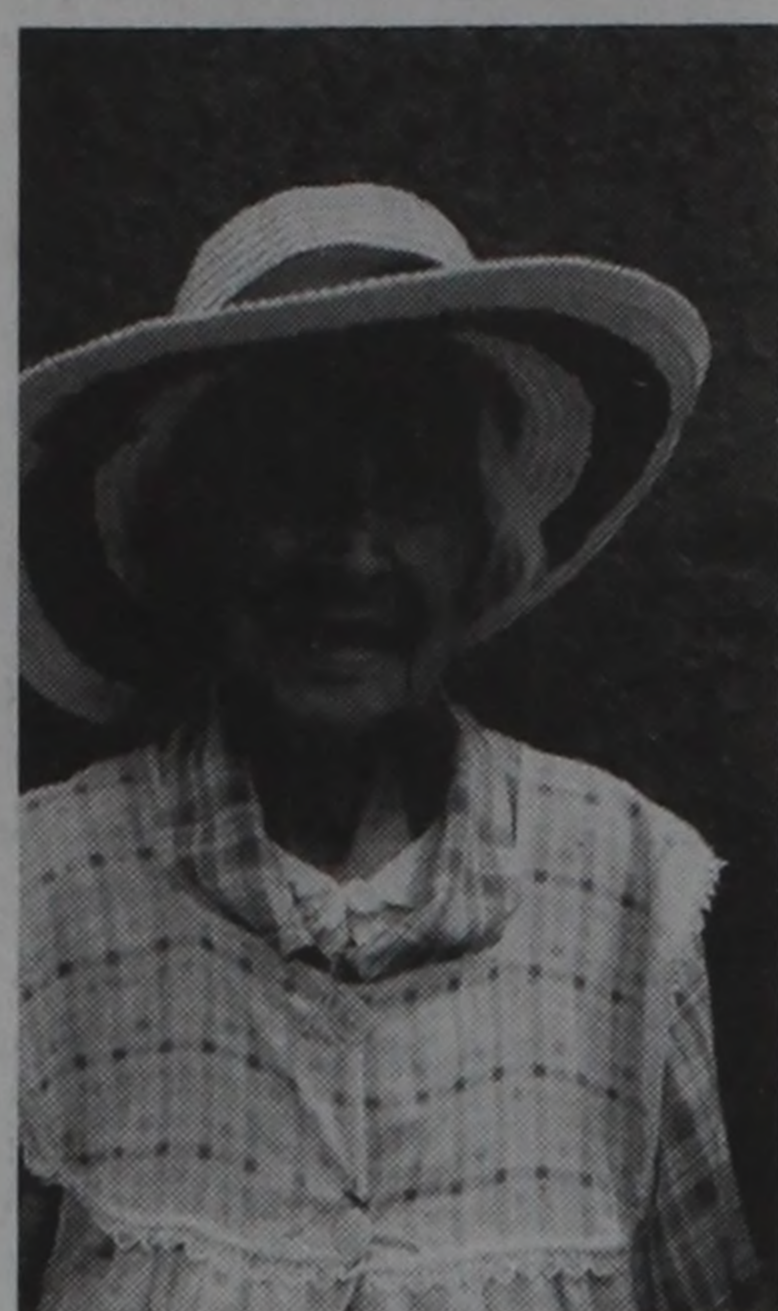
"I think this has been drastically underreported," said Dr. Bill Thies, the Alzheimer's Association's medical director.

He cites as an example a 55-year-old having problems at work, such as behavior changes or missing deadlines, that may be early signs of brain impairment but that go unrecognized until they progress to full-scale memory problems.

The new report, based on federal population counts, not new disease research, is the first update of the Alzheimer's toll since 2002, when it was estimated to afflict 4.5 million people. It comes as Congress is considering funding for research into Alzheimer's and other diseases.

No one knows what causes Alzheimer's creeping brain degeneration. It gradually robs sufferers of their memories and ability to care for themselves, eventually killing them. There is no known cure, and today's drugs only temporarily alleviate symptoms.

Because it complicates treatment for every other illness, the new report shows Medicare spends nearly three times as much for dementia patients' care as for the average beneficiary \$13,207



a year vs. \$4,454. Medicare's spending on dementia-related care is projected to double to more than \$189 million by 2015.

That doesn't include the value of the unpaid round-the-clock care that families and friends provide the vast majority of Alzheimer's patients who live at home, a tab the new report calculates at almost \$83 billion, or nursing home costs.

There are nine drugs in late-stage clinical trials, including a few that aim to slow Alzheimer's worsening. If such drugs pan out, delaying Alzheimer's symptoms by even a few years could cut by millions the coming decades' predicted toll, the report notes.

Study: Chinese Restaurant Food Unhealthy

The typical Chinese restaurant menu is a sea of nutritional no-nos, a consumer group has found. A plate of General Tso's chicken, for example, is loaded with about 40 percent more sodium and more than half the calories an average adult needs for an entire day.

The battered, fried chicken dish with vegetables has 1,300 calories, 3,200 milligrams of sodium and 11 grams of saturated fat.

That's before the rice (200 calories a cup). And after the egg rolls (200 calories and 400 milligrams of sodium).

"I don't want to put all the blame on Chinese food," said Bonnie Liebman, nutrition director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, which did a report released Tuesday.

"Across the board, American restaurants need to cut back on calories and salt, and in the meantime, people should think of each meal as not one, but two, and bring home half for tomorrow," Liebman said.

The average adult needs around 2,000 calories a day and 2,300 milligrams of salt, which is about one teaspoon of salt, according to government guidelines.

In some ways, Liebman said, Italian and Mexican restaurants are worse for your health, because their food is higher in saturated fat, which can increase the risk of heart disease.

While Chinese restaurant food is bad for your waistline and blood pressure - sodium contributes to hypertension - it does offer vegetable-rich dishes and the kind of fat that's not bad for the heart.

However - and this is a big however - the veggies aren't off the hook. A plate of stir-fried greens has 900 calories and 2,200 milligrams of sodium. And eggplant in garlic sauce has 1,000 calories and 2,000 milligrams of sodium.

"We were shocked. We assumed the vegetables were all low in calories," Liebman said.

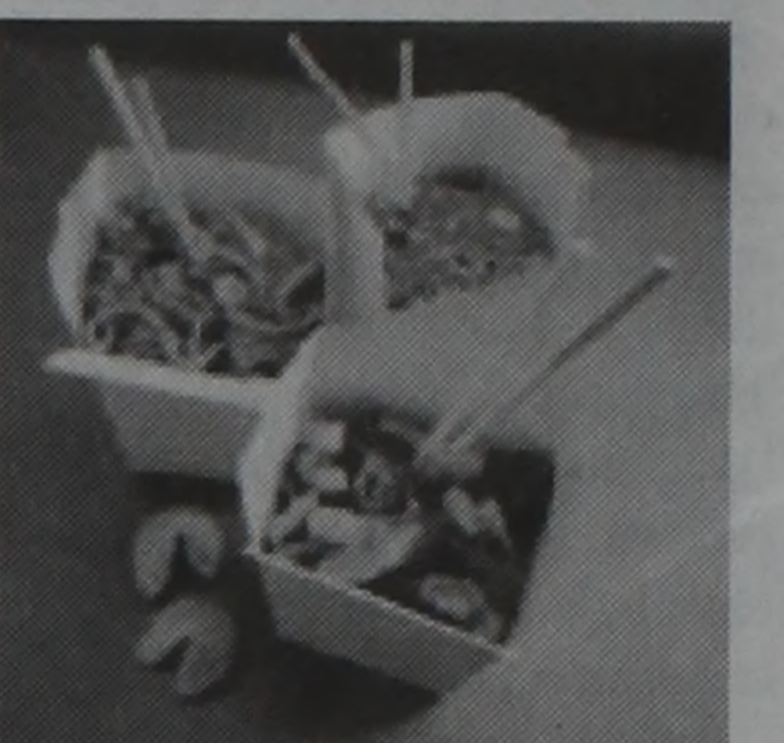
Also surprising were some appetizers: An order of six steamed pork dumplings has 500 calories, and there's not much difference, about 10 calories per dumpling, if they're pan-fried.

The group found that not much has changed since it examined Chinese food 15 years ago. That's not all bad, Liebman said.

"We were glad not to find anything different," she said. "Some restaurant food has gotten a lot worse. Companies seem to pile on. Instead of just cheesecake, you get coconut chocolate chip cheesecake with a layer of chocolate cake, and lasagna with meatballs."

The group says there is no safe harbor from sodium on the Chinese restaurant menu, but it offers several tips for making a meal healthier:

- Look for dishes that feature vegetables instead of meat or noodles. Ask for extra broccoli, snow peas or other veggies.
- Steer clear of deep-fried meat, seafood or tofu. Order it stir-fried or braised.
- Hold the sauce, and eat with a fork or chopsticks to leave more sauce behind.
- Avoid salt, which means steering clear of the duck sauce, hot mustard, hoisin sauce and soy sauce.
- Share your meal or take half home for later.
- Ask for brown rice instead of white rice.



Pastor Installation

The public is cordially invited to attend a Pastor Installation Service for Rev. Eloy Felan at Primera Iglesia Bautista at 301 North Serman St in Lubbock, TX on Sunday, March 25, 2007 at 3:00 pm. There will be a reception immediately following service.

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Hispanic-focused Businesses Take Heat from Immigration Debate

When Pizza Patron, a Dallas-based restaurant chain, decided to accept Mexican pesos, it created a promotional campaign featuring the Mexican flag and the slogan "Bienvenido Paisano," or "Welcome Countryman."

It also created an outcry. Hosts of conservative talk radio shows and opponents of illegal immigration seized on the story, creating a buzz and major backlash.

The restaurant received hundreds of e-mails and calls a day accusing it of abetting illegal immigration and being anti-American. There were even death threats, said Andrew Gamm, the company's director of brand development.

"We took a lot of heat," he said. "The backlash and the intensity of the responses we got ... caught everyone here off-guard. Obviously, it really struck a nerve with a lot of people."

As Congress gears up to tackle a major immigration bill and towns across America are passing ordinances designed to curb illegal immigration, businesses are embracing immigrants — legal and illegal — as customers, and facing a backlash.

Experts say, however, that the protests will likely dissipate and have little impact on future profits or business practices.

Bank of America was thrust into the immigration debate last month after a newspaper article detailed a pilot program in the Los Angeles area to offer credit cards to people without Social Security numbers.

Groups pushing for a crackdown on illegal immigration demanded a boycott and started e-mail campaigns to lawmakers. Small protests occurred at Bank of America branches in Phoenix, Dumont, N.J., Rochester, N.H., and about a dozen other places.

Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.), a leading voice against illegal immigration in Congress, said the bank could be aiding terrorists with the credit card policy and that its new message should be: "Bank of America, it's everywhere terrorists want to be."



One group, Americans for Legal Immigration PAC, set up a boycott Web site — www.bankofamericaboycott.com — and says it has collected about 25,600 signatures of people pledging to end relationships with the bank.

"They are knowingly aiding and abetting illegal aliens to enter and remain in the United States unlawfully, which we feel is a violation of existing federal law," said William Gheen, president of Americans for Legal Immigration PAC.

The uproar over the credit cards prompted Bank of America's chief executive, Kenneth Lewis, to issue a defense on the editorial page of The Wall Street Journal, saying that the bank "does not deliberately market financial products and services to illegal immigrants from any country" and that the program is designed to help "customers build a credit history."

The bank's pilot program allows customers to use identification other than a Social Security card, including a Taxpayer Identification Number issued by the Internal Revenue Service or a "matricula consular" card issued by the Mexican Consulate. Another leading bank, Citigroup Inc., has been issuing credit cards to people without Social Security numbers since 2004.

In addition, many banks accept the "matricula consular" card as identification to open checking and savings accounts, a practice

approved by the Treasury Department.

Rep. Brian Bilbray (R-Calif.), chairman of the Immigration Reform Caucus, which is pushing for stronger enforcement against illegal immigration, said that Bank of America and other financial institutions are violating the intent of identification laws designed to stop racketeering and money laundering by drug dealers and terrorists.

"If you and I as U.S. citizens are required to show a viable I.D., why the heck would foreign nationals be exempt to that rule?" he asked.

In addition, Bilbray said the "matricula consular" card is not a reliable document. "This would be comparable to allowing a Sam's card to be used to get on an airplane," he said.

Bilbray is supporting legislation authored by Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) that would stop banks from accepting "matricula consular" cards and require them to accept an American or foreign passport, a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services photo I.D. card, or a Social Security card in conjunction with a government-issued identification card.

Despite the outcry, experts say that the forces of capitalism will eventually trump the backlash against businesses catering to illegal immigrants.

Jim H. Johnson, director of the Urban Investment Strategies Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said American companies will continue to market to Latinos, both legal and illegal, because they represent a growing population of buyers.

"Private sector companies have recognized what a very large market the Hispanic population constitutes in America and the huge consumer spending power that they have," he said.

In 2005, the nation's estimated 6.6 million illegal immigrant families had an average yearly income of \$29,500, which gave them nearly \$200 billion in purchasing power, according to Jeffrey Passel, a demographer at the Pew Hispanic Center, a nonpartisan research group in Washington.

Jorge Reina Schement, a professor of communications at Penn State University, said that similar boycotts appeared in the 1980s when businesses in Los Angeles started posting billboards in Spanish.

"This backlash for business is a recurring theme ... all sorts of boycotts are declared and they go nowhere" because the number of protesters is insignificant compared to the large number of Hispanic consumers, he said.

At Pizza Patron, which has 63 stores in Texas, Arizona, California, Nevada and Colorado, the backlash has already subsided, according to company officials. Now the restaurant receives about 20 e-mails a day complaining about the peso promotion.

Gamm said that accepting pesos was a sound business decision because many Mexican customers travel back and forth on business or to visit family and have leftover pesos in their pockets.

"We sell a traditional pizza product which isn't much different from Domino's or Pizza Hut or Papa John's, our point of difference is that we are working to become the pizza of choice for Hispanic consumers," Gamm said. "In order to have the loyalty of that customer, we have to give it."

The peso promotion was recently extended for two months, and the chain is considering making it permanent.

Democrats set Iraq deadline in war bill

Senate Democrats on Wednesday revived legislation urging President Bush to bring combat troops home from Iraq in a year, attaching the plan to a \$122 billion measure needed to fund the war.

The move puts Democrats on track for another confrontation with Bush over the increasingly unpopular war and with Republicans, who are expected to try to block the measure.

House Democratic leaders are pushing a similar measure that would require that troops leave by the fall of 2008. Party officials predicted the House would pass it on Thursday, albeit by a razor-thin margin.

"United States troops should not be policing a civil war, and the current conflict in Iraq requires principally a political solution," says a draft Senate bill circulated to lawmakers in anticipation of a committee vote Thursday.

The measure would provide nearly \$97 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and billions more in domestic aid and emergency relief programs. It would require that Bush begin bringing home some troops within four months of the bill's passage, setting a nonbinding goal of having all U.S. combat troops out of Iraq by March 31, 2008.

The provision is similar to a resolution the Senate rejected last week. The vote then was 50-48, 12 shy of the 60 needed to pass, after Bush pledged to veto the legislation.

Democrats think the spending legislation has a much better chance. Sen. Ben Nelson D-Neb., who voted against last week's proposal, has agreed to support the spending bill because it outlines benchmarks for the Iraqi government.

Democrats also think Republicans will be reluctant to reject a much needed spending bill that would fund popular projects in their states in favor of the war.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid D-Nev., "continues to believe that despite the high-fives the Republicans had last week, there's serious heartburn in the caucus over the war," said his spokesman, Jim Manley.

So far, Republican leaders say they will reject the bill.

"We must not risk providing our troops the equipment and supplies they need to carry out their mission by including this risky Democratic leadership retreat plan, this poison pill," said Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. "We owe our troops better than that."

Sean Kevelighan, spokesman for the White House budget office, said it is "unfortunate that the Senate is wanting to delay vital funds for our troops by producing a bill that mirrors House legislation that will never become law, attempts to tie the hands of our military commanders and is a Christmas wish list of nonwar related spending add-ons."

The House was expected to vote Thursday on a similar \$124 billion spending bill that would finance the wars. The bill, which Bush also threatened to veto, would require that combat troops be out of Iraq before September 2008, possibly sooner if the Iraqi government does not meet certain benchmarks.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi D-Calif., pressed Democrats to back the bill, unsure whether she had enough votes to pass it. In a private meeting, former President Carter's national security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, tried to convince party skeptics that the bill was their best chance at ending the war.

Max Cleland, a Vietnam War veteran and former Democratic senator from Georgia, also came out in support of the bill. His endorsement could help to persuade more conservative Democrats who do not want to tie the hands of military commanders.

Like the House bill, the Senate legislation would allow for an unspecified number of troops to be left behind in Iraq for anti-terrorism missions, training Iraqi forces and protecting coalition infrastructure and personnel. Of the more than 140,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, fewer than half are combat forces.

The Senate proposal would urge the Iraqi government to meet certain benchmarks, such as disarming militias and amending the constitution to protect Sunni minorities.

The inclusion of the benchmarks was enough to persuade Nelson to support the bill, spokesman David DiMartino said. Nelson opposes arbitrary deadlines to end the war but wanted legislation that would put pressure on the Iraqi government to take more responsibility.

The Senate measure would set no consequences if the Iraqis fail to achieve those goals. Under the House bill, combat troops would have to begin coming home as early as this fall if the president cannot certify that the Iraqi government was making progress.

The Senate measure requires the U.S. commander in Iraq to submit regular reports on progress made by the Iraqi government toward meeting those goals; the president also would have to report on progress made in redeploying troops.

Richardson: muro fronterizo con México debe desecharse

El gobernador de Nuevo México Bill Richardson y aspirante demócrata a la presidencia de Estados Unidos, dijo que el plan de construir un muro en la frontera con México debe ser desechado.

Al concluir en Austin, Texas, dos días de gira por esta entidad para recabar fondos para su campaña, Richardson aseguró que la idea de construir una cerca para frenar la inmigración indocumentada constituye "una mala política".

"Fue hecha para obtener votos en la elección", explicó el gobernador al referirse a la acción del

Congreso el año pasado para autorizar la construcción del muro a lo largo de varios sectores de la frontera.

"El próximo presidente no debe construirlo. Yo no lo construiré", aseguró Richardson, quien fue homenajeado por la Cámara de Representantes y el senado de Texas que aprobaron resoluciones en su honor.

El también ex congresista, ex secretario de Energía y ex embajador de Estados Unidos ante Naciones Unidas, dijo que en vez de construirse un muro, deberían

duplicarse los agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza e invertirse en tecnología para contener a indocumentados.

Richardson dijo que también Estados Unidos debe comprometerse a apoyar el desarrollo económico de Latinoamérica y urgir al presidente de México, Felipe Calderón considerar establecer patrullas fronterizas conjuntas.

En su gira por Texas, Richardson, Dallas, Austin y San Antonio, el gobernador de Nuevo México reconoció que menos del 10 por ciento de los electores demócratas lo apoyan actualmente en las urnas, pero dijo



que la campaña presidencial apenas ha comenzado.

Richardson afirmó estar orgulloso de ser el primer hispano en oficializar sus aspiraciones a la presidencia de Estados Unidos, pero aseguró que busca ser electo por su visión y no por sus raíces

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PROPUESTA 1
(Resolución Senatorial Conjunta 13)

La Resolución Senatorial Conjunta (S.J.R) Núm.13 serviría para enmendar la Constitución a fin de autorizar que la legislatura ajuste el impuesto al valor a las escuelas públicas o las tasas tributarias correspondientes a contribuyentes que tengan 65 o más años de edad o que estén discapacitados y que sean dueños de un hogar residencial exento de dichos impuestos. De esa manera la enmienda permitiría que la legislatura conceda una desgravación a consecuencia de la reducción de tasas tributarias promulgada por la 79 Legislatura en su tercera sesión convocada.

La enmienda que se propone aparecería en la boleta de votación en los siguientes términos: "Enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la legislatura para disponer la reducción del monto total de impuestos al valor que, siendo para fines de las escuelas públicas, puedan establecerse sobre los hogares residenciales de ancianos o discapacitados, de modo que se refleje cualquier reducción de la tasa tributaria correspondiente a los ejercicios fiscales de 2006 y 2007".

Publicado por Roger Williams, Secretario de Estado de Texas.

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De Vita, Solís y Sebastian premiados por la ASCAP

La Asociación de Compositores, Autores y Editores de Estados Unidos (ASCAP) premió el miércoles al venezolano Franco de Vita y los mexicanos Marco Antonio Solís y Joan Sebastian en una ceremonia a la que acudieron estrellas como Alejandra Guzmán, Alejandro Lerner, el grupo Camila y Rakim & Ken-Y.

En su 15a. edición de premios a la música latina, la ASCAP honró a De Vita con el premio a la Herencia Latina por su "contribución única y excepcional a la música", dijo la asociación en un comunicado.

"El ha escrito algunas de las más variadas e intensas historias musicales en los últimos 30 años. Sus éxitos son abundantes y aclamados internacionalmente, y su fanática es fiel, variada y se encuentra en continuo crecimiento", añadió.

Por su parte, Solís recibió el premio al compositor del año por haber tenido la mayor cantidad de canciones premiadas. "Ha permanecido por cuatro décadas como una de las mejores voces de la música latina", señaló el grupo. "Su larga lista de éxitos incluye sobre 20 álbumes, sobre 300 canciones originales... éxitos radiales que alcanzaron la posición número 1... premiaciones... y giras de conciertos vendidas en su totalidad".

Sebastian obtuvo el reconocimiento especial Golden Note "por su innovación y su contribución continua a la música regional mexicana y pop, ambas como cantautor y como artista, lo cual le ha otorgado un sitio extraordinario en la música latina alrededor del mundo", dijo ASCAP.

Asimismo, las canciones "Más allá del sol" de Joan Sebastian, "Un beso" de Anthony Santos interpretada por Aventura, y "Down", escrita por Ken-Y, Rakim, Rafael Pina y Wise e interpretada por Rakim & Ken-Y, compartieron el galardón a la canción latina del año.

Bajo la animación del actor Kamar de los Reyes ("One Life to Live" de ABC) y la periodista Birmania Ríos ("Despierta América de Univisión), el evento contó con presentaciones de Guzmán, Lerner, Camila, Rakim & Ken-Y, Shaila Dúrcal, Raíces Habaneras y Mariachi Real de México. Sony/ATV Music Publishing recibió el premio a la editora del año por octava ocasión, esta vez por 33 canciones ganadoras.

Entre otros premios, las canciones "Labios compartidos" de Maná, "Muñeca de trapo" de La Oreja De Van Gogh y "Tu peor error" de La 5ta Estación compartieron el premio a la canción de rock.

En el rubro de música urbana ganaron los temas "Caile" de Tito El Bambino, "Eso Eh!!" de Alexis y Fido, "La botella" de Mach and Daddy, "Machucando" de Daddy Yankee, "Me matas" de Rakim & Ken-Y, "Noche de sexo" de Wisin & Yandel, "Rompe" de Daddy Yankee y "Tengo un amor" de Toby Love con Rakim & Ken-Y.

Y entre las XX canciones de pop/balada que fueron reconocidas estuvieron "A tí" de Ricardo Arjona, "Abrazame" de Camila, "Hips Don't Lie" de Shakira y Wyclef Jean, "Ni una sola palabra" de Paulina Rubio, "No sé por qué" de Chayanne, "Nuestro amor" de RBD, "Que vuelva" de Marco Antonio Solís y "Volvete a amar" de Alejandra Guzmán.

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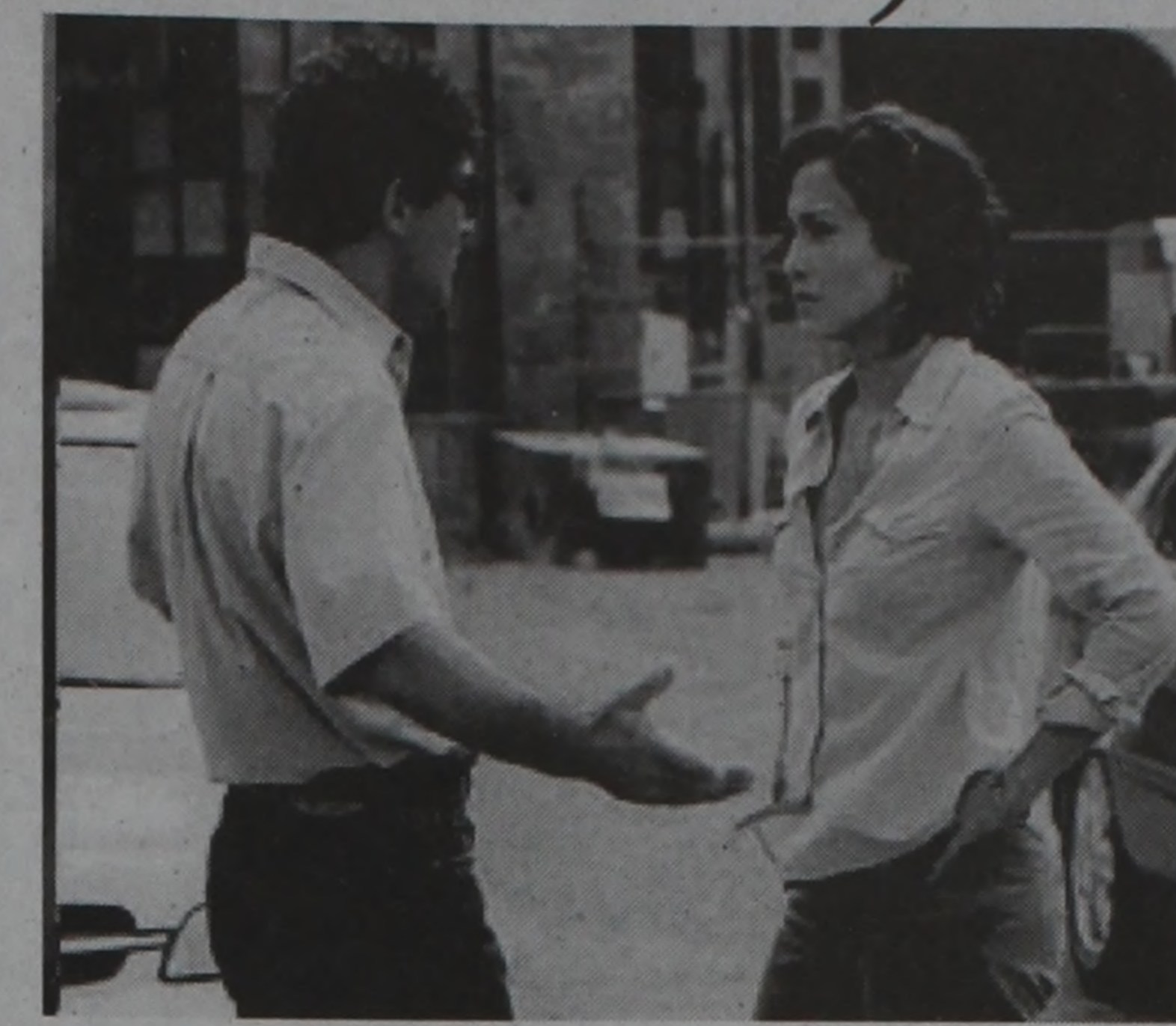
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Latino Wood, U.S.A

You've wondered when? Well I got it straight from the director, Gregory Nava, Bordertown which stars Jennifer Lopez, as a journalist and Antonio Banderas, will be releasing this fall. Meanwhile Mr. Nava just got back from the Berlin Film Festival where he told the audience that they had to shoot the majority of the film, including all scenes with Lopez and Banderas, in other border towns "because it was too dangerous. ... There were people [in Juarez] who didn't want the movie to be made."

Executive producer Barbara Martinez Jitner was right in the thick of it when she took a five-man crew into Juarez to shoot some scenes with actors doubling for the stars. She recounts that one of the production assistants was picked up by police and beaten and forced to reveal where the crew would be filming; they broke into her hotel room and the crew was followed. They had to hire a gunman to protect the camera and footage and even then the cameras were mysteriously "stolen". Sounds like that would make a great script!

The dueling Latino Paris Weddings - The paparazzi will be going wild come this summer as two major Latina celebs tie the knot



in Paris. Eva Longoria and Tony Parker are rumored to be wed in a \$488,000 French luxury chateau on July 7th. Meanwhile the surprise pregnancy/wedding announcement made by publicist Cari Ross that Salma Hayek is engaged to businessman Francois-henri Pinault and is pregnant with the couple's first child also revealed that the happy couple will wed in Paris this summer. Hayek sure kept mum about this relationship. Pinault is not only a billionaire but is the CEO of PPR, which owns fashion houses Gucci

and Yves St. Laurent. oohh la la!

And speaking of Eva, last week Longoria partied with her peeps at Chub Hyde in celebration of her 32nd birthday and the launch of her new collaboration with Bebe. We heard the party went on until midnight, yes midnight, because her trainer was knocking at her door at 7:00 am the next morning. Life is hard when you are a star!

Ingrid Hoffman will be dishing out the recipes on the Food Network with her new show called Simply Delicioso (working title). Born in Colombia, Ingrid will

bring her Latin flaired recipes, which she got from her mom, a trained Cordon Bleu chef, to the table. She can currently be seen on Galavision/Univision's Spanish-language show called simply Delicioso now in its second season.

Now if you didn't go see Tortilla Heaven you can still do it and enjoy it. Go support the filmmakers director Judy Hecht-Dumontet and the cast (Miguel Sandoval, Jose Zuniga, George Lopez, Lupe Ontiveros, Elpidia Carrillo and a fabulous looking Olivia Hussey in the nude even (got your attention didn't I). They did a great job! No it's not a big budget film with lots of special effects or humongous stars has a lot of heart and it was shot beautifully... and if you like New Mexico this will fill your nostalgia for the beautiful state. It is a family movie so take the kids, mom, grandma and even the in-laws. Hey let me leave you with this...it is a million times better than Picking up the Pieces which has some of the same miracle element, but was God awful, and that film went on to make 63 million! Tortilla Heaven deserves to make it over the 100,000 hump this weekend and then some. U.S. Latino filmmakers need your support!

THE WAR on PBS

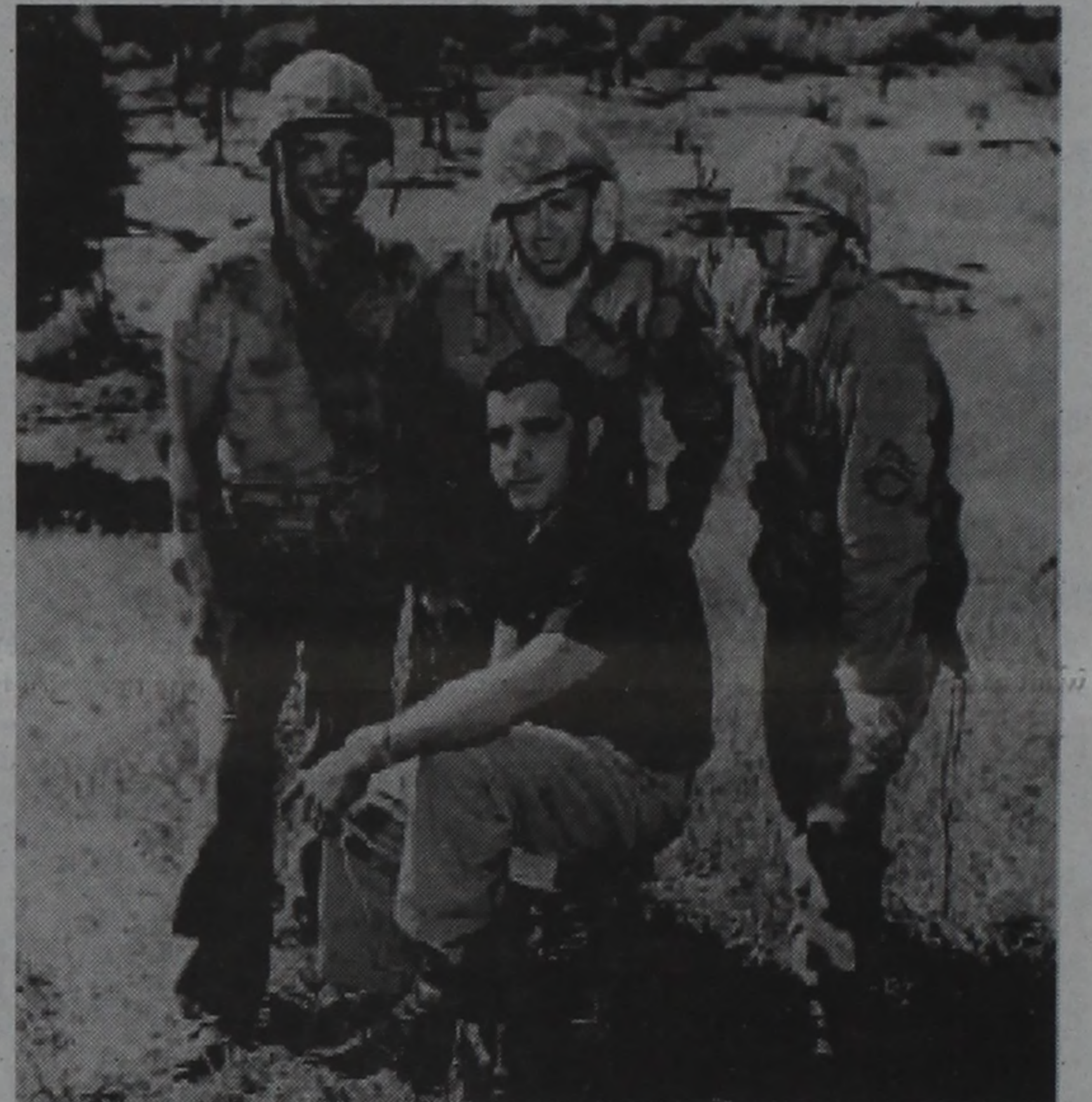
When noted documentary filmmaker Ken Burns was asked on NPR's Fresh Air about the growing chorus of protest by various Latino groups to his choice of not including Latino participation in his World War II epic documentary The War airing in September on PBS his response was "... we weren't looking at it in that way".

Six years in the making with interviews of over forty men and women from four geographic cities across America and Ken Burns chose to single out for exclusion the contribution of Latino men and women from this all too significant project on one of the most heralded chapters in American military history.

Over five hundred thousand Latino men and women participated in WW II, earning twelve Medals of Honor, the highest award for valor in combat, and a host of other decorations for gallantry. However, this sacrifice by the courageous Latinos, men and women, will be nonexistent in Burns' The War because as he said "... we weren't looking at it in that way".

To make matters worse, this material is accompanied by a book and other educational material that is destined to end up in classrooms all across America: Latino children will once again be denied the opportunity to count their descendents' contribution as part of what has been labeled America's "Greatest Generation." That is why the American G.I. Forum, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the NLMC (National Latino Media Council) and many other Latino groups have written letters of outrage to Paula Kerger, PBS President and Chief Executive Officer demanding that the documentary be kept off the airways. In his statement to Kerger retired Congressman Esteban Torres, NLMC Chair stated, "Without the inclusion of Latinos this documentary is inaccurate and should not be broadcast on public television".

The lack of recognition of Latinos in America's defense is nothing new and Burns' is yet another blatant example. Hollywood marginalized the significance of Latino valor of this same period when it downplayed U.S. Marine Guy Gabaldon's Latino background in, "Hell to Eternity". It took Raul Morin's book, "Among the Valiant" to chronicle in a comprehensive way, Latino participation in WW II. At the University of Texas at Austin Ph. D Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez has embarked on a monumental project titled, "U.S. Latino Project". It is an effort to docu-



& Latina WW II Oral History ment the very important history that Ken Burns has selected to exclude from his documentary. The stories in oral, pictorial and other forms of Latino participation in WW II are easily accessible to anyone with an interest in seeking it. Google "Latinos in World War II" and you will get 1,140,000 results. Perhaps Mr. Burns, like other chroniclers of American history, lacks that very thing, the interest.

While Burns is certainly entitled to his, "Artistic Freedom", perhaps he should have reflected more on the multitude of Latinos that helped secure him that "Freedom" and honored their memory and contribution by including their sacrifice on his behalf in his.

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New 'cool' manager Washington has Rangers thinking positive

Perhaps the coolest thing about new Texas manager Ron Washington is that as soon as he was hired

the third baseman figured, what the hell, the award was half Washington's anyway.

"I wouldn't be afraid to say he's probably the only infield coach a player gave a Gold Glove award to," says Art Howe, now Washington's bench coach after Washington served on the A's staff while Howe was manager there. "First of all, it was a class act on Chavvy's part. And Wash is just wonderful."

Welcome to the dawn of a new morning for the Rangers. For the first time in

years, smiles are accompanying the cereal and bagels, and no one is looking over his shoulder.

And it's no coincidence. Former manager Buck Showalter's four-year rein led to high blood pressure and anger management, but not to the playoffs. The Rangers finally reached their breaking point when 2006 ended, and though they have yet to win a regular-season game under their new skipper, if you think a manager can't make an immediate difference, then you don't know Washington.

Let's just say that, among other things, it's no coincidence that Young signed a five-year, \$80 million extension earlier this month. Though Young will not address the topic, sources close to him say that last year's All-Star MVP wouldn't even have considered it if Showalter were still managing.

What Young will say on the extension: "In the past, to be frank, we've finished in third place how many years in a row? A lot of guys in here are tired of it. With the attitude shift in the organization, I wanted to hop on board. There wasn't a doubt in my mind that this thing is going to turn around immediately."

last November, he went coast-to-coast visiting 13 of his new players and their wives or girlfriends so he would have a good feel for things by the time spring training started.

Ron Washington is a baseball lifer, once rooming with Kirby Puckett when he was with the Twins

"You get the wife," Washington says, "you get the player."

Or maybe the coolest thing about Washington is that he has un-mothballed pepper, which the Rangers now play every day - and will continue to play every day during the season. Pepper? It's so passé you don't even see "No Pepper" signs on stadium walls anymore.

"He asked me about it this winter," says Michael Young, Texas' All-Star shortstop. "I said, 'Yeah, sounds like a good time.'"

Or, maybe the coolest thing about Texas' smart, personable, funky and soulful new skipper is the fact that he is so beloved that Oakland's Eric Chavez once gave Washington one of his Gold Glove trophies. Washington had poured so much of his sweat and heart into Chavez's defense that

Ali: Still The Champ a generation later

The chant began before the eighth round flickered onto the screen, an echo from a day long past. "Ali bomaye! Ali bomaye!" Muhammad Ali shook slightly as the chant - which means "Ali! Kill him!" - washed over him. He looked up from his seat and smiled.

The Champ was at the Muhammad Ali Center, joined by several witnesses to the "The Rumble in the Jungle." They watched a film of the famed bout and told old stories about what some consider Ali's finest hour in the ring, when he chopped down mighty George Foreman with the "Rope A Dope" and took back the heavyweight championship on Oct. 30, 1974.

There was Angelo Dundee, the legendary trainer who never doubted that Ali, at 32, could handle the hard-hitting and hard-charging 25-year-old Foreman, the one who many experts predicted would destroy the former champion.

There was Leon Gast, director of the Academy Award-winning documentary "When We Were Kings," who can remember the heat and the crowds of people who flocked to see Ali.

There was Howard Bingham, Ali's personal photographer, wincing when recalling the punishment Ali took early in the fight as Foreman pushed Ali into the ropes and attacked with the right hand that had knocked out 38 of his previous 40 opponents.

And there was Foreman, laughing as he talked about the supposed quick 10-count by the referee that ended his first reign as heavyweight champion.

"In that fight, Muhammad beat me," Foreman said. "If I'd gotten up, he would have killed me."

But mostly, there was Ali,

holding court as only he can.

Even now, at 65 and his body worn down from a long battle against Parkinson's disease, Ali

round with a flurry that sent Foreman stumbling to the canvas and the 60,000 in attendance into what Gast called "the happiest moment in boxing history."

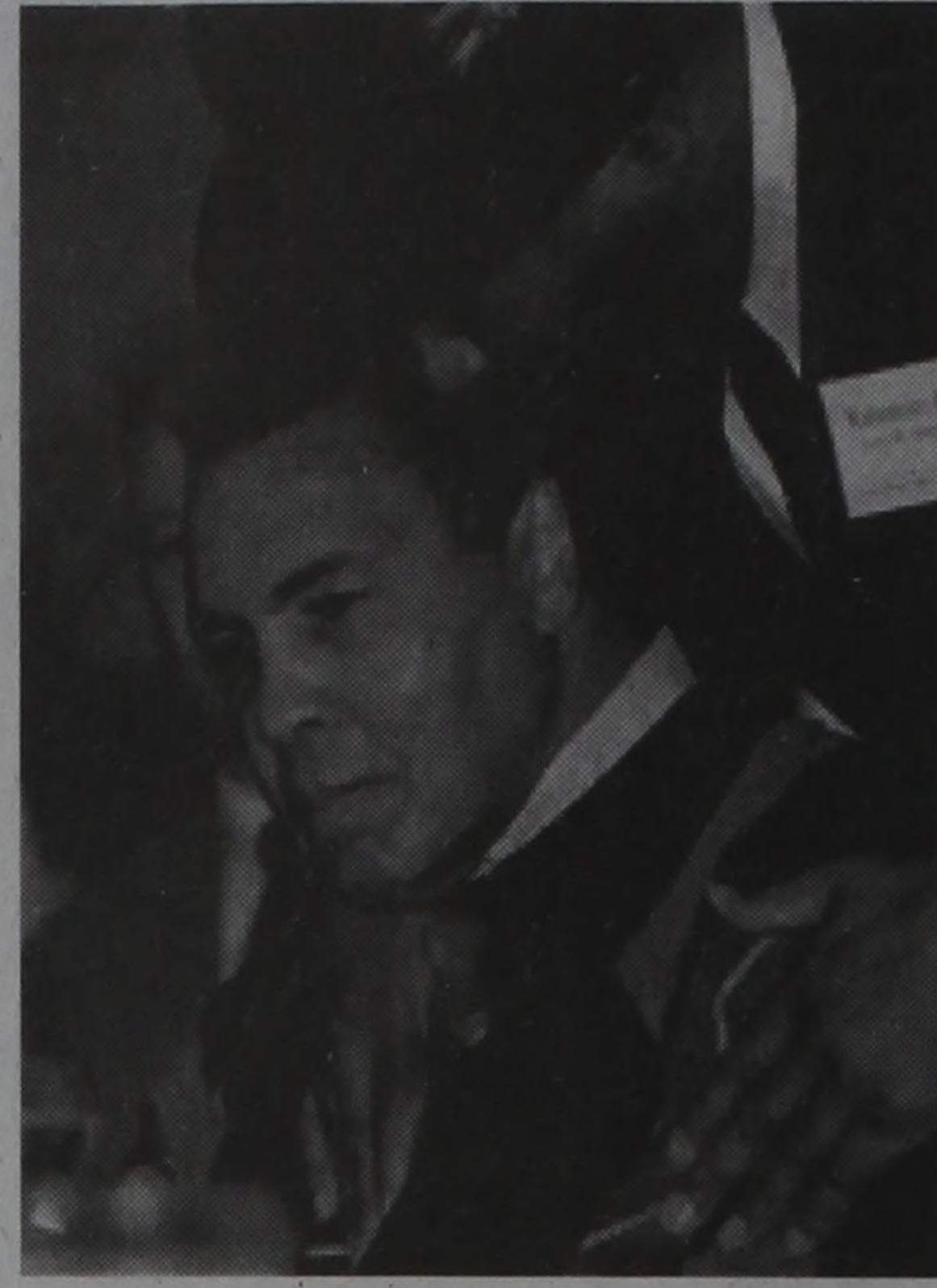
Dundee can still remember the way Ali never appeared to get rattled, even as Foreman lashed at the former champion, eager to showcase his dominance. Dundee laughs now, admitting he was worried Ali would somehow get flipped out of the ring for backing too far into the ropes, ropes Dundee concedes were probably too loose.

Yet more than the fight, Dundee remembers the way Ali was embraced by the people of Zaire, who followed him wherever he went in the weeks leading to the bout and screamed with joy when the referee counted Foreman out.

"In every town, Muhammad captured the town," Dundee said. "That night, Ali captured a country."

And he made inroads on a world stage.

"He was more than just a boxer before the fight, but that one showcased his humanity," Gast said. "The way he brought in the people, the way he treated them with respect, it really spoke to who he is."



delighted the crowd of 175 that traveled from points across the world to meet the man whose greatness touched their hearts and whose generosity made him a global icon for peace.

Ali posed for pictures, signed autographs and even did a little conducting when the crowd hailed him with a belated rendition of "Happy Birthday," holding his left hand for just a second to extend the final note.

"This is just what we envisioned for this center," said his wife, Lonnie. "For people to be able to experience this when he's still here with us, not when he was gone."

Screen images of that hot early morning in Kinshasa, Zaire, showed Ali conserving his energy as Foreman gradually weakened. Then Ali attacked in the eighth

Texans close in on acquiring quarterback Schaub from Falcons

A trade for the highly regarded backup quarterback was expected to be announced Thursday, according to a person with knowledge of the deal who requested anonymity because the deal hadn't been completed.

The person did not disclose the

details of the trade. The Houston Chronicle and the NFL Network said the Falcons will get second-round picks in 2007 and 2008 and that the teams will swap first-round picks this year, with Atlanta moving from 10th to eighth.

A call by the Associated Press

to Texans general manager Rick Smith wasn't immediately returned Wednesday. Rich McKay, Atlanta's general manager, had no comment.

"Matt's a restricted free agent," McKay, chairman of the NFL's competition committee, said during a conference call with national reporters in preparation for next week's league meetings. "He's clearly entitled to visit every team. We've talked to a number of teams that have interest in Matt. That's all I'm going to say."

Houston television station KRIV reported on its website that Schaub and agent Joby Branon arrived at Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport on Wednesday.

"We have an agreement in place," Branon told KRIV. "I dealt with Rick Smith on Ahman Green a couple of weeks ago."

AVISO PUBLICO
ACLARACION BREVE DE LA ENMIENDA CONSTITUCIONAL eleccion especial del 12 MAY DE 2007

PROPUESTA 1
(Resolución Senatorial Conjunta 13)

La Resolución Senatorial Conjunta (S.J.R) Núm.13 serviría para enmendar la Constitución a fin de autorizar que la legislatura ajuste el impuesto al valor a las escuelas públicas o las tasas tributarias correspondientes a contribuyentes que tengan 65 o más años de edad o que estén discapacitados y que sean dueños de un hogar residencial exento de dichos impuestos. De esa manera la enmienda permitiría que la legislatura conceda una desgravación a consecuencia de la reducción de tasas tributarias promulgada por la 79 Legislatura en su tercera sesión convocada.

La enmienda que se propone aparecería en la boleta de votación en los siguientes términos: "Enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la legislatura para disponer la reducción del monto total de impuestos al valor que, siendo para fines de las escuelas públicas, puedan establecerse sobre los hogares residenciales de ancianos o discapacitados, de modo que se refleje cualquier reducción de la tasa tributaria correspondiente a los ejercicios fiscales de 2006 y 2007".

Publicado por Roger Williams, Secretario de Estado de Texas.

Though it seemed the oddsmakers were against Ali - who was a heavy underdog - Dundee never lost belief that Ali would find a way.

The proof is in a moment Gast captured during the filming "When We Were Kings," a moment that didn't make it into the documentary because of technical problems. Dundee was watching Ali dance around the ring when he turned to someone and predicted the outcome.

"Angie said 'Look at the shape he's in. No way this guy is going to get beat. He's going to take (Foreman) out in eight rounds, I swear to you,'" Gast said.

Dundee's words proved prophetic, though even Dundee said he wasn't exactly in on Ali's plan to use the "Rope A Dope" on Foreman.

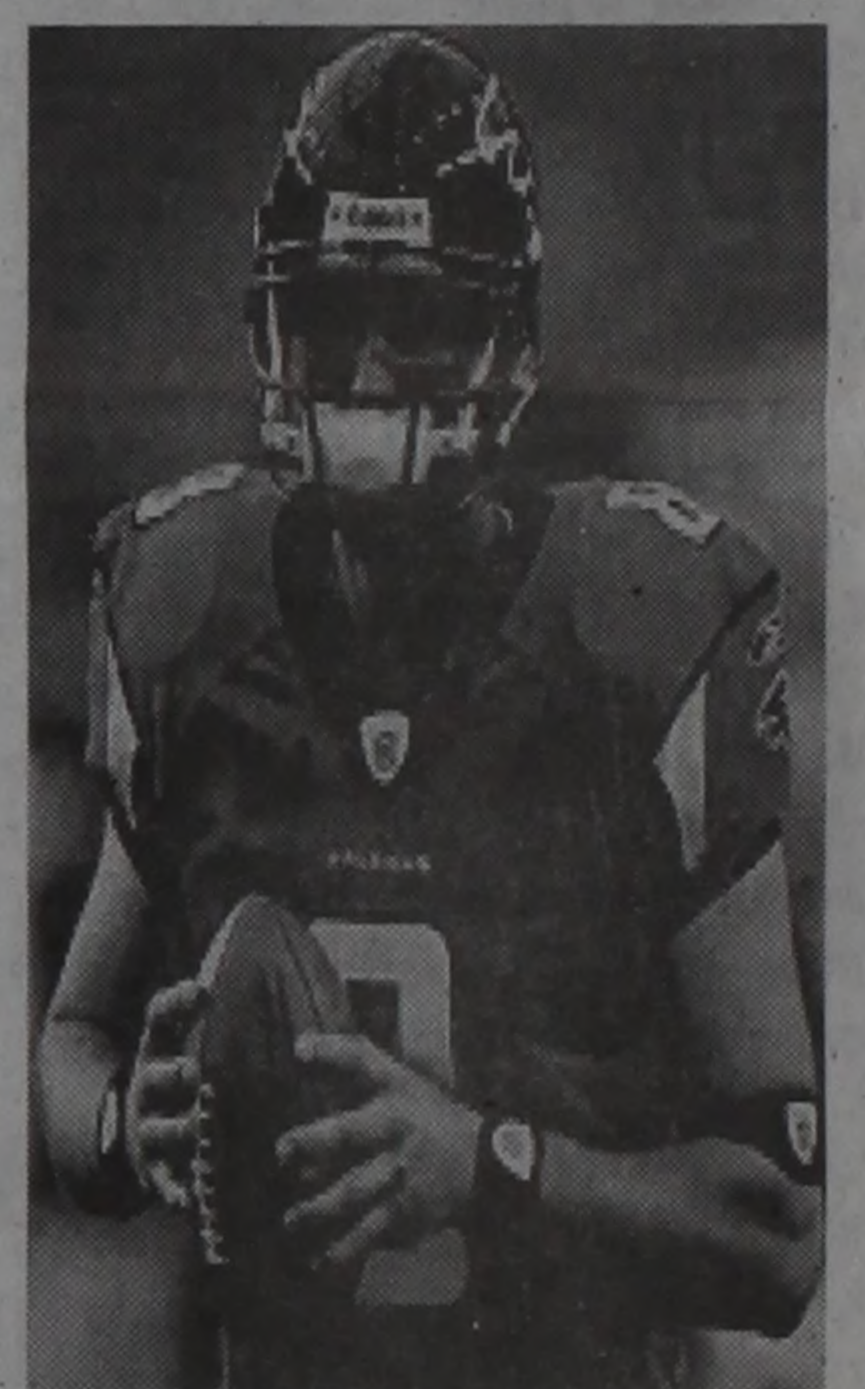
"I said 'I guess you know what you're doing,' and he did," Dundee said. "He was always smarter than me anyway."

Yet Ali's appeal goes far beyond the victories. Many of those who visited him Sunday weren't alive when Ali first shocked the world by beating Sonny Liston for the heavyweight title in 1964.

Robbie Anderson was 4 years old and growing up in England when Ali defeated Foreman. His memories of Ali in the ring are of an aging champion fighting a losing battle with time. Yet Ali's fighting opened Anderson's eyes into Ali the man and inspired him to help others.

The 36-year-old Anderson brought his 9-month-old son, Charlie, to meet Ali. He wanted to show his son the man who inspired him to volunteer for a humanitarian group and spend two years helping build hospitals and churches in Africa.

"He's such a giving person," Anderson said. "I truly believe he's an angel, he's been touched by God. There's something about the man. There's just an aura about him that inspires me. Actually not just me, but millions."



That gave us a great deal of comfort heading into these discussions believing we could get something done and we did. It wasn't easy but I think both sides are comfortable with where we are."

Schaub, who has performed well in preseason games, has started two games in his three-year career and is 84-of-161 for 1,033 yards with six touchdowns and six interceptions.

The acquisition of Schaub would make the possibility David Carr will remain with the team seem unlikely. Unhappy with Carr's performance, Houston tried to sign both Jeff Garcia and Patrick Ramsey before the two signed with other teams.

The Texans hoped that Carr, the first pick in the 2002 draft, would have a breakout year under the tutelage of first-year coach Gary Kubiak. Instead his inconsistency doomed the team to another losing season. He had two touchdown passes in the last 10 games, and finished with more interceptions (12) than TDs (11) for the first time since 2003.

He looked good early in the season, but soon regressed and had two of the worst performances in his career in the last third of the year. The worst moments included 32 yards passing in a win over Oakland and a career-high four interceptions in a loss to New England.

While most agree that Schaub has potential, it could be tough for him to move into a full-time starting role, especially with a team with protection issues like the Texans. A third-round pick in 2004, he hasn't started a game since 2005 and threw just 27 passes last season.

Houston also has quarterbacks Sage Rosenfels and Bradlee Van Pelt on its roster.

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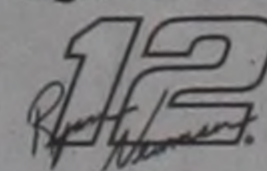
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