

# El Salitaz

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

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Ten Years Later

## NAFTA Trade Deal Costs U.S. Jobs

Inside the spotless Caterpillar plant, men and women quickly take apart used fuel injectors, identify those that can be recycled, and then retrofit them with new parts.

The goal, says plant manager Walt Mazzei, is to do it so well that no one can tell the difference between new and remanufactured - except in price. Listen for a few minutes, and it's impossible to miss Mr. Mazzei's pride in this factory - one of several thousand maquiladoras along the border, which rely on Mexican labor and foreign ownership.

He has reason. Profits at the lean manufacturing plant are growing 20 percent a year. Mazzei credits the plant's workers, who he says can go "toe to toe with any in the US." He pays them about \$5 an hour, a quarter of the typical pay in the United States.

Now, on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the North American Free Trade Agreement, many experts say the treaty has cost US jobs, just as critics feared it would. But competition in manufacturing now comes increasingly from 50-cent-an-hour Chinese workers. For this and other reasons, the reality of the deal between the US, Mexico, and Canada is more nuanced than foes or boosters allow.

Yes, US jobs have been lost. But the "giant sucking sound" famously predicted

## How Diplomatic Careers Elude Latinos

By Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

The nominal involvement of U.S. Hispanics - as individuals or as an organized ethnic lobby - in this country's foreign affairs is a multi-faceted dilemma. It is rooted partly in socio-economics.

"Material circumstance," one's capacity to have an informed opinion, is a term used to explain why the pool of qualified Hispanic professionals poised for a career track or presidential appointment ambassadorship is limited.

Manuel Orozco, director of the Central American Program at the Inter-American Dialogue, explains that since poverty and the lack of education are inter-related - in that the level of education one can attain is linked to his or her financial status, and vice versa - Latinos are less likely to enter into Foreign Service careers. Among obstacles:

-- The vast majority of foreign policy positions require a specialized graduate education. Too few Latino students study foreign affairs and gain the necessary credentials to pursue high-responsibility and high-level diplomatic policy posts.

According to 2000 data from the American

Council of Education, Latinos earned 4.2 percent of all master's degrees conferred at U.S. universities. "For Foreign Service career posts, education and valuable experience are key in preparation for positions of responsibility," says Abelardo Valdez, a former White House Chief of Protocol in the Jimmy Carter Administration, with rank of Ambassador.

In addition, most internships abroad that may easily enhance credentials and professional attractiveness to international agencies are non-paid, a luxury few young Hispanics can afford.

-- Latinos lack key professional connections. In each presidential administration, about one-third of ambassadors are political appointees. At this point personal contacts are crucial. Thomas Aranda, former U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay explains, "In addition to being versed in international politics, naturally (ambassadorial candidates) have some connections for appointment."

CURIEL IS 'NON-TRADITIONAL' APPOINTMENT

Since Latinos already shoulder educational and economic disadvantages, they are less likely to mingle in the circle of ambassadorial hopefuls. Of the 39 Latino ambassadors who have served in various countries since 1890, 22 were

by presidential candidate Ross Perot in 1992 has arguably been more of a whimper. Nor has it created enough jobs in Mexico to stem illegal immigration, as others predicted.

What it has accomplished, without dispute, is increase trade. Commerce between the US and Mexico has nearly tripled in a decade, growing twice as fast as US trade with the rest of the world.

"This increased trade has brought

cheaper products and allowed US manufacturers to remain competitive in the world market," says Jorge Gonzalez, chairman of the economics department at Trinity University in San Antonio. "And that is exactly what it was supposed to do. Trade is not an engine for jobs, it's an engine for efficiency."

Most economists do not deny that NAFTA has displaced American workers and devastated entire towns - even as the US economy has added about 2 million jobs a year since 1990. It's evident from the job-training centers in southern Texas to the "NAFTA ghost towns" of North Carolina, with their shuttered textile plants.

The US Department of Labor calculates

that about 500,000 jobs - mostly in

manufacturing - have been lost to Canada or Mexico since NAFTA was enacted Jan. 1, 1994. Some claim that number is even higher. Robert Scott at the Economic

Policy Institute in Washington, for example calculates it at 766,000.

But others say the benefits of NAFTA are unseen. Regardless of how one felt about it during the raucous debates a decade ago, NAFTA's primary benefit for Americans was clear: cheap labor. And today 3,182 plants dot Mexico's countryside.

And as prices for certain goods drop as a result, Americans have more money to spend on other things, thus stimulating the economy. In addition, some workers whose jobs go south are able to retrain for higher-skilled, higher-paid jobs. As Dan Griswold at the Cato Institute's Center for Trade

Policy Studies in Washington says, "Trade is not about more jobs or fewer jobs; it's about better jobs, and NAFTA is no exception."

Trade, according to economic theory, allows countries to use their resources more effectively by reducing production in the areas where they are less efficient and increasing it where they are more efficient. This increases the standard of living for everyone, says Dr. Gonzalez. "We've basically taken two economies with vastly different resources and integrated them," he says. "That helps the whole region become more competitive."

But there is still much to be done if NAFTA is to be a success, analysts say.

political appointments.

Traditionally these ambassador posts go to "the usual suspects." Carolyn Curiel, former Ambassador to Belize notes that big contributors to a president's political party are given major consideration. Now a member of The New York Times editorial board, Curiel is a journalist by trade.

She was working as senior producer and writer with Ted Koppel's ABC-TV "Nightline" program when she was hired as a speechwriter - eventually chief speechwriter - by Bill Clinton during his first term as president. Her ambassadorial appointment in 1997, she emphasizes, was "non-traditional."

-- Institutional barriers are also seen as responsible for the low Hispanic employment levels at both the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the two institutional pipelines for ambassadorial posts. Seventy-nine Hispanics work at USAID. That's only 3.6 percent of its 2,169-member workforce. As of Sept. 30, 2002, Hispanics comprised 6.9 percent of State Department employees - 16,777.

Of the 17,408 individuals who took the Foreign Service exam last September, 1,603 (9.2 percent) were Hispanic. Blacks who took it totaled 2,011 (11.5 percent).

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conferidos en universidades estadounidenses, los latinos recibieron el 6.1 por ciento, y de los títulos de maestría, 4.2 por ciento, del total de títulos otorgados.

"Para los puestos profesionales de la carrera diplomática, son claves la educación y la experiencia como preparación para puestos de responsabilidad", explica Abelardo Valdez, antiguo jefe de protocolo durante la administración de Jimmy Carter, con el cargo de embajador.

Además, la mayoría de los internados en el extranjero que con facilidad aumentan el valor de las credenciales y atraktividad profesional para las agencias internacionales no son puestos asalariados. Un lujo que pocos jóvenes hispanos pueden darse.

(Continúa en la Página 6)

"When I first moved to Mexico, my family and friends thought I was nuts," says Skip Connors, a Vietnam veteran who has lived in Mexico since the 1990s. "But the quality of life I enjoy here, the friendships I have made and the peace of mind that I have living where people treat each other with respect and decency has saved me."

For decades, most Americans living in Mexico were retirees. But something of greater consequence than American-style retirement communities is taking shape.

Mexico is confronting the cultural and socioeconomic impact of "Generation Gringo": young, working-age American migrants who are starting families.

Hundreds of thousands of American youth have been descending on Cancún since the mid-1990s. Many have strong bonds with Mexico, remembering their "discovery" of a safe, friendly and fun

issues of trucking, immigration, environment, and tariffs on certain agricultural products remain unresolved 10 years later.

In addition, increased competition from China has forced many Mexican maquiladoras to shut their doors. In fact, the number of maquiladoras here has dropped to 1999 levels - in part because of the downturn in the US economy, but also due to the lure of even cheaper labor elsewhere.

That has changed the face of NAFTA workers. Leaning on a massive length of steel, Jim Jackson motions to Mexican engineers studying blueprints at the Cives Steel Plant - one of hundreds of maquiladoras in Nuevo Laredo.

It's highly technical work - raw steel beams are fabricated for building projects in the US - so a third of all workers here have engineering backgrounds, says Mr. Jackson, the plant's general manager. "This is a custom-job shop. Employees have to

Tarjeta de Identidad:  
Tema de Fox en Texas



El gobernador de Texas, Rick Perry, y el presidente mexicano, Vicente Fox, prometieron el jueves cooperar en la solución de las diferencias relacionadas con la resistencia en este estado a aceptar cierto tipo de tarjeta de identidad de los inmigrantes.

Fox y Perry salieron de una reunión a puertas cerradas a la que asistieron funcionarios texanos y mexicanos de alto rango y en la que se discutieron temas de inmigración, comercio y la deuda de agua.

Funcionarios estatales habían esperado tratar con Fox el asunto de la deuda de México con Estados Unidos.

Según el Tratado de Aguas Internacionales, firmado en 1944, México debe actualmente cerca de 1,603,000,000 metros cúbicos de agua del Río Bravo.

"Perry no está diciendo no a la matrícula consular": Fox

El presidente de México dijo a los reporteros que su país ha cumplido sus obligaciones de acuerdo con el tratado desde que él llegó a la presidencia en el 2000.

Fox dijo que su país está proporcionando volúmenes extra de agua, aunque menores, para pagar el déficit, cantidades extra de agua, aunque en poca cantidad.

Un día antes, Fox había agradecido al gobernador de Nuevo México, Bill Richardson y a otros líderes estatales de Nuevo México por emitir licencias de conducir para inmigrantes indocumentados.

Sobre la matrícula consular, Perry dijo que a él le preocupa su uso para conseguir licencias de conducir porque no proporciona toda la información necesaria sobre la persona que la usa. Agregó que la matrícula no está relacionada con un registro de nacimiento reconocido por el gobierno federal estadounidense.

"No hemos hallado la solución aún, pero puedo asegurarles que estamos avanzando en la dirección apropiada", señaló Perry.

Fox no criticó a Perry, más bien aprovechó la oportunidad para elogiar otras áreas de apertura a los inmigrantes mexicanos, incluido el acceso a las universidades.

"Es un indicio de una fuerte voluntad para avanzar en asuntos en los que podemos lograr avances. No está diciendo 'no a la matrícula consular', dijo el presidente mexicano en inglés. "A él le importa Texas, le importan los mexicanos en Texas, y eso es suficientemente bueno para nosotros, allí es donde podemos construir ideas y soluciones útiles".

## Como Las Carreras Diplomáticas Eluden a Los Latinos

Por Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

La participación nominal de los hispanos de los EEUU - como individuos o cabildos étnicos organizados - en la política extranjera de este país resulta ser un dilema multifacético, cuyas raíces remontan a lo socio-económico.

La definición de "circunstancias materiales", o sea, la capacidad de tener una opinión informada, se usa con frecuencia para explicar por qué es limitado el grupo de profesionales hispanos prestos a ocupar el cargo de embajador, sea por carrera diplomática o por nominación presidencial.

Manuel Orozco, director del programa centroamericano con la organización Inter-American Dialogue, explica que dado el

In the last decade, an estimated half million Americans moved permanently to Mexico, making the United States' southern neighbor the country with the most U.S. expatriates in the world.

Not since the conclusion of the American Civil War -- when thousands of Southerners emigrated to Mexico -- have so many Americans moved to Mexico.

"A generation ago, older Americans would move to San Miguel, or Lake Chapala, or Mexico City," says Joann Andrews, who has lived in Mérida, a large

city on the Yucatan peninsula, since the 1950s. "But now, there are Americans setting down roots throughout the entire country. Americans have finally discovered the beauty of their most populous neighbor."

Officials at the American embassy estimate that there are "officially" more than 600,000 American citizens living permanently in Mexico, but concede the actual number is closer to 800,000.

Treasury Department officials in Washington estimate that the number of Treasury checks -- Social Security, Veteran Administrations, tax refunds -- sent to Mexico is "in the ballpark of 750,000."

In Baja California, an estimated 100,000 Americans have created the first North American land rush of the 21st century. In the Yucatan peninsula, there are more Americans retirees than in some cities in southern Florida.

country on vacations during their school years. "The best time my sorority sisters and I ever had was a trip to Cancún," says Shelby Reed, who is in her mid-twenties and says she wants to live in Mexico. "My father was horrified, saying, 'You won't be able to drink the water!'"

Reed laughs. "We've been back so many times, my parents are now thinking of buying a winter home in Cozumel."

"It dawns upon me that, arriving as tourist, I've blundered into a civilization," writes Tony Cohan, a Los Angeles writer who purchased a home in San Miguel with his Japanese-American wife, in his book "On Mexican Time," the unofficial Bible for the new American resident of Mexico. "How could I have lived so close by all my life and neglected to realize? Had I been oblivious to the great territories to the south, my own hemisphere?"

This sense of discovery and wonder is

fast spilling into the American cultural scene as an "American-Mexican" sensibility becomes "hip."

"Graphic artists, fashion designers and filmmakers have been inspired to shrug off Tijuana's reputation as a cultural void and address the contrary realities of a place that's neither First World nor Third World: a culture that is neither Mexican nor American," Josh Tyrangiel reported in Time magazine in June 2001. "The goal, simply, is to transform the strangeness of Tijuana into art."

Thus "Nortec" art, which is being hailed as the first significant art movement in America since 1960s Popism. Its influence can be found in the pages of hipster magazines from Southern California like Flaunt and Detour. "Tijuana is the first Warholian city of the 21st century," Tyrangiel says.

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## 'Generation Gringo': Young Americans Moving to Mexico

In the last decade, an estimated half million Americans moved permanently to Mexico, making the United States' southern neighbor the country with the most U.S. expatriates in the world.

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## Aun Corto de Fondos US English continua luchando por que el Ingles se el idioma nacional oficial

Por Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

Tras varios años de estar fuera de la luz pública, de continuas controversias y disminución de fondos, la organización U.S. English y su presidente, Mauro Mujica, han vuelto a surgir con optimismo y con una nueva estrategia.

Sin embargo, la misión de preservar el rol unificador del idioma inglés en los Estados Unidos" y el lograr que el Congreso aprueba un proyecto de ley para convertir el mismo en el idioma oficial de la nación y los gobiernos estatales, bajo la cual se fundó la organización hace 20 años, sigue intacta.

Este es el mensaje que el chileno de 62 años trajo a la prensa hispana de Washington, DC - entre la cual se encontraba Hispanic Link New Service - durante una mesa redonda que se llevó a cabo este mes. Mauro catalogó la actividad como el primer paso en un diálogo abierto con la comunidad hispana. Noventa y siete por ciento de los residentes de la nación tienen cierto manejo del inglés. La controversia en EEUU con respecto al inglés surgió durante la carrera por la gobernación de California, cuando se reveló que el candidato Arnold Schwarzenegger fue parte de la junta asesora de la organización durante 15 años. A pesar de los reclamos de la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos y otros grupos hispanos para que Schwarzenegger renunciara, éste defendió la organización y se mantuvo como asesor de la junta.

En febrero, la organización US English trabajó con el representante Steve King, demócrata de Iowa, para presentar el proyecto de ley, Language Unity Act of 2003 (Ley de 2003 por la unidad en el lenguaje), la cual declara el

inglés como idioma oficial de los Estados Unidos. Aunque no es muy probable que el proyecto progrese, Mujica dice que el mismo es esencial para la misión y programas de su organización.

"Esa es nuestra razón de ser", dijo más tarde en entrevista con Hispanic Link.

Mientras, insiste, US English no está tratando de legislar lo que la gente ha de hablar. "A lo que nos oponemos es a que (el gobierno) presente todo en los 329 idiomas que se hablan en los Estados Unidos".

La organización U.S. English dice tener 1.7 millones de miembros, 10 veces más que los 160,000 que tenía en 1993, cuando Mujica asumió la presidencia, luego del deceso de S.I. Hayakawa, fundador de la organización. Esta cifra es posible porque, según explica Mujica, cualquiera que haya aportado económicamente con la organización se convierte en miembro vitalicio.

Mujica recuerda que cuando aceptó la presidencia de U.S. English, la organización tenía una deuda de \$800 mil. Los libros demuestran que la organización también tenía problemas con el Negociado de Rentas Internas y con la Oficina de la Fiscalía de California. "No me sorprende que en un momento u otro alguien estuviera bajo investigación, pero no creo que fuera algo de mayor trascendencia", dice Mujica.

La organización estabilizó sus finanzas hace ya un tiempo y se alejó de su enfoque en asuntos de inmigración. "Estamos interesados estrictamente en el problema del idioma", el cual define como la misión de la organización.

Mujica dice que él ha reducido los gastos de la organización en aproximadamente 50 por ciento. Previo a su llegada,

había 25 empleados. Ahora sólo hay 8, la mitad de los cuales son inmigrantes.

El presidente de US English disolvió los capítulos estatales de la organización; ahora opera desde sus oficinas centrales en la avenida Pennsylvania, cerca de la Casa Blanca.

US English contrata a consultores en algunos estados para impulsar legislación a favor del inglés como único idioma oficial a nivel estatal.

Mujica dice que hasta la fecha, su organización ha ayudado a más de 20 estados a aprobar leyes sobre el "inglés como idioma oficial". En la actualidad espera lograr lo propio con 8 estados adicionales.

Los presupuestos anuales de la organización, que incluyen fondos provenientes de donativos, han disminuido constantemente desde 1990, cuando consiguió de \$7 a \$8 millones, la mayor cantidad que ha recaudado hasta ahora.

US English envía aproximadamente 200,000 solicitudes de donativos al mes, dice Mujica, quien indica que el donativo promedio es de \$20. El estima que los esfuerzos de recaudación de fondos de este año llegarán a \$4 millones, lo que representa aproximadamente un millón menos que el año pasado.

Mujica estima que la organización recibe en la actualidad aproximadamente \$100,000 directamente de fundaciones, pero no quiso mencionar sus nombres.

También dice que US English, Inc., que opera con fines de lucro y la entidad sin fines de lucro, U.S. English Foundation, han iniciado varios proyectos bajo su administración. Uno de ellos es una escuela establecida bajo el sistema israelí, Ulpan, auspiciada por el gobierno de dicho país.

El Ulpan es una escuela he-

brea que les enseña a los inmigrantes adultos conceptos básicos de esa lengua, tales como la lengua hablada y destrezas de escritura y comprensión, así como aspectos básicos de la cultura, historia y ciudadanía israelí. La escuela les ofrece a los estudiantes educación a tiempo completo y un estipendio para que no tengan que trabajar mientras estudian, dice Mujica.

U.S. English tuvo un proyecto similar en Erie, Pensilvania, durante cuatro años. Ahora Mujica solicita fondos para comenzar una segunda escuela en el área de Washington, DC, a un costo de al menos \$300,000. Según Mujica, "Una vez esté operando, hablaremos con nuestros amigos en el Congreso y veremos si logramos introducir un proyecto para copiar lo que hemos hecho con la escuela".

La organización continúa encargando estudios de idiomas y ofreciendo apoyo mediante pequeñas subvenciones a programas que promueven el aprendizaje del inglés. Históricamente, la organización ha estado rodeada de controversias. En 1988, Linda Chávez, directora ejecutiva de US English, y Walter Cronkite, miembro de la junta, renunciaron como respuesta a una extensa comunicación que escribió el Dr. John Tanton, presidente de la organización en ese momento. En la comunicación, Tanton hizo preguntas tales como,

"¿Traerán los migrantes latinoamericanos la costumbre de la mordida (soborno)? y llegó a plantear, con respecto estos, que "A lo mejor ésta es la primera vez que los que tienen los pantalones amarrados van a ser sorprendidos por los que los tienen por los tobillos".

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## Southern California Supermarket Strike: Rich Man, Poor People

By Domenico Maceri

Five of the richest people in the world are descendants of Sam Walton, founder of the Wal-Mart empire. Recently it was revealed that Wal-Mart hired undocumented workers to do the cleaning in some of their stores. In one case, some undocumented workers had been paid \$2 a day, according to a USA Today article.

The gap between executives at Vons, Albertsons, Ralphs and their employees is not that huge. However, if the workers currently on strike at these three Southern California supermarkets lose their fight, they'll move closer to being paid like Wal-Mart employees.

Striking grocery workers make about \$3.50 an hour more than those at Wal-Mart (\$12 versus \$8.50). So why don't they count their blessings?

Although all the fine print of the negotiations is not totally clear, management has proposed that given the significant increase in health-care costs, workers will have to pay part of it. In addition, newly hired employees will be paid under a different (lower) scale. In essence, the new proposal will create two classes of workers if management gets its way.

Management is right that health-care costs have risen significantly. Estimates are that it costs twice as much as it did

five years ago to provide the same coverage. Since Vons, Ralphs, and Albertsons have to compete with stores such as Wal-Mart, which pays much lower wages and benefits to its employees, it makes sense to lower their costs.

The problem with lowering

costs the Wal-Mart way is that

it can reduce people's standard of living down to a level that brings them to the edge of poverty. At Wal-Mart, for example, estimates are that 70 percent of the employees qualify for food stamps.

Who pays for food stamps and health care when employers don't provide a living wage? We all do. All us taxpayers.

Including the 70,000 strikers.

In a way, the strikers are picketing not simply for their own benefits, but to encourage non-union companies to pay decent wages and benefits for their workers. If not, we all end up subsidizing employers.

Taxpayer subsidies of employers occur not just with Wal-Mart, but with other companies hiring undocumented workers. When companies don't pay the full costs of their employees, taxpayers end up picking up the tab for their

benefits.

The fight to maintain decent

wages and benefits for current

and future workers in grocery

stores deserves everyone's support. We should not forget that

friends and neighbors.

Although unions may not be perfect, all workers owe them gratitude and support. Crossing picket lines means you support supermarket executives who make obscene salaries.

Larry Johnston, Albertsons' CEO, makes about \$12 million a year.

The workers on the picket line are the individuals you have to look in the eye when you buy your groceries. And if executives don't want to pay for the employee benefits, you, the consumer and taxpayer, eventually pick up the tab.

Wal-Mart has plans to open 40 supercenters in California, megastores that will sell just about everything, including groceries. If strikers lose, you'll see more workers being paid with Wal-Mart's salary scales. And you will have to pay the subsidies to keep the Waltons the richest people in the world.

## Funding Shrinks, but "US English" still fights for "Official" National Language

By Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

After years away from the spotlight, recurring controversies and shrinking funds, U.S. English and its chairman, Mauro Mujica, have resurfaced with optimism and a new direction.

Yet the mission on which the organization was founded 20 years ago -- "to preserve the unifying role of the English language in the United States" and pursue passage of a bill in Congress to make English the official language of the nation

## Hombre Rico, Gente Pobre:

### La huelga en los supermercados del sur de California

By Domenico Maceri

Cinco de las personas más ricas en el mundo son descendientes de Sam Walton, fundador del imperio Wal-Mart. Recientemente se dio a conocer que la cadena Wal-Mart contrató a empleados indocumentados para labores de limpieza en algunas de sus tiendas. En uno de los casos, algunos empleados indocumentados recibieron una paga de \$2 al día, según informa un artículo en USA Today.

La brecha entre los ejecutivos de los supermercados Vons, Albertsons, Ralphs y sus empleados no es tan grande. Sin embargo, si los empleados de estos tres supermercados del sur de California, los cuales se encuentran en huelga, pierden su pelea, de seguro estarán muy cerca de que se les pague igual que a los empleados de Wal-Mart.

Los huelguistas en estos supermercados cobran \$12 la hora, o sea, aproximadamente \$3.50 por hora más que los de Wal-Mart que cobran \$8.50 por hora. ¿Por qué entonces no cuentan sus bendiciones?

A pesar de que no se entiende claramente todo lo incluido en las negociaciones, la gerencia ha propuesto que, dado el aumento significativo en los costos de servicios de salud, los empleados tendrán que pagar parte del mismo. Además, a los empleados reclutados se les pagará mediante una escala salarial diferente (menor). En esencia, la nueva propuesta creará dos clases de trabajadores si la gerencia se sale con la suya.

La gerencia tiene razón al reclamar que los costos de servicios de salud han aumentado significativamente. Se estima que proveer la misma cobertura de salud al día de hoy cuesta ahora cinco veces más que hace cinco años. Debido a que establecimientos como Vons, Ralphs, y Albertsons tienen que competir con establecimientos como Wal-Mart, que paga salarios mucho más bajos a sus empleados, tiene sentido bajar los costos.

El problema con bajar los costos al estilo Wal-Mart es que puede reducir el estándar de vida de la gente a tal nivel que los lleva a la pobreza. Se estima, por ejemplo, que en Wal-Mart, el 70 por ciento de sus empleados cualifican para cupones de alimentos.

¿Quién paga por los cupones de alimentos y el cuidado de salud cuando los patronos no proveen un salario digno de vida?

Nosotros, todos los contribuyentes. Eso incluye a los 70,000 huelguistas. En cierta forma, los huelguistas están piqueteando no sólo por sus propios beneficios, sino también para estimular a que las empresas que no tienen sindicatos paguen salarios y beneficios decentes a sus empleados.

Los empleados en la línea de piquetes son las personas a las que usted tiene que mirar directamente a los ojos cuando compra sus víveres. Y si los ejecutivos no quieren pagar los beneficios a sus empleados, usted, el consumidor y contribuyente, eventualmente tendrá que pagarlos.

Wal-Mart planifica abrir 40 supercentros en California; megatiendas que venderán prácticamente de todo, incluyendo viveres. Si los huelguistas pierden, verá más empleados pagados con salarios a escala de Wal-Mart. Y entonces usted tendrá que pagar los subsidios para que los Waltons sigan siendo las personas más ricas del mundo.

told Hispanic Link in a later interview.

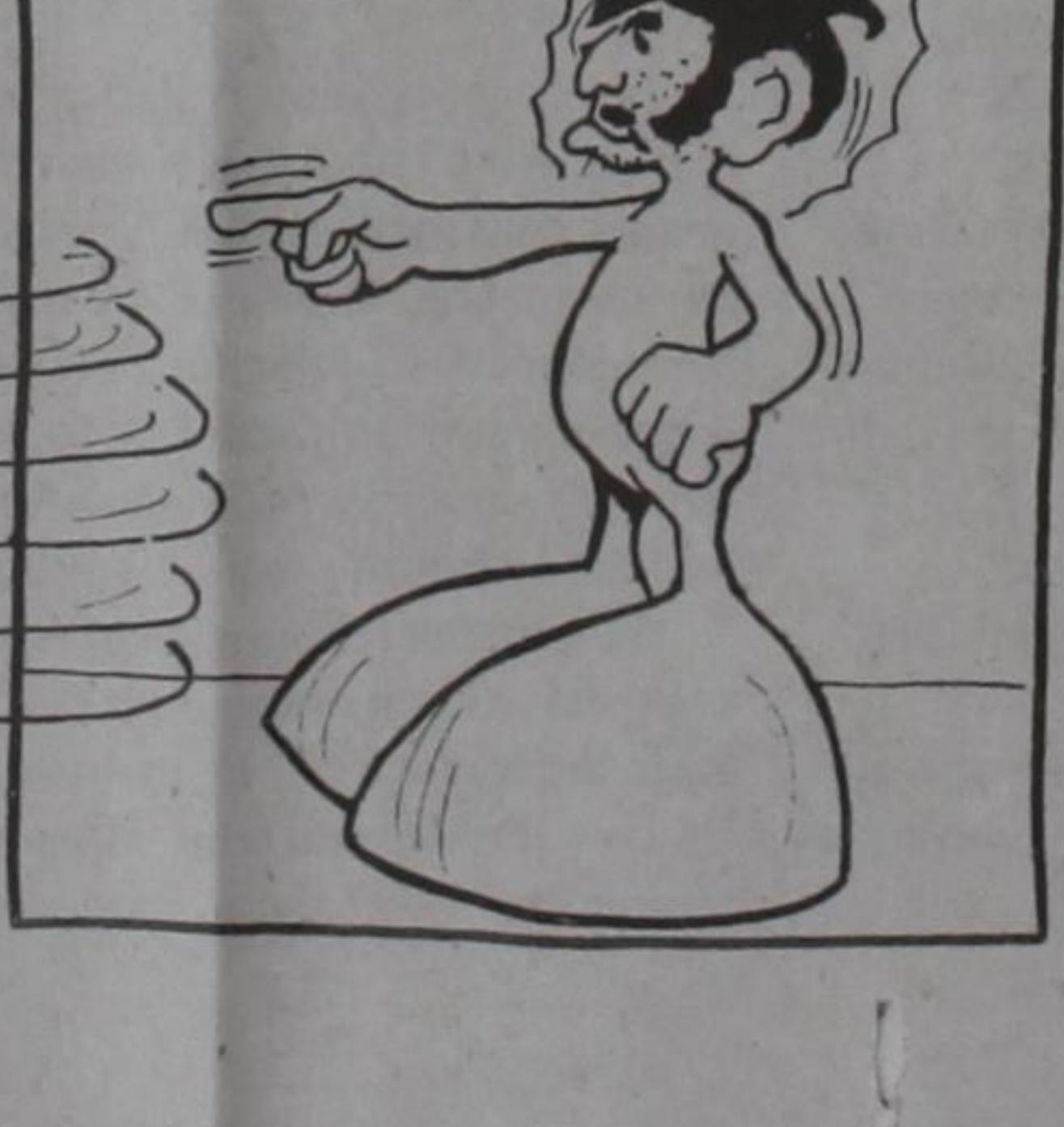
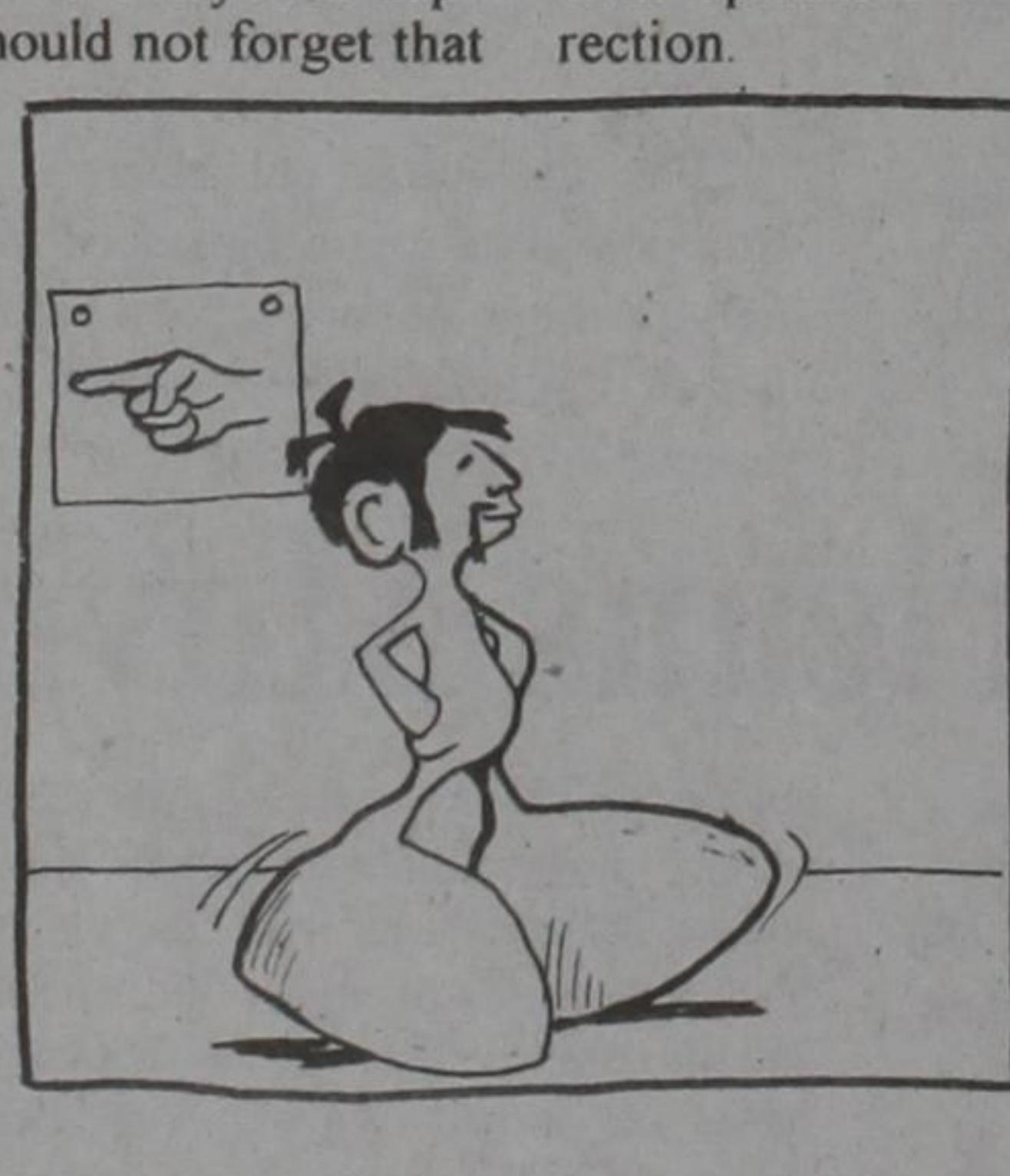
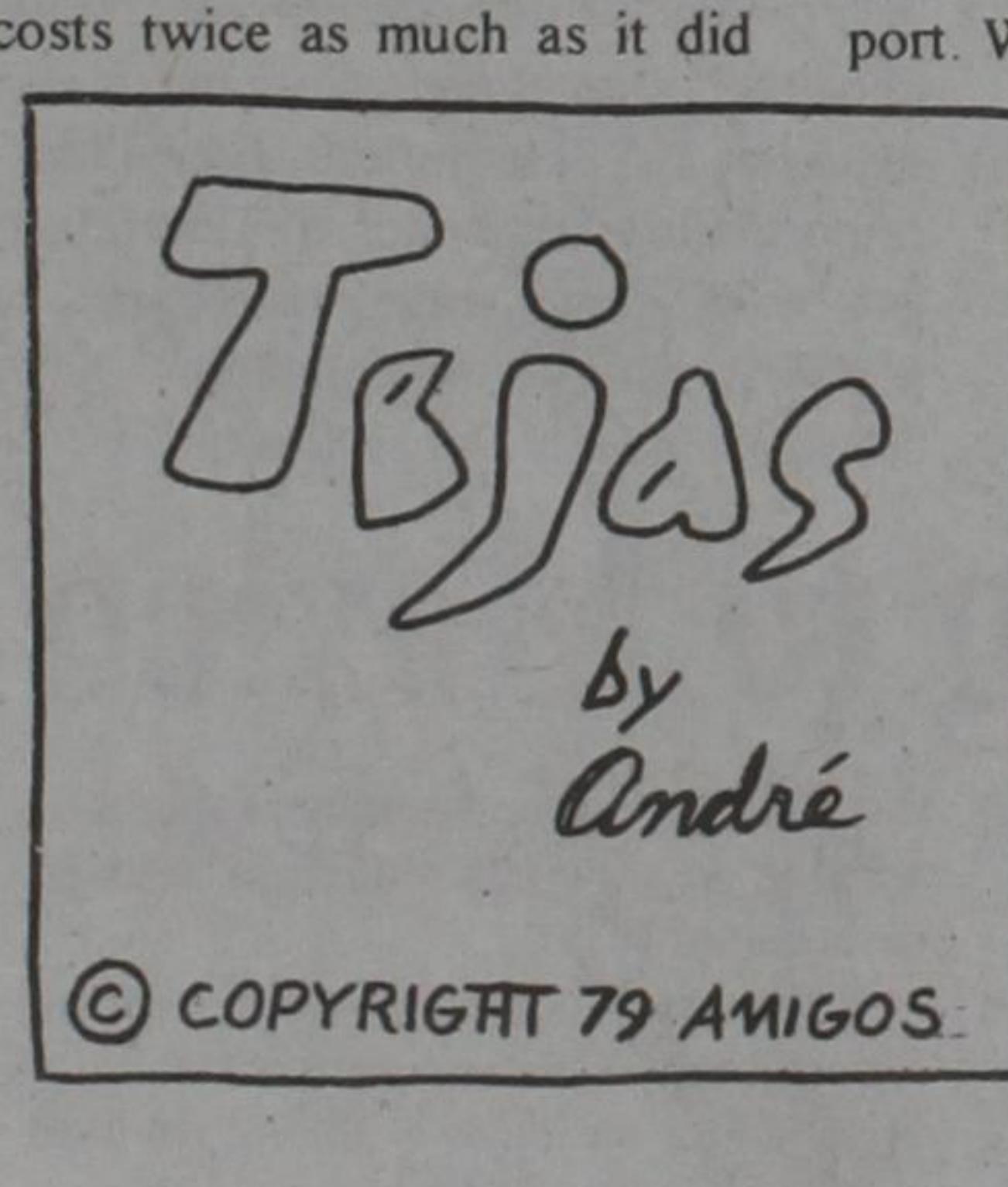
However, he insists, U.S. English is not trying to legislate what people speak. "What we are against is (the government) providing anything in the 329 languages spoken in the United States."

U.S. English claims 1.7 million members, 10 times more than the 160,000 it had in 1993, when Mujica became chairman after the death of U.S. English founder Senator S.I. Hayakawa. That figure is reached because, as Mujica explains, anyone who has ever contributed any amount to the organization is a member forever.

At the time he accepted the chairmanship, U.S. English was \$800,000 in debt, Mujica recalls. Records show that the organization was also in trouble with the Internal Revenue Service and the California Attorney General's office. "I am not surprised that at one point or another someone was under investigation, but I don't think it was a big deal," he says.

The organization long ago stabilized its finances and steered away from any focus on immigration. "We are strictly interested in the language problem," he says of its mis-

*continued on page 6*



# Infecciones del oído sin tratar amenazan la audición de su hijo



A comienzos de la semana, su bebé de 2 años de edad tuvo un resfío y dolor de garganta. Ahora usted se da cuenta que él está más irritable que lo usual, no está durmiendo bien y se tira constantemente de la oreja. Estos son los primeros signos de un problema de salud común entre los bebés y los niños pequeños—la infección de oídos. La inflamación del oído medio, u otitis media, según se conoce médicaamente, se produce cuando las infecciones que causan los resfíos y los problemas respiratorios se propagan al oído medio. Tres de cada cuatro niños han experimentado otitis media para cuando llegan a los 3 años de edad. Las infecciones del oído que se dejan sin tratar, no sólo pueden causar dolor intenso, sino dar lugar a graves complicaciones— incluso la pérdida de audición, según indica el Instituto Nacional de Sordera y Otros Trastornos de la Comunicación (NIDCD, por su sigla en inglés), perteneciente a los Institutos Nacionales de la Salud.

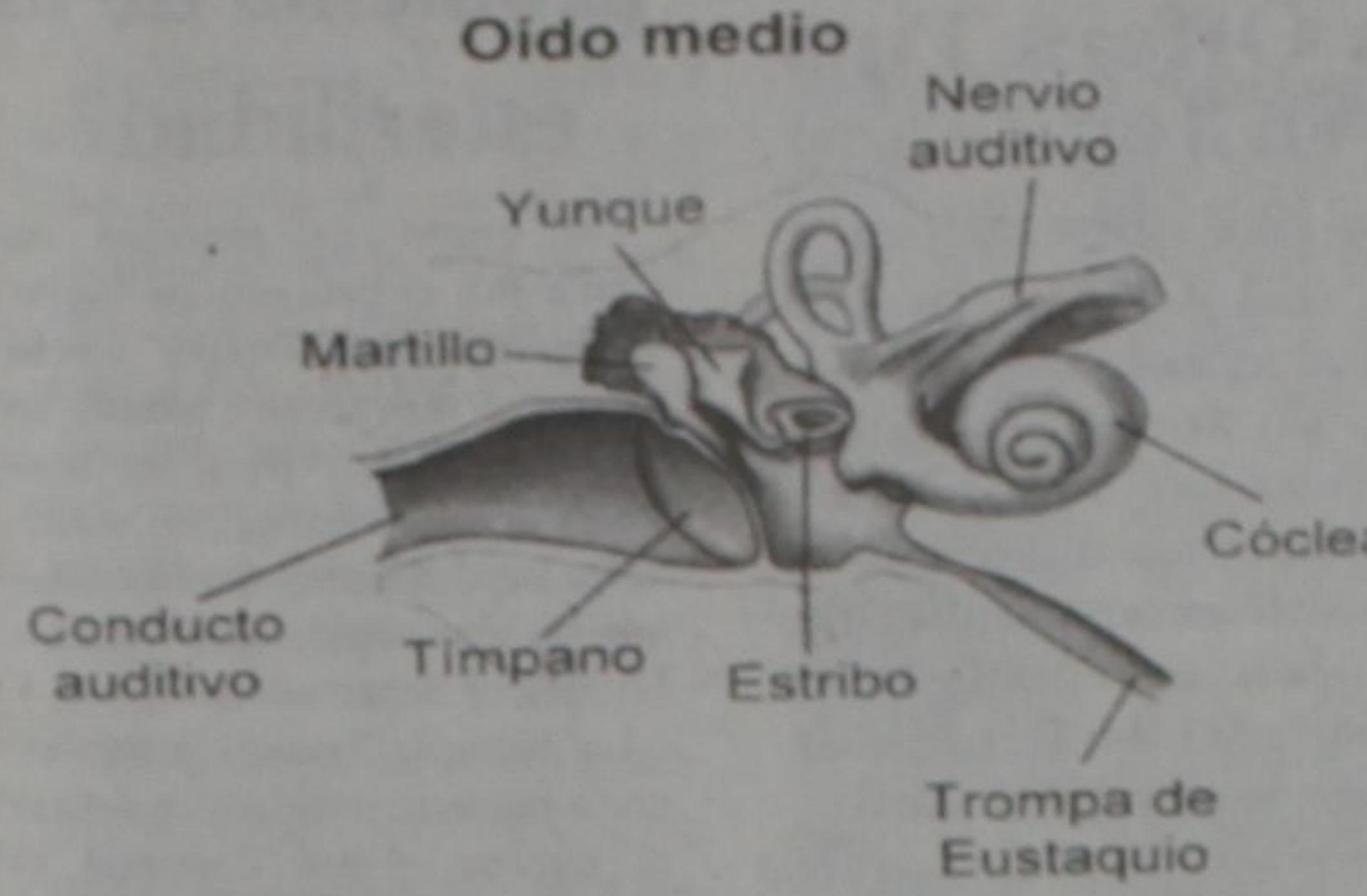
Aunque los adultos pueden contraer infecciones al oído, los bebés y niños pequeños sufren de otitis media con mayor frecuencia. Los investigadores piensan que una razón de esto quizás sea que el conducto, llamado trompa de Eustaquio, que conecta la parte superior de la garganta con el oído medio, es mucho más corto y más recto en los niños que en los adultos. Cuando la trompa se bloquea con mucosidad o se inflama debido a una infección viral o a un resfío, el oído medio no puede ventilarse adecuadamente. El líquido que se drenaría comúnmente empieza a acumularse en el oído medio causando dolor, dificultad para escuchar y pérdida del equilibrio. Una infección sin tratar puede propagarse del oído medio a otras partes de la cabeza, incluyendo el cerebro. Además, la pérdida de audición generalmente tem-

poral por una infección de oído puede tornarse permanente, si la infección no se trata.

Dado que los bebés y los niños pequeños no han desarrollado el lenguaje y aptitudes del idioma lo suficiente como para expresar lo que les está molestando, la detección de la infección del oído de un niño es por lo general difícil para los padres. Sin embargo, hay algunos signos comunes para observar (ver recuadro).

Los médicos, por otro lado, pueden diagnosticar la condición más fácilmente al examinar los oídos del niño con una luz especial llamada otoscopio. El doctor observará el oído externo y el timpano, buscando signos de inflamación, que es lo que indica la presencia de infección. Si el oído está inflamado la mayoría de los médicos recomendarán un antibiótico y analgésicos.

Es importante saber cómo funcionan los antibióticos y analgésicos. Los antibióticos sólo actúan sobre los microorganismos llamados bacterias, que pueden causar la enfermedad. Los antibióticos no son eficaces contra los virus, como aquellos asociados con un resfío. Para ser eficaces, los antibióticos deben tomarse hasta que se finalice la dosis. Unos pocos días después de que el medicamento comienza a actuar, su niño podría dejar de tirar de su oreja y parecerá estar sintiéndose mejor. Esto no significa que la infección haya



desaparecido. Debe continuar tomando el medicamento, sino las bacterias podrían volver. Siga las indicaciones del doctor al pie de la letra.

Su doctor también puede administrar analgésicos a los niños, tales como paracetamol. Los medicamentos, tales como antihistamínicos y descongestionantes, no ayudan en la prevención o el tratamiento de la otitis media.

Si el líquido permanece en el oído medio durante más de tres meses y se asocia con pérdida de la audición, muchos doctores sugieren una operación para insertar "tubos de drenaje" en los oídos afectados. Estos tubos permanecen generalmente en el timpano entre 6 y 12 meses, después de los cuales saldrán del oído de manera natural.

Si su niño muestra signos de una infección de oído, consulte con su doctor cuanto antes.

## Consejos sabios

### ¿Puede determinar si un niño pequeño tiene una infección de oído?

La mayoría de los niños afectados por la otitis media (una infección del oído medio) todavía no han desarrollado el lenguaje y aptitudes del idioma lo suficiente como para expresar lo que les está molestando. Eso a menudo hace que este trastorno sea difícil de detectar. Los padres y aquellos que cuidan a los niños deben observar si se presentan estos signos comunes:

- Irritabilidad inusual
- Dificultad para dormir
- Tirar de una o ambas orejas
- Fiebre
- Líquido que sale del oído
- Pérdida del equilibrio
- Falta de respuesta a sonidos tenues, u otros signos de dificultad para escuchar, tales como sentarse demasiado cerca de la televisión o no poner atención.

Si usted nota cualquiera de estos signos en un niño, con-

sulte al doctor. El doctor puede diagnosticar una infección de oído al examinar los oídos con un instrumento de luz especial. Un tratamiento a tiempo puede aliviar el dolor, curar la infección y prevenir la pérdida de audición permanente.

## ¿Cómo oímos?

Los oídos constan de tres partes principales: oído externo, oído medio y oído interno. El oído externo incluye la pinna, la parte visible del oído y el canal del oído. El oído externo se extiende al timpano, que separa el oído externo del oído medio. El oído medio es un espacio lleno de aire que está ubicado detrás del timpano. El oído medio contiene tres huesos diminutos—martillo, yunque y estribo que transmiten los sonidos del timpano al oído interno. El oído interno contiene el órgano auditivo y del equilibrio. La cóclea es el órgano de la capacidad auditiva que convierte las ondas sonoras en señales eléctricas que se envían como impulsos nerviosos al cerebro donde se interpretan.

## ¿Qué es la disfunción del oído medio?

El oído medio empieza en el timpano. Detrás del timpano está el espacio del oído medio, que normalmente está lleno de aire. Este espacio contiene tres huesos diminutos del oído medio, que toman el nombre de su forma: martillo, yunque y estribo. Este espacio también contiene la abertura de la trompa de Eustaquio. Este conducto conecta el espacio del oído medio con la parte superior de la garganta.



## LHCC to Host TAMACC Meeting

Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is one of the five Chambers who helped found TAMACC in 1975 and is proud to host the Quarterly Board of Directors meeting on Nov. 14 & 15. TAMACC is comprised of 32 Hispanic Chamber with approximately 15,000 members. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Plaza-South Loop 289.

LHCC will also be honoring our Senator, The Honorable Robert Duncan, for his many achievements and dedicated service to our State and Community at our Luncheon on Nov. 14 at 11:30 am. Our Mayor Pro-Tem, Victor Hernandez will present a proclamation to our keynote speaker TAMACC Chair Joe Lopez.

An informative seminar on HUB Certification will take place Friday morning 9:30-11:30 and the TAMACC Board of Directors meeting will commence at 3 pm and conclude Saturday morning. A welcome reception hosted by Market Lubbock and the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce will take place at 5:30-8:00 pm

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**9:15AM**

Opening remarks and welcome

"The Woman's Heart Initiative at Covenant"

**9:30AM**

"Stress and Heart Disease"

**10:30AM**

"The Unique Qualities of Heart Disease in Women"

**12 NOON - 1:00PM**

FREE lunch served (reservations required)  
and keynote speaker

"Women and Heart Disease," Coletta Barrett,  
National Chair, American Heart Association

**1:00PM - 2:00PM**

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**Saturday, November 15**

**8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Lubbock Civic Center  
1501 6th Street**

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**Call 725-0476 for reservations or for more information.**

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- Exercise and Fitness
- Heart Healthy Cooking
- Bone Density
- Yoga
- Massage
- AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm)



## ¿Que Pasa?

### Water Utilities Offers Tips for the Winter

The City of Lubbock Water Utilities staff reminds customers now is the time to winterize your home before the first hard freeze hits. Below are some hints to help you get ready for cold weather.

1. Disconnect all outside hoses from hose bibs and wrap hose bibs;
2. If going out of town, set heater thermostat no lower than 55 and expose under the sink pipes by leaving doors open, especially those sinks that are located on outside walls;
3. Turn off automatic sprinkler systems and water your yard manually;
4. Insulate any hot water heaters located in a garage or a non-heated area. Hot water freezes faster than cold water.

### Community Forum

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center in partnership with the Lubbock chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) is hosting a community forum designed to answer questions and address concerns regarding; 1) violence and mental illness and 2) recent changes in public policy related to services for people with severe and persistent mental illness. The forum will be held in the Estacado High School auditorium (1504 East Itasca) on November 18, 2003 at 5:30 pm.

For more information, call 767-1648.

### GESC-Commodities Dates

Guadalupe Economic Services announces its commodities dates and should you have any questions call 744-6422.

**Wed., Nov. 12**-Ralls Shiloh Baptist Church 10am-12 noon; & Cosbyton City Barn 1-3 pm.

**Thurs., Nov. 13**-Plainview Southside Assembly 10 am-12 noon; & Hale Center Senior Citizen Association Center 1-3 pm.

**Fri., Nov. 14**-Slaton First Christian Church 10 am - 12 noon.

**Tues., Nov. 18**-Petersburg Community Center 10 am - 12 noon & Floydada Wayne Russell Pavilion 1 - 3 pm

**Wed., Nov. 19**-Idalou City Barn 10 am- 12 noon & Lorenzo San Lorenzo Church 1 - 3pm

**Thurs., Nov. 20**-Lubbock 1502 Erskine (warehouse in rear) 10 am - 5 pm

**Fri., Nov. 21**-Wolfforth Old City Barn 10 am- 12 noon; & Shallowater St. Phillips Catholic Church 1 - 3 pm

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## ¿Resuelto el problema de la esterilidad?

Un grupo de médicos de China fue el primero en lograr embarazar a una mujer estéril mediante una técnica ideada en Estados Unidos para las mujeres que tienen genes saludables pero defectos en los óvulos, lo que impide que los embriones se desarrollen.

La técnica, llamada transferencia nuclear, consiste en retirar el núcleo —que contiene el material genético— del óvulo fertilizado y transferirlo al óvulo de otra mujer cuyo núcleo también ha sido extirpado. El óvulo híbrido resultante es colocado en la matriz de la primera mujer. La idea es que el óvulo de la segunda mujer provea un ambiente más sano para los genes.

Aunque los investigadores de la Universidad Sun Yat-sen, de Guangzhou, consiguieron el año pasado fecundar a una mujer de 30 años con esta técnica, la paciente dio a luz prematuramente y los fetos murieron. Este procedimiento fue recientemente prohibido en China.

Los críticos afirman que la técnica es peligrosamente cercana a la clonación humana, aunque no existen pruebas de que ésta se haya realizado e incluso intentado de manera seria.

Los opositores a la transferencia nuclear afirman que representa riesgos desconocidos para cualquier niño que nazca de ella y citan como prueba la muerte de los fetos de la mujer china.

Los médicos involucrados en la investigación afirman que la técnica ha sido estudiada extensamente en ratones y que es segura y efectiva.

Un informe sobre el experimento en China será presentado durante una conferencia médica en San Antonio, Texas, aunque ya fue descrito en The Wall Street Journal.

La transferencia nuclear es muy similar a un paso crucial en la clonación, pero también difieren de manera importante.

Para crear un clon como la oveja Dolly, los investigadores tendrían que comenzar con un óvulo fertilizado y retirar su núcleo.

But the Milwaukee Brewers could be close to trading star first baseman Richie Sexson, with the Arizona Diamondbacks the most likely destination.

Those were the developments out of Day 3 of baseball's general managers' meeting on Wednesday.

An uncharacteristic daylong Arizona downpour kept the GMs indoors, with little else to do but talk to each other.

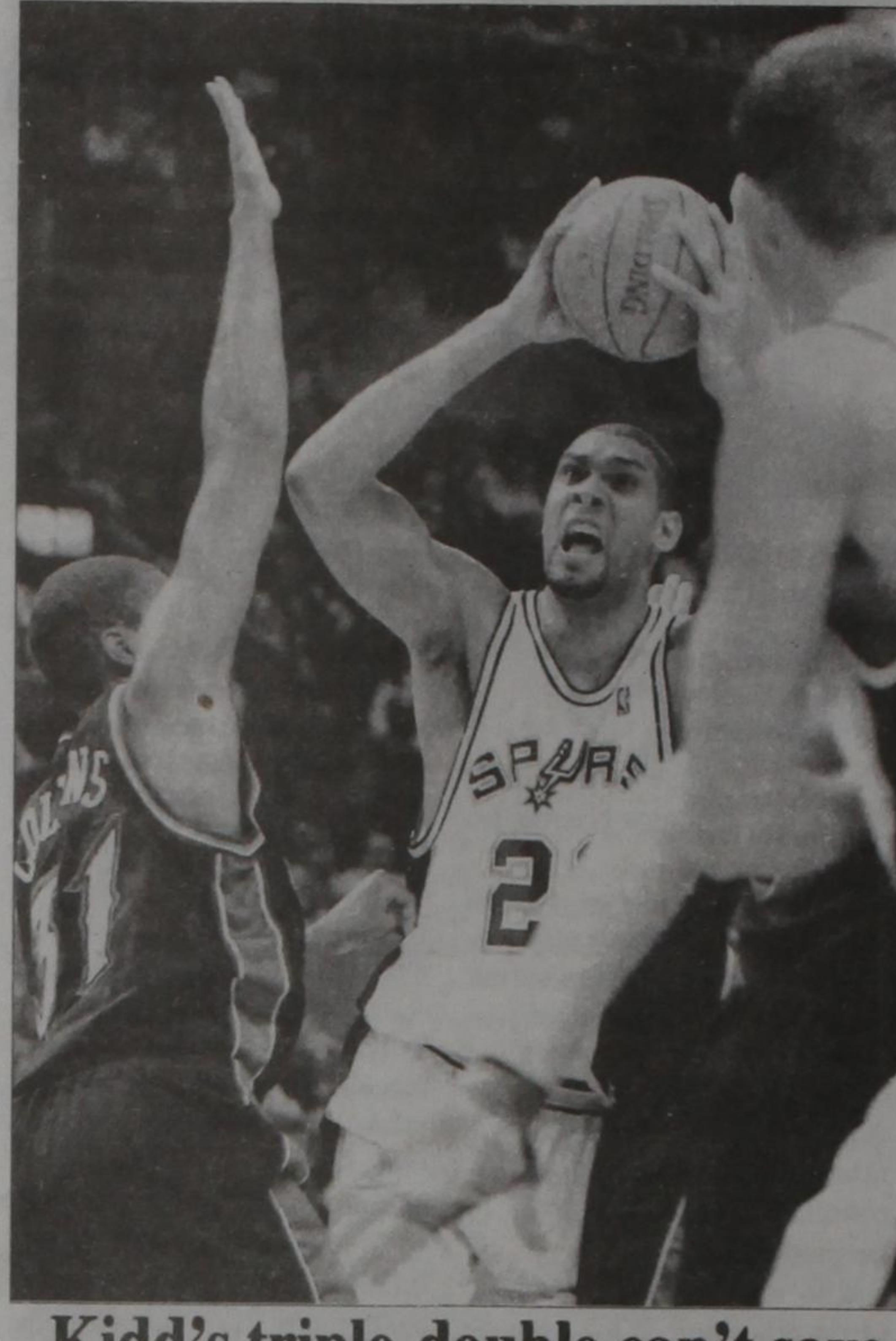
None of those discussions involved Rodriguez, said Texas Rangers general manager John Hart, who did his best to shoot down trade rumors involving his superstar shortstop.

"I think we've got the best player in the game. We love him. We have no interest in dealing Alex Rodriguez," Hart said. "We're not having any conversations with any team about Alex Rodriguez. If anybody were to call, of course we'd listen, but we're not interested in any way, shape or form in trading Alex Rodriguez."

Even if Rodriguez could be traded, few teams could afford the seven years and \$179 million remaining on his contract.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said he did not expect his team to make any deals this week -- for Schilling or anyone else.

"No news," Cashman said, "just talking, gathering information."



## Kidd's triple-double can't save Nets from Duncan, Spurs

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. -- Much like the NBA Finals, the New Jersey Nets had no answer for Tim Duncan -- even with Jason Kidd producing a triple-double.

Duncan had a season-high 31 points and 12 rebounds and the defending champion San Antonio Spurs defeated the Nets 85-71 Wednesday night in the first

## GM shoots down A-Rod talk; no Schilling deal imminent

Alex Rodriguez is not on the trading block. And any deal to send Curt Schilling to New York probably won't happen this week -- even after the Arizona ace agreed to speak directly to the Yankees.

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13 assists and 12 rebounds for his second triple-double of the season and the 52nd of his career.

Kenyon Martin added 14 points and 10 rebounds in his first game since spraining his left ankle Oct. 31.

The Nets also couldn't overcome long stretches of cold shooting -- another reminder of what happened in the finals when New Jersey allowed San Antonio to go on a series-deciding 19-0 run in Game 6.

A 3-for-14 slump at the end of the second quarter came during a 21-5 spurt that gave the Spurs a 49-33 halftime lead.

Parker started the run with four straight points, Duncan added six and Malik Rose had five, including a tip just before the halftime buzzer.

The disappointingly small crowd of 13,286 was starting to grumble when the game turned on a spectacular block by Martin early in the third quarter.

Duncan got the rebound in the lane and went up for a jump hook with his arm fully extended. Martin came from the baseline and blocked the shot well above the rim, swatting the ball into the stands.

The block got the Nets and the fans back in the game. New Jersey closed the quarter with a 17-4 run to pull to 63-56. The deficit was reduced to three points in the fourth quarter, the last time at 67-64 on a jumper by Martin in the lane.

Ginobili had a three-point play and a layup to spark a 16-5 spurt that included two 3-pointers from the left corner by Bowen and one by Parker.

The Rangers aren't looking to unload Alex Rodriguez, despite his mammoth contract. Next month's winter meetings in New Orleans would be "a more realistic time" for any trade, Cashman said.

Schilling did not return a telephone message, but he told the East Valley Tribune of Mesa he had agreed to the Diamondbacks' request that he talk to the Yankees.

"It's something I thought about for a while," Schilling said. "I went back to them and said yes."

Diamondbacks managing general partner Jerry Colangelo said that Schilling is willing to listen to proposed deals. The right-hander has a no-trade clause in his contract. He will earn \$12 million next year, half of it deferred, and becomes a free agent at the end of the season.

The Diamondbacks are cutting payroll and would not be able to re-sign him, so a trade is a possibility.

"That's where we are," Colangelo said. "Everything else is too premature."

Milwaukee general manager Doug Melvin, under orders to cut payroll to the \$30 million range, said it was possible his team would make a deal before the GM meetings wrap up on Friday. Sexson will earn \$8.6 million next season, and Geoff Jenkins \$8.25 million, so it appears at least one of them must go.

The biggest demand is for Sexson, a right-handed hitter who hit 45 home runs and knocked in 124 runs last season, playing every inning in all 162 games.

"There are a number of clubs continued on page 5

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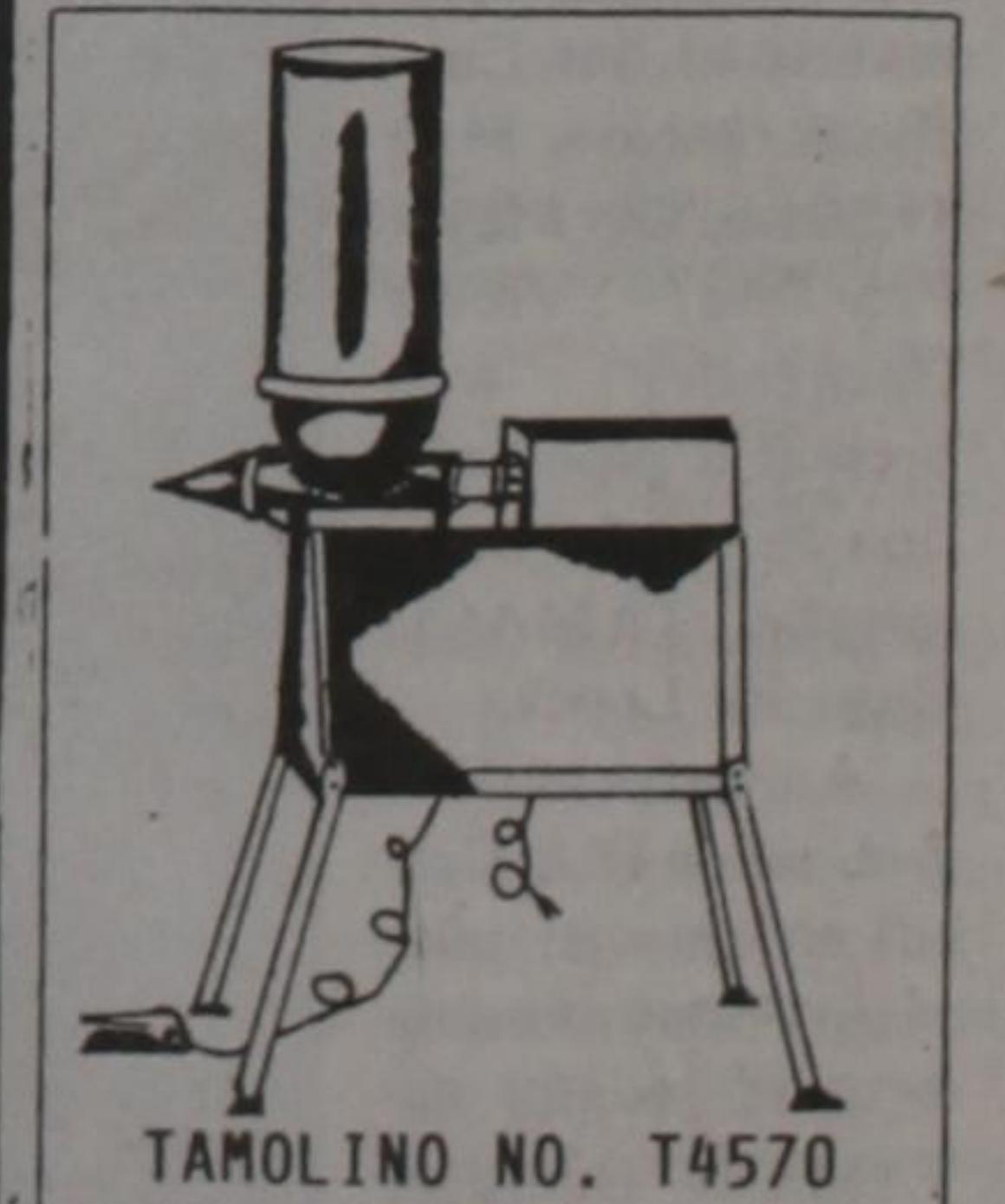
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**Reporte Vaquero:**

# Seis ganados dos perdidos de los Dallas Cowboys

**IRVING, TX.** Por Victor Villava y Andrea Rivas, de la Cadena de Plata. Los Vaqueros siguen cosechando triunfos y se mantienen en el primer lugar de su división con 6 juegos ganados y 2 perdidos. El partido del domingo 2 de noviembre los Cowboys ganaron 21-14 a los Pielles Rojas de Washington ante más 64.002 aficionados que pagaron su boleto en el Texas Stadium, en juego que tuvo una duración de 3 horas y 25 minutos.

**Comentarios del mandamás después del juego**

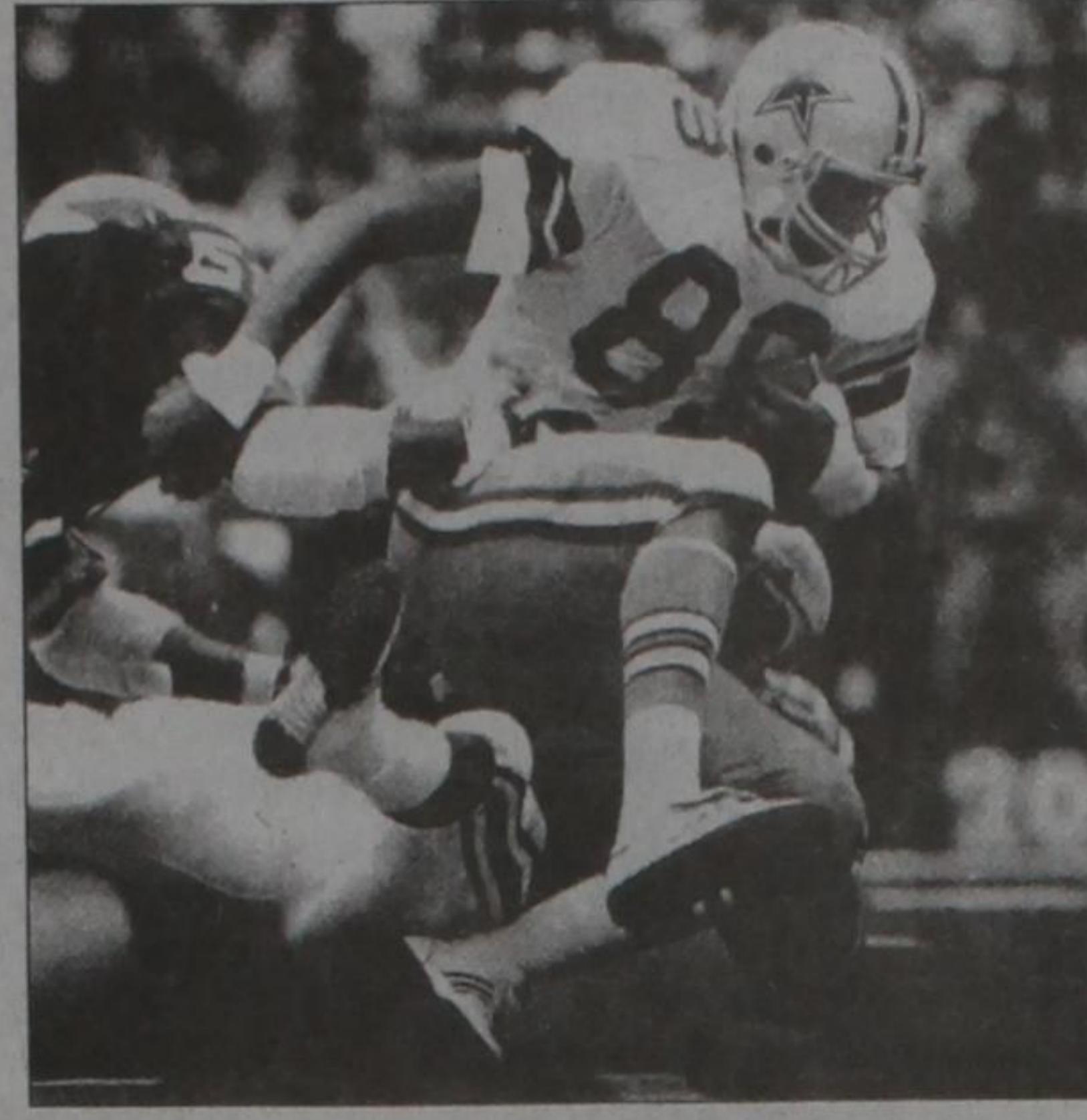
**PARCELLS:** El primer cuarto fue lo que se dice en Nueva York toda una pesadilla. Hicimos errores suficientes para perder no solo éste pero dos o tres juegos seguidos. El castigo en la primera patada de salida, la anotación de Washington, las pérdidas de balón, un montón de ovoides sueltos y ese tipo de cosas. Fue un inicio muy difícil.

Flozell Adams hizo muy bien trabajo bloqueando la patada del punto extra. Sé que eso puede verse insignificante pero pienso que le dio al equipo un poco de esperanzas.

Hubo muchas jugadas

planeadas para este juego y no pudimos ejecutar varias de es-

tas, pero hicimos las suficien-

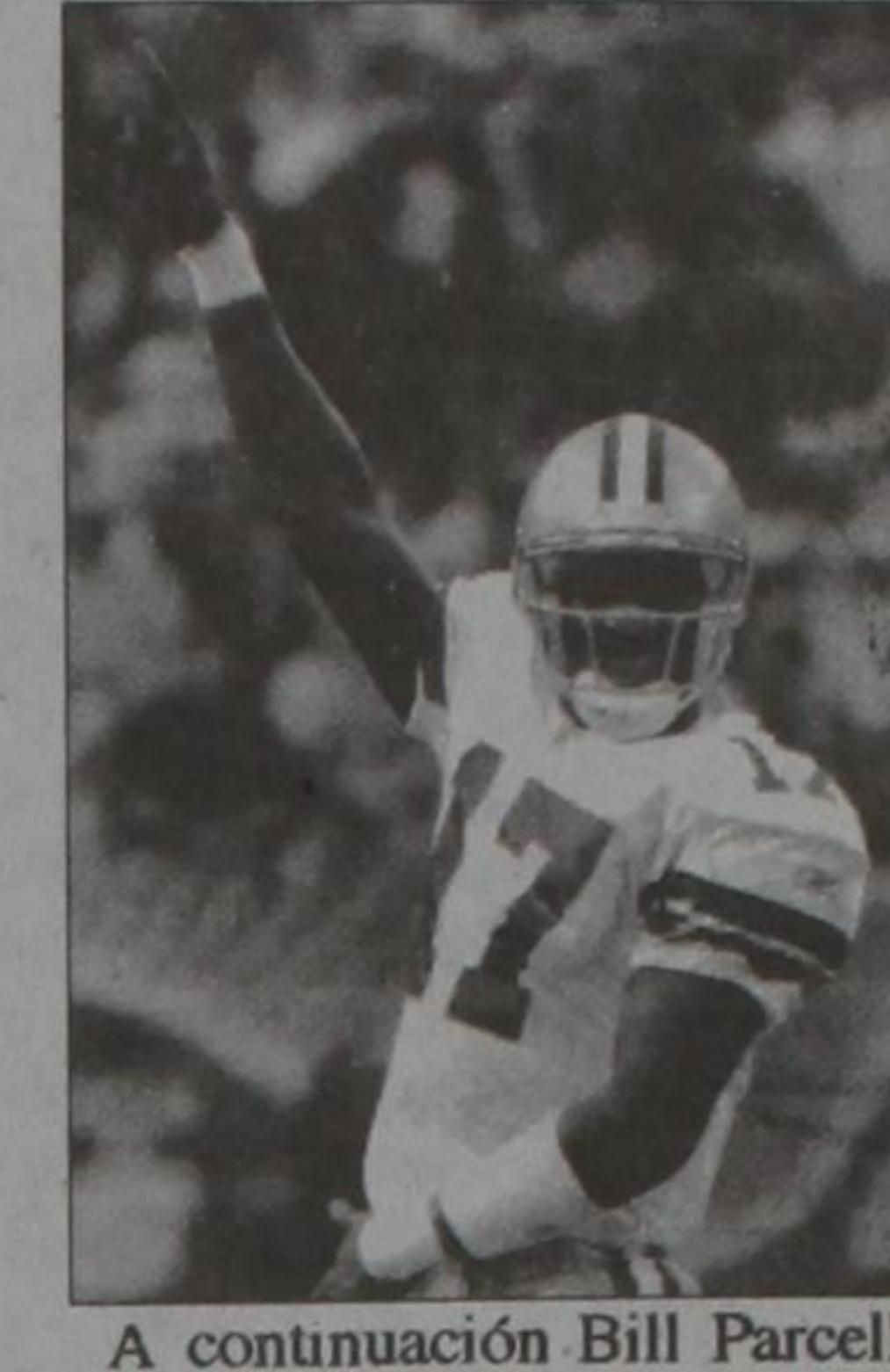


Defensivamente jugamos muy bien, tuvimos muy buen balance. No sé cuantas veces corrimos el balón pero fue bastante. Así que estoy contento de estar donde estamos y afortunadamente estar donde estamos hoy, pero no hace ninguna diferencia en esta liga. Estamos 6 a 2 y estoy contento con los resultados.

El siguiente juego será contra un equipo que tiene 2 semanas de preparación para enfrentarnos, tenemos mucho que hacer y espero que podamos lograrlo. Esta clase de cosas fue las que les comenté a los muchachos después del juego.

Sigue una semana de preparación para enfrentar a Buffalo Bills

El juego será el domingo 9 de noviembre a las 3:15 de la tarde. Ahora si que nos les caería mal una semana de descanso, pero los Vaqueros no pueden parar. Esta semana tiene que ser provechosa, es necesario ver que sucede con la ofensiva, porque las intercepciones, los balones sueltos, las penalidades son errores bastante serios. Hay que corregir esos problemas que les pueden hacer mucho daño en los próximos partidos.



A continuación Bill Parcells le dará vistazo al video de este

## Falcons' Vick practices for first time since breaking leg

**FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga.** -- He worked with the scout team. He kept his running in low gear. There were no dazzling moves, no 70-yard passes. Advertisement

Still, this was a significant breakthrough.

Michael Vick was back.

The Atlanta Falcons quarterback practiced Wednesday for the first time since breaking his right leg in a preseason game, raising hopes that he'll soon be ready to play. He has set Nov. 30 in Houston as his target.

"I think I handled it pretty well," Vick said after the two-hour practice. "Toward the end, it got kind of sore on me. But that's what I expected. That's a good thing."

The rest of the team was already on the field when Vick trotted out from the locker room, wearing his No. 7 jersey and carrying his shoulder pads. At least a dozen cameramen and photographers documented every step.

Practice was uneventful. Vick served as the third-team quarterback behind Kurt Kittner and Doug Johnson, which meant working with the scout team and backups.

Michael Vick throws during Falcons practice Wednesday. (AP) At times, Vick appeared to be favoring his leg, and he didn't show off any of his celebrated running skills. Still, the Falcons were glad to have him back in uniform.

"I didn't have any expectations because I really didn't know how much he could do," coach Dan Reeves said. "I was definitely pleased that he did as much as he did."

No one was more pumped up than Vick.

"I asked him how he felt," Reeves said. "He said, 'Coach, I couldn't sleep last night. I was so excited to come out and start practicing.' That's what showed up - the excitement he had all day long."

Vick can't get back soon enough for the Falcons (2-7), who have slumped badly without their Pro Bowl quarterback. Last year, they reached the second round of the playoffs. This season, they had lost seven in a row before beating the New York Giants 27-7 last weekend.

Vick's return to practice certainly piqued the interest of Atlanta's fans. After Reeves revealed it during a morning news conference, the team's Web site jumped from 10,000 hits an hour to 35,000.

"I've been through a lot - a lot of rehab, a lot of treatment," Vick said. "Then, watching my team struggle. It took a lot out of me. It's just a joy to be out here. I'm thankful to be back."

Not surprisingly, Vick and Reeves were vague about when the quarterback might play. No one knows how good the leg will feel from one day to the next. No one knows if there will be some setbacks along

the way.

Vick broke his right fibula in an Aug. 16 exhibition against the Ravens. Initially, the prognosis called for him to return within six to 10 weeks, but the rehab has now dragged on for nearly three months.

There's still plenty of work.

Vick frequently underthrew or overthrew the receivers on Wednesday. And he's not ready to begin trying out any of the rollouts or runs.

"I ran a couple of days ago and I was able to cut," Vick said. "But I can cut better to my left than I can to my right. I'm trying to do some things

that can help me cut better to my right."

He also he must get over the mental hurdle of trusting the leg.

"I've been conscious of that for the past two months - trying to protect it, trying not to hurt it," Vick admitted. "Once I get into it, I lose sight of trying to protect it. I've got to get to the point where that's what I'm doing all the time."

It's going to take time. Teammate Todd Weiner was sidelined for six games in 1999 with a similar injury, and it took a full year before the soreness completely subsided.

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encuentro. Cada jugada será examinada y los errores tienen que ser tratados como si fueran una gripe sobre el equipo. Una pequeña gripe se puede convertir en pulmonía si no es combatida a tiempo y es por eso que estos errores deben de ser combatidos y eliminados por completo de los jugadores. Si no se logra, entonces esta temporada durará muy poco para el equipo Vaquero.

Así que a echarle ganas, ya es Noviembre é iniciaran las semanas más decisivas de la temporada.

## A-Rod Talk

from page 4

interested in Richie, a number of clubs that might have to do some things financially first," Melvin said. "This isn't a fire sale, which people think it may be. It's still got to be in my mind be a good baseball deal for us in the future. This isn't going to be a guy I deal for one minor league player, or anything like that."

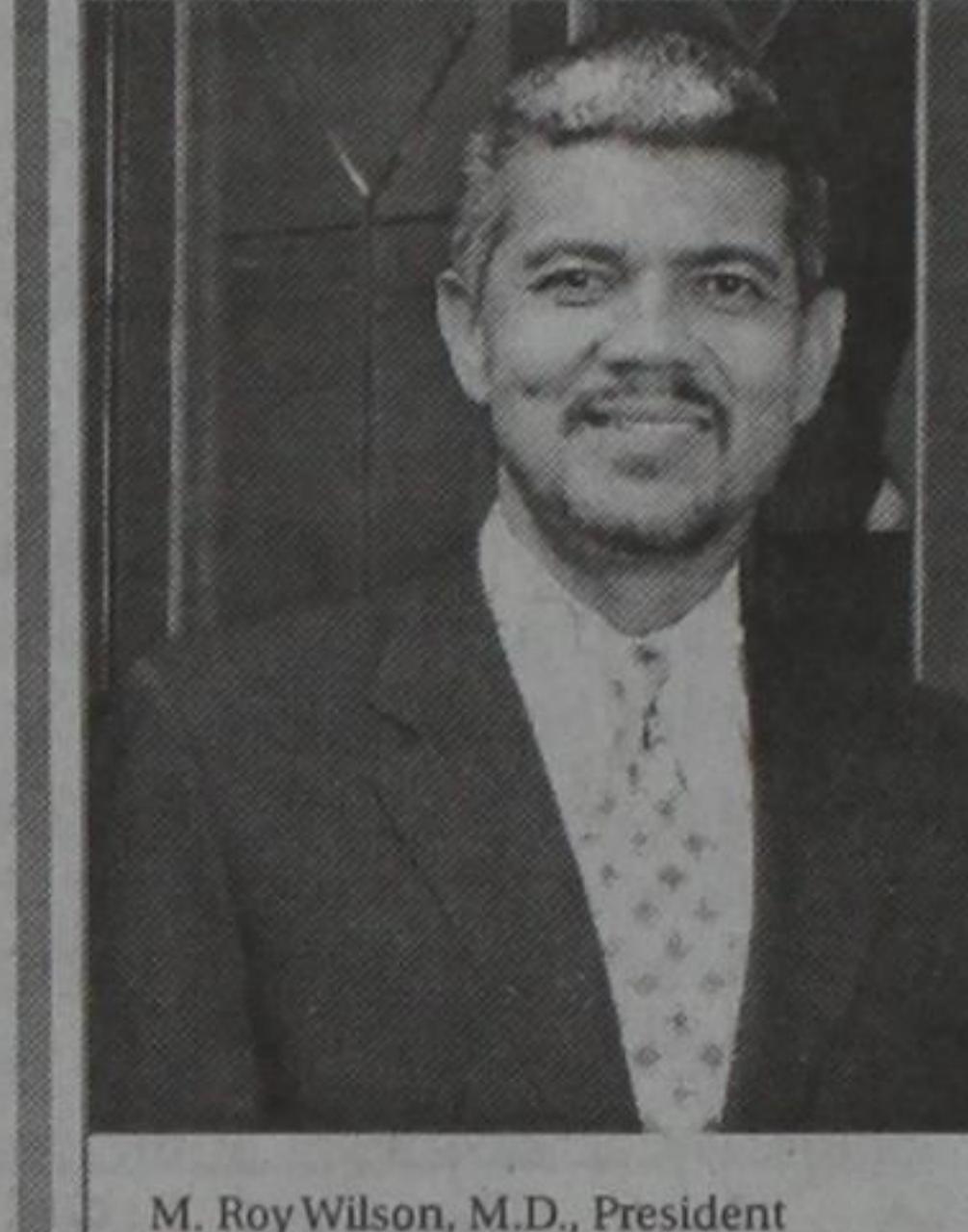
One of those teams that might have to make financial moves is Arizona. The Diamondbacks had a \$94 million payroll last season, and want it down to \$80 million for next

year.

Colangelo said the Diamondbacks are talking to the Brewers about Sexson.

Arizona general manager Joe Garagiola Jr., while not confirming any specific potential deals, said talks are progressing.

"Whether that all leads to something this week, the winter meetings, or sometime in between, time will tell," he said, "but the conversations are pretty substantive at this point."



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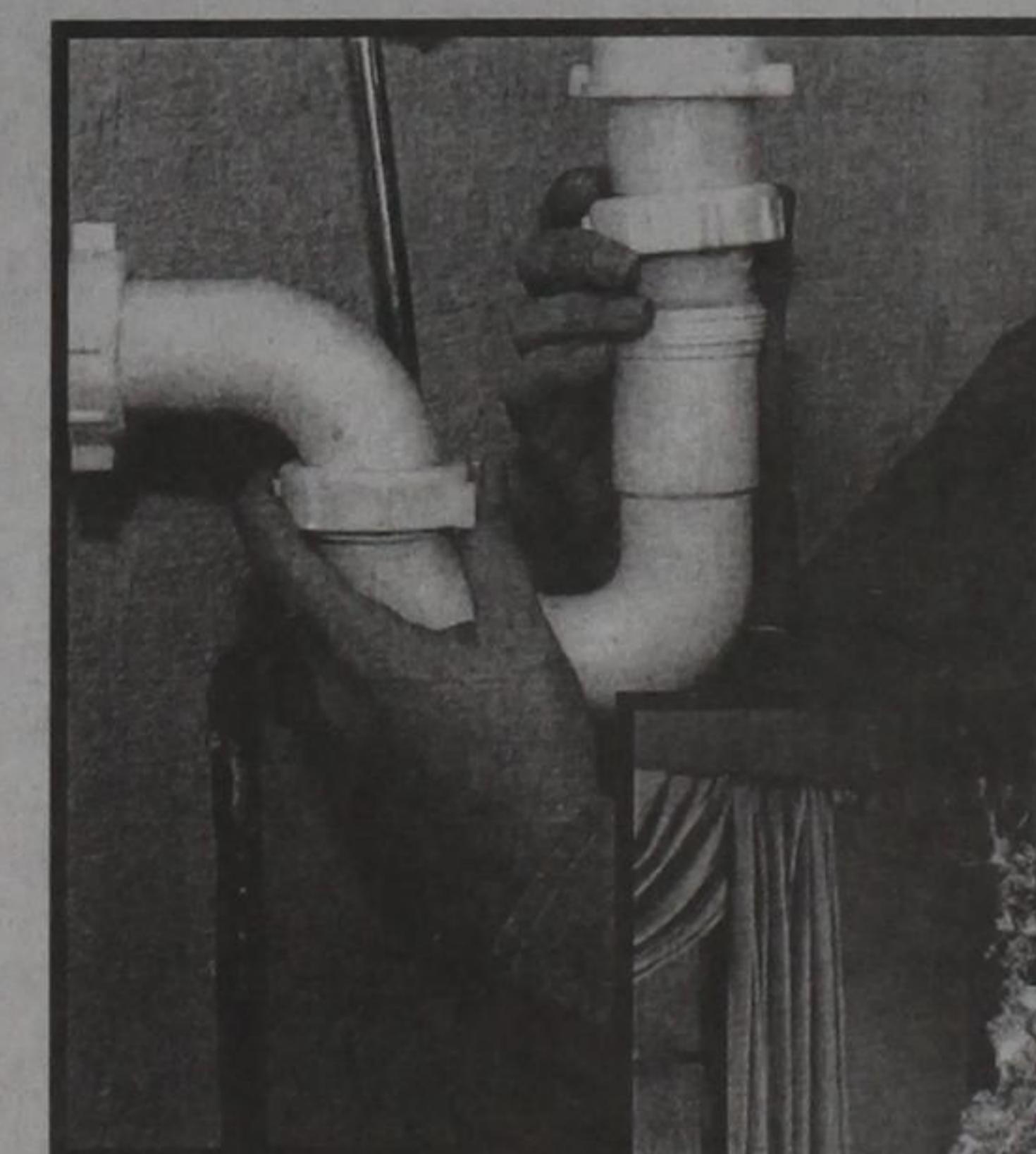
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# Como las Carreras Diplomáticas

viene de la primera pagina

-- Los latinos no tienen las conexiones profesionales claves. Durante cada administración presidencial, aproximadamente un tercio de los embajadores son nombrados por el presidente. Son cruciales los contactos personales en esta coyuntura. Thomas Aranda, ex-embajador estadounidense en Uruguay, explica: "Aparte de tener conocimiento de la política internacional, (los candidatos a embajador) naturalmente deben contar con algunas conexiones para ser nombrados".

Con las desventajas educativas y económicas que ya acarrean los latinos, es menos probable que se mezclen con los esperanzados en ser embajadores. De los 40 latinos que han servido como embajador en varios países desde 1890, 23 han sido nombrados por un presidente.

Los cargos de embajador van tradicionalmente a un círculo conocido de candidatos. Carolyn Curiel, ex-embajadora a Belice, nota que los que hacen grandes contribuciones financieras al partido político del presidente son los que reciben la mayor consideración. Curiel, quien es ahora miembro de la junta editorial del New York Times, es periodista de carrera. Ejercía como realizadora principal y redactora con el programa de análisis de noticias de Ted Koppel, "Nightline", de la cadena televisiva ABC, cuando la contrataron para redactar los discursos del presidente Clinton, puesto en el que llegó a ser la redactora principal, durante su primer término presidencial. Enfatiza Curiel que su nombramiento a embajadora en 1997 "no fue tradicional".

-- Se percibe que las barreras institucionales también son responsables por los bajos niveles de empleo de hispanos tanto en el Departamento de Estado como la agencia de desarrollo internacional, (US-AID por sus siglas en inglés), ambas organizaciones conductoras a puestos de embajador. De una fuerza laboral de 2,169 personas en la US-AID, sólo 79 son hispanos - 3.6 por ciento. En cuanto al Departamento de Estado, los hispanos son el 6.9

## Funding Shrinks

from page two

sion.

Mujica says he has cut the organization's expenses by an estimated 50 percent. Before he came on board, its staff numbered 25. Now there are eight, half of whom are immigrants.

He also dissolved the organization's state chapters. Now U.S. English works strictly out of its national headquarters on Pennsylvania Avenue, near the White House.

Consultants are hired to work in some states to push through official-English legislation at the state level. Mujica claims that to date, U.S. English has helped more than 20 states pass "official English" laws. Currently, it is looking at eight more.

Its annual budgets, with money raised mainly for mail solicitations, have steadily declined from their peak in the '90s, when as much as \$7-\$8 million a year was taken in.

It sends out 200,000 solicitations for support each month, Mujica says, adding that the average donation is \$20. This year's fund-raising efforts will yield an estimated \$4 million, down about a million from last year, he projects.

The organization currently receives about \$100,000 directly from foundations, he estimates, but declines to name them.

He relates that the for-profit arm, U.S. English Inc., and the non-profit entity, U.S. English Foundation, have initiated several projects under his direction. One is a school modeled after the Israeli Ulpan system, sponsored by that government.

An Ulpan is a Hebrew-language school that teaches adult immigrants basic Hebrew speaking, writing and comprehension skills, along with fundamentals of Israeli culture, history and citizenship. The school offers students full-time instruction and a stipend so they don't have to work. Mu-

## Mexico's forgotten reform - Education!

Much has been printed with reference to Vicente Fox's ongoing skirmish with Mexico's legislative branch and his difficulties to convince them to approve what have been termed as vital reform initiatives in energy, taxes and labor legislation.

Curiously Mexico's true necessary legislative reform initiative in education is not being profoundly considered and consequently has not received any press attention or even thought as imperative.

Although many international analysts may reasonably consider that Mexico's perpetual financial and immigration problems have an economic origin and periodically define its cause among many others as, inflation, oil prices, foreign debt, exchange rates or the US economy, there is one reality that has Mexican think tank elements worried, no matter what short or medium term measures are taken.....the crisis is always present.

Many have wondered why Mexico despite favorable macro-economic circumstances continues to loose international competitiveness and consequently jobs to other countries. It is a frequent rule that as global industries turn more sophisticated, technology and production increases and mechanization shrinks the percentage of worker contribution in overall manufacturing costs. With this said a country whose wages increase moderately should not be having Mexico's current unemployment problems.

For many years Mexican analysts more in tune with their social and economic environment have deliberated on this situa-

tion and have developed the opinion that despite the country's huge educational budget, one of Latin America's largest absorbing more than 60% of total government spending, the problem is education.

During the 71 year Partido Revolucionario Institucional's rule, government squandered Mexico's massive education budget by directing almost 90% of the existing resources to boost teachers salaries and benefits an effort that was very successful in obtaining the influential Teacher's Union support for the PRI political structure. Mexico's teachers Union is reputably Latin America's largest and most dominant union.

While allegedly acquiring political support it definitely sacrificed infrastructure adaptation, curricula and equipment modernizing, consequently Mexico's educational position once considered the highest in Latin America began to loose ground and its world place fell behind less developed countries.

Although Mexico prides itself on having a notable literacy rate, a large percentage of the population scarcely finish sixth grade. Of these the proportion of students that makes it to college is minimal and the ones that ultimately graduate are infinitesimal. Classrooms containing computers are token and as a result computer proficiency is sorely lacking existing mostly in university level students and professionals.

It was believed that changes would be sweeping and fast once the Fox administration took office but expectations have sadly diminished, as things remain comparable.

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## Diplomatic Careers

### Elude Latinos

from page one

RECRUITERS 'HAVEN DONE VERY GOOD JOB'

"The people in charge of recruiting (at the State Department) have not done a very good job at all, notwithstanding that we are now the number one minority in the country," says former U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia Manuel Rocha.

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) is trying to remedy the dearth of Latinos employees at the State Department. Since 2001 HACU has placed 15 interns at the department through its national internship program. According to William Gil, executive director for HACU's national internship program, more than half of 306 interns placed with federal agencies last summer that completed a

program evaluation reported they were asked to return in some employment capacity in the future.

Material circumstance and institutional barriers have not blocked Hispanics completely from entering the field. Since 1890, 64 have served as U.S. ambassadors. These include John Joseph Jova (Honduras 1965-1969, Mexico 1974-1977, Organization of American States 1969-1974); Frank Ortiz (Barbados and Grenada 1977-1979, Guatemala 1979-1980, Peru 1981-1983 and Argentina 1983-1986); and Mari-Luci Jaramillo (Honduras 1973-1977).

"We've come a long way, former U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States Luis Lauredo recounts, "but we have a hell of a way to go."

## 'Generation Gringo'

from page one

Many Mexicans are ambivalent about the new invasion. "The last time Mexico experienced anything like this, it was a prelude to war," Jorge Canto, a businessman who works with Americans said. "Is history repeating itself?" Mexican officials worry that older American immigrants will strain Mexico's health system. Because of the influx, Medicaid and Medicare have expanded their payment programs in Mexico, and some U.S. HMOs cover members living in Mexico.

American entrepreneurship in Mexico is making its presence felt. In a study conducted by the Inter-American Development Bank, the amount of remittances sent to Mexico from the U.S. soared to \$14.5 billion, up from \$9 billion two years ago. But closer examination reveals that \$3.5 billion of those remittances is money sent by Americans to themselves in Mexico, to purchase homes, finance the opening of businesses and for living expenses.

### Executive Director

**Lubbock Convention and Visitors Bureau  
and Lubbock Sports Authority**

#### Position Description:

The Executive Director of the Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau and Lubbock Sports Authority is responsible for managing the destination marketing for both entities and leads the local industry's primary mission of marketing the Lubbock convention, tourism and sports product. The position reports to the CEO and the Board of Directors of Market Lubbock, Inc. and works with the CVB Advisory Committee to obtain suggestions and feedback from the community.

#### Key Position Requirements:

The Executive Director of the CVB/LSA must demonstrate the ability to develop and implement a clear long-term vision; display innovation, inspiration, and originality; challenge the status quo; proven success in relationship building, leadership, strategic planning, networking and fundraising, and diversity goals.

#### Education/Experience Requirements:

Bachelor's degree from an accredited university (advanced degree preferred), 10 years minimum experience as a management professional in the hospitality and tourism industry, a proven track record in sales, marketing and business, knowledge of meetings, conventions, sports and trade show markets, participation in related professional organizations (MPI, TAA, NTA etc.), excellent oral and written communication skills, supervisory skills and experience essential. The candidate must demonstrate an image that is consistent with the image expected of Lubbock as a destination, must be able to travel to domestic and international destinations on behalf of the CVB. Trips may require overnight stays from one to seven days. Must be able to work nights and weekends when needed.

#### Knowledge & Skills:

The candidate must have excellent communication and presentation skills, knowledge of computer and internet operations, excellent interpersonal and problem solving skills with a high degree of professionalism and competence in dealing with a variety of individuals, including Board and Committee members and elected officials at the local, state and federal level. The candidate must have experience in media relations, experience in generating new sources of revenue for development purposes, and be a team player.

#### Compensation:

The annual salary is between \$75,000 and \$85,000 annually (additional incentive bonus possible) and will be negotiated depending on qualifications which shall be specified in a three-year employment contract. This is a management position with a benefits package, which includes three weeks of paid vacation per year, standard paid holidays and medical insurance and 401(k) after one year.

#### Application Process:

All candidates must submit a resume, letter of interest detailing how the candidates satisfies the position description, and contact information of three references who can provide current assessments of the candidate's qualifications for the position. For a complete description of the position requirements, please call Linda Whitman at 749-4500 or email her at linda.whitman@marketlubbock.org. Please send resumes to: Linda Whitman; Market Lubbock, Inc.; 1301 Broadway, Suite 200, Lubbock, Tx 79401