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Temer desmantelamiento del programa "Head Start"

Washington- Los cambios propuestos por el presidente George W. Bush al programa preescolar para niños de bajos recursos "Head Start", ha desatado controversia y la oposición de quienes temen el desmantelamiento de este recurso educativo.

"Head Start" es un programa federal fundado en 1965, que prepara anualmente aproximadamente a un millón de niños pobres de 3 a 5 años (un 30 por ciento de los cuales son latinos) para ingresar en la escuela primaria.

Además de realizar actividades académicas, "Head Start" provee servicios sociales y de salud, promueve el desarrollo emocional y social de los niños y fomenta la participación de los padres de familia

en la educación de sus hijos.

La propuesta de la administración Bush enfocaría el programa principalmente hacia la lectura, exigiría exámenes estandarizados para todos los niños de 4 años inscritos en "Head Start", y canalizaría los fondos a través de los gobiernos estatales y no de las organizaciones que actualmente administran el programa.

Según el secretario asistente de programas de niños y familias del Departamento de Salud Wade F. Horn, estos cambios son necesarios para mejorar "Head Start" e integrarlo al sistema de escuelas públicas administrado por los estados.

"Bajo la propuesta del presidente, los estados tienen la oportunidad de coordinar sus programas preescolares con los de 'Head Start' si se acogen a ciertos requisitos", manifestó Horn durante una reciente audiencia sobre este tema en el Capitolio.

Horn agregó que la propuesta exige que los estados mantengan el mismo nivel de servicio integral que ofrece "Head Start" para familias de bajos recursos y argumentó que actualmente este programa produce resultados "aceptables" pero no "excelentes".

Los críticos de estos cambios afirman que "Head Start" es un programa exitoso que ha beneficiado a



más de 20 millones de niños desde que se fundó y lo que realmente necesita son más fondos para extender su alcance.

Opositores a las modificaciones, como la Asociación Nacional de Educación (NEA), argumentan que actualmente 6 de cada 10 niños elegibles están inscritos en "Head Start" y que en muchas zonas del país hay listas de espera para ingresar en el programa.

También señalan que la imposición de exámenes estandarizados no es eficaz para evaluar niños de cuatro años y que enfocar el programa principalmente en la lectura no toma en cuenta sus otros puntos claves, como los servicios sociales, de salud y la participación de los padres de familia.

Desempeño de los niños latinos

Un estudio de la Universidad de California en Los Ángeles analizó el desempeño escolar posterior de niños que habían participado en "Head Start", encontró que los hispanos se beneficiaban de este programa.

Los investigadores que estudiaron el rendimiento académico de niños latinos inscritos en "Head Start" en comparación con sus hermanos que no estaban matriculados, determinaron que éste ayuda a los niños hispanos a reducir su desventaja en exámenes estandarizados frente a los estudiantes anglosajones.

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Comentarios

de Bidal Agüero

Now that what seemed to be the primary election for Congressional seat 19 is over voter will be called to the polls again to pick between Randy Naguerbauer and Mike Conoway.

Although both candidates leave a lot to be desired wehn it comes to a real representative for the minority, poor and disenfranchised community, El Editor will in the following few weeks try and present to our readers, the platform of each of the candidate and how they stand on the economy, jobs, health and education.

Whoever is elected, it will be up to the leaders in our community to relate our concerns as to how Washington should serve us. For sure it is not just "agreeing with the President. Let's hope they will listen

This Sunday is Mother's Day. The day marks a very special day in the hispanic community and we hope that all the mothers enjoy themselves; The following article was written by my brother Rick. I thought it might be appropriate to publish as those of us who lost our mothers remember.

Mi Madre

Mi Madre es memoria. Pasan muchos años desde que se fue a estar con Papa. But still, the memories are there.

Tortillas hot off the comal, pan frying in her iron skillet, empanadas never often enough and never enough when they were made. Carne quisada, arroz con pollo, frioles fritos e en bola. The unforgettable smell of the rare occasions when she forgot about them and they ended up quemados. Funny how that always seemed to be the fault of one of the kids or grandkids and not the novellas.

Seguro, las comidas are a powerful reminder of nuestra Madre but so are the smiles e los besos. The way I could sit myself in front of her and even in the late years when those talented crocheting-embroidering-sewing hands or hers would hurt with arthritis, she would still scratch my back, and enjoy my enjoyment of it. Perhaps most, I remember her ever present love. We were never a family to openly express their feelings. Sometimes, I regret that.

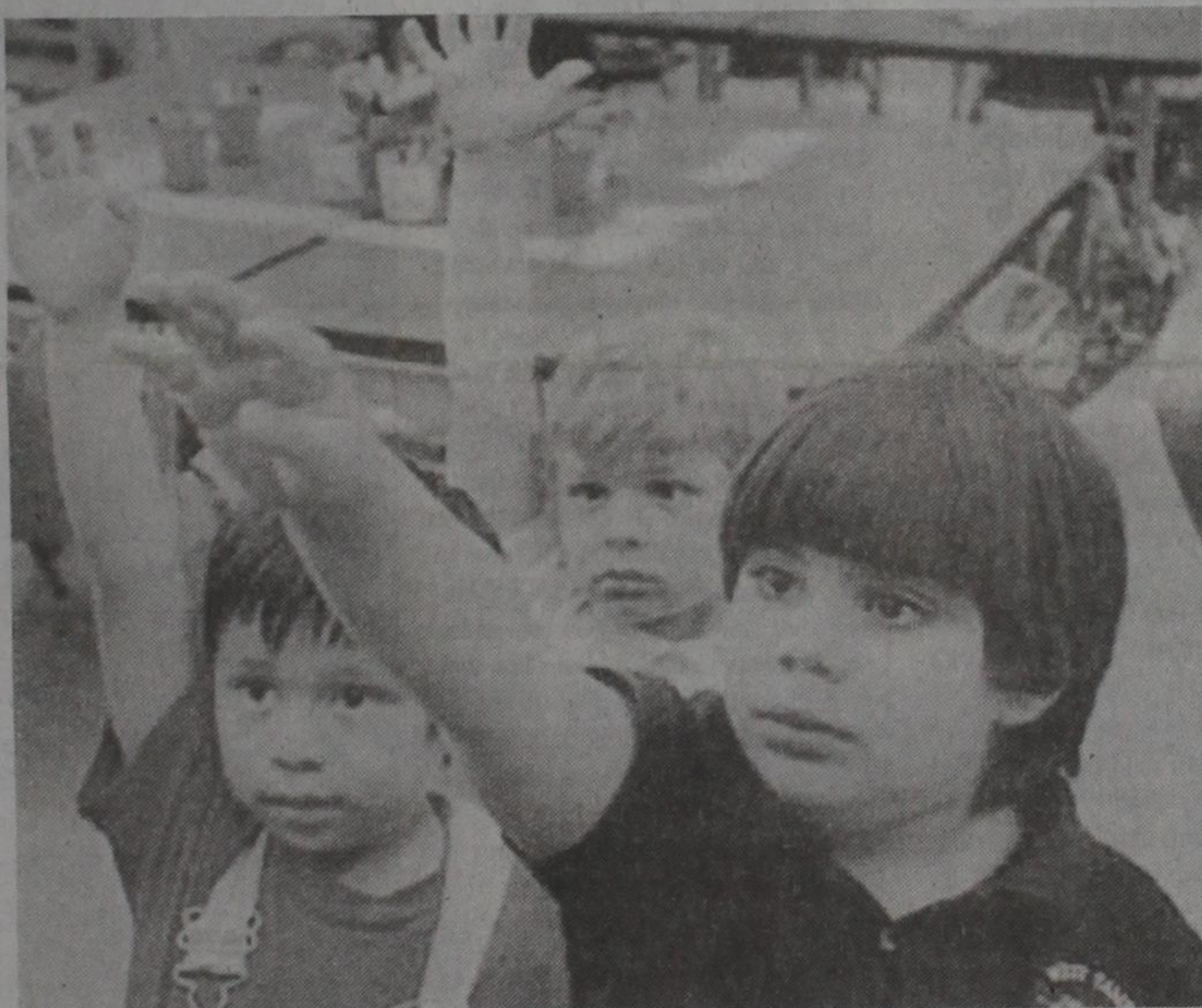
Late in her fragile years as we sensed that time was borrowed, we told her of our love for her. If I had it to do all over again, I would say it a million times and still felt I had not said it enough.

Mi Madre, Lala, te amo. En mi memoria, tu vives. Por Siempre!

Ticardo Agüero

Happy Mothers Day to All Our Readers from El Editor

Write Bidal at el editor@llano.net



Census Hispanic Groups Possibly Miscounted

The population of Hispanic subgroups in the 2000 census may have been miscounted, and it could be due partly to confusion over the wording of a question on the form, the Census Bureau said Monday.

A bureau study on the question doesn't change the overall number of Hispanics counted in 2000, which stood at just over 35 million, nor will it change the official count of the Hispanic subgroups released two years ago.

Still, some demographers, advocacy groups and city planners said the confusion may have led millions of people to identify themselves with a generic term like "Hispanic" or "Latino", rather than a more specific description like "Dominican" or "Spaniard".

The latest study, done at the request of Congress, incorporated census data on ancestry and place of birth that were not available when the first Hispanic population statistics were released.

The study estimated as many as 22.3 million Hispanics considered themselves "Mexican," 7 percent higher than a 2000 census estimate of about 20.9 million Mexicans; the latest estimate of 3.5 million Puerto Ricans was 4 percent higher than the 2000 census.

Differences were larger for the smaller Latino subgroups. For instance, the estimate of nearly 1 million Dominicans was 25 percent larger than the 2000 estimate. The study also estimated at least one-third more Colombians and

two-thirds more Spaniards.

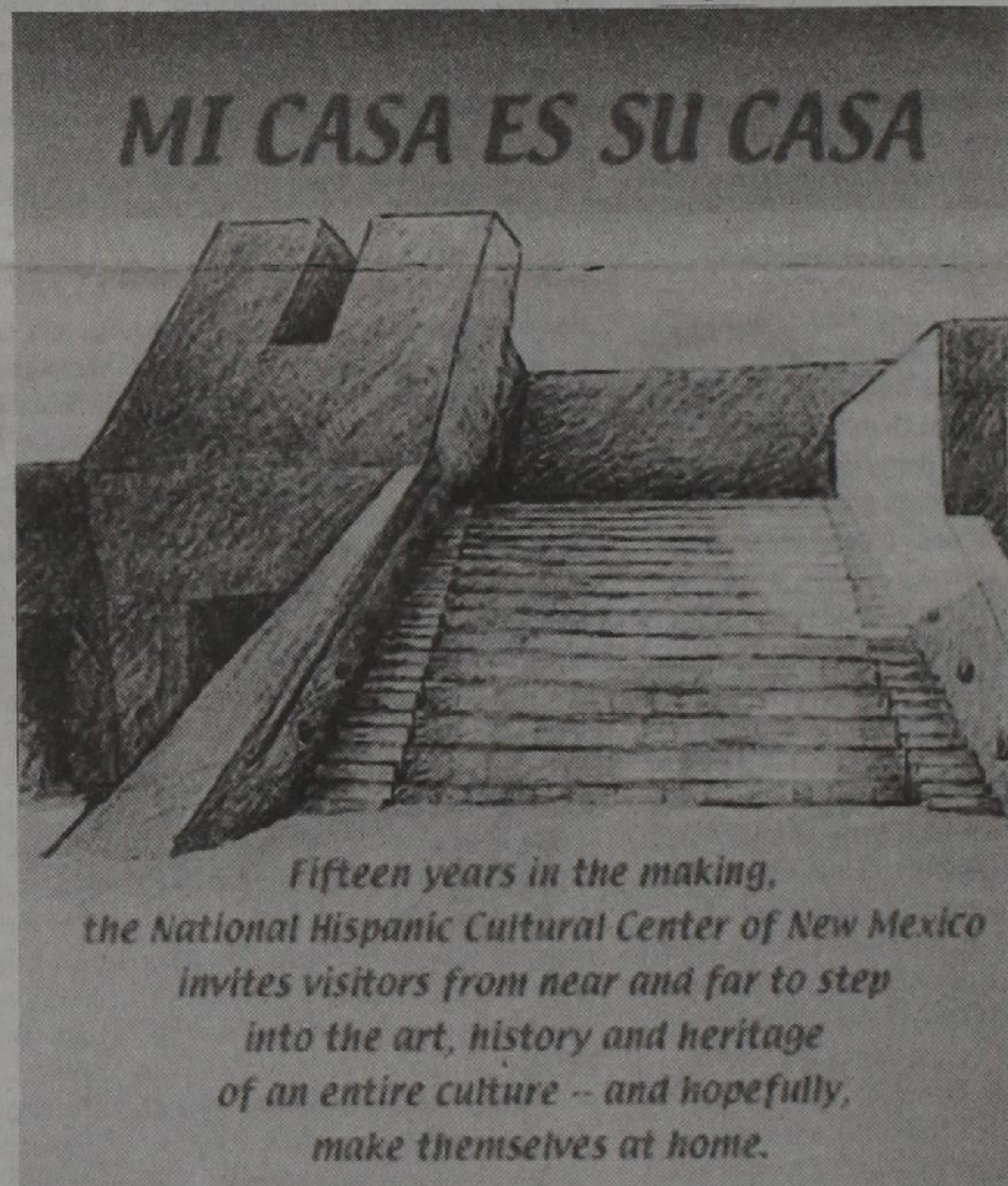
By comparison, the bureau estimated that more than half the 5.5 million people who called themselves a generic Hispanic term actually should have been classified by a more specific description. Almost three-fourths of the 93,000 who said they were "Other Central American" could have been classified to a specific country.

The 2000 census asked "Are you Hispanic?" A respondent who answered yes checked off a box next to "Mexican," "Puerto Rican" or "Cuban" — the three largest Hispanic groups — or a fourth box that asked the person to write in a more appropriate Latino group. No sample responses were provided for that question.

The 1990 form offered the same four options, although the last also included examples of answers, such as "Argentinian" or "Dominican." Joseph Salvo, director of the population division for the New York City planning department, said that was the main reason for the low estimate of Hispanic subgroups in the original 2000 census results.

New York has one of the largest Dominican populations in the country. The data is used by the city to help target outreach programs for day care or English proficiency.

Census Bureau analyst Roberto Ramirez said some third- or fourth-generation Hispanic-Americans may also have identified more with simply calling themselves "Latino" or "Hispanic" than with a specific group.



The National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico is ready to begin fulfilling its mission

By Frank Zoretich

"The primary purpose of any cultural building is to facilitate the bringing together of artists and audiences to make magic."

That's a sentence from the 1988 state-funded feasibility study for the Hispanic Cultural Center.

The magic is scheduled to start Oct. 21-22 at the grand opening of the National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico.

Nearly 15 years after the center in Albuquerque was first proposed to the Legislature, Phase I of the center is ready to play host to a really big party at its location at the south end of Fourth Street in Baretas.

Center officials say they more than 25,000 people may show up for the weekend's free events. About 15,000 invitations to the gala have been sent out -- and the nationally known band Los Lobos has been booked as the closing act on Sunday afternoon.

Guests anticipated include the crown prince of Spain and the presidents of several, or perhaps just a few -- OK, maybe only a couple -- Latin American countries. The dignitary list hadn't been entirely confirmed by

press time.

Phase I of construction, paid for with state money, has cost \$18.8 million so far, said Eugene Matta, executive director of the center.

Plans call for Phase II, including a federally funded \$17.5 million performing arts center, to be completed late next year.

Total cost of the center -- estimated completion of all phases is still a few years away -- will be \$56 million, Matta said.

The Hispanic Cultural Foundation, a private nonprofit group, has taken upon itself the task of raising money from corporations and individuals to close the \$20 million gap between government funding and the center's total construction cost.

The \$56 million total is a far cry -- by anybody's calculations -- from the "\$5 million or so" Al Otero, then a state representative whose district included Baretas, thought such a center might cost when he first proposed the idea to fellow legislators in January 1986.

But the final concept, a center impressive enough to attract visitors from around the world as well as the nation and state, is a lot bigger than the original idea, too.

Diversity - A Universal Quality Valued At Texas Tech

by Alberto P. Cárdenas, Jr.

In his articulate and historical dissent from the majority opinion of Plessy v. Ferguson, United States Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan noted, "Our Constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens. In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law. The humblest is the peer of the most powerful. The law regards man as man, and takes no account of his surroundings or of his color when his civil rights as guaranteed by the supreme law of the land are involved."

Justice Harlan correctly predicted in 1896 that upholding the Louisiana law in question would lead to the passage of even more laws segregating African Americans. Not until 1954 did the Supreme Court accept Harlan's arguments, when it reversed Plessy v. Ferguson with its Brown v. Board of Education decision. Although his views were not universally accepted in 1892, they did serve to inspire future generations of scholars with their meaning. Today, our actions do speak louder than words. I am proud, as a Hispanic, to be a part of the senior executive policy making team within the office of the Chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. Together, we are making decisions that, in the words of Justice Harlan, are "color-blind" and "neither know(s) nor tolerate(s) classes" among our students, patients, faculty or staff.

Our commitment to diversity is not flexible. The hiring of any ethnic minority benefits all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability or heritage. More specifically, enhancing our views, includ-

ing forgotten parts of our community and broadening our vision, will only provide a greater understanding of cultures and allow us to focus on our collective strengths, rather than that which divides us. While we clearly admit that the need to diversify our ranks and campuses is justified, we must also acknowledge that each person is unique and that respective beliefs always deserve and bring value. Our efforts cannot come to fruition overnight but they can take shape incrementally and responsibly. The ultimate goal should be to have individuals from all segments of society in broad areas of expertise, not solely within the ranks of engaging diversity.

The recruitment and retention of qualified Latino and African American students, faculty and staff is key to the missions of Texas Tech and other institutions of higher education in our state. Texans with a college education earn larger salaries and will see greater financial benefits over their lifetime. Numerous studies have shown that college graduates give back to their communities in greater numbers. Higher wage earnings contribute to the state's economic base through taxes and, as a result, individuals with a college education are less likely to require public assistance. The inability to afford tuition should never be a disqualification for college. Families should pay what they can afford and colleges and universities should commit to keeping tuition increases down.

States must continue to support higher education - doing otherwise will only widen the gap between those with access to higher education and those that lack it. Our State should place full emphasis on "Closing the Gaps" as recommended by the Texas Higher

Education Coordinating Board and take bold steps to ensure that economic access to institutions of higher education is not hindered to bright and motivated students of all races. We cannot close the doors of education to those that seek it. Doing so will, as Justice Brennan noted in Plyler v. Doe, "only deny individuals the ability to live within the structure of our civic institutions, and foreclose any realistic possibility that they will contribute in even the smallest way to the progress of our Nation."

Diversity is a priority at the Texas Tech University System. And Texas Tech is committed to promoting and fostering an inclusive climate that values and respects students, faculty and staff and the communities the institution serves. I am fortunate to have been born into a family with the resources and commitment to support my undergraduate and postgraduate education. I am equally fortunate to be part of a team of individuals seeking to aid all students, regardless of who they are, where they were born or where they are from.

Background Information

Alberto P. Cárdenas, Jr. is the Special Assistant to the Chancellor and Director of Federal Relations for the Texas Tech University System in Washington, D.C. In his capacity with the Texas Tech University System, he coordinates federal research initiatives for the System and serves as a liaison with members of Congress, executive agencies, respective campus administrators and the system's Board of Regents.

Editor's Note: The preceding comment was published in the Lubbock AJ in an edited form. This version is unedited as written by writer

The Truth from another Texan!

Dear Editor:

The tiny handful of zealots who, of late, have wrapped themselves in the flag and then set it on fire - just don't get it.

America's political agenda (the current national Republican agenda) is now in the hands of an ultra-wealthy cabal, a Camorra if you will, who are not interested in an America "of the people, by the people, and for the people."

Indeed, they want our great resources "of themselves, by themselves, and for themselves", and they want to return us to a time when we had kings and serfs! (Not all wealthy persons agree or support the Camorra; indeed, some vehemently oppose their myopic goals.)

And thus, those who identify themselves with the national Republican party, today, can be divided into two groups: The Camorra, and chumps! If one is not worth at least a 100 mil, and not a member of this select group, then one is a chump! Because they are not interested in "you" (if someone thinks they care if you lose your life savings due to programs designed to make themselves richer...then you have your head in the sand)! Their goal is simply to enrich themselves at the expense of the rest of us! Limbaugh is their chief propagandist.

One day I flagged down a postal worker to save a trip to the post office. He had Limbaugh blaring away on his vehicle radio. I thought to myself, is this guy cracked? Limbaugh would cut the taxes that pay his salary in a New York minute if he could get away with it! Identifying with the goals of a group which does not have their best interest at heart...is a chump...sad, but true!

The Republican agenda of today just isn't what "working" Republicans think it is! It has been stolen away,

bit by bit over the past 40 years, by a handful of bandits (a Camorra by definition) whose only interest is their "self-interests", and to Hell with the rest of Americans, and what we stand for in America. They have done this by getting right-wing ideologues appointed to the federal bench to limit our civil liberties (see www.Inclusivism.org), by appealing to Democrats who are closet racists (their largest faction), by spending tons and tons of money on propaganda (particularly to promote the lie that they support the Pro-Life movement, i.e., to endear themselves to this faction), and by engineering the first "appointment" of a U.S. president! That, alone, has set off an alarm in every American who is honest with themselves (Republican or Democrat) that our democracy is in serious trouble...that "we the people" are no longer in control of our political agenda!

The GOP just ain't the Grand Ole' Party anymore! Just look at the legislation the Camorra is proposing. It is all designed around making themselves richer, and to Hell with the rest of America! Just look at the budget proposed by the Administration...massive tax cuts for the Camorra, massive deficit spending to be picked up by the rest of us! It is an economic oxymoron which adds up only if you use a ouija board.

Further, the legacy of now having America's political agenda in the hands of the Camorra, casts a long shadow, which adversely impacts on almost every Texan. For instance, two bills currently before the Texas House, HB 2465 and HB 973 would drain away millions out of the funds to educate our children, and in a fledging economy where the state budget is already suffering billions of dollars in a shortfall (no one seems to

know the exact figure), this legislation would demolish state standards that ensure small classes and qualified teachers! After all, they are sending their children to prestigious private schools...it is obvious by this legislation that in the interest of their own greed, they could care less if the average person who votes Republican can get a good education for their own children! It is a legacy that will adversely impact Texans for many generations to come!

Also, when the insurance companies took massive hits after the Administration wrecked the economy (and the cost of this war could finish us off), they drove up medical malpractice insurance to the point where many doctors have started limiting their practice. Every American is hurt by this! Their propaganda is that they have to raise their rates because of exorbitant jury awards. Baloney! The number of persons who even file these suits - and then prevail in court - is statistically irrelevant! In truth, this ploy is to recoup their losses when the stock market went south, and with bad investments in Enron, etc.!

From a psychological point of view, it is amazing how humans blind themselves to the truth. The truth is that less than one in four Americans even voted for Bush (indeed, American voters gave Gore over 500,000 more votes than Bush)! The day five of the justices on the U.S. Supreme Court (by a margin of one vote) "appointed" Bush to the presidency, America instantly shifted from being a "democracy" to becoming a "plutocracy" (and no, this is not to suggest that America is, now, being run by Pluto). It is not Mr. Bush who worries me, it is the Camorra that tells Mr. Bush what to do that worries me!

It is ironic that we are over there

trying to bring "democracy" to the Iraqi people...we need to bring "democracy" back to the American people first!

Let me propose a scenario, which, when all of this gets sorted out by historians, will surface as the truth. After the electrifying effect 9-11 had on the American people those in the Camorra said "Yahoo"...this is our opportunity! We will conduct an endless war on terrorism (Iraq is only a footnote), which will accomplish two things: We now have a plausible explanation for getting rid of civil liberties for Americans (we are at "war"); and we can line our pockets at the American taxpayers expense, with fat defense contracts! And, to pour salt in the wound, we will give ourselves massive tax cuts and thus through massive deficits we can pass all of the cost of this war on to the American people! (Nevermind that in the process some seniors will have to eat dog food, so that they can afford essential meds, and our friends in the pharmaceutical industry can line their pockets too!) And, of course, lets keep up the propaganda that the massive tax cuts are essential to "stimulate" the economy...in spite of the reality that all the last tax cut accomplished was to plunge the American economy right into the toilet!

Getting back to the war, to suggest that this war should somehow call forth the patriotism American's felt during W.W.II is absolutely daffy! The recent propaganda attack on American's "right to dissent" is far more dangerous to Americans than Saddam, and regardless of how this finally settles out, anyone who forgets this dastardly propaganda attack on American's freedoms, is a chump!

Most Sincerely,
Jim Green, another Texan
(Democratic candidate for Congress 2000-Dist 21)

Tommy Who?

By Abel Cruz

What's wrong with this picture? Interim City Manager, Tommy Gonzalez, is put in the impossible position of trying to save a sinking ship (LP&L). In order to show the city powers that be, that he is serious about budget issues, he eliminates 17 city positions, of which several are management positions of which his former position is one. And to date has not gotten invited to compete for the City Manager's job? I don't know about you, but where I came from, they would say that the _____ has hit the fan, and the writing is very clearly on the wall.

Over the past few weeks I have watched the city hall drama unfold, and it's becoming clearer every day that Mr. Gonzalez's future with this city is growing shorter by the day. It all started with the resignation of Bob Cass, who along with his top administrators had led this city through the past 10 years, of which the past 2 have been the most stressful. According to the city's website, a statement by Mr. Cass on 2/27 attributes his resignation to a desire to "move on to the next chapter in my life". Come on, do you really want me to believe that the fatal SWAT shooting in 2001, the feud with the police chief, and the LP&L fiasco didn't have anything to do with his decision. Of course it did!

And that leads me to my "scapegoat theory". It's a theory that evolves from my many years of observing the political processes that invades some city governments from time to time. Remember, I lived in an area once that saw people re-elect Marion Barry, an ex-con, Mayor of Washington, DC. So nothing surprises me. Nothing illegal, mind you, just tough, hard nosed politics. But the kind of politics that are kept hush, hush under the guise that the public is better off not knowing.

The word scapegoat means fall guy, or victim of a certain set of circumstances caused by others. In this case, it seems to me that Mr. Gonzalez is about to suffer the consequences for the actions or maybe inaction of others. For example, according to the local paper, LP&L is in a precarious position to say the least, because of poor management oversight, or rather no oversight. To date, Alex "Ty" Cooke resigned his city council position in January. Mr. Cooke, coincidentally, is also chairman of the WMPFA. The LP&L director, Paul Thompson also resigned his position in February, and the deputy city manager who had management responsibility over LP&L conveniently retired in January. Have I left anybody out?

So let's see, who else is left? Why Tommy of course. City councilman Martin, who voted against Mr. Gonzalez's appointment as interim City Manager wants us to believe that his vote was cast as such, due to Mr. Gonzalez's inexperience. Inexperience? Yeah right! Mr. Martin would have brought in a "retired city manager" to address the issues facing the city. Mr. Martin I ask you, why do you think they retired in the first place? Never mind that Mr. Gonzalez grew up in Lubbock, is already aware of the problems facing the city and knows the inner workings of LP&L. Unless of course, he has purposely been kept in the dark. And if Mr. Gonzalez truly lacks experience, then shame on Mr. Cass for not putting Mr. Gonzalez on a professional development track to get him some of that experience. Haven't convinced you yet?

Here's but one example of how your city hall operates. The local headline in the AJ's 2/27 edition reads, "Cass, city considering split". The very next day, the headline reads "Cass calls it quits with the city". Pretty fast huh? On the 27th there were only "discussions" that had started with Mayor Marc McDougal. On the 28th, Mr. Cass is history. Trust me discussions had been held long before the 27th. And that is how the political process works. We only get to read and hear what city hall wants us to.

What might happen to Mr. Gonzalez is a shame though. I grew up here in Lubbock in the late 50's and 60's. We were always taught that if you worked hard and got a good education, then the rewards would come. In this case let's see how Mr. Gonzalez will be rewarded for his 10 years of hard work and loyalty to the city. Will it be with an invitation to compete for the city manager's position? Or will it be with the title of "scapegoat", "sacrificial lamb", or worse yet, ex-interim city manager?

If Mr. Gonzalez is not given an opportunity to compete for the position of City Manager, then it will send a clear signal that it's not what you know, but rather who you were associated with that determines your fate in this city. Kind a like guilt by association, if you will. It will send the message to our youth that hard work and education no longer matter. Will the message be that you can grow up in this city, never leave like so many of us do (guilty as charged), work for 10 years with the city, educate yourself at the local university, and still not be good enough? Will it be that if your name is Gonzalez or Cruz, or different sounding that you need not apply?

Now I don't pretend to know whether Mr. Gonzalez is the right candidate for the job. But I do know that he deserves the opportunity to compete, that his 10 year's of experience should be taken into consideration and that that should be communicated to Mr. Gonzalez right away. This will allow him to get on with the work at hand without wondering whether his future involves monster.com and resume building.

Or maybe, Mr. Gonzalez might just decide to seek happiness elsewhere.

The Future Is Our Responsibility

A government, whether state or national, has no greater responsibility than providing an education for all its children. Any state or country that does not educate its population cannot stand the perils of competition. Our greatness as a country and our success as a state is the result of having educated citizens who understand the value of democracy. Why then are so many newly elected officials in Austin taking the knife to education in order to balance their budget?

Education is our strength as a nation, and public education is the largest component in that entity. In recent years, public education has narrowed the gap in learning between the cultures, has kept more young people in school, graduated greater numbers of minority students, raised test scores, and sent more graduates to higher education. It makes little sense to cut into this success is being limited. To further complicate the issue of helping our public school children, their new textbooks, which are aligned with the new state TAKS test, are being held until 2007. A child's successful education impacts

everyone, and so it is everyone who needs to say, "You promised to help education when you ran for office - cutting its programs is not acceptable."

House Bills 1132 and 859 take away gains made by the education community over the last twenty years and impact our classroom teachers in a negative way. Saying "no" to these bills is saying "yes" to our children. House Bill 673 repeals the requirement to notify parents when an unqualified person is placed in a room to teach our children. As parents, we deserve the truth. Our message to our local legislators and to Austin must be a resounding "NO" to any bill that has a negative impact on our teachers, our classrooms, and ultimately our children. Bills like HB 973 and HB 293 that would lower standards must not pass. If vouchers are to be tried, the receiving private schools must be held accountable for the same high standards as our public schools.

This state must not go backwards in its educational system, but rather, hold to high standards that promise our children a better life. Cheris Jenkins President, Lubbock Educators Assn.

Feliz Día de Las Madres de Parte de El Editor



Dos Idiomas son mejor que uno para los estudiantes y para el resto de la nacion

Por Domenico Maceri

Dos niñas rubias vendían galletas para la escuela elemental Pacheco en San Luis Obispo, California. Sabía que la Pacheco es una escuela de inmersión en dos idiomas, así que les pregunté en español cuánto cobraban las galletas. Sin esfuerzo alguno, las niñas respondieron a mi pregunta en español.

Incluso, me dieron más información de la que yo necesitaba. Mi pregunta tenía como propósito averiguar cuán bien hablaban el español. Las niñas han recibido tres años de educación dual, parte en inglés, parte en español. La fluidez de su inglés era como la de cualquier niña estadounidense de colegio; su español no estaba al mismo nivel, pero era mucho mejor que el de cualquiera de los estudiantes universitarios de segundo año que toman mi curso de español.

Las escuelas de inmersión dual, contrario a los programas bilingües tradicionales, enseñan los cursos en dos idiomas y su meta es desarrollar competencias lingüísticas en ambos idiomas. Hace poco se presentó una ley ante la legislatura de California para promover el bilingüismo entre todos los niños del estado. La propuesta, redactada por el senador John Vasconcellos, es parte del plan maestro para la educación en California.

Su implementación ocurriría en fases, probablemente durante un periodo de 10 años. Los estudiantes comenzarían a estudiar una lengua extranjera durante los años primarios y luego continuarían hasta llegar a la escuela superior.

California prácticamente eliminó la educación bilingüe hace unos años atrás, cuando se

continúa en la pagina 6

For Students & the Nation:

Two Languages Are Better Than One

By Domenico Maceri

The two blond girls were selling cookies for Pacheco Elementary School, in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Since I knew that Pacheco was a dual-language school, I asked them in Spanish how much the cookies were. The girls switched effortlessly into *español* and gave me the information I wanted.

Actually they gave me more than I needed.

My question was designed to see how well they spoke Spanish. They had had three years of dual-language instruction -- half in English and half in Spanish. Their English fluency was typical of U.S. schoolgirls; their Spanish was not quite at the same level but good enough to be the envy of any of my second-year college Spanish students.

Dual-language schools, unlike the traditional bilingual educational programs, teach subjects in two languages, with the goal of developing fluency in both languages. Recently, a bill was

introduced in the California legislature that would make every child in the state bilingual. The proposal, written by Sen. John Vasconcellos, is part of the new California Master Plan for Education.

The implementation would occur in phases, perhaps over a 10-year period. Students would begin the study of a foreign language in the elementary grades and continue it into high school.

California virtually eliminated bilingual education several years ago in favor of an "immersion" program. Traditional bilingual education was aimed at immigrant kids as a transition mechanism into standard English. Its goal was not to develop fluency in two languages, but rather to ease immigrants' kids into English-only instruction by avoiding the "sink-or-swim" approach.

The new plan, on the other hand, is aimed not just at immigrant kids, but all California schoolchildren. The idea is that in a multicultural state and in a global economy, one language is not enough.

Dual-language schools teach all academic subjects in two languages. Typically half of the students speak one language at home, and the other half in another. Half of the instruction in a school day is carried out in one language, the other half in the other. It's a slow process, but certainly an effective one, particularly when it begins in the early grades.

According to Suzanne Flynn, a professor of linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, children growing up with two languages have "distinct advantages" over monolingual ones.

The extra work bilingual kids have to do as they switch from one language to another gives them a "plasticity" of the brain, which helps their educational



development.

Bilingual children recognize that just as there are two ways to say something, there are also two ways to learn and solve problems. This mental agility is evident in learning foreign languages.

Just as it's easier for someone who knows how to play a musical instrument to learn a second and a third, thus it is also easier for someone who knows a second language to learn a third, or even a fourth.

Learning Pashto or Dari, the two major languages of Afghanistan, would be very difficult for monolingual English speakers. For someone who knows French or Spanish, in addition to English, the new language, while still a challenge, would certainly be easier, and the time to achieve fluency could be cut considerably.

Standardized tests confirm the intellectual ability of bilingual over monolingual children. According to a 14-year study by George Mason University in Virginia, students educated in dual-language schools outperformed their peers in monolingual English schools.

Of course, not everyone favors the new California plan.

Ron Unz, the California software entrepreneur who spearheaded successful anti-bilingual education initiatives in California, Arizona and Massachusetts, called the plan "pic-in-the-sky nonsense." And Jim Boulet Jr., executive director of English First, a group dedicated to declaring English the official language of the country, said that the focus should be on English because there "are only so many hours in the day."

Boulet may have it right. If children in California and this nation are to become educated and compete in the global economy, we need to find the time and make a foreign language become a basic subject alongside of English and math, as every other industrialized nation has done.

Recent world events have made it clear that knowing only English threatens our security. To be safe and to prosper, our kids need to go beyond English only.

Bilingualism will also have another important benefit. It will teach children the common humanity we have regardless of what language people speak.

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Una leccion de historia sobre los soldados no naturalizados

Por Kenneth Burt

Las numerosas bajas en Irak de soldados que no eran aún ciudadanos estadounidenses han resaltado el papel de la milicia como un vehículo de ascenso para los inmigrantes.

Algunas de las reacciones más fuertes provienen de California, el hogar de muchos de los 37,000 soldados no naturalizados que sirven en nuestras fuerzas armadas. Un creciente coro de voces está exigiendo que tratemos como ciudadanos a los que arriesgan sus vidas por salvaguardar el bienestar de su nación adoptiva.

El senado de California aprobó una resolución del senador Dean Flores la que urge al Congreso conceder la ciudadanía a los uniformados que no la tienen. El concejal de la ciudad de Los Angeles, Ed Reyes, creó una resolución similar. Enfatizó que dicho reconocimiento debería otorgarse "mientras vivan", haciendo referencia directa a los méritos póstumos que ha otorgado el presidente Bush.

El otorgar la ciudadanía estadounidense por servir en las fuerzas armadas no es nada nuevo. Este fenómeno se remonta a la época de la guerra hispanoamericana, cuando se atrajo a los inmigrantes irlandeses para servir como voluntarios en la guerra contra México. La última vez que esta práctica se puso en función a gran escala fue durante la segunda guerra mundial,

cuando una cuarta parte de los habitantes de la nación eran inmigrantes o hijos de inmigrantes.

Es todavía más impresionante el papel que asumieron los latinos luego de regresar de la guerra. Armando Rodríguez y Henry Santiestevan, dos californianos que se destacaron en el ámbito nacional, son ejemplo del compromiso vitalicio de los latinos con la democracia de los Estados Unidos.

Cuando conversamos con Rodríguez en su hogar en los suburbios, recordó vívidamente el día que recibió la ciudadanía: "Estaba en el Fuerte George Meade, en Maryland, como parte de un programa de adiestramiento de criptografía (un sensitivo programa de decodificación en el que sólo se permitían ciudadanos estadounidenses) cuando el capitán me dijo, 'Tú no deberías estar aquí'".

"Usted me asignó", respondió el joven Rodríguez, "si busca entre mis expedientes, verá que pedí convertirme en ciudadano y que mi solicitud está ahí".

El oficial investigó. "Tenemos que llevarte a Baltimore si aún quieres convertirte en ciudadano", informó a Rodríguez, quien respondió con un sí.

"El capitán me llevó hasta el tribunal federal de Baltimore y en diez minutos me convertí en ciudadano", recordó claramente. No hubo esperas ni cuotas que

continúa en la pagina 6

Headstart

(Viene de la Primera)

En particular los niños de familias de origen mexicano inscritos en "Head Start" lograron los mejores beneficios, incluso en comparación con sus hermanos enrolados en escuelas preescolares privadas.

Según el Fondo de Defensa de la Niñez, la crisis presupuestaria que atraviesan la mayoría de los estados del país, ya ha llevado a recortes en la educación preescolar y no hay garantía que se mantendrán intactos los fondos de "Head Start" bajo tutela estatal.

"Queremos que cada niño alcance su potencial. Es un asunto de prioridades, decisiones y valores", manifestó Marian Wright Edelman, presidenta de esta entidad.

Wright Edelman afirmó que el dinero de los recortes de impuestos propuestos por Bush podrían utilizarse para que todo niño elegible tuviera acceso a este programa preescolar.

Los educadores han logrado el apoyo de senadores demócratas como Edward Kennedy, de Massachusetts y Christopher Dodd, de Connecticut, quienes han prometido impedir los cambios en el programa.

El senador Kennedy afirmó durante una conferencia de prensa a favor de "Head Start", que "abandonar" este programa sería un paso atrás para los niños del país.

Dodd por su parte afirmó que existe oposición bipartidista en el Senado a la propuesta de Bush, y que hay "muchos senadores republicanos que se unirían a nosotros para defender este programa". EFE

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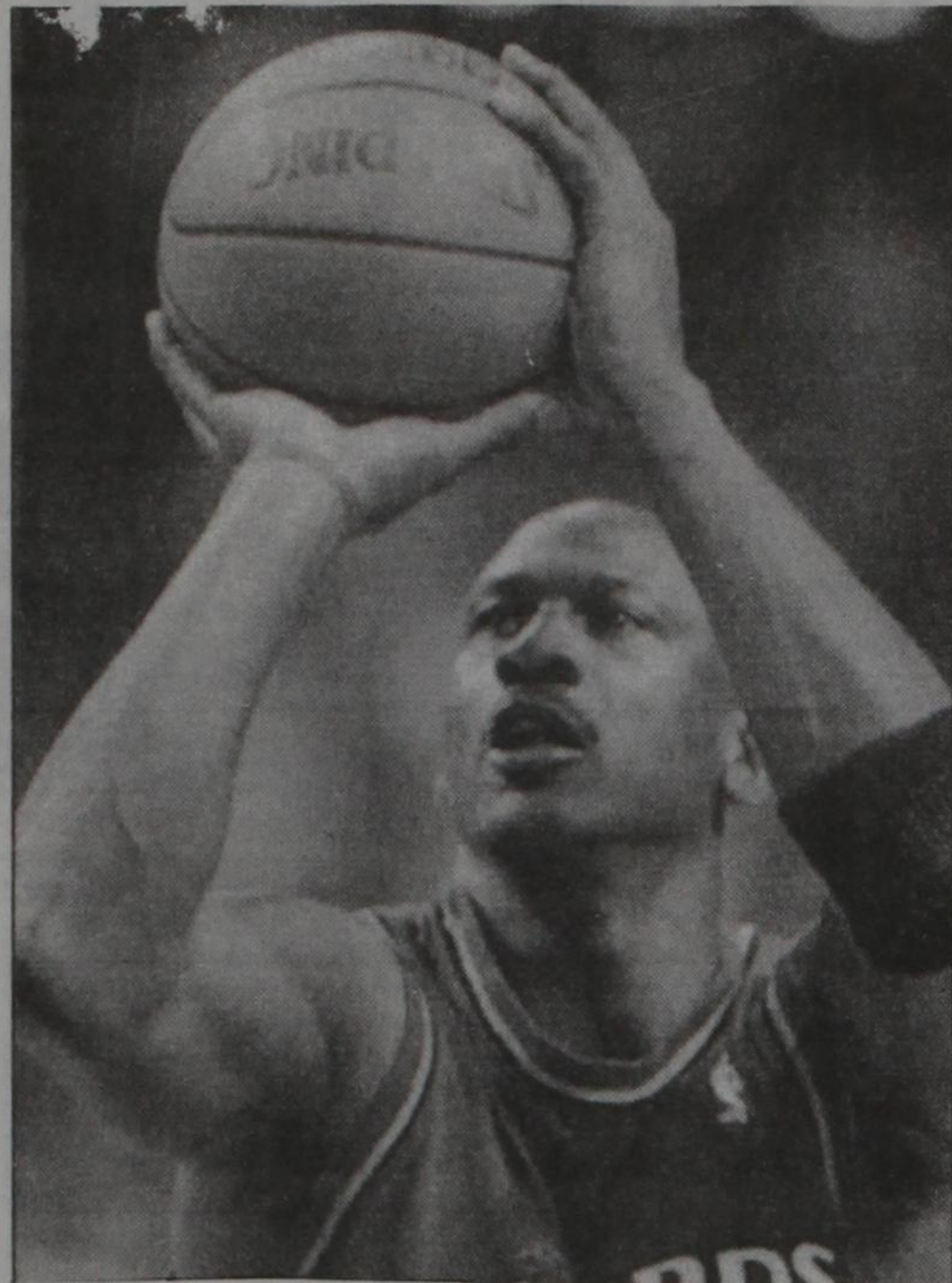
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Wizards Abruptly End Jordan's Tenure



cussions, a person with knowledge of the talks told The Associated Press on Sunday on condition of anonymity.

A Wizards source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press that Pollin's decision was based on three factors: player dissension, a franchise faltering after the years of Jordan in charge, and deteriorating relationships throughout the organization.

The source said no decision has been made about the front-office people Jordan hired, or whether Jordan's hand-picked coach, Doug Collins, will remain for the final two years of his contract.

Michael Jordan has talked about a role with the new Charlotte franchise, according to sources. (Getty Images)

"While the roster of talent he has assembled here in Washington may not have succeeded to his and my expectations, I do believe Michael's desire to win and be successful is unquestioned," Pollin said in a statement.

Pollin's statement also implied that his decision was made with minority partner Ted Leonsis, saying that: "In the end, Ted and I felt that this franchise should move in a different direction."

However, another team source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Leonsis was not aware of Pollin's decision until the meeting.

Leonsis and Jordan, who dined together Tuesday night, arrived expecting to discuss Jordan's re-joining the team, the source said. Instead, Pollin opened with a statement saying Jordan would not be welcome back and that it was not open for discussion.

Leonsis had no comment.

Jordan led the Chicago Bulls to six NBA titles in the 1990s but never came close to duplicating that success in Washington. In essence, he transformed the Wizards from a largely ignored mess into a very public one.

The Wizards haven't won a playoff game since 1988, and the franchise's only NBA championship came in 1978 as the Bullets.

Jordan put the franchise back on the map when he was hired in January 2000, but his record was just 110-179 as the top decision-maker, a role he kept even after returning as a player.

Unaccustomed to failure, Jordan hasn't been discarded by a basketball team since he was cut from the varsity as a sophomore

in high school.

The last few months have been particularly embarrassing for Pollin, an old-school owner who has shown little tolerance for in-house turmoil.

Jordan and his teammates sniped at each other as the Wizards finished a disappointing 37-45 for the second consecutive year and missed the playoffs again. Players publicly criticized Collins, who said they were disrespectful, and recent reports in The New York Times and The Washington Post exposed a front-office rift involving people Jordan hired.

The long-anticipated meeting Wednesday included Jordan, Pollin, Leonsis, Pollin's attorney David Osnos and Jordan's attorney Curtis Polk. Leonsis originally brought Jordan to Washington by making him part owner of both the Wizards and the Capitals.

Jordan was given free rein to run the Wizards but stumbled from the start. He botched the firing of coach Gar Heard and later hired Leonard Hamilton, who went 19-63. As an executive, Jordan tried to run the team from his home in Chicago, leaving a rudderless team to falter on its own.

Hamstrung by the Wizards salary-cap problems, he eventually overhauled the roster and made the team his own. Jahidi White is the only pre-Jordan player left. The biggest flop? Kwame Brown has done little since being the No. 1 overall pick in the 2001 draft.

Of course, Jordan's biggest personnel move came when he returned as a player. That helped the Wizards sell out every home game the last two seasons, giving Pollin a tidy profit.

This season, Jordan loaded the roster with Jerry Stackhouse, Bryon Russell, Larry Hughes and Charles Oakley in an effort to get to the playoffs one last time, but the chemistry was bad from the start. Players found it awkward sharing the locker room with the person in charge of their contracts, and Jordan's work ethic failed to rub off.

"He's still considered the greatest player to ever play the game of basketball. I don't think anybody can take that away from him," said Detroit Pistons guard Richard Hamilton, a promising young player traded away by Jordan.

"As a team president, I'm not sure."

Kings seem to have stranglehold over Mavs

When the Sacramento Kings face the Dallas Mavericks, confidence isn't a problem. Advertisement

Overconfidence could be. The Kings have beaten the Mavericks eight of the past 10 meetings. They've won five straight in Dallas, including a 124-113 victory Tuesday night in Game 1 of their Western Conference semifinal, and that was far more lopsided than the score indicates.

Sacramento coach Rick Adelman was even more impressed by his team's great performance after watching the film Wednesday. While he wants them to focus on doing more of the same in Game 2 Thursday night, he doesn't want them taking Dallas for granted.

"The thing I try to guard against is our guys thinking that just because it happened it's going to happen again," Adelman said. "As a coach, you don't want your team thinking it's going to be that easy."

The Mavericks' mental hurdle against the Kings isn't a lack of confidence. Their problem is being convinced Sacramento believes it can do no wrong against them.

It's easy to see why. The Kings have beaten Dallas four times this season, twice in blowouts and twice with buzzer-beaters. What's left to prove?

"I don't think they're in our head," Mavs point guard Steve Nash said. "But it's in their head that they can beat us, and that's a powerful tool."

Dallas coach Don Nelson said his team recognizes the feeling because they've had it against other teams, such as Houston this season. The Mavericks went 4-0 against the Rockets, winning by 13 when Yao Ming scored a season-best 30 points and taking the others by 21, 23 and 15.

"The only way to take that confidence away from a team is to beat them, probably in a playoff series," Nelson said.

Until Dallas does that, their "King Thing" will just keep growing. And it's already a pretty big deal.

Michael Finley called it "a black cloud over us" and a

"mental stranglehold," using both phrases in the same breath.

Nick Van Exel said Avery Johnson is so frustrated that the pious point guard/assistant coach is starting to cuss.

Van Exel's solution is to adopt an anti-Kings attitude. He believes the Mavericks need to focus strictly on themselves and stop worrying about whether Sacramento has their number.

"That's how they go at us," he said. "They don't care about anything that we do. They don't feel we can do anything to disrupt what they do."

"I think they respect us, they think we're a good team. But once they step between the lines, they couldn't care less about what we do. We respect them too much, more than we're supposed to."

Nelson has been singing Sacramento's praises all season. Even when Dallas started 14-0 and had by far the league's best record, he called the Kings the team to beat.

Before Game 1, Nelson talked about Sacramento having two of the NBA's best-passing big men in Chris Webber and Vlade Divac. After Webber had 24 points, nine assists and six rebounds, Nelson said Webber could have been the MVP this past season if he'd been healthy.

Van Exel would like the compliments to stop.

"I don't want to hear that these guys are the greatest things on the planet," he said. "They're a great team, no doubt. But I don't want to hear that every day."

The Kings can sympathize somewhat with Dallas' fixation on them. It wasn't long ago that they, too, got caught in the trap of thinking about what their playoff foes were thinking.

It happened when Sacramento got knocked out of the first round in 1999 and 2000, and in 2001 when the Kings made it to the second round then got swept. Things changed last season, when they took the Lakers to seven games in the conference finals, and it remains that way now.

"We don't think we own them or anything," Webber said. "We're just concerned about ourselves."

Imagine that, an NBA team showing Michael Jordan the door. Even he was shocked.

The Washington Wizards abruptly dumped basketball's most popular figure Wednesday, ending a relationship that produced much fanfare but little success over 3 1/2 seasons.

Disappointed with the team's poor record and embarrassed by infighting on and off the court, owner Abe Pollin told Jordan about his decision in a 30-minute meeting at the team's arena.

After it was over, Jordan left in a convertible, with the top down.

He was the Wizards' president before coming out of retirement to play for them the past two years. He retired for good last month and expected to return to

the team's front office.

"This was definitely my desire and intention," Jordan said in a statement. "However, today, without any prior discussion with me, ownership informed me that it had unilaterally decided to change our mutual long-term understanding."

"I am shocked by this decision, and by the callous refusal to offer me any justification for it."

Now he's expected to explore options with other teams, with the new expansion franchise in Charlotte and the Bulls the most likely alternatives.

Robert Johnson, new owner of the Charlotte NBA franchise, said Wednesday that Jordan can have "any role he wants to play." He and Jordan have already had dis-

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Education's Bureaucrat's & Testing Immigrant Children

By Tim Chávez
Just in from verbal vineyards across the nation's school districts, there's a new whine for spring social functions.

It's startlingly tart, overwhelmingly pungent and meant to satisfy only the selfish palate. The sour grapes of this whine are rooted in objections by school district directors and state education commissioners across the United States to President Bush's "No Child Left Behind" Act. What has mean ol' Bush done? The same thing that befell Iraqi generals. He has forced them out of their bunkers. The president is making the bureaucrats do what is best for the children, particularly Latino children, not the image of school systems or the future of careers. All children -- including almost every special education student and those who are limited English proficient (LEP) -- must be tested this year.

Thank you, Mr. President, for having the courage to do the right thing.

Be assured that when education bureaucrats whine, there is another side to the story. These bureaucrats -- who now profess compassion for these children at annual state testing time -- for years have put the same youngsters in unmanageable class sizes and virtual baby-sitting situations year-round. This outrage was accomplished by keeping the plight and progress of these children in a fog of anecdote, where the word of bureaucrats has to be trusted.

Just say these children don't know enough to be tested annually, and the true measure of progress we demand for other children is denied. Then school boards can starve these children and their real needs at spring budget time.

Accountability without verification is no accountability at all. Without test results from annual assessments in every state, the public doesn't know what resources these children need because they don't know how far

they are behind or if they are making credible progress. Too many teachers in Metro Nashville have told me they aren't even allowed to fail a LEP student. So we can't rely on the traditional signs of progress, either.

These children don't have a political base behind them. They're immigrant children, mostly Latino, needing English language help. Along with poor African-American youngsters who feel stigmatized by special education, they're the least of the least.

When local spending has to be prioritized, these kids get left behind.

It's not a matter of being unfair to all children in making them take the annual state tests. It's a question of finally stopping practices like that of Metro Nashville schools director Pedro Garcia. In this school year, he allowed incredibly unmanageable class sizes of 20 or more English Language Learner (ELL) students. Some children in each class had already been educated in their native languages. Others were almost illiterate. Several different languages were spoken. Yet a single ELL teacher was given the impossible task to teach all in English.

Guess how much progress these children made?

"No Child Left Behind is about students left behind and their success, not the school system that doesn't want to change," says Melinda Malico of the U.S. Department of Education.

Malico says the plight of these children has been masked by the overall success of individual schools or districts. That's why the president wants every child tested.

The state of Tennessee had the power to make the mandated testing easier. A Middle Tennessee ELL teacher discovered that truth when she went on the Web and found federal guidelines permit states to test in the language best for the student. That's allowed for the first three years of a student's testing. So a Latino student can be tested in Spanish.

One thing is certain. It's always easier to blame the federal government, particularly if its leader is a Republican president. And that's what school district and state bureaucrats are doing.

For teachers giving these tests, your heartache is felt in forcing some children to take a test they may not understand. But please go through this pain for the gain of lifting the fog around these children. Hard numbers will force local decisions on needed resources. Advocates for these children need these numbers to lobby for smaller class sizes and more qualified teachers.

Let the education bureaucrats across the country pop their corks this spring over President Bush's reforms. This year, the plight of the most educationally neglected of nation's children will finally be raised from anecdote to awareness.

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Ricky Martin Regresa en Español

Rompiendo una prolongada pausa en su vertiginosa y brillante carrera artística Ricky Martin, el cantante puertorriqueño, ha vuelto a sus raíces con un disco pop en español "Almas en silencio" que saldrá a la venta el próximo 20 de mayo.

"Necesitaba esta pausa, no estaba conforme con el curso que traía mi carrera. He estado trabajando desde los 12 años y necesitaba cargar las pilas. Reenfocar mi trabajo", declara Martin, considerado la máxima estrella latina de la industria discográfica hasta la fecha.

"No puedo negar que en esta carrera ha habido cosas maravillosas, se hizo historia en muchos aspectos, pero yo no estaba totalmente, ¿conforme, es la palabra? Sí, digamos que conforme. Y me dije, yo necesito hacer música en calma", nos comentó Martin en un estudio de Miami Beach mientras atendía a la prensa internacional y agregó: "El trabajo obsesivo en un crossover vertiginoso que no te deja pensar. Todo es trabajo y trabajo y yo ni sabía qué quería".

No es fácil que la industria del espectáculo permita que una estrella que produce tantos millones pretenda salir del mercado o hacer un cambio brusco, sin embargo Martin logró imponer su criterio. "Después de más de 40 millones de discos vendidos, creo que tengo derecho a escoger mi ruta, tomar mis decisiones. Ya teníamos planeado el próximo disco en inglés que, de hecho ya está grabado, pero quise hacer un disco en español y con puntos de vista estéticos diferentes, les expliqué que quería volver a mi casa, a mis raíces, al español", alega y al indagar sobre la respuesta de los ejecutivos de la disquera SONY, ríe y confiesa: "Se quedaron en una pieza, mi representante dijo, ¿pero por qué?, y a éste ahora, ¿qué le pasó?", se los dije con mi mejor sonrisa y, bueno, todo está bien".

Desde 1990, Martin, quien venía del famoso grupo puertorriqueño Menudo, comenzó en México con la serie televisada Alcanzar una estrella, una ascendente carrera como cantante y actor, que lo llevaría a situarse con producciones discográficas como Ricky Martin, Me amarás, A medio vivir y Vuelve, en la cúspide del mercado discográfico en español. Sus actuaciones en la serie General Hospital, de la cadena ABC; en la obra Los Miserables, en Broadway y su presentación como invitado en la 44 entrega de los premios Grammy, donde por primera vez se canta en español uno de los números principales de show televisado, además de su interpretación del tema La copa de la vida como himno del Mundial de Fútbol Francia 98, le preparan su lanzamiento en 1999 con su primer disco en inglés en colaboración con su ex compañero de banda y coproductor de anteriores éxitos, el también boricua Robi Draco Rosa y el consagrado Desmond Child.

A partir de ese momento se convierte en la figura más popular del pop y artistas de la importancia de Luciano Pavarotti, Sting, Madonna, Carlos Santana, Christina Aguilera, Billy Joel, Plácido Domingo, Elton John y Paul McCartney, entre otros comparten la escena con el astro puertorriqueño.

Su apoyo a las gestiones en favor de la salida de la Marina de Guerra Estadounidense de la isla de Vieques en Puerto Rico --victoria conseguida la pasada semana-- lo llevaron a la Casa Blanca en varias oportunidades. Fue invitado a la toma de posesión del presidente George W. Bush. De igual forma Martin se



ha vinculado a diferentes causas benéficas convocadas por Rainforest Foundation, Carousel of Hope, Asociación Americana del Corazón, y en su país, además de donar recientemente \$1 millón para comprar instrumentos musicales para el Departamento de Instrucción Pública, ha hecho considerables aportes al Centro de Rehabilitación para Niños con Impedimentos. En el ámbito internacional, también preside su fundación que combate el abuso infantil rescatando niños de las calles de India y otros países.

"Es que se trata del problema más terrible que sufrirá la humanidad en la próxima década, más aún que el conflicto de la droga. Hay miles, millones de niños en el mundo que morirán de hambre o serán llevados a la prostitución. Tenemos que hacer algo", alega quien ha invitado a estrellas como Richard Gere y Bono, y a su santidad el Dalai Lama para trabajar en el proyecto Peoples for the Children. "Uno ha conseguido un lugar importante en la vida de muchas personas, lo cual es una bendición. Hay que darle sentido a ese privilegio".

Para el nuevo disco, mucho más íntimo que sus espectaculares Livin' La Vida Loca, She Bangs o su antológica María, Martin se vio ante una dificultad: "Me dijeron, 'no hay tiempo para escribir 10 canciones', no importa, yo tengo amigos, les respondí" y recurrió a un grupo de amigos compositores, muchos de ellos famosos intérpretes, como Alejandro Sanz, Ricardo Arjona, Juanes, Franco de Vita, Emilio Estefan y Tommy Torres, quien ha producido el primer sencillo --Tal vez--, que ya se escucha en la radio y que dio argumento al video con el mismo título que filmó en el barrio La Boca en Buenos Aires. "Necesitaba rodearme de personas que hayan sentido lo que yo en escena, que saben lo que es la fama, el aplauso, conocen lo que es sentirse violado, lo que es sentirse idolatrado, y me dije, 'esta es la gente con la que yo quiero trabajar'".

En medio de una avalancha de cartas y declaraciones de artistas e intelectuales de prestigio internacional, algunos de ellos, reconocidos activistas de izquierda, de rechazo a la ola represiva desatada en Cuba, el famoso cantante puertorriqueño Ricky Martin expresa en exclusiva a El Nuevo Herald su repudio al gobernante cubano Fidel Castro y a su régimen.

"Pienso que este tipo está loco, es un enfermo y se tiene que ir de ahí ya", expresa categóricamente. "Desde niño en Puerto Rico he estado cerca de muchos cubanos, he conocido el dolor de los cubanos, a quienes quiero".

Los Estefan Visitaron Hollywood

Gloria Estefan estuvo en Los Angeles recientemente, durante un fin de semana en el que grabó toda una semana de episodios de la popular serie de televisión Hollywood Squares, y vino acompañada de su esposo y colaborador, Emilio.

Para la cantante cubana, el juego de los cuadrillos que los concursantes deben llenar con sus letras X o Y, no es una diversión extraña.

"Es mi segunda vez aquí", contó a La Opinión minutos antes de entrar al foro de los estudios CBS en Hollywood donde se graba Hollywood Squares. "Me divertí tanto la última vez que cuando me invitaron [por segunda vez] dije por supuesto que me gustaría participar".

Y Estefan no es una participante cualquiera, porque en los episodios que grabó, que saldrán al aire a finales de mes, ocupó el lugar privilegiado del cuadro central de Hollywood Squares.

"Es mi primera vez en el [centro], que honor tan grande, por Dios", dijo medio en bromas. "Sí, de verdad que sí".

En el juego, una versión electrónica del popular Tic Tac Toe, a

Apple Vende un Millón de Canciones en Internet en Una Semana

La compañía informática Apple anunció hoy que su tienda de música en internet, llamada iTunes, ha vendido en una semana más de un millón de canciones, a 0.99 dólares cada una.

Los internautas adquirieron más de la mitad de las canciones como álbumes completos, informó Apple, lo que podría tranquilizar los ánimos de quienes habían expresado preocupación por la posibilidad de que el pago por canción desincentivara las ventas.

La tienda iTunes permite bajar música de la red y copiarla en un disco por 99 centavos de dólar, sin que haga falta estar suscrito o pagar tasas de ningún tipo.

El servicio, que contiene 200,000 títulos de los cinco principales sellos discográficos, permite grabar las canciones en CD tantas veces como se quiera.

iTunes, al que se puede acceder por tipo de música, artista o título del álbum, también permite a los usuarios escuchar un fragmento de 30 segundos de la canción que les interesa antes de comprarla.

El presidente ejecutivo de Apple, Steve Jobs, señaló la semana pasada que con este lanzamiento se había abierto una "nueva era en el consumo de música digital", ya que los otros servicios existentes en el mercado son "ilegales" o "poco atractivos".

Esta iniciativa podría convertirse en una alternativa a los servicios de intercambio de música por internet gratuitos, como Morpheus, y también a los operados por las discográficas, con poco éxito hasta la fecha.

De momento, las ventas han superado con creces las expectativas, ya que expertos del sector habían previsto que el servicio de Apple llegaría al millón de canciones en el primer mes de funcionamiento, en lugar de la primera semana.

Happy Mother's Day to Zenaida Aguero-Reyes from your family; Eliana, Azelia & Robert Reyes

Happy Mother's Day to Molli Riojas from your family; Nicholas & Joe Adam Riojas

Feliz Dia de las Madres!



los dos concursantes se les pide que elijan a una de las nueve figuras en el recuadro. Una vez elegida la figura, el animador hace una pregunta que la celebridad contesta; el concursante debe decidir si su elegido está correcto o no, y si acierta puede colocar su letra en el cuadro. El concursante gana cuando coloca tres letras en línea recta o diagonal.

Gloria dijo haber llegado preparada con una que otra respuesta graciosa, como es de rigor en el programa, pero que "también hay que ser espontáneo, porque con tantas

personas ahí, siempre hay un intercambio lindo".

La cantante aprovechó la oportunidad para anunciar que está trabajando en un disco --su primero en el idioma inglés en seis años-- y que espera que éste llegue al mercado en el otoño.

"Estoy tan emocionada", dijo. "Escribí todas las letras, y gran parte de la música también. Es un disco que verdaderamente se concentra en mi lado de cantautora, y hacía tiempo que me moría por hacer algo como esto. Y es la primera vez que me he podido dar el lujo de tomarme el tiempo necesario para trabajar en el material".

"El disco tiene elementos autobiográficos, y varias sorpresas, incluyendo cuatro temas con versiones en español".

El disco, aún sin título, está siendo producido por Emilio Estefan, quien no estuvo muy lejos de Gloria durante la entrevista.

Sobre sus propios proyectos, Emilio adelantó que su empresa ha iniciado una serie de proyectos para programas de televisión en español.

"Acabamos de hacer el piloto [para una serie] que ha gustado

muchísimo, y estamos muy felices. Yo creo que cuando los latinos hacen cosas sobre los latinos, nuestras raíces y nuestra cultura salen mejor, porque entendemos nuestra cultura, entendemos quiénes somos nosotros".

El productor dijo que estaba en negociación con las dos principales cadenas de televisión en español del país, y que esperaba que una de ellas le hiciera una oferta para la serie.

Aunque sus primeras incursiones en la producción en televisión son en español "yo quiero hacer cosas en inglés, porque creo que en alguna forma tengo las conexiones para hacer unas películas que quiero hacer, algunos programas que quiero hacer, pero representando a los latinos, especialmente a la mujer latina, como deben ser representados".

Preguntando sobre cuál ha sido el éxito de su matrimonio de más de 25 años con Gloria, Emilio contestó rápidamente que la clave para cualquier matrimonio es que el esposo siempre sepa como responderle a su esposa.

"Decirle siempre 'sí, mi amor, como no, mi amor...'", dijo finalmente entre risas.

History Lesson Non-Citizen Soldiers

By Kenneth Burt
The numerous combat deaths of non-citizen U.S. soldiers in Iraq have highlighted the role of the military as a vehicle for immigrant upward mobility.

Some of the strongest reaction has come in California, home to many of the 37,000 non-citizens now serving in our armed forces.

A growing chorus of voices is rightfully demanding that we treat those who risk their lives for their adopted country as full citizens. The California Senate has approved a resolution by Sen. Dean Flores urging Congress to grant citizenship to those in uniform who lack it. Los Angeles City Councilman Ed Reyes authored a similar resolution. He stressed that such recognition should come "while they are alive," a not-too-subtle reference to President Bush's posthumous awards.

Awarding U.S. citizenship for military service is not new. The phenomenon goes back at least as far as the Spanish-American War, when U.S. immigrants from Ireland were enticed to volunteer for service in Mexico. It was last practiced on a large scale during World War II, a time when one-fourth of the nation's inhabitants were immigrants or the

children of immigrants.

More impressive still was the post-war role of these Latinos. Their lifetime commitment to U.S. democracy is illuminated by Armando Rodriguez and Henry Santiestevan, two Californians who went on to achieve national prominence.

Reached in his suburban San Diego home, Rodriguez vividly recalls the day some 60 years ago when he received his citizenship. "I was at Fort George Meade in Maryland in a training program that dealt with cryptography (a sensitive code-breaking program open only to U.S. citizens) when the captain told me, 'You aren't supposed to be here.'"

"You assigned me," young Rodriguez replied. "If you look in my file, you'll see that I asked to be an American citizen and that my application is there."

The officer investigated. "We have to take you to Baltimore if you still want to be a citizen," he informed Rodriguez, who responded, "Yes, I do."

"The captain drove me down to the federal court in Baltimore, and in ten minutes I was a citizen," Rodriguez remembers clearly. No waiting, no cost. "The judge looked at the mate-

rial and said, 'Raise your hand.' It was that easy."

Rodriguez went on to become an educator and an advocate. President Lyndon B. Johnson tapped him to design the nation's first federal bilingual educational program. He served Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan as a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He became president of the East Los Angeles Community College and chaired the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.

Henry Santiestevan, who died at age 84 three years ago, likewise gained his citizenship during World War II. Stationed at Camp Roberts in California, he and dozens of other young Mexican citizens who had been denied the opportunity to enlist but were then drafted, were told one afternoon that if they wanted to become instant U.S. citizens to hop into a waiting truck. They didn't hesitate, quickly filling two trucks that delivered them to the courthouse in a nearby town where they were all immediately sworn in.

continued on page 6

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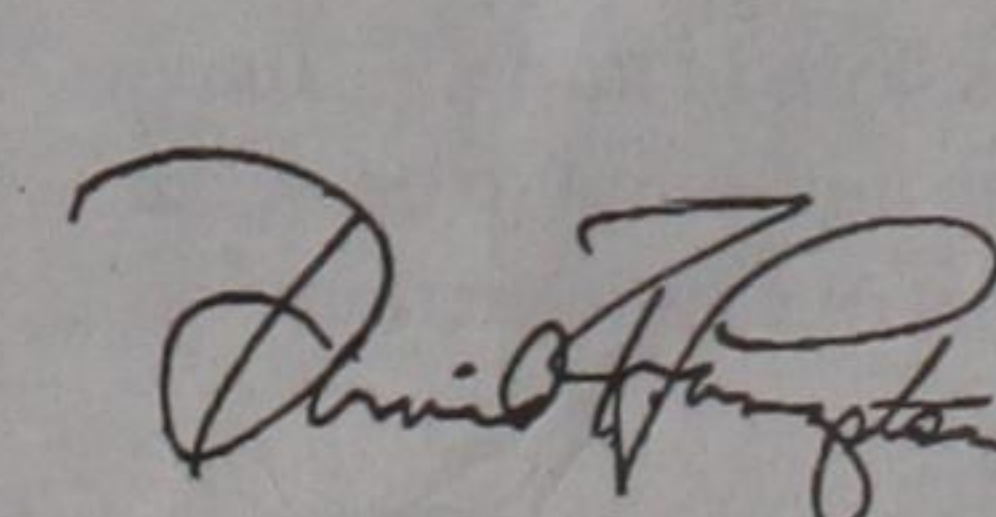
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I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all the support that our campaign received during the campaign trail.

¡Mil Gracias!

'ADELANTE WEST TEXAS


David Langston



aprobó un "programa de inmersión". Los programas bilingües tradicionales estaba hechos para servir a los estudiantes inmigrantes como mecanismo transitorio entre su lengua materna y el inglés estándar. Su objetivo no era que los estudiantes inmigrantes desarrollaran fluidez en ambos idiomas, sino hacer más fácil la transición a la educación monolingüe en inglés, para evi-

tar que los estudiantes fracasaran sin recurso alguno al no poder desempeñarse en inglés.

Por otro lado, el nuevo plan está dirigido a todos los estudiantes de California, no sólo a los inmigrantes. El plan parte de la idea que en un estado que es multicultural y en una economía global, un idioma no es suficiente.

Las escuelas de inmersión dual imparten todas las materias académicas en dos idiomas. Por lo regular, la mitad de los estudiantes habla uno de los idiomas en sus hogares y la otra mitad habla el otro idioma. En la escuela, durante la primera mitad del día se imparten las clases en un idioma, la segunda mitad del día en otro. Este proceso de adaptación es lento pero efectivo, en particular cuando se comienza en los grados primarios.

Según Suzanne Flynn, profesora de lingüística en el Massachusetts Institute of Technology, los niños que crecen con dos idiomas disfrutan de unas "ventajas distintivas" que los niños monolingües no poseen.

El esfuerzo que hacen los niños bilingües para cambiar de una lengua a otra le da "plasticidad" al cerebro que facilita el desarrollo educativo.

Los niños bilingües reconocen que tal y como existen dos maneras de decir las cosas, existen dos maneras de resolver problemas. Esta agilidad mental se hace evidente cuando se aprenden lenguas extranjeras.

Así como es más fácil para una persona que sabe tocar un instrumento aprender a tocar un segundo o un tercer instrumento, también es más fácil para una persona que sabe dos idiomas aprender un tercer o cuarto idioma.

Aprender pastún o dari, las dos lenguas más habladas en Afganistán sería muy difícil para un angloparlante monolingüe. Sin embargo, para alguien que además de hablar inglés habla español o francés, aprender una de estas lenguas continuará siendo un reto pero será un más fácil de enfrentar y el tiempo que tomará hablarlo con soltura se reducirá de forma dramática.

Pruebas estandarizadas confirman que la habilidad intelectual de un niño bilingüe está por encima de la de un niño monolingüe. De acuerdo a un estudio realizado por la universidad de George Mason en Virginia durante un periodo de 14 años, los estudiantes que recibían una educación bilingüe se destacaban más que sus homólogos que recibían una educación monolingüe.

No obstante, no todo el mundo favorece el nuevo plan educativo para California.

Ron Unz, el empresario de software californiano que encabezó de forma exitosa iniciativas antibilingües en California, Arizona, y Massachusetts, opina que el plan no cuenta con expectativas reales y Jim Boulet Jr, director ejecutivo de English First ("Inglés primero"), un grupo que se dedica a promover el inglés como el único idioma oficial de este país, ha dicho que el inglés debe recibir toda la atención, ya que "el día sólo tiene 24 horas".

Los más recientes eventos mundiales nos han mostrado claramente que limitarnos sólo al inglés es una amenaza a nuestra seguridad. Si queremos estar seguros y ser prósperos, nuestros niños necesitan progresar más allá del pensamiento monolingüe.

Además, ser bilingüe tendrá otro beneficio muy importante: les enseñará a nuestros niños que todos somos humanos aún cuando hablamos lenguas distintas.

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Lección de Historia

viene de la pagina numero 3 pagar. "El juez ojeó los papeles y luego me ordenó a levantar la mano". Así de fácil.

Rodríguez se convirtió en educador y abogó por la justicia. El presidente Lyndon B. Johnson lo reclutó para que diseñara el primer programa educativo federal bilingüe. Asistió a los presidentes Jimmy Carter y Ronald Reagan como miembro de la comisión para la igualdad de oportunidades de empleo. Fue presidente de East Los Angeles Community College y presidió la conferencia católica nacional para la justicia interracial.

Henry Santiestevan, quien murió hace tres años a la edad de 84, también obtuvo la ciudadanía durante la segunda guerra mundial. Mientras estaba destinado al Campamento Roberts, en California, junto a otros jóvenes mexicanos a quienes se les había negado la oportunidad de alistarse aunque después fueron conscriptos, una tarde les informaron que si querían convertirse en ciudadanos abordar un camión que los esperaba. Nadie titubeó. Sin mucho rodeo llenaron dos camiones que los llevaron al juzgado más cercano donde inmediatamente juramentaron.

Santiestevan se convirtió en uno de los primeros periodistas latinos de Los Angeles antes de unirse al movimiento laborista como escritor y organizador. Trabajó como asistente para el presidente de los trabajadores sindicalizados de la industria automotriz, Walter Reuther, quien fuera el principal liberal laborista de la nación.

Además, fue el portavoz de César Chávez durante la marcha que se llevó a cabo en Sacramento en 1966, presidió en el ámbito nacional la campaña Viva Robert Kennedy y fue consultor para la Fundación Ford.

El papel más significativo en la carrera de Santiestevan fue el de director fundador y segundo director ejecutivo del Consejo Nacional de la Raza, que actualmente es la organización de latinos más importante de la nación.

Estos hombres lograron hacer exitosamente la transición de reclutas no naturalizados a héroes civiles.

A estos logros les siguieron los veteranos que obtuvieron la ciudadanía luego de abandonar las junglas de Vietnam. Por ejemplo, Arturo Venegas llegó a los Estados Unidos cuando tenía 12 años. Hijo de granjeros, se convirtió en policía de Fresno, un pueblo en el valle central de California. Continuó sus estudios y ascendió de rango. A principios de la década de 1990, se convirtió en el primer latino en ocupar la jefatura de la policía en Sacramento, la capital del estado. Ahora aspira a ocupar un lugar en la legislatura estatal y espera poder darle forma a las leyes que una vez hizo cumplir.

Entre los jóvenes que luchan en Irak se encuentran los futuros Rodríguez, Santiestevan y Venegas, quienes continuarán sirviendo a esta nación como maestros, periodistas y policías. Entre ellos están los defensores de la justicia social y los futuros asesores del presidente de los Estados Unidos.

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From Page 5

Santiestevan became one of the first Latino journalists in Los Angeles before joining the labor movement as a writer and organizer. He worked as an aide to United Auto Workers president Walter Reuther, then the nation's leading labor liberal.

He served as spokesman for César Chávez during the 1966 march to Sacramento, was the national chair of the 1968 Viva Robert Kennedy campaign, and consulted for the Ford Foundation. Santiestevan's most enduring role was as a founding director and the second executive director for the National Council of La Raza. Today, it is the nation's premier organization for Latinos.

These men, and so many others like them, successfully made the transition from non-citizen Army recruits to civic giants. Their achievements are fol-

lowed by vets who gained citizenship after leaving the jungles of Vietnam. For example, Arturo Venegas came to the United States from Mexico at age 12, the child of farm workers. He became a policeman in the Central California Valley town of Fresno. He went back to school and moved up the ranks. In the early 1990s, he became the first Latino police chief in Sacramento, the state capital. Now running for the state legislature, he seeks to shape the laws he once enforced.

Among the young men and women fighting in Iraq are the next Rodríguez, Santiestevan, and Venegas. They will continue to serve their country by becoming teachers, journalists and police officers, as well as social justice advocates and advisors to future presidents of the United States.

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Happy Mother's Day & Happy Birthday Mom/Dad from your son Gilbert Acuña and rest of the family!



Eliverio & Virginia Acuña

¿Que Pasa? International Cultural Center Holds Scholarship Fund-Raiser

The Texas Tech University International Cultural Center will hold a silent auction fund-raiser to benefit the Willie Enriquez Jr. Memorial Scholarship

The event will be at 5:30 pm on Friday, May 9 and the silent auction will end at 7:30 p.m.

The International Cultural Center is located at 601 Indiana Avenue. All proceeds from the event will go toward the scholarship, which is awarded to deserving students who are members of the Hispanic Student Society.

Tickets are \$25 each and the costs cover heavy hors d'oeuvres, two complimentary beverages, live music by Jazz Alley, art exhibits by Tina Fuentes and Joel Saleido, and the opportunity to bid in the silent auction.

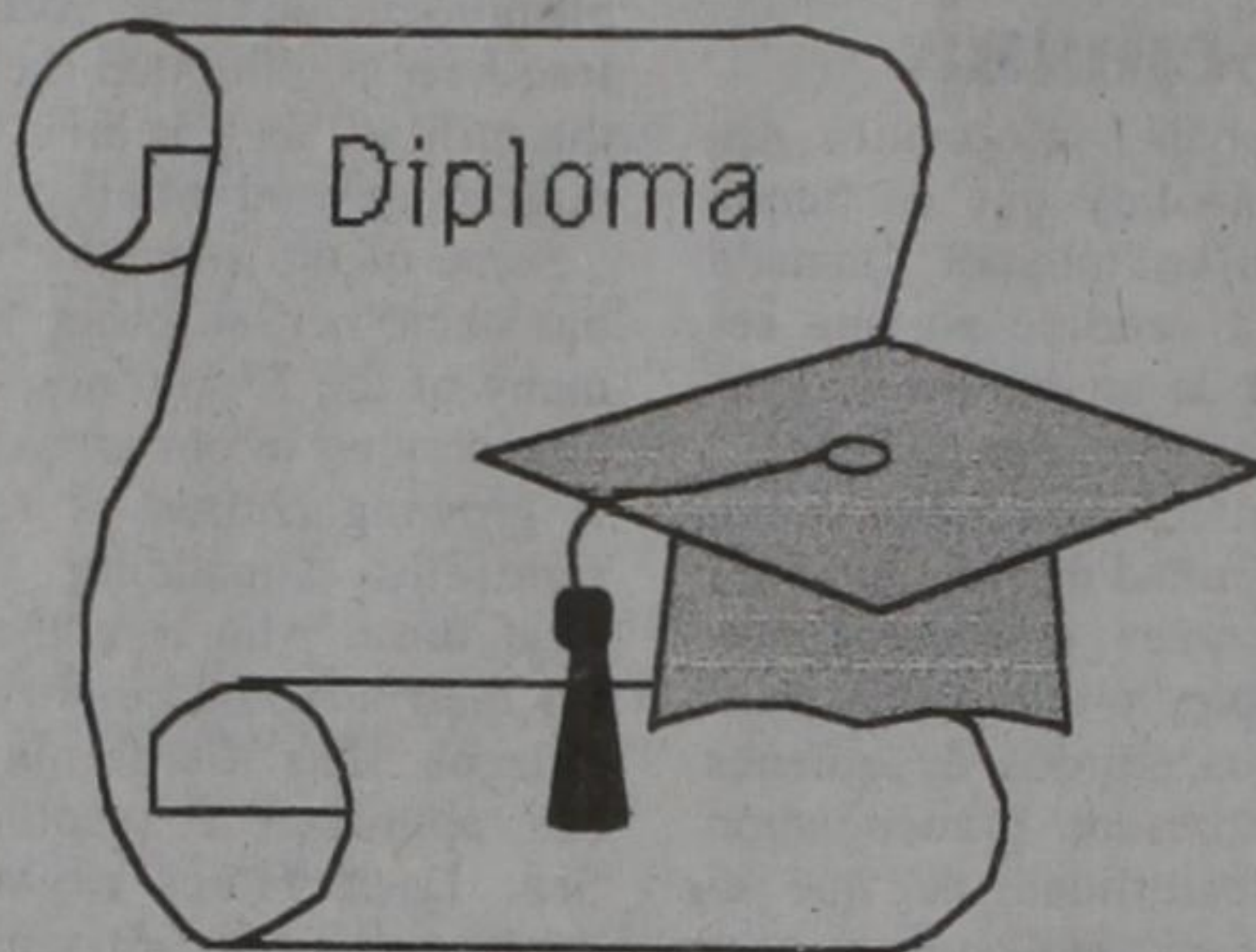
Enriquez Jr., a former Texas Tech student and president of the Hispanic Student Society, was killed in a car accident.

Summer ART CAMPS 2003 at the GAC!

The Lubbock Municipal Garden and Arts Center is hosting Summer ART CAMP for elementary school children (ages 6-12). There are 3 sessions available to kids. Session I is June 6-12, Session II is July 7-11, and Session III is July 21-25. Students may attend half day from 8:30-noon or 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm or stay all day from 8:30am - 5:00 pm. This event will be conducted at the Garden & Arts Center which is located at 4215 University Avenue. The cost of attending is \$60/half day and \$100/full day, with all supplies furnished by the center. Registration is going on now and space is limited.

Campers will spend one week immersed in the world of fine arts with activities in drawing, painting, printmaking, & sculpture. Additional camp activities include picnics, games, & walks in the Arboretum.

For more information, to request special assistance, or to make reservations, call the Garden & Arts Center office at 767-3724.



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For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Debbie Cox. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fac 806-742-2241 or e-mail: debbie.cox@ttu.edu.

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ATENCION PROVEEDORES DE PROGRAMAS JUVENIL!!!
PROGRAMA COMUNITARIO DE DESARROLLO JUVENIL!!!
COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

El Programa Comunitario de Desarrollo Juvenil-79415 aceptara propositos de programas para el ano fiscal 2004. Anualmente CYD recibe \$500,000 para tartar de reducir el crimen juvenil en el codigo postal 79415. Proveedores administraran programas que satisfechan las necesidades de la juventued y al tiempo crear respeto, fe y comportamiento aceptable que ayude a los jovenes a desarrollar sus talentos para major atener exito mental, emocional y fisico.

Lubbock Regional MHMR es el Agente Fiscal del programa. En esa capacidad, LRMHLMR sobrevera aspectos fiscals y programaticos de cada Proveedor de Programa. Proveedores interesados, a incluir los que actualmente proven servicios a CYD, deben enviar un Carta De Interes a:

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center
ATTN: Cowboy Fred Ortiz, Especialista de Contratos
P.O. Box 2828
Lubbock, Texas 79408-2828

Cartas de Interes deben ser recibidas no mas tardar de las 4 de la tarde, el Jueves, 15 de Mayo, 2003; si no, no seran consideradas. Paquetes de Solicitacion seran enviados el Viernes, 16 de mayo, 2003 a esos Proveedores que indiquen interes en participar en el programa CYD para el ano fiscal 2004.

Cartas por FAX no seran aceptadas.

¡Mil Gracias!

ATTENTION YOUTH PROGRAM PROVIDERS
COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CYD)

The Community Youth Development Program - 79415 is accepting program proposals for Fiscal Year 2004. This annual \$500,000 TDPRS grant targets innovative programs to reduce crime within the 79415 Zip Code. Program providers will administer programs which satisfy the needs of the youth of the community and build trust, respect, and citizenship which will lead to youth empowerment and the development of life skills to prepare youth for success mentally, emotionally, and physically.

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center currently serves as the Fiscal Agent for this project. In the role of Fiscal Agent, LRMHMR monitors both the fiscal and programmatic aspects of services provided by each individual Program Provider. Interested providers, including those currently providing services within the CYD Program, should mail a Letter of Interest to:

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center
ATTN: Fred Ortiz, Contract Specialist
P.O. Box 2828
Lubbock, TX 79408-2828

Letters of Interest must be received by 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 15, 2003; otherwise they may not be considered. Bid packages will be mailed on Friday, May 16, 2003 to those Providers expressing an interest in participating in the CYD Program for fiscal year 2004.

FAXED LETTERS OF INTEREST WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED